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

EMPLOYMENT.

IN the week after Christmas there was the usual decline in employment, but this was followed by a steady improvement throughout January. At the end of the month, however, employment in all but a few industries was worse than in the third week of December and was about the same, on the whole, as at the end of November.

The principal decline occurred in the group which includes the building trade, public works contracting, and the brick and tile, artificial stone and cement industries. Other industries in which there was an increase in unemployment included the pottery, glass bottle, tin-plate, general and constructional engineering, and the miscellaneous metal trades; together with the woollen and worsted, silk and artificial silk, hosiery, lace and carpet industries, textile bleaching, dyeing and finishing, the leather trades, tailoring and dress-making, boot and shoe manufacture, the food, drink and tobacco industries other than grain-milling, the furniture and woodworking, printing and paper industries, and the distributive trades.

On the other hand, there was a further improvement in shipbuilding and ship-repairing, marine engineering, the linen textile industry, and hat and cap manufacture.

In the coal-mining industry there was little change on the whole. The numbers wholly unemployed showed a decline, which was, however, counterbalanced by a rise in the numbers temporarily stopped.

Among the workpeople, numbering approximately 11,880,000, insured against unemployment in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the percentage unemployed in all industries taken together was 12·3 at 21st January, 1929, as compared with 11·2 at 17th December, 1928, and 10·7 at 23rd January, 1928. The percentage wholly unemployed at 21st January, 1929, was 9·8, as compared with 9·1 at 17th December, 1928; while the percentage temporarily stopped was 2·5, as compared with 2·1. The total number of applicants for employment registered at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland at 28th January, 1929, was approximately 1,434,000, of whom 1,113,000 were men and 236,000 were women, the remainder being boys and girls. At 31st December, 1928, it was 1,565,000, of whom 1,211,000 were men and 275,000 were women; and at 30th January, 1928, it was 1,199,000, of whom 949,000 were men and 171,000 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 in January resulted in an increase of about £3,400 in the weekly

full-time wages of 125,000 workpeople, and in a reduction of nearly £7,000 in those of 102,000 workpeople.

The largest group of workpeople included in the former totals were operatives employed in the textile bleaching, dyeing, etc., industries in Yorkshire, Lancashire and Scotland, who obtained small increases under the operation of cost-of-living sliding scales; in Yorkshire the increases amounted to about $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on current rates, and in Lancashire and Scotland to 3d. and 2d. per week in the case of men and women, respectively. Included among other workpeople whose wages were increased during the month were electrical cable makers, blastfurnacemen in Cleveland, bobbin and shuttle makers in England and Wales, and felt hat makers in Lancashire and Cheshire.

The principal reduction in January affected lower-paid coal miners in South Wales and Monmouthshire, where the subsistence allowance was reduced from 8s. 0 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. to 7s. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per shift. There was also a reduction of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour in the wages of men employed on civil engineering work.

COST OF LIVING.

At 1st February 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 65 per cent. above that of July, 1914, as compared with 67 per cent. a month ago and 66 per cent. a year ago. For food alone the corresponding figures were 56, 59 and 59. The fall in the percentages since 1st January was mainly due to reductions in the prices of eggs, bacon, fish, butter and cheese.

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 January, was 21. In addition, 7 disputes which began before January were still in progress at the beginning of the month. The number of workpeople involved in all disputes in January (including workpeople thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, but not themselves parties to the disputes) was about 9,700, and the aggregate duration of all disputes during January was about 97,000 working days. These figures compare with totals of 6,000 workpeople involved and 32,000 working days lost in the previous month, and with 10,000 workpeople involved and 50,000 days lost in January, 1928.

TRANSFERENCE OF JUVENILES FROM DISTRESSED MINING AREAS.

As part of the normal work of the Ministry and of the Authorities concerned, arrangements are in force* for advising boys and girls as to their future careers, and placing them in employment, through the national system of Employment Exchanges and the Juvenile Employment Bureaux of the Local Education Authorities. There are 171 Juvenile Advisory Committees attached to Employment Exchanges, and Juvenile Employment Committees associated with 111 Local Education Authorities. Their functions are (i) to give advice to boys and girls (and their parents) as to choice of employment; (ii) to assist in placing them in employment; and (iii) to keep in touch with them during their early years after leaving school.

Ordinarily migration to other districts is recognised as unnecessary and undesirable in the case of juveniles; but, even under ordinary conditions, there are a certain number of boys and girls seeking work which involves living away from home (e.g., girls going into domestic service, or into employment in textile factories; or boys seeking employment in hotels, clubs, etc., or intending to train for the mercantile marine service). Special instructions have been laid down for the guidance of local officers of the Ministry in regard to such transfers. The written consent of the parent or guardian to the proposed transfer must be obtained; and the officer must be satisfied (among other matters) that the vacancy offers reasonable prospects of permanent employment, that adequate industrial supervision will be provided, and that suitable living accommodation is available. In most areas also, the Juvenile Committees have effective schemes for keeping in touch with the boys and girls placed in their districts, through occasional home visits by voluntary workers; through "open evenings" at the local office, through visits by officers of the Committees to the employers, and so on.

In recent years there has been an increasing tendency for young workers to travel some distance from their homes for purposes of employment. Very large numbers in the neighbourhood of London, for example, travel daily into London from a radius of 10 or 15 miles out; others, whose employers have moved from the inner districts to districts on the outskirts of London, have followed their employment, and travel daily to these outlying districts. Similar movements occur in the neighbourhood of many provincial towns, including notably Leicester and Leeds.

The activities already mentioned fall generally within the normal functions of the Employment Exchanges and of the Juvenile Employment Bureaux; but the continued industrial depression in the distressed mining areas called for particular attention. Here the only alternatives for many boys and girls were either to remain idle at home, with no prospect of employment, or to have work found for them in other districts. In these circumstances a network of Juvenile Employment Centres was established in December, 1927, in the distressed areas, so that a centre was available within a reasonable distance of the homes of all the boys in those areas. The numbers of boys attending these centres at December, 1928, were:—South Wales mining areas, 1,481; North-Eastern mining areas, 1,117; Motherwell and Dunfermline, 494. Many of these boys are known to be prepared to take up work away from home.

In February, 1928, the Ministry began a special effort to canvass employers for vacancies for boys in attendance at the centres, and to transfer the boys thereto. This effort has been increasingly successful. It was found that a number of valuable vacancies (apprenticeships, etc.) could not be filled because the wages in the first year or so were too low to enable the boys to maintain themselves in lodgings. A grant from the Lord Mayor's Fund has been allocated to make up part of the difference between wages in the type of vacancies referred to and the cost of maintenance, the employer making up the balance.

Up to 29th December, 1928, 1,840 boys had been transferred from their home areas to vacancies in England and Wales, 20 had been transferred from one area to another in Scotland, and 40 in Wales. The transfers were:—1,025 from Wales (nearly all to the South-Eastern and South-Western divisions, and the Midlands); 778 from Durham (nearly all to the South-Eastern, North-Eastern, and North-Western divisions); and 37 from Scotland (largely, as stated above, to other places in Scotland).

A memorandum recently issued by the Ministry of Labour summarises the special instructions which have been issued to local officers with regard to these transfers; and describes the steps taken to select the boys, to arrange for their travelling, for their being met on arrival, and conducted to their lodgings, for their supervision in their new employments, and for the co-operation of Rotary clubs, boys' clubs, and other social, religious, and philanthropic associations in looking after them in their adopted districts. The cost of their journeys from home to place of employment is paid out of Government funds. Only 220 of the boys transferred up to 24th November had had to return home for various reasons, mainly homesickness; very few complained of the nature of their work, or that the vacancy was not in accordance with their expectations. A number of the boys who returned home in this way have since gone back to the work found for them, and have settled down.

The problem of finding employment for girls from the distressed mining areas presented special difficulties. There are practically no women's industries in these districts, and the women and girls in most of the districts have been little accustomed to seek work

outside their own homes. In these circumstances it was decided, at any rate in the first instance, to concentrate on finding an outlet in domestic employment; and the Central Committee on Women's Training and Employment were invited by the Ministry to extend and develop the system of Homecraft Training courses in the depressed mining areas. Further particulars of these courses will be found in the following article on this page.

In conclusion, the Memorandum emphasises the fact that the work of transferring juveniles here described has only been made possible by the co-operation of the various official bodies, of the Lord Mayor's Fund, of voluntary organisations, and of employers of labour; and that the continued co-operation of all concerned is still required. Letters written by the transferred boys to their parents and others testify to their appreciation of what has been and is being done on their behalf.

HEMOCRAFT TRAINING CENTRES FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS IN DISTRESSED AREAS.

THE Central Committee on Women's Training and Employment were invited by the Ministry of Labour, in the spring of last year, to extend and develop the system of Homecraft Training courses in the depressed mining areas, with a view to equipping women and girls from those areas for domestic employment in other parts of the country. The Central Committee accordingly provided facilities for the training of some 700 to 1,000 additional women and girls from these areas during the twelve months ending April, 1929.

The Central Committee followed generally the lines they have found successful in other areas. The course is held at some convenient place, to which the women and girls can go in daily by train or omnibus. The course lasts three, or in some cases four months. Girls and women between 16 and 35 years of age, for whom no employment is available, are eligible. They are taught the rudiments of general housework, cookery and laundry; and though, at the end of the course, they are not of course fully trained or experienced domestic workers, it is found that the great majority, if employed at first in households where some supervision can be given, quickly become capable servants.

Special precautions are taken by the Ministry in placing girls and young inexperienced women at a distance from their homes. References are taken up, applicants are carefully selected, the girls or young women going to London are met on arrival, and care is taken to supervise and befriend the girls, and put them in touch with some club or other local organisation for social intercourse.

A report on the working of these arrangements during the half-year ending in September last shows that 38 centres were open in the distressed mining areas, and 1,200 young women and 431 girls completed a course of training. Of these, 386 women and 96 girls found domestic employment locally, and 642 women and 283 girls were placed away from home. Some women and girls who completed the course were, for various reasons, not available for domestic employment; but in all between 80 and 90 per cent. of the trainees were placed in domestic service.

NUMBERS ON EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGE REGISTERS: EFFECT OF LEGISLATIVE AND ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGES.

In reply to a question in the House of Commons on 22nd January regarding the increases and decreases in the total numbers of persons on the live registers of Employment Exchanges, attributable to the principal legislative or administrative changes since 1923, the Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Labour gave approximate estimates in respect of the periods immediately following the dates from which the changes took effect. He added that it was not possible to say to what extent increases or decreases due to these causes persisted over any long period; hence it cannot safely be assumed that the total effect of these changes on the live register can be ascertained by subtracting the total of the decreases from the total of the increases. The following Table gives the estimates in question:—

Date of Change.	Nature of Change.	Estimated approximate increase (+) or decrease (—) caused in Live Register.
February, 1924	Removal of certain special restrictions on the grant of uncovenanted benefit to persons with other means of support; and abolition of the three weeks' gap in uncovenanted benefit	+ 13,500
August, 1924 ...	Relaxation of certain conditions for the receipt of both standard and extended benefit ...	+ 70,000
August, 1925 ...	Restoration of the special conditions for extended benefit which were removed in February, 1924 ...	— 10,000
January, 1923	Persons aged 65 and over ceased to be insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts ...	— 25,000
April, 1928 ...	Relaxation of the conditions for the receipt of benefit ...	+ 40,000
July, 1928 ...	Institution of the system of franking the Health Insurance Cards of persons registered at Exchanges ...	+ 25,000

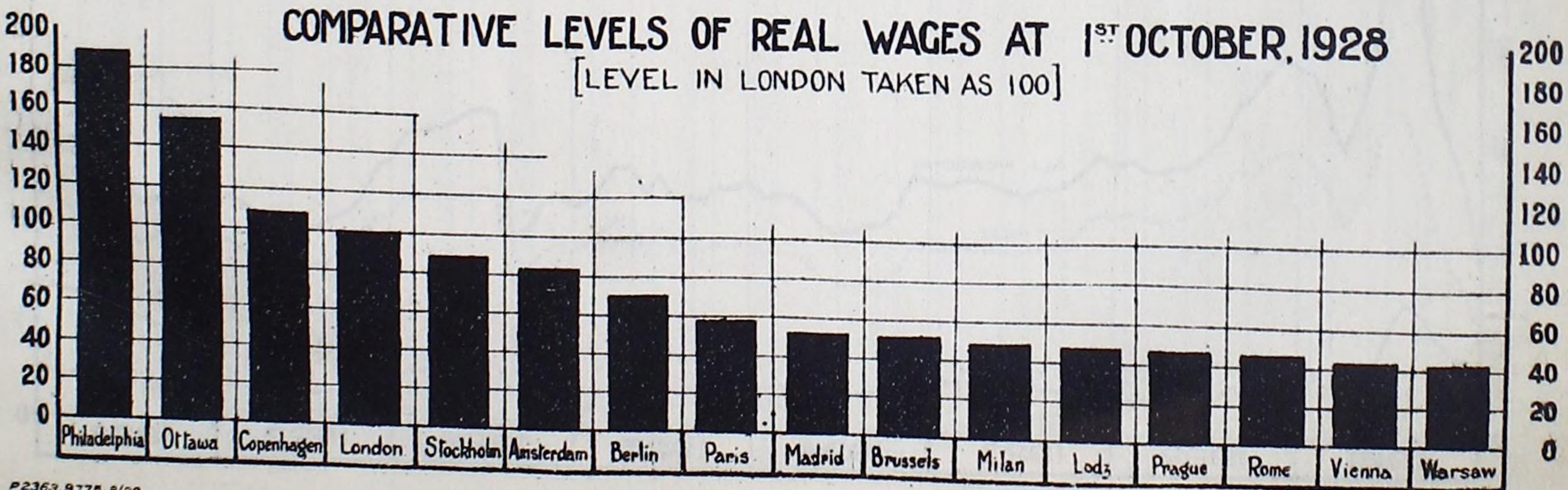
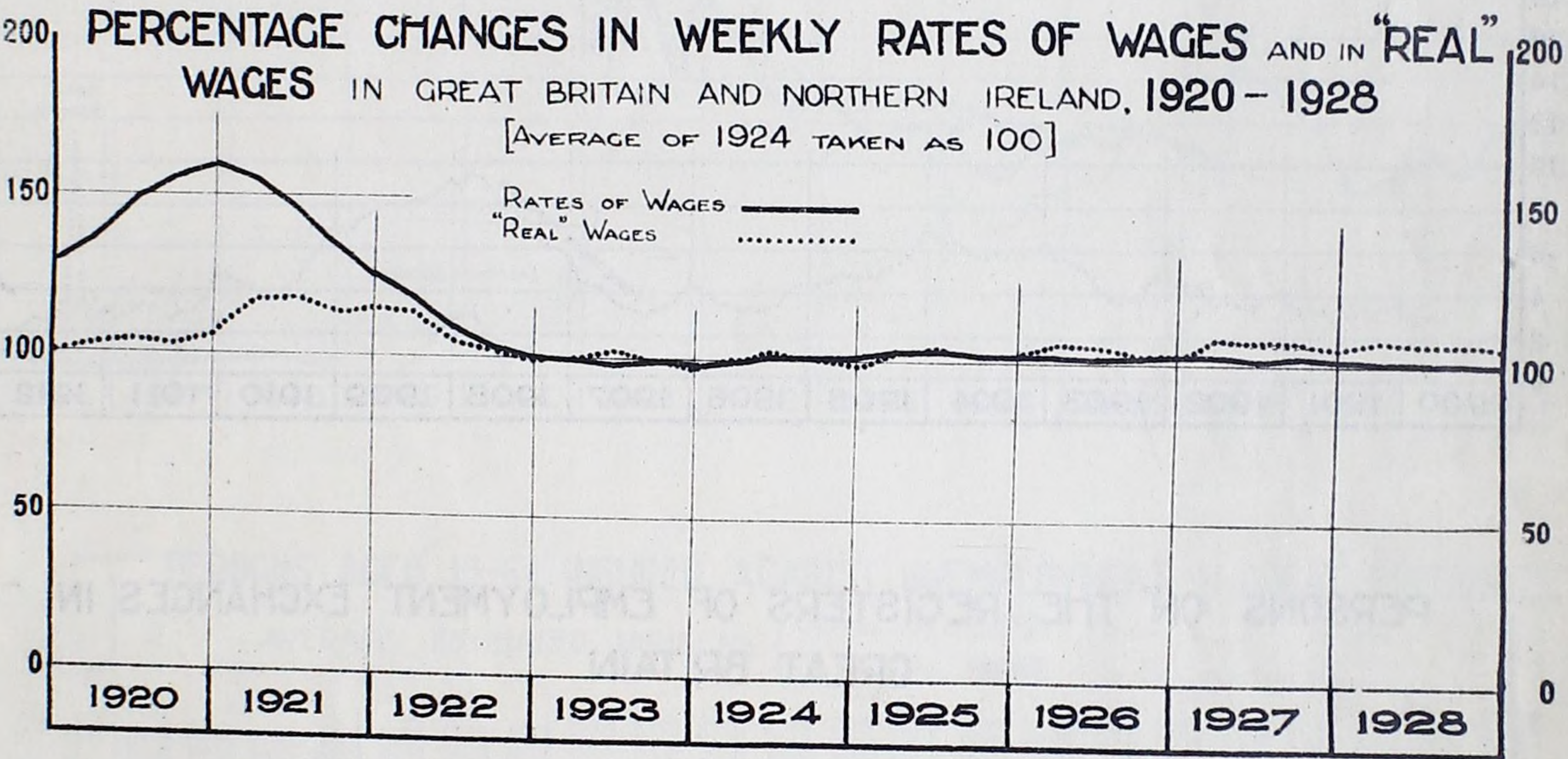
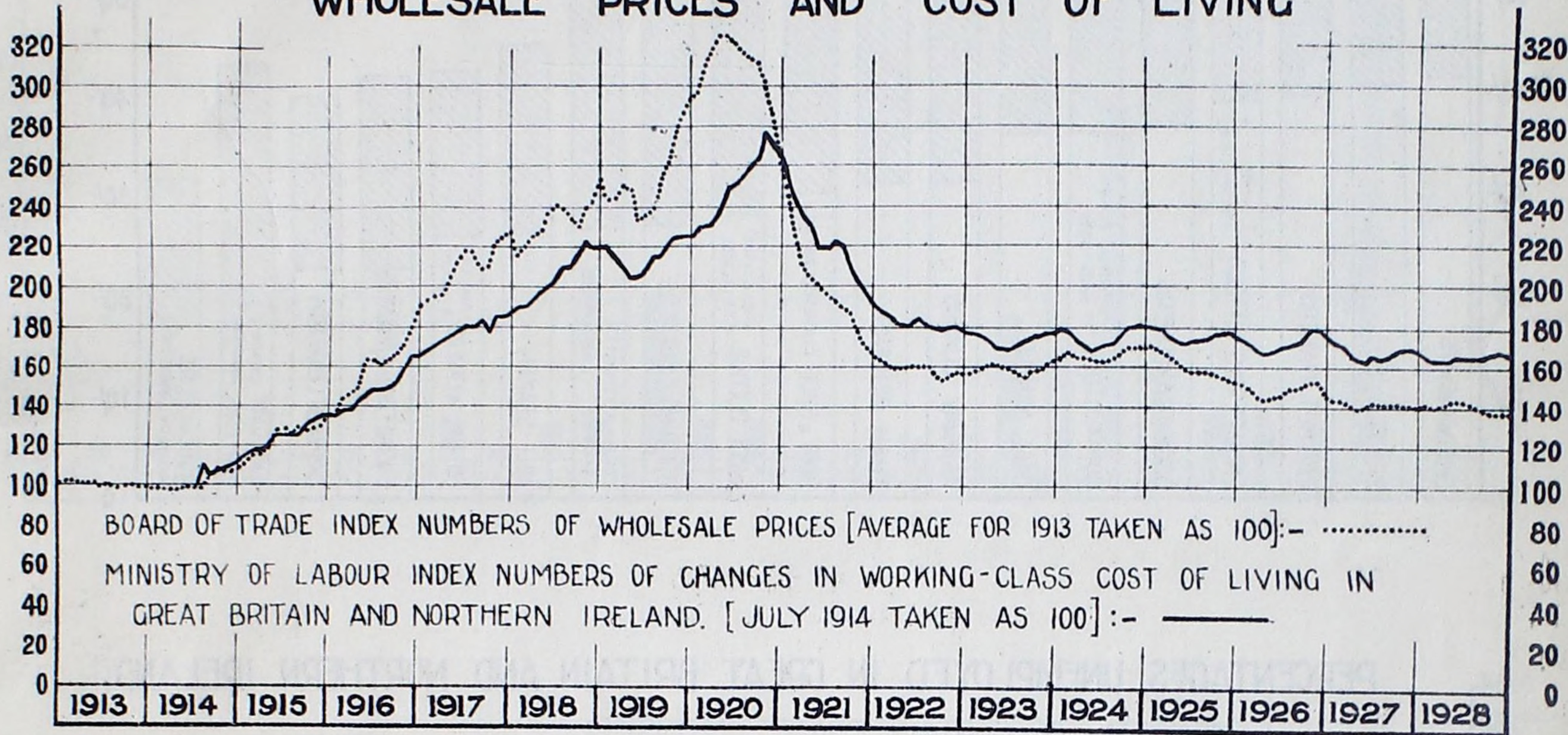
* For a more detailed account of these arrangements, see *Report on the Work of Advisory Committees for Juvenile Employment during the year 1927* (H.M. Stationery Office; price 3d. net). A review of this Report appeared in the August, 1928, issue of this GAZETTE, pages 278-9.

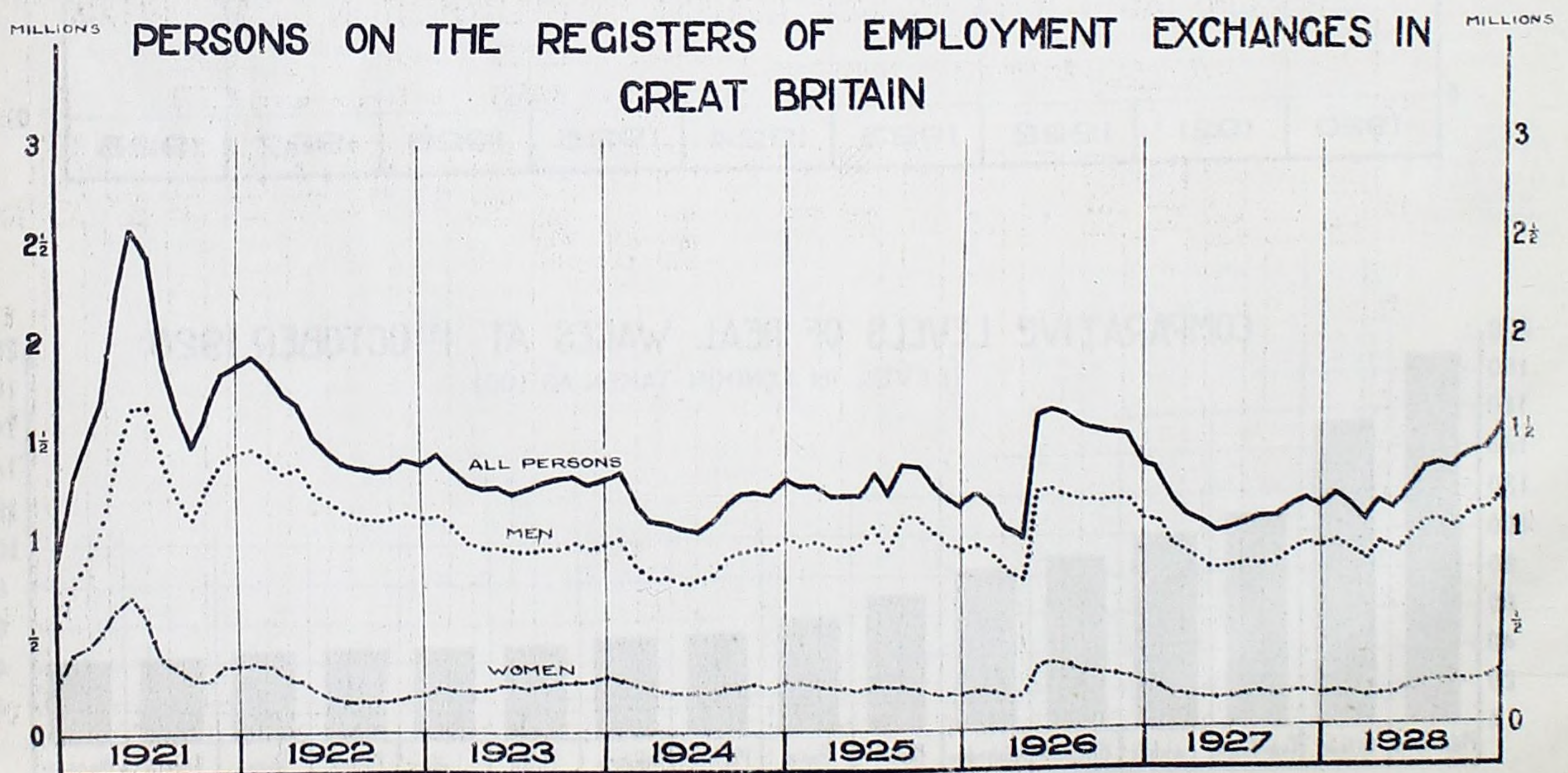
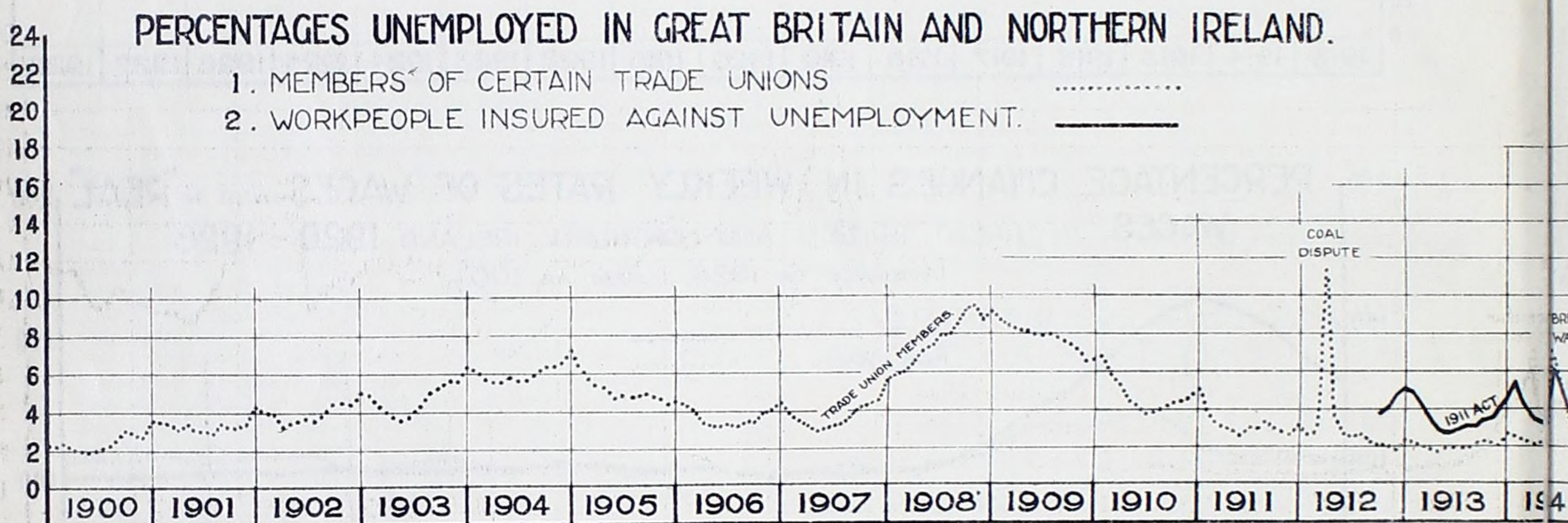
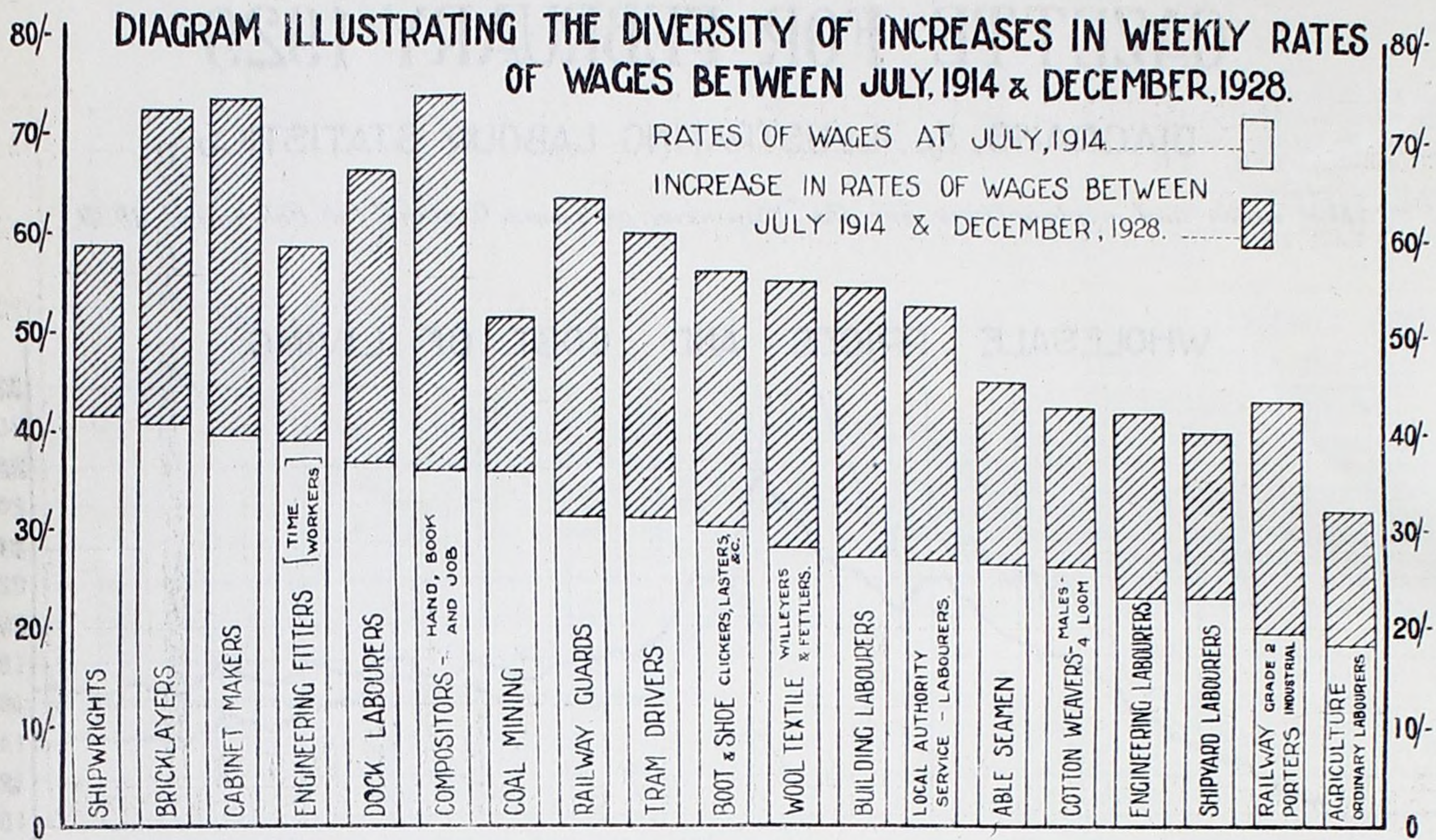
SUPPLEMENT TO THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE FOR FEBRUARY 1929

DIAGRAMS, &c, ILLUSTRATING LABOUR STATISTICS

[For notes and explanations see the "MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE" for February, 1929.]

WHOLESALE PRICES AND COST OF LIVING

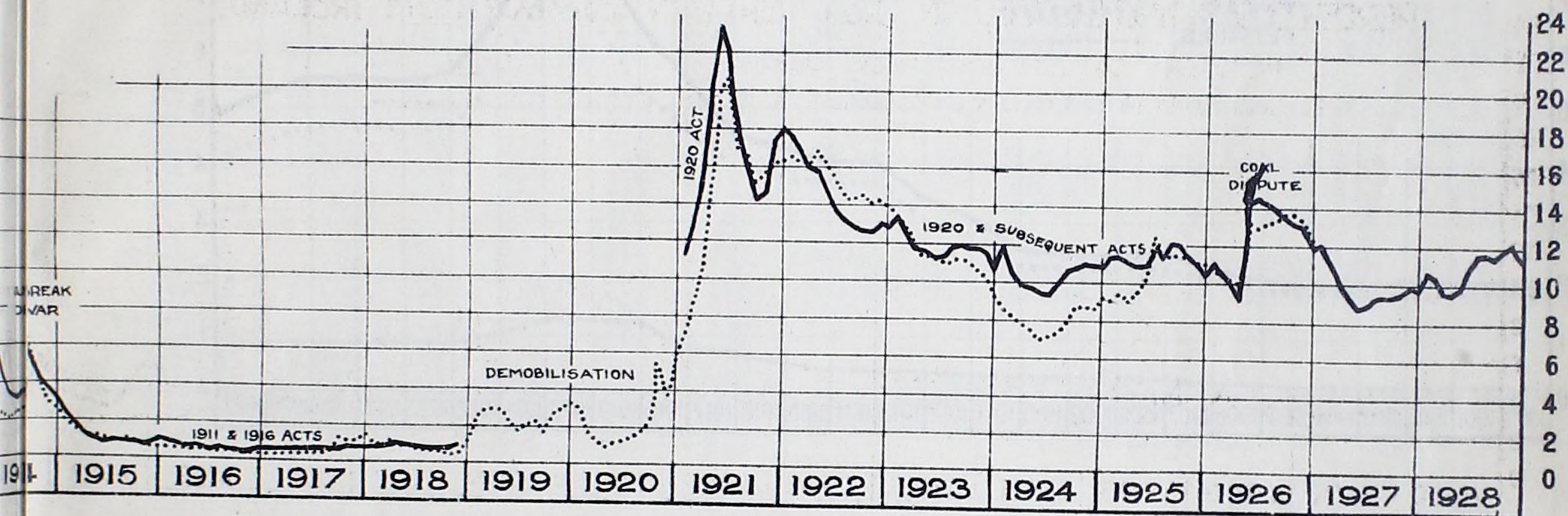
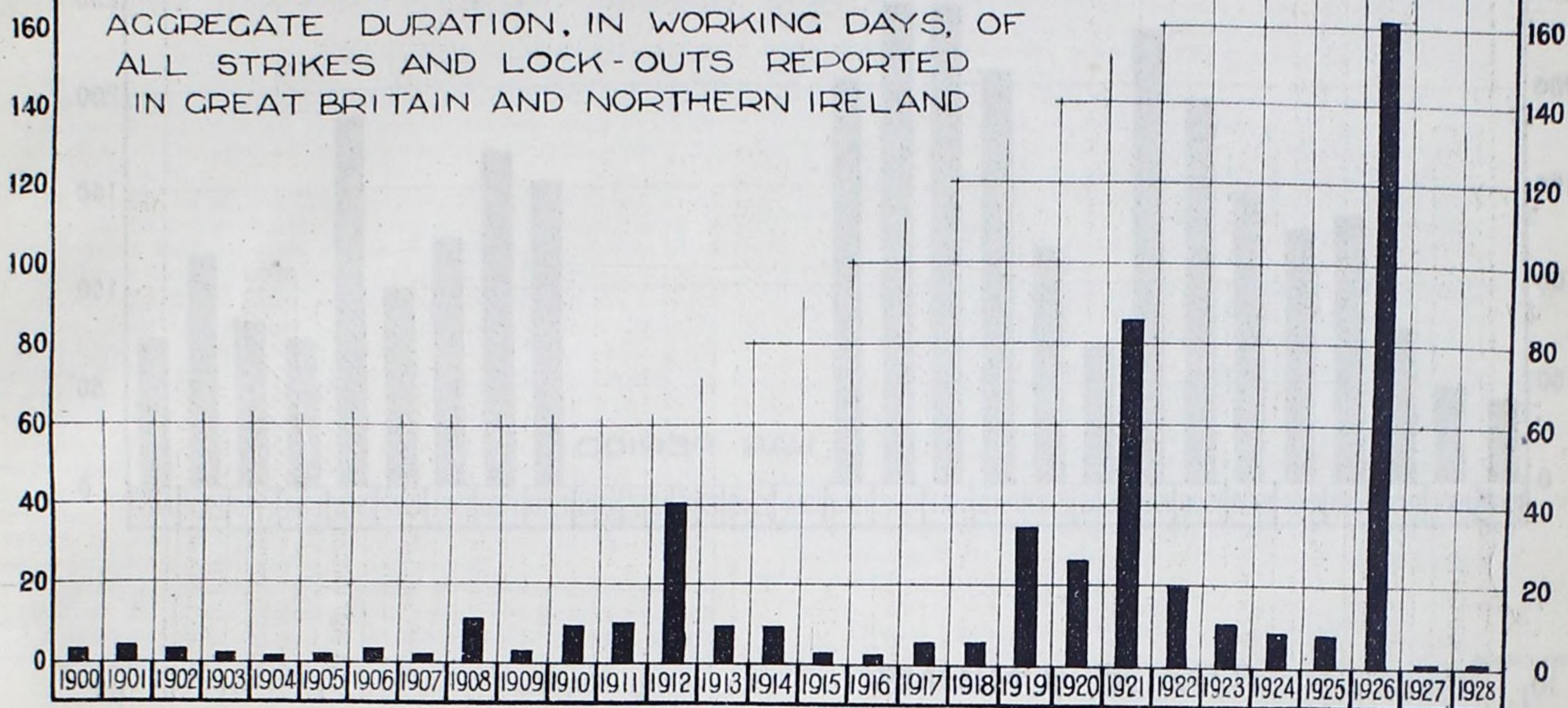




MILLIONS

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES

AGGREGATE DURATION, IN WORKING DAYS, OF
ALL STRIKES AND LOCK-OUTS REPORTED
IN GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND

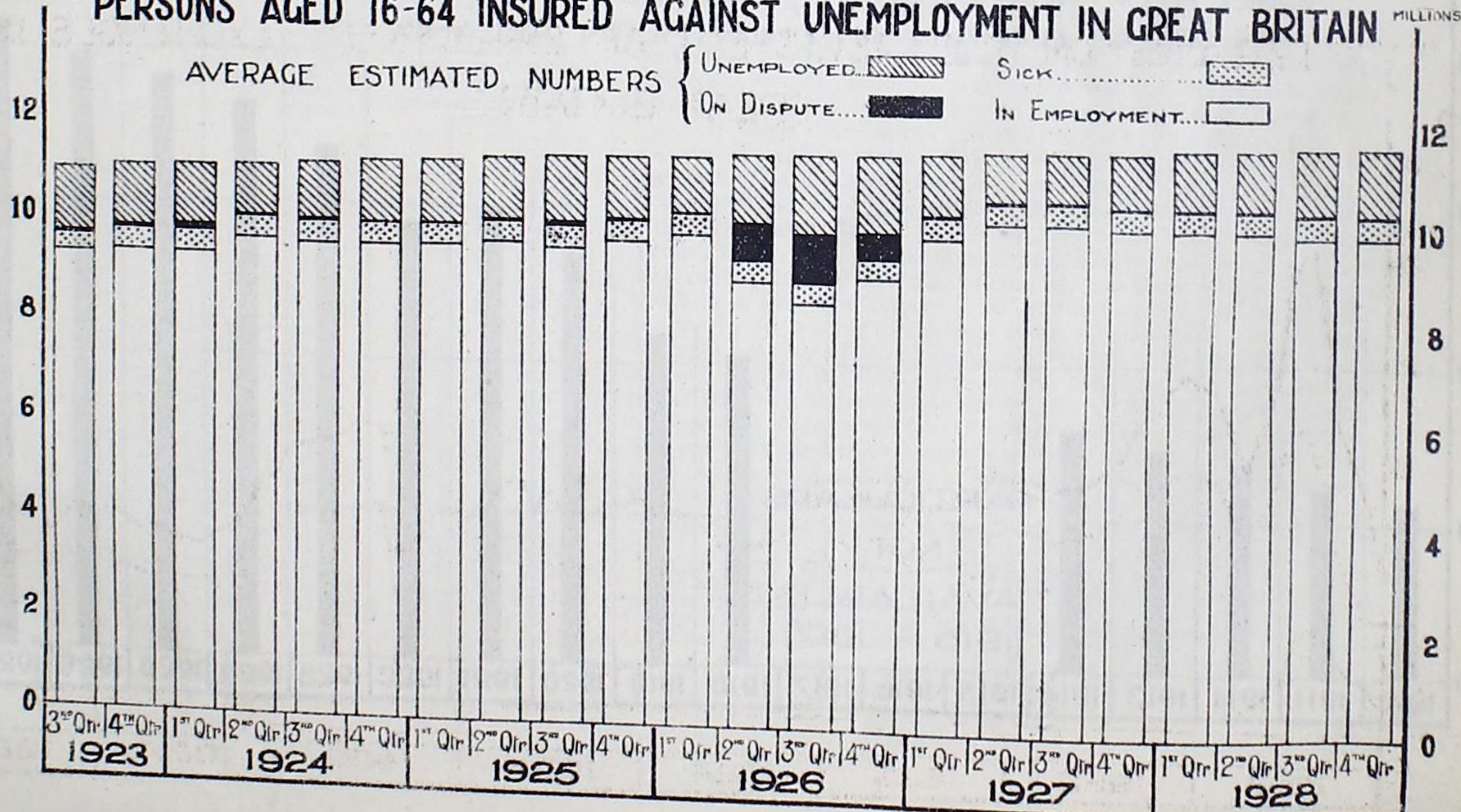


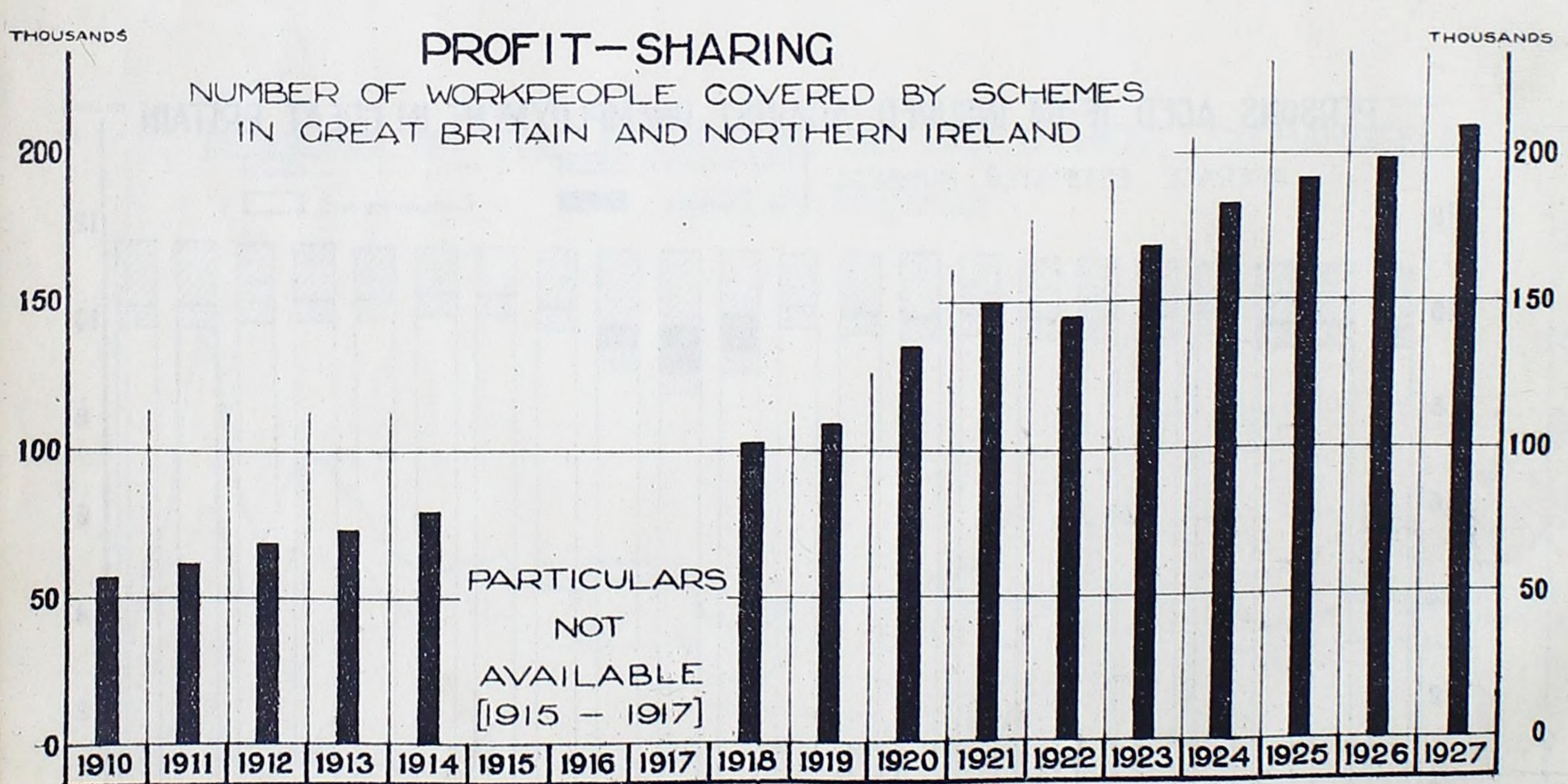
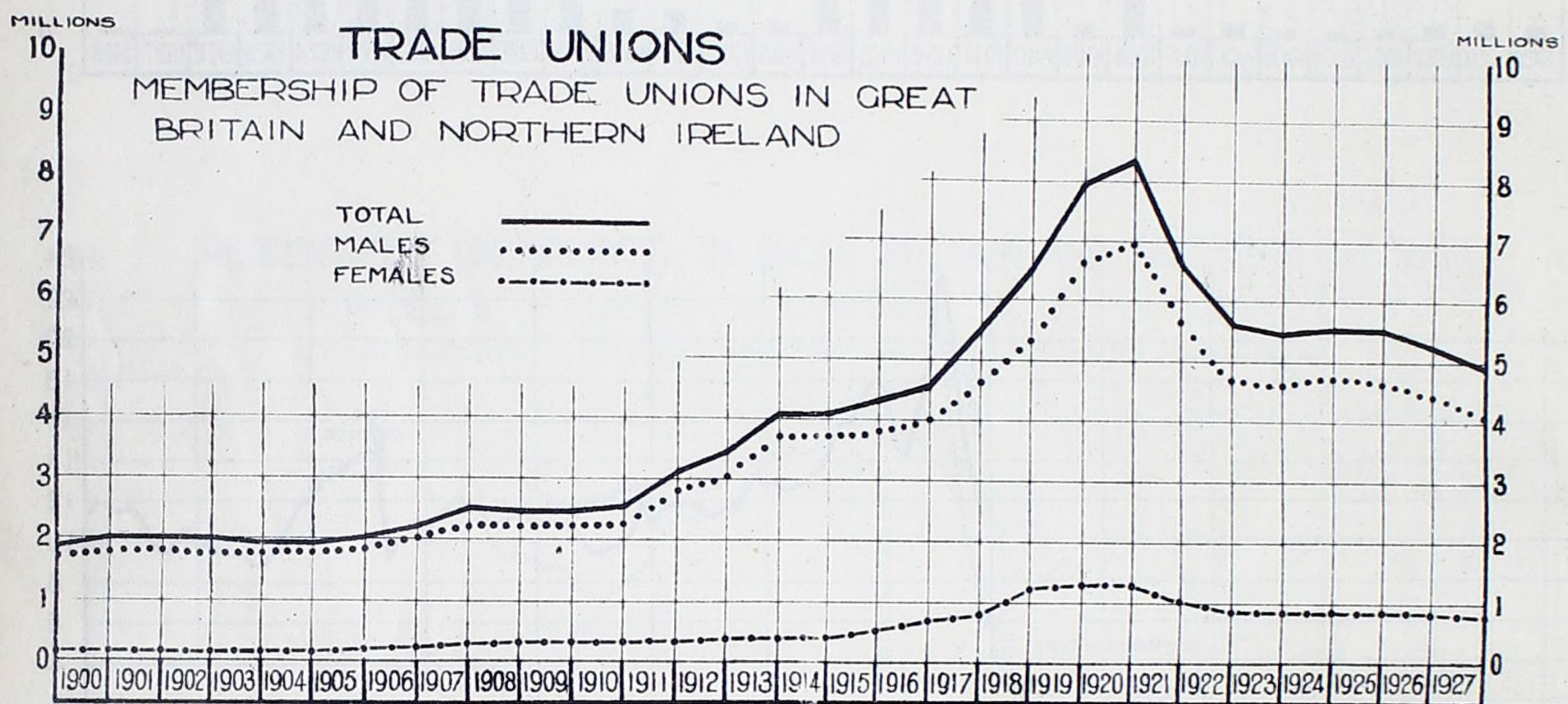
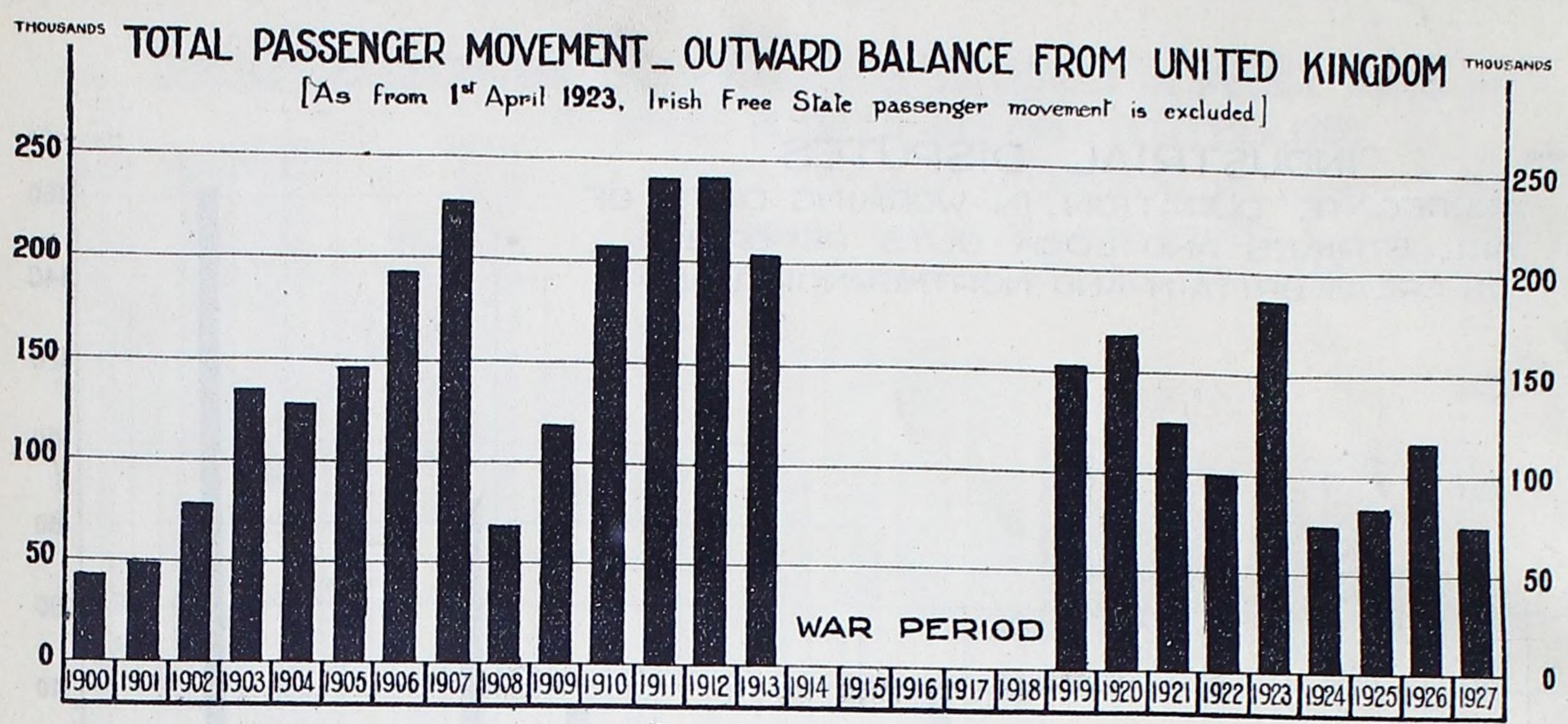
MILLIONS

PERSONS AGED 16-64 INSURED AGAINST UNEMPLOYMENT IN GREAT BRITAIN

MILLIONS

AVERAGE ESTIMATED NUMBERS





ESTIMATED NUMBER OF INSURED PERSONS IN EMPLOYMENT IN GREAT BRITAIN, 1923-1928.

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 62 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 $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the number of insured persons has been made. The sickness rate has been 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.

The following Table relates throughout to persons aged 16 to 64 inclusive. The figures represent the average of the numbers obtained for a date near the end of each of the three months in each quarter.

Quarterly Averages.	Estimated Total Insured aged 16-64.	Number Unemployed (Approximate figures, 1923-7).	Difference (nearest 1,000).	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)	(5)	(6)
<i>Thousands.</i>					
1923—July-Sept. ...	10,922	1,271	9,651	9,269	9,245
Oct.-Dec. ...	10,964	1,232	9,732	9,348	9,342
1924—Jan.-Mar. ...	11,006	1,182	9,824	9,438	9,356
April-June ...	11,048	1,034	10,014	9,627	9,617
July-Sept. ...	11,092	1,131	9,961	9,573	9,533
Oct.-Dec. ...	11,146	1,200	9,946	9,555	9,550
1925—Jan.-Mar. ...	11,200	1,241	9,959	9,567	9,562
April-June ...	11,254	1,238	10,016	9,622	9,612
July-Sept. ...	11,300	1,305	9,995	9,600	9,512
Oct.-Dec. ...	11,336	1,209	10,127	9,730	9,708
1926—Jan.-Mar. ...	11,372	1,155	10,217	9,819	9,800
April-June ...	11,409	1,425	9,984	9,584	8,888
July-Sept. ...	11,443	1,592	9,851	9,450	8,461
Oct.-Dec. ...	11,468	1,478	9,990	9,589	9,052
1927—Jan.-Mar. ...	11,493	1,246	10,247	9,845	9,839
April-June ...	11,518	1,031	10,487	10,084	10,082
July-Sept. ...	11,541	1,069	10,472	10,068	10,064
Oct.-Dec. ...	11,565	1,134	10,431	10,027	10,026
1928—Jan.-Mar. ...	11,589	1,173	10,416	10,011	10,006
April-June ...	11,613	1,147	10,466	10,059	10,051
July-Sept. ...	11,637	1,317	10,320	9,912	9,911
Oct.-Dec. ...	11,661	1,351	10,310	9,902	9,899

In the following Table the above figures are represented by index numbers, in the preparation of which (as in the series of Index numbers recently instituted in the *Board of Trade Journal*) the average for the year 1924 has been taken as 100.

Period.	Estimated Total Insured aged 16-64.	Number Unemployed.	Numbers not recorded as unemployed.	Estimated number in Employment after allowance for sickness, etc.	
				(A) including persons directly involved in Trade Disputes;	(B) excluding such persons.
				A.	B.
1923—July-Sept. ...	98.6	111.8	97.1	97.1	97.2
Oct.-Dec. ...	99.0	108.4	97.9	97.9	98.2
1924—Jan.-Mar. ...	99.4	104.0	98.9	98.8	98.3
April-June ...	99.8	90.9	100.8	100.8	101.1
July-Sept. ...	100.2	99.5	100.3	100.3	100.2
Oct.-Dec. ...	100.7	105.5	100.1	100.1	100.4
Average for year	100	100	100	100	100
1925—Jan.-Mar. ...	101.1	109.1	100.2	100.2	100.5
April-June ...	101.6	108.9	100.8	100.8	101.0
July-Sept. ...	102.1	114.8	100.6	100.5	100.0
Oct.-Dec. ...	102.4	106.3	101.9	101.9	102.0
1926—Jan.-Mar. ...	102.7	101.6	102.8	102.8	103.0
April-June ...	103.0	125.3	100.5	100.4	93.4
July-Sept. ...	103.3	140.0	99.1	99.0	88.9
Oct.-Dec. ...	103.6	130.0	100.5	100.4	95.1
1927—Jan.-Mar. ...	103.8	109.6	103.1	103.1	103.4
April-June ...	104.0	99.4	105.5	105.6	106.0
July-Sept. ...	104.2	99.0	105.4	105.4	105.8
Oct.-Dec. ...	104.4	94.7	105.0	105.0	105.4
1928—Jan.-Mar. ...	104.7	103.2	104.8	104.8	105.2
April-June ...	104.9	100.9	105.3	105.4	105.6
July-Sept. ...	105.1	115.8	103.9	103.8	104.2
Oct.-Dec. ...	105.3	118.8	103.8	103.7	104.0

OUTPUT, COSTS AND PROCEEDS OF THE COAL-MINING INDUSTRY.

A STATISTICAL summary* of the output, and of the costs of production, proceeds and profits of the coal-mining industry for the quarter ended 30th September, 1928,† prepared by the Mines Department and based partly upon returns made for the purpose of wages ascertainment for certain districts and partly upon other returns supplied by individual colliery owners, shows that at undertakings which produced 53,552,053 tons of saleable coal, or about 96 per cent. of the total quantity raised in the quarter, 49,460,446 tons were disposable commercially.

The net costs, after deducting the proceeds of miners' coal, amounted to £35,481,422, equivalent to 14s. 4.17d. per ton. The proceeds of commercial disposals amounted to £32,161,851, equivalent to 13s. 0.06d. per ton. There was thus a debit balance of £3,319,571, or 1s. 4.11d. per ton. An analysis by districts shows that the debit balances ranged from 8.57d. in South Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Cannock Chase and Warwickshire to 2s. 7.77d. in Lancashire, Cheshire and North Staffordshire.

The number of workpeople employed was 859,259, and the number of man-shifts worked was 50,679,567. The average output per man-shift worked was 21.13 cwt., the average for the districts ranging from 16.73 cwt. in Lancashire, Cheshire and North Staffordshire, to 23.69 cwt. in North Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire. The average earnings per man-shift worked were 9s. 3.25d., ranging from 7s. 3.95d. in Northumberland to 10s. 4.84d. in North Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire. These earnings do not include the value of allowances in kind.

The number of man-shifts lost which could have been worked (including absences due to sickness or accident) was 3,252,835.

The following Table compares some of the more important figures with those given in previous returns:—

Quarter ended	Proportion of Industry covered.	Amount of Saleable Coal raised.	Credit (+) or Debit (−) balance per ton.‡	No. of Work-people employed.	Output per man-shift worked.	Earnings per man-shift worked.
1924.	Per cent.	Tons.	s. d.		Cwts.	s. d.
31st Mar.	94	67,047,657	+2 9.63	1,111,280	17.79	10 2.82
30th June	93	61,552,868	+1 0.34	1,107,457	17.48	10 11.17
30th Sept.	92	59,163,976	+0 0.26	1,082,340	17.33	10 10.24
31st Dec.	94	62,428,185	+0 7.61	1,078,758	17.74	10 7.04
1925.						
31st Mar.	94	62,458,898	+0 6.13	1,074,079	17.98	10 7.58
30th June	95	54,982,191	−0 11.81	1,032,216	17.85	10 6.77
30th Sept.	98	54,976,337	−0 2.82§	1,013,757	17.88	10 4.85
31st Dec.	98	62,662,455	+1 6.70§	1,041,997	18.31	10 5.14
1926.						
31st Mar.	99	66,071,166	+1 4.99§	1,074,395	18.46	10 4.79
1927.						
31st Mar.	96	63,329,641	+1 2.41	969,943	20.66	10 7.12
30th June	96	58,880,719	−1 0.65	981,393	20.47	10 2.84
30th Sept.	96	58,585,249	−1 2.00	946,487	20.47	9 9.53
31st Dec.	96	60,350,401	−1 0.43	945,480	20.82	9 7.38
1928.						
31st Mar.	97	61,833,281	−0 9.34	921,448	21.24	9 5.02
30th June	97	55,034,291	−1 5.02	890,863	20.98	9 3.09
30th Sept.	96	53,552,053	−1 4.11	859,259	21.13	9 3.25

AGRICULTURAL WAGES IN SCOTLAND.

THE Department of Agriculture for Scotland publish half-yearly a Supplement to their Monthly Report in which particulars are given of the average cash wages and estimated value of allowances of the principal classes of farm servants in the various districts in Scotland. In the Supplement published with the Report for January, 1929, figures are given relating to the wages and allowances current for grieves and foremen, ploughmen, cattlemen, shepherds and orramen after the engagements made in the autumn of 1928.

For married ploughmen, the average cash wages shown for the counties of Caithness, Sutherland, Ross and Cromarty, and Inverness (excluding outlying islands) varied as between one county and another from 16s. 6d. to 24s. per week; the value of the extra allowances is higher in these counties than in most other districts, and, with the allowances included, total earnings ranged from 29s. 11d. to 35s. 5d. per week. In the North-East area, cash wages varied from 21s. 6d. to 28s. 10d. per week, and total earnings, including the value of the allowances, from 32s. 7d. to 39s. 4d. per week. In the counties of Angus, Perth, Fife, Clackmannan and Kinross the usual range of cash rates was from 27s. 8d. to 30s. 9d. per week, which, with the addition of allowances, gave total earnings of 36s. 11d. to 40s. 6d. per week; in certain districts in these counties for which separate averages are quoted the allowances given are of less value, and cash wages are correspondingly higher, the total earnings not differing materially from those quoted above. In the South-Eastern area the average cash wages given for the different counties varied from 30s. to 34s. per week, and the total earnings from 34s. 3d. to 42s. per week. Cash wages averaged 39s. or 40s. per week in Dumbarton and Stirling, and 36s. in Lanark, Renfrew and North Ayrshire, the total earnings in these counties varying from 39s. 7d. to 42s. 9d. per week.

* Cmd. 3256. H.M. Stationery Office; price 1d. net.

† In the case of South Wales and Monmouthshire the period covered is the quarter ended 31st October, 1928.

‡ Calculated on the quantity of coal disposable commercially.

§ After crediting subvention.

In South Ayrshire, Dumfries and Kirkcudbright, the average cash wages varied from 32s. 4d. to 35s. per week, and total earnings from 36s. 8d. to 38s. 9d. In Wigtownshire, where the extra allowances are usually considerable, the average cash wage is given as 24s. per week, and the total earnings as 37s. 10d. per week.

The above averages relate solely to married ploughmen, who have generally been taken as the typical farm servants in dealing with wage rates in Scotland. In the case of married cattlemen, the average total earnings ranged from 30s. 11d. per week in Caithness to 48s. 6d. per week in Dumbarton. For married shepherds the average earnings ranged from 31s. 6d. per week in Sutherland to 46s. 1d. per week in Argyll (Kintyre); while for married orramen the corresponding averages varied from 26s. 6d. per week in Ross to 42s. per week in Dumbarton and Renfrew. The foregoing averages exclude Orkney, Shetland, and the Hebrides, where earnings were usually lower.

The value of the allowances in kind is estimated in accordance with current market prices. Compared with the autumn of 1927 there was a fall in the estimated value of potatoes, while the value of other allowances remained unchanged. In the case of married ploughmen, average cash wages in nearly all districts were the same in 1928 as in 1927, and there was accordingly only a small decrease in the total earnings in those districts where potatoes formed a part of the allowances.

The Supplement also contains some general information as to the wages of female workers, boys, and casual workers. The wages of the last mentioned class usually vary, on a daily basis, from 4s. to 6s. in the case of male labour, though in some districts higher wages are said to be paid, up to 8s. per day. Female casual workers generally receive 3s. to 4s. per day.

RECENT CHANGES IN THE AVERAGE LEVEL OF "REAL" WAGES.

IN reply to a question in the House of Commons, on 31st January, as to the average hourly rate of wages of all workpeople for the years 1918 to 1928, and the hourly rate of "real" wages for those years, stated as a percentage of 1914, the Minister of Labour stated that the information in the possession of the Ministry of Labour is not sufficient to provide a satisfactory basis for precise computations as to the changes in real wages. The following Table, however, was supplied, giving (i) such estimates as are available with regard to the average level of rates of wages for a full ordinary week's work at the end of the years 1918-1928 in relation to the corresponding level in July, 1914 (taken as 100); (ii) the average level of working-class cost of living at approximately the same dates; and (iii) figures indicating the average relative level of real wages for a full week which would be obtained by combining the figures in columns (1) and (2) of the Table:—

Date.	Rates of Wages on the basis of a normal working week. (1)	Cost of Living. (2)	Real Wages, i.e., rates of wages and cost of living combined. (3)
July, 1914	100	100	100
End of Year—			
1918	195-200	220	89-91
1919	215-220	225	96-98
1920	270-280	265	102-106
1921	210-215	192	109-112
1922	170-175	178	96-98
1923	165-170	177	93-96
1924	170-175	180	94-97
1925	175	175	100
1926	175	175	100
1927	170-175	168	101-104
1928	170-175	167	102-105

The figures as to wages represent only approximate estimates arrived at after consideration of such data as are available, relating almost wholly to those industries, or sections of industries, in which organised arrangements exist for the negotiation of changes in wage rates on a collective basis. The cost-of-living figures are those regularly calculated by the Ministry of Labour as to the average changes in the cost of maintaining the pre-war standard of living of working-class families. In view of the incompleteness of the data on which the estimates as to changes in wages rates are based, and of the fact that these estimates represent averages of conditions varying widely among different classes of workpeople, the figures given in the final column should not be regarded as affording more than a very general indication of the average movement of real wages, on the assumption of a full week's work.

The increase in hourly wages, as compared with 1914, would be greater than that in weekly wages. It is not practicable to make any precise calculation as to the rise in hourly wages, but it seems probable that in 1928 the average level of hourly rates was between 190 and 200 per cent. of that of July, 1914.

It is important to note that the figures given for wages relate to rates of wages and not to earnings. For workpeople in employment, earnings have increased in a greater proportion than rates of wages as compared with 1914, owing to the greater prevalence of piece-work and for other reasons; but this greater increase of earnings is off-set to some extent by the higher general average of unemployment.

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION IN 1927.

THE Home Office have issued a White Paper* containing statistics of compensation and of proceedings under the Workmen's Compensation Acts, and the Employers' Liability Act, 1880, in Great Britain during the year 1927. The statistics relate to seven great groups of industries—mines, quarries, railways, factories, docks, constructional work, and shipping—in regard to which particulars of compensation are received from or on behalf of employers under section 42 of the consolidating Act of 1925. These groups embrace a large proportion of the chief industries, but it has to be borne in mind that they do not by any means cover the whole field. Besides the various commercial, clerical, and domestic employments to which the Act applies, there are several important industries which are not covered by the returns, for example, building, road transport, and agriculture.

Owing to the abnormal conditions prevailing in the year 1926, comparison is made throughout the statistics with the figures for 1925 rather than with those for 1926.

The aggregate number of persons coming within the provisions of the Acts who were employed in Great Britain in the seven groups of industries to which the returns relate was 7,403,222 in 1927, as compared with 7,541,014 in 1925, and with 8,359,183 in 1919, the largest number in any year for which statistics exist. It should be noted that the figure which the employer is asked to give is the average number employed throughout the year.

The following Table gives comparative figures for 1914†, 1925, and 1927:—

	1914.†	1925.	1927.
Number of workpeople covered by returns	7,057,111	7,541,014	7,403,222
Number of cases:—			
Fatal	4,216‡	3,030	2,567
Non-Fatal	437,900	473,055	455,852
Total	442,116	476,085	458,419
Payments for compensation:—	£	£	£
In fatal cases	679,732	864,726	763,271
In non-fatal cases	2,785,629	5,778,204	5,552,532
Total	3,465,361	6,642,930	6,315,803

The average amount of compensation paid in fatal cases in 1927 was £297, as compared with £285 in 1925, and with £161 in 1914. The average amount paid in 1927 in non-fatal cases was £81 9s. for lump-sum payments and £8 14s. for weekly payments, as compared with £82 10s. and £8 19s., respectively, in 1925; the average for all non-fatal cases was £12 4s. in 1927, the same sum as in 1925, as against £6 7s. in 1914.

The following Table shows the number of persons employed, the total compensation paid, and the cost per person employed, in each of the seven groups of industries covered by the returns for the years 1925 and 1927:—

Groups of Industries.	Persons employed.		Total compensation paid.		Cost per person employed.	
	1925.	1927.	1925.	1927.	1925.	1927.
Shipping	207,194	201,391	£ 237,148	£ 230,219	s. d. 22 11	s. d. 22 10
Factories	5,318,658	5,289,978	2,288,580	2,270,213	8 7	8 7
Docks	142,550	151,721	263,223	273,368	36 11	36 0
Mines	1,157,085	1,052,216	3,275,547	3,014,161	56 7	51 4
Quarries	76,274	76,017	107,754	105,883	28 3	27 10
Constructional work	108,813	122,762	151,943	141,232	27 11	23 0
Railways	530,440	509,137	318,735	280,727	12 0	11 0
Total	7,541,014	7,403,222	6,642,930	6,315,803	17 7	17 1

The figures given above as to total compensation paid in the seven groups of industries represent only the actual amount paid to workpeople or their dependants, and not the total charge on the industries, which would need to include the administrative expenses and medical and legal costs of employers, insurance companies, and mutual indemnity associations, the amounts placed in reserve, and the profits earned by the insurance companies.

Statistics regarding the various industrial diseases included under the Workmen's Compensation Acts show that compensation was paid, in the seven groups of industries, in 25 fatal cases in 1927, to the amount of £5,278, and in 17,079 disablement cases, to the amount of £548,492. The 25 fatal cases included 6 of lead poisoning, 3 of anthrax, 3 of epitheliomatous cancer, and 10 of scrotal epithelioma. The bulk of the cases occurred, as in previous years, in the mining industry, the majority being due to miner's nystagmus, "beat hand" and "beat knee." Cases of miner's nystagmus accounted for over 56 per cent. of the total number, and, together with "beat elbow" and inflammation of the synovial lining of the wrist joint and tendon sheaths, numbered 15,450, or 90·3 per cent. of the total number. The cases of miner's nystagmus, totalling 9,736 in 1927, showed a decrease of 1,599 compared with 1925.

Under the scheme of compensation for silicosis for the refractory industries§ (ganister mines and quarries, and factories engaged in the manufacture of silica bricks and similar articles for lining furnaces) compensation was paid during the year in 269 cases of

* Cmd. 3249. H.M. Stationery Office; price 9d. net.

† The figures for 1914 include Ireland; those for 1925 and 1927 do not.

‡ There was a great colliery explosion in this year.

§ See the issues of this GAZETTE for March, 1927 (page 95), September, 1928 (page 320), and January, 1929 (page 37).

disablement. Nineteen of these cases terminated fatally, and the compensation due in case of death was paid. At the end of the year there were 230 cases in receipt of weekly payments under the scheme, 43 for total incapacity and 187 for partial incapacity. The total amount paid in compensation during the year was £14,520, of which £3,245 was in respect of death claims and £11,275 for disablement. The Medical Board appointed under the scheme carried out during the year 1,718 periodic examinations of workmen, including 242 initial examinations of new workmen.

Statistics in regard to the administration of the Acts show that the total number of cases under the Workmen's Compensation Acts taken into court in Great Britain in 1927 was 6,426. Many of these, however, were applications for dealing with allowances already granted, and many were settled out of court or otherwise disposed of, so that only 2,889 original claims were finally settled with the cognisance of the courts. The decision in 2,160 cases, or 74·8 per cent., was in favour of the applicant.

There were 31,766 cases in which memoranda of agreements and informal arbitrations were registered in the courts, as compared with 29,771 in 1925.

Cases under the Employers' Liability Act, 1880, numbered only 45 in 1927, as compared with 583 in 1907, when the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1906, came into full operation. Subject to minor fluctuations, the figures have steadily diminished, and show that the remedy provided by the older Act is falling into disuse.

CO-OPERATIVE HOUSING SOCIETIES IN 1927.

THE statistics in the following Table, relating to the activities, in 1927 and previous years, of housing societies* in Great Britain, registered under the Industrial and Provident Societies Acts, have been compiled by the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies from the Annual Returns furnished to his office.

—	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.
Number of Societies ...	245	232	238	255	264	287
Number of Members ...	12,746	12,795	14,704	16,876	19,161	22,437
Capital:—						
Shares ...	£ 727,649	£ 719,689	£ 713,027	£ 769,406	£ 856,772	£ 964,157
Loans ...	7,387,703	7,096,735	7,066,474	7,695,241	8,788,506	9,851,397
Reserves† ...	76,315	129,164	194,706	265,066	330,144	386,207
Total ...	£ 8,191,667	£ 7,945,588	£ 7,974,207	£ 8,729,713	£ 9,975,422	£ 11,201,761
Rents receivable	469,804	500,985	477,545	481,504	529,195	604,722
Surplus on year before deduction of interest on shares ...	59,273	55,792	65,586	83,075	86,500	92,590

The particulars in the above Table relate to all societies registered under the Industrial and Provident Societies Acts whose primary concern is the provision of housing for members and others. These societies are by no means all, except in the widest sense, co-operative in character. Many have been promoted by, and are financed and controlled, apart from State loans, mainly by public-spirited persons interested in housing; while others are run by employers in the interests of their employees. Most of the societies provide houses for renting rather than for ownership.

A co-operative housing society established on the principles applying to an ordinary co-operative trading society would ordinarily pay a fixed rate of interest on its share capital, and use the remaining surplus (after any necessary provision for reserves, etc.) either to reduce rents or to pay a dividend on rents (the equivalent of a trading society's dividend on purchases). Only six societies, however, showed dividends on rents for 1927. Further, while the business of co-operative trading societies is almost wholly with their own members, less than one-half of the housing societies' returns showed tenants as shareholding members, and in the remaining societies the tenants could have no responsibility for the management of their societies, although they may have some voice in their affairs as members of tenant councils.

One hundred societies showed loans owing to the Public Works Loan Board amounting to £2,933,000. This figure represented about one-third of the total loan capital. The total value of the societies' land and buildings at cost was returned at £10,260,000.

Among the societies formed for the benefit of employees special mention may be made of a group of societies connected with Messrs. Cadbury Bros., Ltd., at Bournville, and others connected with the Great Western and the London and North Eastern Railway Companies. Capital expenditure by the former group of societies on building, etc. during 1927 amounted to some £85,000, and at the end of the year the total value of land and buildings stood at £286,000. In only one of the five societies established at Bournville is membership restricted to employees of Messrs. Cadbury Bros., Ltd. Six of the societies in connection with the Great Western Railway Company made themselves responsible for a capital expenditure of nearly £100,000, and reports of these societies stated that about 900 houses had been completed or were in course of erection. Three societies connected with the London and North Eastern Railway Company

* The housing societies referred to in this article undertake the building of houses, and must be distinguished from building societies, which help their members to buy houses, but do not erect them. Particulars of building societies will be found in Part 5 of the Annual Report of the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies.

† Includes aggregate of profit and loss balances.

were responsible for more than half the total of £278,000 advanced by housing societies upon mortgage during the year.

Mention may also be made of an interesting society recently established to build houses at Thorne Colliery, near Doncaster. During 1927 the society expended some £134,000 on buildings, road-making and development, and although it is only commencing its fifth year of business the value of land and buildings exceeds £420,000, the largest figure in the housing group.

In addition to the societies included in the above Table some of the ordinary co-operative trading societies have embarked upon housing schemes for their members. The Royal Arsenal Co-operative Society, Ltd., for example, expended nearly £450,000 on housing construction up to the end of 1927, its sales of houses amounting to over £370,000, and the value of the land and houses owned by the society, including work in progress, to £114,000. The Plymouth Co-operative Society, Ltd., also erects houses, and has advanced nearly £40,000 in 107 loans on houses built by its works department. In some instances, the Societies are content to buy existing property and do not build. The full extent of these subsidiary operations of trading societies is not available; but a scrutiny of their balance sheets showed that 19 large trading societies owned house property to the value of £580,000. Some of the housing schemes of these societies have been in existence more than 30 years.

Many co-operative trading societies also have mortgage schemes for assisting their members in house purchase, and have developed this form of business to a greater extent than the actual provision of houses. Some of these societies can offer advances on even more advantageous terms than building societies. The Great and Little Bolton Co-operative Society, Ltd., started a mortgage scheme as long ago as 1868. Since that date the society reports that it has assisted some 12,800 of its members to purchase their houses, and has lent in all £2,770,000 for this purpose. The Co-operative Insurance Society, Ltd., whose primary business is insurance, has also provided facilities for house purchase; and it was recently stated that this society had £2,000,000 invested upon mortgage in this connection, but that the society, at the time, was not undertaking further business of this character.

In addition, 19 mortgage societies were registered under the Industrial and Provident Societies Acts. These societies, like building societies, make advances to assist house purchase, but do not buy or build houses.

DEATHS OF SEAMEN IN 1927.

A RETURN* which has recently been issued by the Board of Trade shows the number of deaths, during 1927, among the crews of vessels registered under the Merchant Shipping Act, 1894.

The number of deaths among the crews of *steam and motor vessels* (other than fishing vessels) registered in the United Kingdom under Part I of the Merchant Shipping Act in the year 1927 was 1,194, distributed as shown in the following Table:—

Cause.	Deaths at Sea.	Deaths in River or Harbour.	Total.
Casualty to vessel ...	74	33	107
Other accidents:—			
On board ...	108	98	206
Ashore ...	...	125	125
Disease ...	216	459	675
Homicide and suicide ...	59	22	81
Total (including Lascars) ...	457	737	1,194
Lascars (included above) ...	112	137	249

Among crews of *sailing vessels* (other than fishing vessels) the deaths totalled 29, including 16 due to casualties to vessels, 11 due to other accidents, and 2 due to disease.

The number of deaths during 1927 caused by casualties to vessels was unusually small, being less than in any year since the War. The number of persons forming the first crews of vessels actually employed during the year was approximately 1,700 in sailing vessels and 234,200 in steam vessels; of those in steam vessels 160,100 were British subjects, 19,000 foreigners, and 55,100 Lascars (British subjects and foreigners).

Disease was a much more frequent cause of death among Lascars than among non-Lascars, though it was the principal cause of death among all classes, the number of deaths due to disease exceeding, both for Lascars and for non-Lascars, those due to all other causes put together. About three-quarters of the deaths of Lascars were due to disease, of these, 20 per cent. were caused by tuberculosis and 18 per cent. by pneumonia. Among seamen other than Lascars, a little more than half the deaths were due to disease, the principal fatal diseases being tuberculosis (12 per cent. of all fatal diseases), pneumonia (10 per cent.) and heart disease (10 per cent.).

The principal causes of death due to injury were: Suicide or supposed suicide, 13 per cent.; drowning in dock, etc., ashore, 10 per cent.; falling overboard from, or being killed on, decks of vessels, 10 per cent.; missing vessels, 9 per cent.; missing at sea, 9 per cent.; falling down hatchways, etc., 8 per cent.

Deaths among the crews of *fishing vessels* registered under Part IV of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1894, totalled 109. Of these, 35 were due to casualties to vessels, 50 to other accidents (including homicide and suicide), and 24 to disease.

* Return of Shipping Casualties to and Deaths on Vessels registered in the United Kingdom (1927). H.M. Stationery Office; price 2s. net.

DIAGRAMS ILLUSTRATING LABOUR STATISTICS.

A SPECIAL Supplement, which is included with the present issue of this GAZETTE, contains a selection of diagrams, etc., illustrating some of the principal official statistics relating to labour conditions. Explanatory notes with regard to each of these diagrams are given below.

Wholesale Prices and Cost of Living.

The first diagram shows the general movement of wholesale prices and of working-class cost of living during and since the War. The curve relating to wholesale prices is constructed from the Board of Trade index-numbers of wholesale prices, the average for 1913 being represented by 100, and that relating to cost of living is based on the Ministry of Labour cost-of-living index-numbers, which indicate fluctuations in the cost of maintaining unchanged the pre-war standard of living of working-class families, the level of July, 1914, being represented by 100 in this diagram.

For years up to 1927 the figures utilised are given in the *Nineteenth Abstract of Labour Statistics*.* For 1928 the wholesale index-numbers are published in the *Board of Trade Journal*, and the cost-of-living index-numbers in the *Ministry of Labour Gazette* (see, e.g., page 51 of the present issue).

Wages and "Real" Wages in Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

This diagram shows the average movement of weekly rates of wages and "real" wages in Great Britain and Northern Ireland in the past nine years, the average levels at the end of each quarter of 1920-1928 being expressed as a percentage of the average level in 1924 (taken as 100).

A detailed account of the nature of the information used in arriving at the figures relating to rates of wages utilised for the purpose of this diagram was given in the article on "Relative Levels of Rates of Wages, etc." which appeared in the issue of this GAZETTE for October, 1928 (page 352). Briefly it may be said that the figures refer almost wholly to those industries or sections of industries in which organised arrangements exist for the negotiation of changes in rates of wages on a collective basis, and it is important to note that they relate to rates of wages for full-time working and not to actual earnings.

The figures serving as a basis for the "real" wages curve are calculated by combining the foregoing figures relating to rates of wages with the Ministry of Labour cost-of-living index-numbers. Corresponding figures, based on July, 1914, taken as 100, with some reference to their limitations are given on page 44.

Comparative Levels of Real Wages, 1st October, 1928.

This graph is constructed from the figures in column 7 of the Table in the article relating to "Comparative Real Wages in London and Certain Cities Abroad," which appears on page 50 of the present issue of this GAZETTE. For further information on this subject, and for particulars of the sources of information and methods employed in computing the figures referred to, reference should be made to the *International Labour Review* (published by the International Labour Office, Geneva), and particularly to the issues of January, 1929, and October, 1924.

Points to be observed in comparing the levels indicated by the diagram are:—

(1) The "wage" measured is the average of the hourly rates of wages in a number of typical male occupations in the cities represented;

(2) The measure used to calculate the purchasing power of this average "wage" may be assumed to be the cost, in each city included, of a basket of foodstuffs in which the quantity of each article is as nearly as possible an average of the quantities of that article in the working-class household budgets taken by the International Labour Office as typical of the countries represented.

Diversity of Increases in Weekly Rates of Wages between July, 1914, and December, 1928.

For the purpose of illustrating the variations in the increases in rates of wages between July, 1914, and the end of 1928, the weekly rates in a number of occupations, selected to represent different types of employment, are plotted. It will, of course, be understood that the rates for the occupations selected do not purport to represent the average wages for the industries in which the occupations are found, that the selection made is dependent on the available material, and that the considerations advanced in the second of the paragraphs under the heading "Wages and Real Wages" above are applicable here also.

The figures used are in most cases the averages of the time rates of wages for the occupations specified in a selection of large towns or the principal centres of the industry, the actual averages being given in the article on Relative Levels of Rates of Wages &c. in the issue of this GAZETTE for October, 1928, (page 352).† Of other figures, those for coal-mining are based on the average earnings per shift for all classes of workers, as published by the Mines Department. For railway guards and porters the 1914 figure represents the average rate, while that for 1928 represents the present standard rate. In the case of boot and shoe clickers, lasters, etc., the diagram shows the minimum time rate in operation at the two dates. For the wool textile industry the average time

rate for willeys and fettlers in certain principal districts has been taken as illustrating the amount of increase. For cotton weavers the diagram shows the approximate average full-time weekly earnings in 1914, raised in 1928 in proportion to the recorded increase in piece rates, after allowance for the shorter working week. The figures used for agriculture are the averages of the cash rates, and allowances, of ordinary labourers in England and Wales, as estimated by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

Industrial Disputes.

Statistics are regularly compiled by the Department, based on returns obtained from the employers, or their associations, and from the trade unions concerned, as to the numbers of workpeople involved in industrial disputes causing stoppages of work, and as to the numbers of working days lost owing to disputes, at establishments where the disputes occur. Statistics for January, 1929, will be found on page 69 of this issue of the GAZETTE.

The diagram contained in the Supplement, showing the aggregate duration, in working days, of the disputes reported in the years 1900-1928, in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, is based on the statistics so compiled. The actual figures for these years (up to 1927) were published, together with other statistics on this subject, in the May, 1928, issue of this GAZETTE; and preliminary figures for the year 1928 were given on page 5 of the issue for January, 1929. The figures are exclusive of disputes involving less than 10 workpeople, or lasting less than one day, except when the aggregate duration (i.e., number of workpeople involved multiplied by the number of working days) exceeds 100 days. The inclusion of such small disputes, however, would not materially affect the figures relating to aggregate duration.

Unemployment in Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

A diagram is given showing the fluctuations in the percentages unemployed (a) in the period 1912-1928 among workpeople insured against unemployment under the Unemployment Insurance Acts, and (b) in the period 1900-1926 among certain trade unions.

As regards insured workpeople, statistics showing the percentages unemployed are published regularly in this GAZETTE (see, for example, pages 53, 64 and 65 of the present issue), and figures for the earlier years covered by the diagram will be found in the *Nineteenth Abstract of Labour Statistics*. It should be noted, in connection with these figures, that under the original National Insurance Act, which came into operation in 1912, unemployment insurance applied only to certain industries, and to about 2½ million workpeople. In July, 1916, the scope of unemployment insurance was extended to include workpeople employed on munitions work and in certain other industries, and this extension brought the total number insured up to about 3½ millions at the end of 1916. In 1920, unemployment insurance was extended, by a new Act, to substantially all industries, except private domestic service and agriculture, and the number of workpeople covered in 1928 was nearly 12 millions. Persons aged 65 and over ceased to be insured as from 2nd January, 1928.

As regards unemployment among members of trade unions, the records of which provide the only statistical basis available for tracing the fluctuations in unemployment prior to the introduction of National Insurance, returns were regularly collected by the Department from certain unions (mainly of skilled workers) which paid out-of-work benefit to their members, and the percentages unemployed as shown by these returns were published monthly in this GAZETTE until the end of 1926, when the series was discontinued. The figures will be found in the *Nineteenth Abstract of Labour Statistics*.

Number of Persons on the Registers of Employment Exchanges in Great Britain.

The figures on which this diagram is based relate to the total number of persons (whether insured against unemployment or not, and including short-time workers and others temporarily stopped from the service of their employers, not actually employed on the dates to which the returns relate), registered at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain at the end of each month in the period 1921-8. The figures are communicated regularly to the Press, and published monthly in this GAZETTE (see, for example, page 66 of this issue).

Number of Persons, aged 16 to 64, insured against Unemployment in Great Britain.

This diagram shows the estimated number of persons aged 16 to 64 inclusive insured against unemployment in Great Britain from July, 1923, to the end of 1928, divided into four sections representing respectively the numbers in employment, the numbers absent from work through sickness or other temporary reasons except holidays, the numbers directly involved in trade disputes, and the numbers recorded as unemployed. The column for each quarter is based on the average of the figures for one date in each of the three months. The section representing absences through sickness and other forms of unrecorded non-employment (except temporary holidays) has been based on a uniform allowance of 3½ per cent. of the numbers insured. The numbers unemployed include not only those wholly unemployed but also those temporarily stopped who were not at work on the day of the count. Persons aged 65 and over ceased to be insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts as from 2nd January, 1928, and their estimated numbers have therefore been excluded from the totals for earlier years. The statistics will be found on page 43 of this issue.

* Cmd. 3140. Price, 4s. net; 4s. 3d. post free from H.M. Stationery Office, Kingsway, London, W.C. 2.

† The figures for September, 1928, apply equally to December.

Total Passenger Movement—Outward Balance from United Kingdom.

This diagram is based on statistics prepared by the Board of Trade, and shows, for the years 1900–1927 (excepting the war period), the outward balance of passengers from the United Kingdom to the rest of the world, i.e., the excess of the total number of passengers leaving the United Kingdom over the total number entering the United Kingdom in each year. The diagram provides a rough indication of the net amount of emigration from the United Kingdom. As from April, 1923, passengers to and from the Irish Free State are not included in the figures on which the diagram is based.

Trade Unions.

The curves illustrating the changes in the membership of Trade Unions in Great Britain and Northern Ireland are based on the statistics given in an article in the December, 1928, issue of this GAZETTE (page 432). The figures relate to the total membership of all employees' societies—including those of salaried and professional workers, as well as those of manual wage-earners—known to include among their functions that of negotiating with employers with the object of regulating conditions of employment. All such societies with headquarters in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, whether registered under the Trade Union Acts or not, are included.

Profit Sharing.

This diagram is based on the statistics contained in the annual article on Profit-sharing and Labour Co-partnership which appeared in the June, 1928, issue of this GAZETTE (page 202). It shows the number of employees participating (or entitled to participate) in schemes of profit-sharing or of co-partnership reported to the Department as in operation in Great Britain and Northern Ireland in the years 1910 to 1927. The figures illustrated are exclusive of profit-sharing and co-partnership schemes in co-operative societies, as to which statistics are not available for the whole period covered.

JOINT INDUSTRIAL COUNCILS.

THE National Council for the Pottery Industry held its annual meeting at Stoke-on-Trent on 9th January, 1929. This was the forty-ninth meeting of the Council.

The Chairman drew attention to the fact that this was the commencement of the twelfth year of the Council's existence, and gave a brief review of what had been accomplished by the Council and the developments which had taken place in the industry during the past twelve months, drawing special attention to the advancement in the methods of firing by the use of electric kilns, efforts made for the suppression and removal of dust, and the conferences of Works Committees; indicating especially that, through the efforts of the Research Committee, sound progress is being made towards an improvement of working and health conditions. He also drew attention to the fact that the Merchandise Marks Order in relation to pottery would operate from 13th January, 1929, and that the Various Industries (Silicosis) Scheme of workmen's compensation issued by the Home Office, which applies to various processes in the pottery industry, would operate as from 1st February, 1929. He expressed the opinion that, while the Council had not accomplished all that it had had in view, particularly in connection with the apprenticeship scheme, much good had been done.

In the course of the meeting a large number of subjects were discussed, including trade statistics, organisation and welfare; and reports were presented by the Research Committee on various developments in the industry.

With regard to statistics, it was decided to petition the Government to make the provision of statistics under the following headings compulsory in various industries, and to ask the Association of Joint Industrial Councils to support such petition, namely:—

- (a) Average percentage of profits on turnover;
- (b) Average earnings per hour of skilled, semi-skilled, and unskilled labour;
- (c) Value and quantity of total production, and value and quantity of goods exported.

On the subject of organisation, attention was called to instances in which firms have not complied with the custom prevailing in regard to visits to works, and a request was made that every encouragement and facility should be afforded trade union officials to visit factories at meal-times and such other times as may be convenient for propaganda purposes and enrolment, provided that no interference is caused with the carrying on of the duties of the operatives.

A communication was forwarded to the Joint Conference on Industrial Re-organisation and Industrial Relations (the "Melchett-Turner" Conference) sympathising with and approving of the efforts being made by the Conference, and expressing the hope that all problems and difficulties encountered in furthering the cause of peace and prosperity in industry may be satisfactorily overcome. Attention was, however, drawn to the omission, from the interim report of the Conference, of specific recommendations for the establishment of Joint Industrial Councils or of reference to the fact that disputes are practically unknown in the industries in which such Councils at present exist, where, directly or indirectly, the Councils function as conciliation bodies for the prevention and settlement of industrial disputes; or that such industries, through the work of the Councils, have greatly benefited by improvements in health and working conditions, the utilisation of research results, and in many other directions. The Council suggested in all earnestness that the Joint Conference cannot advocate better and more effective means for the promotion of peace and progress in industry than the establishment of a Joint Industrial Council in every industry where such a Council is not already in existence. The Council also strongly urged that the Joint Conference

should assist the Association of Joint Industrial Councils in its endeavours to obtain legislation for the legalisation, when desired, of voluntary agreements arrived at by Joint Industrial Councils, a Bill in respect of which may probably be submitted to the House of Commons in the near future. The opinion was expressed that the fact of such a measure being in existence would tend, more than anything else would do, to the observance of industrial agreements, and the consequent elimination of disputes.

SILICOSIS IN THE SANDSTONE INDUSTRY.

I.—REPORT ON OCCURRENCE OF SILOCOSIS AMONG SANDSTONE WORKERS.

In November, 1922, it was suggested by the Joint Industrial Council for the Quarrying Industry that the Home Office should undertake an inquiry into the freestone section of the industry, with a view to obtaining definite evidence as to the occurrence of silicosis therein. It was decided that the Home Office and the Mines Department should co-operate in an inquiry, and a preliminary survey was made, in 1926 and 1927, by Dr. E. L. Middleton, one of H.M. Medical Inspectors of Factories. As a result of this survey, a scheme was prepared for a detailed medical inquiry, which has been conducted by Dr. C. L. Sutherland and Dr. S. Bryson, members of the Medical Board under the Refractories Industries (Silicosis) Scheme; and the Report on this inquiry has now been published.*

The number of workers clinically examined was 454, of whom 268 showed traces of fibrosis of the lungs.† Of those clinically examined, 266 were selected for radiological examination; and of these 112 were found to be suffering from silicosis.‡ The highest proportion of cases of silicosis was found among masons, quarrymen, and wallstone dressers; nearly half of those radiologically examined in these classes showed traces of the disease. In each of these occupations the workman produces the finest dust from the blow of a steel tool against the sandstone, and he is in constant, close proximity. The dust cloud produced by this work is not so dense as in some other occupations; but the close proximity of the worker, the continuous exposure, and the fineness of the dust, appear to be the factors which determine the high incidence of the disease in these occupations.

The proportion of those submitted to radiological examination who show evidence of silicosis increases with the duration of employment in the industry. The critical period appears to be 20 to 30 years' employment, when the number of cases is nearly one half of those examined, and the advanced stages of the disease begin to be reached.

Relief is found from the action of wind in blowing away the dust; but some workers are not able to stand to windward of their work, especially when working in a shed; and, when a number of "banker" masons are working together, one worker may catch the dust made by neighbouring workers.

Wetting of the surface of the stone has some influence in diminishing dust; but this has little effect in reducing the fine dust given off by the action of a cutting tool. To be effective, water (or steam) must be applied in considerable quantities, and directly at the point of origin of the dust. The quantity, composition, and degree of fineness of the dust are largely influenced by the varying kinds of stone used.

Various means of combating the development of silicosis are mentioned in the Report, including the use of water or steam (as described above), and various applications of exhaust draught.

II.—PROPOSED SPECIAL SCHEME OF WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION IN SANDSTONE INDUSTRY.

The Home Secretary announced on 25th January that, in response to an application from the National Federation of Freestone Quarry Owners and the trade unions represented on the Freestone Section of the Joint Industrial Council for the Quarrying Industry, he proposes to make a Special Scheme under Section 47 of the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1925, providing for compensation in respect of silicosis for workmen employed in the sandstone industry.

This scheme, which has been prepared in consultation with the Joint Industrial Council, would provide for payment of the compensation out of a special trade compensation fund, and generally would follow the lines of the compensation scheme made some years ago for the refractories industries. It would supersede the Various Industries (Silicosis) Scheme which was made on the 11th December last,‡ so far as the sandstone industry is concerned. For the purposes of the new Scheme it is proposed that the sandstone industry should be defined as meaning all processes in or incidental to the getting or manipulation of sandstone with a view to manufacture or sale, which are carried on at or within the close or curtilage of any mine or quarry or at any premises worked in conjunction with a mine or quarry, wherever situate. Certain exceptions would be provided for, and in particular it is proposed that the Scheme should not apply to a mine or quarry in which sandstone is worked occasionally only, and where no explosive or mechanical power is used.

Copies of the draft Scheme may be obtained on application to the Home Office, Whitehall, London, S.W. 1.

* Report on the Occurrence of Silicosis among Sandstone Workers. H.M. Stationery Office; price 1s. 6d. net.

† Fibrosis of the Lungs includes silicosis, as well as conditions due to dusts other than silica; and it may arise from causes not due to dust. Silicosis is the form of fibrosis of the lungs due to the inhalation of silica dust.

‡ See the January, 1929, issue of this GAZETTE, page 37.

MINISTRY OF LABOUR COST-OF-LIVING FIGURES.

IN answer to a question as to the possibility of a fresh inquiry into the cost of living, with a view to a revision of the basis of the present index number, the Minister of Labour made the following statement in the House of Commons on 6th February :—

"I regret that conditions of employment are not sufficiently normal to warrant the extensive inquiries which would be necessary in order to provide the data required to form a basis for a revised cost-of-living index number. It is desirable that a revised basis, when determined, should receive general acceptance and serve for a long period of years, and in view of this I think that the revision cannot well be undertaken at the present time."

WAGES AND HOURS IN THE BOOT AND SHOE INDUSTRY IN THE UNITED STATES.

THE United States Bureau of Labour Statistics has recently published the results of a survey in 1928 into earnings and hours of labour in 157 representative establishments, in 14 States, in the boot and shoe industry.* (A summary of the results of a similar inquiry made in 1926 was given in this GAZETTE for May, 1927, page 175.) The data were obtained in respect of 48,658 wage earners (including 20,346 females), or 23·5 per cent. of the whole number reported in the boot and shoe industry by the 1925 Census of Manufactures.

The survey shows that wages changed very little between 1926 and 1928. Average earnings per hour, all occupations combined, increased from 52·8 cents per hour in 1926 to 53·0 cents in 1928. Average full-time hours increased from 49·0 to 49·1. Average full-time earnings per week increased from \$25·87 in 1926 to \$26·02 in 1928.

The following Table shows, for some of the principal occupations, the average full-time hours per week, and the average earnings per hour and per week in 1928 :—

Occupation.	Average full-time hours per week.	Average earnings per hour.	Average full-time earnings per week.
		Dollars.	Dollars.
Males :—			
Cutters, vamp and whole shoe, hand	48·6	·824	40·05
Cutters, vamp and whole shoe, machine	48·7	·669	32·58
Cutters, trimmings, hand	48·9	·530	25·92
Cutters, outsole...	49·3	·716	35·30
Assemblers, for pulling-over machine	49·0	·577	28·27
Pullers-over, machine	49·2	·740	36·41
Bed-machine operators	49·2	·682	33·55
Turn lasters, hand	47·9	·831	39·80
Goodyear stitchers	48·9	·766	37·46
Edge trimmers	49·1	·764	37·51
Treers	49·2	·624	30·70
Females :—			
Skivers, upper	49·1	·458	22·49
Stampers, linings or uppers	48·9	·400	19·56
Cementers and doublers, hand and machine	49·3	·330	16·27
Folders, hand and machine	48·8	·416	20·30
Lining makers	49·2	·398	19·58
Top stitchers	49·4	·451	22·28
Vampers...	49·3	·505	24·90
Treers	49·3	·386	19·03
Repairers (not cobblers)	49·4	·377	18·62
All Occupations†			
Males	49·0	·625	30·63
Females	49·2	·397	19·53
Both sexes	49·1	·530	26·02

The variations in average full-time hours per week and average full-time earnings per week for male and female workers as between one State and another in 1928 are shown in the following Table :—

State.	Average full-time hours per week.		Average full-time earnings per week.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
			Dollars.	Dollars.
Illinois...	49·5	50·1	30·34	18·39
Maine	53·1	55·2	27·40	19·95
Maryland and Virginia	49·0	48·9	25·04	14·08
Massachusetts	48·1	47·9	34·78	22·66
Michigan	49·6	49·6	27·68	16·12
Minnesota	50·1	50·0	25·35	15·15
Missouri	49·6	49·8	27·23	16·73
New Hampshire	49·2	49·3	28·29	19·37
New Jersey	46·8	47·6	30·75	20·90
New York	47·9	48·5	32·09	20·86
Ohio	49·9	49·8	30·29	17·68
Pennsylvania	50·0	49·7	27·10	17·05
Wisconsin	49·4	48·7	29·49	20·06
All above States	49·0	49·2	30·63	19·53

* *Monthly Labour Review*, December, 1928. U.S. Bureau of Labour Statistics, Washington.

† Including occupations not specified in the Table.

SPECIAL BENEFIT FOR SEASONAL UNEMPLOYMENT IN GERMANY.

AN Act of 24th December, 1928,* amending the Employment Exchanges and Unemployment Insurance Act of 16th July, 1927, and an Order and Regulations, both of 18th December, 1928, issued by the Federal Employment Exchange and Unemployment Insurance Board, provide for a revision of the regulations governing the grant of unemployment benefit to workers whose unemployment is due to seasonal causes.

Under the Act of 16th July, 1927, the Federal Employment Board has the right to formulate special provisions for the relief of seasonal unemployment, either by prolonging the waiting period for such workers or by restricting the period during which they are entitled to benefit. Up to the date of the passing of the present Act, only the first method had been used; seasonal workers were subjected to a longer waiting period, but when they had established their right to benefit they drew it during the normal period of 26 weeks.

The new regulations, which came into force on 2nd December, 1928, and are to remain in force until 30th September, 1929, are stated to be of an experimental nature. They are designed to relieve the Unemployment Insurance scheme (which was essentially and primarily designed to cover only the risk of unemployment arising out of fluctuations in the general labour market) from the heavy strain imposed on its resources by the regularly recurrent phenomenon of more or less extensive unemployment in certain occupations at certain seasons of the year, more particularly in outdoor occupations during the winter.

The new legislation affects those occupations or branches of industry in which "regularly recurring unemployment is customary in the occupation." While the right of determining the occupations or branches of industry covered by this definition belongs, in principle, to the Executive Committees of the State Employment Offices, the Executive Council of the Federal Employment Board has exercised its over-riding power in this instance by determining in a classified list appended to the Regulations of 18th December, 1928, those occupations or branches of industry to which the new measures shall apply throughout the Reich, while, at the same time, leaving to the Executive Committees of the State Employment Offices a certain degree of freedom of action as regards the inclusion or exclusion of certain specified occupations. The list primarily covers outdoor occupations, chief among which are certain work in agriculture, forestry and horticulture, herring fishing, peat extraction, the building trade, stone-quarrying, brickmaking and railway maintenance. For the purposes of determining what workers fall under the new system, account is taken, not only of the nature of the undertaking, but also of the nature of the work performed; while it is at the same time a necessary condition that the worker must have been employed for more than half of the period of 26 weeks of insurable employment preceding his unemployment in one of the occupations specified as being subject to seasonal unemployment. The period within which the causes of seasonal unemployment are regarded as being operative is limited under the Order to a maximum of 4 months in any 12 months. Under the Regulations, this period is fixed as beginning on 1st December and ending on 31st March. The Executive Committees of the State Employment Offices are, however, empowered to fix other dates for the period of seasonal unemployment in their respective areas, having regard to prevailing climatic and local conditions affecting activity in the occupations concerned, but in no case may this period be limited to less than three months.

The main feature of the new system is that unemployed workers covered by it may not receive unemployment benefit to which they might otherwise be entitled under the general provisions of the Unemployment Insurance scheme for more than the first six weeks (subject, of course, to the normal waiting period) of unemployment falling within the prescribed period of seasonal unemployment. After the receipt of six weeks' standard unemployment benefit, they become subject to the provisions of a new system of "special benefit" (*Sonderunterstützung*) in cases of seasonal unemployment. The costs of this special benefit, like those of emergency benefit, are to be borne as to four-fifths by Federal funds, the remaining one-fifth only being a charge on the resources of the Unemployment Insurance scheme. The relief is administered on the same scale and subject to the same conditions as emergency benefit, and is, therefore, only granted subject to proof that the unemployed worker is in necessitous circumstances. The grant of "special benefit" counts towards the full period in respect of which the unemployed worker would normally have been entitled to standard unemployment benefit, but only to the extent of 50 per cent., that is, two weeks' special benefit is equivalent to one week's standard benefit; the total standard benefit drawn by the claimant together with the special benefit may not together exceed the equivalent of the statutory maximum of 26 weeks' standard benefit, under the Unemployment Insurance Act, in any period of 12 months. If, however, at the expiry of the period of seasonal unemployment, the worker has not exhausted his right to benefit, he comes once again under the provisions of the Unemployment Insurance scheme for such time as he may be qualified to continue to receive benefit.

It is estimated by the Minister of Labour that the cost to the Exchequer, for the financial year ending on 31st March next, of the special benefit system, will amount to 28 million marks in respect of relief for a period of 8 weeks for an estimated figure of 250,000 workers.

* *Reichsarbeitsblatt*, 25th December, 1928. Berlin.

THE RECENT DISPUTE IN THE GERMAN IRON AND STEEL INDUSTRY.

THE question of the legal validity of the conciliation award of 26th October, 1928, for the North West German heavy iron and steel industry was finally determined on 22nd January last by the Federal Labour Court, as the supreme court of appeal. The Court declared the award null and void, thus reversing the verdict of the State Labour Court at Duisburg, of which a summary was given in the December, 1928, issue of this GAZETTE. The Court held:—

(1) That, although the administrative regulations of 30th October, 1923, in application of the Conciliation Order, were to be interpreted in the sense that the Conciliator, in the absence of a majority vote in the Conciliation Chamber, could issue an award on his own authority, the relative provision of the administrative regulations in question was *ultra vires*, since the Federal Minister of Labour, in framing the regulations, had, in this matter, exceeded the limits of his competence.

(2) That the award infringed the terms of the covering agreement (*Rahmentarif*) of 16th May, 1927, which was still operative at the time of the award.

The Court thus, in effect, upheld, on both counts, the objections of the employers to the original award; and, although, after the award of Herr Severing (which was summarised in the last issue of this GAZETTE), the decision of the Federal Labour Court is without practical significance from the point of view of working conditions in the industry, it is of exceptional interest in relation to the German system of conciliation and arbitration.

WAGES AND HOURS MOVEMENTS OVERSEAS.

GERMANY.

Textile Industry.—The conciliation awards for the Bielefeld, Münsterland and East Saxony textile industries, summaries of which were given in the December, 1928, and January, 1929, issues of this GAZETTE, were all declared binding by the Federal Minister of Labour early last month as being in the public interest.

Following upon the termination by the employers of the wage and general agreements covering some 10,000 workers in the Krefeld silk industry, a conciliation award, the general effect of which is to grant a 5 per cent. increase in wages until 31st December, 1930, was issued towards the middle of January. The award, which also provides for the extension of the existing general agreement with certain minor amendments until 31st December, 1931, has been rejected by the employers on the grounds that, in common with the employers throughout the whole of the German textile industry, they are of opinion that the general economic situation is not such as to justify the slightest increase in wages.

Since the end of September, 1928, no wage agreement has been operative in what is described as the Saxony-Thuringia weaving industry in and around Gera, Meerane, Gluchau and Greiz, and, as all demands by the workers for increased wages were rejected by the employers, a strike was declared towards the middle of January in a number of weaving mills, and in certain undertakings engaged in the manufacture of carpets and carpet slippers. The employers replied, first, by declaring a lockout of all workers in the individual areas affected and, secondly, by extending the lockout on 25th January to the whole of the workers, numbering between 35,000 and 40,000 (including 6,000 home-workers), in all undertakings throughout the entire area. So far as is known, no steps had been taken by the end of the month by the authorities to effect a settlement by conciliation proceedings, and it was accordingly anticipated that the continuance of the dispute would soon bring to a standstill undertakings engaged on finishing processes and yarn dyeing, and also woollen and worsted yarn spinning mills in the locality.

After a strike of several weeks duration in the North Hanover textile industry, a conciliation award has been issued providing for a 5 per cent. wage increase.

Iron, Steel, and Metal Trades.—After direct negotiations between the two parties concerned, following upon the termination by the employers of both the general and the wage agreements for the Hanover metal trades engaged on working-up processes, the general agreement was renewed without change, and a fresh wage agreement concluded, under which the wages of all workers were increased by 3 or 4 pfennigs an hour. The age limit for the purposes of receipt of the adult wage was reduced from 24 to 23 years for all workers.

Fifty thousand metal workers in Central Germany, comprising the areas of Halle, Magdeburg, Anhalt and Thale, were affected by a conciliation award issued on 9th January last, the general effect of which was to grant a compensatory allowance (*Ausgleichszulage*) of 2 pfennigs an hour to workers over 20 years of age, and an increase of 2 pfennigs in the hourly wage rates of workers between 18 and 20 years of age, together with a compensatory allowance of 1 pfennig an hour. The award, which was accepted by both employers and workers, has effect until 15th February, 1930.

The wage agreement covering 90,000 metal workers in Württemberg and the Rhine Palatinate was terminated by the employers on 31st January last; they demand a long-term agreement at the wage rates previously in operation. Upon the breakdown of direct negotiations, conciliation proceedings were instituted, the outcome of which is not yet known.

Notice has also been given by the employers to terminate on 31st March next the wage agreement for the Saxony metal industry.

The iron and steel foundry workers of Upper Silesia gave notice to terminate the existing wages and hours agreement on 31st January last, and have advanced demands for an eight-hour day and the payment of overtime at time and a quarter rates.

FRANCE.

Coal Mining: Loire and Gard.—The strikes reported in the last issue of this GAZETTE collapsed owing to continued defections, and resumption of work became general on 16th January in the case of the Loire, and on 21st January in the case of the Gard, coalfields.

A strike of miners in the Department of Aveyron began on 11th January, in support of a demand by the *Syndicat Unitaire* (Communist) for a daily wage increase of 5 francs. Considerable defections brought about a collapse of the movement, which terminated formally on 22nd January.

UNITED STATES.

Coal-mining.—Following upon the recent dispute which affected 200,000 bituminous coal miners and lasted from 1st April, 1927, to July, 1928 (see the September, 1928, issue of this GAZETTE, page 322), new scales of wages have now been agreed in all States having any considerable number of members of the United Mine Workers of America. The new scales take the place of the old Jacksonville agreement with its minimum day rate of \$7.50 and tonnage rate of \$1.08.

In Illinois, a 4-year agreement was signed on 12th September, 1928, providing for a day rate of \$6.10 and a tonnage rate of 91 cents; about 80,000 miners are covered.

In Iowa, the new daily minimum is \$5.80 and covers about 12,000 miners as from 28th September, 1928.

In Missouri, Oklahoma, Kansas, Arkansas and Texas, about 8,000 to 10,000 miners are covered until 31st March, 1931, by a new scale based on \$5 a day and 70 cents a ton.

In Ohio, about 3,000 miners are covered by a similar agreement until 31st March, 1930.

No general settlements have been reported for the bulk of the miners in Ohio, or in Pennsylvania and West Virginia, but it is stated that many of these mines are working on a non-union basis.

HOURS OF LABOUR ABROAD: TRADE UNION REPORTS.

At the request of the International Federation of Trade Unions, inquiries were conducted by the Trade Union organisations concerned into the hours actually worked, during the first week of October, 1928, in eight groups of industries in each of the European countries whose trade union federations are affiliated to the international body. The industrial groups under investigation were mining, building, printing, chemicals, wood-working, metal and engineering, boot and shoe, and textile.

The results (other than for mining) of the inquiry made by the German Trade Unions were published in this GAZETTE for December, 1928 (page 437), and those for Switzerland, the Netherlands and Sweden, which have recently been published, are now appended. The general figures (all industries) for Germany are repeated at the end of Table I, below, for the purpose of comparison.

Table I.—Industries other than Mining.

Industry and Country.	Total Number of Workers covered.	Percentage of Total Number of Workers in each Industry employed during the week ended 6th October, 1928, on					
		Short time.	Full time (including overtime, where worked) of				
			Under 48 hours.	48 hours.	Over 48 and up to 51 hours.	Over 51 and up to 54 hours.	Over 54 hours.
<i>Building:</i>							
Switzerland	18,000	...	8.9	23.9	55.5	...	11.7
Sweden	49,063	0.6	0.7	96.2	1.1	0.6	0.8
Netherlands	33,539	...	5.6	84.2	2.9	1.5	5.8
<i>Printing:</i>							
Switzerland	2,700	...	20.4	79.6	...	...	...
Sweden*	12,623	2.6	5.7	76.0	4.6	4.9	6.2
Netherlands	9,682	0.1	4.1	90.9	1.7	1.1	2.1
<i>Chemical:</i>							
Switzerland	3,500	...	...	92.8	...	6.4	0.8
Sweden	19,473	11.3	0.8	66.7	2.5	14.6	4.1
Netherlands	5,792	...	1.3	80.2	8.3	6.0	4.2
<i>Woodworking:</i>							
Switzerland	5,000	0.4	36.0	62.0	0.6	1.0	...
Sweden	49,669	3.3	3.6	79.5	5.7	4.3	3.6
Netherlands	5,807	...	...	100.0	...	...	...
<i>Metal and Engineering:</i>							
Switzerland	86,000	0.1	0.4	58.0	8.7	30.3	2.5
Sweden	80,276	3.3	4.7	78.8	3.8	3.3	6.1
Netherlands	46,437	0.1	0.4	56.5	34.2	7.7	1.1
<i>Boot and Shoe:</i>							
Switzerland	8,300	4.2	...	3.6	0.6	91.6	...
Sweden	7,038	65.8	...	31.2	2.1	0.7	0.2
Netherlands	962	0.2	...	84.5	12.0	3.3	...
<i>Textile:</i>							
Switzerland	40,000	3.3	1.2	55.0	5.0	35.0	0.5
Sweden	30,156	20.1	...	73.5	2.1	3.0	1.3
Netherlands	48,395	1.7	2.6	95.2	0.3	0.2	...
<i>All Industries:</i>							
Germany	3,101,078	11.3	6.5	55.6	11.3	11.9	3.4
Switzerland	163,500	1.1	2.9	51.9	12.0	29.4	2.7
Sweden	248,298	7.2	2.7	79.3	3.3	3.8	3.7
Netherlands	150,614	0.5	2.5	80.0	12.0	3.0	2.0

* Includes also lithographers and bookbinders; the number of printers included is 6,779, of whom 73.5 per cent. worked 48 hours, 9.6 per cent. worked less than 48, and 16.9 per cent. over 48 hours a week.

Information has also been published regarding the actual working hours of miners in Germany, Sweden and the Netherlands. This is summarised in the following Table:—

Table II.—Mining.

Country and Nature of Mine.	Total Number of Workers covered.	Percentage of Total Number of Workers employed during the week ended 6th October, 1928.				
		Under 48 hours.	48 hours.	Over 48 and up to 51 hours.	Over 51 and up to 54 hours.	Over 54 hours.
<i>Germany:</i>						
Hard Coal...	582,182	7.5	72.1	...	18.7	1.7
Lignite ...	95,611	...	7.2	17.5	73.8	1.5
Metal Ore ...	25,848	...	62.3	3.6	30.0	4.1
Potash ...	21,364	...	50.0	...	...	50.0
Total ...	725,005	6.0	62.5	2.4	25.9	3.2
<i>Sweden:</i>						
All Mines ...	8,015	44.8	50.6	1.8	0.8	2.0
<i>Netherlands:</i>						
All Mines ...	34,000	74.4	23.8	1.8	...	...

WAGES IN AUSTRALIA IN 1927.†

IN the following Table, the minimum weekly rates of wages for adult male workers (unless otherwise stated), in various occupations in the six capital cities of Australia, are quoted from the appropriate Award, Determination or Industrial Agreement in force at 31st December, 1927. The normal working week is one of 44 hours, except where the rate given is marked with an asterisk, when the normal week is 48 hours.

Occupation.	Weekly Rates at 31st December, 1927.					
	Sydney.	Mel-bourne.	Bris-bane.	Ade-laide.	Perth.	Hobart.
Bakers:						
Board hands ...	s. d. 128 6	s. d. 128 4	s. d. 103 0	s. d. 107 6*	s. d. 100 0*	s. d. 100 0*
and			108 0			
Single hands ...	133 6	139 4	110 6	107 6*	110 0*	101 6*
Blacksmiths ...	114 6	113 6	110 11	112 0	109 0*	109 0
Boilermakers ...	119 6	114 6*	107 3	117 0	109 0*	105 6
Bootmakers:						
Male ...	100 0	100 0	100 0	100 0	101 3	100 0
Female ...	51 0	51 0	46 9	49 6	52 0	51 0
Bricklayers ...	126 6	129 3	120 6	121 0	117 4	106 4
Brassfinishers ...	114 6	113 6*	107 3	112 0	109 0*	109 0
Cabinet Makers ...	111 0	108 0*	110 11	104 0*	109 0*	106 0*
Carpenters ...	127 6	122 10	120 6	120 10	121 0	117 6
Compositors (Jobbing) ...	112 0	112 0*	112 0	112 0*	105 0	112 0*
Fitters (Engineering) ...	114 6	113 6	107 3	112 0	109 0*	109 0
French Polishers ...	111 0	108 0*	110 11	104 0*	106 0*	106 0*
Laundries, General hands, female ...	46 0	30 0*†	44 0	42 6*	54 0*	24 0*
to		50 0*				
Painters ...	118 4	113 8	120 6	113 8	119 2	106 4
Pattern-makers ...	123 6	122 6	112 9	121 0	118 0*	118 0
Plasterers ...	108 4	123 9	120 6	121 0	117 4	106 4
Plumbers ...	129 4	121 0	120 6	110 0	110 4	99 0
and						121 0
Saddlers ...	109 0*	109 0*	109 0*	102 6*	104 0*	109 0*
Tailors (Bespoke or ready made)...	105 6	105 6	105 6	105 6	114 6§	105 6
||					102 0||	
Tailoresses, Bespoke: Trouser hand ...	53 0	53 0	53 0	53 0	54 5	53 0
and					55 10	
Coat hand ...	58 0	58 0	58 0	58 0	63 10	58 0
Tinsmiths ...	99 6	105 6*	101 2	102 0*	105 0*	108 0*
Wharf Labourers ...	¶2 11½	¶2 11½	¶2 11	¶2 11½	¶2 11½	¶2 11½
Wool Textile Workers:						
Male Spinners ...	89 0	88 6*	96 0	85 6*	81 0*	85 6*
Female Weavers	60 0	50 0*	43 0	48 0*	46 0*	48 6*

COAL-MINING WAGES IN BELGIUM.

STATISTICS of earnings in the Belgian coal mines are published annually by the Belgian Ministry of Industry and Labour. The following Table shows the average daily earnings of certain categories of workers in the coal fields for the years 1925, 1926 and 1927. The earnings, which include the workers' contributions to social insurance, are obtained by dividing the total pay roll by the number of days of attendance.

Occupations.	Average daily earnings of workers (in Belgian francs) in the years indicated.		
	1925.	1926.	1927.**
Hewers ...	32.32	37.77	50.13
All underground workers ...	29.25	34.29	44.98
Surface workers ...	20.72	23.85	31.31
All mine workers ...	26.49	30.99	40.83

* Normal week 48 hours.

† *Labour Report*, 1927, No. 18, September, 1928. Published by the Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics, Melbourne.

‡ Ruling or predominant rate. § Bespoke. || Readymade. ¶ Rate per hour.

** Provisional figures.

The large increase in earnings since 1926 is due to the application of a "combined index" to the regulation of wages in the coal industry. This "combined index" was arranged so that 75 per cent. of the basic wage would bear variations according to the retail price index, and 25 per cent. according to the price of coal.

The normal working hours of persons employed in and about Belgian mines are limited by law to 8 a day and 48 a week. The eight hour shift of underground workers includes both winding times. In 1925, the average actual hours of work at the face were 6 hours 20 minutes.

COMPARATIVE REAL WAGES IN LONDON AND CERTAIN CITIES ABROAD.

THE series of index numbers of comparative "real wages" in London and in certain cities abroad, compiled by the International Labour Office from returns supplied (as a general rule) by official statistical departments in the various countries, is carried down to October, 1928 (usually the beginning of the month), in the January, 1929, issue of the "International Labour Review" published by that Office. The computations have for their object a comparison of working-class real wages, so far as these can be gauged by the quantity of food which can be purchased in each city by the wages paid for 48 hours' work at the normal time rate (*i.e.*, apart from extra payment for overtime) to typical categories of adult male workers in certain industries (building, engineering, furniture making, printing and bookbinding) common to large cities.

The following Table gives the latest figures computed—(a) on the basis of the varying standards of working-class consumption of food appropriate to different countries—*see* columns 1 to 6; (b) on the basis of a composite standard of food consumption representing a general average for all the countries concerned—*see* column 7; and (c) on the basis of this composite food standard with a modification to allow for the varying proportions of rent represented in the working-class budgets of expenditure in the different countries—*see* column 8. The average level of real wages in the selected occupations in each city is expressed as a percentage of the average level in the same group of occupations in London. Corresponding figures for July, 1928, were reproduced in the issue of this GAZETTE for December last.

Index Numbers of Comparative Real Wages (or Comparative Purchasing Power of Real Wages) in London and certain Cities Abroad in October, 1928 (London = 100).

City.	Index Numbers based on Quantities of each Kind of Food Consumed in Working-class Households in						General Average Index Nos. based on Food only.	General Average Index Nos. with Allowance for Rent.
	Belgium and France.	Central Europe.	Great Britain.	Southern Europe.	Scandinavian Countries.	*Overseas Countries.		
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
London ...	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Amsterdam ...	82	84	77	82	92	83	83	83
Berlin ...	62	75	66	66	81	72	70	65
Brussels ...	50	50	52	50	55	49	51	55
Copenhagen ...	92	116	101	98	127	112	108	107
Dublin ...	95	101	101	95	100	98	98	107
Lodz ...	43	52	42	46	55	49	48	53
Madrid ...	51	51	49	54	53	52	52	...
Milan ...	46	52	44	50	53	48	49	48
Ottawa ...	140	157	155	144	167	159	154	152
Paris ...	59	58	53	57	63	55	58	...
Philadelphia ...	174	191	185	179	215	191	189	189
Prague ...	45	48	44	48	51	48	47	50
Rome ...	43	42	40	47	46	46	46	41
Stockholm† ...	79	78	87	86	102	95	88	86
Vienna ...	36	46	39	40	53	45	43	48
Warsaw ...	38	47	36	41	49	43	42	43

It is explained in the "International Labour Review" that the figures are subject to important reservations. In particular, the wage and price data for the different cities used as basis for the comparisons are not strictly comparable. In the case of Rome, the relatively low index numbers of real wages may be accounted for in part by differences in the items of food consumption in Southern European countries as compared with those ordinarily consumed in most of the other countries included in the Table. Further, the index numbers do not show differences in the *general* level of real wages, even in the cities included, being based on the wages of a few categories of workers in four industries only, and on the prices of a limited number of articles of food. In the second series of general averages given in the last column of the Table, although an allowance is made for rent, no account is taken of expenditure on heating and lighting, furniture, clothing and other items of ordinary consumption. The figures, therefore, should not be regarded as affording more than a rough indication of the relative levels of real wages in the occupations and cities selected for comparison.

* Canada and the United States.

† The figures are based on wages in the building, furniture making, and printing industries only. For other cities, the metal industry is also included.

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

Summary: Average Increases since July, 1914.

All Items included	...	...	65%
Food only	...	...	56%

FOOD.

Between 1st January and 1st February there was a decline in the average level of the retail prices of food, due mainly to reductions in the average prices of eggs, bacon, fish, butter and cheese.

As a net result of all the changes recorded, the average increase compared with July, 1914, in the retail prices (in Great Britain and Northern Ireland) of the articles of food included in these statistics was about 56 per cent. at 1st February, 1929, as compared with 59 per cent. a month ago and 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 January and 1st February, 1929:—

Article.	Average Price (per lb. unless otherwise indicated— to the nearest ¼d.)			Average Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) at 1st Feb., 1929, as compared with	
	July, 1914.	1st Jan., 1929.	1st Feb., 1929.	July, 1914.	1st Jan., 1929.
Beef, British—	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Ribs ...	0 10	1 4½	1 4½	+ 0 6½	...
Thin Flank ...	0 6½	0 9½	0 9½	+ 0 2½	...
Beef, Chilled or Frozen—					
Ribs ...	0 7½	0 10½	0 10½	+ 0 3	...
Thin Flank ...	0 4½	0 5½	0 5½	+ 0 0½	...
Mutton, British—					
Legs ...	0 10½	1 6	1 6	+ 0 7½	...
Breast ...	0 6½	0 10	0 10	+ 0 3½	...
Mutton, Frozen—					
Legs ...	0 6½	0 11½	0 11½	+ 0 5	...
Breast ...	0 4	0 5	0 5	+ 0 1	...
Bacon (streaky)*	0 11½	1 4	1 3½	+ 0 4½	— 0 0½
Flour ... per 7 lb.	0 10½	1 3½	1 3½	+ 0 5	...
Bread ... per 4 lb.	0 5½	0 8½	0 8½	+ 0 2½	...
Tea ...	1 6½	2 4½	2 4½	+ 0 10½	...
Sugar (granulated) ...	0 2	0 3	0 3	+ 0 1	...
Milk ... per quart	0 3½	0 6½	0 6½	+ 0 3	...
Butter—					
Fresh ...	1 2½	2 1	2 0½	+ 0 10½	— 0 0½
Salt ...	1 2½	1 11½	1 11½	+ 0 9	— 0 0½
Cheese† ...	0 8½	1 3	1 2½	+ 0 5½	— 0 0½
Margarine ...	0 7	0 7½	0 7½	+ 0 0½	...
Eggs (fresh) ... each	0 1½	0 2½	0 2½	+ 0 1½	— 0 0½
Potatoes ... per 7 lb.	0 4½	0 6½	0 6½	+ 0 1½	...

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

Article.	Average Percentage Increase at 1st February, 1929, as compared with July, 1914.			Corre- sponding General Average for 1st Jan., 1929.
	Large Towns (Popula- tions over 50,000).	Small Towns and Villages.	General Average.	
Beef, British—	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Ribs ...	68	67	68	68
Thin Flank ...	37	39	38	38
Beef, Chilled or Frozen—				
Ribs ...	42	41	42	43
Thin Flank ...	12	16	14	13
Mutton, British—				
Legs ...	73	75	74	74
Breast ...	55	53	54	54
Mutton, Frozen—				
Legs ...	75	65	70	69
Breast ...	26	29	27	27
Bacon (streaky)*	41	40	41	43
Fish ...	126	99	113	118
Flour ...	44	48	46	46
Bread ...	50	48	49	49
Tea ...	52	59	56	55
Sugar (granulated) ...	51	44	47	49
Milk ...	86	92	89	89
Butter—				
Fresh ...	67	73	70	72
Salt ...	63	64	63	66
Cheese† ...	67	69	68	72
Margarine ...	9	4	6	6
Eggs (fresh) ...	110	102	106	131
Potatoes ...	46	22	34	36
All above articles of Food (Weighted Percentage Increase) ...	57	55	56	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 the changes which have taken effect under the Rent and Mortgage Interest (Restrictions) Acts indicate that the average increase in the controlled rents (including rates) of working-class dwellings between July, 1914, and 1st February, 1929, was approximately 50 per cent. The proportions of rents which are decontrolled are still small. When figures for these are also included the combined average increase in working-class rents since July, 1914, is approximately 52 per cent. This latter figure has been utilised in calculating the final percentage increase for all the items included in these statistics.

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

In the *fuel and light* group the prices of coal at 1st February were slightly higher, on the average, than a month earlier, and about 80 per cent. above the level of July, 1914. The average price of gas remained unchanged, at between 45 and 50 per cent. above the pre-war level. For the fuel and light group as a whole (including coal, gas, oil, candles and matches) the average increase at 1st February, as compared with July, 1914, was between 70 and 75 per cent.

ALL ITEMS.

If the average increases in the cost of all the foregoing items are combined in accordance with their relative importance in pre-war working-class family expenditure, allowance being also made for the increase in the prices of soap, soda, domestic ironmongery, brushware and pottery, tobacco, fares and newspapers (averaging about 80 per cent.), the resultant general average increase for 1st February is, approximately, **65 per cent.*** over the level of July, 1914, as compared with 67 per cent. at 1st January, 1929, and 66 per cent. at 1st February, 1928.

The result of this calculation (in which the same quantities and, as far as possible, the same qualities of each item are taken in 1929 as in 1914) is to show the *average increase in the cost of maintaining unchanged the pre-war standard of living of working-class families* (i.e., the standard actually prevailing in working-class families before the war, irrespective of whether such standard was adequate or not). Owing to the variations in the amounts of increase in the prices of different commodities it is probable that economies or 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, as to which trustworthy statistics are not available.

SUMMARY TABLE: 1919 TO 1929.

The following Table shows the average percentage increase, as compared with July, 1914, for all the items included in the statistics, at the beginning of each month, 1919 to 1929:—

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

Month (beginning of).	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929
Jan. ...	120	125	165	92	78	77	80	75	75	68	67
Feb. ...	120	130	151	88	77	79	79	73	72	66	65
Mar. ...	115	130	141	86	76	78	79	72	71	64	...
April ...	110	132	133	82	74	73	75	68	65	64	...
May ...	105	141	128	81	70	71	73	67	64	64	...
June ...	105	150	119	80	69	69	72	68	63	65	...
July ...	105-110	152	119	84	69	70	73	70	66	65	...
Aug. ...	115	155	122	81	71	71	73	70	64	65	...
Sept. ...	115	161	120	79	73	72	74	72	65	65	...
Oct. ...	120	164	110	78	75	76	76	74	67	66	...
Nov. ...	125	176	103	80	75	80	76	79	69	67	...
Dec. ...	125	169	99	80	77	81	77	79	69	68	...

NOTE.

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

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

EMPLOYMENT IN JANUARY.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

In the week after Christmas there was the usual decline in employment, but this was followed by a steady improvement throughout January. At the end of the month, however, employment in all but a few industries was worse than in the third week of December, and was about the same, on the whole, as at the end of November.

The principal decline occurred in the group which includes the building trade, public works contracting, and the brick and tile, artificial stone and cement industries. Other industries in which there was an increase in unemployment included the pottery, glass bottle, tinplate, general and constructional engineering, and the miscellaneous metal trades; together with the woollen and worsted, silk and artificial silk, hosiery, lace and carpet industries, textile bleaching, dyeing and furnishing, the leather trades, tailoring and dressmaking, boot and shoe manufacture, the food, drink and tobacco industries, other than grain milling, the furniture and woodworking, printing and paper industries, and the distributive trades.

On the other hand, there was a further improvement in shipbuilding and ship repairing, marine engineering, the linen textile industry, and in hat and cap manufacture.

In the coal mining industry there was little change, on the whole. The numbers wholly unemployed showed a decline, which was, however, counterbalanced by a rise in the number temporarily stopped.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS.

Among workpeople numbering approximately 11,880,000, insured against unemployment in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and working in practically every industry except agriculture and private domestic service, the percentage unemployed at 21st January, 1929 (including those temporarily stopped as well as those wholly unemployed), was 12·3 as compared with 11·2 at 17th December, 1928, and 10·7 at 23rd January, 1928. For males alone the percentage at 21st January, 1929, was 13·8, as compared with 12·6 at 17th December, 1928; for females the corresponding figures were 8·5 and 7·5. The percentage wholly unemployed at 21st January, 1929, was 9·8, as compared with 9·1 at 17th December, 1928. The total number of persons (insured and uninsured) registered at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland at 28th January, 1929, was approximately 1,434,000, of whom 1,113,000 were men and 236,000 were women, the remainder being boys and girls; at 31st December, 1928, it was 1,565,000, of whom 1,211,000 were men and 275,000 were women; and at 30th January, 1928, it was 1,199,000, of whom 949,000 were men and 171,000 were women.

EMPLOYMENT IN THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES.

Mining and Quarrying.—In the coal-mining industry employment continued bad, and showed little change, on the whole, as compared with the previous month. The total number of wage-earners on the colliery books at 26th January, 1929, was 907,044, an increase of 0·8 per cent. as compared with 22nd December, 1928, but a decrease of 6·6 per cent. as compared with 28th January, 1928; the average number of days worked per week in the fortnight ended 26th January, 1929, was 5·24, as compared with 5·31 in the fortnight ended 22nd December, 1928, and with 4·95 in the fortnight ended 28th January, 1928.

In the iron-mining industry employment continued slack. In the shale mines in West Lothian there was a decrease of 1·9 per cent. in the number of workpeople employed at the mines from which returns were received as compared with December, 1928, and of 1·6 per cent. as compared with January, 1928. At limestone quarries in the Clitheroe district employment showed a slight decline; in the Weardale district it continued moderate. At Aberdeen granite quarries and yards employment was good. At chalk quarries it remained slack; at the slate quarries in North Wales it continued fairly good. At china clay quarries in Devon and Cornwall employment was again reported to be slack; at tin mines it continued good.

Manufacture of Pig Iron, Iron and Steel, and Tinplate.—In the pig-iron industry employment showed an improvement as compared with the previous month. Of 424 furnaces, the number in blast at the end of January, 1929 was 139, as compared with 132 at the end of December, 1928, and with 148 at the end of January, 1928.

At iron and steel works employment was still bad, and showed little change as compared with the previous month. In the tinplate industry the arrangement for stabilising prices and regulating output, whereby provision was made for each works to stop three weeks out of every thirteen, continued. In the week ended 26th January, 389 mills were in operation at the works for which information is available, as compared with 378 in the week ended 22nd December, 1928, and with 405 in January, 1928. In steel sheet manufacture employment continued fair generally; in the week ended 26th January, 131 mills were in operation, as compared with 132 in the week ended 22nd December, 1928, and 120 in January, 1928.

Engineering, Shipbuilding and Metal Industries.—In engineering employment declined and was very slack, on the whole. It was fairly good in electrical engineering, and fair on motor vehicle work, but some decline was experienced in each of these sections. There was also a further falling off in constructional engineering, where employment continued bad. In marine engineering conditions were still very bad, but showed a distinct improvement. Considerable

short time was still in operation in the textile machinery section, while the full working week had not yet been restored at all railway works. In shipbuilding and ship-repairing employment was very bad, on the whole, but showed a further improvement.

In the other metal trades employment continued moderate to fair, on the whole. It was fairly good in the tube, brasswork, and nut and bolt trades; fair in the sheet metal, file and hollow-ware trades; moderate in the wire manufacture, metallic bedstead, and needle and fishing tackle trades; slack or bad in the stove and grate, cutlery, jewellery and plated wares, and chain and anchor trades.

Textile Industries.—In the cotton industry employment showed little general change during January. Under-employment in various forms still prevailed in the section spinning American cotton; in the Egyptian spinning section employment remained, on the whole, fairly good; in the weaving department it showed considerable variations as between the different districts, but, on the whole, showed no marked change.

In the wool textile industry employment was worse than in the previous month, and, taken as a whole, was bad, except in the carpet industry, where it remained fair in most districts.

In the hosiery industry employment was worse than in the previous month and was moderate to fair; in the silk and artificial silk trades it showed a decline and was slack, on the whole; in the lace trade it also showed a decline and was generally slack; in linen manufacture it showed a further slight improvement, but was still depressed; in the jute trade it showed little change; in textile bleaching, printing, dyeing, etc. it showed a decline, and was very slack, with much short-time working.

Clothing Industries.—Employment in the retail bespoke and ready-made and wholesale bespoke branches of the tailoring trade continued slack, on the whole, with a further seasonal decline in a number of districts. In the dressmaking and millinery trades employment was moderate and showed some decline; in the shirt and collar and corset trades it continued fairly good. In felt-hat manufacture employment showed an improvement, but much short-time working was still reported. In the boot and shoe industry employment remained generally slack, and showed a slight decline in most districts. In a few districts, however, the position was slightly better towards the end of the month.

Leather Trades.—Employment showed a decline as compared with the previous month; in the tanning and currying section, and with saddlery and harness makers, it was slack; in the portmanteau, trunk, and fancy leather section it was moderate to fair.

Building, Woodworking, etc.—Employment in the building trades showed a sharp seasonal decline, and slaters and painters, particularly, were hindered by bad weather. As regards individual occupations employment was reported as fair with bricklayers in some districts, and bad in others; with carpenters it was generally moderate; with masons it was moderate to slack. With plasterers, employment was slack; with slaters and painters it was reported as bad in most centres; with plumbers it was moderate in some districts and bad in others. With labourers employment was slack generally. In brick manufacture employment showed a decline; in the Peterborough district it was again reported to be good.

Employment in the furnishing trades showed a decline, but was still fairly good; in sawmilling there was also a decline and employment was slack; with coachbuilders it showed a decline, and was slack.

Paper Manufacture, Printing, and Bookbinding.—With paper makers employment continued fairly good, full time being worked in most districts for which reports were received. With letterpress printers employment was generally fair, but showed a decline compared with the previous month in some of the large centres; with electrotypers and stereotypers employment generally continued good. With lithographic printers it varied from fair to moderate, and was not so good as in the previous month. With bookbinders employment was fairly good, on the whole.

Pottery and Glass.—In the pottery industry employment showed a further decline following the completion of Christmas orders, and there was much unemployment and short-time working. In the glass trade employment showed a decline, especially in the bottle-making section, where it was bad.

Agriculture and Fishing.—In agriculture in England and Wales owing to weather conditions and the general forwardness of farm operations there was rather less work than usual to be done on many farms, and some unemployment was reported in a few districts. In Scotland workers were sufficient for requirements in nearly all districts; in some localities there was a plentiful supply of both regular and casual labour. With fishermen employment continued slack.

Dock Labour and Seamen.—With dock labourers employment was still slack on the whole. With seamen employment continued moderate.

SUMMARY OF EMPLOYER'S RETURNS.

In Tables which appear on subsequent pages of this GAZETTE detailed statistics bearing on the state of employment during January are given, based on information obtained from employers or employers' associations in certain industries. In the following Tables some of the principal features of these 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 January, 1929.	January, 1929.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) as compared with a	
		Month before.		Year before.	
		Days Worked per week by Mines.		Days.	
		5.24		— 0.07	
Coal Mining ...	907,044	5.40		— 0.17	
Iron „ ...	6,585	5.98		+ 0.08	
Shale „ ...	2,518				
		Furnaces in Blast.		Number.	
		139		— 9	
Pig Iron... ..	...	Mills working.		— 5	
		520			
Tinplate and Steel Sheet	...	Shifts Worked (one week)		Per cent.	
		372,520		+ 1.6	
Iron and Steel ...	67,805				

(b) OTHER INDUSTRIES.

Industry.	Number of Workpeople Employed.			Total Wages Paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 26th Jan., 1929.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) on a		Week ended 26th Jan., 1929.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) on a	
		Month before.	Year before.		Month before.	Year before.
Textiles:—		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Cotton ...	76,770	+ 0.0	+ 0.0	140,893	— 1.0	+ 0.0
Woollen ...	59,011	— 1.5	— 1.9	116,342	— 5.6	— 4.3
Worsted ...	85,925	— 1.2	— 4.9	163,520	— 3.4	— 8.2
Carpet ...	10,573	+ 0.3	+ 3.5	19,243	— 5.1	— 0.4
Boot and Shoe ...	48,526	— 0.6	— 5.8	102,343	— 2.4	— 14.1
Pottery ...	10,271	— 2.0	+ 2.5	19,020	— 4.7	+ 4.1
Brick ...	8,454	— 1.1	+ 3.9	21,847	— 4.6	+ 8.8

UNEMPLOYMENT SUMMARY BY DISTRICTS.

The following Table shows the variations in the rates of unemployment at 21st January, 1929, 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, 1928. (Totals.)	Percentage Unemployed at 21st January, 1929.			Increase (+) or Decrease (—) in Total Percentages as compared with a	
		Males.	Females.	Total.	Month before.	Year before.
London ...	2,147,530	8.5	4.1	7.1	+ 1.4	+ 0.6
South-Eastern ...	857,940	8.6	5.2	7.8	+ 1.6	+ 0.6
South-Western ...	815,570	11.2	6.4	10.1	+ 1.5	+ 0.8
Midlands ...	1,749,770	11.7	9.9	11.2	+ 1.6	+ 2.4
North-Eastern ...	1,958,990	18.3	11.1	16.7	+ 1.2	+ 2.9
North-Western ...	2,094,200	15.1	11.0	13.7	+ 0.9	+ 2.4
Scotland... ..	1,263,600	16.0	8.6	14.0	+ 0.8	+ 2.7
Wales ...	592,400	22.8	10.6	21.6	— 1.2	— 3.0
Northern Ireland	251,000	19.0	15.3	17.5	+ 0.3	+ 4.2
Special Schemes	130,500	2.3	0.5	1.8	+ 0.2	+ 0.4
TOTAL ...	11,881,500	13.8	8.5	12.3	+ 1.1	+ 1.6

UNEMPLOYMENT DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS.

The following Table shows, month by month from January, 1928, 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.		
1928.						1928.	
23 Jan. ...	12.1	6.7	8.3	2.4	10.7	30 Jan. ...	1,199,000
20 Feb. ...	11.9	6.2	8.2	2.2	10.4	27 Feb. ...	1,139,000
26 Mar. ...	11.0	5.7	7.6	1.9	9.5	2 Apr. ...	1,071,000
23 Apr. ...	11.0	5.6	7.6	1.9	9.5	30 Apr. ...	1,171,000
21 May ...	11.4	5.8	7.5	2.3	9.8	21 May ...	1,143,000
25 June ...	12.2	6.8	7.7	3.0	10.7	25 June ...	1,239,000
23 July ...	13.0	7.8	8.1	3.5	11.6	30 July ...	1,354,000
20 Aug. ...	12.9	8.0	8.2	3.4	11.6	27 Aug. ...	1,367,000
24 Sept. ...	12.6	8.1	8.6	2.8	11.4	1 Oct. ...	1,384,000
22 Oct. ...	13.3	7.8	8.9	2.9	11.8	29 Oct. ...	1,421,000
26 Nov. ...	13.8	8.1	9.3	2.9	12.2	25 Nov. ...	1,439,000
17 Dec. ...	12.6	7.5	9.1	2.1	11.2	17 Dec. ...	1,312,000
1929.						1929.	
21 Jan. ...	13.8	8.5	9.8	2.5	12.3	28 Jan. ...	1,434,000

* At 2nd January, 1928, the total was 1,368,000, and at 31st December, 1928, it was 1,565,000.

UNEMPLOYMENT CHART.

GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.

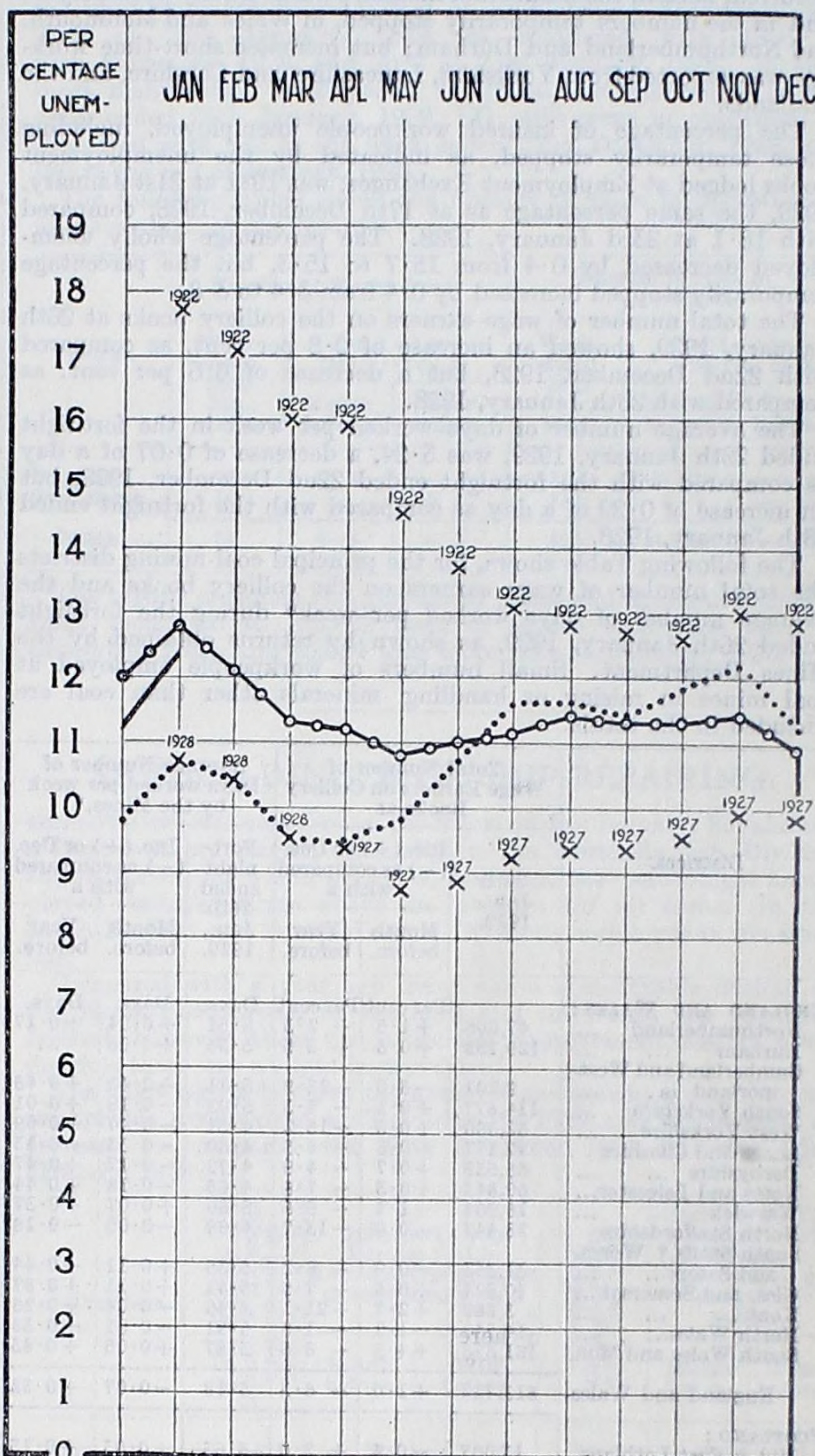
PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED AMONG WORKPEOPLE INSURED AGAINST UNEMPLOYMENT IN GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND:—

Plain Curve - - - - - = 1929.

Dotted Curve - - - - - = 1928.

Chain Curve - - - - - { = Mean for 1922-25 and 1927-28.

× The crosses indicate the maximum and minimum percentages unemployed in the months named, during the years 1922-25 and 1927-28.



NEW ENTRANTS INTO UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE.

NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT BOOKS RECEIVED AT LOCAL OFFICES OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR IN GREAT BRITAIN DURING JANUARY, 1929.

Area.	Men.	Boys.	Women.	Girls.	Total.	
					Number.	Percentage of Numbers Insured at July, 1928.*
South-Eastern:						
(a) London ...	1,000	6,324	2,310	5,484	15,118	0.70
(b) Rest of South-Eastern ...	1,303	2,836	915	1,771	6,825	0.79
South-Western ...	918	2,381	740	1,527	5,566	0.68
Midlands ...	930	4,452	730	3,836	9,948	0.57
North-Eastern ...	959	5,198	929	3,181	10,267	0.52
North-Western ...	897	4,554	902	4,157	10,510	0.50
Scotland ...	762	2,985	490	2,278	6,515	0.52
Wales... ..	465	1,808	274	541	3,148	0.53
GREAT BRITAIN ...	7,234	30,598	7,290	22,775	67,897	0.59

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 the total numbers employed in the various industries. In the comparisons of numbers employed and wages paid at different dates the figures 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 January continued bad, and showed little change on the whole, as compared with mid-December. Decreases occurred, both in the numbers of insured persons wholly unemployed, and in the numbers temporarily stopped, in Wales and Monmouth, and Northumberland and Durham; but increased short-time working was reported from Yorkshire, Lancashire and Cheshire, and the Midlands.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 19.1 at 21st January, 1929, the same percentage as at 17th December, 1928, compared with 18.1 at 23rd January, 1928. The percentage wholly unemployed decreased by 0.4 from 15.7 to 15.3, but the percentage temporarily stopped increased by 0.4 from 3.4 to 3.8.

The total number of wage earners on the colliery books at 26th January, 1929, showed an increase of 0.8 per cent. as compared with 22nd December, 1928, but a decrease of 6.6 per cent. as compared with 28th January, 1928.

The average number of days worked per week in the fortnight ended 26th January, 1929, was 5.24, a decrease of 0.07 of a day as compared with the fortnight ended 22nd December, 1928, but an increase of 0.29 of a day as compared with the fortnight ended 28th January, 1928.

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 26th January, 1929, 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.*			
	26th Jan., 1929.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (–) as compared with a	Fortnight ended 26th Jan., 1929.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (–) as compared with a	Month before.	Year before.
ENGLAND AND WALES:		Percent	Percent	Days.	Days.	Days.
Northumberland ...	47,006	+1.5	+ 2.3	5.51	+0.04	+0.17
Durham ...	129,198	+0.5	+ 3.5	5.35	+0.06	...
Cumberland and Westmorland ...	9,201	–5.0	–25.9	5.31	+0.42	+0.45
South Yorkshire ...	114,877	+0.1	– 7.3	5.03	–0.19	+0.01
West Yorkshire ...	52,380	+0.8	–15.2	4.51	–0.44	+0.09
Lancs and Cheshire ...	77,177	–0.6	– 8.5	4.60	–0.33	+0.13
Derbyshire ...	55,539	+0.7	– 4.9	4.72	–0.17	+0.47
Notts and Leicester...†	60,843	+0.3	– 7.6	4.65	–0.18	+0.44
Warwick ...	16,904	+1.1	– 9.5	5.60	+0.07	+0.37
North Staffordshire	28,447	–0.0	–13.7	4.69	–0.05	–0.18
South Staffs,† Worcs. and Salop ...	31,353	–0.9	– 6.2	5.35	+0.11	+0.44
Glos. and Somerset ...	10,821	+0.5	– 7.5	5.41	+0.11	+0.87
Kent ...	3,880	+2.7	+21.1	5.46	–0.04	+0.26
North Wales...†	14,548	–1.2	– 1.6	5.91	–0.01	+0.38
South Wales and Mon.	161,558	+4.5	– 8.5	5.87	+0.05	+0.83
England and Wales	813,732	+1.0	– 6.3	5.19	–0.07	+0.32
SCOTLAND:						
Mid & East Lothians	13,007	–0.4	+ 2.0	5.63	+0.03	+0.15
Fife and Clackmannan	21,663	–0.1	– 5.8	5.69	+0.12	+0.29
Rest of Scotland ...	58,642	–1.9	–12.3	5.74	...	+0.06
Scotland ...	93,312	–1.3	– 9.1	5.72	+0.04	+0.13
GREAT BRITAIN ...	907,044	+0.8	– 6.6	5.24	–0.07	+0.29

The average number of coal winding days lost in Great Britain during the fortnight ended 26th January, 1929, was 0.56 of a day per week, of which 0.52 of a day was due to want of trade and transport difficulties. The corresponding figures for the fortnight ended 22nd December, 1928, were 0.50 of a day per week, and 0.46 of a day per week respectively; and, for the fortnight ended 28th January, 1928, they were 0.85 of a day per week, and 0.81 of a day per week. 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 26th January, 1929, was reported to the Mines Department as 19,814,300 tons, as compared with 20,484,800 tons in the four weeks ended 22nd December, 1928, and 20,045,200 tons in the four weeks ended 28th January, 1928. The output of coal for the four weeks ended 26th January, 1929, and 28th January, 1928, was affected by holidays.

The numbers and percentages unemployed among insured workpeople in the respective areas at 21st January, 1929, and the increases

or decreases as compared with 17th December, 1928, and 23rd January, 1928, are shown in the following Table:—

Area.	Insured Persons Recorded as Unemployed at 21st January, 1929.					Inc. (+) or Dec. (–) in Total Percentages as compared with a	
	Numbers.		Percentages.			Month before.	Year before.
	Wholly Unemployed (Incl. Casuals).	Temporary stoppages.	Wholly Unemployed.	Temporary stoppages.	Total.		
Great Britain ...	171,162	42,052	15.3	3.8	19.1	...	+ 1.0
England and Wales...	148,192	41,358	15.0	4.2	19.2	+ 0.2	+ 0.5
Scotland...	22,970	694	17.9	0.6	18.5	– 1.0	+ 4.3
Principal Districts in England and Wales:—							
Northumberland...	8,116	215	15.2	0.4	15.6	– 1.0	– 3.2
Durham ...	28,226	719	17.7	0.5	18.2	– 0.9	– 4.6
Cumberland and Westmorland ...	2,453	318	19.7	2.5	22.2	– 1.2	+ 5.5
Yorkshire ...	20,373	13,315	10.9	7.1	18.0	+ 4.9	+10.2
Lancs and Cheshire ...	12,320	12,027	12.7	12.5	25.2	+ 4.7	+ 8.3
Derbyshire ...	3,991	2,583	6.4	4.2	10.6	+ 0.2	– 5.8
Notts and Leicester ...	4,101	3,448	6.0	5.1	11.1	+ 1.7	+ 5.2
Warwickshire	1,205	56	9.1	0.4	9.5	+ 0.2	+ 5.1
Staffs, Worcester and Salop ...	7,696	5,538	10.3	7.4	17.7	+ 2.9	+ 9.4
Glos. and Somerset ...	1,818	570	13.4	4.2	17.6	– 6.0	+ 0.3
Kent ...	154	26	4.1	0.7	4.8	+ 0.6	+ 0.6
Wales and Monmouth ...	56,844	2,533	23.4	1.1	24.5	– 5.2	– 8.6

The exports of coal, including that shipped for the use of steamers engaged in the foreign trade and the coal equivalent of coke and manufactured fuel, amounted to 6,417,300 tons in January, 1929, as compared with 5,941,100 tons in December, 1928, and with 5,742,700 tons in January, 1928.

IRON AND SHALE MINING.

IRON MINING.

EMPLOYMENT during January continued slack, and showed a slight decline 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 13.4 at 21st January, 1929, as compared with 12.9 at 17th December, 1928, and 16.1 at 23rd January, 1928.

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

Districts.	Number of Workpeople employed at Mines included in the Returns.		Average No. of Days worked per week by the Mines.*			
	Fortnight ended 26th Jan., 1929.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (–) as compared with a	Fortnight ended 26th Jan., 1929.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (–) as compared with a	Month before.	Year before.
			Per cent.	Per cent.	Days.	Days.
Cleveland ...	2,301	– 0.2	+ 7.7	4.46	– 0.43	– 0.56
Cumberland and Lancashire ...	2,943	– 0.9	+ 9.3	6.00	...	+ 0.03
Other Districts ...	1,341	– 0.4	– 1.9	5.71	– 0.09	+ 0.44
ALL DISTRICTS	6,585	– 0.6	+ 6.3	5.40	– 0.17	– 0.09

SHALE MINING.

The number of workpeople employed at the West Lothian mines during the fortnight ended 26th January, 1929, by firms making returns was 2,518, showing a decrease of 1.9 per cent. compared with the previous month and of 1.6 per cent. compared with January, 1928. The average number of days* worked per week by the mines was 5.98 in January, 1929, as compared with 5.90 in December, 1928, and 5.95 in January, 1928.

PIG IRON INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT during January showed an improvement as compared with December. The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 18.7 at 21st January, 1929, as compared with 19.1 at 17th December, 1928, and with 16.2 at 23rd January, 1928.

* See footnote * in previous column.

* The figures in this and the following article show the number of days (allowance being made in all the calculations for short time) in 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.

According to returns received by the National Federation of Iron and Steel Manufacturers, 139 furnaces were in operation at the end of January, compared with 132 at the end of December, and 148 at the end of January, 1928.

Returns received from 79 firms employing 18,222 workpeople at the end of January showed an increase of 6·6 per cent. as compared with December, but a decrease of 4·0 per cent. as compared with January, 1928.

The following table shows the number of furnaces in operation at the end of January 1929, December 1928, and January 1928.

District.	Total Number of Furnaces.	Number of Furnaces in Blast			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Jan., 1929.	Dec., 1928.	Jan., 1928.	Month before	Year before.
ENGLAND AND WALES.						
Durham and Cleveland	97	35	31	40	+ 4	- 5
Cumberland and W. Lancs	44	11	11	11	...	...
Parts of Lancs and Yorks (including Sheffield)	31	9	6	10	+ 3	- 1
Derby, Leicester, Notts and Northants ...	65	28	28	31	...	- 3
Lincolnshire	24	14	14	13	...	+ 1
Staffs, Shropshire, Worcester and War- wick	50	12	13	10	- 1	+ 2
South Wales	23	9	8	8	+ 1	+ 1
Total, England and Wales	334	118	111	123	+ 7	- 5
SCOTLAND	90	21	21	25	...	- 4
Total	424	139	132	148	+ 7	- 9

The production of pig iron in January amounted to 563,900 tons as compared with 540,400 tons in December, and 560,500 tons in January, 1928.

IRON AND STEEL MANUFACTURE.

EMPLOYMENT in January was still bad and showed little change as compared with the previous month. The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the number of unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 20·2 on 21st January, 1929, as compared with 19·8 on 17th December, 1928, and 20·4 on 23rd January, 1928.

According to returns received from firms employing 67,805 workpeople in the week ended 26th January, 1929, 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 0·6 per cent. as compared with December, 1928, but showed an increase of 1·6 per cent. as compared with January, 1928. The average number of shifts* during which the works were open was 5·5 in January, 1929, as compared with 5·4 in December, 1928, and January, 1928.

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 26th Jan., 1929.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a	Week ended 26th Jan., 1929.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a	Month before.	Year before.
		Month before.		Month before.		
		Per cent.		Per cent.		
Open Hearth Melting Furnaces ...	7,220	+ 1·5	40,384	+ 1·5	+ 2·8	
Puddling Forges ...	1,953	- 20·6	9,456	- 14·9	+ 10·5	
Rolling Mills ...	25,143	- 3·0	131,933	- 1·7	+ 0·3	
Forging & Pressing	2,978	+ 4·8	15,553	+ 0·3	- 6·5	
Founding ...	7,755	+ 0·8	44,715	+ 0·8	- 1·3	
Other Departments	8,550	+ 1·4	48,668	+ 1·8	+ 5·0	
Mechanics, Labourers ...	14,206	- 0·7	81,811	- 0·2	+ 3·3	
TOTAL ...	67,805	- 1·4	372,520	- 0·6	+ 1·6	
DISTRICTS.						
Northumberland, Durham and Cleveland ...	14,039	- 1·2	80,039	- 0·5	- 3·6	
Sheffield & Rotherham ...	18,188	+ 1·3	96,965	- 0·3	+ 2·0	
Leeds, Bradford, etc. ...	1,381	+ 1·4	7,526	+ 2·2	- 5·7	
Cumberland, Lancs. and Cheshire ...	7,435	+ 1·0	39,145	+ 5·1	+ 1·6	
Staffordshire ...	5,297	- 10·5	29,521	- 7·9	+ 12·2	
Other Midland Counties ...	3,297	- 2·9	18,629	- 3·5	+ 3·3	
Wales and Monmouth ...	6,506	- 2·8	36,085	- 0·3	+ 9·7	
Total, England and Wales ...	56,143	- 1·3	307,910	- 0·6	+ 2·0	
Scotland ...	11,662	- 1·9	64,610	- 0·3	- 0·5	
TOTAL ...	67,805	- 1·4	372,520	- 0·6	+ 1·6	

* The figures relate to the number of shifts during which the works were in operation, taken in conjunction with the number of men employed. No account is taken of 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 from the National Federation of Iron and Steel Manufacturers, amounted to 761,600 tons in January, 1929, as compared with 683,100 tons in December, 1928, when production was curtailed by the Christmas Holidays, and 626,200 tons in January, 1928.

TINPLATE AND STEEL SHEET INDUSTRIES.

IN the tinplate industry the arrangement for stabilising prices and regulating output, whereby provision was made for each works to stop three weeks out of every thirteen, continued. In the week ended 26th January, 1929, 389 tinplate mills were in operation at works for which information is available, as compared with 378* in the week ended 22nd December 1928, and with 405 in January, 1928. The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 22·9 at 21st January, 1929, as compared with 18·6 at 17th December, 1928, and 26·2 at 23rd January, 1928. In steel sheet manufacture employment continued fair generally. In the week ended 26th January, 1929, 131 mills were in operation, as compared with 132 in the week ended 22nd December, 1928, and 120 at the end of January, 1928.

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

Works.	Number of Works Open.			Number of Mills in Operation.		
	Week ended 26th Jan., 1929.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 26th Jan., 1929.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month before.	Year before.		Month before.	Year before.
Tinplate ...	70	+ 4	- 5	389	+ 11*	- 16
Steel Sheet	14	...	+ 2	131	- 1	+ 11
TOTAL ...	84	+ 4	- 3	520	+ 10*	- 5

The exports of tinned and galvanised plates and sheets in January, 1929, amounted to 130,682 tons, or 42,804 tons more than in December, 1928, and 49,064 tons more than in January, 1928.

SHIPBUILDING AND SHIP-REPAIRING.

EMPLOYMENT was very bad on the whole during January, but showed a further improvement, especially in the North-Eastern Division and in Wales; in which divisions, however, the percentages unemployed remained much above the average for all areas. In the South-Eastern and South-Western Divisions employment remained fair.

Compared with a year ago there was a considerable decline on the North-East Coast, in Scotland and in Wales. In Northern Ireland, however, there was a decided improvement, and in other districts there was a slight improvement.

The following Table shows the numbers and percentages of insured workpeople unemployed at 21st January, 1929, and the increase or decrease as compared with 17th December, 1928, and with 23rd January, 1928:—

Divisions.	Total Number of Insured Workpeople Unemployed at 21st Jan., 1929.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Numbers Unemployed as compared with a		Percentage Unemployed at 21st Jan., 1929.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Percentage Unemployed as compared with a	
		Month before.	Year before.		Month before.	Year before.
London ...	1,989	- 334	- 329	19·9	- 3·4	- 1·9
South-Eastern ...	711	- 128	- 259	9·7	+ 1·8	- 2·4
South-Western...	2,015	+ 187	- 299	9·4	+ 0·8	- 1·2
Midlands ...	37	- 1	- 1	9·5	- 0·2	+ 1·1
North-Eastern ...	24,860	- 2,802	+ 10,400	41·9	- 4·8	+ 17·2
North-Western ...	5,372	- 951	- 609	19·4	- 3·4	- 1·3
Scotland ...	15,183	- 191	+ 5,698	26·6	- 0·4	+ 10·1
Wales ...	3,156	- 722	+ 405	38·2	- 8·7	+ 11·3
Northern Ireland	2,624	- 437	- 2,025	23·7	- 4·0	- 13·5
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND ...	55,947	- 5,379	+ 12,981	27·6	- 2·7	+ 7·0

ENGINEERING.

EMPLOYMENT in January declined and was very slack on the whole, conditions being worse in nearly all districts. It was fairly good in electrical engineering and fair on motor vehicle work, though some decline was experienced in both of these sections. There was also a further falling off in constructional engineering, in which employment remained bad. In marine engineering conditions were still very bad, but showed a distinct improvement. Considerable short time was still in operation in the textile machinery section, while the full working week had not yet been restored at all railway works.

* Revised figures.

Compared with a year ago employment showed a decline, especially in constructional and marine engineering.

The following Table shows the numbers and percentages of insured workpeople unemployed at 21st January, 1929, and the increase or decrease as compared with a month before and a year before:—

Division.	Number of Insured Workpeople Unemployed at 21st January, 1929.						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 ...	3,823	420	63	187	1,835	6,328	+1,082	— 646
South-Eastern ...	2,144	269	144	75	1,882	4,514	+ 833	+ 412
South-Western ...	1,987	138	596	96	1,253	4,070	+ 734	+ 74
Midlands ...	6,640	1,024	58	789	7,242	15,753	+1,299	+1,675
North-Eastern ...	17,448	817	3,903	848	1,024	24,040	+ 275	+ 3,499
North-Western ...	20,401	1,298	126	302	1,563	23,690	+2,131	+ 3,505
Scotland ...	8,958	230	1,924	929	935	12,977	+ 510	+1,716
Wales ...	971	42	35	125	201	1,374	+ 141	— 105
Northern Ireland ...	990	11	519	4	185	1,709	— 61	— 470
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND ...	63,362	4,249	7,368	3,355	16,121	94,455	+6,944	+ 9,660
Percentage Unemployed at 21st January, 1929.								
London ...	4.8	3.4	8.2	7.0	4.9	4.8	+ 0.9	— 0.5
South-Eastern ...	4.5	3.8	6.3	10.3	6.9	5.3	+ 1.0	+ 0.2
South-Western ...	5.9	4.2	9.8	16.6	4.7	5.8	+ 1.1	+ 0.1
Midlands ...	7.6	4.0	4.1	11.9	7.5	7.3	+ 0.6	+ 0.8
North-Eastern ...	14.9	9.8	19.1	11.6	8.0	14.5	+ 0.2	+ 1.9
North-Western ...	15.7	6.6	15.0	10.0	8.4	13.7	+ 1.2	+ 2.0
Scotland ...	12.0	8.7	10.6	16.7	8.7	11.6	+ 0.5	+ 1.5
Wales ...	17.9	10.8	17.5	16.7	9.6	15.5	+ 1.6	...
Northern Ireland ...	14.4	3.8	10.7	13.3	8.1	11.9	— 0.5	— 3.9
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND ...	10.9	5.3	13.4	12.3	6.9	9.6	+ 0.7	+ 0.8
<i>Ditto, Dec., 1928</i>	<i>9.8</i>	<i>4.7</i>	<i>15.3</i>	<i>11.4</i>	<i>6.5</i>	<i>8.9</i>	—	—
<i>Ditto, Jan., 1928</i>	<i>9.8</i>	<i>4.7</i>	<i>11.3</i>	<i>9.5</i>	<i>6.8</i>	<i>8.8</i>	—	—

On the North-East Coast employment remained bad, although continuing to improve in marine engineering. In Yorkshire and Lincolnshire employment was again moderate.

In Lancashire and Cheshire employment was bad and showed a decline, much short time still being worked at textile machinery works. In motor and electrical engineering works employment remained moderate.

In the Birmingham, Wolverhampton and Coventry district employment showed some decline but remained fair on the whole, and good in electrical engineering. In the Nottingham, Derby and Leicester district it was again fair on the whole.

In London and the Southern Counties a falling off was experienced, but conditions were still good in electrical engineering and fairly good in general and motor engineering.

In Scotland employment remained bad, showing an improvement in marine engineering but a decline in other sections.

In Wales employment was bad and showed a decline. In Northern Ireland it was bad, but showed an improvement in marine engineering.

COTTON INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT showed little general change during January. Under-employment in various forms still prevailed in the section spinning American cotton; but employment in this section was somewhat better than in January of last year. Employment in the Egyptian spinning section remained on the whole fairly good; but the position in this section (in contrast to the American) has slightly deteriorated as compared with last year, and firms in the Bolton district (the principal centre of Egyptian spinning) have been recommended by the Bolton Master Cotton Spinners' Association to curtail production, as from 18th February, to the extent of 33½ per cent. for eight weeks.

Employment in the weaving department showed considerable variations as between the different districts, but on the whole showed no marked change.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 11.3 on 21st January, 1929, as compared with 11.1 on 17th December, 1928, and with 9.7 on 23rd January, 1928. The increase in unemployment as compared with last year was principally among those wholly unemployed, the number temporarily stopped showing an actual decline, except in the beaming, winding, and warping department. The number wholly unemployed on 21st January, 1929, was nearly equal to the number temporarily stopped.

At Ashton no change in the employment of spinners was reported; there was a local shortage of workers in this district and at Hyde. There was little change at Stockport. Employment at Glossop improved, and there was a demand for weavers. At Oldham the improvement in the spinning section was maintained, and employment was better than in January of last year; there was still, however, a good deal of under-employment in various forms. Employment with weavers at Oldham showed no change, and was slack, except with calico weavers, with whom it was fair. At Bolton, employment with spinners was again described as fair, and with cardroom workers as poor. The Bolton Master Cotton Spinners' Association have recommended their members to curtail production by 33½ per cent. for eight weeks, as from 18th February. Employment in the weaving section at Bolton was described as bad; underemployment continued amongst workers engaged in quilt manufacture. At Leigh there was a slight decline with spinners, and the improvement previously reported in the cardroom section was not maintained, many workers being suspended or working alternate weeks; intermittent employment continued amongst weavers and winders at Leigh. At Bury, although a slight improvement was reported, extended holidays were taken at the New Year and short time still prevailed. Employment at Rochdale remained unsatisfactory, and showed a slight further decline.

At Preston during the earlier part of the month the position was exceptionally bad both in the spinning and weaving sections, and in plain and fancy weaving alike; but a slight recovery took place later. No material change occurred at Blackburn. Employment at Chorley was fairly satisfactory; the slight improvement reported last month was maintained. The preparation departments were more regularly employed at Great Harwood. At Accrington the improvement in the employment of weavers was maintained, though there was still a large surplus of coarse weavers; there was much unemployment and irregular employment among winders. An improvement took place amongst weavers at Darwen, and workers in the preparatory processes were less irregularly employed; but 8 mills, with approximately 9,000 looms, still remained closed. There was little change at Burnley, where large numbers of weavers and winders remained unemployed, and some of the weavers who were working were still running fewer than their normal number of looms.

At Padiham there was a slight reduction in the number of unemployed weavers. The position at Nelson was worse than in December, short time and other forms of under-employment being prevalent; and at Colne it was still unsatisfactory. In the Rossendale Valley employment amongst weavers and winders declined still further. Several mills stopped for varying periods, and there was much under-employment.

In Yorkshire generally employment remained bad. There was an extension of short-time working in the spinning section at Skipton; there was also a decline at Keighley and at Sowerby Bridge. At Huddersfield employment was reported as fair in the Egyptian section, but bad in the American section. On the other hand, at Todmorden employment was much better than for some time past; an improvement took place at Hebden Bridge, and at Dewsbury most operatives were reported to be working full time.

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

DEPARTMENTS.	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 26th Jan., 1929.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) on a		Week ended 26th Jan., 1929.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) on a	
		Month before.	Year before.		Month before.	Year before.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Preparing ...	10,949	— 1.1	— 0.1	18,681	+ 0.0	+ 3.2
Spinning ...	21,391	— 0.1	— 0.4	37,245	— 0.5	+ 0.3
Weaving ...	30,535	+ 0.9	+ 0.2	53,500	— 2.1	— 1.4
Other ...	6,835	— 1.1	— 0.2	17,048	— 0.9	— 1.7
Not Specified ...	7,059	— 0.4	+ 0.9	14,419	+ 0.9	+ 2.8
TOTAL ...	76,770	+ 0.0	+ 0.0	140,893	— 1.0	+ 0.0
DISTRICTS.						
Ashton ...	2,652	+ 2.0	— 3.7	4,754	— 1.0	— 6.1
Stockport, Glossop and Hyde ...	9,098	+ 0.6	+ 3.0	15,912	— 1.6	+ 2.1
Oldham ...	9,354	— 1.6	— 1.9	18,743	+ 2.9	+ 5.6
Bolton and Leigh ...	12,440	— 0.1	— 2.5	22,267	+ 2.2	— 3.9
Bury, Rochdale, Heywood, Walsden and Todmorden ...	6,248	+ 1.2	+ 5.5	11,514	+ 0.7	+10.3
Manchester ...	4,713	+ 1.4	— 4.4	7,674	+ 0.2	— 6.1
Preston and Chorley ...	5,683	+ 0.4	— 1.3	9,807	— 5.4	— 4.7
Blackburn, Accrington and Darwen ...	7,138	+ 0.1	...	13,205	— 8.4	— 6.9
Burnley, Padiham, Colne and Nelson ...	9,611	— 0.5	+ 0.1	20,723	— 0.4	+ 3.5
Other Lancashire Towns ...	3,095	+ 1.9	+15.4	5,003	+ 0.7	+13.5
Yorkshire Towns ...	4,346	— 0.6	+ 0.0	7,596	— 2.7	— 1.3
Other Districts ...	2,382	— 2.9	— 4.2	3,695	— 3.7	— 9.9
TOTAL ...	76,770	+ 0.0	+ 0.0	140,893	— 1.0	+ 0.0

Returns from firms employing over 75,500 operatives in the week ended 26th January showed that nearly 12 per cent. were on short time in that week, with a loss of 12 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 21st January, 1929:—

Department.	Numbers (excluding Casuals) on the Registers at 21st January, 1929.						
	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.			Total.
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
Card and Blow- ing Room ...	988	3,773	4,761	804	3,232	4,036	8,797
Spinning ...	3,953	2,817	6,770	3,473	3,236	6,709	13,479
Beaming, Wind- ing and Warp- ing ...	626	2,577	3,203	1,120	6,146	7,266	10,469
Weaving ...	1,825	5,621	7,446	1,390	4,942	6,332	13,778
Other Processes	494	250	744	303	355	658	1,402
Total ...	7,886	15,038	22,924	7,090	17,911	25,001	47,925

The following Table shows the increases and decreases as compared with 17th December, 1928:—

Department.	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.			Total.
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
Card and Blowing Room ...	+ 96	- 181	- 85	+ 233	+ 606	+ 839	+ 754
Spinning ...	- 147	- 149	- 296	+ 946	+ 400	+ 1,346	+ 1,050
Beaming, Winding and Warp- ing ...	+ 19	- 188	- 169	+ 44	+ 247	+ 291	+ 122
Weaving ...	- 126	- 340	- 466	- 229	- 1,537	- 1,766	- 2,232
Other Pro- cesses ...	+ 1	+ 55	+ 56	+ 8	...	+ 8	+ 64
Total ...	- 157	- 803	- 960	+ 1,002	- 284	+ 718	- 242

The imports (less re-exports) of raw cotton (including cotton linters) were 237,528,000 lbs. in January, 1929, compared with 220,818,200 lbs. in December, 1928, and with 85,281,700 lbs. in January, 1928.

The exports of cotton yarn were 16,923,900 lbs. in January, 1929, compared with 13,160,600 lbs. in December, 1928, and with 14,894,200 lbs. in January, 1928.

The exports of cotton piece goods were 379,342,300 square yards, as compared with 290,499,400 square yards in the previous month, and with 337,406,100 square yards in January, 1928.

WOOL TEXTILE INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT during January was worse than in the previous month in most sections, and was generally at a lower level than in January of last year. Taken as a whole, employment was bad, except in the carpet industry, where it remained fair in most districts.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed (including those temporarily stopped), as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 15.1 on 21st January, 1929, as compared with 13.2 on 17th December, 1928, and with 8.8 on 23rd January, 1928.

Worsted Section.—Employment declined slightly in nearly all districts, and was bad, on the whole. The returns received from employers showed that in the week ended 26th January nearly 29½ per cent. of the operatives in the worsted section, taken as a whole, worked short time,* losing approximately 11 hours each on the average; on the other hand, 6½ per cent. were reported to be working overtime to the extent of nearly 5 hours each.

In the wool-sorting, preparing and combing departments there was little change from December; and in the week ended 26th January nearly 38 per cent. of the operatives covered by the employers' returns lost, on an average, about 12½ hours each in short time. In worsted spinning employment declined slightly in most districts and there was some increase in short time working. According to the employers' returns, 29 per cent. of the operatives were on short time, with a loss of about 11½ hours each, during the week ended 26th January, while about 7½ per cent. worked overtime to the extent of 4 hours each, on the average.

In worsted weaving employment was bad at Bradford and Halifax, and in most districts was worse than in December; at Keighley, however, weavers were reported to be in demand. The employers' returns showed that 25½ per cent. of the workpeople lost, on the average, approximately 10 hours each in short time* during the week ended 26th January; while about 8 per cent. worked roughly 5½ hours each in overtime.

Woollen Section.—In the woollen section of the industry a slight general decline took place. Employers' returns for the week ended 26th January showed about 36½ per cent. of the workers in the spinning section on short time, averaging about 10 hours each, and 36 per cent. of those in the weaving section, averaging approximately 11 hours each.* On the other hand, 6½ per cent. of the operatives in the spinning section were on overtime to the extent of nearly 9 hours each, while about 4½ per cent. of the weavers, etc., worked overtime, averaging nearly 5½ hours each. In the woollen section as a whole roughly 35½ per cent. of the operatives lost, on an average, 10½ hours each in short time,* while 5 per cent. worked overtime to the extent of 7 hours each.

In the Huddersfield and Colne Valley district employment was poor, with some increase in short time working. In the Heavy

* 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.

Woollen district of Dewsbury and Batley there was a decline, particularly amongst blanket manufacturing firms, and employment was bad; considerable under-employment was experienced, in many cases work being confined to 3 days a week. Increased short time working prevailed also in the blanket section at Hebden Bridge. At Leeds the position was described as quiet, while at Bradford and Halifax there was a decline as compared with December. At Morley the seasonal activity continued.

At Stockport woollen workers were again well employed. The rag trade at Dewsbury suffered extensively from under-employment, all firms working short time during January. Employment amongst flannel workers was regarded as only poor at Rochdale and at Saddleworth, and there was a further decline in this section.

In Scotland the position in the tweed mills at Peebles, Innerleithen and Walkerburn was not so good as during last month, but there was little change at Galashiels.

Carpet Section.—Employment continued fair on the whole. It was generally good at Kidderminster, operatives in nearly all firms working full time; in Yorkshire conditions were fair, while in Scotland the position remained satisfactory.

The employers' returns for the week ended 26th January showed that about 8½ per cent. of the operatives were on short time, with a loss, on the average, of nearly 9 hours each; the amount of overtime worked was negligible.

The following Table summarises the returns received from employers:—

Departments :	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 26th Jan., 1929.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a month before.	Index figure. (Jan., 1926 = 100.)	Week ended 26th Jan., 1929.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a month before.	Index figure. (Jan., 1926 = 100.)
WORSTED SECTION :						
Wool Sorting and Combing ...	10,703	- 0.2	92.4	26,544	+ 0.6	88.8
Spinning ...	41,238	- 1.0	95.2	63,656	- 3.7	93.5
Weaving ...	21,518	- 2.0	98.6	43,877	- 5.4	100.3
Other Depts. ...	10,648	- 1.2	98.2	25,855	- 4.5	92.2
Not specified ...	1,818	+ 0.4	94.4	3,588	+ 5.3	94.2
Total—Worsted	85,925	- 1.2	96.0	163,520	- 3.4	94.3
WOOLLEN SECTION :						
Wool Sorting ...	1,037	- 2.5	93.9	2,355	- 5.3	96.4
Spinning ...	13,181	- 1.0	93.4	26,966	- 3.5	96.0
Weaving ...	24,450	- 1.3	101.6	42,274	- 6.7	102.1
Other Depts. ...	17,567	- 2.4	95.8	39,073	- 5.6	98.2
Not specified ...	2,776	+ 0.3	94.2	5,674	- 6.8	98.2
Total—Woollen	59,011	- 1.5	97.5	116,342	- 5.6	99.0
CARPET SECTION ...	10,573	- 0.3	108.7	19,243	- 5.1	104.4
Total—Wool Textile Industry ...	155,509	- 1.2	97.1	299,105	- 4.4	96.8
Districts* :						
WORSTED SECTION :						
Bradford ...	37,751	- 1.1	92.0	75,629	- 2.8	86.9
Huddersfield ...	9,617	- 1.9	106.2	20,951	- 2.9	113.7
Halifax ...	10,121	+ 0.2	95.4	17,422	- 0.9	93.0
Leeds ...	8,572	- 1.6	94.8	15,151	- 7.8	91.4
Keighley ...	8,998	- 0.4	101.5	15,878	- 5.4	105.7
Heavy Woollen (Dewsbury, Bat- ley, etc.) ...	3,466	- 1.6	99.6	5,523	- 4.3	106.7
Total, West Riding ...	78,525	- 1.0	95.8	150,554	- 3.4	93.9
West of England and Midlands ...	5,085	- 3.0	97.5	9,237	- 4.7	92.3
Lancs ...	341	- 1.2	116.9	657	- 4.5	114.8
Scotland ...	1,974	- 2.8	99.2	3,072	+ 0.7	127.1
Total—Worsted	85,925	- 1.2	96.0	163,520	- 3.4	94.3
WOOLLEN SECTION :						
Huddersfield ...	10,823	- 3.1	91.5	23,168	- 10.3	84.9
Heavy Woollen (Dewsbury, Bat- ley, etc.) ...	11,340	- 0.7	95.5	22,505	- 3.9	105.4
Leeds ...	9,176	+ 0.6	106.6	19,389	- 2.1	116.3
Halifax and Calder Valley ...	2,468	- 2.1	86.8	4,543	- 10.2	72.5
Bradford ...	1,308	- 1.0	100.8	2,788	- 10.3	93.6
Total, West Riding ...	35,115	- 1.2	96.1	72,393	- 6.3	97.3
Lancs ...	5,243	- 2.1	98.5	10,431	- 3.4	103.2
West of England and Midlands ...	4,470	- 2.1	101.7	7,771	- 5.5	106.4
Scotland ...	14,085	- 1.3	100.0	25,582	- 4.1	101.8
Wales ...	98	- 46.7	62.0	165	- 41.1	58.5
Total—Woollen	59,011	- 1.5	97.5	116,342	- 5.6	99.0
CARPET SECTION ...	10,573	- 0.3	108.7	19,243	- 5.1	104.4
Total—Wool Textile Industry ...	155,509	- 1.2	97.1	299,105	- 4.4	96.8

The following Table shows, by districts and departments, the percentage increase or decrease in the numbers employed in the week ended 26th January, 1929, by those firms who supplied returns for the purpose of the foregoing Table (excluding the carpet section), as compared with the week ended 22nd December, 1928:—

* 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 previous month (—, without a figure, signifies "few or no workpeople returned.")					
	Wool Sorting and Combing	Spinning	Weaving	Other Depts.	All Depts. (including not specified).
WORSTED SECTION:					
Bradford ...	+ 1.2	- 1.7	- 2.0	- 0.6	- 1.1
Huddersfield ...	- 0.9	- 1.5	- 2.4	- 2.0	- 1.9
Halifax ...	- 1.8	+ 0.9	- 1.8	- 1.0	+ 0.2
Leeds ...	—	- 1.0	- 2.8	- 1.8	- 1.6
Keighley ...	- 3.5	- 0.4	+ 0.0	+ 0.4	- 0.4
Heavy Woollen (Dewsbury, Batley, etc.) ...	—	- 2.9	—	+ 2.0	- 1.6
Total, West Riding	+ 0.7	- 1.1	- 1.9	- 0.9	- 1.0
West of England and Midlands ...	- 16.2	+ 0.2	- 4.3	- 2.2	- 3.0
Lancashire ...	—	- 1.3	—	—	- 1.2
Scotland ...	- 6.3	- 2.3	—	- 2.2	- 2.8
TOTAL ...	- 0.2	- 1.0	- 2.0	- 1.2	- 1.2

Percentage Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in numbers employed as compared with previous month. (... signifies "no change.")				
	Spinning	Weaving	Other Depts.	All Depts. (including not specified).
WOOLLEN SECTION:				
Huddersfield ...	- 2.8	- 1.3	- 6.5	- 3.1
Heavy Woollen (Dewsbury, Batley, etc.) ...	- 0.2	- 1.3	- 0.8	- 0.7
Leeds ...	+ 3.3	- 0.5	+ 0.9	+ 0.6
Halifax and Calder Vale ...	+ 0.1	- 4.5	- 1.8	- 2.1
Bradford ...	- 4.6	- 2.5	—	- 1.0
Total, West Riding ...	- 0.4	- 1.3	- 2.2	- 1.2
Lancashire ...	- 4.7	- 0.3	- 1.9	- 2.1
West of England and Midlands ...	- 2.4	- 2.2	- 1.9	- 2.1
Scotland ...	—	- 0.9	- 2.6	- 1.3
Wales ...	- 41.5	- 49.4	- 47.8	- 46.7
TOTAL ...	- 1.0	- 1.3	- 2.4	- 1.5

The following Table shows the number of men and of women (other than casuals) on the registers of Employment Exchanges in the principal wool textile trade centres at 21st January, 1929:—

Department.	Numbers (excluding Casuals) on the Registers at 21st January, 1929.						Total.
	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.			
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
Wool Sorting ...	310	5	315	319	1	320	635
Wool Washing and Preparing ...	466	280	746	645	278	923	1,669
Wool Combing ...	368	184	552	769	636	1,405	1,957
Wool Carding ...	517	108	625	837	140	977	1,602
Woollen Spinning ...	338	114	452	562	252	814	1,266
Worsted Drawing and Spinning ...	350	1,405	1,755	355	3,025	3,380	5,135
Wool Winding and Warping ...	69	22	91	222	90	312	403
Worsted Winding and Warping ...	71	246	317	95	960	1,055	1,372
Woollen Weaving ...	96	424	520	293	2,947	3,240	3,760
Worsted Weaving ...	96	255	351	80	1,236	1,316	1,667
Other Processes ...	633	103	736	920	259	1,179	1,915
Total ...	3,314	3,146	6,460	5,097	9,824	14,921	21,381

The following Table shows the increases and decreases as compared with 17th December, 1928:—

Department.	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.			Total.
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
Wool Sorting ...	- 60	+ 1	- 59	+ 41	...	+ 41	- 18
Wool Washing and Preparing ...	- 3	+ 67	+ 64	- 33	- 32	- 65	- 1
Wool Combing ...	- 46	- 42	- 88	+ 5	- 114	- 109	- 197
Wool Carding ...	+ 4	- 8	- 4	+ 53	- 48	+ 5	+ 1
Woollen Spinning ...	- 7	+ 17	+ 10	+ 121	+ 23	+ 144	+ 154
Worsted Drawing and Spinning ...	+ 19	+ 23	+ 42	+ 6	+ 1,124	+ 1,130	+ 1,172
Wool Winding and Warping ...	- 12	+ 2	- 10	+ 59	+ 5	+ 64	+ 54
Worsted Winding and Warping ...	+ 10	+ 46	+ 56	+ 4	+ 270	+ 274	+ 330
Woollen Weaving ...	- 2	+ 50	+ 48	+ 4	- 22	- 18	+ 30
Worsted Weaving ...	...	- 69	- 69	+ 8	+ 241	+ 249	+ 180
Other Processes ...	+ 20	+ 11	+ 31	+ 50	+ 11	+ 61	+ 92
Total ...	- 77	+ 98	+ 21	+ 318	+ 1,458	+ 1,776	+ 1,797

The exports of woollen and worsted yarns were 3,637,400 lbs. compared with 3,384,300 lbs. in December, 1928, and with 4,020,400 lbs. in January, 1928.

The exports of woollen and worsted tissues were 18,562,900 square yards, compared with 12,405,900 square yards in December, 1928, and 16,919,100 square yards in January, 1928.

The exports of blankets were 85,600 pairs, 75,673 pairs and 116,932 pairs in January, 1929, December, 1928, and January, 1928, respectively.

The imports (less re-exports) of raw wool (sheep's or lambs') were 69,478,700 lbs. in January, 1929, compared with 27,775,700 lbs. in December, 1928, and 69,715,700 lbs. in January, 1928.

BOOT AND SHOE INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT during January remained generally slack, and showed a slight decline in most districts; in a few districts, however, the position was slightly better towards the end of the month. There was considerable variation as between different establishments in the several centres. Employment was considerably worse than in January, 1928, and much below the normal for the time of year. There were again many complaints that a large proportion of the orders were for small quantities.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 16.9 at 21st January, 1929, as compared with 16.1 at 17th December, 1928, and with 6.9 at 23rd January, 1928.

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

	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 26th Jan., 1929.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 26th Jan., 1929.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month before.	Year before.		Month before.	Year before.
England and Wales:—		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
London ...	2,197	+ 4.9	- 3.0	4,785	+ 2.0	- 6.7
Leicester ...	7,738	- 1.6	- 5.9	18,781	- 2.0	- 14.1
Leicester Country District ...	1,717	- 1.3	- 5.7	3,796	...	- 11.8
Northampton ...	6,120	- 1.5	- 6.3	11,997	- 2.8	- 24.1
Northampton Country District ...	7,605	+ 0.8	- 2.2	16,489	- 4.4	- 9.1
Kettering ...	3,655	+ 0.2	- 1.2	8,883	+ 0.5	- 5.1
Stafford and District ...	2,481	- 0.6	- 3.5	4,500	- 5.1	- 14.4
Notwich and District ...	4,065	+ 5.6	- 7.5	8,011	+ 7.4	- 13.5
Bristol, Kingswood and District ...	1,431	- 8.6	- 16.6	2,177	- 17.8	- 28.2
Leeds and District ...	1,782	- 2.4	- 5.5	3,657	- 8.4	- 9.7
Lancashire (mainly Rossendale Valley) ...	4,969	- 0.2	- 9.1	9,989	- 4.6	- 15.7
Birmingham and District ...	944	+ 3.4	- 4.5	1,755	- 1.8	- 13.2
Other parts of England and Wales ...	1,721	- 0.1	- 0.8	3,223	- 6.7	- 11.7
England and Wales	46,425	- 0.1	- 5.4	98,053	- 1.7	- 13.8
Scotland ...	2,101	- 10.1	- 14.2	4,290	- 15.8	- 20.3
Great Britain ...	48,526	- 0.6	- 5.8	102,343	- 2.4	- 14.1

Returns from firms employing about 48,400 operatives in the week ended 26th January showed that about 51 per cent. of those operatives worked short time in that week, losing 11½ hours each on the average.

Employment in London showed a slight improvement; it varied, at different establishments, from quiet to good. There was little change at Leicester, although some improvement was noted towards the end of the month at certain establishments; employment remained slack, on the whole, and about 62 per cent. of the operatives covered by the employers' returns were on short time in the week ended 26th January, losing about 9½ hours each on the average. Employment at Sileby continued bad; it was very bad at Hinckley. At Northampton employment continued very depressed, several of the larger firms only working half time, and men of long service being discharged; almost three-quarters of the workpeople covered by the returns received were on short time, losing 14 hours each, on the average, in the week ended 26th January. Employment at Kettering showed some improvement; all the factories were working, and less short time was worked than before the Christmas holidays. Employment remained poor at Higham and Rushden, although there was a slight improvement at those centres also. At Wellingborough employment continued bad, and there was some increase in short time working; towards the end of the month, however, there was a slight recovery. Employment at some of the smaller centres in Northamptonshire, including Daventry, Irthlingborough, Earls Barton, and Finedon, was good, or fairly good, at some factories; and there was continued activity at Raunds on Government contract work. At Stafford employment was slack generally, although one or two establishments were comparatively busy; nearly four-fifths of the operatives covered by the returns received were on short time in the week ended 26th January, losing about 14 hours each on the average. Employment at Norwich showed an improvement, though the number wholly unemployed was still high; for those who remained in employment, short time working was not very prevalent, and several factories were fairly well employed.

In the Bristol and Kingswood district employment continued very bad, and showed a further decline, on the whole; at the end of the month, some firms had not restarted since the Christmas stoppage; in the light shoe trade, however, there was increased activity at some establishments. At Street employment was again reported as bad; it also remained bad at Leeds.

In the slipper trade in the Rossendale Valley the depression continued, though there was a slight improvement towards the end of the month; at Preston also there was a slight improvement.

In Scotland employment showed a decline in most districts; it was reported as very quiet, or bad, at Edinburgh, Glasgow, and Maybole; but it continued fairly good at Kilmarnock.

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 21st January, 1929:—

Department.	Numbers (excluding Casuals) on the Registers at 21st January, 1929.						Total.
	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.			
	Men.	Women	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
Boot and Shoe Manu- facture :							
Preparing Depart- ment	136	45	181	169	59	228	409
Rough Stuff De- partment	446	19	465	419	26	445	910
Clicking Department	929	10	939	1,056	39	1,095	2,034
Closing Department	13	1,183	1,196	3	1,867	1,870	3,066
Making Department	2,090	30	2,120	2,467	33	2,500	4,620
Finishing Depart- ment	1,337	519	1,856	1,451	366	1,817	3,673
Slipper Making ...	441	133	574	115	630	745	1,319
Clog Making	17	...	17	...	1	1	18
Repairing and Hand- sewn Work	456	...	456	43	...	43	499
TOTAL	5,865	1,939	7,804	5,723	3,021	8,744	16,548

The following Table shows the increases and decreases as compared with 17th December, 1928:—

Department.	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.			Total.
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
Boot and Shoe Manufacture:							
Preparing Department ...	+ 4	- 4	...	- 34	+ 22	- 12	- 12
Rough Stuff Department ...	+ 72	+ 1	+ 73	- 60	+ 1	- 59	+ 14
Clicking Department ...	- 48	- 2	- 50	- 308	- 72	- 380	- 430
Closing Department ...	- 1	- 106	- 107	- 3	- 77	- 80	- 187
Making Department ...	+ 305	- 9	+ 296	- 32	+ 15	- 17	+ 279
Finishing Department ...	+ 126	- 19	+ 107	+ 49	- 53	- 4	+ 103
Slipper Making ...	- 25	+ 1	- 24	- 716	- 109	- 825	- 849
Clog Making ...	+ 7	...	+ 7	- 1	...	- 1	+ 6
Repairing and Hand-sewn Work ...	+ 42	- 7	+ 35	+ 8	...	+ 8	+ 43
TOTAL ...	+ 482	- 145	+ 337	- 1,097	- 273	- 1,370	- 1,033

The exports of boots and shoes in January, 1929, amounted to 96,225 dozen pairs, or 159 dozen pairs less than in December, 1928, and 3,383 dozen pairs less than in January, 1928.

BRICK INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT during January showed a decline as compared with the previous month. In the Peterborough district it continued good.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed in the brick, tile, etc., trades, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges was 14.9 at 21st January, 1929, as compared with 13.3 at 17th December, 1928, and 14.5 at 23rd January, 1928.

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 26th Jan., 1929.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 26th Jan., 1929.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month before.	Year before.		Month before.	Year before.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Northern Counties, Yorkshire, Lancashire and Cheshire ...	1,845	- 0.5	+ 0.5	4,423	- 0.8	+ 6.4
Midlands and Eastern Counties ...	4,907	- 2.1	+ 5.8	13,295	- 6.3	+ 11.4
South and South-West Counties and Wales ...	1,534	+ 2.6	+ 3.0	3,723	- 1.3	+ 6.5
Scotland ...	168	- 11.1	- 5.6	406	- 18.2	- 16.6
TOTAL ...	8,454	- 1.1	+ 3.9	21,847	- 4.6	+ 8.8

Returns from employers relative to short-time working, exclusive of time lost on account of bad weather, showed that of 7,755 workpeople employed by firms furnishing information 28.2 per cent. were working on an average 9 hours less than full time in the week ended 26th January, 1929; on the other hand, 3 per cent. were working overtime to the extent of 2½ hours on the average.

BUILDING.

THE seasonal decline, intensified by severe weather, resulted in a considerable increase in unemployment during January. All occupations were adversely affected, more particularly slaters and painters. As compared with January, 1928, employment was worse in all districts, the decline being most marked in the North-Western Counties of England and in Scotland.

As regards individual occupations, employment declined and was generally moderate with carpenters, and moderate to slack with masons. It was reported as fair with bricklayers in some districts and bad in others. Slaters experienced a sharp decline in employment, and conditions were bad in many districts. Employment was slack with plasterers and definitely bad with painters in most districts. In some places plumbers were moderately well employed, whilst in others conditions were reported to be bad. There was a further decline with labourers and employment was slack generally. As compared with January, 1928, carpenters and plasterers showed an improvement, but increased unemployment was recorded for all other classes, more particularly slaters and labourers.

The following Table shows the numbers and percentages of workpeople insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts, who were recorded as unemployed at 21st January, 1929, together with the increase or decrease in the percentages as compared with the previous month and with January, 1928:—

OCCUPATIONS.	Estimated Number of Insured Workpeople at July, 1928.*	Total Numbers Unemployed at 21st Jan., 1929.	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 ...	127,050	15,121	733	11.9	+ 3.4	- 1.6
Bricklayers ...	73,890	11,710	1,196	15.8	+ 6.7	+ 3.2
Masons ...	22,150	3,804	535	17.2	+ 6.6	+ 3.5
Slaters ...	5,940	1,097	171	18.5	+ 10.4	+ 7.8
Plasterers ...	23,430	4,341	428	18.5	+ 5.9	- 0.7
Painters ...	107,380	36,195	1,662	33.7	+ 7.6	+ 3.1
Plumbers ...	32,540	3,412	213	10.5	+ 2.2	+ 2.6
Labourers to above ...	240,930	50,618	2,859	21.0	+ 4.3	+ 4.2
All other occupations ...	183,250	36,388	1,903	19.9	+ 3.7	+ 2.7
Total ...	816,560	162,686	9,700	19.9	+ 4.7	+ 2.5
DIVISIONS.						
London ...	172,710	28,469	192	16.5	+ 4.0	+ 2.1
South-Eastern ...	126,940	15,458	336	12.2	+ 4.0	+ 0.3
South-Western ...	99,450	15,554	313	15.6	+ 4.2	+ 0.7
Midlands ...	93,750	17,885	2,373	19.1	+ 5.4	+ 3.6
North-Eastern ...	99,410	29,227	3,222	29.4	+ 6.2	+ 3.0
North-Western ...	106,040	26,555	1,714	25.0	+ 4.9	+ 5.4
Scotland ...	75,030	16,207	1,098	21.6	+ 5.9	+ 5.1
Wales ...	28,870	9,864	438	34.2	+ 5.2	+ 1.4
Northern Ireland ...	14,360	3,467	14	24.1	+ 2.3	+ 1.0
Great Britain and Northern Ireland ...	816,560	162,686	9,700	19.9	+ 4.7	+ 2.5

BUILDING PLANS APPROVED.

Returns from Local Authorities in 138 of the principal urban areas in Great Britain (except the London County Council area), with a total population of 15,936,000, show that in January, 1929, plans were passed for buildings of an estimated cost of £4,626,900, as compared with £4,328,500 in December, 1928, and £3,508,800 in January, 1928. Of the total for January, 1929, dwelling-houses accounted for £2,709,700; factories and workshops for £319,800; shops, offices, warehouses and other business premises for £275,300; and other buildings, and additions and alterations to existing buildings, for £1,322,100.

POTTERY INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT in North Staffordshire showed a further decline following the completion of Christmas orders, and there was much unemployment and short-time working. At Derby employment remained quiet; at Worcester short-time working showed an increase. In the stoneware section in Scotland it continued slack.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 19.0 at 21st January, 1929, as compared with 16.9 at 17th December, 1928, and 19.5 at 23rd January, 1928. The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished returns for the three periods:—

BRANCHES.	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 26th Jan., 1929.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 26th Jan., 1929.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month before.	Year before.		Month before.	Year before.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
China Manufacture ...	1,267	+ 1.0	+ 4.3	2,507	- 1.1	+ 9.1
Earthenware Manufacture ...	7,113	- 3.5	+ 1.6	12,993	- 4.4	+ 2.4
Other Branches (including unspecified) ...	1,891	+ 2.0	+ 4.5	3,520	- 7.9	+ 7.3
TOTAL ...	10,271	- 2.0	+ 2.5	19,020	- 7	+ 4.1
DISTRICTS.						
North Staffordshire ...	7,737	- 2.0	+ 2.6	13,174	- 3.7	+ 5.9
Other Districts ...	2,534	- 2.0	+ 2.1	5,846	- 6.8	+ 0.2
TOTAL ...	10,271	- 2.0	+ 2.5	19,020	- 4.7	+ 4.1

* Aged 16-64, inclusive.

Returns from employers relative to short-time working showed that of 10,041 workpeople employed by firms making returns 4,901, or 48·8 per cent., were working, on an average, about 13½ hours less than full time in the week ended 26th January, 1929; the amount of overtime worked was negligible.

PAPER MANUFACTURE, PRINTING, AND BOOKBINDING.

EMPLOYMENT continued fairly good in the paper-making industry during January, full time being worked in most districts for which reports were received. Some decline on the previous month was reported with hand-made paper makers. With cardboard box makers employment, on the whole, was only moderate, and was worse than in December.

Employment with letterpress printers was generally fair, but showed a decline compared with the previous month in some of the large centres; it was reported as having slightly improved, however, at Manchester and Belfast. With electrotypers and stereotypers employment generally continued good.

Employment with lithographic printers generally varied from fair to moderate, and was not so good as in the previous month, much short time being worked at some centres; it was moderate in London, and fair at Sheffield and Birmingham; while at Liverpool, Manchester, Edinburgh, and Glasgow it was described as bad or slack. With lithographic artists employment generally was fair; some improvement was reported at Birmingham and Leeds, while there was a decline in London and at Manchester.

In the bookbinding industry employment was fairly good, on the whole, but was generally worse than in December.

The percentage unemployed among insured workpeople covered by the Unemployment Insurance Acts in the printing and book-binding industries was 5·3 at 21st January, compared with 4·1 at 17th December, and 5·1 at 23rd January, 1928. In the paper and paper board industry the percentage was 4·4 at 21st January, compared with 3·8 at 17th December, and 5·6 at 23rd January, 1928. In the cardboard box, paper bag, and stationery industries the percentage was 6·0 at 21st January, compared with 3·7 at 17th December, and 4·7 at 23rd January, 1928.

The following Table summarises the returns received from certain trade unions:—

	No. of Members of Unions at end of January, 1929.	Percentage Unemployed at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (—) on a	
		Jan., 1929.	Dec., 1928.	Jan., 1928.	Month before.	Year before.
Letterpress Printing:						
London	39,390	4·1	3·6	5·7	+ 0·5	— 1·6
Northern Counties, Yorkshire, Lancashire and Cheshire	16,632	3·5	3·3	4·2	+ 0·2	— 0·7
Midlands and Eastern Counties	10,720	2·1	2·3	2·5	— 0·2	— 0·4
Scotland	6,791	4·1	4·2	6·7	— 0·1	— 2·6
Other Districts ...	10,615	2·4	2·3	3·3	+ 0·1	— 0·9
Total	84,148	3·5	3·2	4·8	+ 0·3	— 1·3
Lithographic Printing	10,940	3·3	3·2	3·7	+ 0·1	— 0·4
Bookbinding	19,839	2·7	2·5	2·8	+ 0·2	— 0·1

DOCK AND RIVERSIDE LABOUR.

EMPLOYMENT during January was slack on the whole.

Among insured workpeople in the canal, river, dock, and harbour service, 31·2 per cent. were unemployed at 21st January, 1929, as compared with 30·7 per cent. at 17th December, 1928, and with 25·8 per cent. at 23rd January, 1928.

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—					
5th January, 1929	4,163	2,066	6,229	8,205	14,434
12th " "	4,117	2,330	6,447	8,600	15,047
19th " "	4,562	1, 0	6,312	8,273	14,585
26th " "	4,489	2,063	6,552	8,072	14,624
Average for 4 weeks ended 26th Jan., 1929	4,333	2,052	6,385	8,288	14,673
Average for Dec., 1928	4,764	2,264	7,028	8,426	15,454
Average for Jan., 1928	5,075	1,966	7,041	8,427	15,468

Tilbury.—The average daily number of dock labourers employed during January was 929, compared with 1,009 in December, and with 1,022 in January, 1928.

East Coast.—Employment on the North-East coast was generally slack, being adversely affected by the closing of the Baltic ports and the consequent cessation of timber imports. Coal shipments, however, were brisk at the Hartlepoons; and at the Middlesbrough docks employment was exceptionally good, some men working double shifts. Employment was moderate at Hull and fair at Yarmouth and Lowestoft. At Ipswich it remained slack, and at Grimsby there was a further decline.

Liverpool.—Employment was fair and better than in the previous month, an improvement due to increased fruit and cotton imports. Some overtime was reported to have been worked on meat cargoes. The average weekly number of dock labourers registered at the clearing houses under the Liverpool Docks Scheme as employed in the five weeks ended 1st February was 15,300, compared with 15,495 in December, 1928, and with 15,407 in January, 1928. The average weekly amount of wages paid to these men through the clearing houses was £42,663 in the five weeks ended 1st February, compared with £39,476 in December, 1928, and with £41,924 in January, 1928.

Other Ports in England and Wales.—Coal exports at the South Wales ports continued to be above the average, and employment was considerably better than in December, and was reported to be, on the whole, moderate. There was also an improvement at Manchester. At Bristol and Gloucester there was a lessened demand for labour, and at Southampton work slackened, partly owing to ships being laid up for overhaul. Employment continued slack at Plymouth and other South-Western ports.

Scottish and Irish Ports.—Dock labourers continued to be fully employed at Dundee. Employment was fair at Glasgow, but showed a decline as compared with December. It was moderate at Grangemouth and Leith. At Belfast employment remained fair.

SEAMEN.

EMPLOYMENT during January was generally moderate. The number of engagements was considerably higher than in the previous month and in January of last year; but the supply of seamen was more than adequate for requirements at most of the ports.

Among insured workpeople in the shipping service the percentage unemployed at 21st January, 1929, was 19·3, compared with 18·8 at 17th December, 1928, and 16·6 at 23rd January, 1928.

The demand for men on the Thames was moderate to fair, with some decline towards the end of the month. On the Tyne it was rather quiet, with some slackening during the last week. On the Wear it fluctuated, and at the end of the month was fair. The demand was quiet to moderate generally on the Tees; at the Hartlepoons a temporary shortage of able seamen was again experienced. It was fairly good at the beginning of the month at Hull but declined later. At Southampton the demand was moderate, except at the close of the month when a falling-off occurred. At Bristol and Avonmouth the demand was fair generally throughout January. At Newport it was quiet to fair on the whole, but became fairly brisk at the end of the month, with some scarcity of carpenters. A similar temporary shortage was felt at Cardiff, where the general demand was fair to good. At Swansea the demand was fairly good although declining towards the end of the month; occasional shortages of deck hands occurred. There was a fair demand on the Mersey, with little fluctuation during the month; at Manchester the demand was fair until the last week, when it fell to moderate. On the Clyde and at Leith it was quiet for the greater part of the month. At Belfast the demand improved from poor to moderate.

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

Principal Ports.	Number of Seamen* shipped in		
	Jan., 1929.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) on a	
		Month before.	Year before.
ENGLAND AND WALES:			
Liverpool†	13,635	+ 5,561	+ 3,695
Manchester	1,154	+ 228	+ 403
London	9,889	+ 1,507	+ 421
Southampton	7,776	+ 724	+ 745
Tyne Ports	2,897	+ 543	+ 760
Sunderland	356	+ 229	— 20
Middlesbrough	496	+ 121	— 49
Hull	1,558	+ 333	— 81
Bristol‡	1,060	+ 463	— 112
Newport, Mon.	773	+ 60	+ 4
Cardiff§	3,536	+ 963	+ 510
Swansea	1,126	+ 357	+ 491
SCOTLAND:			
Leith	363	+ 44	+ 12
Kirkcaldy, Methil and Grange-mouth	461	+ 88	+ 2
Glasgow	2,585	+ 583	— 321
NORTHERN IRELAND:			
Belfast	247	+ 165	+ 29
TOTAL for above Ports ...	47,912	+ 11,969	+ 4,999

* 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 INSURANCE STATISTICS: GREAT BRITAIN.

DETERMINATION OF CLAIMS TO UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFIT.

The following Table gives, for the period 11th December to 14th January inclusive, the number of claims to benefit made at Employment Exchanges and Juvenile Employment Bureaux, the average number of claims current at all Local Offices in Great Britain during that period, and an analysis of the decisions by the Insurance Officers, of the recommendations of Courts of Referees, and decisions by the Umpire, on claims considered by them:—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
A.—Number of Claims.			
Fresh and Renewal claims made	746,793	243,033	989,826
Average number of claims current	1,041,544	224,579	1,266,123

B.—Disallowances by Insurance Officers.

Permanent provisions:			
First statutory condition* (30 contributions in past 2 years)	236	175	411
Not unable to obtain suitable employment	894	1,962	2,856
Not genuinely seeking work	20,309	12,857	33,166
Trade disputes	1,714	83	1,797
Employment lost through misconduct	3,343	1,063	4,406
Employment left voluntarily without just cause	3,565	2,071	5,636
Other grounds	1,725	716	2,441
Transitional provisions (Sec. 14 (2), U.I. Act, 1927):			
Less than 8 contributions paid in previous two years or 30 contributions paid at any time	143	32	175
Not normally insurable and not seeking to obtain a livelihood by means of insurable employment	884	1,140	2,024
Not a reasonable period of insurable employment during the preceding two years	5,966	1,483	7,449
Total claims disallowed	38,779	21,582	60,361

C.—Recommendations of Courts of Referees.

(1) ORDINARY BENEFIT APPEALS.			
Total cases considered	15,400	7,832	23,232
Recommended for allowance	7,174	2,878	10,052
Recommended for disallowance:—			
Permanent provisions:			
First statutory condition*	5	...	5
Not unable to obtain suitable employment	350	623	973
Not genuinely seeking work	4,280	3,240	7,520
Trade disputes†	53	10	63
Employment lost through misconduct	867	241	1,108
Employment left voluntarily without just cause	906	455	1,361
Other grounds	297	85	382
Transitional provisions (Sec. 14 (2), U.I. Act, 1927):			
Less than 8 contributions paid in previous two years or 30 contributions paid at any time	23	1	24
Not normally insurable and not seeking to obtain a livelihood by means of insurable employment	181	116	297
Not a reasonable period of insurable employment during the preceding two years	1,264	183	1,447
Total recommended for disallowance	8,226	4,954	13,180

(2) 78-DAY REVIEW CASES.†			
Total cases considered	159,075	18,887	177,962
Recommended for allowance	154,192	17,486	171,678
Recommended for disallowance:—			
Permanent provisions:			
Not unable to obtain suitable employment	9	5	14
Not genuinely seeking work	4,834	1,371	6,205
Other grounds	23	23	46
Transitional provisions* (Sec. 14 (2), U.I. Act, 1927):			
Less than 8 contributions paid in previous two years or 30 contributions paid at any time ... ..	...	...	...
Not normally insurable and not seeking to obtain a livelihood by means of insurable employment ... ..	...	...	...
Not a reasonable period of insurable employment during the preceding two years	17	2	19
Total recommended for disallowance	4,883	1,401	6,284

D.—Decisions by Umpire.‡

Gases referred by Insurance Officer { Allowed... ..	131	21	152
Disallowed	167	41	208
Appeals by Associations { Allowed... ..	82	1	83
Disallowed	213	30	243
Appeals by Claimants { Allowed... ..	12	1	13
Disallowed	49	12	61
Total { Allowed... ..	225	23	248
Disallowed	429	83	512

It should be noted that the disallowances by Insurance Officers, the recommendations of Courts of Referees, and the decisions by the Umpire are those recorded during the period, and relate in a proportion of cases to claims made earlier.

* This condition at present operates only in the case of juveniles under 18 years of age.

† Section 11 of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920, as amended by the Fourth Schedule to the Unemployment Insurance Act of 1927, provides that when an insured contributor has, during a prescribed period (since fixed at six months), received benefit amounting in the aggregate to 78 days, the claim shall be reviewed by a Court of Referees.

‡ The recommendations of Courts of Referees and decisions by the Umpire on trade dispute disallowances refer largely to test cases. The total number of individuals affected by such decisions is considerably in excess of the figures shown in the Table.

During the period 19th April to 14th January, 1929, 474,686 applications for benefit were disallowed by Insurance Offices, and 156,853 ordinary benefit appeals were considered by Courts of Referees, of which 97,548 (or 62·2 per cent.) were recommended for disallowance. The 78-day review cases considered by Courts of Referees numbered 775,555, of which 31,218 (or 4·0 per cent.) were recommended for disallowance. During the same period decisions were given by the Umpire on 4,698 claims, of which 3,174 (or 67·6 per cent.) were disallowed.

These figures relate to claims for benefit, and not to separate individuals.

UNEMPLOYMENT FUND.

The following Table shows approximately the receipts and payments and the liabilities of the Fund:—

	Four weeks ended 26th January, 1929.	Five weeks ended 29th December, 1928.	Four weeks ended 28th January, 1928.
Contributions received from:—			
Employers	£ 1,185,000	£ 1,675,000	£ 1,340,000
Employed Persons	1,000,000	1,435,000	1,135,000
Exchequer	850,000	1,200,000	950,000
Total	3,035,000	4,310,000	3,425,000
Unemployment Benefit	4,180,000	4,705,000	3,370,000
Cost of Administration	390,000	575,000	375,000
Interest accrued on Treasury Advances	130,000	145,000	90,000
Other Items	10,000	10,000	10,000
Total	4,710,000	5,435,000	3,845,000
Treasury Advances outstanding	33,150,000	31,020,000	23,530,000
Other Liabilities (net) including accrued interest and deposits	290,000	745,000	200,000

A detailed account of the Fund is presented to Parliament annually (see House of Commons Paper No. 28 of 1929, for the period ending 31st March, 1928).

NUMBERS OF INSURED WORKPEOPLE UNEMPLOYED.

PROPORTIONS IN VARIOUS INDUSTRY GROUPS.

In the following Table the numbers of insured workpeople recorded as wholly unemployed and as temporarily stopped from the service of their employers in Great Britain and Northern Ireland at 21st January, 1929, are analysed so as to show for various industry groups the proportion of the total numbers unemployed classified as belonging to each such group:—

Industry Group.	Males.				Females.			
	Number Wholly Unemployed.	Percentage of Total.	Number Temporarily Stopped.	Percentage of Total.	Number Wholly Unemployed.	Percentage of Total.	Number Temporarily Stopped.	Percentage of Total.
Fishing	4,011	0·4	13	0·0	84	0·0	145	0·1
Mining	181,682	18·3	44,827	23·1	765	0·4	290	0·3
Non-Metalliferous Mining Products	5,330	0·5	1,625	0·8	108	0·1	25	0·0
Brick, Tile, etc., making	8,760	0·9	2,225	1·1	730	0·4	414	0·4
Pottery, Earthenware, etc.	2,466	0·2	3,626	1·9	1,927	1·1	5,467	5·4
Glass Trades	4,097	0·4	1,273	0·7	387	0·2	79	0·1
Chemicals, etc.	10,183	1·0	1,526	0·8	1,986	1·1	278	0·3
Metal Manufacture	28,424	2·9	27,370	14·1	764	0·4	697	0·7
Engineering, etc.	54,291	5·5	21,312	11·0	2,025	1·2	706	0·7
Construction and Repair of Vehicles	17,996	1·8	5,448	2·8	1,141	0·7	232	0·2
Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing	53,378	5·4	2,411	1·2	124	0·1	34	0·0
Metal Trades	26,283	2·7	10,013	5·2	9,909	5·7	3,249	3·2
Textile Trades	32,085	3·2	34,263	17·6	44,540	25·5	53,564	52·5
Leather and Leather Goods	3,616	0·4	1,641	0·8	1,440	0·8	801	0·8
Boot, Shoe, Slipper and Clog Trades	7,971	0·8	7,883	4·1	2,900	1·7	4,045	4·0
Clothing Trades	10,959	1·1	2,453	1·3	17,509	10·0	16,195	15·9
Food, Drink and Tobacco	22,864	2·3	1,854	1·0	15,323	8·8	5,070	5·0
Sawmilling, Furniture and Woodwork	15,103	1·5	1,909	1·0	1,453	0·8	552	0·5
Printing and Paper Trades	10,311	1·0	742	0·4	6,202	3·5	2,363	2·3
Building and Construction of Works	194,233	19·5	11,536	5·9	204	0·1	12	0·0
Other Manufacturing Industries	6,021	0·6	846	0·4	2,613	1·5	960	0·9
Gas, Water and Electricity Supply Industries	10,321	1·0	506	0·3	149	0·1	16	0·0
Transport and Communication	119,165	12·0	2,850	1·5	1,341	0·8	95	0·1
Distributive Trades	72,206	7·3	3,090	1·6	30,804	17·6	4,477	4·4
Commerce, Banking, Insurance and Finance	5,208	0·5	60	0·0	828	0·5	15	0·0
Miscellaneous Trades and Services	87,948	8·8	2,807	1·4	29,465	16·9	2,214	2·2
All Industries and Services	994,912	100·0	194,109	100·0	174,721	100·0	101,995	100·0

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 21st January, 1929, 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 Table and the figure given on page 66 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 as 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 as from 2nd January, 1928. (The employers of such persons, however, are required to pay contributions at the employer's rates.) 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, therefore, no longer include persons aged 65 and over. 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. 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 21st JANUARY, 1929.

INDUSTRY.	GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.									GREAT BRITAIN ONLY.		
	WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED (including Casuals).			TEMPORARILY STOPPED.			TOTAL.			WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED, TEMPORARILY STOPPED, AND CASUALS.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Fishing	4,011	84	4,095	13	145	158	4,024	229	4,253	3,985	228	4,213
Mining :—												
Coal Mining	170,551	649	171,200	41,785	274	42,059	212,336	923	213,259	212,291	923	213,214
Iron Ore and Ironstone Mining and Quarrying	1,890	2	1,892	70	...	70	1,960	2	1,962	1,913	2	1,915
Lead, Tin and Copper Mining	967	5	972	82	...	82	1,049	5	1,054	1,049	5	1,054
Stone Quarrying and Mining	4,970	10	4,980	2,268	2	2,270	7,238	12	7,250	6,855	12	6,867
Slate Quarrying and Mining	567	1	568	92	...	92	659	1	660	659	1	660
Mining and Quarrying not separately specified	1,626	85	1,711	430	5	435	2,056	90	2,146	1,954	88	2,042
Clay, Sand, Gravel and Chalk Pit Digging	1,111	13	1,124	100	9	109	1,211	22	1,233	1,167	22	1,189
Non-Metalliferous Mining Products :—												
Coke Ovens and By-Product Works	1,315	15	1,330	428	1	429	1,743	16	1,759	1,743	16	1,759
Artificial Stone and Concrete Manu- facture	2,510	55	2,565	814	16	830	3,324	71	3,395	3,315	71	3,386
Cement, Limekilns and Whiting Works	1,505	38	1,543	383	8	391	1,888	46	1,934	1,836	43	1,879
Brick, Tile, etc., Making	8,760	730	9,490	2,225	414	2,639	10,985	1,144	12,129	10,808	1,144	11,952
Pottery, Earthenware, etc.	2,466	1,927	4,393	3,626	5,467	9,093	6,092	7,394	13,486	6,091	7,394	13,485
Glass Trades :—												
Glass (excluding Bottles and Scien- tific Glass) Manufacture	1,595	262	1,857	467	55	522	2,062	317	2,379	2,055	317	2,372
Glass Bottle Making	2,502	125	2,627	806	24	830	3,308	149	3,457	3,308	149	3,457
Chemicals, etc. :—												
Chemicals Manufacture	5,517	748	6,265	614	90	704	6,131	838	6,969	6,060	832	6,892
Explosives Manufacture	618	357	975	30	38	68	648	395	1,043	648	395	1,043
Paint, Varnish, Japan, Red and White Lead Manufacture	722	138	860	122	9	131	844	147	991	844	147	991
Oil, Grease, Glue, Soap, Ink, Match, etc., Manufacture	3,326	743	4,069	760	141	901	4,086	884	4,970	4,071	873	4,944
Metal Manufacture :—												
Pig Iron Manufacture (Blast Furnaces)	3,369	10	3,379	749	9	758	4,118	19	4,137	4,117	19	4,136
Steel Melting and Iron Puddling Fur- naces, Iron and Steel Rolling Mills and Forges	17,983	150	18,133	17,957	42	17,999	35,940	192	36,132	35,923	192	36,115
Manufacture of Brass, Copper, Zinc, Tin, Lead, etc.	2,897	162	3,059	902	26	928	3,799	188	3,987	3,761	188	3,949
Manufacture of Tin Plates	972	122	1,094	5,717	537	6,254	6,689	659	7,348	6,689	659	7,348
Iron and Steel Tube Making	1,815	101	1,916	1,116	21	1,137	2,931	122	3,053	2,930	122	3,052
Wire, Wire Netting, Wire Rope Manu- facture	1,388	219	1,607	929	62	991	2,317	281	2,598	2,309	281	2,590
Engineering, etc. :—												
General Engineering; Engineers' Iron and Steel Founding	42,366	1,306	43,672	19,142	548	19,690	61,508	1,854	63,362	60,519	1,853	62,372
Electrical Engineering	2,865	660	3,525	569	155	724	3,434	815	4,249	3,423	815	4,238
Marine Engineering, etc.	6,523	25	6,548	820	...	820	7,343	25	7,368	6,824	25	6,849
Constructional Engineering	2,537	34	2,571	781	3	784	3,318	37	3,355	3,314	37	3,351
Construction and Repair of Vehicles :—												
Construction and Repair of Motor Vehicles, Cycles and Aircraft	12,289	977	13,266	2,653	202	2,855	14,942	1,179	16,121	14,765	1,171	15,936
Construction and Repair of Carriages, Carts, etc.	1,753	124	1,877	280	23	303	2,033	147	2,180	1,935	147	2,082
Railway Carriage, Wagon and Tram- car Building	3,954	40	3,994	2,515	7	2,522	6,469	47	6,516	6,464	47	6,511

INDUSTRY.	GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.									GREAT BRITAIN ONLY.		
	WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED (Including Casuals).			TEMPORARILY STOPPED.			TOTAL.			WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED, TEMPORARILY STOPPED, AND CASUALS.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing ...	53,378	124	53,502	2,411	34	2,445	55,789	158	55,947	53,167	156	53,323
Metal Trades :—												
Stove, Grate, Pipe, etc., and General												
Iron Founding ...	7,406	551	7,957	3,207	190	3,397	10,613	741	11,354	10,476	741	11,217
Electrical Wiring and Contracting ...	1,079	38	1,117	92	...	92	1,171	38	1,209	1,147	38	1,185
Electrical Cable, Wire and Electric												
Lamp Manufacture ...	3,405	1,184	4,589	471	164	635	3,876	1,348	5,224	3,873	1,348	5,221
Hand Tool, Cutlery, Saw, File Making	2,338	704	3,042	1,439	436	1,875	3,777	1,140	4,917	3,773	1,140	4,913
Bolts, Nuts, Screws, Rivets, Nails,												
etc., Manufacture ...	1,080	966	2,046	588	154	742	1,668	1,120	2,788	1,668	1,120	2,788
Brass and Allied Metal Wares Manu-												
facture ...	1,334	837	2,171	356	177	533	1,690	1,014	2,704	1,688	1,014	2,702
Heating and Ventilating Apparatus	380	19	399	80	2	82	460	21	481	457	21	478
Watches, Clocks, Plate, Jewellery,												
etc., Manufacture ...	1,341	1,073	2,414	621	691	1,312	1,962	1,764	3,726	1,933	1,764	3,697
Metal Industries not separately												
specified ...	7,920	4,537	12,457	3,159	1,435	4,594	11,079	5,972	17,051	10,924	5,971	16,895
Textile Trades :—												
Cotton ...	11,634	19,780	31,414	9,294	21,931	31,225	20,928	41,711	62,639	20,923	41,694	62,617
Woollen and Worsted... ..	6,846	5,835	12,681	8,945	15,010	23,955	15,791	20,845	36,636	15,717	20,785	36,502
Silk and Artificial Silk ...	1,921	1,822	3,743	2,440	3,216	5,656	4,361	5,038	9,399	4,148	4,906	9,054
Linen ...	3,273	7,405	10,678	940	1,841	2,781	4,213	9,246	13,459	670	1,749	2,419
Jute ...	1,431	2,144	3,575	117	570	687	1,548	2,714	4,262	1,548	2,714	4,262
Hemp Spinning and Weaving, Rope,												
Cord, Twine, etc., Making ...	562	845	1,407	124	407	531	686	1,252	1,938	566	1,025	1,591
Hosiery ...	664	2,290	2,954	754	4,642	5,396	1,418	6,932	8,350	1,397	6,860	8,257
Lace ...	376	365	741	464	408	872	840	773	1,613	839	773	1,612
Carpet Manufacture ...	331	466	797	341	685	1,026	672	1,151	1,823	672	1,151	1,823
Textile Industries not separately												
specified ...	842	1,848	2,690	281	1,243	1,524	1,123	3,091	4,214	1,016	2,604	3,620
Textile Bleaching, Printing, Dyeing,												
etc. ...	4,205	1,740	5,945	10,563	3,611	14,174	14,768	5,351	20,119	14,142	4,327	18,469
Leather and Leather Goods :—												
Tanning, Currying and Dressing ...	2,622	657	3,279	1,394	278	1,672	4,016	935	4,951	4,012	935	4,947
Saddlery, Harness and other Leather												
Goods Manufacture ...	994	783	1,777	247	523	770	1,241	1,306	2,547	1,226	1,303	2,529
Clothing Trades :—												
Tailoring ...	8,097	6,982	15,079	1,897	9,807	11,704	9,994	16,789	26,783	9,266	16,451	25,717
Dress and Mantle Making and												
Millinery ...	954	5,275	6,229	76	3,007	3,083	1,030	8,282	9,312	1,011	8,078	9,089
Hat and Cap (including Straw Plait)												
Manufacture ...	845	973	1,818	294	624	918	1,139	1,597	2,736	1,139	1,596	2,735
Blouses, Shirts, Collars, Undercloth-												
ing, etc., Making ...	450	3,807	4,257	67	2,342	2,409	517	6,149	6,666	424	3,426	3,850
Dress Industries not separately												
specified ...	613	472	1,085	119	415	534	732	887	1,619	726	884	1,610
Boot, Shoe, Slipper and Clog Trades	7,971	2,900	10,871	7,883	4,045	11,928	15,854	6,945	22,799	15,715	6,928	22,643
Food, Drink and Tobacco :—												
Bread, Biscuit, Cake, etc., Making...	8,068	3,193	11,261	438	427	865	8,506	3,620	12,126	7,945	3,524	11,469
Grain Milling ...	1,573	135	1,708	161	24	185	1,734	159	1,893	1,683	155	1,838
Cocoa, Chocolate and Sugar Con-												
fectionery ...	2,319	2,861	5,180	729	3,121	3,850	3,048	5,982	9,030	3,044	5,977	9,021
Food Industries not separately												
specified ...	5,153	5,909	11,062	237	738	975	5,390	6,647	12,037	5,277	6,567	11,844
Drink Industries ...	5,159	2,027	7,186	274	474	748	5,433	2,501	7,934	5,053	2,460	7,513
Tobacco, Cigar, Cigarette and Snuff												
Manufacture ...	592	1,198	1,790	15	286	301	607	1,484	2,091	552	1,344	1,896
Sawmilling, Furniture and Woodwork :—												
Sawmilling and Machined Woodwork	6,127	108	6,235	525	23	548	6,652	131	6,783	6,492	130	6,622
Wood Box and Packing Case Making	1,141	117	1,258	230	43	273	1,371	160	1,531	1,334	160	1,494
Furniture Making, Upholstering, etc.	6,373	929	7,302	685	375	1,060	7,058	1,304	8,362	6,908	1,288	8,196
Woodworking not separately												
specified ...	1,462	299	1,761	469	111	580	1,931	410	2,341	1,827	390	2,217
Printing and Paper Trades :—												
Paper and Paper Board Making ...	1,437	355	1,792	280	273	553	1,717	628	2,345	1,700	628	2,328
Cardboard Boxes, Paper Bags and												
Stationery ...	861	1,430	2,291	69	972	1,041	930	2,402	3,332	912	2,253	3,165
Wall Paper Making and Paper												
Staining ...	167	55	222	5	10	15	172	65	237	172	65	237
Stationery and Typewriting Requisites												
(not paper) ...	119	132	251	5	45	50	124	177	301	123	177	300
Printing, Publishing and Bookbinding	7,727	4,230	11,957	383	1,063	1,446	8,110	5,293	13,403	7,916	5,100	13,016
Building and Construction of Works :—												
Building ...	152,813	173	152,986	9,691	9	9,700	162,504	182	162,686	159,042	177	159,219
Public Works Contracting, etc. ...	41,420	31	41,451	1,845	3	1,848	43,265	34	43,299	41,702	33	41,735
Other Manufacturing Industries :—												
Rubber Manufacture ...	2,536	1,677	4,213	216	628	844	2,752	2,305	5,057	2,745	2,304	5,049
Oilcloth, Linoleum, etc., Manufacture	756	59	815	88	25	113	844	84	928	842	83	925
Brush and Broom Making ...	651	196	847	233	109	342	884	305	1,189	850	301	1,151
Scientific and Photographic Instru-												
ment and Apparatus Manufacture	476	215	691	58	49	107	534	264	798	532	262	794
Musical Instrument Making ...	1,223	146	1,369	141	8	149	1,364	154	1,518	1,359	154	1,513
Toys, Games and Sports Requisites												
Manufacture ...	379	320	699	110	141	251	489	461	950	485	461	946
Gas, Water and Electricity Supply												
Industries ...	10,321	149	10,470	506	16	522	10,827	165	10,992	10,488	157	10,645
Transport and Communication :—												
Railway Service ...	11,051	308	11,359	626	11	637	11,677	319	11,996	11,413	318	11,731
Tramway and Omnibus Service ...	4,975	244	5,219	209	6	215	5,184	250	5,434	5,082	248	5,330
Road Transport not separately												
specified ...	22,623	214	22,837	932	7	939	23,555	221	23,776	22,703	220	22,923
Shipping Service ...	26,349	386	26,735	113	52	165	26,462	438	26,900	25,748	434	26,182
Canal, River, Dock and Harbour												
Service ...	52,250	92	52,342	898	12	910	53,148	104	53,252	52,000	104	52,104
Transport, Communication and												
Storage not separately specified ...	1,917	97	2,014	72	7	79	1,989	104	2,093	1,971	104	2,075
Distributive Trades ...	72,206	30,804	103,010	3,090	4,477	7,567	75,296	35,281	110,577	71,936	34,316	106,252
Commerce, Banking, Insurance and												
Finance ...	5,208	828	6,036	60	15	75	5,268	843	6,111	5,112	832	5,944
Miscellaneous Trades and Services :—												
National Government ...	8,290	708	8,998	407	45	452	8,697	753	9,450	8,301	718	9,019
Local Government ...	27,454	592	28,046	1,067	53	1,120	28,521	645	29,166	27,300	642	27,942
Professional Services ...	3,030	907	3,937	110	26	136	3,140	933	4,073	3,054	908	3,962
Entertainments and Sports ...	6,038	1,890	7,928	124	76	200	6,162	1,966	8,128	5,991	1,949	7,940
Hotel, Boarding House, Club Services	14,531	19,887	34,418	170	508	678	14,701	20,395	35,096	14,314	20,032	34,346
Laundries, Dyeing and Dry Cleaning	1,478	3,976	5,454	92	781	873	1,570	4,757	6,327	1,534	4,483	6,017
Industries and Services not separately												
specified ...	27,127	1,505	28,632	837	725	1,562	27,964	2,230	30,194	27,042	2,206	29,248
TOTAL ...	994,912	174,721	1,169,633	194,109	101,995	296,104	1,189,021	276,716	1,465,737*	1,160,372	261,384	1,421,756

* Including 77,574 Casuals (Males 76,269, Females 1,305).

NUMBERS INSURED AND PERCENTAGES UNEMPLOYED.

INDUSTRY.	GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.															GREAT BRITAIN ONLY. TOTAL PER- CENTAGE AT 21ST JAN., 1929.
	ESTIMATED NUMBER OF INSURED PERSONS AGED 16-64 INCLUSIVE, AT JULY, 1928.			PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED AT 21ST JANUARY, 1929.									INCREASE (+) OR DECREASE (-) IN TOTAL PERCENT- AGES AS COMPARED WITH			
				WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED (including Casuals).			TEMPORARILY STOPPED.			TOTAL.						
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Fe- males.	Total.	Males.	Fe- males.	Total.	Males.	Fe- males.	Total.	17TH DEC., 1928.	23RD JAN., 1928.	24TH JAN., 1927.	
Fishing	26,850	950	27,800	14.9	8.8	14.7	0.1	15.3	0.6	15.0	24.1	15.3	- 0.8	+ 1.7	- 3.2	15.3
Mining :—																
Coal Mining	1,109,800	6,110	1,115,910	15.4	10.6	15.3	3.7	4.5	3.8	19.1	15.1	19.1	...	+ 1.0	+ 2.8	19.1
Iron Ore and Ironstone Mining and Quarrying	14,580	10	14,590	13.0	20.0	13.0	0.4	...	0.4	13.4	20.0	13.4	+ 0.5	- 2.7	- 7.4	13.2
Lead, Tin and Copper Mining	5,540	90	5,630	17.5	5.6	17.3	1.4	...	1.4	18.9	5.6	18.7	+ 1.7	+ 4.9	+ 5.1	18.7
Stone Quarrying and Mining	40,910	340	41,250	12.1	2.9	12.1	5.6	0.6	5.5	17.7	3.5	17.6	+ 3.8	+ 4.5	+ 6.7	17.2
Slate Quarrying and Mining	10,640	10	10,650	5.3	10.0	5.3	0.9	...	0.9	6.2	10.0	6.2	+ 1.1	+ 2.3	+ 4.1	6.2
Mining and Quarrying not separately specified	15,070	1,590	16,660	10.8	5.3	10.3	2.8	0.4	2.6	13.6	5.7	12.9	+ 1.7	+ 1.6	- 1.0	12.6
Clay, Sand, Gravel and Chalk Pit Digging	14,680	180	14,860	7.6	7.2	7.6	0.6	5.0	0.7	8.2	12.2	8.3	+ 0.7	+ 1.4	+ 1.8	8.1
Non-Metalliferous Mining Products :—																
Coke Ovens and By-Product Works	10,230	100	10,330	12.9	15.0	12.9	4.1	1.0	4.1	17.0	16.0	17.0	+ 1.8	+ 4.7	- 4.5	17.0
Artificial Stone and Concrete Manu- facture	15,270	1,380	16,650	16.4	4.0	15.4	5.4	1.1	5.0	21.8	5.1	20.4	+ 3.9	+ 4.5	+ 4.0	20.4
Cement, Limekilns and Whiting Works	18,070	930	19,000	8.3	4.1	8.1	2.1	0.8	2.1	10.4	4.9	10.2	+ 2.5	- 1.2	+ 4.6	10.1
Brick, Tile, etc., Making	74,160	6,980	81,140	11.8	10.5	11.7	3.0	5.9	3.2	14.8	16.4	14.9	+ 1.6	+ 0.4	+ 6.1	14.9
Pottery, Earthenware, etc.	33,270	37,620	70,890	7.4	5.1	6.2	10.9	14.6	12.8	18.3	19.7	19.0	+ 2.1	- 0.5	+ 2.5	19.1
Glass Trades :—																
Glass (excluding Bottles and Scien- tific Glass) Manufacture	19,600	5,170	24,770	8.1	5.1	7.5	2.4	1.0	2.1	10.5	6.1	9.6	+ 0.9	+ 0.8	- 1.4	9.6
Glass Bottle Making	15,550	1,850	17,400	16.1	6.8	15.1	5.2	1.3	4.8	21.3	8.1	19.9	+ 2.8	+ 2.9	- 0.6	19.9
Chemicals, etc. :—																
Chemicals Manufacture	77,960	22,340	100,300	7.1	3.3	6.2	0.8	0.5	0.7	7.9	3.8	6.9	+ 0.7	+ 0.7	- 1.2	6.9
Explosives Manufacture	13,820	6,230	20,050	4.5	5.7	4.9	0.2	0.6	0.3	4.7	6.3	5.2	+ 0.3	- 0.7	- 3.3	5.2
Paint, Varnish, Japan, Red and White Lead Manufacture	14,020	4,610	18,630	5.1	3.0	4.6	0.9	0.2	0.7	6.0	3.2	5.3	+ 0.9	+ 0.4	- 0.8	5.3
Oil, Grease, Glue, Soap, Ink, Match, etc., Manufacture	55,670	20,540	76,210	6.0	3.6	5.3	1.3	0.7	1.2	7.3	4.3	6.5	+ 0.2	...	- 1.5	6.5
Metal Manufacture :—																
Pig Iron Manufacture (Blast Furnaces)	21,890	270	22,160	15.4	3.7	15.2	3.4	3.3	3.5	18.8	7.0	18.7	- 0.4	+ 2.5	- 1.6	18.7
Steel Melting and Iron Puddling Fur- naces, Iron and Steel Rolling Mills and Forges	174,300	4,240	178,540	10.3	3.5	10.2	10.3	1.0	10.0	20.6	4.5	20.2	+ 0.4	- 0.2	- 0.2	20.2
Manufacture of Brass, Copper, Zinc, Tin, Lead, etc.	34,440	3,150	37,590	8.4	5.1	8.1	2.6	0.9	2.5	11.0	6.0	10.6	+ 0.7	+ 1.2	- 2.3	10.6
Manufacture of Tin Plates	28,230	3,810	32,040	3.4	3.2	3.4	20.3	14.1	19.5	23.7	17.3	22.9	+ 4.3	- 3.3	+ 14.2	22.9
Iron and Steel Tube Making	26,460	1,270	27,730	6.9	8.0	6.9	4.2	1.6	4.1	11.1	9.6	11.0	+ 1.2	- 1.9	- 2.1	11.0
Wire, Wire Netting, Wire Rope Manu- facture	19,170	3,940	23,110	7.2	5.6	7.0	4.9	1.5	4.2	12.1	7.1	11.2	+ 0.3	- 3.8	- 4.2	11.2
Engineering, etc. :—																
General Engineering; Engineers' Iron and Steel Founding	536,550	45,580	582,130	7.9	2.9	7.5	3.6	1.2	3.4	11.5	4.1	10.9	+ 1.1	+ 1.1	- 3.3	10.8
Electrical Engineering	62,580	17,190	79,770	4.6	3.8	4.4	0.9	0.9	0.9	5.5	4.7	5.3	+ 0.6	+ 0.6	- 1.5	5.3
Marine Engineering, etc.	53,660	1,370	55,030	12.2	1.8	11.9	1.5	...	1.5	13.7	1.8	13.4	- 1.9	+ 2.1	- 11.4	13.6
Constructional Engineering	26,160	1,130	27,290	9.7	3.0	9.4	3.0	0.3	2.9	12.7	3.3	12.3	+ 0.9	+ 2.8	- 5.7	12.3
Construction and Repair of Vehicles :—																
Construction and Repair of Motor Vehicles, Cycles and Aircraft	211,240	23,590	234,830	5.8	4.1	5.6	1.3	0.9	1.3	7.1	5.0	6.9	+ 0.4	+ 0.1	- 1.4	6.9
Construction and Repair of Carriages, Carts, etc.	17,190	2,360	19,550	10.2	5.3	9.6	1.6	0.9	1.6	11.8	6.2	11.2	+ 1.5	+ 1.2	- 1.1	10.8
Railway Carriage, Wagon and Tram- car Building	54,800	1,570	56,370	7.2	2.5	7.1	4.6	0.5	4.5	11.8	3.0	11.6	+ 0.3	+ 3.0	- 0.6	11.6
Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing	199,170	3,260	202,430	26.8	3.8	26.4	1.2	1.0	1.2	28.0	4.8	27.6	- 2.7	+ 7.0	- 9.3	27.9
Metal Trades :—																
Stove, Grate, Pipe, etc., and General Iron Founding	80,000	8,280	88,280	9.3	6.7	9.0	4.0	2.2	3.9	13.3	8.9	12.9	+ 1.8	+ 1.0	+ 2.1	12.8
Electrical Wiring and Contracting	14,240	1,290	15,530	7.6	2.9	7.2	0.6	...	0.6	8.2	2.9	7.8	+ 1.4	+ 1.5	- 0.2	7.8
Electrical Cable, Wire and Electric Lamp Manufacture	53,990	32,190	86,180	6.3	3.7	5.3	0.9	0.5	0.8	7.2	4.2	6.1	+ 1.2	+ 0.2	- 2.2	6.1
Hand Tool, Cutlery, Saw, File Making	22,750	9,750	32,500	10.3	7.2	9.4	6.3	4.5	5.7	16.6	11.7	15.1	+ 2.0	+ 1.5	- 0.7	15.1
Bolts, Nuts, Screws, Rivets, Nails, etc., Manufacture	14,110	11,190	25,300	7.7	8.6	8.1	4.1	1.4	2.9	11.8	10.0	11.0	+ 0.4	+ 1.6	- 2.2	11.0
Brass and Allied Metal Wares Manu- facture	17,210	10,520	27,730	7.8	8.0	7.8	2.0	1.6	2.0	9.8	9.6	9.8	+ 1.3	+ 0.2	- 0.9	9.8
Heating and Ventilating Apparatus	7,430	570	8,000	5.1	3.3	5.0	1.1	0.4	1.0	6.2	3.7	6.0	- 0.3	+ 0.1	- 2.0	6.0
Watches, Clocks, Plate, Jewellery, etc., Manufacture	23,450	19,410	42,860	5.7	5.5	5.6	2.7	3.6	3.1	8.4	9.1	8.7	+ 2.0	+ 0.4	- 3.0	8.7
Metal Industries not separately specified	114,900	68,500	183,400	6.9	6.6	6.8	2.7	2.1	2.5	9.6	8.7	9.3	+ 1.2	+ 0.7	- 1.1	9.2
Textile Trades :—																
Cotton	197,960	356,010	553,970	5.9	5.6	5.7	4.7	6.1	5.6	10.6	11.7	11.3	+ 0.2	+ 1.6	...	11.3
Woolen and Worsted... ..	98,300	144,290	242,590	7.0	4.0	5.2	9.1	10.4	9.9	16.1	14.4	15.1	+ 1.9	+ 6.3	+ 2.8	15.1
Silk and Artificial Silk	31,120	39,150	70,270	6.2	4.7	5.3	7.8	8.2	8.1	14.0	12.9	13.4				

INDUSTRY.	GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.															GREAT BRITAIN ONLY. TOTAL PER- CENTAGE AT 21ST JAN., 1929.
	ESTIMATED NUMBER OF INSURED PERSONS AGED 16-64 INCLUSIVE, AT JULY, 1928.			PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED AT 21ST JANUARY, 1929.									INCREASE (+) OR DECREASE (-) IN TOTAL PERCENT- AGES AS COMPARED WITH			
				WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED (including Casuals).			TEMPORARILY STOPPED.			TOTAL.						
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Fe- males.	Total.	Males.	Fe- males.	Total.	Males.	Fe- males.	Total.	17TH DEC., 1928.	23RD JAN., 1928.	24TH JAN., 1927.	
Food, Drink and Tobacco :—																
Bread, Biscuit, Cake, etc., Making...	90,820	53,630	144,450	8.9	6.0	7.8	0.5	0.7	0.6	9.4	6.7	8.4	+ 1.2	+ 1.3	- 0.4	8.2
Grain Milling	25,460	3,350	28,810	6.2	4.0	5.9	0.6	0.7	0.7	6.8	4.7	6.6	- 0.6	- 0.2	- 2.4	6.6
Cocoa, Chocolate and Sugar Con- fectionery	25,350	49,350	74,700	9.1	5.8	6.9	2.9	6.3	5.2	12.0	12.1	12.1	+ 1.5	+ 1.0	- 2.3	12.1
Food Industries not separately specified	54,680	53,430	108,110	9.4	11.1	10.2	0.5	1.3	0.9	9.9	12.4	11.1	+ 0.8	...	- 0.2	11.1
Drink Industries	83,870	23,450	107,320	6.2	8.6	6.7	0.3	2.1	0.7	6.5	10.7	7.4	+ 1.2	+ 1.1	+ 0.2	7.1
Tobacco, Cigar, Cigarette and Snuff Manufacture	14,770	29,280	44,050	4.0	4.1	4.1	0.1	1.0	0.6	4.1	5.1	4.7	+ 1.2	- 0.1	+ 0.3	4.5
Sawmilling, Furniture and Woodwork :—																
Sawmilling and Machined Woodwork	54,200	2,830	57,030	11.3	3.8	10.9	1.0	0.8	1.0	12.3	4.6	11.9	+ 1.9	+ 1.8	+ 1.3	11.8
Wood Box and Packing Case Making	10,690	1,810	12,500	10.7	6.5	10.1	2.1	2.3	2.1	12.8	8.8	12.2	+ 2.3	+ 0.8	- 1.1	12.2
Furniture Making, Upholstering, etc.	94,240	21,170	115,410	6.8	4.4	6.3	0.7	1.8	0.9	7.5	6.2	7.2	+ 2.4	+ 1.3	- 1.2	7.2
Woodworking not separately specified	17,580	5,510	23,090	8.3	5.4	7.6	2.7	2.0	2.5	11.0	7.4	10.1	+ 1.6	+ 1.5	- 1.8	9.7
Printing and Paper Trades :—																
Paper and Paper Board Making	38,930	14,520	53,450	3.7	2.4	3.4	0.7	1.9	1.0	4.4	4.3	4.4	+ 0.6	- 1.2	- 0.8	4.4
Cardboard Boxes, Paper Bags and Stationery	20,910	34,730	55,640	4.1	4.1	4.1	0.3	2.8	1.9	4.4	6.9	6.0	+ 2.3	+ 1.3	- 0.3	5.8
Wall Paper Making and Paper Staining	4,170	1,520	5,690	4.0	3.6	3.9	0.1	0.7	0.3	4.1	4.3	4.2	- 0.6	+ 0.1	+ 0.7	4.2
Stationery and Typewriting Requisites (not paper)	2,700	3,270	5,970	4.4	4.0	4.2	0.2	1.4	0.8	4.6	5.4	5.0	+ 2.0	+ 0.7	- 1.2	5.0
Printing, Publishing and Bookbinding	163,390	90,250	253,640	4.7	4.7	4.7	0.3	1.2	0.6	5.0	5.9	5.3	+ 1.2	+ 0.2	- 0.7	5.2
Building and Construction of Works :—																
Building	807,650	8,910	816,560	18.9	1.9	18.7	1.2	0.1	1.2	20.1	2.0	19.9	+ 4.7	+ 2.5	+ 4.7	19.8
Public Works Contracting, etc.	158,880	1,150	160,030	26.1	2.7	25.9	1.1	0.3	1.2	27.2	3.0	27.1	+ 2.8	+ 4.6	+ 4.0	26.8
Other Manufacturing Industries :—																
Rubber Manufacture	36,810	25,840	62,650	6.9	6.5	6.7	0.6	2.4	1.4	7.5	8.9	8.1	+ 0.8	- 3.1	- 3.3	8.1
Oilcloth, Linoleum, etc., Manufacture	11,480	2,170	13,650	6.6	2.7	6.0	0.8	1.2	0.8	7.4	3.9	6.8	+ 1.9	+ 1.9	+ 0.5	6.8
Brush and Broom Making	6,150	4,690	10,840	10.6	4.2	7.8	3.8	2.3	3.2	14.4	6.5	11.0	+ 2.1	+ 1.4	- 0.6	10.9
Scientific and Photographic Instru- ment and Apparatus Manufacture	15,260	8,860	24,120	3.1	2.4	2.9	0.4	0.6	0.4	3.5	3.0	3.3	+ 0.8	+ 0.2	- 0.6	3.3
Musical Instrument Making	20,250	5,930	26,180	6.0	2.5	5.2	0.7	0.1	0.6	6.7	2.6	5.8	+ 3.2	+ 0.1	- 0.2	5.8
Toys, Games and Sports Requisites Manufacture	5,900	5,810	11,710	6.4	5.5	6.0	1.9	2.4	2.1	8.3	7.9	8.1	+ 2.1	+ 0.5	- 1.1	8.1
Gas, Water and Electricity Supply Industries	156,620	6,560	163,180	6.6	2.3	6.4	0.3	0.2	0.3	6.9	2.5	6.7	+ 0.6	+ 0.8	+ 0.7	6.6
Transport and Communication :—																
Railway Service	132,950	7,400	140,350	8.3	4.2	8.1	0.5	0.1	0.4	8.8	4.3	8.5	+ 0.6	+ 2.1	+ 0.8	8.4
Tramway and Omnibus Service	135,460	5,930	141,390	3.7	4.1	3.7	0.1	0.1	0.1	3.8	4.2	3.8	+ 0.3	+ 0.2	- 0.9	3.8
Road Transport not separately specified	169,410	6,950	176,360	13.4	3.1	12.9	0.5	0.1	0.6	13.9	3.2	13.5	+ 0.9	+ 0.9	- 0.8	13.3
Shipping Service	132,820	6,400	139,220	19.8	6.0	19.2	0.1	0.8	0.1	19.9	6.8	19.3	+ 0.5	+ 2.7	- 1.0	19.2
Canal, River, Dock and Harbour Service	168,570	2,290	170,860	31.0	4.0	30.6	0.5	0.5	0.6	31.5	4.5	31.2	+ 0.5	+ 5.4	+ 4.3	31.1
Transport, Communication and Storage not separately specified	16,040	2,040	18,080	12.0	4.8	11.1	0.4	0.3	0.5	12.4	5.1	11.6	- 0.6	- 1.5	+ 0.3	11.6
Distributive Trades	974,100	639,690	1,613,790	7.4	4.8	6.4	0.3	0.7	0.5	7.7	5.5	6.9	+ 1.1	+ 1.1	+ 0.3	6.7
Commerce, Banking, Insurance and Finance	149,370	72,300	221,670	3.5	1.1	2.7	0.0	0.1	0.1	3.5	1.2	2.8	+ 0.3	+ 0.4	- 0.1	2.7
Miscellaneous Trades and Services :—																
National Government	102,870	22,670	125,540	8.1	3.1	7.2	0.4	0.2	0.3	8.5	3.3	7.5	+ 1.1	+ 0.9	+ 0.4	7.4
Local Government	236,060	19,350	255,410	11.6	3.1	11.0	0.5	0.2	0.4	12.1	3.3	11.4	+ 1.0	+ 1.8	+ 1.5	11.2
Professional Services	67,020	49,910	116,930	4.5	1.8	3.4	0.2	0.1	0.1	4.7	1.9	3.5	+ 0.6	+ 0.6	+ 0.2	3.4
Entertainments and Sports	44,040	24,370	68,410	13.7	7.8	11.6	0.3	0.3	0.3	14.0	8.1	11.9	+ 1.1	+ 2.1	+ 1.0	11.8
Hotel, Boarding House, Club Services	114,460	200,360	314,820	12.7	9.9	10.9	0.1	0.3	0.2	12.8	10.2	11.1	+ 0.3	+ 1.9	+ 0.5	11.1
Laundries, Dyeing and Dry Cleaning Industries and Services not separately specified	25,510	104,060	129,570	5.8	3.8	4.2	0.4	0.8	0.7	6.2	4.6	4.9	+ 0.3	+ 0.8	...	4.7
Total	8,621,900	3,259,600	11,881,500	11.5	5.4	9.8	2.3	3.1	2.5	13.8	8.5	12.3	+ 1.1	+ 1.6	+ 0.2	12.2

PRINCIPAL VARIATIONS DURING JANUARY 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 21st January, 1929, differed from the figures for 17th December, 1928, to the extent of 1,500 or more :—

Industry.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Numbers recorded as Unemployed at 21st January, 1929, as compared with 17th December, 1928.			Industry.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Numbers recorded as Unemployed at 21st January, 1929, as compared with 17th December, 1928.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.		Males.	Females.	Total.
Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing...	- 5,376	- 3	- 5,379	Printing, Publishing and Book-binding	+ 1,398	+ 1,669	+ 3,067
Road Transport not separately specified	+ 1,513	+ 15	+ 1,528	Textile Bleaching, Printing, Dyeing, etc.	+ 1,653	+ 1,440	+ 3,093
Stove, Grate, Pipe, etc., and General Ironfounding	+ 1,385	+ 150	+ 1,535	Public Works Contracting, etc.	+ 4,413	- 2	+ 4,411
Stone Quarrying and Mining	+ 1,559	+ 2	+ 1,561	Tailoring	+ 1,542	+ 2,962	+ 4,504
Bread, Biscuit, Cake, etc., making	+ 1,065	+ 688	+ 1,753	Woollen and Worsted	+ 1,617	+ 3,099	+ 4,716
Dress and Mantle Making and Millinery	+ 267	+ 1,584	+ 1,851	General Engineering; Engineers' Iron and Steel Founding	+ 5,929	+ 373	+ 6,302
Metal Industries not separately specified	+ 1,461	+ 783	+ 2,244	Distributive Trades	+ 7,019	+ 9,448	+ 16,467
Local Government	+ 2,423	+ 61	+ 2,484	Building	+ 38,822	+ 15	+ 38,837
Furniture Making, Upholstering, etc.	+ 2,335	+ 524	+ 2,859	Net Variation for above industries	+ 69,025	+ 22,808	+ 91,833
				Total Net Variation for all insured industries	+ 101,482	+ 30,644	+ 132,126

COMPOSITION OF UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS: GREAT BRITAIN.

ON page 62 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 21st January, 1929, for the total of each group included in these statistics. Lines 2 to 4 make up the number of persons on the register; while, by omitting the uninsured persons (line 4) and including lines 1 and 5, the number of books lodged, or, in other words, the number of insured persons recorded as unemployed, is obtained:—

	Men.	Boys.	Women.	Girls.	Total.
1. Unemployed — Special Schemes ...	2,087	11	186	5	2,289
2. Claims admitted or under consideration ...	999,083	14,125	199,033	9,960	1,222,201
3. Insured non-claimants and claimants disqualified, but maintaining registration ...	89,723	5,694	13,632	4,265	113,314
4. Uninsured persons on Register ...	22,158	24,820	16,612	26,515	90,105
5. Two months' file ...	46,053	3,596	30,507	3,796	83,952
Persons on Register (lines 2-4) ...	1,110,964	44,639	229,277	40,740	1,425,620
Books Lodged (lines 1-3 and 5) ...	1,136,946	23,426	243,358	18,026	1,421,756

ANALYSIS OF NUMBERS ON REGISTER.

At 28th January, 1929, the number of persons on the registers of Employment Exchanges in Great Britain was 1,394,078; in Great Britain and Northern Ireland it was 1,433,874.

In the following Table the figures are analysed so as to show separately the numbers on the Registers who were normally in regular employment, but who were respectively wholly unemployed and temporarily stopped from the service of their employers, and the numbers who were normally in casual employment.

Statistics are given for men, boys, women and girls, separately, under each of these headings:—

28th January, 1929.					31st Dec., 1928.
Persons normally in regular employment.			Persons normally in casual employment.	Total.	Total.
Wholly Unemployed.	Temporarily Stopped.				
Great Britain.					
Men ...	841,746	170,251	74,766	1,086,763	1,183,733
Boys ...	39,579	4,020	98	43,697	42,887
Women ...	132,799	89,087	1,265	223,151	258,681
Girls ...	35,601	4,843	23	40,467	35,429
Total...	1,049,725	268,201	76,152	1,394,078	1,520,730
Great Britain and Northern Ireland.					
Men ...	863,167	171,731	77,705	1,112,603	1,210,900
Boys ...	40,259	4,052	98	44,409	43,611
Women ...	143,129	91,386	1,267	235,782	274,608
Girls ...	36,069	4,988	23	41,080	36,220
Total...	1,082,624	272,157	79,093	1,433,874	1,565,339

VACANCIES NOTIFIED AND FILLED.

THE following Table gives particulars relating to the work of Employment Exchanges* in Great Britain and Northern Ireland in filling vacancies for employment during the four weeks ended 28th January, 1929. Of the 144,034 vacancies filled, 89,715 were for men, 29,133 for women and 25,186 for juveniles:—

Week ended	Applications from Employers.		Vacancies Filled.†	Number of Work-people on Registers.
	During Week.	At end of Week.		
31st Decemoer, 1928 ...	46,447 (two weeks)	20,472	41,365 (two weeks)	1,565,339
7th January, 1929 ...	38,792	19,331	36,718	1,495,162
14th " " ...	35,941	19,201	33,150	1,477,225
21st " " ...	49,244	18,219	47,743	1,467,148
28th " " ...	30,568	18,976	26,423	1,433,874
Average (4 weeks)	38,636	...	36,009	1,468,352

* 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 in relief works in alternate weeks. During the three weeks ended 17th December, 1928, the average number of such placings was 4,799 per week. The average number of placings of casual workers during the four weeks ended 28th January, 1929, was 675 per week.

PERSONS ON THE REGISTERS AT PRINCIPAL TOWNS.

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 28th January, 1929. 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 28th January, 1929				Inc.(+) or Dec.(−) as compared with 31st Dec., 1928.
	Men.	Women.	Juven-iles	Total.	
London Division ...	114,649	21,778	8,950	145,377	+ 11,160
South-Eastern Division ...	53,150	8,128	5,962	67,240	+ 5,196
Brighton ...	2,219	534	511	3,264	+ 470
Chatham ...	2,571	337	830	3,738	+ 97
Ipswich ...	2,073	271	205	2,549	+ 228
Norwich ...	3,902	805	208	4,915	+ 510
Rest of South-Eastern	42,385	6,181	4,208	52,774	+ 4,911
South-Western Division ...	65,955	9,881	6,228	82,064	− 2,482
Bristol ...	12,970	2,909	1,404	17,283	− 3,447
Plymouth ...	5,712	725	353	6,790	+ 626
Portsmouth ...	4,705	559	715	5,979	+ 318
Reading ...	1,465	120	352	1,937	+ 161
Southampton ...	3,772	398	585	4,755	+ 132
Swindon ...	855	141	129	1,125	+ 172
Rest of South-Western	36,476	5,029	2,690	44,195	− 444
Midlands Division ...	134,430	42,902	8,988	186,320	− 20,941
Birmingham ...	18,421	8,053	813	27,287	− 1,874
Coventry ...	1,826	461	32	2,319	− 59
Cradley Heath ...	2,758	893	102	3,753	− 1,347
Derby ...	3,418	867	480	4,765	− 159
Leicester ...	4,938	3,011	176	8,125	− 133
Northampton ...	3,453	1,812	340	5,605	− 737
Nottingham ...	8,561	2,543	447	11,551	+ 480
Smethwick ...	1,675	862	127	2,664	− 243
Stoke-on-Trent ...	14,144	6,648	1,018	21,810	− 3,776
Walsall ...	4,110	1,150	669	5,929	+ 186
West Bromwich ...	2,114	455	175	2,744	− 603
Wolverhampton ...	5,328	898	429	6,655	+ 369
Rest of Midlands	63,684	15,249	4,180	83,113	− 13,054
North-Eastern Division ...	265,008	41,922	19,831	326,761	− 50,981
Barnsley ...	4,491	574	318	5,383	− 3,480
Bradford ...	11,985	5,012	760	17,757	− 1,513
Darlington ...	2,311	263	281	2,855	− 154
Dewsbury ...	1,915	1,258	261	3,434	− 405
Doncaster ...	5,212	390	472	6,074	− 2,547
Gateshead ...	6,903	1,031	780	8,714	+ 125
Grimsby ...	3,416	258	353	4,027	+ 465
Halifax ...	3,061	1,435	81	4,577	− 1,332
Hartlepool ...	5,651	284	575	6,510	+ 347
Huddersfield ...	3,278	1,775	308	5,361	− 276
Hull ...	11,761	1,015	1,058	13,834	− 542
Leeds ...	14,658	4,489	766	19,913	− 1,662
Lincoln ...	1,764	265	338	2,367	− 170
Middlesbrough ...	7,447	527	441	8,415	− 975
Newcastle-on-Tyne ...	16,657	2,126	1,463	20,246	− 120
Rotherham ...	5,897	327	483	6,707	− 3,698
Sheffield ...	21,155	3,679	2,110	26,944	− 2,059
South Shields ...	8,058	425	594	9,077	+ 147
Stockton-on-Tees ...	4,172	249	474	4,895	− 314
Sunderland ...	12,566	1,071	800	14,437	− 1,115
Wakfield ...	2,881	616	522	4,019	− 1,043
York ...	2,484	667	409	3,560	− 2,089
Rest of North-Eastern	107,285	14,186	6,184	127,655	− 28,571
North-Western Division ...	198,647	67,695	17,041	283,383	− 42,808
Accrington ...	3,369	1,167	184	4,720	− 1,787
Ashton-under-Lyne ...	2,819	1,469	276	4,564	− 268
Barrow ...	1,883	295	318	2,496	− 162
Birkenhead ...	3,931	522	372	4,825	− 385
Blackburn ...	3,726	2,918	292	6,936	− 1,680
Blackpool ...	2,737	1,111	390	4,238	+ 729
Bolton ...	6,426	4,110	606	11,142	− 5,459
Burnley ...	2,815	2,223	155	5,193	− 539
Bury ...	1,640	1,191	136	2,967	− 2,497
Chorley ...	2,152	540	39	2,731	− 798
Liverpool ...	43,435	6,425	4,064	53,924	− 622
Manchester ...	20,361	8,361	1,971	30,693	− 353
Nelson ...	1,280	704	42	2,026	+ 60
Oldham ...	9,241	3,610	390	13,241	− 3,873
Preston ...	4,543	1,966	276	6,785	− 870
Rochdale ...	3,338	1,626	106	5,070	− 471
St. Helens ...	4,841	376	262	5,479	+ 481
Salford ...	8,146	3,480	1,101	12,727	− 1,019
Stockport ...	3,129	1,649	197	4,975	− 1,332
Warrington ...	2,662	335	377	3,374	− 499
Wigan ...	6,372	2,067	357	8,796	− 2,060
Rest of North-Western	59,801	21,550	5,130	86,481	− 19,404
Scotland Division ...	141,249	25,205	10,923	177,377	− 2,403
Aberdeen ...	4,054	842	239	5,135	− 113
Clydebank ...	1,319	205	125	1,649	− 135
Dundee ...	5,377	2,167	347	7,891	+ 154
Edinburgh ...	12,335	2,127	1,023	15,485	+ 700
Glasgow ...	44,964	9,532	4,274	58,770	+ 769
Greenock ...	5,135	672	242	6,049	− 279
Motherwell ...	3,804	217	305	4,326	− 766
Paisley ...	2,320	384	200	2,904	− 202
Rest of Scotland	61,941	9,059	4,168	75,168	− 2,531
Wales Division ...	113,675	5,640	6,241	125,556	− 23,393
Cardiff ...	9,461	1,495	933	11,889	− 335
Llanelli ...	3,488	289	196	3,973	− 1,037
Newport ...	4,920	348	377	5,645	+ 19
Swansea ...	6,180	534	465	7,179	− 60
Rest of Wales	89,626	2,974	4,270	96,870	− 21,980
Northern Ireland ...	25,840	12,631	1,325	39,796	− 4,813
Belfast ...	15,380	8,254	1,012	24,646	− 2,871
Londonderry ...	1,629	643	43	2,315	− 266
Lurgan ...	541	951	35	1,527	− 249
Lisburn ...	783	365	26	1,174	− 122
Newry ...	957	281	12	1,250	+ 10
Rest of Northern Ireland	6,550	2,137	197	8,884	− 1,315
Great Britain and Northern Ireland ...	1,112,603	235,782	85,489	1,433,874	− 131,465

[Percentage rates of unemployment, for each of 652 towns in Great Britain, are given in the monthly "Local Unemployment Index."]

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR.

Rates of Wages.

IN the industries covered by the Department's statistics* the changes in rates of wages reported to have come into operation in January in Great Britain and Northern Ireland resulted in an aggregate increase of about £3,400 in the weekly full-time wages of 125,000 workpeople, and in a reduction of nearly £7,000 in those of 102,000 workpeople.

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

Group of Industries.	Approximate Number of Workpeople affected by		Amount of Change in Weekly Wages.	
	Increases.	Decreases.	Increases.	Decreases.
Mining and Quarrying ...	...	70,000	£ ...	£ 3,650
Metal ...	31,000	300	1,700	5
Textile ...	82,000	200	850	30
Building and Allied Industries ...	200	30,000	50	3,100
Other ...	11,800	2,000	800	140
Total ...	125,000	102,500	3,400	6,925

The reductions in the mining group were mainly on account of a decrease in the subsistence allowance paid to coal miners in South Wales and Monmouthshire, where the previous allowance of 8s. 0½d. per shift for men 21 years of age and over, and boys over 16 who are the sole support of their family, was changed to 7s. 10½d.

In the metal group there was a small increase (less than ½ per cent. on current rates) in the wages of blastfurnace workers in Cleveland, and an increase equivalent to nearly 2½ per cent. on current rates in the wages of iron puddlers and millmen in the North-east Coast area. Under cost-of-living sliding scales there were increases in the

wages of workpeople employed in the electrical cable-making industry, amounting to 1s. 11½d. or 2s. per week in the case of men, and 1s. per week in that of women; also in those of bobbin makers in England and Wales, amounting to 1s. and 6d. per week for men and women respectively. There was a small reduction in the wages of tonnage-men employed at blastfurnaces in North Staffordshire.

The principal change in the textile group affected workpeople employed in the bleaching, dyeing, etc., industries in Yorkshire, Lancashire and Scotland, where wages were slightly increased under cost-of-living sliding scales. The increases amounted to about ½ per cent. on current rates in Yorkshire, and to 3d. and 2d. per week in the case of men and women respectively in Lancashire and Scotland.

In the building and allied group of industries the principal change was a reduction, under a cost-of-living sliding scale, of ½d. per hour in the wages of men employed on civil engineering work.

In other industrial groups the principal bodies of workpeople whose wages were changed during January included felt hat makers in Lancashire, and workpeople employed in roller leather manufacture, in both of which cases there were increases under cost-of-living sliding scales amounting to 5 per cent. on basis rates.

Of the total increase of £3,400, £3,150 took effect under cost-of-living sliding scales, including £1,500 under sliding scales arranged by Joint Industrial Councils; £150 took effect under sliding scales based on selling prices; and the remaining sum was mainly the result of action by a Conciliation Board.

Of the total reduction of £6,925, £3,500 was the result of arbitration; over £3,000 took effect under cost-of-living sliding scales, nearly the whole under scales arranged by joint standing bodies of employers and workpeople; and the remaining sum was chiefly the result of direct negotiation between employers and workpeople, preceded, as to nearly £150, by disputes causing stoppages of work.

Hours of Labour.

No important changes were reported in January.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING JANUARY, 1929.

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change. (Decreases in italics.)
Coal Mining.	South Wales and Monmouthshire	1 Jan.	Lower-paid men employed in and about coal mines.	<i>Subsistence allowance of 8s. 0½d. per shift previously granted to men 21 years of age and over, and to boys over 16 years who are the sole support of their family, reduced to 7s. 10½d. per shift.†</i>
	Kent (one colliery)...	1 Jan.	Workpeople employed in and about coal mines, other than those whose wages are regulated by movements in other industries.	<i>Percentages payable on base rates fixed at 37 for adult underground workers on base rates up to and including 6s. per shift, and adult surface workers on base rates up to and including 4s. 9d. per shift, and at 32 for all other workers, subject to the subsistence allowances previously paid.‡</i>
	Kent (certain collieries).	1 Jan.	Winding enginemmen ...	<i>Rate fixed at 102s. 6d. per week§.</i>
Pig Iron Manufacture.	Cleveland and Durham.	6 Jan. { 1st making-up day in Jan.	Blastfurnacemen ...	Increase|| of ½ per cent. on standard rates, making wages 9½ per cent. on standard rates of 1919 (plus, in some cases, an output or input bonus). Minimum rate after change for scale labourers, 6s. per shift, plus 9½ per cent.
	Tees-side ... North Staffordshire		Cokemen and by-product workers Tonnagemen employed at blast-furnaces.	<i>Decrease|| of ½ per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 42 per cent. above the standard.</i>
Iron Manufacture	North-East Coast Area.	28 Jan.	Iron puddlers and millmen ...	Increase|| of 2½ per cent. on standard rates, making wages 17 per cent. and 14½ per cent. above the standard for puddlers and millmen respectively.
Electrical Cable Manufacture.	Middlesex, Kent, Surrey, Sussex, Essex, Hertfordshire, Buckinghamshire and Berkshire.	3rd pay day in Jan.	Workpeople employed in the electrical cable-making industry (except plumber-jointers, etc.).	Increase¶ of 1s. 11½d. per week for men 21 years of age and over, of 1s. 5½d. per week for youths 18 to 20 years, of 6d. per week for boys 15 years, of 5½d. per week for boys 14, 16 and 17 years, of 1s. per week for women 18 years and over, and of 6d. per week for girls 14 to 17 years; pieceworkers' wages correspondingly increased. Rates after change: men 21 years and over, 54s. 10d. to 60s. 8½d.; youths 18 to 20 years, 38s. 2½d. to 46s. 0½d.; boys 14 to 17 years, 14s. 8½d. to 24s. 5½d.; women 18 years and over, 28s. 6d. to 32s. 6d.; girls 14 to 17 years, 14s. to 18s. 6d. (excluding service bonuses in the case of female workers).
	Great Britain, other than the above counties.			Increase¶ of 2s. per week for men 21 years of age and over, of 1s. 6d. per week for youths 18 to 20 years, of 1s. per week for women 18 years and over, and of 6d. per week for boys and girls 14 to 17 years; pieceworkers' wages correspondingly increased. Rates after change: men 21 years and over, 49s. 6d. to 55s. 6d.; youths 18 to 20 years, 36s. to 42s. 6d.; boys 14 to 17 years, 14s. to 23s.; women 18 years and over, 28s. 6d. to 32s. 6d.; girls 14 to 17 years, 14s. to 18s. 6d. (excluding service bonuses in the case of female workers).
Bobbin and Shuttle Manufacture.	England and Wales...	1st pay day in Jan.	Workpeople employed in the bobbin-making industry; also shuttle-makers employed by certain firms at Garston and Blackburn.	Increase¶ of 1s. per week for men 21 years and over, and of 6d. per week for women 18 years and over. Rates after change: men—higher skilled, 62s. 6d.; lesser skilled, 53s.; labourers, 43s.; women, 25s.
	Lancashire (except Garston and Blackburn).	1st pay day in Jan.	Journeymen shuttlemakers ...	Addition to base rate increased¶ from 45 to 48 per cent. Minimum day-work rate after change: 1s. per hour, plus 48 per cent. (1s. 5·76d. per hour).
	Lancashire ...	1st pay day in Jan.	Apprentices to shuttlemakers ...	Addition to base rate increased¶ from 27½ to 30½ per cent. Rates after change: 9s. per week at 14 years, increasing to 11s. at 15 years; 13s. at 16; 15s. at 17; 17s. at 18; 19s. at 19; and 21s. at 20 years; plus, in each case, 30½ per cent.
Wool and Worsted Yarn Spinning.	Yorkshire ...	1st pay day in Jan.	Journeymen shuttlemakers ...	Addition to base rate increased¶ from 48 to 51 per cent. Minimum day-work rate after change: 11d. per hour, plus 51 per cent. (1s. 4·61d. per hour).
	Leicester ...	1st pay day in Jan.	Workpeople employed in lambs' wool and worsted yarn spinning industry (excluding engineers, etc.).	Bonus increased¶ from 3d. to 3½d. in the shilling on earnings. Minimum rates after change for timeworkers: men, 42s. 6d.; women, 25s. 6d., plus, in each case, 3½d. in the shilling; pieceworkers, 25 per cent. above time rates.

* The particulars of numbers affected and amount of change on 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.

† Youths 16 to 21 years (other than those who are the sole support of their family) continue to receive a flat-rate allowance of 4d. per shift.

‡ The percentages previously paid on base rates were 32 for certain pieceworkers and 46·6 for all other workers on a percentage basis.

§ Under selling-price sliding service arrangements.

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

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING JANUARY, 1929 (*continued*).

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change. (Decreases in <i>italics</i> .)
Textile Dyeing, Bleaching, Printing, Finishing, etc.	Yorkshire (majority of firms) and certain firms in Lancashire.*	1st pay day in Feb.†	Workpeople employed in the dyeing and finishing trades.	Cost-of-living wage increased‡ from 71½ per cent. to 72½ per cent. on basic rates for timeworkers, from 57 per cent. to 57½ per cent. for pieceworkers (except pressers), and from 42½ per cent. to 43½ per cent. for hand pressers. Minimum rates after change for timeworkers§: The Bradford Dyers' Association, Limited—men 21 and over, 28s., plus 8 per cent., plus 72½ per cent. on total; other firms—men 21 and over, 30s. 3d., plus 72½ per cent.; women 18 and over, 18s., plus 72½ per cent.
	Lancashire, Cheshire and Derbyshire (majority of firms) and certain firms in Yorkshire.||	1st pay day in Feb.†	Workpeople employed in the bleaching, dyeing, calico printing and finishing trades (except waste bleachers, machine calico printers, engravers and mechanics, etc., employed in repair and maintenance of plant).	Cost-of-living wage increased‡ from 21s. 7d. to 21s. 10d. per week for men 21 and over, and from 12s. 10d. to 13s. per week for women 18 and over, and by proportionate amounts for those under these ages. Minimum rates after change for timeworkers§: men 21 and over, 28s., plus 21s. 10d.; women 18 and over, 18s., plus 13s.
	West Riding of Yorkshire.	1st pay day in Feb.†	Mechanics employed in dyeworks...	Increase‡ of 3d. per week. Total rates after change: Bradford, Leeds and Shipley, 64s. 1d.; other towns, 63s. 1d.
	Middleton	1st pay day in Feb.†	Workpeople employed in the dyeing, bleaching, etc., trades.	Cost-of-living wage increased‡ from 21s. 8d. to 21s. 11d. per week for men 21 and over, and from 13s. 5d. to 13s. 6d. per week for women 18 and over, and by smaller amounts for juveniles.§
	Scotland	1st pay day in Feb.†	Workpeople employed in the bleaching, dyeing, calico printing and finishing trades (except waste bleachers, machine calico printers, engravers and mechanics, etc., employed in repair and maintenance of plant).	Cost-of-living wage increased‡ from 21s. 7d. to 21s. 10d. per week for men 21 and over, and from 12s. 10d. to 13s. per week for women 21 and over, and by smaller amounts for those under 21. Minimum rates after change for timeworkers 21 and over: men, 25s., plus 21s. 10d.; women, 15s., plus 13s.
	Lancashire, Cheshire, Derbyshire, and Scotland.	1st pay day in Feb.†	Engravers, etc., employed in calico print works.	Cost-of-living wage increased‡ from 29s. 10d. to 30s. 1d. per week for engravers, and from 21s. 7d. to 21s. 10d. per week for turners, polishers and varnishers.
	Lancashire, Cheshire, Derbyshire, Scotland and Belfast.	1st pay day in Feb.†	Engravers employed in engraving works.	Cost-of-living wage increased‡ from 29s. 10d. to 30s. 1d. per week for men, from 17s. 11d. to 18s. 1d. per week for women, and by corresponding amounts for youths under 21.
Felt Hat Making.	Denton, Stockport, Hyde, Bury, Failsworth and Romiley districts; also Carlisle.	1st pay day in Jan.	Timeworkers	Bonus increased‡ from 45 per cent. to 50 per cent. Minimum rate after change, 10½d. per hour, plus 50 per cent.¶
			Pieceworkers	Bonus increased‡ from 50 per cent. to 55 per cent.
Mill Sawing	Liverpool	1 Jan.	Woodcutting machinists and sawyers.	Decrease of ½d. per hour (1s. 8d. to 1s. 7½d.).
Packing Case Making.	Liverpool	1 Jan.	Packing case makers and woodcutting machinists.	Decrease of ½d. per hour. Rates after change: packing case makers, 1s. 5½d.; woodcutting machinists, 1s. 7½d.
Furniture Manufacture.	Glasgow	1st full pay in Jan.	Rocking and baby chair makers ...	Increase‡ of ½d. per hour for timeworkers (1s. 4d. to 1s. 4½d.) and of 2½ per cent. for pieceworkers.
Bedding, etc. Manufacture.	London	1 Jan.	Bedding and mattress makers ...	Increase‡ of 1 per cent. in the basis for calculating rates of wages, making wages 68 per cent. above the list adopted in 1922.
Building	Birmingham ...	9 Jan.	Plasterers employed by master plasterers.	Minimum rate reduced from 1s. 9½d. to 1s. 7½d. per hour.**
			Kerb fixers	Increase of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: City and County of London, Croydon, East Ham, West Ham, Ilford, Barking Town, Dagenham, Edmonton, Leyton, Mitcham and Tottenham—1s. 8½d.; Rest of District, not less than 1s. 7½d.
Public Works Contracting.	London (Metropolitan Police Area).††	1 Jan.	Watchmen	Increase in the minimum rate of 1s. per shift (7s. 6d. to 8s. 6d.).
Civil Engineering.	Great Britain†† ...	1st pay day after 17 Jan.	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.††
Electricity Supply Undertakings.	Scotland	1 Jan.	Overhead power linesmen (skilled)	Rates of wages fixed at 1s. 6d. per hour for Class A men, and 1s. 4½d. per hour for Class B.§§
Port, Harbour, and River Authorities.	Mersey	19 Jan.	Navvies and labourers on new works employed by Docks and Harbour Board.	Decrease‡ of 1s. 10d. per week (55s. to 53s. 2d.).
Road Transport	Various towns in Angus.	1 Jan.	Road transport workers (excluding those employed by Railway Contractors).	Decrease of 1s. per week. Rates after change for one-horse and two-horse carters respectively: Dundee, 50s. 52s.; Forfar, Arbroath, Brechin and Montrose, 48s., 50s.
	Hull	9 Jan.	Certain classes of lower-paid manual workers.	Increase‡ of 1s. per week. Rates after change: navvies 54s. 11d.; paviors, 59s. 9d.; asphalters, 58s. 10d.¶¶
Local Government (Non-Trading Services).	Workington... ..	24 Jan.	Manual workers	Increase‡ of 6d. per week. Rates after change: labourers and roadmen—1st class, 53s. 6d.; 2nd class, 51s.; carters, 52s. 3d.; scavengers, 50s.
	Barnet	23 Jan.	Road scavengers, refuse collectors, labourers, carmen, etc.	Bonus of 24s. per week previously paid merged into wages, and cost-of-living sliding-scale abolished. Consolidated minimum rate after change, 54s. per week (in lieu of 30s., plus 24s. bonus).

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

† In respect of the preceding pay period.

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

§ A special temporary payment of 2s., 2s. 6d. or 3s. per week (according to basic rates) for men, and of 1s. per week for women, is made in addition where systems of collective piecework have not yet been introduced.

¶ The change applied to workers employed by firms who are members of the Federation of Calico Printers, the Employers' Federation of Dyers and Finishers, the Employers' Federation of Bleachers, and the Employers' Federation of Cotton Yarn Bleachers, Dyers, and Sizers (certain firms). At Hebden Bridge the increases for timeworkers were similar to those in Lancashire (see above). For pieceworkers, the cost-of-living wages were increased from 61 per cent. to 62 per cent. for netherwood cutters, and from 52 per cent. to 53 per cent. for other pieceworkers (except hand cutters and menders, whose cost-of-living wage remained unchanged).

¶¶ This rate applies principally to men doing odd work for which no piece rate is provided. It does not apply to labourers, packers, etc., whose wages are governed by Orders under the Trade Boards Acts.

** The rate previously recognised was 1s. 9½d. per hour, in accordance with an agreement made by the Local Joint Council for the Plastering Industry in May, 1927. This agreement has since been terminated, the employers have resigned from the Joint Council, and the minimum rate is now that recognised by the Master Builders' Association.

†† The change took effect under an award of the Public Works Conciliation Board.

‡‡ 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 or geographical conditions. The Board have agreed that Class I rates 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, Bury, Bury-in-Furness, Stockport, Birmingham, Smethwick, West Bromwich, Coventry, Leicester, Nottingham, Derby, Stoke-on-Trent, Wolverhampton, Acton, Croydon, Tottenham, East Ham, Willesden, Wembley, Cardiff, Swansea, Newport (Mon.), Merthyr Tydfil, and Bristol.

§§ The new rates were fixed by an agreement made by the Scottish District Industrial Council for Electricity Supply, the duties of the two classes being defined in the agreement.

¶¶ Under the terms of a previous Resolution, the Corporation had agreed that the wages of adult male workers should not fall below 52s. per week. Men affected by this Resolution (including scavengers and labourers) were not affected by the above increase.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING JANUARY, 1929 (*continued*).

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change. (Decreases in italics.)
Local Government (Non-Trading Services)— <i>cont.</i>	Bethnal Green ...	3rd pay day in Jan.	Manual workers :— Permanent and pensionable staff.	<i>Revised scale of wages adopted on the basis of Joint Industrial Council rates, plus 9 per cent. or the appropriate trade union rates, resulting mainly in reductions, varying from about 6s. 6d. to 9s. per week in the case of bricklayers, carpenters, painters, electricians, etc.,* and from 6d. to 8d. per week for the majority of other classes.</i>
	Ipswich ...	Week ending 2 Jan.	Auxiliary and casual staff ...	<i>Revised scale of wages adopted, on the basis of Joint Industrial Council rates, plus 10 per cent. or the appropriate trade union rates, plus 8 per cent. for those with 6 months' service or over, and plus 10 per cent. for those with under 6 months' service, resulting in increases of 3s. 1d. or 3s. 7d. per week for towel washers and road and sewer foremen, and reductions of varying amounts for bricklayers, carpenters, electricians, roller drivers, drainlayers, and a few other classes.</i>
	Hastings ...	Week ending 1 Jan.	General labourers, scavengers, refuse collectors, horse drivers and roadmen, etc.	Increase† of 1s. 4d. per week (45s. 4d. to 46s. 8d.).‡
	Ayr County Council (Northern District).	1 Jan.	Manual workers ...	Increase† of 2s. per week. Rates after change: road labourers and sweepers, 50s. 7d.; refuse collectors, 52s. 7d.; general yard labourers, 51s. 6d.
Roller Leather Manufacture.	Lancashire, Cheshire and North Wales.	1st pay day in Jan.	Labourers ...	Increase† of 1s. per week (51s. to 52s.).
			Workpeople employed in roller leather manufacture.	Cost-of-living wage increased† from 65 per cent. to 70 per cent. on basic rates. Minimum rates after change: men—skilled, 9d.; semi-skilled, 6d. to 7½d.; women, 5d., plus, in each case, 70 per cent.

TRADE DISPUTES IN JANUARY.§

Number, Magnitude and Duration.—The number of disputes involving a stoppage of work, reported to the Department as beginning in January in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, was 21, as compared with 15 in the previous month and 31 in January, 1928. 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 9,200. In addition, about 500 workpeople were involved, either directly or indirectly, in 7 disputes which began before January and were still in progress at the beginning of that month. The number of new and old disputes was thus 28, involving about 9,700 workpeople, and resulting in a loss, during January, of about 97,000 working days.

Causes.—Of the 21 disputes beginning in January, 3, directly involving 3,000 workpeople, arose out of proposed reductions in wages; 8, directly involving 1,000 workpeople, on other wages questions; one, directly involving 1,500 workpeople, on a question as to working hours; 5, directly involving 400 workpeople, on questions respecting the employment of particular classes or persons; and 4, directly involving 1,600 workpeople, on other questions.

Results.—Settlements were effected in the case of 12 new disputes, directly involving 2,770 workpeople, and 5 old disputes, directly involving 100 workpeople. Of these new and old disputes, one, directly involving 20 workpeople, was settled in favour of the work-

people; 9, directly involving 2,050 workpeople, in favour of the employers; and 7, directly involving 800 workpeople, were compromised. In the case of 2 disputes, directly involving 600 workpeople, work was resumed pending negotiations.

The following Table analyses the disputes in progress in January in Great Britain and Northern Ireland by groups of industries :—

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 ..	...	5	5	2,900	4,000
Metal, Engineering and Shipbuilding ...	...	4	4	4,700	77,000
Textile ...	2	2	4	400	2,000
Printing ...	1	...	1	400	10,000
Transport ...	...	4	4	1,100	2,000
Other Industries ...	4	6	10	200	2,000
Total, Jan., 1929 ...	7	21	28	9,700	97,000
Total, Dec., 1928 ...	12	15	27	6,000	32,000
Total, Jan., 1928 ...	10	31	41	10,000	50,000

PRINCIPAL DISPUTES INVOLVING STOPPAGES OF WORK DURING JANUARY, 1929.

Occupations and Locality.||	Approximate Number of Workpeople involved.		Date when Dispute		Cause or Object.||	Result.||
	Directly.	Indirectly.||	Began.	Ended.		
Colliery workpeople—			1929.	1929.		
Whitehaven ...	852		4 Jan.	5 Jan.	Dispute as to amount of wages payable for certain work.	Amicable settlement effected.
Durham (near) ...	1,160		8 Jan.	8 Jan.	Dispute arising out of refusal to descend the pit in company with non-unionists.	Work resumed.
Whitehaven ...	854		11 Jan.	12 Jan.	Alleged non-payment of minimum wage.	Work resumed.
Rain water and soil goods moulders and other workpeople—Various centres in Scotland and England.	3,000		1 Jan.—7 Jan.	4 Feb.	Against proposed reduction in bonus on wages.	Proposed reduction to take effect by two instalments, and wages stabilised till end of year.
Wrought iron manufacture: puddlers, shinglers, forge millmen, etc.—Lanarkshire.	1,500	...	28 Jan.	...	Against proposed increase in working hours and reduction in tonnage rates.	No settlement reported.
Cotton weavers, winders, overlookers, warehousemen, etc.—Colne (near).	314	90	15 Jan.	21 Jan.	Refusal of weavers to sew an identification number on every "piece" woven.	Employers' requirement to be complied with.
Pit prop workers, etc.—Hartlepool.	495	...	28 Jan.	30 Jan.	Against proposed reduction in wages.	Work resumed pending arbitration.

* The amount of reduction was larger for certain classes: e.g., female garden attendants, 14s. 3d.; female maternity centre caretaker, 11s. 4d.; in the case of drainlayers (bricklayers) and road and sewer foremen there was an increase of 2s. 4d.

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

‡ It was resolved that no rate lower than 46s. 8d. per week should be paid for the next 12 months, unless the cost-of-living figure dropped below 55.

§ 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 numbered 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.

DISEASES OF OCCUPATIONS.

THE total number of cases* of poisoning, anthrax, and epitheliomatous and chrome ulceration in Great Britain and Northern Ireland reported during January, 1929, under the Factory and Workshop Act, or under the Lead Paint (Protection against Poisoning) Act, was 41. Seven deaths* were reported during the month, three due to lead poisoning, three due to epitheliomatous ulceration, and one to anthrax. In addition, two cases of lead poisoning among plumbers not employed in factories came to the knowledge of the Home Office during January, but notification of these cases is not obligatory.

(a) CASES OF LEAD POISONING.		(b) CASES OF OTHER FORMS OF POISONING.	
Among Operatives engaged in—		Aniline Poisoning ... 1	
Smelting of Metals ...	2	(c) CASES OF ANTHRAX.	
Plumbing and Soldering ...	1	Handling of Horsehair ... 1	
Shipbreaking ...	3	Handling and Sorting of Hides and Skins ... 4	
Printing ...	...	TOTAL, ANTHRAX ... 5†	
Tinning of Metals ...	1	(d) CASES OF EPITHELIOMATOUS ULCERATION.	
Other Contact with Molten Lead ...	...	Pitch ... 2	
White and Red Lead Works ...	...	Tar ... 3	
Pottery† ...	2	Paraffin ...	
Vitreous Enamelling ...	1	Oil ... 5	
Electric Accumulator Works ...	2	TOTAL, EPITHELIOMATOUS ULCERATION ... 10	
Paint and Colour Works ...	2	(e) CASES OF CHROME ULCERATION.	
Indiarubber Works ...	...	Manufacture of Bichromates ...	
Coach and Car Painting ...	...	Dyeing and Finishing ... 1	
Shipbuilding ...	...	Chrome Tanning ...	
Paint used in Other Industries ...	1	Other Industries ... 2	
Other Industries ...	...	TOTAL, CHROME ULCERATION ... 3	
Painting of Buildings ...	7		
TOTAL OF ABOVE ...	22		

FATAL INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS.

THE number of workpeople, other than seamen, in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, reported during January, 1929, as killed in the course of their employment was 202, as compared with 175 in the previous month and with 250 in January, 1928. Fatal accidents to seamen reported in January, 1929, numbered 95, as compared with 47 in the previous month and with 59 in January, 1928.

RAILWAY SERVICE.		Factories and Workshops (continued).	
Brakemen and Goods Guards ...	3	Boiler Making and Constructional Engineering ...	...
Engine Drivers and Motor-men ...	6	Locomotives, Railway and Tramway Carriages, Motors, Aircraft ...	3
Firemen ...	1	Other Metal Trades ...	...
Guards (Passenger) ...	...	Shipbuilding ...	9
Permanent Way Men ...	7	Wood ...	4
Porters ...	2	Gas ...	5
Shunters ...	1	Electric Generating Stations ...	...
Mechanics ...	2	Clay, Stone, Glass, etc. ...	4
Labourers ...	...	Chemicals, etc. ...	2
Miscellaneous ...	1	Food and Drink ...	5
Contractors' Servants ...	...	Paper, Printing, etc. ...	1
TOTAL, RAILWAY SERVICE	23	Tanning, Currying, etc. ...	1
MINES.		Rubber Trades ...	2
Underground ...	84	Other Non-Textile Industries ...	...
Surface ...	7	PLACES UNDER SS. 104-106, FACTORY ACT, 1901.	
TOTAL, MINES	91	Docks, Wharves, etc. ...	11
QUARRIES over 20 feet deep		Buildings ...	11
		Warehouses and Railway Sidings ...	1
		TOTAL, FACTORY ACTS ...	81
Factories and Workshops.		Total (excluding Seamen)	
Cotton ...	1	202	
Wool, Worsted and Shoddy	2		
Other Textiles ...	...	
Textile Bleaching and Dyeing ...	1	SEAMEN.	
Metal Extracting and Refining ...	5	Trading Vessels, Sailing ... 1	
Metal Conversion, including Rolling Mills and Tube Making ...	5	" " Steam ... 90	
Metal Founding ...	4	Fishing Vessels, Sailing ... 1	
Engineering and Machine Making ...	4	" " Steam ... 3	
		TOTAL, SEAMEN ... 95	
		Total (including Seamen) 297	

* 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.

† The persons affected in the pottery industry were males.

‡ In addition to these cases reported under the Act, one case (fatal) among dock labourers was reported.

POOR-LAW RELIEF.

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

THE number of persons* relieved on one day† in January, 1929, in the poor-law areas in the thirty-one selected urban areas named below was 693,469, or 2.9 per cent. more than in the previous month, but 10.8 per cent. less than in January, 1928. The numbers relieved at these three dates were equivalent, respectively, to rates of 388, 377, and 435 per 10,000 of the estimated population.

Selected Urban Areas.†	Number of persons* in receipt of Poor Law Relief on one day† in January 1929.				Increase (+) or Decrease (−) in rate per 10,000 of Population as compared with a	
	Indoor.	Out-door.	Total.	Rate per 10,000 of Estimated Population.	Month ago.	Year ago.
ENGLAND AND WALES.						
<i>Metropolis.</i>						
West District ...	9,542	6,546	16,088	197	+ 10	— 5
North District ...	10,929	16,359	27,288	269	+ 25	— 17
Central District ...	2,421	2,521	4,942	377	+ 16	+ 6
East District ...	10,286	45,865	56,151	874	+ 21	— 198
South District ...	19,941	58,267	78,208	402	+ 17	— 64
TOTAL, Metropolis ...	53,400§	129,558	182,958§	402	+ 18	— 59
West Ham ...	4,473	18,197	22,670	300	+ 13	— 125
<i>Other Districts.</i>						
Newcastle District	2,919	25,531	28,450	555	...	— 42
Stockton and Tees District ...	1,462	10,858	12,320	445	+ 12	— 138
Bolton, Oldham, etc. ...	4,273	7,451	11,724	150	+ 1	— 10
Wigan District ...	1,926	14,151	16,077	351	+ 13	— 17
Manchester District	10,026	28,154	38,180	364	+ 7	— 58
Liverpool District	10,411	60,080	70,491	551	+ 2	— 42
Bradford District ...	1,861	6,178	8,039	214	+ 16	— 23
Halifax and Huddersfield ...	1,535	3,107	4,642	124	+ 5	— 7
Leeds ...	3,064	12,468	15,532	322	+ 12	+ 33
Barnsley District ...	1,047	11,290	12,337	358	+ 10	+ 15
Sheffield ...	2,529	22,977	25,506	494	+ 28	— 18
Hull District ...	1,922	16,116	18,038	557	— 14	— 3
North Staffordshire	2,546	8,748	11,294	270	+ 1	— 6
Nottingham District	2,361	11,111	13,472	287	— 2	— 32
Leicester ...	1,273	4,481	5,754	235	+ 11	+ 13
Wolverhampton District ...	3,675	14,963	18,638	242	+ 10	— 18
Birmingham ...	7,802	16,045	23,847	251	+ 12	— 30
Bristol District ...	2,612	10,417	13,029	312	+ 11	— 108
Cardiff and Swansea	2,721	14,926	17,647	365	...	— 104
TOTAL, "Other Districts"	65,965	299,052	365,017	347	+ 7	— 32
TOTAL, Districts in England and Wales ...	123,838	446,807	570,645	360	+ 10	— 45
SCOTLAND.						
Glasgow District ...	6,471	72,071	78,542	823	+ 20	— 62
Paisley and Greenock District ...	906	8,984	9,890	512	— 5	— 225
Edinburgh ...	1,787	17,969	19,756	465	+ 15	— 19
Dundee and Dunfermline ...	889	4,097	4,986	229	+ 2	— 34
Aberdeen ...	500	3,854	4,354	275	+ 6	— 64
Coatbridge & Airdrie	380	4,916	5,296	523	+ 21	— 58
TOTAL for the above Scottish Districts	10,933	111,891	122,824	599	+ 13	— 67
TOTAL for above 31 Districts in Jan., 1929...	134,771	558,698	693,469	388	+ 11	— 47

ASSISTED PASSAGES UNDER THE EMPIRE SETTLEMENT ACT, 1922.

Destination.‡	Applications Approved.		Departures.	
	January, 1929.	1922 to 1928.	January, 1929.	1922 to 1928.
Australia ...	1,205	160,299	1,246	158,445
Canada ...	1,423	99,028	552	99,899†
New Zealand ...	106	42,397	168	41,037
Africa and other parts of Empire	5	1,015	3	818
Total ...	2,739	302,739	1,969	300,199

The figures include both applicants and dependants. Approvals subsequently cancelled have been excluded.

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

† 26th January in England and Wales and 15th January in Scotland.

‡ 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.

§ Includes 281 not included in district figures.

|| In previous issues of this GAZETTE statistics of assisted passages were classified on the basis of Schemes. They are now classified according to destination, and the less important Assisted Passage Schemes formerly included under the description "Minor Schemes" are now distributed in their appropriate geographical groupings.

¶ The excess of "Departures" over "Approvals" to Canada during the period 1922-28 is accounted for by the fact that some settlers under the Family Settlement Schemes engage in work apart from the scheme after arrival in Canada. The approval certificate is consequently cancelled.

RETAIL PRICES OVERSEAS.

[N.B.—While the percentages given in the following Summary Tables are derived from the most authoritative sources of statistical information, certain differences in the nature and scope of the data used, in the methods of combining such data and in the 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, 1925.	July, 1926.	July, 1927.	July, 1928.		Rise.	Date.
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.		
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND ...	67	61	59	57	56		1 Feb. '29.
FOREIGN COUNTRIES.							1928
Czechoslovakia...	816	776	862	843	805		Dec.
Denmark ...	110	59	53	53	47		Jan.'29
Egypt (Cairo)† ...	58	58	47	44	54		Oct.
Finland ...	1,007	967	965	1,016	1,054		Dec.
France (Paris)† ...	321	474	457	447	499		Jan.'29
" (other towns)† ...	351‡	510‡	453‡	436‡	462		Nov.
Germany ...	54	45	57	54	53		Dec.
Holland (The Hague) ...	76	68	72	64	61		Nov.
Italy ...	...	...	458§	416	464		Dec.
Norway ...	160	98	75	73	58		Jan.'29
Spain (Madrid)† ...	90	86	89	73	81		Nov.
" (Barcelona)† ...	82	63	64	65	64		Nov.
Sweden† ...	69	56	51	57	50		Jan.'29
Switzerland ...	69	59	57	57	58		Dec.
United States ...	56	54	50	50	54		Nov.
BRITISH DOMINIONS, &c.							
Australia ...	56	59	52	52	52		Dec.
Canada ...	42§	51§	49	47	54		Dec.
India (Bombay): Native families ...	52	55	54	43	45		Jan.'29
Irish Free State ...	88	74	66	66	71		Oct.
New Zealand ...	51	49	44	46	49		Jan.'27
South Africa ...	20	16	19	16	15		Dec.

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, 1925.	July, 1926.	July, 1927.	July, 1928.		Rise.	Date.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.		
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND ...	A,B,C,D,E	73	70	66	65	65		1 Feb. '29.
FOREIGN COUNTRIES.								1928.
Belgium ...	A,C,D,E	409	537	690	711	742		Nov.
Czechoslovakia (Prague) ...	A,B,C,D,E	641	618	647	646	625		Dec.
Denmark ...	A,B,C,D,E	119	84	76	76	73		Jan.'29
Finland ...	A,B,C,D,E	1,094	1,018	1,081	1,113	1,141		Dec.
France (Paris) ...	A,B,C,D,E	301¶	439¶	407¶	419¶	431		4th qr. Dec.
Germany ...	A,B,C,D,E	43	42	50	53	53		Dec.
Greece (Athens) ...	A,B,C,D,E	...	...	...	48**	48**		Nov.
Holland (Amsterdam) ...	A,B,C,D,E	79§	71§	67§	70§	69		Sept.
Italy (Milan) ...	A,B,C,D,E	498	549	448	426	434		Nov.
" (Rome) ...	A,B,C,D,E	395	462	403	387	389		Oct.
Luxemburg ...	A,C,D	415	509	681	713	736		Oct.
Norway ...	A,B,C,D,E	161§	121§	103	93	81		Jan.'29
Poland (Warsaw) ...	A,B,C,D,E	...	...	15	23	25		Dec.
Sweden ...	A,B,C,D,E	76	72	69	73	70		Jan.'29
Switzerland ...	A,B,C,D	68	62	60	61	62		Dec.
United States ...	A,B,C,D,E	74§	75§	73§	70§	70		June
BRITISH DOMINIONS, &c.								
Australia ...	A,B,C,D,E	44¶	47¶	45¶	...	46		Dec.
Canada ...	A,B,C,D,E	55§	57§	55	55	58		Dec.
India (Bombay): Native families ...	A,B,C,D	57	57	56	47	49		Jan.'29
Irish Free State ...	A,B,C,D,E	88	82	71	73	76		Oct.
New Zealand ...	A,B,C,D,E	63‡	61	61	62	62		Jan.'29
South Africa ...	A,B,C,D,E	33	30	32	31	31		Dec.

* Exceptions to this are: France (other towns), August, 1914; The Hague, January to July, 1914; Rome and Milan, January to June, 1914; Switzerland and Luxemburg, June, 1914; Spain, South Africa, France (Paris, all items), Greece, average, 1914; Germany, average, 1913-1914; Amsterdam, 1911-1913; Belgium, April, 1914; Italy (food), United States (all items), Canada, 1913; Australia (all items), November, 1914; Poland, January, 1914.

† Fuel and light are also included in these figures.

‡ Figure for August.

§ Figure for June.

¶ A = Food; B = House-Rent; C = Clothing; D = Fuel and light; E = Other or Miscellaneous Items.

¶ Figure for 3rd Quarter.

** New series, based on gold prices.

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 statistics relating to this country; and therefore the figures quoted below cannot properly be used with those on pp. 52-53 to compare the actual level of employment in Great Britain and Northern Ireland 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, the official journal of the Federal Ministry of Labour, states that economic decline combined with seasonal influences brought about a further considerable falling-off in December in the labour market as a whole. The situation was all the more serious because it had developed so rapidly.

At the end of December the Employment Exchanges reported 2,545,254 persons as available and seeking work as against 1,762,552 at the end of November and 1,926,012 at the end of December, 1927. The number of vacant situations registered at the end of December was 32,114, as compared with 29,312 at the end of the preceding month, and 38,850 a year ago. On 17th January, the number of persons reported as available and seeking work had risen further to 2,741,798.

The number of insured persons in receipt of benefit in respect of total unemployment on 31st December was 1,829,716 (including 127,374 in receipt of emergency unemployment benefit). On 30th November the corresponding total was 1,137,772 (including 108,114 in receipt of emergency unemployment benefit).

Returns were received from national trade unions relating to 4,483,600 organised workers. Of these, 16.7 per cent. were totally unemployed on 31st December as compared with 9.5 per cent. at the end of November, and 12.9 per cent. at the end of December, 1927. In addition, 7.5 per cent. were working short time, as against 7.6 per cent. at the end of November and 3.1 per cent. at the end of December, 1927. The following Table gives particulars of total unemployment and short time among the groups of trades represented in these totals:—

Groups of Trades.	Membership reported on at end of December, 1928.	Percentage Wholly Unemployed and on Short Time at end of month.			
		Wholly Unemployed.		On Short Time.	
		Dec., 1928.	Nov., 1928.	Dec., 1928.	Nov., 1928.
Mining ...	154,800	2.0	2.3	8.2	8.1
Quarrying, stone, brick, pottery, etc. ...	256,600	25.6	14.2	6.7	7.0
Engineering and metal ...	999,500	8.4	7.0	7.4	8.1
Chemical ...	120,000	7.6	6.5	4.2	4.3
Textile ...	392,900	7.8	7.4	25.1	26.1
Paper ...	122,000	6.3	4.8	5.9	3.9
Leather ...	75,000	15.0	13.4	19.3	21.4
Wood ...	313,400	17.2	11.2	6.3	5.2
Food, tobacco, etc. ...	303,000	11.4	7.2	6.0	5.7
Clothing, boots and shoes ...	169,500	24.5	19.2	27.3	27.7
Building ...	680,800	50.6	18.9	1.3	1.1
Printing ...	147,500	6.7	5.7	0.6	0.5
Transport ...	359,300	5.2	4.6	1.1	1.1
Horticultural, etc. ...	10,500	31.6	17.7	0.3	0.2
Hairdressing, etc. ...	4,400	3.3	3.3	...	...
Miscellaneous ...	374,400	7.7	4.7	2.3	1.7
All Unions making Returns	4,483,600	16.7	9.5	7.5	7.6

FRANCE.†

Excess of offers of employment over applications continues to be the main feature of the general situation in France. The total number of unemployed persons remaining on the "live register" of the Exchanges on 2nd February was 11,785 (7,686 men and 4,099 women). At the end of December the corresponding total was 7,916. The total number of vacancies remaining unfilled on 2nd February was 13,331 (7,885 for men and 5,446 for women), as compared with 9,547 at the end of December. During the last week of January the Exchanges succeeded in placing 27,025 persons in situations, including 11,000 dock workers at seaports; and in addition found employment for 603 foreign immigrants.

AUSTRIA.‡

A large increase in unemployment during December is recorded. The total number of applicants for work registered at the Employment Exchanges at the end of December, 1928, was 237,661 (including 91,212 in Vienna) as compared with 185,512 (77,959 in Vienna) at the end of November. The number of persons in receipt of unemployment benefit at the end of December was 202,659 (including 76,479 in Vienna) as compared with 155,235 (64,179 in Vienna) at the end of November.

* Reichsarbeitsblatt 25th January 1929. Berlin.

† Bulletin du Marché du Travail, 8th February, 1929. Paris.

‡ Statistische Nachrichten, 25th January, 1929. Vienna.

ITALY.*

There was a fairly considerable increase in unemployment during December.

According to statistics furnished by the National Social Insurance Fund, 363,551 workpeople were recorded as unemployed on 31st December, 1928, as compared with 321,123 at the end of November and 414,283 at the end of December, 1927. The total for December, 1928, includes 105,069 engaged in agriculture and fishing and 115,328 in the building, road construction, etc. industries. In addition 27,178 persons were partially unemployed at that date as compared with 24,814 at 30th November, and 107,964 at 31st December, 1927. In November, 1928, 77,635 insured workers received benefit in respect of a total of 1,223,581 days of unemployment.

SWITZERLAND.†

Comparatively little unemployment in Switzerland is recorded. On 31st December, 1928, 11,993 applications for employment (9.1 per thousand of the employed population according to the Census of 1920) were registered at Employment Exchanges as compared with 9,571 at the end of November, and 13,701 at the end of December, 1927. The most recent total includes 4,346 in the building industry, 1,436 in the textile industry and 1,427 unskilled workers. Offers of situations at the dates mentioned above numbered 1,666, 1,972 and 1,824 respectively.

SCANDINAVIAN COUNTRIES.

There were considerable increases in unemployment in Denmark during December and January and in Sweden during December and a slight increase in Norway during November.

Denmark.‡—Returns supplied to the Danish Statistical Department by trade unions and by the Central Employment Exchange show that out of 272,428 workpeople, 27.6 per cent. were unemployed on 31st January, 1929, as against 25.0 per cent. at the end of the preceding month, and 29.6 per cent. at the end of January, 1928.

Norway.§—Out of 17,304 members of trade unions making returns to the Norwegian Central Bureau of Statistics, 15.7 per cent. were unemployed on the last day of November, 1928. The corresponding figure for the end of October was 14.6 per cent. and that for November, 1927, 21.6 per cent.

Sweden.||—The percentage of members of trade unions making returns who were unemployed on 31st December, 1928, was 17.2, as compared with 10.8 on 30th November, and 18.6 on 31st December, 1927.

POLAND.¶

There was a considerable increase in unemployment during December.

According to the official journal of the Central Statistical Office of Poland the estimated number of unemployed registered at Employment Exchanges on 29th December was 128,144 as compared with 97,414 at the end of November (1st December). On these dates the number of unemployed persons entitled to benefit was 47,052 and 35,783 respectively.

UNITED STATES.**

Employment increased slightly during December.

According to returns received by the Federal Bureau of Labour Statistics covering 21,494 establishments in the manufacturing industries, coal mining, metalliferous mining, public utilities, trade (wholesale and retail) and the hotel industry, these establishments employed 4,209,264 workpeople in December, 1928, or an increase of 0.5 per cent. on the total for November, with an increase of 1.2 per cent. in the aggregate wages paid.

As regards manufacturing industries alone, 11,752 establishments in 54 of the chief manufacturing industries reported 3,245,412 employed in December, 1928, an increase of 0.1 per cent. on the total for November. The aggregate wages paid for December showed an increase over November of 1.6 per cent, while the average earnings per head were 1.5 per cent. higher than in the preceding month. As compared with December, 1927, there was in December, 1928, an increase of 3.2 per cent. in the numbers employed, an increase of 4.8 per cent. in the aggregate wages paid, and an increase of 1.6 per cent. in average earnings per head.

Notable increases in employment in individual industries were shown in shipbuilding, slaughtering and meat packing, agricultural implements, machine tools, fertilizers, structural ironwork, electrical machinery, carpets, cotton goods and printing. Group gains were shown in food, textiles, iron and steel, chemicals, non-ferrous metals, and the group of miscellaneous industries. The decreases in employment were practically all of a seasonal character.

Index Number of Employment.—If the monthly average index number of employment in manufacturing industries alone in 1923 be taken as 100, the corresponding figure for December, 1928, was 87.8 as compared with 87.7 in October, 1928, and 85.1 in December, 1927.

AUSTRALIA.*

The proportion of members of trade unions making returns who were unemployed in the 4th quarter of 1928 was 9.9 per cent., as compared with 11.4 per cent. in the preceding quarter and 8.9 per cent. in the 4th quarter of 1927. (These figures relate to persons out of work for three days or more during a specified week in each quarter; they include a small percentage of unemployment due to sickness.)

CANADA.†

As is customary at the beginning of the year, employment showed a pronounced curtailment which involved practically the same proportion of the aggregate staffs as that indicated at the beginning of 1928. For 1st January, 1929, returns were received by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics from 6,358 firms with an aggregate of 918,780 on their pay-rolls. On 1st December the same firms reported 983,698 and the more recent total thus shows a decrease of 6.6 per cent. From the beginning of the current year the index of employment will be based upon the average employment of the reporting firms in the year 1926. If this be represented by 100, the index number of employment for 1st January, 1929, is 109.1 as compared with 116.7 at the beginning of the preceding month, and 100.7 on 1st January, 1928.

On 30th November, 1928, 4.2 per cent. of the aggregate membership of trade unions making returns were unemployed as compared with 3.1 per cent. at the end of October and 5.2 per cent. at the end of November, 1927.

LEGAL CASES AFFECTING LABOUR.

Workmen's Compensation Act, 1925.

CALCULATION OF WEEKLY PAYMENT—PAYMENTS IN RESPECT OF PUBLIC SERVICES.

This was an appeal from the decision of the County Court Judge by the applicant, a tinsmith, who had claimed compensation from the respondents, his employers, in respect of an accident which occurred during the course of his employment with them. As a result of the accident he had been incapacitated from 15th March to 30th April, 1928, and the respondents had admitted his right to compensation under the Workmen's Compensation Act: there was a dispute, however, as to the calculation of the applicant's earnings for the purpose of assessing the amount of the weekly payment of compensation properly payable.

The average earnings of the applicant from employment with the respondents had amounted to about £2 10s. 8d. a week. Besides working for the respondents the applicant, on alternate Tuesdays, had sat as workmen's representative on a Local Employment Committee set up by the Ministry of Labour to deal with questions arising out of the administration of the Unemployment Insurance Acts. He had done this with his employers' consent, but had received no wages from them in respect of the time during which he was occupied at meetings of the Local Employment Committee. The Ministry of Labour accordingly paid him at the rate of 10s. 4d. a day for each attendance, as compensation for loss of wages.

The County Court Judge had found that the money paid by the Ministry of Labour as compensation for loss of wages could not be taken into account in assessing the weekly rate of compensation payable under the Workmen's Compensation Act.

The Master of the Rolls, in the course of his judgment, referred to Section 10 of the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1925, in which occurred the words "The rate per week at which the workman was being remunerated . . ." He thought that it was evident from the section that these words meant "remunerated by the employer," and that the earnings to be calculated were the average weekly earnings in the employment.

The applicant had relied on the case of the Great Western Railway Co. v. Helps (1918, A.C. 141), but in his view the principles laid down in that case did not apply to the present appeal. That was a case in which a railway porter had been allowed to include in his earnings a sum in respect of tips for the purpose of assessing the rate of compensation due; but in that case the gratuities, even if not paid by the employers, had been earned in the employment. In the present case the applicant had received the sum in dispute from an entirely independent source. He did not agree that the vital question was simply how much the applicant was earning before the accident. The present case was really governed by the principle laid down in *Wilde v. John Brown & Co., Ltd.* (1919, 1 K.B. 134). In that case it had been decided that a worker in a mine who was also a paid delegate of a trade union, and received remuneration for acting as an inspector under the Coal Mines Act, 1911, could not include his earnings as delegate and inspector for the purpose of calculating the compensation payable by the colliery company.

The point at issue was "What were the applicant's earnings in the contract of service with the respondents?" Having regard

* *Bolletino Mensile di Statistica*, January, 1929. Rome.

† *Rapports économiques et Statistique sociale*, January, 1929. Berne.

‡ *Statistiske Efterretninger*, 12th February, 1929. Copenhagen.

§ Information supplied by the Central Bureau of Statistics. Oslo.

|| Information supplied by the Swedish Department of Social Affairs.

¶ *Wiadomości Statystyczne*, 20th January, 1929. Warsaw.

** *Trend of Employment*, December, 1928. Washington.

* Information supplied by the Prime Minister's Department, Canberra.

† *The January Employment Situation*, 1929. Ottawa.

to the principle in *Wilde v. John Brown & Co., Ltd.*, it could not be said that the sums received from the Ministry of Labour were part of his earnings derived from his contract of service with the respondents. The applicant had been given a certain amount of leave of absence by his employers, and he had received payments, from another source, for what he had done in that free time. Nevertheless, it did not follow that the payments which he received ought to be regarded as part of his earnings in his employment with the respondents.

Lord Justice Lawrence and Lord Justice Greer delivered judgments to the same effect. The appeal was dismissed.—*McGee v. William Muir & Co. Court of Appeal.* 25th January, 1929.

Trade Boards Acts, 1909-1918.

Dressmaking and Women's Light Clothing Trade.

An employer engaged in the dressmaking and women's light clothing trade at Sheffield was prosecuted at the Sheffield City Police Court on 2nd January, 1929, on a charge of having unlawfully received a payment by way of premium, contrary to Section 7 of the Trade Boards Act, 1918.

The employer was found to have accepted a premium in respect of a first year female worker for which she gave a receipt: no indenture of apprenticeship was ever executed. The worker had been dismissed, and £14 had been returned to her, the remaining £6 being retained by the employer to cover the wages paid.

The defendant was legally represented and pleaded not guilty, contending that the receipt for £20 was sufficient to constitute an instrument of apprenticeship.

The defendant was found guilty, and was fined £10, and ordered to repay £6 (the balance of the premium) with £3 13s. costs.—*Rex v. de Litvine. Sheffield City Police Court.* 2nd January, 1929.

Sugar Confectionery and Food Preserving Trade.

An employer in the sugar confectionery manufacturing trade was prosecuted for knowingly producing two false receipts, purporting to show that certain sums had been paid to two workers as arrears of wages whereas in fact no payments had been made. The employer pleaded guilty to both charges, and was fined £10 in respect of each charge, and £10 10s. costs. The stipendiary magistrate described the case as one of gross dishonesty, and reminded the defendant that he was liable to three months' imprisonment.—*Rex v. Reid. Leeds Police Court.* 9th January, 1929.

Fur Trade.

Two employers, partners in a fur firm in East London, were prosecuted on 21st December, 1928, for failing to pay two female workers at not less than the minimum rate of wages fixed by the Fur Trade Board (Great Britain), and for failing to keep adequate records. The defendants pleaded guilty to all the charges, and were ordered to pay fines and costs totalling £32 8s. Arrears amounting to £5 8s. 8d. were paid to the workers concerned before the case was heard.—*Rex v. Samuel Schwalb and Louis Wexper. Thames Police Court.* 21st December, 1928.

National Health Insurance Acts (Northern Ireland).

USED INSURANCE STAMPS—AGENT FINED.

An assistant superintendent of an insurance company in Northern Ireland was fined £10 and costs on a charge of having affixed to three National Health Insurance cards stamps which had been previously affixed to other cards.

In announcing the decision of the Court, the chairman of the magistrates said that, in a case of this type, if there was a doubt the defendant was undoubtedly entitled to the benefit of the doubt. The magistrates were, however, satisfied that the case was clearly proved, and they felt bound to inflict a penalty which would act as a deterrent to others.—*Rex v. Petticrew. Comber Petty Sessions* 28th January, 1929.

Other Recent Decisions of Interest.

ILLEGAL EMPLOYMENT OF BOY AGED 11 YEARS.

The Nottingham Education Committee prosecuted a tradesman for employing a boy aged 11 years to deliver goods. It was pointed out by the prosecution that no child under 12 years of age might be employed at any time.

A conviction was recorded and a fine of 5s. imposed.—*Rex v. Donson. Nottingham Petty Sessions.* 17th January, 1929.

TRADE UNION LAW—ILLEGAL ASSOCIATION—INCAPACITY TO CONTRACT.

The plaintiff brought an action against the National Union of Railwaymen, claiming £100 as victimisation pay.

He contended that he was entitled to payment of this sum by virtue of rule 1 (ii) of the union's rules.

For the defence it was argued that no action for benefits could be maintained in a Court of Law if it could be shown that the rules of the trade union concerned would have rendered it an illegal association prior to the Trade Union Act, 1871.

His Honour Judge Terrell, giving judgment, said that he was satisfied that the union was an illegal association. It followed therefore that its existence could not be recognised by the law, and it could not enter into contractual relationships.

Judgment was entered in favour of the defendant union, with costs.—*Martin v. National Union of Railwaymen. Dover County Court.* 23rd January, 1929.

CONTRACT OF SERVICE—ACT OF DISOBEDIENCE—DISMISSAL WITHOUT NOTICE NOT JUSTIFIED.

The plaintiff, a hairdresser's assistant, brought an action against his former employer claiming £5 as wages in lieu of notice. This sum included £2 for tips and commission.

It was stated that the plaintiff in a fit of temper had refused to obey an order given by the defendant; as a result of this he had been dismissed without notice.

In the course of his judgment, Judge Crawford said that in order to justify summary dismissal the employer must show that the disobedience on the part of the servant was wilful. If a servant in a fit of momentary irritation declined to obey an order the employer was not for that reason justified in breaking the contract of service by dismissing the servant summarily.

Judgment was entered for the plaintiff for the amount claimed.—*Edmonton County Court.* 18th January, 1929.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACTS, 1920-28.

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 is a recent decision of general interest:—

Case No. 306/29 (14.1.29). Section 8 (1) of principal Act—Trade Dispute.

MINERS LOST EMPLOYMENT THROUGH REJECTION OF NEW TERMS OF EMPLOYMENT OFFERED BY EMPLOYERS—NEW TERMS CONTRAVENED COAL MINES REGULATION ACT, 1908—HELD THAT LOSS OF EMPLOYMENT NOT DUE TO A TRADE DISPUTE—ONUS OF PROVING THAT THEY ARE NOT DISQUALIFIED BY REASON OF ILLEGALITY OF EMPLOYERS' TERMS OF EMPLOYMENT RESTS UPON APPLICANTS.

The circumstances of this case are set out in the following decision by the Umpire:—

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

"At the hearing it was admitted by the applicants' association that, unless I held that the terms offered by the employers, and refused by the applicants, constituted a breach of the Coal Mines Regulation Act, 1908 (hereinafter referred to as the Act of 1908) the applicants were not entitled to benefit, as they had lost their employment by reason of a stoppage of work due to a trade dispute. This point appears to have been raised before the Court of Referees, but in their findings of fact, which are recorded on U.I. 242, I cannot find any reference to the contention of the applicants.

"When a stoppage of work results from a refusal of the employees to accept the terms offered by the employer, and those terms, if accepted, would have involved the breach of some statutory provision, such a stoppage of work is not due to a trade dispute within the meaning of Section 8 (1) of the principal Act (*see Decisions 2358/20,† 3015/20†, and 6926/20†*).

"The determination of this case requires a consideration of subsections 3 and 4 of Section 1 of the Act of 1908, and of the terms offered by the employers and rejected by the applicants.

"By the joint effect of Section 1 (1) and (2) of the Act of 1908, and the Coal Mines Acts of 1919 and 1926, a workman may not be below ground in a mine for the purpose of his work, and of going to and from his work, for more than eight hours during any consecutive twenty-four hours; the eight hours being measured from the time at which the last workman in the shift leaves the surface to the time at which the first workman in the shift returns to the surface. By subsection 3 of Section 1 of the Act of 1908, the owner of every mine is required to fix for each shift of workmen in the mine the time at which the lowering of the men to the mine is to commence and to be completed, and the time at which the raising of the men from the mine is to commence and to be completed, and shall make all arrangements necessary for the observance of those times in lowering and raising the men. Subsection 4 of Section 1 of the Act of 1908 enacts that 'the interval between the time fixed for the commencement and for the completion of the lowering and raising of each shift of workmen to and from the mine shall be such time as may for the time being be approved by the inspector as the time reasonably required for the purpose.' By Section 7 (1) of the Act of 1908 a contravention of any of the provisions of the Act constitutes an offence against the Act.

(*) 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 1927 (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 December, 1928. Applications should be made to H.M. Stationery Office at any of the addresses shown on the front cover of this GAZETTE.

(†) *See Vol. II, Umpire's Selected Decisions (Pamphlet No. 9).*

(‡) *See Vol. III, Umpire's Selected Decisions (Pamphlet No. 37).*

"Since the Act came into operation the approved hours for the commencement and termination of the lowering of the morning shift have been 6.30 a.m. and 7 a.m., respectively. The corresponding times for raising the shift to the surface have been 3 p.m. and 3.30 p.m. As from 1908 it has been proved that 'the time reasonably required for the purpose' of lowering and raising the shift is half an hour, there is no ground for supposing that the Inspector of Mines would approve any extension of this time, or that an appeal under subsection 5 of Section 1 from his refusal to extend the time would be successful.

"The coal winding of the morning shift commenced at 7 a.m. and terminated at 3 p.m. It is contended that under the proposed new terms offered by the employers three grades of workmen, viz., the hauliers, the haulage enginemen and riders, and the colliers, could not be raised or lowered within the approved times, and that the lowering and raising time of half an hour would be exceeded.

"Under the old terms the hauliers descended the mine at 6.30 a.m., and in consideration of their getting their horses out of the stables by 6.45 a.m., that is, a quarter of an hour before the coal winding commenced, and not returning the horses to the stables until 3.15 p.m., that is, a quarter of an hour after the coal winding had ceased, they were paid a bonus each week. The hauliers, therefore, were the first to descend the pit at 6.30 a.m. and the last to be raised to the surface at 3.30 p.m. Under the rejected terms the employers required the hauliers to work half an hour each day either at the end or at the commencement of the coal winding shift, whichever was considered of greater use to the officials in charge, but no change was to be made from one end of the shift to the other during any week. If the hauliers worked the extra half hour at the commencement of the shift they would be required to descend the mine before 6.30 a.m., and if this half hour was worked at the end of the shift they would ascend after 3.30 p.m., and in either event the approved hours for the commencement and termination of the lowering or the raising of the shift would be exceeded.

"With regard to the haulage enginemen and riders: under the rejected terms they were required to 'run a journey after the horses were cleared off the road.' The time taken to run a journey is a quarter of an hour, and therefore when the hauliers were working an extra half hour at the end of the coal winding shift, that is, to 3.30 p.m., the haulage enginemen and riders could not be raised to the surface before 3.45 p.m.

"With regard to the colliers: there was a condition in the rejected terms that 'no empty trams were to be left in the faces at the end of the shift.' This was not likely to entail, but might entail, the colliers remaining below ground until after 3.30 p.m. As the length of time required to fill a tram is an hour, the colliers might possibly be below ground until 4.30 p.m. when the hauliers were working until 3.30 p.m.

"The employers appear to have overlooked the fact that the terms offered entailed a breach of the Act of 1908. As, in my opinion, the applicants have proved that the terms offered did entail such a breach, benefit will be allowed on the authority of the decisions previously referred to, as it cannot be held that the stoppage of work was due to a trade dispute.

"When, as in this case, the applicants would have been disqualified for receiving benefit because they had lost their employment by reason of a stoppage of work due to a trade dispute had it not been that the dispute had reference to an offer, the acceptance of which would involve a contravention of the law, the onus of proving that they are not disqualified by reason of the illegality of the offer rests upon the applicants. It would appear that a contrary view was taken in Decision 6926/20; but in as far as that decision deals with the onus of proof it will not be followed in the future."

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

Recent Proceedings.

(A)—INDUSTRIAL COURT DECISIONS.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANTS (FURNITURE), SUPPLIES DIVISION, H.M. OFFICE OF WORKS.—Staff Side *v.* Official Side, H.M. Office of Works Administrative Whitley Council. *Difference.*—Salary scale—Claim for Increase. *Decision.*—The Division of the Court which heard the parties being unable to agree on their Award, Sir Harold Morris, acting as Umpire, awarded a basic scale of pay, viz., £150—£10—£230, with an allowance of £30 per annum basic to three technical assistants performing higher duties. Award to be operative as from 1st January, 1929. Award issued 21st January, 1929. (1407.)

NON-PROFESSIONAL LEGAL ASSISTANTS—TREASURY SOLICITOR'S DEPARTMENT.—Civil Service Clerical Association *v.* Treasury Solicitor. *Difference.*—Salary scales—Claim for increase. *Decision.*—New scale to be £170—£10—£210—£15—£300 plus bonus. Existing officers to receive immediate increment of £20 on basic scales of pay. Operative as from 1st February, 1929. Award issued 29th January, 1929. (1408.)

SURVEYORS, ROYAL ORDNANCE FACTORIES, WOOLWICH.—The Institution of Professional Civil Servants *v.* the War Office. *Difference.*—Salary scales—Claim for increase. *Decision.*—The Court awarded the following basic scales of pay—First Surveyor—£400—£20—£600. Second Surveyor—£350—£20—£550, to take effect as from 1st February, 1929. Award issued 29th January, 1929. (1409.)

SMITHS—LAMINATED SPRING TRADE.—Associated Blacksmiths, Forge and Smithy Workers' Society *v.* Laminated Railway Spring Manufacturers' Association. *Difference.*—Plain hoops: width of material. An interpretation of the price to be paid on plain hoops

for between sizes in width of material. *Decision.*—The Court were of opinion that there was no ground for departing from the terms of their previous decision in Award 569. Award issued 31st January, 1929. (1410.)

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

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

(C)—OTHER SETTLEMENTS.

HOSIERY DYEING TRADE: MIDLANDS.—Messrs. William Lowe (Derby) Ltd. *v.* Midland Counties Federation of Hosiery Finishers. *Difference.*—As to terms on which firm should reopen works. *Settlement.*—Works to reopen on existing rates for period of four months, and thereafter on new agreed schedule of rates and working conditions. Agreement signed 31st January, 1929.

TRADE BOARDS ACTS.

Orders, Notices, etc., Recently Issued.

NOTICES OF PROPOSAL.

Hollow-ware Trade Board (Great Britain).

Proposal H. (15) dated 8th January, 1929, to fix minimum rates of wages for male and female workers in those branches of work in the trade newly brought within the scope of the Trade Board by the Trade Boards (Hollow-ware Trade, Great Britain) (Constitution and Proceedings) Regulations, 1928.

Objection period expires 8th March, 1929.

Retail Bespoke Tailoring Trade Board (Northern Ireland).

Proposal N.I.T.R.B. (N. 27), dated 15th January, 1929, to vary minimum rates of wages for certain male and female workers in Northern Ireland, exclusive of the county boroughs of the cities of Belfast and Londonderry.

Objection period expired 29th January, 1929.

REGULATIONS.

Waste Materials Reclamation Trade (Great Britain).

The Minister of Labour has issued Regulations dated 14th January, 1929, (S. R. & O. 1929, No. 3 and No. 4) with respect to the constitution and proceedings of the Cotton Waste Reclamation Trade Board (Great Britain) and the General Waste Materials Reclamation Trade Board (Great Britain), respectively.

TRADE BOARDS INSPECTION AND ENFORCEMENT (GREAT BRITAIN).

For the purpose of the inspection of firms engaged in industries covered by Trade Boards, and the enforcement of Trade Board Orders in Great Britain, the country is divided into eight divisions, in each of which there is a divisional office in charge of a senior officer; and all Trade Boards inspection is now undertaken locally from the appropriate divisional office.

The addresses and telephone numbers of the divisional offices, and the areas they respectively cover, are given below. Communications should be addressed to "The Senior Officer, Ministry of Labour, Trade Boards Division," at the addresses shown:—

South-Eastern Division (I) (comprising London—East, East Central, North, and North-West; Essex, Suffolk, Norfolk, Cambridgeshire, Huntingdonshire, Middlesex, Bedfordshire, Buckinghamshire, and Hertfordshire):—

Queen Anne's Chambers, Broadway, Westminster, London, S.W. 1.

(Tel. No.: Victoria 8020.)

South-Eastern Division (II) (comprising London—South-East, South-West, West, and West Central; Kent, Surrey and Sussex):—

Queen Anne's Chambers, Broadway, Westminster, London, S.W. 1.

(Tel. No.: Victoria 8020.)

South-Western Division (comprising Oxfordshire, Berkshire, Hampshire and Isle of Wight, Gloucestershire, Wiltshire, Dorset, Somerset, Devon and Cornwall):—

Grove House, 34, Tyndall's Park Road, Bristol.

(Tel. No.: Bristol 7801.)

Midland Division (comprising Warwickshire, Northamptonshire, Rutland, Leicestershire, Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire, Staffordshire, Worcestershire, Herefordshire, and Shropshire):—

205, Corporation Street, Birmingham.

(Tel. No.: Birmingham, Central 2511.)

North-Eastern Division (comprising Yorkshire, Lincolnshire, Durham and Northumberland):—

Quebec Chambers, Quebec Street, Leeds.

(Tel. No.: Leeds, Central 20801.)

North-Western Division (comprising Lancashire, Cheshire, Westmorland, and Cumberland):—

270, Oxford Road, Manchester.

(Tel. No.: Rusholme 1868.)

Scottish Division (comprising the whole of Scotland) :—

26, Buckingham Terrace, Edinburgh.

(Tel. No. : Edinburgh 30585.)

Welsh Division (comprising the whole of Wales and Monmouthshire) :—

Principality Buildings. Queen Street, Cardiff.

(Tel. No. : Cardiff 5253.)

WELFARE OF WORKERS.

Proposed Home Office Order for Oil Cake Mills.

THE Home Secretary gave notice on 8th February, 1929, that, in pursuance of the powers conferred on him by Section 7 of the Police, Factories, &c. (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1916, he proposes to make an Order, to apply to all factories or parts of factories in which the manufacture of oil cake, extracted meal, or compound cake (including the incidental operations of refining and grease manufacture) is carried on, for securing the welfare of the workers employed therein.

An Order for factories or parts of factories in which the manufacture of oil cake is carried on was made in 1919, and in many factories has been broadly interpreted as applying not only to the manufacture of oil cake but also to meal extraction, the manufacture of compound cake, oil refining, and grease manufacture. In other cases, however, the Order has not been regarded as applying to these other processes. As these processes are carried on under similar conditions, and the need for welfare arrangements is equally great, the question of extending the Order to include them expressly has been discussed with the Seed Crushing and Compound Cake Manufacturing Joint Industrial Council; and the Council have now informed the Home Secretary that they concur in the extension of the Order which is now proposed.

In view of the agreement reached with the Joint Industrial Council, the Home Secretary hopes that no objection will be taken to the draft Order; but, under the provisions of the Act, it is necessary formally to give notice that any objection to the proposed Order must be sent to the Secretary of State, Home Office, Whitehall, London, S.W. 1, within thirty days after the date of this notice. The objection must be in writing and must state (a) the requirements in the draft Order objected to; (b) the specific grounds of objection; and (c) the modifications asked for.

Copies of the draft Order may be obtained on application to the Factory Department, Home Office, Whitehall, London, S.W. 1.

OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

INDUSTRIAL FATIGUE.—*The comparative effects of variety and uniformity in work.* Report No. 52. Industrial Fatigue Research Board. (S.O. publication; price 1s. 3d.)

LABOUR LEGISLATION.—*Legislative Series, Vol. VI. 1925. Part III. Indexes.* (Published in London for the International Labour Office, by P. S. King & Son, Ltd.; price £1 15s. for all three parts.)

MINING.—*Statistical summary of output, and of the cost of production, proceeds and profits of the coal mining industry for the quarter ended 30th September, 1928.* Board of Trade, Mines Department. (Cmd. 3256; price 1d.) (See page 43.)

MINING ACCIDENTS.—*Preliminary statement of deaths caused by accidents in and about the mines and quarries of Great Britain, together with the Isle of Man, during the year 1928.* Board of Trade, Mines Department. (S.O. publication; price 3d.)

SAFETY.—(a) *Precautions in the installation and working of abrasive wheels, December, 1928.* Factory Form, No. 264. (b) *Protection of hoists.* Safety Pamphlet, No. 2. Third edition, revised, 1928. (c) *Safety precautions for transmission machinery in factories. Part II. Belt mounting.* Safety Pamphlet No. 12. Second edition. Home Office. (S.O. publications; price 1d., 6d. and 9d., respectively.)

SILICOSIS.—*Report on the occurrence of silicosis among sandstone workers.* Home Office. (S.O. publication; price 1s. 6d.) (See p. 47.)

STATISTICAL ABSTRACT.—*Statistical Abstract for the United Kingdom for each of the fifteen years from 1913 to 1927. Seventy-second number.* Board of Trade (in conjunction with the Ministry of Labour and the Registrars-General). (Cmd. 3253; price 6s. 6d.)

TECHNICAL EDUCATION.—(a) *Full time schools for bakers and confectioners.* Educational Pamphlet, No. 67. (Industry Series, No. 4.) Board of Education. (S.O. publication; price 4d.) (b) *The Admiralty method of training dockyard apprentices.* Educational Pamphlet, No. 32. (Revised edition). Board of Education. (S.O. publication; price 2d.)

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE.—(a) *Account of the Unemployment Fund, showing the receipts and payments during the year 1 April, 1927, to 31 March, 1928, together with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.* (H.C. 28; price 2d.) (b) *Unemployment Insurance Acts, 1920 to 1927. Selected decisions given by the Umpire on claims to benefit during the month of December, 1928.* U.I. 440. Pamphlet No. 12, 1928. Ministry of Labour. (S.O. publication; price 6d.)

WELFARE.—*First aid and ambulance for factories and workshops.* Welfare Pamphlet, No. 4. Second edition, 1929. Home Office. (S.O. publication; price 4d.)

WIDOWS', ORPHANS' AND OLD AGE PENSIONS.—*Widows', Orphans' and Old Age Contributory Pensions Act, 1925. Accounts showing the receipts and payments during the year ended 31st March, 1928; together with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.* (H.C. 24; price 2d.)

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS.

LIST OF NEW CONTRACTS, JANUARY, 1929.

ADMIRALTY.

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

Dartmouth: Erection of Canteen : Wakeham Bros., Ltd., Plymouth.—**Devonport:** Erection of Test House : A. N. Coles & Son, Ltd., Plymouth. Extension to Machine Shop : Walker Bros., Ltd., Walsall. Construction of Gateway, Huts, Steps, etc. : A. Carkeek & Sons, Ltd., Plymouth.—**Portsmouth:** Steelwork: The Cleveland Bridge & Engineering Co., Ltd., Darlington.—**Sandown Signal Station:** Erection of Bathrooms and Sculleries : Henry Ingram & Sons, Ventnor, I. of W.—**Greenock:** Structural Steelwork : Wm. Bain & Co., Ltd., Coatbridge.—**Yards Abroad:** Portland Cement : Holborough Cement Co., Ltd., London, S.W. C.I. Pipes, etc. : Cochrane & Co., Ltd., Middlesbrough.

(Contract and Purchase Department.)

Accumulators and Cells: Oldham & Sons, Ltd., Manchester; Hart Accumulator Co., Ltd., London, E.; D.P. Battery Co., Ltd., Bakewell; Chloride Electrical Storage Co., Manchester; Fuller Accumulator Co. (1926), Ltd., Chadwell Heath.—**Bags, Calico:** Ashton Bros. & Co., Ltd., Hyde.—**Bells, Electric:** Hawkers, Ltd., Birmingham; Engineering & Lighting Equipment Co., Ltd., St. Albans; D. H. Bonnella & Sons, London, N.W.—**Belting, Leather:** The Bell Rock Belting Co., Ltd., Manchester; S. E. Norris & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; Spartan Manufacturing Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Blooms, Steel:** D. Colville & Sons, Ltd., Glasgow; W. Beardmore & Co., Ltd., Glasgow; Cammell Laird & Co., Ltd., Sheffield; Lanarkshire Steel Co., Ltd., Motherwell; Steel Peech & Tozer, Ltd., Rotherham.—**Boat Disengaging Gear:** Receiver, L. H. Robinson & Co., Ltd., London, W.—**Boats, Collapsible, 10 and 12 ft.:** Harland & Wolff, Ltd., Liverpool.—**Boilers, Vertical, Steam:** T. Balmforth & Co., Ltd., Luton.—**Boxes, Condenser:** Engineering & Lighting Equipment Co., Ltd., St. Albans; L. Weekes (Luton), Ltd., Luton.—**Brushes, Steel Wire:** N. Greening & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.; C. H. Leng & Sons, Birmingham; Mechanical Appliances Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; W. Riddell Cousland & Co., Ltd., Glasgow; Thornton Williams & Co., London, S.E.; W. Turner, Boxmoor, Herts.; J. & R. Whyte, Glasgow.—**Brushes, Tooth:** G. B. Kent & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Cabinet Work:** J. Elliott & Son, High Wycombe; Exors. of late S. Snawdon, Plymouth; O. C. Hawkes, Ltd., Birmingham; G. A. Large & Son, High Wycombe; Wylie & Lochhead, Ltd., Glasgow.—**Cable Clips:** Aston Chain & Hook Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Freckleton & Co., Glasgow; Hawkers, Ltd., Birmingham; R. & F. Keates, Willenhall.—**Cable, Electric:** Henley's Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; General Electric Co., Ltd., Southampton; W. T. Glover & Co., Ltd., Manchester; Connollys (Blackley), Ltd., Manchester.—**Caps, Blue Cloth:** J. Compton, Sons & Webb, Ltd., London, E.; Zeffertt & Son, Portsmouth.—**Capsules, Blood:** Baird & Tatlock (London), Ltd., London, E.C.; Plowden & Thompson, Ltd., Stourbridge.—**Cells, Inert:** General Electric Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Chamois Skins:** C. Kirkham & Son, Nottingham; Charles F. Stead & Co., Ltd., Leeds.—**China, Porcelain:** Bishop & Stonier (1926), Ltd., Hanley; Crown Staffordshire Porcelain Co., Ltd., Fenton; R. H. & S. L. Plant, Ltd., Longton.—**Cloth, Cotton Cleaning:** A. Robertshaw & Sons, Ltd., Mytholmroyd.—**Coats, Waterproof:** Zambrene, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Cotton Waste:** C. E. Austin & Sons, Ltd., Manchester; W. C. Jones, Ltd., Manchester; Redmayne & Isherwood, Ltd., Blackburn; Henry Yates & Sons, Ltd., Darwen, Lancs.—**Crane, Electric:** Herbert Morris, Ltd., Loughborough.—**Cranes, Electric, Gantry:** Sir William Arrol & Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—**Cranes, Electric, Travelling:** Vaughan Crane Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Cutters, 32 ft.:** Shipyard Co., Ltd., Bangor, near Belfast.—**Dinghies, Skiff, 16 ft.:** M. W. Blackmore & Sons, Appledore.—**Drill, White Cotton:** A. & S. Henry & Co., Ltd., Manchester; Joshua Hoyle & Sons, Ltd., Summerseat.—**Electric Heating Elements:** Credenda Conduits Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Equipment for Cranes:** Sir William Arrol & Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—**Equipment, Steam Heating:** Sturtevant Engineering Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Fans, Table, and Spares:** General Electric Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Veritys, Ltd., Aston.—**Fans and Purifier Casings:** James Keith & Blackman Co., Ltd., London, N.—**Firebricks:** Bonnybridge Silica & Fireclay Co., Ltd., Bonnybridge; Burn Fireclay Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne; H. Foster & Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne; Glenboig Union Fireclay Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—**Floorcloth, Canvas:** J. Hare & Co., Bristol.—**Flour:** Spillers, Ltd. (W. Vernon & Sons' Branch), Liverpool.—**Frames for T. Cutters:** Carron Co., Carron, Falkirk.—**Gear, Bow Cap:** MacTaggart Scott & Co., Ltd., Edinburgh.—**Glycerine:** United Kingdom Glycerine Producers' Assn., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Hoists, Periscope:** MacTaggart Scott & Co., Ltd., Edinburgh.—**Ingots, Aluminium:** British Aluminum Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Lampholders:** Rainsford & Lynes, Ltd., Birmingham; Sperryn & Co., Birmingham; W. McGeoch & Co., Ltd., Birmingham; General Electric Co., Ltd., Birmingham and Wembley; Edison Swan Electric Co., Ltd., London, N.—**Lamps, Electric, Incandescent:** General Electric Co., Ltd., London, W., Lemington-on-Tyne and Chesterfield; Siemens Electric Lamps & Supplies, Ltd., Preston, London, E.C., Lemington-on-Tyne, Brimsdown and Chesterfield; Metro-Vick Supplies, Ltd., Brimsdown, Lemington-on-Tyne and Chesterfield; Edison Swan Electric Co., Ltd., Rugby and Ponders End; British Thomson-Houston Co., Ltd., Rugby and Chesterfield.—**Lanterns, Navigation, and Gear:** Chance Bros. & Co., Ltd., Birmingham; E. Griffiths & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham; Molineaux Webb & Co., Ltd., Manchester; Telford Grier & Mackay, Ltd., Glasgow.—**Locomotives:** Joseph Booth & Bros., Ltd., Leeds.—**Machine, Hydraulic Cable Testing:** Greenwood & Batley, Ltd., Leeds.—**Machines, Universal Milling:**

Alfred Herbert, Ltd., Coventry.—**Mackintoshes, Blue**: Chas. Macintosh & Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Marmalade**: A. Cairns & Sons, Ltd., London, W.; C. & E. Morton, Ltd., London, E.; J. Stephens, Son & Co., Ltd., Gloucester.—**Microscopes**: Wm. Watson & Sons, Ltd., London, W.C.—**Milk, Condensed, Unsweetened**: Nestlé & Anglo-Swiss Condensed Milk Co., Staverton and/or Ashbourne.—**Mops and Mopheads**: T. M. Clewes & Son, Cradley, Staffs; A. Smart & Sons, Ltd., Manchester.—**Motor, Electric**: Laurence Scott & Co., Ltd., Norwich.—**Oil, Linseed, Boiled**: Younghusband Barnes & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Paint, Black**: Hoyle, Robson, Barnett & Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne.—**Pinnaces, Motor, 35 ft.**: H. B. Hornby & Co., Ltd., Wallasey, Cheshire; Hugh McLean & Sons, Ltd., Glasgow.—**Pinnacle, Motor, 30 ft.**: Ferry Engine Co., Southampton.—**Pinnaces, Sailing, 36 ft.**: Groves & Guttridge, Ltd., East Cowes; Clare Lallow, Cowes.—**Pipes, Charging, and Hoses, Flexible**: Power Flexible Tubing Co., Ltd., London, N.; Interlock Metal Hose Co., London, N.—**Plant, Oxygen Producing**: Liquid Air, Ltd., Wembley.—**Plates, Glass, for Water Level Indicators**: S. & C. Bishop & Co., Ltd., St. Helens, Lancs.—**Plates, Nozzle**: Wallsend Slipway & Engineering Co., Ltd., Wallsend-on-Tyne.—**Plywood**: Aeronautical & Panel Plywood Co., Ltd., London, E.; Tucker Armoured Plywood Co., Ltd., Crayford, Kent.—**Pumps**: Drysdale & Co., Ltd., Glasgow; Fullerton Hodgart & Barclay, Ltd., Paisley; Leeds Engineering & Hydraulic Co., Ltd., Leeds.—**Pumps, Fire**: Merryweather & Sons, Ltd., London, S.E.—**Radiators**: National Radiator Co., Ltd., Hull.—**Reamers**: Pickford Evans & Co., Ltd., Sheffield; Joseph Evans & Sons, Ltd., Sheffield.—**Reducer Set**: Newton Bros. (Derby), Ltd., Derby.—**Scuttles, Flasketight**: Shiphams & Co., Ltd., Hull.—**Sheets, Steel**: Appleby Iron Co., Ltd., Scunthorpe; W. Beardmore & Co., Ltd., Glasgow; Baldwins, Ltd., Port Talbot; South Durham Steel & Iron Co., Ltd., West Hartlepool.—**Socks, Blue Cashmere**: Johnson & Sons (Loughborough), Ltd., Loughborough; J. B. Lewis & Sons, Ltd., Nottingham.—**Soda Ash**: Imperial Chemical Industries, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Spanners, etc.**: J. Evans & Sons, Ltd., Sheffield; British Tool & Engineering Co., Ltd., Wolverhampton; Joseph Bradbury & Sons, Ltd., Braintree; Armstrong, Stevens & Son, Willenhall; Angular Hole Drilling Manfg. Co., Ltd., Nottingham; H. Williams & Son, London, E.—**Steam Cocks, G.M., and Torpedo Fittings**: W. N. Baines & Co., Ltd., Rotherham; W. H. Baker, Ltd., Wigan; J. Blakeborough & Sons, Ltd., Brighouse, Yorks; British Oxygen Co., Ltd., London, N.; Hayward Tyler & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; Sir J. Laing & Sons, Ltd., Sunderland; Ogden & Lawson, Workington; Shiphams & Co., Ltd., Hull; Smith Bros. & Co. (Hyson), Ltd., Nottingham; C. Winn & Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Sweep Floats**: Metal Propellers, Ltd., Croydon.—**Switchboards**: Park Royal Engineering Co., Ltd., London, N.W.—**Tape, Insulating**: Ioco Rubber & Waterproofing Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—**Testing Sets**: Everett, Edgumbe & Co., Ltd., London, N.W.—**Timber, English**: R. Batcheller & Sons, Ltd., Maidstone; Bowerman & Sons, Ltd., Bridgwater; C. R. Claridge & Sons, Ltd., Exeter; J. S. Elliott & Son, Cranleigh; J. D. Foster, Emsworth, Hants; H. Longley & Sons, East Grinstead; C. Miles & Sons, Stamford, Lincs; R. Mulford, Ltd., Basingstoke; G. Randle & Son, Ltd., Bridgwater; A. Turner & Son, Ltd., Lewes; E. C. White & Son, Ltd., Basingstoke.—**Tins**: Scott, Son & Tucker, Ltd., London, S.E.—**Tomatoes, Tinned**: Lipton, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Tools**: J. Beardshaw & Son, Ltd., Sheffield; Hope Works Co., Dudley; John Bedford & Sons, Ltd., Sheffield; J. H. Swift & Sons, Ltd., Sheffield; F. J. Brindley & Sons, Sheffield; William Ridgway & Sons, Ltd., Sheffield; E. Partridge & Co., Old Hill; Wm. Hunt & Sons, The Brades, Ltd., Birmingham; Wynn, Timmins & Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Thomas Newey & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham; Cornelius Whitehouse & Sons, Ltd., Cannock; Exors. of Mr. W. H. Clay, Sheffield; Gilpin & Whitehouse, Ltd., Cannock; F. G. Pearson & Co., Ltd., Sheffield; Hardy Patent Pick Co., Ltd., Sheffield.—**Tuners and Amplifiers, W/T**: Radio Instruments, Ltd., London, W.C.—**Twill, Brown**: Moss Bros. (Hebden Bridge), Ltd., Todmorden; Howe & Coates, Ltd., Manchester.—**Voicepiping, Flexible, and Fittings**: Power Flexible Tubing Co., Ltd., London, N.; United Flexible Metallic Tubing Co., Ltd., London, N.; Interlock Metal Hose Co., London, N.—**Water Closets and Gear**: Doulton & Co., Ltd., Paisley; Shanks & Co., Ltd., Barrhead.—**Water Gauge Cocks, Asbestos-packed**: W. N. Baines & Co., Ltd., Rotherham.—**Whalers, 27 ft.**: Clare Lallow, Cowes; J. Leitch & Co., Ltd., Renfrew.—**Winches**: Harfield & Co., Ltd., Blaydon-on-Tyne.—**Wire, Aerial**: Thos. Bolton & Sons, Ltd., Oakamoor, N. Staffs.—**Wire, Copper**: General Electric Co., Ltd., Southampton; Concordia Electric Wire Co., Ltd., Nottingham; Ward & Goldstone, Manchester; Kent Bros. Electric Wire Co., and E. H. Phillips, Ltd., Kew.—**Wire, Tin**: C. Clifford & Son, Ltd., Birmingham.—**X-Ray Tubes, etc.**: Cuthbert Andrews, London, W.C.; Philips Lamps, Ltd., London, W.C.; Victor X-Ray Corporation, Ltd., London, W.C.

WAR OFFICE.

Acid, Sulphuric, &c.: Spencer, Chapman & Messel, Ltd., London, E.—**Balls, Spherical**: Sheldon Bush & P.S. Co., Bristol.—**Bearings, &c.**: Skefko Ball Bearing Co., Ltd., Luton.—**Belts, Waist, Buff**: R. & J. Pullman, Ltd., Godalming.—**Bodies for Six-wheeled Chassis**: Crossley Motors, Ltd., Manchester.—**Boxes for Telephone Sets**: H. W. Sullivan, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Braces**: George Aked, Halifax.—**Brushes, Brass**: C. H. Leng & Sons, Birmingham.—**Brushes, Clothes and Polishing**: Vale & Bradnack, Walsall; D. Hayward, Ltd., Bloxwich; A. Reid & Sons, Ltd., London, S.E.—**Brushes, Hair**: G. B. Kent & Sons, Ltd., London, E., and Hemel Hempstead.—**Brushes, Shaving**: Busst & Marlow, Walsall.—**Brushes, Tooth**: W. R. Tilbury & Son, London, E.—**Cable, Electric**: The Hackbridge Cable Co., Ltd., Hackbridge.—**Cable, Submarine**: Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Candles, Smoke**: Imperial Chemical Industries, Ltd., Roslin.—**Caps, Bearskin**: L. Silberston, London, E.

—**Caps, Forage**: L. Silberston, London, E.—**Caps, Comforter**: A. Yates & Co., Leicester.—**Castings, Steel**: Wm. Beardmore & Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—**Castings, Steel**: T. Firth & Sons, Ltd., Sheffield.—**Chassis, Six-wheeled**: Albion Motor Car Co., Ltd., Glasgow; Karrier Motors, Ltd., Huddersfield; J. I. Thornycroft & Co., Ltd., Basingstoke; Guy Motors, Ltd., Wolverhampton; Morris Commercial Cars, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Chassis, Motor**: Trojan, Ltd., Croydon.—**Chemical, &c., Apparatus**: Baird & Tatlock (London), Ltd., London, E.C.—**Cloth, Lasting**: W. & H. Foster, Ltd., Bradford.—**Combs, Hair**: John Dobson (Milnthorpe), Ltd., Milnthorpe, Westmoreland.—**Cooking Sets**: Mabbott & Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Cresoli**: Burt, Boulton & Hayward, Ltd., London, E.—**Decks, &c. for Pontoons**: S. E. Saunders, Ltd., East Cowes.—**Dowlas**: Lamb & Scott, Ltd., Brechin.—**Drawers, Cotton**: G. Braund, Ltd., Loughborough.—**Duck, Linen**: Richards, Ltd., Aberdeen.—**Flannelette**: J. Wilkinson (Manchester and Nelson), Ltd., Nelson; J. C. Hamer Ltd., Radcliffe.—**Fulminate of Mercury**: Imperial Chemical Industries, Ltd., Stirling.—**Generating Sets**: Blackstone & Co., Ltd., Stamford.—**Glass, Window**: Pilkington Bros., Ltd., St. Helens.—**Gloves, Worsted, Drab**: J. Spencer & Sons, Leicester; A. Yates & Co., Leicester.—**Goggles**: Wm. Stephens & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Iron, Wrought, Flat**: N. Hingley & Sons, Ltd., Netherton, Dudley.—**Knives, Carving**: J. Rodgers & Son, Ltd., Sheffield.—**Knives, Table**: Sheffield Steel Products, Ltd., Sheffield.—**Lathe, Turret**: A. Herbert, Ltd., Coventry.—**Lead, Sheet**: Locke, Blackett & Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne.—**Leather, Cloth**: G. H. Sheffield & Co. (Engineers), Ltd., Leeds.—**Linoleum, Brown**: M. Nairn & Co., Ltd., Kirkcaldy; Barry, Ostlere & Shepherd, Ltd., Kirkcaldy; Tayside Floorcloth Co., Ltd., Newburgh.—**Locomotive Spares**: R. & W. Hawthorn, Leslie & Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne.—**Lorry Tractor, Six-wheel Drive**: Scammell Lorries, Ltd., Watford.—**Machines, Automatic, 4-Spindle**: B.S.A. Tools, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Motor Alternator**: Electric Construction Co., Ltd., Wolverhampton.—**Motor Cars**: Jowett Cars, Ltd., Bradford; Austin Motor Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Motor Spares**: Lanchester Motor Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Motor Vans**: Jowett Cars, Ltd., Bradford.—**Oil, Lubricating**: Silvertown Lubricants, Ltd., London, E.; Shell-Mex, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Pads, Rubber**: Dunlop Rubber Co., Birmingham.—**Picric Acid**: A. H. Marks & Co., Ltd., Wyke, Bradford.—**Rails and Fishplates, &c.**: Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Dowlais, Glamorgan.—**Rope, Galvanised, Steel Wire**: British Ropes, Ltd., Dagenham Dock.—**Ropes, Wire, Picketing**: British Ropes, Ltd., Dagenham Dock; Wrights Ropes, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Sheets, Ground**: C. Macintosh & Co., Ltd., Manchester; Broadhurst & Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Socks, Worsted**: Johnson & Sons, Ltd., Great Yarmouth; Hall & Son, Stoke Golding; Henry Bates & Co., Ltd., South Wigston; R. N. Anderson & Co., Londonderry.—**Solder**: E. Cowles, Ltd., Hounslow.—**Spoons and Forks**: Cooper Bros. & Sons, Ltd., Sheffield.—**Stable Fittings**: Wilmer & Sons, Ltd., London, E.—**Stair Treads, &c.**: Safety Tread Syndicate, Ltd., London, E.—**Steel Sheets, Corrugated, Ridging, &c.**: Burnell & Co., Ltd., Ellesmere Port.—**Stockinette**: Nottingham Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Loughborough; J. B. Lewis & Sons, Ltd., Nottingham.—**Strappings, Leather**: S. H. & W. Hart, London, S.E.—**Tartan, Highland, Rank and File**: Sime, Sanderson & Co., Ltd., Galashiels.—**Towels, Hand, Turkish**: Barlow & Jones, Ltd., Bolton.—**Tractor, Spares**: H. G. Burford & Co. (1926), Ltd., London, W.—**Wagons and Brake Van**: Hurst, Nelson & Co., Ltd., Motherwell.—**Wall and Ceiling Board**: Venesta, Ltd., London, E.; Patent Impermeable Millboard Co., Ltd., Sunbury Common, Middlesex; Limehouse Paper Mills, Ltd., London, E.—**Webbing, Elastic**: M. Wright & Sons, Ltd., Loughborough.—**Works Services: Building Works and Services**: Aldershot, Married Officers' Quarters: W. Downson & Sons, Ltd., Bolton. Aldershot, R.E. Office and Married Quarters: W. Tanner & Sons, Aldershot. Deepcut, Additions to Reception Station: Crosby & Co., Ltd., Farnham. Edinburgh, Piershill Barracks, Dining Hall and Cookhouse: Scottish General Haulage Co., Edinburgh. Didcot, R.A.O. Depot, Renewal of Corrugated Iron Roofs to Sheds: John Lysaght, Bristol. Plymouth, Royal Citadel, Erection of Iron Building and Crane: John Lysaght, Bristol. Bovington Camp, R.A.O.D. Workshops, Heating Installation: Comyn, Ching & Co., Ltd., London, W.C. Colchester Cavalry Barracks, Re-appropriation of Stable Block to provide Garage Accommodation: A. E. Flory & Co., Colchester. Catterick Camp, Refuse Destructor: New Destructor Co., Ltd., Pershore. Catterick Camp, Repairs to Road: A. E. Hobbs, Stockton-on-Tees.

AIR MINISTRY.

Aircraft: Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Bristol.—**Aircraft Auto-Slots**: H. G. Hawker Engineering Co., Ltd., Kingston-on-Thames; S. E. Saunders, Ltd., East Cowes; Westland Aircraft Works, Yeovil.—**Aircraft Engine Installation**: Fairey Aviation Co., Ltd., Hayes, Middlesex; H. G. Hawker Engineering Co., Ltd., Kingston-on-Thames; Geo. Parnall & Co., Bristol.—**Aircraft Gun Mountings**: Fairey Aviation Co., Ltd., Hayes, Middlesex.—**Aircraft Modification**: Blackburn Aeroplane and Motor Co., Ltd., Brough, E. Yorks.—**Aircraft Modifications**: Fairey Aviation Co., Ltd., Hayes, Middlesex; Short Bros. (Rochester and Bedford), Ltd., Rochester.—**Aircraft, Repairs**: Blackburn Aeroplane and Motor Co., Ltd., Brough, E. Yorks.; G. Parnall & Co., Bristol.—**Aircraft, Spares**: Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Bristol; Fairey Aviation Co., Ltd., Hayes, Middlesex; Vickers (Aviation), Ltd., Weybridge; Westland Aircraft Works, Yeovil.—**Airscrews**: Airscrew Co., Ltd., Weybridge.—**Beach Trolley, Aircraft**: Blackburn Aeroplane and Motor Co., Ltd., Brough, E. Yorks.—**Bomb Sights**: Elliott Bros. (London), Ltd., London, S.W.—**Bombsights, Automatic**: Vickers Armstrongs, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Buildings and Works Services**: Alternator Sets (Cranwell): Electric Construction Co., Ltd., Bushbury, Wolverhampton. Concrete Reservoir (Boscombe Down): Carkeek & Sons,

Ltd., Redruth, Cornwall. Heating Installation (Boscombe Down, Gosport, and Cranwell): Brightside Foundry and Engineering Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Brushes, Sweeping**: G. Tyrie, London, E.—**Cable**: London Electric Wire Co. and Smiths, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Coats, Great**: H. Lotery & Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Cord, Kite**: W. Barbour & Sons, Ltd., Hilden, Lisleburn, Ulster.—**Crossley Six-Wheeler Chassis**: Crossley Motors, Ltd., Gorton, Manchester.—**"D" Cotton Fabric**: Perseverance Mills Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Dopes**: British Celanese, Ltd., London, W.—**Engines, Aircraft**: D. Napier & Son, Ltd., London, W.—**Engines, Aircraft, Development Test on**: Armstrong Siddeley Motors, Ltd., Coventry.—**Engines, Aircraft, Fitting Pistons, etc.**: D. Napier & Son, Ltd., London, W.—**Engines, Aircraft, Overhaul and Modifications**: Rolls Royce, Ltd., Derby.—**Engines, Aircraft, Repairs**: Armstrong Siddeley Motors, Ltd., Coventry; Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Bristol; D. Napier & Son, Ltd., London, W.—**Engines, Aircraft, Research running**: Ricardo & Co. Engineers (1927), Ltd., Old Shoreham, Sussex.—**Engines, Aircraft, Spares**: Armstrong Siddeley Motors, Ltd., Coventry; D. Napier & Son, Ltd., London, W.—**Fabricated Reinforcement for Concrete**: British Reinforced Concrete Engineering Co., Ltd., Stafford.—**Felt, Grey**: Mitchells, Ashworth, Stansfield & Co. (Stansfield & Co. Branch), Waterfoot, Lancs.—**Goldbeaters Skins**: Puckeridge & Nephew, Ltd., London, E.—**Parachutes**: Irving Air Chute of Great Britain, Ltd., Letchworth, Herts.—**Parachute Spares**: Irving Air Chute Co. of Great Britain, Ltd., Letchworth, Herts.—**Pumps, Tyre**: British Goodrich Rubber Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Receivers**: C. A. Carter & Co., London, N.—**Rheostats**: C. A. Carter & Co., London, N.—**Sozol, Rust Preventative**: Sozol (1924), Ltd., London, E.C.—**Signalling Lamps**: Aldis Bros., Sparkhill, Birmingham.—**Telescopic Sights**: Aldis Bros., Sparkhill, Birmingham.—**Thermometers**: British Instrument Co., Ltd., London, N.W.—**Tool Boxes**: Hobbies, Ltd., Dereham, Norfolk.—**Torpedoes, Dummy**: Blackburn Aeroplane and Motor Co., Ltd., Brough, E. Yorks.—**Trestles, Tail**: Yeadon Admitt & Co., Ltd., Bristol.—**Tyres and Tubes**: F. L. Rapson, London, W.—**Wheels and Tyres, Aero.**: Palmer Tyre Ltd., London, E.C.—**Wire Rope, Special**: British Ropes, Ltd. (Bullivant & Co., Ltd.), London, W.—**Woodworking Machinery**: A. Ransome & Co., Ltd., Newark-on-Trent.

H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE.

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