

# THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE

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

### EMPLOYMENT.

EMPLOYMENT during February was adversely affected by the severe weather which set in towards the middle of the month and continued until the end of the first week in March. During the first half of February employment steadily improved, but in the second half there was a heavy increase in the numbers unemployed in the building trade, public works contracting, brick, tile, cement and artificial stone manufacture, canal, river, dock and harbour service, and all branches of the mining group of industries, other than coal mining.

On the other hand, there was an improvement throughout the month in a large number of industries not affected by the weather.

In coal mining there was a substantial decrease both in the number of persons wholly unemployed and in the numbers temporarily stopped. The other principal industries in which employment improved included pottery, pig-iron manufacture, general and marine engineering, shipbuilding and shiprepairing, the textile trades other than cotton and carpet manufacture, the clothing trades, boot and shoe manufacture, and shipping service.

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 12·2 at 25th February, 1929, as compared with 12·3 at 21st January, 1929, and 10·4 at 20th February, 1928. The percentage wholly unemployed at 25th February, 1929, was 9·8, the same percentage as at 21st January, 1929; while the percentage temporarily stopped was 2·4, as compared with 2·5. The total number of applicants for employment registered at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland at 25th February, 1929, was approximately 1,430,000, of whom 1,137,000 were men and 218,000 were women, the remainder being boys and girls. At 28th January, 1929, it was 1,434,000, of whom 1,113,000 were men and 236,000 were women; and at 27th February, 1928, it was 1,139,000, of whom 911,000 were men and 158,000 were women.

### WAGES.

In the industries for which statistics are regularly compiled by the Department, the changes in rates of wages reported to have come into operation during February resulted in a reduction of about £6,000 in the weekly full-time wages of 100,000 workpeople, and in an increase of £1,615 in those of 29,000 workpeople.

The reductions occurred mainly in the metal group of industries. Iron puddlers and iron and steel millmen in the Midlands had the percentage addition payable on their base rates reduced by the equivalent of about 2 per cent. on current rates. Men employed in steel melting shops, with the exception of the lower-paid

men, sustained reductions of about 1 or 1½ per cent. on current rates in various districts in England and Scotland, and a reduction equal to about 1 per cent. on the current wages was also applied in the case of steel millmen (except the lower-paid men) in the North of England and Scotland. There were also reductions 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 the case of women.

The principal bodies of workpeople whose wages were increased included men employed by electrical contractors at various towns in England and Wales, building trade operatives at certain towns in England, and iron miners and blastfurnace workers in Lincolnshire.

During the first two months of 1929 the changes reported to the Department in the industries for which statistics have been compiled have resulted in net increases of £3,700 in the weekly full-time wages of 138,000 workpeople, and net reductions of £11,550 in those of 185,000 workpeople. In the corresponding period of 1928 there were net increases of £11,900 in the weekly full-time wages of 205,000 workpeople, and net reductions of £62,600 in those of 768,000 workpeople.

### COST OF LIVING.

At 1st March the average level of retail prices of all the commodities taken into account in the statistics compiled by the Ministry of Labour (including food, rent, clothing, fuel and light, and miscellaneous items) was approximately 66 per cent. above that of July, 1914, as compared with 65 per cent. a month ago and 64 per cent. a year ago. For food alone the corresponding figures were 57, 56, and 55. The increases at 1st March, which are unusual at this season of the year, were largely attributable to the effects of the severe weather.

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 articles included are combined in proportions corresponding with the relative importance of those items in pre-war working-class family expenditure.

### TRADE DISPUTES.

The number of trade disputes involving stoppages of work, reported to the Department as beginning in February, was 15. In addition, 9 disputes which began before February were still in progress at the beginning of the month. The number of workpeople involved in all disputes in February (including workpeople thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, but not themselves parties to the disputes) was about 9,100, and the aggregate duration of all disputes during February was about 78,000 working days. These figures compare with totals of 9,700 workpeople involved and 97,000 working days lost in the previous month, and with 13,200 workpeople involved and 107,000 days lost in February, 1928.



## THE INDUSTRIAL TRANSFERENCE SCHEME.

IN the MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE for August, 1928, a summary was published of the Report of the Industrial Transference Board (Cmd. 3156). The Report was based on three main propositions: that in the coal industry and some of the heavy industries there were large numbers of workpeople, probably 200,000 in all, who could not expect in the near future to regain regular employment in their own industry and home district although a large proportion were of high employment value; that if they were to gain a livelihood they must be assisted to transfer to other industries and other districts; and that the general working of the employment market made transfer practicable, given the willingness of the men to move and the co-operation of employers in other more fortunate districts.

The principles of the Report were accepted by the Government, and at the end of August the Prime Minister issued an appeal to all employers asking for their co-operation. Between the issue of this appeal and the 25th February about 14,000 workpeople from the depressed areas, chiefly men and boys, had been transferred to work in other areas and other industries, through the Employment Exchanges, and in addition a large number of others had transferred themselves; the rate of transfer has been steadily maintained during a season of declining employment, and may be expected to rise during the next six months when employment experiences its normal seasonal improvement.

The regulation and direction of the transfer of labour on a large scale, under modern industrial conditions, calls for careful procedure and effective machinery. The procedure required is the gradual and careful dispersal of an "industrial surplus" concentrated in a few areas, and containing workpeople of all ages and all degrees of adaptability and experience. The machinery at disposal is the national system of Employment Exchanges linked through seven Divisional Offices and in contact with demands for labour throughout the country.

The tendency towards a new geographic distribution of industry and of industrial population has been illustrated in the MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE of November, 1928, where the statistics of persons insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts show that between the years 1923 and 1928 the insured population of the South and Midlands had increased by 10.31 per cent., whereas the North and Wales only showed an increase of 2.59 per cent. Nor has this "drift" of population to the South and Midlands produced an increase of unemployment in those districts; on the contrary, industrial expansion has kept pace with the expanding numbers of workpeople, and unemployment has fallen. In Greater London during the five years the insured population has increased by nearly 10.0 per cent., while unemployment has fallen from 9.7 per cent. to 5.2 per cent. There have been similar movements in a number of other towns, such as Coventry, Bedford, and Oxford.

This transfer has not in the past been the result of any deliberate organisation. There is always taking place a natural transfer of working population to the relatively prosperous areas and industries which attract to themselves workpeople from places and industries less favourably placed. Normally this attraction extends outwards slowly, working through the immediate neighbourhood and gradually to wider areas, just as in the past new coal pits opening in agricultural areas have drawn away labour from the surrounding farms and gradually extended the field of recruitment.

The main purpose of the organised Transference Scheme is to bring within the field of attraction of the South and Midlands the "surplus workpeople" of the Northern and South Wales coalfields, through the Employment Exchange machinery.

This attempt to regulate and direct transfer, instead of allowing it to proceed by a slow progress of a southwards "drift," also pays attention to the local position of unemployment. While it does not follow that, if the Employment Exchange refrains from bringing in an unemployed miner from Durham, a vacancy will be filled from the local unemployed, it is obvious that nothing would be gained by attempting to flood any local employment market with transferred labour. This has not been the policy. There are 120,000 labour engagements a week, and in six months the Exchanges have transferred 14,000 workpeople from depressed areas. In every area the proportion of vacancies filled is, and must be, heavily in favour of the local workpeople as against transferred labour. It is the general position of unemployment in the South and Midlands as compared with the depressed areas that has given direction to the policy.

It is also clear that the methods of helping transfer must have a wide range, and the process must take time. From the beginning the Ministry have recognised that each class of the unemployed workpeople in these areas needs its own treatment.

The present methods of assisting transfer are as stated below:—

**Grants to Married Men.**—In January of this year a scheme was introduced whereby financial assistance is afforded, at the discretion of the Ministry of Labour, to genuinely unemployed married men (or widowers) who may wish to remove their households permanently from the depressed mining areas to approved employment in another area which has been found for them by an Employment Exchange or which they have found for themselves. Under the scheme the Ministry of Labour pay both (a) a free grant towards lodging allowance and incidental expenses of removal, and (b) the reasonable costs of the removal of the family and household effects to the place where regular work and accommodation have been obtained.

By the terms of the first grant, a man whose wife is living with him, or who has one dependant in respect of whom dependant's benefit would be payable under the Unemployment Insurance Acts, can obtain £6 in all, and £1 for every such additional dependant, up to a limit of £12 in all. If the dependants accompany the workman to the new area, the grant is paid in a lump sum as soon as the workman takes up his employment, but if he travels before his family it is paid as lodging allowance at a rate not exceeding 12s. per week while he seeks accommodation for his family, the balance being paid over in a lump sum immediately upon the removal of the household effects. The lodging allowance is not paid for more than eight weeks unless the applicant satisfies the Ministry of Labour that he has made every reasonable effort to find accommodation for his family and that he has expectation of finding such accommodation within a further four weeks. In no circumstances is the allowance continued for more than a further four weeks, i.e., twelve weeks in all.

Under the terms of the second grant the travelling expenses of the family and the reasonable costs of removal of household effects may be paid subject to the approval of the Ministry of Labour. The removal must normally take place within twelve weeks for the grant to be payable. The railway fare of the workman himself is advanced by way of loan, repayable by instalments under the ordinary procedure.

In connection with this scheme, in the London Area, the Ministry has enlisted the help of the National Council of Social Service and other voluntary organisations, who have undertaken to get into personal touch with the men transferred to help them to find accommodation for their families within the period allowed, and generally to assist in settling families in the new environment.

**Loans to Married Men.**—In certain other depressed areas, where mining is not the predominant local industry, married men who take up employment at a distance from their homes may obtain financial assistance by way of loan. This takes the form of: (1) an advance to meet personal expenses while awaiting the first payment of wages; (2) an advance for a limited period (not exceeding 4 weeks) towards meeting the cost of maintaining two households while the workman is looking for accommodation for his family; and (3) an advance to meet the cost of removal of his dependants and household effects.

**Resettlement of Married Men in Forest Holdings.**—A limited number of forest holdings are set aside for married miners with families in the depressed mining areas, and financial assistance is available to enable families to remove to and to equip their holdings. This assistance in the past has been by way of loan, but in future assistance will be available by way of free grant on the lines of the scheme for married men outlined above. About 50 families had been settled in holdings by the middle of February, 1929.

**Single Men.**—All single men from the depressed areas who, independently or through the agency of the Employment Exchanges, take up employment at a distance from their homes, may obtain an advance of fare to the places where work has been found. In addition they may receive, by way of loan, a limited sum of money to meet their immediate personal needs during the period between their arrival at their new place of employment and the first payment of wages.

**Juveniles.**—The depressed mining areas are now covered by a network of Juvenile Unemployment Centres, so that almost every unemployed boy in these areas between 14 and 18 can travel daily to a centre. Travelling expenses are paid. The object of the centres generally is to keep boys and girls fit and interested, and to maintain and improve their general "employability" while they are out of work, and in these centres a special practical bias is given to the course, with a view to providing the boys with a general handiwork training which will be of use to them when they take up work in other areas. These centres are linked up with Juvenile Sections of the Employment Exchanges in the other more prosperous parts of the country, and constant efforts are made through the machinery of the Ministry of Labour and Local Education Authorities concerned, assisted by voluntary organisations, to find work in the more prosperous areas.

Boys selected for transfer are given free travelling facilities to their new place of employment, out of Government funds. Lodgings are found for them and, through the Juvenile Advisory Committees attached to the Ministry of Labour, arrangements are made to maintain contact with them in their new environment. Every effort is made to place the boys in employment at wages which are sufficient for maintenance. In the case, however, of some of the more promising types of openings, e.g., apprenticeship, the normal wages during the first year or two are insufficient to meet the cost of maintaining the boy in the new area. In May, 1928, the Ministry of Labour was empowered by the trustees of the Lord Mayor's Fund to make up part of the difference between wages and cost of maintenance, provided that the employer himself undertook also to contribute part of the difference. These efforts have so far been directed primarily to moving boys between the ages of 16 and 18.

**Training of Men.**—Training for employment in this country is carried out mainly in what are known as non-residential centres. Five of these centres have been established, namely at Birmingham (opened October, 1925); Wallsend (opened January, 1926); Dudley (opened January, 1928); Bristol (opened April, 1928); and Glasgow (opened October, 1928). An additional centre will shortly be established in London, and other centres are under consideration. A limited number of places for handymen for employment in this country is also provided at the overseas centres.



At present there is accommodation for over 1,900 men at a time and the output of men from the centres is nearly 5,000 per annum. With the additional accommodation to be provided, the total capacity of the centres will be about 2,500 and their total annual output over 6,000. Approximately 90 per cent. of the places are reserved for men from the depressed areas.

This section of the training scheme is limited to young unemployed men between the ages of 18 and 32 (35 in the case of ex-Service men). Arrangements have recently been made to admit married men from the depressed areas.

While in training, men attending a non-residential centre receive, in addition to their unemployment benefit, a free midday meal on weekdays and a weekly allowance of 2s. 6d. Men from a distance have lodgings found for them near the centre and receive an extra allowance which, added to their benefit, is calculated to leave them about 5s. a week to meet incidental expenses after paying for their lodgings. Married men living in lodgings while in training similarly receive an extra allowance to enable them to send money home for the maintenance of their families.

The course is one of six months. It is, of course, not possible to turn out a skilled craftsman in that time. What is aimed at is to accustom the men to workshop practice and discipline, and to regular hours, and, by improving their general employability, to render them more readily adaptable to work under industrial conditions.

The trades in which men have been placed after training include building and other works of construction, furniture making and other woodworking trades, engineering and allied trades, including motor and cycle repair, electrical trades, electroplating, road construction, road transport, railway work, and a number of miscellaneous occupations.

*Training of Women and Girls.*—The Central Committee on Women's Training and Employment, assisted by a grant from the Ministry of Labour, have organised a number of centres in the depressed mining areas so as to provide facilities for training in domestic work some 1,000 women and girls in these areas in the course of the year April, 1928 to 1929.

The course normally lasts three months, but in the case of younger girls may, if necessary, be extended to four months. Girls and women between 16 and 35 years of age for whom no employment is available are eligible. The girls are taught the rudiments of general housework, needlework, cookery and laundry, and personal hygiene. A maintenance allowance of 20s., 15s. or 10s. a week is paid, according to the age of the trainee. From this allowance a deduction of from 2s. to 3s. weekly is made to meet the cost of materials, which are made into a simple outfit during the course, and become the property of the trainees.

In a task of such magnitude the Ministry of Labour has naturally been obliged to proceed experimentally, and the range of experiments will have to be increased. But the first six months of the policy has produced substantial results, despite the seasonal decline of employment; the proportion of men transferred who have returned to the depressed areas is small, and the following six months should show a large increase in the number of men to whom the scheme has given a new chance of gaining a livelihood.

## UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACTS: EXTENSION OF TRANSITIONAL PERIOD.

THE Unemployment Insurance Act, 1927, provides that, after a transitional period, it will be a condition for the receipt of unemployment benefit that at least 30 contributions (or, in the case of disabled ex-service men, 10 contributions) have been paid in the two years preceding the date of the applicant's claim for benefit. During the transitional period a greatly reduced contributory condition is in force.

In reply to a question in the House of Commons on 7th March, asking whether the Government had come to any decision as to the extension of the transitional period, which would otherwise have come to an end during the year beginning on 19th April next, the Minister of Labour made the following statement:—

"When the Unemployment Insurance Bill was under discussion in 1927 I pointed out that, if the expectations then current as to the improvement in employment in the depressed areas were not realised by 1929, when the 30 contributions qualification would be due to come into force, it would be possible to deal with whatever situation might then be found to exist. I have had the position carefully under review in recent weeks, and although there has been considerable improvement in these areas—an improvement which I have every hope will continue—the change has come too late to affect materially the circumstances of a number of claimants to benefit. It has therefore been decided to introduce a Bill immediately to extend the transitional period for another year."

In accordance with this decision, a Bill, entitled the Unemployment Insurance (Transitional Provisions Amendment) Bill, was introduced in the House of Commons on 13th March.\*

\* House of Commons Bill 74. H.M. Stationery Office; price 1d. net.

## UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE BENEFIT: 30 CONTRIBUTIONS QUALIFICATION.

### RESULTS OF SAMPLE INQUIRY.

IN reply to a question in the House of Commons on 12th March, the Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Labour stated that a sample analysis was made on 28th January, 1929, of the persons aged 18 years and over, numbering 1,092,000 in all, with claims authorised for benefit at that date. From this analysis it is estimated that the number of such persons who had paid less than 30 contributions in the two years preceding that date was about 120,000. This represents approximately the number who would have been disqualified by the 30-contribution rule if it had been fully in operation when the analysis was made. As regards making an estimate for the future, however, there are so many uncertain factors that no precise figure can be given. Moreover, under the existing law, the disqualifications under the 30-contribution rule would not take place all at once, but would be spread over the 12 months beginning on 19th April next.

The following Tables give detailed results of the sample analysis for seven administrative divisions of Great Britain and for certain industries with large numbers of unemployed. The figures relate to insured persons of ages 18 to 64 inclusive.

#### ANALYSIS BY DIVISIONS.

Division.	Total number of claims authorised for benefit current on 28th January, 1929.		Estimated number of cases in which less than 30 contributions had been paid in the previous two years.	
	Men.	Women.	Men.	Women.
London & South Eastern	136,300	19,380	4,980	390
South Western ...	56,100	6,870	3,460	180
Midlands ...	120,940	34,510	10,690	1,160
North Eastern ...	225,140	33,420	41,570	1,250
North Western ...	170,520	55,940	14,560	3,270
Scotland ...	108,030	17,460	10,410	760
Wales ...	103,270	4,040	25,980	160
Total: Great Britain ...	920,300	171,620	111,650	7,170

#### ANALYSIS BY INDUSTRY.

##### Men.

Industry.	Total number of claims authorised for benefit current on 28th January, 1929.	Estimated number of cases in which less than 30 contributions had been paid in the previous two years.
Coal mining ...	171,290	46,980
Pottery ...	4,700	310
Pig iron ...	2,980	380
Steel melting and iron puddling furnaces, iron and steel rolling mills and forges ...	28,330	3,200
General engineering ...	45,620	4,920
Marine engineering ...	4,880	540
Construction and repair of motor vehicles, cycles and aircraft	12,130	800
Shipbuilding and ship repairing	37,860	4,230
Cotton ...	17,700	1,440
Woollen and worsted ...	13,020	500
Boot and shoe manufacture ...	11,940	450
Building ...	132,340	8,210
Public works contracting ...	33,450	5,080
Canal, river, dock and harbour service ...	47,760	1,430
All other industries ...	356,300	33,180
Total: all industries ...	920,300	111,650

##### Women.

Pottery ...	5,780	140
Cotton ...	33,320	1,970
Woollen and worsted ...	16,410	420
Other textile trades ...	19,250	660
Clothing trades ...	19,870	320
Boot and shoe manufacture ...	5,450	90
Distributive ...	20,250	940
All other industries ...	51,290	2,630
Total: all industries ...	171,620	7,170

## GRANTS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT RELIEF SCHEMES.

IN answer to a question in the House of Commons on 28th February the Minister of Labour gave the following figures showing the amount of grants made out of Government Funds to municipal and other public bodies in connection with schemes for the relief of unemployment during 1926-27 and 1927-28:—

	1926-27.	1927-28.
	£	£
Unemployment Grants Committee ...	2,389,000	2,699,000
Ministry of Transport (Grants from the Road Fund) ...	4,873,000	4,276,000
Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries and Board of Agriculture, Scotland (land drainage, etc.) ...	19,600	—
Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries (land settlement) ...	964,000	818,000



## FINAL REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON INDUSTRY AND TRADE.

THE six previous publications of the Committee on Industry and Trade (the "Balfour Committee") have been described in previous issues of this GAZETTE.\* These volumes did not include definite recommendations. The Committee, who were appointed by the Prime Minister in July 1924, have now issued their final Report (Cmd. 3282, price 5s. 6d.). This embodies the Committee's findings, recommendations, and conclusions upon a large number of the wide range of topics included within the terms of reference. These terms of reference were to "enquire into the conditions and prospects of British industry and commerce with special reference to the export trade, and to make recommendations in regard thereto."

Here it is only possible, for reasons of space in dealing with a Report of 338 pages covering so wide a field, to give a very brief indication of the Committee's views, and to do this only in regard to those matters more closely related to the subject-matter of this GAZETTE. The section in which most of such matters are treated is one entitled "Conditions of Employment in relation to Competitive Power," which comprises 68 pages.

As to wages, the Committee state that the central wages problem of the present time is "to combine the maintenance of a reasonable standard of weekly earnings with a maximum of output obtainable at a given wages cost," and give their opinion that on the whole the existing voluntary methods of settlement of wages questions are vastly preferable to any uniform system imposed by law. In particular, they found no substantial support for any proposal for compulsory arbitration. The Report expresses hopes that the leaders on both sides in the course of negotiations will succeed in satisfactorily solving the difficulties regarding the relation between wages in different industries, the relation between wages in "sheltered" and "exposed" trades, and the relation between wages in skilled and unskilled occupations.

Regarding methods of remuneration, the Committee associate the solution of the central wages problem with the principle of payment by results, and express the hope that no effort will be spared to overcome difficulties which stand in the way. They record with satisfaction the amount of success which has been achieved by profit-sharing and co-partnership, but express the opinion that such schemes will in the future, as in the past, be most successful in "sheltered" industries or public utility undertakings. They state that they see grave difficulty in attempting to fit the system of family allowances into the present framework of collective bargaining, but make the suggestion that, if a general desire for some such provision should become manifest, it might be met by a scheme of compulsory insurance. While expressing approval of the use of the cost-of-living index figure for determining wages in times of fluctuating prices, they look forward to the time when stability will render its use unnecessary.

Turning to hours of labour in Great Britain, the Committee record their opinion that most employers regard the post-war reductions as a *fait accompli*, and that any general proposal to lengthen the normal working day would meet with the most strenuous resistance from the Trade Unions. The Report emphasises, however, the vital importance of elasticity.

On the subject of the international regulation of hours, the Committee examine the position in the light of the references to maximum hours and the 48-hour week in the Peace Treaties, and discuss the failure of the Washington Convention to meet with general acceptance. Having reviewed their evidence, they express the opinion that the weight of argument is in favour of adherence to a revised Convention, but against unconditional ratification of the present instrument. The Committee feel that it is impossible to recommend either the unconditional ratification of the Washington Convention or the abandonment of any attempt to reach a more satisfactory international agreement. Even those members who are most sceptical of satisfactory revision do not dissent from the view that the attempt ought to be made. The Report then suggests amendments required in a revised Convention; and also suggests, failing revision, the possibility of an agreement to exchange and publish full information as to actual hours.

Regarding the machinery of collective bargaining, the Committee consider the essentials to be that the voluntary negotiating machinery shall cover the whole field of industry, shall work smoothly and effectively, and shall make all possible provision for avoiding stoppages and ending such stoppages as occur. As to the limits of State action, the Committee record that their evidence was practically unanimously opposed to the prohibition by the State of stoppages, and express agreement with that view. Further, the Committee do not advise in this country similar legislation to the Canadian Industrial Disputes Act. Finally, the Committee state that their evidence showed that in most industries the relations between employers and employed are close and friendly, and that there was a striking absence of any general demand for a change in the existing machinery for industrial negotiation.

The Committee consider it desirable that some form of Works Committee should be established as a normal part of the administration of great industrial undertakings, and make a number of suggestions as to the essentials for the successful conduct of such Committees. They do not favour the proposal that the establishment of Works Committees should be made universal by law.

As to the proposal for compulsory powers for Joint Industrial Councils, the Committee express the opinion that the proposal

embodied in the Joint Industrial Councils Bill of 1924 is open to grave objection on several grounds. The Committee feel, however, that most of these objections would cease to apply if the compulsory powers were strictly limited to the fixing of minimum rates for the lowest paid grade of persons in an industry, in cases where such rates are exceptionally low in the sense of the Trade Boards Act, 1909.

The Committee examine the proposal for the establishment of a National Industrial Council, and express doubt whether there is sufficient ground for the immediate creation of a Council with a definite organisation and regular meetings. They do not think, however, that the same doubts apply to the convening at regular intervals of a national conference representing organisations of employers and employed. Such a conference, they think, would accomplish most of the valuable results that could fairly be expected from a National Industrial Council without incurring the risk of failure.

Regarding insurance against unemployment, the Committee point out the necessity for avoiding adverse effects on industrial mobility, and discuss the provisions of the latest Unemployment Insurance Act from this angle. They also discuss the effects of the Unemployment Insurance scheme on the will to work, and express the view that the mass of unemployment in this country is not the result of measures taken for mitigating the hardships of unemployment. They express the opinion that the Unemployment Insurance scheme represents one of the greatest advances in social amelioration during the past generation, and that it has amply justified its establishment.

The Committee then discuss the provision of work for the unemployed, and state that the only real cure for unemployment is the expansion of production and trade. They draw attention to the limited possibilities of the artificial creation of work, and they reach the conclusion that Lord Melchett's scheme for subsidising employment out of the Unemployment Fund is unsound. Turning to the question of under-employment, the Committee emphasise the seriousness of the problem of casual labour, especially in the docks, and say that, if the efforts being made within the industry are insufficient to reach a solution, the possibility of some form of public action, e.g., giving compulsory power to a voluntary agreement or making special arrangements under the Unemployment Insurance Act, should be examined.

The Committee point out that the term "welfare" is somewhat loosely applied, and that some confusion has been caused by attempting comparisons between this country and others without realising that the expression has been used of "welfare" work in certain other countries to cover provision for a large range of benefits which British workpeople enjoy by statutory enactment, e.g., under the Factories, Insurance, Workmen's Compensation, Pensions, and other codes of law. The Committee make suggestions regarding the essentials for success in welfare schemes, and in the application of industrial fatigue research and industrial psychology.

The Committee discuss the relations between the standard of living and wages, and express the hope that carefully conducted researches into the movement of the standard will be greatly extended and periodically repeated. Meantime, they say, the limited results already obtained confirm the conclusion to be drawn from the statistics of the movements of real wages that, while there has been no marked upward or downward change in the general level of the standard of living since the immediate pre-war period, there has been a very appreciable improvement in the standard of life of the less highly paid sections of workers.

There are other sections of the Report which deal with matters relating to the subject-matter of this GAZETTE. For instance, in a section dealing with "Education as a Factor in Efficiency," the Committee make the tentative suggestion that the period of compulsory school attendance should be extended by one term in each of the three next years following the earliest date which financial and administrative conditions permit, subject to the condition that during the last term of school life, as thus extended, a child may be exempted from attendance on obtaining a situation notified through the local machinery for juvenile employment or possibly in accordance with the Working Certificates scheme recommended by the Malcolm Committee. Again, in a section dealing with "Official Statistics," the Committee, having recommended a Census of Production every five years, and having noted with satisfaction that steps have been taken by the Board of Trade to publish interim indices to fill the gap between censuses, recommend that the Ministry of Labour should at least once in every five years conduct a voluntary census of wage rates and earnings, and should publish at suitable intervals a series of wage index numbers to bridge the gap. The Committee also recommend an annual return of statistics of profits to be published by the Inland Revenue Department. Dealing with the problem of industrial mobility, the Committee commend the influence of the Employment Exchanges, and draw attention to the grave influence of "demarcation" difficulties, to which, they consider, every effort should be made to put an end. As to the social services, the Committee think that their burden on costs is relatively small, and that their indirect effect on industrial efficiency and mobility are much more important. Nevertheless, the Committee consider there is room for continual vigilance to ensure the maximum economy.

Among the important subjects dealt with by the Committee in other sections of their Report are the fundamental conditions dominating the existing economic situation of Great Britain; the means of access to foreign and to empire markets; access to materials, capital, transport, and mechanical power; marketing organisation;

\* See the issues of July 1925, April 1926, February 1927, and April, May and June, 1928.



industrial structure and combination; standardisation; scientific research; and public charges in relation to competitive power. In a further section, the Committee deal at length with the subject of British customs policy.

In the "Conclusion" the Committee set forth and emphasise some of the main lessons arising from the separate preceding sections. Briefly, the Committee think that the first step towards putting British industries in a position to compete successfully in overseas markets is to subject their organisation and equipment to a thorough process of reconditioning. In order to do this there must be both an active will to reorganise and also the power to reorganise.

The Report is signed by fifteen out of the seventeen members. Seven members, however, including five of those who have also signed the Report, have signed a Memorandum appended to it in which they express the view that the Report is inadequate to the serious situation of the country, and indicate lines on which they think further action should be taken. In particular, they suggest the establishment of two new bodies, a National Economic Committee, whose function should be to know the facts and to draw up plans for industrial reorganisation, and a National Employment and Development Board, whose function would be to see that these plans were actually carried through to the public interest.

An Index of 13 pages is included, and full and numerous contents tables have been inserted to facilitate the study of the Report.

## MINERS' WELFARE FUND AND NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME.

THE Mines Department have issued the seventh Report of the Miners' Welfare Committee, covering the year ended 31st December, 1928; together with the second Report of the selection committee appointed to administer the Miners' Welfare National Scholarship Scheme, covering the period from November, 1927, to October, 1928.\*

The sum paid into the Fund in 1928 from the levy on output was £973,259; the total sum paid out during the year was £837,176. The receipts from the welfare levy on royalties imposed by the Mining Industry Act, 1926, amounted to £161,000; this levy, supplemented by contributions from the general fund, is devoted to pithead baths. Including interest from the Fund as a whole, the total of the baths fund at the end of 1928 was £602,918, from which £208,476 had been allocated for approved schemes.

The total receipts from contributions on "output levy" account—i.e., from the proceeds of the penny a ton levy on output—from the initiation of the fund in 1920 to 31st December, 1928, were £6,920,882; to which must be added interest to the amount of £579,000, making a total of £7,499,882. Four-fifths of this (£5,840,613) is earmarked for the respective districts in which the money is raised; the remaining fifth forms the General Fund, used for purposes of education and research of value to the industry generally.

The following Table shows the allocation of the *district funds* from the inception of the scheme up to 31st December, 1928:—

Description.	Total Number of Schemes.	Total Allocated.
<i>Recreation :—</i>		£
†Indoor.—Institutes, halls, clubs, libraries (including small grants for the purchase of books), swimming baths, etc. ...	563	1,748,986
†Outdoor.—Recreation and sports grounds, playing fields, swimming pools, colliery bands, etc. ...	497	1,361,990
<i>Pit Welfare :—</i>		
Cycle sheds, canteens, drying rooms, and shelters at the pitheads ...	15	11,929
Pithead baths ...	16	138,835
<i>Health :—</i>		
Hospitals (structural additions, equipment, endowment of existing public institutions, etc.)	44	157,770
Convalescent schemes (new institutions for the use of miners only, and funds for the purchase of admission tickets, the provision of surgical appliances, the special treatment of serious accidents, etc.) ...	26	1,521,199
District nursing services ...	23	33,866
Ambulance services ...	52	61,714
<i>Education :—</i>		
Lectures, scholarships, establishment and equipment of centres for junior technical instruction, etc. ...	42	52,226
<i>Expenses of administration</i> ...	—	52,966
Totals ...	1,278	5,141,481

The amount credited during the year to the *General Fund* (devoted mainly to education and research) was £194,652, of which £31,400 was transferred to the pithead baths fund. The total allocations from the Fund during the year amounted to £177,419, of which £54,304 was for research, £107,338 for education, and £15,777 for administrative expenses and other miscellaneous services. The number of applications for miners' welfare scholarships for award in 1928 was 625, of which 213 were from working miners and 412 from the children of miners; eleven scholarships were awarded, one of these being for post-graduate work.

## ADMINISTRATION OF NON-CONTRIBUTORY OLD AGE PENSIONS IN NORTHERN IRELAND.

THE statutory conditions for the receipt of non-contributory Old Age Pensions in Northern Ireland, the rates of pension payable, and the causes which disqualify a person for receiving a pension are identical with those in force in Great Britain; but certain changes in the method of administering the service have recently been introduced.

In order to explain the circumstances which led up to these changes it is necessary to go back to 1921, when the provisions of the Government of Ireland Act, 1920, began to operate in Northern Ireland. At that time the outdoor investigation of claims for pensions was carried out by officers (Pension Officers) of the Imperial Customs and Excise Department; Local Pension Committees were the authorities for determining claims, and the Local Government Board for Ireland was the authority for deciding the appeals of claimants or of Pension Officers against decisions given by Local Pension Committees.

Under the Orders in Council transferring non-reserved services to the control of the Government of Northern Ireland the responsibility for the administration of old age pensions in Northern Ireland was, as from 1st December, 1921, vested in the Ministry of Finance. The Local Pension Committee machinery was left untouched, and the appellate functions of the Local Government Board for Ireland became vested in the Ministry of Home Affairs. As the Ministry of Finance had no local staff to investigate claims, an arrangement was made with the Imperial Customs and Excise Department whereby officers of that Department continued to carry out the investigation of claims for pensions as agents for the Ministry of Finance. The actual cost of this part of the administration was paid over each year to the Customs and Excise Department. This was the position until April, 1928.

In 1925 the Widows', Orphans' and Old Age Contributory Pensions Act was passed by the Imperial Parliament. A similar Act was passed by the Parliament of Northern Ireland, and as the Ministry of Labour was the Department in Northern Ireland already responsible for the administration of the National Health Insurance Scheme, with which the Contributory Pensions Scheme is interlocked, that Ministry was made responsible for the administration of contributory pensions. Claims for these pensions are handled in the first instance by officers of the local Employment Exchanges, who act as investigating officers, and submit the claims with their observations and recommendations to the Headquarters of the Ministry of Labour. The initial decision on a claim for a contributory pension lies with the Ministry, the claimant having the right to appeal to an Umpire appointed by the Governor of Northern Ireland.

When the Contributory Pensions Scheme came into operation on 4th January, 1926, there were, in addition to local Pensions Committees, four Government Departments dealing with the administration of pensions in Northern Ireland, viz.:—(1) *Ministry of Finance* (General administration of non-contributory old age pensions); (2) *Imperial Customs and Excise Department* (Outdoor investigations of claims for non-contributory old age pensions); (3) *Ministry of Home Affairs* (Appeals in connection with non-contributory old age pensions); (4) *Ministry of Labour* (General administration of contributory pensions).

Careful examination of the functions of these different Departments made it clear that considerable economies in staff, travelling and overhead charges could be secured if the Employment Exchange staff which dealt with the investigation of claims for contributory old age pensions were also made responsible for the investigation of claims for non-contributory old age pensions, and further, that additional economies could be effected if the whole machinery for the administration of contributory and non-contributory old age pensions were centred in one Department. To accomplish this object the Old Age Pensions (Administration) Act (Northern Ireland), 1927, was passed by the Parliament of Northern Ireland.

Since 2nd April, 1928, the administration of contributory and non-contributory old age pensions (including Blind Persons' Pensions) has been vested solely in the Ministry of Labour. The machinery for dealing with the former class of pensions has already been described. As regards non-contributory old age pensions the machinery set up under the Act of 1927 is similar to that for dealing with claims for unemployment benefit, and may be summarised as follows:—

1. The claims are investigated at the homes of the claimants by Investigating Officers attached to the Employment Exchanges and reports of the investigations submitted, with suitable recommendations, to the Headquarters of the Ministry.

2. The initial decisions on claims or questions are given by Pension Officers appointed by the Minister of Labour.

3. If the Pension Officer decides to allow a pension at the full rate of 10s. per week, payment begins immediately. Where, however, the decision of the Pension Officer is to disallow a pension or to allow a pension at a lower rate than 10s. per week, the claimant is notified of the Pension Officer's decision and the grounds for it, and is advised of his right of appeal.

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

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



4. A claimant who is dissatisfied with the Pension Officer's decision has the right of appeal to the Local Pension Court for the district. This Court consists of a Chairman (who is generally a person with legal qualifications) appointed by the Minister, and two or more members chosen from a panel established for the district by the Minister of Labour.

5. When an appeal is lodged against the decision of the Pension Officer, the claimant concerned is notified of the date, time and place of the sitting of the Local Pension Court, and is afforded an opportunity of appearing before the Court and of being represented by any other person (including counsel or a solicitor) that he may select.

6. The Local Pension Court considers the appeal and makes a recommendation to the Pension Officer, who must give effect to the recommendation of the Court, unless he disagrees with it.

7. Where the Pension Officer disagrees with the recommendation of the Local Pension Court, or where the claimant (by leave of the Court) appeals against the Court's recommendation, the matter is referred to the Umpire, who is an independent person appointed by the Governor of Northern Ireland. The decision of the Umpire is final and conclusive, and not subject to appeal to any court.

Payment of non-contributory old age pensions is made through the Post Office as heretofore.

## NUMBER OF PERSONS REGISTERED AT EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES IN GREAT BRITAIN, NOVEMBER, 1928, TO FEBRUARY, 1929.

IN the issue of this GAZETTE for November, 1928 (page 393), a statement was published bringing up to that date the record of the number of persons registered at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain in each week from 7th January, 1921, to 29th October, 1928. In the Table below the series is continued to the latest date for which figures are available:—

Date.	Number.	Date.	Number.
1928:		1929:	
Nov. 5th ...	1,349,776	Jan. 7th ...	1,452,619
12th ...	1,348,158	14th ...	1,434,997
19th ...	1,364,423	21st ...	1,425,620
26th ...	1,395,505	28th ...	1,394,078
Dec. 3rd ...	1,350,806		
10th ...	1,320,912	Feb. 4th ...	1,369,475
17th ...	1,271,122	11th ...	1,342,505
24th ...	No statistics available.	18th ...	1,458,032
31st ...	1,520,730	25th ...	1,391,861

## FATAL ACCIDENTS IN MINES AND QUARRIES IN 1928.

THE Mines Department have issued a preliminary statement\* of the number of deaths caused by accidents in and about the mines and quarries of Great Britain, together with the Isle of Man, during the year 1928. The principal statistics are given below: the figures for 1928 are subject to minor corrections on the receipt of the final returns for the Annual Report:—

	Number of separate Fatal Accidents in			Number of Deaths caused by Fatal Accidents in		
	1928.	1927.	1925.†	1928.	1927.	1925.†
Mines under the Coal Mines Act, 1911 ...	949	1,028	1,050	984	1,128	1,136
Mines under the Metalliferous Mines Regulation Act, 1872 ...	24	12	22	25	13	23
Quarries under the Quarries Act, 1894‡ ...	63	68	73	66	68	74
Totals ...	1,036	1,108	1,145	1,075	1,209	1,233

Of the 984 deaths from fatal accidents at mines under the Coal Mines Act in 1928, almost exactly half—495—were due to falls of ground; including 326 at the working face, and 169 on underground roads. Nearly a quarter of the deaths in these mines—229—were due to haulage accidents underground, including 196 caused by persons being run over or crushed by trams or tubs. Of the remainder, 36 were due to explosions of firedamp or coal dust; this was only half of the number in 1927, when a single great explosion in Monmouthshire caused 52 deaths. Shaft accidents accounted for 28 deaths; again a great reduction on 1927, when the number was 52. Miscellaneous accidents underground accounted for 100 deaths, and accidents on the surface for 96 deaths.

Falls of ground accounted for 12 out of a total of 25 deaths from fatal accidents in metalliferous mines, and for 29 out of 66 deaths at quarries.

## CONFERENCE ON INDUSTRIAL REORGANISATION AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS.

THE issue of this GAZETTE for July, 1928, contained an account of the meeting of the Conference on Industrial Reorganisation and Industrial Relations (composed of a group of employers associated with Lord Melchett and of the General Council of the Trades Union Congress) on 4th July, 1928, at which an Interim Joint Report, prepared by a sub-committee of the Conference, was approved. This Report dealt with the gold reserve and its relation to industry, with trade union recognition, victimisation, and the prevention of disputes, and with rationalisation. It also proposed the formation of a National Industrial Council, composed of the members of the General Council of the Trades Union Congress, as representing the workers, and of an equal number of representatives of the employers, nominated by the Federation of British Industries and by the National Confederation of Employers' Associations; and a Standing Committee of the National Industrial Council, nominated as to half of its members by the General Council representatives of the Council and half by the Confederation representatives, to act as the elective and executive authority for the provision of Joint Conciliation Boards for industrial disputes.

The Report further indicated that the necessary steps would be taken by the employers' and General Council sections of the Joint Conference respectively to bring the recommendations of the Conference to the consideration of the appropriate employers' organisations and before the Trades Union Congress.

The Council of the National Confederation of Employers' Organisations, at a meeting on 11th July, decided to refer the matter to its constituent employers' federations for their observations, and authorised its general purposes committee to prepare a report in the light of these observations. The General Council of the Federation of British Industries, on the same date, passed a resolution assuring Lord Melchett and his colleagues of their most sympathetic consideration of the proposals, and expressed themselves as wholeheartedly at one with the Conference in its prime objects; they also appointed a committee, representing all the industrial groups in the Federation, to investigate the proposals and the various questions involved, and to report to the General Council. The committee was authorised to confer with the National Confederation, and with Lord Melchett and his friends, and to take steps to test the views of the members of the Federation.

The General Council of the Trades Union Congress brought the proposals before the annual meeting of the Congress in September. A report of the meeting of the Congress appeared in the September issue of this GAZETTE (pages 314-5), from which it will be seen that a motion for the acceptance of the Report was carried by a majority of 3,075,000 against 566,000.

Meanwhile the National Confederation of Employers' Organisations had been consulting its constituent federations, and the Federation of British Industries its constituent firms. The Council of the Confederation and the National Council of the Federation met on 13th February to decide on their reply to the proposals of the Conference on Industrial Reorganisation and Industrial Relations, and, later on the same day, sent the following joint letter to the Secretary of the Trades Union Congress General Council:—

"The National Confederation of Employers' Organisations and the Federation of British Industries would welcome an opportunity of a conference with your General Council, at which they could examine the question of the Confederation and your General Council and of the Federation and your General Council, within the limits of their respective capacities and powers, usefully consulting together upon matters of common interest to British industry.

"At this conference they could explain the difficulties which stand in the way of consultation with your council through a National Industrial Council, as proposed in the 'Melchett-Turner' Report of July 4 last.

"The Confederation and the Federation are, as you know, distinct and separate bodies, the Confederation dealing with labour questions and the Federation with economic and commercial questions; and, as the result of the most careful consideration of the Interim Report, each organization within its own province has reached the conclusion that it cannot accept the Report.

"Throughout the consideration of the whole matter, however, the Confederation and the Federation have been conscious of the importance of doing everything in their power to further the promotion of industrial peace in British industry, and the cordial invitation extended to your General Council to meet representatives of the Confederation and of the Federation is made in the hope that the discussions will be such as to help forward a better mutual understanding in industry generally.

"The Confederation and the Federation therefore hope that your Council will see its way to accept this invitation, and suggest that a joint meeting of the three bodies should be arranged for some mutually convenient date."

The reply of the General Council was sent on 28th February, in the following terms:—

"I am directed by the General Council of the Trades Union Congress to thank you for your letter of the 13th instant conveying an invitation from your Federation and Confederation to a conference. In reply, I have to say that the General Council are agreeable to a conference being held, and I am instructed to make the necessary arrangements with you.

\* H.M. Stationery Office; price 3d. net.

† Figures for 1925, instead of 1926, are given for purposes of comparison, as the figures for 1926 were much affected by the prolonged stoppage in the coal mining industry in that year.

‡ The Quarries Act, 1894, applies only to quarries more than 20 feet deep; in addition 11 deaths at quarries 20 feet deep or less were reported in 1928.



"Your decision that you cannot accept the interim report of the Conference on Industrial Reorganisation and Industrial Relations is greatly regretted, but the Council are desirous of hearing your explanation of the difficulties in this connexion and of the obstacles which stand in the way of consultation through a National Industrial Council. The Council would then consider whether, in the light of the proceedings at this conference, further steps could usefully be taken."

It is understood that arrangements are now being made for a meeting between the General Council and representatives of the two bodies of employers.

A further meeting of the Conference on Industrial Reorganisation and Industrial Relations was held on 12th March, at which Lord Melchett proposed, and Mr. Ben Tillett (Chairman of the Trades Union Congress General Council) seconded, the adoption of an interim joint Report on unemployment. The Report was adopted, with one dissentient. The following is a summary of the principal recommendations of the Report:—

An inquiry into the consolidation of existing pensions and insurance funds should be set up by the Government.

Largely increased funds should be provided for assisting emigration; and a scheme of settlement, aiming at a 20-year programme, set up.

Unemployment in the mining industry should be considered as a special case, and relief measures and schemes continued at an accelerated rate.

Trade facilities should be re-instituted under more liberal conditions. Export credits should also be extended "in reasonable cases."

Augmented pensions should be made available to workers of 65 and over who cease work.

The Government should create and maintain a development fund capable of financing important national schemes. Further extension of constructional schemes should be undertaken, and existing schemes hastened in their application.

Rationalisation should be pressed forward, with safeguards for the consultation of trade unions, and for the making of provision for displaced workers.

Serious consideration should be given to the question of raising the school-leaving age.

The Government should undertake immediately an inquiry into currency and banking policy. The Treasury and the Bank of England should make every effort to have the recommendations of the Genoa Conference put into operation.

## EFFECT OF VARIETY IN REPETITIVE WORK.

PREVIOUS investigations conducted by the Industrial Fatigue Research Board have shown that, in certain forms of repetitive handwork, the rate of working cannot be maintained at a consistently high level during an unbroken spell of four or five hours; but that output, and the comfort of the workers, can be increased either (i) by introducing rest pauses, or (ii) by changes in activity.

Rest pauses have already been dealt with in several of the Board's investigations\*; the question of changes in activity has received less attention, but the following conclusions may be drawn from previous investigations on this subject:—A change in activity is beneficial only when the substituted task is easier than that which it replaces; and the improvement is most marked when the substituted activity is widely different from that which it replaces. Both frequent changes, and long periods of work without any change at all, are equally unfavourable; and organised change periods are preferable to irregular interruptions.

The Board have now issued a Report specially devoted to the results of certain investigations into this question.† The investigations were conducted in a number of different industries, and were designed to measure the output of groups of repetitive workers under controlled conditions of greater or less variety or uniformity. As a preliminary, studies were made of certain workers engaged in soap wrapping, in handkerchief folding, and in "drifting" bicycle chains, their tasks being varied in specified ways. These preliminary investigations suggested that there were really two distinct problems for investigation:—(i) the optimum duration of one form of activity, without change; and (ii) the most suitable type of work for the alternating processes.

Further studies were then made of workers engaged in tobacco weighing, in cigarette making, and in the assembling of cartridge cases, as a contribution to the solution of the first of these problems, viz., the optimum duration for particular kinds of work. The conclusions reached as the result of these investigations are thus summarised in the Report:—

(i) Uniformity in the method of procedure is generally less productive than variety, and is conducive to greater irregularities in the rate of working.

(ii) The highest output is obtained when the form of activity is changed after 1½ to 2 hours of unvaried work.

(iii) Too frequent changes are detrimental to output, because of their interference with the swing of work.

In addition, there is some evidence to show that, in repetitive work of a fatiguing nature, changes in the form of activity should be

\* See, for example, the Eighth Annual Report of the Industrial Fatigue Research Board, and Report No. 47 of the same Board (H.M. Stationery Office; price 9d. and 1s. 3d. net, respectively). These Reports were both reviewed in the July, 1928, issue of this GAZETTE, page 243.

† *The Comparative Effects of Variety and Uniformity in Work*. Industrial Fatigue Research Board, Report No. 52. H.M. Stationery Office; price 1s. 3d. net.

relatively more frequent; and that a high degree of resemblance between the alternating forms of activity, although subjectively satisfying, is not conducive to increased output. It is found, for example, that girls engaged in folding handkerchiefs, first in one style and then in another, emphatically welcomed the change, though there was practically no difference in their rate of working when working under the alternating system or when folding all their time in one style.

## WAGES AND HOURS MOVEMENTS IN GERMANY.

*Textile Industry.*—Approximately 200,000 workers in the textile industry were involved early last month in a series of wage movements (reported in the last issue of this GAZETTE) in various parts of Germany, notably in North Hanover, in the Saxon-Thuringian weaving industry and the Krefeld silk industry. Other areas in which extensive disputes developed were the Lower Lausitz wool textile area and the textile area on the right bank of the Rhine in the Barmen and Elberfeld district. In view of the serious threat to the industry generally, the employers' organisation submitted proposals to the three trade union organisations in the textile industry for the amicable settlement of the disputes through the medium of a neutral arbitration court to be set up jointly by the employers and workers, from which the recognised official conciliation authorities were to be entirely excluded. Counter-proposals were put forward by the trade unions, who were not prepared to eliminate official intervention entirely, and, as the result of negotiations between the two parties, the following agreement was reached. The points in dispute were first to be submitted to a negotiating committee consisting of five employers' and five workers' representatives, who would have full powers to conclude collective agreements in accordance with terms agreed upon during the discussions. Failing agreement, the points in dispute would be submitted to a neutral arbitration court, consisting of one member each appointed by the employers and the workers, neither of whom was to be connected with the textile industry, and a chairman appointed by the Federal Minister of Labour. The court was first to endeavour to secure agreement in the negotiating committee, failing which, it was to pronounce an arbitration award. If the award represented the unanimous vote of the court, it was to be immediately binding on the parties. If, however, the award represented only a majority vote of the members of the court, the parties were to declare their acceptance or rejection within 24 hours. In the event of its rejection by one or both parties, the matter would be referred, not to the established conciliation authorities, but to the Federal Minister of Labour for determination. After negotiations and proceedings lasting five days, the court, on 24th February, pronounced twenty-one unanimous awards for the various areas. In general, the awards provided for wage increases, of from 3 to 5 pfennigs an hour, to be effected in two or three stages. The new agreements constituted by the awards had immediate effect, and are to be valid for varying periods terminating either at 30th September next, 30th September, 1930, or in February, 1931, after six weeks' notice. All disputed points arising out of the application of the awards are to be determined by the arbitration court, thus obviating recourse to the statutory courts.

*Metal Trades.*—The wage agreement covering 75,000 workers in the metal trades in Thuringia is to be terminated on 31st March, 1929, at the instance of the employers.

A conciliation award issued on 31st January last for the metal industry in Württemberg and the Rhine Palatinate was declared binding after negotiations instituted by the Federal Minister of Labour on 21st February. The award, which was rejected by the workers on the ground that it provided for only an insignificant wage increase for a small fraction of the workers covered, was to have effect from the end of the current pay-week, and to remain operative for a year. Precise details of the terms of the award are not available. A report of the early stages of the dispute was given in the February issue of this GAZETTE.

After conferring with the workers' organisations concerned on the general state of the industry, the employers in the metal industry in the Cologne area gave notice in February of their intention to terminate the existing wage agreement at 31st March, 1929, and advanced proposals for the conclusion of a new agreement maintaining the prevailing wage rates unchanged for a period of two years. In addition, they have now announced their intention to terminate the current working-hours agreement at the same date, putting forward similar demands. The wage agreement for the hardware industry in this area is also to be terminated by the employers on 31st March, 1929.

A conciliation award issued last month for the metal industry in the Upper Solingen district provides for the extension of the existing general agreement until 1st November, 1930, subject to certain modifications in the provisions governing overtime and holidays. Details of these modifications are not available.

Following on the notification by the employers in the Saxon metal industry of their intention to terminate at 31st March, 1929, the current wage agreement, as reported in the last issue of this GAZETTE, joint discussions between the employers' and workers' organisations were instituted on 1st March at the Ministry of Labour for the State of Saxony.



As the result of negotiations between the employers' and workers' organisations, an agreement has been reached under which the basic wage rates for the various groups and age classes are to be increased by from 2 to 9 pfennigs an hour, and in the case of apprentices, by from 2 to 5 pfennigs an hour. Apprentice moulders and boilermakers are to receive, in addition, a special supplement of 5 pfennigs an hour.

The employers in the metal industries of Baden and Bavaria have given notice to terminate the existing wage agreements for their respective areas at 31st March, 1929. In the latter case, the employers are demanding a 5 per cent. wage reduction. Notice has also been given by the employers in the metal industry in Hesse and Hesse-Nassau to terminate the existing wage and piece-work agreements on 15th April. Some 50,000 workers are affected in this area and 30,000 in the Baden area.

*Coal Mining.*—The overtime agreement for the Upper Silesian coal-mining industry is to be terminated by the workers on 31st March, 1929. The agreement provided for the working of overtime to the extent of half an hour a day for underground workers and 2½ hours a day for surface workers. The normal working-day for underground workers is one of 7½ hours.

*Chemical Industry.*—The wage agreement is to be terminated by the workers on 31st March, 1929. A ten per cent. increase in wages is demanded.

*General.*—It is reported that 156 collective agreements covering approximately 1·8 million workers are due to expire by the end of the current month, while a further 46 agreements, covering 800,000 workers, have already expired, but are continuing in force on a month to month basis. The principal industries affected are the Ruhr coal-mining industry, the building trade, the metal industry and the chemical industry.

## MINERS' INSURANCE IN GERMANY IN 1927.\*

The financial year 1927 was the first year in which the effects of the Act of 25th June, 1926, amending the Federal Miners' Insurance Act, became fully apparent. The fourth report on the working of the Federal Miners' Insurance scheme shows that expenditure on benefits in all branches of insurance, and, consequently, the cost of insurance in respect of the individual member, have increased considerably.

The average membership of Sickness Funds under the miners' insurance scheme for the year 1927 was 789,960, representing 750,528 manual workers and 39,432 non-manual workers. The membership of the Pensions Fund at 31st December, 1927, was 734,543 in the Manual Workers' and 51,363 in the Non-manual Workers' Pension Fund. The number covered by invalidity insurance was 733,541 on 31st December, 1927.

With a practically unchanged membership, the Manual Workers' Sickness Fund recorded 658,476 cases of sickness involving incapacity for work in 1927, as compared with 593,808 in 1926, an increase of about 11 per cent. As, however, the average duration of the period of sickness fell from 31·4 days in 1926 to 28·7 days in 1927, the increase in the aggregate number of days of sickness was comparatively slight, viz., from 18·67 to 18·88 million, or about 1 per cent. There were, on average, about 0·9 cases of sickness and 25·2 days of sickness per member in 1927, as compared with about 0·8 cases of sickness and 24·8 days of sickness in 1926. The average expenditure per member of the Manual Workers' Sickness Fund in 1927 was 141·40 marks, to which must be added 4·64 marks for maternity benefit and 0·79 marks for death benefit. The corresponding figures for the Non-manual Workers' Sickness Fund were 89·02 marks, 3·01 marks and 1·89 marks, respectively. The Manual Workers' Sickness Fund granted maternity benefit in 68,107 cases (9·1 per cent. of the membership), while the Non-manual Workers' Sickness Fund granted maternity benefit in 1,378 cases (3·5 per cent. of the membership). The Manual Workers' Sickness Fund recorded 3,490 (or 4·7 per thousand insured persons) cases of death, the corresponding figure for the Non-manual Workers' Sickness Fund being 148, or 3·8 per thousand.

The numbers of persons on 31st December, 1927, in receipt of benefits from the Pensions Funds, including widows, orphans, and the children of the recipients, were 442,985 in the Manual Workers' and 24,999 in the Non-Manual Workers' Pensions Fund. At the end of the year, 85,047 invalidity pensions were being paid under the invalidity insurance scheme, 21,947 widows' pensions and 41,217 orphans' pensions, the corresponding figures at the beginning of the year being 76,036, 18,876 and 40,557 respectively. (The German miner is insured twice against invalidity, viz., under the miners' pension scheme and under the general invalidity insurance scheme.)

Except in the case of invalidity insurance, expenditure in all branches rose considerably in 1927, and the large number of persons in receipt of benefit, together with the high per capita benefit, necessitated exceptionally high rates of contribution. In December, the rates of contribution in the Manual Workers' Section of the various Miners' Insurance Funds varied from 25 to 31 per cent. of the actual earnings or basic wage. Sickness insurance contributions represented from 6·3 to 9 per cent. of the wage, pension contributions from 10 to 15·6 per cent. (inclusive of the supplementary contribution for actual mining work), and invalidity contributions from 3·5 to 6 per cent.

Generally speaking, the financial situation of the various Miners' Insurance Funds in the year 1927 was unfavourable. The Non-manual Workers' Pensions Fund closed the year with a deficit of 5·5 million marks (20·4 per cent. of the revenue from contributions), which had to be made good from reserves. The Manual Workers' Sickness Fund had a surplus of 2·8 million marks (2·4 per cent. of the revenue from contributions) which, however, was not sufficient to allow the fulfilling of the statutory obligation to place to reserve an amount equal to 5 per cent. of the total revenue from contributions. In the Manual Workers' Pensions Fund, income exceeded expenditure by 11·7 million marks (6·1 per cent. of the revenue from contributions), but a considerable increase in the number of claimants and, consequently, in expenditure is to be anticipated during the next few years, as is the case also with the Invalidity Insurance, which closed the year 1927 with a surplus of 15·6 million marks (27·5 per cent. of the revenue from contributions). Without taking into account the monies accruing from the financial adjustment with the Manual Workers' Sickness Fund, the Non-manual Workers' Sickness Fund was able to close its first financial year with a surplus of 0·9 million marks, or 18·7 per cent. of its revenue from contributions.

## UNEMPLOYMENT IN GERMANY: GENERAL EXTENSION OF EMERGENCY BENEFIT.

THE grant of unemployment benefit under the Employment Exchanges and Unemployment Insurance Act, which came into force on 1st October, 1927, is normally limited to a maximum period of 26 weeks in any period of twelve months. When, however, the state of the labour market is particularly unfavourable, the Act provides for the extended grant of benefit under two distinct systems: (a) the maximum period of benefit may be extended up to 39 weeks either generally or for certain occupations or districts; and (b) unemployment benefit may be granted in the form of emergency benefit in times when a particularly unfavourable state of the labour market is of long duration. The grant of emergency benefit may be limited to particular occupations and/or districts, and applies only to (i) insured contributors who have failed to complete the normal qualifying period of 26 weeks' insurable employment, but have spent at least 13 weeks in such employment during the preceding 12 months, and (ii) insured contributors who have exhausted their claim to benefit, i.e., have drawn benefit for a total of 26 weeks in a year. The grant of emergency benefit is further subject to proof of necessitous circumstances, and the costs of the emergency benefit system are borne out of public funds in the proportion of four-fifths by the Reich and one-fifth by the local authorities. Hitherto the financial situation of the unemployment insurance scheme has not been such as to enable any extension of the grant of standard benefit beyond the period of 26 weeks under the first system mentioned above. Accordingly, it has been necessary to meet increasing distress arising out of an unfavourable development of the labour market in individual occupations solely by means of the emergency benefit system.

During the period immediately following the supersession of the earlier unemployment relief and emergency relief systems by the unemployment insurance and emergency benefit systems, the necessary steps were taken to ensure that the change-over was effected without undue hardship. A favourable development of the labour market maintained into the spring of 1928 enabled modifications in the regulations to be effected by a Decree of 23rd March, 1928, under which the grant of emergency benefit was, in principle, limited to six industries: market gardening, the metal and engineering, clothing, woodworking, and leather trades, and employment in non-manual occupations. The maximum period in respect of which emergency benefit was payable was limited to 26 weeks, except for non-manual workers over 40 years of age, in whose case it might be extended to 39 weeks.

The termination on 30th June, 1928, of the transitional period, and the consequent exclusion of a considerable number of unemployed workers from the special protection afforded them during this period, necessitated a closer adaptation of the emergency benefit system to prevailing conditions. Accordingly, Decrees of 13th and 27th August, 1928, admitted certain limited additional classes of workers to emergency benefit and extended the maximum benefit period to 39 weeks, with the possible extension to 52 weeks for workers, both manual and non-manual over 40 years of age; while two further additional classes of workers were admitted by a Decree of 16th January, 1929.

Towards the end of 1928, a period of acute unemployment set in in Germany, which affected not only those occupations in which seasonal unemployment during the winter months is a regularly recurrent feature, but also those branches of industry in which the volume of employment reflects the general economic situation. The continuance of this general depression of the labour market was the subject of exhaustive discussion in the Reichstag, as a result of which the Government declared its readiness to authorise a general extension of emergency benefit to cover, in principle, all occupations. Effect was given to this decision by a Decree of 25th February, 1929, which, in principle, admits to emergency benefit all classes of workers except those in certain occupations not affected by the general depression, chief among which are the coal-mining and the chemical industries, and also those occupations covered by the special regulations governing seasonal unemployment, of which a summary was given in the last issue of this GAZETTE. The Decree further provides for the payment of emergency benefit to all eligible persons until 4th May, 1929.

\* *Wirtschaft und Statistik*, No. 22, 1928. Berlin.



## REPORT ON THE FIRST HALF-YEAR'S WORKING OF THE LABOUR COURTS IN GERMANY.\*

THE German Labour Courts, set up under the Labour Courts Act of 23rd December, 1926 (of which a summary was given in the issue of this GAZETTE for June, 1927), began to function on 1st July, 1927, superseding the former Industrial and Commercial Courts. The full system comprised, at the date in question, 527 Local Labour Courts as courts of first instance, 80 State Labour Courts as courts of appeal and the Federal Labour Court as the supreme court of appeal. Two forms of procedure in the courts are provided for under the Act, namely, the "judgment procedure" (*Urteilsverfahren*) in cases of civil disputes arising out of the course of employment, and, secondly, the "decision procedure" (*Beschlussverfahren*) in certain cases falling under the competence of the courts arising out of the application of the Works Councils Act of 4th February, 1920. The work of the courts during the first half year of their activities, extending from 1st July, 1927, to 31st December, 1927, is summarised below.

1. *Local Labour Courts.*—Inclusive of 7,991 cases carried over from the Industrial and Commercial Courts, 164,618 cases were filed for hearing under the "judgment procedure" during the period under review. The great majority of these cases (95·2 per cent.) arose out of disputes between employers and workers regarding their contractual relationship as employers and employed, or out of unlawful acts connected with the employment. Of the total number of cases down for hearing, 136,264 were disposed of by the end of the year, of which 38,942 cases were settled by amicable agreement in conciliation proceedings (*Güteverfahren*) before the chairman of the Court, as provided for under the Act with a view to the settlement of the dispute without recourse to formal legal proceedings. A further 16,859 cases were settled by amicable arrangement during the course of the formal proceedings before the court. A total of 50,716 further cases was disposed of by decision of the chairman alone, under his powers to pronounce judgment in cases where no formal hearing takes place either by default or on account of the withdrawal of the claim or the abandonment of the case by one of the parties. Thus the courts were called upon to pronounce judgment after process of trial in only 29,747 cases, or 21·8 per cent. of all cases disposed of. In almost two-thirds of the total number of disputes, the amount involved did not exceed 100 marks.

During the period under review, a further 1,076 suits falling under the "decision procedure" were filed. Under this procedure, a written or oral exposition of the case is made by the parties concerned, and is followed by a decision of one of the chambers of the Labour Court in plenary session. In 425 cases, a decision was pronounced, while in 392 cases the action was withdrawn. Approximately, only one-third of the courts were called upon to deal with this type of case.

2. *State Labour Courts.*—Appeal against the findings of a Local Labour Court may on various grounds be made to the State Labour Courts. Altogether, 4,545 appeals were made to the State Labour Courts during the period under review.

3. *Federal Labour Court.*—With certain exceptions, *e.g.*, cases dealt with under the "decision procedure," appeal may be made to the Federal Labour Court from the State Labour Courts, or, in certain cases, direct from the Local Labour Courts. The appeal must be based on the plea that the judgment of the lower court rests on the non-application or incorrect application of a legal provision or a clause of a collective agreement affecting the terms of individual contracts of employment. During the six months ended 31st December, 1927, 123 such appeals were filed, of which 87 were outstanding at the end of the period.

## WAGES IN SOUTH AFRICA.

THE monthly journal of the Union of South Africa Office of Census and Statistics publishes at quarterly intervals information concerning the standard or average rates of wages paid to European adult male workers in the Union. The following Table gives particulars of the wages in the metal and engineering, building and printing trades in nine localities at 30th September, 1928:—

Locality.	Metal and Engineering.	Building.		Printing.	
		Painters, Glaziers, Paper-hangers and Decorators.	All other building artisans including Electricians and Wiremen.	Machine Compositors (Day Work).	Other Printing Occupations (Day Work).
	Per day. s. d.	Per hour. s. d.	Per hour. s. d.	Per week. s. d.	Per week. s. d.
Cape Peninsula	20 8	2 2	2 10	134 9	122 6
Port Elizabeth	20 8	2 5	2 10	134 9	122 6
East London ...	21 0	2 5	2 10	134 9	122 6
Kimberley ...	22 6	2 3	2 10	145 9	132 6
Pietermaritzburg	20 0	2 10	3 2	134 9	122 6
Durban ...	22 0	2 10	3 2	156 9	142 6
Pretoria ...	22 0	3 3	3 5	167 9	152 6
Witwatersrand	22 0	3 3	3 5	167 9	152 6
Bloemfontein ...	20 4	2 11	3 5	156 9	142 6

\* *Wirtschaft und Statistik*, No. 21, 1928. Berlin.

† Wages for night work in the printing industry are 10 per cent. above day-work wages.

Hours in the engineering industry, as fixed by all agreements, are limited to 48 in any one week. In Port Elizabeth and in the Transvaal, a day shift is reckoned as 8½ hours, with 4½ hours on Saturday, while in the Cape Peninsula the periods are 8½ hours and 4½ hours respectively. In the building industry, all the agreements lay down a working week of 44 hours, *i.e.*, 8 hours a day with 4 hours on Saturdays; on country jobs the 44 hours may be worked in 5 days. In printing, the ordinary hours throughout the industry are limited to 46 a week (typesetting machine operators, 43 hours); on night work the week is limited to 40 hours for all employees.

## WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR IN CANADA IN 1928.

THE Twelfth Report\* of the Department of Labour for Canada, dealing with wages and hours of labour, contains details for a large number of industries and occupations in various cities in Canada. The information given is drawn mainly from collective agreements and from reports of representative employers and of trade unions.

The following Table shows the rates of wages and hours of labour of various classes of workpeople in Halifax, Quebec, and Toronto in operation in September, 1928:—

Trade and Occupation.	Halifax.		Quebec.		Toronto.	
	Hours.	Wages.	Hours.	Wages.	Hours.	Wages.
	Per Week.	Per Hour. \$	Per Week.	Per Hour. \$	Per Week.	Per Hour. \$
<i>Building.</i>						
Bricklayers ...	44	0·90	54	0·90	44	1·25
Carpenters ...	44	0·66	54-60	0·45-0·60	44	1·00
Electrical workers ...	44	0·70	54	0·45-0·60	44	1·00
Painters ...	44	0·66	54	0·47-0·60	44	0·75-0·80
Plasterers ...	44	0·90	54	0·85	40	1·25
Plumbers ...	44	0·70	54-60	0·45-0·60	44	1·12½
Stonecutters ...	44	0·90	48-54	0·60-0·70	44	1·12½
Labourers ...	44-54	0·35	54-60	0·35-0·40	44-60	0·40-0·65
<i>Metal Trades.</i>						
Blacksmiths ...	44-50	0·55-0·65	50-54	0·50-0·60	44-50	0·55-0·65
Boilermakers ...	44-50	0·55-0·65	49½	0·40-0·55	44-48	0·60-0·75
Machinists ...	44-50	0·55-0·65	50-54	0·40-0·55	44-54	0·50-0·70
Iron moulders ...	48	0·70	60	0·37½-0·57	45-54	0·55-0·70
Steel metal workers	44	0·70	54-60	0·45-0·60	44	1·00
<i>Printing Trades.</i>						
Compositors, machine and hand, news ...	48	32·00	48	29·00	46½	45·50
Compositors, machine and hand, job ...	44	30·00	48	29·00	44-48	35·20-42·00
Pressmen, web, news	48	30·00	48	30·00	48	44·50
Pressmen, cylinder, job ...	48	31·00	48	24·00-35·00	48	38·00
Bookbinders ...	48	35·00	48	26·50-32·00	48	36·00
Bindery girls ...	48	10·00	48	8·00-15·00	48	16·80
Labourers in factories	50	0·30-0·35	55-60	13·60-17·00	50-55	0·30-0·50

The daily hours and wages during September 1928, of various classes of coal-mining labour in the chief coalfields of Canada, as fixed by collective agreement, are shown in the following Table. In some of the mines in each district the wages of unorganised workers are somewhat lower than those shown.

Occupation.	Nova Scotia.†		Alberta.		Vancouver Island.‡	
	Daily Wages.	Hours per day.	Daily Wages.	Hours per day.	Daily Wages.	Hours per day.
	\$		\$		\$	
Contract miners§ ...	6·64	8	7·85	8	6·78	8
Machine miners   ...	—	—	5·85-7·00	8	4·81	8
Hand miners   ...	4·15	8	5·20-5·57	8	4·52	8
Hoisting engineers ...	4·15	8	5·65-6·20	8	5·39	8
Drivers ...	3·60	8	4·85-5·25	8	4·13	8
Bratticemen ...	3·65	8	5·20-5·57	8	4·35	8
Pumpmen ...	3·90	8	4·40-4·95	8	3·96	8
Labourers, underground ...	3·35	8	4·40-4·67	8	3·97	8
Labourers, surface ...	3·25	8½	4·15-4·41	8	3·76	8
Machinists ...	4·15	8½	4·85-5·77	8	5·40	8
Carpenters ...	3·85	8½	5·45-5·77	8	4·83	8
Blacksmiths ...	4·00	8½	5·45-5·77	8	5·11	8

A Table of index numbers of rates of wages for various classes of labour in the years 1901 to 1928 shows that rates of wages in Canada have increased considerably since 1901. The building industry may be cited as typical. Expressed as an index (1913=100), the general average of building wages rose from 60·3 in 1901 to 100·8 in 1914 and 180·9 in 1920, declining sharply to 162·5 in 1922 and thereafter rising gradually to 185·6 in 1928.

\* *Wages and Hours of Labour in Canada, 1920 to 1928. Report No. 12, Department of Labour, Ottawa, 1929.*

† In most mines in Nova Scotia, a bonus based on profits has been agreed upon, to be paid quarterly.

‡ Excluding Chinese workers.

§ Average earnings per day on contract, per ton, etc., calculated from returns furnished by representative employers in each district.

|| Minimum time rate per day, not on contract work.



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

## Summary: Average Increases since July, 1914.

All Items included	...	...	66%
Food only	...	...	57%

## FOOD.

At 1st March the average level of the retail prices of food was slightly higher than at 1st February. This advance, unusual at this season of the year, was due to the widespread severe frost, which restricted the movement into consumption of some foodstuffs, and resulted in higher average prices of bacon, fish, and potatoes, among the articles included in these statistics, and largely delayed the seasonal fall in the prices of eggs.

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 57 per cent. at 1st March, 1929, as compared with 56 per cent. a month ago and 55 per cent. a year ago.

In the following Table is given a comparison of retail prices of these articles of food in July, 1914, and at 1st February and 1st March, 1929:—

Article.	Average Price (per lb. unless otherwise indicated— to the nearest ¼d.)			Average Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) at 1st March, 1929, as compared with	
	July, 1914.	1st Feb., 1929.	1st March, 1929.	July, 1914.	1st Feb., 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 6½	+ 0 7½	+ 0 0½
Breast ...	0 6½	0 10	0 10½	+ 0 3½	+ 0 0½
Mutton, Frozen—					
Legs ...	0 6½	0 11½	0 11½	+ 0 5	...
Breast ...	0 4	0 5	0 5½	+ 0 1½	+ 0 0½
Bacon (streaky)*	0 11½	1 3½	1 4½	+ 0 5½	+ 0 1
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 0½	2 0½	+ 0 10½	...
Salt ...	1 2½	1 11½	1 11½	+ 0 9	...
Cheese† ...	0 8½	1 2½	1 2½	+ 0 5½	...
Margarine ...	0 7	0 7½	0 7½	+ 0 0½	...
Eggs (fresh) ... each	0 1½	0 2½	0 2½	+ 0 1½	...
Potatoes ... per 7 lb.	0 4½	0 6½	0 6½	+ 0 2	+ 0 0½

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

Article.	Average Percentage Increase at 1st March, 1929, as compared with July, 1914.			Corre- sponding General Average for 1st Feb., 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 ...	69	67	68	68
Thin Flank ...	38	40	39	38
Beef, Chilled or Frozen—				
Ribs ...	43	42	42	42
Thin Flank ...	12	16	14	14
Mutton, British—				
Legs ...	74	76	75	74
Breast ...	57	54	56	54
Mutton, Frozen—				
Legs ...	73	65	69	70
Breast ...	27	30	28	27
Bacon (streaky)*	51	46	49	41
Fish ...	134	105	120	113
Flour ...	44	48	46	46
Bread ...	50	48	49	49
Tea ...	52	59	55	56
Sugar (granulated) ...	46	42	44	47
Milk ...	86	91	89	89
Butter—				
Fresh ...	67	73	70	70
Salt ...	62	63	63	63
Cheese† ...	66	67	67	68
Margarine ...	9	4	7	6
Eggs (fresh) ...	111	96	104	106
Potatoes ...	51	25	38	34
All above articles of Food (Weighted Percentage Increase) ...	58	56	57	56

\* 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 March, 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 March 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 March averaged about the same as a month earlier, and about 80 per cent. above the level of July, 1914. The average price of gas also 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 March, 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 March is, approximately, **66 per cent.\*** over the level of July, 1914, as compared with 65 per cent. at 1st February, 1929, and 64 per cent. at 1st March, 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	66
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 FEBRUARY.

## GENERAL SUMMARY.

EMPLOYMENT during February was adversely affected by the severe weather which set in towards the middle of the month and continued until the end of the first week in March. During the first half of February employment steadily improved, but in the second half there was a heavy increase in the numbers unemployed in the building trade, public works contracting, brick, tile, cement and artificial stone manufacture, canal, river, dock and harbour service, and all branches of the mining group of industries other than coal mining.

On the other hand there was an improvement throughout the month in a large number of industries not affected by the weather.

In coal mining there was a substantial decrease both in the number of persons wholly unemployed and in the numbers temporarily stopped. The other principal industries in which employment improved included pottery, pig-iron manufacture, general and marine engineering, shipbuilding and ship repairing, the textile trades other than cotton and carpet manufacture, the clothing trades, boot and shoe manufacture, and shipping service.

## 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 25th February, 1929 (including those temporarily stopped as well as those wholly unemployed) was 12.2 as compared with 12.3 at 21st January, 1929, and 10.4 at 20th February, 1928. For males alone the percentage at 25th February, 1929, was 13.9, as compared with 13.8 at 21st January, 1929; for females the corresponding figures were 7.9 and 8.5. The percentage wholly unemployed at 25th February, 1929 was 9.8, the same percentage as at 21st January, 1929. The total number of persons (insured and uninsured) registered at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland at 25th February, 1929, was approximately 1,430,000, of whom 1,137,000 were men and 218,000 were women, the remainder being boys and girls; at 28th January, 1929, it was 1,434,000, of whom 1,113,000 were men and 236,000 were women; and at 27th February, 1928, it was 1,139,000, of whom 911,000 were men and 158,000 were women.

## EMPLOYMENT IN THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES.

*Mining and Quarrying.*—In the coal mining industry employment showed a marked improvement as compared with January. The total number of wage-earners on the colliery books at 23rd February, 1929 was 917,516, an increase of 1.2 per cent. as compared with 26th January, 1929, but a decrease of 4.2 as compared with 25th February, 1928. The average number of days worked per week in the fortnight ended 23rd February, 1929, was 5.46, as compared with 5.24 in the fortnight ended 26th January, 1929, and 4.84 in the fortnight ended 25th February, 1928.

In the iron-mining industry employment remained slack, and a further slight decrease was shown in the numbers employed at the mines from which returns were received. In the West Lothian shale mines also there was a slight decrease compared with the previous month. At limestone quarries in the Weardale district employment continued moderate; in the Clitheroe and Buxton districts adverse weather conditions caused considerable temporary unemployment. At the slate quarries in North Wales employment was reported as bad, owing chiefly to the frost and snow. At chalk quarries it was again slack. With tin miners employment continued good, but with china clay quarrymen it was slack.

*Manufacture of Pig Iron, Iron and Steel, and Tinplate.*—In the pig-iron industry employment showed little change on the whole as compared with the previous month. Of 424 furnaces, the number in blast at the end of February, 1929, was 140, as compared with 139 at the end of January, 1929, and with 148 at the end of February, 1928. At iron and steel works employment continued bad, and showed little change as compared with the previous month. In the tinplate industry the arrangement for stabilising prices and regulating output, providing for each works to stop three weeks out of every thirteen, continued. In the week ended 2nd March, 378 mills were in operation at the works for which information is available, as compared with 386 in the week ended 26th January, 1929, and with 322 in the week ended 25th February, 1928. In steel sheet manufacture employment continued fair generally; in the week ended 2nd March, 128 mills were in operation, as compared with 131 in the week ended 26th January, and 113 in the week ended 28th February, 1928.

*Engineering, Shipbuilding and Metal Industries.*—In engineering employment improved a little, but was still very slack on the whole. It remained fairly good in electrical engineering and fair on motor vehicle work. In marine engineering it was still very bad, but continued to improve; and an improvement was also experienced in the textile machinery section, although much short time was still worked. In constructional engineering a further decline was reported and employment remained bad; while a curtailed week was still in operation at some locomotive works. In shipbuilding

and ship-repairing employment was very bad during February, but again showed a slight improvement on the whole.

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

*Textile Industries.*—In the cotton industry employment showed a slight decline in all sections of the industry, and in almost all centres. In the Egyptian spinning section the recommendation to curtail production in the Bolton district by 33½ per cent. for a period of eight weeks was put into effect, and was followed to some extent by spinners of Egyptian cotton in other districts. The American spinning section showed little change; in the weaving section employment was at a lower level than during January. In the wool textile industry employment continued to be depressed, but there was a reduction in the number of insured workpeople unemployed which affected chiefly those temporarily stopped. In the carpet industry employment continued fair but showed some decline.

In the hosiery industry employment was fair and rather better than in January; in the silk and artificial silk trades employment showed a slight improvement; in the lace trade it continued slack, with much unemployment and short time; it was also slack in the linen trade. In the jute trade employment showed little change; in textile bleaching, printing, dyeing, etc., it showed a slight improvement but was still slack, with much short time working.

*Clothing Industries.*—Employment in the retail bespoke and ready-made and wholesale bespoke branches of the tailoring trade was slack to moderate, on the whole, and showed a slight improvement in some districts. In the dressmaking and millinery trades employment continued moderate and showed little change; it remained fairly good in most districts in the shirt and collar and corset trades. In felt hat manufacture employment continued to improve. In the boot and shoe industry employment continued slack, but showed a slight improvement as compared with January at some centres.

*Leather Trades.*—Employment showed a further decline in several centres; in the tanning and currying sections and with saddlery and harness makers it was slack, and in the portmanteau, trunk, and fancy leather section it was moderate.

*Building, Woodworking, etc.*—In the building trades the severe weather conditions during February caused abnormal unemployment among all classes of operatives except plumbers. As regards individual occupations employment declined with carpenters and was generally slack; it declined considerably with bricklayers, masons, slaters, plasterers and labourers, and was bad with these classes in the majority of districts. There was an improvement with painters, but employment continued bad on the whole, it was much better with plumbers and was reported as good at most centres. In brick manufacture employment showed a further decline with much short time working on account of bad weather; in the Peterborough district it was still good.

Employment in the furnishing trades continued fairly good but some seasonal slackness was reported; in sawmilling it was quiet; with coachbuilders it was moderate.

*Paper Manufacture, Printing and Bookbinding.*—With paper makers employment was generally fairly good, and showed an improvement in several districts. With letterpress printers employment showed a general improvement; it was reported as good in London, and as good or fairly good in most of the large provincial centres; with electrotypers and stereotypers employment generally continued good. With lithographic printers employment was fair on the whole, and showed an improvement. With bookbinders it was fair on the whole, but not so good as in January.

*Pottery and Glass.*—In the pottery industry employment on the whole was better than in January, but short time working was still prevalent. In the glass trade employment showed little change; in the bottle-making section it continued bad.

*Agriculture and Fishing.*—In agriculture, owing to the restrictions on outdoor operations due to bad weather, cultivation was practically at a standstill, and the only outdoor work possible was the carting and spreading of manure. In some districts there was a certain amount of unemployment among casual labourers. With fishermen employment continued slack.

*Dock Labourers and Seamen.*—With dock labourers employment remained slack. With seamen employment was quiet on the whole; the number of engagements was considerably less than in the previous month.

## SUMMARY OF EMPLOYERS' RETURNS.

In Tables which appear on subsequent pages of this GAZETTE detailed statistics bearing on the state of employment during February are given, based on information obtained from employers or employers' association, 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 February, 1929.	February, 1929.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) as compared with a	
			Month before.	Year before.
		Days Worked per week by Mines.	Days.	Days.
Coal Mining ...	917,516	5.46	+ 0.22	+ 0.62
Iron „ ...	6,329	5.61	+ 0.22	— 0.10
Shale „ ...	2,516	6.00	+ 0.02	...
		Furnaces in Blast.	Number.	Number.
Pig Iron... ..	...	140	+ 1	— 8
		Mills working.	— 11*	+ 71
Tinplate and Steel Sheet	...	506		
		Shifts Worked (one week)	Per cent.	Per cent.
Iron and Steel ...	66,775	367,812	+ 0.3	+ 1.9

\* Revised figure.

(b) OTHER INDUSTRIES.

Industry.	Number of Workpeople Employed.			Total Wages Paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 23rd Feb., 1929.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) on a		Week ended 23rd Feb., 1929.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) on a	
		Month before.	Year before.		Month before.	Year before.
Textiles:—		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Cotton ...	76,611	— 2.3	— 0.9	138,703	— 4.3	— 4.1
Woollen ...	58,013	— 0.7	— 4.0	114,350	— 0.3	— 7.5
Worsted ...	83,644	— 0.7	— 5.6	158,323	— 1.3	— 10.6
Carpet ...	9,450	— 1.7	+ 1.0	16,467	— 3.0	— 5.0
Boot and Shoe ...	48,766	— 0.5	— 7.2	102,605	— 0.5	— 17.2
Pottery ...	10,354	— 1.1	+ 0.3	18,748	— 1.8	— 2.5
Brick ...	7,724	— 9.9	— 5.7	19,276	— 12.9	— 7.2

UNEMPLOYMENT SUMMARY BY DISTRICTS.

The following Table shows the variations in the rates of unemployment at 25th February, 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 25th February 1929.			Increase (+) or Decrease (—) in Total Percentages as compared with a	
		Males.	Females.	Total.	Month before.	Year before.
London ...	2,147,530	9.2	3.7	7.4	+ 0.3	+ 1.1
South-Eastern ...	867,940	10.0	4.6	8.8	+ 1.0	+ 2.2
South-Western ...	815,570	11.6	6.3	10.4	+ 0.3	+ 1.3
Midlands ...	1,749,770	11.8	9.1	11.0	— 0.2	+ 2.3
North-Eastern ...	1,968,990	17.5	10.1	15.9	— 0.8	+ 2.3
North-Western ...	2,094,200	14.8	10.4	13.3	— 0.4	+ 2.2
Scotland... ..	1,263,600	16.4	8.1	14.1	+ 0.1	+ 3.1
Wales ...	592,400	22.8	10.5	21.6	...	— 1.9
Northern Ireland	251,000	18.4	13.3	16.4	— 1.1	+ 3.4
Special Schemes	130,500	2.4	0.5	1.8	...	+ 0.4
<b>TOTAL ...</b>	<b>11,881,500</b>	<b>13.9</b>	<b>7.9</b>	<b>12.2</b>	<b>— 0.1</b>	<b>+ 1.8</b>

UNEMPLOYMENT DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS.

The following Table shows, month by month from February 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.	
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	26 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
25 Feb. ...	13.9	7.9	9.8	2.4	12.2	25 Feb. ...	1,430,000

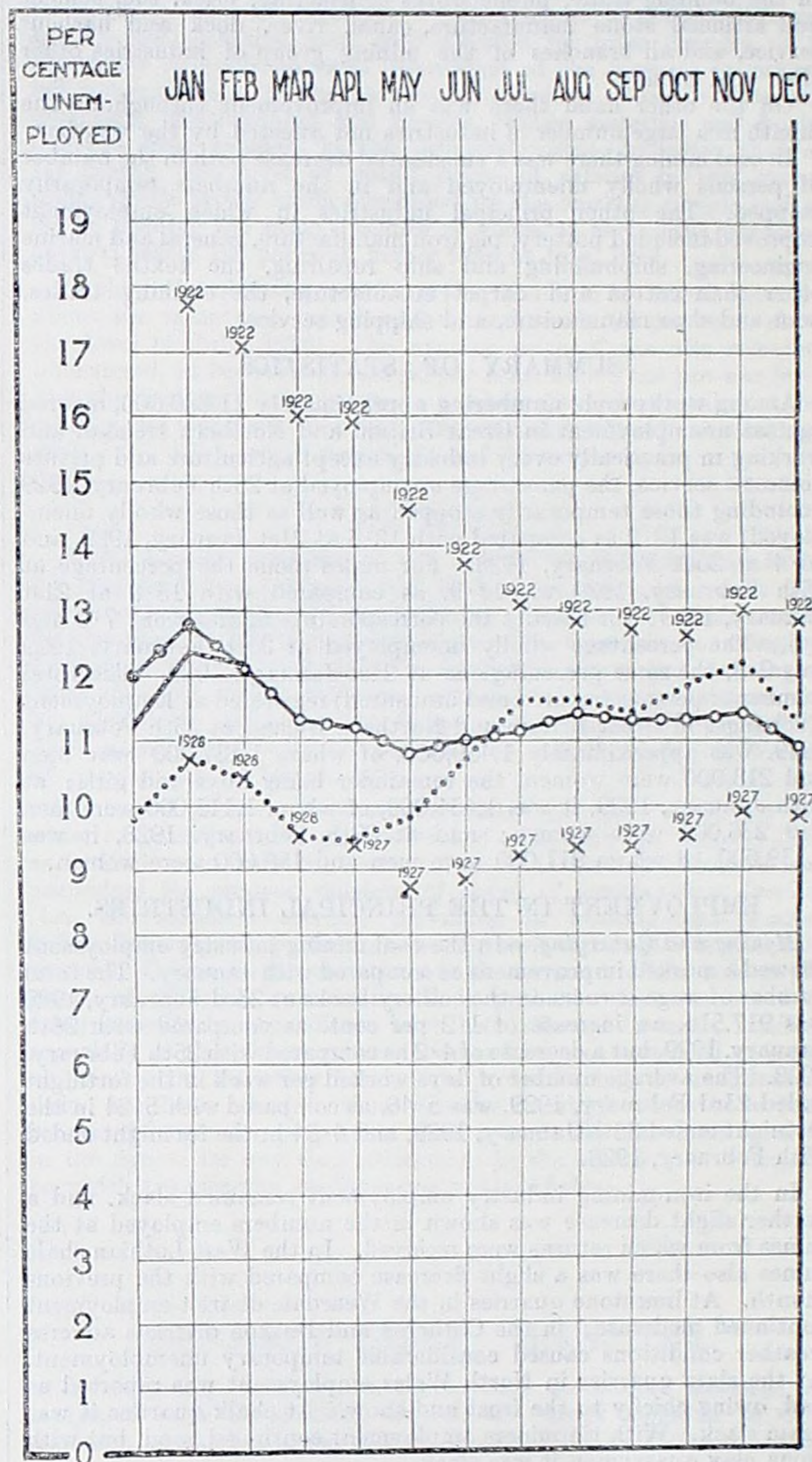
UNEMPLOYMENT CHART.

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 FEBRUARY, 1929.

Area.	Men.	Boys.	Women.	Girls.	Total.	
					Number.	Percentage of Numbers Insured at July, 1928.
South-Eastern:						
(a) London ...	956	4,580	1,946	4,046	11,528	0.54
(b) Rest of South-Eastern ...	880	2,059	673	1,390	5,002	0.58
South-Western ...	681	1,770	513	1,163	4,127	0.51
Midlands ...	748	3,592	748	3,099	8,187	0.47
North-Eastern ...	799	4,299	799	2,457	8,354	0.42
North-Western ...	793	3,653	868	3,269	8,583	0.41
Scotland ...	802	2,746	686	2,200	6,434	0.51
Wales... ..	467	1,619	230	429	2,745	0.46
<b>GREAT BRITAIN ...</b>	<b>6,126</b>	<b>24,318</b>	<b>6,463</b>	<b>18,053</b>	<b>54,960</b>	<b>0.48</b>

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



## 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 February showed a marked improvement as compared with January. The severe weather experienced during the month accounted, in part, for the increased demand for coal. Full-time working was reported from many centres, and the output quota of the Five Counties Marketing Scheme was advanced to 80 per cent.; in some areas of the scheme the restrictions were suspended.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 15.3 at 25th February, 1929, as compared with 19.1 at 21st January, 1929, and 18.5 at 20th February, 1928. The percentage wholly unemployed decreased by 1.5 from 15.3 to 13.8 and the percentage temporarily stopped by 2.3 from 3.8 to 1.5.

The total number of wage earners on the colliery books at 23rd February, 1929, showed an increase of 1.2 per cent. as compared with 26th January, 1929, but a decrease of 4.2 per cent. as compared with 25th February, 1928.

The average number of days worked per week in the fortnight ended 23rd February, 1929, was 5.46, an increase of 0.22 of a day as compared with the fortnight ended 26th January, 1929, and an increase of 0.62 of a day as compared with the fortnight ended 25th February, 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 23rd February, 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.*			
	23rd Feb. 1929.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a	Fort- night ended 23rd Feb., 1929.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a		
				Month before.	Year before.	
ENGLAND AND WALES :		Percent	Percent	Days.	Days.	
Northumberland ...	47,673	+1.4	+ 5.0	5.47	-0.04	+0.19
Durham ...	130,827	+1.3	+ 3.7	5.36	+0.01	+0.27
Cumberland and West- morland ...	9,420	+2.4	-23.8	5.53	+0.22	+0.88
South Yorkshire ...	116,174	+1.1	- 4.9	5.42	+0.39	+0.56
West Yorkshire ...	52,563	+0.3	-13.2	5.39	+0.88	+1.15
Lancs and Cheshire ...	77,961	+1.0	- 6.5	5.21	+0.61	+0.86
Derbyshire ...	55,693	+0.3	- 3.2	5.29	+0.57	+1.09
Notts and Leicester...	60,942	+0.2	- 6.8	5.45	+0.80	+1.48
Warwick ...	17,064	+0.9	- 7.8	5.89	+0.29	+0.61
North Staffordshire	28,617	+0.6	-10.6	5.22	+0.53	+0.48
South Staffs,† Worcs and Salop ...	31,563	+0.7	- 3.9	5.69	+0.34	+0.69
Glos and Somerset...	10,846	+0.2	- 7.1	5.45	+0.04	+1.12
Kent ...	3,909	+0.7	+20.9	5.50	+0.04	-0.01
North Wales...	14,563	+0.1	- 2.1	5.88	-0.03	+0.74
South Wales and Mon.	165,607	+2.5	- 2.4	5.51	-0.36	+0.36
England and Wales	823,422	+1.2	- 3.8	5.43	+0.24	+0.65
SCOTLAND :						
Mid & East Lothians	12,951	-0.4	+ 1.3	5.60	-0.03	+0.25
Fife and Clackmannan	21,647	-0.1	- 5.3	5.64	-0.05	+0.43
Rest of Scotland ...	59,496	+1.5	-10.4	5.81	+0.07	+0.38
Scotland ...	94,094	+0.8	- 7.8	5.74	+0.02	+0.37
GREAT BRITAIN ...	917,516	+1.2	- 4.2	5.46	+0.22	+0.62

The average number of coal winding days lost in Great Britain during the fortnight ended 23rd February, 1929, was 0.34 of a day per week, of which 0.28 of a day was due to want of trade and transport difficulties. The corresponding figures for the fortnight ended 26th January, 1929, were 0.56 of a day per week, and 0.52 of a day per week respectively; and, for the fortnight ended 25th February, 1928, they were 0.96 of a day per week and 0.87 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 23rd February, 1929, was reported to the Mines Department as 21,325,900 tons, as compared with 19,814,300 tons in the four weeks ended 26th January, 1929, and 20,119,300 tons in the four weeks ended 25th February, 1928. The output of coal for the four weeks ended 26th January, 1929, was affected by holidays.

The numbers and percentages unemployed among insured workpeople in the respective areas at 25th February, 1929, and the

\* 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.

increases or decreases as compared with 21st January, 1929, and 20th February, 1928, are shown in the following Table:—

Area.	Insured Persons Recorded as Unemployed at 25th February, 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 ...	154,444	15,991	13.8	1.5	15.3	—3.8	—3.2
England and Wales...	133,358	15,197	13.5	1.5	15.0	—4.2	—4.1
Scotland...	21,086	794	16.5	0.6	17.1	—1.4	+2.9
Principal Districts in England and Wales:—							
Northumberland...	7,625	216	14.3	0.4	14.7	—0.9	—4.5
Durham ...	26,157	790	16.4	0.5	16.9	—1.3	—4.7
Cumberland and Westmorland...	2,370	326	19.0	2.6	21.6	—0.6	+5.1
Yorkshire ...	18,202	1,478	9.7	0.8	10.5	—7.5	—1.1
Lancs and Cheshire ...	10,353	2,711	10.7	2.8	13.5	—11.7	—5.2
Derbyshire ...	3,363	417	5.4	0.7	6.1	—4.5	—11.4
Notts and Leicester ...	3,707	507	5.5	0.7	6.2	—4.9	—2.3
Warwickshire	1,091	32	8.2	0.3	8.5	—1.0	+3.0
Staffs, Worcs and Salop ...	7,193	1,070	9.6	1.5	11.1	—6.6	+1.5
Glos and Somerset ...	1,618	377	11.9	2.8	14.7	—2.9	—7.8
Kent ...	173	10	4.6	0.2	4.8	...	+0.8
Wales and Monmouth ...	50,644	7,215	20.9	2.9	23.8	—0.7	—6.4

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 5,526,100 tons in February, 1929, as compared with 6,417,300 tons in January, 1929, and with 5,688,700 tons in February, 1928.

### IRON AND SHALE MINING.

#### IRON MINING.

EMPLOYMENT continued slack, and again showed a slight decline 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 14.1 at 25th February, 1929, as compared with 13.4 at 21st January, 1929, and 16.4 at 20th February, 1928.

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

Districts.	Number of Work- people employed at Mines included in the Returns.			Average No. of Days worked per week by the Mines.*		
	Fort- night ended 23rd Feb., 1929.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) as com- pared with a		Fort- night ended 23rd Feb., 1929.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) as com- pared with a	
		Month before.	Year before.		Month before.	Year before.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	Days.	Days.	Days.
Cleveland ...	2,271	— 1·3	+ 3·5	5·13	+ 0·67	— 0·67
Cumberland and Lancashire ...	2,885	— 2·3	+ 5·2	5·91	— 0·09	+ 0·24
Other Districts ...	1,173	— 0·5	+ 4·3	5·80	+ 0·12	+ 0·16
ALL DISTRICTS	6,329	— 1·6	+ 4·4	5·61	+ 0·22	— 0·10

#### SHALE MINING.

The number of workpeople employed at the West Lothian mines during the fortnight ended 23rd February, 1929, by firms making returns was 2,516, showing a decrease of 0.1 per cent. compared with the previous month, but an increase of 0.4 per cent. compared with February, 1928. The average number of days\* worked per week by the mines making returns was 6.00 in February, 1929, as compared with 5.98 in January, 1929, and 6.00 in February, 1928.

### PIG IRON INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT during February showed little change on the whole as compared with January, the improvement reported last month being maintained. The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 16.1 at 25th February, 1929, as compared with 18.7 at 21st January, 1929, and with 14.2 at 20th February, 1928.

\* See footnote \* in previous columns.



According to returns received by the National Federation of Iron and Steel Manufacturers, 140 furnaces were in operation at the end of February, compared with 139 at the end of January, and 148 at the end of February, 1928.

Returns received from 79 firms, employing 18,208 workpeople at the end of February, showed no change as compared with January, but a decrease of 4·3 per cent. as compared with February, 1928.

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

District.	Total Number of Furnaces.	Number of Furnaces in Blast.			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Feb., 1929.	Jan., 1929.	Feb., 1928.	Month before	Year before.
ENGLAND AND WALES.						
Durham and Cleveland	97	37	35	39	+ 2	- 2
Cumberland and W. Lancs ... ..	44	11	11	10	...	+ 1
Parts of Lancs and Yorks (including Sheffield) ... ..	31	9	9	10	...	- 1
Derby, Leicester, Notts and Northants ...	65	29	28	30	+ 1	- 1
Lincolnshire ... ..	24	14	14	13	...	+ 1
Staffs, Shropshire, Worcester and War- wick ... ..	50	11	12	10	- 1	+ 1
South Wales ... ..	23	8	9	8	- 1	...
Total, England and Wales	334	119	118	120	+ 1	- 1
SCOTLAND ... ..						
Total ... ..	424	140	139	148	+ 1	- 8

The production of pig iron in February amounted to 519,600 tons, as compared with 563,900 tons in January, and 550,800 tons in February 1928.

### IRON AND STEEL MANUFACTURE.

EMPLOYMENT in February continued 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 19·8 on 25th February, 1929, as compared with 20·2 on 21st January, 1929, and 19·3 on 20th February, 1928.

According to returns received from firms employing 66,775 workpeople in the week ended 23rd February, 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) increased by 0·3 per cent. as compared with January, 1929, and by 1·9 per cent. as compared with February, 1928. The average number of shifts\* during which the works were open was 5·5 in February, 1929, the same as in January, 1929, as compared with 5·4 in February, 1928.

The following Table summarises the information received 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 23rd Feb., 1929.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a	Week ended 23rd Feb., 1929.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a	Month before.	Year before.
		Month before.		Month before.		
		Year before.		Year before.		
		Per cent.		Per cent.		
Open Hearth Melting Furnaces ...	7,281	+ 0·7	40,776	+ 0·8	- 3·1	
Puddling Forges ...	1,786	+ 11·8	8,293	+ 7·7	+ 4·6	
Rolling Mills ...	24,897	+ 1·6	130,984	+ 1·8	+ 4·9	
Forging & Pressing	2,911	- 2·2	15,635	+ 0·5	+ 7·9	
Founding ...	7,674	- 1·1	44,432	- 0·7	- 0·7	
Other Departments	8,122	- 4·5	46,233	- 4·4	- 2·3	
Mechanics, Labourers ...	14,104	+ 0·2	81,459	+ 0·4	+ 2·3	
TOTAL ...	66,775	+ 0·2	367,812	+ 0·3	+ 1·9	
<b>DISTRICTS.</b>						
Northumberland, Durham and Cleveland ...	14,179	+ 1·0	80,468	+ 0·5	- 2·3	
Sheffield & Rotherham ...	17,939	- 1·4	96,406	- 0·5	+ 1·2	
Leeds, Bradford, etc. ...	1,409	+ 2·0	7,901	+ 5·0	- 0·2	
Cumberland, Lancs. and Cheshire ...	7,250	- 2·6	37,803	- 3·6	- 1·2	
Staffordshire ...	5,508	+ 3·8	30,132	+ 1·9	+ 15·2	
Other Midland Counties ...	3,416	+ 1·9	19,525	+ 3·2	+ 4·0	
Wales and Monmouth ...	6,531	+ 0·5	36,406	+ 1·0	+ 3·7	
Total, England and Wales ...	56,232	+ 0·0	308,641	+ 0·1	+ 1·6	
Scotland ...	10,543	+ 1·0	59,171	+ 1·3	+ 3·3	
TOTAL ...	66,775	+ 0·2	367,812	+ 0·3	+ 1·9	

\* 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 782,900 tons in February, 1929, as compared with 764,600 tons in January, 1929, and 764,400 tons in February, 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 2nd March, 1929, 378 tinplate mills were in operation at works for which information is available, as compared with 386\* in the week ended 26th January, 1929, and with 322 in the week ended 25th February, 1928. The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 22·2 at 25th February, 1929, as compared with 22·9 at 21st January, 1929, and 38·3 at 20th February, 1928. In steel sheet manufacture employment continued fair generally. In the week ended 2nd March, 1929, 128 mills were in operation, as compared with 131 in the week ended 26th January, 1929, and 113 at the end of February, 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 2nd Mar., 1929.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 2nd Mar., 1929.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month before.	Year before.		Month before.	Year before.
Tinplate ...	65	- 5	+ 2	378	- 8*	+ 56
Steel Sheet	13	- 1	+ 1	128	- 3	+ 15
TOTAL ...	78	- 6	+ 3	506	- 11*	+ 71

The exports of tinned and galvanised plates and sheets in February, 1929, amounted to 111,959 tons, or 18,723 tons less than in January, 1929, but 9,054 tons more than in February, 1928.

### ENGINEERING.

EMPLOYMENT in February improved a little, but was still very slack on the whole. It remained fairly good in electrical engineering and fair on motor vehicle work. In marine engineering it was still very bad, but continued to improve; and an improvement was also experienced in the textile machinery section, although much short time was still worked. In constructional engineering, a further decline was reported and employment remained bad; while a curtailed week was still in operation at some locomotive works.

Compared with a year ago, there was a decline in all sections, the falling off being most marked in marine and constructional engineering.

The following Table shows the numbers and percentages of insured workpeople unemployed at 25th February, 1929, and the increase or decrease as compared with a month before and a year before:—

Division.	Number of Insured Workpeople Unemployed at 25th February, 1929.						Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a	
	Engineering; Engineers' Iron and Steel Founding.	Electrical Engineering.	Marine Engineering, etc.	Constructional Engineering.	Construction and Repair of Motor Vehicles, Cycles, and Aircraft.	TOTAL.	Month before.	Year before.
London ...	4,066	436	71	223	1,687	6,483	+ 155	- 226
South-Eastern	2,209	271	164	95	1,668	4,407	- 107	+ 480
South-Western	1,907	145	628	81	1,256	4,017	- 53	- 115
Midlands ...	6,918	988	68	762	7,571	16,307	+ 554	+ 1,759
North-Eastern	16,631	845	3,565	796	985	22,822	- 1,218	+ 2,207
North-Western	17,389	1,276	141	313	1,430	20,549	- 3,141	+ 406
Scotland ...	8,941	266	1,892	1,007	1,161	13,267	+ 290	+ 2,014
Wales ...	802	44	41	164	225	1,276	- 98	- 261
Northern Ireland	10	18	440	10	171	1,449	- 260	- 828
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND ...	59,673	4,289	7,010	3,451	16,154	90,577	- 3,878	+ 5,436
<b>Percentage Unemployed at 25th February, 1929.</b>								
London ...	5·1	3·5	9·2	8·3	4·5	4·9	+ 0·1	- 0·2
South-Eastern	4·7	3·8	7·2	13·0	6·1	5·2	- 0·1	+ 0·3
South-Western	5·6	4·5	10·3	14·0	4·7	5·7	- 0·1	- 0·2
Midlands ...	8·0	3·9	4·8	11·5	7·8	7·5	+ 0·2	+ 0·8
North-Eastern	14·2	10·2	17·4	10·9	7·7	13·7	- 0·8	+ 1·1
North-Western	13·3	6·4	16·8	10·4	7·7	11·9	- 1·8	+ 0·2
Scotland ...	11·9	10·1	10·4	18·1	10·8	11·8	+ 0·2	+ 1·7
Wales ...	14·8	11·3	20·5	21·9	10·7	14·4	- 1·1	- 1·7
Northern Ireland	11·8	6·2	9·1	33·3	7·5	10·1	- 1·8	- 6·4
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND ...	10·3	5·4	12·7	12·6	6·9	9·3	- 0·3	+ 0·5
Ditto, Jan., 1929	10·9	5·3	13·4	12·3	6·9	9·6	—	—
Ditto, Feb., 1928	9·8	4·8	11·8	10·0	6·7	8·8	—	—

\* Revised figures.



On the North-East Coast, employment remained bad but improved in general and marine engineering. In Yorkshire and Lincolnshire, conditions continued moderate but exhibited a slight improvement.

In Lancashire and Cheshire, employment continued bad but showed improvement. Conditions in the motor vehicle and electrical sections remained moderate; but short time was still largely in operation in the textile machinery section, although some improvement was reported.

In the Birmingham, Wolverhampton and Coventry district, employment remained fair on the whole and good on electrical work. In the Nottingham, Derby and Leicester district, it continued fair on the whole.

In London and the Southern Counties, employment remained good in electrical engineering. There was some decline in general engineering and an improvement on motor work, but conditions in both sections continued fairly good.

In Scotland employment was again bad and showed a slight decline, principally in the motor vehicle section.

In Wales, conditions continued bad but showed some improvement. In Northern Ireland, employment improved in general engineering but remained bad on the whole.

## SHIPBUILDING AND SHIP-REPAIRING.

EMPLOYMENT was very bad during February, especially on the North-East Coast and in Wales, but again showed a slight improvement on the whole, chiefly owing to a further substantial improvement on the North-East Coast, where the percentage unemployed was reduced to 35.4. An improvement was also shown in Scotland, in Northern Ireland, and in London. In other districts employment showed a decline, and in Wales the percentage unemployed rose to 45.0. In the South-Eastern and South-Western Divisions employment, though showing a slight decline, 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 some improvement on the whole.

The following Table shows the numbers and percentages of insured workpeople unemployed at 25th February, 1929, and the increase or decrease as compared with 21st January, 1929, and with 20th February, 1928 :—

Divisions.	Total Number of Insured Workpeople Unemployed at 25th Feb., 1929.	Increase (+) or Decrease (—) in Numbers Unemployed as compared with a		Percentage Unemployed at 25th Feb., 1929.	Increase (+) or Decrease (—) in Percentage Unemployed as compared with a	
		Month before.	Year before.		Month before.	Year before.
London ...	1,693	— 296	— 512	17.0	— 2.9	— 3.8
South-Eastern ...	749	+ 38	— 143	10.2	+ 0.5	— 0.9
South-Western...	2,380	+ 365	+ 86	11.1	+ 1.7	+ 0.6
Midlands ...	58	+ 21	+ 14	14.9	+ 5.4	+ 5.1
North-Eastern ...	20,971	— 3,889	+ 7,327	35.4	— 6.5	+ 12.1
North-Western	6,101	+ 729	— 954	22.0	+ 2.6	— 2.4
Scotland ...	14,323	— 860	+ 4,321	25.1	— 1.5	+ 7.7
Wales ...	3,723	+ 567	+ 541	45.0	+ 6.8	+ 13.9
Northern Ireland	2,204	— 420	— 2,247	19.9	— 3.8	— 15.7
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND ...	52,202	— 3,745	+ 8,433	25.8	— 1.8	+ 4.8

## COTTON INDUSTRY.

There was a slight decline in employment during February, in all sections of the industry, and in almost all centres. In the Egyptian spinning section the recommendation of the Bolton Cotton Spinners' Association to curtail production in the Bolton district by 33½ per cent. for a period of 8 weeks was put into effect, and was followed to some extent by spinners of Egyptian cotton in other districts. In some cases mills were entirely closed for two days in the week; in others, spindles representing the equivalent of 33½ per cent. of productive capacity were stopped. The American spinning section showed little change. The State of Trade Committee of the Master Cotton Spinners' Federation decided, on 8th March, to take a ballot to ascertain whether the members of the American section were in favour of stopping on Saturdays and Mondays during the month of April.

In the weaving section employment was at a lower level than during January or during February of last year. More mills were working in certain districts, but many weavers had not their full complement of looms. The fine cloth manufacturing section was in a better position than the section engaged in making coarser cloths.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 11.9 on 25th February, 1929, as compared with 11.3 on 21st January, 1929, and with 8.7 on 20th February, 1928.

At Ashton employment amongst spinners was slack in the American section, and showed a decline in the Egyptian section. There was a shortage of weavers at Hyde and at Glossop; at the latter place the demand was partly due to the large number of operatives absent through sickness. A slight improvement was reported at Stockport. The improvement in the spinning section

in the Oldham district was maintained. Employment in the manufacturing section was slack generally, short time being prevalent; in the velvet section, however, employment was better than in the previous month. Production in the Egyptian spinning section at Bolton was curtailed, as from 18th February, to the extent of 33½ per cent. The unsatisfactory conditions in the weaving section continued, short time being worked with a loss of two and a half days a week on the average. Organised short time working was introduced in the Egyptian spinning section at Leigh, but a slight improvement was recorded in the winding and weaving sections. Short time working still prevailed at Bury, and the position at Rochdale remained unsatisfactory.

The slight improvement reported last month at Preston continued; the majority of mills were running, but the operatives were not all fully employed. Employment at Blackburn remained poor, though there was some demand for weavers to fill the places of those absent through sickness. At Chorley there was little change. No material change occurred at Great Harwood. Winders and warpers at Accrington were irregularly employed, and employment was slack with weavers of coarse materials; fine weavers, however, were well employed, and there was an actual scarcity of these workers. The improvement amongst weavers reported last month at Darwen was maintained. Employment amongst weavers and winders improved slightly at Burnley, but large numbers remained unemployed. At Padiham employment amongst weavers was fairly good. A slight improvement took place at Nelson; here also the demand was partly owing to the prevalence of influenza. Unsatisfactory conditions continued at Colne.

In Yorkshire generally employment showed little change; it was worse in the American spinning section than in the Egyptian. There was a slight decline at Huddersfield and at Sowerby Bridge, where all firms had sections on short time. Many weavers at Todmorden were reported to be working three instead of four looms. Employment was quiet at Dewsbury. Improvements were, however, reported at Keighley and at Skipton, many operatives having resumed full time working.

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

DEPARTMENTS.	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 23rd Feb., 1929.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) on a		Week ended 23rd Feb., 1929.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) on a	
		Month before.	Year before.		Month before.	Year before.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Preparing ...	10,520	— 1.4	— 0.2	17,494	— 4.0	— 2.9
Spinning ...	20,000	— 1.2	— 0.9	34,213	— 4.8	— 3.1
Weaving ...	31,704	— 2.1	— 3.0	54,360	— 3.9	— 6.1
Other ...	7,590	— 1.3	+ 1.2	18,505	— 2.3	— 0.6
Not Specified ...	6,797	— 7.9	+ 6.3	14,131	— 7.5	— 4.6
<b>TOTAL ...</b>	<b>76,611</b>	<b>— 2.3</b>	<b>— 0.9</b>	<b>138,703</b>	<b>— 4.3</b>	<b>— 4.1</b>
<b>DISTRICTS.</b>						
Ashton ...	2,767	— 2.7	— 4.5	4,654	— 3.6	— 6.3
Stockport, Glossop and Ryde ...	8,756	— 2.3	— 0.2	14,751	— 8.8	— 8.3
Oldham ...	8,354	— 1.5	— 4.5	16,609	— 1.2	— 1.3
Bolton and Leigh ...	13,083	— 7.7	+ 0.7	22,417	— 11.8	— 11.8
Bury, Rochdale, Heywood, Walsden and Todmorden ...	7,172	+ 0.4	+ 2.0	12,798	— 3.3	+ 6.6
Manchester ...	3,998	— 2.2	— 4.7	6,353	— 8.0	— 12.2
Preston and Chorley ...	5,798	— 3.0	— 5.2	9,973	— 3.6	— 8.5
Blackburn, Accrington and Darwen ...	7,226	— 0.0	+ 0.4	13,682	+ 3.9	— 2.1
Burnley, Padiham, Colne and Nelson ...	10,871	+ 0.5	+ 0.1	23,207	— 0.8	— 0.3
Other Lancashire Towns	1,824	— 3.9	+ 10.8	2,981	— 11.0	+ 2.1
Yorkshire Towns ...	4,326	— 1.3	— 0.7	7,567	— 0.8	+ 7.8
Other Districts ...	2,436	+ 1.9	— 1.8	3,711	+ 0.4	— 5.7
<b>TOTAL ...</b>	<b>76,611</b>	<b>— 2.3</b>	<b>— 0.9</b>	<b>138,703</b>	<b>— 4.3</b>	<b>— 4.1</b>

Returns from firms employing about 75,500 operatives in the week ended 23rd February showed that nearly 15 per cent. were on short time in that week, with a loss of 13 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 25th February, 1929 :—

Department.	Numbers (excluding Casuals) on the Registers at 25th February 1929.						
	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.			Total.
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
Card and Blow- ing Room ...	695	2,795	3,490	1,110	4,331	5,441	8,931
Spinning ...	3,679	2,382	6,061	6,435	4,167	10,602	16,663
Beaming, Wind- ing and Warp- ing ...	554	2,079	2,633	1,105	5,828	6,933	9,566
Weaving ...	1,294	3,379	4,673	1,124	3,589	4,713	9,386
Other Processes	452	191	643	304	140	444	1,087
Total ...	6,674	10,826	17,500	10,078	18,055	28,133	45,633



The following Table shows the increases and decreases as compared with 21st January, 1929:—

Department.	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.			Total.
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
Card and Blowing Room ...	- 293	- 978	- 1,271	+ 306	+ 1,099	+ 1,405	+ 134
Spinning ...	- 274	- 435	- 709	+ 2,962	+ 931	+ 3,893	+ 3,184
Beaming, Winding and Warp- ing ...	- 72	- 498	- 570	- 15	- 318	- 333	- 903
Weaving ...	- 531	- 2,242	- 2,773	- 266	- 1,353	- 1,619	- 4,392
Other Pro- cesses ...	- 42	- 59	- 101	+ 1	- 215	- 214	- 315
Total ...	- 1,212	- 4,212	- 5,424	+ 2,988	+ 144	+ 3,132	- 2,292

The imports (less re-exports) of raw cotton (including cotton linters) were 125,394,400 lbs. in February, 1929, compared with 237,528,000 in January, 1929, and with 129,227,800 lbs. in February, 1928.

The exports of cotton yarn were 13,707,000 lbs. in February, 1929, compared with 16,923,900 lbs. in January, 1929, and with 14,491,400 lbs. in February, 1928.

The exports of cotton piece goods were 326,069,800 square yards, as compared with 379,342,300 square yards in the previous month, and with 316,199,900 square yards in February, 1928.

## WOOL TEXTILE INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT during February continued depressed in both the woollen and worsted sections. In the carpet industry employment continued fair, but was not so good as in January. In all three sections of the wool textile trade employment was below the level of a year ago.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed (including those temporarily stopped), as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 13.1 on 25th February, 1929, as compared with 15.1 on 21st January, 1929, and with 7.6 on 20th February, 1928.

**Worsted Section.**—According to the returns received from employers employment declined slightly in nearly all districts and was generally bad. These returns showed that in the week ended 23rd February nearly 28 per cent. of the operatives in the worsted section, taken as a whole, worked short time,\* losing 10 hours each on the average; on the other hand, about 5½ per cent. were reported to be working overtime to the extent of about 5½ hours each.

In the wool-sorting, preparing and combing departments there was some slight improvement with wool combers, but little change on the whole as compared with January; there was still a considerable amount of short time. In the week ended 23rd February about 35 per cent. of the operatives covered by the employers' returns lost, on an average, 14 hours each in short time. In worsted spinning, employment improved slightly in several of the principal districts, but declined in the Halifax area. According to the employers' returns, 30½ per cent. of the operatives were on short time, with a loss of over 10 hours each, during the week ended 23rd February; during the same period approximately 5½ per cent. worked overtime to the extent of 5 hours each, on the average.

In worsted weaving the decline reported last month continued in nearly all the principal districts. The employers' returns showed that 23 per cent. of the workpeople lost, on the average, about 7 hours each in short time\* during the week ended 23rd February; about 4½ per cent. worked about 5½ hours each in overtime.

**Woollen Section.**—According to the returns received from employers a further slight decline took place in the weaving section of the woollen industry, but on the whole there was little general change. Employers' returns for the week ended 23rd February showed 37 per cent. of the workers in the spinning section on short time, averaging more than 10 hours each, and 36 per cent. of those in the weaving section, averaging nearly 12 hours each.\* On the other hand, 6½ per cent. of the operatives in the spinning section were on overtime to the extent of about 11 hours each; there was little overtime amongst weavers. In the woollen section, on the whole, approximately 33½ per cent. of the operatives lost, on an average, 11 hours each in short time,\* while nearly 4½ per cent. worked overtime to the extent of about 8½ hours each.

In the Huddersfield and Colne Valley district employment remained depressed. In the Heavy Woollen District of Dewsbury and Batley and at Leeds there was little improvement, short time still being prevalent. At Halifax working hours increased slightly but no general improvement took place. Better conditions in varying degrees were reported at Morley, Otley, Guiseley and Wakefield.

In the rag-sorting section of the industry employment remained very poor. At Saddleworth employment with flannel workers declined, large numbers of workers being on short time, but at Rochdale better conditions were reported, and employment was described as fair. Woollen workers at Stockport continued to be well employed. Employment with blanket and rug workers in Yorkshire was reported as fair.

In Scotland a slight improvement took place in the tweed industry at Galashiels, Peebles and Innerleithen, but short time working was introduced at Selkirk, Hawick and Dumfries.

**Carpet Section.**—A slight decline took place in this section, but employment on the whole, continued fair. Employment remained good at Kidderminster, although short time was worked to some extent. Employment was fair in Yorkshire, while in Scotland it was satisfactory at most centres.

The employers' returns for the week ended 23rd February showed that about 12½ per cent. of the operatives were on short time, with a loss on the average of 6 hours each; no overtime was reported.

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

	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 23rd Feb., 1929.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (−) on a month before.	Index figure. (Jan., 1926 = 100.)	Week ended 23rd Feb., 1929.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (−) on a month before.	Index figure. (Jan., 1926 = 100.)
<b>Departments :</b>						
<b>WORSTED SECTION :</b>						
Wool Sorting and Combing ...	10,579	− 1.4	91.1	26,400	+ 2.6	91.1
Spinning ...	40,151	+ 0.9	96.1	61,850	+ 0.3	93.7
Weaving ...	20,479	− 3.3	95.4	40,777	− 6.1	94.2
Other Depts. ...	10,624	− 0.4	97.8	25,937	+ 0.3	92.5
Not specified ...	1,811	− 2.9	91.7	3,359	− 8.5	86.2
<b>Total—Worsted</b>	<b>83,644</b>	<b>− 0.7</b>	<b>95.3</b>	<b>158,323</b>	<b>− 1.3</b>	<b>93.1</b>
<b>WOOLLEN SECTION :</b>						
Wool Sorting ...	998	− 3.7	90.5	2,257	− 0.7	95.7
Spinning ...	12,892	− 0.4	93.0	26,515	+ 0.3	96.3
Weaving ...	23,819	− 1.2	100.4	40,999	− 1.3	100.8
Other Depts. ...	17,480	− 0.1	95.7	38,656	+ 0.2	98.5
Not specified ...	2,824	− 1.3	92.9	5,923	+ 1.6	99.8
<b>Total—Woollen</b>	<b>58,013</b>	<b>− 0.7</b>	<b>96.8</b>	<b>114,350</b>	<b>− 0.3</b>	<b>98.7</b>
<b>CARPET SECTION ...</b>	<b>9,450</b>	<b>− 1.7</b>	<b>106.9</b>	<b>16,467</b>	<b>− 3.0</b>	<b>101.3</b>
<b>Total—Wool Textile Industry</b>	<b>151,107</b>	<b>− 0.8</b>	<b>96.4</b>	<b>289,140</b>	<b>− 1.0</b>	<b>95.9</b>
<b>Districts* :</b>						
<b>WORSTED SECTION :</b>						
Bradford ...	37,749	− 0.8	91.3	75,573	− 1.0	85.1
Huddersfield ...	9,344	+ 0.5	106.8	19,700	− 0.4	113.3
Halifax ...	10,013	− 0.2	95.2	17,148	− 1.6	91.6
Leeds ...	8,136	− 3.1	91.8	14,398	− 2.5	89.2
Keighley ...	8,185	− 0.1	101.4	14,595	+ 0.9	106.6
Heavy Woollen (Dewsbury, Batley, etc.) ...	2,849	− 0.8	98.9	4,455	− 4.3	102.1
<b>Total, West Riding</b>	<b>76,276</b>	<b>− 0.7</b>	<b>95.1</b>	<b>145,869</b>	<b>− 1.0</b>	<b>92.9</b>
<b>West of England and Midlands ...</b>	<b>5,086</b>	<b>+ 0.0</b>	<b>97.5</b>	<b>8,815</b>	<b>− 4.5</b>	<b>88.1</b>
Lancashire ...	331	− 2.9	113.5	584	− 11.1	102.0
Scotland ...	1,951	− 1.7	97.5	3,055	− 0.6	126.3
<b>Total—Worsted</b>	<b>83,644</b>	<b>− 0.7</b>	<b>95.3</b>	<b>158,323</b>	<b>− 1.3</b>	<b>93.1</b>
<b>WOOLLEN SECTION :</b>						
Huddersfield ...	11,073	+ 0.4	91.8	23,507	+ 0.3	85.1
Heavy Woollen (Dewsbury, Batley, etc.) ...	11,156	+ 0.1	95.6	22,845	+ 3.0	108.5
Leeds ...	8,515	− 1.0	105.6	17,895	+ 0.9	117.3
Halifax and Calder Vale ...	2,353	− 2.1	85.0	4,540	+ 2.0	73.9
Bradford ...	1,235	− 1.8	98.9	2,601	− 1.8	91.9
<b>Total, West Riding</b>	<b>34,332</b>	<b>− 0.3</b>	<b>95.9</b>	<b>71,388</b>	<b>+ 1.3</b>	<b>98.6</b>
<b>Lancashire ...</b>	<b>4,980</b>	<b>− 4.8</b>	<b>93.7</b>	<b>9,562</b>	<b>− 8.3</b>	<b>94.6</b>
<b>West of England and Midlands ...</b>	<b>4,504</b>	<b>− 0.9</b>	<b>100.8</b>	<b>7,764</b>	<b>− 1.6</b>	<b>104.7</b>
Scotland ...	14,067	− 0.7	99.4	25,455	− 1.2	100.5
Wales ...	130	+ 91.2	118.4	181	+ 69.2	99.0
<b>Total—Woollen</b>	<b>58,013</b>	<b>− 0.7</b>	<b>96.8</b>	<b>114,350</b>	<b>− 0.3</b>	<b>98.7</b>
<b>CARPET SECTION ...</b>	<b>9,450</b>	<b>− 1.7</b>	<b>106.9</b>	<b>16,467</b>	<b>− 3.0</b>	<b>101.3</b>
<b>Total—Wool Textile Industry</b>	<b>151,107</b>	<b>− 0.8</b>	<b>96.4</b>	<b>289,140</b>	<b>− 1.0</b>	<b>95.9</b>

The following Table shows, by districts and departments, the percentage increase or decrease in the numbers employed in the week ended 23rd February, 1929, by those firms who supplied returns for the purpose of the foregoing Table (excluding the carpet section), as compared with the week ended 21st January, 1929:—

\* 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.

\* 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 (... signifies "no change"; —, without a figure, signifies "few or no workpeople returned.")					
	Wool Sorting and Combing.	Spinning.	Weaving.	Other Depts.	All Depts. (including not specified).
<b>WORSTED SECTION:</b>					
Bradford ...	- 2.2	+ 2.0	- 4.2	- 0.1	- 0.8
Huddersfield ...	...	+ 1.0	- 0.1	+ 2.1	+ 0.5
Halifax ...	- 1.9	+ 1.0	- 4.6	+ 0.3	- 0.2
Leeds ...	...	- 0.6	- 6.7	- 3.0	- 3.1
Keighley ...	- 0.9	+ 0.7	- 1.1	- 1.2	- 0.1
Heavy Woollen (Dewsbury, Batley, etc.) ...	...	+ 0.2	...	- 3.7	- 0.8
Total, West Riding ...	- 1.9	+ 1.2	- 3.5	- 0.4	- 0.7
West of England and Midlands ...	+ 10.9	- 1.5	+ 0.4	- 1.0	+ 0.0
Lancashire ...	...	- 2.9	...	...	- 2.9
Scotland ...	+ 0.4	- 3.0	...	+ 0.8	- 1.7
<b>TOTAL ...</b>	<b>- 1.4</b>	<b>+ 0.9</b>	<b>- 3.3</b>	<b>- 0.4</b>	<b>- 0.7</b>

Percentage Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in numbers employed as compared with previous month. (... signifies "no change.")				
	Spinning.	Weaving.	Other Depts.	All Depts. (including not specified).
<b>WOOLLEN SECTION:</b>				
Huddersfield ...	+ 0.5	- 2.7	+ 5.5	+ 0.4
Heavy Woollen (Dewsbury, Batley, etc.) ...	- 0.0	+ 0.9	- 0.3	+ 0.1
Leeds ...	+ 0.3	- 1.7	- 0.2	- 1.0
Halifax and Calder Vale ...	- 3.4	+ 0.8	- 1.0	- 2.1
Bradford ...	...	- 3.4	- 3.2	- 1.8
Total, West Riding ...	- 0.1	- 1.2	+ 1.3	- 0.3
Lancashire ...	- 3.9	- 6.7	- 4.7	- 4.8
West of England and Midlands ...	- 1.3	+ 2.2	- 3.4	- 0.9
Scotland ...	+ 0.2	- 0.7	- 0.9	- 0.7
Wales ...	+ 100.0	+ 92.9	+ 81.0	+ 91.2
<b>TOTAL ...</b>	<b>- 0.4</b>	<b>- 1.2</b>	<b>- 0.1</b>	<b>- 0.7</b>

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 25th February, 1929:—

Department.	Numbers (excluding Casuals) on the Registers at 25th February, 1929.						
	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.			Total.
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
Wool Sorting ...	315	1	316	254	3	257	573
Wool Washing and Preparing ...	404	228	632	575	335	910	1,542
Wool Combing ...	325	193	518	613	513	1,126	1,644
Wool Carding ...	489	110	599	651	110	761	1,360
Woollen Spinning ...	411	70	481	381	200	581	1,062
Worsted Drawing and Spinning ...	348	1,527	1,875	363	2,097	2,460	4,335
Wool Winding and Warping ...	74	27	101	194	157	351	452
Worsted Winding and Warping ...	80	224	304	109	764	873	1,177
Woollen Weaving ...	105	403	508	255	2,445	2,700	3,208
Worsted Weaving ...	134	262	396	66	1,287	1,353	1,749
Other Processes ...	722	106	828	1,054	204	1,258	2,086
Total ...	3,407	3,151	6,558	4,515	8,115	12,630	19,188

The following Table shows the increases and decreases as compared with 21st January, 1929:—

Department.	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.			Total.
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
Wool Sorting ...	+ 5	- 4	+ 1	- 65	+ 2	- 63	- 62
Wool Washing and Preparing ...	- 62	- 52	- 114	- 70	+ 57	- 13	- 127
Wool Combing ...	- 43	+ 9	- 34	- 156	- 123	- 279	- 313
Wool Carding ...	- 28	+ 2	- 26	- 186	- 30	- 216	- 242
Woollen Spinning ...	+ 73	- 44	+ 29	- 181	- 52	- 233	- 204
Worsted Drawing and Spinning ...	- 2	+ 122	+ 120	+ 8	- 928	- 920	- 800
Wool Winding and Warping ...	+ 5	+ 5	+ 10	- 28	+ 67	+ 39	+ 49
Worsted Winding and Warping ...	+ 9	- 22	- 13	+ 14	- 196	- 182	- 195
Woollen Weaving ...	+ 9	- 21	- 12	- 38	- 502	- 540	- 552
Worsted Weaving ...	+ 38	+ 7	+ 45	- 14	+ 51	+ 37	+ 82
Other Processes ...	+ 89	+ 3	+ 92	+ 134	- 55	+ 79	+ 171
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>+ 93</b>	<b>+ 5</b>	<b>+ 98</b>	<b>- 582</b>	<b>- 1,709</b>	<b>- 2,291</b>	<b>- 2,193</b>

The imports (less re-exports) of raw wool (sheeps' or lambs) were 63,157,500 lbs. in February, 1929, compared with 69,478,700 lbs. in January, 1929, and 74,441,700 lbs. in February, 1928.

The exports of woollen and worsted yarns were 2,950,700 lbs., compared with 3,637,400 lbs. in January, 1929, and with 3,605,100 lbs. in February, 1928.

The exports of woollen and worsted tissues were 14,588,300 square yards, compared with 18,562,900 square yards in January, 1929, and 14,457,700 square yards in February, 1928.

The exports of blankets were 81,998 pairs, 85,600 pairs, and 136,200 pairs in February, 1929, January, 1929, and February, 1928.

## BOOT AND SHOE INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT during February continued slack but showed a slight improvement on January at some centres. Employment was considerably worse than in February, 1928, and was below normal for the time of year.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 14.4 at 25th February, 1929, as compared with 16.9 at 21st January, 1929, and with 5.9 at 20th February, 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 23rd Feb., 1929.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 23rd Feb., 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 ...	2,180	- 0.3	- 6.7	4,672	- 1.8	- 11.4
Leicester ...	7,525	- 1.4	- 9.0	18,003	- 2.8	- 20.5
Leicester Country District ...	1,764	- 3.5	- 9.5	3,755	- 5.1	- 19.9
Northampton ...	6,414	- 1.2	- 8.4	12,999	+ 2.9	- 25.1
Northampton Country District ...	7,631	- 0.2	- 2.9	16,650	+ 0.3	- 9.6
Kettering ...	3,607	- 1.3	- 2.4	9,016	+ 1.5	- 5.9
Stafford and District ...	2,548	- 0.5	- 5.0	4,441	- 4.9	- 22.8
Norwich and District ...	4,152	+ 2.1	- 6.2	8,234	+ 2.8	- 11.6
Bristol, Kingswood and District ...	1,442	- 0.4	- 18.9	2,266	+ 2.6	- 29.6
Leeds and District ...	1,745	- 2.1	- 7.2	3,723	+ 1.5	- 12.8
Lancashire (mainly Rossendale Valley) ...	4,901	- 1.4	- 11.1	9,263	- 7.3	- 25.1
Birmingham and District ...	935	- 1.0	- 5.2	1,824	+ 3.9	- 10.3
Other parts of England and Wales ...	1,713	- 0.5	- 1.7	3,155	- 2.1	- 12.4
<b>England and Wales</b>	<b>46,557</b>	<b>- 0.8</b>	<b>- 7.1</b>	<b>98,001</b>	<b>- 0.9</b>	<b>- 17.3</b>
Scotland ...	2,209	+ 5.1	- 9.9	4,604	+ 7.3	- 14.0
<b>Great Britain</b>	<b>48,766</b>	<b>- 0.5</b>	<b>- 7.2</b>	<b>102,605</b>	<b>- 0.5</b>	<b>- 17.2</b>

Returns from firms employing about 48,200 operatives in the week ended 23rd February showed that about 50 per cent. of those operatives worked short time in that week, losing 10½ hours each on the average.

Employment in London showed little change, and was moderate on the whole. Employment at Leicester remained slack, and was below the normal level for the time of year; many of the orders received by employers were for small quantities. About 55 per cent. of the operatives covered by the employers' returns were on short time in the week ended 23rd February, losing nearly 10 hours each on the average. Employment remained bad at Hinckley, but an improvement was reported at some of the other Leicestershire centres. At Northampton there was some improvement in the latter half of the month, one or two factories working full time; over 70 per cent. of the workers covered by the employers' returns, however, were on short time in the week ended 23rd February, losing about 11½ hours each on the average. Employment at Kettering showed a further slight improvement. Some short time was still worked, and employment was not quite up to the level of February, 1928; but on the whole employment at this centre was better than at almost all the other centres. There was little change at Higham and Rushden, where employment continued poor. At Wellingborough there was an improvement; short time was still being worked to some extent, but on the other hand a little overtime was worked at some factories. At Stafford employment remained very slack; three-quarters of the workpeople covered by the returns received were on short time in the week ended 23rd February, losing about 16½ hours each on the average. At Norwich there was a further slight improvement with the larger firms, though employment was still considerably below the level of February, 1928. Several of the principal factories at Norwich were reported to be busy, and short-time working was much less prevalent than in most of the other centres.

In the Bristol and Kingswood district employment remained very bad, and nearly all the operatives covered by the employers' returns were on short time, to the extent of 14½ hours a week on the average. The position in this district was stated to be worse than it has been for many years. At Street employment continued bad, but showed a slight improvement; it remained bad at Leeds, but here also it showed some improvement.

In the slipper trade in the Rossendale Valley the depression continued, and employment was below the normal level for the time of year.

Employment was reported as bad at Glasgow, very slack at Maybole, very quiet at Edinburgh, and fair 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 25th February, 1929:—



Department.	Numbers (excluding Casuals) on the Registers at 25th February, 1929.						Total.
	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.			
	Men.	Women	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
Boot and Shoe Manu- facture :							
Preparing Depart- ment ... ..	95	40	135	132	44	176	311
Rough Stuff De- partment ... ..	399	16	415	311	17	328	743
Clicking Department	768	12	780	845	17	862	1,642
Closing Department	14	971	985	11	1,720	1,731	2,716
Making Department	1,864	21	1,885	1,721	15	1,736	3,621
Finishing Depart- ment ... ..	1,462	357	1,819	1,004	244	1,248	3,067
Slipper Making ...	521	174	695	696	614	1,310	2,005
Clog Making...	26	...	26	2	1	3	29
Repairing and Hand- sewn Work ...	539	4	543	58	...	58	601
TOTAL ... ..	5,688	1,595	7,283	4,780	2,672	7,452	14,735

The following Table shows the increases and decreases as compared with 21st January, 1929:—

Department.	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.			Total.
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
Boot and Shoe Manufacture :							
Preparing Department ...	- 41	- 5	- 46	- 37	- 15	- 52	- 98
Rough Stuff Department ...	- 47	- 3	- 50	- 108	- 9	- 117	- 167
Clicking Department ...	- 161	+ 2	- 159	- 211	- 22	- 233	- 392
Closing Department ...	+ 1	- 212	- 211	+ 8	- 147	- 139	- 350
Making Department ...	- 226	- 9	- 235	- 746	- 18	- 764	- 999
Finishing Department ...	+ 125	- 162	- 37	- 447	- 122	- 569	- 606
Slipper Making ...	+ 80	+ 41	+ 121	+ 581	- 16	+ 565	+ 686
Clog Making ...	+ 9	...	+ 9	+ 2	...	+ 2	+ 11
Repairing and Hand-sewn Work ...	+ 83	+ 4	+ 87	+ 15	...	+ 15	+ 102
<b>TOTAL ...</b>	<b>- 177</b>	<b>- 344</b>	<b>- 521</b>	<b>- 943</b>	<b>- 349</b>	<b>- 1,292</b>	<b>- 1,813</b>

The exports of boots and shoes in February, 1929, amounted to 92,591 dozen pairs, or 3,634 dozen pairs less than in January, 1929, and 23,128 dozen pairs less than in February, 1928.

### BRICK INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT during February showed a further decline, much short-time being worked owing to bad weather. In the Peterborough district it was again reported to be good.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed in the brick, tile, etc., industry, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 19·6 at 25th February, 1929, as compared with 14·9 at 21st January, 1929, and 13·7 at 20th February, 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 23rd Feb., 1929.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 23rd Feb., 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 ...	1,767	- 4·2	- 6·3	3,958	- 10·5	- 8·1
Midlands and Eastern Counties ...	4,388	- 12·9	- 5·7	11,922	- 12·6	- 5·2
South and South-West Counties and Wales ...	1,401	- 8·0	- 4·5	2,960	- 19·1	- 13·5
Scotland ...	168	...	- 8·2	436	+ 7·4	- 8·0
<b>TOTAL ...</b>	<b>7,724</b>	<b>- 9·9</b>	<b>- 5·7</b>	<b>19,276</b>	<b>- 12·9</b>	<b>- 7·2</b>

Returns from employers relative to short-time working, exclusive of time lost on account of bad weather, showed that of 7,461 workpeople employed by firms furnishing information 10·6 per cent. were working on an average 8½ hours less than full time in the week ended 23rd February, 1929; on the other hand 8·8 per cent. were working overtime to the extent of 6 hours on the average.

### BUILDING.

DURING February severe weather conditions caused abnormal unemployment among all classes of operatives except plumbers; the prolonged spell of frost during the latter part of the month resulted in the entire suspension of outdoor operations on many buildings throughout the country. As compared with February, 1928, employment was considerably worse in all areas.

As regards individual occupations, employment declined with carpenters and was generally slack; it declined considerably with bricklayers, masons, slaters, plasterers and labourers, and was bad

with these classes in the majority of districts. There was some improvement with painters, but employment continued bad on the whole; it was much better with plumbers and was reported as good at most centres. As compared with February, 1928, employment was much worse with most classes, but an improvement was recorded for plumbers.

The following Table shows the numbers and percentages of workpeople insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts, who were recorded as unemployed at 25th February, 1929, together with the increase or decrease in the percentages as compared with the previous month and with February, 1928:—

OCCUPATIONS.	Estimated Number of Insured Workpeople at July, 1928.*	Total Numbers Unemployed at 25th Feb., 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	20,198	2,592	15·9	+ 4·0	+ 4·2
Bricklayers ...	73,890	21,205	6,304	28·7	+ 12·9	+ 18·4
Masons ...	22,150	5,890	1,973	26·6	+ 9·4	+ 14·4
Slaters ...	5,940	1,819	409	30·6	+ 12·1	+ 22·5
Plasterers ...	23,430	7,695	2,085	32·8	+ 14·3	+ 14·4
Painters ...	107,380	31,742	2,172	29·6	- 4·1	+ 8·1
Plumbers ...	32,540	1,859	137	5·7	- 4·8	- 2·9
Labourers to above ...	240,930	70,422	14,162	29·2	+ 8·2	+ 13·8
All other occupations ...	183,250	41,954	5,771	22·9	+ 3·0	+ 6·2
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>816,560</b>	<b>202,784</b>	<b>35,605</b>	<b>24·8</b>	<b>+ 4·9</b>	<b>+ 9·7</b>
<b>DIVISIONS.</b>						
London ...	172,710	35,531	3,121	20·6	+ 4·1	+ 9·0
South-Eastern ...	126,940	22,534	5,384	17·8	+ 5·6	+ 8·3
South-Western ...	99,450	17,476	2,422	17·6	+ 2·0	+ 4·6
Midlands ...	93,750	26,449	8,447	28·2	+ 9·1	+ 14·6
North-Eastern ...	99,410	36,031	8,232	36·2	+ 6·8	+ 12·6
North-Western ...	106,040	30,488	3,747	28·8	+ 3·8	+ 11·6
Scotland ...	75,030	19,427	3,375	25·9	+ 4·3	+ 10·7
Wales ...	28,870	11,394	855	39·5	+ 5·3	+ 8·9
Northern Ireland ...	14,360	3,454	22	24·1	...	+ 2·0
<b>Great Britain and Northern Ireland ...</b>	<b>816,560</b>	<b>202,784</b>	<b>35,605</b>	<b>24·8</b>	<b>+ 4·9</b>	<b>+ 9·7</b>

### 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 15,734,000, show that in February, 1929, plans were passed for buildings of an estimated cost of £4,977,700, as compared with £4,491,400, in January, 1929, and £5,664,700, in February, 1928. Of the total for February, 1929, dwelling-houses accounted for £2,901,100; factories and workshops for £380,600; shops, offices, warehouses and other business premises for £447,800; and other buildings, and additions and alterations to existing buildings, for £1,248,200.

### POTTERY INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT in North Staffordshire showed a further slight decline and much short-time continued to be worked. At Derby employment was fair; at Worcester there was an improvement, though short-time working was still prevalent. 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 17·4 at 25th February, 1929, as compared with 19·0 at 21st January, 1929, and 16·0 at 20th February, 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 23rd Feb., 1929.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 23rd Feb., 1929.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month before.	Year before.		Month before.	Year before.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
China Manufacture ...	1,259	- 0·8	+ 1·9	2,523	+ 0·7	+ 9·3
Earthenware Manufacture ...	7,271	- 0·5	- 0·4	12,879	- 1·4	- 6·0
Other Branches (including unspecified) ...	1,824	- 3·4	+ 1·7	3,346	- 4·9	+ 3·8
<b>TOTAL ...</b>	<b>10,354</b>	<b>- 1·1</b>	<b>+ 0·3</b>	<b>18,748</b>	<b>- 1·8</b>	<b>- 2·5</b>
<b>DISTRICTS.</b>						
North Staffordshire ...	7,669	- 2·4	- 1·2	12,445	- 4·1	- 4·4
Other Districts ...	2,685	+ 2·7	+ 4·6	6,303	+ 3·1	+ 1·5
<b>TOTAL ...</b>	<b>10,354</b>	<b>- 1·1</b>	<b>+ 0·3</b>	<b>18,748</b>	<b>- 1·8</b>	<b>- 2·5</b>

Returns from employers relative to short-time working showed that of 9,832 workpeople employed by firms making returns 4,565, or 46·4 per cent., were working on an average about 12½ hours less than full time in the week ended 23rd February 1929; the amount of overtime worked was negligible.

\* Aged 16-64, inclusive.



## PAPER MANUFACTURE, PRINTING, AND BOOKBINDING.

EMPLOYMENT was generally fairly good in the paper-making industry during February, and in several districts it was reported as better than in the previous month.

Employment showed a general improvement on the previous month with letterpress printers; it was reported as good in London, and as good or fairly good in most of the large provincial centres, the principal exceptions being Glasgow and the machine branch at Edinburgh, in which cases it was reported as slack. Employment generally continued good with electrotypers and stereotypers, though reported as quiet at Edinburgh.

With lithographic printers employment was fair on the whole, and slightly better than in January; it continued bad, however, at Glasgow, and slackness was also reported at Liverpool, Leeds and Sheffield. With lithographic artists employment was generally fair and rather better than in January, but was still slack at Manchester.

With bookbinders employment was fair on the whole, but not so good as in the previous month.

The percentage unemployed among insured workpeople covered by the Unemployment Insurance Acts in the printing and bookbinding industries was 4·8 at 25th February, 1929, compared with 5·3 at 21st January, 1929, and 4·9 at 20th February, 1928. In the paper and paperboard industry the percentage was 4·8 at 25th February, 1929, compared with 4·4 at 21st January, 1929, and 4·5 at 20th February, 1928. In the cardboard box, paper bag and stationery industries the percentage was 5·3 at 25th February, 1929, compared with 6·0 at 21st January, 1929, and 4·7 at 20th February, 1928.

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

	No. of Members of Unions at end of February, 1929.	Percentage Unemployed at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (–) on a	
		Feb., 1929.	Jan., 1929.	Feb., 1928.	Month before.	Year before.
<b>Letterpress Printing:</b>						
London ... ..	38,994	3·4	4·1	5·5	– 0·7	– 2·1
Northern Counties, Yorkshire, Lancashire and Cheshire	16,571	3·0	3·5	4·4	– 0·5	– 1·4
Midlands and Eastern Counties ... ..	10,591	2·0	2·1	2·5	– 0·1	– 0·5
Scotland ... ..	6,745	4·1	4·1	5·5	...	– 1·4
Other Districts ...	10,481	2·1	2·4	3·1	– 0·3	– 1·0
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>83,382</b>	<b>3·0</b>	<b>3·5</b>	<b>4·6</b>	<b>– 0·5</b>	<b>– 1·6</b>
<b>Lithographic Printing</b>	<b>10,953</b>	<b>3·2</b>	<b>3·3</b>	<b>3·3</b>	<b>– 0·1</b>	<b>– 0·1</b>
<b>Bookbinding ... ..</b>	<b>19,103</b>	<b>3·5</b>	<b>2·7</b>	<b>3·9</b>	<b>+ 0·8</b>	<b>– 0·4</b>

## DOCK AND RIVERSIDE LABOUR.

EMPLOYMENT during February remained slack.

Among insured workpeople in the canal, river, dock and harbour service, 33·3 per cent. were unemployed at 25th February, 1929, as compared with 31·2 per cent. at 21st January, 1929, and with 27·6 per cent. at 20th February, 1928.

London.—Slack conditions of employment generally prevailed during February. 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.		
<b>Week ended—</b>					
2nd February 1929	4,146	2,047	6,193	8,483	14,676
9th " "	3,957	1,819	5,776	7,837	13,612
16th " "	3,667	2,106	5,773	7,560	13,333
23rd " "	3,706	2,620	6,326	7,430	13,756
<b>Average for 4 weeks ended 23rd Feb., 1929 ... ..</b>	<b>3,869</b>	<b>2,148</b>	<b>6,017</b>	<b>7,828</b>	<b>13,845</b>
<b>Average for Jan., 1929</b>	<b>4,333</b>	<b>2,052</b>	<b>6,385</b>	<b>7,828</b>	<b>14,673</b>
<b>Average for Feb., 1928</b>	<b>4,144</b>	<b>1,963</b>	<b>6,107</b>	<b>8,130</b>	<b>14,237</b>

Tilbury.—The average daily number of dock labourers employed during February was 977, compared with 929 in January, and with 808 in February, 1928.

East Coast.—Employment continued slack at the North-East coast ports generally. It was, however, still very good at Middlesbrough, and shipments of coal and pig-iron from the Tyne were well maintained. Employment declined at Hull. It remained fair at Yarmouth and Lowestoft, and slack at Ipswich.

Liverpool.—Employment continued fair. The average weekly number of dock labourers registered at the clearing houses under the Liverpool Docks Scheme as employed in the four weeks ended 1st March was 14,537, compared with 15,300 in January, and with

14,945 in February, 1928. The average weekly amount of wages paid to these men through the clearing houses was £38,869 in the four weeks ended 1st March, compared with £42,663 in January, and with £40,664 in February, 1928.

Other Ports in England and Wales.—Although severe weather hindered work at the South Wales ports employment was, on the whole, fair and better than in January. At Bristol it was fair and at Avonmouth moderate. At Manchester conditions remained unchanged. Employment continued to be quiet at Southampton, and at Plymouth and other South-Western ports it remained slack.

Scottish and Irish Ports.—Weather conditions affected work at Dundee, and employment was only fair. It was also fair at Leith and somewhat better than in January. At Grangemouth it was moderate, and at Glasgow and Belfast it continued fair. At Ayr and Troon there was little activity except on coal shipments.

## SEAMEN.

DURING February employment was quiet on the whole. The number of engagements was considerably less than in the previous month, and the supply of seamen was more than adequate for requirements in the majority of ports.

Among insured workpeople in the shipping service the percentage unemployed at 25th February, 1929, was 18·2, compared with 19·3 at 21st January, 1929, and 16·3 at 20th February, 1928.

The demand for men on the Thames was poor at the beginning of the month but improved and was fair at the end. On the Tyne it was fairly active, and on the Wear it was quiet. The demand on the Tees was moderate up to the last week and then became more active; at the Hartlepoons it was fair at the beginning of the month, but declined thereafter and was quiet at the end. It was moderate at Hull, and rather quiet, but normal for the time of the year, at Southampton. At Bristol the demand was quiet until the latter part of the month, when an improvement took place; at Avonmouth it was fair to good, but showed a falling-off during the last week. It was moderate to poor at Newport. At Cardiff it declined from fair to poor in the first half of the month, then improved, and was good at the end of February; occasional shortages of deck hands were experienced. At Swansea the demand advanced from quiet to fair during the month. There was a moderate demand generally on the Mersey, but increased activity was shown in the last week; at Manchester it was fair throughout the month. The demand on the Clyde was generally very quiet. At Leith it was quiet in the first half of the month, but it was fair in the second half. At Belfast the demand was very dull throughout the month.

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 February:—

Principal Ports.	Number of Seamen* shipped in				
	Feb., 1929.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (–) on a		Two Months ended	
		Month before.	Year before.	Feb., 1929.	Feb., 1928.
<b>ENGLAND &amp; WALES:</b>					
Liverpool† ... ..	9,619	– 4,016	– 773	23,254	20,332
Manchester ... ..	754	– 400	+ 44	1,908	1,461
London ... ..	7,892	– 1,997	– 196	17,781	17,556
Southampton... ..	5,737	– 2,039	– 646	13,513	14,904
Tyne Ports ... ..	2,489	– 408	+ 397	5,386	4,229
Sunderland ... ..	67	– 289	– 293	423	736
Middlesbrough ...	290	– 206	– 311	786	1,146
Hull ... ..	794	– 764	– 179	2,352	2,612
Bristol† ... ..	958	– 102	+ 157	2,018	1,973
Newport, Mon. ...	411	– 362	– 39	1,184	1,219
Cardiff§ ... ..	2,420	– 1,116	– 171	5,956	5,617
Swansea ... ..	465	– 661	– 287	1,591	1,387
<b>SCOTLAND:</b>					
Leith ... ..	148	– 215	– 196	511	695
Kirkcaldy, Methil and Grangemouth ...	273	– 188	– 18	734	750
Glasgow ... ..	2,146	– 439	+ 137	4,731	4,915
<b>NORTHERN IRELAND:</b>					
Belfast ... ..	141	– 106	+ 42	388	317
<b>TOTAL for above Ports</b>	<b>34,604</b>	<b>– 13,308</b>	<b>– 2,332</b>	<b>82,516</b>	<b>79,849</b>

## ENGAGEMENTS OF SEAMEN IN 1928.

ACCORDING to a statement in the *Board of Trade Journal* for 21st February, 1929, the engagements of seamen in 1928 at mercantile marine offices in Great Britain and Northern Ireland numbered 581,268, as compared with 569,488 in 1927, and with 539,736 in 1926. The number of British seamen (other than Asiatics and Africans) included in the 1928 total was 551,557, or 94·9 per cent.; the number of foreign seamen (other than Asiatics and Africans) was 14,054, or 2·4 per cent.; and the number of Asiatics and Africans 15,657, or 2·7 per cent. The corresponding figures for 1926 and 1927 show very little variation in the proportions of British, foreigners, and Asiatics or Africans. The numbers given are the numbers of separate engagements, and not of separate individuals.

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

† Including Birkenhead and Garston.

‡ Including Avonmouth and Portishead.

§ Including Barry and Penarth.



## UNEMPLOYMENT IN INSURED INDUSTRIES.

THE statistics here presented show, industry by industry, the estimated number of persons insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts, the number and percentage of such persons who were unemployed on 25th February, 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 103 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 25th FEBRUARY, 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.
<b>Fishing ... ..</b>	4,043	100	4,143	48	3	51	4,091	103	4,194	4,053	102	4,155
<b>Mining :—</b>												
Coal Mining ... ..	153,851	639	154,490	15,929	63	15,992	169,780	702	170,482	169,733	702	170,435
Iron Ore and Ironstone Mining and Quarrying ... ..	1,844	2	1,846	209	...	209	2,053	2	2,055	2,017	2	2,019
Lead, Tin and Copper Mining ... ..	990	5	995	356	...	356	1,346	5	1,351	1,346	5	1,351
Stone Quarrying and Mining ... ..	5,541	7	5,548	4,922	2	4,924	10,463	9	10,472	10,069	9	10,078
Slate Quarrying and Mining ... ..	670	1	671	456	1	457	1,126	2	1,128	1,126	2	1,128
Mining and Quarrying not separately specified ... ..	1,677	65	1,742	743	1	744	2,420	66	2,486	2,324	64	2,388
Clay, Sand, Gravel and Chalk Pit Digging ... ..	1,276	11	1,287	456	7	463	1,732	18	1,750	1,686	18	1,704
<b>Non-Metalliferous Mining Products :—</b>												
Coke Ovens and By-Product Works Artificial Stone and Concrete Manu- facture ... ..	1,256	39	1,295	407	...	407	1,663	39	1,702	1,663	39	1,702
Cement, Limekilns and Whiting Works ... ..	2,714	50	2,764	1,704	14	1,718	4,418	64	4,482	4,412	64	4,476
Brick, Tile, etc., Making ... ..	1,615	26	1,641	800	31	831	2,415	57	2,472	2,355	54	2,409
Pottery, Earthenware, etc. ... ..	9,398	866	10,264	5,027	599	5,626	14,425	1,465	15,890	14,273	1,465	15,738
<b>Glass Trades :—</b>												
Glass (excluding Bottles and Scien- tific Glass) Manufacture ... ..	2,449	2,169	4,618	3,530	4,183	7,713	5,979	6,352	12,331	5,974	6,352	12,326
Glass Bottle Making ... ..	1,715	269	1,984	425	68	493	2,140	337	2,477	2,116	337	2,453
Chemicals, etc. :—	2,436	126	2,562	696	12	708	3,132	138	3,270	3,132	138	3,270
Chemicals Manufacture ... ..	5,408	730	6,138	652	51	703	6,060	781	6,841	6,025	778	6,803
Explosives Manufacture ... ..	598	232	830	56	33	89	654	265	919	654	265	919
Paint, Varnish, Japan, Red and White Lead Manufacture ... ..	781	148	929	48	13	61	829	161	990	829	161	990
Oil, Grease, Glue, Soap, Ink, Match, etc., Manufacture ... ..	3,312	838	4,150	579	160	739	3,891	998	4,889	3,872	989	4,861
<b>Metal Manufacture :—</b>												
Pig Iron Manufacture (Blast Furnaces) Steel Melting and Iron Puddling Fur- naces, Iron and Steel Rolling Mills and Forges ... ..	2,916	14	2,930	643	1	644	3,559	15	3,574	3,557	15	3,572
Manufacture of Brass, Copper, Zinc, Tin, Lead, etc. ... ..	18,773	178	18,951	16,356	37	16,393	35,129	215	35,344	35,119	215	35,334
Manufacture of Tin Plates ... ..	2,807	179	2,986	1,023	19	1,042	3,830	198	4,028	3,790	198	3,988
Iron and Steel Tube Making ... ..	1,096	132	1,228	5,200	677	5,877	6,296	809	7,105	6,295	809	7,104
Wire, Wire Netting, Wire Rope Manu- facture ... ..	1,743	95	1,838	1,108	22	1,130	2,851	117	2,968	2,848	117	2,965
<b>Engineering, etc. :—</b>												
General Engineering; Engineers' Iron and Steel Founding ... ..	1,421	213	1,634	1,075	56	1,131	2,496	269	2,765	2,494	269	2,763
Electrical Engineering ... ..	41,582	1,324	42,906	16,130	637	16,767	57,712	1,961	59,673	56,902	1,961	58,863
Marine Engineering, etc. ... ..	2,890	621	3,511	620	158	778	3,510	779	4,289	3,492	779	4,271
Constructional Engineering ... ..	6,272	18	6,290	720	...	720	6,992	18	7,010	6,552	18	6,570
<b>Construction and Repair of Vehicles :—</b>												
Construction and Repair of Motor Vehicles, Cycles and Aircraft ... ..	2,592	30	2,622	824	5	829	3,416	35	3,451	3,406	35	3,441
Construction and Repair of Carriages, Carts, etc. ... ..	11,810	921	12,731	3,268	155	3,423	15,078	1,076	16,154	14,915	1,068	15,983
Railway Carriage, Wagon and Tram- car Building ... ..	1,625	117	1,742	275	7	282	1,900	124	2,024	1,812	124	1,936
	3,874	36	3,910	2,689	13	2,702	6,563	49	6,612	6,556	49	6,605



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.
<b>Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing</b> ...	49,655	126	49,781	2,397	24	2,421	52,052	150	52,202	49,851	147	49,998
<b>Metal Trades :—</b>												
Stove, Grate, Pipe, etc., and General												
Iron Founding ...	6,551	529	7,080	2,623	148	2,771	9,174	677	9,851	9,056	677	9,733
Electrical Wiring and Contracting ...	1,036	25	1,061	131	2	133	1,167	27	1,194	1,149	27	1,176
Electrical Cable, Wire and Electric												
Lamp Manufacture ...	3,449	1,519	4,968	400	215	615	3,849	1,734	5,583	3,845	1,734	5,579
Hand Tool, Cutlery, Saw, File Making	2,275	732	3,007	1,476	465	1,941	3,751	1,197	4,948	3,749	1,197	4,946
Bolts, Nuts, Screws, Rivets, Nails,												
etc., Manufacture ...	1,047	899	1,946	656	116	772	1,703	1,015	2,718	1,703	1,015	2,718
Brass and Allied Metal Wares Manu-												
facture ...	1,243	748	1,991	306	138	444	1,549	886	2,435	1,548	886	2,434
Heating and Ventilating Apparatus	404	11	415	254	1	255	658	12	670	654	12	666
Watches, Clocks, Plate, Jewellery,												
etc., Manufacture ...	1,290	1,103	2,393	525	637	1,162	1,815	1,740	3,555	1,800	1,740	3,540
Metal Industries not separately												
specified ...	8,136	4,442	12,578	2,983	1,223	4,206	11,119	5,665	16,784	10,998	5,658	16,656
<b>Textile Trades :—</b>												
Cotton ...	10,637	16,453	27,090	13,815	25,120	38,935	24,452	41,573	66,025	24,445	41,556	66,001
Woolen and Worsted ...	5,991	5,796	11,787	7,524	12,412	19,936	13,515	18,208	31,723	13,452	18,154	31,606
Silk and Artificial Silk ...	2,229	2,026	4,255	1,818	2,623	4,441	4,407	4,649	8,696	3,961	4,602	8,563
Linen ...	3,237	6,274	9,511	746	1,892	2,638	3,983	8,166	12,149	571	1,540	2,111
Jute ...	1,353	2,062	3,415	83	222	305	1,436	2,284	3,720	1,436	2,284	3,720
Hemp Spinning and Weaving, Rope,												
Cord, Twine, etc., Making ...	584	822	1,406	119	338	457	703	1,160	1,863	577	980	1,557
Hosiery ...	671	2,417	3,088	768	4,023	4,791	1,439	6,440	7,879	1,424	6,380	7,804
Lace ...	408	404	812	365	323	688	773	727	1,500	773	726	1,499
Carpet Manufacture ...	381	479	860	338	696	1,034	719	1,175	1,894	719	1,175	1,894
Textile Industries not separately												
specified ...	902	1,721	2,623	315	998	1,313	1,217	2,719	3,936	1,075	2,292	3,367
Textile Bleaching, Printing, Dyeing,												
etc. ...	4,134	1,694	5,828	9,560	2,721	12,281	13,694	4,415	18,109	13,122	3,614	16,736
<b>Leather and Leather Goods :—</b>												
Tanning, Currying and Dressing ...	2,453	603	3,056	1,785	230	2,015	4,233	833	5,071	4,235	833	5,068
Saddlery, Harness and other Leather												
Goods Manufacture ...	959	757	1,716	306	321	627	1,265	1,078	2,343	1,244	1,078	2,322
<b>Clothing Trades :—</b>												
Tailoring ...	6,911	5,829	12,740	1,324	5,633	6,957	8,235	11,462	19,697	7,547	11,193	18,740
Dress and Mantle Making and												
Millinery ...	769	4,250	5,029	34	1,945	1,979	893	6,205	7,008	784	6,036	6,820
Hat and Cap (including Straw Plait)												
Manufacture ...	695	596	1,291	273	408	681	968	1,004	1,972	967	1,003	1,970
Blouses, Shirts, Collars, Undercloth-												
ing, etc., Making ...	419	2,962	3,381	75	1,304	1,379	494	4,266	4,760	368	2,124	2,492
Dress Industries not separately												
specified ...	658	494	1,152	649	351	1,000	1,397	845	2,152	1,305	835	2,140
Boot, Shoe, Slipper and Clog Trades	7,564	2,571	10,135	5,755	3,478	9,233	13,319	6,049	19,368	13,166	6,040	19,206
<b>Food, Drink and Tobacco :—</b>												
Bread, Biscuit, Cake, etc., Making...	8,121	3,043	11,164	455	289	744	8,576	3,332	11,908	8,010	3,230	11,240
Grain Milling ...	1,587	124	1,711	413	43	456	2,000	167	2,167	1,901	166	2,067
Cocoa, Chocolate and Sugar Con-												
fectionery ...	2,510	3,345	5,855	461	3,054	3,515	2,971	6,399	9,370	2,967	6,396	9,363
Food Industries not separately												
specified ...	5,283	5,588	10,871	216	746	962	5,499	6,334	11,833	5,391	6,253	11,644
Drink Industries ...	5,405	2,033	7,438	416	481	897	5,821	2,514	8,335	5,472	2,483	7,955
Tobacco, Cigar, Cigarette and Snuff												
Manufacture ...	589	1,413	2,002	22	396	418	611	1,809	2,420	549	1,670	2,219
<b>Sawmilling, Furniture and Woodwork :—</b>												
Sawmilling and Machined Woodwork	6,211	130	6,341	717	52	769	6,928	182	7,110	6,765	181	6,946
Wood Box and Packing Case Making	1,314	139	1,453	266	31	297	1,580	170	1,750	1,543	170	1,713
Furniture Making, Upholstering, etc.	6,820	1,018	7,838	848	306	1,154	7,668	1,324	8,992	7,516	1,306	8,822
Woodworking not separately												
specified ...	1,435	291	1,726	411	124	535	1,846	415	2,261	1,756	407	2,163
<b>Printing and Paper Trades :—</b>												
Paper and Paper Board Making ...	1,476	355	1,831	466	294	760	1,942	649	2,591	1,930	647	2,577
Cardboard Boxes, Paper Bags and												
Stationery ...	884	1,497	2,381	64	530	594	948	2,027	2,975	923	1,827	2,750
Wall Paper Making and Paper												
Staining ...	167	75	242	8	19	27	175	94	269	175	93	268
Stationery and Typewriting Requisites												
(not paper) ...	126	130	256	7	122	129	133	252	385	133	252	385
Printing, Publishing and Bookbinding	7,215	4,048	11,263	336	647	983	7,551	4,695	12,246	7,343	4,508	11,851
<b>Building and Construction of Works :—</b>												
Building ...	166,985	194	167,179	35,588	17	35,605	202,573	211	202,784	199,122	208	199,330
Public Works Contracting, etc. ...	44,781	37	44,818	4,856	3	4,859	49,637	40	49,677	48,097	39	48,136
<b>Other Manufacturing Industries :—</b>												
Rubber Manufacture ...	2,517	1,586	4,103	273	418	691	2,790	2,004	4,794	2,786	2,004	4,790
Oilcloth, Linoleum, etc., Manufacture	551	82	633	109	24	133	660	106	766	659	103	762
Brush and Broom Making ...	780	190	970	171	79	250	951	269	1,220	749	263	1,012
Scientific and Photographic Instru-												
ment and Apparatus Manufacture	622	222	844	65	53	118	687	275	962	683	273	956
Musical Instrument Making ...	1,463	160	1,623	344	37	381	1,807	197	2,004	1,804	197	2,001
Toys, Games and Sports Requisites												
Manufacture ...	359	260	619	65	128	193	424	388	812	421	388	809
<b>Gas, Water and Electricity Supply</b>												
Industries ...	10,315	142	10,457	888	19	907	11,203	161	11,364	10,946	161	11,107
<b>Transport and Communication :—</b>												
Railway Service ...	9,828	294	10,122	542	8	550	10,370	302	10,672	10,123	299	10,422
Tramway and Omnibus Service ...	4,892	279	5,171	269	5	274	5,161	284	5,445	5,046	279	5,325
Road Transport not separately												
specified ...	22,593	231	22,824	1,251	8	1,259	23,844	239	24,083	23,036	238	23,274
Shipping Service ...	24,869	320	25,189	156	44	200	25,025	364	25,389	24,391	361	24,752
Canal, River, Dock and Harbour												
Service ...	55,565	145	55,710	1,048	78	1,126	56,613	223	56,836	55,434	222	55,656
Transport, Communication and												
Storage not separately specified ...	2,279	91	2,370	115	6	121	2,394	97	2,491	2,368	97	2,465
<b>Distributive Trades</b> ...	74,527	32,712	107,239	3,547	3,918	7,465	78,074	36,630	114,704	74,732	35,718	110,450
<b>Commerce, Banking, Insurance and</b>												
<b>Finance</b> ...	5,452	788	6,240	77	7	84	5,529	795	6,324	5,348	783	6,131
<b>Miscellaneous Trades and Services :—</b>												
National Government ...	8,188	636	8,824	376	30	406	8,564	666	9,230	8,191	632	8,823
Local Government ...	28,752	554	29,306	2,912	66	2,978	31,664	620	32,284	30,504	611	31,115
Professional Services ...	2,967	891	3,858	140	23	163	3,107	914	4,021	3,026	893	3,919
Entertainments and Sports ...	6,034	2,294	8,328	185	81	266	6,219	2,375	8,594	6,044	2,361	8,405
Hotel, Boarding House, Club Services	14,470	18,617	33,087	198	402	600	14,668	19,019	33,687	14,277	18,681	32,958
Laundries, Dyeing and Dry Cleaning	1,505	3,743	5,248	61	645	706	1,566	4,388	5,954	1,519	4,176	5,695
Industries and Services not separately												
specified ...	26,813	1,666	28,479	1,294	399	1,693	28,107	2,065	30,172	26,895	2,005	28,900
<b>TOTAL</b> ...	993,266	167,918	1,161,184	204,013	88,667	292,680	1,197,279	256,585	1,453,864	1,169,496	243,322	1,412,818

\* Including 82,007 Casuals (Males 80,848, Females 1,159).



## NUMBERS INSURED AND PERCENTAGES UNEMPLOYED.

INDUSTRY.	GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.															GREAT BRITAIN ONLY. TOTAL PER- CENTAGE AT 25TH FEB., 1929.
	ESTIMATED NUMBER OF INSURED PERSONS AGED 16-64 INCLUSIVE, AT JULY, 1928.			PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED AT 25TH FEBRUARY, 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.	21ST JAN., 1929.	20TH FEB., 1928.	21ST FEB., 1927.	
Fishing ... ..	26,850	950	27,800	15.1	10.5	14.9	0.1	0.3	0.2	15.2	10.8	15.1	- 0.2	+ 0.2	- 1.5	15.0
Mining :—																
Coal Mining ... ..	1,109,800	6,110	1,115,910	13.9	10.5	13.8	1.4	1.0	1.5	15.3	11.5	15.3	- 3.8	- 3.2	- 0.8	15.3
Iron Ore and Ironstone Mining and Quarrying ... ..	14,580	10	14,590	12.6	20.0	12.7	1.5	...	1.4	14.1	20.0	14.1	+ 0.7	- 2.3	+ 1.2	13.9
Lead, Tin and Copper Mining ... ..	5,540	90	5,630	17.9	5.6	17.7	6.4	...	6.3	24.3	5.6	24.0	+ 5.3	+10.2	+10.9	24.0
Stone Quarrying and Mining ... ..	40,910	340	41,250	13.5	2.1	13.4	12.1	0.5	12.0	25.6	2.6	25.4	+ 7.8	+13.8	+17.2	25.2
Slate Quarrying and Mining ... ..	10,640	10	10,650	6.3	10.0	6.3	4.3	10.0	4.3	10.6	20.0	10.6	+ 4.4	+ 6.4	+ 9.0	10.6
Mining and Quarrying not separately specified ... ..	15,070	1,590	16,660	11.1	4.1	10.5	5.0	0.1	4.4	16.1	4.2	14.9	+ 2.0	+ 4.0	+ 4.2	14.7
Clay, Sand, Gravel and Chalk Pit Digging ... ..	14,680	180	14,860	8.7	6.1	8.7	3.1	3.9	3.1	11.8	10.0	11.8	+ 3.5	+ 5.2	+ 6.3	11.5
Non-Metalliferous Mining Products :—																
Coke Ovens and By-Product Works	10,230	100	10,330	12.3	39.0	12.5	4.0	...	4.0	16.3	39.0	16.5	- 0.5	+ 4.9	+ 1.0	16.5
Artificial Stone and Concrete Manu- facture ... ..	15,270	1,380	16,650	17.8	3.6	16.6	11.1	1.0	10.3	28.9	4.6	26.9	+ 6.5	+12.7	+13.9	27.0
Cement, Limekilns and Whiting Works ... ..	18,070	930	19,000	8.9	2.8	8.6	4.5	3.3	4.4	13.4	6.1	13.0	+ 2.8	+ 3.1	+ 6.8	12.9
Brick, Tile, etc., Making ... ..	74,160	6,980	81,140	12.7	12.4	12.6	6.8	8.6	7.0	19.5	21.0	19.6	+ 4.7	+ 5.9	+12.3	19.7
Pottery, Earthenware, etc. ... ..	33,270	37,620	70,890	7.4	5.8	6.5	10.6	11.1	10.9	18.0	16.9	17.4	- 1.6	+ 1.4	+ 2.2	17.4
Glass Trades :—																
Glass (excluding Bottles and Scien- tific Glass) Manufacture ... ..	19,600	5,170	24,770	8.8	5.2	8.0	2.1	1.3	2.0	10.9	6.5	10.0	+ 0.4	...	- 0.5	9.9
Glass Bottle Making ... ..	15,550	1,850	17,400	15.7	6.8	14.7	4.4	0.7	4.1	20.1	7.5	18.8	- 1.1	+ 1.9	+ 1.2	18.8
Chemicals, etc. :—																
Chemicals Manufacture ... ..	77,960	22,340	100,300	6.9	3.3	6.1	0.9	0.2	0.7	7.8	3.5	6.8	- 0.1	+ 0.7	- 0.6	6.8
Explosives Manufacture ... ..	13,820	6,230	20,050	4.3	3.7	4.1	0.4	0.6	0.5	4.7	4.3	4.6	- 0.6	- 1.4	- 3.3	4.6
Paint, Varnish, Japan, Red and White Lead Manufacture ... ..	14,020	4,610	18,630	5.6	3.2	5.0	0.3	0.3	0.3	5.9	3.5	5.3	...	+ 0.9	- 0.4	5.3
Oil, Grease, Glue, Soap, Ink, Match, etc., Manufacture ... ..	55,670	20,540	76,210	5.9	4.1	5.4	1.1	0.8	1.0	7.0	4.9	6.4	- 0.1	+ 0.3	- 1.2	6.4
Metal Manufacture :—																
Pig Iron Manufacture (Blast Furnaces)	21,890	270	22,160	13.3	5.2	13.2	3.0	0.4	2.9	16.3	5.6	16.1	- 2.6	+ 1.9	+ 0.3	16.1
Steel Melting and Iron Puddling Fur- naces, Iron and Steel Rolling Mills and Forges ... ..	174,300	4,240	178,540	10.8	4.2	10.6	9.4	0.9	9.2	20.2	5.1	19.8	- 0.4	+ 0.5	+ 2.9	19.8
Manufacture of Brass, Copper, Zinc, Tin, Lead, etc. ... ..	34,440	3,150	37,590	8.2	5.7	7.9	2.9	0.6	2.8	11.1	6.3	10.7	+ 0.1	+ 1.1	- 0.5	10.7
Manufacture of Tin Plates ... ..	28,230	3,810	32,040	3.9	3.5	3.8	18.4	17.7	18.4	22.3	21.2	22.2	- 0.7	-16.1	+15.2	22.2
Iron and Steel Tube Making ... ..	26,460	1,270	27,730	6.6	7.5	6.6	4.2	1.7	4.1	10.8	9.2	10.7	- 0.3	- 2.0	- 1.6	10.7
Wire, Wire Netting, Wire Rope Manu- facture ... ..	19,170	3,940	23,110	7.4	5.4	7.1	5.6	1.4	4.9	13.0	6.8	12.0	+ 0.8	- 1.4	- 4.1	12.0
Engineering, etc. :—																
General Engineering; Engineers' Iron and Steel Founding ... ..	536,550	45,580	582,130	7.7	2.9	7.4	3.1	1.4	2.9	10.8	4.3	10.3	- 0.6	+ 0.5	- 2.3	10.2
Electrical Engineering ... ..	62,580	17,190	79,770	4.6	3.6	4.4	1.0	0.9	1.0	5.6	4.5	5.4	+ 0.1	+ 0.6	- 1.1	5.4
Marine Engineering, etc. ... ..	53,660	1,370	55,030	11.7	1.3	11.4	1.3	...	1.3	13.0	1.3	12.7	- 0.7	+ 0.9	- 9.5	13.1
Constructional Engineering ... ..	26,160	1,130	27,290	9.9	2.7	9.6	3.2	0.4	3.0	13.1	3.1	12.6	+ 0.3	+ 2.6	- 1.4	12.6
Construction and Repair of Vehicles :—																
Construction and Repair of Motor Vehicles, Cycles and Aircraft ... ..	211,240	23,590	234,830	5.6	3.9	5.4	1.5	0.7	1.5	7.1	4.6	6.9	...	+ 0.2	- 0.6	6.9
Construction and Repair of Carriages, Carts, etc. ... ..	17,190	2,360	19,550	9.5	5.0	8.9	1.6	0.3	1.5	11.1	5.3	10.4	- 0.8	+ 1.2	- 0.4	10.1
Railway Carriage, Wagon and Tram- car Building ... ..	54,800	1,570	56,370	7.1	2.3	6.9	4.9	0.8	4.8	12.0	3.1	11.7	+ 0.1	+ 2.2	+ 3.0	11.8
Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing ... ..	199,170	3,260	202,430	24.9	3.9	24.6	1.2	0.7	1.2	26.1	4.6	25.8	- 1.8	+ 4.8	- 6.1	26.1
Metal Trades :—																
Stove, Grate, Pipe, etc., and General Iron Founding ... ..	80,000	8,280	88,280	8.2	6.4	8.0	3.3	1.8	3.2	11.5	8.2	11.2	- 1.7	- 1.5	+ 1.6	11.1
Electrical Wiring and Contracting ... ..	14,240	1,290	15,530	7.3	1.9	6.8	0.9	0.2	0.9	8.2	2.1	7.7	- 0.1	- 0.4	- 1.2	7.7
Electrical Cable, Wire and Electric Lamp Manufacture ... ..	53,990	32,190	86,180	6.4	4.7	5.8	0.7	0.7	0.7	7.1	5.4	6.5	+ 0.4	+ 0.4	- 2.1	6.5
Hand Tool, Cutlery, Saw, File Making	22,750	9,750	32,500	10.0	7.5	9.3	6.5	4.8	5.9	16.5	12.3	15.2	+ 0.1	+ 1.8	- 1.7	15.2
Bolts, Nuts, Screws, Rivets, Nails, etc., Manufacture ... ..	14,110	11,190	25,300	7.4	8.0	7.7	4.7	1.1	3.0	12.1	9.1	10.7	- 0.3	+ 1.2	- 2.0	10.7
Brass and Allied Metal Wares Manu- facture ... ..	17,210	10,520	27,730	7.2	7.1	7.2	1.8	1.3	1.6	9.0	8.4	8.8	- 1.0	- 1.0	- 2.1	8.8
Heating and Ventilating Apparatus	7,430	570	8,000	5.4	1.9	5.2	3.5	0.2	3.2	8.9	2.1	8.4	+ 2.4	+ 2.6	...	8.3
Watches, Clocks, Plate, Jewellery, etc., Manufacture ... ..	23,450	19,410	42,860	5.5	5.7	5.6	2.2	3.3	2.7	7.7	9.0	8.3	- 0.4	+ 0.5	- 3.3	8.3
Metal Industries not separately specified ... ..	114,900	68,500	183,400	7.1	6.5	6.9	2.6	1.8	2.3	9.7	8.3	9.2	- 0.1	+ 0.8	- 0.7	9.2
Textile Trades :—																
Cotton ... ..	197,960	356,010	553,970	5.4	4.6	4.9	7.0	7.1	7.0	12.4	11.7	11.9	+ 0.6	+ 3.2	+ 3.7	11.9
Woolen and Worsted ... ..	98,300	144,290	242,590	6.1	4.0	4.9	7.6	8.6	8.2	13.7	12.6	13.1	- 2.0	+ 5.5	+ 3.2	13.1
Silk and Artificial Silk ... ..	31,120	39,150	70,270	7.2	5.2	6.1	5.8	6.7	6.3	13.0	11.9	12.4				



INDUSTRY.	GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.															GREAT BRITAIN ONLY. TOTAL PER- CENTAGE AT 25TH FEB., 1929.
	ESTIMATED NUMBER OF INSURED PERSONS AGED 16-64 INCLUSIVE, AT JULY, 1928.			PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED AT 25TH FEBRUARY, 1929.									INCREASE (+) OR DECREASE (-) IN TOTAL PER- CENTAGES 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.	21ST JAN., 1929.	20TH FEB., 1928.	21ST FEB., 1927.	
<b>Food, Drink and Tobacco :—</b>																
Bread, Biscuit, Cake, etc., Making...	90,820	53,630	144,450	8.9	5.7	7.7	0.5	0.5	0.5	9.4	6.2	8.2	+ 0.2	+ 0.9	+ 0.1	8.1
Grain Milling ... ..	25,460	3,350	28,810	6.2	3.7	5.9	1.7	1.3	1.6	7.9	5.0	7.5	+ 0.9	...	+ 0.3	7.4
Cocoa, Chocolate and Sugar Con- fectionery ... ..	25,350	49,350	74,700	9.9	6.8	7.8	1.8	6.2	4.7	11.7	13.0	12.5	+ 0.4	+ 1.3	+ 2.0	12.5
Food Industries not separately specified ... ..	54,680	53,430	108,110	9.7	10.5	10.1	0.4	1.4	0.8	10.1	11.9	10.9	+ 0.2	...	+ 1.0	10.9
Drink Industries ... ..	83,870	23,450	107,320	6.4	8.7	6.9	0.5	2.0	0.9	6.9	10.7	7.8	+ 0.4	+ 1.3	+ 0.5	7.6
Tobacco, Cigar, Cigarette and Snuff Manufacture ... ..	14,770	29,280	44,050	4.0	4.8	4.5	0.1	1.4	1.0	4.1	6.2	5.5	+ 0.8	+ 0.2	+ 0.8	5.3
<b>Sawmilling, Furniture and Woodwork :—</b>																
Sawmilling and Machined Woodwork	54,200	2,830	57,030	11.5	4.6	11.1	1.3	1.8	1.4	12.8	6.4	12.5	+ 0.6	+ 2.2	+ 2.4	12.4
Wood Box and Packing Case Making	10,690	1,810	12,500	12.3	7.7	11.6	2.5	1.7	2.4	14.8	9.4	14.0	+ 1.8	+ 2.7	+ 1.6	13.9
Furniture Making, Upholstering, etc.	94,240	21,170	115,410	7.2	4.8	6.8	0.9	1.5	1.0	8.1	6.3	7.8	+ 0.6	+ 1.8	+ 0.1	7.7
Woodworking not separately specified	17,580	5,510	23,090	8.2	5.3	7.5	2.3	2.2	2.3	10.5	7.5	9.8	+ 0.3	+ 1.3	+ 0.9	9.5
<b>Printing and Paper Trades :—</b>																
Paper and Paper Board Making ...	38,930	14,520	53,450	3.8	2.4	3.4	1.2	2.1	1.4	5.0	4.5	4.8	+ 0.4	+ 0.3	+ 1.3	4.9
Cardboard Boxes, Paper Bags and Stationery ... ..	20,910	34,730	55,640	4.2	4.3	4.3	0.3	1.5	1.0	4.5	5.8	5.3	+ 0.7	+ 0.6	+ 0.6	5.0
Wall Paper Making and Paper Staining ... ..	4,170	1,520	5,690	4.0	4.9	4.3	0.2	1.3	0.4	4.2	6.2	4.7	+ 0.5	+ 0.4	+ 0.1	4.7
Stationery and Typewriting Requisites (not paper) ... ..	2,700	3,270	5,970	4.7	4.0	4.3	0.2	3.7	2.1	4.9	7.7	6.4	+ 1.4	+ 2.4	+ 0.3	6.4
Printing, Publishing and Bookbinding	163,390	90,250	253,640	4.4	4.5	4.4	0.2	0.7	0.4	4.6	5.2	4.8	+ 0.5	+ 0.1	+ 0.9	4.7
<b>Building and Construction of Works :—</b>																
Building ... ..	807,650	8,910	816,560	20.7	2.2	20.5	4.4	0.2	4.3	25.1	2.4	24.8	+ 4.9	+ 9.7	+ 12.1	24.8
Public Works Contracting, etc. ...	158,880	1,150	160,030	28.2	3.2	28.0	3.0	0.3	3.0	31.2	3.5	31.0	+ 3.9	+ 9.3	+ 9.9	30.9
<b>Other Manufacturing Industries :—</b>																
Rubber Manufacture ... ..	36,810	25,840	62,650	6.8	6.1	6.5	0.8	1.7	1.2	7.6	7.8	7.7	+ 0.4	+ 1.9	+ 2.9	7.7
Oilcloth, Linoleum, etc., Manufacture	11,480	2,170	13,650	4.8	3.8	4.6	0.9	1.1	1.0	5.7	4.9	5.6	+ 1.2	+ 0.1	+ 0.9	5.6
Brush and Broom Making ... ..	6,150	4,690	10,840	12.7	4.1	8.9	2.8	1.6	2.4	15.5	5.7	11.3	+ 0.3	+ 1.9	+ 2.5	9.6
Scientific and Photographic Instru- ment and Apparatus Manufacture	15,260	8,860	24,120	4.1	2.5	3.5	0.4	0.6	0.5	4.5	3.1	4.0	+ 0.7	+ 0.5	+ 0.4	4.0
Musical Instrument Making ... ..	20,250	5,930	26,180	7.2	2.7	6.2	1.7	0.6	1.5	8.9	3.3	7.7	+ 1.9	+ 1.4	...	7.7
Toys, Games and Sports Requisites Manufacture ... ..	5,900	5,810	11,710	6.1	4.5	5.3	1.1	2.2	1.6	7.2	6.7	6.9	+ 1.2	+ 0.3	+ 2.1	6.9
<b>Gas, Water and Electricity Supply Industries ... ..</b>																
156,620	6,560	163,180	6.6	2.2	6.4	0.6	0.3	0.6	7.2	2.5	7.0	+ 0.3	+ 1.0	+ 1.1	6.9	
<b>Transport and Communication :—</b>																
Railway Service ... ..	132,950	7,400	140,350	7.4	4.0	7.2	0.4	0.1	0.4	7.8	4.1	7.6	+ 0.9	+ 1.5	+ 0.9	7.5
Tramway and Omnibus Service ...	135,460	5,930	141,390	3.6	4.7	3.7	0.2	0.1	0.2	3.8	4.8	3.9	+ 0.1	+ 0.4	+ 0.4	3.8
Road Transport not separately specified ... ..	169,410	6,950	176,360	13.3	3.3	12.9	0.8	0.1	0.8	14.1	3.4	13.7	+ 0.2	+ 1.3	+ 0.4	13.5
Shipping Service ... ..	132,820	6,400	139,220	18.7	5.0	18.1	0.1	0.7	0.1	18.8	5.7	18.2	+ 1.1	+ 1.9	+ 0.5	18.2
Canal, River, Dock and Harbour Service ... ..	168,570	2,290	170,860	33.0	6.3	32.6	0.6	3.4	0.7	33.6	9.7	33.3	+ 2.1	+ 5.7	+ 6.5	33.2
Transport, Communication and Storage not separately specified ...	16,040	2,040	18,080	14.2	4.5	13.1	0.7	0.3	0.7	14.9	4.8	13.8	+ 2.2	+ 0.3	+ 1.9	13.7
<b>Distributive Trades ... ..</b>																
974,100	639,690	1,613,790	7.7	5.1	6.6	0.3	0.6	0.5	8.0	5.7	7.1	+ 0.2	+ 1.0	+ 0.6	7.0	
<b>Commerce, Banking, Insurance and Finance ... ..</b>																
149,370	72,300	221,670	3.6	1.1	2.8	0.1	0.0	0.1	3.7	1.1	2.9	+ 0.1	+ 0.5	+ 0.1	2.8	
<b>Miscellaneous Trades and Services :—</b>																
National Government ... ..	102,870	22,670	125,540	8.0	2.8	7.0	0.3	0.1	0.4	8.3	2.9	7.4	+ 0.1	+ 0.9	+ 0.8	7.3
Local Government ... ..	236,060	19,350	255,410	12.2	2.9	11.5	1.2	0.3	1.1	13.4	3.2	12.6	+ 1.2	+ 3.0	+ 3.5	12.5
Professional Services ... ..	67,020	49,910	116,930	4.4	1.8	3.3	0.2	0.0	0.1	4.6	1.8	3.4	+ 0.1	+ 0.4	+ 0.3	3.4
Entertainments and Sports ... ..	44,040	24,370	68,410	13.7	9.4	12.2	0.4	0.3	0.4	14.1	9.7	12.6	+ 0.7	+ 2.8	+ 1.9	12.5
Hotel, Boarding House, Club Services	114,460	200,360	314,820	12.6	9.3	10.5	0.2	0.2	0.2	12.8	9.5	10.7	+ 0.4	+ 1.7	+ 0.6	10.6
Laundries, Dyeing and Dry Cleaning	25,510	104,060	129,570	5.9	3.6	4.1	0.2	0.6	0.5	6.1	4.2	4.6	+ 0.3	+ 0.5	...	4.5
Industries and Services not separately specified ... ..	89,850	33,330	123,180	29.8	5.0	23.1	1.5	1.2	1.4	31.3	6.2	24.5	...	+ 3.1	+ 1.6	23.9
Total ... ..	8,621,900	3,259,600	11,881,500	11.5	5.2	9.8	2.4	2.7	2.4	13.9	7.9	12.2	+ 0.1	+ 1.8	+ 1.3	12.2

PRINCIPAL VARIATIONS DURING FEBRUARY IN NUMBERS OF UNEMPLOYED.

THE following Table indicates for Great Britain and Northern Ireland the industries in which the numbers of insured persons recorded as unemployed at 25th February, 1929, differed from the figures for 21st January, 1929, to the extent of 1,000 or more :—

Industry.	Increase (+) or Decrease (–) in Numbers recorded as Unemployed at 25th February, 1929, as compared with 21st January, 1929.			Industry.	Increase (+) or Decrease (–) in Numbers recorded as Unemployed at 25th February, 1929, as compared with 21st January, 1929.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.		Males.	Females.	Total.
Coal Mining... ..	– 42,556	– 221	– 42,777	Printing, Publishing and Book-binding ... ..	– 559	– 598	– 1,157
Tailoring ... ..	– 1,759	– 5,327	– 7,086	Pottery, Earthenware, etc. ...	– 113	– 1,042	– 1,155
Woollen and Worsted ... ..	– 2,276	– 2,637	– 4,913				
Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing...	– 3,737	– 8	– 3,745	Artificial Stone and Concrete Manufacture ... ..	+ 1,094	– 7	+ 1,087
General Engineering; Engineers' Iron and Steel Founding ...	– 3,796	+ 107	– 3,689	Local Government ... ..	+ 3,143	– 25	+ 3,118
Boot, Shoe, Slipper and Clog Trades	– 2,535	– 896	– 3,431	Stone Quarrying and Mining ...	+ 3,225	– 3	+ 3,222
Dress and Mantle Making and Millinery ... ..	– 227	– 2,077	– 2,304	Cotton ... ..	+ 3,524	– 138	+ 3,386
Textile Bleaching, Printing, Dyeing, etc. ... ..	– 1,074	– 936	– 2,010	Canal, River, Dock and Harbour Service ... ..	+ 3,465	+ 119	+ 3,584
Blouses, Shirts, Collars, Underclothing, etc., Making ... ..	– 23	– 1,883	– 1,906	Brick, Tile, etc., Making ... ..	+ 3,440	+ 321	+ 3,761
Shipping Service ... ..	– 1,437	– 74	– 1,511	Distributive Trades ... ..	+ 2,778	+ 1,349	+ 4,127
Stove, Grate, Pipe, etc., and General Ironfoundry... ..	– 1,439	– 64	– 1,503	Public Works Contracting, etc. ...	+ 6,372	+ 6	+ 6,378
Hotel, Boarding House, Club Services ... ..	– 33	– 1,376	– 1,409	Building ... ..	+ 40,069	+ 29	+ 40,098
Railway Service ... ..	– 1,307	– 17	– 1,324	Net Variation for above industries	+ 4,009	– 16,478	– 12,469
Linen ... ..	– 230	– 1,080	– 1,310	Total Net Variation for all insured industries ... ..	+ 8,258	– 20,131	– 11,873



## UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE STATISTICS: GREAT BRITAIN.

### DETERMINATION OF CLAIMS TO UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFIT.

THE following Table gives, for the period 15th January to 11th February, 1929, 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.
<b>A.—Number of Claims.</b>			
Fresh and Renewal claims made ... ..	552,376	168,492	720,868
Average number of claims current ... ..	1,003,749	210,087	1,213,836
<b>B.—Disallowances by Insurance Officers.</b>			
<i>Permanent provisions:</i>			
First statutory condition* (30 contributions in past 2 years) ... ..	183	157	340
Not unable to obtain suitable employment ... ..	1,026	1,924	2,950
Not genuinely seeking work ... ..	17,921	10,380	28,301
Trade disputes ... ..	1,323	29	1,352
Employment lost through misconduct ... ..	3,512	1,254	4,766
Employment left voluntarily without just cause ... ..	4,282	2,624	6,906
Other grounds ... ..	1,769	658	2,427
<i>Transitional provisions (Sec. 14 (2), U.I. Act, 1927):</i>			
Less than 8 contributions paid in previous two years or 30 contributions paid at any time ... ..	147	54	201
Not normally insurable and not seeking to obtain a livelihood by means of insurable employment ... ..	933	856	1,789
Not a reasonable period of insurable employment during the preceding two years ... ..	4,686	1,401	6,087
Total claims disallowed ... ..	35,782	19,337	55,119

### C.—Recommendations of Courts of Referees.†

<b>(1) ORDINARY BENEFIT APPEALS.</b>			
Total cases considered ... ..	12,433	7,261	19,694
Recommended for allowance ... ..	5,291	2,560	7,851
Recommended for disallowance:—			
<i>Permanent provisions:</i>			
First statutory condition* ... ..	1	2	3
Not unable to obtain suitable employment ... ..	335	525	860
Not genuinely seeking work ... ..	3,779	3,134	6,913
Trade disputes ... ..	30	10	40
Employment lost through misconduct ... ..	732	218	950
Employment left voluntarily without just cause ... ..	742	424	1,166
Other grounds ... ..	274	128	402
<i>Transitional provisions (Sec. 14 (2), U.I. Act, 1927):</i>			
Less than 8 contributions paid in previous two years or 30 contributions paid at any time ... ..	15	1	16
Not normally insurable and not seeking to obtain a livelihood by means of insurable employment ... ..	191	91	282
Not a reasonable period of insurable employment during the preceding two years ... ..	1,043	168	1,211
Total recommended for disallowance ... ..	7,142	4,701	11,843

<b>(2) 78-DAY REVIEW CASES.†</b>			
Total cases considered ... ..	171,616	20,479	192,095
Recommended for allowance ... ..	166,381	18,840	185,221
Recommended for disallowance:—			
<i>Permanent provisions:</i>			
Not unable to obtain suitable employment ... ..	3	2	5
Not genuinely seeking work ... ..	5,189	1,615	6,804
Other grounds ... ..	31	22	53
<i>Transitional provisions (Sec. 14 (2), U.I. Act, 1927):</i>			
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 ... ..	12	...	12
Total recommended for disallowance ... ..	5,235	1,639	6,874

### D.—Decisions by Umpire.‡

Cases referred by Insurance Officer	Allowed...	86	21	107
	Disallowed...	132	35	167
Appeals by Associations ... ..	Allowed...	109	3	112
	Disallowed...	256	13	269
Appeals by Claimants ... ..	Allowed...	13	2	15
	Disallowed...	50	8	58
Total ... ..	Allowed...	208	26	234
	Disallowed...	438	56	494

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, 1928, to 11th February, 1929, 529,805 applications for benefit were disallowed by Insurance Officers, and 176,547 ordinary benefit appeals were considered by Courts of Referees, of which 109,391 (or 62·3 per cent.) were recommended for disallowance. The 78-day review cases considered by Courts of Referees numbered 967,650, of which 38,092 (or 3·9 per cent.) were recommended for disallowance. During the same period decisions were given by the Umpire on 5,426 claims, of which 3,668 (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 23rd February, 1929.	Four weeks ended 26th January, 1929.	Four weeks ended 25th February, 1928.
<b>Contributions received from:—</b>			
Employers ... ..	£ 1,295,000	£ 1,185,000	£ 1,105,000
Employed Persons ... ..	1,110,000	1,000,000	940,000
Exchequer ... ..	925,000	850,000	790,000
Total ... ..	3,330,000	3,035,000	2,835,000
<b>Unemployment Benefit</b>			
Cost of Administration ... ..	3,985,000	4,180,000	3,185,000
Interest accrued on Treasury Advances ... ..	430,000	390,000	400,000
Other Items ... ..	125,000	130,000	90,000
Total ... ..	4,540,000	4,700,000	3,675,000
Treasury Advances outstanding ... ..	34,230,000	33,150,000	24,310,000
Other Liabilities (net) including accrued interest and deposits ... ..	430,000	290,000	275,000

A detailed account of the Fund is presented to Parliament annually. (See House of Commons Paper No. 28 of 1928, 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 25th February, 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 ... ..	4,043	0·4	48	0·0	100	0·1	3	0·0
Mining ... ..	165,849	16·7	23,071	11·3	730	0·4	74	0·1
Non-Metalliferous Mining Products	5,585	0·6	2,911	1·4	115	0·1	45	0·1
Brick, Tile, etc., making ... ..	9,398	1·0	5,027	2·5	866	0·5	599	0·7
Pottery, Earthenware, etc. ... ..	2,449	0·2	3,530	1·7	2,169	1·3	4,183	4·7
Glass Trades ... ..	4,151	0·4	1,121	0·5	395	0·2	80	0·1
Chemicals, etc. ... ..	10,099	1·0	1,335	0·7	1,948	1·2	257	0·3
Metal Manufacture	28,756	2·9	25,405	12·5	811	0·5	812	0·9
Engineering, etc. ... ..	53,336	5·4	18,294	9·0	1,993	1·2	800	0·9
Construction and Repair of Vehicles ... ..	17,309	1·7	6,232	3·1	1,074	0·6	175	0·2
Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing	49,655	5·0	2,397	1·2	126	0·1	24	0·0
Metal Trades ... ..	25,431	2·6	9,354	4·6	10,008	6·0	2,945	3·3
Textile Trades ... ..	30,527	3·1	35,451	17·4	40,148	23·9	51,368	57·9
Leather and Leather Goods	3,412	0·3	2,091	1·0	1,360	0·8	551	0·6
Boot, Shoe, Slipper and Clog Trades	7,564	0·8	5,755	2·8	2,571	1·5	3,478	3·9
Clothing Trades ... ..	9,452	1·0	2,355	1·2	14,141	8·4	9,641	10·9
Food, Drink and Tobacco ... ..	23,495	2·4	1,983	1·0	15,546	9·3	5,009	5·7
Sawmilling, Furniture and Woodwork ... ..	15,780	1·6	2,242	1·1	1,578	0·9	513	0·6
Printing and Paper Trades ... ..	9,868	1·0	881	0·4	6,105	3·6	1,612	1·8
Building and Construction of Works ... ..	211,766	21·3	40,444	19·8	231	0·1	20	0·0
Other Manufacturing Industries ... ..	6,292	0·6	1,027	0·5	2,500	1·5	739	0·8
Gas, Water and Electricity Supply Industries ... ..	10,315	1·0	888	0·4	142	0·1	19	0·0
Transport and Communication	120,026	12·1	3,381	1·7	1,360	0·8	149	0·2
Distributive Trades	74,527	7·5	3,547	1·7	32,712	19·5	3,918	4·4
Commerce, Banking, Insurance and Finance ... ..	5,452	0·5	77	0·0	788	0·5	7	0·0
Miscellaneous Trades and Services ... ..	88,729	8·9	5,166	2·5	28,401	16·9	1,646	1·9
All Industries and Services ... ..	993,266	100·0	204,013	100·0	167,918	100·0	88,667	100·0



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 25th February, 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 25th February, 1929.				Inc.(+) or Dec.(-) as compared with 28th Jan., 1929.
	Men.	Women.	Juven- iles.	Total.	
<i>London Division</i> ...	122,712	18,826	6,448	147,986	+ 2,069
<i>South-Eastern Division</i>	64,033	6,960	5,178	76,171	+ 8,931
Brighton ...	2,440	515	429	3,384	+ 120
Chatham ...	2,626	235	715	3,576	- 162
Ipswich ...	2,109	188	200	2,497	- 52
Norwich ...	4,327	607	121	5,055	+ 140
Rest of South-Eastern	52,531	5,415	3,713	61,659	+ 8,885
<i>South-Western Division</i>	69,362	9,690	5,323	84,375	+ 2,311
Bristol ...	12,876	2,993	1,112	16,981	- 302
Plymouth ...	5,651	699	317	6,667	- 123
Portsmouth ...	4,705	557	652	5,914	- 65
Reading ...	1,603	129	200	1,932	- 5
Southampton ...	4,505	400	529	5,434	+ 679
Swindon ...	969	101	92	1,162	+ 37
Rest of South-Western	39,053	4,811	2,421	46,285	+ 2,090
<i>Midlands Division</i> ...	140,434	39,407	6,830	186,671	+ 351
Birmingham ...	20,062	7,479	540	28,081	+ 794
Coventry ...	2,070	305	19	2,394	+ 75
Cradley Heath ...	3,111	752	101	3,964	+ 211
Derby ...	3,925	795	353	5,073	+ 308
Leicester ...	5,789	2,518	111	8,418	+ 293
Northampton ...	3,922	1,549	248	5,719	+ 114
Nottingham ...	9,487	2,316	378	12,181	+ 630
Smethwick ...	1,854	788	53	2,695	+ 31
Stoke-on-Trent ...	12,181	5,988	800	18,969	- 2,841
Walsall ...	3,777	931	266	4,974	- 955
West Bromwich ...	2,304	417	141	2,862	+ 118
Wolverhampton ...	5,903	960	286	7,149	+ 494
Rest of Midlands ...	66,049	14,609	3,534	84,192	+ 1,079
<i>North-Eastern Division</i>	259,107	38,215	16,956	314,278	- 12,482
Barnsley ...	4,273	415	182	4,870	- 513
Bradford ...	12,018	4,867	644	17,529	- 228
Darlington ...	2,561	316	277	3,154	+ 299
Dewsbury ...	1,930	1,093	202	3,225	- 209
Doncaster ...	2,506	326	343	3,175	- 2,899
Gateshead ...	7,075	989	575	8,639	- 75
Grimsby ...	3,317	234	227	3,778	- 249
Halifax ...	3,107	1,225	61	4,393	- 184
Hartlepool ...	5,212	291	648	6,151	- 359
Huddersfield ...	3,483	1,701	266	5,450	+ 89
Hull ...	12,064	982	893	13,939	+ 105
Leeds ...	14,334	3,098	433	17,865	- 2,048
Lincoln ...	1,950	304	295	2,549	+ 182
Middlesbrough ...	6,963	461	350	7,774	- 641
Newcastle-on-Tyne...	16,409	2,120	1,301	19,830	- 416
Rotherham ...	4,842	315	384	5,541	- 1,166
Sheffield ...	22,475	3,673	1,799	27,947	+ 1,003
South Shields ...	7,973	422	519	8,914	+ 163
Stockton-on-Tees ...	4,351	238	391	4,980	- 85
Sunderland ...	12,238	1,046	672	13,956	- 481
Wakefield ...	2,360	465	410	3,235	- 784
York ...	2,869	683	371	3,923	+ 363
Rest of North-Eastern	104,797	12,951	5,713	123,461	- 4,194
<i>North-Western Division</i>	194,854	63,647	15,070	273,571	- 9,812
Accrington ...	3,567	1,065	159	4,791	+ 71
Ashton-under-Lyne	2,822	1,418	187	4,427	+ 137
Barrow ...	2,024	289	283	2,596	+ 100
Birkenhead ...	4,081	574	378	5,033	+ 208
Blackburn ...	3,696	2,683	229	6,608	- 328
Blackpool ...	2,309	1,095	320	3,724	- 514
Bolton ...	8,606	5,715	1,040	15,361	+ 4,219
Burnley ...	2,448	1,527	108	4,083	- 1,110
Bury ...	1,917	1,129	134	3,180	+ 213
Chorley ...	2,199	538	68	2,805	+ 74
Liverpool ...	45,270	6,725	3,694	55,689	+ 1,765
Manchester ...	19,863	7,076	1,279	28,218	- 2,475
Nelson ...	1,249	597	33	1,879	- 147
Oldham ...	7,077	2,594	300	9,971	- 3,270
Preston ...	4,624	2,026	225	6,875	+ 90
Rochdale ...	3,240	1,664	79	4,983	- 87
St. Helens ...	3,402	319	168	3,889	- 1,590
Salford ...	7,999	2,954	759	11,712	+ 1,015
Stockport ...	3,401	1,519	199	5,119	+ 144
Warrington ...	2,445	315	310	3,070	- 304
Wigan ...	5,487	2,086	339	7,912	- 884
Rest of North-Western	57,128	19,739	4,779	81,646	- 4,835
<i>Scotland Division</i> ...	143,071	24,542	11,326	178,939	+ 1,562
Aberdeen ...	4,443	905	244	5,592	+ 457
Clydebank ...	1,500	265	247	2,012	+ 363
Dundee ...	5,431	1,985	400	7,816	- 75
Edinburgh ...	12,406	2,177	891	15,474	- 11
Glasgow ...	46,558	9,369	4,270	60,197	+ 1,427
Greenock ...	5,112	775	292	6,179	+ 130
Motherwell ...	3,604	180	278	4,062	- 264
Paisley ...	2,449	367	357	3,173	+ 269
Rest of Scotland	61,568	8,519	4,347	74,434	- 734
<i>Wales Division</i> ...	118,103	5,669	6,098	129,870	+ 4,314
Cardiff ...	10,209	1,464	797	12,470	+ 581
Llanelly ...	3,676	248	181	4,105	+ 132
Newport ...	5,313	396	317	6,026	+ 381
Swansea ...	6,209	456	498	7,163	- 16
Rest of Wales	92,696	3,105	4,305	100,106	+ 3,236
<i>Northern Ireland</i> ...	25,175	11,382	1,284	37,841	- 1,955
Belfast ...	14,889	7,645	974	23,508	- 1,138
Londonderry ...	1,676	472	51	2,199	- 116
Lurgan ...	562	784	31	1,377	- 150
Lisburn ...	786	428	44	1,258	- 84
Newry ...	956	253	24	1,233	- 17
Rest of Northern Ire- land ...	6,306	1,800	160	8,266	- 618
<i>Great Britain and Northern Ireland</i> ...	1,136,851	218,338	74,513	1,429,702	- 4,172

THE number of persons on the registers of Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and in Great Britain and Northern Ireland on the last Monday in January, 1929, and on each Monday in February are given in the following Table:—

The figures for 25th February are analysed below :—

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 25th February 1929. Of the 119,693 vacancies filled, 64,834 were for men, 31,847 for women and 23,012 for juveniles :—

\* 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 five weeks ended 21st January 1929, the average number of such placings was 4,497 per week. The average number of placings of casual workers during the four weeks ended 25th February, 1929, was 475 per week.

[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 February in Great Britain and Northern Ireland resulted in an aggregate reduction of about £6,000 in the weekly full-time wages of 100,000 workpeople and in an increase of £1,615 in those of 29,000 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.
Metal ... ..	2,250	89,000	£ 15	£ 4,400
Building and Allied Industries ... ..	23,000	4,500	1,450	925
Other ... ..	3,750	6,500	150	675
Total ... ..	29,000	100,000	1,615	6,000

The principal bodies of workpeople affected by reductions in the metal group included iron puddlers and iron and steel millmen in the Midlands, steel smelters in various districts in England and Scotland, and electrical cable makers. In the case of puddlers and millmen in the Midlands, the percentage addition payable on base rates was reduced by the equivalent of about 2 per cent. on current rates. Men employed in steel smelting shops, with the exception of those on base rates up to 7s. per shift, had their wages reduced by an amount equal to about 1 or 1½ per cent. on current rates. A reduction of about 1 per cent. on current rates also took place in the wages of men employed in steel rolling mills (except those on base rates up to 7s. per shift) in the North of England and Scotland. Electrical cable makers sustained reductions amounting to 1s. 11½d. or 2s. per week in the case of men, and 1s. per week in the case of women. There was also a reduction, amounting to 2½ per cent. on piece prices, in the wages of rain-water and soil goods moulders in the light castings industry. Blastfurnace workers in North Lincolnshire received a small increase (amounting to less than ½ per cent. on current rates).

In the building and allied industries group there were increases, usually amounting to ½d. per hour for craftsmen and ¼d. per hour for labourers, in the wages of building trade operatives at certain towns in England, as a result of re-gradings under the grading scheme of the National Joint Council for the Building Industry, the principal towns affected including Cambridge and Portsmouth. Plasterers employed by master plasterers had their wages reduced in London and at Manchester. Men employed by electrical contractors in England and Wales received an increase of ¼d. per hour in the districts included in three of the four grades into which the country is divided for wages purposes.

In the other industrial groups the principal changes in wages which occurred in February included reductions affecting colliery winding enginemen in Scotland, machine calico printers, and workpeople employed in roller leather manufacture; and increases affecting ironstone miners and quarrymen in North Lincolnshire and workpeople employed in leather belt manufacture.

Of the total increase of £1,615 per week, nearly £800 took effect under cost-of-living sliding scales; about £750 took effect under arrangements made by joint councils of employers and workpeople; about £20 was accounted for by sliding scales based on selling prices; and the remaining sum was the result of direct negotiation between employers and workpeople, or of individual action by employers.

Of the total reduction of £6,000 per week, £2,850 took effect under sliding scales based on selling prices; £1,600 took effect under cost-of-living sliding scales, including £1,250 under scales arranged by Joint Industrial Councils; £15 took effect as the result of arbitration; and £1,535 as the result of direct negotiation or of individual action by employers. Disputes preceded by stoppage of work accounted for over £300 of the last mentioned total.

During the first two months of 1929 the changes reported to the Department have resulted in net increases of £3,700 in the weekly full-time wages of 138,000† workpeople, and in net decreases of £11,550 in those of 185,000† workpeople. In the corresponding period of 1928, there were net increases of £11,900 in the weekly full-time wages of 205,000 workpeople and net reductions of £62,600 in those of 768,000 workpeople.

## Hours of Labour.

No important changes were reported in February.

## PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING FEBRUARY, 1929.

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change. (Decreases in italics.)
Agriculture	Dorset ... ..	18 Feb.	Female workers :— Part-time and casual workers	Minimum rates fixed at 3d. per hour for those 14 and under 16 years, 4d. per hour at 16 and under 18 years and 5d. per hour at 18 and over.†
			Other workers ... ..	Scale of minimum rates fixed for a week of 48 hours§, starting at 9s. at 14 and under 15, increasing to 18s. at 18 and to 24s. at 21 and over.†
Coal Mining	Scotland ... ..	18 Feb.	Winding enginemen ... ..	<i>Special allowance of 1s. 8d. per shift previously granted reduced by 6d. per shift and remaining portion merged into basis rate. Total rate after change, 9s. per shift.</i>
Iron Mining	North Lincolnshire...	3 Feb.	Ironstone miners and quarrymen...	Increase   of ½ per cent. on standard rates, making wages 17½ per cent. above the standard, plus 1s. 1d. per shift plus the bonuses previously paid (varying from 2d. to 1s. 1d. per shift) in case of lower-paid day-wage men. Minimum rate after change for general labourers: 3s. 8d. per shift, plus 17½ per cent., plus 1s. 1d. per shift, plus bonus of 1s. 1d. per shift.
Pig Iron Manufacture.	North Lincolnshire and certain firms in the Leeds District.	3 Feb.	Blastfurnacemen ... ..	Increase   of ½ per cent. on standard rates, making wages 17½ per cent. above the standard, plus 1s. 1d. per shift, plus the bonuses previously paid to lower-paid day-wage men, making rate for labourers as shown above for ironstone miners and quarrymen.
	Midlands and part of South Yorkshire and South Lancashire.	4 Feb.	Workpeople employed at iron-puddling furnaces and iron and steel rolling mills and forges.	<i>Percentage payable on base rates reduced   from 30 to 27½ for workpeople on base rates over 5s. 10d. per shift, and from 35 to 32½ for workpeople on base rates up to and including 5s. 10d. per shift.¶</i>
Iron and Steel Manufacture.	England** and West of Scotland.	3 Feb.	Men employed in steel-melting shops :— Melters, pitmen, slagmen, ladlemen, furnace helpers, etc., and gas producer men and charge wheelers.†† Semi-skilled workers and labourers on 8-hour shifts†† Semi-skilled workers and labourers whose wages are based on a 47-hour week††; also youths and boys under 21 years of age.	<i>Decrease   of 1½ per cent. on the standard of 1905, leaving wages 25 per cent. above the standard in case of basic process workers, and at the standard rates in case of acid process workers.</i>  <i>Decrease   of 1½ per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 25 per cent. above the standard.</i>  <i>Decrease   of 1½ of the total advance in wages given between August, 1914, and 30 April, 1921, making a total net decrease since 1 May, 1921 of 1½ of such advance.</i>

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

† In addition to the numbers quoted, wages stand at the same level as at the beginning of the year in the case of nearly 18,000 workpeople, whose wages have been increased and reduced by equal amounts during the year.

‡ The minimum rates previously fixed were 4d. per hour for those under 15 years and 5d. per hour for those 15 years and over.

§ Except in the week in which Good Friday falls, when the normal hours are 39½.

¶ Under selling-price sliding-scale arrangements.

|| In addition to the above percentages on base rates, bonuses are paid to production men on basis rates up to 6s. 10d. per shift and to other men on basis rates up to 6s. 3d. per shift. The bonuses, which vary inversely in amount with the basis rates, range from ¼d. or 1d. per shift in the case of the higher paid men to 1s. 5d. per shift for production men on a base rate of 3s. 10d. and 1s. 0½d. or 1s. 1½d. per shift for other men on the same rate.

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

†† Excluding adult workers in receipt of base rates from 3s. 10d. to 7s. per shift.



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

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change. (Decreases in italics.)
Iron and Steel Manufacture.	North East Coast Area (except certain men employed at West Hartlepool and Gateshead).	3 Feb.	Men employed on direct production in steel-rolling mills (excluding those in receipt of base rates from 3s. 10d. to 7s. per shift).	Decrease* of 1½ per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 25 per cent. above the standard.
	North East Coast Area.	3 Feb.	Semi-skilled workers, labourers, etc., employed at puddling furnaces and in rolling mills, whose wages are based on a 47-hour week (excluding those in receipt of base rates from 3s. 10d. to 6s. per shift)†; also youths and boys under 21 years of age.	Decrease* of 1½ of the total advance in wages given between August, 1914, and 30 April, 1921, making a total net decrease since 1 May, 1921, of 1½ of such advance.
	Workington... ..	3 Feb.	Steel millmen (excluding those in receipt of base rates of 7s. and below per shift).	Decrease* of 1½ per cent. on standard rates.
	Barrow-in-Furness	3 Feb.	Workpeople employed in steel works:— Rail millmen (excluding those on base rates of 7s. and below per shift). Enginemen, crane-men, etc. (excluding those on base rates of 7s. and below per shift).	Decrease* of 1½ per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 16½ per cent. above the standard. Decrease* of 1½ per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 25 per cent. above the standard.
	Scunthorpe ... ..	3 Feb.	Steel millmen, wagon builders and repairers, etc. (excluding men in receipt of base rates from 3s. 10d. to 7s. per shift).	Decrease* of 1½ per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 25 per cent. above the standard.
	West of Scotland ...	3 Feb.	Men employed in steel-rolling mills:— Millmen, gas producers, enginemen, crane-men, firemen and mill labourers (excluding adult workers in receipt of base rates of from 3s. 10d. to 7s. per shift). Semi-skilled workers and general labourers (excluding adult workers in receipt of base rates of from 3s. 10d. to 7s. per shift), and youths and boys under 21 years of age.	Decrease* of 1½ per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 25 per cent. above the standard. Decrease* of 1½ of the total advance in wages given between August, 1914, and 30 April, 1921, making a total net decrease since 1 May, 1921, of 1½ of such advance.
Ship repairing ...	Hull ... ..	22 Feb.	Shipwrights employed by fishing vessel owners.	Increase of 1s. 6d. per week (61s. 6d. to 63s.).
Electrical Cable Manufacture.	Middlesex, Kent, Surrey, Sussex, Essex, Hertfordshire, Buckinghamshire and Berkshire.	3rd pay day in Feb.	Workpeople employed in the electrical cable-making industry (except plumber-jointers, etc.).	Decrease† 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 youths 15 years, of 5½d. per week for youths 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 to be correspondingly reduced. Rates after change: men 21 years, and over, 52s. 10½d. to 58s. 9d.; youths 18 to 20 years 36s. 8½d. to 44s. 6½d.; boys 14 to 17 years, 14s. 2½d. to 24s.; women 18 years and over, 27s. 6d. to 31s. 6d.; girls 14 to 17 years, 13s. 6d. to 18s. 8.
	Great Britain, other than the above counties.			Decrease† of 2s. per week for men 21 years 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 to be correspondingly reduced. Rates after change: men 21 years and over, 47s. 6d. to 53s. 6d.; youths 18 to 20 years, 34s. 6d. to 41s.; boys 14 to 17 years, 13s. 6d. to 22s. 6d.; women 18 years and over, 27s. 6d. to 31s. 6d.; girls 14 to 17 years, 13s. 6d. to 18s. 8.
	Greater London Area	2nd pay day in Feb.	Plumber-jointers and plumber-jointers' mates employed in the electrical cable-making industry.	Increase of 0.25d. per hour for plumber-jointers and of 0.2d. for plumber-jointers' mates. Rates after change: plumber-jointers, 1s. 9.75d. per hour; plumber-jointers' mates, 1s. 5.4d. per hour.
Light Castings, etc., Manufacture.	England and Scotland	5 Feb.	Rainwater and soil goods moulders and assistants employed in the light castings industry.	Decrease of 2½ per cent. in the addition payable on the price lists of 1920, leaving wages 20 or 15 per cent. above the list plus a flat rate bonus of 12s. per week.¶
	Scotland and North-East Coast of England.	5 Feb.	Piecework moulders employed in greensand pipe manufacture.	Bonus reduced by 2½ per cent.¶
Laminated Spring Manufacture.	Sheffield ... ..	1st full pay after 18 Feb.	Laminated spring fitters, vicemen, smiths and strikers.	Decrease† of 1s. per week in flat-rate bonus (7s. to 6s.).
Elastic Web Weaving.	Leicester ... ..	1st pay day after 23 Feb.	Male workers ... ..	Bonus reduced† from 14s. to 13s. in the £.
Machine Calico Printing.	Great Britain and Northern Ireland.	Pay preceding 1st pay day in March.	Machine calico printers ... ..	Supplementary cost-of-living wage reduced† from 46.90 per cent. to 45.50 per cent. on basis wages, the flat-rate bonuses of 19s. per week for journeymen and 13s. per week for apprentices remaining unchanged.
Silk Dyeing and Finishing.	Macclesfield ... ..	Pay day in week ending 9 Feb.	Male workers 21 years and over ...	Increase† of 3d. per week. Rates after change: 46s. 6d. at 21 increasing to 52s. at 22½.
			Female workers 18 years and over	Increase† of 1d. per week (29s. 6d. to 29s. 7d.).
Felt Hat Making.	Atherstone and Bedworth.	Week ending 23 Feb.	Male pieceworkers ... ..	Bonus of 30 per cent. on piece price lists reduced† to 27½ per cent.
Baking and Confectionery.	Galashiels ... ..	Feb.	Bakers and confectioners ... ..	Decrease† of 1s. per week. Minimum rate after change: 70s.
Mill Sawing ...	Nottingham, Derby and Burton-on-Trent.	1 Feb.	Woodcutting machinists and sawyers	Increase† of ½d. per hour (1s. 6d. to 1s. 6½d.).
	King's Lynn ... ..	Week ending 1 Mar.	Workpeople employed in sawmills	Decrease† of 1d. per hour for men and of ½d. per hour for boys. Minimum rates after change for men: machinemen and sawyers, 1s. 2d.; labourers, 11½d.
Furniture Manufacture.	Glasgow ... ..	1st full pay in Feb.	Rocking and baby chair makers ...	Decrease† of ½d. per hour for timeworkers (1s. 4½d. to 1s. 4d.) and of 2½ per cent. for pieceworkers.
Bedding, etc., Manufacture.	London ... ..	1 Feb.	Bedding and mattress makers ...	Decrease† of 1 per cent. in the basis for calculating rates of wages, making wages 67 per cent. above the list adopted in 1922.

\* Under selling-price sliding-scale arrangements.

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

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

§ Excluding any service bonuses that may be due.

¶ A further reduction of 2½ per cent. is to operate from 1st April, 1929—wages to be stabilised from that date until 31st December, 1929.

¶ A further reduction of 2½ per cent. is to operate from 1st April, 1929.



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

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change. (Decreases in <i>italics</i> .)
Pianoforte Manufacture.	London* ... ..	2 Feb.	Skilled female workers over 20 years of age.	<i>Decrease of 2d. per hour in the minimum rate. Minimum rate after change: 1s.*</i>
Building	London District (within a 15-mile radius of Charing Cross)†.	1 Feb.	Plasterers ... ..	<i>Rate of 1s. 11½d. per hour adopted, in lieu of previous rate of 1s. 9½d., which was subject to an extra allowance of 2s. per day (1s. on Saturdays).†</i>
	Manchester, Salford and District.	22 Feb.	Plasterers and plasterers' labourers	<i>Standard rates adopted of 1s. 7½d. per hour for plasterers and 1s. 2½d. per hour for plasterers' labourers.‡</i>
	Cambridge ... ..	1 Feb.	Building trade operatives§... ..	<i>Classification under National Grading Scheme altered from B to A3, making standard rates§: craftsmen, 1s. 6d.; labourers, 1s. 1½d.¶</i>
	Silver End (Essex)	1 Feb.	Building trade operatives ... ..	<i>Standard rates adopted applicable to Grade B1 towns under the National Grading Scheme, viz., craftsmen, 1s. 5d.; labourers, 1s. 0½d.¶</i>
	Banbury, Basingstoke, Canterbury, Chichester and Newbury.	1 Feb.	Building trade operatives ... ..	<i>Classification under National Grading Scheme altered from B3 to B2, making standard rates: craftsmen, 1s. 4½d.; labourers 1s. 0½d.¶</i>
	East Grinstead District.¶	1 Feb.	Building trade operatives ... ..	<i>Classification under National Grading Scheme altered from B2 to B1, making standard rates: craftsmen 1s. 5d.; labourers, 1s. 0½d.¶</i>
	Isle of Wight ... ..	1 Feb.	Building trade operatives ... ..	<i>Classification under National Grading Scheme altered from C to B3, making standard rates: craftsmen, 1s. 4d.; labourers, 1s.¶</i>
	Portsmouth and Gosport.	1 Feb.	Building trade operatives ... ..	<i>Classification under National Grading Scheme altered from B to A3, making standard rates: craftsmen, 1s. 6d.; labourers, 1s. 1½d.¶</i>
	Newton Abbot and Paignton.	1 Feb.	Building trade operatives ... ..	<i>Rates fixed at ½d. per hour in excess of Grade A2 rate for craftsmen and ¼d. per hour in excess for labourers, making rates: craftsmen, 1s. 7d.; labourers, 1s. 2½d.**</i>
	Torquay ... ..	1 Feb.	Building trade operatives ... ..	<i>Rates fixed at 1d. per hour in excess of Grade A2 rate for craftsmen and ¾d. per hour in excess for labourers, making rates: craftsmen, 1s. 7½d.; labourers 1s. 2¾d.**</i>
Electrical Contracting.	Wells (Somerset) ... ..	1 Feb.	Building trade operatives ... ..	<i>Classification under National Grading Scheme altered from C to B3, making standard rates: craftsmen, 1s. 4d.; labourers, 1s.¶</i>
	Buckley, Flint, Mold and Northop.	1 Feb.	Building trade operatives ... ..	<i>Classification under National Grading Scheme altered from A3 to A, making standard rates: craftsmen, 1s. 7½d.; labourers, 1s. 2½d.¶</i>
Electricity Supply (Railways).	England and Wales and Northern Ireland.††	Pay period preceding 2nd pay day in Feb.	Men employed by electrical contractors.	<i>Increase†† of ⅔ per cent. on rates paid in April, 1921, leaving wages 27⅔ per cent. below these rates, and making net hourly rates for qualified men: Grade A districts, 1s. 9½d.; Grade B, 1s. 7½d.; Grade C, 1s. 6d.; Grade D, 1s. 4½d.††</i>
Local Government (Non-trading Services).	London ... ..	Beginning of 1st full pay week after 8 Feb.	Men employed at electric generating stations and substations and on high tension cables between them by the Metropolitan Railway.	<i>Deduction of 2½ per cent. from gross earnings (inclusive of overtime, extra payment for Sunday, and night duty, etc.) (See I.C. Decision 1412 on page 112.)</i>
	Certain Authorities in the West Riding of Yorkshire.§§	1st full pay in Jan.	Horse drivers or carters whose duties include harnessing, cleaning, bedding down and grooming.	<i>Minimum hourly rates adopted as follows: Grade A Districts, 1s. 1½d.; Grade B, 1s. 1d.; Grade C, 1s. 0½d.; Grade D, 1s.; Grade E, 11½d.; Grade F, 11d.; Grade G, 10½d. §§</i>
	York ... ..	7 Feb.	Manual workers ... ..	<i>Increase†† of ¼d. per hour. Rates after change: labourers, carters, and refuse collectors, 1s. 2¾d.; day scavengers, 1s. 2½d.; night scavengers and carters, 1s. 3¾d.</i>
Leather Belt Manufacture.	Cambridge ... ..	1 Feb.	Manual workers ... ..	<i>Increase of ¼d. per hour for craftsmen and ¼d. per hour for labourers. Minimum rates after change: road and general labourers, scavengers, refuse collectors, and carters, 1s. 0½d.; road paviors and masons, 1s. 5d.</i>
	Portsmouth ... ..	1 Feb.	Manual workers ... ..	<i>Increase of ¼d. per hour for craftsmen and ¼d. per hour for labourers, drainers, etc. Rates after change: painters, masons, carpenters, bricklayers, 1s. 6d.; drainers, 1s. 2½d.; labourers, 1s. 1½d.</i>
Roller Leather Manufacture.	Great Britain ... ..	1st pay day in Feb.	Workpeople employed in leather belt manufacture.	<i>Percentage payable on base rates embodied in agreement of November, 1922, increased†† from 66 to 67, resulting in the case of timeworkers in an increase of ¼d. per hour for semi-skilled workers, the rate for skilled workers remaining unchanged, and making time rates as follows: skilled—London, 1s. 3½d.; Provinces, 1s. 3d.; semi-skilled—London, 1s. 0½d.; Provinces, 11½d.</i>
Roller Leather Manufacture.	Lancashire, Cheshire and North Wales.	1st pay day in Feb.	Workpeople employed in roller leather manufacture.	<i>Cost-of-living wage reduced†† from 70 per cent. to 65 per cent. on basic rates. Minimum rates after change: men—skilled, 9d.; semi-skilled, 6d. to 7½d.; women—5d., plus, in each case, 65 per cent.</i>

\* The above change took effect as the result of a new schedule of conditions issued by the Allied Pianoforte Industries Committee on 2 February. No trade union was a party to the arrangement referred to.

† The change took effect under an agreement made between the National Association of Master Plasterers (London District) and the National Association of Plasterers, Granolithic and Cement Workers. The National Joint Council for the Building Industry was not a party to the arrangement.

‡ The above reduction was the result of an agreement made between the National Federation of Building Trade Employers and the National Executive of the National Association of Plasterers, Granolithic and Cement Workers, following a dispute which began in May, 1928. Under the terms of settlement it was agreed to observe the wages and conditions as laid down by the National Joint Council for the Building Industry. Previous to the dispute there was no formal agreement embodying specific rates of wages, but the majority of the workpeople are understood to have been paid 1s. 10d. per hour in the case of plasterers and 1s. 3½d. per hour in the case of labourers. In the case of non-federated employers, various rates were paid between May, 1928, and the date of the above agreement.

§ By agreement between the local employers of plasterers and the local branch of the National Association of Plasterers, Granolithic and Cement Workers, a rate of 1s. 7d. per hour had previously been fixed for plasterers. It is understood that this rate remains unaltered within the limits of operation of the agreement, to which the National Joint Council for the Building Industry was not a party.

¶ The above new gradings are in accordance with recommendations approved by the National Joint Council for the Building Industry.

¶ Including Ardingly, Charlwood, Crowborough, Cuckfield, Forest Row, Hartfield, Haywards Heath, Lingfield, Smallfields, Turners Hill, Uckfield and West Hoathly.

\*\* These rates were approved as "exceptional rates" by the National Joint Council for the Building Industry. It is understood that the excess rates were actually paid at Torquay and Newton Abbot from 1 July, 1928.

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

‡‡ The change took effect under an agreement between the National Federated Electrical Association and the Electrical Trades Union. The increase was equivalent to ¼d. per hour for Grades A, B and D districts, the rate for Grade C remaining unchanged. The districts included in the various grades are as follows:—

Grade A.—London district (within a 12-mile radius of Charing Cross) and Watford.

Grade B.—Mersey district (including Liverpool, Birkenhead, and Wallasey), Chester, Shotton, and Wrexham, Southport, Manchester district (including Ashton, Atherton, Bolton, Bury, Dukinfield, Hyde, Leigh, Northwich, Oldham, Preston, Rochdale, Stockport, Warrington, and Wigan), South Wales and Monmouthshire (including Bargoed, Barry, Cardiff, Chepstow, Llanelli, Newport, Penarth and Swansea), Tyneside, Hartlepool, Sunderland, Stockton, Darlington, Middlesbrough, West Riding of Yorkshire districts (including Barnsley, Batley, Bradford, Castleford, Dewsbury, Doncaster, Halifax, Harrogate, Ilkley, Keighley, Leeds, Morley, Normanton, Pontefract, Selby, Shipley, Wakefield and York), Sheffield district, Hull, Birmingham, Coventry, Wolverhampton and Bristol.

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

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

§§ The new rates are embodied in an arbitration award to which the Employers' and Workpeople's sides of the District Joint Industrial Council were parties.



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

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

Product and District.	Price according to last Audit.*		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) of last Audit* on	
	Period covered by last Audit.	Average selling price per ton.	Previous Audit.	A year ago.
Pig Iron :	1928.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Cleveland (No. 3.)	Oct.-Dec.	63 4	+ 0 2½	- 1 3
Cumberland (Hematite mixed numbers.)	Nov.-Dec.	67 5½	- 0 1½	- 6 6½
Lincolnshire	Oct.-Dec.	59 0½	+ 0 4	- 1 0½
Nottinghamshire	Oct.-Dec.	57 0½	- 1 6½	- 8 2½
North Staffordshire	Oct.-Dec.	65 8½	- 0 3½	- 1 5
Northamptonshire	Oct.-Dec.	53 5½	- 0 8½	- 5 0½
West of Scotland	Oct.-Dec.	71 9	- 0 3	- 2 4
Manufactured Iron :				
North of England (Bars and angles.)	Nov.-Dec.	176 8	+ 5 2	- 19 1
West of Scotland... (Rounds, flats, tees, angles, hoops and rods.)	Nov.-Dec.	212 0½	+ 3 1½	- 4 1½
Steel :				
South Wales and Monmouthshire (Steel rails and steel tin bars.)	Sept.-Nov.	119 8	- 0 8½	- 23 4½
South-West Wales (Steel tin bars)	Oct.-Dec.	114 7½	- 0 1	+ 3 7½

\* Stated to the nearest farthing.

The variation from the previous audit in the price of Cleveland pig iron indicated in the Table resulted in an increase in January of ¼ per cent. on the standard rates of Cleveland blast-furnacemen. The ascertainment for North Lincolnshire resulted in an increase in February of ½ per cent. on the standard rates of blast-furnacemen, ironstone miners and quarrymen in that area. In North Staffordshire the ascertainment resulted in a reduction in January of ½ per cent. on the standard rates of blastfurnacemen, but this was not applied to datal workers. The ascertainments for Cumberland, Northamptonshire and West of Scotland did not warrant a change in wages. In the case of blastfurnace workers in Nottinghamshire and parts of Derbyshire, and ironstone quarrymen in Leicestershire and the adjoining parts of Lincolnshire, the reduction warranted by the selling-price of Nottinghamshire pig iron was not enforced.

As regards manufactured iron, the North of England ascertainment resulted in an increase in January of 2½ per cent. on the standard rates of iron puddlers and millmen in that area; whilst in the case of iron puddlers and iron and steel sheet millmen in the West of Scotland the ascertainment did not warrant a change in wages. The ascertainment for South Wales and Monmouthshire warranted a reduction in the wages of men employed at blast furnaces and in melting shops and rolling mills, but this was not enforced. In the case of Siemens steel workers in South-West Wales no change was warranted by the ascertainment.

Further particulars of the changes in rates of wages resulting from the ascertainments quoted are given on page 67 of the February Gazette and on page 104 of this issue.

## TRADE DISPUTES IN FEBRUARY.\*

**Number, Magnitude and Duration.**—The number of disputes involving stoppages of work, reported to the Department as beginning in February in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, was 15, as compared with 21 in the previous month and 33 in February, 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 4,200. In addition, about 4,900 workpeople were involved, either directly or indirectly, in 9 disputes which began before February and were still in progress at the beginning of that month. The number of new and old disputes was thus 24, involving about 9,100 workpeople, and resulting in a loss, during February, of about 78,000 working days.

**Causes.**—Of the 15 disputes beginning in February, 2, directly involving 500 workpeople, arose out of proposed reductions in wages; 4, directly involving 600 workpeople, on other wages questions; 2, directly involving 200 workpeople, on questions as to working hours; 5, directly involving 2,300 workpeople, on questions respecting the employment of particular classes or persons; and 2, directly involving 300 workpeople, on other questions.

**Results.**—Settlements were effected in the case of 8 new disputes, directly involving 2,500 workpeople, and 4 old disputes, directly involving 2,900 workpeople. Of these new and old disputes, 2,

directly involving 200 workpeople, were settled in favour of the workpeople; 4, directly involving 500 workpeople, were settled in favour of the employers; and 6, directly involving 4,700 workpeople, were compromised. In the case of 3 disputes, directly involving 1,100 workpeople, work was resumed pending negotiations.

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

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 ..	1	6	7	3,000	10,000
Metal, Engineering and Shipbuilding ...	2	3	5	5,300	56,000
Printing ...	1	...	1	300	8,000
Other Industries ...	5	6	11	500	4,000
<b>Total, Feb., 1929</b> ...	9	15	24	9,100	78,000
<b>Total, Jan., 1929</b> ...	7	21	28	9,700	97,000
<b>Total, Feb., 1928</b> ...	13	33	46	13,200	107,000

## PRINCIPAL DISPUTES INVOLVING STOPPAGES OF WORK DURING FEBRUARY, 1929.

Occupations and Locality.†	Approximate Number of Workpeople involved.		Date when Dispute		Cause or Object.†	Result.†
	Directly.	Indirectly.†	Began.	Ended.		
Colliery workpeople—Barnsley (near)	1,426	...	1929. 11 Feb.	1929. 16 Feb.	Against issue of notices of dismissal to "on-setters" for refusal to carry out certain work.	Amicable settlement effected.
Rainwater and soil goods moulders, and other workpeople (light castings industry)—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. (See also page 105)
Wrought iron manufacture: puddlers, shinglers, forge millmen, etc.—Lanarkshire.	1,500	...	28 Jan.	2 Mar.	Against proposed increase in working hours and reduction in tonnage rates.	Question of working hours referred to arbitration; any consequent adjustment of tonnage rates to be made by agreement or, failing that, by arbitration.
Lithographic printers, transferrers, artists, stone-polishers and female employees (ceramic transfer printing)—North Staffordshire.	109	250	1928. 22 Dec.	7 Mar.	Against proposed reduction in wages of 13s. 6d. per week.	Work resumed at old rate of wages for four weeks, pending arbitration.
Plasterers and plasterers' labourers—Manchester, Salford and District.	319	...	5 May	22 Feb.	Against proposed adoption of standard rates of wages and working conditions laid down by the National Joint Council for the Building Industry, involving a reduction in wages.	Strike called off. (See also page 106.)

\* Disputes involving less than 10 workpeople, and those which lasted less than one day, have, as usual, been omitted from the statistics, except when the aggregate duration (i.e., number of workpeople multiplied by number of working days, allowing for workpeople replaced by others, etc.) exceeded 100 days.  
† The occupations printed in italics are those of workpeople indirectly involved, i.e., thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, but not themselves parties to the disputes. The statements of cause and result do not apply to these persons.



## DISEASES OF OCCUPATIONS.

THE total number of cases\* of poisoning, anthrax, and epitheliomatous and chrome ulceration in Great Britain and Northern Ireland reported during February, 1929, under the Factory and Workshop Act, or under the Lead Paint (Protection against Poisoning) Act, was 39. Seven deaths\* were reported during the month, four due to lead poisoning and three due to epitheliomatous ulceration.

(a) CASES OF LEAD POISONING.		(b) CASES OF OTHER FORMS OF POISONING.	
Among Operatives engaged in—		Carbon Bisulphide Poi-	
Smelting of Metals ...	1	soning ...	1
Plumbing and Soldering ...	1	Aniline Poisoning ...	2
Shipbreaking ...	...	TOTAL OTHER FORMS OF POISONING ...	3
Printing ...	3		
Tinning of Metals ...	...	(c) CASES OF ANTHRAX.	
Other Contact with Molten Lead ...	3	Wool ...	3
White and Red Lead Works ...	...	Handling and Sorting of Hides and Skins ...	2
Pottery† ...	1	TOTAL, ANTHRAX ...	5
Vitreous Enamelling ...	...	(d) CASES OF EPITHELIOMATOUS ULCERATION.	
Electric Accumulator Works ...	...	Pitch ...	3
Paint and Colour Works ...	...	Tar ...	2
Indiarubber Works ...	...	Paraffin ...	1
Coach and Car Painting ...	...	Oil ...	3
Shipbuilding ...	...	TOTAL, EPITHELIOMATOUS ULCERATION ...	9
Paint used in Other Industries ...	1	(e) CASES OF CHROME ULCERATION.	
Other Industries ...	2	Manufacture of Bichromates ...	3
Painting of Buildings ...	3	Dyeing and Finishing ...	2
TOTAL OF ABOVE ...	15	Chrome Tanning ...	...
		Other Industries ...	2
		TOTAL, CHROME ULCERATION ...	7

## FATAL INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS.

THE number of workpeople, other than seamen, in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, reported during February, 1929, as killed in the course of their employment was 203, as compared with 202 in the previous month and with 213 in February, 1928. Fatal accidents to seamen reported in February, 1929, numbered 56, as compared with 95 in the previous month and with 85 in February 1928.

RAILWAY SERVICE.		FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS (continued).	
Brakemen and Goods Guards ...	1	Boiler Making and Constructional Engineering ...	4
Engine Drivers and Motormen ...	3	Locomotives, Railway and Tramway Carriages, Motors, Aircraft ...	1
Firemen ...	1	Other Metal Trades ...	3
Guards (Passenger) ...	1	Shipbuilding ...	8
Permanent Way Men ...	6	Wood ...	2
Porters ...	1	Gas ...	5
Shunters ...	1	Electric Generating Stations ...	...
Mechanics ...	...	Clay, Stone, Glass, etc. ...	6
Labourers ...	...	Chemicals, etc. ...	3
Miscellaneous ...	8	Food and Drink ...	7
Contractors' Servants ...	3	Paper, Printing, etc. ...	4
TOTAL, RAILWAY SERVICE ...	25	Tanning, Currying, etc. ...	...
		Rubber Trades ...	3
		Other Non-Textile Industries ...	1
		PLACES UNDER SS. 104-106, FACTORY ACT, 1901.	
		Docks, Wharves, etc. ...	7
		Buildings ...	12
		Warehouses and Railway Sidings ...	3
		TOTAL, FACTORY ACTS ...	95
		TOTAL (excluding Seamen) ...	203
		SEAMEN.	
		Trading Vessels, Sailing ...	1
		" " Steam ...	50
		Fishing Vessels, Sailing ...	...
		" " Steam ...	5
		TOTAL, SEAMEN ...	56
		TOTAL (including Seamen) ...	259

\* 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 person affected in the pottery industry was a male.

## 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 February, 1929, in the poor-law areas in the thirty-one selected urban areas named below was 732,056, or 5.6 per cent. more than in the previous month, but 4.6 per cent. less than in February, 1928. The numbers relieved at these three dates were equivalent, respectively, to rates of 409, 388, and 430 per 10,000 of the estimated population.

Selected Urban Areas.†	Number of persons* in receipt of Poor Law Relief on one day† in February 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 before.	Year before.
ENGLAND AND WALES.						
Metropolis.						
West District ...	9,750	7,620	17,370	213	+ 16	+ 14
North District ...	11,224	17,769	28,993	286	+ 17	+ 5
Central District ...	2,419	2,860	5,279	403	+ 26	+ 29
East District ...	10,334	46,505	56,839	885	+ 11	− 185
South District ...	20,062	66,477	86,539	445	+ 43	− 21
TOTAL, Metropolis ...	54,103§	141,231	195,334§	429	+ 27	− 30
West Ham ...	4,484	20,425	24,909	330	+ 30	− 84
Other Districts.						
Newcastle District	2,994	25,817	28,811	562	+ 7	− 14
Stockton and Tees District ...	1,512	10,711	12,223	441	− 4	− 124
Bolton, Oldham, etc.	4,390	8,424	12,814	164	+ 14	+ 6
Wigan District ...	1,925	15,844	17,769	388	+ 37	+ 16
Manchester District	10,155	30,616	40,771	389	+ 25	− 17
Liverpool District	10,338	65,970	76,308	597	+ 46	+ 4
Bradford District ...	1,869	6,370	8,239	220	+ 6	− 8
Halifax and Huddersfield ...	1,566	3,236	4,802	129	+ 5	− 3
Leeds ...	3,134	13,701	16,835	349	+ 27	+ 63
Barnsley District ...	1,076	11,734	12,810	371	+ 13	+ 24
Sheffield ...	2,590	23,337	25,927	502	+ 8	− 2
Hull District ...	1,962	16,911	18,873	583	+ 26	+ 26
North Staffordshire	2,583	9,300	11,883	284	+ 14	+ 8
Nottingham District	2,428	13,168	15,596	332	+ 45	+ 18
Leicester ...	1,326	4,782	6,108	249	+ 14	+ 29
Wolverhampton District ...	3,723	15,687	19,410	252	+ 10	− 3
Birmingham ...	7,968	18,622	26,590	280	+ 29	+ 4
Bristol District ...	2,618	10,996	13,614	326	+ 14	− 79
Cardiff and Swansea	2,701	16,008	18,709	387	+ 22	− 66
TOTAL, "Other Districts"	66,858	321,234	388,092	369	+ 22	− 4
TOTAL, Districts in England and Wales ...	125,445	482,890	608,335	384	+ 24	− 16
SCOTLAND.						
Glasgow District ...	6,201	72,970	79,171	829	+ 6	− 46
Paisley and Greenock District ...	909	9,198	10,107	523	+ 11	− 181
Edinburgh ...	1,799	18,117	19,916	468	+ 3	− 10
Dundee and Dunfermline ...	917	4,129	5,046	232	+ 3	− 30
Aberdeen ...	513	3,659	4,172	264	− 11	− 74
Coatbridge & Airdrie	393	4,916	5,309	524	+ 1	− 55
TOTAL for the above Scottish Districts ...	10,732	112,989	123,721	603	+ 4	− 54
TOTAL for above 31 Districts in Feb., 1929 ..	136,177	595,879	732,056	409	+ 21	− 21

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

The following statistics relate to assisted passages from Great Britain and Northern Ireland in connection with agreed schemes under the Empire Settlement Act. The figures include both applicants and dependants. Approvals subsequently cancelled have been excluded.

Destination.	Applications Approved in Feb., 1929.	Total Applications Approved.		Departures in Feb., 1929.	Total Departures.	
		1922 to 1928.	Jan.-Feb., 1929.		1922 to 1928.	Jan.-Feb., 1929.
Australia ...	1,047	160,246	2,249	938	158,445	2,184
Canada ...	2,351	98,894	3,728	353	99,899	905
New Zealand ...	113	42,379	219	103	41,037	271
Africa and other parts of Empire	10	1,013	15	1	818	4
Total ...	3,521	302,532	6,211	1,395	300,199	3,364

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

† 23rd February in England and Wales and 15th February 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 314 not included in district figures.

|| 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	57	1 Mar. '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	51	Nov.
Finland ...	1,007	967	965	1,016	1,026	Jan. '29
France (Paris)†...	321	474	457	447	602	Feb. '29
„ (other towns)†...	351†	510†	453†	436†	462	Nov.
Germany ...	54	45	57	54	53	Jan. '29
Holland (The Hague) ...	76	68	72	64	61	Nov.
Italy ...	...	...	458§	416	465	Jan. '29
Norway ...	160	98	75	73	58	Jan. '29
Spain (Madrid)†...	90	86	89	73	87	Dec.
„ (Barcelona)†...	82	63	64	65	64	Dec.
Sweden†...	69	56	51	57	51	Feb. '29
Switzerland ...	69	59	57	57	58	Dec.
United States ...	56	54	50	50	56	Dec.
BRITISH DOMINIONS, &c.						
Australia ...	56	59	52	52	61	Jan. '29
Canada ...	42§	51§	49	47	52	Feb. '29
India (Bombay):						
Native families ...	52	55	54	43	46	Feb. '29
Irish Free State ...	88	74	66	66	73	Jan. '29
New Zealand ...	51	49	44	46	49	Jan. '29
South Africa ...	20	16	19	16	15	Jan. '29

## 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	66	1 Mar. '29.
FOREIGN COUNTRIES.							1928.
Belgium ...	A,C,D,E	409	537	690	711	756	Jan. '29
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	1,124	Jan. '29
France (Paris) ...	A,B,C,D,E	301¶	439¶	407¶	419¶	431	4th qr.
Germany ...	A,B,C,D,E	43	42	50	53	53	Jan. '29
Greece (Athens) ...	A,B,C,D,E	...	...	...	48	46	Dec.
Holland (Amsterdam) ...	A,B,C,D,E	79§	71§	67§	70§	68	Dec.
Italy (Milan) ...	A,B,C,D,E	498	549	448	426	438	Dec.
„ (Rome) ...	A,B,C,D,E	395	462	403	387	389	Oct.
Luxemburg ...	A,C,D	415	509	681	713	748	Jan. '29
Norway ...	A,B,C,D,E	161§	121§	103	93	81	Jan. '29
Poland (Warsaw) ...	A,B,C,D,E	...	...	15	23	24	Jan. '29
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§	71	Dec.
BRITISH DOMINIONS, &c.							
Australia ...	A,B,C,D,E	44¶	47¶	45¶	...	46	1st Qr.
Canada ...	A,B,C,D,E	55§	57§	55	55	57	Feb. '29
India (Bombay):							
Native families ...	A,B,C,D	57	57	56	47	49	Feb. '29
Irish Free State ...	A,B,C,D,E	88	82	71	73	77	Jan. '29
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	Jan. '29

\* 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.

## 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. 89-90 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 journal of the Federal Ministry of Labour, states that the employment situation, already bad, became worse during the month of January. The persistent cold weather prevented any improvement in seasonal outdoor industries, while at the same time the general economic depression extended to industries not hitherto affected by it, as, for example, the chemical and paper industries, although the situation in these industries was relatively favourable.

At the end of January the Employment Exchanges reported 2,989,899 persons as available and seeking work as against 2,545,383 at the end of December, 1928, an increase of about 444,500, or 17.5 per cent., as compared with the previous month. It is stated that of the total of 2,989,899 some 1,700,000 or 56 per cent. were persons normally engaged in outdoor occupations. On 14th February, the number of persons reported as available and seeking work was 3,018,624.

The number of insured persons in receipt of benefit in respect of total unemployment on 31st January was 2,400,000 (including about 645,000 in receipt of emergency unemployment benefit), or 8.3 per cent. more than in the middle of the month.

Returns were received from national trade unions relating to 4,505,400 organised workers. Of these 19.4 per cent. were totally unemployed on 31st January, as compared with 16.7 per cent. on 31st December, 1928, and 11.2 per cent. at the end of January, 1928. In addition, 8.7 per cent. were working short time, as against 7.5 per cent. at the end of December, 1928, and 3.5 per cent. at the end of January, 1928.

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 January, 1929.	Percentage Wholly Unemployed and on Short Time at end of month.			
		Wholly Unemployed.		On Short Time.	
		Jan., 1929.	Dec., 1928.	Jan., 1929.	Dec., 1928.
Mining ...	157,200	3.2	2.0	5.4	8.2
Quarrying, stone, brick, pottery, etc. ...	257,200	30.5	25.6	8.4	6.7
Engineering and metal ...	1,022,500	9.3	8.4	9.3	7.4
Chemical ...	116,000	8.4	7.6	4.8	4.2
Textile ...	387,700	8.0	7.8	26.5	25.1
Paper ...	121,100	7.2	6.3	8.7	5.9
Leather ...	71,600	17.0	15.0	22.9	19.3
Wood ...	315,900	19.3	17.2	9.9	6.3
Food, tobacco, etc. ...	305,100	11.3	11.4	9.4	6.0
Clothing, boots and shoes ...	168,900	24.3	24.5	27.3	27.3
Building ...	675,600	63.2	50.6	2.4	...
Printing ...	146,800	6.7	6.7	0.6	0.6
Transport ...	364,300	7.0	5.2	0.9	1.1
Horticultural, etc. ...	10,400	38.7	31.6	0.2	0.3
Hairdressing ...	4,300	2.9	3.3	...	...
Miscellaneous ...	380,800	8.3	7.7	2.3	2.3
All Unions making Returns	4,505,400	19.4	16.7	8.7	7.5

## FRANCE.†

Unemployment in France remains at a low level. The total number of unemployed persons remaining on the "live register" of the Exchanges on 2nd March was 12,988 (9,029 men and 3,959 women). At the end of January the corresponding total was 11,785. The total number of vacancies remaining unfilled on the same date was 13,367 (7,806 for men and 5,561 for women), as compared with 13,331 at the end of January. During the last week of February the Exchanges succeeded in placing 25,373 persons in situations, including 9,532 dock workers at seaports, and in addition found employment for 1,337 foreign immigrants.

## BELGIUM.‡

Unemployment remains relatively slight. Provisional returns received by the Ministry of Industry, Labour and Social Welfare, from 165 approved unemployment insurance societies, with a total membership of 620,218, show that 11,912 (1.9 per cent.) of these were totally unemployed at the end of December, 1928. In the preceding month the percentage was 0.6, and in December, 1927, 3.6. In addition, 27,694 members were employed intermittently during the month. The total days lost through unemployment in December numbered 351,461, or 1.89 per cent. of the aggregate possible working days; in the preceding month the percentage was 1.08 and in December, 1927, 4.0.

\* Reichsarbeitsblatt 25th February 1929. Berlin.

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

‡ Revue du Travail, 31st January, 1929. Brussels.



## HOLLAND.\*

There was a comparatively large increase in unemployment during December. The preliminary figures in the Journal of the Dutch Statistical Office, compiled by the State Department of Unemployment Insurance and Employment Exchanges, show that out of 325,654 members of subsidised unemployment funds making returns for the week ended 29th December, 1928, 33,790 (10·3 per cent.) were unemployed during the whole week, and 8,682 (2·7 per cent.) for less than six days. In the corresponding week of the preceding month (ended 24th November) the percentages were respectively 4·9 and 1·3.

## SWITZERLAND.†

The labour market is reported to have been seriously affected during January by the continued frost. On 31st January, 1929, 16,284 applications for employment (12·4 per thousand of the employed population according to the Census of 1920) were registered at Employment Exchanges as compared with 11,993 at the end of December, 1928 and 14,212 at the end of January, 1928. Offers of situations at the dates mentioned above numbered 2,485, 1,666 and 2,422 respectively.

*Unemployment among Insured Workers.*—Returns from 159 subsidised unemployment funds show that out of an aggregate of 266,698 members, 10,619, or 4·0 per cent., were totally unemployed, and 3,621, or 1·4 per cent., partially so at the end of December, 1928. On 30th September, 1928, the corresponding percentages were 1·1 and 1·0, and at the end of December, 1927, 4·5 and 1·7 respectively.

## POLAND.‡

There has been a considerable increase in unemployment due to the complete closing down of all seasonal work owing to the long spell of severe frost. According to the official journal of the Central Statistical Office of Poland, the estimated number of unemployed registered at Employment Exchanges on 2nd February was 166,184 as compared with 128,144 on 29th December. On these dates the number of unemployed persons entitled to benefit was 81,056 and 47,052 respectively.

## CZECHOSLOVAKIA.

According to information in the "International Labour Review" for February, 1929 (published by the International Labour Office, Geneva), 1·1 per cent. of the members of the trade union unemployment insurance funds were in receipt of unemployment benefit at the end of October, 1928, as compared with 1·5 per cent. at the end of September.

## SCANDINAVIAN COUNTRIES.

There was an increase in unemployment in Norway during December, 1928, and a decrease in Sweden during January, 1929.

*Norway.*§—Out of 17,415 members of trade unions making returns, 17·6 per cent. were unemployed on the last day of December, 1928. The corresponding figure for the end of November was 15·7 per cent., and that for December, 1927, 24·5 per cent.

*Sweden.*||—The percentage of members of trade unions making returns who were unemployed on 31st January was 14·8, as compared with 17·2 on 31st December, 1928, and 14·2 on 31st January, 1928.

## CANADA.¶

There was an increase in employment at the beginning of February, although the situation was still affected by closings for stocktaking and to a greater extent by seasonal slackness in outdoor industries. Returns were received by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics from 6,391 firms with an aggregate of 933,943 on their pay-rolls on 1st February. On 1st January the same firms reported 921,404 and the more recent total thus shows an increase of 1·4 per cent. If the average employment of the reporting firms in the year 1926 be represented by 100, the index number of employment for February is 110·5 as compared with 109·1 at the beginning of the preceding month, and 102·0 on 1st February, 1928.

On 31st January, 1929, 6·3 per cent. of the aggregate membership of trade unions making returns were unemployed as compared with 6·6 per cent. at the end of December and 6·8 per cent. at the end of January, 1928.

## UNITED STATES.\*\*

Employment in January decreased as compared with the preceding month. According to returns received by the Federal Bureau of Labour Statistics, covering 23,735 establishments in the manufacturing industries, anthracite and bituminous coal mining, metalliferous mining, public utilities, trade (wholesale and retail) and the hotel industry, these establishments employed over four-and-a-third million workpeople in January, 1929, or a decrease of 0·6 per cent. as compared with the total for December, 1928. During the same period the aggregate wages paid showed a decrease of 2·9 per cent.

As regards manufacturing industries alone, 12,138 establishments in 54 of the chief manufacturing industries reported 3,321,227 employed in January, 1929, a decrease of 0·3 per cent. on the total for December, but an increase of 3·9 on the total for January, 1928. The aggregate wages decreased by 3·3 per cent. as compared with the total for the preceding month.

## LEGAL CASES AFFECTING LABOUR.

## Workmen's Compensation Act, 1925.

## COMPENSATION TO DEPENDENT MEMBERS OF FAMILIES.

SECTION 8 (1) of the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1925, provides as follows:—

"The compensation under this Act where death results from the injury shall be a lump sum of an amount calculated in accordance with the rules hereinafter contained, together with, if the workman leaves a widow or other member of his family (not being a child under the age of 15) wholly or partially dependent upon his earnings, and in addition, leaves one or more children under the age of 15 so dependent, an additional sum (hereinafter referred to as the children's allowance) of an amount calculated in accordance with the rules hereinafter contained, so however that the lump sum and the children's allowance (which shall be added together and dealt with as a single sum) shall not in any case exceed in the aggregate £600."

By Section 4 (3) "member of a family" is defined as "wife or husband, father, mother, grandfather, grandmother, step-father, step-mother, son, daughter, grandson, granddaughter, step-son, step-daughter, brother, sister, half-brother, half-sister."

The House of Lords, by a majority (Lord Carson dissenting) has decided that the "children's allowance" referred to in Section 8 (1) is payable in respect of all dependants of a dead workman who are under 15 years of age at his death, and not merely in respect of his sons and daughters who are under that age. The section, therefore, includes any members of the deceased workman's family, as defined by Section 4 (3), who are children under the age of 15, and who are wholly or partially dependent on his earnings.—*Shotts Iron Co., Ltd., v. Curran and others.*—House of Lords. 15th February, 1929.

## EXPULSION FROM TRADE UNION—RESOLUTION OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE—WHETHER ULTRA VIRES.

Mr. Neil MacLean, M.P., brought an action against the Workers' Union, of which he was formerly a member, claiming a declaration that a resolution passed on 28th September, 1927, by the Executive Committee, expelling him from the Union, was *ultra vires* and void. He also sought an injunction to restrain the Union from enforcing the resolution or interfering in any way with his rights as a member.

It was stated that the Executive Committee purported to expel the plaintiff under rule 45 of the Union. This rule forbade members of the Union to issue circulars which had not first been approved by the Executive or by the General Secretary.

In 1927 the plaintiff, then a candidate for the presidency of the Union, had published an election address in which he criticised the Executive Committee, the President, and the General Secretary; there had been a series of disputes extending over a long period with regard to the management, control and working of the Union.

A letter was sent to the plaintiff informing him that his action in publishing the address without approval was a breach of rule 45 and that, as it was to be adjudicated upon by the Committee, he might attend before them and state his case. On 28th September, 1927, Mr. MacLean appeared before the Committee and submitted his arguments. He did not, at that time, take any objection to the constitution of the Committee. The resolution complained of was then passed.

In his reserved judgment Mr. Justice Maugham said that it was argued that the resolution was invalid on three grounds. First, it was contended that the Committee were prosecutors as well as judges, or were judges in their own cause; secondly, that certain members of the Committee were so biassed against the plaintiff as to be incapable of performing the quasi-judicial functions required of them; and thirdly, that one member of the Committee who purported to act as a judge, must be regarded as a stranger, since he had not been duly elected. His Lordship said that he did not think there was any substance in the third contention; the member in question—Mr. Barnes—had been properly elected. Possibly it might be urged in general terms that the members of the Committee might fairly be under suspicion of bias against the plaintiff; but it was well established by legal authority that the jurisdiction of the Courts in regard to a domestic tribunal was of a limited nature. It was clear that a domestic tribunal was under an obligation to act honestly and in good faith, and in strict accordance with its rules. He was unable to hold that the Committee had acted otherwise than honestly, and in good faith; there was, moreover, no suggestion that the rules had not been complied with. He was satisfied that there was no ground for contending that any member of the Committee had really acted as a judge in his own cause.

Nothing in the case reflected on the honour of the plaintiff, but the action failed, and must be dismissed with costs.—*MacLean v. Workers' Union.* Chancery Division, High Court of Justice. 18th February, 1929.

## Trade Boards Acts, 1909-1918.

## DRESSMAKING AND WOMEN'S LIGHT CLOTHING TRADE.

An employer in the dressmaking and women's light clothing trade in Ammanford was prosecuted on a charge of unlawfully producing a record of wages purporting to have been paid to two workers, which was false in a material particular, knowing the same to be false, contrary to section 15 (2) of the Trade Boards Act, 1909.

\* Maandschrift van het Centraal Bureau voor de Statistiek, 31st January, 1929. The Hague.

† Rapports économiques et Statistique sociale, February, 1929. Berne.

‡ Wiadomości Statystyczne, 20th February, 1929. Warsaw.

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

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

¶ The February Employment Situation, 1929. Ottawa.

\*\* Trend of Employment, January, 1929. Washington.



The employer produced a wages book showing that she had been paying 5s. weekly to the two workers in question. An inspection of the book revealed that the majority of the entries had been made at one time; and on investigation it was admitted that the entries were false, and that in fact no payments had been made.

The defendant was legally represented, and a plea of guilty was entered on her behalf. She was fined £1 and 10s. costs. *Rex v. Thomas; Ammanford Police Court, 14th January, 1929.*

#### MILK DISTRIBUTIVE TRADE.

A firm in the milk distributive trade in the Midlands, and the manager of one of its local branches, were prosecuted under the Trade Boards Acts for underpayment of two male workers, and for failure to keep adequate records of wages. The defendants, who were legally represented, pleaded guilty to all the charges. The company was fined 40s. on each charge of underpayment and 20s. for failure to keep records, with costs of £3 3s. An order for payment of £7 4s. 10d. as arrears of wages was made. The manager was fined £3 on each charge of underpayment, and 40s. for failure to keep records. *Rex v. Wathes, Cattell & Gurden, Ltd., and Harold Gurden; Birmingham Police Court, 12th February, 1929.*

#### Other Recent Decisions of Interest.

##### AGRICULTURAL WAGES BOARD—MINIMUM WAGES RATES —NON-COMPLIANCE.

Proceedings were brought against a farmer for failing to pay the legal minimum wages under the Durham County Agricultural Wages Order to a youth aged 17 years.

It was pointed out by the prosecution that the minimum wage for lads of 17 and 18 years of age was 18s. a week, and the overtime rate was 6d. per hour. The employee whose case was before the Court had been underpaid for the period 30th April, 1928, to 28th September, 1928, to the extent of £6 9s. 9d.

On behalf of the defendant it was stated that he had given the lad employment out of kindness. There had admittedly been a breach of the law, but the defendant was ready to pay the arrears.

The defendant was ordered to pay the costs of the prosecution, in addition to the arrears due.—*Durham County Petty Sessions, 27th February, 1929.*

##### CONTRACT OF SERVICE—REFUSAL OF SEAMEN TO OBEY ORDERS— FORFEITURE OF WAGES.

Proceedings were instituted against four seamen, members of the crew of the S.S. "Tamworth," for refusing to obey the orders of the master of the ship.

It was stated at the hearing that, while the ship was docked at Hull, the master gave orders that she should be brought out into the river. The crew of the ship was at the time two short of its proper complement, and the four defendants refused to assist in working the ship, on the ground that she was being taken to sea with a crew that was not up to full strength.

The master of the "Tamworth," in evidence, stated that it had been explained to the defendants that the vessel would be kept in the river until the crew was made up to full strength.

The magistrates took the view that there might have been a misunderstanding, and ordered that the defendants should forfeit one day's pay each.—*Sunderland Petty Sessions, 21st February, 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 are recent decisions of general interest:—

#### Case No. 1344/29 (20.2.29). Section 8 (3) of Principal Act— Residing outside United Kingdom.

OBTAINED EMPLOYMENT IN IRISH FREE STATE—LANDED IN IRISH FREE STATE TWO DAYS BEFORE EMPLOYMENT COMMENCED—  
HELD RESIDENT OUTSIDE UNITED KINGDOM ON DAY OF LANDING.

The circumstances of this case are as stated in the following decision given by the Deputy Umpire:—

*Decision.*—"On the facts before me my decision is that if the above named employed person had made a claim for unemployment benefit the claim would have been disallowed in respect of 10th November, 1928.

"I agree with the Court of Referees.

"Applicant left Glasgow at 5 p.m. on 9th November in order to take up employment in the Irish Free State. He reached Dublin about midday on the 10th.

"An applicant is disqualified for receiving unemployment benefit while he is resident, whether temporarily or permanently, outside the United Kingdom (Section 8(3) of the Act of 1920). The

(\*) 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 January, 1929. Applications should be made to H.M. Stationery Office at any of the addresses shown on the front cover of this GAZETTE.

expression 'day,' for the purposes of the Unemployment Insurance Acts, means a period of 24 hours from midnight to midnight or such other period of 24 hours as the Minister may for any general or special purpose prescribe (Act of 1920, Section 47, as amended by the Act of 1921, Schedule II). Nothing has been prescribed to alter the general meaning of the word in so far as it affects this case.

"Benefit is not payable in respect of any period of less than a day (Act of 1924 (No. 2), Schedule I. 1). Consequently, an insured contributor who is employed during a fraction of a day must be disallowed benefit in respect of that day. Similarly, if a disqualification applies to any part of a day no benefit can be payable in respect of that day.

"In the present case applicant commenced his temporary residence outside the United Kingdom at least about midday of the 10th, and therefore he is not entitled to benefit in respect of that day."

#### Case No. 1130/29 (13.2.29). Sections 7 (1) (iv) and 8 (2) of Principal Act—Unable to obtain suitable Employment—Employment left Voluntarily.

PROVISO B—DISH SPONGER, DURING CURRENCY OF NOTICE, REFUSED CONTINUED EMPLOYMENT AT STANDARD RATE OF WAGES—HAD PREVIOUSLY RECEIVED WAGES HIGHER THAN STANDARD RATE—HELD NOT "UNABLE TO OBTAIN SUITABLE EMPLOYMENT"; AND DISQUALIFICATION UNDER SECTION 8 (2) NOT APPLICABLE.

The circumstances of this case are as stated in the following decision:—

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

"Applicant was last employed for a period of two months as a time-worker attending on a piece-worker. Her wages during this period were 2s. per week higher than the recognised rate for the district, and she alleged that these higher wages were paid because the particular piece-worker for whom she worked 'made a great deal of work.'

"This engagement was terminated by the employer, who, during the currency of the notice, offered to applicant the same situation at the district rate of wages, i.e., 2s. per week below the rate at which she was formerly paid. She declined to continue in this employment at the reduced rate.

"Applicant's claim for benefit was disallowed on the ground that she left her employment voluntarily without just cause. On appeal, the Court of Referees recommended disallowance for the same reason.

"It is not disputed that applicant was given notice to terminate her original engagement and was offered employment on a new contract of service. In these circumstances she cannot be said to have 'left voluntarily.' The question arises, however, whether by reason of her refusal of the new offer of employment she should be deemed to have failed to fulfil the fourth statutory condition.

"Only for the short space of 8 weeks was she paid a rate in excess of the district rate. She cannot on this account, therefore, claim habitually to have obtained a wage in excess of the district rate, nor in the circumstances of this case is there any other ground upon which she could expect to receive from some new employer a wage in excess of that offered by her old employers and refused. Applicant fails, therefore, to show that she is unable to obtain suitable employment."

## UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE (MERCANTILE MARINE) SPECIAL ORDER, 1928.

The Unemployment Insurance (Mercantile Marine) Special Order 1928,\* dated the 31st day of December, 1928, made by the Minister of Labour under the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920 (10 & 11 Geo. 5, c. 30).

WHEREAS the Minister of Labour (hereinafter referred to as "the Minister") after consultation with the Board of Trade made the Unemployment Insurance (Mercantile Marine) Special Order, 1921 (hereinafter referred to as "the principal Order") and it is expedient to amend the principal Order:

Now therefore the Minister, by virtue of the powers conferred on him by Sections 37 and 39 of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920, and of all other powers enabling him in that behalf, after consultation with the Board of Trade, hereby makes the following Special Order:—

1. In proviso (b) to paragraph 1 of the principal Order for the words "over seventy years of age" there shall be substituted the words "over sixty-five years of age."

2. For paragraph 3 of the principal Order there shall be substituted the following paragraph:—

"3. Save where the context otherwise requires, expressions in this Order have the same meaning as in section 132 of the National Health Insurance Act, 1924."

3. The Interpretation Act, 1889, shall apply to the interpretation of this Order and the principal Order as it applies to the interpretation of an Act of Parliament.

4.—(1) This Order may be cited as the Unemployment Insurance (Mercantile Marine) Special Order, 1928, and this Order and the principal Order may be cited together as the Unemployment Insurance (Mercantile Marine) Special Orders, 1921 and 1928.

(2) This Order shall come into force on the 18th day of February, 1929.

Signed by Order of the Minister of Labour this 31st day of December, 1928.

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

\* Statutory Rules and Orders, 1928. No. 1092. H.M. Stationery Office; price 1d. net.



## UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE (MERCANTILE MARINE) (No. 2) SPECIAL ORDER, 1928.

**The Unemployment Insurance (Mercantile Marine) (No. 2) Special Order, 1928,\* dated the 31st day of December, 1928, made by the Minister of Labour under the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920 (10 & 11 Geo. 5, c. 30).**

WHEREAS the Minister of Labour (hereinafter referred to as "the Minister") made the Unemployment Insurance (Mercantile Marine) (No. 2) Special Order, 1922, and it is expedient to revoke the said Special Order:

And whereas the Minister made the Unemployment Insurance (Mercantile Marine) Special Orders, 1921 and 1928, for the purposes therein set forth:

And whereas contributions paid by employers under the National Health Insurance Acts, 1924 to 1928, in respect of masters, seamen and apprentices who are neither domiciled nor have a place of residence in the United Kingdom are, subject to the provisions of the said Acts, credited to a special fund (hereinafter referred to as "the Seamen's Special Fund"), which Special Fund is vested in and administered by a body (hereinafter referred to as "the Governing Body") constituted in accordance with the provisions of the said Acts:

And whereas under the provisions of the said Acts the Governing Body of the Seamen's Special Fund, subject to the approval of the Board of Trade and the National Health Insurance Joint Committee, have to prepare a scheme (hereinafter referred to as "the Scheme") for the provision of benefits out of the funds credited to the Seamen's Special Fund:

And whereas it is expedient that the funds arising from contributions paid under the Unemployment Insurance (Mercantile Marine) Special Orders, 1921 and 1928, should be administered in like manner to the funds arising as aforesaid from contributions paid by employers under the National Health Insurance Acts 1924 to 1928 in respect of masters, seamen and apprentices who are neither domiciled nor have a place of residence in the United Kingdom:

Now therefore the Minister by virtue of the powers conferred on him by Sections 37 and 39 of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920, and of all other powers enabling him in that behalf after consultation with the Board of Trade hereby makes the following Special Order:—

1. The Unemployment Insurance (Mercantile Marine) (No. 2) Special Order, 1922, is hereby revoked: but such revocation shall not affect any right, privilege, obligation or liability acquired, accrued or incurred or anything done or to be done under that Special Order.

2. Contributions paid by employers under the Unemployment Insurance (Mercantile Marine) Special Orders, 1921 and 1928, in respect of masters, seamen and apprentices to the sea service and the sea fishing service (other than the contributions specified in sub-clause (3) of clause 4 of the Government of Ireland (Adaptation of Unemployment Insurance Acts) Order, 1922) shall be credited to the Seamen's Special Fund and shall be applied by the Governing Body for the provision of such benefits specified in the Scheme as may be approved by the Minister and the Board of Trade.

3. Save where the context otherwise requires, expressions in this Order have the same meaning as in Section 132 of the National Health Insurance Act, 1924.

4. The Interpretation Act, 1889, applies to the interpretation of this Order as it applies to the interpretation of an Act of Parliament.

5.—(1) This Order may be cited as the Unemployment Insurance (Mercantile Marine) (No. 2) Special Order, 1928, and shall be included amongst the Orders that may be cited together as the Unemployment Insurance (Mercantile Marine) Special Orders 1921 and 1928.

(2) This Order shall come into force on the 25th day of February, 1929.

Signed by Order of the Minister of Labour this 31st day of December, 1928.

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

## REVIEW OF CLAIMS REGULATIONS, 1929.

**The Unemployment Insurance (Review of Claims) Regulations, 1929,† dated 20th February, 1929, made by the Minister of Labour under the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920, (10 & 11 Geo. 5, c. 30).**

THE Minister of Labour by virtue of the powers conferred on him by Section 35 of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920, and of all other powers enabling him in that behalf hereby makes the following regulations:—

1. For the purposes of subsection (2A) of Section 11 of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920, the period therein specified shall in relation to any insured contributor be either the first, second, or third period of four months in a benefit year (hereinafter called the "review period").

2. The Unemployment Insurance (Review of Claims) Regulations, 1928 (hereinafter called the "1928 Regulations") are hereby revoked, but such revocation shall not affect any right, privilege, obligation, or liability acquired, accrued, or incurred under those Regulations.

\* Statutory Rules and Orders, 1928. No. 1093. H.M. Stationery Office; price 1d. net.

† Statutory Rules and Orders, 1929, No. 140. H.M. Stationery Office; price 1d. net.

3. Notwithstanding anything in these regulations—

(a) The claim of any insured contributor to benefit shall not be required to be reviewed on a date earlier than that on which it would have been required to be reviewed under the 1928 Regulations had those Regulations remained in force until the end of the period prescribed under those Regulations which is current in relation to any insured contributor on the date upon which these Regulations come into force:

(b) Where the claim of any insured contributor to benefit has already been reviewed under the 1928 Regulations during the review period which is current on the date upon which these Regulations come into force, the said claim shall not be required to be reviewed under these Regulations during the said review period.

4. These Regulations may be cited as the Unemployment Insurance (Review of Claims) Regulations, 1929, and shall come into operation on the 11th day of March, 1929.

Signed by Order of the Minister of Labour this twentieth day of February, 1929.

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

## REFERENCE TO THE COURT OF SESSION.

Pursuant to Paragraph 6 of the Unemployment Insurance (Determination of Questions) Regulations, 1920, the Minister of Labour hereby gives notice that a question having arisen as to whether the employment of persons in the circumstances after specified is or is not employment within the meaning of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920, the Minister, in pursuance of Section 10 (1) (ii) of the said Act, has referred the question to the decision of the Lord Ordinary appointed to decide questions referred for decision to the Court of Session. The circumstances of employment are as follows:—

Employment in connection with an auction mart by live stock auctioneers and appraisers of—

- (1) a full-time yardsman,
- (2) a man employed regularly on Mondays and Saturdays to tend and drive cattle,
- (3) a man employed regularly on Mondays to drive cattle round the sale ring.

Any person desiring further information or facilities to examine documents should apply to the Solicitor to the Ministry of Labour, 6, Richmond Terrace, Whitehall, London, S.W. 1, or to Campbell Smith, Esq., S.S.C., 21, York Place, Edinburgh.

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

### Recent Proceedings.

#### (A)—INDUSTRIAL COURT DECISIONS.

MACHINISTS, H.M. DOCKYARDS.—Trade Union Side *v.* Official Side, Shipbuilding Trade Joint Council for Government Departments. *Difference*.—Claim for advance in wages. *Decision*.—The Court decided that the claim had not been established. Award issued 8th February, 1929. (1411.)

ELECTRICAL POWER STAFF, METROPOLITAN RAILWAY.—Metropolitan Railway *v.* National Union of Railwaymen and Electrical Trades Union. *Difference*.—Application for wages reduction of 2½ per cent. per week. *Decision*.—The weekly wages of the workpeople concerned shall be subject to a special deduction of 2½ per cent. in common with all other sections of railway employees. Operative from beginning of first full pay week following date of award. Award issued 8th February, 1929. (1412.)

SUB-POSTMASTERS.—General Post Office *v.* National Federation of Sub-Postmasters. *Difference*.—Remuneration. Payment for allowance forms—Application for reduction. *Decision*.—Rate of remuneration paid to sub-postmasters for work in connection with payment of allowances and pensions by means of "allowance forms" to be £3 basic per thousand. Operative from the beginning of the next quarterly accounting period. Award issued 26th February, 1929. (1413.)

SUB-POSTMASTERS.—National Federation of Sub-Postmasters *v.* General Post Office. *Difference*.—Remuneration. Payment in respect of old age, widows' and orphans' pension forms—Application for increase. *Decision*.—Rate of remuneration paid to sub-postmasters for work in connection with old age, widows' and orphans' contributory and non-contributory pensions to be 45s. basic per thousand forms paid. Operative from the beginning of the next quarterly accounting period. Award issued 26th February, 1929. (1414.)

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

BARGEMEN: LIVERPOOL.—Transport and General Workers' Union *v.* Liverpool Lighter and Barge Owners' Association. *Difference*.—As to the interpretation of the Award by Sir Harold Morris, K.C. dated 1st August, 1928.\* By agreement between

\* See the September, 1928, issue of this GAZETTE, page 346.



the parties the difference was referred to Sir Harold Morris for decision, and his award determining the points at issue was signed on 4th February, 1929.

## TRADE BOARDS ACTS.

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

#### I.—CONFIRMING ORDER.

##### Retail Bespoke Tailoring Trade Board (Northern Ireland).

Order N.I.T.R.B. (28), dated the 20th February, 1929, confirming the variation of general minimum time-rates, general minimum piece-rates, piece-work basis time-rates, and general overtime rates for male and female workers in the Retail Bespoke Tailoring Trade in Northern Ireland, exclusive of the County Boroughs of the Cities of Belfast and Londonderry, and specifying the 4th March, 1929, as the date from which such minimum rates should become effective.

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

Lower rates of wages have become operative as from the 1st March, 1929, in the undermentioned trades. The minimum rates now applicable are those appropriate to the cost-of-living figure of 65 and are set out in the Confirming Orders quoted below:—

Boot and Shoe Repairing Trade Board (Great Britain).

General Minimum Piece-Rates D (34) and D (36), column 5.

The alteration in the cost-of-living index figure does not necessitate changes in the general minimum time-rates and guaranteed time-rates specified or referred to in D (32), D (33) and D (36).

Brush and Broom Trade Board (Great Britain). M (39),

M (40), M (41) and M (43), column 12.

## BOARD FOR MINING EXAMINATIONS.

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

EXAMINATIONS for First and Second Class Certificates of Competency as Managers and Under Managers of Mines will be held on the 22nd and 23rd May, 1929, at Edinburgh, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Sheffield, Wigan, Cardiff and Birmingham.

The written part of an Examination for Certificates of Qualification as Surveyors of Mines will be held at the same centres on the 23rd May, 1929.

Applications for the necessary forms should be made as early as possible and not later than the 11th April, 1929. In order that the appropriate forms may be sent, it is important that candidates should state whether they have already sat at one of the Board's Examinations.

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

## OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

INDUSTRIAL COURT.—*Industrial Court Awards*. Vol. X. Awards 1355 to 1406. 1st January, 1928, to 31st December, 1928. Ministry of Labour. (S.O. publication; price 7s.)

INDUSTRY AND TRADE.—*Final Report of the Committee on Industry and Trade*. (Cmd. 3282; price 5s. 6d.) (See page 82.)

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONFERENCE.—(a) *Prevention of industrial accidents*. (b) *Protection against accidents of workers engaged in loading or unloading ships*. (c) *Forced labour*. Report and draft questionnaire. International Labour Conference, Geneva, 1929. Items I–III on the agenda. International Labour Office. (Geneva, 1928–9; price 6d., 6d., and 6s., respectively.)

LABOUR LEGISLATION.—*Legislative series*. Vol. VII, 1926. Part I. *International and A–F (Argentina to France)*. (Published in London for the International Labour Office by P. S. King & Son, Ltd.; price £1 15s. for three parts.)

MINING.—(a) *Output and employment at metalliferous mines, quarries, etc., during the quarter ended 30th September, 1928*. Board of Trade, Mines Department. (S.O. publication; price 4d.) (b) *Miners' Welfare Fund. Seventh Report of the Committee appointed to allocate the Fund, together with the second Report of the Selection Committee appointed to administer the Miners' Welfare National Scholarship Scheme, 1928*. Board of Trade, Mines Department. (S.O. publication; price 1s. 6d.) (See page 83.)

MINING AREAS.—*Report on investigation in the coalfields of South Wales and Monmouth*. Ministry of Health. (Cmd. 3272; price 3d.)

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE.—(a) *Unemployment Insurance Acts, 1920 to 1928. Selected decisions given by the Umpire on claims to benefit during the month of January, 1929*. U.I. 440 Pamphlet No. 1, 1929. Ministry of Labour. (S.O. publication; price 6d.) (b) *Unemployment Insurance Acts, 1920 to 1926. Selected decisions given by the Umpire prior to 19th April, 1928, respecting claims to benefit and donation*. Ministry of Labour. (S.O. publication; price 15s.)

VOCATIONAL GUIDANCE.—*The use of performance tests of intelligence in vocational guidance: an investigation conducted for the National Institute of Industrial Psychology*. Report No. 53. Industrial Fatigue Research Board. (S.O. publication; price 2s. 6d.)

## GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS.

### LIST OF NEW CONTRACTS, FEBRUARY, 1929.

#### ADMIRALTY.

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

**Chatham : Timber :** Gabriel Wade & English, Ltd, London, W.C.; **Steelwork :** Walker Bros., Ltd., Walsall; **Railway Material :** T. Summerson & Sons, Ltd., Darlington.—**Devonport : Creosoted Wood Blocks :** Calders, Ltd., London, S.E.—**Greenock : Steelwork :** Fredk. Braby & Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—**Portland : Timber and Railway Sleepers :** Wm. Crundall & Co., Ltd., Dover.—**Peterhead : Portland Cement :** The Cement Marketing Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Yards Abroad : Portland Cement :** The Cement Marketing Co., Ltd., London, S.W.; **Cast Iron Pipes and Specials :** Cochrane & Co., Ltd., Middlesbrough.

##### (Contract and Purchase Department.)

**Acid, Nitric :** Imperial Chemical Industries, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Bagging, Jute :** Craiks, Ltd., Forfar.—**Beltting, Leather :** George Angus & Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne; S. E. Norris & Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Blankets :** Thomas Ratcliffe & Co., Ltd., Mytholmroyd.—**Boards, Generator, etc. :** Whipp & Bourne, Ltd., Manchester.—**Boots, Sea :** Adams Bros. (Raunds), Ltd., Raunds; John Horrell & Son, Ltd., Raunds.—**Bottles, Oxygen :** Chesterfield Tube Co., Ltd., Chesterfield.—**Boxes, Steel Cartridge :** F. Braby & Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—**Brackets, Pendants, etc. :** Bonnell Bros., Ltd., London, W.C.; Hawkers, Ltd., Birmingham; W. McGeoch & Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Player & Mitchell, Birmingham; Gabriel & Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Revo Electric Co., Ltd., Tipton; Veritys, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Breakers, Branch, etc. :** Whipp & Bourne, Ltd., Manchester.—**Bridge Meggers and Resistances :** Evershed & Vignoles, Ltd., London, W.—**Brooms and Brushes :** Brushes, Ltd., St. Albans; Beechwood, Ltd., Chesham, Bucks; W. T. Clark & Co., Birmingham; E. A. & W. Greenslade, Ltd., Bristol; G. B. Kent & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.; C. H. Leng & Sons, Birmingham; A. Martin & Sons, Birmingham; W. Morier & Co., Ltd., Glasgow; J. Palmer, Ltd., Portsmouth; A. Reid & Sons, Ltd., London, S.E.; Rigby, Battcock, Ltd., London, E.; Vale & Bradnack, Walsall; W. H. Vowles & Sons, Ltd., Stonehouse, Glos.—**Brushes, Painters :** Beechwood, Ltd., Chesham, Bucks; Davis, Burrow & Sons, Ltd., Leeds; C. H. Leng & Sons, Birmingham; E. A. & W. Greenslade, Ltd., Bristol; Hamilton & Co. (London), Ltd., London, E.C.; Newton & Cook, London, S.W.; W. Morier & Co., Ltd., Glasgow; A. Reid & Sons, Ltd., London, S.E.; Jas. Root & Son, London, N.; Vale & Bradnack, Walsall; W. H. Vowles & Sons, Ltd., Stonehouse, Glos.—**Bunting :** C. B. Brook & Co., Ltd., Drighlington; J. Clough & Son, Baildon Green; Wm. Bancroft & Sons of Halifax, Ltd., Halifax.—**Cable, Electric :** Anchor Cable Co., Ltd., Leigh, Lancs; British Insulated Cables, Ltd., Helsby; Connollys (Blackley), Ltd., Manchester; Edison Swan Cables, Ltd., Lydbrook, Glos; Enfield Cable Works, Ltd., Brimsdown; General Electric Co., Ltd., Southampton; Glover & Co., Ltd., Manchester; Hackbridge Cable Co., Ltd., Hackbridge; Henley's Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; Hooper's Telegraph & India Rubber Works, Ltd., London, E.; India Rubber, Gutta Percha & Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.; Johnson & Phillips, Ltd., London, S.E.; St. Helen's Cable & Rubber Co., Ltd., Slough; Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; Liverpool Electric Cable Co., Ltd., Bootle.—**Casks and Drums :** Lewis, Berger & Sons, Ltd., London, E.; Jukes, Coulson, Stokes & Co., London, E.; F. Francis & Sons, Ltd., London, S.E.; P. D. Mitchell, Ltd., Dundee.—**Cloths, Cotton Cleaning :** Chas. E. Austin & Sons, Ltd., Manchester.—**Cloths, Sponge :** C. E. Austin & Sons, Ltd., Manchester.—**Cloth, Woollen :** James Harper & Sons, Ecclehill.—**Cocks, Asbestos Packed :** W. N. Baines & Co., Ltd., Rotherham; Hayward, Tyler & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; Shiphams & Co., Ltd., Hull.—**Cocks, Gunmetal and Plated :** H. Bisseker, Ltd., Birmingham; Dodd & Oulton, Ltd., Liverpool; Hayward, Tyler & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; Player & Mitchell, Birmingham; Rainsford & Lynes, Ltd., Birmingham; Sheppard, Pettigrew & Co., Birmingham; Sperryn & Co., Birmingham; Smith Bros. & Co. (Hyson), Ltd., Nottingham.—**Compressor, Air :** Reavell & Co., Ltd., Ipswich.—**Cooking Apparatus :** Moorwoods, Ltd., Sheffield.—**Cotton Duck :** Joshua Hoyle & Son, Ltd., Summerseat.—**Cranes, Electric Gantry :** Stothert & Pitt, Ltd., Bath.—**Crane, Overhead Electric :** Vaughan Crane Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Cranes, Seaplane :** Thos. Smith & Sons (Rodley), Ltd., Leeds.—**Electrical Installation :** Johnson & Phillips, Ltd., London, S.E.—**Enamels :** Robt. Ingham, Clark & Co., Ltd., London, E.; Colthurst & Harding, Ltd., Bristol; Gross, Sherwood & Heald, Ltd., Barking; International Paint & Compositions Co., Ltd., Felling-on-Tyne; Robt. Kearsley & Co., Ltd., Ripon; London Varnish & Enamel Co., Ltd., London, E.; John Smith & Son (Haltwhistle), Ltd., Haltwhistle.—**Equipments, Engine :** Parsons Oil Engine Co., Ltd., Southampton.—**Fans, Ship Ventilating :** Electro Dynamic Construction Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; Veritys, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Fearnought :** James Clay & Sons, Sowerby Bridge.—**Fenders, Hazel Rod :** T. Black & Sons, Greenock, Ltd., Greenock.—**Field Dressings, First :** Robinson & Sons, Ltd., Chesterfield.—**Fire Extinguishers :** The Pyrene Co., Ltd., London.—**Flour :** Spillers, Ltd. (W. Vernon & Sons Branch), Liverpool; Joseph Rank, Ltd., London.—**Fuses :** Pinnacle Switchgear & Fuse Co., Weybridge.—**Gloves, Leather :** J. S. Deed & Sons, Ltd., Mitcham; E. & W. C. French, Ltd., Taunton; The North of England Chamois Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne; Chas. Ockwell & Co., Cricklade; G. Waddington & Son, Ltd., Hull.—**Glycerine :** J. Crosfield & Sons, Ltd., Warrington.—**Gymnastic Gear :** F. H. Ayres, Ltd., London, E.C.; Frank Bryan, Ltd., London, S.E.; G. G. Bussey & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; Leyland & Birmingham



Rubber Co., Ltd., Glasgow; C. Ockwell & Co., Cricklade; Spencer Heath & George, Ltd., Ponders End; T. Smith, London, W.C.; Wilkinson Sword Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Herrings, Tinned**: Maconochie Bros., Ltd., London.—**Hides and Leather**: George Angus & Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne; J. & F. J. Baker & Co., Ltd., Colyton; Barrow, Hepburn & Gale, Ltd., London, S.E.; The Barrowfield Leather Co., Ltd., Glasgow; J. S. Deed & Sons, Ltd., London, W.C.; James Lee & Sons, Hipperholme, Ltd., Hipperholme; S. E. Norris & Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Hides, Upholstery**: Thomas Cundall, London, S.E.; Connolly Bros. (Curriers), Ltd., London, N.W.; John T. Hart & Sons, London, S.E.—**Horns, Klaxon**: Klaxon, Ltd., London.—**Ironmongery**: Ansell, Jones & Co., Ltd., Birmingham; B. C. Barton & Son, Birmingham; Fellows Bros., Ltd., Cradley Heath; J. Golcher, Ltd., Wednesbury; A. E. Jenks & Cattell, Ltd., Wolverhampton; S. Lewis & Co., Ltd., Dudley; Leys Malleable Castings Co., Ltd., Derby; E. Orton (Willenhall), Ltd., Willenhall; E. Partridge & Co., Old Hill; H. J. & E. Shorthouse, Birmingham; W. H. Tildesley, Ltd., Willenhall; R. Thomas (Edge Tools), Ltd., Birmingham; J. Truman & Co., Ltd., Birmingham; J. Wellings, Lye.—**Iron Plate Workers Wares**: W. B. Baron & Co., Ltd., London; S. W. Bullas & Sons, Ltd., Cradley Heath; Eveson Bros. (1928), Ltd., Lye; Froggatt & Tyler, Ltd., Bilston; J. Hill & Sons, Stourbridge; Sheet Iron Workers, Ltd., Cradley; Suttons Holloware Co., Ltd., Stourbridge; Sargeant, Turner & Sons, Ltd., Lye.—**Kersey**: L. Harwood & Co., Ltd., Cleckheaton and Luddenden Foot.—**Knives, Clasp**: Joseph Allen & Sons, Ltd., Sheffield; Harrison Bros. & Howson, Sheffield.—**Lace, Gold**: Stephen Simpson, Preston, Lancs.—**Lamps, Electric, Incandescent**: General Electric Co., Ltd., London, W., Lemington-on-Tyne and Chesterfield; Edison Swan Electric Co., Ltd., Rugby and Ponders End, and Weybridge or Birmingham.—**Lamps, Lanterns and Gear**: Bulpitt & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham; Parkinson & Cowan (Gas Meters), Ltd., Birmingham; Rippingilles Albion Lamp Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Lanterns, Navigation, and Gear**: W. Harvie & Co., Ltd., Glasgow; Telford, Grier & Mackay, Ltd., Glasgow.—**Lead, Red**: Blacklock & Macarthur, Ltd., Glasgow.—**Lifebuoys**: Speeding, Ltd., Sunderland.—**Linoleum, Floorcloth, and Cork Carpet**: Corticine Floor Covering Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; Fife Linoleum Co., Ltd., Kirkcaldy; Michael Nairn & Co., Ltd., Kirkcaldy; New Shepley Linoleum Co., Ltd., Audenshaw, near Manchester.—**Machine, Pulping**: Bertrams, Ltd., Edinburgh.—**Machines, Milling**: James Archdale & Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Mains, Steam**: Sturtevant Engineering Co., Ltd., Nottingham and Bankside.—**Mattresses and Pillows**: Davis's Feather Mills, Ltd., London, E.; Frank Lane, Ltd., London, E.C.; E. H. Price, London, E.C.—**Mica**: Micanite and Insulators Co., Ltd., London, E.; Mica & Micanite Supplies, Ltd., London, E.; Mica Products, Ltd., London, E.; Dacier, Ltd., London, E.—**Micanite**: Mica Products, Ltd., London; Mica Mfg. Co., Ltd., Bromley, Kent.—**Motor Booster Set**: Electric Construction Co., Ltd., Wolverhampton.—**Motor Converter Set**: English Electric Co., Ltd., Stafford.—**Motor Generator Sets**: Rotax (Motor Accessories), Ltd., Taunton; Veritys, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Nails, Copper**: Cooper & Turner, Ltd., Sheffield; D. Powis & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham; J. Stone & Co., Ltd., London; Tower Mfg. Co., Ltd., Worcester; Whitecross Co., Ltd., Warrington.—**Nails, Iron and Steel**: Baxters' Bolt, Screw and Rivet Works, Birmingham; D. Bennie & Sons, Ltd., Glasgow; Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham; Hall & Rice, Ltd., West Bromwich; Rylands Bros., Ltd., Warrington; J. & W. Somerville, Ltd., St. Ninians, by Stirling; D. Willetts, Ltd., Cradley Heath.—**Oatmeal**: J. Strachan & Sons, Ltd., Aberdeen.—**Oil, Linseed**: Dixon & Cardus, Ltd., Southampton; Owen Parry, Ltd., Colchester; Smith Bros. & Co., London, E.; Younghusband, Barnes & Co., London, S.E.—**Oil, Mineral Lubricating**: Vacuum Oil Co., Ltd., London.—**Oil, Rapeseed**: John E. Seaton & Co., Ltd., Hull.—**Paint, Bituminous**: Pinchin, Johnson & Co., Ltd., London, W.C.—**Paint, White**: Blacklock & Macarthur, Ltd., Glasgow.—**Paper, Wood Cellulose**: National Paper Mills, Ltd., High Wycombe; John Wild & Sons, Ltd., Radcliffe, near Manchester.—**Plates, Nozzle**: Parsons Marine Steam Turbine Co., Ltd., Wallsend-on-Tyne.—**Pumps**: W. H. Allen, Sons & Co., Ltd., Bedford; Worthington, Simpson, Ltd., Newark.—**Rations, Irish Stew**: C. & T. Harris (Calne), Ltd., Calne.—**Rations, Meat and Vegetable**: C. & T. Harris (Calne), Ltd., Calne.—**Ribbon, Silk, White**: Brough, Nicholson & Hall, Ltd., Leek; J. & J. Cash, Ltd., Coventry.—**Rods, Brass and Bronze**: T. Bolton & Sons, Ltd., London W.; J. Booth & Co. (1915), Ltd., Birmingham; C. Clifford & Son, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Sailcloth, Canvas**: Anderson & Chalmers, Arbroath; Baxter Bros. & Co., Ltd., Dundee; The Boase Spinning Co. (1920), Ltd., Dundee and Kirkcaldy; D. Corsar & Sons, Ltd., Arbroath; The Port Glasgow and Newark Sailcloth Co., Ltd., Port Glasgow; Richards, Ltd., Aberdeen; M. C. Thomson & Co., Ltd., Arbroath; F. Webster & Sons, Arbroath.—**Sheets, Bars, etc., Copper, Brass and Bronze**: Aston Chain & Hook Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Birmingham Battery & Metal Co., Ltd., Birmingham; James Booth & Co., (1915), Ltd., Birmingham; British Copper Manufacturers, Ltd., Birmingham; Allen Everitt & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham; Muntz's Metal Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Wilkes, Sons & Mapplebeck, Ltd., Birmingham; Broughton Copper Works (1928), Ltd., Manchester; Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; P. H. Muntz & Co., Ltd., West Bromwich; W. Roberts & Co., "Garston," (1928), Ltd., Liverpool.—**Slings**: W. Griffin & Sons, Ltd., Cradley Heath.—**Soap, Hard**: Wilkie & Soames, Ltd., London.—**Soda Ash**: Imperial Chemical Industries, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Spirit, White**: Cory Bros. & Co., Ltd., London.—**Switches**: A. Reyrolle & Co., Ltd., Hebburn-on-Tyne; W. McGeoch & Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Bertram Thomas, Manchester.—**Tallow, White**: J. Crosfield & Sons, Ltd., Warrington; Thos. S. Harris & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Thread**: Finlayson, Bousfield & Co., Ltd., Johnstone; Henry Campbell & Co., Ltd., Mossley.—**Tin and Japanned Wares**: Ash Bros. & Heaton, Ltd., Birmingham; T. G.

Blood, Ltd., Birmingham; Bulpitt & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham; Farmer & Chapman, Ltd., Bilston; J. F. Farwig & Co., Ltd., London; H. Fereday & Sons, London; F. Francis & Sons, Ltd., London; Froggatt & Tyler, Ltd., Bilston; Huntley, Boorne & Stevens, Ltd., Reading; Lawden & Poole, Birmingham; Newton, Shakespeare & Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Rippingilles Albion Lamp Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Welsh Tinplate & Metal Stamping Co., Llanelli.—**Tins**: Huntley, Boorne & Stevens, Ltd., Reading.—**Towelling, Terry**: Stott & Smith, Ltd., Congleton.—**Towels, Seamen's**: Stott & Smith, Ltd., Congleton; J. Smith, Hargreaves & Co., Ltd., Heywood; Isherwood Bros. (of Radcliffe), Ltd., Radcliffe.—**Travellers, Electric Overhead**: Joseph Adamson & Co., Hyde, Cheshire; Cowans, Sheldon & Co., Ltd., Carlisle.—**Trays, Steel**: Estler Bros., London, E.—**Tubes, Water**: Russell Bros. (Walsall), Ltd., Walsall.—**Twines**: Jameson & Co., Ltd., Hull; J. Gundry & Co., Ltd., Bridport; Pymore Mill Co., Ltd., Bridport; J. Holmes & Sons, Ltd., East Ardsley.—**Urinals, Washstand Tops, etc.**: Leeds Fireclay Co., Ltd., Leeds; Mintons, Ltd., Stoke-on-Trent.—**Waistbelts**: Frank R. Pardow & Co., Ltd., Walsall.—**Wood Goods, Manufactured**: W. H. Aston (Worcester), Ltd., Worcester; John Brown & Sons (Thatcham), Ltd., Thatcham, Berks; Burley & Sons, Ltd., Liverpool; R. Charnley & Son, Ulverston; C. W. Clinch & Sons, Newbury, Berks; East & Son, Ltd., Berkhamsted; J. H. Ellis & Sons, Ltd., Sheffield; J. B. Latham & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; Lloyd & Penhale, Ltd., Cardiff; Midland Saw & Tool Co., Ltd., Birmingham; J. Nicholls & Sons, Wolverhampton; S. Pinnock, Thatcham, Berks; Rudders & Paynes, Ltd., Birmingham; Sharp Bros. & Knight, Burton-on-Trent; Staveley Wood Turning Co., Staveley, near Kendal; Sundt, Sundt & Co., London, S.E.; H. Wells, Bucklebury Common, near Reading.

#### WAR OFFICE.

**Acetone**: Barter Trading Corporation, Ltd., Spondon, Derby.—**Blankets, G.S.**: Newsome & Spedding, Ltd., Dewsbury; Wormalds & Walker, Ltd., Dewsbury; T. & D. Lee & Sons, Ltd., Dewsbury.—**Bolster Cases and Slips**: E. H. Price, Hadleigh; E. R. Calthrops, Ltd., London, W.; Ramsdens, Ltd., Halifax.—**Brass, Foundry**: Pegler Bros. (Doncaster), Ltd., Doncaster.—**B.R.C. Fabric**: British Reinforced Concrete Engineering Co., Ltd., Stafford.—**Brooms, Soft, Heads**: David Burrow & Sons, Ltd., Leeds.—**Cans, 3-gallon**: M. J. Hart & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Caps, Field Service**: J. Compton, Sons & Webb, Ltd., London, E.; L. Silberston, London, E.—**Caps, S.D., O.R.**: Hobson & Sons (London), Ltd., London, S.E.—**J. Compton, Sons & Webb, Ltd., London, E.; L. Silberston, London, E.**—**Cases, Packing**: R. J. Latten, Ltd., Lowestoft; Wenn, Ltd., Gt. Yarmouth; T. E. Dingwall, Ltd., London, E.C.; A. H. Tytherleigh, London, S.E.—**Castings, Steel**: Edgar, Allen & Co., Ltd., Sheffield; A. Baird & Son, Ltd., Hamilton; J. Rogerson & Co., Ltd., Wolsingham; Beardmore & Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—**Cement, Portland**: F. Fox & Partners, Ltd., London, S.W.; Aberthaw & Bristol Channel P. C. Co., Ltd., Aberthaw and Rhosce; Casebourne & Co. (1926), Ltd., Haverton Hill-on-Tees; Ship Canal P. C. Mfrs., Ltd., Ellesmere Port; Warren Cement Works, Ltd., Hartlepool.—**Chassis, 6-wheeled**: Morris Commercial Cars, Ltd., Birmingham; Crossley Motors, Ltd., Manchester; Leyland Motors, Ltd., Leyland.—**Cisterns and Cylinders**: W. P. Butterfield, Ltd., Shipley.—**Cloth, D.M.**: J. Watkinson & Sons, Ltd., Holmfirth.—**Dowlas**: Richards, Ltd., Dundee.—**Drums, Oil**: G. T. Johnson & Co., Liverpool.—**Expanded Metal**: Expanded Metal Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Generators**: George Kent, Ltd., Luton.—**Glycerine**: U. K. Glycerine Association, Ltd., Warrington.—**Harness and Saddlery**: D. Mason & Sons, Ltd., Walsall; Barrow, Hepburn & Gale, London, S.E.—**Hessian, Packing**: The Stratmore Linen Co., Ltd., Coupar, Angus.—**Locomotive, Petrol**: J. & F. Howard, Ltd., Stafford and Bedford.—**Motor Cars**: Armstrong-Siddeley Motors, Ltd., Coventry.—**Nitrate of Soda**: Chilean & Colonial Agencies, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Pads, Rubber**: Dunlop Rubber Co., Birmingham.—**Pagris**: E. Spinner & Co., Preston.—**Petrol Electric Lorry Spares**: Dennis Bros., Ltd., Guildford.—**Plates, Bullet Proof**: Vickers-Armstrongs, Ltd., Sheffield.—**Rags, Cotton**: W. C. Jones, Ltd., Manchester; S. & M. Meyers, Ltd., London, E.—**Saddles**: D. Mason & Sons, Walsall.—**Sandbags**: G. C. Taylor & Son, Dundee.—**Sand Blast Plant**: Tilghman's Patent Sand Blast Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Shirting, Angola, Drab**: J. Bradbury & Co. (Saddleworth), Ltd., Oldham; J. Smith (Milnrow), Ltd., Rochdale; J. Harper & Sons, Bradford; Kelsall & Kemp, Ltd., Rochdale.—**Shoes, Horse**: Guest & Co. (Halesowen), Ltd., Halesowen.—**Silk Cloth**: E. Wilman & Sons, Ltd., Hadfield, Lancs.—**Slings, Rifle, Web**: Mills Equipment Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Standards, Colours, etc.**: Hobson & Sons (London), Ltd., London, S.E.—**Steel, Nickel Chrome, Slabs**: D. Colville & Sons, Ltd., Motherwell.—**Steel, Round**: D. Colville & Sons, Ltd., Motherwell; Cammell, Laird & Co., Ltd., Sheffield; The Earl of Dudley's Round Oak Works, Ltd., Brierley Hill, Staffs.—**Steel Tubes**: Accles & Pollock, Ltd., Oldbury, Birmingham.—**Travelling Cooker Body**: Mabbott & Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Truck, Petrol-Driven**: Shelvoke & Drewry, Ltd., Letchworth.—**X-Ray Films, etc.**: Ilford, Ltd., London, E.—**Works Services**: *Building Works and Services*: Shorncliffe—Regimental Institute to R. J. Barwick, Dover. Glasgow—Maryhill Barracks, Repairs to Roads: Pirie & Co., Edinburgh. Strensall Camp—Repairs to Roads: W. & J. Glossop, Ltd., Osbaldwick, near York.

#### AIR MINISTRY.

**Aircraft**: The De Havilland Aircraft Co., Ltd., Edgware, Middlesex.—**Aircraft Modification**: Supermarine Aviation Works, Ltd., Southampton.—**Aircraft Repairs**: Armstrong Whitworth Aircraft Co., Ltd., Parkside, Coventry; Fairey Aviation Co., Ltd., Hayes, Middlesex.—**Aircraft, Spares**: Blackburn Aero. & Motor Co., Ltd.,



Brough, E. Yorks; Gloster Aircraft Co., Ltd., Sunningend Works, Cheltenham; Handley Page, Ltd., London, N.W.; H. G. Hawker Engineering Co., Ltd., Kingston-on-Thames; Supermarine Aviation Works, Ltd., Southampton; Vickers (Aviation), Ltd., Weybridge.—**Aircraft, Test of Aircscrew**: Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Bristol.—**Bombing Target, Construction**: J. Deheer, Ltd., Hull.—**Bombs, Practice, Modification**: Trojan, Ltd., Croydon.—**Buildings and Works Services**: Explosive Stores (Hawkinge): J. G. Parsons & Son, Folkestone. Fuel Storage (Cardington and Ismailia): Zwicky, Ltd., Slough, Bucks. Motor Transport Sheds (Sealand): John Mayers, Sons & Co., Ltd., Chester. Planting Trees, etc. (Croydon): J. Cheal & Sons, Ltd., Crawley, Sussex. Railway Sidings (Sealand): Wm. Mulcaster, Haslington, Crewe.—**Cable**: Hackbridge Cable Co., Ltd., Hackbridge, Surrey.—**Cameras, Aircraft**: Williamson Mfg. Co., Ltd., London, N.W.—**Chamois Leathers**: J. S. Deed & Sons, Ltd., London, W.C.—**Cotton, Scoured Fabric**: Perseverance Mill Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Crossley, Spares**: Crossley Motors, Ltd., Gorton, Manchester; **Crossley Tourer**: Crossley Motors, Ltd., Gorton, Manchester.—**Crossley Tourers, Conversion**: Westminster Carriage Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Engines, Aircraft**: Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Bristol.—**Engines, Aircraft, Air Intake, Pipes for**: Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Bristol.—**Engines, Aircraft, Modifications**: Rolls Royce, Ltd., Derby.—**Engines, Aircraft, Rebuilding**: Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Bristol.—**Engines, Aircraft, Reconditioning**: D. Napier & Son, Ltd., London, W.; Rolls Royce, Ltd., Derby; W. Beardmore & Co., Ltd., Parkhead, Glasgow.—**Engines, Aircraft, Spares**: D. Napier & Son, Ltd., London, W.—**Lancashire Boilers**: Floor Polish: Lane Bros., London, S.W.—**Lights, Air Route**: Gas Accumulator Co., Ltd., Brentford.—**Morris 6-wheeler Spares**: Morris Commercial Cars, Ltd., Soho, Birmingham.—**Motors, Electric**: Bull Motors, Ltd., Ipswich.—**Soda, Caustic**: Imperial Chemical Industries, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Tyres and Tubes**: F. Lionel Rapson, London, W.—**Valves**: Edison Swan Electric Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Wheels and Tyres, Aircraft**: Palmer Tyre, Ltd., Silvertown, Essex.

## H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE.

**Carbons**: Read Mfg. Co. (London), Ltd., Hounslow; Waterlow & Sons, Ltd., Dunstable.—**Cartage (Harrow and London Area)**: "B" Transport Service, Hatch End, Middlesex; L.M. & S. Railway Co., London, E.C.—**Cord**: Belfast Ropework Co., Ltd., Belfast.—**Envelopes**: Chapman & Co. (Balham), Ltd., London, S.W.—**Elastic Braid**: A. Turner & Co., Ltd., Leicester.—**Elastic Circlets**: Geo. Edmonds, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Packing Cases**: Oubridge & Co., London, N.; John Putley & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; A. H. Tytherleigh, London, S.E.—**Paper (of Various Descriptions)**: Alders Paper Mill Co., Ltd., Tamworth; A. Cowan & Sons, Ltd., Penicuik, Midlothian; Robt. Craig & Sons, Ltd., Airdrie; J. Cropper & Co., Ltd., Kendal; Disley Paper Mill Co., Ltd., Disley, near Stockport; Imperial Paper Mills, Ltd., Gravesend; Samuel Jones & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; King's Norton Paper Mills, Ltd., Birmingham; London Paper Mills Co., Ltd., Dartford; Wm. Nash, Ltd., St. Paul's Cray, Kent; Olive's Paper Mill Co., Ltd., Bury; Portals, Ltd., Whitechurch, Hants; Ryburndale Paper Mill Co., Ltd., Ripponden, Halifax; Team Valley Paper Mills, Ltd., Gateshead-on-Tyne; Waterside Paper Mill Co., Ltd., Darwen; Wiggins, Teape, & A. Pirie (Sales), Ltd., Chorley, Lancs.—**Pens**: MacNiven & Cameron, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Printing, Ruling, Binding, etc.**: Group 321 (1929), Bookwork Printing; Group 322 (1929), Bookwork Printing: T. Beaty Hart, Ltd., Kettering. Groups 901, 902 and 903 (1929), Type-Lithography: Charles & Read, Ltd., London, W.C.; 20,000 Manual of Military Law, 1929; 20,000 Common Prayer and English Hymnal: Dow and Lester, London, E.C. 25,000 Manual of Military Law, 1929: G. & J. Kiteat, Ltd., London, S.E.

## POST OFFICE.

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Engineering Co., Ltd., Rotherham.—**Paper**: Robert Craig & Sons, Ltd., Airdrie.—**Plates, Earth**: F. W. Male & Son, Ltd., Wolverhampton.—**Speedometers**: Cowey Engineering Co., Ltd., Kew Gardens, Surrey.—**Spirit, Methyated**: Solvent Products, Ltd., Dagenham Docks, Essex.—**Tape, Linen**: Geo. Hattersley & Sons, Ltd., Keighley, Yorks.—**Tarpaulins**: J. McIlwraith & Co., Ltd., Govan, Glasgow.—**Thread**: Henry Campbell & Co., Ltd., Mossley, Belfast.—**Wallboards**: J. H. Townsend & Sons, London, N.

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