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

EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT.

EMPLOYMENT during April showed, on the whole, some further improvement.

Among workpeople insured against unemployment in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the percentage unemployed in all industries taken together was 20·9 at 27th April, 1931, as compared with 21·5 at 23rd March, 1931, and 14·2 at 28th April, 1930. For males alone the percentage at 27th April, 1931, was 22·0, and for females 18·0. At 23rd March, 1931, the corresponding percentages were 22·7 and 18·4.

Insured Persons in Work in Great Britain.—It is estimated that on 27th April, 1931, there were approximately 9,356,700 insured persons aged 16 to 64 in work in Great Britain. This was 89,500 more than a month before, but 553,300 less than a year before.

Numbers Unemployed (excluding Persons normally in Casual Employment).—At 27th April, 1931, there were 1,848,170 persons on the Registers of Employment Exchanges in Great Britain who were out of a situation. This was 11,356 less than a month before, but 690,061 more than a year before. The total on 27th April, 1931, included 1,340,599 men, 58,286 boys, 400,999 women and 48,286 girls. It was made up approximately of 1,276,110 insured persons who had paid at least 30 contributions during the preceding two years, and therefore satisfied the full contributions condition for the receipt of unemployment benefit; 468,800 insured persons who had paid less than 30 contributions during the preceding two years; and 103,260 uninsured persons. The claimants for benefit, numbering 1,671,290, included 220,367 men, 5,374 boys, 46,101 women and 3,052 girls who had been on the Register for less than one month.

Numbers Temporarily Stopped.—At 27th April, 1931, there were registered as unemployed in Great Britain 390,946 men, 12,334 boys, 144,457 women and 9,241 girls who were on short time or were otherwise suspended from work on the definite understanding that they were shortly to return to their former employment. The total of 556,978 was 47,111 less than a month before, but 109,734 more than a year before.

Numbers Unemployed normally in Casual Employment.—At 27th April, 1931, there were on the Registers in Great Britain 112,584 men, 268 boys, 2,093 women and 20 girls who normally seek a livelihood by means of jobs of short duration; these are mainly employed in dock, harbour, river and canal service. The total of 114,965 was 1,538 less than a month before, but 21,932 more than a year before.

Industries in which Principal Variations occurred.—There was a further seasonal improvement in the building trade, public works contracting, brick and tile manufacture, and the clothing industries. The numbers unemployed showed a further decrease in a number of the textile industries (the principal exceptions being the cotton and lace industries), and employment also

improved in coal mining, slate quarrying, steel and tin-plate manufacture, constructional engineering, and the motor vehicle industry. There were increases, however, in the numbers unemployed in pottery manufacture, general and marine engineering, and the cotton and lace industries.

WAGES.

In the industries for which statistics are regularly compiled by the Department, the changes in rates of wages reported during April resulted in an estimated decrease of over £26,000 in the weekly full-time wages of 325,000 workpeople, and in an increase of £1,225 in those of nearly 19,000 workpeople.

The reductions mainly occurred in the mining, textile, and transport groups. In the mining group the workpeople affected included coal miners in the Cannock Chase, Leicestershire, South Derbyshire, North and South Staffordshire, and Bristol coalfields, where there were reductions in the percentage additions to basis rates, varying in the different areas from about 1½ to 5½ per cent. on current wages. In the textile group the principal reduction concerned workpeople in the bleaching, dyeing, etc., industries in Yorkshire and Lancashire. Railway traffic workers formed the main body of workpeople affected by reductions in the transport group, many of the lower grades sustaining a reduction of 1s. per week under a cost-of-living sliding scale. Other workpeople whose wages were reduced included ironstone miners and blastfurnacemen in the Cleveland area, brass workers at Birmingham and in Yorkshire, and men employed by electrical contractors in England and Wales.

COST OF LIVING.

At 1st May, the average level of retail prices of 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 47 per cent. above the level of July, 1914; for food alone the figure was 29. These percentages were the same as those for a month earlier, and compare with 55 and 40 respectively for 1st May, 1930.

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. Accordingly, the changes in the prices of the various articles included are combined proportionately to the relative importance of those items in pre-war working-class family expenditure, and no allowance is made for any changes in the standard of living.

TRADE DISPUTES.

The number of trade disputes, involving stoppages of work, reported to the Department as beginning in April was 45. In addition, 12 disputes which began before April were still in progress at the beginning of the month. The number of workpeople involved in all disputes in April (including workpeople thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, but not themselves parties to the disputes) was about 24,300, and the aggregate duration of all disputes in April was about 130,000 working days.

STRIKES AND LOCK-OUTS IN 1930.

IN the issue of this GAZETTE for January, 1931 (page 6), some preliminary statistics were given of industrial disputes, involving stoppages of work, which occurred in Great Britain and Northern Ireland in 1930. More detailed statistics regarding these disputes, revised in accordance with the latest information received, are now available and are given below.

The number of disputes, involving stoppages of work, reported to the Department as having begun in 1930 in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, was 422.* In these disputes about 286,100 workpeople were directly involved (*i.e.*, on strike or locked out), and 20,800 indirectly involved (*i.e.*, thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, but not themselves parties to the disputes). In addition, about 1,800 workpeople were involved, directly or indirectly, in 8 disputes which began in 1929 and were still in progress at the beginning of 1930. The total number of workpeople involved, either directly or indirectly, in all disputes in progress in 1930, was thus about 308,700, as compared with 533,800 in the previous year. The aggregate time lost in 1930 by these workpeople owing to the disputes was approximately 4,399,000 working days, as compared with 8,287,000 in 1929.

Two disputes, one occurring in the wool textile industry and one in the coal-mining industry, accounted for about two-thirds of all the workpeople involved in disputes in 1930; and to the former of these two disputes nearly three-quarters of the total loss of time through disputes was due. In 1929 one dispute alone, that occurring in the cotton industry, greatly preponderated both as regards the number of workpeople involved and of working days lost. The following summary shows the relative proportions of these outstanding disputes and of all other disputes in 1929 and 1930:—

| | No. of Disputes beginning in period. | No. of Workpeople involved in all Disputes in progress. | No. of Working Days lost by such Workpeople. |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| 1929. | | | |
| Cotton Dispute ... | 1 | 388,000 | 6,596,000 |
| All other Disputes ... | 430 | 145,800 | 1,691,000 |
| All Disputes ... | 431 | 533,800 | 8,287,000 |
| 1930. | | | |
| Wool Textile Dispute ... | 1 | 120,000 | 3,258,000 |
| Coal Mining Dispute, Scotland ... | 1 | 76,000 | 428,000 |
| All other Disputes ... | 420 | 112,700 | 713,000 |
| All Disputes ... | 422 | 308,700 | 4,399,000 |

The following Table summarises by industries the number of disputes reported as *beginning* in 1929 and 1930 in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the number of workpeople involved in and the aggregate duration of *all* disputes *in progress* in each year:—

| Industry Group. | 1929. | | | 1930. | | |
|--|------------------------------------|--|---|------------------------------------|--|---|
| | No. of Disputes beginning in 1929. | Number of Workpeople involved in all Disputes in progress. | Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress. | No. of Disputes beginning in 1930. | Number of Workpeople involved in all Disputes in progress. | Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress. |
| Coal Mining ... | 153 | 78,500 | 576,000 | 150 | 148,600 | 663,000 |
| Other Mining and Quarrying ... | 9 | 1,200 | 90,000 | 8 | 600 | 8,000 |
| Brick, Pottery, Glass, etc. ... | 12 | 500 | 6,000 | 7 | 600 | 5,000 |
| Iron and Steel ... | 7 | 3,100 | 56,000 | 5 | 700 | 9,000 |
| Engineering ... | 18 | 19,900 | 62,000 | 11 | 800 | 8,000 |
| Shipbuilding ... | 25 | 8,000 | 529,000 | 23 | 4,200 | 15,000 |
| Other Metal ... | 30 | 7,700 | 120,000 | 31 | 4,200 | 60,000 |
| Cotton ... | 35 | 392,200 | 6,642,000 | 17 | 2,600 | 36,000 |
| Wool Textile ... | 14 | 6,800 | 106,000 | 7 | 122,200 | 3,279,000 |
| Other Textile ... | 9 | 1,100 | 4,000 | 20 | 4,000 | 77,000 |
| Clothing ... | 17 | 1,600 | 11,000 | 21 | 1,400 | 10,000 |
| Food, Drink and Tobacco ... | 4 | 100 | 4,000 | 5 | 900 | 3,000 |
| Woodworking, Furniture, etc. ... | 17 | 1,400 | 15,000 | 23 | 3,300 | 88,000 |
| Paper, Printing, etc. ... | 2 | 400 | 20,000 | 6 | 800 | 7,000 |
| Building, Public Works Contracting, etc. ... | 40 | 3,300 | 28,000 | 47 | 3,800 | 46,000 |
| Transport ... | 21 | 7,200 | 13,000 | 22 | 5,200 | 25,000 |
| Commerce, Distribution and Finance ... | 5 | 300 | 3,000 | 5 | 3,500 | 51,000 |
| Other ... | 13 | 500 | 2,000 | 14 | 1,300 | 9,000 |
| Total ... | 431 | 533,800 | 8,287,000 | 422 | 308,700 | 4,399,000 |

Of the total numbers of workpeople shown as involved in all disputes, approximately 40,900 in 1929 and 20,900 in 1930 were *indirectly* involved.

PRINCIPAL DISPUTES IN 1930.

The largest single dispute in 1930 occurred in the wool textile industry of the West Riding of Yorkshire and part of Lancashire. Following upon the issue of the report of a Court of Inquiry appointed to investigate the question of wages payable in the industry, the employers posted notices of reductions. The Executive Committees

* Disputes involving less than ten workpeople and those which lasted less than one day are 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.

of the National Association of Unions in the Textile Trade decided to withdraw workpeople from all firms where the reductions were imposed. Work ceased on various dates, usually between 8th and 11th April, a total of 120,000 workpeople being involved, directly and indirectly. Considerable resumptions of work took place in April and May, and the majority of the unions involved declared the dispute at an end in June, so far as their members were concerned. Certain unions continued the dispute for another month, and one union of weaving overlookers held out until September. Work was resumed upon the employers' terms, except with certain firms where modified reductions were agreed upon. About 3½ million working days were lost in the course of this dispute.

In the coal-mining industry, following alteration in working hours underground, in accordance with the Coal Mines Act, 1930, a question arose as to the terms of employment which were to operate from 1st December. Stoppages of work occurred on this date involving about 76,000 workpeople in Scotland, 6,000 in North Staffordshire and 3,000 in Shropshire and other districts. In Scotland the dispute lasted a week, while elsewhere at most of the collieries involved it lasted for one or two days only; the total aggregate duration of these stoppages exceeded 440,000 working days. In Scotland a temporary settlement was effected by the Conciliation Board for the Coal Trade of Scotland, on the basis of a fortnightly "spread over" of hours without change in wage rates pending a permanent settlement. Temporary settlements were also effected in North Staffordshire and elsewhere.

No other disputes occurred in 1930 involving 5,000 workpeople, but three other disputes each involved a loss of between 50,000 and 70,000 working days. Of these, the first occurred in February, and involved 3,250 insurance agents in Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Improved terms of remuneration were demanded, and, as a result of the mediation of the General Council of the Trades Union Congress, a minimum rate of 50s. per week was guaranteed, other claims being waived. The second of these disputes began on 13th June and involved 1,250 upholsterers and upholstresses in the employment of wholesale manufacturing firms in London. The workpeople's demands comprised an advance in wages, the limitation of junior labour, and other improvements in working conditions. A settlement was effected on 19th August, providing for a resumption of work at the old rate of wages and for further consideration of the question of junior labour, the other matters in dispute being settled provisionally. The third of these disputes involved 620 silk knitters and makers-up in the employment of a firm at Macclesfield, who ceased work on 16th October in resistance to a proposed reduction in wages. On 25th February, 1931, the reduction was accepted, with some modifications.

Following is a list of the principal trade disputes, involving stoppages of work, beginning in 1930:—

| Classes of Workpeople involved. | Dates of beginning and end of Stoppage. | Approximate Number of Workpeople involved. | Approximate Aggregate Number of Working Days lost. |
|---|---|--|--|
| COAL MINING:— | | | |
| Colliery workpeople— | 1930. | | |
| Bridgend, Glam. (near) ... | 23 Apr.—July | 450 | 23,200 |
| Shotts, Lanarkshire ... | 12/13 May—21 May | 2,400 | 17,500 |
| Pontefract (near) ... | 4 Sept.—19 Jan. (1931) | 371 | 25,600 |
| Scotland ... | 1 Dec.—6 Dec. | 76,000 | 428,000 |
| North Staffordshire ... | 1 Dec.—5 Dec. | 5,880 | 11,250 |
| Polmont, Stirlingshire ... | 10 Dec.—14 Mar. (1931) | 486 | 36,650 |
| SHIPBUILDING:— | | | |
| Platers, etc.—Belfast ... | 12 Mar.—19 Mar. | 1,339 | 5,300 |
| OTHER METAL INDUSTRIES:— | | | |
| Steel-tube workers (various occupations)—Swansea... | 17 Nov.—23 Dec. | 1,450 | 46,875 |
| TEXTILE INDUSTRIES:— | | | |
| Wool textile operatives— | | | |
| West Riding of Yorkshire and part of Lancashire ... | 8/11 Apr.—16 Sept.* | 120,000 | 3,258,000 |
| Cotton spinners, piecers, bobbins, cardroom operatives, etc.—Stockport ... | 23 Apr.—13 May | 658 | 12,500 |
| Hosiery dyers, scourers, trimmers, and auxiliary workers—Leicester ... | 1 Sept.—21 Feb. (1931) | 330 | 16,000 |
| Silk knitters and makers-up—Macclesfield ... | 16 Oct.—25 Feb. (1931) | 620 | 68,480 |
| Hosiery workers—Leicester | 24 Nov.—29 Nov. | 1,000 | 6,000 |
| FURNITURE MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY:— | | | |
| Upholsterers and upholstresses — (wholesale manufacturing firms)—London ... | 13 June—19 Aug. | 1,250 | 66,500 |
| BUILDING, PUBLIC WORKS CONTRACTING, ETC.:— | | | |
| Joiners—Glasgow District... | 3 Mar.—24 Mar. | 1,000 | 18,000 |
| TRANSPORT INDUSTRY:— | | | |
| Dock workers—Salford ... | 9 Apr.—16 Apr. | 2,500 | 17,500 |
| INSURANCE:— | | | |
| Insurance agents — Great Britain and Northern Ireland ... | 7 Feb.—24 Feb. | 3,250 | 50,000 |

* Most of the workpeople resumed work in April, May or June and some in July; one union of weaving overlookers held out till September.

CAUSES.

The numbers and proportions of disputes in 1930, and of workpeople directly involved therein, arising from the principal classes of causes, are given below. In some cases disputes originate from a number of different causes, e.g., a claim for an advance in wages may be accompanied by one for a reduction in working hours. For the purpose of these Tables such disputes are classified according to what appears to be the principal cause of the stoppage:—

| Principal Causes or Objects. | Number of Disputes beginning in 1930. | | Number of Workpeople directly involved. | |
|---|---------------------------------------|---------------|---|---------------|
| | Total. | Per-cent-age. | Total. | Per-cent-age. |
| Wage increases | 38 | 9.0 | 10,600 | 3.7 |
| Wage decreases | 91 | 21.6 | 125,600 | 43.9 |
| Other wage questions | 119 | 28.2 | 18,700 | 6.5 |
| All wage questions | 248 | 58.8 | 154,900 | 54.1 |
| Hours of labour | 19 | 4.5 | 96,700 | 33.8 |
| Employment of particular classes or persons | 79 | 18.7 | 17,300 | 6.1 |
| Other working arrangements, rules and discipline | 46 | 10.9 | 11,800 | 4.1 |
| Trade Unionism | 28 | 6.6 | 5,100 | 1.8 |
| Other | 2 | 0.5 | 300 | 0.1 |
| Total | 422 | 100.0 | 286,100 | 100.0 |

Wages questions accounted for more than half of the disputes and of the numbers of workpeople directly involved. Disputes arising out of questions respecting working hours formed less than 5 per cent. of the total number of disputes, but, mainly owing to the stoppage in the coal mining industry in Scotland, accounted for about one-third of the total number of workpeople.

The following Table shows by groups of industries the proportion of workpeople who were directly involved in disputes in 1930 arising from the principal classes of causes:—

| Industry Group. | Work-people directly involved in Disputes beginning in 1930. | Proportions directly involved in Disputes respecting | | | | | |
|---|--|--|------------------|--|-----------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| | | Wages. | Hours of Labour. | Employment of Particular Classes or Persons. | Working Arrangements. | Trade Unionism. | Other Questions. |
| | No. | % | % | % | % | % | % |
| Mining and Quarrying | 138,600 | 16.3 | 68.9 | 7.5 | 4.3 | 2.8 | 0.2 |
| Metal, Engineering and Shipbuilding | 5,900 | 43.2 | 20.0 | 20.8 | 13.2 | 2.8 | ... |
| Textile | 121,500 | 96.9 | 0.0 | 1.7 | 1.1 | 0.3 | ... |
| Clothing | 1,300 | 58.8 | ... | 37.0 | 4.2 | ... | ... |
| Building, Public Works Contracting, etc. | 3,500 | 75.8 | 0.9 | 19.7 | 0.5 | 3.1 | ... |
| Transport | 5,200 | 10.5 | 0.6 | 31.3 | 56.2 | 1.4 | ... |
| Other | 10,100 | 79.2 | ... | 9.1 | 7.0 | 4.7 | ... |
| All Industries | 286,100 | 54.1 | 33.8 | 6.1 | 4.1 | 1.8 | 0.1 |

Judged by the numbers of workpeople involved, wage questions were the principal causes of disputes in all industry groups except the mining and quarrying and the transport groups, where the chief place was held by questions respecting working hours and by other questions of working arrangements, respectively.

RESULTS.

The number and proportion of disputes beginning in 1930, and of workpeople directly involved therein, the results of which were (a) in favour of the workpeople, (b) in favour of the employers, and (c) of the nature of a compromise, were as under. Disputes classified as in favour of workpeople or in favour of employers, for the purpose of this and the following Tables, are those in which the workpeople or employers, respectively, were completely successful, or practically so, in attaining or resisting the objects to which the stoppage of work was due. Disputes in which the workpeople, or employers, were partly, but not wholly, successful, are included under 'compromised.'

| Results. | Number of Disputes. | | Number of Workpeople directly involved. | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|---------------|---|---------------|
| | Total. | Per-cent-age. | Total. | Per-cent-age. |
| In favour of workpeople | 71 | 16.8 | 17,900 | 6.2 |
| In favour of employers | 155 | 36.7 | 222,500 | 77.8 |
| Compromised | 196 | 46.5 | 45,700 | 16.0 |
| Total | 422 | 100.0 | 286,100 | 100.0 |

Disputes settled by compromise formed the largest group in 1930, representing over 46 per cent. of the total number of disputes. Judged by numbers of workpeople directly involved, however, disputes settled in favour of the employers greatly preponderated, over three-quarters of all the workpeople being included in disputes of this category; the stoppage in the wool textile industry alone accounted for 40 per cent. of the total. Disputes settled in favour

of the workpeople formed much the smallest group (17 per cent.) and included 6 per cent. only of the workpeople involved.

The following Table shows, by groups of industries, the proportion of workpeople directly involved in disputes beginning in 1930, classified according to their results:—

| Industry Group. | Work-people directly involved in Disputes beginning in 1930. | Proportions directly involved in Disputes beginning in 1930, the Results of which were | | |
|---|--|--|--------------------------|---------------|
| | | In favour of Work-people. | In favour of Em-ployers. | Com-promised. |
| | No. | % | % | % |
| Mining and Quarrying | 138,600 | 9.5 | 72.7 | 17.8 |
| Metal, Engineering and Shipbuilding | 5,900 | 10.5 | 24.4 | 65.1 |
| Textile | 121,500 | 1.0 | 97.0 | 2.0 |
| Clothing | 1,300 | 20.5 | 40.6 | 38.9 |
| Building, Public Works Contracting, etc. | 3,500 | 47.4 | 19.6 | 33.0 |
| Transport | 5,200 | 4.1 | 4.5 | 91.4 |
| Other | 10,100 | 7.4 | 9.8 | 82.8 |
| All Industries | 286,100 | 6.2 | 77.8 | 16.0 |

Disputes settled in favour of the employers preponderated in the mining and quarrying and textile groups, and settlements by compromise in the metal, etc., transport, and "other" industries groups. Disputes settled in favour of the workpeople accounted for nearly half the workpeople directly involved in the building, etc., group; in the other groups they were of minor importance.

Combined statistics of the causes and results of disputes beginning in 1930 are given below:—

| Principal Causes. | Number of Workpeople directly involved in Disputes beginning in 1930, the Results of which were | | | Total. |
|---|---|--------------------------|---------------|---------|
| | In favour of Work-people. | In favour of Em-ployers. | Com-promised. | |
| Wage increases | 400 | 1,300 | 8,900 | 10,600 |
| Wage decreases | 2,800 | 116,900 | 5,900 | 125,600 |
| Other wage questions | 2,500 | 7,500 | 8,700 | 18,700 |
| All wage questions | 5,700 | 125,700 | 23,500 | 154,900 |
| Hours of labour | 4,400 | 85,900 | 6,400 | 96,700 |
| Employment of particular classes or persons | 4,400 | 5,400 | 7,500 | 17,300 |
| Other working arrangements, rules and discipline | 600 | 4,400 | 6,800 | 11,800 |
| Trade Unionism | 2,800 | 1,100 | 1,200 | 5,100 |
| Other | ... | * | 300 | 300 |
| Total | 17,900 | 222,500 | 45,700 | 286,100 |

METHODS OF SETTLEMENT.

The principal methods by which disputes beginning in 1930 were settled are shown in the Table below:—

| Methods of Settlement. | Number of Disputes. | Proportion of all Disputes. | Number of Workpeople directly involved. | Proportion of Workpeople directly involved in all Disputes. |
|--|---------------------|-----------------------------|---|---|
| By direct negotiations between the parties or their representatives | 265 | 62.8 | 173,700 | 60.7 |
| By conciliation | 39 | 9.3 | 87,600 | 30.6 |
| By arbitration | 9 | 2.1 | 3,100 | 1.1 |
| By return to work on employers' terms without negotiations | 68 | 16.1 | 19,900 | 7.0 |
| By replacement of workpeople | 32 | 7.6 | 1,100 | 0.4 |
| Otherwise | 9 | 2.1 | 700 | 0.2 |
| Total | 422 | 100.0 | 286,100 | 100.0 |

The majority of final settlements in 1930 as in most years were effected by direct arrangements or negotiations between the parties or their representatives, 265, or over three-fifths of all the disputes, directly involving about the same proportion of workpeople, being thus concluded. Although settlements effected by the various modes of conciliation and arbitration numbered only 48, or 11 per cent. of the total, they included nearly one-third of all the workpeople, owing largely to the fact that the dispute in the coal mining industry of Scotland was settled by conciliation. In 68 disputes, mostly of small dimensions, although forming 16 per cent. of the total number of disputes, work was resumed on the employers' terms without negotiations. In 32 disputes the workpeople who ceased work were replaced by other workpeople, but such disputes were in all cases very small.

MAGNITUDE.

In the Table below, the disputes of 1930 are analysed from three different aspects of magnitude, viz., numbers of workpeople involved, duration in weeks, and aggregate duration in working days. It should be observed that, for the purposes of this Table, the duration in weeks and the aggregate duration in working days take account of time lost in 1931 by disputes which began in 1930 and continued beyond the end of the year. On the other hand, the aggregate

Less than 100 workpeople involved.

duration of disputes which began before 1930, but continued into 1930, is excluded. As regards numbers involved, the Table relates only to disputes beginning in 1930. The figures in the Table, therefore, differ from those given in the first and second Tables in this article (page 170), which include workpeople involved and working days lost in all disputes in progress during the year irrespective of the date of commencement.

It will be seen from the figures given that, as in other years, most of the disputes beginning in 1930 involved small numbers of workpeople and lasted for a few days only. Disputes involving less than 250 workpeople numbered 314, or three-quarters of the total, while in only 27 disputes was the number of workpeople involved 1,000 or more. Three-quarters of all the disputes (319 out of 422) terminated within a fortnight, and only 58 disputes lasted more than four weeks. Of the total aggregate duration, nearly three-quarters occurred in the dispute in the wool textile industry, and over 90 per cent. of the remainder occurred in 113 disputes, or about one-quarter of the total.

| Limits. | Number of Disputes beginning in 1930. | Total Number of Workpeople involved directly and indirectly in these Disputes. | Aggregate Duration of these Disputes in Working Days. |
|---------|---------------------------------------|--|---|
|---------|---------------------------------------|--|---|

Disputes classified by Total Numbers directly and indirectly involved.

| | | | |
|--------------------------|-----|---------|-----------|
| Under 100 workpeople ... | 222 | 8,100 | 76,000 |
| 100 and under 250 ... | 92 | 14,900 | 107,000 |
| 250 " 500 ... | 46 | 16,200 | 145,000 |
| 500 " 1,000 ... | 35 | 23,200 | 141,000 |
| 1,000 " 2,500 ... | 19 | 27,000 | 201,000 |
| 2,500 " 5,000 ... | 5 | 15,600 | 86,000 |
| 5,000 " 10,000 ... | 1 | 5,900 | 11,000 |
| 10,000 and upwards ... | 2 | 196,000 | 3,686,000 |

Disputes classified by Duration in Weeks.

| | | | |
|--------------------------|-----|---------|-----------|
| Under 1 week ... | 254 | 76,200 | 148,000 |
| 1 and under 2 weeks ... | 65 | 94,500 | 543,000 |
| 2 " 4 " ... | 45 | 8,300 | 124,000 |
| 4 " 6 " ... | 22 | 2,600 | 77,000 |
| 6 " 10 " ... | 14 | 2,200 | 87,000 |
| 10 " 20 " ... | 19 | 2,700 | 197,000 |
| 20 weeks and upwards ... | 3 | 120,400 | 3,277,000 |

Disputes classified by Aggregate Duration in Working Days.

| | | | |
|------------------------------|-----|---------|-----------|
| Under 500 days ... | 255 | 20,300 | 47,000 |
| 500 and under 1,000 days ... | 53 | 15,500 | 38,000 |
| 1,000 " 5,000 " ... | 83 | 36,600 | 164,000 |
| 5,000 " 25,000 " ... | 23 | 31,100 | 224,000 |
| 25,000 " 50,000 " ... | 3 | 2,300 | 109,000 |
| 50,000 " 100,000 " ... | 3 | 5,100 | 185,000 |
| 100,000 days and upwards ... | 2 | 196,000 | 3,686,000 |

COMPARATIVE FIGURES FOR 1893-1930.

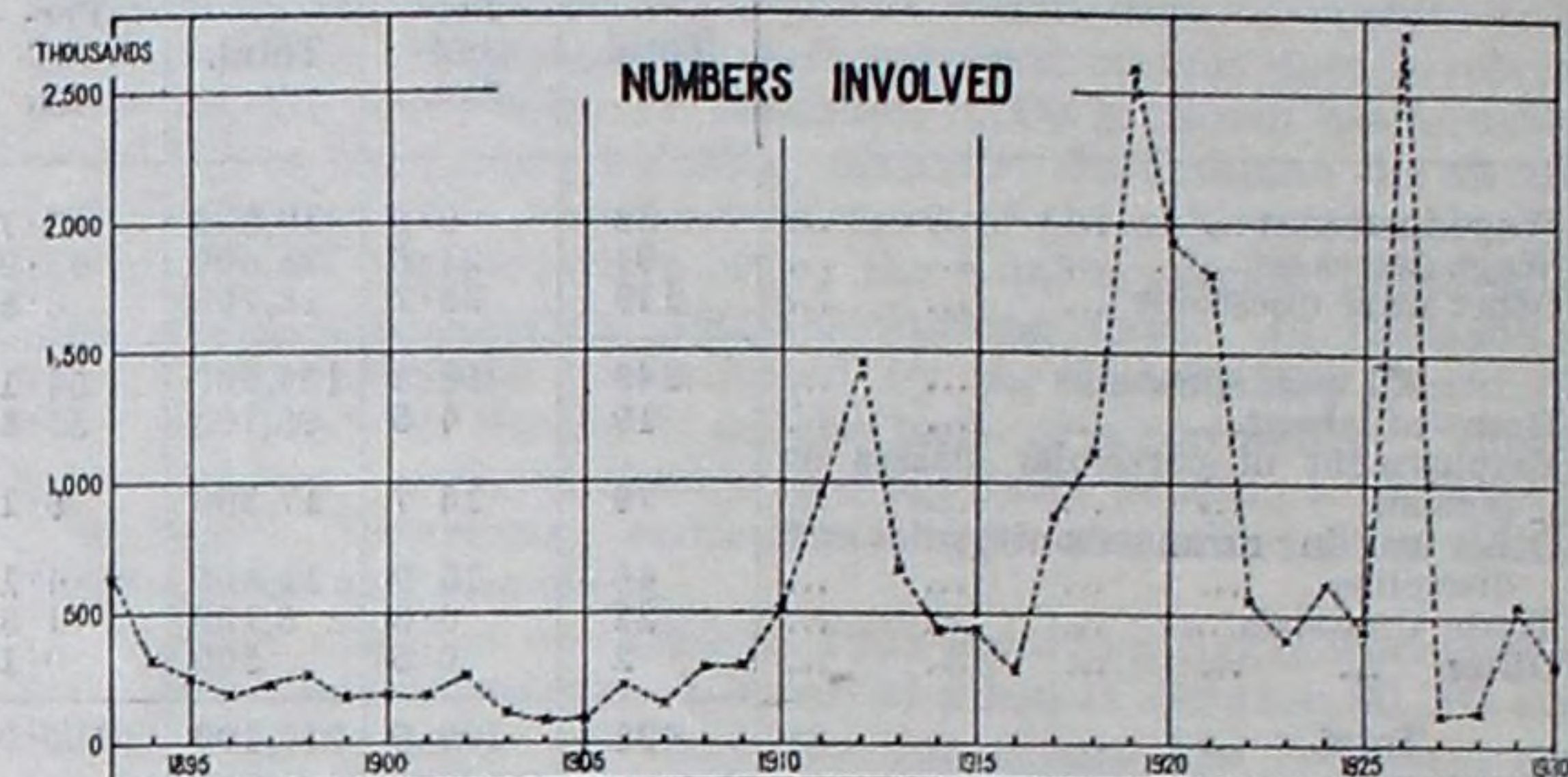
The following Table shows the total number of disputes, involving stoppages of work, reported to the Department as beginning in each of the years 1893-1930, together with the approximate number of workpeople involved in these disputes, and the aggregate number of working days lost in all disputes in progress during the year (irrespective of the date of commencement) at the establishments where the disputes occurred.

| Year. | Number of Disputes beginning in Year. | Number of Workpeople involved in Disputes beginning in Year.* | | | Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress during Year (to nearest 10,000). |
|----------|---------------------------------------|---|-------------|-----------|---|
| | | Directly. | Indirectly. | Total. | |
| 1893 ... | 599 | 597,000 | 37,000 | 634,000 | 30,440,000 |
| 1894 ... | 903 | 254,000 | 68,000 | 322,000 | 9,510,000 |
| 1895 ... | 728 | 205,000 | 54,000 | 259,000 | 5,700,000 |
| 1896 ... | 906 | 142,000 | 50,000 | 192,000 | 3,560,000 |
| 1897 ... | 848 | 166,000 | 63,000 | 229,000 | 10,330,000 |
| 1898 ... | 695 | 199,000 | 53,000 | 252,000 | 15,260,000 |
| 1899 ... | 710 | 137,000 | 42,000 | 179,000 | 2,500,000 |
| 1900 ... | 633 | 132,000 | 53,000 | 185,000 | 3,090,000 |
| 1901 ... | 631 | 111,000 | 68,000 | 179,000 | 4,130,000 |
| 1902 ... | 432 | 115,000 | 140,000 | 255,000 | 3,440,000 |
| 1903 ... | 380 | 93,000 | 23,000 | 116,000 | 2,320,000 |
| 1904 ... | 346 | 56,000 | 31,000 | 87,000 | 1,460,000 |
| 1905 ... | 349 | 67,000 | 25,000 | 92,000 | 2,370,000 |
| 1906 ... | 479 | 158,000 | 60,000 | 218,000 | 3,020,000 |
| 1907 ... | 585 | 100,000 | 46,000 | 146,000 | 2,150,000 |
| 1908 ... | 389 | 221,000 | 72,000 | 293,000 | 10,790,000 |
| 1909 ... | 422 | 168,000 | 129,000 | 297,000 | 2,690,000 |
| 1910 ... | 521 | 384,000 | 130,000 | 514,000 | 9,870,000 |
| 1911 ... | 872 | 824,000 | 128,000 | 952,000 | 10,160,000 |
| 1912 ... | 834 | 1,232,000 | 230,000 | 1,462,000 | 40,890,000 |
| 1913 ... | 1,459 | 497,000 | 167,000 | 664,000 | 9,800,000 |
| 1914 ... | 972 | 326,000 | 121,000 | 447,000 | 9,880,000 |
| 1915 ... | 672 | 401,000 | 47,000 | 448,000 | 2,950,000 |
| 1916 ... | 532 | 235,000 | 41,000 | 276,000 | 2,450,000 |
| 1917 ... | 730 | 575,000 | 297,000 | 872,000 | 5,650,000 |
| 1918 ... | 1,165 | 923,000 | 193,000 | 1,116,000 | 5,880,000 |
| 1919 ... | 1,352 | 2,401,000 | 190,000 | 2,591,000 | 34,970,000 |
| 1920 ... | 1,607 | 1,779,000 | 153,000 | 1,932,000 | 26,570,000 |
| 1921 ... | 763 | 1,770,000 | 31,000 | 1,801,000 | 85,870,000 |
| 1922 ... | 576 | 512,000 | 40,000 | 552,000 | 19,850,000 |
| 1923 ... | 628 | 343,000 | 62,000 | 405,000 | 10,670,000 |
| 1924 ... | 710 | 558,000 | 55,000 | 613,000 | 8,420,000 |
| 1925 ... | 603 | 401,000 | 40,000 | 441,000 | 7,950,000 |
| 1926 ... | 323 | 2,724,000 | 10,000 | 2,734,000 | 162,230,000 |
| 1927 ... | 308 | 90,000 | 18,000 | 108,000 | 1,170,000 |
| 1928 ... | 302 | 80,000 | 44,000 | 124,000 | 1,390,000 |
| 1929 ... | 431 | 493,000 | 40,000 | 533,000 | 8,290,000 |
| 1930 ... | 422 | 286,000 | 21,000 | 307,000 | 4,400,000 |

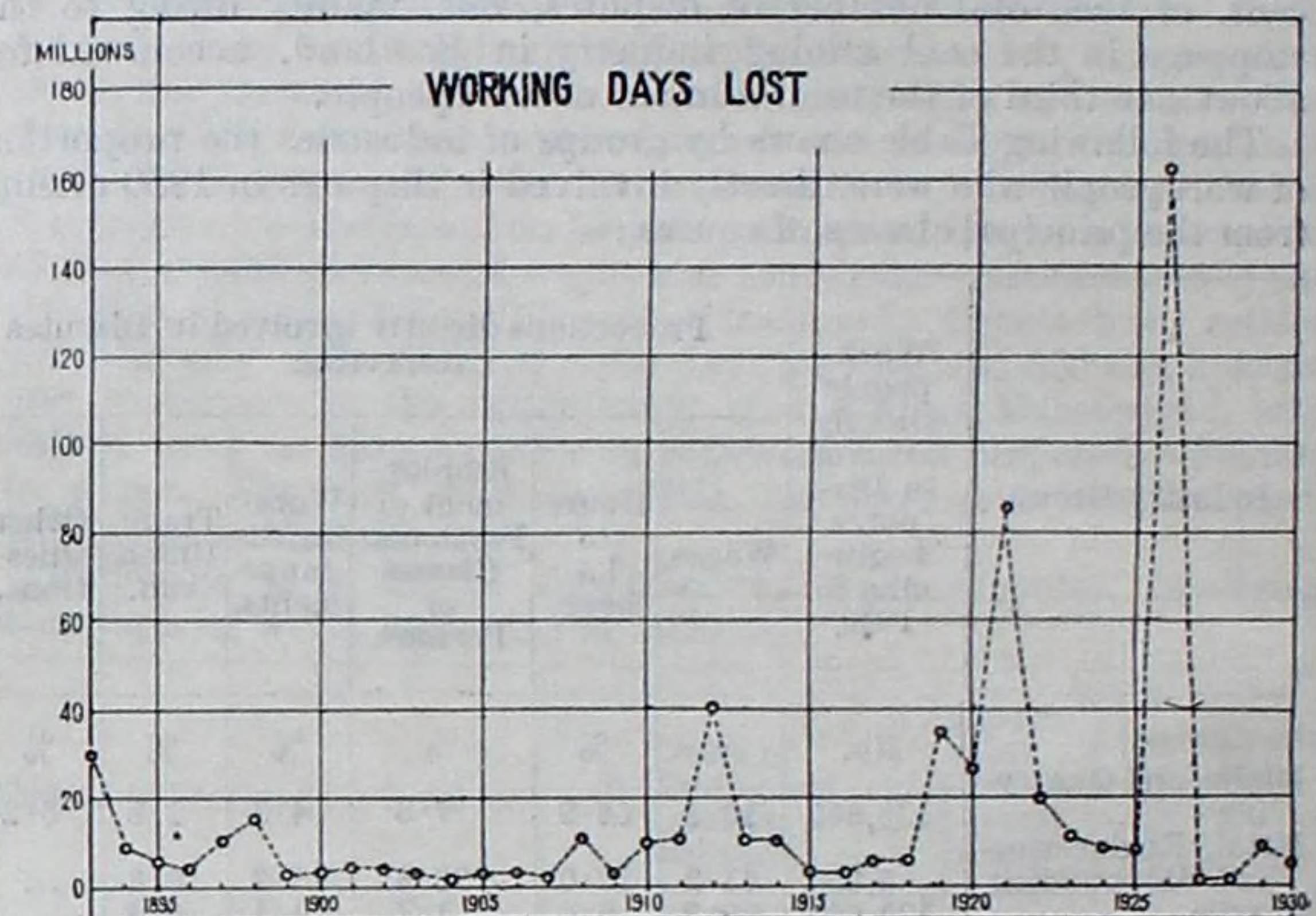
It should be observed that in this Table the particulars of numbers involved relate to persons involved in disputes beginning in each year, whilst in the first and second Tables in this article (page 170) they relate to the total numbers involved in all disputes in progress, including those beginning earlier which were still unsettled at the beginning of the year.

The numbers of workpeople involved in disputes in Great Britain and Northern Ireland during 1893-1930, and the numbers of working days lost in such disputes, are shown graphically in the diagrams below.

In the first diagram the position of the crosses, in relation to the scale in the margin, indicates the total number of workpeople involved in disputes beginning in each year since 1893.



In the following diagram the position of the circles indicates the aggregate duration in working days of all disputes in progress in each year.



The dotted lines in both these diagrams are inserted only in order to assist the eye by connecting successive crosses or circles.

The great fluctuations from year to year in the number of workpeople involved and in working days lost shown by the above figures are very largely due to the effect of relatively few stoppages of work of exceptional magnitude. Particulars of the largest disputes which have occurred since the War are summarised in the following Table:—

| Year. | Classes of Workpeople Involved. | Approximate Number of Workpeople Involved. | Approximate Aggregate Number of Working Days Lost. |
|-------|--|--|--|
| 1918 | Cotton spinners, etc.—Lancashire and Cheshire ... | 120,000 | 1,000,000 |
| 1919 | Coal miners, etc.—Yorkshire ... | 150,000 | 3,750,000 |
| | Cotton operatives—Lancashire, Cheshire, etc. ... | 450,000 | 7,500,000 |
| | Ironfounders, coremakers and dressers—England, Wales and Ireland ... | 65,000 | 6,800,000 |
| | Railway workers—Great Britain ... | 500,000 | 3,850,000 |
| 1920 | Coal miners, etc.—Great Britain ... | 1,100,000 | 16,000,000 |
| 1921 | Cotton operatives—Lancashire, Cheshire, etc. ... | 375,000 | 6,750,000 |
| | Coal miners, etc.—Great Britain ... | 1,150,000 | 72,000,000 |
| 1922 | Engineers, etc.—United Kingdom (federated districts) ... | 260,000 | 13,650,000 |
| | Shipyard workers—Principal districts... —Federated districts ... | 90,000 | 3,400,000 |
| 1923 | Shipyard platers, riveters, caulkers, etc. ... | 40,000 | 5,725,000 |
| 1924 | Dock workers, etc.—Great Britain ... | 110,000 | 510,000 |
| | Building operatives—Great Britain ... | 100,000 | 2,970,000 |
| 1925 | Wool textile operatives, enginemakers, firemen, etc.—West Riding of Yorkshire and part of Lancashire ... | 165,000 | 3,105,000 |
| 1926 | Coal miners, etc.—Great Britain ... | 1,050,000 | 145,200,000 |
| | Workpeople in the transport, printing, building, iron and steel and other industries—Great Britain ... | 1,580,000 | 15,000,000 |
| 1929 | Cotton operatives—Lancashire, Cheshire, etc. ... | 388,000 | 6,596,000 |
| 1930 | Wool textile operatives—West Riding of Yorkshire and part of Lancashire ... | 120,000 | 3,258,000 |
| | Coal miners, etc.—Scotland ... | 76,000 | 428,000 |

* Workpeople involved in more than one dispute during the year are counted more than once in the totals for the year. The extent of such duplication is not very considerable except in the case of industries involved in the general strike in May, 1926, and in the coal-mining group, in which about 41,000 in 1926, 100,000 in 1921, 300,000 in 1920, 150,000 in 1919, and 106,000 in 1912 were involved in more than one dispute.

SEASONAL EMPLOYMENT DURING HOLIDAY PERIODS, 1930.

THE WORK OF THE EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES.

A DIFFICULT administrative problem which faces the Employment Exchange service each year is the supply of suitable workpeople to meet the fluctuating demands from hotels, boarding houses, shops, etc., at holiday resorts during the periods of seasonal pressure. Suitable workpeople to meet these requirements in full do not usually live in or near the more important holiday resorts, and special arrangements have been made by the Exchanges to bring these vacancies to the notice of applicants elsewhere.

The effectiveness of these arrangements is shown by the fact that 77.4 per cent. of the vacancies notified in 1930 were filled, a total of 39,673 men, boys, women and girls having been placed in seasonal employment at holiday resorts during that year. The number of women and girls placed in employment during the year was 31,439, an increase of 5,038 over the number in 1929. Of these women and girls, 12,838 were placed as resident domestics, 5,022 as non-resident domestics, 8,831 as waitresses, 1,880 as shop assistants, and 2,858 in other occupations. As regards the 8,234 men and boys placed, 3,419 went to resident domestic service, 799 to non-resident domestic service, and 1,435 became waiters.

Formerly it was possible to meet, in some measure, the requirements of seaside resorts from towns or villages not too far distant; but the growth of motor traffic has resulted in the establishment of catering services in the inland towns and villages, with the result that it has become necessary to go farther afield for suitable workpeople for temporary seasonal work. By a system of co-operation between Local Offices, through which the "demand" areas are linked up with areas where there is a probable supply of suitable unemployed workpeople, it has been practicable to effect engagements without delay.

The arrangements made include visits of the Ministry's officers from the "demand" areas to specified "supply" areas, where the nature of the work is explained to workpeople, and the supply and type available are ascertained. Employers have gained confidence in engaging labour from other districts because of the first-hand information given by the Exchanges as to the qualifications of workpeople; while a personal explanation of the general conditions of this employment has encouraged applicants to come forward.

Workers with previous experience are placed in touch with their former, or other, employers. As an example, it was found that some 630 applicants from certain districts in the North West of England expressed their willingness to return to seasonal work with their former employers. Allowing for wastage due to such causes as marriage, or the fact that applicants have found other employment during the winter, it is gratifying that, of 653 applicants placed at Blackpool last year, 196 are prepared to return to Blackpool this year; and, from one textile area alone, 26 out of 37 women placed last year, none of whom had previous experience of this work, are willing to return to the same employers in Blackpool this year.

Lists of suitable inexperienced workers who are willing to be considered for this employment are prepared, though employers, in general, are not prepared to take inexperienced workers until the season is advanced. In all cases, applicants who are willing to take seasonal employment are given full particulars of the individual employment before they travel to it; assistance is provided, if required, with travelling facilities, a portion of the fare being remitted in appropriate cases; and welfare arrangements, which appear to be appreciated both by employers and workpeople, are made in the areas where employment is available.

The number of seasonal vacancies for women and girls notified to Employment Exchanges during 1930 showed an increase of some 5,000 over the number in 1929; but nearly 76 per cent. of the vacancies were satisfactorily filled, as compared with 73 per cent. of the lower number of vacancies available in 1929. The proportion of actual placings to vacancies notified is affected by the cancellation of vacancies by employers who had overstated their requirements, and by the failure of numbers of applicants for employment to take situations after their particulars had been submitted to, and accepted by, employers. The task can perhaps best be measured, however, by the fact that, of 31,439 women and girls placed in seasonal employment, 14,061 were brought from other districts.

NATIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR JUVENILE EMPLOYMENT.

A MEETING of the National Advisory Council for Juvenile Employment (England and Wales) was held on 12th May at the Ministry of Labour. This was the first meeting of the Council attended by Lord Goschen, the new Chairman, who was formally introduced by the Minister.

The Council reviewed the progress made in the establishment of courses of instruction for unemployed boys and girls during the year ended April, 1930. It was reported that 48 new Junior Instruction Centres and Classes had been established during the year, and that 111 such courses were now open, in 82 different towns in England and Wales.

The Council approved the issue of a White Paper summarising the results of their recent inquiry into the prospective supply of and demand for juvenile labour during the years 1930-38. They also approved the issue of a letter to Local Committees for Juvenile Employment, enclosing a questionnaire regarding the employment of young persons under the age of eighteen years in occupations whose hours of employment are not at present limited by statute.

HEAD MISTRESSES' EMPLOYMENT COMMITTEE: REPORT FOR 1930.

THE Employment Committee of the Incorporated Association of Head Mistresses of Public Secondary Schools, in co-operation with the Ministry of Labour, have published their Report for the year 1930.*

The objects of the Committee are to supply accurate information on methods of training and prospects in different occupations open to girls of secondary school education, and to advise girls and their parents thereon; and to establish relations with employers with a view to finding openings for such girls. Some 220 schools, mainly in London and the Home Counties, are co-operating with the Committee. During the year, 2,568 fresh applications were received from secondary school girls, an increase of 133 over the previous year. Employment was found for 1,413 girls; the principal occupations were:—clerks, 753; shorthand typists, 389; showroom and workroom apprentices and assistants, 70; nursing (mostly nursery nursing probationers), 50.

The Report expresses regret that, partly owing to financial stringency, so many girls enter the overcrowded field of clerical work; though the Committee do all they can to encourage girls to take a course of training, with a view to taking up professional work, or other careers affording more scope for individual interest. The Research Section of the Juvenile Department of the Ministry of Labour, in co-operation with the Committee, during the past year, has considerably added to its information about a great variety of occupations open to women; also as to scholarships and funds available for the help of students, courses of training, hostels and girls' club accommodation, etc. A panel of expert advisers, representative of the various occupations open to women, is being formed; at the date of the Report, prominent men and women in the following occupations had already consented to serve:—accountancy, actuarial work, agriculture, almoner's work, commercial art, dentistry, domestic science, dressmaking and designing, engineering, horticulture, hospital nursing, house property management, laundry management, librarianship, overseas employment, pharmacy, salesmanship, secretarial work, and welfare work.

All communications should be addressed to the Secretary of the Head Mistresses' Employment Committee, Queen Anne's Chambers, Broadway, Westminster, London, S.W.1. (Telephone: Victoria 8020.)

EDUCATION FOR THE ENGINEERING INDUSTRY.

THE President of the Board of Education appointed a Committee, in October, 1928, "to advise the Board of Education as to the scope and method of the Board's inquiry into technical education for the engineering industry, and to review the material furnished to the Board in the course of the investigation." The Report of this Committee, together with the comments of the educational bodies concerned, has now been published.†

The Report considers in some detail the methods of recruitment to the industry, in relation to education before employment begins. Reference should be made to the Report for further information on this section of the Committee's inquiry; but it may be mentioned that the Committee consider that the engineering industry can beneficially absorb a larger number of recruits who have continued their full-time education beyond the statutory school-leaving age, and that, in particular, more efforts might be made to recruit boys from the central schools, from junior technical schools (an increase in which is suggested), and from secondary schools. The question of increased recruitment from Universities and full-time technical colleges for the productive side of the industry, as well as for special posts, also demands consideration. The formulation of a more systematic recruiting policy by the industry is most important.

On the subject of *training in the works*, the Committee consider that, generally speaking, this should be more systematically organised by individual firms. There should be a probationary period for boys at the beginning of their training, in order that the firm may determine the type of work for which each is most suitable, and may see that the boy is satisfied; and steps should be taken to broaden the training of trade apprentices who show special promise by transferring them to the grade of engineering apprentice or by other means. Promotion should be by merit, taking account of a boy's school-record as well as of his work in the shops.

On the subject of the *part-time education* of apprentices, etc., the Committee recommend that the practice of allowing time off for part-time attendance at technical courses in the day time should be further extended. Arrangements for such attendance can usually be made for selected boys only, but suitably qualified trade apprentices and shop boys should be eligible for the privilege, as well as engineering apprentices. Day attendance should normally be supplemented by attendance at evening classes on not more than two evenings a week. Firms should consider the possibility of securing the provision in the day time of instruction of a more general kind for younger boys who have not entered apprenticeship. Finally, every effort should be made to encourage the attendance of young workers at evening classes.

The Report also deals, in some detail, with the question of subjects of instruction in technical schools and colleges, particularly in relation to the National Certificate Schemes. Reference should be made to the Report for particulars of the Committee's suggestions on this part of their inquiry.

* H.M. Stationery Office; price 3d. net (3½d. post free).

† *Education for the Engineering Industry*. H.M. Stationery Office; price 1s. 3d. net (1s. 5d. post free).

WAGES IN THE POTTERY INDUSTRY.

THE wages, hours and conditions in this industry are regulated under the General Award of 1924, and provision is made for the yearly exchange of notices for the purpose of making modifications in the Award as may be necessary from time to time. These notices are presented on 11th February, and are due to expire on 25th March, unless agreement is reached in the interval.

In February last the British Pottery Manufacturers' Federation gave notice to the trade unions representing the workers in the pottery industry for alterations in wages and trade usages, and a counter-notice was given by the unions to the Federation. The differences were considered by the National Council for the Pottery Industry in accordance with the constitution, and eventually it was agreed that three of the honorary members of the Council, Mr. E. H. C. Wethered, Mr. A. S. Rowntree and Professor Henry Clay, should conduct an inquiry into the position of the industry and report thereon. It was further agreed that if agreement could not be reached on consideration of the report, the same three members should give a decision which would be binding. The parties failed to reach agreement, and the disputed questions were therefore referred, in accordance with the above-mentioned arrangement, to the three honorary members, who issued an Award on 29th April, which was to operate as from the first settling day in May, 1931.

The Award reviews the present earnings of workpeople in the industry, the extent of unemployment, the volume of exports, turnover, profits, etc., and determines that the wages of all operatives shall be reduced by 10 per cent., provided that in no case shall the percentage reduction reduce the rate of wages of certain classes of operatives below specified minimum rates. The classes for whom minimum rates are defined are female warehouse workers and female scourers, for whom 25s. is fixed for workers 21 years of age and over; female workers in the electrical fittings section, 25s. 6d. for some occupations and 27s. for others; certain classes of female dipping-house workers, 27s.; earthenware potters' attendants and tile trade attendants, 25s.; enamellers and gilders, 7½d. per hour; litho transferers, 6½d. per hour; enginemen, 52s. 6d. per week; stokers, 47s. 6d. per week; and labourers, 43s. per week. In the case of female workers and labourers lower minimum rates are specified for those under 21 years of age.

Further points dealt with in the Award include a definition of an "ordinary worker" in regard to piecework decorators; a provision that apprentices shall be retained for at least 12 months after completing apprenticeship, at the full journeyman's or journeywoman's rate; and provision for the reference of any question of interpretation of the Award to a Joint Committee, with, if necessary, an independent Chairman.

MINERS' WELFARE FUND AND NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME.

THE Mines Department have issued the ninth Report of the Miners' Welfare Committee, covering the year ended 31st December, 1930, together with the fourth Report of the selection committee appointed to administer the Miners' Welfare National Scholarship Scheme, covering the period from November, 1929, to October, 1930.*

The sum paid into the Miners' Welfare Fund in 1930 from the levy on output was £1,038,041, as compared with £976,343 in 1929; while the total sum paid out during the year was £1,361,466. The receipts from the welfare levy on royalties imposed by the Mining Industry Act, 1926, amounted to £217,000, an increase of £11,000 on the previous year's receipts. This levy, supplemented by contributions from the General Fund (amounting in 1930 to £43,400), and by interest on investments, is devoted to the provision of pithead baths at collieries, which include accommodation for drying the men's working clothes.

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, 1930, were £8,935,266. To this must be added interest to the amount of £738,458, making a total of £9,673,724; of which £7,452,120, or four-fifths of the levy, is ear-marked for the respective districts in which it is raised, while the remaining one-fifth forms the General Fund, which is used mainly for the purposes of education and research.

The following Table shows the allocation of the *district funds* from the inception of the scheme up to 31st December, 1930:—

| Description. | Total number of Schemes. | Total allocated. |
|---|--------------------------|------------------|
| RECREATION: | | £ |
| †Indoor.—Institutes, halls, clubs, libraries (including small grants for the purchase of books), swimming baths, etc. ... | 615 | 2,120,316 |
| †Outdoor.—Recreation and sports grounds, playing fields, swimming pools, colliery bands, etc. ... | 581 | 1,752,337 |
| PIT WELFARE: | | |
| Cycle sheds, drying rooms, and shelters at the pitheads, and drinking water underground ... | 15 | 12,925 |
| Pithead baths and canteens ... | 45 | 215,180 |
| HEALTH: | | |
| Hospitals (structural additions, equipment, endowment of existing public institutions, etc.) ... | 55 | 221,275 |
| 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.) ... | 37 | 2,205,779 |
| District nursing services ... | 31 | 47,380 |
| Ambulance services ... | 71 | 83,357 |
| EDUCATION: | | |
| Lectures, scholarships, establishment and equipment of centres for junior technical instruction, etc. ... | 160 | 80,698 |
| EXPENSES OF ADMINISTRATION ... | — | 77,010 |
| Totals ... | 1,610 | 6,816,257 |

The amount credited during the year to the General Fund was £207,608, of which £43,400 was transferred to the pithead baths fund, under the arrangement by which the General Fund contributes one pound for every five realised from the royalties levy. The total allocations from the General Fund during the year, apart from the sum transferred to the baths fund, amounted to £92,213, of which £37,899 was for research, £44,880 for education, and £9,434 for administrative expenses and other miscellaneous services.

The number of applications for miners' welfare scholarships in 1930 was 618, a decrease of 71 on the figure for 1929; 160 were from actual miners, and 458 from miners' children. Twelve scholarships were awarded, six to miners and six to children of miners; of the former, one was for post-graduate work.

WELFARE AND WELFARE SUPERVISION IN FACTORIES.

THE Home Office have brought out a second edition of a pamphlet on Welfare and Welfare Supervision in Factories.†

The pamphlet, which has numerous illustrations, is divided into four sections, dealing respectively with *welfare—fitting the work to the worker* (ventilation, lighting, rest-pauses, facilities for sitting, prevention of accidents, first aid, messrooms and canteens, etc.); with *welfare—fitting the worker to the work* (selection and training of workers, transfers from one department to another, medical supervision); with *outside welfare* (thrift schemes, clubs, facilities for recreation, transport of workers living at a distance, etc.); and with the *organisation of welfare work in a factory* (appointment of employment managers or welfare supervisors, records, co-operation of representatives of workers, etc.).

* H.M. Stationery Office; price 1s. 6d. (1s. 8d. post free).

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

‡ *Welfare Pamphlet No. 3* (Second Edition). H.M. Stationery Office; price 6d. net (8d. post free).

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS OF COAL MINERS, 1925-1930.

IN answer to a question in the House of Commons on 28th April, the Secretary for Mines gave the following particulars of the average weekly cash earnings of all workers employed in coal mines in each district of Great Britain during the years 1925 and 1927-30. It should be noted that these particulars do not include the value of allowances in kind, which during the first nine months of 1930 varied from about 5s. 4d. a week in Northumberland and Durham to about 2½d. a week in Scotland, Lancashire, Cheshire, and North Staffordshire.

| District. | 1925. | 1927. | 1928. | 1929. | 1930. |
|--|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| | s. d. | s. d. | s. d. | s. d. | s. d. |
| Scotland ... | 53 11 | 52 5 | 51 4 | 52 4 | 50 4 |
| Northumberland ... | 45 5 | 41 11 | 37 5 | 38 6 | 36 10 |
| Durham ... | 47 8 | 44 6 | 40 0 | 40 11 | 39 7 |
| South Wales and Monmouth* ... | 53 6 | 47 7 | 48 5 | 49 7 | 47 3 |
| Yorkshire ... | | 48 0 | 43 4 | 45 11 | 44 3 |
| North Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire ... | 52 2 | 49 1 | 43 6 | 46 1 | 45 3 |
| South Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Cannock Chase and Warwickshire ... | | 49 1 | 42 4 | 44 3 | 43 11 |
| Lancashire, Cheshire and North Staffordshire ... | 46 1 | 43 8 | 39 11 | 41 9 | 41 8 |
| Cumberland, North Wales, South Staffordshire, Shropshire, Bristol, Forest of Dean, Somerset and Kent ... | 46 8 | 45 1 | 42 6 | 44 5 | 44 9 |
| Great Britain ... | 50 8 | 47 2 | 43 9 | 45 6 | 44 4† |

CHART SUPPLEMENT.

THE present number of the MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE contains the usual quarterly Supplement comprising Charts illustrating the course of trade, output, prices, wages, finance and employment since 1924, together with Tables containing the statistics upon which the Charts have been based.

* The figures for 1927 to 1929 relate to the years ended January, 1928, 1929, 1930, and that for 1930 to the nine months ended October, 1930.

† Provisional figure.

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION.

PROPOSED ACTION BY H.M. GOVERNMENT REGARDING DRAFT CONVENTION AND RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING FORCED OR COMPULSORY LABOUR.

THE International Labour Conference adopted, at its fourteenth session, held in June, 1930, a Draft Convention concerning Forced or Compulsory Labour, a Recommendation concerning Indirect Compulsion to Labour, and a Recommendation concerning the Regulation of Forced or Compulsory Labour. The texts of the Draft Convention and of the Recommendations have been published in a Command Paper.*

It is now announced† that H.M. Government in the United Kingdom propose to forward to the Secretary General of the League of Nations a communication informing him of their decision to ratify the Draft Convention. Although the Treaty of Versailles permits a Draft Convention to be applied to non-self-governing dependencies with modifications, H.M. Government propose to apply the Convention without any modification in all the non-self-governing Colonies, Protectorates, and Mandated Territories, a list of which is set out in an appendix to the Command Paper.

H.M. Government also propose to accept the Recommendations concerning Indirect Compulsion to Labour and concerning the Regulation of Forced or Compulsory Labour.

EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION IN 1930.

THE issues of the *Board of Trade Journal* for 5th, 12th, 19th and 26th March give statistics of the emigration and immigration of British subjects during the year 1930, with some particulars of the occupations and ages of the migrants.

The number of British subjects who were recorded as leaving permanent residence in the United Kingdom (Great Britain and Northern Ireland) to take up permanent residence (*i.e.*, residence for a year or more) in non-European countries was 92,158 in 1930, as compared with 143,686 in 1929 and with 136,834 in 1928. The number of British subjects who were recorded as leaving permanent residence in non-European countries to take up permanent residence in the United Kingdom was 66,203 in 1930, as compared with 56,217 in 1929 and with 59,105 in 1928. These figures are exclusive both of Irish Free State migrants travelling *via* ports in the United Kingdom and of migrants (of all nationalities) leaving or arriving at ports in the Irish Free State.

The following Table shows the numbers of emigrants and immigrants, of British nationality, from the United Kingdom to each of the principal countries, and from those countries to the United Kingdom, in each of the last two years:—

| Countries. | Emigrants from United Kingdom. | | Immigrants into United Kingdom. | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------|---------------------------------|--------|
| | 1929. | 1930. | 1929. | 1930. |
| British North America ... | 65,558 | 31,074 | 12,294 | 15,820 |
| Australia ... | 18,377 | 8,517 | 9,516 | 12,808 |
| New Zealand ... | 4,700 | 3,981 | 2,704 | 3,144 |
| British South Africa ... | 5,766 | 4,559 | 4,872 | 4,416 |
| India and Ceylon ... | 6,265 | 5,636 | 8,152 | 8,581 |
| Other Parts of British Empire | 6,234 | 5,474 | 6,411 | 6,673 |
| Totals, British Empire ... | 106,900 | 59,241 | 43,949 | 51,442 |
| United States ... | 30,709 | 27,336 | 6,012 | 7,931 |
| Other Foreign Countries ... | 6,077 | 5,581 | 6,256 | 6,830 |
| Totals, Foreign Countries | 36,786 | 32,917 | 12,268 | 14,761 |
| Totals, all Destinations ... | 143,686 | 92,158 | 56,217 | 66,203 |

It will be seen that the reduction was chiefly due to a great decline in the emigration to British North America and to Australia, the totals for 1930 in each case being less than half the totals for 1929. The emigration to Australia was, in fact, considerably less than the immigration therefrom; in other words, there was a balance *inwards* from Australia in 1930 of 4,291, as against a balance *outwards* of 8,861 in 1929. The balance outwards to British North America was reduced from 53,264 in 1929 to 15,254 in 1930; that to New Zealand from 1,996 to 837; and that to all Empire destinations taken together from 62,951 to 7,799. To the United States, on the other hand (the only important country of destination of emigrants, outside the British Empire), there was a much smaller reduction in the balance outwards—from 24,697 in 1929 to 19,405 in 1930.

Assisted passages under the Empire Settlement Act numbered 12,605 in 1930 (of whom 9,244 went to Canada), as compared with 34,476 in 1929. In addition, 17,252 emigrants in 1930, and 37,254 in 1929, went to Canada at the special passage rate of £10 granted by the steamship lines, by agreement with the Oversea Settlement Department, to emigrants from the United Kingdom. (The figures for 1930 are provisional.)

* Cmd. 3693. H.M. Stationery Office; price 1s. net (1s. 1d., post-free).
† Cmd. 3841. H.M. Stationery Office; price 1d. net (1½d. post-free).

WAGES AND HOURS MOVEMENTS OVERSEAS.

BELGIUM.

Coal-Mining Industry.—The National Joint Commission for the Mining Industry agreed to a reduction of wages in the industry by 5 per cent. as from the first Sunday in April. Previous reductions took place in February last, and in October and July, 1930, and wages are now 19 per cent. lower than at 1st July, 1930.

Engineering Industry.—In accordance with a decision of the National Joint Commission for the Engineering Industry, wages have been reduced by 5 per cent. The reduction was either to take effect on 1st May or to be applied in two stages, 2½ per cent. as from 15th April and 2½ per cent. from 15th May, as might be determined by the local Committees.

DENMARK.

Various Industries.—The termination by the employers of the collective agreements expiring early in 1931 and the refusal of the workers to accept wage reductions, resulted in the issue of lock-out notices in various industries, which would ultimately have affected about 100,000 workers. An official conciliation proposal, which had previously been rejected by the workers, was accepted at the end of April by all the industries concerned with the exception of the boot and shoe industry. As a result, the lock-out has been restricted to that industry, about 2,500 workers being affected. The conciliation proposal provides for wage reductions varying from 2 to 8 per cent. according to the rate of wages (the employers had demanded a reduction of 15 per cent.) and for a paid annual holiday of 6 working days. The industries principally affected are the iron and metal, the cement and the woodworking industries, and lime-kilns, brick and tile works and sugar factories.

FRANCE.

Textile Industry.—A 10 per cent. reduction in the wages of some 100,000 workers employed in undertakings affiliated to the Roubaix-Tourcoing Textile Consortium, announced to take effect as from 20th April, was subsequently postponed until 18th May. Wage reductions of 8 and 6 per cent., respectively, in the case of male and female workers employed in silk weaving mills at Lyons, blanket factories at Cours, and hosiery mills at Troyes became operative on 8th April. The total number of workers affected was approximately 35,000.

Coal-Mining Industry.—An agreement recently reached in the Haute-Loire Department provides for reductions in daily wages ranging, according to category, from 1.60 francs to 2.05 francs in the case of underground workers, and from 1.10 francs to 2.05 francs in the case of surface workers.

GERMANY.

Iron and Steel Industry.—Direct negotiations between employers and workers regarding the conclusion of a fresh covering agreement for the North-West Group of the heavy iron and steel industry in Germany broke down on 5th May, and conciliation proceedings were to be instituted towards the middle of May at the instance of the trade unions concerned. The employers, who, as reported in this GAZETTE for March last (page 93), decided to terminate the original agreement on 1st April, have advanced a number of demands designed to secure economies of from 4 to 5 per cent. in wage costs. They defend their demands on the ground that while, in recent months, a general reduction in wage rates of some 6 per cent. on an average has taken place throughout the country, they are precluded from securing a corresponding direct reduction of wages in the industry by the fact that the current basic wage agreement remains inviolable until 1st October, 1931. Their demands include: (i) the abolition of social supplements (*e.g.*, household and family allowances); (ii) the limitation of paid holidays to a maximum of 6 days; (iii) the reduction of the piece-work-basis time rate so as to provide that piece-work earnings shall exceed time rates by 10 instead of 15 per cent. as hitherto; and (iv) the reduction of the special supplement for overtime, Sunday work and work on public holidays from 25, 50 and 100 per cent. of the normal wage to 10, 25 and 50 per cent. respectively.

Coal-Mining Industry.—Following upon their notification, as reported in the last issue of this GAZETTE (page 135), to terminate at 31st May next the covering agreement for manual workers in the Ruhr mining industry, the employers have put forward a number of demands for a revision of the terms of the agreement with a view to the reduction of overhead costs. These demands include: (i) the elimination from the agreement of the clause providing for a 7-hour shift for underground workers and the incorporation of a clause providing that the working hours and duration of the shift shall be regulated in accordance with the existing statutory provisions; (ii) the reduction of the special supplement for overtime, Sunday work and work on public holidays from 25, 50 and 100 per cent. of the normal wage, to 10, 25, and 50 per cent. respectively; (iii) the limitation of paid holidays and the reduction of holiday pay by 25 per cent.; (iv) the discontinuance of the payment of household allowances (*Hausstandsgeld*), etc.; (v) the reduction of the minimum rates for piece-workers by 5 per cent.; (vi) the reduction of the maximum coal allowance for private consumption. To these demands the workers have put forward counter demands for: (i) a shift of 6½ hours for underground workers (5½ hours for workers exposed to high temperatures), and 7 hours for surface

workers; (ii) the working of overtime to be required only in cases of urgent necessity, and, in other cases, only by specific agreement; (iii) an increase of 15 per cent. in the minimum wage for piece-workers. Efforts by direct negotiations to reconcile the opposing demands of the two parties having failed, the official conciliator intervened, and, in proceedings on 6th May, issued an award providing for: (i) the reduction of the household allowance from 16 to 10 pfennigs per shift; (ii) the holiday allowance to be reduced by one day for all workers who have completed over two years' employment in the mining industry; (iii) the revision of wage rates if working hours are revised at any time between 1st June, 1931, and 31st May, 1932—the period during which it is contemplated that the award should be operative. The workers have declared themselves in favour of the acceptance of the award.

Textile Industry.—The award providing for a reduction of wages in the Silesian textile industry, details of which were given in the last issue of this GAZETTE (page 135), has been declared binding. In the Harburg jute-spinning industry some 4,000 workers went on strike towards the end of April, owing to the announcement by the employers of their intention to reduce piece-work rates by amounts stated to range between 15 and 50 per cent.

NORWAY.

Various Industries.—The large-scale lock-out reported in the last issue of this GAZETTE (page 135) is still in progress, the number of workers affected having increased by 25,000 as from 15th April. The total number of workers at present locked out is approximately 82,000.

EXTENSION OF WORKING HOURS IN SWITZERLAND.

UNDER an Order dated 21st March, 1931, a further extension of working hours up to 52 a week has been authorised in the following industries:—(1) sawmilling, carpentry and allied trades; (2) the manufacture of tiles, bricks and artificial (cement) stone; (3) the impregnation of wood with blue vitriol. In the first two cases the permit is valid until 17th October next and in the last until 26th September next.

WAGES AND HOURS IN THE WOOL TEXTILE INDUSTRY IN THE UNITED STATES.

A REPORT summarising the results of a number of surveys into earnings and hours of work of persons employed in the wool textile industry in the United States between 1910 and 1930 has been issued by the United States Bureau of Labour Statistics (Bulletin No. 533).

The most recent survey, relating principally to the first quarter of 1930, covers 41,400 employees (21,591 males and 19,809 females) in 105 representative woollen and worsted mills in 15 States, or about 27 per cent. of the number of workers employed in the whole industry as enumerated in the 1927 census.

In comparing the results of this survey with that for 1928 (of which a summary appeared in this GAZETTE for January, 1929), the reduction in average hourly earnings and increase in average full-time hours a week for the industry as a whole is seen to be due—wholly in the case of hours and partly in the case of earnings—to the addition of 12 mills, situated in six Southern States, which were not included in the 1928 survey.

The following Table compares the average full-time weekly hours and the average hourly and full-time weekly earnings in 1928 and 1930, showing the extent to which the results are affected by the inclusion of the Southern States:—

| Sex of Workers and Date of Survey. | Number of employees covered. | Average weekly full-time hours. | Average hourly earnings. | Average full-time weekly earnings. |
|---|------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Males:— | | | Cents.* | Dollars.* |
| 1928 Survey ... | 21,049 | 49.4 | 56.8 | 28.06 |
| 1930 Survey † ... | 19,868 | 49.4 | 53.2 | 26.28 |
| 1930 Survey ‡ ... | 21,591 | 49.7 | 51.6 | 25.65 |
| 1930 Southern States alone | 1,723 | 53.5 | 34.8 | 18.62 |
| Females:— | | | | |
| 1928 Survey ... | 17,801 | 49.2 | 43.8 | 21.55 |
| 1930 Survey † ... | 18,549 | 49.2 | 40.3 | 19.83 |
| 1930 Survey ‡ ... | 19,809 | 49.5 | 39.2 | 19.40 |
| 1930 Southern States alone | 1,260 | 53.8 | 25.0 | 13.45 |
| All Employees, male and female:— | | | | |
| 1928 Survey ... | 38,850 | 49.3 | 51.4 | 25.34 |
| 1930 Survey † ... | 38,417 | 49.3 | 47.3 | 23.32 |
| 1930 Survey ‡ ... | 41,400 | 49.6 | 46.0 | 22.82 |
| 1930 Southern States alone | 2,983 | 53.6 | 30.8 | 16.51 |

* The exchange value of the United States dollar (= 100 cents) is approximately 4s. 1½d.

† Excludes 12 mills in Southern States.

‡ Includes 12 mills in Southern States.

The following Table shows the index numbers (average for year 1926 = 100) of employment and pay-roll totals in the wool textile industry for the years 1923 to 1930:—

| Year. | Index numbers of employment. | Index numbers of pay-roll totals. |
|----------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1923 ... | 124.5 | 126.7 |
| 1924 ... | 113.3 | 114.1 |
| 1925 ... | 110.7 | 110.6 |
| 1926 ... | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| 1927 ... | 99.7 | 100.6 |
| 1928 ... | 95.0 | 94.4 |
| 1929 ... | 96.0 | 96.3 |
| 1930 ... | 77.7 | 72.7 |

WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR IN THE PAPER INDUSTRY IN GERMANY, 1930.

Wirtschaft und Statistik, the official journal of the German Federal Statistical Office, for 15th April, 1931, contains a summary of the results of the official inquiry into earnings and hours of labour of persons employed in the papermaking industry in Germany at May, 1930. The inquiry covered 27,499 persons in the highest paid age group employed in the manufacture of paper, cardboard, cellulose and wood pulp, or about one-third of the total number of adult persons employed in the industry. About 75 per cent. of the workers covered by the inquiry were paid at time-rates, including time-rates with a bonus on output, whilst the remaining 25 per cent. were piece workers.

The following Table shows the average hourly earnings excluding overtime and family allowances, the agreed minimum hourly time rates or piece-work-basis time rates, the average weekly hours including overtime, and the average gross weekly earnings including overtime and family allowances:—

| Method of Wage Payment and Occupation. | Average hourly earnings excluding overtime and family allowances. | Agreed hourly time rate or piece-work-basis time rate. | Average weekly hours including overtime. | Average gross weekly earnings including overtime and family allowances. |
|--|---|--|--|---|
| | Rpfs.* | Rpfs.* | | R.M.* |
| Time rates (including time rates with bonus on output): | | | | |
| Paper machine man ... | 109.6 | 96.2 | 47.7 | 53.94 |
| First paper machine assistant ... | 90.0 | 83.2 | 46.9 | 43.57 |
| Beaterman, paper manufacture ... | 92.1 | 84.3 | 46.2 | 43.68 |
| Calender man and cutting machine man ... | 86.9 | 82.6 | 45.3 | 40.04 |
| Cardboard machine man | 90.5 | 81.9 | 49.0 | 46.18 |
| Taker off, cardboard manufacture ... | 74.2 | 71.3 | 46.0 | 34.92 |
| Beaterman, cardboard manufacture ... | 81.2 | 76.5 | 47.5 | 39.87 |
| Assistant beaterman ... | 77.2 | 73.8 | 45.6 | 36.25 |
| Boilerman, cellulose manufacture ... | 98.2 | 86.0 | 51.1 | 54.00 |
| Machineman, cellulose manufacture ... | 93.4 | 84.5 | 50.7 | 50.83 |
| Chopperman ... | 81.8 | 77.4 | 48.8 | 41.59 |
| Taker off, wood pulp manufacture ... | 77.8 | 76.2 | 47.5 | 38.14 |
| Wood peeler ... | 82.5 | 76.4 | 46.4 | 39.01 |
| Male assistant worker (unskilled) ... | 79.2 | 75.1 | 46.9 | 38.34 |
| Female worker ... | 53.5 | 50.3 | 43.0 | 23.07 |
| Piece-work-basis time rates: | | | | |
| First paper machine assistant ... | 103.7 | 102.0 | 40.7 | 42.81 |
| Calender man and cutting machine man ... | 110.0 | 99.1 | 44.6 | 49.35 |
| Taker off, cardboard manufacture ... | 93.1 | 91.8 | 45.6 | 42.44 |
| Machine man, cellulose manufacture ... | 96.6 | 99.2 | 48.6 | 48.28 |
| Wood peeler ... | 101.4 | 90.2 | 44.8 | 46.26 |
| Male assistant worker (unskilled) ... | 106.4 | 87.5 | 44.8 | 48.90 |
| Female worker ... | 62.7 | 59.1 | 41.7 | 26.19 |

In a number of undertakings some of the workers, particularly in the skilled occupations, were found to be paid on a monthly basis, and not on the basis of an agreed hourly rate. For the purpose of comparing average hourly earnings with agreed hourly rates these workers have, therefore, been omitted. The information in the Table given above consequently relates to about 90 per cent. of the workers covered by the inquiry.

According to trade union statistics, the number of trade union members in the papermaking industry who were unemployed in May, 1930, was 10.7 per cent., and the number working short-time 15.6 per cent. As a result of the prevalence of short-time working, average weekly hours, including overtime, were for time workers 46.1, for piece workers 43.4, and for all workers 45.4, while gross weekly earnings were correspondingly low.

* The exchange value of the German Reichsmark (= 100 Reichspfennigs) is approximately 11.8 pence.

EMPLOYMENT IN APRIL.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

EMPLOYMENT during April showed, on the whole, some further improvement. There was a further seasonal improvement in the building trade, public works contracting, brick and tile manufacture, and the clothing industries. The numbers unemployed showed a further decrease in a number of the textile industries (the principal exceptions being the cotton and lace industries), and employment also improved in coal-mining, slate quarrying, steel and tinplate manufacture, constructional engineering, and the motor vehicle industry. There were increases, however, in the numbers unemployed in pottery manufacture, general and marine engineering, and the cotton and lace industries.

There was some improvement in employment in each of the administrative divisions, except the North-western, but in the North of England and in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland employment was still very bad. In the Midlands Division it remained bad. In London and the Southern area employment was moderate and much better than in other parts of the country.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS.

Among the workpeople, numbering approximately 12,400,000, 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 27th April 1931 (including those temporarily stopped as well as those wholly unemployed), was 20.9, as compared with 21.5 at 23rd March, 1931, and with 14.2 at 28th April, 1930. The percentage wholly unemployed at 27th April, 1931, was 16.3, as compared with 16.5 at 23rd March, 1931; while the percentage temporarily stopped was 4.6, as compared with 5.0. For males alone the percentage at 27th April, 1931, was 22.0, and for females, 18.0; at 23rd March, 1931, the corresponding percentages were 22.7 and 18.4.

At 27th April, 1931, the numbers of persons on the Registers of Employment Exchanges in Great Britain were 1,848,170 wholly unemployed, 556,978 temporarily stopped, and 114,965 normally in casual employment, making a total of 2,520,113. This was 60,005 less than a month before, but 821,727 more than a year before. The total included 1,844,129 men, 70,888 boys, 547,549 women and 57,547 girls.

The 1,848,170 wholly unemployed included approximately 1,276,110 insured persons who had paid at least 30 contributions during the preceding two years, and therefore satisfied the full contributions condition for the receipt of unemployment benefit; 468,800 insured persons who had paid less than 30 contributions during the preceding two years; and 103,260 uninsured persons. The wholly unemployed claimants for benefit, numbering 1,671,290, included 220,367 men, 5,374 boys, 46,101 women and 3,052 girls, who had been on the Register for less than one month.

In Great Britain and Northern Ireland the total number of persons on the Registers of Employment Exchanges at 27th April, 1931, was 2,593,845.

Mining and Quarrying.—Employment in the coal-mining industry showed an improvement, on the whole, but was still bad. The total number of wage earners on the colliery books at 25th April, 1931, showed a decrease of 0.5 per cent. as compared with 28th March, 1931, and of 8.8 per cent. as compared with 12th April, 1930. The average number of days worked per week in the fortnight ended 25th April, 1931, was 5.11, an increase of 0.38 of a day as compared with the fortnight ended 28th March, 1931, and of 0.26 of a day as compared with the fortnight ended 12th April, 1930.

In the iron-mining industry employment remained bad. In the West Lothian shale mines it was fairly good. In the limestone quarries in the Cleveland area employment was bad; in the Clitheroe area it continued steady; in the Buxton area it was still bad. In the slate quarries in North Wales it was bad, with much short-time working. At chalk quarries employment was very slack. At tin mines and china clay quarries it was bad.

Pig Iron, Iron and Steel and Tinplate.—In the pig-iron industry employment showed a decline and remained very bad. Of 394 furnaces, the number in blast at the end of April was 78, as compared with 81 at the end of March, and 151 at the end of April, 1930.

At iron and steel works employment showed a slight improvement but remained very bad. The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed was 45.1 at 27th April, 1931, as compared with 45.8 at 23rd March, 1931, and 30.9 at 28th April, 1930.

In the tinplate industry employment showed an improvement but remained very bad. It also remained very bad in steel sheet manufacture.

Engineering, Shipbuilding and Metal Industries.—In engineering employment remained bad and showed little change on the whole, a further decline in marine and general engineering being balanced by an improvement in the motor vehicle section and in electrical and constructional engineering. In general, textile, marine and constructional engineering employment was very bad; it was bad in the motor vehicle section and slack in electrical engineering. A considerable number of workpeople were discharged from railway engineering works.

In shipbuilding and ship-repairing employment remained very bad and continued to decline in most districts; in one division only—the South-Eastern Division—was the percentage unemployed below 25; it was 60 per cent. or over in the North-Eastern Division and in Scotland.

In the other metal trades employment continued slack, on the whole. It was moderate in the hollow-ware and nut and bolt trades, and slack in the brasswork, tube, sheet metal, wire manufacturing, stove and grate, metallic bedstead, needle and fishing tackle, jewellery and plated ware, cutlery, edge tool, file, and chain and anchor trades.

Textile Industries.—Employment in the cotton industry continued unsatisfactory. Many mills in the American spinning section were closed down, and much unemployment and under-employment was reported in all the principal districts. Many mills in various districts extended the Easter stoppage. The percentage of insured workpeople recorded as unemployed was 38.2 at 27th April, 1931, as compared with 36.5 at 23rd March, 1931, and 30.7 at 28th April, 1930.

In the wool textile industry employment showed a further slight improvement but continued very slack both in the worsted and in the woollen sections. The improvement was largely seasonal. The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed was 25.7 at 27th April, 1931, as compared with 27.2 at 23rd March, 1931, and with 21.3 at 28th April, 1930. In the carpet trade employment showed little change and continued slack.

Employment in the hosiery trade showed little change and remained bad, on the whole; in the lace trade it remained slack. In the silk and artificial silk industries employment showed a further improvement but was still bad, on the whole. In the jute trade employment showed a further improvement but was still very bad; in the linen trade also it showed an improvement but remained bad. In the textile bleaching, printing, dyeing, etc. trades the improvement reported in March was maintained, but employment was still very bad, with much short-time working.

Clothing Industries.—Employment in the retail bespoke and ready made and wholesale bespoke branches of the tailoring trade showed further improvement and was fair, on the whole. In the dressmaking and millinery trades employment was fairly good. In the shirt and collar trade there was some slight improvement but employment was only moderate; in the corset trade it was fair; in the glove trade it remained slack, on the whole. In felt hat manufacture employment showed a further slight improvement but was still only moderate.

In the boot and shoe industry employment showed a further slight improvement at almost all centres, largely due to seasonal causes, but was still only moderate with most firms. The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed was 18.4 at 27th April, 1931, as compared with 19.2 at 23rd March, 1931, and with 17.5 at 28th April, 1930.

Leather Trades.—Employment continued slack in all sections.

Building, Woodworking, etc.—In the building trades employment continued to improve slowly, but was still slack, on the whole, at the end of the month. As regards individual occupations employment was considerably better with painters and showed some improvement with each of the other classes of operatives except plumbers, with whom there was a slight decline. Employment was moderate to slack, on the whole, with bricklayers and masons, very slack with carpenters, and bad with plasterers, plumbers and slaters. It was moderate with painters and slack with tradesmen's labourers. In brick manufacture employment showed a further slight improvement but was still slack, on the whole.

Employment in the furnishing trades showed a further slight improvement but was still slack; and with mill-sawyers and coach-builders it continued slack.

Paper Manufacture, Printing and Bookbinding.—In the paper-making industry employment continued moderate, on the whole; in the hand-made section it remained slack. With letterpress printers employment showed little change and was generally moderate. With electrotypes and stereotypers it was fairly good in most districts outside the London area, where it was reported as bad. With lithographic printers employment generally continued bad or slack. With lithographic artists it was only moderate; and with bookbinders it was slack, on the whole.

Pottery and Glass.—In the pottery industry employment in North Staffordshire showed a decline and was bad, on the whole, with much short time working; short-time working also continued at Derby and Worcester. At Bristol a further slight improvement was reported but employment was still slack. In the stoneware section in Scotland employment continued bad.

In the glass trades employment in the bottle-making section showed little change and remained bad; in other sections it showed a slight decline and remained slack.

Fishing.—With fishermen employment showed little change and remained bad, on the whole.

Dock Labourers and Seamen.—Employment with dock labourers remained very slack; and with seamen also it remained slack on the whole, although demand improved at some ports as the month progressed.

SUMMARY OF EMPLOYERS' RETURNS.

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

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

(a) CERTAIN MINING AND METAL INDUSTRIES.

| Industry. | Workpeople included in the Returns for April, 1931. | April, 1931. | Inc. (+) or Dec. (–) as compared with a | |
|------------------------------|---|--------------------------------|---|--------------|
| | | | Month before. | Year before. |
| | | Days Worked per week by Mines. | Days. | Days. |
| Coal Mining ... | 868,716 | 5.11 | + 0.38 | + 0.26 |
| Iron ... | 6,596 | 5.10 | + 0.06 | – 0.42 |
| Shale ... | 2,517 | 5.93 | ... | – 0.07 |
| | | Furnaces in Blast. | Number. | Number. |
| Pig Iron ... | ... | 78 | – 3 | – 73 |
| | | Mills working. | | |
| Tinplate and Steel Sheet ... | ... | 366 | + 60 | – 137 |
| | | Shifts Worked (one week). | Per cent. | Per cent. |
| Iron and Steel ... | 48,182 | 243,091 | – 5.4 | – 33.4 |

(b) OTHER INDUSTRIES.

| Industry. | Number of Workpeople Employed. | | Total Wages Paid to all Workpeople. | | |
|-------------------|--------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|---|--------------|
| | Week ended 25th April, 1931. | Inc. (+) or Dec. (–) on a Month before. | Week ended 25th April, 1931. | Inc. (+) or Dec. (–) on a Month before. | Year before. |
| | | | | | |
| Textiles:— | | Per cent. | £ | Per cent. | Per cent. |
| Cotton ... | 62,776 | – 0.9 | 102,003 | – 1.3 | – 8.7 |
| Woollen ... | 51,050 | + 0.4 | 98,120 | + 1.6 | – 11.8* |
| Worsted ... | 75,450 | + 1.1 | 133,365 | + 2.4 | – 10.2* |
| Carpet ... | 9,469 | + 0.9 | 16,041 | – 0.4 | – 12.5 |
| Boot and Shoe ... | 63,066 | + 1.4 | 139,806 | + 2.6 | – 4.2 |
| Pottery ... | 10,100 | – 6.2 | 17,526 | – 6.7 | – 14.3 |
| Brick ... | 9,464 | + 1.7 | 24,615 | + 1.3 | – 10.6 |

UNEMPLOYMENT SUMMARY BY DISTRICTS.

The following Table shows the variations in the rates of unemployment at 27th April, 1931, 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, at July, 1930. (Totals). | Percentage Unemployed at 27th April, 1931. | | | Increase (+) or Decrease (–) in Total Percentages as compared with a | |
|-------------------|---|--|----------|--------|--|--------------|
| | | Males. | Females. | Total. | Month before. | Year before. |
| London ... | 2,255,620 | 13.1 | 8.4 | 11.6 | – 0.4 | + 4.3 |
| South-Eastern ... | 929,770 | 12.1 | 7.7 | 11.1 | – 1.0 | + 3.6 |
| South-Western ... | 864,400 | 14.8 | 9.8 | 13.7 | – 0.7 | + 4.0 |
| Midlands ... | 1,847,230 | 20.0 | 20.2 | 20.0 | – 0.8 | + 6.4 |
| North-Eastern ... | 2,020,760 | 28.6 | 19.3 | 26.5 | – 1.3 | + 8.8 |
| North-Western ... | 2,181,890 | 26.6 | 28.9 | 27.4 | ... | + 6.7 |
| Scotland ... | 1,307,810 | 28.3 | 20.3 | 26.0 | – 0.4 | + 9.2 |
| Wales ... | 592,520 | 32.7 | 17.7 | 31.2 | – 0.3 | + 6.6 |
| Northern Ireland | 266,000 | 31.2 | 25.7 | 29.1 | – 0.6 | + 7.2 |
| Special Schemes | 139,700 | 4.1 | 1.1 | 3.2 | + 0.1 | + 0.9 |
| Total ... | 12,405,700 | 22.0 | 18.0 | 20.9 | – 0.6 | + 6.7 |

UNEMPLOYMENT DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS.

The following Table shows, month by month from April, 1930, 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. | | Total. | Date. | Number. |
| | | | Wholly Unemployed and Casuals. | Temporarily stopped. | | | |
| 1930. | | | | | | 1930. | |
| 28 April ... | 14.6 | 13.3 | 10.6 | 3.6 | 14.2 | 28 Apr. | 1,752,000 |
| 26 May ... | 15.2 | 14.4 | 10.8 | 4.2 | 15.0 | 26 May | 1,823,000 |
| 23 June ... | 15.6 | 14.8 | 10.8 | 4.6 | 15.4 | 30 June | 1,947,000 |
| 21 July ... | 17.0 | 15.8 | 11.3 | 5.4 | 16.7 | 28 July | 2,072,000 |
| 25 August ... | 17.3 | 16.6 | 12.1 | 5.0 | 17.1 | 25 Aug. | 2,106,000 |
| 22 September ... | 18.0 | 16.8 | 12.7 | 4.9 | 17.6 | 29 Sept. | 2,230,000 |
| 27 October ... | 19.4 | 16.8 | 13.9 | 4.8 | 18.7 | 27 Oct. | 2,308,000 |
| 24 November ... | 19.8 | 17.2 | 14.8 | 4.3 | 19.1 | 24 Nov. | 2,359,000 |
| 22 December 1930. | 20.7 | 18.8 | 14.9 | 5.3 | 20.2 | 29 Dec. | 2,725,000 |
| 26 January 1931. | 22.1 | 19.9 | 16.5 | 5.0 | 21.5 | 26 Jan. | 2,671,000 |
| 23 February ... | 22.6 | 19.6 | 16.7 | 5.0 | 21.7 | 23 Feb. | 2,694,000 |
| 23 March ... | 22.7 | 18.4 | 16.5 | 5.0 | 21.5 | 30 Mar. | 2,655,000 |
| 27 April ... | 22.0 | 18.0 | 16.3 | 4.6 | 20.9 | 27 Apr. | 2,594,000 |

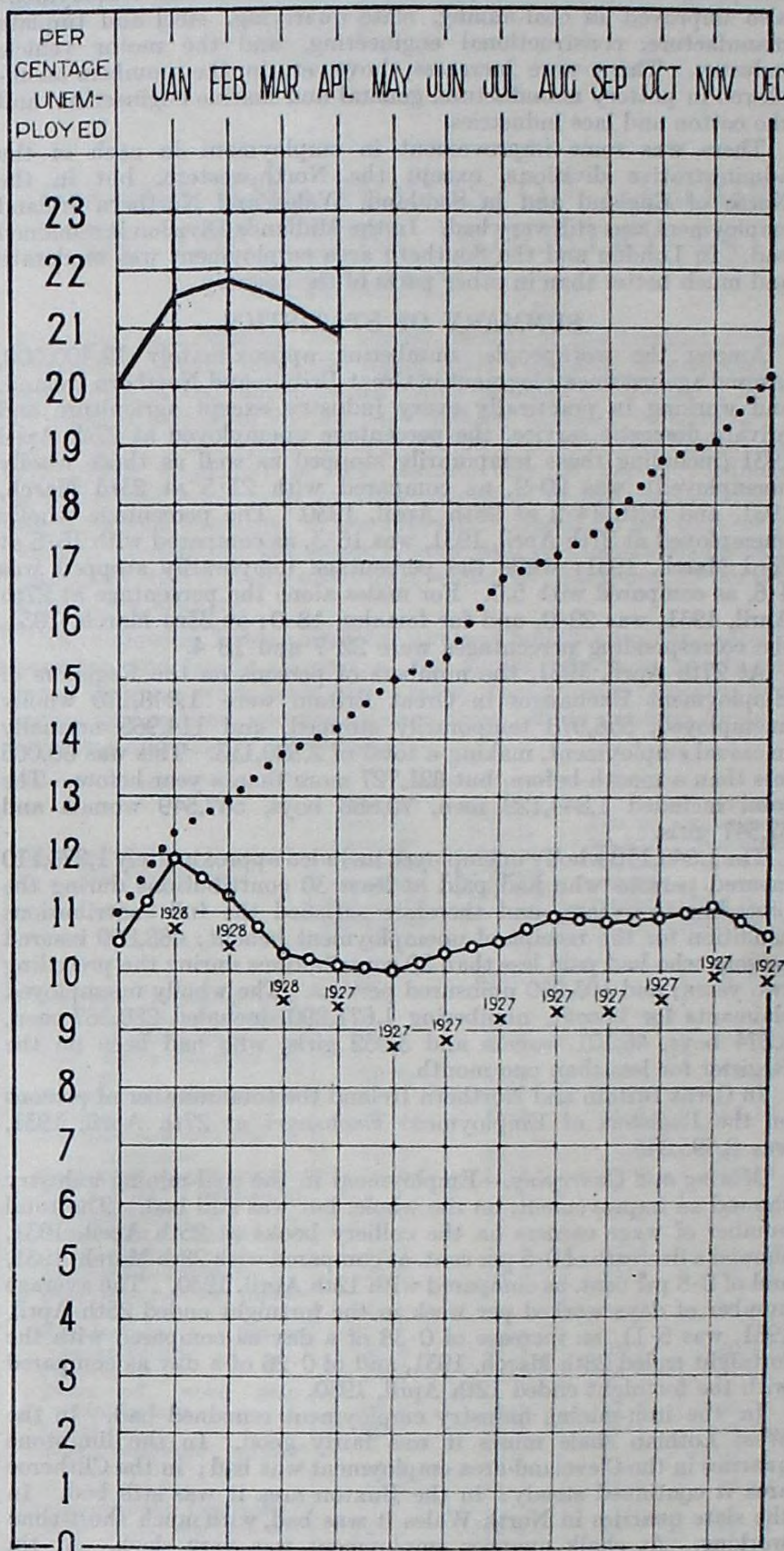
* Comparison of earnings is affected by reductions in rates of wages.

UNEMPLOYMENT CHART.

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

Plain Curve - - - - - = 1931.
Dotted Curve - - - - - = 1930.
Chain Curve - - - - - = { Mean for 1923-25 and 1927-29.

× The crosses indicate the minimum monthly percentages unemployed during the years 1923-25 and 1927-30. The maximum percentages in February to December of those years occurred in 1930. In January the maximum percentage of 13.3 occurred in 1923.



NEW ENTRANTS INTO UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE.

APPLICATIONS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT BOOKS RECEIVED AT LOCAL OFFICES OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR IN GREAT BRITAIN DURING APRIL, 1931.

| Area. | Men. | Boys. | Women. | Girls. | Total. | |
|-------------------|-------|--------|--------|--------|----------|---|
| | | | | | Num-ber. | Per-centage of numbers Insured at July, 1930. |
| London ... | 1,128 | 4,856 | 1,814 | 4,512 | 12,310 | 0.55 |
| South-Eastern ... | 1,117 | 2,379 | 786 | 1,709 | 5,991 | 0.64 |
| South-Western ... | 918 | 2,005 | 749 | 1,561 | 5,233 | 0.61 |
| Midlands ... | 1,759 | 4,723 | 306 | 1,707 | 8,495 | 0.46 |
| North-Eastern ... | 1,039 | 4,618 | 856 | 3,114 | 9,627 | 0.48 |
| North-Western ... | 936 | 3,860 | 855 | 3,532 | 9,183 | 0.42 |
| Scotland ... | 870 | 2,914 | 627 | 2,368 | 6,779 | 0.52 |
| Wales... .. | 438 | 1,544 | 418 | 609 | 3,009 | 0.51 |
| GREAT BRITAIN ... | 8,205 | 26,899 | 6,411 | 19,112 | 60,627 | 0.51 |

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 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 April showed an improvement, on the whole, as compared with the previous month, but was still bad.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, was 26.1 at 27th April, 1931, as compared with 27.4 at 23rd March, 1931, and 16.6 at 28th April, 1930. The percentage wholly unemployed increased by 0.5 from 16.5 to 17.0, but the percentage temporarily stopped decreased by 1.8 from 10.9 to 9.1.

The total number of wage earners on the colliery books at 25th April, 1931, showed a decrease of 0.5 per cent. as compared with 28th March, 1931, and of 8.8 per cent. as compared with 12th April, 1930.

The average number of days worked per week in the fortnight ended 25th April, 1931, was 5.11, an increase of 0.38 of a day as compared with the fortnight ended 28th March, 1931, and of 0.26 of a day as compared with the fortnight ended 12th April, 1930.

The following Table shows, for the principal coalmining districts, the total number of wage earners on the colliery books and the average number of days worked per week* during the fortnight ended 25th April, 1931, as shown by returns obtained by the Mines Department. Small numbers of workpeople employed at coal mines in raising or handling minerals other than coal are included in the totals.

| Districts. | Total Number of Wage Earners on Colliery Books at | | Average Number of Days worked per week* by the Mines. | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|---|---|---|--------------|
| | 25th April, 1931. | Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) as compared with a | Fort-night ended 25th April, 1931. | Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) as compared with a | Year before. |
| | | | | | |
| | | Month before. | | Month before. | |
| ENGLAND AND WALES: | | Percent | Days. | Days. | Days. |
| Northumberland ... | 44,957 | — 0.4 | 5.47 | — 0.05 | + 0.42 |
| Durham ... | 118,654 | — 0.2 | 5.00 | — 0.20 | — 0.13 |
| Cumberland and Westmorland ... | 9,432 | + 1.7 | 5.49 | + 0.13 | — 0.01 |
| South Yorkshire ... | 112,983 | + 1.1 | 4.76 | + 1.04 | — 0.06 |
| West Yorkshire ... | 50,620 | + 0.6 | 4.77 | + 1.42 | + 0.51 |
| Lancs. and Cheshire ... | 71,075 | — 1.7 | 5.09 | + 0.23 | + 0.50 |
| Derbyshire ... | 53,170 | — 0.9 | 4.44 | + 1.16 | + 0.37 |
| Notts. and Leicester ... | 60,019 | — 4.2 | 4.69 | + 1.12 | + 0.85 |
| Warwick ... | 17,042 | — 0.8 | 5.65 | + 0.33 | + 0.68 |
| North Staffordshire ... | 24,050 | — 0.7 | 5.23 | — 0.03 | + 0.41 |
| South Staffs., Worcs. and Salop ... | 30,047 | — 0.0 | 5.35 | + 0.75 | + 0.74 |
| Glos. and Somerset ... | 9,423 | — 1.5 | 5.37 | + 0.27 | + 0.31 |
| Kent ... | 5,520 | + 1.3 | 5.44 | — 0.10 | + 0.28 |
| North Wales ... | 14,323 | — 0.1 | 5.72 | — 0.05 | + 0.52 |
| South Wales and Mon. | 157,995 | + 0.4 | 5.73 | + 0.20 | + 0.59 |
| England and Wales | 779,310 | — 0.4 | 5.13 | + 0.47 | + 0.34 |
| SCOTLAND: | | | | | |
| Mid. & East Lothians | 13,033 | + 0.8 | 4.91 | — 0.50 | + 0.05 |
| Fife and Clackmannan | 21,015 | + 0.3 | 4.90 | — 0.49 | — 0.10 |
| Rest of Scotland ... | 55,358 | — 2.4 | 4.92 | — 0.41 | — 0.64 |
| Scotland ... | 89,406 | — 1.3 | 4.92 | — 0.44 | — 0.41 |
| GREAT BRITAIN | 868,716 | — 0.5 | 5.11 | + 0.38 | + 0.26 |

The average number of coal-winding days lost in Great Britain during the fortnight ended 25th April, 1931, was 0.63 of a day per week, of which 0.59 of a day was due to want of trade and transport difficulties. The figures for the fortnight ended 28th March, 1931, were 1.01 of a day per week, of which 0.98 of a day was due to want of trade and transport difficulties; the corresponding figures for the fortnight ended 12th April, 1930, were 0.93 of a day per week, and 0.91 of a day per week, respectively. The average non-winding time for the April and March, 1931, periods, was about one-quarter of a day per week, as compared with between one-fifth and one-quarter of a day per week during the April, 1930, period.

The output of coal in Great Britain for the four weeks ended 25th April, 1931, was reported to the Mines Department as 17,115,100 tons, as compared with 18,232,200 tons in the four weeks ended 28th March, 1931, and 20,984,600 tons in the four weeks ended 12th April, 1930.

The numbers and percentages unemployed among insured workpeople in the respective areas at 27th April, 1931, and the increases

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

† Including Cannock Chase.

or decreases as compared with 23rd March, 1931, and 28th April, 1930, are shown in the following Table:—

| Area. | Insured Persons Recorded as Unemployed at 27th April, 1931. | | | | | Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) in Total percentages as compared with a | |
|---|--|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------|---|-----------------|
| | Numbers. | | Percentages. | | | Month before. | Year before. |
| | Wholly Unem- ployed (incl. Casuals). | Tem- porary stop- pages. | Wholly Unem- ployed. | Tem- porary stop- pages. | Total. | | |
| <i>Great Britain ...</i> | 182,125 | 97,170 | 17.0 | 9.1 | 26.1 | — 1.3 | + 9.5 |
| <i>England and</i> | | | | | | | |
| <i>Wales... ..</i> | 156,370 | 91,216 | 16.5 | 9.6 | 26.1 | — 1.9 | + 9.5 |
| <i>Scotland... ..</i> | 25,755 | 5,954 | 21.2 | 4.9 | 26.1 | + 3.3 | + 10.0 |
| <i>Principal Districts in England and Wales:—</i> | | | | | | | |
| <i>Northumber- land... ..</i> | 8,117 | 276 | 15.6 | 0.5 | 16.1 | + 0.4 | + 0.4 |
| <i>Durham... ..</i> | 34,578 | 12,970 | 22.5 | 8.4 | 30.9 | + 6.6 | + 19.0 |
| <i>Cumberland and Westmor- land... ..</i> | 2,232 | 1,274 | 18.9 | 10.8 | 29.7 | + 6.1 | + 10.9 |
| <i>Yorkshire... ..</i> | 19,973 | 33,873 | 11.2 | 18.9 | 30.1 | — 13.3 | + 14.5 |
| <i>Lancashire and Cheshire... ..</i> | 15,854 | 4,556 | 17.4 | 5.1 | 22.5 | + 2.5 | + 5.1 |
| <i>Derbyshire... ..</i> | 4,739 | 11,171 | 7.5 | 17.8 | 25.3 | — 3.3 | + 12.8 |
| <i>Notts. and Leicestershire</i> | 6,159 | 10,023 | 9.3 | 15.1 | 24.4 | — 6.3 | + 13.5 |
| <i>Warwickshire</i> | 711 | 86 | 5.8 | 0.7 | 6.5 | + 0.1 | + 0.8 |
| <i>Staffs., Wor- cester and Salop... ..</i> | 8,927 | 2,679 | 12.6 | 3.8 | 16.4 | — 2.0 | + 0.7 |
| <i>Glos. and Somerset... ..</i> | 1,742 | 840 | 14.7 | 7.1 | 21.8 | — 1.6 | + 7.0 |
| <i>Kent... ..</i> | 288 | — | 5.4 | — | 5.4 | + 0.1 | + 2.1 |
| <i>Wales and Monmouth... ..</i> | 51,550 | 13,461 | 22.4 | 5.9 | 28.3 | + 0.2 | + 4.3 |

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 5,022,900 tons in April, 1931, as compared with 5,115,600 tons in March, 1931, and with 5,877,000 tons in April, 1930.

IRON AND SHALE MINING.

IRON MINING.

EMPLOYMENT remained bad during April. The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, in the iron ore and ironstone mining industry was 32.3 at 27th April, 1931, as compared with 31.3 at 23rd March, 1931, and 10.8 at 28th April, 1930.

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

| 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 25th April, 1931. | Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) as com- pared with a | | Fort- night ended 25th April, 1931. | Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) as com- pared with a | |
| | | Month before. | Year before. | | Month before. | Year before. |
| | | Per cent. | Per cent. | Days. | Days. | Days. |
| Cleveland ... | 2,962 | — 0.7 | — 28.6 | 4.67 | — 0.08 | — 0.39 |
| Cumberland and Lancashire ... | 2,404 | + 1.1 | — 20.7 | 5.71 | + 0.33 | — 0.29 |
| Other Districts ... | 1,230 | — 7.7 | — 24.1 | 4.94 | — 0.16 | — 0.86 |
| ALL DISTRICTS | 6,596 | — 1.4 | — 25.1 | 5.10 | + 0.06 | — 0.42 |

SHALE MINING.

The number of workpeople employed at the West Lothian mines during the fortnight ended 25th April, 1931, by firms making returns was 2,517, showing an increase of 0.2 per cent. as compared with March, 1931, but a decrease of 0.2 per cent. as compared with April, 1930. The average number of days worked per week* in the period by the mines making returns was 5.93 in April, 1931, as compared with 5.93 in March, 1931, and 6.00 in April, 1930.

* See footnote * in previous column.

PIG IRON INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT during April showed a decline, and remained very bad. The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, was 35.9 at 27th April, 1931, as compared with 34.9 at 23rd March, 1931, and 17.8 at 28th April, 1930.

According to information received from the National Federation of Iron and Steel Manufacturers, 78 furnaces were in operation at the end of April, 1931, as compared with 81 at the end of March, 1931, and 151 at the end of April, 1930; while in the case of 68 firms employing 11,380 workpeople at the end of April, 1931, the returns showed a decrease of 2.4 per cent. in the numbers employed compared with March, 1931, and a decrease of 40.4 per cent. compared with April, 1930.

The following Table shows the number of furnaces in operation at the end of April, 1931, March, 1931, and April, 1930 :—

| Districts. | Total Number of Furnaces. | Number of Furnaces in Blast. | | | Inc. (+) or Dec. (−) on a | | |
|--|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------|-----------------|------------------------------|-----------------|--|
| | | April, 1931. | Mch., 1931. | April, 1930. | Month before. | Year before. | |
| ENGLAND AND WALES. | | | | | | | |
| Durham and Cleveland | 93 | 21 | 22 | 39 | − 1 | − 18 | |
| Cumberland and W. Lancs. ... | 43 | 8 | 8 | 11 | ... | − 3 | |
| Parts of Lancs. and Yorks. (including Sheffield) and North Wales ... | 26 | 5 | 5 | 11 | ... | − 6 | |
| Derby, Leicester, Notts. and Northants ... | 53 | 21 | 21 | 27 | ... | − 6 | |
| Lincolnshire ... | 25 | 7 | 8 | 16 | − 1 | − 9 | |
| Staffs., Shropshire, Worcester and War- wick ... | 44 | 7 | 8 | 13 | − 1 | − 6 | |
| South Wales and Mon- mouthshire ... | 21 | 2 | 2 | 6 | ... | − 4 | |
| England and Wales | 305 | 71 | 74 | 123 | − 3 | − 52 | |
| SCOTLAND ... | 89 | 7 | 7 | 28 | ... | − 21 | |
| GREAT BRITAIN ... | 394 | 78 | 81 | 151 | − 3 | − 73 | |

The production of pig iron in April, 1931, amounted to 323,200 tons, compared with 357,100 tons in March, 1931, and 619,600 tons in April, 1930.

TINPLATE AND STEEL SHEET INDUSTRIES.

In the tinplate industry employment showed an improvement but remained very bad. In the week ended 25th April, 1931, 300 tinplate mills were in operation at works for which information is available, as compared with 254 in the week ended 28th March, 1931, and with 411 in the week ended 3rd May, 1930.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, was 43.4 at 27th April, 1931, as compared with 48.6 at 23rd March, 1931, and with 27.3 at 28th April, 1930.

In steel sheet manufacture employment remained very bad. In the week ended 25th April, 1931, 66 mills were in operation at works for which information is available, as compared with 52 in the week ended 28th March, 1931, and with 92 in the week ended 3rd May, 1930.

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 25th April, 1931. | Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) on a Month before. | Year before. | Week ended 25th April, 1931. | Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) on a Month before. | Year before. |
| Tinplate ... | 57 | + 9 | — 14 | 300 | + 46 | — 111 |
| Steel Sheet | 7 | + 2 | — 1 | 66 | + 14 | — 26 |
| TOTAL ... | 64 | + 11 | — 15 | 366 | + 60 | — 137 |

The exports of tinned and galvanised plates and sheets in April, 1931, amounted to 59,992 tons, or 11,445 tons more than in March, 1931, but 22,363 tons less than in April, 1930.

IRON AND STEEL MANUFACTURE.

EMPLOYMENT in April among insured workpeople showed a slight improvement, but remained very bad. The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, was 45.1 at 27th April, 1931, as compared with 45.8 at 23rd March, 1931, and 30.9 at 28th April, 1930.

At certain firms, employing 48,182 workpeople, from which returns were received for the week ended 25th April, 1931, the volume of employment in that week (as indicated by the number

of workpeople employed, combined with the number of shifts* during which work was carried on in each department) decreased by 5.4 per cent. as compared with the week ended 28th March, 1931, and by 33.4 per cent. as compared with April, 1930. The average number of shifts during which the works were open was 5.0 in the week ended 25th April, 1931, as compared with 5.1 in March, 1931 and 5.4 in April, 1930.

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 25th April, 1931. | Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) as compared with a Month before. Year before. | Week ended 25th April, 1931. | Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) as compared with a Month before. Year before. |
| Open Hearth Melting Furnaces ... | 4,551 | — 7.4 — 37.9 | 25,350 | — 9.8 — 39.9 |
| Puddling Forges ... | 621 | — 30.8 — 69.5 | 2,344 | — 35.2 — 73.3 |
| Rolling Mills ... | 17,847 | — 2.8 — 26.4 | 80,191 | — 3.6 — 34.0 |
| Forging & Pressing | 1,651 | — 8.7 — 40.9 | 7,849 | — 16.6 — 42.5 |
| Founding ... | 6,460 | — 1.3 — 18.3 | 35,547 | — 0.4 — 20.7 |
| Other Departments | 6,703 | — 6.9 — 22.3 | 36,919 | — 6.4 — 24.8 |
| Mechanics, Labourers ... | 10,349 | — 1.2 — 29.8 | 54,891 | — 4.8 — 35.4 |
| TOTAL ... | 48,182 | — 4.0 — 28.8 | 243,091 | — 5.4 — 33.4 |
| DISTRICTS. | | | | |
| Northumberland, Durham and Cleveland ... | 10,208 | — 1.0 — 29.2 | 55,683 | + 0.5 — 29.7 |
| Sheffield & Rotherham ... | 15,530 | + 3.5 — 12.4 | 78,625 | + 1.3 — 17.2 |
| Leeds, Bradford, etc. ... | 330 | — 17.5 — 29.2 | 1,561 | — 11.0 — 25.2 |
| Cumberland, Lancs. and Cheshire ... | 4,549 | — 11.9 — 21.9 | 22,244 | — 16.0 — 26.8 |
| Staffordshire ... | 4,403 | — 2.9 — 18.0 | 23,286 | — 3.0 — 19.6 |
| Other Midland Counties ... | 2,629 | — 3.1 — 20.8 | 13,881 | — 3.9 — 25.0 |
| Wales and Monmouth ... | 3,608 | — 25.5 — 57.7 | 18,044 | — 27.6 — 60.3 |
| England and Wales ... | 41,257 | — 4.0 — 25.9 | 213,324 | — 5.0 — 28.8 |
| Scotland ... | 6,925 | — 4.3 — 42.4 | 29,767 | — 8.0 — 54.4 |
| GREAT BRITAIN | 48,182 | — 4.0 — 28.8 | 243,091 | — 5.4 — 33.4 |

The production of steel ingots and castings, as shown in returns received from the National Federation of Iron and Steel Manufacturers, amounted to 397,400 tons in April, 1931, as compared with 500,100 tons in March, 1931, and 696,100 tons in April, 1930.

SHIPBUILDING AND SHIP-REPAIRING.

EMPLOYMENT remained very bad during April, and continued to decline in most districts. In the North-Eastern division and in Scotland and Wales from 60 to 67 per cent. of the insured workpeople were recorded as unemployed, and only one division (the South-Eastern) showed a percentage unemployed of less than 25. Compared with a year ago, when employment was already very bad, the proportion of unemployed was almost twice as great.

In the North-Western division there was some improvement in ship-repairing as compared with the previous month, though employment on the whole was much worse than a year ago.

The following Table shows the numbers and percentages of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, at 27th April, 1931, and the increase or decrease as compared with 23rd March, 1931, and 28th April, 1930 :—

| Divisions. | Total Number of Insured Workpeople Unemployed at 27th April, 1931. | Increase (+) or Decrease (—) in Numbers Unemployed as compared with a | | Percentage Unemployed at 27th April, 1931. | Increase (+) or Decrease (—) in Percentage Unemployed as compared with a | |
|--|--|---|--------------|--|--|--------------|
| | | Month before. | Year before. | | Month before. | Year before. |
| London ... | 3,710 | + 385 | + 1,539 | 38.6 | + 4.0 | + 18.5 |
| South-Eastern ... | 1,073 | — 143 | + 391 | 14.3 | — 1.9 | + 4.9 |
| South-Western ... | 5,338 | + 204 | + 1,298 | 25.1 | + 0.9 | + 6.1 |
| Midlands ... | 138 | + 33 | + 52 | 41.8 | + 10.0 | + 13.1 |
| North-Eastern ... | 38,480 | + 461 | + 19,076 | 63.0 | + 0.7 | + 30.8 |
| North-Western ... | 14,246 | — 1,136 | + 6,152 | 49.4 | — 4.0 | + 21.4 |
| Scotland ... | 33,811 | + 225 | + 19,092 | 60.0 | + 0.4 | + 33.6 |
| Wales ... | 4,941 | + 64 | + 1,017 | 67.0 | + 0.9 | + 16.7 |
| Northern Ireland | 6,526 | + 388 | + 4,118 | 52.6 | + 3.1 | + 32.6 |
| GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND ... | 108,263 | + 481 | + 52,735 | 52.9 | + 0.3 | + 25.7 |

* 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.

ENGINEERING.

EMPLOYMENT during April remained bad, and showed, on the whole, little change, a further decline in marine and general engineering being balanced by an improvement in the motor vehicle section and in electrical and constructional engineering. In general, textile, marine and constructional engineering, employment was very bad; it was bad in the motor vehicle section and slack in electrical engineering. A considerable number of workpeople were discharged from railway engineering works.

Compared with a year ago employment was much worse in all sections and in all areas.

The following Table shows the numbers and percentages of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, at 27th April, 1931, and the increase or decrease as compared with a month before and a year before:—

| Division. | Number of Insured Workpeople Unemployed at 27th April, 1931. | | | | | | Increase (+) or Decrease (—) as compared with a | |
|---|--|-------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------|---|------------------|
| | General Engineering; Iron and Steel Founding. | Electrical Engineering. | Marine Engineering, etc. | Constructional Engineering. | Motor Vehicles, Cycles, and Aircraft. | TOTAL. | Month before. | Year before. |
| | | | | | | | | |
| London ... | 9,370 | 1,550 | 276 | 439 | 4,514 | 16,149 | + 376 | + 8,375 |
| South-Eastern ... | 7,196 | 1,121 | 285 | 172 | 2,826 | 11,600 | — 267 | + 6,715 |
| South-Western ... | 4,722 | 255 | 648 | 154 | 3,125 | 8,904 | + 49 | + 4,783 |
| Midlands ... | 19,395 | 4,324 | 225 | 1,604 | 23,086 | 48,634 | — 2,696 | + 24,642 |
| North-Eastern ... | 37,763 | 1,318 | 11,024 | 2,009 | 2,333 | 54,447 | — 598 | + 23,570 |
| North-Western ... | 48,924 | 4,144 | 214 | 880 | 3,852 | 58,014 | + 22 | + 23,801 |
| Scotland ... | 27,259 | 544 | 9,463 | 2,151 | 1,987 | 41,404 | + 2,551 | + 24,682 |
| Wales ... | 1,907 | 80 | 27 | 249 | 586 | 2,849 | — 45 | + 943 |
| Northern Ireland | 2,385 | 66 | 2,898 | 37 | 352 | 5,738 | + 399 | + 3,727 |
| GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND | 158,921 | 13,402 | 25,060 | 7,695 | 42,661 | 247,739 | — 209 | + 121,238 |
| Percentages Unemployed at 27th April, 1931. | | | | | | | | |
| London ... | 10.9 | 10.8 | 34.5 | 12.5 | 11.1 | 11.1 | + 0.3 | + 5.6 |
| South-Eastern ... | 15.0 | 13.6 | 11.5 | 28.7 | 9.9 | 13.2 | — 0.3 | + 7.5 |
| South-Western ... | 13.1 | 7.1 | 10.1 | 26.6 | 11.1 | 11.9 | + 0.1 | + 6.3 |
| Midlands ... | 21.5 | 14.9 | 14.6 | 23.3 | 23.4 | 21.5 | — 1.2 | + 10.7 |
| North-Eastern ... | 32.6 | 15.2 | 50.0 | 28.2 | 16.8 | 32.5 | — 0.3 | + 14.1 |
| North-Western ... | 38.2 | 18.8 | 31.5 | 29.6 | 17.7 | 33.0 | — 0.3 | + 13.4 |
| Scotland ... | 36.0 | 17.7 | 48.1 | 38.5 | 18.1 | 36.0 | + 2.2 | + 21.4 |
| Wales ... | 34.3 | 20.0 | 19.3 | 35.6 | 27.1 | 31.8 | — 0.5 | + 10.8 |
| Northern Ireland | 34.3 | 16.5 | 45.9 | 92.5 | 16.3 | 36.2 | + 2.6 | + 22.9 |
| GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND | 26.8 | 14.9 | 41.7 | 27.5 | 17.3 | 24.4 | ... | + 11.8 |
| <i>Ditto, Mar., 1931</i> | <i>26.6</i> | <i>15.2</i> | <i>38.8</i> | <i>28.9</i> | <i>18.2</i> | <i>24.4</i> | <i>—</i> | <i>—</i> |
| <i>Ditto, April, 1930</i> | <i>14.7</i> | <i>6.6</i> | <i>12.8</i> | <i>15.0</i> | <i>9.3</i> | <i>12.6</i> | <i>—</i> | <i>—</i> |

On the North-East Coast employment again declined in marine engineering and was very bad. In Yorkshire and Lincolnshire there was little general change, employment remaining bad. In Lancashire and Cheshire it continued bad or very bad in all sections; in textile engineering the depression continued, with much short-time working.

In the Birmingham, Wolverhampton and Coventry district employment in the motor vehicle section showed a slight seasonal improvement but it was still bad and much short-time was worked. It continued bad in general engineering and slack in the electrical section. In the Nottingham, Derby and Leicester district employment remained very slack.

In London and the Southern Counties employment remained quiet; it showed an improvement in the motor vehicle section, but a decline in general engineering.

In Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland employment remained very bad. It was worse than in the previous month in general and marine engineering in Scotland, and in marine engineering in Northern Ireland.

COTTON INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT in all sections continued unsatisfactory, and showed a slight decline in April in the spinning section, from the very low level of March. In the section spinning American cotton about one quarter of the mills were closed, and not more than 60 per cent. of normal production was obtained in the remainder. In the Egyptian spinning section there was a similar percentage of short-time running at the active mills, but a much smaller percentage were closed down. In the weaving section, employment remained very bad, and showed no improvement. Many mills, in various districts, extended the Easter stoppage.

The percentage of insured workpeople recorded as unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, was 38.2 at 27th April, 1931, as compared with 36.5 at 23rd March, 1931, and with 30.7 at 28th April, 1930.

At Ashton-under-Lyne employment continued bad, and was much below the level of last year. At Stockport the slight improvement recorded last month was maintained, though short time working was still prevalent; at Stalybridge the position was slightly worse, and irregular short time continued; at Hyde the improvement reported last month was maintained, and there was a further decrease in short time working. At Glossop employment was slightly worse.

At Oldham employment in the spinning section remained bad,

many spinning mills had been closed for some time, and it was reported that many were unlikely to restart. In the manufacturing section employment continued very slack, and machinery was stopped at every firm; many weavers were working on a reduced number of looms. At Middleton conditions remained fairly good in the Egyptian section, but short time working continued in the American section. At Royton the slightly increased activity in the spinning section was maintained. At Bolton the improvement recorded last month in the spinning and weaving departments was not maintained, and employment in the spinning department was bad; in the week ended 25th April, 39 per cent. of the operative cotton spinners were working less than half time, as compared with 34 per cent. in the week ended 28th March. At Leigh employment with spinners was described as bad. At Rochdale employment showed a decline and was bad; at Bury a large number of operatives were suspended for extended holidays at Easter, and short time working prevailed during the month.

At Preston employment was not so steady as in March, owing principally to sectional stoppages in the preparation departments. At Chorley most of the mills were working better time. At Blackburn the rate of unemployment still remained very high, but the improvement noted last month continued; nevertheless, between 64 and 68 mills, or about half the total number, were closed each week. At Darwen employment was very bad. At Great Harwood employment with weavers showed a slight improvement. At Accrington six of the weaving mills reported last month as having recently re-opened continued production during April. At Burnley the position was worse than in March; several local mills were "weaving out," with the intention of closing down, and most of the mills which were still running had a number of idle looms. At Nelson and at Colne a slight improvement was reported. In the Rossendale Valley employment was described as very bad; there was much unemployment and under-employment, and the majority of the mills closed down for one to two weeks at Easter.

In Yorkshire employment continued very bad, with short time and under-employment; an extended stoppage at Easter was general; there was a slight improvement, however, at Hebden Bridge.

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

| DEPARTMENTS. | Number of Workpeople. | | | Total Wages paid to all Workpeople. | | |
|--|-----------------------------|---------------------------|---------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------|
| | Week ended 25th Apr., 1931. | Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) on a | | Week ended 25th Apr., 1931. | Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) on a | |
| | | Month before. | Year before. | | Month before. | Year before. |
| | | | | | | |
| Preparing ... | 9,157 | — 2.3 | — 10.9 | 13,632 | — 5.2 | — 12.4 |
| Spinning ... | 18,304 | — 1.2 | — 10.3 | 26,381 | — 3.4 | — 9.1 |
| Weaving ... | 23,841 | — 0.8 | — 12.0 | 38,251 | + 0.0 | — 7.9 |
| Other ... | 6,749 | + 2.9 | — 8.6 | 15,097 | + 4.0 | — 6.2 |
| Not Specified ... | 4,725 | — 1.9 | — 17.3 | 8,642 | — 2.4 | — 8.9 |
| TOTAL ... | 62,776 | — 0.9 | — 11.4 | 102,003 | — 1.3 | — 8.7 |
| DISTRICTS. | | | | | | |
| Ashton ... | 3,113 | — 3.8 | — 21.8 | 4,310 | — 6.0 | — 25.1 |
| Stockport, Glossop and Hyde ... | 6,856 | + 5.2 | — 20.1 | 10,537 | + 2.8 | — 20.3 |
| Oldham ... | 7,361 | — 6.6 | — 10.5 | 12,374 | — 9.1 | — 12.1 |
| Bolton and Leigh ... | 12,405 | + 2.4 | — 0.0 | 19,341 | — 0.1 | + 12.6 |
| Bury, Rochdale, Heywood, Walsden and Todmorden ... | 5,724 | + 4.3 | — 24.3 | 9,502 | + 12.3 | — 22.4 |
| Manchester ... | 4,010 | — 3.0 | + 16.6 | 6,123 | — 5.6 | + 16.2 |
| Preston and Chorley ... | 5,942 | + 1.8 | + 6.5 | 9,551 | + 0.4 | + 9.9 |
| Blackburn, Accrington and Darwen ... | 4,613 | — 2.6 | — 15.9 | 8,094 | — 1.4 | — 15.2 |
| Burnley and Padiham ... | 3,229 | — 7.0 | — 32.8 | 6,483 | — 9.1 | — 22.5 |
| Colne and Nelson ... | 2,612 | — 1.8 | — 17.7 | 5,568 | + 1.0 | — 15.4 |
| Other Lancashire Towns ... | 1,707 | — 4.7 | — 10.3 | 2,317 | + 0.4 | — 4.4 |
| Yorkshire Towns ... | 2,468 | — 4.0 | — 10.8 | 3,734 | + 3.2 | — 14.1 |
| Other Districts ... | 2,736 | — 5.3 | — 8.1 | 4,069 | — 4.7 | + 2.0 |
| TOTAL ... | 62,776 | — 0.9 | — 11.4 | 102,003 | — 1.3 | — 8.7 |

Returns from firms employing nearly 59,000 operatives in the week ended 25th April showed that about 21 per cent. were on short time in that week, with a loss of nearly 16½ hours each, on an 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 27th April, 1931:—

| Department. | Numbers (excluding Casuals) on the Registers at 27th April, 1931. | | | | | | |
|--|--|--------|---------|----------------------|--------|--------|---------|
| | Wholly Unemployed. | | | Temporarily Stopped. | | | Total. |
| | Men. | Women. | Total. | Men. | Women. | Total. | |
| Card and Blow- ing Room ... | 2,395 | 14,332 | 16,727 | 2,234 | 10,236 | 12,470 | 29,197 |
| Spinning ... | 14,078 | 11,343 | 25,421 | 12,106 | 8,539 | 20,645 | 46,066 |
| Beaming, Wind- ing and Warp- ing ... | 2,733 | 13,089 | 15,822 | 2,501 | 12,201 | 14,702 | 30,524 |
| Weaving ... | 11,745 | 41,202 | 52,947 | 3,599 | 9,610 | 13,209 | 66,156 |
| Other Processes | 1,813 | 549 | 2,362 | 504 | 349 | 853 | 3,215 |
| Total ... | 32,764 | 80,515 | 113,279 | 20,944 | 40,935 | 61,879 | 175,158 |

The following Table shows the increases and decreases as compared with 23rd March, 1931:—

| Department. | Wholly Unemployed. | | | Temporarily Stopped. | | | Total. |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|--------------|----------------|----------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| | Men. | Women. | Total. | Men. | Women. | Total. | |
| Card and Blowing Room ... | + 94 | + 431 | + 525 | + 258 | + 2,088 | + 2,346 | + 2,871 |
| Spinning ... | + 451 | + 54 | + 505 | + 2,047 | + 1,564 | + 3,611 | + 4,116 |
| Beaming, Winding and Warping ... | - 6 | + 228 | + 222 | + 587 | + 1,632 | + 2,219 | + 2,441 |
| Weaving ... | - 823 | - 1,696 | - 2,519 | + 339 | + 35 | + 374 | - 2,145 |
| Other Processes ... | - 59 | + 24 | - 35 | + 22 | - 75 | - 53 | - 88 |
| Total ... | - 343 | - 959 | - 1,302 | + 3,253 | + 5,244 | + 8,497 | + 7,195 |

The imports (less re-exports) of raw cotton (including cotton linters) were 69,972,200 lbs. in April, 1931, compared with 99,053,700 lbs. in March, 1931, and with 67,614,800 lbs. in April, 1930.

The exports of cotton yarn were 10,832,100 lbs. in April, 1931, compared with 10,805,900 lbs. in March, 1931, and with 11,483,200 lbs. in April, 1930.

The exports of cotton piece goods in April, 1931, were 135,193,300 square yards, compared with 136,444,400 square yards in the previous month, and 217,049,600 square yards in April, 1930.

WOOL TEXTILE INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT continued very slack, but showed a further slight improvement both in the worsted and in the woollen sections. The improvement was largely seasonal. In the carpet trade employment showed little change, and continued slack.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed in the woollen and worsted industries, including those temporarily stopped, was 25.7 at 27th April, 1931, as compared with 27.2 at 23rd March, 1931, and with 21.3 at 28th April, 1930.

Worsted Section.—Employment showed some further improvement, but was still bad, and worse than a year ago.

At Bradford and at Huddersfield there was some improvement, partly due to seasonal activity; but a number of firms at Huddersfield were still working only three or four days a week. A marked improvement was reported at Shipley. At Keighley the improvement reported last month was maintained. At Halifax there was a further slight improvement, and spinners of botany and merino yarns continued to be well employed. There was also some activity in the yarn spinning trade at Silsden. In the worsted section as a whole, returns from employers for the week ended 25th April showed that about 32 per cent. of the operatives worked short time,* losing 11½ hours each on an average; about 7 per cent. were on overtime, to the extent of nearly 6½ hours each.

With wool sorters employment continued moderate, with about 8 per cent. unemployed and about 10 per cent. on short time. In the combing department there was a decline in all sections, and short time was general; the merino section continued to be the best employed. About 29 per cent. of the operatives covered by the employers' returns in the sorting, combing, and preparing departments lost, on an average, about 12 hours each in short time in the week ended 25th April; about 10 per cent. were on overtime to the extent of 7 hours each.

In the worsted spinning department there was a further slight improvement, but employment was still very slack. About 29 per cent. of the operatives covered by the employers' returns worked short time in the week ended 25th April, losing, on an average, 11½ hours each; about 7 per cent. were on overtime, to the extent of 6 hours each.

In the worsted weaving department there was also some improvement. About 38 per cent. of the operatives covered by the employers' returns worked short time in the week ended 25th April, losing, on an average, about 12 hours* each; about 6 per cent. worked overtime to the extent of 6 hours each.

Woollen Section.—Employment continued slack, but showed a further slight improvement as compared with the previous month. Employers' returns for the week ended 25th April showed that about 40 per cent. of the workers in the spinning department, and about 47 per cent. of those in the weaving department, were on short time,* losing, on an average, about 10 hours each in both departments. In the woollen section as a whole, about 42 per cent. of the operatives lost, on an average, about 10 hours each in short time,* in the week ended 25th April. There was little overtime except in the spinning department, in which 8½ per cent. of the operatives worked overtime to the extent of 8½ hours each.

In the Huddersfield and Colne Valley district employment improved slightly; a few firms worked overtime, or ran sections of their machinery at night. In the Heavy Woollen District (Dewsbury, Batley, etc.) employment was reported to be a little better, but still very poor. Employment in the rug and blanket trade showed an improvement. Employment in the rag and shoddy trade was poor, though a little better than in March. Employment at Morley was very poor and the Easter stoppage was extended. In the Leeds district employment showed little change.

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

In the Stockport district employment with woollen workers was only moderate. At Rochdale most producers had a portion of their machinery idle, and some firms were practically closed all the month; very poor time was worked in most of the mills that were open. At Saddleworth employment was bad, worse than in March, and worse also than a year ago; about 85 per cent. of the trade union operatives were on short time, and large numbers were out of work at the end of April.

In the West of England employment continued slack generally, but an improvement was reported at Trowbridge. In Montgomeryshire employment remained very slack.

In Scotland employment was poor for the time of year, though there was a slight seasonal improvement. Many firms had much of their machinery standing idle or only intermittently employed; and only a very small percentage of the workpeople were working full time.

Carpet Section.—Employment continued slack, and was about the same as a month earlier. At Kidderminster, employment continued bad, and most firms were on short time. In Yorkshire, employment showed a further slight improvement, and was described as fair. In Scotland, employment was described as quiet or poor at the principal centres.

In the carpet industry, as a whole, about 47 per cent. of the workpeople covered by the employers' returns were on short time in the week ended 25th April, losing about 12 hours each on an average; practically no overtime was recorded.

The following Table summarises the returns received from employers:—

| | Number of Workpeople. | | | Total Wages paid to all Workpeople. | | |
|--|------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|
| | Week ended 25th April, 1931. | Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a month before. | Index figure. (Jan., 1926 = 100.) | Week ended 25th April, 1931. | Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a month before. | Index figure. (Jan., 1926 = 100.) |
| Departments : | | | | | | |
| WORSTED SECTION : | | | | | | |
| Wool Sorting and Combing ... | 10,239 | + 0.3 | 89.4 | 23,225 | + 0.3 | 79.0 |
| Spinning... .. | 35,326 | + 1.0 | 83.3 | 51,653 | + 2.5 | 77.4 |
| Weaving... .. | 18,788 | + 2.1 | 87.4 | 34,222 | + 4.6 | 78.0 |
| Other Depts. ... | 9,323 | + 0.4 | 93.7 | 21,076 | + 1.6 | 79.2 |
| Not specified ... | 1,774 | - 0.1 | 99.5 | 3,189 | + 0.1 | 71.4 |
| Total—Worsted | 75,450 | + 1.1 | 86.4 | 133,365 | + 2.4 | 78.3 |
| WOOLLEN SECTION : | | | | | | |
| Wool Sorting ... | 906 | - 0.3 | 74.2 | 1,945 | + 2.6 | 75.3 |
| Spinning... .. | 11,708 | - 0.6 | 81.8 | 23,409 | + 0.7 | 83.7 |
| Weaving... .. | 21,094 | + 1.3 | 89.2 | 36,035 | + 2.5 | 87.2 |
| Other Depts. ... | 15,391 | + 1.9 | 87.6 | 32,866 | + 3.1 | 86.1 |
| Not specified ... | 1,951 | - 12.4 | 68.3 | 3,865 | - 12.0 | 72.1 |
| Total—Woollen | 51,050 | + 0.4 | 85.8 | 98,120 | + 1.6 | 84.9 |
| CARPET SECTION ... | 9,469 | + 0.9 | 101.1 | 16,041 | - 0.4 | 91.7 |
| Total—Wool Textile Industry ... | 135,969 | + 0.8 | 86.9 | 247,526 | + 1.9 | 81.8 |
| Districts† : | | | | | | |
| WORSTED SECTION : | | | | | | |
| Bradford ... | 31,862 | + 1.1 | 82.3 | 59,637 | + 2.2 | 73.5 |
| Huddersfield ... | 8,949 | + 3.1 | 100.3 | 16,220 | + 6.8 | 83.6 |
| Halifax ... | 8,756 | + 0.5 | 82.8 | 14,178 | + 1.5 | 74.5 |
| Leeds ... | 8,026 | + 0.5 | 91.2 | 13,478 | + 0.8 | 84.9 |
| Keighley... .. | 7,801 | + 0.4 | 87.8 | 13,444 | + 0.6 | 86.9 |
| Heavy Woollen (Dewsbury, Batley, etc.) ... | 3,408 | + 1.4 | 97.8 | 4,998 | + 2.6 | 94.9 |
| Total, West Riding ... | 68,802 | + 1.1 | 86.4 | 121,955 | + 2.4 | 77.7 |
| West of England and Midlands ... | 4,494 | + 1.7 | 83.4 | 8,031 | + 3.6 | 77.2 |
| Lancashire ... | 295 | - 6.1 | 101.2 | 542 | - 11.1 | 94.7 |
| Scotland... .. | 1,859 | - 0.7 | 89.1 | 2,837 | + 5.6 | 110.2 |
| Total—Worsted | 75,450 | + 1.1 | 86.4 | 133,365 | + 2.4 | 78.3 |
| WOOLLEN SECTION : | | | | | | |
| Huddersfield ... | 11,905 | + 0.8 | 84.4 | 25,921 | + 1.5 | 80.9 |
| Heavy Woollen (Dewsbury, Batley, etc.) ... | 9,743 | + 1.3 | 84.2 | 18,527 | + 3.7 | 89.3 |
| Leeds ... | 6,274 | - 1.9 | 85.9 | 12,256 | - 2.1 | 84.8 |
| Halifax and Calder Vale ... | 2,042 | + 1.7 | 82.5 | 4,136 | + 1.3 | 71.0 |
| Bradford ... | 1,197 | - 6.2 | 92.9 | 2,498 | + 1.4 | 84.5 |
| Total, West Riding ... | 31,161 | + 0.2 | 85.8 | 63,338 | + 1.4 | 85.9 |
| Lancashire ... | 4,671 | - 0.7 | 87.3 | 8,953 | - 0.5 | 88.3 |
| West of England and Midlands ... | 3,648 | + 1.0 | 89.8 | 6,290 | - 1.4 | 93.8 |
| Scotland... .. | 11,462 | + 1.0 | 83.8 | 19,384 | + 4.3 | 78.3 |
| Wales ... | 108 | + 31.7 | 84.4 | 155 | + 33.6 | 87.3 |
| Total—Woollen | 51,050 | + 0.4 | 85.8 | 98,120 | + 1.6 | 84.9 |
| CARPET SECTION ... | 9,469 | + 0.9 | 101.1 | 16,041 | - 0.4 | 91.7 |
| Total—Wool Textile Industry ... | 135,969 | + 0.8 | 86.9 | 247,526 | + 1.9 | 81.8 |

* Comparison with 1926 is affected by reductions in rates of wages.

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

The following Tables show, by districts and by departments, the percentage increases and decreases in the numbers employed in the week ended 25th April, 1931, by those firms who supplied returns for the purpose of the foregoing Table (excluding the carpet section), as compared with the week ended 28th March, 1931:—

| | Percentage Inc. (+) or Dec. (−) in numbers employed as compared with previous month. (— without a figure, signifies "few or no workpeople returned.") | | | | |
|--|--|-----------|----------|--------------|---------------------------------------|
| | Wool Sorting and Combing. | Spinning. | Weaving. | Other Depts. | All Depts. (including not specified). |
| WORSTED SECTION: | | | | | |
| Bradford ... | − 0.3 | + 1.6 | + 2.2 | − 1.2 | + 1.1 |
| Huddersfield ... | + 2.8 | + 2.2 | + 5.0 | + 0.4 | + 3.1 |
| Halifax ... | + 0.4 | + 0.9 | + 1.1 | − 0.6 | + 0.5 |
| Leeds ... | — | + 1.0 | − 0.6 | − 0.1 | + 0.5 |
| Keighley ... | − 1.3 | + 0.4 | − 0.1 | + 3.8 | + 0.4 |
| Heavy Woollen (Dewsbury, Batley, etc.) ... | — | + 1.1 | — | − 0.9 | + 1.4 |
| Total, West Riding ... | + 0.3 | + 1.2 | + 2.0 | − 0.0 | + 1.1 |
| West of England and Midlands ... | + 0.6 | + 0.1 | + 3.8 | + 2.6 | + 1.7 |
| Lancashire ... | — | − 4.0 | — | — | − 6.1 |
| Scotland ... | + 0.9 | − 1.9 | — | + 0.9 | − 0.7 |
| TOTAL ... | + 0.3 | + 1.0 | + 2.1 | + 0.4 | + 1.1 |

| | Percentage Inc. (+) or Dec. (−) in numbers employed as compared with previous month. | | | |
|--|--|----------|--------------|---------------------------------------|
| | Spinning. | Weaving. | Other Depts. | All Depts. (including not specified). |
| WOOLLEN SECTION: | | | | |
| Huddersfield ... | + 0.5 | − 0.0 | + 3.5 | + 0.8 |
| Heavy Woollen (Dewsbury, Batley, etc.) ... | − 0.4 | + 2.1 | + 1.6 | + 1.3 |
| Leeds ... | − 5.1 | − 0.3 | − 2.4 | − 1.9 |
| Halifax and Calder Vale ... | − 0.3 | + 2.3 | + 3.5 | + 1.7 |
| Bradford ... | − 1.7 | − 0.2 | − 16.0 | − 6.2 |
| Total, West Riding ... | − 0.9 | + 0.7 | + 0.8 | + 0.2 |
| Lancashire ... | − 0.3 | + 3.3 | + 7.4 | − 0.7 |
| West of England and Midlands ... | + 0.6 | + 1.0 | + 1.5 | + 1.0 |
| Scotland ... | − 0.6 | + 2.1 | + 2.5 | + 1.0 |
| Wales ... | + 31.3 | + 51.5 | + 11.1 | + 31.7 |
| TOTAL ... | − 0.6 | + 1.3 | + 1.9 | + 0.4 |

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 27th April, 1931:—

| Department. | Numbers (excluding Casuals) on the Registers at 27th April, 1931. | | | | | | Total. |
|-------------------------------------|--|--------|--------|----------------------|--------|--------|--------|
| | Wholly Unemployed. | | | Temporarily Stopped. | | | |
| | Men. | Women. | Total. | Men. | Women. | Total. | |
| Wool Sorting ... | 247 | 5 | 252 | 333 | 4 | 337 | 589 |
| Wool Washing and Preparing ... | 751 | 951 | 1,702 | 559 | 342 | 901 | 2,603 |
| Wool Combing ... | 443 | 764 | 1,207 | 915 | 555 | 1,470 | 2,677 |
| Wool Carding ... | 794 | 290 | 1,084 | 772 | 142 | 914 | 1,998 |
| Woollen Spinning ... | 634 | 382 | 1,016 | 480 | 326 | 806 | 1,822 |
| Worsted Drawing and Spinning ... | 1,018 | 4,904 | 5,922 | 323 | 2,537 | 2,860 | 8,782 |
| Wool Winding and Warping ... | 181 | 70 | 251 | 393 | 95 | 488 | 739 |
| Worsted Winding and Warping ... | 214 | 921 | 1,135 | 343 | 1,207 | 1,550 | 2,685 |
| Woollen Weaving ... | 412 | 2,486 | 2,898 | 487 | 2,590 | 3,077 | 5,975 |
| Worsted Weaving ... | 352 | 1,597 | 1,949 | 215 | 3,329 | 3,544 | 5,493 |
| Other Processes ... | 1,591 | 283 | 1,874 | 1,388 | 258 | 1,646 | 3,520 |
| Total ... | 6,637 | 12,653 | 19,290 | 6,208 | 11,385 | 17,593 | 36,883 |

The following Table shows the increases and decreases as compared with 23rd March, 1931:—

| Department. | Wholly Unemployed. | | | Temporarily Stopped. | | | Total. |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|--------|--------|----------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| | Men. | Women. | Total. | Men. | Women. | Total. | |
| Wool Sorting ... | − 28 | ... | − 28 | + 207 | ... | + 207 | + 179 |
| Wool Washing and Preparing ... | − 75 | + 60 | − 135 | − 60 | − 143 | − 203 | − 338 |
| Wool Combing ... | − 44 | + 3 | − 41 | + 362 | + 49 | + 411 | + 370 |
| Wool Carding ... | − 40 | + 20 | − 20 | + 44 | + 9 | + 53 | + 33 |
| Woollen Spinning ... | − 14 | + 15 | + 1 | − 14 | + 12 | − 2 | − 1 |
| Worsted Drawing and Spinning ... | + 8 | − 277 | − 269 | − 207 | − 681 | − 888 | − 1,157 |
| Wool Winding and Warping ... | + 6 | ... | + 6 | − 7 | − 34 | − 41 | − 35 |
| Worsted Winding and Warping ... | − 34 | − 85 | − 119 | + 105 | + 235 | + 340 | + 221 |
| Woollen Weaving ... | + 109 | − 51 | + 58 | − 23 | − 324 | − 347 | − 289 |
| Worsted Weaving ... | − 27 | + 23 | − 4 | + 27 | − 483 | − 456 | − 460 |
| Other Processes ... | + 45 | + 17 | + 62 | − 178 | − 63 | − 241 | − 179 |
| Total ... | − 94 | − 395 | − 489 | + 256 | − 1,423 | − 1,167 | − 1,656 |

The imports (less re-exports) of raw wool (sheep's or lambs') were 86,173,500 lbs. in April, 1931, compared with 86,060,400 lbs. in the previous month, and 51,813,800 lbs. in April, 1930.

The exports of woollen and worsted yarns were 2,419,700 lbs., compared with 2,175,100 lbs. in March, 1931, and with 3,023,100 lbs. in April, 1930.

The exports of woollen and worsted tissues in April, 1931, were 4,997,400 square yards, compared with 7,827,200 square yards in the previous month, and with 6,985,000 square yards in April, 1930.

The exports of blankets were 30,936 pairs, 35,494 pairs and 47,775 pairs in April, 1931, March, 1931 and April, 1930 respectively.

BOOT AND SHOE INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT during April showed a further slight improvement at almost all centres, largely due to seasonal causes; but was still only moderate with most firms. The Easter holidays were extended up to about 10 days by some firms. Taking the industry as a whole, employment was slightly worse than in April, 1930.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, was 18.4 at 27th April, 1931, as compared with 19.2 at 23rd March, 1931, and with 17.5 at 28th April, 1930.

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 25th April, 1931. | Inc (+) or Dec. (−) on a | | Week ended 25th April, 1931. | Inc. (+) or Dec. (−) on a | |
| | | Month before. | Year before. | | Month before. | Year before. |
| | | Per cent. | Per cent. | £ | Per cent. | Per cent. |
| England and Wales:— | | | | | | |
| London | 1,865 | + 1.0 | − 7.2 | 4,278 | + 2.1 | − 7.6 |
| Leicester | 10,594 | + 0.5 | + 1.7 | 25,766 | + 1.2 | − 0.7 |
| Leicester Country District | 4,023 | + 3.0 | + 7.3 | 9,348 | + 8.5 | + 0.6 |
| Northampton... .. | 8,644 | + 1.9 | − 5.3 | 19,865 | + 1.9 | − 7.8 |
| Higham, Rushden and District | 5,644 | + 1.3 | − 0.4 | 12,861 | + 5.4 | + 0.4 |
| Kettering and District | 5,618 | + 0.6 | + 1.8 | 13,899 | + 1.2 | + 5.2 |
| Rest of Northants | 1,600 | + 3.8 | − 4.8 | 3,325 | + 6.3 | + 1.2 |
| Stafford and District | 2,525 | + 1.0 | + 0.2 | 5,276 | + 0.8 | − 3.0 |
| Norwich and District | 6,127 | + 0.7 | − 6.7 | 12,351 | − 1.3 | − 10.8 |
| Bristol, Kingswood and District | 2,027 | − 1.2 | + 5.0 | 3,329 | + 0.6 | − 5.9 |
| Leeds and District | 1,670 | + 1.3 | − 3.5 | 3,653 | + 10.9 | − 10.3 |
| Lancashire (mainly Rossendale Valley) | 5,793 | + 4.9 | + 3.5 | 11,347 | + 7.1 | − 5.6 |
| Birmingham and District | 1,128 | + 0.3 | − 7.8 | 2,217 | + 11.6 | − 11.1 |
| Other parts of England and Wales | 3,810 | + 0.4 | − 4.4 | 8,244 | + 0.7 | − 10.1 |
| England and Wales | 61,068 | + 1.5 | − 1.1 | 135,759 | + 2.9 | − 3.9 |
| Scotland | 1,998 | + 0.3 | − 6.9 | 4,047 | − 6.5 | − 14.1 |
| Great Britain... .. | 63,066 | + 1.4 | − 1.3 | 139,806 | + 2.6 | − 4.2 |

Returns received from firms employing nearly 62,000 workpeople in the week ended 25th April indicated that a little over two-fifths of these operatives were on short time in that week, losing about 9½ hours each on the average; on the other hand, 8 per cent. were on overtime, to the extent of about 4½ hours each on the average.

Employment in London showed a further slight improvement, but remained quiet with most firms, and was below the level of April, 1930. At Leicester employment continued to improve, and was fair with some firms. In the week ended 25th April, 43 per cent. of the operatives covered by the employers' returns were on short time, losing about 10½ hours each on the average. In the Leicester country district there was a noticeable improvement, and employment was moderate. At Northampton, Higham and Rushden, and Wellingborough, there was a slight improvement, on the whole; while some firms were comparatively busy, with overtime working in some departments, others were slack, with much short time. At Northampton nearly two-thirds of the operatives covered by the employers' returns for the week ended 25th April were on short time, losing about 9½ hours each on the average. At Kettering employment, on the whole, was moderate to fair. This was still the only important centre which showed an appreciable improvement on last year. There was some decline at Earls Barton and at Finedon; at Wollaston, employment was again reported as bad; on the other hand, there was some improvement at Irthlingborough and at Raunds. At Stafford employment remained moderate; for the third month in succession the amount of short time working was well below the very high levels of October to January. At Norwich employment remained moderate.

In the Bristol and Kingswood district employment continued moderate in the light shoe trade, and slack in the heavy boot trade, with much short-time working; more than half the operatives covered by the employers' returns were working short time in the week ended 25th April, losing 15½ hours each on the average. At Leeds employment showed an improvement, but remained bad. In the slipper trade in Lancashire there was a slight improvement on the whole, but much short time was still being worked at Rawtenstall, Bury, and Bacup; employment remained good at Preston.

In Scotland employment remained slack or bad with most firms in the principal centres. It showed a decline, and was much below the level of last year.

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 27th April, 1931:—

| April, 1931:— | | Numbers (excluding Casuals) on the Registers at 27th April, 1931. | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------|--|--------|----------------------|--------|--------|--------|
| Department. | Wholly Unemployed. | | | Temporarily Stopped. | | | Total. |
| | Men. | Women. | Total. | Men. | Women. | Total. | |
| Boot and Shoe Manu- facture : | | | | | | | |
| Preparing Depart- ment ... | 217 | 88 | 305 | 67 | 54 | 121 | 426 |
| Rough Stuff De- partment ... | 490 | 46 | 536 | 224 | 10 | 234 | 770 |
| Clicking Department | 1,007 | 26 | 1,033 | 1,049 | 12 | 1,061 | 2,094 |
| Closing Department | 35 | 1,618 | 1,653 | 5 | 1,317 | 1,322 | 2,975 |
| Making Department | 2,330 | 69 | 2,399 | 1,843 | 44 | 1,887 | 4,286 |
| Finishing Depart- ment ... | 1,724 | 699 | 2,423 | 1,142 | 227 | 1,369 | 3,792 |
| Slipper Making ... | 442 | 249 | 691 | 305 | 648 | 953 | 1,644 |
| Clog Making... | 23 | 2 | 25 | 4 | ... | 4 | 29 |
| Repairing and Hand- sewn Work ... | 807 | 9 | 816 | 45 | 1 | 46 | 862 |
| TOTAL ... | 7,075 | 2,806 | 9,881 | 4,684 | 2,313 | 6,997 | 16,878 |

The following Table shows the increases and decreases as compared with 23rd March, 1931:—

| Department. | Wholly Unemployed. | | | Temporarily Stopped. | | | Total. |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|-------------|--------------|----------------------|-------------|----------------|----------------|
| | Men. | Women. | Total. | Men. | Women. | Total. | |
| Boot and Shoe Manufacture: | | | | | | | |
| Preparing Department ... | + 37 | + 16 | + 53 | - 34 | ... | - 34 | + 19 |
| Rough Stuff Department ... | - 5 | - 3 | - 8 | - 83 | + 18 | - 101 | - 109 |
| Clicking Department ... | ... | + 2 | + 2 | - 348 | + 3 | - 345 | - 343 |
| Closing Department ... | - 14 | - 34 | - 48 | - 2 | - 31 | - 33 | - 81 |
| Making Department ... | - 44 | - 20 | - 64 | - 232 | - 13 | - 245 | - 309 |
| Finishing Department ... | - 45 | - 39 | - 84 | - 75 | + 3 | - 72 | - 156 |
| Slipper Making ... | + 30 | + 4 | + 34 | - 532 | + 47 | - 485 | - 451 |
| Clog Making ... | + 5 | - 2 | + 3 | + 3 | - 1 | + 2 | + 5 |
| Repairing and Hand-sewn Work ... | + 14 | - 8 | + 6 | - 15 | - 3 | - 18 | - 12 |
| TOTAL ... | - 22 | - 84 | - 106 | - 1,318 | - 13 | - 1,331 | - 1,437 |

The exports of boots and shoes in April, 1931, amounted to 84,632 dozen pairs, or 7,643 dozen pairs less than in March, 1931, and 38,188 dozen pairs less than in April, 1930.

BRICK INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT during April showed a further slight improvement, but remained slack on the whole. In the Peterborough district, however, it continued fairly good.

The percentage of insured persons unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, was 17.9 at 27th April, 1931, as compared with 19.4 at 23rd March, 1931, and 13.1 at 28th April, 1930.

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

| Districts. | Number of Workpeople. | | Total Wages paid to all Workpeople. | |
|---|------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| | Week ended 25th April, 1931. | Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a | Week ended 25th April, 1931. | Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a |
| | | Month before. | | Month before. |
| | | Per cent. | | Per cent. |
| Northern Counties, Yorkshire, Lancashire and Cheshire ... | 1,560 | - 0.3 | 3,796 | - 2.9 |
| Midlands and Eastern Counties ... | 6,315 | + 2.3 | 17,497 | + 3.2 |
| South and South-West Counties and Wales ... | 1,410 | + 1.7 | 2,879 | - 4.7 |
| Scotland ... | 179 | + 0.6 | 443 | + 6.0 |
| TOTAL ... | 9,464 | + 1.7 | 24,615 | + 1.3 |

Returns from employers relative to short-time working, exclusive of time lost on account of bad weather, showed that, of 8,783 workpeople employed by firms furnishing information, about 4 per cent. were working on an average nearly 13½ hours less than full time in the week ended 25th April, 1931. The amount of overtime worked was very small.

BUILDING.

EMPLOYMENT continued to improve slowly during April, but was still slack, on the whole, at the end of the month. It was reported as good, however, in West Middlesex and North-West Surrey, and as fair at a few centres, including Bristol, Coventry and Southend-on-Sea. As compared with April, 1930, employment was worse in each administrative division, particularly in Wales and Northern Ireland.

As regards individual occupations employment was considerably better with painters and showed some improvement with each of the remaining classes of operatives, except plumbers, with whom there was a slight decline. Employment was moderate to slack, on the whole, with bricklayers and masons, very slack with carpenters and bad with plasterers, plumbers and slaters. It was moderate with painters and slack with tradesmen's labourers. As compared with April, 1930, employment showed a marked decline with each class of worker.

The following Table shows the numbers and percentages of workpeople insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts who were recorded as unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, at 27th April, 1931, together with the increase or decrease as compared with the previous month and with April, 1930:—

| OCCUPATIONS. | Estimated Numbers of Insured Workpeople at July, 1930. | Total Numbers Unemployed at 27th April, 1931. | 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 ... | 125,700 | 25,050 | 941 | 19.9 | - 2.2 | + 8.9 |
| Bricklayers ... | 73,790 | 10,298 | 658 | 14.0 | - 3.6 | + 5.4 |
| Masons ... | 21,180 | 3,065 | 260 | 14.5 | - 3.0 | + 6.8 |
| Slaters ... | 6,020 | 1,346 | 132 | 22.4 | - 3.2 | + 7.0 |
| Plasterers ... | 24,260 | 5,183 | 354 | 21.4 | - 0.8 | + 5.6 |
| Painters ... | 105,660 | 14,781 | 349 | 14.0 | - 10.3 | + 5.9 |
| Plumbers ... | 32,850 | 6,856 | 425 | 20.9 | + 1.0 | + 6.4 |
| Labourers to above ... | 240,660 | 48,944 | 1,700 | 20.3 | - 2.3 | + 4.2 |
| All other occupations ... | 202,150 | 46,791 | 1,948 | 23.1 | - 1.2 | + 4.1 |
| Total ... | 832,270 | 162,314 | 6,767 | 19.5 | - 3.0 | + 5.6 |
| DIVISIONS. | | | | | | |
| London ... | 177,960 | 29,711 | 173 | 16.7 | - 3.1 | + 6.8 |
| South-Eastern ... | 134,170 | 15,783 | 109 | 11.8 | - 2.2 | + 4.7 |
| South-Western ... | 102,830 | 14,810 | 152 | 14.4 | - 2.0 | + 4.6 |
| Midlands ... | 101,130 | 19,193 | 1,318 | 19.0 | - 2.6 | + 5.0 |
| North-Eastern ... | 95,710 | 23,874 | 1,851 | 24.9 | - 4.7 | + 3.0 |
| North-Western ... | 103,210 | 25,852 | 1,621 | 25.0 | - 4.2 | + 5.1 |
| Scotland ... | 75,250 | 16,884 | 1,051 | 22.4 | - 4.7 | + 7.8 |
| Wales ... | 25,640 | 9,921 | 477 | 38.7 | - 1.8 | + 11.2 |
| Northern Ireland ... | 16,370 | 6,286 | 15 | 38.4 | + 7.3 | + 13.0 |
| Great Britain and Northern Ireland ... | 832,270 | 162,314 | 6,767 | 19.5 | - 3.0 | + 5.6 |

BUILDING PLANS APPROVED.

Returns from Local Authorities in 140 of the principal urban areas in Great Britain (except the London County Council area) with a total population of 15,584,000, show that in April, 1931, plans were passed for buildings of an estimated cost of £5,672,900 as compared with £5,284,900 in March, 1931, and £5,997,300 in April, 1930. Of the total for April, 1931, dwelling-houses accounted for £3,513,400; factories and workshops for £253,000; shops, offices, warehouses and other business premises for £555,700; and other buildings, and additions and alterations to existing buildings, for £1,350,800.

POTTERY INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT in North Staffordshire showed a decline and was bad, on the whole, with much short-time working; short-time working also continued at Derby and Worcester. At Bristol a further slight improvement was reported, but employment was still slack. In the stoneware section in Scotland employment continued bad.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, was 33.8 at 27th April, 1931, as compared with 30.8 at 23rd March, 1931, and 25.8 at 28th April, 1930.

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 25th April, 1931. | Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a | Week ended 25th April, 1931. | Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a |
| | | Month before. | | Month before. |
| | | Per cent. | | Per cent. |
| China Manufacture ... | 1,405 | - 33.2 | 2,653 | - 34.4 |
| Earthenware Manufacture ... | 7,004 | + 0.5 | 11,975 | + 1.1 |
| Other Branches (including unspecified) ... | 1,691 | - 0.4 | 2,898 | + 0.2 |
| TOTAL ... | 10,100 | - 6.2 | 17,526 | - 6.7 |
| DISTRICTS. | | | | |
| North Staffordshire ... | 7,789 | - 7.4 | 12,433 | - 9.6 |
| Other Districts ... | 2,311 | - 1.9 | 5,093 | + 1.5 |
| TOTAL ... | 10,100 | - 6.2 | 17,526 | - 6.7 |

Returns from employers relative to short-time working showed that, of 9,510 workpeople employed by firms making returns, 3,928, or over 41 per cent., were working on an average about 16½ hours less than full time in the week ended 25th April, 1931; the amount of overtime worked was very small.

PAPER MANUFACTURE, PRINTING, AND BOOKBINDING.

EMPLOYMENT during April continued moderate on the whole in the paper-making industry. Short time continued to be worked in a number of mills; in a few districts, however, a slight improvement was reported on the previous month. Employment continued slack generally in the hand-made section.

With letterpress printers employment on the whole showed little change compared with March and was generally moderate; a decline was reported in London and also at Birmingham, Bradford, and Edinburgh, while there was some improvement at Bristol, Cardiff, Reading, and Watford. With electrotypers and stereotypers employment was still fairly good in most districts outside the London area, where it was reported as bad; some decline as compared with March, however, was reported at Manchester and Edinburgh.

Employment generally continued bad or slack with lithographic printers, and much short time was reported from several centres, including Liverpool, Manchester, Bristol and Glasgow; there was a slight improvement in a few districts, including Manchester, Leeds, and Leicester. With lithographic artists employment was generally only moderate; there was a slight improvement at Liverpool and Leeds, but in London and Manchester employment was slack, and worse than in March.

Employment continued slack, on the whole, in the bookbinding industry.

The percentage unemployed among insured workpeople in the paper and paper-board industries was 13.8 at 27th April, 1931, compared with 13.5 at 23rd March, 1931, and 7.8 at 28th April, 1930. In the printing and bookbinding industries the percentage was 10.0 at 27th April, 1931, compared with 10.1 at 23rd March, 1931, and 6.2 at 28th April, 1930. In the cardboard box, paper bag, and stationery industries the percentage was 12.5 at 27th April, 1931, compared with 12.0 at 23rd March, 1931, and 7.8 at 28th April, 1930.

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

| | No. of Members of Unions at end of April, 1931. | Percentage Unemployed at end of | | | Increase (+) or Decrease (—) on a | |
|--|---|---------------------------------|--------------|--------------|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| | | April, 1931. | March, 1931. | April, 1930. | Month before. | Year before. |
| Letterpress Printing : | | | | | | |
| London | 38,856 | 5.2 | 5.0 | 2.8 | + 0.2 | + 2.4 |
| Northern Counties, Yorkshire, Lancashire and Cheshire. | 17,048 | 6.8 | 6.6 | 4.5 | + 0.2 | + 2.3 |
| Midlands and Eastern Counties | 10,805 | 4.5 | 4.2 | 2.5 | + 0.3 | + 2.0 |
| Scotland | 6,328 | 6.9 | 7.5 | 2.7 | - 0.6 | + 4.2 |
| Other Districts ... | 11,048 | 5.3 | 4.2 | 2.6 | + 1.1 | + 2.7 |
| Total | 84,085 | 5.6 | 5.3 | 3.1 | + 0.3 | + 2.5 |
| Lithographic Printing | 11,549 | 8.0 | 7.4 | 3.5 | + 0.6 | + 4.5 |
| Bookbinding | 19,085 | 8.3 | 8.3 | 3.8 | ... | + 4.5 |

DOCK AND RIVERSIDE LABOUR.

EMPLOYMENT remained very slack during April. Among insured workpeople in the dock, harbour, river and canal service, 41.1 per cent. were unemployed at 27th April, 1931, as compared with 41.9 per cent. at 23rd March, 1931, and 36.0 per cent. at 28th April, 1930.

London.—Employment continued to be slack. The following Table shows the average daily number of dock labourers employed at docks and wharves in respect of which returns were received :—

| Period. | Average Daily Number of Labourers employed in Docks and at Principal Wharves in London. | | | | |
|---|---|----------------------|--------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| | In Docks. | | | At Wharves making Returns. | Total, Docks and Principal Wharves. |
| | By the Port of London Authority or through Contractors. | By Ship-owners, etc. | Total. | | |
| Week ended— | | | | | |
| 4th April, 1931 | 3,795 | 1,559 | 5,354 | 8,127 | 13,481 |
| 11th " " | 3,967 | 1,966 | 5,933 | 8,312 | 14,245 |
| 18th " " | 3,624 | 2,691 | 6,315 | 8,252 | 14,567 |
| 25th " " | 3,537 | 1,882 | 5,419 | 7,777 | 13,196 |
| Average for 4 weeks ended 25th April, 1931 | 3,717 | 2,048 | 5,765 | 8,108 | 13,873 |
| Average for March, 1931 | 4,017 | 1,892 | 5,909 | 7,925 | 13,834 |
| Average for April, 1930 | 4,043 | 2,005 | 6,048 | 7,865 | 13,913 |

Tilbury.—The average daily number of dock labourers employed during April was 866, compared with 705 in March, 1931, and with 807 in April, 1930.

East Coast.—Employment was slack at the Hartlepoons and at Middlesbrough, fair at South Shields, and fairly good at Sunderland. At Hull it was moderate, but it continued slack at Ipswich, Yarmouth, Lowestoft, King's Lynn and Boston.

Liverpool.—Employment remained very slack. The average weekly number of dock labourers registered at the clearing houses under the Liverpool Docks Scheme as employed in the five weeks ended 1st May, 1931, was 11,253, compared with 11,242 in March, 1931, and with 13,095 in April, 1930. The average weekly amount of wages paid to these men through the clearing houses was £23,392 in the five weeks ended 1st May, 1931, compared with £24,269 in March, 1931, and with £29,854 in April, 1930.

Other Ports in England and Wales.—Employment continued slack at the South Wales ports, an improvement in the fruit and vegetable trades being offset by decreases in other cargoes. Employment continued to decline at Avonmouth, and was fair at Bristol. At Southampton, Plymouth and most other South-Western ports it remained slack.

Scottish and Irish Ports.—At Glasgow and Dundee employment remained bad, and at Belfast fair. At Leith and Grangemouth it was moderate, and rather better than in March. There was also some increased activity at Aberdeen during April.

SEAMEN.

DURING April employment remained slack on the whole, and the supply of seamen was more than adequate for requirements at all ports. The demand was on a low level in the early part of April, but as the month progressed some improvement took place at a number of ports.

Among insured workpeople in the shipping service the percentage unemployed at 27th April, 1931, was 34.3, compared with 34.4 at 23rd March, 1931, and 23.5 at 28th April, 1930.

The demand for men on the Thames was quiet to moderate on the whole. On the Tyne it was fairly good apart from some inactivity early in April; on the Tees it was quiet, with a slightly better tendency towards the end of the month; at the Hartlepoons it fluctuated and in the last week was brisk; on the Wear after a moderate start the demand slackened. At Hull the demand was poor in the first half of April but improved subsequently, and at the end of the month was moderate. At Southampton the demand was slack generally, but there was an upward tendency late in the month. At Bristol, apart from some activity in the third week, it was very dull; at Avonmouth it was fair in the first half of the month but only moderate thereafter. At Newport and Cardiff the demand showed a gradual improvement, and at the end of April was fairly good; at Swansea the demand improved during the first fortnight but then slackened, and at the end of the month was dull. On the Mersey a substantial improvement took place and at the end of April the demand was moderate; at Manchester it was generally fair, except for some slackness in the middle of the month. On the Clyde the demand was moderate, but towards the end of April conditions became quieter; at Leith it was slack until the last week, when a marked improvement took place. At Belfast it was moderate in the early part of April but slack thereafter.

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

| Principal Ports. | Number of Seamen* shipped in | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|-------------------|----------------|
| | April, 1931. | Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) on a | | Four Months ended | |
| | | Month before. | Year before. | April, 1931. | April, 1930. |
| ENGLAND AND WALES : | | | | | |
| Liverpool† | 9,684 | + 2,231 | - 3,280 | 33,598 | 45,219 |
| Manchester | 758 | + 89 | + 211 | 2,506 | 2,448 |
| London | 7,876 | + 813 | - 1,329 | 30,486 | 35,490 |
| Southampton... .. | 9,611 | + 1,564 | - 714 | 29,613 | 31,485 |
| Tyne Ports | 2,337 | + 411 | + 98 | 7,858 | 8,633 |
| Sunderland | 301 | + 37 | - 25 | 952 | 957 |
| Middlesbrough ... | 173 | + 3 | - 132 | 664 | 1,606 |
| Hull | 874 | + 107 | - 387 | 3,380 | 4,136 |
| Bristol‡ | 940 | + 55 | - 15 | 3,553 | 3,443 |
| Newport, Mon. ... | 367 | + 45 | - 16 | 1,721 | 2,305 |
| Cardiff§ | 2,241 | + 372 | + 247 | 7,266 | 8,735 |
| Swansea | 473 | - 81 | - 252 | 2,001 | 2,525 |
| SCOTLAND : | | | | | |
| Leith | 301 | + 152 | - 25 | 948 | 973 |
| Kirkcaldy, Methil and Grangemouth ... | 416 | + 199 | + 129 | 1,372 | 1,360 |
| Glasgow | 2,857 | + 648 | - 1,789 | 9,593 | 12,615 |
| NORTHERN IRELAND : | | | | | |
| Belfast | 198 | + 50 | + 101 | 572 | 913 |
| TOTAL for above Ports | 39,407 | + 6,695 | - 7,178 | 136,083 | 162,843 |

* 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 27th April, 1931, and the increase or decrease at that date in the total percentages unemployed compared with a month earlier, a year before, and two years before, 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.

The numbers unemployed given in the following Table relate only to persons insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts. They include insured persons who are maintaining registration at Employment Exchanges, together with those whose unemployment books remain lodged in the "two months" file referred to above. The figures given on page 190 relating to persons registered at Employment Exchanges include uninsured as well as insured persons who are maintaining registration for employment, but not insured persons whose books are in the two months file.

A Table showing the composition of the two series of figures is given on page 190.

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 do not now 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.

NUMBER OF INSURED PERSONS RECORDED AS UNEMPLOYED AT 27th APRIL, 1931.

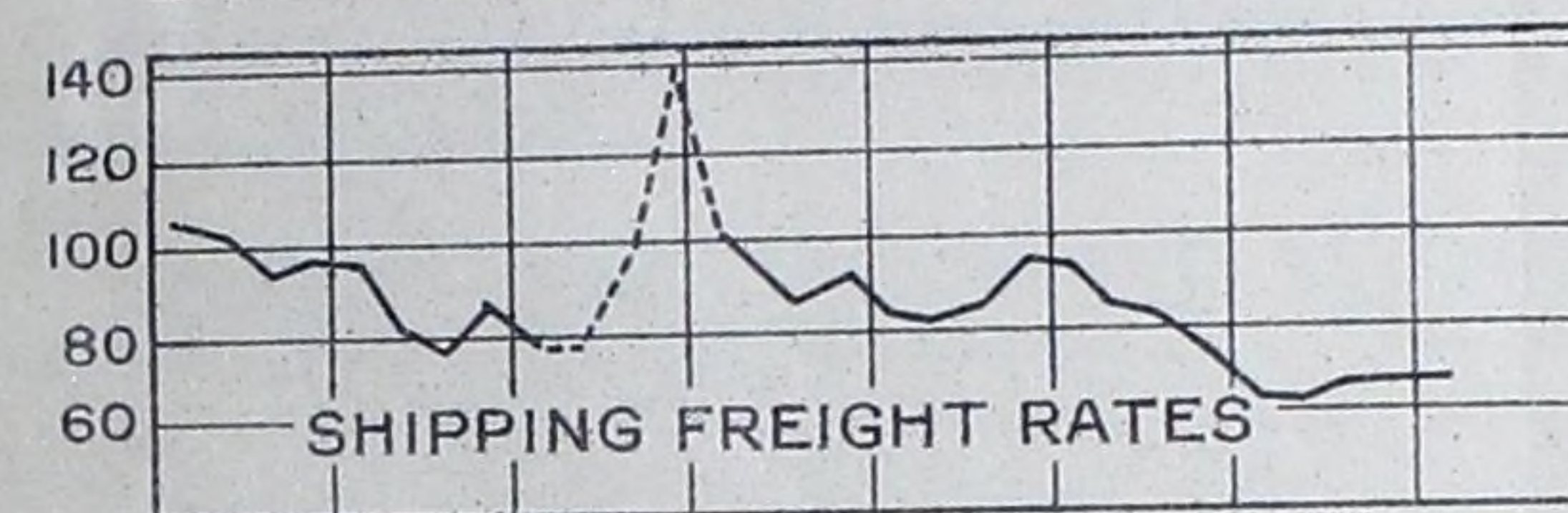
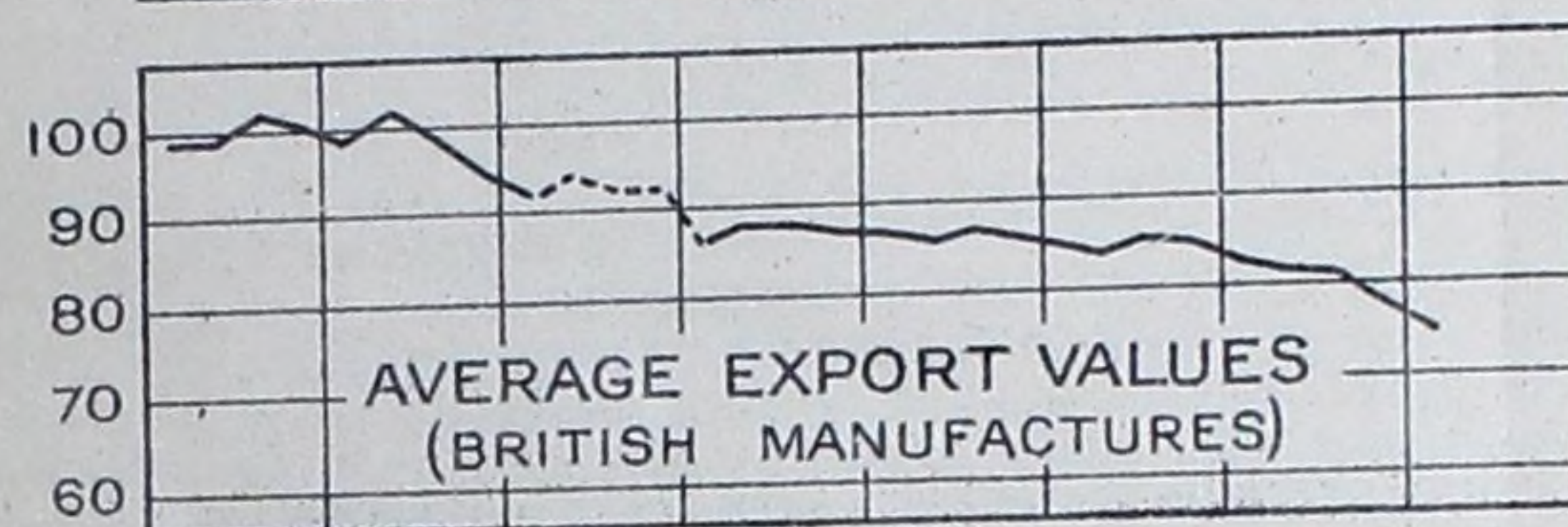
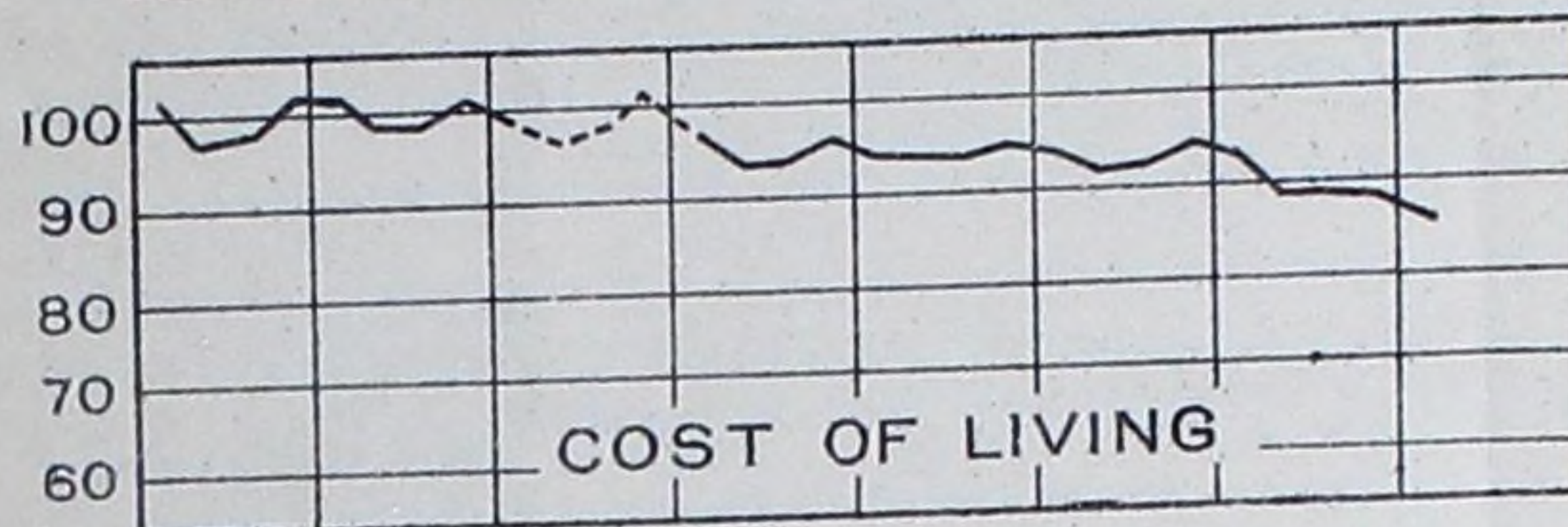
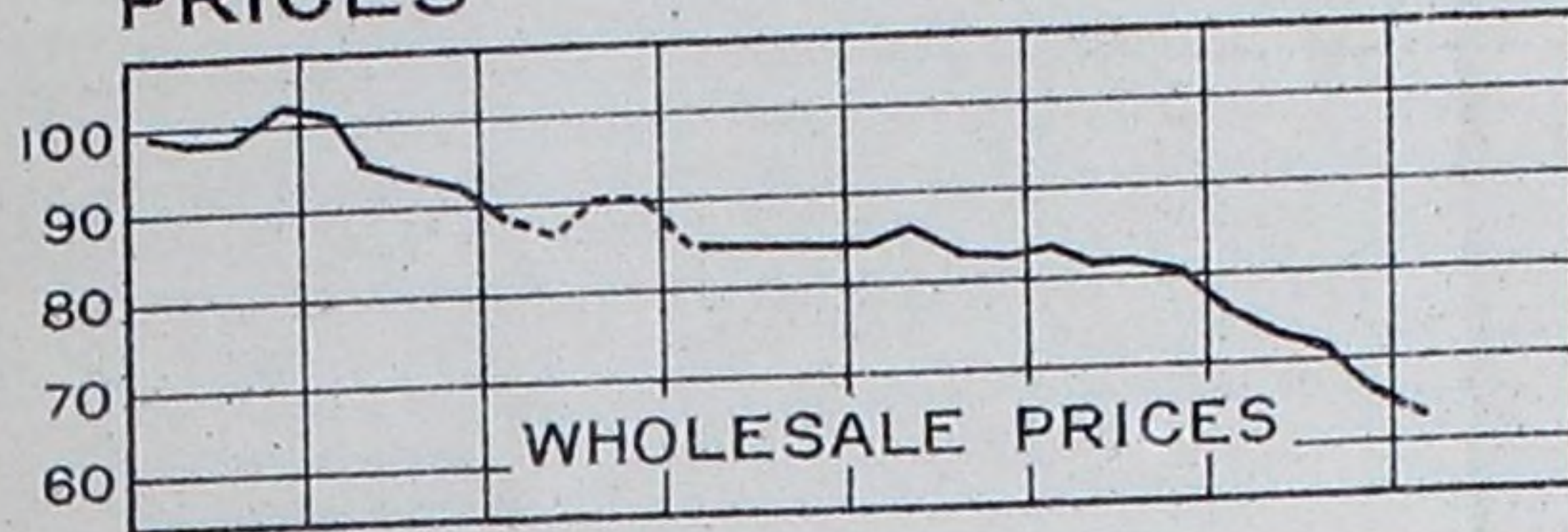
| INDUSTRY. | GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND. | | | | | | | | | GREAT BRITAIN ONLY. | | |
|--|---|----------|---------|----------------------|----------|--------|---------|----------|---------|--|----------|---------|
| | WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED (including Casuals). | | | TEMPORARY STOPPAGES. | | | TOTAL. | | | WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED, TEMPORARY STOPPAGES, AND CASUALS. | | |
| | Males. | Females. | Total. | Males. | Females. | Total. | Males. | Females. | Total. | Males. | Females. | Total. |
| Fishing | 5,169 | 118 | 5,287 | 163 | 19 | 182 | 5,332 | 137 | 5,469 | 5,295 | 136 | 5,431 |
| Mining :— | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Coal Mining | 181,044 | 1,132 | 182,176 | 96,954 | 217 | 97,171 | 277,998 | 1,349 | 279,347 | 277,946 | 1,349 | 279,295 |
| Iron Ore and Ironstone Mining, etc. | 3,716 | 12 | 3,728 | 1,048 | | 1,048 | 4,764 | 12 | 4,776 | 4,733 | 12 | 4,745 |
| Lead, Tin and Copper Mining ... | 3,138 | 19 | 3,157 | 79 | | 79 | 3,217 | 19 | 3,236 | 3,217 | 19 | 3,236 |
| Stone Quarrying and Mining ... | 5,180 | 13 | 5,193 | 1,577 | 2 | 1,579 | 6,757 | 15 | 6,772 | 6,325 | 15 | 6,340 |
| Slate Quarrying and Mining ... | 1,362 | 4 | 1,366 | 1,099 | | 1,099 | 2,461 | 4 | 2,465 | 2,461 | 4 | 2,465 |
| Mining and Quarrying not separately specified | 1,879 | 268 | 2,147 | 572 | 9 | 581 | 2,451 | 277 | 2,728 | 2,347 | 277 | 2,624 |
| Clay, Sand, Gravel and Chalk Pits | 2,254 | 43 | 2,297 | 758 | 5 | 763 | 3,012 | 48 | 3,060 | 2,952 | 48 | 3,000 |
| Non-Metalliferous Mining Products :— | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Coke Ovens and By-Product Works | 2,811 | 48 | 2,859 | 808 | 10 | 818 | 3,619 | 58 | 3,677 | 3,619 | 58 | 3,677 |
| Artificial Stone and Concrete ... | 3,149 | 190 | 3,339 | 738 | 52 | 790 | 3,887 | 242 | 4,129 | 3,844 | 242 | 4,086 |
| Cement, Limekilns and Whiting ... | 2,559 | 141 | 2,700 | 730 | 30 | 760 | 3,289 | 171 | 3,460 | 3,232 | 170 | 3,402 |
| Brick, Tile, etc., Making | 10,239 | 1,768 | 12,007 | 2,831 | 321 | 3,152 | 13,070 | 2,089 | 15,159 | 12,859 | 2,088 | 14,947 |
| Pottery, Earthenware, etc. | 5,135 | 7,276 | 12,411 | 5,487 | 8,687 | 14,174 | 10,622 | 15,963 | 26,585 | 10,608 | 15,962 | 26,570 |
| Glass Trades :— | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Glass (excluding Bottles and Scientific Glass) | 3,368 | 1,069 | 4,437 | 1,527 | 263 | 1,790 | 4,895 | 1,332 | 6,227 | 4,873 | 1,332 | 6,205 |
| Glass Bottles | 3,055 | 345 | 3,400 | 916 | 60 | 976 | 3,971 | 405 | 4,376 | 3,969 | 405 | 4,374 |
| Chemicals, etc. :— | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Chemicals | 14,414 | 1,993 | 16,407 | 1,393 | 157 | 1,550 | 15,807 | 2,150 | 17,957 | 15,732 | 2,144 | 17,876 |
| Explosives | 1,426 | 922 | 2,348 | 226 | 132 | 358 | 1,652 | 1,054 | 2,706 | 1,652 | 1,053 | 2,705 |
| Paint, Varnish, Red and White Leads | 1,425 | 435 | 1,860 | 87 | 48 | 135 | 1,512 | 483 | 1,995 | 1,507 | 483 | 1,990 |
| Oil, Glue, Soap, Ink, Matches, etc. | 5,468 | 1,964 | 7,432 | 1,082 | 377 | 1,459 | 6,550 | 2,341 | 8,891 | 6,517 | 2,307 | 8,824 |
| Metal Manufacture :— | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Pig Iron (Blast Furnaces) | 6,407 | 38 | 6,445 | 1,403 | 7 | 1,410 | 7,810 | 45 | 7,855 | 7,802 | 45 | 7,847 |
| Steel Melting and Iron Puddling, Iron and Steel Rolling and Forging | 38,775 | 482 | 39,257 | 42,170 | 159 | 42,329 | 80,945 | 641 | 81,586 | 80,929 | 641 | 81,570 |
| Brass, Copper, Zinc, Tin, Lead, etc. | 6,971 | 580 | 7,551 | 3,230 | 70 | 3,300 | 10,201 | 650 | 10,851 | 10,061 | 647 | 10,708 |
| Tin Plates | 4,760 | 516 | 5,276 | 7,748 | 705 | 8,453 | 12,508 | 1,221 | 13,729 | 12,507 | 1,221 | 13,728 |
| Iron and Steel Tubes | 6,078 | 298 | 6,376 | 6,580 | 48 | 6,628 | 12,658 | 346 | 13,004 | 12,657 | 346 | 13,003 |
| Wire, Wire Netting, Wire Ropes ... | 2,736 | 713 | 3,449 | 3,231 | 226 | 3,457 | 5,967 | 939 | 6,906 | 5,965 | 939 | 6,904 |
| Engineering, etc. :— | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| General Engineering; Engineers' Iron and Steel Founding | 103,003 | 5,406 | 108,409 | 47,672 | 2,840 | 50,512 | 150,675 | 8,246 | 158,921 | 148,304 | 8,232 | 156,536 |
| Electrical Engineering | 8,295 | 2,296 | 10,591 | 2,406 | 405 | 2,811 | 10,701 | 2,701 | 13,402 | 10,637 | 2,699 | 13,336 |
| Marine Engineering, etc. | 20,436 | 127 | 20,563 | 4,434 | 63 | 4,497 | 24,870 | 190 | 25,060 | 21,972 | 190 | 22,162 |
| Constructional Engineering | 5,903 | 137 | 6,040 | 1,639 | 16 | 1,655 | 7,542 | 153 | 7,695 | 7,505 | 153 | 7,658 |
| Construction and Repair of Vehicles :— | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Motor Vehicles, Cycles and Aircraft Carriages, Carts, etc. | 30,786 | 3,011 | 33,797 | 8,460 | 404 | 8,864 | 39,246 | 3,415 | 42,661 | 38,899 | 3,410 | 42,309 |
| Railway Carriages, Wagons and Tramcars | 2,488 | 300 | 2,788 | 393 | 39 | 432 | 2,881 | 339 | 3,220 | 2,805 | 338 | 3,143 |
| Tramcars | 9,492 | 147 | 9,639 | 2,692 | 16 | 2,708 | 12,184 | 163 | 12,347 | 12,157 | 163 | 12,320 |

CHARTS ILLUSTRATING THE COURSE OF TRADE

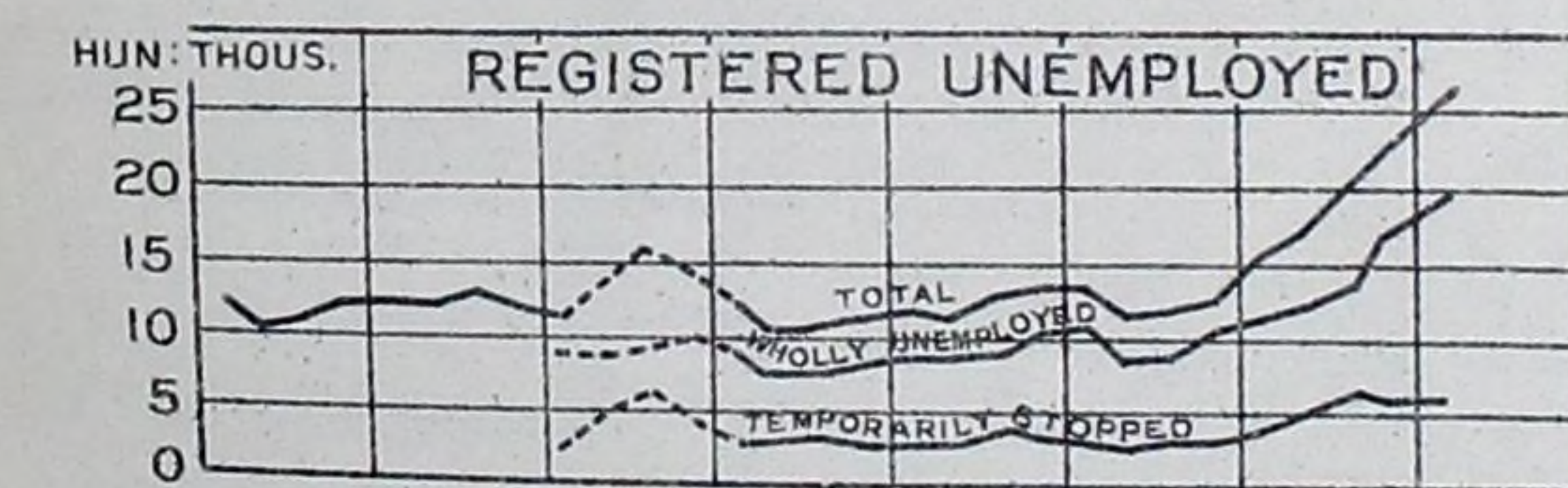
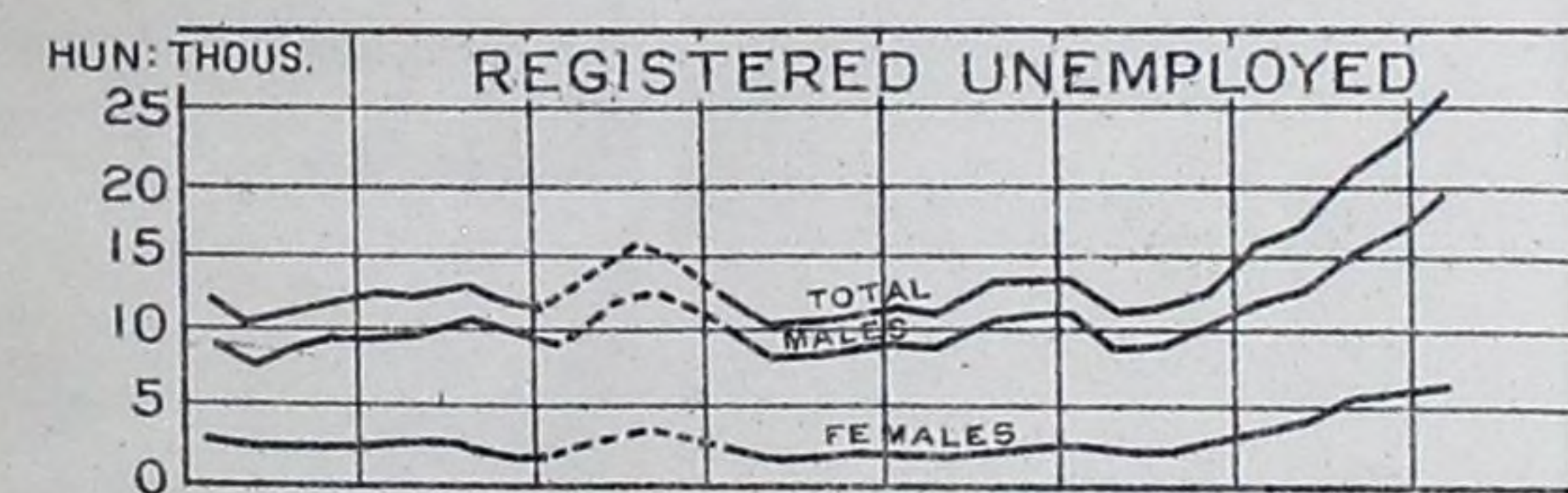
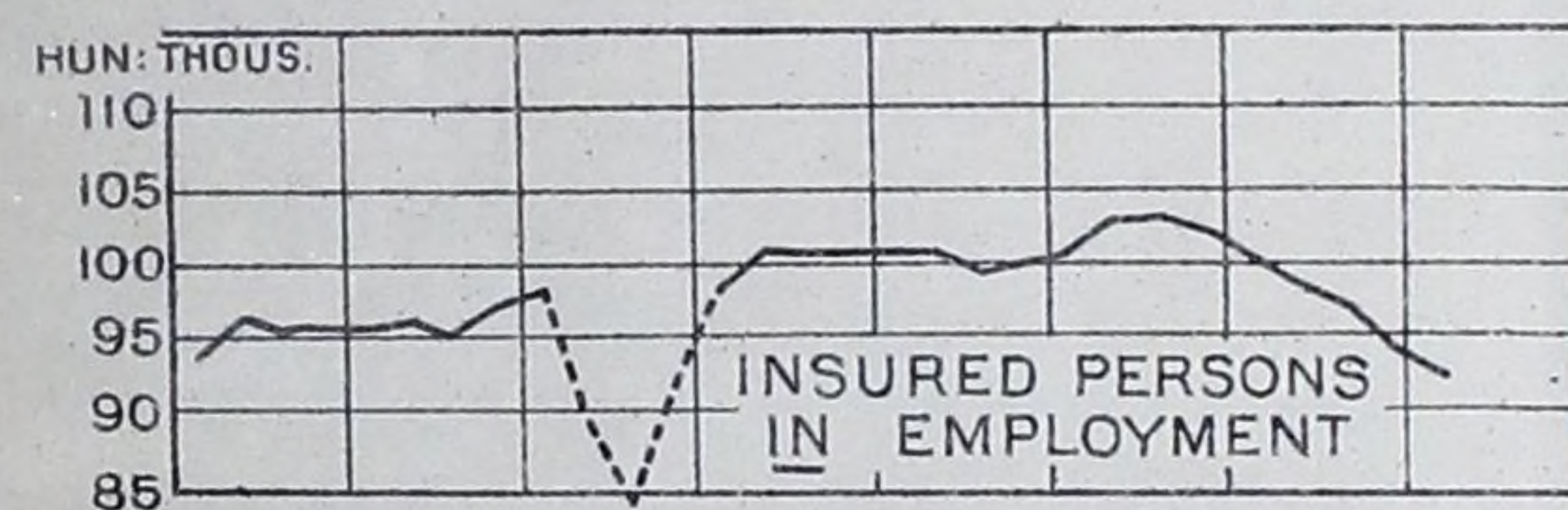
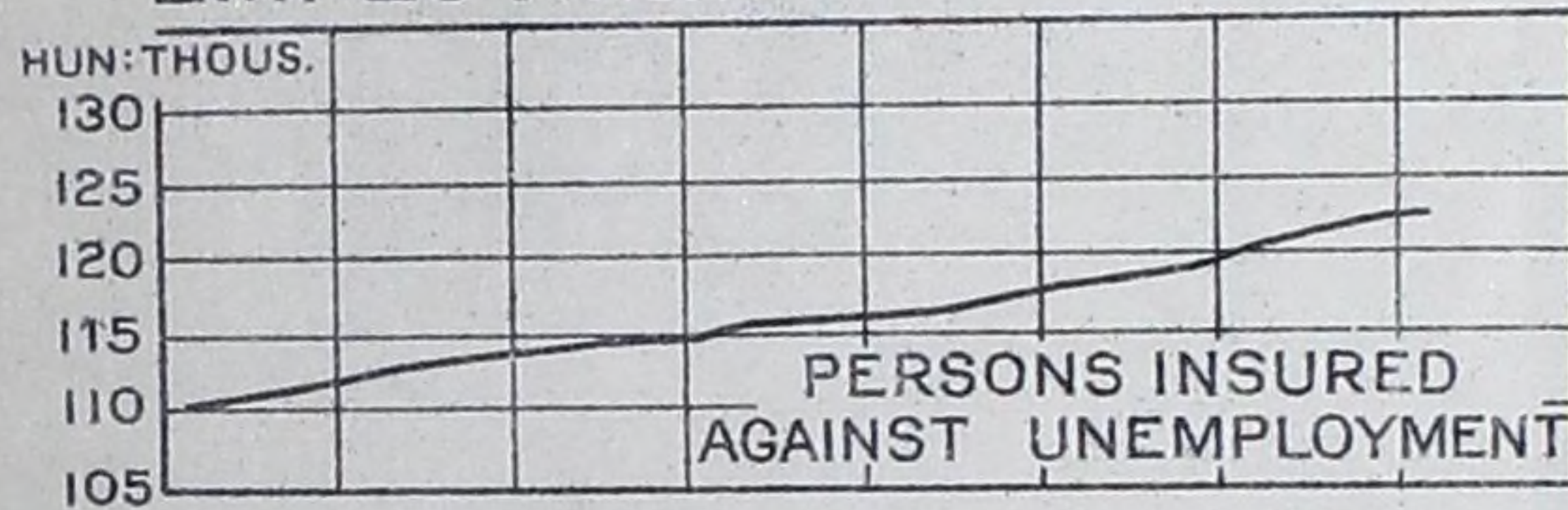
(EXCEPT WHERE OTHERWISE INDICATED)

1924 1925 1926 1927 1928 1929 1930 1931

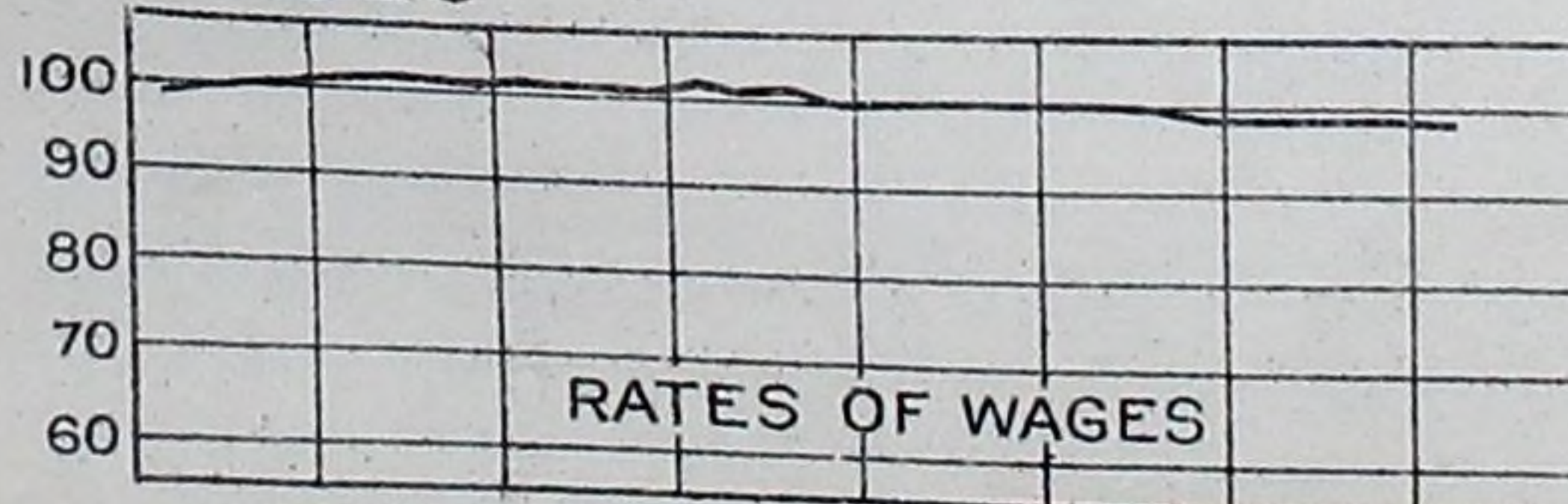
PRICES



EMPLOYMENT



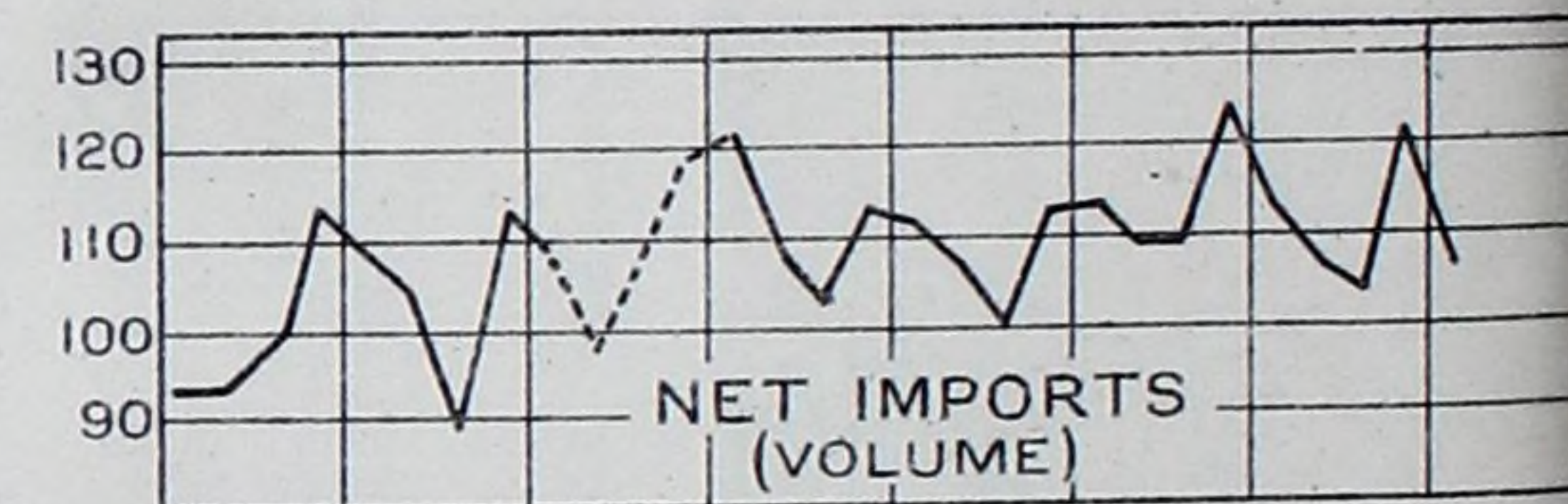
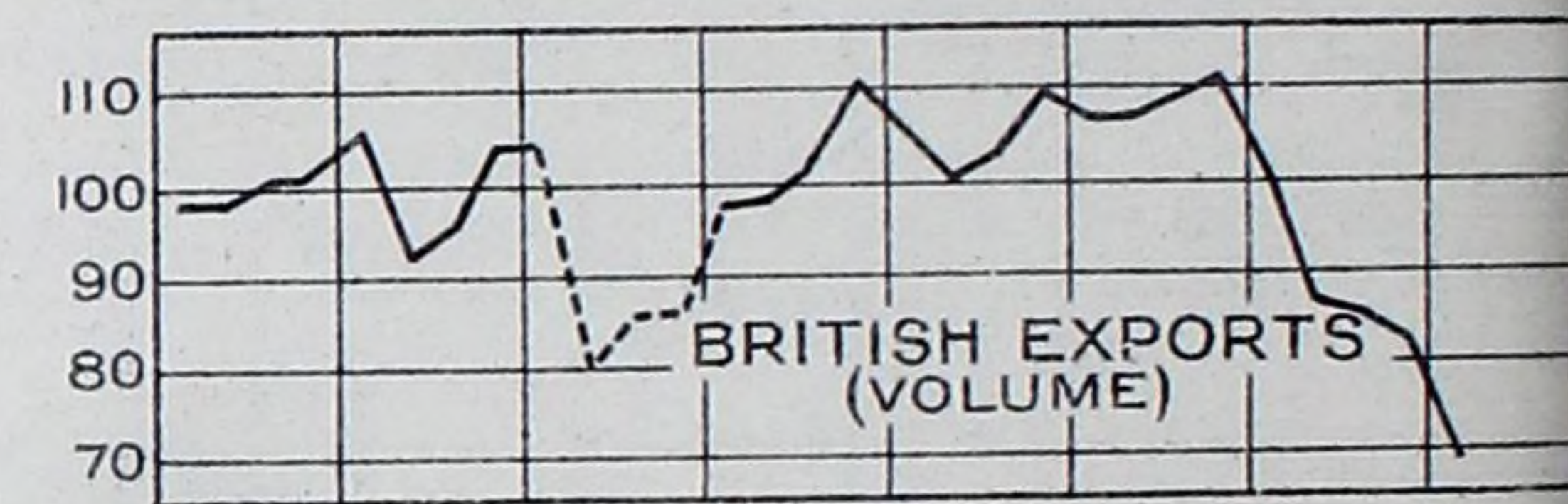
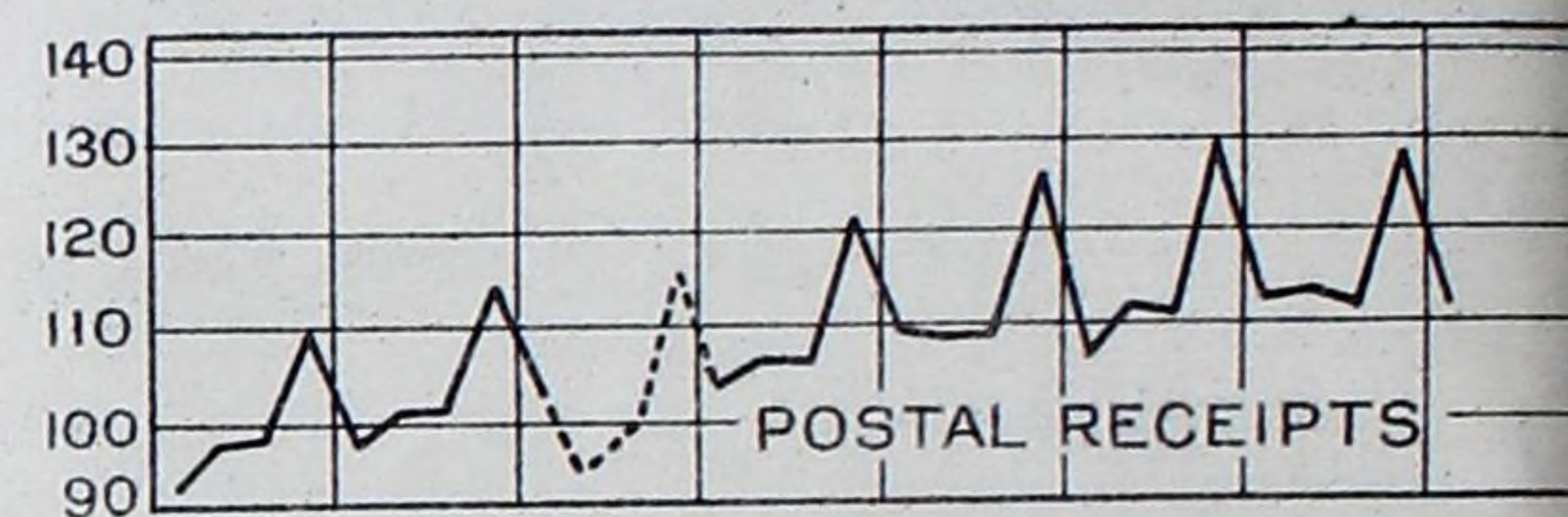
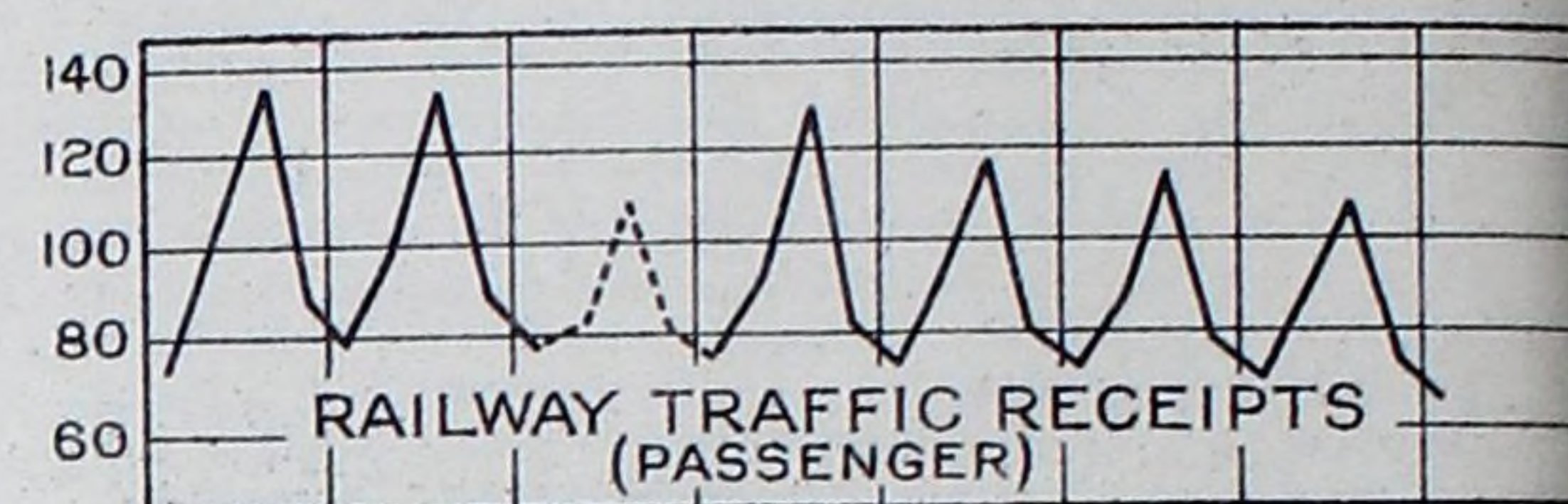
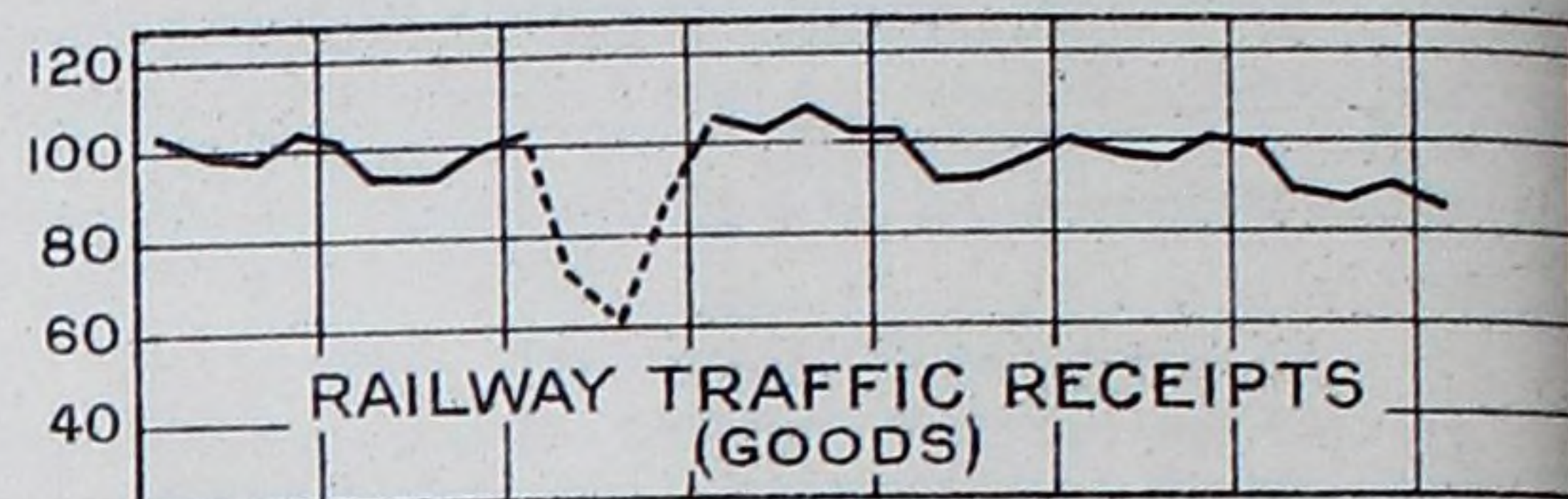
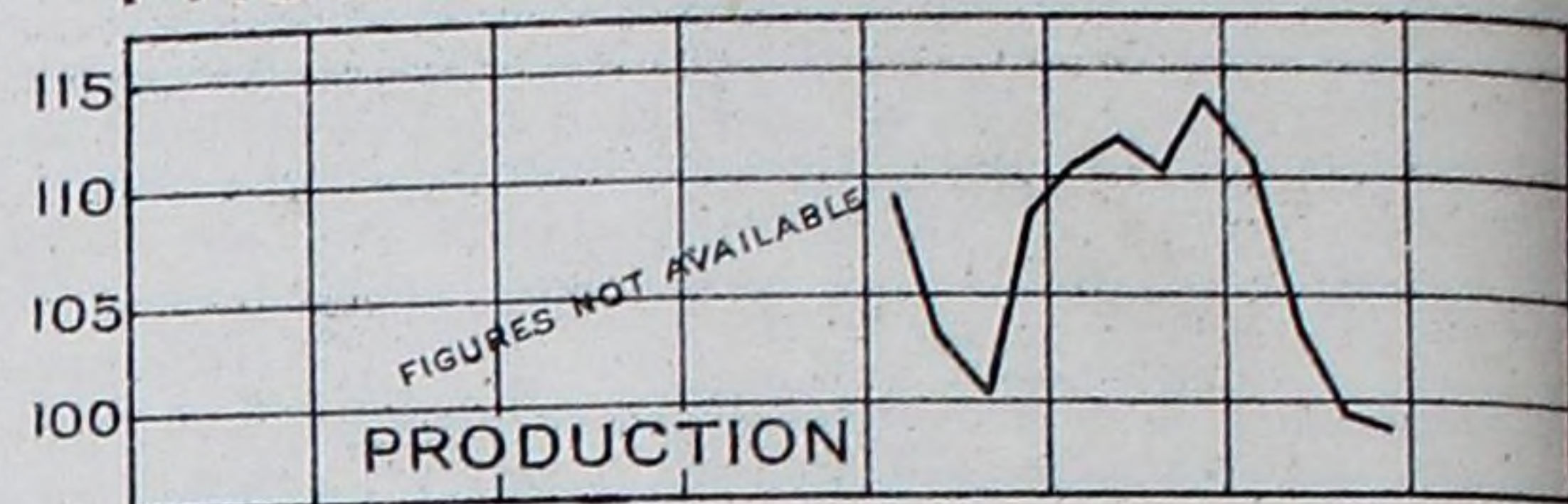
WAGES



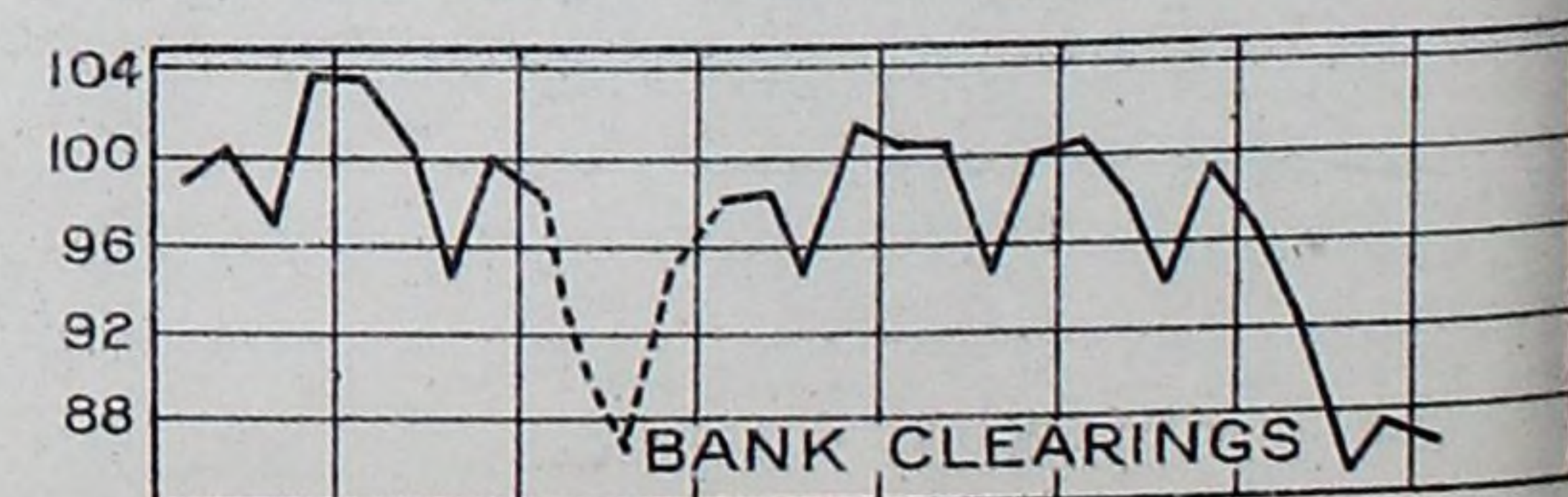
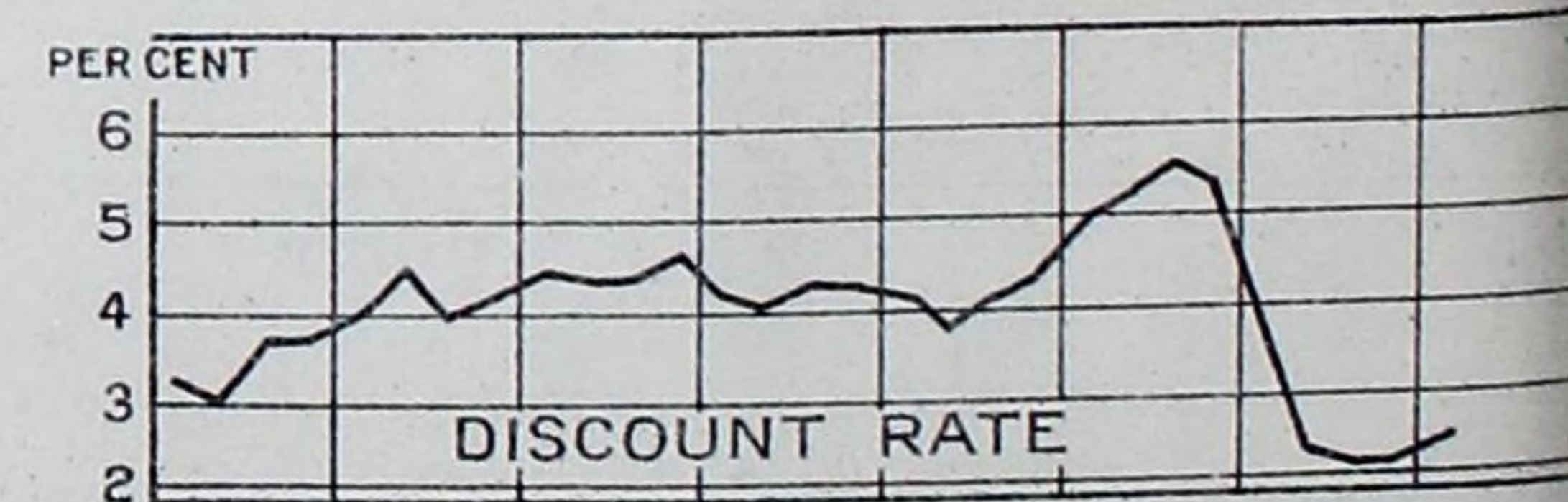
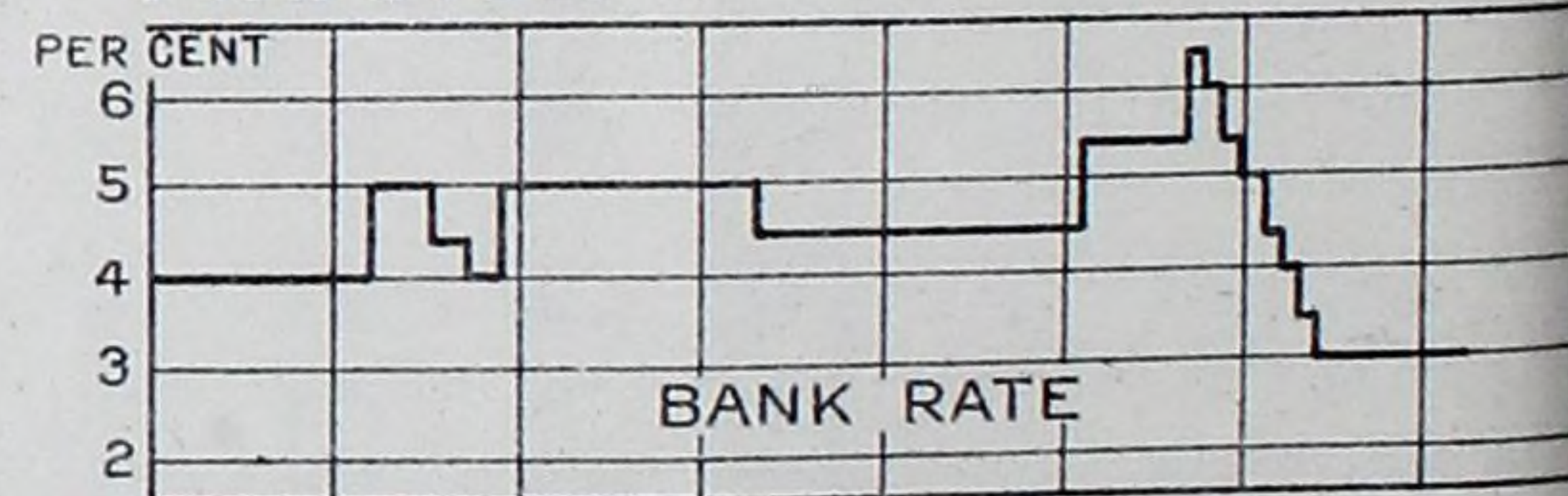
1924 1925 1926 1927 1928 1929 1930 1931

1924 1925 1926 1927 1928 1929 1930 1931

PRODUCTION AND TRADE



FINANCE



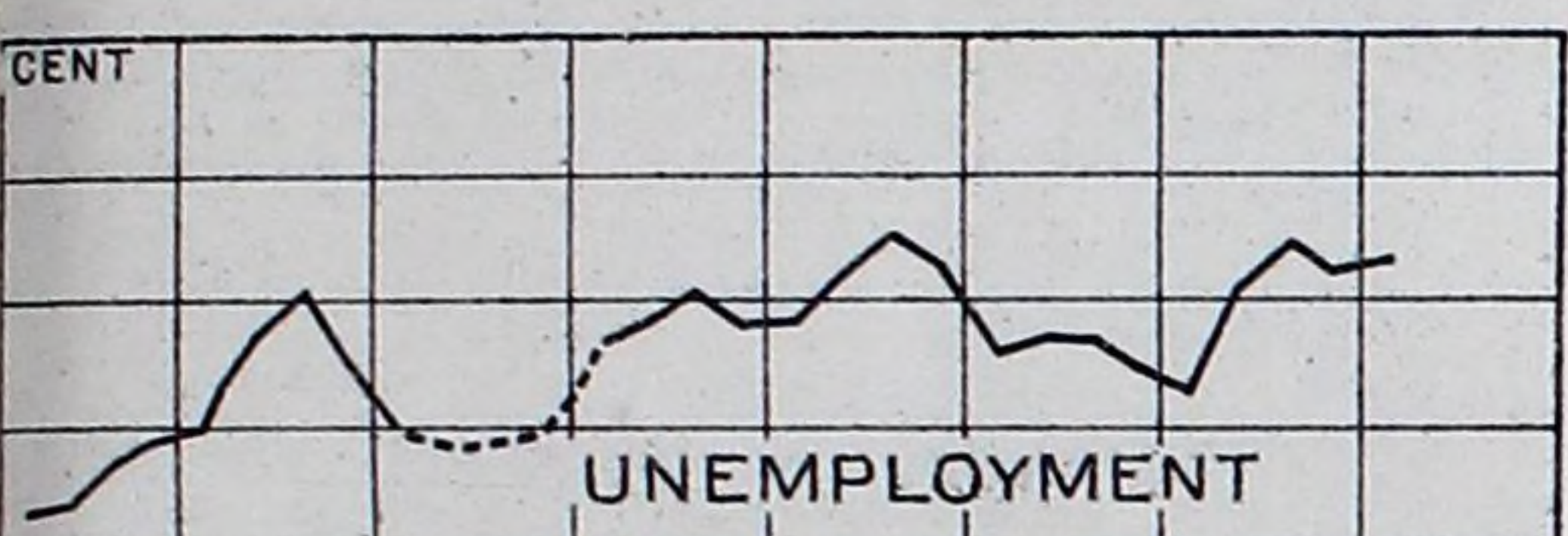
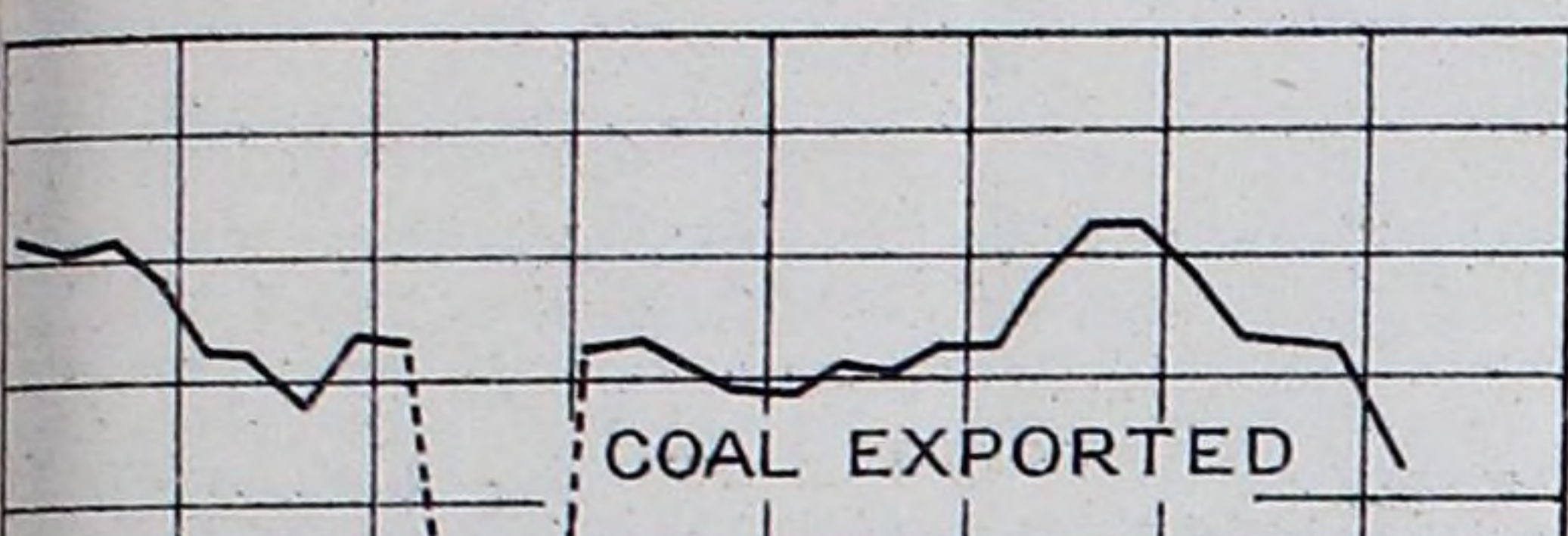
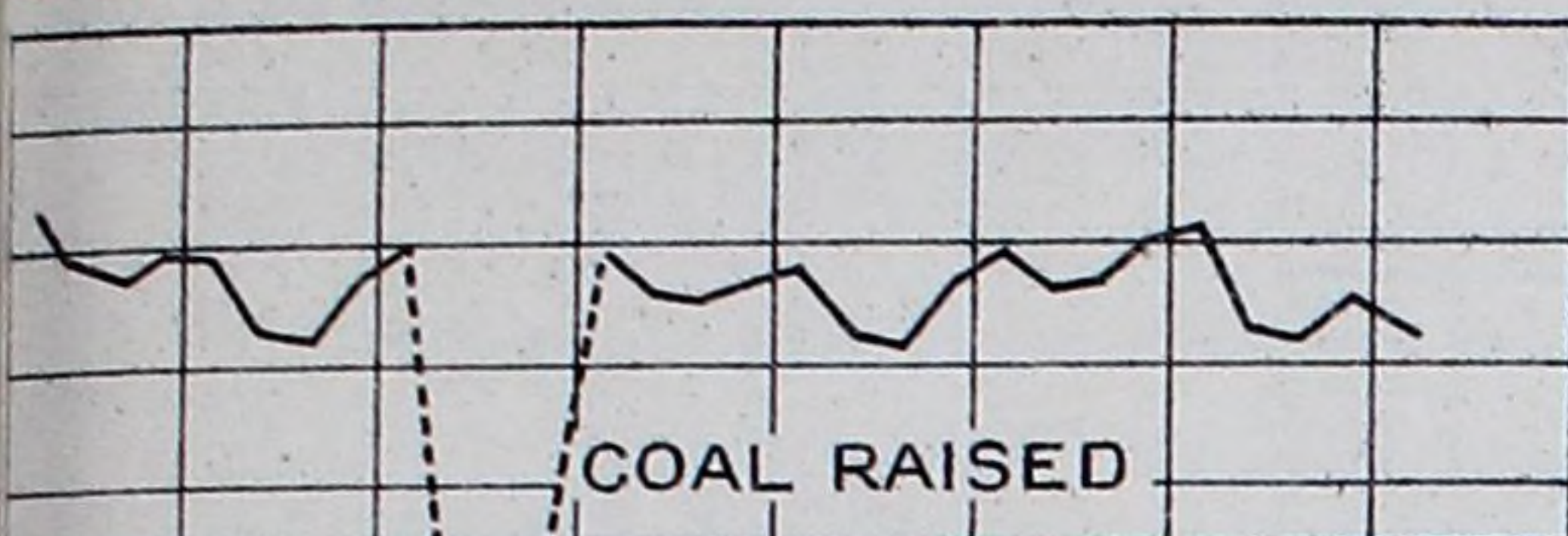
1924 1925 1926 1927 1928 1929 1930 1931

PUT, PRICES, WAGES, FINANCE AND EMPLOYMENT.

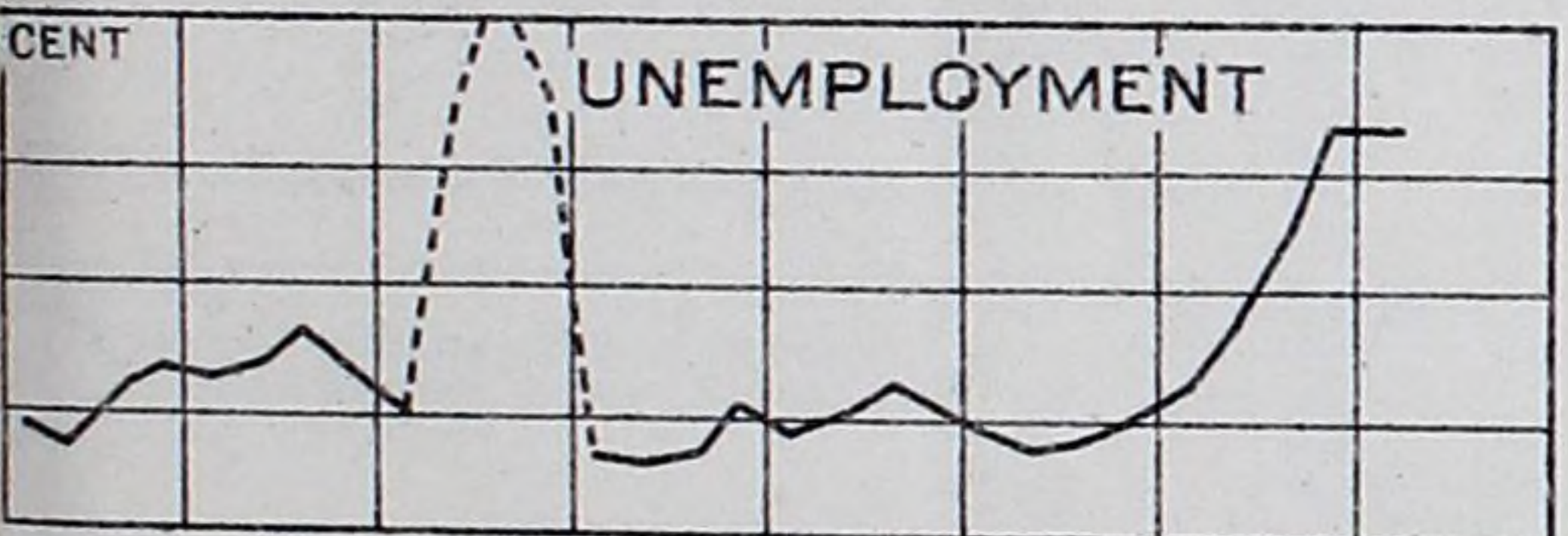
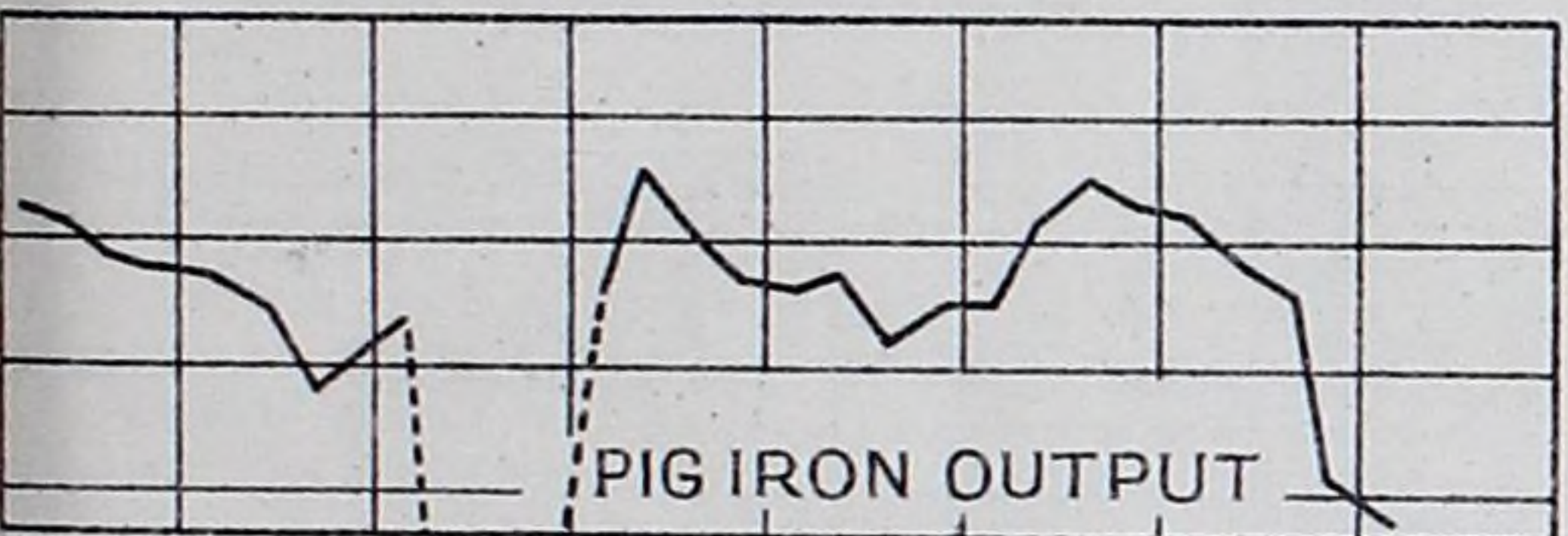
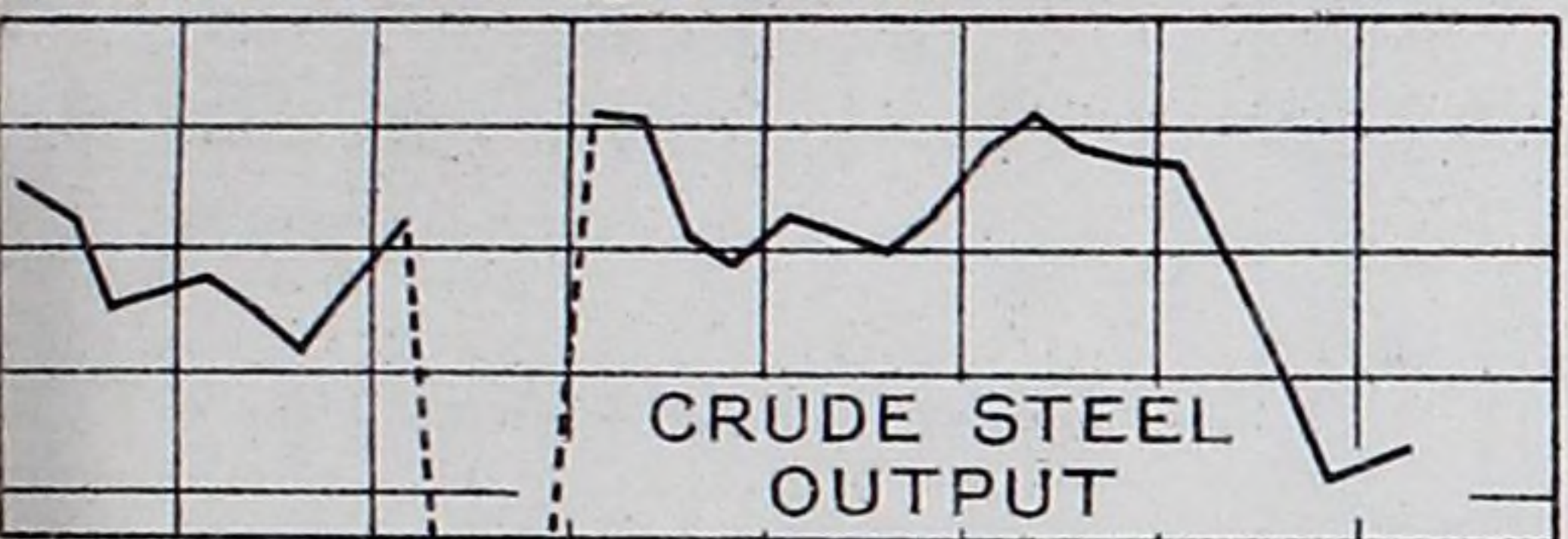
ERAGE FOR 1924 IS TAKEN AS = 100.)

1924 1925 1926 1927 1928 1929 1930 1931

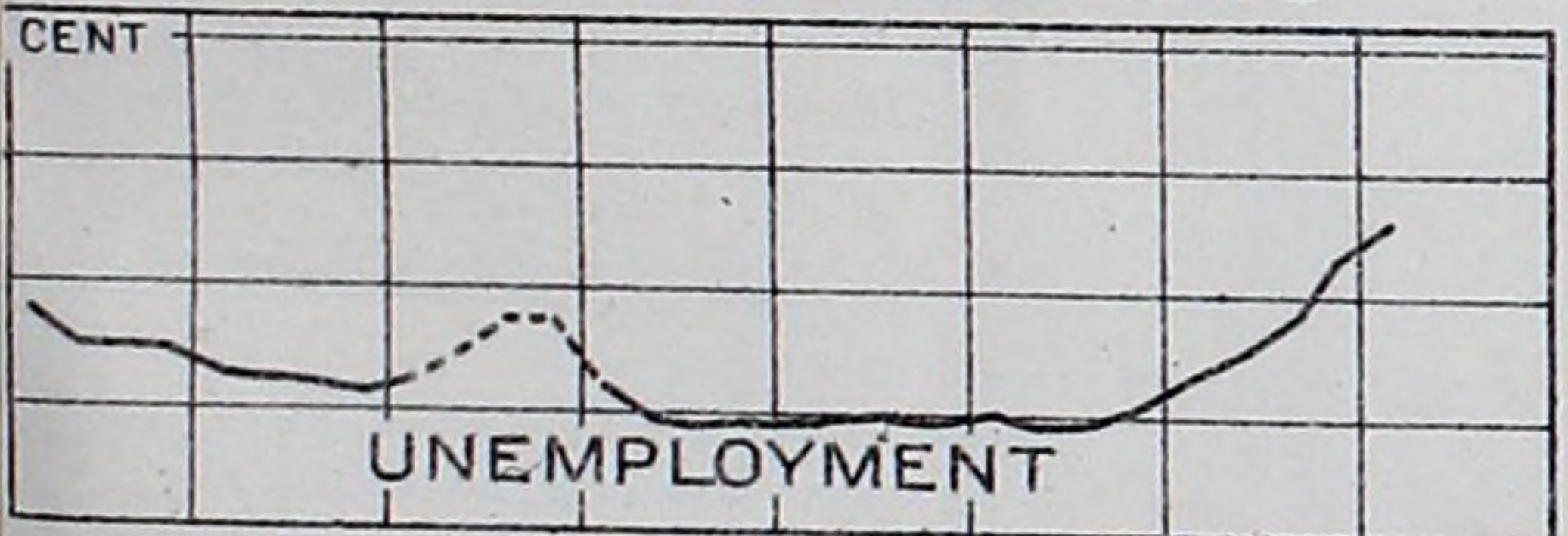
COAL MINING



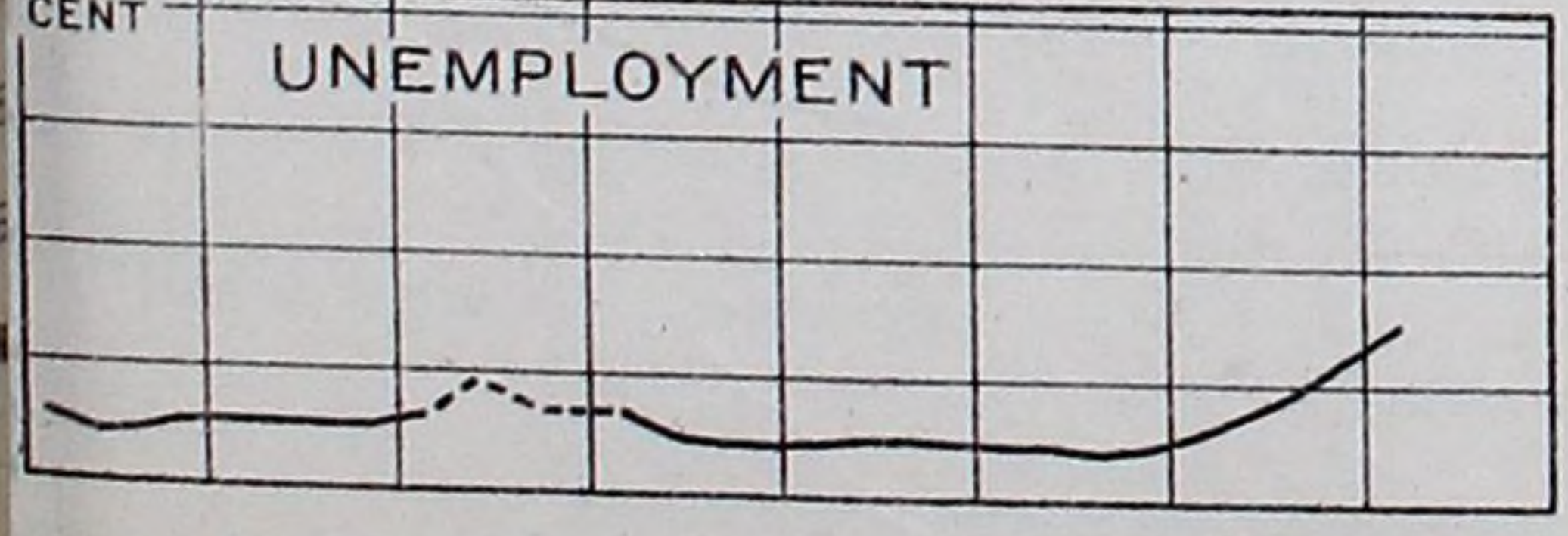
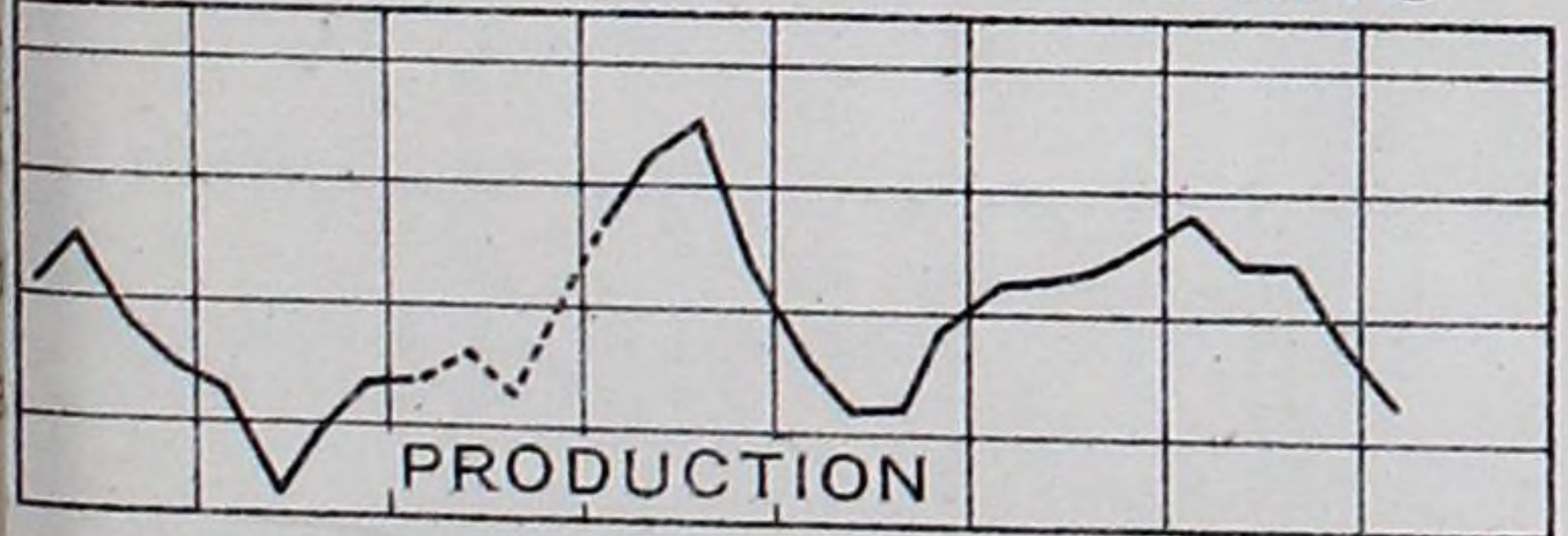
IRON AND STEEL



GENERAL ENGINEERING



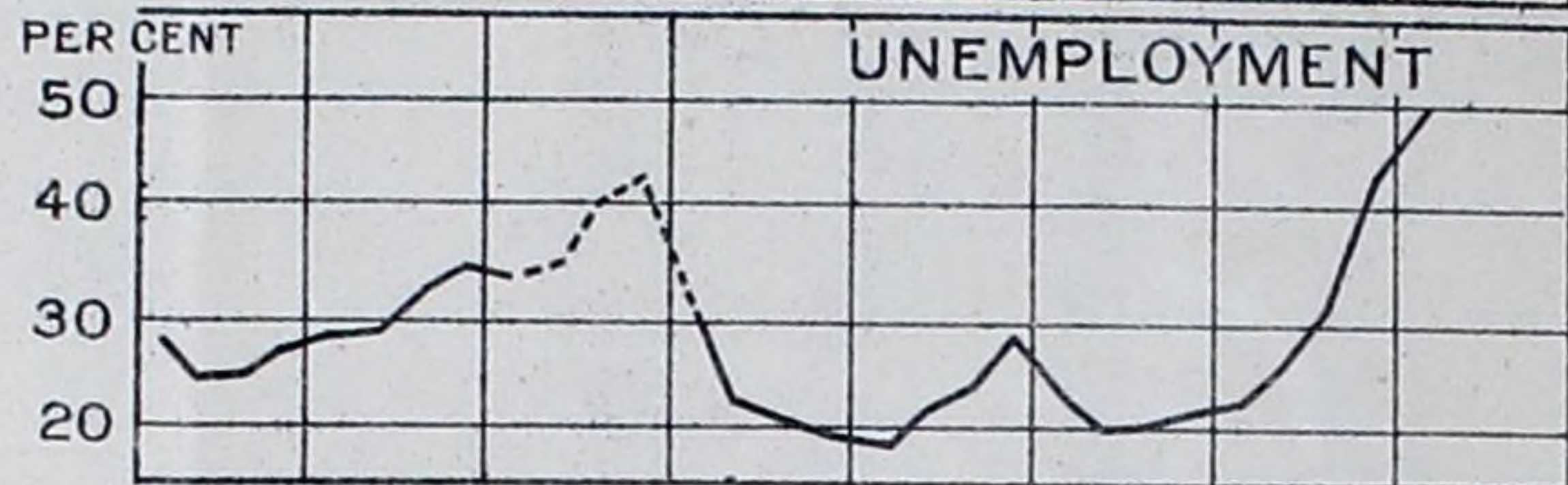
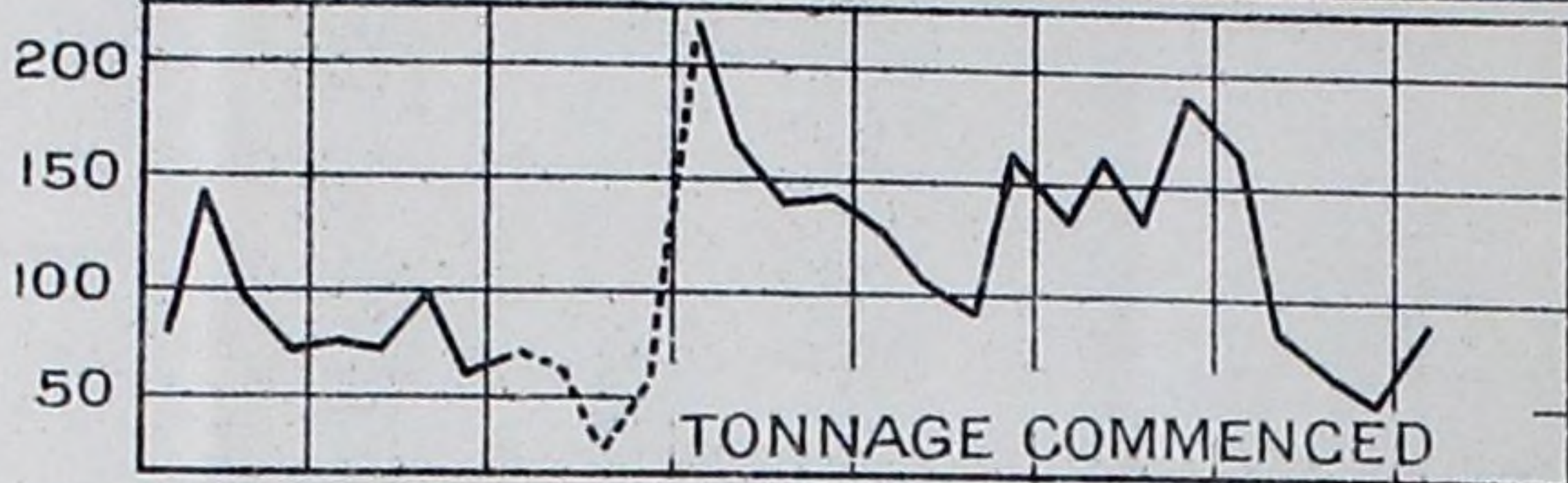
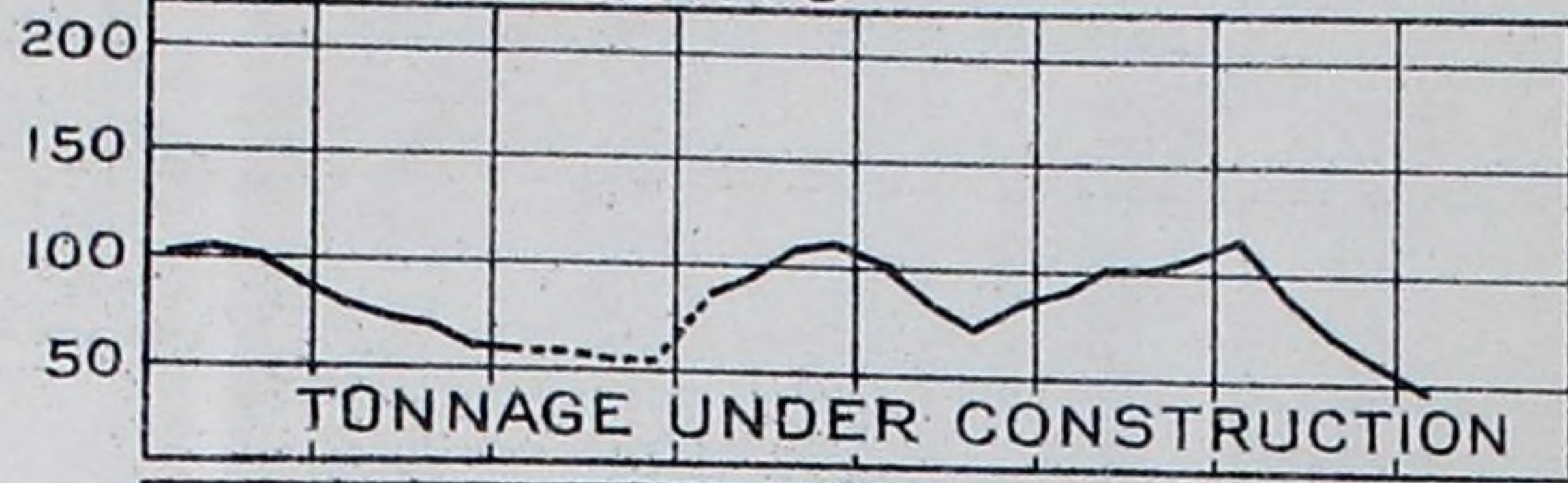
ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING



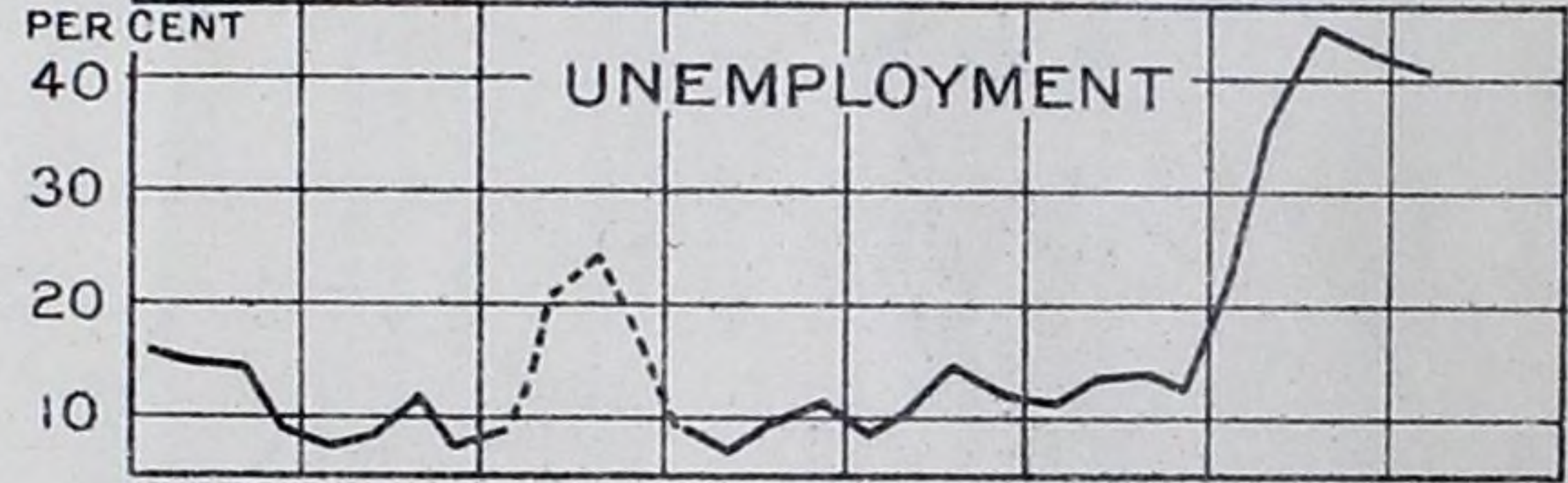
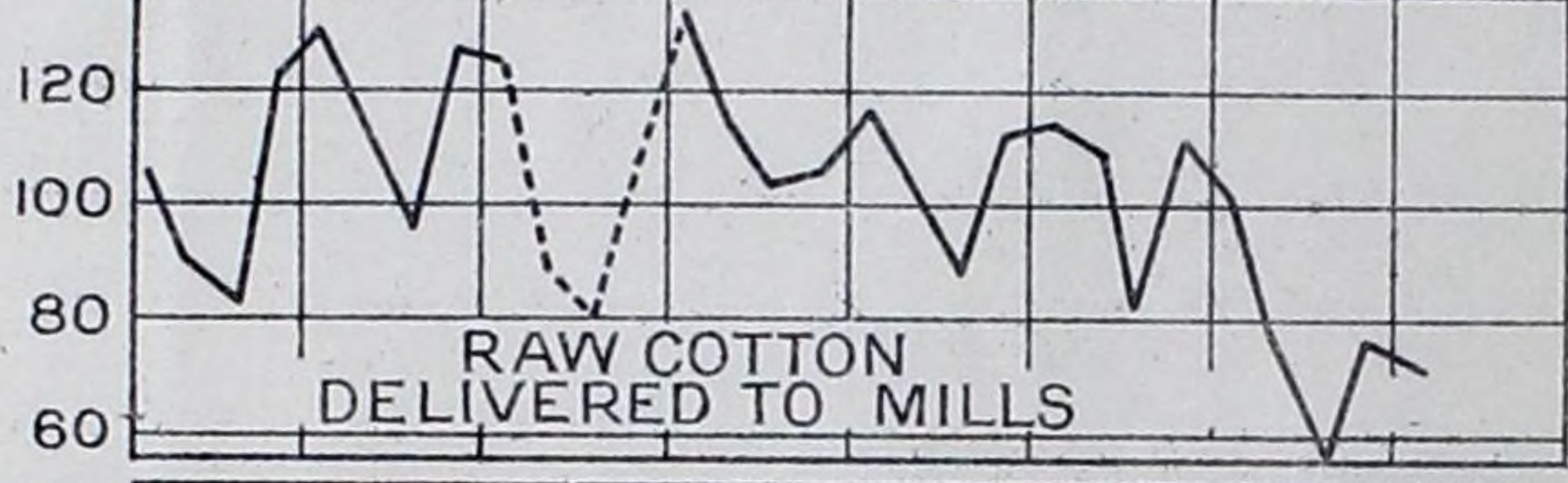
1924 1925 1926 1927 1928 1929 1930 1931

1924 1925 1926 1927 1928 1929 1930 1931

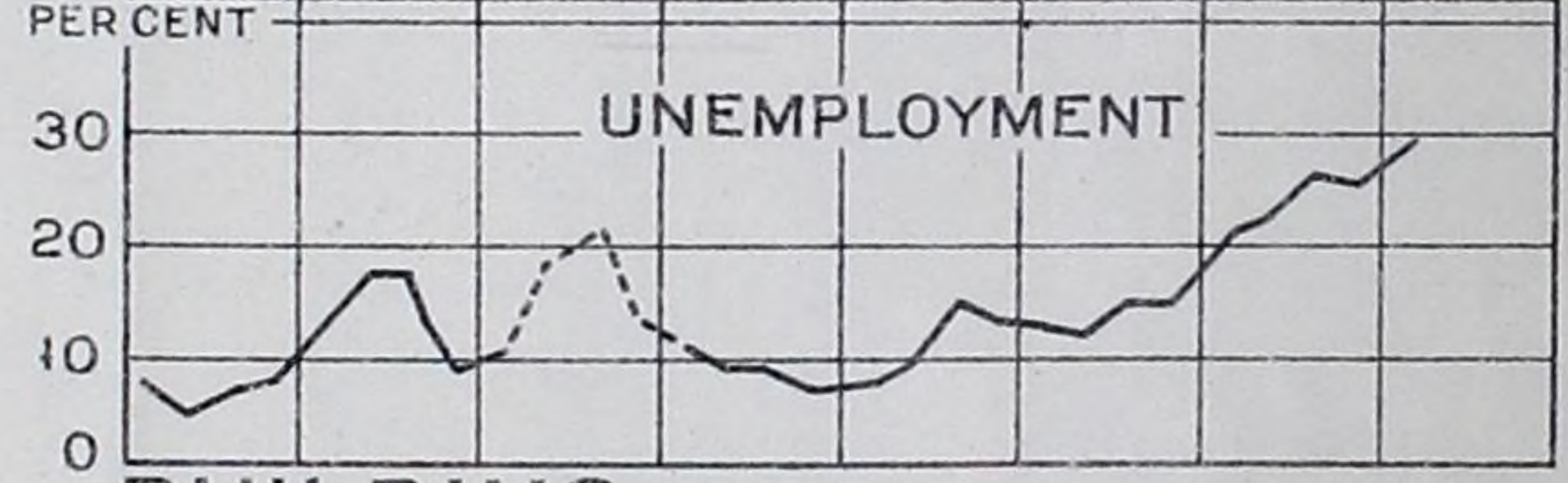
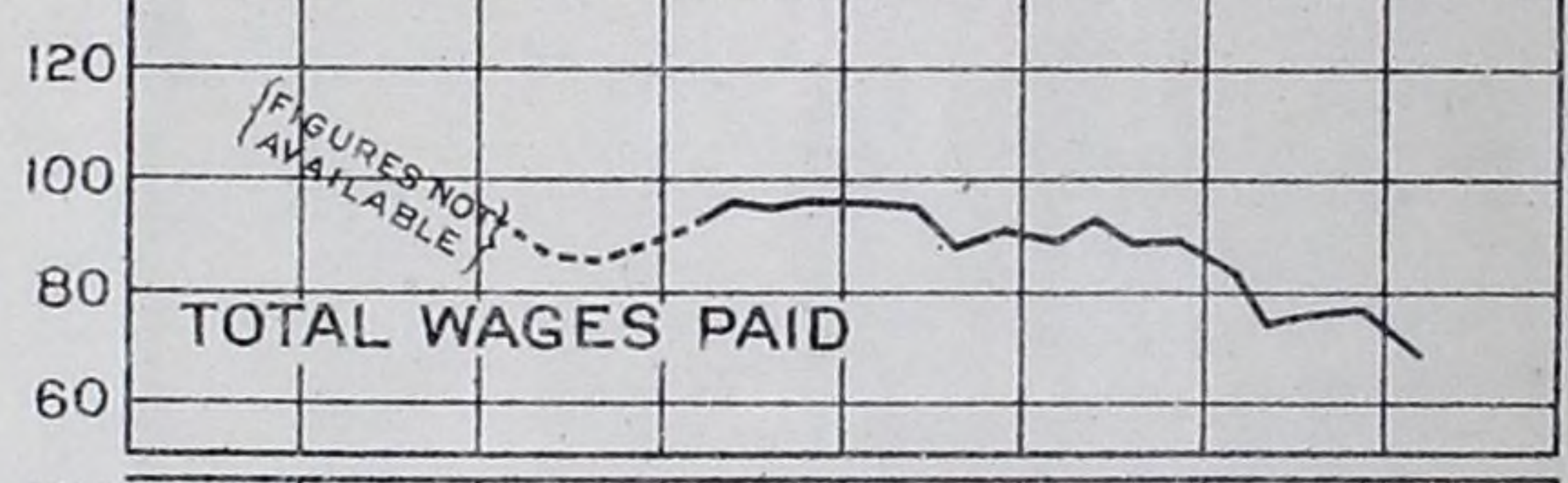
SHIPBUILDING



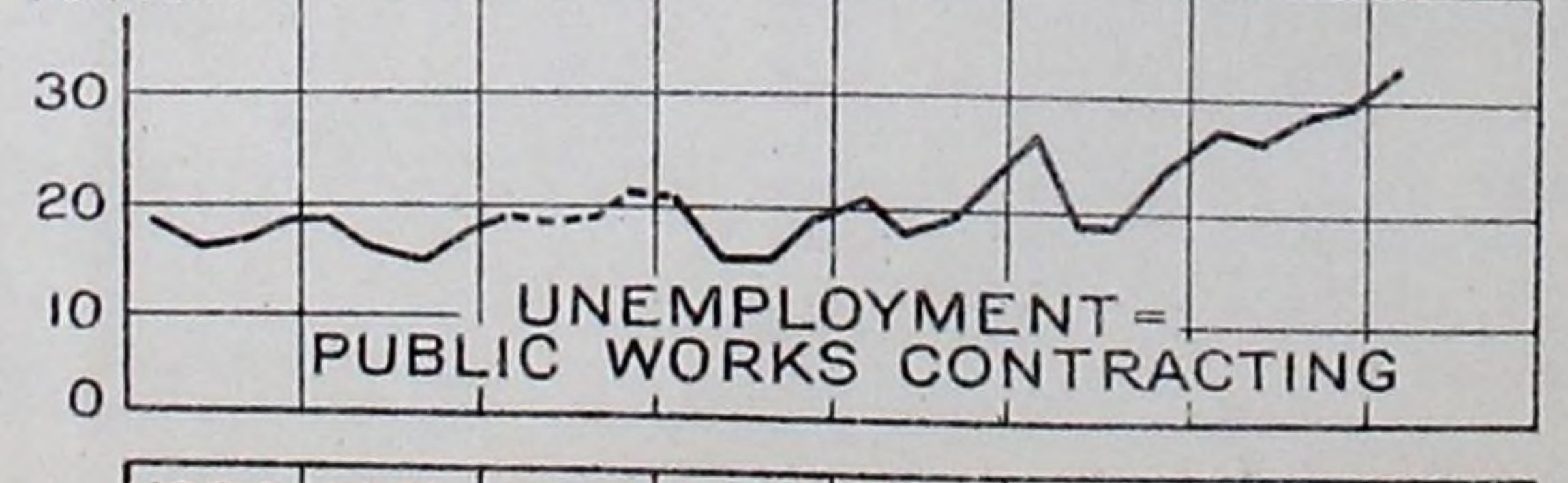
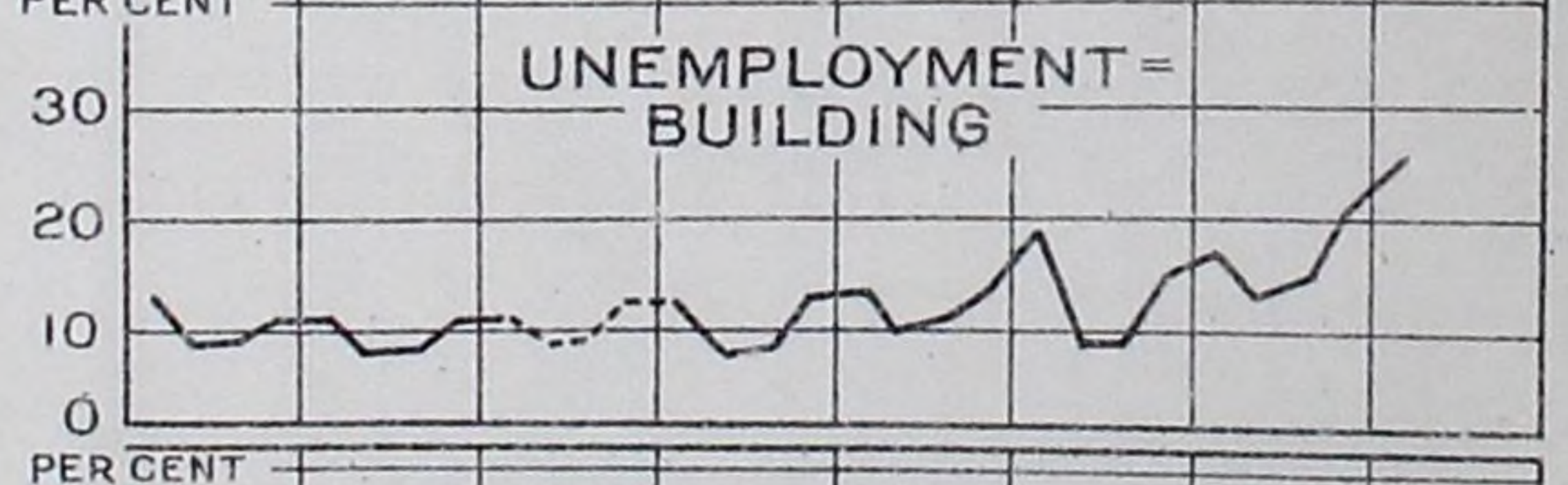
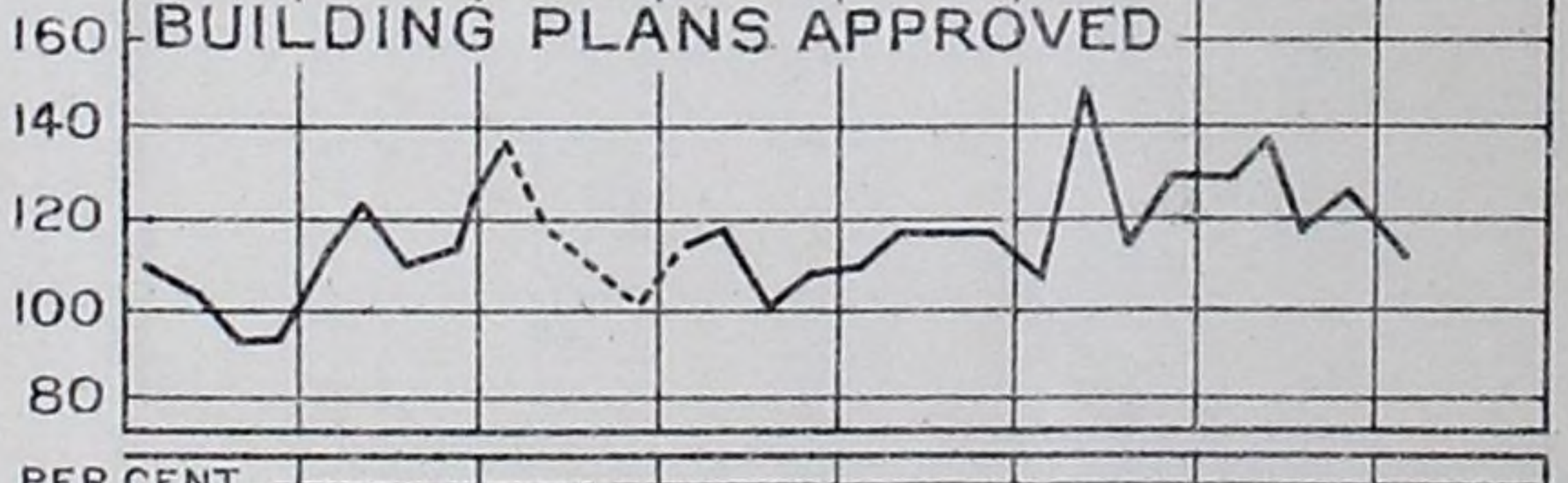
COTTON



WOOL



BUILDING



1924 1925 1926 1927 1928 1929 1930 1931

STATISTICS FORMING THE BASIS OF THE CHARTS ILLUSTRATING THE COURSE OF TRADE, OUTPUT, PRICES, WAGES, FINANCE AND EMPLOYMENT.

| | | 1924. | 1925. | 1926. | 1927. | 1928. | 1929. | 1930. | 1931. |
|--|---------|---------------------------|---------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Wholesale Prices. Average of Board of Trade Wholesale Prices Index Numbers (Average of 1924 = 100). | 1st Qr. | 99.9 | 101.4 | 88.6 | 85.7 | 84.6 | 83.6 | 76.9 | 64.0 |
| | 2nd " | 98.6 | 95.8 | 87.3 | 84.9 | 86.1 | 82.2 | 73.4 | |
| | 3rd " | 99.3 | 93.9 | 90.2 | 85.3 | 83.8 | 82.1 | 70.7 | |
| | 4th " | 102.4 | 92.0 | 90.4 | 84.9 | 83.1 | 80.7 | 67.0 | |
| Cost of Living. Average of Ministry of Labour Cost-of-Living Index Numbers (July, 1914 = 100). | 1st Qr. | 177.3 | 178.5 | 172.2 | 171.0 | 165.3 | 165.2 | 162.2 | 150.7 |
| | 2nd " | 170.5 | 173.0 | 168.0 | 164.2 | 164.5 | 160.8 | 155.0 | |
| | 3rd " | 172.0 | 173.8 | 171.3 | 165.2 | 165.2 | 163.3 | 156.5 | |
| | 4th " | 179.7 | 176.2 | 177.5 | 168.5 | 167.2 | 166.5 | 155.5 | |
| Do. expressed as percentage of 1924 average. | 1st Qr. | 101.4 | 102.1 | 98.5 | 97.8 | 94.5 | 94.5 | 92.7 | 86.2 |
| | 2nd " | 97.5 | 98.9 | 96.1 | 93.9 | 94.1 | 91.9 | 88.6 | |
| | 3rd " | 98.3 | 99.4 | 97.9 | 94.5 | 94.5 | 93.4 | 89.5 | |
| | 4th " | 102.7 | 100.7 | 101.5 | 96.3 | 95.6 | 95.2 | 88.9 | |
| Export Values of British Manufactures. Value as declared, Million £ | 1st Qr. | 148.2 | 165.7 | 152.7 | 134.3 | 147.2 | 145.1 | 128.4 | 78.4 |
| | 2nd " | 153.2 | 147.0 | 122.8 | 136.7 | 139.4 | 138.9 | 110.3 | |
| | 3rd " | 159.2 | 149.9 | 135.2 | 141.3 | 144.6 | 146.2 | 104.8 | |
| | 4th " | 158.4 | 154.0 | 128.7 | 151.6 | 147.7 | 143.5 | 96.3 | |
| Value at 1924 Prices, Million £ | 1st Qr. | 149.6 | 168.4 | 166.4 | 155.7 | 169.2 | 170.6 | 155.7 | 103.9 |
| | 2nd " | 154.5 | 144.5 | 130.3 | 155.5 | 161.5 | 165.4 | 135.3 | |
| | 3rd " | 156.9 | 152.3 | 146.5 | 161.1 | 165.4 | 170.5 | 128.6 | |
| | 4th " | 157.8 | 162.9 | 139.8 | 173.8 | 171.6 | 169.9 | 122.6 | |
| Index Number of Average Values. (Average of 1924 = 100). | 1st Qr. | 99.1 | 98.4 | 91.7 | 86.3 | 87.0 | 85.1 | 82.4 | 75.4 |
| | 2nd " | 99.1 | 101.7 | 94.2 | 87.9 | 86.3 | 84.0 | 81.5 | |
| | 3rd " | 101.4 | 98.4 | 92.3 | 87.7 | 87.4 | 85.7 | 81.5 | |
| | 4th " | 100.3 | 94.5 | 92.1 | 87.2 | 86.1 | 84.5 | 78.6 | |
| Shipping Freight Rates. Average of Chamber of Shipping Index* expressed as percentage of 1924 Average. | 1st Qr. | 106.3 | 95.5 | 78.6 | 103.6 | 84.2 | 93.6 | 63.6 | 67.0 |
| | 2nd " | 101.6 | 82.4 | 77.8 | 95.1 | 82.4 | 85.1 | 61.7 | |
| | 3rd " | 94.0 | 77.6 | 97.7 | 86.9 | 85.6 | 83.4 | 66.2 | |
| | 4th " | 98.6 | 87.3 | 138.0 | 92.5 | 96.2 | 75.0 | 66.8 | |
| Estimated Total Numbers aged 16-64 insured against Unemployment in Great Britain. Quarterly Averages. Hundred Thousands. | 1st Qr. | 110.0 | 112.0 | 113.7 | 114.9 | 115.9 | 117.9 | 119.9 | 122.8 |
| | 2nd " | 110.5 | 112.5 | 114.1 | 115.2 | 116.1 | 118.2 | 121.1 | |
| | 3rd " | 110.9 | 113.0 | 114.4 | 115.4 | 116.9 | 118.7 | 121.7 | |
| | 4th " | 111.5 | 113.4 | 114.7 | 115.7 | 117.5 | 119.2 | 122.3 | |
| Estimated Numbers of insured Persons in Employ- ment in Great Britain (excluding persons unem- ployed, sick or directly involved in trade disputes). Quarterly Averages. Hundred Thousands. | 1st Qr. | 93.6 | 95.6 | 98.0 | 98.4 | 100.1 | 100.3 | 100.2 | 92.1 |
| | 2nd " | 96.2 | 96.1 | 88.9 | 100.8 | 100.5 | 102.7 | 98.7 | |
| | 3rd " | 95.3 | 95.1 | 84.6 | 100.6 | 99.7 | 103.0 | 96.9 | |
| | 4th " | 95.5 | 97.1 | 90.5 | 100.3 | 99.9 | 102.3 | 94.8 | |
| Registered Unemployed in Great Britain. Quarterly Averages. Hundred Thousands. | 1st Qr. | 11.8 | 12.4 | 11.4 | 12.6 | 11.5 | 13.5 | 15.4 | 26.2 |
| | 2nd " | 10.3 | 12.2 | 13.9 | 10.3 | 11.2 | 11.3 | 17.6 | |
| | 3rd " | 11.1 | 12.9 | 15.8 | 10.5 | 12.9 | 11.5 | 20.4 | |
| | 4th " | 12.0 | 12.0 | 14.9 | 11.1 | 13.6 | 12.8 | 23.0 | |
| Males | 1st Qr. | 9.1 | 9.8 | 9.3 | 10.3 | 9.6 | 11.0 | 11.7 | 19.7 |
| | 2nd " | 8.0 | 9.9 | 10.8 | 8.6 | 9.3 | 9.2 | 13.0 | |
| | 3rd " | 8.8 | 10.5 | 12.3 | 8.7 | 10.5 | 9.2 | 15.0 | |
| | 4th " | 9.5 | 10.0 | 12.0 | 9.2 | 11.0 | 10.2 | 17.2 | |
| Females | 1st Qr. | 2.7 | 2.6 | 2.1 | 2.3 | 1.9 | 2.5 | 3.7 | 6.5 |
| | 2nd " | 2.3 | 2.4 | 3.1 | 1.7 | 1.9 | 2.2 | 4.6 | |
| | 3rd " | 2.4 | 2.5 | 3.5 | 1.8 | 2.4 | 2.3 | 5.4 | |
| | 4th " | 2.5 | 2.0 | 2.9 | 1.9 | 2.5 | 2.6 | 5.8 | |
| Wholly Unemployed (Males and Females) ... | 1st Qr. | | | 9.3 | 9.6 | 8.8 | 10.8 | 11.8 | 19.9 |
| | 2nd " | Figures not available. | | 9.0 | 7.5 | 8.4 | 8.8 | 12.6 | |
| | 3rd " | | | 9.6 | 7.4 | 9.2 | 8.7 | 14.1 | |
| | 4th " | | | 10.1 | 8.3 | 10.3 | 10.1 | 17.3 | |
| Temporarily Stopped (Males and Females) ... | 1st Qr. | | | 2.2 | 2.9 | 2.7 | 2.7 | 3.6 | 6.3 |
| | 2nd " | Figures not available. | | 4.9 | 2.8 | 2.8 | 2.5 | 5.0 | |
| | 3rd " | | | 6.3 | 3.1 | 3.7 | 2.8 | 6.3 | |
| | 4th " | | | 4.8 | 2.8 | 3.2 | 2.7 | 5.7 | |
| Index Number of Rates of Wages. (Average of 1924 = 100) | 1st Qr. | 99 | 101½ | 101½ | 102 | 100 | 100 | 99 | 98½ |
| | 2nd " | 100 | 102 | 101 | 101 | 100 | 100 | 99 | |
| | 3rd " | 100½ | 101½ | 101 | 101 | 100 | 99½ | 99 | |
| | 4th " | 101 | 101½ | 101 | 100 | 100 | 99 | 99 | |
| Industrial Production—Board of Trade Index Number | 1st Qr. | | | | | 109.3 | 110.6 | 110.9 | |
| | 2nd " | 100 | Figures not available. | | 106.8 | 103.6 | 112.0 | 103.1 | |
| | 3rd " | | | | | 100.2 | 110.7 | 99.4 | |
| | 4th " | | | | | 108.4 | 114.0 | 99.0 | |
| Railway Traffic Receipts—Goods. Average amount weekly, Thousand £ | 1st Qr. | 2,039 | 2,022 | 2,058 | 2,127 | 2,034 | 2,018 | 2,002 | 1,744 |
| | 2nd " | 1,989 | 1,884 | 1,456 | 2,058 | 1,866 | 1,963 | 1,805 | |
| | 3rd " | 1,962 | 1,892 | 1,222 | 2,181 | 1,879 | 1,955 | 1,745 | |
| | 4th " | 2,055 | 2,016 | 1,737 | 2,052 | 1,955 | 2,016 | 1,856 | |
| Percentage of 1924 Average | 1st Qr. | 101.4 | 100.5 | 102.3 | 105.8 | 101.1 | 100.3 | 99.6 | 86.7 |
| | 2nd " | 98.9 | 93.7 | 72.4 | 102.3 | 92.8 | 97.6 | 89.8 | |
| | 3rd " | 97.6 | 94.1 | 60.8 | 108.4 | 93.4 | 97.2 | 86.8 | |
| | 4th " | 102.2 | 100.2 | 86.4 | 102.0 | 97.2 | 100.2 | 92.3 | |
| Railway Traffic Receipts—Passenger. Average amount weekly, Thousand £ | 1st Qr. | 1,285 | 1,333 | 1,347 | 1,274 | 1,258 | 1,257 | 1,205 | 1,126 |
| | 2nd " | 1,756 | 1,716 | 1,381 | 1,594 | 1,553 | 1,505 | 1,499 | |
| | 3rd " | 2,306 | 2,249 | 1,984 | 2,204 | 2,008 | 1,963 | 1,838 | |
| | 4th " | 1,517 | 1,486 | 1,383 | 1,394 | 1,356 | 1,355 | 1,295 | |
| Percentage of 1924 Average | 1st Qr. | 74.9 | 77.7 | 78.5 | 74.2 | 73.3 | 73.3 | 70.2 | 65.6 |
| | 2nd " | 102.3 | 100.0 | 80.5 | 92.9 | 90.5 | 87.7 | 87.4 | |
| | 3rd " | 134.4 | 131.1 | 115.6 | 128.4 | 117.0 | 114.3 | 107.1 | |
| | 4th " | 88.4 | 86.6 | 80.6 | 81.2 | 79.0 | 79.0 | 75.5 | |
| Postal Receipts. Average amount daily, Thousand £ | 1st Qr. | 106.9 | 113.0 | 118.4 | 119.4 | 125.7 | 124.3 | 129.0 | 129.7 |
| | 2nd " | 112.4 | 115.4 | 108.2 | 122.0 | 124.9 | 128.6 | 130.8 | |
| | 3rd " | 113.0 | 116.1 | 114.2 | 121.7 | 125.4 | 127.8 | 129.0 | |
| | 4th " | 126.2 | 131.1 | 133.7 | 139.0 | 146.3 | 149.3 | 148.5 | |
| Percentage of 1924 Average | 1st Qr. | 93.3 | 98.6 | 103.3 | 104.2 | 109.7 | 108.4 | 112.5 | 113.2 |
| | 2nd " | 98.1 | 100.7 | 94.4 | 106.5 | 108.9 | 112.2 | 114.2 | |
| | 3rd " | 98.6 | 101.3 | 99.7 | 106.1 | 109.4 | 111.5 | 112.5 | |
| | 4th " | 110.1 | 114.3 | 116.6 | 121.3 | 127.7 | 130.3 | 129.6 | |
| British Exports (Volume, all commodities). Value as declared, Million £ | 1st Qr. | 194.7 | 208.7 | 189.6 | 170.5 | 181.9 | 181.2 | 164.1 | 103.3 |
| | 2nd " | 196.5 | 184.0 | 148.6 | 171.9 | 173.3 | 177.6 | 140.7 | |
| | 3rd " | 201.9 | 186.6 | 157.7 | 176.2 | 179.7 | 184.7 | 136.3 | |
| | 4th " | 207.8 | 194.1 | 157.1 | 190.6 | 188.6 | 185.9 | 129.4 | |
| Value at 1924 prices, Million £ | 1st Qr. | 195.7 | 211.2 | 207.8 | 196.1 | 210.5 | 213.7 | 200.1 | 138.5 |
| | 2nd " | 197.5 | 183.4 | 159.6 | 198.2 | 201.2 | 213.3 | 174.9 | |
| | 3rd " | 200.5 | 192.2 | 172.1 | 203.5 | 206.9 | 218.5 | 170.1 | |
| | 4th " | 207.2 | 208.4 | 172.5 | 221.5 | 219.7 | 222.1 | 165.6 | |
| Percentage of 1924 average | 1st Qr. | 97.7 | 105.5 | 103.8 | 98.0 | 105.1 | 106.7 | 99.9 | 69.2 |
| | 2nd " | 98.6 | 91.6 | 79.7 | 99.0 | 100.5 | 106.5 | 87.4 | |
| | 3rd " | 100.1 | 96.0 | 85 | | | | | |

| | | 1924. | 1925. | 1926. | 1927. | 1928. | 1929. | 1930. | 1931. |
|--|---------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Discount Rate. Three Months' Bank Bills. Quarterly Average, per cent. | 1st Qr. | 3½ | 4 | 4½ | 4½ | 4½ | 5 | 3½ | 2½ |
| | 2nd " | 3½ | 4½ | 4½ | 4½ | 3½ | 5½ | 2½ | |
| | 3rd " | 3½ | 4 | 4½ | 4½ | 4½ | 5½ | 2½ | |
| | 4th " | 3½ | 4½ | 4½ | 4½ | 4½ | 5½ | 2½ | |
| Bank Clearings—Country Cheque and Provincial, England and Wales. Average amount daily, Million £ ... | 1st Qr. | 15.4 | 16.1 | 15.2 | 15.3 | 15.6 | 15.7 | 15.0 | 13.5 |
| | 2nd " | 15.6 | 15.6 | 14.0 | 15.3 | 15.6 | 15.2 | 14.3 | |
| | 3rd " | 15.0 | 14.6 | 13.4 | 14.7 | 14.6 | 14.7 | 13.2 | |
| | 4th " | 16.1 | 15.6 | 14.8 | 15.7 | 15.5 | 15.4 | 13.6 | |
| Percentage of 1924 average ... | 1st Qr. | 99.2 | 103.4 | 98.1 | 98.3 | 100.6 | 100.9 | 96.7 | 86.7 |
| | 2nd " | 100.3 | 100.5 | 90.1 | 98.8 | 100.5 | 98.0 | 92.4 | |
| | 3rd " | 96.8 | 94.3 | 86.6 | 94.6 | 94.3 | 94.4 | 85.2 | |
| | 4th " | 103.7 | 100.2 | 95.1 | 101.4 | 100.1 | 99.4 | 87.7 | |
| Coal Mining—Coal Raised. Average quantity of saleable coal raised monthly, Million tons. | 1st Qr. | 23.8 | 21.9 | 22.3 | 22.0 | 21.4 | 22.0 | 22.6 | 19.2 |
| | 2nd " | 21.9 | 19.3 | 7.3 | 20.5 | 18.9 | 20.5 | 19.3 | |
| | 3rd " | 21.3 | 18.7 | 1.2 | 20.3 | 18.4 | 20.8 | 18.8 | |
| | 4th " | 22.0 | 21.2 | 11.1 | 20.9 | 20.4 | 22.2 | 20.5 | |
| Percentage of 1924 average ... | 1st Qr. | 106.7 | 98.6 | 100.0 | 98.8 | 96.3 | 98.9 | 101.7 | 86.1 |
| | 2nd " | 98.5 | 86.5 | 32.7 | 92.3 | 85.1 | 92.0 | 86.8 | |
| | 3rd " | 95.7 | 84.0 | 5.4 | 91.4 | 82.9 | 93.6 | 84.4 | |
| | 4th " | 98.9 | 95.0 | 49.9 | 93.7 | 91.8 | 99.8 | 92.1 | |
| Coal Mining—Coal Exported.* Average quantity of coal exported monthly, Million tons. | 1st Qr. | 5.2 | 4.4 | 4.4 | 4.4 | 4.0 | 4.4 | 5.0 | 3.5 |
| | 2nd " | 5.1 | 4.2 | 1.9 | 4.4 | 4.2 | 5.0 | 4.5 | |
| | 3rd " | 5.2 | 3.9 | ... | 4.2 | 4.1 | 5.3 | 4.4 | |
| | 4th " | 5.0 | 4.5 | 0.5 | 4.1 | 4.3 | 5.4 | 4.4 | |
| Percentage of 1924 average ... | 1st Qr. | 101.9 | 85.0 | 85.6 | 84.9 | 78.0 | 85.2 | 97.4 | 67.6 |
| | 2nd " | 100.1 | 82.7 | 37.5 | 85.8 | 81.5 | 97.1 | 87.8 | |
| | 3rd " | 101.6 | 75.4 | 0.1 | 82.2 | 80.7 | 104.0 | 85.8 | |
| | 4th " | 96.4 | 86.6 | 10.5 | 78.9 | 84.6 | 104.7 | 85.1 | |
| Coal Mining—Unemployment. Average percentage of insured workers unem- ployed in Great Britain. | 1st Qr. | 3.1 | 10.1 | 9.7 | 16.4 | 17.9 | 15.9 | 13.5 | 23.1 |
| | 2nd " | 3.3 | 17.5 | 8.9 | 18.0 | 21.6 | 17.6 | 20.8 | |
| | 3rd " | 7.6 | 20.4 | 8.8 | 20.3 | 26.1 | 16.7 | 24.9 | |
| | 4th " | 9.1 | 15.6 | 9.2 | 18.2 | 23.2 | 14.8 | 22.4 | |
| Iron and Steel—Crude Steel Output. Average quantity monthly, Thousand tons. | 1st Qr. | 759.6 | 647.4 | 709.4 | 835.7 | 728.0 | 799.8 | 791.2 | 462.9 |
| | 2nd " | 724.2 | 611.5 | 247.1 | 827.3 | 701.9 | 827.8 | 662.7 | |
| | 3rd " | 621.9 | 569.2 | 60.0 | 702.4 | 677.9 | 802.0 | 551.1 | |
| | 4th " | 634.6 | 637.7 | 170.3 | 667.5 | 733.9 | 788.7 | 427.8 | |
| Percentage of 1924 average ... | 1st Qr. | 111.2 | 94.7 | 103.8 | 122.3 | 106.5 | 117.0 | 115.8 | 67.7 |
| | 2nd " | 106.0 | 89.5 | 36.2 | 121.1 | 102.7 | 121.1 | 97.0 | |
| | 3rd " | 91.0 | 83.3 | 8.8 | 102.8 | 99.2 | 117.4 | 80.6 | |
| | 4th " | 92.9 | 93.3 | 24.9 | 97.7 | 107.4 | 115.4 | 62.6 | |
| Iron and Steel—Pig Iron Output. Average quantity monthly, Thousand tons. | 1st Qr. | 639.3 | 574.8 | 534.7 | 559.2 | 568.0 | 558.0 | 640.9 | 337.5 |
| | 2nd " | 625.7 | 551.6 | 223.2 | 683.8 | 572.8 | 641.3 | 599.1 | |
| | 3rd " | 591.2 | 462.0 | 14.7 | 611.1 | 503.9 | 672.8 | 442.6 | |
| | 4th " | 583.4 | 490.4 | 41.3 | 577.1 | 542.8 | 654.4 | 383.0 | |
| Percentage of 1924 average ... | 1st Qr. | 105.0 | 94.4 | 87.8 | 91.8 | 93.3 | 91.6 | 105.3 | 55.4 |
| | 2nd " | 102.8 | 90.6 | 36.7 | 112.3 | 94.1 | 105.3 | 98.4 | |
| | 3rd " | 97.1 | 75.9 | 2.4 | 100.3 | 85.4 | 110.5 | 72.7 | |
| | 4th " | 95.8 | 80.5 | 6.8 | 94.8 | 89.1 | 107.5 | 62.9 | |
| Iron and Steel—Unemployment. Average percentage of insured workers unem- ployed in Great Britain. | 1st Qr. | 18.2 | 22.8 | 20.8 | 17.5 | 19.5 | 18.8 | 22.9 | 44.1 |
| | 2nd " | 17.7 | 24.3 | 45.3 | 16.5 | 20.0 | 17.8 | 29.1 | |
| | 3rd " | 22.3 | 26.5 | 57.3 | 17.6 | 23.2 | 18.6 | 35.5 | |
| | 4th " | 23.9 | 24.0 | 47.0 | 20.7 | 21.2 | 20.5 | 44.4 | |
| General Engineering—Unemployment. Average percentage of insured workers unem- ployed in Great Britain. | 1st Qr. | 17.6 | 13.3 | 12.1 | 12.7 | 9.7 | 10.0 | 12.7 | 25.8 |
| | 2nd " | 14.9 | 12.4 | 15.5 | 9.9 | 9.6 | 9.1 | 15.1 | |
| | 3rd " | 14.8 | 12.4 | 17.7 | 9.4 | 10.0 | 9.5 | 18.4 | |
| | 4th " | 14.5 | 11.8 | 17.5 | 9.7 | 9.9 | 10.1 | 22.8 | |
| Electrical Engineering. Average of Index of Activity (British Electrical and Allied Manufacturers' Assn.) expressed as percentage of 1924 average.† | 1st Qr. | 103.4 | 85.2 | 88.0 | 113.6 | 92.5 | 104.1 | 116.4 | 84.1 |
| | 2nd " | 110.4 | 68.7 | 92.5 | 124.8 | 84.4 | 105.4 | 109.0 | |
| | 3rd " | 96.0 | 78.9 | 86.6 | 131.1 | 84.1 | 107.6 | 109.4 | |
| | 4th " | 90.1 | 86.9 | 101.3 | 109.0 | 98.1 | 111.1 | 97.5 | |
| Electrical Engineering—Unemployment. Average percentage of insured workers unem- ployed in Great Britain. | 1st Qr. | 5.8 | 5.6 | 6.6 | 6.5 | 4.7 | 5.1 | 5.7 | 14.5 |
| | 2nd " | 5.4 | 5.6 | 9.6 | 5.2 | 4.8 | 4.6 | 7.2 | |
| | 3rd " | 5.0 | 5.5 | 8.0 | 4.7 | 5.1 | 4.0 | 9.1 | |
| | 4th " | 5.3 | 5.5 | 6.7 | 4.4 | 5.0 | 4.2 | 10.9 | |
| Shipbuilding—Merchant Vessels under construction at end of Quarter. Million gross tons. | 1st Qr. | 1.47 | 1.17 | 0.84 | 1.22 | 1.44 | 1.36 | 1.61 | 0.69 |
| | 2nd " | 1.52 | 1.09 | 0.84 | 1.39 | 1.20 | 1.45 | 1.39 | |
| | 3rd " | 1.47 | 1.01 | 0.77 | 1.54 | 1.09 | 1.45 | 1.12 | |
| | 4th " | 1.30 | 0.89 | 0.76 | 1.58 | 1.24 | 1.56 | 0.91 | |
| Percentage of 1924 average ... | 1st Qr. | 102.4 | 81.0 | 58.6 | 84.6 | 100.1 | 94.3 | 112.2 | 48.2 |
| | 2nd " | 105.4 | 76.0 | 58.5 | 96.6 | 83.6 | 101.0 | 96.7 | |
| | 3rd " | 102.0 | 70.1 | 53.8 | 106.8 | 75.7 | 100.7 | 77.6 | |
| | 4th " | 90.1 | 61.5 | 52.8 | 109.8 | 86.4 | 108.4 | 63.2 | |
| Shipbuilding—Merchant Vessels commenced during Quarter. Thousand gross tons. | 1st Qr. | 227.8 | 202.4 | 193.1 | 579.8 | 341.8 | 362.4 | 426.6 | 241.9 |
| | 2nd " | 375.2 | 189.8 | 168.5 | 437.1 | 279.0 | 428.4 | 230.5 | |
| | 3rd " | 252.7 | 260.6 | 68.3 | 370.1 | 244.6 | 360.1 | 160.7 | |
| | 4th " | 194.6 | 161.0 | 152.4 | 377.5 | 431.8 | 499.0 | 132.0 | |
| Percentage of 1924 average ... | 1st Qr. | 86.7 | 77.1 | 73.5 | 220.8 | 130.2 | 138.0 | 162.5 | 92.1 |
| | 2nd " | 142.9 | 72.3 | 64.2 | 166.5 | 106.2 | 163.1 | 87.8 | |
| | 3rd " | 96.3 | 99.2 | 26.0 | 140.9 | 93.1 | 137.1 | 61.2 | |
| | 4th " | 74.1 | 61.3 | 58.0 | 143.8 | 164.4 | 190.0 | 50.3 | |
| Shipbuilding, Ship Repairing and Marine Engineering —Unemployment. Average percentage of insured workers unem- ployed in Great Britain. | 1st Qr. | 28.1 | 29.3 | 34.3 | 30.1 | 18.4 | 23.5 | 22.4 | 49.7 |
| | 2nd " | 25.1 | 29.2 | 35.3 | 22.0 | 21.5 | 20.1 | 26.1 | |
| | 3rd " | 25.9 | 33.1 | 40.4 | 20.1 | 24.1 | 20.5 | 31.9 | |
| | 4th " | 28.3 | 35.3 | 41.9 | 19.0 | 28.8 | 21.0 | 43.1 | |
| Cotton—Raw Cotton delivered to Mills. Average quantity monthly, million lbs. ... | 1st Qr. | 122.7 | 155.8 | 147.8 | 160.2 | 137.7 | 134.6 | 118.7 | 85.1 |
| | 2nd " | 106.4 | 134.7 | 106.2 | 134.5 | 124.6 | 129.7 | 90.8 | |
| | 3rd " | 96.7 | 113.0 | 94.1 | 121.8 | 105.6 | 98.3 | 65.8 | |
| | 4th " | 146.7 | 152.9 | 129.1 | 124.9 | 133.4 | 135.5 | 90.3 | |
| Percentage of 1924 average ... | 1st Qr. | 104 | 132 | 125 | 136 | 117 | 114 | 101 | 71 |
| | 2nd " | 90 | 114 | 90 | 114 | 105 | 110 | 77 | |
| | 3rd " | 82 | 96 | 80 | 103 | 89 | 83 | 56 | |
| | 4th " | 124 | 129 | 109 | 106 | 113 | 113 | 76 | |
| Cotton—Unemployment. Average percentage of insured workers unem- ployed in Great Britain. | 1st Qr. | 15.8 | 6.6 | 9.1 | 8.6 | 9.2 | 11.6 | 23.8 | 40.6 |
| | 2nd " | 15.4 | 7.7 | 20.6 | 6.9 | 10.9 | 13.8 | 37.3 | |
| | 3rd " | 15.1 | 11.6 | 25.4 | 9.6 | 15.4 | 14.0 | 45.5 | |
| | 4th " | 8.9 | 6.8 | 17.4 | 11.1 | 12.3 | 13.3 | 43.0 | |
| Wool Textile Industry—Total Wages paid. Index of total wages paid expressed as percentage of 1924 average. | 1st Qr. | | | 92.0 | 91.6 | 96.2 | 88.8 | 83.9 | 70.6 |
| | 2nd " | | | 86.8 | 95.6 | 95.0 | 93.3 | 73.8 | |
| | 3rd " | | | 84.9 | 94.9 | 88.0 | 88.5 | 75.7 | |
| | 4th " | | | 89.2 | 96.7 | 91.6 | 90.6 | 76.7 | |
| Wool Textile Industry—Unemployment. Average percentage of insured workers unem- ployed in Great Britain. | 1st Qr. | 7.1 | 13.1 | 10.8 | 10.6 | 7.7 | 13.1 | 21.2 | 29.5 |
| | 2nd " | 5.1 | 17.9 | 18.6 | 9.2 | 9.3 | 12.0 | 22.8 | |
| | 3rd " | 7.5 | 17.7 | 20.7 | 9.0 | 15.6 | 15.2 | 26.5 | |
| | 4th " | 8.5 | 9.7 | 13.9 | 7.1 | 14.3 | 15.1 | 25.9 | |
| Building—Plans Approved. Estimated total value of plans approved in 146 towns, million £. | 1st Qr. | 15.9 | 16.0 | 20.1 | 16.6 | 15.9 | 15.7 | 18.8 | 16.3 |
| | 2nd " | 15.1 | 17.9 | 16.9 | 17.2 | 17.2 | 22.1 | 20.2 | |
| | 3rd " | 13.6 | 16.0 | 15.9 | 14.7 | 17.1 | 16.4 | 17.2 | |
| | 4th " | 13.7 | 16.6 | 14.8 | 15.8 | 17.2 | 18.9 | 18.4 | |
| Percentage of 1924 average ... | 1st Qr. | 108.9 | 109.6 | 137.7 | 113.7 | 108.9 | 107.5 | 128.8 | 111.6 |
| | 2nd " | 103.4 | 122.6 | 115.8 | 117.8 | 117.8 | 151.4 | 138.4 | |
| | 3rd " | 93.2 | 109.6 | 108.9 | 100.7 | 117.1 | 112.3 | 117.8 | |
| | 4th " | 93.8 | 113.7 | 101.4 | 108.2 | 117.8 | 129.5 | 126.0 | |
| Building—Unemployment. Average percentage of insured workers unem- ployed in Great Britain. | 1st Qr. | 12.5 | 11.1 | 11.3 | 12.1 | 14.5 | 19.1 | 17.5 | 24.9 |
| | 2nd " | 8.3 | 7.4 | 8.4 | 6.8 | 9.7 | 9.0 | 12.9 | |
| | 3rd " | 9.8 | 7.7 | 9.3 | 7.6 | 10.6 | 9.3 | 14.5 | |
| | 4th " | 10.9 | 11.0 | 12.4 | 13.4 | 14.2 | 15.2 | 20.4 | |
| Public Works Contracting—Unemployment. Average percentage of insured workers unem- ployed in Great Britain. | 1st Qr. | 18.4 | 18.9 | 18.8 | 20.1 | 21.1 | 26.9 | 26.9 | 32.9 |
| | 2nd " | 16.2 | 16.1 | 18.1 | 15.1 | 17.8 | 19.5 | 26.0 | |
| | 3rd " | 16.5 | 15.0 | 18.8 | 15.1 | 19.2 | 19.8 | 28.5 | |
| | 4th " | 18.6 | 17.9 | 21.7 | 19.0 | 23.2 | 23.8 | 29.8 | |

* Coal shipped as bunkers in the Foreign Trade is not included.

† Published by courtesy of the British Electrical and Allied Manufacturers' Association.

ERRATA.

In the SUPPLEMENT to the MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE for May, 1931, on page 2 of the "Statistics forming the basis of the charts illustrating the course of trade, output, etc. etc.," the following corrections should be made in the figures relating to *Shipbuilding—Merchant Vessels commenced during 1st Quarter of 1931* :—

For 241·9 substitute 32·7

For 92·1 substitute 12·4

The curve in the corresponding chart should also be amended in accordance with the revised figures.

| INDUSTRY. | GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND. | | | | | | | | | GREAT BRITAIN ONLY. | | |
|---|---|----------|-----------|----------------------|----------|---------|-----------|----------|------------|--|----------|-----------|
| | WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED (Including Casuals). | | | TEMPORARY STOPPAGES. | | | TOTAL. | | | WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED, TEMPORARY STOPPAGES, AND CASUALS. | | |
| | Males. | Females. | Total. | Males. | Females. | Total. | Males. | Females. | Total. | Males. | Females. | Total. |
| Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing ... | 101,333 | 491 | 101,824 | 6,365 | 74 | 6,439 | 107,698 | 565 | 108,263 | 101,207 | 530 | 101,737 |
| Metal Trades :— | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Stove, Grate, Pipe, etc., and General | 14,594 | 1,554 | 16,148 | 7,380 | 506 | 7,886 | 21,974 | 2,060 | 24,034 | 21,842 | 2,060 | 23,902 |
| Iron Founding ... | 2,677 | 76 | 2,753 | 282 | 7 | 289 | 2,959 | 83 | 3,042 | 2,874 | 83 | 2,957 |
| Electrical Wiring and Contracting ... | 7,467 | 5,677 | 13,144 | 1,821 | 1,360 | 3,181 | 9,288 | 7,037 | 16,325 | 9,247 | 7,037 | 16,284 |
| Electrical Cables, Wire and Lamps | 5,189 | 2,585 | 7,774 | 4,732 | 1,043 | 5,775 | 9,921 | 3,628 | 13,549 | 9,909 | 3,626 | 13,535 |
| Hand Tools, Cutlery, Saws, Files ... | 2,352 | 2,789 | 5,141 | 2,571 | 1,617 | 4,188 | 4,923 | 4,406 | 9,329 | 4,923 | 4,406 | 9,329 |
| Bolts, Nuts, Screws, Rivets, Nails, etc. | 2,791 | 2,139 | 4,930 | 1,012 | 556 | 1,568 | 3,803 | 2,695 | 6,498 | 3,792 | 2,695 | 6,487 |
| Brass and Allied Metal Wares ... | 1,234 | 71 | 1,305 | 443 | 3 | 446 | 1,677 | 74 | 1,751 | 1,669 | 74 | 1,743 |
| Heating and Ventilating Apparatus | 3,181 | 3,134 | 6,315 | 1,444 | 1,252 | 2,696 | 4,625 | 4,386 | 9,011 | 4,611 | 4,385 | 8,996 |
| Watches, Clocks, Plate, Jewellery, etc. | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Metal Industries not separately specified ... | 18,166 | 14,564 | 32,730 | 8,094 | 3,380 | 11,474 | 26,260 | 17,944 | 44,204 | 26,076 | 17,933 | 44,009 |
| Textile Trades :— | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Cotton ... | 42,302 | 96,236 | 138,538 | 27,697 | 49,302 | 76,999 | 69,999 | 145,538 | 215,537 | 69,983 | 145,505 | 215,488 |
| Woollen and Worsted ... | 11,603 | 20,252 | 31,855 | 11,464 | 18,471 | 29,935 | 23,067 | 38,723 | 61,790 | 22,930 | 38,571 | 61,501 |
| Silk Manufacture and Artificial Silk | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Weaving ... | 3,124 | 4,637 | 7,761 | 2,182 | 3,557 | 5,739 | 5,306 | 8,194 | 13,500 | 5,301 | 8,193 | 13,494 |
| Artificial Silk Yarn ... | 3,271 | 2,953 | 6,224 | 1,158 | 1,099 | 2,257 | 4,429 | 4,052 | 8,481 | 4,381 | 4,031 | 8,412 |
| Linen ... | 6,349 | 12,834 | 19,183 | 1,661 | 3,996 | 5,657 | 8,010 | 16,830 | 24,840 | 1,197 | 3,997 | 5,194 |
| Jute ... | 3,781 | 9,441 | 13,222 | 1,831 | 4,136 | 5,967 | 5,612 | 13,577 | 19,189 | 5,612 | 13,574 | 19,186 |
| Hemp, Rope, Cord, Twine, etc. | 1,198 | 2,415 | 3,613 | 470 | 1,076 | 1,546 | 1,668 | 3,491 | 5,159 | 1,431 | 2,961 | 4,392 |
| Hosiery ... | 1,697 | 9,357 | 11,054 | 2,272 | 10,087 | 12,359 | 3,969 | 19,444 | 23,413 | 3,949 | 19,299 | 23,248 |
| Lace ... | 616 | 1,154 | 1,770 | 746 | 872 | 1,618 | 1,362 | 2,026 | 3,388 | 1,362 | 2,026 | 3,388 |
| Carpets ... | 686 | 1,622 | 2,308 | 1,374 | 1,651 | 3,025 | 2,060 | 3,273 | 5,333 | 2,060 | 3,273 | 5,333 |
| Textiles not separately specified ... | 1,633 | 5,136 | 6,769 | 804 | 2,543 | 3,347 | 2,437 | 7,679 | 10,116 | 2,156 | 6,567 | 8,723 |
| Textile Bleaching, Printing, Dyeing, etc. | 12,483 | 6,748 | 19,231 | 17,999 | 5,597 | 23,596 | 30,482 | 12,345 | 42,827 | 29,133 | 10,506 | 39,639 |
| Leather and Leather Goods :— | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Tanning, Currying and Dressing ... | 4,004 | 1,533 | 5,537 | 1,753 | 485 | 2,238 | 5,757 | 2,018 | 7,775 | 5,749 | 2,018 | 7,767 |
| Leather Goods ... | 2,141 | 2,079 | 4,220 | 556 | 786 | 1,342 | 2,697 | 2,865 | 5,562 | 2,657 | 2,852 | 5,509 |
| Clothing Trades :— | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Tailoring ... | 7,027 | 8,266 | 15,293 | 780 | 3,353 | 4,133 | 7,807 | 11,619 | 19,426 | 7,435 | 11,318 | 18,753 |
| Dress Making and Millinery ... | 1,025 | 3,983 | 5,008 | 42 | 825 | 867 | 1,067 | 4,808 | 5,875 | 1,035 | 4,390 | 5,425 |
| Hats and Caps (including Straw Plait) | 1,316 | 1,241 | 2,557 | 732 | 899 | 1,631 | 2,048 | 2,140 | 4,188 | 2,044 | 2,124 | 4,168 |
| Shirts, Collars, Underclothing, etc. | 787 | 7,648 | 8,435 | 84 | 2,470 | 2,554 | 871 | 10,118 | 10,989 | 669 | 4,457 | 5,126 |
| Dress Industries not separately specified ... | 1,164 | 1,385 | 2,549 | 717 | 836 | 1,553 | 1,881 | 2,221 | 4,102 | 1,875 | 2,210 | 4,085 |
| Boots, Shoes, Slippers and Clogs ... | 9,997 | 4,354 | 14,351 | 7,272 | 3,319 | 10,591 | 17,269 | 7,673 | 24,942 | 16,979 | 7,653 | 24,632 |
| Food, Drink and Tobacco :— | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Bread, Biscuits, Cakes, etc. ... | 11,517 | 6,914 | 18,431 | 573 | 503 | 1,076 | 12,090 | 7,417 | 19,507 | 11,397 | 7,284 | 18,681 |
| Grain Milling ... | 2,564 | 318 | 2,882 | 192 | 18 | 210 | 2,756 | 336 | 3,092 | 2,648 | 325 | 2,973 |
| Cocoa, Chocolate and Sugar Confectionery ... | 3,288 | 5,991 | 9,279 | 441 | 2,211 | 2,652 | 3,729 | 8,202 | 11,931 | 3,671 | 8,170 | 11,841 |
| Food Industries not separately specified ... | 7,602 | 11,608 | 19,210 | 634 | 826 | 1,460 | 8,236 | 12,434 | 20,670 | 8,075 | 12,349 | 20,424 |
| Drink Industries ... | 8,627 | 4,417 | 13,044 | 595 | 278 | 873 | 9,222 | 4,695 | 13,917 | 8,735 | 4,666 | 13,401 |
| Tobacco, Cigars, Cigarettes and Snuff | 975 | 3,377 | 4,352 | 156 | 642 | 798 | 1,131 | 4,019 | 5,150 | 1,088 | 3,860 | 4,948 |
| Sawmilling, Furniture and Woodwork :— | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sawmilling and Machined Woodwork | 10,013 | 268 | 10,281 | 959 | 80 | 1,039 | 10,972 | 348 | 11,320 | 10,611 | 345 | 10,956 |
| Wood Boxes and Packing Cases ... | 2,165 | 372 | 2,537 | 668 | 69 | 737 | 2,833 | 441 | 3,274 | 2,786 | 441 | 3,227 |
| Furniture Making, Upholstering, etc. | 16,951 | 2,827 | 19,778 | 1,922 | 464 | 2,386 | 18,873 | 3,291 | 22,164 | 18,670 | 3,267 | 21,937 |
| Woodworking not separately specified ... | 2,866 | 809 | 3,675 | 733 | 276 | 1,009 | 3,599 | 1,085 | 4,684 | 3,479 | 1,072 | 4,551 |
| Printing and Paper Trades :— | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Paper and Paper Board ... | 2,980 | 1,360 | 4,340 | 2,566 | 826 | 3,392 | 5,546 | 2,186 | 7,732 | 5,530 | 2,174 | 7,704 |
| Cardboard Boxes, Paper Bags and Stationery ... | 1,671 | 4,241 | 5,912 | 336 | 1,059 | 1,395 | 2,007 | 5,300 | 7,307 | 1,934 | 5,070 | 7,004 |
| Wall Paper Making ... | 517 | 345 | 862 | 230 | 118 | 348 | 747 | 463 | 1,210 | 747 | 463 | 1,210 |
| Stationery and Typewriting Requisites (not paper) ... | 312 | 388 | 700 | 73 | 153 | 226 | 385 | 541 | 926 | 383 | 541 | 924 |
| Printing, Publishing and Bookbinding | 15,091 | 9,862 | 24,953 | 898 | 1,369 | 2,267 | 15,989 | 11,231 | 27,220 | 15,674 | 10,970 | 26,644 |
| Building and Public Works Contracting :— | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Building ... | 155,108 | 439 | 155,547 | 6,726 | 41 | 6,767 | 161,834 | 480 | 162,314 | 155,556 | 472 | 156,028 |
| Public Works Contracting, etc. ... | 56,640 | 48 | 56,688 | 1,507 | 4 | 1,511 | 58,147 | 52 | 58,199 | 55,851 | 51 | 55,902 |
| Other Manufacturing Industries :— | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Rubber ... | 6,454 | 4,696 | 11,150 | 1,573 | 945 | 2,518 | 8,027 | 5,641 | 13,668 | 8,012 | 5,639 | 13,651 |
| Oilcloth, Linoleum, etc. ... | 1,316 | 255 | 1,571 | 1,288 | 151 | 1,439 | 2,604 | 406 | 3,010 | 2,604 | 406 | 3,010 |
| Brushes and Brooms ... | 1,315 | 640 | 1,955 | 309 | 269 | 578 | 1,624 | 909 | 2,533 | 1,583 | 890 | 2,473 |
| Scientific and Photographic Instruments and Apparatus ... | 1,377 | 706 | 2,083 | 280 | 181 | 461 | 1,657 | 887 | 2,544 | 1,650 | 886 | 2,536 |
| Musical Instruments ... | 4,102 | 922 | 5,024 | 763 | 131 | 894 | 4,865 | 1,053 | 5,918 | 4,852 | 1,053 | 5,905 |
| Toys, Games and Sports Requisites | 781 | 894 | 1,675 | 188 | 158 | 346 | 969 | 1,052 | 2,021 | 969 | 1,052 | 2,021 |
| Gas, Water and Electricity Supply Industries ... | 13,991 | 306 | 14,297 | 636 | 44 | 680 | 14,627 | 350 | 14,977 | 14,353 | 349 | 14,702 |
| Transport and Communication :— | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Railway Service ... | 14,786 | 518 | 15,304 | 876 | 6 | 882 | 15,662 | 524 | 16,186 | 15,462 | 519 | 15,981 |
| Tramway and Omnibus Service ... | 7,520 | 758 | 8,278 | 367 | 20 | 387 | 7,887 | 778 | 8,665 | 7,603 | 765 | 8,368 |
| Road Transport not separately specified ... | 34,357 | 661 | 35,018 | 1,878 | 12 | 1,890 | 36,235 | 673 | 36,908 | 35,265 | 668 | 35,933 |
| Shipping Service ... | 48,152 | 855 | 49,007 | 435 | 58 | 493 | 48,587 | 913 | 49,500 | 47,694 | 902 | 48,596 |
| Dock, Harbour, River and Canal Service ... | 68,241 | 248 | 68,489 | 1,179 | 53 | 1,232 | 69,420 | 301 | 69,721 | 68,118 | 301 | 68,419 |
| Transport, Communication and Storage not separately specified | 2,860 | 196 | 3,056 | 103 | 11 | 114 | 2,963 | 207 | 3,170 | 2,929 | 207 | 3,136 |
| Distributive Trades ... | 134,549 | 66,561 | 201,110 | 6,283 | 3,504 | 9,787 | 140,832 | 70,065 | 210,897 | 135,085 | 68,653 | 203,738 |
| Commerce, Banking, Insurance and Finance ... | 9,824 | 2,179 | 12,003 | 181 | 34 | 215 | 10,005 | 2,213 | 12,218 | 9,793 | 2,190 | 11,983 |
| Miscellaneous Trades and Services :— | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| National Government ... | 10,151 | 1,203 | 11,354 | 389 | 82 | 471 | 10,540 | 1,285 | 11,825 | 10,155 | 1,222 | 11,377 |
| Local Government ... | 40,638 | 1,003 | 41,641 | 1,603 | 49 | 1,652 | 42,241 | 1,052 | 43,293 | 40,428 | 1,031 | 41,459 |
| Professional Services ... | 4,834 | 2,007 | 6,841 | 243 | 53 | 296 | 5,077 | 2,060 | 7,137 | 4,924 | 2,018 | 6,942 |
| Entertainments and Sports ... | 12,024 | 5,972 | 17,996 | 336 | 210 | 546 | 12,360 | 6,182 | 18,542 | 11,890 | 6,075 | 17,965 |
| Hotel, Public House, Restaurant, Boarding House, Club, &c., Service | 23,250 | 40,589 | 63,839 | 320 | 1,120 | 1,440 | 23,570 | 41,709 | 65,279 | 22,936 | 41,110 | 64,046 |
| Laundries, Dyeing and Dry Cleaning | 2,880 | 9,193 | 12,073 | 101 | 1,591 | 1,692 | 2,981 | 10,784 | 13,765 | 2,905 | 10,498 | 13,403 |
| Industries and Services not separately specified ... | 41,638 | 3,749 | 45,387 | 1,475 | 834 | 2,309 | 43,113 | 4,583 | 47,696 | 41,538 | 4,496 | 46,034 |
| TOTAL ... | 1,562,036 | 465,860 | 2,027,896 | 405,886 | 158,998 | 564,884 | 1,967,922 | 624,858 | 2,592,780* | 1,917,559 | 597,932 | 2,515,491 |

* Including 116,983 Casuals (Males, 114,858; Females, 2,125).

NUMBERS INSURED AND PERCENTAGES UNEMPLOYED.

| GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | GREAT BRITAIN ONLY. TOTAL PER- CENTAGES AT 27TH APRIL, 1931. |
|--|--|----------|-----------|---|---------------|--------|-------------------------|---------------|--------|--------|---------------|--------|--|------------------------|------------------------|------|---|
| INDUSTRY. | ESTIMATED NUMBER OF INSURED PERSONS AT JULY, 1930. | | | PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED AT 27TH APRIL, 1931. | | | | | | | | | INCREASE (+) OR DECREASE (-) IN TOTAL PERCENT- AGES AS COMPARED WITH | | | | |
| | | | | WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED (including Casuals). | | | TEMPORARY STOPPAGES. | | | TOTAL. | | | | | | | |
| | Males. | Females. | Total. | Males. | Fe- males. | Total. | Males. | Fe- males. | Total. | Males. | Fe- males. | Total. | 23RD MAR., 1931. | 28TH APR., 1930. | 22ND APR., 1929. | | |
| Fishing | 27,110 | 880 | 27,990 | 19.1 | 13.4 | 18.9 | 0.6 | 2.2 | 0.6 | 19.7 | 15.6 | 19.5 | - 0.5 | + 4.5 | + 6.8 | 19.5 | |
| Mining :— | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Coal Mining | 1,063,350 | 6,130 | 1,069,480 | 17.0 | 18.5 | 17.0 | 9.1 | 3.5 | 9.1 | 26.1 | 22.0 | 26.1 | - 1.3 | + 9.5 | +10.3 | 26.1 | |
| Iron Ore and Ironstone Mining, etc. | 14,770 | 20 | 14,790 | 25.2 | 60.0 | 25.2 | 7.1 | — | 7.1 | 32.3 | 60.0 | 32.3 | + 1.0 | +21.5 | +24.7 | 32.3 | |
| Lead, Tin and Copper Mining ... | 5,310 | 40 | 5,350 | 59.1 | 47.5 | 59.0 | 1.5 | — | 1.5 | 60.6 | 47.5 | 60.5 | - 2.8 | +34.8 | +44.2 | 60.6 | |
| Stone Quarrying and Mining ... | 42,980 | 480 | 43,460 | 12.1 | 2.7 | 11.9 | 3.6 | 0.4 | 3.7 | 15.7 | 3.1 | 15.6 | - 0.6 | + 3.9 | + 6.3 | 15.1 | |
| Slate Quarrying and Mining ... | 10,480 | 10 | 10,490 | 13.0 | 40.0 | 13.0 | 10.5 | — | 10.5 | 23.5 | 40.0 | 23.5 | -10.4 | - 6.7 | +13.8 | 23.5 | |
| Mining and Quarrying not separately specified | 15,350 | 1,600 | 16,950 | 12.2 | 16.8 | 12.7 | 3.8 | 0.5 | 3.4 | 16.0 | 17.3 | 16.1 | - 0.6 | + 5.1 | + 6.9 | 15.9 | |
| Clay, Sand, Gravel and Chalk Pits ... | 16,490 | 200 | 16,690 | 13.7 | 21.5 | 13.8 | 4.6 | 2.5 | 4.5 | 18.3 | 24.0 | 18.3 | - 0.9 | +11.0 | +12.3 | 18.2 | |
| Non-Metalliferous Mining Products :— | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Ooke Ovens and By-Product Works | 11,720 | 100 | 11,820 | 24.0 | 48.0 | 24.2 | 6.9 | 10.0 | 6.9 | 30.9 | 58.0 | 31.1 | + 1.3 | +17.1 | +16.6 | 31.1 | |
| Artificial Stone and Concrete ... | 16,280 | 1,420 | 17,700 | 19.3 | 13.4 | 18.9 | 4.6 | 3.6 | 4.4 | 23.9 | 17.0 | 23.3 | + 0.5 | + 4.6 | + 8.0 | 23.3 | |
| Cement, Limekilns and Whiting ... | 18,230 | 860 | 19,090 | 14.0 | 16.4 | 14.1 | 4.0 | 3.5 | 4.0 | 18.0 | 19.9 | 18.1 | - 0.4 | + 5.9 | +11.4 | 18.2 | |
| Brick, Tile, etc., Making | 77,250 | 7,430 | 84,680 | 13.3 | 23.8 | 14.2 | 3.6 | 4.3 | 3.7 | 16.9 | 28.1 | 17.9 | - 1.5 | + 4.8 | + 6.8 | 17.9 | |
| Pottery, Earthenware, etc. | 35,750 | 42,830 | 78,580 | 14.4 | 17.0 | 15.8 | 15.3 | 20.3 | 18.0 | 29.7 | 37.3 | 33.8 | + 3.0 | + 8.0 | +21.1 | 33.9 | |
| Glass Trades :— | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Glass (excluding Bottles and Sclen- tific Glass) | 22,390 | 6,220 | 28,610 | 15.0 | 17.2 | 15.5 | 6.9 | 4.2 | 6.3 | 21.9 | 21.4 | 21.8 | + 0.6 | + 7.5 | +11.8 | 21.7 | |
| Glass Bottles | 14,990 | 2,240 | 17,230 | 20.4 | 15.4 | 19.7 | 6.1 | 2.7 | 5.7 | 26.5 | 18.1 | 25.4 | — | + 4.3 | + 7.8 | 25.4 | |
| Chemicals, etc. :— | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Chemicals | 79,610 | 24,000 | 103,610 | 18.1 | 8.3 | 15.8 | 1.8 | 0.7 | 1.5 | 19.9 | 9.0 | 17.3 | - 0.2 | + 7.1 | +11.3 | 17.4 | |
| Explosives | 13,060 | 5,700 | 18,760 | 10.9 | 16.2 | 12.5 | 1.7 | 2.3 | 1.9 | 12.6 | 18.5 | 14.4 | + 0.2 | + 6.4 | +10.7 | 14.4 | |
| Paint, Varnish, Red and White Leads | 14,340 | 4,810 | 19,150 | 9.9 | 9.0 | 9.7 | 0.6 | 1.0 | 0.7 | 10.5 | 10.0 | 10.4 | + 0.1 | + 4.1 | + 6.5 | 10.4 | |
| Oil, Glue, Soap, Ink, Matches, etc.... | 55,290 | 21,100 | 76,390 | 9.9 | 9.3 | 9.7 | 1.9 | 1.8 | 1.9 | 11.8 | 11.1 | 11.6 | + 0.2 | + 1.9 | + 5.6 | 11.6 | |
| Metal Manufacture :— | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Pig Iron (Blast Furnaces) | 21,720 | 180 | 21,900 | 29.5 | 21.1 | 29.4 | 6.5 | 3.9 | 6.5 | 36.0 | 25.0 | 35.9 | + 1.0 | +18.1 | +24.1 | 35.8 | |
| Steel Melting and Iron Puddling, Iron and Steel Rolling and Forging | 176,420 | 4,380 | 180,800 | 22.0 | 11.0 | 21.7 | 23.9 | 3.6 | 23.4 | 45.9 | 14.6 | 45.1 | - 0.7 | +14.2 | +26.8 | 45.1 | |
| Brass, Copper, Zinc, Tin, Lead, etc. | 36,170 | 3,440 | 39,610 | 19.3 | 16.9 | 19.1 | 8.9 | 2.0 | 8.3 | 28.2 | 18.9 | 27.4 | - 0.1 | +13.8 | +18.1 | 27.3 | |
| Tin Plates | 27,900 | 3,720 | 31,620 | 17.1 | 13.9 | 16.7 | 27.7 | 18.9 | 26.7 | 44.8 | 32.8 | 43.4 | - 5.2 | +16.1 | +26.5 | 43.4 | |
| Iron and Steel Tubes | 28,160 | 1,520 | 29,680 | 21.6 | 19.6 | 21.5 | 23.3 | 3.2 | 22.3 | 44.9 | 22.8 | 43.8 | + 0.4 | +24.9 | +35.8 | 43.8 | |
| Wire, Wire Netting, Wire Ropes ... | 18,870 | 4,160 | 23,030 | 14.5 | 17.1 | 15.0 | 17.1 | 5.5 | 15.0 | 31.6 | 22.6 | 30.0 | - 0.2 | +10.7 | +20.4 | 30.0 | |
| Engineering, etc. :— | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| General Engineering; Engineers' Iron and Steel Founding | 542,540 | 49,710 | 592,250 | 19.0 | 10.9 | 18.3 | 8.8 | 5.7 | 8.5 | 27.8 | 16.6 | 26.8 | + 0.2 | +12.1 | +17.7 | 26.7 | |
| Electrical Engineering | 69,680 | 20,180 | 89,860 | 11.9 | 11.4 | 11.8 | 3.5 | 2.0 | 3.1 | 15.4 | 13.4 | 14.9 | - 0.3 | + 8.3 | +10.0 | 14.9 | |
| Marine Engineering, etc. | 59,050 | 1,020 | 60,070 | 34.6 | 12.5 | 34.2 | 7.5 | 6.1 | 7.5 | 42.1 | 18.6 | 41.7 | + 2.9 | +28.9 | +31.3 | 41.2 | |
| Constructional Engineering | 26,860 | 1,110 | 27,970 | 22.0 | 12.3 | 21.6 | 6.1 | 1.5 | 5.9 | 28.1 | 13.8 | 27.5 | - 1.4 | +12.5 | +15.2 | 27.4 | |
| Construction and Repair of Vehicles :— | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Motor Vehicles, Cycles and Aircraft Carriages, Carts, etc. | 221,620 | 25,520 | 247,140 | 13.9 | 11.8 | 13.7 | 3.8 | 1.6 | 3.6 | 17.7 | 13.4 | 17.3 | - 0.9 | + 8.0 | +12.1 | 17.3 | |
| Railway Carriages, Wagons and Tramcars | 16,630 | 2,460 | 19,090 | 15.0 | 12.2 | 14.6 | 2.3 | 1.6 | 2.3 | 17.3 | 13.8 | 16.9 | - 0.2 | + 6.2 | + 9.5 | 16.7 | |
| Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing ... | 52,520 | 1,570 | 54,090 | 18.1 | 9.4 | 17.8 | 5.1 | 1.0 | 5.0 | 23.2 | 10.4 | 22.8 | - 0.4 | +13.2 | +13.1 | 22.9 | |
| Metal Trades :— | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Stove, Grate, Pipe, etc., and General Iron Founding | 81,730 | 8,710 | 90,440 | 17.9 | 17.8 | 17.9 | 9.0 | 5.9 | 8.7 | 26.9 | 23.7 | 26.6 | - 0.1 | + 9.8 | +16.2 | 26.5 | |
| Electrical Wiring and Contracting ... | 17,150 | 1,360 | 18,510 | 15.6 | 5.6 | 14.9 | 1.7 | 0.5 | 1.5 | 17.3 | 6.1 | 16.4 | + 0.7 | + 6.3 | + 9.3 | 16.2 | |
| Electrical Cables, Wire and Lamps... | 62,090 | 40,530 | 102,620 | 12.0 | 14.0 | 12.8 | 3.0 | 3.4 | 3.1 | 15.0 | 17.4 | 15.9 | + 0.6 | + 7.8 | + 9.8 | 15.9 | |
| Hand Tools, Cutlery, Saws, Files ... | 24,180 | 11,010 | 35,190 | 21.5 | 23.5 | 22.1 | 19.5 | 9.5 | 16.4 | 41.0 | 33.0 | 38.5 | + 1.0 | +12.6 | +23.7 | 38.5 | |
| Bolts, Nuts, Screws, Rivets, Nails, etc. | 14,080 | 12,210 | 26,290 | 16.7 | 22.8 | 19.6 | 18.3 | 13.3 | 15.9 | 35.0 | 36.1 | 35.5 | + 5.9 | +18.3 | +26.2 | 35.5 | |
| Brass and Allied Metal Wares | 17,550 | 10,910 | 28,460 | 15.9 | 19.6 | 17.3 | 5.8 | 5.1 | 5.5 | 21.7 | 24.7 | 22.8 | - 0.2 | + 8.5 | +14.4 | 22.8 | |
| Heating and Ventilating Apparatus | 8,580 | 660 | 9,240 | 14.4 | 10.8 | 14.1 | 5.1 | 0.4 | 4.9 | 19.5 | 11.2 | 19.0 | + 1.7 | + 9.8 | +13.0 | 18.9 | |
| Watches, Clocks, Plate, Jewellery, etc. | 22,450 | 20,370 | 42,820 | 14.2 | 15.4 | 14.7 | 6.4 | 6.1 | 6.3 | 20.6 | 21.5 | 21. | | | | | |

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| INDUSTRY, | ESTIMATED NUMBER OF INSURED PERSONS AT JULY, 1930. | | | PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED AT 27TH APRIL, 1931. | | | | | | | | | INCREASE (+) OR DECREASE (-) IN TOTAL PERCENTAGES AS COMPARED WITH | | | GREAT BRITAIN ONLY. TOTAL PERCENTAGES AT 27TH APRIL, 1931 |
|--|--|-----------|------------|--|----------|--------|----------------------|----------|--------|--------|----------|--------|--|------------------|------------------|---|
| | | | | WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED (including Casuals). | | | TEMPORARY STOPPAGES. | | | TOTAL. | | | | | | |
| | Males. | Females. | Total. | Males. | Females. | Total. | Males. | Females. | Total. | Males. | Females. | Total. | 23RD MAR., 1931. | 28TH APR., 1930. | 22ND APR., 1929. | |
| Sawmilling, etc. (cont.) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Furniture Making, Upholstering, etc. | 102,360 | 22,740 | 125,100 | 16.6 | 12.4 | 15.8 | 1.8 | 2.1 | 1.9 | 18.4 | 14.5 | 17.7 | - 0.6 | + 8.2 | + 10.9 | 17.7 |
| Woodworking not separately specified | 18,090 | 5,510 | 23,600 | 15.8 | 14.7 | 15.6 | 4.1 | 5.0 | 4.2 | 19.9 | 19.7 | 19.8 | - 0.6 | + 6.9 | + 11.1 | 19.6 |
| Printing and Paper Trades :— | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Paper and Paper Board | 40,630 | 15,430 | 56,060 | 7.3 | 8.8 | 7.7 | 6.4 | 5.4 | 6.1 | 13.7 | 14.2 | 13.8 | + 0.3 | + 6.0 | + 9.8 | 13.9 |
| Cardboard Boxes, Paper Bags and Stationery | 19,660 | 38,680 | 58,340 | 8.5 | 11.0 | 10.1 | 1.7 | 2.7 | 2.4 | 10.2 | 13.7 | 12.5 | + 0.5 | + 4.7 | + 7.9 | 12.2 |
| Wall Paper Making | 4,450 | 1,850 | 6,300 | 11.6 | 18.6 | 13.7 | 5.2 | 6.4 | 5.5 | 16.8 | 25.0 | 19.2 | + 0.5 | + 11.9 | + 14.9 | 19.2 |
| Stationery and Typewriting Requisites (not paper) | 2,680 | 3,550 | 6,230 | 11.6 | 10.9 | 11.2 | 2.8 | 4.3 | 3.7 | 14.4 | 15.2 | 14.9 | + 2.2 | + 8.7 | + 8.7 | 14.9 |
| Printing, Publishing and Bookbinding | 175,130 | 97,260 | 272,390 | 8.6 | 10.1 | 9.2 | 0.5 | 1.4 | 0.8 | 9.1 | 11.5 | 10.0 | - 0.1 | + 3.8 | + 5.7 | 9.9 |
| Building and Public Works Contracting :— | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Building | 822,770 | 9,500 | 832,270 | 18.9 | 4.6 | 18.7 | 0.8 | 0.5 | 0.8 | 19.7 | 5.1 | 19.5 | - 3.0 | + 5.6 | + 9.4 | 19.1 |
| Public Works Contracting, etc. ... | 185,090 | 1,240 | 186,330 | 30.6 | 3.9 | 30.4 | 0.8 | 0.3 | 0.8 | 31.4 | 4.2 | 31.2 | - 1.0 | + 3.6 | + 10.3 | 31.1 |
| Other Manufacturing Industries :— | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Rubber | 39,850 | 27,620 | 67,470 | 16.2 | 17.0 | 16.5 | 3.9 | 3.4 | 3.8 | 20.1 | 20.4 | 20.3 | - 0.9 | + 7.8 | + 12.3 | 20.3 |
| Oilcloth, Linoleum, etc. | 11,780 | 2,050 | 13,830 | 11.2 | 12.4 | 11.4 | 10.9 | 7.4 | 10.4 | 22.1 | 19.8 | 21.8 | - 2.7 | + 12.9 | + 16.6 | 21.8 |
| Brushes and Brooms | 6,320 | 4,770 | 11,090 | 20.8 | 13.4 | 17.6 | 4.9 | 5.7 | 5.2 | 25.7 | 19.1 | 22.8 | + 0.9 | + 7.9 | + 14.7 | 22.5 |
| Scientific and Photographic Instruments and Apparatus | 16,960 | 8,940 | 25,900 | 8.1 | 7.9 | 8.0 | 1.7 | 2.0 | 1.8 | 9.8 | 9.9 | 9.8 | ... | + 5.0 | + 6.3 | 9.8 |
| Musical Instruments | 19,990 | 6,290 | 26,280 | 20.5 | 14.7 | 19.1 | 3.8 | 2.0 | 3.4 | 24.3 | 16.7 | 22.5 | + 0.9 | + 8.0 | + 13.4 | 22.5 |
| Toys, Games and Sports Requisites | 7,130 | 6,760 | 13,890 | 11.0 | 13.2 | 12.1 | 2.6 | 2.4 | 2.5 | 13.6 | 15.6 | 14.6 | - 1.6 | + 5.9 | + 9.2 | 14.6 |
| Gas, Water and Electricity Supply Industries | 159,800 | 6,050 | 165,850 | 8.8 | 5.1 | 8.6 | 0.4 | 0.7 | 0.4 | 9.2 | 5.8 | 9.0 | ... | + 1.7 | + 3.2 | 9.0 |
| Transport and Communication :— | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Railway Service | 130,710 | 7,120 | 137,830 | 11.3 | 7.3 | 11.1 | 0.7 | 0.1 | 0.6 | 12.0 | 7.4 | 11.7 | - 0.8 | + 4.9 | + 6.0 | 11.6 |
| Tramway and Omnibus Service ... | 156,370 | 6,710 | 163,080 | 4.8 | 11.3 | 5.1 | 0.2 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 5.0 | 11.6 | 5.3 | - 0.3 | + 1.3 | + 2.1 | 5.2 |
| Road Transport not separately specified | 180,610 | 8,200 | 188,810 | 19.0 | 8.1 | 18.5 | 1.1 | 0.1 | 1.0 | 20.1 | 8.2 | 19.5 | - 0.4 | + 3.9 | + 7.4 | 19.4 |
| Shipping Service | 137,470 | 6,770 | 144,240 | 35.0 | 12.6 | 34.0 | 0.3 | 0.9 | 0.3 | 35.3 | 13.5 | 34.3 | + 0.1 | + 10.8 | + 17.6 | 34.5 |
| Dock, Harbour, River and Canal Service | 167,450 | 2,340 | 169,790 | 40.8 | 10.6 | 40.3 | 0.7 | 2.3 | 0.8 | 41.5 | 12.9 | 41.1 | - 0.8 | + 5.1 | + 8.3 | 41.1 |
| Transport, Communication and Storage not separately specified ... | 14,870 | 2,410 | 17,280 | 19.2 | 8.1 | 17.7 | 0.7 | 0.5 | 0.6 | 19.9 | 8.6 | 18.3 | - 0.7 | + 3.8 | + 6.0 | 18.4 |
| Distributive Trades | 1,063,620 | 700,770 | 1,764,390 | 12.6 | 9.5 | 11.4 | 0.6 | 0.5 | 0.6 | 13.2 | 10.0 | 12.0 | - 0.2 | + 3.3 | + 5.7 | 11.8 |
| Commerce, Banking, Insurance and Finance | 158,070 | 74,840 | 232,910 | 6.2 | 2.9 | 5.2 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 6.3 | 3.0 | 5.2 | ... | + 1.6 | + 2.5 | 5.2 |
| Miscellaneous Trades and Services :— | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| National Government | 91,620 | 20,480 | 112,100 | 11.1 | 5.9 | 10.1 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 11.5 | 6.3 | 10.5 | + 0.1 | + 1.9 | + 3.9 | 10.5 |
| Local Government | 287,590 | 20,800 | 308,390 | 14.1 | 4.8 | 13.5 | 0.6 | 0.3 | 0.5 | 14.7 | 5.1 | 14.0 | - 0.7 | + 1.8 | + 5.1 | 13.7 |
| Professional Services | 72,650 | 54,350 | 127,000 | 6.7 | 3.7 | 5.4 | 0.3 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 7.0 | 3.8 | 5.6 | - 0.1 | + 1.5 | + 2.5 | 5.6 |
| Entertainments and Sports | 51,130 | 26,920 | 78,050 | 23.5 | 22.2 | 23.1 | 0.7 | 0.8 | 0.7 | 24.2 | 23.0 | 23.8 | ... | + 8.3 | + 12.8 | 23.5 |
| Hotel, Public House, Restaurant, Boarding House, Club, &c. Service | 126,520 | 224,350 | 350,870 | 18.4 | 18.1 | 18.2 | 0.2 | 0.5 | 0.4 | 18.6 | 18.6 | 18.6 | - 1.0 | + 5.3 | + 9.9 | 18.5 |
| Laundries, Dyeing and Dry Cleaning Industries and Services not separately specified | 28,570 | 111,920 | 140,490 | 10.1 | 8.2 | 8.6 | 0.3 | 1.4 | 1.2 | 10.4 | 9.6 | 9.8 | ... | + 3.4 | + 6.0 | 9.7 |
| ... | 98,320 | 35,420 | 133,740 | 42.3 | 10.6 | 33.9 | 1.5 | 2.3 | 1.8 | 43.8 | 12.9 | 35.7 | - 0.4 | + 6.9 | + 15.1 | 35.1 |
| TOTAL | 8,931,530 | 3,474,170 | 12,405,700 | 17.5 | 13.4 | 16.3 | 4.5 | 4.6 | 4.6 | 22.0 | 18.0 | 20.9 | - 0.6 | + 6.7 | + 11.1 | 20.7 |

NUMBERS OF INSURED WORKPEOPLE UNEMPLOYED.

PROPORTIONS IN VARIOUS INDUSTRY GROUPS.

In the following Table the numbers of insured workpeople recorded as unemployed in Great Britain and Northern Ireland at 27th April, 1931, are analysed so as to show the proportion of the total unemployed classified as belonging to various industry groups :—

| 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 | 5,169 | 0.3 | 163 | 0.0 | 118 | 0.0 | 19 | 0.0 |
| Mining | 198,573 | 12.7 | 102,087 | 25.1 | 1,491 | 0.3 | 233 | 0.1 |
| Non-Metalliferous Mining Products | 8,519 | 0.6 | 2,276 | 0.6 | 379 | 0.1 | 92 | 0.1 |
| Brick, Tile, etc.... | 10,239 | 0.7 | 2,831 | 0.7 | 1,768 | 0.4 | 321 | 0.2 |
| Pottery | 5,135 | 0.3 | 5,487 | 1.4 | 7,276 | 1.6 | 8,687 | 5.5 |
| Glass Trades | 6,423 | 0.4 | 2,443 | 0.6 | 1,414 | 0.3 | 323 | 0.2 |
| Chemicals, etc. ... | 22,733 | 1.5 | 2,788 | 0.7 | 5,314 | 1.1 | 714 | 0.4 |
| Metal Manufacture | 65,727 | 4.2 | 64,362 | 15.9 | 2,627 | 0.6 | 1,215 | 0.8 |
| Engineering, etc. | 137,637 | 8.8 | 56,151 | 13.8 | 7,966 | 1.7 | 3,324 | 2.1 |
| Vehicles | 42,766 | 2.7 | 11,545 | 2.8 | 3,458 | 0.7 | 459 | 0.3 |
| Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing | 101,333 | 6.5 | 6,365 | 1.6 | 491 | 0.1 | 74 | 0.1 |
| Metal Trades | 57,651 | 3.7 | 27,779 | 6.8 | 32,589 | 7.0 | 9,724 | 6.1 |
| Textile Trades ... | 88,743 | 5.7 | 69,658 | 17.2 | 172,785 | 37.1 | 102,387 | 64.4 |
| Leather | 6,145 | 0.4 | 2,309 | 0.6 | 3,612 | 0.8 | 1,271 | 0.8 |
| Boots, Shoes, Slippers and Clogs | 9,997 | 0.6 | 7,272 | 1.8 | 4,354 | 0.9 | 3,319 | 2.1 |
| Clothing Trades... | 11,319 | 0.7 | 2,355 | 0.6 | 22,523 | 4.8 | 8,383 | 5.3 |
| Food, Drink and Tobacco | 34,573 | 2.2 | 2,591 | 0.6 | 32,625 | 7.0 | 4,478 | 2.8 |
| Sawmilling, Furniture and Woodwork | 31,995 | 2.0 | 4,282 | 1.1 | 4,276 | 0.9 | 889 | 0.6 |
| Printing and Paper Metal Trades ... | 20,571 | 1.3 | 4,103 | 1.0 | 16,196 | 3.5 | 3,525 | 2.2 |
| Building and Public Works Contracting ... | 211,748 | 13.6 | 8,233 | 2.0 | 487 | 0.1 | 45 | 0.0 |
| Other Manufacturing Industries... | 15,345 | 1.0 | 4,401 | 1.1 | 8,113 | 1.7 | 1,835 | 1.1 |
| Gas, Water and Electricity Supply Industries... | 13,991 | 0.9 | 636 | 0.2 | 306 | 0.1 | 44 | 0.0 |
| Transport and Communication | 175,916 | 11.3 | 4,838 | 1.2 | 3,236 | 0.7 | 160 | 0.1 |
| Distributive Trades | 134,549 | 8.6 | 6,283 | 1.5 | 66,561 | 14.3 | 3,504 | 2.2 |
| Commerce, Banking, etc. | 9,824 | 0.6 | 181 | 0.0 | 2,179 | 0.5 | 34 | 0.0 |
| Miscellaneous | 135,415 | 8.7 | 4,467 | 1.1 | 63,716 | 13.7 | 3,939 | 2.5 |
| Total | 1,562,036 | 100.0 | 405,886 | 100.0 | 465,860 | 100.0 | 158,998 | 100.0 |

PRINCIPAL VARIATIONS IN NUMBERS UNEMPLOYED.

THE following Table indicates for Great Britain and Northern Ireland the industries in which the numbers of insured persons recorded as unemployed at 27th April, 1931, differed from the figures for 23rd March, 1931, to the extent of 1,000 or more :—

| Industry. | Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Numbers recorded as Unemployed at 27th April, 1931, as compared with 23rd March, 1931. | | |
|---|--|----------|----------|
| | Males. | Females. | Total. |
| Building | - 24,706 | - 9 | - 24,715 |
| Coal Mining | - 14,005 | + 143 | - 13,862 |
| Tailoring | - 2,393 | - 3,279 | - 5,672 |
| Distributive Trades | - 1,810 | - 1,747 | - 3,557 |
| Woollen and Worsted | - 963 | - 2,579 | - 3,542 |
| Hotel, Public House, Restaurant, Boarding House, Club, etc., Service | - 1,788 | - 1,673 | - 3,461 |
| Linen | - 704 | - 2,515 | - 3,219 |
| Motor Vehicles, Cycles and Aircraft | - 2,394 | + 14 | - 2,380 |
| Jute | - 392 | - 1,929 | - 2,321 |
| Local Government | - 1,810 | - 159 | - 1,969 |
| Public Works Contracting, etc. ... | - 1,858 | - 2 | - 1,860 |
| Tin Plates | - 1,470 | - 167 | - 1,637 |
| Silk Manufacture and Artificial Silk Weaving | + 22 | - 1,606 | - 1,584 |
| Dress Making and Millinery ... | - 127 | - 1,382 | - 1,509 |
| Food Industries not separately specified | - 1,078 | - 426 | - 1,504 |
| Dock, Harbour, River and Canal Service | - 1,358 | - 19 | - 1,377 |
| Brick, Tile, etc., Making... | - 1,194 | - 72 | - 1,266 |
| Boots, Shoes, Slippers and Clogs ... | - 834 | - 368 | - 1,202 |
| Carpets | - 609 | - 592 | - 1,201 |
| Steel Melting and Iron Puddling, Iron and Steel Rolling and Forging | - 1,178 | + 18 | - 1,160 |
| Slate Quarrying and Mining ... | - 1,096 | - | - 1,096 |
| Railway Service | - 980 | - 92 | - 1,072 |
| General Engineering; Engineers' Iron and Steel Founding | + 1,054 | + 41 | + 1,095 |
| Bolts, Nuts, Screws, Rivets, Nails, etc. | + 880 | + 667 | + 1,547 |
| Marine Engineering, etc. | + 1,703 | + 53 | + 1,756 |
| Pottery, Earthenware, etc. | + 497 | + 1,920 | + 2,417 |
| Cotton | + 3,928 | + 5,406 | + 9,334 |
| Net Variation for above Industries | - 54,663 | - 10,354 | - 65,017 |
| Total Net Variation for all Insured Industries | - 59,808 | - 13,059 | - 72,867 |

COMPOSITION OF UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS: GREAT BRITAIN.

On page 186 an explanation is given of the unemployment statistics published weekly in the Press, and monthly in this GAZETTE. The following Table gives an analysis relating to the 27th April, 1931, of the composition of these statistics. Lines 2 to 4 make up the number of persons on the register; while, by omitting the uninsured persons (line 4) and including lines 1 and 5, the number of books lodged, or, in other words, the number of insured persons recorded as unemployed, is obtained:—

| | Men. | Boys. | Women. | Girls. | Total. |
|---|-----------|--------|---------|--------|-----------|
| 1. Unemployed—Special Schemes ... | 3,965 | 20 | 444 | 13 | 4,442 |
| 2. Claims admitted or under consideration | 1,772,492 | 31,633 | 508,092 | 18,853 | 2,331,070 |
| 3. Insured non-claimants and claimants disqualified, but maintaining registration | 49,146 | 9,712 | 19,020 | 7,901 | 85,779 |
| 4. Uninsured persons on Register ... | 22,491 | 29,543 | 20,437 | 30,793 | 103,264 |
| 5. Two months' file ... | 46,548 | 4,043 | 39,327 | 4,282 | 94,200 |
| Persons on Register (lines 2—4) ... | 1,844,129 | 70,888 | 547,549 | 57,547 | 2,530,113 |
| Books Lodged (lines 1—3 and 5) ... | 1,872,151 | 45,408 | 566,883 | 31,049 | 2,515,491 |

NUMBERS ON THE REGISTERS OF EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES.*

| Date. | Great Britain. | | | | | Great Britain and Northern Ireland. |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------|---------|--------|-----------|-------------------------------------|
| | Men. | Boys. | Women. | Girls. | Total. | |
| 30th March 1931 ... | 1,911,949 | 66,460 | 549,683 | 52,938 | 2,581,030 | 2,655,475 |
| 6th April, 1931 ... | No figures available. | | | | | 2,635,960 |
| 13th " " ... | 1,867,862 | 70,610 | 564,237 | 58,345 | 2,561,054 | 2,589,763 |
| 20th " " ... | 1,831,335 | 70,752 | 553,235 | 58,534 | 2,513,856 | 2,589,763 |
| 27th " " ... | 1,844,129 | 70,888 | 547,549 | 57,547 | 2,520,113 | 2,593,845 |
| Average (3 weeks) ... | 1,847,775 | 70,750 | 555,007 | 58,142 | 2,531,674 | 2,606,523 |

Analysis of figures for 27th April, 1931.

| 27th April, 1931. | | | | | 30th March, 1931. |
|---|----------------------|--|--------|--------|-------------------|
| Persons normally in Regular Employment. | | Persons normally in Casual Employment. | Total. | Total. | |
| Wholly Unemployed. | Temporarily Stopped. | | | | |

| Great Britain. | | | | | |
|----------------|-----------|---------|---------|-----------|-----------|
| Men ... | 1,340,599 | 390,946 | 112,584 | 1,844,129 | 1,911,949 |
| Boys ... | 58,286 | 12,334 | 268 | 70,888 | 66,460 |
| Women ... | 400,999 | 144,457 | 2,093 | 547,549 | 549,683 |
| Girls ... | 48,286 | 9,241 | 20 | 57,547 | 52,938 |
| Total ... | 1,848,170 | 556,978 | 114,965 | 2,520,113 | 2,581,030 |

| Great Britain and Northern Ireland. | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|---------|---------|-----------|-----------|
| Men ... | 1,382,528 | 393,368 | 115,788 | 1,891,684 | 1,958,335 |
| Boys ... | 59,469 | 12,374 | 268 | 72,111 | 67,646 |
| Women ... | 420,304 | 149,167 | 2,115 | 571,586 | 575,565 |
| Girls ... | 49,014 | 9,430 | 20 | 58,464 | 53,929 |
| Total ... | 1,911,315 | 564,339 | 118,191 | 2,593,845 | 2,655,475 |

VACANCIES NOTIFIED AND FILLED.

(Great Britain and Northern Ireland.)

| Vacancies filled† 30th December, 1930, to 27th April, 1931. | | | Period 31st March to 27th April, 1931. | | | |
|---|---------|--|--|------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------------------|
| — | Number. | Increase (+) or Decrease (−) as compared with year before. | Week ended | Applications from Employers. | Vacancies filled.† | |
| | | | | | Number. | Per cent. of vacancies notified. |
| Men ... | 422,902 | + 72,842 | 6th April | 72,393 | 66,512 | 91.9 |
| Boys ... | 51,083 | − 4,204 | 13th " | | | |
| Women ... | 147,273 | + 20,991 | 20th " | | | |
| Girls ... | 49,701 | + 102 | 27th " | 43,818 | 41,626 | 95.0 |
| Total | 670,959 | + 89,731 | Total - | 163,305 | 151,659 | 92.9 |

Of the 151,659 vacancies filled during the four weeks ended 27th April, 92,303 were for men, 33,829 for women, and 25,527 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 work in alternate weeks. During the five weeks ended 6th April, 1931, the average number of such placings of men and women was 6,845 per week. The average number of placings of casual workers during the four weeks ended 27th April, 1931, was 500 per week.

NUMBERS ON THE REGISTERS AT PRINCIPAL TOWNS.

THE following Table shows for each of the Employment Exchange administrative areas in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and for the principal towns therein, the number of persons registered at Employment Exchanges on 27th April, 1931. In certain cases (e.g., Bristol, Birmingham, Sheffield, Liverpool, Glasgow, etc.) the figures cover more than one Exchange area.

| Area. | Number of Persons on Register at 27th April, 1931. | | | | Inc. (+) or Dec. (−) as compared with 30th Mar. 1931. |
|---|--|---------|------------|-----------|---|
| | Men. | Women. | Juveniles. | Total. | |
| London Division ... | 188,470 | 54,035 | 12,134 | 254,639 | — 785 |
| South-Eastern Division ... | 83,057 | 14,974 | 6,349 | 104,380 | — 4,300 |
| Brighton ... | 3,093 | 765 | 318 | 4,176 | — 16 |
| Chatham ... | 3,808 | 603 | 492 | 4,903 | — 79 |
| Ipswich ... | 3,787 | 401 | 292 | 4,480 | + 381 |
| Norwich ... | 4,438 | 1,331 | 204 | 5,973 | — 371 |
| Rest of Division ... | 67,931 | 11,874 | 5,043 | 84,848 | — 4,215 |
| South-Western Division ... | 95,766 | 17,441 | 6,448 | 119,655 | — 2,278 |
| Bristol ... | 17,874 | 4,871 | 1,535 | 24,280 | — 777 |
| Plymouth ... | 7,030 | 1,375 | 381 | 8,786 | + 578 |
| Portsmouth ... | 6,213 | 872 | 791 | 7,876 | — 457 |
| Reading ... | 1,786 | 429 | 275 | 2,490 | — 223 |
| Southampton ... | 8,892 | 802 | 520 | 10,214 | — 324 |
| Swindon ... | 1,592 | 458 | 224 | 2,274 | — 33 |
| Rest of Division ... | 52,379 | 8,634 | 2,722 | 63,735 | — 1,042 |
| Midlands Division ... | 250,938 | 98,462 | 16,449 | 365,849 | — 25,423 |
| Birmingham ... | 41,462 | 20,405 | 2,265 | 64,132 | — 1,603 |
| Coventry ... | 9,480 | 2,683 | 466 | 12,629 | — 328 |
| Cradley Heath ... | 6,185 | 1,807 | 353 | 8,345 | — 240 |
| Derby ... | 7,713 | 2,021 | 772 | 10,506 | + 535 |
| Leicester ... | 8,225 | 5,904 | 283 | 14,412 | — 329 |
| Northampton ... | 3,296 | 1,333 | 210 | 4,839 | — 335 |
| Nottingham ... | 12,817 | 4,437 | 717 | 17,971 | — 2,695 |
| Smethwick ... | 4,927 | 2,714 | 320 | 7,961 | — 101 |
| Stoke-on-Trent ... | 17,918 | 13,845 | 1,342 | 33,105 | + 2,063 |
| Walsall ... | 6,923 | 2,759 | 744 | 10,426 | — 313 |
| West Bromwich ... | 4,334 | 1,350 | 287 | 5,971 | + 59 |
| Wolverhampton ... | 9,724 | 2,940 | 792 | 13,456 | + 281 |
| Rest of Division ... | 117,934 | 36,264 | 7,898 | 162,096 | — 22,417 |
| North-Eastern Division ... | 433,574 | 80,849 | 28,481 | 542,904 | — 16,680 |
| Barnsley ... | 6,232 | 1,082 | 504 | 7,818 | — 7,409 |
| Bradford ... | 17,833 | 9,829 | 1,048 | 28,710 | + 376 |
| Darlington ... | 4,362 | 393 | 431 | 5,186 | + 138 |
| Dewsbury ... | 2,838 | 1,827 | 438 | 5,103 | — 244 |
| Doncaster ... | 7,251 | 698 | 906 | 8,855 | — 8,911 |
| Gateshead ... | 9,714 | 1,927 | 1,013 | 12,654 | + 146 |
| Grimsby ... | 4,093 | 528 | 440 | 5,061 | — 260 |
| Halifax ... | 5,317 | 3,401 | 155 | 8,873 | — 579 |
| Hartlepool ... | 10,616 | 714 | 684 | 12,014 | + 179 |
| Huddersfield ... | 6,058 | 3,848 | 592 | 10,498 | — 21 |
| Hull ... | 16,112 | 2,191 | 833 | 19,136 | + 424 |
| Leeds ... | 24,429 | 7,845 | 861 | 33,135 | — 801 |
| Lincoln ... | 4,115 | 428 | 416 | 4,959 | — 120 |
| Middlesbrough ... | 17,213 | 1,015 | 897 | 19,125 | + 291 |
| Newcastle-on-Tyne ... | 19,927 | 4,016 | 1,628 | 25,571 | + 435 |
| Rotherham ... | 9,059 | 679 | 701 | 10,439 | — 95 |
| Sheffield ... | 42,631 | 8,996 | 3,272 | 54,899 | — 1,398 |
| South Shields ... | 11,981 | 643 | 1,028 | 13,652 | + 528 |
| Stockton-on-Tees ... | 9,771 | 590 | 645 | 11,006 | — 209 |
| Sunderland ... | 24,090 | 2,001 | 1,318 | 27,409 | + 4,166 |
| Wakefield ... | 5,071 | 1,046 | 292 | 6,409 | — 440 |
| York ... | 3,394 | 1,001 | 380 | 4,775 | — 358 |
| Rest of Division ... | 171,467 | 26,151 | 9,999 | 207,617 | — 2,518 |
| North-Western Division ... | 369,078 | 201,608 | 30,896 | 601,582 | — 10,166 |
| Accrington ... | 6,416 | 5,344 | 506 | 12,266 | — 203 |
| Ashton-under-Lyne ... | 6,590 | 5,088 | 767 | 12,445 | — 8 |
| Barrow ... | 4,016 | 543 | 406 | 4,965 | + 116 |
| Birkenhead ... | 9,664 | 1,296 | 919 | 11,879 | — 118 |
| Blackburn ... | 10,186 | 14,343 | 1,084 | 25,613 | — 668 |
| Blackpool ... | 4,058 | 2,466 | 230 | 6,754 | + 370 |
| Bolton ... | 13,163 | 8,223 | 867 | 22,253 | + 977 |
| Burnley ... | 7,156 | 7,964 | 475 | 15,595 | — 182 |
| Bury ... | 4,376 | 3,780 | 378 | 8,534 | + 379 |
| Chorley ... | 3,513 | 2,669 | 268 | 6,450 | — 699 |
| Liverpool ... | 72,327 | 14,897 | 6,341 | 93,565 | — 1,683 |
| Manchester ... | 42,694 | 20,403 | 3,071 | 66,168 | + 163 |
| Nelson ... | 2,968 | 3,298 | 192 | 6,458 | — 617 |
| Oldham ... | 20,606 | 13,945 | 1,399 | 35,950 | — 1,027 |
| Preston ... | 7,284 | 6,566 | 591 | 14,441 | + 180 |
| Rochdale ... | 8,461 | 5,909 | 575 | 14,945 | — 3,906 |
| St. Helens ... | 6,401 | 1,196 | 452 | 8,049 | — 861 |
| Salford ... | 17,243 | 8,119 | 1,296 | 26,658 | + 719 |
| Stockport ... | 5,442 | 5,009 | 406 | 10,857 | — 891 |
| Warrington ... | 5,307 | 1,575 | 833 | 7,715 | + 702 |
| Wigan ... | 8,549 | 3,989 | 629 | 13,167 | — 760 |
| Rest of Division ... | 102,658 | 64,986 | 9,211 | 176,855 | — 2,149 |
| Scotland Division ... | 254,226 | 70,029 | 18,547 | 342,802 | — 2,036 |
| Aberdeen ... | 5,532 | 1,611 | 326 | 7,469 | — 1,232 |
| Clydebank ... | 7,720 | 1,627 | 578 | 9,925 | + 210 |
| Dundee ... | 12,287 | 12,606 | 1,253 | 26,146 | — 1,577 |
| Edinburgh ... | 17,075 | 4,221 | 949 | 22,245 | + 113 |
| Glasgow ... | 88,678 | 20,444 | 6,379 | 115,501 | — 270 |
| Greenock ... | 12,165 | 1,955 | 1,031 | 15,151 | + 451 |
| Motherwell ... | 7,926 | 636 | 471 | 9,033 | + 1,108 |
| Paisley ... | 5,116 | 1,310 | 449 | 6,875 | — 95 |
| Rest of Division ... | 97,727 | 25,619 | 7,111 | 130,457 | — 744 |
| Wales Division ... | 169,020 | 10,151 | 9,131 | 188,302 | + 751 |
| Cardiff ... | 14,522 | 2,370 | 1,079 | 17,971 | + 853 |
| Llanelli ... | 6,503 | 329 | 318 | 7,150 | — 745 |
| Newport ... | 9,096 | 538 | 503 | 10,137 | — 402 |
| Swansea ... | 10,401 | 836 | 849 | 12,086 | + 169 |
| Rest of Division ... | 128,498 | 6,078 | 6,382 | 140,958 | — 876 |
| Northern Ireland ... | 47,555 | 24,037 | 2,140 | 73,732 | — 713 |
| Belfast ... | 29,238 | 14,739 | 1,421 | 45,398 | + 508 |
| Londonderry ... | 2,513 | 983 | 72 | 3,568 | + 14 |
| Lurgan ... | 1,007 | 1,612 | 64 | 2,683 | — 439 |
| Lisburn ... | 1,235 | 843 | 72 | 2,150 | — 130 |
| Newry ... | 1,367 | 216 | 32 | 1,615 | — 35 |
| Rest of Northern Ireland ... | 12,195 | 5,644 | 479 | 18,318 | — 631 |
| Great Britain and Northern Ireland ... | 1,891,684 | 571,586 | 130,575 | 2,593,845 | — 61,630 |

[Percentage rates of unemployment, for each of 700 towns in Great Britain, are given in the monthly "Local Unemployment Index."]

JUVENILE UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS.

NUMBERS OF JUVENILES AGED 14 AND UNDER 18 ON THE REGISTERS OF EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES AND JUVENILE EMPLOYMENT BUREAUX AT 27TH APRIL, 1931.

| Division. | Boys. | | | Girls. | | |
|-------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|--------|--------------------------|----------------------------|--------|
| | Insured 16 and under 18. | Uninsured 14 and under 18. | Total. | Insured 16 and under 18. | Uninsured 14 and under 18. | Total. |
| London ... | 3,498 | 3,575 | 7,073 | 2,160 | 2,901 | 5,061 |
| South-Eastern ... | 1,661 | 1,647 | 3,308 | 1,262 | 1,779 | 3,041 |
| South-Western ... | 1,576 | 1,683 | 3,259 | 1,263 | 1,926 | 3,189 |
| Midlands ... | 5,476 | 3,002 | 8,478 | 4,489 | 3,482 | 7,971 |
| North-Eastern ... | 10,315 | 6,134 | 16,449 | 4,447 | 7,585 | 12,032 |
| North-Western ... | 8,832 | 7,235 | 16,067 | 7,836 | 6,993 | 14,829 |
| Scotland ... | 6,778 | 3,738 | 10,516 | 4,464 | 3,567 | 8,031 |
| Wales ... | 3,209 | 2,529 | 5,738 | 833 | 2,560 | 3,393 |
| Great Britain ... | 41,345 | 29,543 | 70,888 | 26,754 | 30,793 | 57,547 |

JUVENILES PLACED IN EMPLOYMENT. FIVE WEEKS ENDED 6TH APRIL, 1931.

| Division. | Number of Vacancies Filled. | | | Juveniles placed in first situation since leaving School. | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------------|--------|--------|---|--------|--------|
| | Boys. | Girls. | Total. | Boys. | Girls. | Total. |
| South-Eastern ... | 5,855 | 5,213 | 11,068 | 1,017 | 1,035 | 2,052 |
| South-Western ... | 1,173 | 928 | 2,101 | 259 | 227 | 486 |
| Midlands ... | 1,496 | 1,373 | 2,869 | 384 | 364 | 748 |
| North-Eastern ... | 1,887 | 2,175 | 4,062 | 467 | 683 | 1,150 |
| North-Western ... | 2,056 | 2,124 | 4,180 | 536 | 552 | 1,088 |
| Scotland ... | 1,066 | 1,156 | 2,222 | 245 | 284 | 529 |
| Wales ... | 354 | 379 | 733 | 92 | 151 | 243 |
| Great Britain ... | 13,887 | 13,348 | 27,235 | 3,000 | 3,296 | 6,296 |

PERCENTAGE RATES OF UNEMPLOYMENT* AMONG INSURED JUVENILES AGED 16 AND 17.

| Division. | Estimated number insured at July, 1930. | | Percentage Unemployed at 27th April, 1931. | | | | | |
|---------------------|---|---------|--|----------------------|--------|--------------------|----------------------|--------|
| | | | Boys. | | | Girls. | | |
| | Boys. | Girls. | Wholly unemployed. | Temporarily stopped. | Total. | Wholly unemployed. | Temporarily stopped. | Total. |
| London ... | 116,770 | 105,050 | 3.7 | 0.1 | 3.8 | 2.8 | 0.1 | 2.9 |
| South-Eastern ... | 47,710 | 32,560 | 3.9 | 0.2 | 4.1 | 4.3 | 0.5 | 4.8 |
| South-Western ... | 44,940 | 29,960 | 3.8 | 0.4 | 4.2 | 4.6 | 0.9 | 5.5 |
| Midlands ... | 91,380 | 76,550 | 3.4 | 2.9 | 6.3 | 3.3 | 3.2 | 6.5 |
| North-Eastern ... | 102,190 | 60,770 | 6.9 | 3.9 | 10.8 | 6.2 | 2.4 | 8.6 |
| North-Western ... | 90,280 | 80,510 | 7.5 | 3.0 | 10.5 | 6.5 | 3.9 | 10.4 |
| Scotland ... | 64,260 | 51,450 | 9.2 | 2.4 | 11.6 | 7.1 | 2.8 | 9.9 |
| Wales ... | 32,470 | 9,150 | 6.7 | 3.7 | 10.4 | 9.5 | 1.9 | 11.4 |
| Special Schemes ... | 5,000 | 3,000 | 0.4 | ... | 0.4 | 0.4 | ... | 0.4 |
| Great Britain ... | 595,000 | 449,000 | 5.6 | 2.0 | 7.6 | 4.9 | 2.0 | 6.9 |

JUVENILES IN ATTENDANCE AT APPROVED COURSES OF INSTRUCTION DURING WEEK ENDED 29TH APRIL, 1931.

| Division. | Average Daily Attendances. | | | | | | | | Total No. of Separate Individuals who have attended since 1st April, 1931. | |
|-----------------|---|--------|----------------|--------|--------|--------|--|--------|--|------------------------------------|
| | Junior Instruction Centres and Classes. | | | | | | Existing Educational Institutions (Claimants). | | | |
| | Claimants. | | Non-Claimants. | | Total. | | | | J.I. Centres and Classes. | Existing Educational Institutions. |
| | Boys. | Girls. | Boys. | Girls. | Boys. | Girls. | Boys. | Girls. | | |
| London ... | 687 | 227 | 1 | ... | 688 | 227 | ... | ... | 1,991 | ... |
| S.-Eastern ... | 351 | 257 | 8 | 8 | 359 | 265 | 30 | 9 | 955 | ... |
| S.-Western ... | 335 | 174 | 43 | 36 | 378 | 210 | 11 | 5 | 992 | 28 |
| Midlands ... | 1,231 | 684 | 44 | 29 | 1,275 | 713 | 53 | 27 | 3,066 | 139 |
| N.-Eastern ... | 3,464 | 706 | 756 | 75 | 4,220 | 781 | 38 | 28 | 7,331 | 305 |
| N.-Western ... | 3,262 | 2,098 | 238 | 195 | 3,500 | 2,293 | ... | ... | 9,795 | ... |
| Scotland ... | 2,671 | 1,253 | 364 | 115 | 3,035 | 1,368 | ... | ... | 6,375 | ... |
| Wales ... | 1,202 | 71 | 1,064 | 226 | 2,266 | 297 | ... | ... | 3,635 | 80 |
| Gt. Britain ... | 13,203 | 5,470 | 2,518 | 684 | 15,721 | 6,154 | 132 | 69 | 34,140 | 670 |

There were 75 Junior Instruction Centres for boys, 28 for girls, and 29 mixed centres open in Great Britain during the week. In addition, there were 12 Junior Instruction Classes for boys, 8 for girls, and 3 mixed classes. The number of other Institutions to which unemployed juveniles were admitted was: for boys, 8; for girls, 5; mixed, 13. The attendances at these Institutions are mainly in the evening.

* Based on the numbers of Juvenile Unemployment Books lodged at Local Offices which exceed the numbers of insured juveniles on the Register.

DETERMINATION OF CLAIMS TO UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFIT IN GREAT BRITAIN.

10TH MARCH TO 13TH APRIL, 1931.

THE following Table gives, for the period from 10th March to 13th April, 1931, inclusive, the number of claims to benefit made at local offices in Great Britain, the average number of claims current during that period, an analysis of the decisions of Courts of Referees and of the Umpire, the number of cases disallowed by Insurance Officers under the trade dispute disqualification, and of the appeals against such disallowances dealt with by Courts of Referees.

A.—Number of Claims.

| | Men. | Women. | Juveniles. | Total. |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|---------|------------|-----------|
| Fresh and renewal claims made ... | 982,543 | 262,616 | 49,067 | 1,294,226 |
| Average number of claims current | 1,842,397 | 526,504 | 53,946 | 2,422,847 |

B.—Decisions of Courts of Referees.

| Ground on which referred. | Benefit Allowed. | Benefit Disallowed. | Total. |
|---|--|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| First Statutory Condition (applies to juveniles only) ... | 23 | 374 | 397 |
| Less than 8 contributions paid in past 2 years and less than 30 contributions paid at any time (Sec. 14 (2), U.I. Act 1927) ... | Men ... 80 Women ... 49 Total ... 129 | 399 138 537 | 479 187 666 |
| Not normally insurable and will not normally seek to obtain livelihood by means of insurable employment ... | Men ... 5,568 Women ... 3,358 Total ... 8,926 | 10,425 7,640 18,065 | 15,993 10,998 26,991 |
| Employment left voluntarily without just cause ... | Men ... 2,037 Women ... 1,437 Juveniles ... 230 Total ... 3,704 | 2,982 2,823 734 6,539 | 5,019 4,260 964 10,243 |
| Employment lost through misconduct ... | Men ... 1,828 Women ... 856 Juveniles ... 233 Total ... 2,917 | 2,677 1,002 677 4,356 | 4,505 1,858 910 7,273 |
| Failure or refusal to apply for or accept suitable employment, or failure to carry out written directions... ... | Men ... 449 Women ... 993 Juveniles ... 70 Total ... 1,512 | 1,178 4,310 446 5,934 | 1,627 5,303 516 7,446 |
| Not unemployed ... | Men ... 722 Women ... 113 Juveniles ... 9 Total ... 844 | 2,953 809 176 3,938 | 3,675 922 185 4,782 |
| Not capable of work, or not available for work ... | Men ... 198 Women ... 684 Juveniles ... 18 Total ... 900 | 563 1,966 74 2,603 | 761 2,650 92 3,503 |
| Other grounds ... | Men ... 731 Women ... 110 Juveniles ... 65 Total ... 906 | 3,587 674 543 4,804 | 4,318 784 608 5,710 |
| Total ... | Men ... 11,613 Women ... 7,600 Juveniles ... 648 Grand Total ... 19,861 | 24,764 19,362 3,024 47,150 | 36,377 26,962 3,672 67,011 |

C.—Trade Dispute* Cases.

| | Benefit Allowed. | Benefit Disallowed. | Total. |
|--|---|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Cases dealt with by Insurance Officers ... | 155 | 1,408 | 1,563 |
| Appeals against disallowances by Insurance Officers dealt with by Courts of Referees ... | Men ... 135 Women ... 28 Juveniles ... 9 Total Appeals ... 172 | 564 150 23 737 | 699 178 32 909 |

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

D.—Decisions by Umpire.*

| | | Benefit Allowed. | Benefit Dis-allowed. | Total. |
|-------------------------------|---------------|------------------|----------------------|--------|
| Appeals by Insurance Officers | Men ... | 231 | 395 | 626 |
| | Women ... | 113 | 213 | 326 |
| | Juveniles ... | 4 | 4 | 8 |
| | Total ... | 348 | 612 | 960 |
| Appeals by Associations | Men ... | 91 | 327 | 418 |
| | Women ... | 29 | 128 | 157 |
| | Juveniles ... | 1 | 3 | 4 |
| | Total ... | 121 | 458 | 579 |
| Appeals by Claimants | Men ... | 143 | 632 | 775 |
| | Women ... | 53 | 232 | 285 |
| | Juveniles ... | 2 | 11 | 13 |
| | Total ... | 198 | 875 | 1,073 |
| Total ... | Men ... | 465 | 1,354 | 1,819 |
| | Women ... | 195 | 573 | 768 |
| | Juveniles ... | 7 | 18 | 25 |
| | Total ... | 667 | 1,945 | 2,612 |

CUMULATIVE FIGURES, 13TH MARCH, 1930, TO 13TH APRIL, 1931.

| | Benefit Allowed. | Benefit Dis-allowed. | Total. |
|--|------------------|----------------------|---------|
| <i>Decisions of Courts of Referees.</i> | | | |
| First Statutory Condition (applies to juveniles only) ... | 188 | 7,386 | 7,574 |
| Less than 8 contributions paid in past 2 years and less than 30 contributions paid at any time (Sec. 14 (2), U.I. Act, 1927) ... | 1,377 | 11,451 | 12,828 |
| Not normally insurable and will not normally seek to obtain livelihood by means of insurable employment ... | 92,880 | 213,019 | 305,899 |
| Employment left voluntarily without just cause ... | 53,661 | 89,283 | 142,944 |
| Employment lost through misconduct ... | 37,702 | 53,968 | 91,670 |
| Failure or refusal to apply for or accept suitable employment, or failure to carry out written directions ... | 16,343 | 52,876 | 69,219 |
| Not unemployed ... | 10,090 | 37,045 | 47,135 |
| Not capable of work, or not available for work ... | 9,199 | 19,566 | 28,765 |
| Other grounds ... | 8,811 | 31,811 | 40,622 |
| Total ... | 230,251 | 516,405 | 746,656 |

Trade Dispute* Cases.

| | | | |
|---|-------|--------|--------|
| Cases dealt with by Insurance Officers ... | 5,315 | 27,009 | 32,324 |
| Appeals against disallowances by Insurance Officers dealt with by Courts of Referees... | 1,455 | 4,864 | 6,319 |

Decisions by Umpire.*

| | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------|--------|--------|
| Appeals by Insurance Officers ... | 2,970 | 6,257 | 9,227 |
| Appeals by Associations ... | 1,224 | 2,890 | 4,114 |
| Appeals by Claimants ... | 1,968 | 7,193 | 9,161 |
| Total ... | 6,162 | 16,340 | 22,502 |

WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED BENEFIT CLAIMANTS.

ANALYSIS ACCORDING TO LENGTH OF TIME ON THE REGISTER.

The following Tables give an analysis of the claimants for unemployment benefit who were out of a situation and were on the Registers of Employment Exchanges in Great Britain at 27th April, 1931, according to the length of time they had been on the Register since they last became unemployed. While the figures give an indication of the number classified as wholly unemployed who have had recent employment, they do not purport to show the extent to which these individuals have experienced unemployment over an extended period.

| | Number who had been on the Register | | | | | | Total. |
|------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|-----------|
| | Not more than 1 week. | 1 week and not more than 2 weeks. | 2 weeks and not more than 3 weeks. | 3 weeks and not more than 4 weeks. | Total, 4 weeks or less. | More than 4 weeks. | |
| Men: 21-64 ... | 60,282 | 53,196 | 52,827 | 34,079 | 200,384 | 970,488 | 1,170,872 |
| Young men: 18-20 ... | 5,879 | 5,533 | 5,269 | 3,302 | 19,983 | 85,238 | 105,221 |
| Boys: 16-17 ... | 1,747 | 1,479 | 1,266 | 882 | 5,374 | 13,893 | 19,267 |
| Women: 21-64... | 9,110 | 9,761 | 12,829 | 4,459 | 36,159 | 277,617 | 313,776 |
| Young women: 18-20 ... | 2,723 | 2,700 | 3,237 | 1,282 | 9,942 | 42,463 | 52,405 |
| Girls: 16-17 ... | 1,030 | 822 | 755 | 445 | 3,052 | 6,597 | 9,749 |
| Total ... | 80,771 | 73,491 | 76,183 | 44,449 | 274,894 | 1,396,396 | 1,671,290 |

Percentages.

| | | | | | | | |
|------------------------|------|-----|-----|-----|------|------|-------|
| Men: 21-64 ... | 5.2 | 4.5 | 4.5 | 2.9 | 17.1 | 82.9 | 100.0 |
| Young men: 18-20 ... | 5.6 | 5.3 | 5.0 | 3.1 | 19.0 | 81.0 | 100.0 |
| Boys: 16-17 ... | 9.0 | 7.7 | 6.6 | 4.6 | 27.9 | 72.1 | 100.0 |
| Women: 21-64... | 2.9 | 3.1 | 4.1 | 1.4 | 11.5 | 88.5 | 100.0 |
| Young women: 18-20 ... | 5.2 | 5.2 | 6.2 | 2.4 | 19.0 | 81.0 | 100.0 |
| Girls: 16-17 ... | 10.6 | 8.4 | 7.7 | 4.6 | 31.3 | 68.7 | 100.0 |
| Total ... | 4.8 | 4.4 | 4.6 | 2.6 | 16.4 | 83.6 | 100.0 |

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

INSURED UNEMPLOYED.

POSITION UNDER FIRST STATUTORY CONDITION.

THE following Table gives an analysis of the numbers of insured persons on the registers of Employment Exchanges in Great Britain at 27th April, 1931, relative to their position with regard to the First Statutory Condition for the receipt of unemployment benefit, in all cases in which the position under that condition had been determined. This condition requires the payment of not less than 30 contributions in the preceding two years. In cases where this condition is not satisfied, adults, but not boys and girls, may receive benefit conditionally upon the fulfilment of the special "transitional" conditions set out in Section 14 (2) of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1927, as amended by the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1930.

| Position with regard to First Statutory Condition. | Men. | Boys. | Women. | Girls. | Total. |
|--|-----------|--------|---------|--------|-----------|
| Wholly unemployed: | | | | | |
| Condition satisfied... | 937,077 | 18,116 | 277,567 | 9,104 | 1,241,864 |
| Not satisfied ... | 306,974 | ... | 77,591 | ... | 384,565 |
| Total ... | 1,244,051 | 18,116 | 355,158 | 9,104 | 1,626,429 |
| Temporarily stopped: | | | | | |
| Condition satisfied... | 358,284 | 11,247 | 134,929 | 8,526 | 512,986 |
| Not satisfied ... | 7,136 | ... | 4,066 | ... | 11,202 |
| Total ... | 365,420 | 11,247 | 138,995 | 8,526 | 524,188 |
| Casual claimants: | | | | | |
| Condition satisfied... | 104,051 | 261 | 1,897 | 19 | 106,228 |
| Not satisfied ... | 7,235 | ... | 163 | ... | 7,398 |
| Total ... | 111,286 | 261 | 2,060 | 19 | 113,626 |
| Insured non-claimants* | 42,916 | 9,506 | 14,066 | 7,728 | 74,216 |
| Total: | | | | | |
| Condition satisfied | 1,399,412 | 29,624 | 414,393 | 17,649 | 1,861,078 |
| Not satisfied ... | 364,261 | 9,506 | 95,886 | 7,728 | 477,381 |
| Total ... | 1,763,673 | 39,130 | 510,279 | 25,377 | 2,338,459 |

Percentages.

| | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|------|-------|------|-------|------|
| Wholly unemployed: | | | | | |
| Condition satisfied... | 75.3 | 100.0 | 78.2 | 100.0 | 76.4 |
| Not satisfied ... | 24.7 | ... | 21.8 | ... | 23.6 |
| Temporarily stopped: | | | | | |
| Condition satisfied... | 98.1 | 100.0 | 97.1 | 100.0 | 97.9 |
| Not satisfied ... | 1.9 | ... | 2.9 | ... | 2.1 |
| Casual claimants: | | | | | |
| Condition satisfied... | 93.5 | 100.0 | 92.1 | 100.0 | 93.5 |
| Not satisfied ... | 6.5 | ... | 7.9 | ... | 6.5 |
| Total (including non-claimants): | | | | | |
| Condition satisfied | 79.4 | 75.7 | 81.2 | 69.5 | 79.6 |
| Not satisfied ... | 20.6 | 24.3 | 18.8 | 30.5 | 20.4 |

UNEMPLOYMENT FUND.

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

| | Four weeks ended 25th April, 1931. | Four weeks ended 28th March, 1931. | Four weeks ended 26th April, 1930. |
|---|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| | £ | £ | £ |
| Contributions received from:— | | | |
| Employers ... | 1,135,000 | 1,165,000 | 1,205,000 |
| Employed Persons ... | 970,000 | 985,000 | 1,040,000 |
| Exchequer (including additional Exchequer contribution in respect of Transitional Benefit (U.I. Act, 1930)) ... | 3,020,000 | 2,975,000 | 1,930,000 |
| Total ... | 5,125,000 | 5,125,000 | 4,175,000 |
| Unemployment Benefit ... | 8,650,000 | 8,925,000 | 5,175,000 |
| Cost of Administration ... | 470,000 | 480,000 | 450,000 |
| Interest accrued on Treasury Advances ... | 280,000 | 255,000 | 145,000 |
| Other Items ... | 15,000 | 80,000 | 5,000 |
| Total ... | 9,415,000 | 9,740,000 | 5,775,000 |
| Treasury Advances outstanding ... | 79,030,000 | 73,620,000 | 40,310,000 |
| Other Liabilities (net), including accrued interest and deposits ... | 365,000 | 1,485,000 | 270,000 |

A detailed account of the Fund is presented to Parliament annually. (See House of Commons Paper No. 25 of 1931 for the period ended 31st March, 1930.)

* Non-claimants are not in receipt of benefit. They have all failed to satisfy the First Statutory Condition, and the adults have also failed to satisfy the Transitional Conditions.

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. 177–178 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.*

Unemployment decreased during March, largely owing to seasonal influences.

The total number of persons reported by the Employment Exchanges as available for and seeking work at the end of March, 1931, was 4,830,126, as compared with 5,045,489 at the end of February, 1931, and with 3,091,445 at the end of March, 1930. On 30th April, 1931, the total was 4,469,186 (provisional figure).

The total number of persons reported by the Employment Exchanges as unemployed was 4,743,931 at the end of March, 1931, 4,971,843 at the end of February, 1931, and 3,040,797 at the end of March, 1930. On 30th April, 1931, the provisional total was 4,389,000.

On the last day of March, 1931, 2,316,971 persons were in receipt of standard unemployment benefit and 923,552 in receipt of emergency benefit, giving a total of 3,240,523, as compared with 3,496,979 at the end of February, 1931, and with 2,347,102 at the end of March, 1930. The number in receipt of standard and emergency benefit on 30th April, 1931, was 2,790,112 (provisional figure).

Among 4,394,500 members of trade unions for which statistics are available, 33·6 per cent. were unemployed at 28th March, 1931, as compared with 34·5 per cent. at 28th February, 1931 and 21·7 at 29th March, 1930. In addition, 18·9 per cent. were working short time, as compared with 19·5 per cent. at the end of February, and 12·6 per cent. at the end of March, 1930. The following Table gives particulars for various groups of trade unions included :—

| Groups of Trade Unions. | Membership reported on at end of March, 1931. | Percentage Wholly Unemployed and on Short Time at end of month. | | | |
|--|---|---|------------|----------------|------------|
| | | Wholly Unemployed. | | On Short Time. | |
| | | March, 1931. | Feb. 1931. | March, 1931. | Feb. 1931. |
| Mining | 156,900 | 13·4 | 12·6 | 29·8 | 30·9 |
| Quarrying, stone, brick, pottery, etc. :— | | | | | |
| Workers subject to seasonal influences ... | 137,000 | 61·3 | 64·8 | 6·6 | 6·8 |
| Other workers | 91,200 | 36·3 | 36·4 | 19·3 | 22·5 |
| Engineering and metal ... | 1,005,600 | 29·3 | 28·1 | 27·0 | 27·1 |
| Chemical | 111,700 | 23·2 | 22·4 | 22·2 | 20·6 |
| Textile | 345,000 | 21·6 | 21·6 | 39·8 | 42·6 |
| Paper | 116,800 | 22·2 | 21·7 | 28·5 | 29·8 |
| Leather | 56,200 | 34·4 | 35·1 | 22·9 | 25·5 |
| Wood | 296,900 | 48·5 | 49·5 | 12·9 | 13·8 |
| Food, tobacco, etc. ... | 294,400 | 24·1 | 27·6 | 19·0 | 20·8 |
| Clothing, boots and shoes | 158,200 | 29·0 | 33·3 | 30·5 | 34·1 |
| Building | 657,000 | 73·9 | 77·3 | 0·5 | 1·0 |
| Printing | 153,200 | 22·2 | 21·9 | 6·9 | 6·9 |
| Hairdressing | 4,000 | 17·9 | 17·0 | 22·5 | 19·0 |
| Miscellaneous | 810,400 | 14·7 | 14·6 | 15·1 | 14·8 |
| All Unions making Returns | 4,394,500 | 33·6 | 34·5 | 18·9 | 19·5 |

FRANCE.†

Unemployment showed a slight decrease during April. The total number of persons on the registers of the Employment Exchanges on 2nd May, 1931, was 66,957 (50,605 men and 16,352 women). At the end of March the corresponding total was 70,822 and at the end of April, 1930, 10,839.

At the beginning of April, the number of persons employed in mining, industrial, transport and commercial undertakings covered by the special monthly official investigation‡ showed a decline of 5·87 per cent. as compared with April, 1930. The percentage of workpeople on short time (i.e., working less than 48 hours per week) was 31·67 at the beginning of March, 1931, as compared with 2·42 at the same date in 1930.

AUSTRIA.§

Unemployment showed a decrease during March. The total number of persons in receipt of unemployment benefit at the end of March, 1931, was 304,084 (including 103,475 in Vienna), as compared with 334,041 (115,181 in Vienna) at the end of February, and 239,094 (87,057 in Vienna) at the end of March, 1930.

BELGIUM.*

Unemployment showed a slight increase during February. Provisional returns received by the Ministry of Industry, Labour and Social Welfare from 172 approved unemployment insurance societies, with a total membership of 693,191, show that 11·6 per cent. of these were totally unemployed at the end of the month. In the preceding month the percentage was 11·1, and in February, 1930, 2·6. In addition, 17·6 per cent. of the membership were employed intermittently at the end of the month. In February, 1931, 16·3 per cent. of the aggregate possible working days were lost through unemployment; in the preceding month the percentage was 14·6 and in February, 1930, 4·08.

HOLLAND.†

Unemployment showed a decrease during March. According to figures compiled by the State Department of Unemployment Insurance and Employment Exchanges, out of 454,188 members of subsidised unemployment funds making returns for the week ended 28th March, 1931, 12·9 per cent. were unemployed during the whole week, and 4·8 per cent. for less than six days. In the corresponding week of the preceding month, ended 28th February, the percentages were 16·8 and 5·4, and in March, 1930, 5·0 and 2·5. At the end of the month 144,800 applicants were registered at public employment exchanges, of whom 122,300 were actually unemployed.

ITALY.‡

Unemployment decreased during March. According to statistics furnished by the National Social Insurance Fund, 707,486 workpeople were recorded as unemployed at the end of March, 1931, as compared with 765,325 at the end of February, and 385,432 at the end of March, 1930. The total for March, 1931, includes 173,443 engaged in agriculture and fishing, 90,062 in the textile industry, and 222,494 in the building, road construction, etc., industries. In addition, 27,545 persons were partially unemployed at that date as compared with 27,110 at the end of February and 28,026 at the end of March, 1930.

POLAND.§

Unemployment decreased during April. According to the official journal of the Central Statistical Office of Poland the number of unemployed registered at Employment Exchanges on 25th April, 1931, was 362,800, as compared with 379,000 on 28th March, and 284,062 on 26th April, 1930. On these dates the number of unemployed persons entitled to benefit was 210,200, 226,300 and 162,663 respectively.

SWITZERLAND.||

Unemployment during March showed a seasonal decrease. At the end of March, 1931, 19,919 applications for employment (15·2 per thousand of the employed population according to the Census of 1920) were registered at Employment Exchanges, as compared with 26,886 at the end of February, and 10,138 at the end of March, 1930. Offers of situations at the dates mentioned above numbered 4,722, 2,877 and 4,695 respectively.

UNITED STATES.

According to returns received by the Federal Bureau of Labour Statistics, covering 43,796 establishments in 15 branches of industry and trade, these establishments employed 4,649,112 workpeople in March, 1931, showing practically no change as compared with the total for February. During the same period, the aggregate earnings showed an increase of 0·7 per cent.

If the monthly average index number of employment in manufacturing industries alone in 1926 be taken as 100, the corresponding figure for March, 1931, was 74·8, as compared with 74·1 in February, and 89·8 in March, 1930.¶

Among members of trade unions, in 24 cities, affiliated to the American Federation of Labour, 25·0 per cent. were reported to be unemployed in April, 1931.**

AUSTRALIA.††

Unemployment increased during the first quarter of 1931. The proportion of members of trade unions making returns who were unemployed in this period was 25·8 per cent., as compared with 23·4 per cent. in the preceding quarter and 14·6 per cent. in the first quarter of 1930. These figures relate to persons out of work for three days or more during a specified week in each quarter; they include a small percentage out of work owing to sickness.

CANADA.

Employment at the beginning of April showed a further decrease due to seasonal influence. Returns were received by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics from 7,507 firms with an aggregate of 899,823 workpeople on their pay-rolls on 1st April, 1931, as compared with 902,833 on 1st March, 1931, a decline of 0·3 per cent. If the average employment of the reporting firms in the year 1926 be represented by 100, the index number of employment for 1st April is 99·7 as compared with 100·2 at the beginning of the preceding month, and 107·8 on 1st April, 1930.‡‡

* *Revue de Travail*, 31st March, 1931, Brussels.

† *Maandschrift van het Centraal Bureau voor de Statistiek*, 31st March, 1931, The Hague.

‡ *Bollettino Mensile di Statistica*, April, 1931, Rome.

§ *Wiadomości Statystyczne*, 25th April, 1931, Warsaw.

|| *La Vie Economique*, April, 1931, Berne.

¶ *Trend of Employment and Labour Turnover*, March, 1931, Washington.

** *American Federationist*, May, 1931.

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

‡‡ *The April Employment Situation*, 1931, Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Ottawa.

* *Reichsarbeitsblatt*, 25th April, 1931, and *Reichsarbeitsmarkt-Anzeiger*, 8th May, 1931, Berlin.

† *Bulletin du Marché du Travail*, 8th May, 1931, and *Journal Officiel*, 1st May, 1931, Paris.

‡ See the March issue of this GAZETTE (page 111).

§ *Statistische Nachrichten*, 27th April, 1931, Vienna.

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

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 April in Great Britain and Northern Ireland resulted in an aggregate decrease of about £26,150 in the weekly full-time wages of 325,000 workpeople and in an increase of £1,225 in those of nearly 19,000 workpeople.

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

| Group of Industries. | Approximate Number of Workpeople affected by | | Estimated Amount of Change in Weekly Wages. | |
|--|--|------------|---|------------|
| | Increases. | Decreases. | Increases. | Decreases. |
| Mining and Quarrying ... | 12,500 | 70,000 | £ 400 | £ 4,350 |
| Metal | ... | 30,000 | ... | 1,950 |
| Textile | ... | 78,000 | ... | 10,150 |
| Building, Public Works Contracting, etc. ... | ... | 31,000 | ... | 2,150 |
| Transport | 5,200 | 86,000 | 625 | 4,750 |
| Other | 1,050 | 30,000 | 200 | 2,800 |
| Total | 18,750 | 325,000 | 1,225 | 26,150 |

The reductions in the mining group mainly concerned coal miners in the Cannock Chase, Leicestershire, North and South Staffordshire, Bristol and South Derbyshire coalfields, in which the percentage additions to basis rates were reduced by amounts varying in the different areas from about 1½ to 5½ per cent. on the current total wages. There were also reductions in the wages of ironstone miners in the Cleveland area and in Northamptonshire. Coal miners in Warwickshire received an increase, equivalent to nearly 1½ per cent. on current wages.

In the metal group there was a reduction of about 2 per cent. on the current wages of blastfurnace workers in the Cleveland area, and reductions also occurred among similar classes in Northamptonshire and North Staffordshire. Brassworkers in the Birmingham district had previous reductions of 2½ per cent. on the earnings of the higher grades and of 1½ per cent. on those of the lower grades brought up to 5 and 2½ per cent. respectively; while similar classes in Yorkshire had 2½ per cent. taken off their earnings, as the first instalment of a total reduction of 5 per cent. Reductions were also made in the wages of penmakers and hearth furniture makers in the Birmingham district, and in those of male workers in the needle and fishing tackle making industry at Redditch.

In the textile group the principal body of workpeople affected by reductions were those employed in the bleaching, dyeing, etc. industries in Yorkshire and Lancashire, a reduction of 1 per cent. in the basic earnings of piece-workers being accompanied by reductions in the cost-of-living bonuses of both time-workers and piece-workers (making a total reduction of about 6½ per cent. on current wages in Yorkshire).

In the building etc. group there was a decrease of ½d. per hour in the wages of most classes of building trade operatives in the Glasgow and West of Scotland area. Men employed by electrical contractors in England and Wales sustained a decrease of ¼d. per hour, and those employed by public works contractors in the London area a decrease of ½d. per hour.

The reductions in the transport group mainly affected the lower grades of railway traffic workers, many of whom had a reduction of 1s. per week, under a cost-of-living sliding scale. Coal tipplers at the principal ports had their wages reduced by over 2½ per cent. on current rates. Commercial road transport carters at various towns in Scotland, outside Glasgow and the county of Angus, received an increase in wages, following the adoption of a uniform minimum rate.

Of the total decrease of £26,150 per week, about £8,000 took effect under cost-of-living sliding scales, including £850 under scales arranged by Conciliation and Trade Boards or other joint standing bodies of employers and workpeople; £6,000 took effect under other arrangements made by such joint bodies; over £400 took effect under sliding scales based on selling prices; and the remaining sum was chiefly the result of direct negotiations between employers and workpeople, or of independent action by employers. Reductions preceded by disputes causing stoppage of work accounted for less than £200 of the total.

Of the total increase of £1,225 per week, about £400 took effect under an arrangement made by a Conciliation Board; nearly £400 was due to mediation; and the remaining sum was the result of direct negotiations.

SUMMARY OF CHANGES REPORTED IN JANUARY—APRIL, 1931.

| Group of Industries. | Approximate Number of Workpeople affected by Net | | Estimated Net Amount of Change in Weekly Wages. | |
|--|--|------------|---|------------|
| | Increases. | Decreases. | Increases. | Decreases. |
| Coal Mining | ... | 237,000 | £ ... | £ 28,000 |
| Other Mining and Quarrying | ... | 16,000 | ... | 950 |
| Brick, Pottery, Glass, Chemical, etc. ... | 125 | 4,500 | 35 | 475 |
| Iron and Steel | 62,500 | 46,000 | 1,900 | 3,650 |
| Engineering | ... | 111,000† | ... | 16,600† |
| Other Metal | ... | 84,000 | ... | 6,800 |
| Textile | ... | 218,000 | ... | 26,100 |
| Clothing | 250 | 13,500 | 75 | 1,150 |
| Food, Drink and Tobacco | 1,250 | 6,000 | 90 | 750 |
| Woodworking, Furniture, etc. | 250 | 13,500 | 25 | 3,425 |
| Building, Public Works Contracting, etc. ... | 1,100 | 450,000 | 100 | 38,800 |
| Gas, Water and Electricity Supply | 1,100 | 28,500 | 210 | 2,750 |
| Transport | 10,600 | 430,000 | 1,600 | 46,000 |
| Public Administration Services | ... | 13,000 | ... | 1,000 |
| Other | 75 | 35,000 | 15 | 4,550 |
| Total | 77,250 | 1,706,000 | 4,050 | 181,000 |

In the corresponding four months of 1930, there were net increases of £26,100 in the weekly full-time wages of 392,000 workpeople, and net decreases of £63,550 in those of 704,000 workpeople.

Hours of Labour.

There were reductions during April in the working hours of coal miners in eight areas, following the adoption of 7½ hour shifts for underground workers, the reduction for a full shift varying in the different areas from 12 minutes to half an hour.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING APRIL, 1931.

| Industry. | Locality. | Date from which Change took effect. | Classes of Workpeople. | Particulars of Change. (Decreases in italics.) |
|-------------|--|-------------------------------------|--|---|
| Coal Mining | Cannock Chase ... | 2 April | Workpeople employed in or about coal mines, other than those whose wages are regulated by movements in other industries. | Basis rates of pieceworkers enhanced by addition of 5 per cent. consequent upon the reduction in working hours‡; <i>district percentage payable on basis rates of surface workers except those handling coal reduced from 44·02 to 42, and from 44·02 to 40 for all other classes of workpeople, subject to a subsistence allowance for lower-paid men.</i> § |
| | Leicestershire ... | 1 April | | Basis rates of pieceworkers enhanced by addition of 7·1 per cent. consequent upon the reduction in working hours‡; <i>district percentage payable on basis rates of all classes of workpeople reduced from 40 to 32, subject to a subsistence allowance for lower-paid men.</i> |
| | North Staffordshire | 1 April | | Basis rates of pieceworkers enhanced by addition of 4·25 per cent. consequent upon the reduction in working hours‡; <i>district percentage payable on basis rates of all classes of workpeople reduced from 35 to 32, subject to a subsistence allowance for lower-paid workers.</i> ¶ |
| | South Staffordshire and East Worcestershire. | 1 April | | Basis rates of pieceworkers enhanced by addition of 5 per cent. consequent upon the reduction in working hours‡; <i>district percentage payable on basis rates of all classes of workpeople reduced from 40 to 38, subject to lower-paid day-wage men receiving a subsistence wage of 6s. 2d. per day.</i> |
| | Bristol (two collieries). | 19 April | | <i>Decrease of 7 per cent. on basis rates, leaving wages 15 per cent. above basis rates for hewers and pieceworkers and 17 per cent. above basis rates for other workers, subject to subsistence allowances up to 6d. and 1s. per day for married underground and surface workers respectively, provided that the total wage does not exceed 6s. 9d. per day.</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.

† The reductions under Engineering applied mainly to men employed in railway workshops.

‡ See also under Changes in Hours of Labour, on page 199.

§ A subsistence allowance up to 6d. per shift is granted as previously to adult able-bodied day-wage workmen, subject to a maximum total wage of 8s. 9d. per shift.

|| A subsistence allowance up to 6d. per shift was previously granted to adult able-bodied day-wage workmen, subject to a maximum total wage of 8s. 9d. per shift. The latter amount is now reduced to 8s. 3d. It is also provided that adult able-bodied day-wage workmen shall be paid a gross rate, inclusive of subsistence allowance, of not less than 7s. 2d. and 7s. 6d. per shift for surface and underground workers respectively.

¶ Subsistence allowances up to 1s. per shift for workers 21 years and over, 9d. per shift for those 18 and under 21 years, and 6d. per shift for those 16 and under 18 years previously granted are continued, but the total wage beyond which no allowance is paid has been reduced from 7s. 9d. to 7s. 7d. per shift for gross daily wage of 7s. per shift for adult able-bodied day-wage workers remains unchanged.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING APRIL, 1931 (*continued*).

| Industry. | Locality. | Date from which Change took effect. | Classes of Workpeople. | Particulars of Change. (Decreases in italics.) |
|---|---|-------------------------------------|--|--|
| Coal Mining (<i>continued</i>). | South Derbyshire ... | 1 April | Workpeople employed in or about coal mines, other than those whose wages are regulated by movements in other industries. | Basis rates of pieceworkers enhanced by addition of 4 per cent. consequent upon the reduction in working hours (see page 199); district percentage payable on basis rates of all classes of workpeople reduced from 35 to 30, subject to a subsistence wage of 7s. 6d. and 7s. 2d. per day for able-bodied underground and surface workers respectively (3d. less than previous subsistence wage). |
| | Warwickshire ... | 1 April | | Increase of 2 per cent. on basis rates of 1911, making wages 42 per cent. above basis rates at the majority of the collieries and from 36 to 38 at certain other collieries, subject to a subsistence wage for adult able-bodied surface and underground workers at the majority of the collieries of 7s. 1d. and 8s. 3d. per day respectively. |
| Iron Mining | Cleveland ... | 27 April | Ironstone miners ... | Decrease of 4½ per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 50·50 per cent. above the standard, plus 5d. to 1d. per shift for lower-paid rates. Rates after change: labourers—underground, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 8d.; surface, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d., plus 50·50 per cent., plus 5d. to 1d. per shift (according to base rate) for lower-paid men. |
| | Northamptonshire and Banbury and District. | 1st pay day in May.* | Ironstone miners and quarrymen | Decrease† of 2 per cent. on standard rates leaving wages 18 per cent. above the standard. |
| Quarrying | South and West Durham. | 27 April | Limestone quarrymen ... | Decrease of 4½ per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 50·50 per cent. above the standard, plus 5d. to 1d. per shift (according to base rate) for lower-paid men. |
| | Northamptonshire ... | 1st pay day in May.* | Limestone quarrymen ... | Decrease† of 2 per cent. on standard rates leaving wages 18 per cent. above the standard. |
| | Yorkshire† ... | 3 April | Freestone quarrymen and labourers. | Decrease of ½d. per hour on time rates and an equivalent amount on piece rates. Rates after change: Grade A district, delvers and hewers, 1s. 6½d.; bottom delvers and hewers, 1s. 5d.; saw frame feeders, 1s. 3½d.; labourers, 1s. 2d. Grade B, 1½d. per hour less than Grade A. Grade C, 1½d. per hour less than Grade B.† |
| | Morley District ... | 3 April | Granite quarry workers ... | Decrease of ½d. per hour. Rates after change: quarrymen, 1s. 4½d.; labourers, 1s. 1½d. |
| Flint Glass Making, Cutting, etc. | Stourbridge, London, Glasgow, Manchester, Sheffield and Warrington. | 17 April | Flint glass makers ... | Decrease‡ of ½d. per hour for timeworkers, and of 4d. per ton on the making price of setts. |
| | | | Flint glass cutters, etc. ... | Decrease§ of 1½d. per turn. |
| Paint, Colour and Varnish Manufacture. | London ... | 3 April | Men ... | Decrease§ of 1s. per week. Minimum rate after change, 53s. |
| Pig Iron Manufacture, etc. | Cleveland and Durham. | 5 April | Blastfurnacemen ... | Grading scheme adopted whereby the various occupations are classified as highly skilled, skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled, and minimum rates fixed for highly skilled, skilled and semi-skilled men which are respectively, 15s., 6s. and 3s. per week above the national minimum rate (52s.) for unskilled workers. |
| | Tees-side ... | | Cokemen and by-product workers | Decrease† of 2·25 per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 2·25 per cent. above the standard of 1919 (plus, in some cases, an output or input bonus). Minimum rate after change for scale labourers, 6s. per shift, plus 2·25 per cent. |
| | North Staffordshire | First making-up day in April. | Tonnagemen employed at blast-furnaces. | Decrease† of 6 per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 34·25 per cent. above the standard.¶ |
| | Northamptonshire ... | 1st pay day in May.* | Blastfurnacemen ... | Decrease† of 2 per cent. on standard rates of 1929, leaving wages 18 per cent. above the standard. Rates after change: general labourers, 5s. 4d. per shift (average); by-turn labourers, 5s. 5d. per shift (average); plus in each case, 18 per cent. |
| | South Wales and Monmouthshire. | 1 April | Engineers and other skilled craftsmen employed at blast-furnaces and in iron and steel works. | Decrease of 2s. 6d. or 2s. 7d. per week. Rates after change: Dowlais—Cardiff works, 64s. per week; other works, 62s. 6d. |
| Electrical Cable Manufacture. | Greater London Area | 2nd pay day in April.* | Plumber-jointers and plumber-jointers' mates. | Decrease of ½d. per hour. Rates after change: plumber-jointers, 1s. 10½d. per hour; plumber-jointers' mates, 1s. 5½d. per hour. |
| Manufacture of Steel and Metal Pens and Stationers' Metal Sundries. | Birmingham and District. | Pay day following 1 April | Male timeworkers over 21 years of age. | Decrease§ of 1s. 4d. per week for skilled men and charge hands, and of 1s. per week for others. Rates after change: toolmakers over 25 years of age, 71s. 4d. and 61s. 10d. per week; toolmakers 21 to 25 years, 51s. 10d.; charge hands in hardening shops and rolling mills, 63s. 10d.; charge hands in shaking mills and tempering and colouring shops, 55s. 10d.; others, 43s. |
| | | | Male timeworkers under 21 years of age. | Decreases§ of amounts varying according to age from 3d. to 9d. per week. |
| | | | Apprentices ... | Decreases§ of amounts varying according to age from 2d. to 6d. per week. |
| | | | Female dayworkers and learners ... | Decreases§ of amounts varying according to age from 2d. to 5d. per week. Rate after change for dayworkers, 18 years and over, 22s. 2d. per week. |
| Brass Manufacture. | Birmingham ... | Pay day in week ending 25 April. | Female pieceworkers ... | Decrease§ of 5d. in the basic piecework rate (24s. 1d. to 23s. 8d.). |
| | Rotherham, Sheffield, Doncaster, Halifax and Dewsbury Districts. | 1st pay day in April. | Male dayworkers and pieceworkers | Decrease of 2½ per cent. on earnings for full-rated men in Grade C or higher grades, and a decrease of 1½ per cent. for youths and other workers in lower grades, making a total reduction of 5 per cent. and 2½ per cent. for the two classes respectively.** |
| Hearth Furniture Manufacture | Birmingham and District. | Week ending 25 April. | Male dayworkers and pieceworkers | Decrease of 2½ per cent. on earnings for adults and a decrease of 1½ per cent. for youths under 21 years of age.†† |
| Needle and Fishing Tackle Manufacture. | Redditch and District | 26 April†† | Adult male timeworkers and pieceworkers employed in the needle and fishing tackle making trade. | Decrease of 5 per cent. on earnings for full-rated men in Grade C or higher grades, and a decrease of 2½ per cent. for youths under 21 years of age. Decrease in bonus of 2s. per week for Grade "A" males (1s. 1d. per hour and over), of 1s. 6d. per week for Grade "B" males (11d. or 1s. per hour), and of 1s. per week for Grade "C" males (9d. or 10d. per hour).‡‡ |

* In respect of the preceding pay period.

† Under selling-price sliding-scale arrangements.

‡ The reduction took effect under an Agreement made by the Yorkshire Joint Industrial Council for the Freestone Quarrying Industry. The districts within Grades A and C are as follows: Grade A—Huddersfield, Crossland Moor, Bradford District, including Thornton, Shipley, Idle, and Queensbury, Keighley District, including Haworth, Halifax and Brighouse Districts and Horsforth. Grade C—Pateley Bridge District. No districts are at present allocated to Grade B.

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

|| The grading scheme referred to took effect under an agreement arrived at by the London District Joint Industrial Council for the Paint, Colour and Varnish Industry, which was ratified by the National Joint Industrial Council on 26th February, 1931.

¶ The decrease was not applied to daywagemen or labourers—the percentage payable on their standard rates remaining generally at 67.

** This reduction is the second of two equal instalments—the first instalment having operated from the pay day in week ending 10th January, 1931. Wages are now to remain stabilised to the 30th October, 1931.

†† This reduction is the first of two equal instalments—the second instalment operating from the first pay day in July, 1931.

‡‡ The rates of wages effective after this change are to be stabilised for six months from the date shown, after which further reductions as above shall take effect as and when the cost-of-living figure is 47 or under.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING APRIL, 1931 (continued).

| Industry. | Locality. | Date from which Change took effect. | Classes of Workpeople. | Particulars of Change. (Decreases in italics.) |
|--|--|--|---|---|
| Woollen and Worsted Spinning. | Leicester ... | 1st pay day in April. | Workpeople employed in the lambs' wool and worsted yarn spinning industry (excluding engineers, etc.). | Bonus reduced* from 1½d. to 1¼d. in the shilling on earnings. Minimum rates after change for timeworkers: men 23 and over, 42s. 6d.; women 21 and over, 25s. 6d. per week, plus, in each case, 1½d. in the shilling. |
| Linen Manufacture. | Lurgan ... | 23 April | Timeworkers ... | Decreases of (a) 4s. per week for card-cutters and dressers, (b) 3s. per week for mounters, assistant mounters, cloth passers, winding masters, enginemen and firemen, and (c) 10 per cent. on current rates for all other workers. |
| | | | Pieceworkers ... | Decrease of 7 per cent. on standard scale (equivalent to 9·7 per cent. on current rates) except for (a) dressers, who are to have 10 per cent. off set pay and 10 per cent. off piece rates for sets up to 1,200, 5 per cent. off for sets over 1,200, and (b) winders of grey linen yarn from hank (60's to 105's inclusive for warp and 80's and upwards for weft), who are to have 5 per cent. off current rates.† |
| Elastic Web Weaving. | Leicester ... | 1st pay day after 24 April. | Male workers ... | Bonus reduced* from 11s. 6d. to 11s. in the £. |
| | Yorkshire (majority of firms) and certain firms in Lancashire.‡ | 1st pay day in May.§ | Workpeople employed in the dyeing and finishing trades:— Timeworkers ... | Cost-of-living wage reduced from 60½ per cent. to 50 per cent. on basic rates. Minimum rates after change for time-workers :—The Bradford Dyers' Association, Ltd.: men 21 and over, 28s. per week plus 8 per cent., plus 50 per cent. on total; other firms—men 21 and over, 30s. 3d. per week, plus 50 per cent. women 18 and over, 18s. per week, plus 50 per cent.¶ |
| | | | Pieceworkers (except hand pressers). | Decrease of 1 per cent. in gross basis piecework earnings, and cost-of-living wage (payable on the reduced basis rates) reduced from 48½ per cent. to 40 per cent.¶ |
| | | | Hand pressers ... | Decrease of 2½ per cent. in gross basis piecework earnings and cost-of-living wage (payable on the reduced basis rates) reduced from 36½ per cent. to 30 per cent.¶ |
| Textile Bleaching, Dyeing, Printing, Finishing, etc. | Lancashire, Cheshire and Derbyshire (majority of firms) and certain firms in Yorkshire.‡ | 1st pay day in May.§ | Workpeople employed in the bleaching, dyeing, calico printing and finishing trades (except waste bleachers, machine calico printers, engravers and mechanics, etc., employed in repair and maintenance of plant). | Decrease of 1 per cent. in gross basis piecework earnings for pieceworkers, and cost-of-living wage for all workers (payable in the case of pieceworkers on the reduced basis rates) reduced from 18s. 3d. to 15s. 1d. per week for men 21 and over, from 10s. 10d. to 9s. per week for women 18 and over, and by corresponding amounts for juveniles. Minimum rates after change for time-workers :—men 21 and over, 28s. plus 15s. 1d.; women 18 and over, 18s. plus 9s.** |
| | Middleton‡ | 1st pay day in May.§ | Timeworkers ... | Cost-of-living wage reduced from 18s. 4½d. to 15s. 2½d. per week for men 21 and over, from 11s. 4d. to 9s. 4½d. per week for women 18 and over, and by corresponding amounts for juveniles. |
| | | | Reelers ... | Cost-of-living wage reduced from 50 per cent. to 40 per cent. |
| | Hebden Bridge ... | 1st pay day in May.§ | Workpeople employed in the fustian cutting, dyeing and finishing trades:— Timeworkers ... | Cost-of-living wage reduced* from 18s. 3d. to 16s. 9d. per week for men 21 and over, from 10s. 10d. to 10s. per week for women 18 and over, and by corresponding amounts for juveniles. |
| | | | Pieceworkers ... | Cost-of-living wage reduced* from 52 per cent. to 47 per cent. for netherwood cutters, from 47 per cent. to 43 per cent. for hand cutters, from 39 per cent. to 36 per cent. for menders and from 44 per cent. to 41 per cent. for all other pieceworkers. |
| | Lancashire, Cheshire, Derbyshire and Scotland. | 1st pay day in May.§ | Engravers, etc., employed in calico print works. | Cost-of-living wage reduced* from 25s. 11d. to 24s. 1d. per week for engravers and from 18s. 3d. to 15s. 1d. per week for turners, polishers and varnishers. |
| | Lancashire, Cheshire, Derbyshire, Scotland and Belfast. | 1st pay day in May.§ | Engravers employed in engraving works. | Cost-of-living wage reduced* from 25s. 11d. to 24s. 1d. per week for men, from 15s. 10d. to 14s. 9d. per week for women, and by corresponding amounts for youths. |
| Hosiery Dyeing, Scouring, etc. | Leicester and Loughborough. | Pay day in week ending 17 April. | Pieceworkers ... | Decreases in existing rates of from 5 per cent. to 15 per cent. for trimmers, 10 per cent. for dyers and scourers, and 5 per cent. for auxiliary workers. |
| Felt Hat Making. | Denton, Stockport, Hyde, Bury, Fails-worth and Romiley Districts; also Carlisle. | 1st pay day in April. | Timeworkers ... | Bonus reduced* from 45 per cent. to 40 per cent. Minimum rate after change: 10¼d. per hour, plus 40 per cent.†† |
| | Atherstone and Bedworth. | 24 April | Pieceworkers ... | Bonus reduced* from 50 per cent. to 45 per cent. |
| | | | Male pieceworkers ... | Bonus of 22½ per cent. on list prices reduced* to 20 per cent. |
| Baking and Confectionery. | Various towns in North Staffordshire and Cheshire.‡‡ | 1st pay day in April. | Bakers and confectioners employed by co-operative societies. | Decrease* of 2s. 6d. per week for adult male workers, 1s. 3d. per week for women and for youths 18 and under 21, and 7½d. per week for those under 18. Minimum rate after change for table-hands, 57s. 6d. |
| | Cardiff ... | 1st pay day in March. 1st pay day in April. | Bakers and confectioners ... | Decrease of 2s. 6d. per week. |
| | Ayrshire§§ ... | 1st pay day in April. | Bakers and confectioners ... | Further decrease of 2s. 6d. per week. Minimum rate after change for tablehands, 60s. |
| | | | | Decrease* of 1s. per week. Minimum rate after change, 67s. |

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

† It was also agreed that in lieu of scale reductions of 5, 17½ and 28 per cent. for weavers on looms fitted with warp stop motions in the case of 2, 3 or 4 looms respectively, the reductions for cambrics and sheers are to be 15 and 20 per cent. for 3 and 4 looms respectively, with no reduction for two looms; weavers on looms not fitted with warp stop motions are to receive 5 per cent. extra when weaving cambrics and sheers.

‡ The change took effect under an agreement made between the Allied Association of Bleachers, Dyers, Printers and Finishers and the Trade Unions concerned, which involved a change in the method of calculating the cost-of-living wage. It was agreed that the cost-of-living wage for the period ending on the last pay day in July should be based on a cost-of-living number of 50, and that in future wages should be reviewed quarterly in accordance with the revised sliding scale.

§ In respect of the preceding pay period.

|| A special temporary payment of 2s., 2s. 6d. or 3s. per week (according to basic rates) for men, and of 1s. per week for women, is made in addition in the case of timeworkers engaged in productive process work for which a system of collective piecework has not yet been introduced.

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

** This rate applies principally to men doing odd work for which no piece rate is provided. It does not apply to labourers, packers, etc., who are in receipt of the minimum rate fixed under the Trade Boards Acts.

†† Macclesfield, Leek, Newcastle-under-Lyme, Congleton, Crewe, Winnington, Winsford, Sandbach and Potteries district (including Stoke-on-Trent, Burslem, Fenton, Hanley, Longton and Tunstall).

§§ Including Auchinleck, Dalmellington, Irvine, Kilbirnie, Kilmarnock, Kilwinning, Maybole, Stevenston, Troon, Largs, etc.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING APRIL, 1931 (*continued*).

| Industry. | Locality. | Date from which Change took effect. | Classes of Workpeople. | Particulars of Change. (Decreases in italics.) |
|---|---|--|---|--|
| Mill-Sawing, etc. | North-East Coast,* Hull, Grimsby and Berwick-on-Tweed. | 3 April | Woodcutting machinists and sawyers | Decrease of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour. Minimum rate after change : 1s. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. |
| | Bristol, Gloucester (one firm), Cardiff, Newport and Swansea. | 1 April | Labourers employed by timber im- porters. | Decrease of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour (1s. 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 1s. 3d.). |
| | Glasgow District† ... | 27 April | Masons, joiners, slaters, plumbers and labourers. | Decrease of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour. Rates after change : craftsmen, 1s. 7d.; labourers, 1s. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.† |
| Building. | West of Scotland Dis- trict.§ | 27 April | Masons and masons' labourers em- ployed by members of the Scottish Building Contractors' Association. | Decrease of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour. Rates after change : craftsmen, 1s. 7d.; labourers, 1s. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.† |
| | Ayr, Dumbarton and Vale of Leven, Kilmarnock, and Paisley. | 27 April | Joiners | Decrease of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour (1s. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 1s. 7d.).† |
| Glazing. | Glasgow | 27 April | Glaziers | Decrease of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour (1s. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 1s. 7d.). |
| Public Works Contracting. | London (Metropolitan Police Area). | 1st full pay day in April. | Men employed by public works con- tractors. | Decrease¶ of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour (except in Walthamstow, where the rates remain unchanged). Rates after change : City and County of London—granite masons and kerb fixers, 1s. 8d.; blacksmiths, fitters, granite sett dressers, paviors, street masons and flag dressers, 1s. 7d.; steam roller drivers, 1s. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; scaffolders, 1s. 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; platelayers and pipe jointers, 1s. 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 1s. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; petrol locomotive, roller or air compressor plant drivers, 1s. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; blacksmiths' mates or strikers, duct or earthenware drain-layers, joiners, pneumatic pick operators, rammermen, screeders, tarpot men, timbermen and wood block layers, 1s. 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; concrete levellers and labourers, 1s. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; Acton, Croydon, East Ham, Ilford, Leyton, West Ham, Walthamstow, Wimbledon, Barking Town, Dagenham, Edmonton, Mitcham, Tottenham and Willes- den— $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour less; Rest of District—1d. per hour less. Decrease¶ of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour. Net hourly rates after change : Grade A Districts, 1s. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; Grade B, 1s. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; Grade C, 1s. 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; Grade D, 1s. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.** |
| Electrical Installation. | England and Wales and Northern Ireland.** | Pay pre- ceding 2nd pay day in April. | Qualified men employed by electrical contractors. | Decrease¶ of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour. Net hourly rates after change : Grade A Districts, 1s. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; Grade B, 1s. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; Grade C, 1s. 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; Grade D, 1s. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.** |
| | London District (within a 12-mile radius of Charing Cross) and Wat- ford. | 1st full pay after 1 April. | Auxiliary workers employed by electrical contractors. | Decrease¶ of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour (1s. 6d. to 1s. 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.). |
| Waterworks Undertakings. | Various districts in Yorkshire.†† | 1st full pay after 1 April. | Adult male workers | Decrease of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour.†† Scheduled minimum hourly rates after change include the following for Grades A, B and C districts respectively : pipelayers and jointers, 1s. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1s. 2d., 1s. 1d.; firemen, 1s. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1s. 2d., 1s. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; meter readers and repairers, 1s. 3d., 1s. 2d., 1s. 1d.; labourers, 1s. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1s. 1d., 1s. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. |
| | Various districts in the Midland Counties.†† | 1st full pay after 1 April. | Adult male workers | Decrease of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour for Zones A and B, the rates in Zones C and D to remain unchanged††. Scheduled minimum hourly rates after change include the following for Zones A and B respectively : trenchmen, 1s. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 1s. 0 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; lead pipe jointers, 1s. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 1s. 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; meter readers, 1s. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 1s. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; stokers, 1s. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 1s. 0 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; labourers, 1s. 0 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.‡§ |
| | London | 1st pay after 24 April. | Engine staff working on rotatory three shift system employed by Metropolitan Water Board. | Increase of 1d. per hour. Rates after change include : engine drivers, 66s. 7d., cleaners, 58s. 7d., stokers, 62s. 7d., plus in each case 1d. per hour. |
| | Various districts in the Home Counties Area. | 1 April | Adult male workers | Decrease of 1s. per week. Minimum rates after change for labourers : Grade A districts 41s. 9d., Grade B 46s., Grade C 50s. 3d., Grade D 52s. 6d. |
| | Various districts in the South Midland Area. | 1 April | Adult male workers | Decrease of 1s. 6d. per week for Grade D districts, of 1s. 8d. per week for Grade C and B, and of 1s. 4d. per week for Grade A. Minimum rates after change for labourers : Grade D 48s. 3d., Grade C 47s. 1d., Grade B 45s. 6d., Grade A 39s. 7d. |
| Railway Electricity Generating Stations. | Great Britain ... | 1 April | Adult male workers¶¶ employed in Railway Companies electricity generating stations and sub- stations and on high tension cables between them. | Decrease¶ of 2s. per week. Rates after change in London : switch- board attendants—(up to 5,000 Kw), 69s., 5,000 Kw and over, 83s.; turbine mechanics, 70s.; drivers, 64s.; stokers—leading 68s.; others, 62s.; trimmers, 55s.; electrical fitters on main- tenance work, 66s. 6d.; electricians' mates, 53s. 6d.; plus 4s. per week for shift workers. |
| Electricity Supply Undertakings. | London Area ... | 2nd pay day in April. | Electrical fitters and wiremen, plumber jointers, armature winders, and assistant mates to these classes. | Decrease of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour. Minimum rates after change : skilled men, 1s. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; assistants, 1s. 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. |
| Tramway Undertakings. | Metropolitan Area*** | 2nd pay day in April. | Armature winders, electricians and their mates, semi-skilled electrical employees, controller repairers, and light and power attendants. | Decrease of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour for skilled men (1s. 10d. to 1s. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.) and a proportionate decrease for other classes.*** |
| Railway Service. | Great Britain ... | 1 April | Certain classes among Conciliation Grades††† and staff employed under Conciliation conditions at docks, etc., also railway police. | Decrease¶ of 1s. per week, or such less amounts as will reduce wages to base rates.††† |
| | | | Female workers except part-timers Female part-timers Female crossing keepers (wives of companies' servants). | Decrease¶ of 1s. per week for adults and 6d. per week for juniors. Bonus previously paid reduced¶ by 6d. or 9d. per week. Decrease¶ of 6d. per week. |

* Including Blyth, Dunston, Jarrow, Newcastle, North and South Shields, Seaham Harbour, Sunderland, Tyne Dock and Tees district (including Hartle-
pools, Middlesbrough, Stockton and Thornaby).

† Including Cambuslang, Mearns, Crookston, Dalmeir, Milngavie, Bishopbriggs and Baillieston.

‡ The change took effect as the result of an agreement arrived at by the Scottish National Joint Council for the Building Industry, whereby the rate for
craftsmen in Grade A towns is to be 1s. 7d. per hour until 31st January, 1932, wages after that date to be adjusted on a cost-of-living sliding-scale basis.
Provision was also made for a normal working week of 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ hours during the months of December and January (it had previously been agreed that during these
months on jobs where no artificial light was reasonably possible, the hours might be reduced by $\frac{1}{2}$ -hour per day during the first five days of the week, making
a possible week of 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ hours).

§ The districts affected include, besides the Glasgow district, Airdrie, Bellshill, Blantyre, Bothwell, Coatbridge, Dumbarton, Falkirk, Greenock
Hamilton, Helensburgh, Johnstone, Larbert, Lanark, Motherwell, Paisley, Port Glasgow, Strathaven and Wishaw.

|| The change took effect under an arrangement made by the Public Works Conciliation Board.

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

** The change took effect under an agreement made between the National Federated Electrical Association and the Electrical Trades Union. The reduction
was equivalent to 1 per cent. on the rates paid in April, 1921, leaving wages 29 per cent. below these rates, except in Grade A areas where the rate includes
an increase of 5 per cent. on current rates granted in May, 1929. A list of the districts in the various grades was given on page 34 of the January issue of this
GAZETTE.

†† The above decrease is in accordance with a recommendation made by the National Joint Industrial Council for the Waterworks Undertakings Industry,
and adopted by the above District Joint Councils (modified by the Midland Council so as not to apply to the lower rated districts). The reduction is subject
to review after the first full pay in October.

‡‡ The undertakings comprised within each Grade which are reported to have made the reduction include the following :—Grade A—Bradford, Halifax,
Leeds, and York. Grade B—Barnsley, Dewsbury, Doncaster, Harrogate, Keighley, Rotherham and Wakefield. Grade C—Brighouse and Todmorden. The
rates paid by some of the Undertakings differ slightly from those quoted above.

§§ The undertakings comprised within each Grade which are reported to have made the reduction include the following :—Grade A—Birmingham, Coventry,
Leicester, Northampton, Nottingham, Wolverhampton. Grade B—Bilston, Kettering. The rates paid by some of the undertakings differ slightly from those
quoted above. In Zones C and D the scheduled rates are 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour respectively less than those in Zone A.

|||| The above decrease is in accordance with a recommendation made by the Provincial Joint Council.

¶¶ Excluding electrical fitters, etc., engaged on installation work, and other craftsmen whose wages are regulated by movements in their respective trades.
*** The above decrease is in accordance with an agreement made between the Metropolitan Municipal Tramways Council and the Electrical Trades Union,
whereby skilled men receive $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour less than men employed by electrical contractors, and semi-skilled men and mates 93 per cent. and 80 per cent.
respectively of the rates for skilled men. The Undertakings reported to have made the decrease include those of the London County Council, and of the
municipalities of Croydon, West Ham, Walthamstow and Erith.

††† The decrease (which amounted in most cases to 1s. per week) was applied to the majority of the lower-rated men (porters, lampmen, carriage cleaners,
undermen, labourers, etc.) in the Conciliation Grades, excluding those who entered the adult grades in the permanent service on and after 1st February, 1926.
The decrease did not apply to engine drivers, firemen, guards, shunters, cloak-room attendants, ticket and excess luggage collectors, station and yard foremen,
carriage and wagon examiners, hydraulic enginemen, chargemen cleaners in loco sheds and fire brigade men.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING APRIL, 1931 (continued).

| Industry. | Locality. | Date from which Change took effect. | Classes of Workpeople. | Particulars of Change. (Decreases in italics.) |
|--|--|-------------------------------------|--|---|
| Dock, Wharf and Riverside Labour. | Various ports in Great Britain.* | 1st full pay week in April. | Coal tipplers, teamers, weighers, hoistmen and boxmen. | Decrease† of 5 per cent. leaving wages 85 per cent. above pre-war tariffs and payment for incidentals, subject to the minimum wage previously operative.* |
| | Port of London ... | 1st full pay week in April. | Crews of quay lighterage tugs ... | Standard rate of pay fixed for mates at 86s. per week, and the existing standard rates for drivers (81s. 6d.) and firemen (72s.) confirmed.† |
| Road Transport. | Sunderland ... | April | Horse carters ... | Decrease of 1s. per week. Minimum rates after change: single-horse drivers, 50s. per week; double-horse drivers, 51s.; vanmen, 53s. |
| | Ashton-under-Lyne District.‡ | Pay day in week ending 10 April. | Commercial road transport workers | Minimum weekly rates adopted for single-horse drivers of 51s.; double-horse drivers, 56s.; steam wagon drivers, 64s.; steam wagon secondmen, 53s.; petrol wagon drivers, 2 tons and over, 61s.; under 2 tons, 54s.; petrol wagon assistants and loaders, and stable and garage hands, 51s.‡ |
| | Nottingham... | 1st pay day after 27 April. | Commercial road transport workers | Decrease† of 1s. per week for adults, and of 6d. per week for youths under 18 years of age. Weekly rates after change: one horse drivers, 49s.; two horse drivers, 54s.; petrol wagon drivers 2 tons and over, 59s.; 15 cwt. to 2 tons, 54s.; under 15 cwt., 49s.; electric vehicle drivers: 1 ton and over, 56s.; under 1 ton, 49s.; loaders, garage hands: day, 49s.; night, 53s. |
| | Various town in Scotland (excluding Angus). | 4 April. | Horse carters (excluding those employed by railway contractors). | Minimum rate of 49s. per week adopted for towns outside the Glasgow district. |
| | Principal towns in Scotland. | 4 April. | Carters employed by railway contractors. | Deduction of 2½ per cent. from all earnings and a further deduction of 2½ per cent. from earnings in excess of 40s. per week. Rates after change: one horse carters, 48s. 6d. per week; two horse carters, 50s. 6d. |
| Local Government (Non-Trading Services). | West Hartlepool ... | 1 April | Manual workers ... | Decrease† of ¼d. per hour. Rates after change: street sweepers, 10½d.; general labourers, 1s. 1d.; roadmen and carters, 1s. 2d. |
| | Bradford ... | 14 April | Labourers and other lower-rated adult male workers. | Decrease of ¼d. per hour in minimum rate (1s. 1½d. to 1s. 1d.) and a corresponding decrease in the wages of certain other classes whose wages are regulated by those of labourers.¶ |
| | Hampshire ... | 1 April | Road workers employed by County Council. | Decrease† of 120th of basic rates. Rate after change, 36s. per week. |
| | Fulham, Hammer-smith, Kensington, Lambeth, Southwark, and Stoke Newington. | 1 or 3 April. | Masons, paviors, road labourers (not on permanent staff), etc. | Decrease of ¼d. per hour. Rates after change: masons and paviors, 1s. 7d.; labourers, 1s. 2½d. |
| | Certain Authorities in Kent, Surrey and Sussex.** | 1st pay day after 1 April. | Able-bodied male manual workers employed in non-trading departments of local authorities (excluding those in Grade I Areas). | Decrease of 2s. per week for unskilled men, and of 2s. 6d. per week for skilled men. Minimum rates after change for unskilled men:—Grade V Areas, 55s.; Grade IV, 50s. 6d.; Grade IIIA, 48s. 7d.; Grade III, 44s. 8d.; Grade II, 42s. 9d.; skilled men:—Grade V, 66s.; Grade IV, 61s. 6d.; Grade IIIA, 60s. 1d.; Grade III, 56s. 2d.; Grade II, 54s. 9d. |
| | Chatham ... | 19 Mar. | Manual workers ... | Decreases varying from ¼d. to 1d. per hour except for road sweepers who received an increase of ¼d. per hour. Rates after change include: yard and road labourers and sweepers, 1s. 0½d.; refuse collectors, 1s. 1½d.; paviors, 1s. 4d. |
| | Erith... | 9 April | Manual workers ... | Decrease of ¼d. per hour. Rates after change include: general yard labourers, 1s. 1½d.; road sweepers and scavengers, 1s. 1d.; refuse collectors, 1s. 2½d. |
| | Lancashire, Cheshire, Yorkshire, Midland Counties, Basford, London and Scotland. | 6 April | Basket makers employed on Government work. | Bonus of 37½ per cent. on revised London price list of 1919 reduced† to 30 per cent. |
| | Lancashire and Cheshire. | 6 April | Skip and basket makers ... | Decrease† of 2 per cent. on Lancashire price list, leaving wages 77½ per cent. and 67½ per cent. above the list for timeworkers and pieceworkers respectively. |
| | Midland Counties ... | 6 April | Workpeople employed in basket, hamper, cane and wicker furniture making (including one section of agricultural basket work). | Decrease† for timeworkers of 1d. per hour (1s. 2½d. to 1s. 1½d.), and for pieceworkers of 7½ per cent. in bonus payable on list of October, 1916 (with amendments thereto), leaving bonuses of 30 per cent. on Derby and Croquet chairs, 25 per cent. and 41½ per cent. on Worcester pots, and 45 per cent. on other work. |
| Basket, etc., Making. | Basford ... | 6 April | Other sections of agricultural basket work. | Bonus on list of October, 1916 (with amendments thereto), reduced† from 52½ per cent. to 45 per cent. for some classes of work and from 50 per cent. to 45 per cent. for other classes. |
| | Basford ... | 6 April | Cane and wicker workers ... | Decrease† of 5 per cent. on earnings. |
| | Great Britain ... | 7 April | Female homeworkers ... | Decrease in the piecework basis time rate fixed under the Trade Boards Acts of ¼d. per hour (7½d. to 7½d.); and general minimum piece rates fixed for the carding of casein and ivory buttons and buttons with metal shanks.†† |
| Button Making. | Great Britain ... | 7 April | Male workers 18 years and over ... | Re-classification of workers to whom the minimum rates previously fixed under the Trade Boards Acts apply, the operation of cutting on wet lathes (other than cutting pearl or trocas buttons) by those who are responsible for setting their own tools being transferred to those covered by the higher scale of rates.†† |
| | Great Britain ... | 6 April | Male workers ... | Decreases in the minimum rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts of from ¼d. to ½d. per hour. Minimum rates after change: 3½d. at 14, increasing each year to 8d. at 18 and to 11d. at 21 and over.†† |
| Cotton Waste Reclamation. | Great Britain ... | 6 April | Female workers ... | Decreases in the minimum rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts of ¼d. or ½d. per hour for those 15 and over, the rate for those under 15 remaining unchanged, leaving minimum rates as follows: 2½d. at 14, increasing each year to 5½d. at 17, and, at 18 and over, to 6½d. in England and Wales, and 6½d. in Scotland.†† |

* The decrease applied to the principal coal exporting centres, including those on the North-East Coast, the East Coast (except Goole), the East of Scotland, and the Bristol Channel. At certain North-East Coast ports an extra 5 per cent. is paid in addition to the 85 per cent. quoted, and higher percentages are also paid at certain docks at Bristol Channel ports.

† Under cost-of-living sliding-scale arrangements.
‡ The above rates were embodied in an Agreement made between the Association of Master Lightermen and Barge Owners (Port of London) and the Watermen, Lightermen, Tugmen and Bargemen's Union. The Agreement, which also contained provisions relating to hours, systems of working, overtime rates, and other conditions of employment, was mainly a codification of existing working conditions and practice. It provided that where individual men already obtained higher rates than those agreed as standard, the higher rates should continue for the duration of their existing employment.

§ The above rates were adopted under an Agreement made on 27th March, between the Ashton, Stalybridge, Mossley and District Master Carriers' and Horse and Motor Owners' Association and the United Road Transport Workers' Association of England, and covered Ashton-under-Lyne (including Limehurst), Droylesden, Audenshaw, Dukinfield, Mossley and Stalybridge. It was also agreed that the wages of coal bag salesmen should be 4s. per week in excess of the above rates.

|| The above change took effect under an Agreement between the Scottish Horse and Motor Contractors' Federation and the Scottish Horse and Motormen's Association, which fixed a minimum rate of 50s. per week (as already operative) for the Glasgow district, and for other districts the above minimum, which is to be increased to 50s. as from the first pay day in October, 1931. The uniform minimum of 50s. is to operate from the latter date until 31st March, 1932.

¶ The above minimum rate of 1s. 1d. applies to labourers generally and among other classes to roadmen and street sweepers.
** This reduction is the result of a special Recommendation of the Provincial Joint Industrial Council. The Authorities affected are those which follow the wages agreements of the Provincial Council and include:—Grade V—Barnes (50 per cent. reduction only); Grade IV—Bromley, Carshalton, Swanscombe. Grade IIIA—Brighton, Eastbourne. Grade III—Deal, Dorking (50 per cent. reduction only), Maidstone (unskilled men only). The rates paid by some of the Authorities differ slightly from the rates quoted above. The rates for Grade I remain at 38s. 11d. for unskilled men and at 51s. 11d. for skilled men.

†† See Notice of Order on page 164 of April GAZETTE.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING APRIL, 1931 (*continued*).

| Industry. | Locality. | Date from which Change took effect. | Classes of Workpeople. | Particulars of Change. (Decreases in <i>italics</i> .) |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------------|---|--|
| Coffin Furniture Manufacture. | Great Britain ... | 1 April | Male workers employed in the coffin furniture trade:— Timeworkers:— Dressers, stampers, polishers and planishers (including wheelers). Packers, rough warehousemen and despatchers. Pieceworkers | Decreases* in the minimum rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts of the following amounts for the classes named respectively†:— Decreases of from 2s. 6d. to 3s. 6d. per week for those 21 and over, and of 1s., 1s. 6d., or 2s. per week for those under 21. Minimum rates after change for those 21 and over: dressers and stampers—Grade I, 52s. 6d.; II, 59s.; III, 64s.; polishers and planishers (including wheelers)—Grade I, 54s.; II, 62s.; III, 66s. Decreases of from 1s. to 2s. 9d. per week. Minimum rates after change for those 21 and over: with less than one year's experience, 42s. 6d.; with not less than one and less than five years' experience, 45s.; with not less than five years' experience, 50s. 6d. Decreases proportionate to the above in the piecework basis time rates. |
| Cerement Making. | Great Britain ... | 1 April | Female workers | Decrease in the minimum rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts of ½d. per hour for those 16 and over, the rates for those under 16 remaining unchanged, leaving minimum time rates as follows:—2½d. at under 14½, increasing to 5½d., 6½d., 6½d. or 7½d. (according to experience) at 21 and over.† |
| Patent Fuel Manufacture. | Cardiff | 5 April | Patent fuel workers | Decreases of 7½ per cent. or 10 per cent. on current rates. |

CHANGES IN HOURS OF LABOUR REPORTED DURING APRIL, 1931.

| | | | | |
|-------------------------|--|----------------|--|--|
| Coal Mining. | Cumberland... .. | 1 April | Underground workers | Decrease of 12 minutes per shift (7 hours 42 minutes to 7½ hours), except on Saturdays (to remain at 6½ hours). |
| | Lancashire and Cheshire. | 6 April | Underground workers | Decrease of 15 minutes per shift on ordinary week days (7¼ to 7½ hours); Saturday shift increased from 6 to 6½ hours and the short week-end shift from 6½ to 7 hours.‡ |
| | | | Surface workers manipulating coal | Decrease of a quarter of addition made to hours in 1926 (usually 1 hour per shift except on Saturdays) on ordinary week days; Saturday shift to be increased by 30 minutes.‡ |
| | Cannock Chase ... | 2 April | Underground workers | Decrease of ½ hour per shift (8 to 7½ hours) on ordinary week days (Monday to Friday).§ See also note . |
| | | | Surface workers manipulating coal | Decrease of ½ hour per shift on ordinary week days (Monday to Friday).§ |
| | Leicestershire ... | 1 April | Underground workers | Decrease of ½ hour per shift (8 to 7½ hours) except on Saturdays (to remain at 5 hours).§ |
| | | | Surface workers manipulating coal | Decrease of 40 minutes per shift (8½ hours to 7 hours 50 minutes), except on Saturdays (to remain at 5½ hours).§ |
| | South Derbyshire ... | 1 April | Underground workers | Decrease of ½ hour per shift (8 to 7½ hours) on ordinary week days (Monday to Friday).§ |
| | North Staffordshire | 1 April | Underground workers | Decrease of 18 minutes per shift (7 hours 48 minutes to 7½ hours), except on Saturdays (to remain usually at 6 hours).§ |
| | South Staffordshire and East Worcestershire. | 1 April | Underground workers | Decrease of ½ hour per shift (8 to 7½ hours) on ordinary week days (Monday to Friday).§ See also note . |
| Port, etc. Authorities. | Shropshire (certain collieries). | 1 or 20 April. | Surface workers manipulating coal | Decrease of ½ hour per shift on ordinary week days (Monday to Friday).§ |
| | Bristol (two collieries) | 19 April | Underground workers | Decrease of ½ hour per shift on ordinary week days (8 to 7½ hours); Saturday shift increased from 5 to 5½ hours. |
| | | | | Hours changed on day shifts to 7½ per shift on ordinary week days and 7 on Saturday, making a total of 44½ per week, as compared with a previous total of 45 at one colliery, and an average of 43½ at the other; hours on night shift to be 7½ per shift (for 6 nights).§ |
| | London | 2 Mar. | Workpeople employed in the dredging service of the Port Authority. | Decrease of 10 hours per week (62 to 52). |

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

† See Notice of Order on page 164 of April GAZETTE.

‡ The length of meal-times was reduced from 30 to 20 minutes per shift.

§ See also under "Changes in Rates of Wages."

|| The length of meal-times was reduced from 20 to 15 minutes per shift.

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 upon which are based variations in the rates of wages of certain classes of iron and steel and other workers in particular districts:—

| 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: | | | | |
| Cleveland | 1931. Jan.–Mar. | s. d. 56 3¼ | s. d. – 2 5 | s. d. – 12 8½ |
| Cumberland | Jan.–Feb. | 67 2¼ | – 1 8½ | – 7 5 |
| (Hematite mixed numbers.) | | | | |
| Nottinghamshire ... | Jan.–Mar. | 59 11¼ | – 1 9½ | – 5 0½ |
| North Staffordshire | Jan.–Mar. | 59 6¼ | – 4 10 | – 13 3½ |
| Northamptonshire | Jan.–Mar. | 53 0¼ | – 1 11½ | – 8 7½ |
| Manufactured Iron: | | | | |
| North of England (Bars.) | Jan.–Feb. | 179 11 | – 0 8½ | – 0 4½ |
| West of Scotland... (Rounds, flats, squares, angles, hoops, tees and rods.) | Jan.–Feb. | 209 0½ | – 0 8 | – 0 8½ |
| Steel: | | | | |
| South Wales and Monmouthshire (Steel rails.) | Dec. 1930–Feb. 1931 | 157 0¼ | – 0 6½ | + 4 5½ |

* Stated to the nearest farthing.

The variation from the previous audit in the price of Cleveland pig iron resulted in a decrease in April of 2¼ per cent. on the standard rates of blastfurnacemen in the Cleveland area. As a result of the Cumberland ascertainment workpeople employed at West Cumberland and North Lancashire blastfurnaces sustained a reduction in March of 2¼ per cent. on their standard rates. In Nottinghamshire the ascertainment warranted a reduction in April of 1¼ per cent. on the standard rates for blastfurnacemen in that area, and for ironstone miners in Leicestershire, and the adjoining parts of Lincolnshire, but this was not enforced. The ascertainment for North Staffordshire resulted in a reduction in April of 6 per cent. on the standard rates of blastfurnacemen in that area, but this was not applied to datal workers (already in receipt of more than the scale percentage). In Northamptonshire the ascertainment resulted in a decrease at the end of April of 2 per cent. on the standard rates of blastfurnacemen, ironstone miners and limestone quarrymen in that area.

As regards manufactured iron the ascertainment for the North of England and the West of Scotland did not warrant changes in the wages of iron puddlers and iron millmen in those areas.

The ascertainment for South Wales and Monmouthshire warranted a reduction of ¼ per cent. on the standard rates of men employed at blastfurnaces and in melting-shops and rolling-mills, but this was not enforced, wages having previously been stabilised at the level of January, 1927.

Further details of the above changes will be found on page 155 of the April GAZETTE and page 195 of the present issue.

TRADE DISPUTES IN APRIL.*

Number, Magnitude and Duration.—The number of disputes involving stoppages of work, reported to the Department as beginning in April in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, was 45, as compared with 28 in the previous month and 27 in April, 1930. In these new disputes about 13,100 workpeople were directly involved and 4,300 workpeople indirectly involved (*i.e.*, thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, though not themselves parties to the disputes). In addition, about 6,900 workpeople were involved, either directly or indirectly, in 12 disputes which began before April and were still in progress at the beginning of that month. The number of new and old disputes was thus 57, involving about 24,300 workpeople, and resulting in a loss, during April, of about 130,000 working days.

In the following Table is given an analysis of the disputes in progress in April in Great Britain and Northern Ireland by groups of industries, showing the number of workpeople involved at the establishments concerned and the approximate time lost during the month in all disputes in progress :—

| Industry Group. | 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 ... | 4 | 21 | 25 | 9,600 | 52,000 |
| Textile ... | 3 | 5 | 8 | 5,400 | 45,000 |
| Building, Public Works | | | | | |
| Contracting, etc. ... | 2 | 5 | 7 | 6,300 | 17,000 |
| Transport ... | ... | 5 | 5 | 2,000 | 5,000 |
| Other ... | 3 | 9 | 12 | 1,000 | 11,000 |
| Total, April, 1931 ... | 12 | 45 | 57 | 24,300 | 130,000 |
| Total, March, 1931 ... | 14 | 28 | 42 | 28,200 | 175,000 |
| Total, April, 1930 ... | 13 | 27 | 40 | 130,400† | 1,375,000† |

Causes.—Of the 45 disputes beginning in April, 10, directly involving 5,800 workpeople, arose out of proposed reductions in wages; 17, directly involving 2,000 workpeople, on other wage questions; 4, directly involving 1,500 workpeople, on questions as to working hours; 3, directly involving 300 workpeople, on questions respecting the employment of particular classes or persons; and 11, directly involving 3,500 workpeople, on other questions of working arrangements.

Results.—Settlements were effected in the case of 28 new disputes, directly involving 7,700 workpeople, and 8 old disputes, directly involving 5,000 workpeople. Of these new and old disputes, 9, directly involving 2,200 workpeople, were settled in favour of the workpeople; 10, directly involving 3,600 workpeople, were settled in favour of the employers; and 17, directly involving 6,900 workpeople, were compromised. In the case of one dispute, directly involving 200 workpeople, work was resumed pending negotiations.

TOTALS FOR THE FIRST FOUR MONTHS OF 1930 AND 1931.†

The following Table summarises the figures for Great Britain and Northern Ireland for the first four months of 1931, as compared with the corresponding period of 1930 :—

| Industry Group. | January to April, 1930. | | | January to April, 1931. | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|--|---|--------------------------------------|--|---|
| | [No. of Disputes beginning in period. | Number of Workpeople involved in all Disputes in progress. | Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress. | No. of Disputes beginning in period. | Number of Workpeople involved in all Disputes in progress. | Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress. |
| Coal Mining ... | 49 | 18,200 | 49,000 | 58 | 189,100 | 2,266,000 |
| Other Mining and Quarrying ... | 3 | 300 | 3,000 | 6 | 500 | 5,000 |
| Brick, Pottery, Glass, etc. ... | 2 | 300 | 4,000 | 5 | 400 | 10,000 |
| Chemical ... | 2 | 400 | 3,000 | 2 | 300 | 1,000 |
| Engineering ... | 3 | 200 | 2,000 | 1 | 200 | 500 |
| Shipbuilding ... | 6 | 1,600 | 7,000 | 3 | 200 | 3,000 |
| Other Metal ... | 11 | 700 | 2,000 | 9 | 1,000 | 10,000 |
| Textile ... | 20 | 124,300† | 1,366,000† | 12 | 127,200 | 2,866,000 |
| Clothing ... | 6 | 300 | 1,000 | 6 | 100 | 1,000 |
| Food, Drink and Tobacco ... | 2 | 500 | 2,000 | ... | ... | ... |
| Woodworking, Furniture, etc. ... | 8 | 500 | 4,000 | 3 | 700 | 10,000 |
| Paper, Printing, etc. ... | 2 | 400 | 6,000 | 1 | 200 | 1,000 |
| Building, Public Works, Contracting, etc. ... | 14 | 2,300 | 29,000 | 20 | 7,300 | 54,000 |
| Transport ... | 10 | 4,200 | 21,000 | 9 | 4,000 | 10,000 |
| Commerce, Distribution and Finance ... | 1 | 3,300 | 50,000 | 2 | 100 | 500 |
| Other ... | 2 | 600 | 4,000 | 6 | 300 | 10,000 |
| Total ... | 141 | 158,100† | 1,553,000† | 143 | 331,600 | 5,248,000 |

PRINCIPAL DISPUTES INVOLVING STOPPAGES OF WORK DURING APRIL, 1931.

| Occupations and Locality.§ | Approximate Number of Workpeople involved. | | Date when Dispute | | Cause or Object.§ | Result.§ |
|--|--|--------------|-------------------|--------------|---|--|
| | Directly. | Indirectly.§ | Began. | Ended. | | |
| Colliery workpeople—Newport, Mon. (near) | 1,200 | | 1931. 9 Feb. | 1931. ... | Refusal of workpeople to accept proposed revised piece-work price lists and the abolition or modification of certain customs. | No settlement reported. |
| Linen weavers, winders, etc.—Lurgan, Co. Armagh. | 978 | 253 | 2 March | 22 April | Against proposed reduction in wages. | Proposed reduction accepted subject to modifications in the case of lower wage earners. (See also p. 196). |
| Textile bleachers, dyers, printers, finishers, etc.—Alexandria, Paisley and Airdrie. | 1,800 | | 20–29 April | ... | Against proposed reduction in wages. | No settlement reported. |
| Artificial silk spinners, viscose workers, employees in reeling department, etc.—Coventry and Wolverhampton. | 1,156 | 671 | 29 and 30 April | 6 and 7 May | Against proposed reduction in wages. | Proposed reduction accepted. |
| Workpeople employed by electrical contractors— Dagenham (one firm) ... | 50 | ... | 23 Feb. | 2 April | For payment of London rate of wages (involving an advance of 4½d. per hour) at a works situated on the border-line of the London area. | Advance of 1½d. per hour to be paid at the border-line works originally involved, and special addition to London rate of wages to be restored. |
| London area ... | 3,000 | ... | 20–23 March | | Against withdrawal of special addition to London rate of wages, payable upon condition of observance of working agreement by Trade Union, employers alleging breach of agreement by above strike. | |
| Bricklayers and labourers—Glasgow, Paisley, Falkirk, etc. | 2,500 | | 27 April | | Against new building trade agreement, involving loss of differential rate for bricklayers. | No settlement reported. |
| Bricklayers and labourers—Edinburgh and Leith. | 500 | | 29 April | 5 May | For advance in wages by establishment of differential rate for bricklayers, as compensation for "wet time." | Work resumed on old terms. |
| Railway goods motormen, carters, vanguards, etc.—London, S.W. | 739 | ... | 20 April | 21 April | Against introduction of new duty roster. | Operation of new roster postponed pending consideration of grievances. |
| Dock workers—Hull ... | 1,000 | ... | 27 April | 28 April | Against engagement of men by a firm of cargo superintendents directly, instead of through the local master stevedores' association. | Work resumed unconditionally. |

* 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.
† Revised figures. A dispute involving about 120,000 workpeople in the wool textile industry of the West Riding of Yorkshire and part of Lancashire began in April, 1930.
‡ In making up these totals the figures have been amended in accordance with the most recent information. Workpeople involved in more than one dispute are counted more than once in the totals; the amount of such duplication is, however, very slight.
§ 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.
|| Provisional estimate.

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

Summary: Average Increases since July, 1914.

| | | | |
|--------------------|-----|-----|-----|
| All Items included | ... | ... | 47% |
| Food only | ... | ... | 29% |

FOOD.

At 1st May the average level of the retail prices of food showed little change as compared with 1st April. There was a general advance in the prices of potatoes during April, and bacon was, on the average, slightly dearer on 1st May than a month earlier. On the other hand, several articles, notably milk and butter, were somewhat cheaper at the later date.

As a net result of all the changes recorded the average increase over the level of July, 1914, in the retail prices (in Great Britain and Northern Ireland) of the articles of food included in these statistics was 29 per cent. at both 1st April and 1st May, 1931, as compared with 40 per cent. at 1st May, 1930.

In the following Table is given a comparison of retail prices of these articles of food in July, 1914, and at 1st April and 1st May 1931:—

| Article. | Average Price (per lb. unless otherwise indicated—to the nearest ½d.) | | | Average Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) at 1st May, 1931, as compared with | |
|--------------------------|---|------------------|----------------|---|------------------|
| | July, 1914. | 1st April, 1931. | 1st May, 1931. | July, 1914. | 1st April, 1931. |
| Beef, British— | | | | | |
| Ribs ... | s. d. 0 10 | s. d. 1 3½ | s. d. 1 3½ | + 0 5½ | ... |
| Thin Flank ... | 0 6½ | 0 8½ | 0 8½ | + 0 2½ | ... |
| Beef, Chilled or Frozen— | | | | | |
| Ribs ... | 0 7½ | 0 9½ | 0 9½ | + 0 2½ | — 0 0½ |
| Thin Flank ... | 0 4½ | 0 5½ | 0 5½ | + 0 0½ | ... |
| Mutton, British— | | | | | |
| Legs ... | 0 10½ | 1 5½ | 1 5½ | + 0 6½ | ... |
| Breast ... | 0 6½ | 0 9½ | 0 9½ | + 0 2½ | ... |
| Mutton, Frozen— | | | | | |
| Legs ... | 0 6½ | 0 10½ | 0 10 | + 0 3½ | — 0 0½ |
| Breast ... | 0 4 | 0 4½ | 0 4½ | + 0 0½ | ... |
| Bacon (streaky)* | 0 11½ | 0 11½ | 1 0 | + 0 0½ | + 0 0½ |
| Flour ... per 7 lb. | 0 10½ | 0 11½ | 0 11½ | + 0 0½ | — 0 0½ |
| Bread ... per 4 lb. | 0 5½ | 0 7 | 0 7 | + 0 1½ | ... |
| Tea ... | 1 6½ | 1 11½ | 1 11½ | + 0 5 | ... |
| Sugar (granulated) ... | 0 2 | 0 2½ | 0 2½ | + 0 0½ | ... |
| Milk ... per quart | 0 3½ | 0 6 | 0 5½ | + 0 2½ | — 0 0½ |
| Butter— | | | | | |
| Fresh ... | 1 2½ | 1 6 | 1 5½ | + 0 2½ | — 0 0½ |
| Salt ... | 1 2½ | 1 4 | 1 3½ | + 0 1½ | — 0 0½ |
| Cheese† | 0 8½ | 0 11½ | 0 11 | + 0 2½ | — 0 0½ |
| Margarine ... | 0 7 | 0 7½ | 0 7½ | § | ... |
| Eggs (fresh) ... each | 0 1½ | 0 1½ | 0 1½ | ... | ... |
| Potatoes ... per 7 lb. | 0 4½ | 0 7½ | 0 8½ | + 0 3½ | + 0 1½ |

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

| Article. | Average Percentage Increase at 1st May, 1931, as compared with July, 1914. | | | Corresponding General Average for 1st April, 1931. |
|---|--|---------------------------|------------------|--|
| | Large Towns (Populations over 50,000). | Small Towns and Villages. | General Average. | |
| Beef, British— | | | | |
| Ribs ... | Per cent. 59 | Per cent. 59 | Per cent. 59 | Per cent. 58 |
| Thin Flank ... | 30 | 32 | 31 | 31 |
| Beef, Chilled or Frozen— | | | | |
| Ribs ... | 29 | 35 | 32 | 33 |
| Thin Flank ... | 3 | 11 | 7 | 8 |
| Mutton, British— | | | | |
| Legs ... | 65 | 68 | 66 | 66 |
| Breast ... | 42 | 43 | 42 | 43 |
| Mutton, Frozen— | | | | |
| Legs ... | 50 | 46 | 48 | 51 |
| Breast ... | 6 | 15 | 10 | 13 |
| Bacon (streaky)* | 7 | 9 | 8 | 5 |
| Fish ... | 117 | 95 | 106 | 111 |
| Flour ... | 7 | 8 | 7 | 9 |
| Bread ... | 21 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| Tea ... | 21 | 33 | 27 | 27 |
| Sugar (granulated) ... | 27 | 18 | 22 | 20 |
| Milk ... | 60 | 71 | 66 | 73 |
| Butter— | | | | |
| Fresh ... | 14 | 22 | 18 | 23 |
| Salt ... | 6 | 11 | 8 | 12 |
| Cheese† | 24 | 25 | 25 | 29 |
| Margarine ... | 3 | —1 | 1 | 1 |
| Eggs (fresh) ... | 5 | —2 | 2 | 7 |
| Potatoes ... | 92 | 59 | 76 | 51 |
| All above articles of Food (Weighted Percentage Increase) ... | 29 | 28 | 29 | 29 |

* 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.

‡ The decrease in average price since the 1st April was small, but sufficient to lower the average price as expressed to the nearest farthing.

§ The average price was slightly over 7d. in July, 1914, and under 7½d. on 1st May, 1931. The increase in average price as compared with 1914 is insignificant.

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 May, was approximately 49 per cent. When decontrolled rents are also included, the combined average increase in working-class rents since July, 1914, is approximately 54 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, woollen and cotton materials, underclothing and hosiery, and boots, received from retailers in the principal towns, indicates that at 1st May the level of retail prices of articles in this group, taking goods of the kinds purchased by the working classes and so far as possible the same qualities of goods at each date, averaged between 95 and 100 per cent. higher than in July, 1914.

In the *fuel and light* group the prices of coal at 1st May averaged between 80 and 85 per cent. above the level of July, 1914. The average price of gas was 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 May, as compared with July, 1914, was about 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 75 per cent.), the resultant general average increase for 1st May, 1931, is approximately 47 per cent.* over the level of July, 1914, as compared with 47 per cent. at 1st April, 1931, and 55 per cent. at 1st May, 1930.

The result of this calculation (in which the same quantities and, as far as possible, the same qualities of each item are taken in 1931 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). In view of 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, the standard of living may have been raised in many cases 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: 1920 to 1931.

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, 1920 to 1931:—

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

| Month (beginning of). | 1920 | 1921 | 1922 | 1923 | 1924 | 1925 | 1926 | 1927 | 1928 | 1929 | 1930 | 1931 |
|-----------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Jan. ... | 125 | 165 | 92 | 78 | 77 | 80 | 75 | 75 | 68 | 67 | 66 | 53 |
| Feb. ... | 130 | 151 | 88 | 77 | 79 | 79 | 73 | 72 | 66 | 65 | 64 | 52 |
| Mar. ... | 130 | 141 | 86 | 76 | 78 | 79 | 72 | 71 | 64 | 66 | 61 | 50 |
| April ... | 132 | 133 | 82 | 74 | 73 | 75 | 68 | 65 | 64 | 62 | 57 | 47 |
| May ... | 141 | 128 | 81 | 70 | 71 | 73 | 67 | 64 | 64 | 61 | 55 | 47 |
| June ... | 150 | 119 | 80 | 69 | 69 | 72 | 68 | 63 | 65 | 60 | 54 | ... |
| July ... | 152 | 119 | 84 | 69 | 70 | 73 | 70 | 66 | 65 | 61 | 55 | ... |
| Aug. ... | 155 | 122 | 81 | 71 | 71 | 73 | 70 | 64 | 65 | 63 | 57 | ... |
| Sept. ... | 161 | 120 | 79 | 73 | 72 | 74 | 72 | 65 | 65 | 64 | 57 | ... |
| Oct. ... | 164 | 110 | 78 | 75 | 76 | 76 | 74 | 67 | 66 | 65 | 56 | ... |
| Nov. ... | 176 | 103 | 80 | 75 | 80 | 76 | 79 | 69 | 67 | 67 | 57 | ... |
| Dec. ... | 169 | 99 | 80 | 77 | 81 | 77 | 79 | 69 | 68 | 67 | 55 | ... |

NOTE.

A detailed account of the method of compilation of these statistics "The Cost of Living Index Number: Method of Compilation" has been published, and may be purchased, price 3d. net (3½d. post free), from H.M. Stationery Office, at any of the addresses shown on the cover of this GAZETTE.

* If allowance is made for the changes in taxation since July, 1914, on the commodities included in these statistics, the average increase is about 1 per cent. less.

FATAL INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS.

THE number of workpeople, other than seamen, in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, reported during April, 1931, as killed in the course of their employment was 177, as compared with 175 in the previous month and with 176* in April, 1930. Fatal accidents to seamen reported in April, 1931, numbered 41, as compared with 43 in the previous month and with 37 in April, 1930.

* Exceptions to this are : Egypt, January 1913 to July 1914; France (other towns), August, 1914; Rome and Milan, January to June, 1914; Switzerland, June, 1914; Spain, South Africa, France (Paris, all items), Poland, 1914; Germany, average, 1913-1914; Amsterdam, 1911-1913; Belgium, April, 1914; Italy (food), United States (all items), Canada, 1913; Australia (all items), November, 1914. The Australian percentages for all items are a weighted average for the six capital cities. The percentages are calculated, in Czechoslovakia and Poland, on prices converted to their gold values, and, in the other countries, on prices in the ordinary currency.

† Fuel and light are also included in these figures.

‡ New series.

§ Figure for June.

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

¶ Figure for 3rd Quarter. ** Figure for August.

† The person affected in the pottery industry was a male.

POOR RELIEF IN APRIL.

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

OWING to the alterations made by the Local Government Acts of 1929, which took effect in England and Wales on 1st April, 1930, and in Scotland on 16th May, 1930, comparable statistics are available only from those dates, and no comparison with the month of April, 1930, is therefore possible in the case of Scotland.

The statistics which appear in the Table below relate to the County of London and to those County Boroughs in England and Wales and Burghs in Scotland having an estimated population exceeding 100,000.

The number of persons* relieved on one day† in April, 1931, in the forty-seven selected areas named below was 572,822, or 1·5 per cent. less than in the previous month. The numbers relieved at these two dates were equivalent, respectively, to rates of 345 and 350 per 10,000 of the estimated population.

In the forty-three selected areas in England and Wales the number of persons relieved in April, 1931, was 477,053, a decrease of 1·6 per cent. as compared with March, 1931, but an increase of 5·9 per cent. as compared with a year ago. In the four areas in Scotland the number relieved was 95,769, a decrease of 0·8 per cent. compared with March, 1931.

Recipients of indoor relief in the forty-seven areas in April numbered 113,942, or 4·7 per cent. less than in the previous month. Recipients of outdoor relief numbered 458,880, or 0·6 per cent. less than in the previous month.

| | Number of Persons* in receipt of Poor Relief on one day† in April, 1931. | | | | Increase (+) or Decrease (–) in rate per 10,000 of Population as compared with a | |
|---|--|----------|---------|---|--|--------------|
| | Indoor. | Outdoor. | Total. | Rate per 10,000 of Estimated Population. | Month ago. | Year ago. |
| | | | | | | |
| ENGLAND AND WALES. | | | | | | |
| County of London | 47,825 | 90,622 | 138,447 | 313 | – 11 | – 25 |
| Birkenhead ... | 887 | 4,014 | 4,901 | 311 | + 1 | + 28 |
| Birmingham ... | 5,542 | 14,197 | 19,739 | 204 | – 4 | + 13 |
| Blackburn ... | 856 | 2,330 | 3,186 | 254 | – 5 | + 4 |
| Bolton ... | 945 | 2,479 | 3,424 | 189 | – 9 | + 8 |
| Bradford ... | 1,269 | 6,227 | 7,496 | 259 | – 12 | – 41 |
| Brighton ... | 1,113 | 1,960 | 3,073 | 209 | – 10 | + 1 |
| Bristol ... | 2,208 | 6,521 | 8,729 | 223 | – 7 | + 8 |
| Burnley ... | 562 | 1,521 | 2,083 | 208 | – 16 | – 39 |
| Cardiff ... | 1,582 | 6,944 | 8,526 | 380 | – 2 | + 20 |
| Coventry ... | 464 | 1,398 | 1,862 | 115 | – 4 | + 14 |
| Croydon ... | 1,109 | 1,590 | 2,699 | 121 | – 11 | + 8 |
| Derby ... | 581 | 6,227 | 6,808 | 484 | – 18 | + 97 |
| East Ham ... | 645 | 2,439 | 3,084 | 209 | ... | + 18 |
| Gateshead ... | 776 | 6,377 | 7,153 | 583 | + 3 | + 106 |
| Huddersfield ... | 502 | 1,373 | 1,875 | 166 | – 8 | + 9 |
| Kingston-upon-Hull | 1,736 | 14,899 | 16,635 | 555 | – 13 | + 28 |
| Leeds ... | 2,922 | 11,132 | 14,054 | 294 | + 4 | + 20 |
| Leicester ... | 786 | 4,088 | 4,874 | 199 | – 9 | + 11 |
| Liverpool ... | 7,554 | 38,453 | 46,007 | 529 | + 8 | + 67 |
| Manchester ... | 3,896 | 29,046 | 32,942 | 441 | – 4 | + 129 |
| Middlesbrough ... | 567 | 3,472 | 4,039 | 304 | – 2 | – 6 |
| Newcastle-on-Tyne | 1,029 | 12,688 | 13,717 | 483 | – 3 | + 97 |
| Norwich ... | 904 | 5,027 | 5,931 | 473 | – 7 | + 31 |
| Nottingham ... | 1,817 | 7,954 | 9,771 | 366 | – 13 | – 7 |
| Oldham ... | 937 | 1,090 | 2,027 | 142 | – 1 | + 21 |
| Plymouth ... | 525 | 5,472 | 5,997 | 281 | – 5 | + 10 |
| Portsmouth ... | 1,395 | 2,259 | 3,654 | 140 | – 3 | – 6 |
| Preston ... | 664 | 664 | 1,328 | 105 | – 4 | + 15 |
| St. Helens ... | 536 | 3,701 | 4,237 | 388 | + 4 | – 41 |
| Salford ... | 1,747 | 4,618 | 6,365 | 270 | – 6 | – 1 |
| Sheffield ... | 1,881 | 27,960 | 29,841 | 576 | + 18 | + 174 |
| Southampton ... | 1,340 | 2,415 | 3,755 | 218 | – 3 | + 9 |
| Southend-on-Sea ... | 323 | 1,270 | 1,593 | 139 | – 7 | + 30 |
| South Shields ... | 781 | 3,007 | 3,788 | 317 | + 1 | – 22 |
| Stockport ... | 595 | 1,054 | 1,649 | 129 | + 1 | – 7 |
| Stoke-on-Trent ... | 1,835 | 4,866 | 6,701 | 240 | – 2 | – 6 |
| Sunderland ... | 941 | 8,068 | 9,009 | 490 | – 5 | + 46 |
| Swansea ... | 751 | 5,180 | 5,931 | 365 | – 9 | + 27 |
| Wallasey ... | 265 | 1,044 | 1,309 | 129 | ... | + 15 |
| Walsall ... | 628 | 3,422 | 4,050 | 405 | – 3 | + 24 |
| West Ham... .. | 2,317 | 10,197 | 12,514 | 407 | – 1 | + 69 |
| Wolverhampton ... | 628 | 1,622 | 2,250 | 168 | – 5 | + 5 |
| Total of the above-named County Boroughs ... | 58,341 | 280,265 | 338,606 | 327 | – 3 | + 36 |
| Total, County of London and Selected County Boroughs ... | 106,166 | 370,887 | 477,053 | 323 | – 5 | + 18 |
| SCOTLAND. | | | | | | |
| Glasgow | 5,198 | 66,633 | 71,831 | 668 | – 3 | † |
| Edinburgh | 1,445 | 15,637 | 17,082 | 400 | – 6 | † |
| Dundee | 721 | 3,289 | 4,010 | 240 | + 2 | † |
| Aberdeen | 412 | 2,434 | 2,846 | 180 | – 21 | † |
| Total for the above Scottish Burghs | 7,776 | 87,993 | 95,769 | 524 | – 4 | † |
| TOTAL for above 47 areas in April, 1931 ... | 113,942 | 458,880 | 572,822 | 345 | – 5 | † |

* The figures include dependants, but exclude persons in receipt of outdoor medical relief only and casuals. In England and Wales, patients in mental hospitals (formerly referred to as lunatics in asylums), and in Scotland, lunatics and mental defectives, are also excluded.

† 25th April in England and Wales (excluding London), 11th April in London, and 15th April in Scotland.

‡ Comparable statistics are not available.

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 of applicants to whom assisted passages have been granted. Approvals subsequently cancelled have been excluded. The figures are provisional and subject to revision.

| Destination. | Applica- tions Approved in April, 1931. | Total Applications Approved. | | Depart- ures in April, 1931. | Total Departures. | |
|-------------------------------------|--|------------------------------------|--------------------------|--|----------------------|--------------------------|
| | | 1922 to 1930. | Jan.– April, 1931. | | 1922 to 1930. | Jan.– April, 1931. |
| Australia ... | 31 | 172,620 | 95 | 31 | 171,940 | 77 |
| Canada ... | 328 | 131,357 | 1,278 | 328 | 126,922 | 406 |
| New Zealand ... | 37 | 45,246 | 229 | 23 | 44,198 | 220 |
| Africa and other parts of Empire | 3 | 1,159 | 15 | 1 | 978 | 18 |
| Total ... | 399 | 350,382 | 1,617 | 383 | 344,038 | 721 |

LEGAL CASES AFFECTING LABOUR.

Workmen's Compensation Act, 1925.

LIABILITY OF EMPLOYER—PAYMENT OF FULL COMPENSATION—
FURTHER CLAIM UNDER LORD CAMPBELL'S ACT.

The House of Lords dismissed an appeal by the employers from a decision of the second division of the Court of Session in Scotland, the question raised being whether the right of a widow to raise an action at common law (or, in England, under Lord Campbell's Act) to recover damages against the person whose fault caused the death of her husband had been taken away by Section 29 (1) of the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1925, by reason of the payment into court by the defender of the maximum amount payable under the Act in proceedings instituted by a third party.

In this case a workman lost his life by a pit accident, leaving a wife, two children, and a stepson. The widow, on behalf of herself and the children, took proceedings to enforce her remedy under the common law of Scotland; and, after those proceedings had been instituted, the stepson took proceedings alone under the Workmen's Compensation Act, in which the employers paid into Court £600, the maximum compensation payable by them. The employers contended that, having paid into court the maximum compensation payable under the Workman's Compensation Act, they were under no liability to proceedings brought by the widow independently of the Act.

Section 29 (1) of the Workmen's Compensation Act is as follows:—

"When the injury was caused by the personal negligence or wilful act of the employer, or of some person for whose act or default the employer is responsible, nothing in this Act shall affect any civil liability of the employer, but in that case the workman may, at his option, either claim compensation under this Act or take proceedings independently of this Act; but the employer shall not be liable to pay compensation for injury to a workman by accident arising out of and in the course of the employment both independently of and also under this Act, and shall not be liable to any proceedings independently of this Act, except in case of such personal negligence or wilful act as aforesaid."

Lord Buckmaster, in giving judgment, said that the section began by an express provision that nothing should affect the civil liability of the employer in case of negligence, but that the workman might in that event, at his option, select which remedy he would pursue. It was the latter part of the section on which the appellants relied. They said that it emphatically provided that, in respect of an injury to the workman, the employer could not be called on to pay in two independent proceedings.

In his opinion the section had not that effect. The latter provision was intended to relate only to cases where the proceedings were taken by the same persons, and affected only the cases where the workman proceeding under the statute had the option of proceeding either under the statute or at common law. The claims of the widow and children of proceeding at common law could not be defeated by the act of somebody to whom the common law remedy was not open. To hold otherwise would be to declare that the statute had, in special cases, inferentially destroyed the rights which, by the earlier part of the section, had been expressly kept alive.

Lords Dunedin, Warrington of Clyffe, Thankerton, and Russell of Killowen agreed. The appeal was therefore dismissed.—*Kinneil Cannel and Coking Coal Company, Limited v. Sneddon or Waddell. House of Lords. 21st April, 1931.*

Trade Boards Acts, 1909–1918.

FUR TRADE BOARD.

An employer and his agent (his son) were charged with (i) under-payment of two female workers, (ii) failure to keep adequate wages records, (iii) failure to post Trade Board notices. The agent was

also charged with furnishing false information. The charges against the employer were withdrawn. The agent pleaded guilty, and was fined £2 on each of the underpayment charges, £2 on the second charge, and £1 on the third. On the charge of furnishing false information he was fined £15. He was also ordered to pay £14 3s. 3d. arrears of wages as costs, and £5 5s. advocate's fee.—*Rex v. Harris Miller and Michael Miller. Old Street Police Court. 7th April, 1931.*

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACTS, 1920-31.

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 claimant may also appeal if the decision of the Court was not unanimous.

The following is a recent decision of general interest :—

Case No. 7027/31. (28.3.31.)

SECTION 7 (1) (ii) OF PRINCIPAL ACT (AS AMENDED)—NOT UNEMPLOYED—APPLICANT FOLLOWED SUBSIDIARY OCCUPATION AS PROFESSIONAL FOOTBALLER—RECEIVED FROM £1 TO £3 PER MATCH—NO EXPRESSED REFERENCE IN AGREEMENT TO TRAINING.

The material 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 the claim for benefit should be disallowed in respect of any week in which the claimant is entitled to payment as a professional football player which exceeds the sum of 20s.

"The claimant is a First-Team player for the Bradford Northern Football Club (Rugby League), his remuneration ranging from 20s. to £3 a match.

"The Court of Referees have found, by applying Rule 3 and the proviso to Rule 4 of Decision 8628/29,† that the claimant could ordinarily have followed this occupation outside the ordinary working hours of his usual employment. I accept this finding of fact.

"There arises the question whether he is employed by the Club only on days of playing or training or throughout the week.

"Decision 1152/30‡ lays it down that when the remuneration is paid by the match and cannot exceed 30s. there is a presumption (which is rebuttable by evidence to the contrary) that the claimant is not under obligation to play or train.

"The agreement in the present case is the same in material terms as in Decision 1152/30, but the presumption does not arise, by reason of the higher amount of remuneration.

"The finding of the Court of Referees above mentioned avoids the necessity of discussing the claimant's position as to playing, but not as to training, which is generally done outside working hours.

"Where an agreement was silent as to training it was said in one case that there was not sufficient in the agreement or the circumstances to warrant the inference that the claimant was under obligation to train whenever he might be required by the Club to do so, even though it was said that he was expected to train on certain days (Decision 16866/30);§ but it was held later that this was not meant to exclude the consideration of circumstances in any other case which might justify the implication of an agreement or the existence of a collateral agreement to train (Decision 2407/31||).

"Wider experience of the working of football agreements which (like the present) make no express reference to training justifies a presumption, in the absence of clear evidence to the contrary, that where the agreed amount of remuneration can exceed 30s. per match the professional player is under obligation to train on any day upon which the Club may require him to do so, and that this presumption is not rebutted by the mere fact that the training usually takes place on certain days in the week. There is nothing to rebut the presumption in the present case, and the claimant's employment by the Club must be regarded as continuous throughout the week."

* 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 1929 (price 7s. 6d. net). A volume containing a special selection of important decisions given by the Umpire prior to 19th April, 1928 (price 15s. net), and a volume containing selected decisions given from 19th April, 1928, to 12th March, 1930 (price 6s. net), have also been issued; also an analytical guide to decisions given before 13th March, 1930 (price 2s. 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 pamphlet being that for March, 1931.

† See Vol. VIII, Umpire's Selected Decisions, page 306 (Pamphlet No. 11/1929) and U.I.C. 8a.

‡ See page 18 (Pamphlet No. 1/1930), Umpire's Selected Decisions and U.I.C. 8a.

§ See page 190 (Pamphlet No. 11/1930), Umpire's Selected Decisions.

|| See page 40 (Pamphlet No. 2/1931), Umpire's Selected Decisions.

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

Recent Proceedings.

(A)—INDUSTRIAL COURT DECISIONS.

RAILWAY SHOPMEN : PLUMBER, LONDON, MIDLAND AND SCOTTISH RAILWAY, GLASGOW.—*National Union of Railwaymen v. London, Midland and Scottish Railway. Difference.*—The question of the proper payment to a plumber for duty in excess of 47 hours. *Decision.*—The Court ruled that the case was covered by Condition 4, Schedule F, Award 728, and payment made, i.e., night duty rate, was in order. Award issued 16th April, 1931. (1496.)

RAILWAY SHOPMEN : NIGHT PAYMENT TO GATEMEN, HORWICH AND BARROW : LONDON, MIDLAND AND SCOTTISH RAILWAY.—*National Union of General and Municipal Workers v. London, Midland and Scottish Railway. Difference.*—As to whether due effect has been given to Condition 2, Schedule F., Award 728 (payment for night duty). *Decision.*—The Court decided that the gatemen at Horwich and Barrow are proper to be regarded as "men such as nightwatchmen specifically engaged for night work." Award issued 21st April, 1931. (1497.)

RAILWAY SHOPMEN : RATE OF WAGES FOR ASPHALTER, SOUTHERN RAILWAY.—*National Union of Railwaymen v. Southern Railway. Difference.*—That Asphalter Knight, Nine Elms Depot, should be paid at the maximum of the range (34s. to 38s.) under Schedule D. of Award 728. *Decision.*—The Court decided against the claim. Award issued 21st April, 1931. (1498.)

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

[There were no cases under this heading this month.]

(C)—OTHER SETTLEMENTS.

[There were no cases under this heading this month.]

TRADE BOARDS ACTS.

Orders, Notices, etc., Recently Issued.

I.—CONFIRMING ORDER.

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

Order Q. (36), dated 11th May, 1931, confirming the variation of general minimum time-rates, piece-work basis time-rates and overtime rates for certain classes of male and female workers, and specifying 18th May, 1931, as the date from which such rates should become effective.

II.—NOTICES OF PROPOSAL.

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

Proposal N.I.H.G. (N. 41), dated 2nd April, 1931, to vary certain general minimum piece-rates for female workers and certain general minimum time-rates, piece-work basis time-rates and general overtime rates for male and female workers.

Rope, Twine and Net Trade Board (Northern Ireland).

Proposal N.I.R. (N. 19), dated 27th April, 1931, to vary general minimum time-rates and piece-work basis time-rates for certain male workers.

III.—CHANGE IN THE MINIMUM RATES OF WAGES DUE TO AN ALTERATION IN THE COST-OF-LIVING INDEX FIGURE.

Lower rates of wages became effective as from 1st May, 1931, in the undermentioned trade. The minimum rates now applicable are those appropriate to the cost of living figure of 47 and are set out in the Confirming Orders quoted below :—

Brush and Broom Trade (Great Britain) : M. (46) and (47), column 15.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT, 1901.

Refractory Materials Regulations, 1931.

THE Home Secretary has made, under Section 79 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, new Regulations,* dated 28th April, 1931, to apply to all factories or workshops, or parts thereof, in which are carried on the handling, moving, breaking, crushing, grinding or sieving of any refractory material containing not less than 80 per cent. total silica for the purposes of certain specified manufactures.

The new Regulations, which are in accordance with the revised draft issued on 27th February last,† may be cited as the Refractory Materials Regulations, 1931, and will come into force on 1st July, 1931.

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ACT.

Silicosis and Asbestosis Schemes.

THE Home Secretary has issued a notice stating that on 30th April, 1931, he made four schemes under Section 47 of the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1925, as extended by the Workmen's Compensation (Silicosis and Asbestosis) Act, 1930.

The schemes, which are substantially in accordance with the drafts published on 13th January last,‡ will come into force on 1st June, 1931, and may be cited as (i) the Silicosis and Asbestosis (Medical Arrangements) Scheme, 1931; (ii) the Various Industries (Silicosis) Scheme, 1931; (iii) the Metal Grinding Industries (Silicosis) Scheme, 1931; and (iv) the Asbestos Industry (Asbestosis) Scheme, 1931.

The Silicosis and Asbestosis (Medical Arrangements) Scheme§ provides for the appointment of a Medical Board to issue certificates where compensation is claimed for silicosis or asbestosis, and to carry out periodic medical examinations of workers employed in certain specified processes involving exposure to silica or asbestos dust.

The Various Industries (Silicosis) Scheme, 1931||, and the Metal Grinding Industries (Silicosis) Scheme, 1931,¶ which supersede previous schemes dealing with the same classes of cases, (i) provide for the certification of cases by the Medical Board, and (ii) extend the right to compensation to workmen who, though not totally disabled, are found on examination by the Medical Board to be suffering from silicosis to such a degree as to render their further employment dangerous, and are for that reason suspended by the Board from employment.

The Asbestos Industry (Asbestosis) Scheme** provides for the payment of compensation to workmen employed in certain specified processes involving exposure to asbestos dust. The scheme applies to all workmen employed in the processes on and after 1st May, 1931.

OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

[NOTE.—The prices quoted in this list are net, and do not include postage.]

ALIENS.—*Aliens Restriction Acts, 1914 and 1919. Aliens Order, 1920. Statistics in regard to alien passengers who entered and left the United Kingdom in 1930.* Home Office. (Cmd. 3840; price 4d.)

BRITISH AND FOREIGN TRADE AND INDUSTRY.—*Statistical tables relating to British and foreign trade and industry (1924–1930). Part II. Principal industries. Production and trade.* Board of Trade. (Cmd. 3849; price 7s. 6d.)

BUILDING MATERIALS.—*Interdepartmental Committee appointed to survey the prices of building materials. Chairman's Report for period up to March, 1931.* Ministry of Health. (Cmd. 3852; price 3d.)

CENSUS OF PRODUCTION.—*Third Census of Production of the United Kingdom, 1924. Final Report. Vol. II. Food, drink and tobacco trades, and the clothing trades.* Board of Trade. (S.O. publication; price 5s. 6d.)

MINING.—(i) *Coal Mines Act, 1930. Kent District (Coal Mines) Scheme, 1930. Amendment, 19th March, 1931.* Mines Department. (S.O. publication; price 1d.) (ii) *List of Parliamentary and other official publications relating to the mining and quarrying industries. Mines and Quarries Form No. 1, April, 1931.* Mines Department. (S.O. publication; price 2d.) (iii) *Coal Mines Act, 1911: regulations and orders relating to safety and health. 1931 edition, including orders up to 31st December, 1930.* Mines Department. (S.O. publication; price 1s. 6d.) (iv) *Coal mining industry. Statistical summary of output, and of the costs of production, proceeds and profits of the coal-mining industry for the quarter ended 31st December, 1930.* Mines Department. (Cmd. 3861; price 1d.)

* *The Refractory Materials Regulations, 1931. Statutory Rules and Orders, 1931, No. 359.* H.M. Stationery Office; price 1d. net (1½d. post free).

† See the issue of this GAZETTE for March, 1931, page 124.

‡ See the issue of this GAZETTE for January, 1931, page 41.

§ *Statutory Rules and Orders, 1931, No. 341.* H.M. Stationery Office; price 4d. net (5d. post free).

|| *Statutory Rules and Orders, 1931, No. 342.* H.M. Stationery Office; price 3d. net (3½d. post free).

¶ *Statutory Rules and Orders, 1931, No. 343.* H.M. Stationery Office; price 3d. net (3½d. post free).

** *Statutory Rules and Orders, 1931, No. 344.* H.M. Stationery Office; price 2d. net (2½d. post free).

RELIEF DURING DISPUTES.—*Relief during industrial disputes.* Circular 1192. Ministry of Health. (S.O. publication; price 1d.)

SEA FISHERIES.—(i) *Sea fisheries, statistical tables, 1930.* Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. (S.O. publication; price 9d.) (ii) *Scottish sea fisheries, statistical tables, 1930.* Fishery Board for Scotland. (S.O. publication; price 1s.)

These two publications show the number of persons engaged in the sea fishing industry in certain years.

TECHNICAL EDUCATION.—*Education for the engineering industry.* (i) *Report of the Committee on Education for the Engineering Industry.* (ii) *Comments on the Report by educational bodies.* Board of Education. (S.O. publication; price 1s. 3d.) (See page 173.)

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE.—(i) *Unemployment Insurance Acts, 1920 to 1931. Selected decisions given by the Umpire on claims for benefit during the month of March, 1931, with numerical index for the quarter ended 31st March, 1931.* U.I. Code 8B. Pamphlet No. 3/1931. Ministry of Labour. (S.O. publication; price 6d.) (ii) *Minutes of evidence taken before the Royal Commission on Unemployment Insurance: 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th and 20th days.* Ministry of Labour. (S.O. publications: price 3s., 5s., 2s. 6d., 2s., 5s., 3s., 2s., respectively.)

WELFARE.—*Welfare and welfare supervision in factories.* Welfare Pamphlet No. 3 (Second Edition). Home Office. (S.O. publication; price 6d.) (See page 174.)

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS.

LIST OF NEW CONTRACTS, APRIL, 1931.

ADMIRALTY.

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

Portsmouth : **Granite**: The Notter River Quarries, Ltd., Landrake.
—Yard Abroad : **Steel Pipes, etc.**: Stewarts & Lloyds, Glasgow.

(Contract and Purchase Department.)

Blankets: J. W. Whitworth, Ltd., Luddendenfoot; J. Berry & Sons, Ltd., Ashburton.—**Blocks, Geared**: Rowland Priest, Cradley Heath; Tangyes, Ltd., Birmingham; Wm. Thompson & Co. (Kinning Park), Ltd., Glasgow; Wharton Crane & Hoist Co., Ltd., Stockport.—**Blooms, Steel**: W. Beardmore & Co., Ltd., Glasgow; Colvilles, Ltd., Glasgow; Lanarkshire Steel Co., Ltd., Motherwell; Steel Peech & Tozer, Ltd., Sheffield; Darlington Forge, Ltd., Darlington.—**Boots, Half and Shoes, Black Leather**: Adams Bros. (Raunds), Ltd., Raunds; R. Coggins & Sons, Ltd., Raunds; John Horrell & Son, Ltd., Raunds; Owen Smith, Raunds.—**Boots, Sea, Leather**: Adams Bros. (Raunds), Ltd., Raunds; Owen Smith, Raunds.—**Bolts and Nuts, Steel**: C. Richards & Sons, Ltd., Darlaston; E. Mercer, Ltd., Hollinwood; The Rivet Bolt & Nut Co., Ltd., Glasgow; Stones Bros., Ltd., West Bromwich.—**Cable, Chain and Gear**: Brown, Lenox & Co., Ltd., Pontypidd.—**Cable, Chain and Gear**: J. G. Walker & Son, Ltd., Old Hill; H. Wood & Co., Ltd., Saltney; Fellows Bros., Ltd., Cradley Heath; Brown, Lenox & Co., Ltd., Pontypidd; Laird & Son, Ltd., Irvine.—**Cable, Electric**: General Electric Co., Ltd., Southampton; Siemens Brothers & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; St. Helens Cable & Rubber Co., Ltd., Slough.—**Calcium Carbide**: Chas. Bingham & Co., London, S.W.—**Calico**: J. H. Greenhow & Co., Ltd., Manchester; Jas. Finlay & Co., Ltd., Catrine; G. I. Sidebottom & Co., Burnley.—**Canvas Drab for Hammocks**: The Boase Spinning Co. (1920), Ltd., Dundee.—**Canvas Hose Tubing**: G. Angus & Co., Ltd., Benthall; F. Reddaway & Co., Ltd., Pendleton; Richards, Ltd., Aberdeen; The Wm. Rose Hose Co., Ltd., Salford.—**Capstan Gear**: Clarke Chapman & Co., Ltd., Gateshead-on-Tyne.—**Chalk Lines**: J. Gundry & Co., Ltd., Bridport; James Rowbottom, Ltd., Charlesworth.—**Chloride, Ammonia and Calcium, Caustic Soda, etc.**: Imperial Chemical Industries, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Cloth, American**: The Leather Cloth Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Coats, Waterproof (for Officers)**: Zambrene, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Cooking Apparatus**: Moorwoods, Ltd., Sheffield.—**Couplings, Hose**: E. Barber & Co., Ltd., London, N.; Carron Company, Falkirk; Highton & Sons, Ltd., London, E.; A. Kenrick & Sons, Ltd., West Bromwich; Nunan & Stove, Ltd., Manchester; Shipham & Co., Ltd., Hull; J. Stone & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; M. W. Swinburne & Sons, Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne; T. Wilson & Sons (Swalwell), Ltd., Swalwell-on-Tyne.—**Davits, Forged Steel**: Laird & Son, Ltd., Irvine.—**Dressings, Surgical**: Robert Bailey & Son, Ltd., Stockport; T. W. Broughton & Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Carnegie Bros., London, N.; Cuxson Gerrard & Co., Ltd., Oldbury; Johnson & Johnson (Great Britain), Ltd., Slough; George MacLellan & Co., Ltd., Glasgow; S. Maw, Son & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.; T. J. Smith & Nephew, Ltd., Hull; The Wardle Cotton Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Flour, National Mark**: J. W. French & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; Simmons & Gifford, Ltd., Winchester.—**Handkerchiefs, Black Silk**: Brocklehurst-Whiston Amalgamated, Ltd., Macclesfield.—**Ingots, Manganese Bronze**: Manganese Bronze & Brass Co., Ltd., London, S.W.; J. Stone & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Iron, Bar**: Lancashire Steel Corporation, Ltd., Irlam; Thos. Walmsley & Sons, Bolton.—**Machines, Milling**: Midgley & Sutcliffe, Bradford.—**Oak, English**: Darby Bros., Ltd., Beccles; E. C. White & Sons, Ltd., Basingstoke.—**Plates, "D" 1**: Consett Iron Co., Ltd., Consett.—**Pumps, Centrifugal and Bilge**: Drysdale & Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—**Pumps, Motors and Spares**: Drysdale & Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—**Racers, Cast Manganese Bronze**: Bulls Metal and Melloid

Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—**Ribbons, Hat, Lettered**: W. H. Grant & Co., Coventry; George Kenning & Son, Coventry; Thomas Stevens (Coventry), Ltd., Coventry.—**Sheets and Sections, Aluminium**: British Insulated Cables, Ltd., Prescott; British Aluminium Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Socks and Stockings**: R. N. Anderson & Co., Londonderry; J. Glazebrook & Co., Ltd., Countesthorpe; Hall & Son, Stoke Golding; W. & H. Howe, Leicester; Johnson & Sons, Ltd., Great Yarmouth; Arthur Kemp, Ltd., Leicester; I. & R. Morley, Leicester; A. Yates & Co., Sileby.—**Spanners**: J. Evans & Sons, Ltd., Sheffield; Armstrong Stevens & Son, Willenhall, Staffs; The British Tool & Engineering Co., Ltd., Wolverhampton; J. Bradbury & Sons, Ltd., Braintree; The Angular Hole Drilling & Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Beeston, Notts; H. Williams & Son, Ltd., London, E.; Wynn Timmins & Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Steel Sheets, "D"**: Colvilles, Ltd., Glasgow.—**Steel Sheets, N.T.T.**: British (Guest, Keen, Baldwins) Iron & Steel Co., Ltd., Cardiff; Dorman Long & Co., Ltd., Middlesbrough; John Lysaght, Ltd., Newport, Mon.; South Durham Steel & Iron Co., Ltd., West Hartlepool.—**Steel Sheets, Tensile Tested**: British (Guest, Keen, Baldwins) Iron & Steel Co., Ltd., Cardiff; Consett Iron Co., Ltd., Consett; Smith & McLean, Ltd., Glasgow; South Durham Steel & Iron Co., Ltd., West Hartlepool; Steel Co. of Scotland, Ltd., Glasgow.—**Tanks, Steel Blending**: Bertrams, Ltd., Edinburgh.—**Ties, Black Silk, First Quality**: I. & R. Morley, London, E.C.—**Towels**: Stott & Smith, Ltd., Congleton; W. T. Taylor & Co., Ltd., Stockport; Barlow & Jones, Ltd., Manchester.—**Tubing, India-Rubber**: Greengate & Irwell Rubber Co., Ltd., Salford; Leyland & Birmingham Rubber Co., Ltd., Preston; North British Rubber Co., Ltd., Edinburgh; F. Reddaway & Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Twines**: Baxter Bros. & Co., Ltd., Dundee; Pymore Mill Co., Ltd., Bridport; Wm. Waites Sons & Atkinson (1922), Ltd., Leeds; Wrights Ropes, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Vinegar**: Hill Evans & Co., Ltd., Worcester.—**Voicepiping and Gear**: The Interlock Metal Hose Co., London, N.; The Power Flexible Tubing Co., Ltd., London, N.

WAR OFFICE.

Aluminium Silicon Alloy Sheet: British Aluminium Co., Ltd., Warrington.—**Asbestos Cement Slates, etc.**: Asbestos Cement Building Products, Ltd., Manchester.—**Badges, Embroidered**: Hobson & Sons, Ltd., London, S.E.—**Bedsteads, Barrack**: T. Adshead & Son, Ltd., Dudley; Hill & Smith, Ltd., Brierley Hill.—**Belts, Machine-Gun**: Waring & Gillow, Ltd., London, W.—**Binoculars**: Ross, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Bodies, Wireless Telegraph**: Ransome, Sims & Jefferies, Ltd., Ipswich.—**Containers, 6-gallon**: Metal Propellers, Ltd., Croydon.—**Cooking Apparatus, Spares**: Richmond Gas Stove Co., Ltd., Warrington.—**Copper Ingot**: Anglo Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; British Metal Corporation, Ltd., London, E.C.; H. Gardner & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; British American Metals Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Curtains, Mosquito**: T. Briggs, Ltd., London, N.; F. Lane, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Drill, Khaki**: Cottrill & Co., Ltd., Manchester; J. H. Greenhow & Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Engines and Spares**: Stuart, Turner, Ltd., Henley-on-Thames.—**Flannelette**: Schofield, Preston & Co., Ltd., Nelson; J. Wilkinson, Ltd., Nelson; J. C. Hamer, Ltd., Manchester.—**Fulminate of Mercury**: Imperial Chemical Industries, Ltd., Polmont.—**Generators**: Small Electric Motors, Ltd., Beckenham.—**Harness, Saddlery, etc.**: D. Mason & Sons, Ltd., Walsall.—**Hides, Brown**: J. B. Thomas & Co. (Tanners), Ltd., Linlithgow.—**Hubs and Mudguards**: Leyland Motors, Ltd., Leyland.—**Iron, Pig**: Barrow Haematite Steel Co., Ltd., Barrow-in-Furness.—**Jackets, S.D.**: L. Silberston & Sons, London, E.; J. Compton, Sons & Webb, Ltd., London, E.—**Limber Parts**: Yeadon, Adnutt & Co., Ltd., Bristol.—**Magnesium Powder**: British Maxium, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Mattresses, Coir, Single**: E. H. P. (Hadleigh), Ltd., Hadleigh.—**Road Roller**: Ruston & Hornsby, Ltd., Lincoln.—**Roofing Felt and Damp Course**: F. McNeill & Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Serge, S.D.**: R. Gaunt & Sons, Ltd., Leeds; J. Harper & Sons, Bradford; T. & H. Harper, Ltd., Bradford.—**Slates, Roofing**: E. Mathews & Co., London, W.C.—**Steel Billets**: Darlington Forge, Ltd., Darlington; Langley Forge Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Surgical Dressings**: R. Bailey & Sons, Ltd., Stockport; Robinson & Sons, Ltd., Chesterfield; A. Berton, Ltd., London, E.C.; T. J. Smith & Nephew, Ltd., Hull; Vernon & Co., Ltd., Preston; Southall Bros. & Barclay, Ltd., Birmingham; Wardle Cotton Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Targets, etc.**: J. McQueen & Son, Ltd., Galashiels.—**Tyres and Tubes**: Dunlop Rubber Co., Ltd., Birmingham; British Goodrich Rubber Co., Ltd., Leyland.—**Zinc Ingot**: British Metal Corporation, Ltd., London, E.C.; H. Gardner & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Works Services**: *Building Works and Services*: Newcastle-on-Tyne, Artificers' Work: G. R. Wade & Son, Richmond, Yorks. *Dover and Shorncliffe, Artificers' Work*: G. Lewis & Sons, Ltd., Dover. *South Aldershot, Artificers' Work*: E. J. Logan, London, W.C. *Bordon, Artificers' Work*: W. Laughton, Bedford. *Sandhurst, Artificers' Work*: E. C. Hughes, Wokingham. *Lichfield, Artificers' Work*: F. Perks & Sons, Ltd., Long Eaton. *Catterick, Roof Repairs*: Ruberoid Co., Ltd., London, W.C. *Catterick, Spring Gill, Repairs to Dam and Provision of New Spillway*: J. R. Surtees, Blackhill, Co. Durham. *Dunbar Barracks, Roof Repairs*: A. & J. Manderson & Son, Dunbar.

AIR MINISTRY.

Aircraft: Fitting Engine: Fairey Aviation Co., Ltd., Hayes, Middlesex.—**Aircraft, Modification**: Blackburn Aeroplane & Motor Co., Ltd., Brough, Yorks.—**Aircraft, Reconditioning**: Sir W. G. Armstrong Whitworth Aircraft, Ltd., Coventry.—**Aircraft, Replacement of Fittings**: Supermarine Aviation Works, Ltd., Southampton.—**Aircraft, Repairs**: Blackburn Aeroplane & Motor Co., Ltd., Brough, Yorks.—**Aircraft, Spares**: Gloster Aircraft Co., Ltd., Hucclecote;

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