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

EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT.

EMPLOYMENT during August showed a further decline in a number of important industries, but this was offset to a large extent by an improvement in coal mining. The net decline, in industry as a whole, was therefore small.

Among workpeople insured against unemployment in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the percentage unemployed in all industries taken together was 22·7 at 24th August, 1931, as compared with 22·6 at 27th July, 1931, and 17·1 at 25th August, 1930. For males alone the percentage at 24th August, 1931, was 23·7, and for females 20·0. At 27th July, 1931, the corresponding percentages were 23·8 and 19·5.

Insured Persons in Work in Great Britain.—It is estimated that on 24th August, 1931, there were approximately 9,196,000 insured persons aged 16 to 64 in work in Great Britain. This was 22,000 more than a month before, but 501,000 less than a year before.

Numbers Unemployed (excluding Persons normally in Casual Employment).—At 24th August, 1931, there were 1,958,395 persons on the Registers of Employment Exchanges in Great Britain who were out of a situation. This was 80,852 more than a month before, and 624,545 more than a year before. The total on 24th August, 1931, included 1,434,779 men, 61,269 boys, 413,812 women and 48,535 girls. It was made up approximately of 1,310,690 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; 539,390 insured persons who had paid less than 30 contributions during the preceding two years; and 108,320 uninsured persons. The claimants for benefit, numbering 1,774,734, included 257,245 men, 6,191 boys, 56,448 women and 3,200 girls, who had been on the Register for less than one month.

Numbers Temporarily Stopped.—At 24th August, 1931, there were registered as unemployed in Great Britain 440,404 men, 14,376 boys, 194,728 women and 12,321 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 661,829 was 62,861 less than a month before, but 52,520 more than a year before.

Numbers Unemployed normally in Casual Employment.—At 24th August, 1931, there were on the Registers in Great Britain 111,085 men, 263 boys, 2,189 women and 21 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 113,558 was 2,441 more than a month before, and 17,015 more than a year before.

Industries in which Principal Variations occurred.—Employment declined in the brick and tile, glass, iron and steel, tinplate, and motor vehicle industries, in

shipbuilding and ship-repairing, in the textile trades (except linen, jute and hosiery), in the clothing and distributive trades, and in building and public works contracting.

There was some improvement, however, in coal mining, in jute manufacture, and in the boot and shoe industry.

WAGES.

In the industries for which statistics are regularly compiled by the Department, the changes in rates of wages reported to have come into operation in August resulted in an estimated decrease of £24,150 in the weekly full-time wages of 284,000 workpeople, and in an increase of £2,050 in those of nearly 22,000.

The principal bodies of workpeople affected by reductions in rates of wages included coal miners in Scotland, Cumberland, and Warwickshire; shale miners, etc., in Scotland; blastfurnace workers in Lincolnshire and Scotland; iron puddlers and iron and steel millmen in the Midlands; steel smelters, etc., in various districts in England and Scotland; steel workers at Sheffield; light castings makers; woollen and worsted operatives employed by certain firms in Yorkshire; retail bespoke tailors in Scotland (under a Trade Board Order); and the employees of various local authorities in the West Riding of Yorkshire.

There were increases, under cost-of-living sliding-scale arrangements, in the wages of electrical cable makers and chain makers, and in those of hosiery workers at Hawick.

COST OF LIVING.

At 1st September, 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 the same as a month earlier, viz., 45 per cent. above that of July, 1914; the figure for food alone, 28 per cent. above pre-war, was also unchanged. The corresponding percentages a year ago were 57 and 44 respectively.

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

TRADE DISPUTES.

The number of trade disputes, involving stoppages of work, reported to the Department as beginning in August was 36. In addition, 14 disputes which began before August were still in progress at the beginning of the month. The number of workpeople involved in all disputes in August (including workpeople thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, but not themselves parties to the disputes) was about 63,900, and the aggregate duration of all disputes in August was about 349,000 working days.

PERSONS DISALLOWED UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFIT.

SUBSEQUENT MEANS OF SUBSISTENCE.

At the request of the Royal Commission on Unemployment Insurance, an inquiry has been undertaken to ascertain the subsequent circumstances of unemployed persons whose claims for unemployment benefit are disallowed. In particular, it was desired to ascertain to what extent disallowed claimants apply for outdoor relief from the Public Assistance Committees; and, if they did not so apply, how they found means of support. The inquiry was carried out by independent investigators, whose Reports have now been published.* The Reports are summarised in a general Report by Mr. R. C. Davison, M.A.

The inquiry was made by way of sample, in eight districts—Clydeside, Tyneside, Hull, Liverpool, Sheffield, Manchester, Southampton and London; and related only to those disqualified on the following five grounds: (i) failure to satisfy the qualifying contribution conditions for standard or for transitional benefit; (ii) failure to satisfy condition (b) for "transitional" benefit, that the claimant is normally insurable, and will normally seek to obtain a livelihood by means of insurable employment; (iii) leaving employment voluntarily without just cause; (iv) discharge for misconduct; (v) failure or refusal to apply for or accept suitable employment. These five causes usually include about four-fifths of the total number of disallowances. Of a total of 8,558 disallowances on these grounds between 2nd February and 31st March, 1931, the number covered by the sample was 2,354.

The following Table shows the proportions of the persons in the sample who were disallowed on each of the five grounds specified above:—

Ground of Disallowance.	Men.	Married Women.	Single Women and Widows.	Juveniles, 16-17.	Total, 16-64.
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Contributions conditions not satisfied ...	4.1	0.8	1.0	21.6	3.9
"Transitional" condition (b) not satisfied ...	58.0	67.8	29.0	...	49.0
Leaving voluntarily ...	18.0	18.0	30.5	34.6	22.2
Misconduct ...	16.4	1.4	8.6	31.5	12.3
Failure or refusal to apply for or to accept suitable employment ...	3.5	12.0	30.9	12.3	12.6
Total... ..	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

It will be seen that most of the men and of the married women were disqualified on the ground of insufficiency of contributions, or some equivalent defect in their industrial record; while the three other grounds covered a great majority of the single women and widows, and of the juveniles.

It is stated in the Report that although the industrial value as a class of those disqualified on the ground that they were "not normally insurable" must be below the average, not all of them were of specially low employment value. An unexpectedly large proportion were young and virile workers; while others were persons (of all ages) who had worked on their own account, or persons in excepted employment (cleaners, domestic servants, or gardeners).

The Report draws attention to certain special factors in the composition of the sample. Thus, there were nearly as many women as men in the sample, whereas on the live registers of the Employment Exchanges men usually outnumber women by at least three to one. Juveniles were also considerably in excess in the sample. It is suggested in the Report that women and young persons can afford to take risks, and follow their fancy, more freely than men, particularly men with dependants; and that they probably exhibit a more light-hearted attitude towards leaving or seeking employment.

Means of subsistence after disallowance.—It was found that, of those disqualified during the period covered by the inquiry—

- (i) about one in three found jobs for a part or the whole of the period of disallowance;
- (ii) about one in six obtained public assistance from the Poor Law authorities;
- (iii) about four out of five found other means of support, mainly in the form of help from relations. Nearly two-thirds of the married women had husbands in work, and one in five had husbands on benefit.

Employment.—The proportion who found employment was highest among juveniles (47.5 per cent.) and among single women and widows (43.9 per cent.); it was lowest among married women (18.7 per cent.). For men, it was 31.8 per cent. There were very great variations as between the different towns, the percentages being generally higher in the southern towns than in the northern. Thus among men, 38.0 per cent. in London found employment, but only 18.8 per cent. in Liverpool. Among married women, 40 per cent. in Hull found employment, but only 11.1 per cent. in Liverpool, and 7.1 per cent. in Sheffield.

Public Assistance.—Only 17 per cent. of the sample as a whole applied for and obtained poor relief, but the proportion was very

much higher for men to whom a benefit scale of 26s. or over would be appropriate (i.e., generally speaking, married men, with or without dependent children). Of these men, 59.3 per cent. obtained poor relief; in three of the districts covered, the proportion of men in this class who were in receipt of relief exceeded 70 per cent.

Conclusions.—The general conclusion drawn in the Report is that a large number, even a majority, of those who fell through the meshes of the benefit net managed to find a living without recourse to any kind of public provision. Many a family carries on, as in the days before State insurance, by pooling its wages and savings, and even by sharing the incomes of friends and neighbours. Some men are also in receipt of fixed pensions or unearned income, and many individuals or families have savings for use in adversity. In London, nearly half of the disallowed persons were able to get some work between the date of disallowance and the date of visit, and in other areas the employment records were nearly as high. In some cases, the loss of both employment and benefit made little difference to the standard of comfort; where, for example, the family income was already £4 or £5 a week, as in thirteen cases reported from Sheffield, the out-of-work pay of one member was never a vital necessity. Married women, as a class, suffered little; the same may be said of single women and of young single men. It may, in fact, be said that the only class on whom the full brunt of poverty falls as the direct result of disallowance of benefit is that of the married men with families to maintain.

UNEMPLOYED PERSONS IN RECEIPT OF DOMICILIARY POOR RELIEF.

ANALYSIS FOR FEBRUARY, 1931.

At the request of the Royal Commission on Unemployment Insurance, the Ministry of Health and the Department of Health for Scotland obtained a special return from Poor Law Authorities in England and Wales and in Scotland, respectively, in respect of persons, ordinarily engaged in some regular occupation, who were in receipt of domiciliary poor relief during the week which included 2nd February, 1931. A summary of these returns has now been published, as an appendix to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Royal Commission.*

The total number of persons, ordinarily engaged in some regular occupation, who were in receipt of out-door poor relief in the week ended 7th February, 1931, was 390,256; of whom 110,985 were heads of families (men, 99,818; women, 11,167), and 279,271 dependent wives and children.

These totals were subdivided in the returns to show the numbers to whom relief was given on account of unemployment and for all other reasons combined. It was found that this distinction could not always be clearly drawn. In a number of cases, for example, the immediate reason for granting relief to unemployed persons was sickness in the family. Those returned as relieved on account of unemployment numbered 207,215; of whom 57,041 were men, 4,592 women, and 145,582 dependent wives and children.

The totals for persons relieved on account of unemployment were analysed as follows:—

	Men.	Women.	Dependants.	Total.
Persons insured under the U.I. Acts whose unemployment books were lodged at local offices of the Ministry of Labour ...	39,052	1,554	109,498	150,104
Uninsured persons registered at Employment Exchanges ...	13,793	2,264	26,758	42,815
All other persons ordinarily engaged in some regular occupation ...	4,196	774	9,326	14,296
Total	57,041	4,592	145,582	207,215

The heads of families who were not insured, and not registered at Employment Exchanges, included a number of agricultural labourers living at a distance from Exchanges, and also independent workers, such as hawkers, pedlars, canvassers, and newsvendors.

Period in receipt of Relief.—The following Table analyses the figures in the above Table (excluding the dependants) according to the length of time the persons concerned had been continuously, or practically continuously,† in receipt of relief:—

Period of Chargeability.	Men.	Women.	Total.
Less than 1 year	40,034	2,958	42,992
One year but less than 3 years ...	7,496	897	8,393
3 years but less than 4 years ...	2,557	236	2,793
4 years or more	6,954	501	7,455
Total	57,041	4,592	61,633

The analysis shows considerable variations between the insured and the uninsured, and still more remarkable differences between the proportions in England and Wales and in Scotland, respectively. In England and Wales, only 20 per cent. of the insured men had been in receipt of relief for a year or longer, but the corresponding proportion of uninsured men was 31 per cent. In Scotland this position was reversed, and in both classes the percentages were much higher than in England and Wales; they were 50.6 per cent. for insured men, and 39.5 per cent. for uninsured men.

* Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Royal Commission on Unemployment Insurance: Part II. H.M. Stationery Office; price 2s. 6d. net (2s. 7d., post free).

† i.e., with breaks amounting to not more than ten weeks in any one year.

* Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Royal Commission on Unemployment Insurance. Part III: Reports of a Special Investigation Claims to Unemployment Benefit. H.M. Stationery Office; price 8s. net. (8s. 3d., post free).

Age-Distribution.—The following Table shows the age distribution of the persons, excluding dependants, relieved on account of unemployment during the week ended 7th February, 1931:—

Age Group.	Men.		Women.		Total.	
	Insured.	Un-insured.	Insured.	Un-insured.	Insured.	Un-insured.
			Numbers.			
16-17 years ...	262	473	59	235	321	708
18-20 " ...	415	446	98	191	513	637
21-24 " ...	2,733	1,182	205	178	2,938	1,360
25-34 " ...	13,932	4,123	497	466	14,429	4,589
35-44 " ...	10,851	3,776	373	610	11,224	4,386
45-54 " ...	6,257	3,388	222	798	6,479	4,186
55-64 " ...	4,462	3,378	98	535	4,560	3,913
65 years and over	140	1,223	2	25	142	1,248
Total ...	39,052	17,989	1,554	3,038	40,606	21,027
			Percentages.			
16-17 years ...	0.7	2.6	3.8	7.7	0.8	3.3
18-20 " ...	1.6	2.5	6.3	6.3	1.3	3.0
21-24 " ...	7.0	6.6	13.2	5.9	7.2	6.5
25-34 " ...	35.6	22.9	32.0	15.3	35.5	21.8
35-44 " ...	27.7	21.0	24.0	20.1	27.6	20.9
45-54 " ...	16.0	18.8	14.3	26.3	16.0	19.9
55-64 " ...	11.4	18.8	6.3	17.6	11.2	18.6
65 years and over	0.0	6.8	0.1	0.8	0.4	6.0
Total ...	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

The Table shows considerable differences in the figures for insured and for uninsured persons. The uninsured in receipt of relief were much older on the average than the insured, particularly in England and Wales. For Great Britain as a whole nearly 45 per cent. of the insured persons were under 35 years of age, and nearly 75 per cent. under 45 years; whereas, of the uninsured, less than 35 per cent. were under 35, and only 55 per cent. under 45.

The proportions in the various age-groups did not differ greatly, as between England and Wales, and Scotland, so far as insured persons are concerned, but they showed wide variations in regard to uninsured persons. In Scotland, the uninsured included relatively higher proportions of young persons under 25, and of old men over 65. Thus 17.5 per cent. of the uninsured men and boys in Scotland, and 35 per cent. of the uninsured women and girls, were under 25 years of age; while the corresponding percentages for England and Wales were 11.5 and 14.0 respectively. Of the uninsured men in Scotland 16.4 per cent. were 65 years of age or over, as against 4.8 per cent. in England and Wales.

Concurrent Relief and Benefit.—The number of insured persons who received out-door relief (in money or kind) concurrently with unemployment benefit, in the week ended 7th February, 1931, was 14,155 (13,544 men, and 611 women, including insured wives receiving benefit as insured persons). These had 47,457 dependent wives and children under 16 years of age. The average amount of unemployment benefit (including dependants' benefit) received per family by these persons in that week was £1 7s. 1½d., and of out-door relief, 7s. 2d. The average amounts were slightly lower in Scotland than in England and Wales. The following Table shows, for persons "relieved on account of unemployment," the number of dependants to each head of family, distinguishing those in receipt of concurrent relief and benefit:—

	England and Wales.		Scotland.
<i>Insured persons:—</i>			
In receipt of concurrent relief and benefit	3.3		3.5
Other insured persons	2.4		2.2
All insured persons	2.8		2.4
<i>Uninsured persons</i>	1.8		1.3

It is obvious that the larger size of the family has probably been a contributory cause, if not the sole cause, of the application for relief in the case of those in receipt of unemployment benefit.

ANOMALIES UNDER THE UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACTS: ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

THE Minister of Labour, after consultation with the General Council of the Trades Union Congress, the National Confederation of Employers' Organisations, and the Treasury, has appointed the following Advisory Committee under the Unemployment Insurance (No. 3) Act, 1931,* to consider and report upon Regulations to be made under that Act to deal with anomalies which have arisen in the operation of the Unemployment Insurance Acts in connection with certain classes of claimants:—The Right Hon. the Viscount Burnham, G.C.M.G., C.H. (*Chairman*); Mr. F. C. Allen; Sir Albert Ernest Bain, K.B.E.; Sir William Beveridge, K.C.B.; Miss Hilda Cashmore; Mr. W. Kean; Mr. W. A. Lee; Mr. A. Shaw, J.P.; Miss Julia Varley, O.B.E.; Mr. J. B. Forbes Watson, M.A., LL.B. The secretary of the Committee is Mr. H. H. Wiles, of the Ministry of Labour.

* 21 and 22 Geo. 5, ch. 36. H.M. Stationery Office; price 2d. net (2½d. post free). A notice of this Act appeared in last month's issue of this GAZETTE, page 296.

PROPOSED REDUCTIONS IN EXPENDITURE ON UNEMPLOYMENT GRANTS AND UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE.

A MEMORANDUM has been issued dealing with the measures proposed to be taken by H.M. Government to secure reductions in national expenditure.* So far as regards the services covered by the Ministry of Labour, the measures proposed relate to the Unemployment Grants Committee and to unemployment insurance.

UNEMPLOYMENT GRANTS COMMITTEE.

The last date for applications by Local Authorities to the Unemployment Grants Committee for grants towards schemes of work for the relief of unemployment was 30th June, 1931; though in exceptional circumstances applications after that date in respect of work to begin before 31st December, 1931, are being entertained, provided that good reason is shown why earlier application could not be made. There are at present approximately 1,000 applications outstanding, of an estimated value of about £14,000,000. The rates of grant are being reduced, and, except in regard to schemes for which a grant has already been definitely promised, the revised rates will in no case exceed 25 per cent. of the cost of the scheme. It is anticipated on this basis that only schemes of the highest economic value will be proceeded with. No further grants will be recommended by the Committee for road or bridge improvement schemes.

The estimated saving to the Exchequer under this head, during the financial year 1932-33, is £500,000.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE.

The measures proposed in respect of unemployment insurance are as follows:—

(i) *Reduction in Rates of Benefit.*—It is proposed to reduce the rates of weekly benefit (except that for dependent children) by 10 per cent., rounded off to the nearest 3d., as follows:—

	Present Rates.		Proposed Rates.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
Man ...	17	0	15	3
Woman ...	15	0	13	6
Adult dependant	9	0	8	0
Child ..	2	0	2	0
Young man ...	14	0	12	6
Young woman ...	12	0	10	9
Boy, aged 17 ...	9	0	8	0
Girl „ 17 ...	7	6	6	9
Boy „ 16 ...	6	0	5	6
Girl „ 16 ...	5	0	4	6

(ii) *Increase in Contributions.*—It is proposed to raise the rates of weekly contributions to 10d. each from employers, from the employed, and from the Exchequer in the case of men, with corresponding increases for the other classes, viz., to 9d. for women and for young men; 8d. for young women; 5d. for boys; and 4½d. for girls.

(iii) *Limitation of period of Insurance Benefit.*—It is proposed to limit the payment of insurance benefit—as distinguished from transitional payments—to 26 weeks in a benefit year; after which a fresh insurance qualification would be required. The effect of this would be to transfer claimants from insurance benefit to the transitional class (*see below*); not in itself to reduce the total payments made.

(iv) *Needs Test for "Transitional" Payments.*—It is proposed to apply a needs test to those whose insurance rights have expired, i.e., to persons now drawing transitional benefit, and to those coming on to transitional payments in future, including those who do so because they have reached the 26 weeks' limit of insurance benefit. They may, however, continue to receive assistance in cash up to the same rates as under the insurance scheme if they show that they are in need of it. The procedure contemplated is that, when unemployed persons come to the end of their insurance benefit and desire to claim further payment, they will attend at the Employment Exchange to prove unemployment, and satisfaction of other conditions, as at present. The Exchange will then request the Public Assistance Authority to assess their need and to determine the amount payable (not exceeding the rate for ordinary benefit), and such determination will be final. The amount so determined will be paid by the Employment Exchange, and the payment will be charged on the Exchequer.

(v) *Cessation of Borrowing.*—It has been decided that there shall be no borrowing for the Unemployment Fund beyond the statutory limit already authorised. Any sum necessary to balance the accounts of the Unemployment Fund is to be provided by means of a grant from the Exchequer out of current revenue.

Under these provisions it is estimated that, assuming an average live register of 3,000,000 during the financial year 1932-33, there would be a saving to the Exchequer during that year of £35,800,000, made up as follows: Reduction in rates of benefit, £12,800,000; increase in contributions from employers and employed persons, £10,000,000; needs test for transitional payments, £10,000,000; removal of anomalies, under the Unemployment Insurance (No. 3) Act, 1931,† £3,000,000.

The charge on the Exchequer for unemployment insurance, during the financial year 1932-33, on the same assumption, would be £79,000,000, made up as follows: Exchequer contribution on "equal thirds" basis, £19,300,000; transitional payments, £37,500,000; deficiency grant, being the sum required to balance the Unemployment Fund for the year, £22,200,000.

* Cmd. 3952. H.M. Stationery Office; price 3d. net (3½d. post free).

† 21 and 22 Geo. 5, ch. 36. A notice of this Act appeared in last month's issue of this GAZETTE, page 296.

NUMBERS EMPLOYED AND WAGES IN THE RAILWAY SERVICE.

THE annual Return* prepared by the Ministry of Transport relating to numbers employed and wages in the railway service in Great Britain has recently been published. The Return has been compiled to relate to the week ended 7th March, 1931. The details given in the Return include the total number of persons employed by the railway companies and the numbers employed in each of the principal grades in the specified week, with corresponding figures for the week ended 8th March, 1930. A comparison is also given of the average wages and average payments made to selected grades at the same dates, and the standard rates of wages are given for many grades other than mechanics and artisans.

Numbers employed.—The total number of persons employed† in each of the past 11 years was as shown below:—

March, 1921 ...	735,870	April, 1927 ...	683,077
" 1922 ...	676,802	March, 1928 ...	677,148
" 1923 ...	681,778	" 1929 ...	642,137
" 1924 ...	700,573	" 1930 ...	656,530
" 1925 ...	702,062	" 1931 ...	615,592
" 1926 ...	689,264		

The numbers include all persons in the service of the companies in the specified weeks, except staff not directly employed by the companies (e.g., staff employed by contractors). The figures comprise the number of staff receiving salaries or wages for the full week, combined with the equivalent number of full-time workers in cases where employees were paid for less than the complete week.

Of the total number of persons employed in March, 1931, there were 560,110 adult males, 32,793 junior males, 21,589 adult females, and 1,100 junior females. (The classification of adults and juniors is based on the numbers receiving adult and junior rates of pay respectively.)

The numbers of males employed in each of the principal departments in March, 1931, were as follows:—

Department.	Adults.	Juniors.
Officers, clerical and supervising staff ...	92,260	863
Traffic department ...	106,016	7,425
Goods and cartage staff ...	53,588	7,035
Permanent-way section (conciliation grades) ...	59,432	120
Locomotive, carriage and wagon department ...	100,843	2,617
Shop and artisan staff ...	103,242	11,646
Other departments (excluding ancillary businesses) ...	15,717	759
Staff in ancillary businesses (docks, hotels, refreshment rooms, etc.) ...	29,012	2,328

The total numbers employed by the four principal railways were: London, Midland and Scottish, 231,617; London and North Eastern, 180,163; Great Western, 107,970; and Southern, 68,436.

Wages.—The average payments made to certain sections of the male adult staff are shown by the Return to have been as follows: in the case of salaried workers the average weekly payments are calculated on the basis of 6/313ths of the annual amount:—

	Week ended	
	7th March, 1931.	8th March, 1930.
Staff entered at salaried rates:—	s. d.	s. d.
Clerical, supervisory, etc., staff (excluding officers and staff entered under ancillary businesses) ...	92 5	90 1
Staff entered at wage rates (excluding staff entered under ancillary businesses):—		
Conciliation staff ...	65 10	65 5
Shop and artisan staff ...	68 5	69 9

The total salaries and wages paid by the railway companies in respect of the year 1930 amounted to £114,536,000, compared with £115,284,000 in 1929.

The average weekly wage, and the average weekly payments made to adult males, in certain of the principal grades at March, 1931 and 1930, are summarised in the following Table. The average wage, in the case of staff embraced by conciliation agreements, is computed from the basic rate, plus bonus additions, if any, under sliding scale; and in the case of other staff (e.g., mechanics and artisans) from the basic rate, plus the war wage. The average payments represent salaries or wages, residual bonus (if any), war wage, piece-work payments, tonnage bonus, payments for overtime, Sunday duty and night duty, commuted allowances, and any other payments for work performed; but exclude compensation allowance, travelling and out-of-pocket expenses, meal and lodging allowances.

At March, 1930, but not at March, 1931, agreements were in operation whereby 2½ per cent. was deducted from gross salaries and wages. This deduction is reflected in the average weekly payments, but not in the average weekly salary or wage, for that date.

Class.	Week ended 7th March, 1931.		Week ended 8th March, 1930.	
	Average weekly salary or wage.	Average weekly payments.	Average weekly salary or wage.*	Average weekly payments.*
Carriage cleaners ...	s. d. 44 4	s. d. 53 1	s. d. 46 1	s. d. 54 0
Carters ...	50 8	57 9	50 8	56 2
Checkers ...	54 6	59 7	54 7	58 7
Engine cleaners ...	50 10	55 2	47 8	51 6
Engine drivers and motormen ...	88 6	102 11	88 0	101 0
Firemen and assistant motormen ...	69 7	80 4	68 4	77 9
Guards ...	64 11	74 1	64 11	73 0
Permanent-way gangers ...	51 11	59 2	53 3	59 3
" undermen ...	45 7	52 0	47 4	54 7
Porters (goods staff) ...	45 10	50 10	47 7	51 1
" grade 2 (traffic dept.) ...	41 9	46 4	43 2	46 7
" parcel ...	49 11	55 8	50 1	53 11
Shunters, class 1 ...	65 0	71 6	65 0	70 1
" 3 ...	55 0	60 6	55 0	59 1
Signalmen ...	59 3	68 7	59 3	66 11
Ticket collectors, Class 1 ...	58 1	65 8	58 1	64 6
" 2 ...	54 0	59 11	54 0	58 6
Mechanics and artisans:—				
Erectors, fitters and turners (loco, carriage and wagon dept.) ...	63 7	80 8	63 4	81 1
Carriage and wagon builders and repairers ...	59 7	77 5	59 8	79 7
Machinists and machinemmen (loco, carriage and wagon dept.) ...	55 8	74 3	55 6	75 3
Smiths (loco, carriage and wagon dept.) ...	64 8	80 1	64 5	81 3
Labourers (loco, carriage and wagon dept.) ...	46 1	56 7	46 1	57 0
Labourers (civil engineering) ...	46 6	51 11	46 3	52 5

RAILWAY ACCIDENTS AND CASUALTIES IN 1930.

THE Ministry of Transport have issued a Report† upon the accidents which occurred on the railways of Great Britain during the year 1930. It should be noted that, while all accidents to persons other than railway servants are included, only those accidents to railway servants which cause the servant injured to be absent from his ordinary work for at least one whole day are required to be reported.

The figures in the following summary relate to railway and contractors' servants only. Only four fatal and 88 non-fatal accidents to contractors' servants were reported during the year.

The returns distinguish *train accidents* (collisions, derailments, etc.); *other accidents caused by the movement of trains or of railway vehicles* (shunting accidents, men killed or injured while working or standing on the line, etc.); and *accidents not connected with the movement of railway vehicles*. The numbers of railway and contractors' servants killed in these three classes of accidents in 1930 were 4, 204, and 33, respectively; the numbers injured were 103, 2,874 and 15,108, respectively.

The following Table shows the classes of railway servants among whom the largest number of accidents occurred in 1930:—

Class of Service.	"Train" and "Movement" Accidents.		Other Accidents.		Total.	
	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Inj. red.
Engine drivers and motormen ...	12	339	2	607	14	946
Firemen ...	6	454	1	824	7	1,278
Engine cleaners ...	6	50	—	433	6	483
Locomotive shedmen ...	3	20	—	497	3	517
Capstanmen and capstan-lads ...	1	70	—	32	1	102
Checkers ...	2	18	1	646	3	664
Guards (goods and mineral) and brakemen ...	13	502	1	334	14	836
Loaders and sheeters ...	1	23	—	791	1	814
Porters (goods) ...	7	115	4	2,176	11	2,291
Shunters, yardmen, etc. ...	14	636	—	340	14	976
Mechanics and artisans	7	35	7	865	14	900
Signal fitters and telegraph wiremen ...	7	19	1	151	8	170
Carriage and wagon examiners ...	4	12	1	87	5	99
Carriage cleaners ...	1	16	1	296	2	312
Carters and vanguards	1	1	—	548	1	549
Clerks ...	2	—	1	107	3	107
Guards (passenger) ...	4	65	—	97	4	162
Labourers ...	7	46	3	804	10	850
Permanent-way men	70	158	5	3,300	75	3,458
Porters (passenger) ...	9	103	—	1,002	9	1,105
Signalmen and signal-box lads ...	9	22	—	244	9	266
All other classes ...	22	256	1	856	23	1,112
Total, railway servants ...	208	2,960	29	15,037	237	17,997
Contractors' servants	—	17	4	71	4	88
Totals { 1930... }	208	2,977	33	15,108	241	18,085
{ 1929... }	219	3,267	48	15,820	267	19,087

* See paragraph immediately before the Table.

† Cmd. 3939. H.M. Stationery Office; price 9d. net (10d., post free).

* *Railway Companies Staff.* H.M. Stationery Office; price 1s. net. (1s. 1d. post free).

† Excluding railway employees of the Manchester Ship Canal Co., who numbered 1,327 in March, 1931.

‡ Including grades covered by the Conciliation scheme in operation before the war, i.e., mainly the traffic and goods staffs.

MINES AND QUARRIES IN 1930. EMPLOYMENT, WAGES, OUTPUT, ACCIDENTS, ETC.

THE Tenth Annual Report of the Secretary for Mines, for the year 1930, together with the Annual Report of H.M. Chief Inspector of Mines for the same year, has been published.*

COAL MINING.

State of Trade.—In a survey of the coal mining industry it is stated that the activity which marked the coal trade during the greater part of 1929 was maintained in the early months of 1930, after which output declined to the level of 1928. The number of men employed continued to increase up to March, after which the number fell to a lower level than has previously been reached in the post-war period. In addition, employment was irregular.

In other coal-producing countries also there was a decline; in some of the principal countries, indeed, the position was worse than in Great Britain.

OUTPUT AND NUMBERS EMPLOYED.

The total output of coal in Great Britain in 1930 was nearly 244 million tons, valued at £165½ millions; as compared with 258 million tons, valued at £173½ millions, in 1929, and with 237½ million tons, valued at £152½ millions, in 1928. The decline was relatively greatest in the principal exporting districts: Northumberland (decline of 9·7 per cent.), Durham (8·0 per cent.), Scotland (7·4 per cent.), and South Wales and Monmouthshire (6·3 per cent.). In the principal districts which are more closely associated with home trade, the decline was 3 or 4 per cent. In the remaining small districts collectively there was a small increase, principally owing to an increase of 143,000 tons, or 12·4 per cent., in Kent.

During the spell of activity which marked the first quarter the number of wage-earners on colliery books rose from 949,400 to 959,700 early in March, but it fell rapidly during the summer months. From August to December the number never exceeded 890,000 and, upon occasion, was less than 884,000. The previous lowest post-war record was about 894,000 in August, 1928. Employment was much less regular than in 1929, and on the average coal was wound on nearly thirteen fewer days, chiefly owing to want of trade or transport difficulties. As in 1929, short time on this account was most prevalent in Lancashire and Cheshire, and in Yorkshire and the Midland Counties, where it amounted to nearly 1½ days per week. Elsewhere, less than half a day per week was lost through want of trade or transport difficulties.

WAGES AND HOURS, CASH EARNINGS, AND ALLOWANCES IN KIND.

Throughout 1930, as in 1929, wages remained, with few exceptions, at the minima provided for in the respective district agreements. The exceptions were Northumberland, where the percentages payable in March and April were 41·38 and 41·83, respectively, against a minimum percentage of 40; and Warwick, where the percentage ranged from 46 to 49, against a minimum of 43. In Shropshire and Kent there were no district agreements, individual arrangements being made at each colliery. In Northumberland, the payment of wages above the minimum was the result of an agreement whereby only half of any surplus was applied to the recoupment of deficiencies. In Warwick, the percentage was lower in the case of certain pits. In certain other districts the percentages shown by the ascertainties were above the minimum for a month or two during the year; but in none of these cases was the level of wages actually paid affected, as the surpluses were applied to the reduction of accumulated deficiencies. In Nottinghamshire, under the agreement, the existing deficiency was cancelled with the ascertainment governing June wages, and in Yorkshire the deficiency was cancelled with the ascertainment governing April wages; but in each case a new deficiency began to accumulate immediately.

The provisions of the Coal Mines Act, 1930,† reducing the maximum daily hours of work, in general, to 7½, came into force on 1st December; and temporary fresh agreements were made, in most districts, regulating the rates of wages to be paid after that date.

The average cash earnings per shift in 1930, for all districts taken together, were 9s. 3½d., as compared with 9s. 2½d. in 1929, and with 9s. 3½d. in 1928. Owing to the decline in employment, however, the average cash earnings for the whole year, for all districts taken together, were only £113 18s. 2d., as compared with £118 6s. 4d. in 1929. The average cash earnings for the year, however, varied very considerably from one district to another; as in 1929 they were highest in Scotland (£130 18s. 4d.) and lowest in Northumberland (£95 16s. 10d.). The value of allowances in kind, for all districts taken together, was 4½d. per shift in 1930, or £1 4s. 4d. per quarter; but the value of these allowances varied from district to district even more than the cash earnings, being only ½d. per shift in Scotland, and in Lancashire, Cheshire and North Staffordshire; as against 1s. 1½d. per shift in Northumberland and Durham.

OTHER MINING AND QUARRYING.‡

The following Table shows the total net selling value at the mine

or quarry of other minerals* produced in Great Britain during 1930, and the approximate total numbers of persons employed at the mines or quarries producing these minerals:—

Minerals.	Total Net Selling Value of Output.	Approximate Number of Persons employed.
Iron ore and ironstone	£ 3,091,000	11,400
Non-ferrous ores	595,000	3,500
Minerals (other than iron ore) used mainly in iron and steel making and other smelting processes ...	1,525,000	[9,200
Minerals used mainly for china, pottery, and glass manufacture	1,387,000	5,100
Minerals used mainly for building, road making, lime, cement, concrete, etc.	13,070,000	67,500
Other minerals	2,430,000	8,700
Total	22,098,000	105,400

The corresponding totals in 1929 were £23,267,000 and 112,800 persons.

ALL MINES AND QUARRIES.*

PERSONS EMPLOYED.

The following Table shows the number of wage-earners employed at all mines and quarries over 20 feet deep* in Great Britain (including brine salt wells and certain other mineral workings to which the Regulation Acts do not apply) in 1930. The figures relate to 13th December:—

Wage-earners.	Coal.	Iron Ore or Iron-stone.	Other Minerals.	Total.
Below ground in mines, or inside in quarries:—				
Males under 16	24,207	98	549	24,854
„ 16–20	82,839	466	2,895	86,200
„ 20 and over	612,314	6,144	51,170	669,628
Total	719,360	6,708	54,614	780,682†
Above ground at mines, or outside at quarries:—				
Males under 16	12,050	71	768	12,889
„ 16–20	21,567	262	3,356	25,185
„ 20 and over	134,878	1,782	28,385	165,045
Females under 16	239	—	3	242
„ 16–20	1,009	—	11	1,020
„ 20 and over	1,939	3	77	2,019
Total	171,682	2,118	32,600	206,400
Grand Total	891,042	8,826	87,214	987,082

The figures in the Table relate, as stated, to 13th December. The average numbers of wage-earners employed in 1930 were:—coal mines, 914,328; iron ore or ironstone, 11,070; other minerals, 90,155: total, 1,015,553. The corresponding figures for 1929 were:—coal, 939,367; iron ore or ironstone, 12,568; other minerals, 96,352: total, 1,048,287.

The average number of clerks and salaried persons employed in 1930 was 21,197, of whom 17,048 were employed at coal mines; as compared with 21,215 and 17,307, respectively, in 1929.

ACCIDENTS AT MINES AND QUARRIES.

The following Table shows the number of persons killed and injured by accidents in 1929 and 1930. The 1930 accidents at mines are classified according to the place or cause of the accidents:—

Place or Cause of Accident.	No. of Persons killed.			No. of Persons injured.‡		
	Coal Mines.*	Other Mines and Quarries.	Total.	Coal Mines.†	Other Mines and Quarries.	Total.
<i>Mines.</i>						
Explosions of fire-damp or coal dust	70	...	70	123	...	123
Falls of ground ...	513	8	521	57,822	417	58,239
Shaft accidents ...	31	3	34	346	12	358
Underground haulage accidents ...	241	...	241	40,999	319	41,318
Miscellaneous underground accidents	80	4	84	54,369	868	55,237
Total, underground ...	935	15	950	153,659	1,616	155,275
On surface ...	73	2	75	11,882	344	12,226
Total, underground and on surface ...	1,008	17	1,025	165,541	1,960	167,501
<i>Quarries.</i>						
Accidents at quarries over 20 feet deep	...	70	70	...	5,866	5,866
Total, mines and quarries } 1930	1,008	87	1,095	165,541	7,826	173,367
} 1929	1,065	99	1,164	174,971	8,854	183,825

* See note † in previous column.

† Including nine females employed inside quarries.

‡ Including shale and fireclay mines.

§ Only those are included whose disablement was for more than three days.

* H.M. Stationery Office; price 3s. 6d. net (3s. 10d., post free).
† 20 and 21 Geo. 5, ch. 34. Notices of this Act appeared in the issues of this GAZETTE for December, 1929, page 439, and for August, 1930, page 281.
‡ Except for metalliferous minerals, and a few others of special importance, the Report does not cover the output (chiefly clay, gravel and sand) of quarries less than 20 feet deep, nor the quantities of sand and gravel which are raised from river beds and foreshores.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS: CHIEF INSPECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1930.

THE Annual Report of H.M. Chief Inspector of Factories and Workshops for the year 1930 has been published.*

At the end of the year there were 154,102 factories and 103,371 workshops on the register of the Factory Department; showing an increase of 1,649 factories, but a decrease of 4,952 workshops, as compared with 1929. ("Factories" are equipped with mechanical power; "workshops" are not so equipped.) This increase in factories and decrease in workshops has continued for many years.

The Report refers to the severe depression of last year, the worst sufferers being probably the textile, iron and steel, engineering and shipbuilding industries. Even in the South of England, which had previously escaped the worst of the depression, there were many complaints of lack of orders.

Reference is again made to the development of industries in and around Greater London. These industries are of great variety (which partly accounts for the relative prosperity of this area), and are carried on in units of very varying size, ranging from large well-equipped factories employing hundreds of operatives, to small workshops employing only one or two workers.

The effect of the depression was very unevenly felt. Thus, even in the depressed industries, a few factories worked overtime or double shifts; and in artificial silk manufacture, while several factories closed down entirely, large sums were spent on the building and equipment of two new factories. Many of the trades which suffered least were those connected with luxuries—motor cars, motor bicycles, wireless apparatus, gramophones, tobacco, chocolates, and beer.

Many developments occurred, in spite of the depression, in the way of building better factories, modernising machinery, introducing new methods of manufacture, research work, etc.: notable instances of such changes were found in connection with iron and steel works, paper mills, cement works, and flour mills.

ACCIDENTS† IN FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

The following Table shows the number of accidents in factories and workshops reported during the years 1929 and 1930. It should be noted that, owing to changes in the classification of industries, the comparison between the figures for the two years is not in all cases quite exact.

Industry.	All Accidents.		Fatal Accidents.	
	1929.	1930.	1929.	1930.
Cotton... ..	8,443	5,851	24	17
Wool, worsted and shoddy ...	2,758	2,566	18	22
Other textile	2,631	2,079	13	12
Clay, stone, lime and cement ...	3,803	3,831	40	36
Iron smelting... ..	2,233	2,545	36	32
Extraction and refining of other metals	866		5	
Conversion of iron into steel ...	3,664	14,256	35	66
Iron and steel rolling mills ...	9,629		25	
Other conversion of metals (including metal tube making and wire drawing)	4,160	8,946	7	19
Metal founding or casting	10,154		24	
Boiler making, etc.	2,433	4,150	13	12
Constructional engineering	2,014		13	
Electrical engineering	4,567	4,738	14	5
Locomotive building and repairing	3,802	3,413	7	7
Motor vehicles (other than steam) and accessories	6,259	10,830	6	26
Railway and tramway plant and vehicles	4,990		13	
Shipbuilding	11,150	10,431	95	74
Other engineering and machine making; vehicle (other than railway and tramway vehicle) making; manufacture of ordnance and munitions of war	15,654	12,621	52	33
Metal galvanising, tinning, plating and enamelling, etc.	2,058	1,445	6	3
Other metal trades	7,499	7,202	26	27
General woodwork	5,090	4,809	34	28
Chemicals, etc.	4,934	4,341	47	58
Paper, printing and stationery ...	4,870	4,784	22	23
Food and drink	7,853	8,157	48	46
Gas works, electricity generating stations	3,166	2,984	52	37
Other non-textile industries	14,434	13,420	65	87
Docks and warehouses, buildings and railways under sections 104-6 of the Factory Act, 1901	12,155	11,359	242	229
TOTALS	161,269	144,758	982	899

THE FIVE-DAY WEEK IN FACTORIES.

It is stated in the Report that, though no industry as a whole has adopted the five-day week, nearly every great industry in the country is represented by some firms; and in some cases the system has been adopted by small groups of works, or even by an entire trade in a localised industry, e.g., by the furniture trade at High Wycombe.

A Table printed in the Report gives particulars of 744 works, owned by 704 firms, and employing over 83,000 workpeople in 1930, where the system is known to be in operation. Of these works, 207, employing nearly 14,000 workpeople, were in the furniture trade; 198 works, employing 9,300 workpeople, were in the clothing trades; and 53 works, employing 12,400 workpeople, in the metal trades.

* Cmd. 3927. H.M. Stationery Office; price 2s. 6d. net. (2s. 9d., post free).
† Particulars of industrial diseases in 1930 (cases and deaths) were given in the issue of this GAZETTE for July, 1931, page 255.

In some cases the system has been adopted because the short day on Saturday makes it hardly worth while to work on that day; in the manufacture of stereotype and process blocks, for example, the four hours' work on Saturdays involved waste of time in heating lead pots, preparing acid baths, etc., and left little time for effective work.* In the wholesale dressmaking trade in the West End of London, many of the workers live at a long distance, and were unwilling to make the journey for a few hours' work on Saturday morning. It is stated in the Report that the system has now become general in that trade, and firms who previously worked six days are rapidly changing over to the five-day week, in order to attract labour.

The hours worked under the five-day week are generally 47 or 48, as in factories working six days a week; but in a quarter of the works the hours are in the neighbourhood of 45 hours a week, in 7 per cent. (mostly works employing men only, and working 56 hours a week), the hours exceed 48; and in the remainder (about 4 per cent.) the hours are less than 45. The hours which would otherwise have been worked on Saturday are sometimes equally distributed over the other days of the week; but more often the extra hours are added to Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, which are recognised as the best days for output. Very little alteration or adjustment of wages has been necessary.

It is stated in the Report that production has been maintained, and in many cases it appears actually to have increased, under the five-day system. Thus, in a brass casting shop, 45 pots of metal are melted in the week, as against 42 under the old system. In a match factory, where the hours were reduced from 47 to 40, the production on piecework is practically unchanged. In a furniture factory, where the hours were reduced to 47½, and later to 45, the output is said to be the same as when 54 hours were worked. In a cycle works a definite increase of 19 per cent. is reported in the plating and enamelling departments.

There is a very general consensus of opinion that the system has been advantageous both to employers and to employed. It has reduced the employers' overhead charges, given more time for maintenance work and repairs, speeded up the delivery of orders, reduced absenteeism, and on the whole improved timekeeping. The workers also have benefited by the long week-end; they save the time and expense of travelling on one day of the week; they have more time for home duties; and there is evidence that the adoption of the five-day week has been beneficial to their health.

CENSUS OF SEAMEN, 1930.

A CENSUS of seamen who were employed on 31st March, 1930, has been taken; and the results are analysed in detail in the *Board of Trade Journal* for 30th July, 1931, to which reference should be made for fuller particulars. It should be noted that the particulars given in the *Journal* do not show the total number of persons following the sea service, but only those actually employed on the specified day† on sea-trading vessels (i.e., sea-going vessels other than yachts and fishing vessels) registered under Part I of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1894, in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, in the Isle of Man, and in the Channel Islands.

The following Table shows the numbers of the crews recorded in each department at the census dates in 1929 and in 1930. The "deck" department includes navigating officers, able seamen, and all other persons whose duties relate directly to the navigation of the ship. Wireless operators are also included in the numbers in this group, and, in the case of vessels carrying cattle and other animals as cargo, the men attending to such animals. The "engine room" department includes engineer officers, firemen, greasers, and all others employed in attendance on the main and auxiliary machinery. Refrigerating engineers and electricians are also included. The "stewards" department includes stewards, cooks, and all others employed in attending on the passengers or crew. All clerical staff are included in this group, together with pursers, doctors, and musicians.

	Employed in Sea-Trading Vessels.			
	Deck.	Engine Room.	Stewards and Others.	All Departments.
Employed at 31st March, 1929:—				
British	52,604	42,368	38,634	133,606
Foreign	4,756	8,302	3,325	16,383
Lascar	16,736	22,409	14,426	53,571
Total	74,096	73,079	56,385	203,560
Employed at 31st March, 1930:—				
British	49,094	40,068	38,356	127,518
Foreign	4,556	6,673	3,204	14,433
Lascar	17,251	21,736	13,695	52,682
Total	70,901	68,477	55,255	194,633

THE TRADES UNION CONGRESS.

THE sixty-third annual Trades Union Congress was held at Bristol in the week beginning 7th September. A report of the proceedings at the Congress will appear in the October issue of this GAZETTE.

* The fact that the workers in this industry are exposed to lead poisoning seems also to have influenced the employers and the trade unions in adopting the system.

† The number of vessels of 100 tons gross and over employed at some time during the year 1930, though not on 31st March, was 1,016; and the total number of the first crews of these vessels in 1930 was 42,671.

Only 1,116 persons were employed on vessels of less than 100 tons gross on 31st March. The number employed on vessels under 100 tons gross which had not a crew on 31st March has not been ascertained.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE IN SPAIN: NEW LEGISLATION.

A NATIONAL FUND subsidised by the State to relieve involuntary unemployment was established in Spain by a Decree of 25th May, 1931. The Fund is to be organised and administered by the National Welfare Institute, the body responsible for the administration of old age and accident insurance, and provision is made for the representation of employers and workers on the Council of the Fund.

The National Fund is authorised to take any measures it may consider advisable for the extension and encouragement of unemployment relief, and is charged with the issue of State subsidies to approved societies which pay their members benefit during unemployment. The Decree lays down the conditions to be fulfilled by societies in order to qualify for the State subsidy, and provides that the subsidy payable to societies of workers may also be granted in cases where employers and workers contribute jointly to an unemployment fund.

A special "Solidarity Fund" is to be set up for the purpose of relieving unemployment of temporary seriousness arising in special areas or industries. This Fund will be financed by contributions from the unemployment societies and by a State grant.

All wage and salary earners between the ages of 16 and 65, with the exception of public employees and domestic servants, are eligible for benefit under the scheme, provided they do not earn more than 6,000 pesetas a year. Payment of benefit from the National Fund to foreign workers is subject to the principle of reciprocity.

The rates of contributions payable by members of societies paying unemployment benefit will be governed by the rules of the individual societies, and the amount of the State subsidy will be in proportion to the amount of unemployment benefit paid by each society; but it is not to be less than 30 per cent. nor more than 100 per cent. of the amount expended by the societies in unemployment benefits. The amount of benefit, including the State subsidy paid by the National Fund, may not exceed 60 per cent. of the worker's normal wage, nor may it be paid for more than 60 days in twelve consecutive months. Persons claiming benefit must have been members of a subsidised unemployment society for at least six months preceding the date of unemployment, and they must complete a minimum waiting period of six days of unemployment without receipt of wages.

The Decree provides that regulations for the application of its provisions are to be issued within a period of three months. It contains no clause repealing the previous Decrees relating to unemployment insurance.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE IN OVERSEA COUNTRIES.

MEMORANDA prepared by the Ministry of Labour on unemployment insurance in oversea countries have been published as appendices to the minutes of evidence taken before the Royal Commission on Unemployment Insurance.*

An introductory note states that the practice of insuring against unemployment originated with the trade union movement. Certain trade unions, particularly in Great Britain, started paying allowances to their out-of-work members about the middle of the nineteenth century. As time went on the number of these trade union unemployment funds increased, and, in some cases, they received the assistance of the public authorities. At the present time, they are of considerable importance, not only in Great Britain, but also in Belgium, Denmark, the Netherlands and Switzerland.

The first unemployment insurance institution organised by the public authorities was that established at Berne in 1893. The example was followed by several other Swiss towns and cantons and by certain German municipalities, including Cologne and Leipzig. The next step was the evolution, through the co-operation of the public authorities and the trade unions, of the system of unemployment insurance which became known as the "Ghent system." In 1901, the town of Ghent established an unemployment fund for the purpose of increasing the benefits paid to unemployed members of an unemployment society, or adding to the sums withdrawn from savings banks by those who preferred to provide for themselves independently. This movement developed rapidly, and in 1913 there were some 30 communal or inter-communal unemployment funds in Belgium, extending over nearly 100 communes; while more than 25 similar institutions existed in the Netherlands; about 20 in France; nearly 10 in Germany; 3 in Italy; and 2 in Switzerland.

Moreover, certain countries, for instance France in 1905, Norway in 1906, and Denmark in 1907, introduced the Ghent system on a State, instead of on a communal, basis; although in the course of these experiments the system was modified in several important particulars, especially in Denmark.

Great Britain was the first country to introduce, by the National Insurance Act of 1911, a system of compulsory contributory unemployment insurance on a national basis. After the War, this example was followed, with considerable variations, by certain other countries: Italy, by a Decree of 19th October, 1919; Austria, by an Act of 24th March, 1920; Russia, by the Labour Code of

1922; Queensland, by an Act of 18th October, 1922; Poland, by an Act of 18th July, 1924; Bulgaria, by an Act of 12th April, 1925; Germany, after various experiments, by an Act of 16th July, 1927; while the compulsory system was maintained in the Irish Free State after its separation from the United Kingdom. All these countries have maintained the system, with various amendments, except Russia, where it was suspended, either permanently or temporarily, by an Order of 9th October, 1930. The Russian system was distinguished from all the other compulsory systems in that the total costs of insurance were borne by the employers, which in most cases meant the public authorities.

The movement for voluntary insurance, with the assistance of subsidies from public authorities, has also continued to develop. In addition to the communal action described above, the number of States which grant subsidies to unemployment funds has considerably increased. Before the War, Belgium, Denmark, France* and Norway were the only States granting such subsidies; but the list now includes, in order of date of introduction, the Netherlands, Finland, Spain, Czechoslovakia and Switzerland.

In Switzerland, a Federal Act of 17th October, 1924, which placed on a permanent basis the system of Federal subsidies to recognised unemployment funds, left it within the competence of the cantonal authorities to introduce compulsory insurance within their areas. Up to the present date, this has been done by the following eight cantons, in order of date of introduction: Glaris, Basle Town, Neuchâtel, Soleure, Zug, Uri, Schaffhausen and Basle Country.† Compulsory insurance takes the form of compulsory membership of a public unemployment insurance fund. In all the eight cantons, except Soleure, employers' contributions are compulsory. In the remaining cantons, with the exception of Upper and Lower Unterwalden, schemes of voluntary unemployment insurance subsidised by the cantons are in force.

In addition to assistance to unemployment funds to enable them to deal with what may be called normal unemployment, several countries, for example, Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Denmark and the Netherlands, have taken steps to deal with extraordinary unemployment arising in times of acute industrial depression.

Reference is also made to the method of relieving unemployment adopted by New South Wales, Queensland (in addition to compulsory insurance), Victoria and New Zealand.‡ This has taken the form of an unemployment relief tax, of varying amounts, levied on income in New South Wales, Queensland and Victoria, and on every male person of twenty years of age or over, with certain exceptions, in New Zealand.

The memoranda prepared by the Ministry of Labour give detailed information relating to (1) the voluntary systems of unemployment insurance in force in Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Finland, France, the Netherlands, Norway, Spain and Switzerland; (2) the compulsory systems in force in Austria, Bulgaria, Germany, Irish Free State, Italy, Poland, Queensland and Switzerland; and (3) the other methods of relieving unemployment adopted by New South Wales, Queensland, Victoria and New Zealand.

The German system of unemployment insurance is the subject of a special memorandum, which gives, illustrated by statistics, extensive details of the scheme, its finances, and the special methods of dealing with such classes of risk as short-time work, casual work, seasonal unemployment, etc. An addendum to this memorandum summarises the amendments to the scheme introduced by the German President's Order of 5th June, 1931.

UNEMPLOYMENT RELIEF IN NEW SOUTH WALES.

Two Acts, the Prevention and Relief of Unemployment (Amendment) Act, 1931, and the Unemployment Relief Tax Act, 1931, passed by the Legislature of New South Wales, were assented to on 3rd July, 1931. The Prevention and Relief of Unemployment (Amendment) Act, 1931, extends the operative period of the Prevention and Relief of Unemployment Act, 1930, as amended by the Prevention and Relief of Unemployment (Amendment) Act, 1930,§ to 30th June, 1932. Unemployment Relief Tax is now payable at the rate of one shilling in the pound on—

(a) the net assessable income of every person, other than a company, whose income exceeds £100 a year during the income year ending 30th June, 1931;

(b) the net assessable income derived by every company during the income year ending 30th June, 1931; and

(c) the income from employment derived by every person, other than a company, during the income year commencing 1st July, 1931, who is paid at a rate of not less than two pounds a week, or the equivalent hourly or daily rate.

* In France, in addition to voluntary unemployment insurance, there are Communal and Departmental Unemployment Relief Funds (non-contributory).

† An Act introducing compulsory insurance has recently been adopted by the legislative authorities in the canton of Geneva. The entry into force of the Act, however, depends upon the result of a referendum. Information on this point is not yet available.

‡ Under two Acts, passed by the Tasmanian legislature in 1930, appropriations from public funds were made (1) to make advances by way of loan to persons engaged in primary industry who require them for the permanent improvement of their property, and who employ genuinely unemployed persons on the improvements; and (2) to assist unemployed persons by means of approved public works and by providing sustenance for such persons or their dependants.

§ See this GAZETTE for September, 1930, page 326, and April, 1931, page 136.

* Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Royal Commission on Unemployment Insurance. Part IV. Memoranda by the Ministry of Labour on Unemployment Insurance in Oversea Countries. H.M. Stationery Office; price 3s. 6d. net (3s. 7½d., post-free).

VOLUNTARY LABOUR SERVICE IN GERMANY.

THE Second Order of the Federal President for the Safeguarding of the National Finances and Economic Structure, dated 5th June, 1931, in the sections relating to unemployment insurance and relief (of which an account was given in this GAZETTE for June, 1931, pages 217-218) laid down the main principles of a system of voluntary labour service, to be promoted by the Federal Employment Exchanges and Unemployment Insurance Board by means of funds from the unemployment insurance scheme. Detailed regulations for the practical administration of the system have now been issued jointly by the Federal Ministers of Labour and Finance in an Order dated 23rd July, 1931, which came into force on 3rd August, 1931.

The chief features of the new system are as follows:—

Voluntary labour service schemes may be assisted by the Federal Employment Exchanges and Unemployment Insurance Board out of the funds of unemployment insurance or emergency benefit in respect of the employment of workers eligible for either form of benefit, or from other funds specially provided by the Reich for this purpose, in respect of the employment of young unemployed persons ineligible for benefit by reason of their age.

Assistance may be granted only to public utility works of a supplementary nature which could not be instituted, even in the form of relief works, without such assistance; the works contemplated comprise, in particular, land improvement, the preparation of land for settlement and allotments, the improvement of local communications, and works calculated to promote public health. Furthermore, the works must be instituted only by public bodies, philanthropic or public utility organisations or associations comprising groups of volunteer workers for the work schemes in question; assistance may not be granted to works promoted by private undertakings carried on for profit or organisations which may be suspected of exploiting voluntary labour service for political purposes or for ends hostile to the interests of the State. The workers may be recruited either directly by the authority instituting the work or indirectly through the employment exchanges. It is expressly emphasised that enlistment is to be entirely voluntary, and that the refusal to take up or to continue to perform voluntary labour service entails no penalties affecting the general position of the worker under the unemployment insurance scheme. Except in so far as it may be necessary or desirable to employ specially qualified workers at the full normal rates of pay, employment in voluntary labour service does not constitute an employment relationship within the meaning of labour law; the employment is, however, subject to the general legislative provisions regarding labour protection, and, in general, the worker continues to be protected under the social insurance system.

In order to qualify for assistance a scheme must first be approved by the chairman of the State Employment Exchange, or, with his authority, by the chairman of the local employment exchange in the area of which the work is to be carried out. The assistance consists in the continued grant of benefit at the normal rates and up to the expiry of the normal maximum period to volunteer workers already entitled thereto, or, alternatively, in the grant of lump-sum payments assessed on the basis of 2 Reichsmarks a day for a maximum period of 20 weeks or for the period of the work, whichever is the lesser. These grants may be made not to the worker but to the authority responsible for the work, subject to guarantees that they will be applied in the interests of the workers; they may either be expended wholly or in part for the material needs of the workers or paid over to them in cash. In general, it is contemplated that some part at least of the money will be paid over to the workers in the form of pocket money. No grants may be made towards the material costs of the work. If necessary, the local authorities for the district in which the work is being performed may be required to provide the volunteer workers with board and lodging in return for suitable compensation to be agreed upon with the body responsible for the work.

Volunteer workers who have been employed for at least 12 weeks either on an individual scheme or several schemes of work which, besides being publicly useful, are of productive value from the point of view of the national economy, may, upon application, be granted a special allowance of 1.50 Reichsmarks a day (excluding Sundays) for the whole period of their employment on such works. The allowance is placed to their credit in the official records as a Federal liability, and at any time within 10 years may be applied, together with interest at 6 per cent., to the acquisition by the workers, through approved organisations, of rural holdings, or to the building of houses to be owned and occupied by the workers themselves.

UNEMPLOYMENT RELIEF IN CANADA.

THE Dominion Parliament of Canada, at the session which closed on 3rd August, 1931, enacted an Unemployment and Farm Relief Act, 1931, conferring upon the Governor in Council emergency powers in respect to unemployment and farm relief, and the maintenance of peace, order and good government in Canada.

The Act, which expires on 1st March, 1932, empowers the Governor in Council to pay out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund such sums as he may deem expedient for relieving distress, providing employment, and maintaining peace and order. In particular, he may provide for the construction, extension or improvement of public works, including buildings, railways, highways and harbours, assist in defraying the cost of the production, sale and distribution of primary products, and extend financial assistance to local

authorities or other bodies, by loan or otherwise. He is further given full power to make such orders and regulations as are required for carrying out the provisions of the Act.

General Regulations issued under the Act provide that in works and undertakings carried out thereunder the normal maximum working day is to be eight hours; rates of wages are to be fixed locally, provided that they are fair and reasonable and not in excess of the rates required to be paid by the Federal Government for the character or class of work in the district; and, so far as practicable, only goods and materials of Canadian manufacture or production are to be used, while contracts will be let only to bonâ-fide Canadian firms.

In a speech on the Bill, the Prime Minister, after reviewing what had been accomplished under the Act passed last autumn for the granting of Aid for the Relief of Unemployment,* stated that the deterioration in world conditions, combined with the partial failure of the Canadian harvest, appeared to constitute circumstances justifying the early expenditure of money which would normally have been spread over a period of years. He emphasised that the provision of direct relief would be strictly confined to cases where work could not be provided.

The administration of the Act is vested in the Minister of Labour, subject to the approval of the Governor in Council.

WAGES IN NETHERLANDS COAL MINES.†

As from 1st May, 1931, rates of wages in the coal mines in the Netherlands have been regulated by a collective agreement which fixes the average shift rate of hewers at 5.70 florins‡ and the average shift rates of other classes of labour at the percentages of this rate shown in the following Table:—

Occupation.	Per-centage of Hewer's Rate.	Occupation.	Per-centage of Hewer's Rate.
Hewer chargemen ...	110	Mechanics ...	85
Shot firers... ..	105	First Signalmen... ..	95
Hewers acting as timber-men	95	Second Signalmen	75
Timbermen	85	Engine drivers	80
Apprentice hewers ...	90	Pumpmen	70
Junction men (trammers)	80	Stable boys	65
Other trammers:		Other workers:	
Over 21 years	70	Over 21 years... ..	70
18 to 21 years	60	18 to 21 years	60
		17 years	50
		16 years	40

The hourly minimum rates of surface workers from 23 years of age are 0.44, 0.48 and 0.52 florin according to skill; and of surface workers of 20, 21 and 22 years, 0.34, 0.39 and 0.44 florin for skilled workers and 0.30, 0.34 and 0.38 florin for unskilled workers, respectively. Surface workers from 14 to 19 years of age have hourly minimum rates ranging from 0.13 to 0.27 florin according to age.

WAGES AND HOURS MOVEMENTS OVERSEAS.

BELGIUM.

Engineering Industry.—A special conciliation committee appointed by the Minister of Industry, Labour and Social Welfare following the employers' demand for a 5 per cent. wage reduction, proposed a wage reduction of 2½ per cent. to take effect on 1st September. This proposal was accepted by the employers and by the majority of the National Committee of the Metal Workers' Union.

Dockers: Antwerp.—The minimum shift rates for dockers at Antwerp were reduced as from 1st August, 1931, by 2 francs§ for day shifts, by 3 francs for night shifts, and by 3.50 francs for Sunday and holiday shifts, in accordance with the terms of the collective agreement, whereby shift rates vary with the cost-of-living index number for Antwerp.

GERMANY.

Coal-mining Industry.—The wage agreement for the Ruhr coal-mining industry, which, as reported in this GAZETTE for July last (page 259), was compulsorily extended until 30th September next, is to be terminated by the employers at that date. The employers in the combined coal-mining and heavy iron and steel industry in Upper Silesia have also given notice to terminate at 30th September next the wage agreement for the workers engaged in coal and iron-ore mining.

Textile Industry.—Some 310,000 textile workers are affected by the decision of the employers to terminate the current wage agreements. The areas affected are West Saxony (171,000 workers), East Saxony (29,000 workers), Aix-la-Chapelle, and Sorau. In addition, negotiations, which have so far proved ineffective, are proceeding for the conclusion of fresh wage agreements for the textile industry in Württemberg, the Rhine Palatinate and Lower Lausitz, the original agreements having already expired.

* See this GAZETTE for October, 1930, page 364.

† *Maandschrift*, the official journal of the Netherlands Central Statistical Bureau, July, 1931.

‡ The exchange value of the florin (= 100 cents) at par is approximately 1s. 7½d.

§ The exchange value of the Belgian franc at par is approximately 1.37 pence.

EMPLOYMENT IN AUGUST.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

EMPLOYMENT during August showed a further decline in a number of important industries, but this was offset to a large extent by an improvement in coal mining. The net decline, in industry as a whole, was therefore small.

A decline occurred in the brick and tile, glass, iron and steel, tinsplate and motor vehicle industries, in shipbuilding and ship-repairing, in the textile trades except linen, jute and hosiery, in the clothing and distributive trades, and in building and public works contracting.

There was some improvement, however, in coal mining, in jute manufacture, and in the boot and shoe industry.

Employment showed little net change in any of the administrative divisions; it remained moderate in London and the Southern areas, and very bad in all other areas.

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 24th August, 1931 (including those temporarily stopped as well as those wholly unemployed), was 22·7, as compared with 22·6 at 27th July, 1931, and with 17·1 at 25th August, 1930. The percentage wholly unemployed at 24th August, 1931, was 17·3, as compared with 16·7 at 27th July, 1931; while the percentage temporarily stopped was 5·4, as compared with 5·9. For males alone the percentage at 24th August, 1931, was 23·7, and for females 20·0; at 27th July, 1931, the corresponding percentages were 23·8 and 19·5.

At 24th August, 1931, the numbers of persons on the Registers of Employment Exchanges in Great Britain were 1,958,395 wholly unemployed, 661,829 temporarily stopped, and 113,558 normally in casual employment, making a total of 2,733,782. This was 20,432 more than a month before, and 694,080 more than a year before. The total included 1,986,268 men, 75,908 boys, 610,729 women, and 60,877 girls.

The 1,958,395 wholly unemployed included approximately 1,310,690 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; 539,390 insured persons who had paid less than 30 contributions during the preceding two years; and 108,320 uninsured persons. The wholly unemployed claimants for benefit, numbering 1,774,734, included 257,245 men, 6,191 boys, 56,448 women and 3,200 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 24th August, 1931, was 2,805,416, and at 31st August, 1931, it was 2,833,722.

Mining and Quarrying.—Employment in the coal-mining industry showed an improvement but was still bad. There was a marked decline in the number of insured persons temporarily stopped in most districts. The total number of wage earners on the colliery books at 22nd August, 1931, showed a decrease of 0·6 per cent. as compared with 25th July, 1931, and of 7·6 per cent. as compared with 23rd August, 1930. The average number of days worked per week in the fortnight ended 22nd August, 1931, was 4·59, an increase of 0·67 of a day as compared with the fortnight ended 25th July, 1931, but a decrease of 0·21 of a day as compared with the fortnight ended 23rd August, 1930.

In the iron-mining industry employment declined and remained bad. In the West Lothian shale mines it was slack. In the limestone quarries in the Cleveland area employment was bad; in the Clitheroe area it continued steady; while in the Buxton area it was still bad. In the slate quarries in North Wales employment showed little change and was very bad. In the East of Scotland whinstone quarries it continued good. At chalk quarries it was very slack. At tin mines it was slack and at china clay quarries it was moderate.

Pig Iron, Iron and Steel and Tinsplate.—In the pig iron industry employment showed a further decline and remained very bad. Of 394 furnaces, the number in blast at the end of August was 64, as compared with 70 at the end of July, and 104 at the end of August, 1930.

At iron and steel works employment declined and remained very bad. The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, was 45·2 at 24th August, 1931, as compared with 42·8 at 27th July, 1931, and 36·8 at 25th August, 1930.

In the tinsplate industry employment declined and was very bad. It remained very bad also in steel sheet manufacture.

Engineering, Shipbuilding and Metal Industries.—In engineering employment remained bad and showed some further decline in all sections. The heaviest decline again occurred in the motor vehicle section, in which employment was bad. In electrical engineering it remained slack; while in all other sections it was very bad.

In shipbuilding and ship-repairing employment remained very bad and showed a further decline on the whole. The highest percentages of insured persons recorded as unemployed were again shown in the North-Eastern division and in Scotland, while only the two southern divisions had less than 40 per cent. unemployed. In

two divisions there was a slight improvement, but all the other divisions showed a decline.

In the other metal trades employment remained generally either slack or bad. It was slack in the sheet metal, tube, nut and bolt, hollow-ware, metallic bedstead, edge tool, and needle and fishing tackle trades; and bad in the stove and grate, wire manufacturing, brasswork, cutlery, file, jewellery and plated ware, and chain and anchor trades.

Textile Industries.—In the cotton industry employment remained very bad and showed a further slight decline. The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, was 42·8 at 24th August, 1931, as compared with 41·5 at 27th July, 1931, and with 45·7 at 25th August, 1930.

In the wool textile industry the depression continued; many firms extended the holiday stoppages, and the number of short time workers increased. There was little change in the woollen section, but in the worsted section there was a further marked decline. The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, was 36·6 at 24th August, 1931, as compared with 36·0 at 27th July, 1931, and with 26·4 at 25th August, 1930. In the carpet section employment continued very slack.

Employment in the hosiery trade continued bad generally; holidays were extended at most centres, and much short time was worked. In the lace trade it continued bad, with extensive short-time working. In silk manufacture and artificial silk weaving employment declined and was very bad; in the artificial silk yarn industry short-time working increased, and employment was very slack. In the jute trade employment showed a considerable improvement on the position at 27th July, when most mills were closed for holidays, but it still remained very bad. In the linen industry employment showed little change and was bad. In the textile bleaching, printing, dyeing, etc., trades it continued 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 a decline and was very slack, on the whole. In the dressmaking and millinery trades employment was moderate. In the shirt and collar trade employment was slack; in the corset trade it was fairly good; while in the glove trade it remained slack. In felt hat manufacture employment showed little change and remained slack, with much short-time working.

In the boot and shoe industry the customary holiday at the beginning of the month was extended by many firms. After the resumption of work employment was generally slack or quiet, but there was some improvement towards the end of the month. The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, was 20·3 at 24th August, 1931, as compared with 23·5 at 27th July, 1931, and with 16·9 at 25th August, 1930.

Leather Trades.—Employment in all sections of the leather trade remained slack, with much short-time working.

Building, Woodworking, etc.—In the building trades employment showed a slight decline and was slack, on the whole. As regards individual occupations employment was moderate to slack with bricklayers and masons; very slack with carpenters, slaters, plasterers, painters and tradesmen's labourers; and bad with plumbers. It declined during the month with masons and painters, but with plumbers there was some improvement; with other classes there was little change. In brick manufacture employment showed a slight decline but was still moderate, on the whole.

Employment in the furnishing trades and with coachbuilders and millsawyers showed little change and remained very slack, on the whole.

Paper Manufacture, Printing and Bookbinding.—In the paper-making industry employment was moderate, on the whole. With letterpress printers it showed a slight decline but remained moderate. With electrotypers and stereotypers employment continued fairly good generally, although it declined in London and at Manchester and Sheffield. With lithographic printers employment was slack on the whole, with much short-time working. It was also slack with lithographic artists; while with bookbinders it showed a slight decline but was still moderate.

Pottery and Glass.—In the pottery industry employment in North Staffordshire showed little change and continued bad generally, with much short-time working. At Derby employment continued slack; at Worcester and at Bristol it was fair; in the stoneware section in Scotland it remained bad.

In the glass trades employment declined and continued bad in all sections.

Fishing.—Employment with fishermen showed little change and remained slack, on the whole.

Dock Labourers and Seamen.—Employment with dock labourers and seamen continued bad.

SUMMARY OF EMPLOYERS' RETURNS.

In Tables which appear on subsequent pages of this GAZETTE detailed statistics bearing on the state of employment during August 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 August, 1931.	August, 1931.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a	
			Month before.	Year before.
		Days Worked per week by Mines.	Days.	Days.
Coal Mining ...	822,270	4.59	+ 0.67	- 0.21
Iron " ...	5,433	3.76	- 1.03	- 1.57
Shale " ...	1,742	5.92	+ 0.29	- 0.08
		Furnaces in Blast.	Number.	Number.
Pig Iron ...	...	64	- 6	- 40
		Mills working.		
Tinplate and Steel Sheet	...	413	- 19	- 30
		Shifts Worked (one week).	Per cent.	Per cent.
Iron and Steel ...	39,762	210,364	- 6.6	- 16.4

(b) OTHER INDUSTRIES.

Industry.	Number of Workpeople Employed.		Total Wages Paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 22nd August, 1931.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month before.	Week ended 22nd August, 1931.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month before.	Year before.
Textiles:—		Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Cotton ...	61,981	- 2.1	98,882	- 2.1	+ 7.6
Woollen ...	47,849	- 0.5	84,724	- 2.2*	- 18.1*
Worsted ...	67,491	- 5.0	98,975	- 11.6*	- 21.2*
Carpet ...	9,211	+ 2.6	15,162	+ 3.7	- 3.6
Boot and Shoe ...	59,767	+ 1.1	129,275	+ 0.7	- 4.2
Pottery ...	9,475	- 1.5	14,935	- 4.7	- 17.7*
Brick ...	10,713	+ 1.3	27,069	- 0.7	- 9.3

UNEMPLOYMENT SUMMARY BY DISTRICTS.

The following Table shows the variations in the rates of unemployment at 24th August, 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 24th August, 1931.			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Total Percentages as compared with a	
		Males.	Females.	Total.	Month before.	Year before.
London ...	2,255,620	13.9	9.4	12.4	+ 0.3	+ 4.5
South-Eastern ...	929,770	11.9	8.2	11.1	+ 0.5	+ 4.1
South-Western ...	864,400	14.9	10.0	13.8	+ 0.3	+ 4.2
Midlands ...	1,847,230	21.5	22.9	21.9	- 0.4	+ 6.0
North-Eastern ...	2,020,760	31.9	24.1	30.1	- 0.5	+ 8.2
North-Western ...	2,181,890	29.1	31.8	30.0	+ 0.5	+ 3.2
Scotland ...	1,307,810	30.3	21.5	27.8	- 0.4	+ 8.7
Wales ...	592,520	35.4	16.3	33.5	+ 0.7	+ 8.2
Northern Ireland	266,000	30.3	25.4	28.4	+ 0.5	+ 2.1
Special Schemes	139,700	4.5	1.0	3.4	+ 0.1	+ 1.1
Total ...	12,405,700	23.7	20.0	22.7	+ 0.1	+ 5.6

UNEMPLOYMENT DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS.

The following Table shows, month by month from August, 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.		Date.	Number.
			Wholly Unemployed and Casuals.	Temporarily stopped.		
1930.					1930.	
25 August ...	17.3	16.5	12.1	5.0	25 Aug.	2,106,000
22 September ...	18.0	16.8	12.7	4.9	29 Sept.	2,230,000
27 October ...	19.4	16.8	13.9	4.8	27 Oct.	2,308,000
24 November ...	19.8	17.2	14.8	4.3	24 Nov.	2,359,000
22 December 1931.	20.7	18.8	14.9	5.3	29 Dec.	2,725,000
26 January ...	22.1	19.9	16.5	5.0	1931.	
23 February ...	22.6	19.6	16.7	5.0	26 Jan.	2,671,000
23 March ...	22.7	18.4	16.5	5.0	23 Feb.	2,694,000
27 April ...	22.0	18.0	16.3	4.6	30 Mar.	2,655,000
18 May ...	21.9	17.9	16.3	4.6	27 Apr.	2,594,000
22 June ...	23.2	18.4	16.4	5.4	1 June	2,702,000
27 July ...	23.8	19.5	16.7	5.9	29 June	2,736,000
24 August ...	23.7	20.0	17.3	5.4	27 July	2,783,000
					31 Aug.	2,834,000

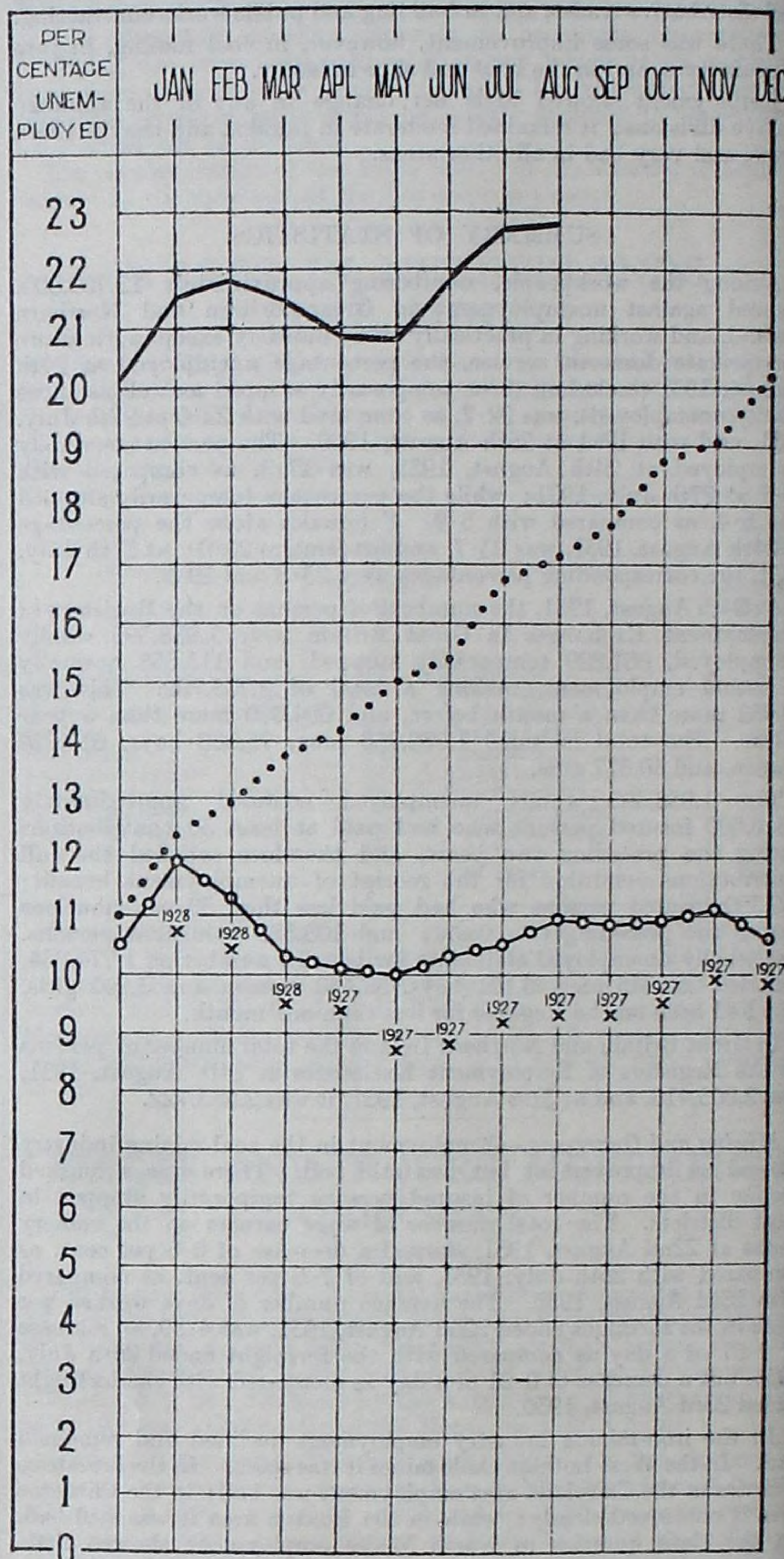
* Comparison of earnings is affected by reductions in rates of wages.

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 AUGUST, 1931.

Area.	Men.	Boys.	Women.	Girls.	Total.	
					Num- bers.	Per- centage of numbers Insured at July, 1930.
London ...	1,141	4,244	1,650	4,018	11,053	0.49
South-Eastern ...	987	2,153	916	1,598	5,654	0.61
South-Western ...	754	1,819	784	1,264	4,621	0.53
Midlands ...	2,833	2,331	540	1,418	7,122	0.39
North-Eastern ...	836	3,782	836	2,457	7,911	0.39
North-Western ...	793	3,488	732	3,279	8,292	0.38
Scotland ...	916	2,623	707	2,201	6,447	0.49
Wales... ..	439	1,354	401	529	2,723	0.46
GREAT BRITAIN ...	8,699	21,794	6,566	16,764	53,823	0.45

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

DETAILED REPORTS ON EMPLOYMENT IN SOME OF THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES.

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

COAL MINING.

EMPLOYMENT during August showed an improvement as compared with the previous month, but was still bad. There was a marked decline in the number of insured persons temporarily stopped in most districts.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, was 30·9 at 24th August, 1931, as compared with 36·4 at 27th July, 1931, and 23·7 at 25th August, 1930. The percentage wholly unemployed increased by 0·7 from 18·7 to 19·4, but the percentage temporarily stopped decreased by 6·2 from 17·7 to 11·5.

The total number of wage earners on the colliery books at 22nd August, 1931, showed a decrease of 0·6 per cent. as compared with 25th July, 1931, and of 7·6 per cent. as compared with 23rd August, 1930.

The average number of days worked per week in the fortnight ended 22nd August, 1931, was 4·59, an increase of 0·67 of a day as compared with the fortnight ended 25th July, 1931, but a decrease of 0·21 of a day as compared with the fortnight ended 23rd August, 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 22nd August, 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.		Average Number of Days worked per week by the Mines.*			
	22nd August, 1931.	Inc.(+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a	Fort-night ended 22nd August, 1931.	Inc.(+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a	Month before.	Year before.
ENGLAND AND WALES:		Percent	Percent	Days.	Days.	Days.
Northumberland ...	39,976	- 4·7	-12·3	4·68	+0·13	+0·23
Durham ...	108,077	- 0·3	-12·7	4·37	+0·03	-0·54
Cumberland and Westmorland ...	7,320	- 6·5	-23·1	1·81	+1·53	-3·32
South Yorkshire ...	106,914	- 2·1	- 7·3	4·49	+0·74	-0·05
West Yorkshire ...	49,467	+ 0·1	- 0·8	4·08	+0·77	-0·02
Lancs. and Cheshire ...	70,019	+ 0·2	- 3·5	3·89	+0·17	+0·09
Derbyshire ...	52,326	+ 1·7	- 3·4	4·31	+1·06	+0·01
Notts. and Leicester ...	60,062	+ 0·2	- 2·7	4·46	+1·07	...
Warwick ...	17,187	+ 0·1	+ 0·7	5·36	+0·22	-0·05
North Staffordshire... and Salop ...	21,847	- 1·9	-13·3	4·20	+0·39	-0·18
Glos. and Somerset ...	29,572	- 0·0	- 0·7	4·59	+0·70	-0·07
Kent ...	9,547	- 0·5	+ 0·4	4·63	+0·33	-0·27
North Wales...	5,770	+ 1·4	+13·4	5·50	...	...
South Wales and Mon.	13,703	+ 0·1	- 3·6	4·97	+0·46	...
	150,375	+ 1·0	- 9·5	5·38	+0·49	-0·25
England and Wales	742,162	- 0·4	- 7·2	4·57	+0·51	-0·18
SCOTLAND:						
Mid. & East Lothians	12,226	- 1·0	- 7·9	4·81	+1·75	-0·42
Fife and Clackmannan	19,326	+ 0·7	-14·3	5·11	+3·43	-0·03
Rest of Scotland ...	48,556	- 4·0	-10·8	4·66	+1·60	-0·70
Scotland ...	80,108	- 2·5	-11·2	4·80	+2·06	-0·49
GREAT BRITAIN ...	822,270	- 0·6	- 7·6	4·59	+0·67	-0·21

The average number of coal-winding days lost in Great Britain during the fortnight ended 22nd August, 1931, was 1·19 days per week, of which 1·05 days were due to want of trade and transport difficulties and 0·09 of a day to trade disputes. The figure for the fortnight ended 25th July, 1931, was 1·83 days per week, of which 1·45 days were due to want of trade and transport difficulties; the corresponding figures for the fortnight ended 23rd August, 1930, were 0·99 of a day per week, and 0·94 of a day per week, respectively. The average non-winding time for the August, 1931, period was between one-fifth and one-quarter of a day per week, the same as for the August, 1930, period, as compared with about one-quarter of a day per week during the July, 1931, period.

The output of coal in Great Britain for the four weeks ended 22nd August, 1931, was reported to the Mines Department as 14,775,600 tons, as compared with 15,227,200 tons in the four weeks ended 25th July, 1931, and 16,935,900 tons in the four weeks ended 23rd August, 1930.

* 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.

The numbers and percentages unemployed among insured workpeople in the respective areas at 24th August, 1931, and the increases or decreases as compared with 27th July, 1931, and 25th August, 1930, are shown in the following Table:—

Area.	Insured Persons Recorded as Unemployed at 24th August, 1931.					Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Total percentages as compared with a	
	Numbers.		Percentages.			Month before.	Year before.
	Wholly Unemployed (incl. Casuals).	Temporarily stoppages.	Wholly Unemployed.	Temporarily stoppages.	Total.		
Great Britain ...	207,140	122,951	19·4	11·5	30·9	- 5·5	+ 7·2
England and Wales...	175,493	114,053	18·5	12·0	30·5	- 6·4	+ 7·0
Scotland...	31,647	8,898	26·0	7·4	33·4	+ 1·1	+ 8·0
Principal Districts in England and Wales:—							
Northumberland...	11,788	7,349	22·7	14·1	36·8	- 5·5	+ 15·6
Durham ...	42,191	7,273	27·5	4·7	32·2	- 8·7	+ 9·4
Cumberland and Westmorland...	3,627	516	30·7	4·4	35·1	- 1·3	+ 12·3
Yorkshire ...	23,306	45,209	13·0	25·3	38·3	- 7·0	+ 12·4
Lancashire and Cheshire ...	16,088	12,782	17·7	14·1	31·8	- 7·3	- 6·3
Derbyshire ...	5,689	6,418	9·0	10·2	19·2	-12·9	+ 4·3
Notts. and Leicestershire	6,592	3,498	9·9	5·3	15·2	-16·5	+ 2·6
Warwickshire	793	65	6·5	0·5	7·0	+ 0·6	- 1·1
Staffs., Worcester and Salop ...	10,468	5,744	14·8	8·1	22·9	- 3·1	+ 2·9
Glos. and Somerset ...	1,662	1,397	14·0	11·8	25·8	- 2·7	+ 4·9
Kent ...	261	—	4·9	—	4·9	+ 0·6	+ 2·1
Wales and Monmouth ...	51,714	23,795	22·5	10·3	32·8	- 1·5	+ 8·4

The exports of coal, including that shipped for the use of steamers engaged in the foreign trade and the coal equivalent of coke and manufactured fuel, amounted to 4,849,609 tons in August, 1931, as compared with 4,972,200 tons in July, 1931, and with 5,726,100 tons in August, 1930.

IRON AND SHALE MINING.

IRON MINING.

EMPLOYMENT remained bad during August and showed a decline compared with the previous month. The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, in the iron ore and ironstone mining industry was 42·1 at 24th August, 1931, as compared with 33·8 at 27th July, 1931, and 22·8 at 25th August, 1930.

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

Districts.	Number of Workpeople employed at Mines included in the Returns.			Average No. of Days worked per week by the Mines.*		
	Fort-night ended 22nd August, 1931.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a		Fort-night ended 22nd August, 1931.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a	
		Month before.	Year before.		Month before.	Year before.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	Days.	Days.	Days.
Cleveland ...	2,821	- 2·2	- 14·2	2·53	- 1·86	- 2·27
Cumberland and Lancashire ...	1,308	- 12·0	- 52·4	5·42	- 0·40	- 0·52
Other Districts ...	1,304	- 0·8	- 19·2	4·78	+ 0·30	- 0·63
ALL DISTRICTS	5,433	- 4·4	- 29·0	3·76	- 1·03	- 1·57

SHALE MINING.

The number of workpeople employed at the West Lothian mines during the fortnight ended 22nd August, 1931, by firms making returns was 1,742, showing a decrease of 30·5 per cent. as compared with July, 1931, and a decrease of 31·2 per cent. as compared with August, 1930. The average number of days worked per week* in the period by the mines making returns was 5·92 in August, 1931, as compared with 5·63 in July, 1931, and 6·00 in August, 1930.

* See footnote * in previous column.

PIG IRON INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT during August showed a further decline, and remained very bad. The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, was 39.9 at 24th August, 1931, as compared with 34.7 at 27th July, 1931, and with 30.7 at 25th August, 1930.

According to information received from the National Federation of Iron and Steel Manufacturers, 64 furnaces were in operation at the end of August, 1931, as compared with 70 at the end of July, 1931, and 104 at the end of August, 1930. In the case of 68 firms, employing 9,542 workpeople at the end of August, 1931, the returns showed a decrease of 12.8 per cent. in the numbers employed compared with July, 1931, and a decrease of 33.0 per cent. compared with August, 1930.

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

Districts.	Total Number of Furnaces.	Number of Furnaces in Blast.			Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) on a	
		Aug. 1931.	July, 1931.	Aug. 1930.	Month before.	Year before.
ENGLAND AND WALES.						
Durham and Cleveland	93	21	23	25	— 2	— 4
Cumberland and W. Lancs. ...	43	3	6	10	— 3	— 7
Parts of Lancs. and Yorks. (including Sheffield) and North Wales ...	26	4	4	8	...	— 4
Derby, Leicester, Notts. and Northants ...	53	21	21	25	...	— 4
Lincolnshire ...	25	7	7	11	...	— 4
Staffs., Shropshire, Worcester and War- wick ...	44	6	6	10	...	— 4
South Wales and Mon- mouthshire ...	21	1	2	3	— 1	— 2
England and Wales	305	63	69	92	— 6	— 29
SCOTLAND ...	89	1	1	12	...	— 11
GREAT BRITAIN ...	394	64	70	104	— 6	— 40

The production of pig iron in August, 1931, amounted to 275,700 tons, compared with 317,000 tons in July, 1931, 416,700 tons in August, 1930 and 682,000 tons in August, 1929.

TINPLATE AND STEEL SHEET INDUSTRIES.

In the tinplate industry employment showed a decline and was very bad generally. In the week ended 29th August, 1931, 340 tinplate mills were in operation at works for which information is available, as compared with 356 in the week ended 25th July, 1931, and with 377 in the week ended 30th August, 1930.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, was 36.8 at 24th August, 1931, as compared with 31.9 at 27th July, 1931, and at 25th August, 1930.

In steel sheet manufacture employment remained very bad. In the week ended 29th August, 1931, 73 mills were in operation at works for which information is available, as compared with 76 in the week ended 25th July, 1931, and with 66 in the week ended 30th August, 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 29th August, 1931.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) on a Month before.	Year before.	Week ended 29th August, 1931.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) on a Month before.	Year before.
Tinplate ...	60	— 5	— 7	340	— 16	— 37
Steel Sheet	7	— 2	+ 1	73	— 3	+ 7
TOTAL ...	67	— 7	— 6	413	— 19	— 30

The exports of tinned and galvanised plates and sheets in August, 1931, amounted to 52,480 tons, or 10,995 tons less than in July, 1931, and 6,501 tons less than in August, 1930.

IRON AND STEEL MANUFACTURE.

EMPLOYMENT during August showed a decline, and remained very bad. The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, was 45.2 at 24th August, 1931, as compared with 42.8 at 27th July, 1931, and 36.8 at 25th August, 1930.

At certain firms employing 39,762 workpeople, from which returns were received for the week ended 22nd August, 1931, the volume of employment in that week (as indicated by the number of shifts*

during which work was carried on in each department) decreased by 6.6 per cent. as compared with the week ended 25th July, 1931, and by 16.4 per cent. as compared with August, 1930. The average number of shifts during which the works were open was 5.3 in the week ended 22nd August, 1931, the same as in July, 1931, as compared with 5.2 in August, 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 22nd August 1931.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) as compared with a Month before.	Year before.	Week ended 22nd August, 1931.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) as compared with a Month before.	Year before.
		Per cent.	Per cent.		Per cent.	Per cent.
Open Hearth Melting Furnaces ...	3,438	— 6.3	— 21.9	19,643	— 6.6	— 21.1
Puddling Forges ...	776	+ 3.7	— 26.3	3,234	+ 4.5	— 28.6
Rolling Mills ...	15,154	— 1.9	— 8.8	73,000	— 2.1	— 3.2
Forging & Pressing	874	— 41.7	— 54.9	4,279	— 44.6	— 53.6
Founding ...	5,835	+ 3.7	— 19.7	32,166	— 2.9	— 18.8
Other Departments	5,768	— 14.7	— 21.2	32,741	— 13.8	— 20.7
Mechanics, Labourers ...	7,917	— 5.0	— 19.4	45,301	— 5.0	— 18.5
TOTAL ...	39,762	— 6.5	— 17.9	210,364	— 6.6	— 16.4
DISTRICTS.						
Northumberland, Durham and Cleveland ...	10,113	— 3.4	— 12.1	55,144	— 5.0	— 7.8
Sheffield & Rotherham ...	14,071	— 3.9	— 16.0	73,816	— 3.8	— 15.4
Leeds, Bradford, etc. ...	353	— 9.7	— 33.0	1,627	— 2.7	— 32.9
Cumberland, Lancs. and Cheshire ...	3,163	— 26.7	— 38.2	16,130	— 26.2	— 37.1
Staffordshire ...	4,432	+ 3.7	— 7.8	23,032	+ 3.4	— 10.1
Other Midland Counties ...	2,971	+ 5.7	+ 0.1	15,867	+ 4.5	— 1.0
Wales and Monmouth ...	4,659	— 16.9	— 30.8	24,748	— 16.1	— 28.9
Scotland ...	†	†	†	†	†	†
TOTAL ...	39,762	— 6.5	— 17.9	210,364	— 6.6	— 16.4

The production of steel ingots and castings, as shown in returns received from the National Federation of Iron and Steel Manufacturers, amounted to 357,300 tons in August, 1931, as compared with 428,700 tons in July, 1931, 451,300 tons in August, 1930 and 753,300 tons in August, 1929.

SHIPBUILDING AND SHIP-REPAIRING.

EMPLOYMENT remained very bad during August, and showed a further decline on the whole. As in the previous month, the highest percentages of insured workpeople recorded as unemployed—over 60 per cent.—were shown in the two principal districts (the North-Eastern division and Scotland), while only the two Southern divisions had less than 40 per cent. unemployed. Two divisions showed a slight improvement compared with the previous month, but all the other divisions showed a decline.

Compared with a year ago there was a heavy decline in nearly every district.

The following Table shows the numbers and percentages of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, at 24th August, 1931, and the increase or decrease as compared with 27th July, 1931, and 25th August, 1930 :—

Divisions.	Total Number of Insured Workpeople Unemployed at 24th August, 1931.	Increase (+) or Decrease (—) in Numbers Unemployed as compared with a		Percentage Unemployed at 24th August, 1931.	Increase (+) or Decrease (—) in Percentage Unemployed as compared with a	
		Month before.	Year before.		Month before.	Year before.
London ...	4,565	+ 596	+ 2,212	47.5	+ 6.2	+ 23.0
South-Eastern ...	1,544	+ 110	+ 873	20.6	+ 1.5	+ 11.6
South-Western ...	5,926	+ 480	+ 1,468	27.9	+ 2.3	+ 6.9
Midlands ...	139	+ 5	— 18	42.1	+ 1.5	— 5.5
North-Eastern ...	40,188	+ 828	+ 16,519	65.8	+ 1.3	+ 27.0
North-Western ...	14,876	+ 647	+ 4,211	51.6	+ 2.2	+ 14.6
Scotland ...	36,186	— 198	+ 15,747	64.2	— 0.3	+ 28.0
Wales ...	4,375	+ 196	— 516	59.3	+ 2.7	— 7.0
Northern Ireland	6,383	— 99	+ 3,255	51.4	— 0.8	+ 26.2
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND ...	114,182	+ 2,565	+ 43,751	55.8	+ 1.3	+ 21.4

* See footnote * in previous column.

† Most of the iron and steel works in Scotland were closed on account of holidays in the week ended 25th July, 1931. For the week ended 22nd August, 1931, the number of workpeople in Scottish works covered by the returns received was 7,573 and the aggregate number of shifts 33,402 as compared with 11,229 workpeople and 57,997 shifts in August, 1930.

* 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 August remained bad, and showed some further decline in all sections. The heaviest decline occurred in constructional engineering and in the motor vehicle section, in which employment was bad. In electrical engineering it remained slack, while in all other sections it was very bad.

Compared with a year before, employment was much worse in all sections and in all areas, the greatest decline being in marine engineering.

The following Table shows the numbers and percentages of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, at 24th August, 1931, and the increase or decrease as compared with a month before and a year before:—

Division.	Number of Insured Workpeople Unemployed at 24th August, 1931.						Increase (+) or Decrease (—) as compared with a	
	General Engineering; Engineers' Iron and Steel Founding.	Electrical Engineering.	Marine Engineering, etc.	Constructional Engineering.	Motor Vehicles, Cycles, and Aircraft.	TOTAL.	Month before.	Year before.
London ...	9,436	1,579	247	497	5,948	17,707	— 7	+ 7,582
South-Eastern ...	7,899	1,108	278	116	4,081	13,482	+ 684	+ 6,059
South-Western ...	4,852	235	975	159	4,541	10,762	— 391	+ 5,785
Midlands ...	21,286	4,437	146	1,692	35,282	62,843	+ 3,610	+ 17,993
North-Eastern ...	40,107	1,459	11,863	1,922	2,459	57,810	+ 1,289	+ 19,626
North-Western ...	50,673	3,834	296	858	5,004	60,665	+ 363	+ 16,867
Scotland ...	29,413	609	9,917	2,000	2,121	44,060	— 1,760	+ 21,849
Wales ...	2,126	87	47	213	547	3,020	+ 154	+ 991
Northern Ireland	2,179	104	2,763	14	335	5,395	— 51	+ 3,220
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTH-ERN IRELAND	167,971	13,452	26,532	7,471	60,318	275,744	+ 3,891	+ 99,972
Percentages Unemployed at 24th August, 1931.								
London ...	11.0	11.0	30.9	14.2	14.6	12.2	...	+ 5.2
South-Eastern ...	16.5	13.4	11.3	19.3	14.3	15.4	+ 0.8	+ 6.9
South-Western ...	13.5	6.6	15.2	27.4	16.1	14.4	— 0.5	+ 7.7
Midlands ...	23.6	15.3	9.5	24.6	35.8	27.8	+ 1.6	+ 8.0
North-Eastern ...	34.6	16.8	53.8	27.0	17.7	34.5	+ 0.8	+ 11.7
North-Western ...	39.6	17.4	43.5	28.9	23.0	34.6	+ 0.2	+ 9.6
Scotland ...	38.9	19.8	50.4	35.8	19.3	38.3	— 1.6	+ 19.0
Wales ...	38.2	21.8	33.6	30.4	25.3	33.7	+ 1.7	+ 11.1
Northern Ireland	31.4	26.0	43.7	35.0	15.5	34.0	— 0.3	+ 20.3
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTH-ERN IRELAND	28.4	15.0	44.2	26.7	24.4	27.1	+ 0.4	+ 9.8
<i>Ditto, July, 1931</i>	<i>28.3</i>	<i>14.7</i>	<i>43.7</i>	<i>25.4</i>	<i>23.3</i>	<i>26.7</i>	...	...
<i>Ditto, Aug., 1930</i>	<i>18.3</i>	<i>8.5</i>	<i>18.8</i>	<i>18.8</i>	<i>17.5</i>	<i>17.3</i>	...	...

On the North-East Coast employment remained very bad in general and marine engineering. In Yorkshire and Lincolnshire there was a slight improvement in general engineering at some centres, but employment on the whole remained bad. In Lancashire and Cheshire employment remained bad or very bad in all sections; in textile engineering an improvement at some centres was offset by a decline at others.

In the Birmingham, Wolverhampton and Coventry district employment in the motor vehicle section continued to decline and was very bad; it was also very bad in general engineering, holiday extensions being common during the earlier part of the month. In the Nottingham, Derby and Leicester district employment continued slack. In London and the Southern Counties employment showed little change on the whole, and continued quiet; there was some improvement in motor vehicle manufacture in the South-Western division.

In Scotland employment remained very bad, particularly in marine engineering; there was a slight improvement, however, in general engineering. It remained very bad also in Wales and in Northern Ireland.

COTTON INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT remained very bad, and showed a further slight decline; in most districts, however, it was not quite so bad as in August, 1930.

The percentage of insured workpeople recorded as unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, was 42.8 at 24th August, 1931, as compared with 41.5 at 27th July, 1931, and with 45.7 at 25th August, 1930.

At Ashton-under-Lyne employment continued very bad with spinners, and was worse than in July. At Glossop a slight improvement was reported but employment was still bad. At Stalybridge and Stockport there was no improvement; while at Hyde short time or temporary stoppages were prevalent. At Oldham employment continued very bad in the spinning section, and short time in various forms was general; the reductions in employment amounted altogether to about 58 per cent. of full capacity. It was reported that at least 3 per cent. of those engaged in the spinning section a year ago had ceased to be employed in the trade. In the manufacturing section also employment was very bad; a large amount of machinery was stopped, weavers being either indefinitely stopped, or "played off" for varying periods, or working with less than the normal number of looms. Under-employment was very prevalent with winders also. Employment generally at Oldham, however,

was not quite so bad as a year ago. At Shaw there was a further slight improvement in the Egyptian spinning section. At Royton there was a further decline. At Middleton employment was fairly good in the Egyptian section, but there was no improvement in the American section, in which short-time working continued. At Reddish full time was still worked by three of the largest mule spinning firms.

At Bolton employment showed a marked decline with spinners and card-room workers: it was very bad with spinners, and bad with card-room workers and with weavers; in the week ended 15th August, 47 per cent. of the operative cotton spinners were working less than half time, as compared with 37 per cent. in the week ended 1st August. At Leigh employment continued bad with spinners, and there was a decline in the weaving section. At Rochdale and at Bury little change was reported; employment continued depressed at both places.

At Chorley all the weaving sheds were working short time. At Blackburn unemployment increased with the end of the seasonal demand in the home trade; at the end of August 77 mills were closed down, out of a total of 130 in the district, and over 60 per cent. of the cotton operatives in the district were unemployed. At Accrington further reductions were reported in the number of weavers working. At Darwen there was a decline in the weaving department; at the end of August only 22 mills out of a total of 65 were working, and about 75 per cent. of the cotton operatives in the town were unemployed. At Great Harwood the general depression continued, and there was a further decline. At Burnley employment was bad, and was said to be getting gradually worse; mills were closing down for a week at a time, and few, if any, of those at work had all their looms running. At Padiham employment was very bad. Employment remained bad at Colne and at Nelson; very few firms at Nelson had all their looms running. In the Rossendale Valley employment continued very bad, with a large amount of short time and under-employment.

In Yorkshire employment continued bad at all the principal centres, and the holiday stoppages were extended by some firms; about two-thirds of the workpeople covered by the employers' returns for the week ended 22nd August were on short time, losing nearly 12 hours each on the average.

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 22nd August, 1931.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (−) on a		Week ended 22nd August, 1931.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (−) on a	
				Month before.	Year before.		Month before.	Year before.
				Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Preparing	...	...	10,347	− 0.7	+ 2.2	15,373	− 1.7	+ 6.3
Spinning	...	...	19,386	− 0.5	− 2.0	28,036	− 1.4	+ 3.5
Weaving	...	...	24,862	− 3.4	+ 1.5	39,190	− 2.3	+ 11.9
Other	...	...	7,386	− 3.6	+ 3.5	16,283	− 3.6	+ 6.0
TOTAL	...	...	61,981	− 2.1	+ 0.7	98,882	− 2.1	+ 7.6
DISTRICTS.								
Ashton	...	...	2,835	− 9.5	− 11.6	4,107	− 9.5	− 8.6
Stockport, Glossop and Hyde	...	...	4,645	− 5.6	− 28.7	6,936	− 6.2	− 29.8
Oldham	...	...	8,704	+ 0.6	+ 8.4	14,048	+ 1.3	+ 10.8
Bolton and Leigh	...	...	11,619	− 7.8	− 1.6	17,616	− 10.7	+ 5.8
Bury, Rochdale, Heywood, Walsden and Todmorden	...	...	6,140	+ 14.3	− 0.2	9,823	+ 17.5	+ 1.7
Manchester	...	...	3,784	− 3.8	+ 4.2	5,736	− 3.5	+ 14.1
Preston and Chorley	...	...	5,623	− 4.2	+ 28.6	9,355	− 2.6	+ 42.2
Blackburn, Accrington and Darwen	...	...	5,781	+ 1.7	+ 23.1	9,577	− 1.8	+ 33.1
Burnley and Padiham	...	...	3,114	− 6.6	+ 11.3	5,761	− 7.2	+ 34.5
Colne and Nelson	...	...	2,565	− 1.3	− 4.0	5,588	+ 1.6	+ 10.4
Other Lancashire Towns	...	...	1,839	− 1.8	+ 0.1	2,353	− 0.8	+ 8.6
Yorkshire Towns	...	...	2,516	+ 2.6	− 12.5	3,830	+ 5.5	− 5.5
Other Districts	...	...	2,816	− 1.8	− 4.6	4,152	− 0.3	− 0.9
TOTAL	...	...	61,981	− 2.1	+ 0.7	98,882	− 2.1	+ 7.6

Returns from firms employing about 58,900 operatives in the week ended 22nd August showed that about 23 per cent. were on short time in that week, with a loss of about 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 24th August, 1931:—

Department.	Numbers (excluding Casuals) on the Registers at 24th August, 1931.						
	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.			Total.
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
Card and Blow- ing Room ...	2,588	14,776	17,364	2,281	10,706	12,987	30,351
Spinning ...	15,504	11,981	27,485	12,789	9,161	21,950	49,435
Beaming, Wind- ing and Warp- ing ...	2,994	14,377	17,371	2,866	14,337	17,203	34,574
Weaving ...	12,821	44,861	57,682	6,306	16,109	22,415	80,097
Other Processes	1,963	538	2,501	578	440	1,018	3,519
Total ...	35,870	86,533	122,403	24,820	50,753	75,573	197,976

The following Table shows the increases and decreases as compared with 27th July, 1931:—

Department.	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.			Total.
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
Card and Blowing Room ...	+ 38	+ 138	+ 176	+ 275	+ 1,228	+ 1,503	+ 1,679
Spinning ...	+ 681	+ 239	+ 920	+ 2,316	+ 610	+ 2,926	+ 3,846
Beaming, Winding and Warping ...	+ 14	+ 424	+ 438	+ 377	+ 1,504	+ 1,881	+ 2,319
Weaving ...	+ 583	+ 1,807	+ 2,390	+ 314	+ 1,016	+ 1,330	+ 3,720
Other Processes ...	+ 42	- 29	+ 13	+ 56	- 113	- 57	- 44
Total ...	+ 1,358	+ 2,579	+ 3,937	+ 3,338	+ 4,245	+ 7,583	+ 11,520

The imports (less re-exports) of raw cotton (including cotton linters) were 59,975,800 lbs. in August, 1931, compared with 49,342,700 lbs. in July, 1931, and with 42,871,600 lbs. in August, 1930.

The exports of cotton yarn were 11,195,900 lbs. in August, 1931, compared with 11,273,400 lbs. in July, 1931, and with 10,181,800 lbs. in August, 1930.

The exports of cotton piece goods in August, 1931, were 143,805,900 square yards, compared with 177,319,300 square yards in the previous month, and 167,982,500 square yards in August, 1930.

WOOL TEXTILE INDUSTRY.

THE depression continued in this industry; many firms extended the holiday stoppages, and the number of short-time workers increased. There was little sign of the increased activity which is normally expected in some centres at this season of the year; on the contrary, there was a further marked decline in the worsted section, and little change in the woollen section. In the carpet section employment continued very slack.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed in the woollen and worsted industries, including those temporarily stopped, was 36·6 at 24th August, 1931, as compared with 36·0 at 27th July, 1931, and with 26·4 at 25th August, 1930.

Worsted Section.—Employment continued bad, and showed a further decline in all the principal departments and districts.

At Bradford and at Huddersfield employment continued depressed, and showed a further decline; much short time and unemployment were reported. At Sowerby Bridge there was some improvement with worsted workers. At Keighley all the mills were reported to be working short time, and there was a further decline during August. At Halifax and at Leeds short time was also prevalent, and employment was worse than in July, especially in the Leeds district. In the worsted section as a whole, returns from employers for the week ended 22nd August showed that over 50 per cent. of the operatives worked short time,* losing about 15 hours each on the average.

With wool sorters employment continued bad; 25 per cent. of the trade union workpeople were reported to be on short time. In the combing department the activity of the machinery in all sections was less than during July, and all sections were working short time. About 52 per cent. of the operatives covered by the employers' returns in the sorting, combing, and preparing departments lost, on an average, about 13 hours in short time in the week ended 22nd August.

In the worsted spinning department there was a marked decline. About 55 per cent. of the operatives covered by the employers' returns worked short time in the week ended 22nd August, losing about 15 hours each on the average. In the worsted weaving department there was also a marked decline. About 43 per cent. of the operatives covered by the employers' returns worked short time in the week ended 22nd August, losing 14 hours each on an average.*

Woollen Section.—Employment continued bad, and showed little general change as compared with the previous month. Employers' returns for the week ended 22nd August showed that 48 per cent. of the workers in the spinning department, and nearly 50 per cent. of those in the weaving department, were on short time,* losing 12 or 13 hours each on the average in each department. In the woollen section as a whole, 48 per cent. of the operatives lost, on an average, about 13 hours each in short time* in the week ended 22nd August; there was very little overtime except in the spinning department, in which 6 per cent. of the operatives worked overtime to the extent of about 10 hours each on the average.

In the Huddersfield and Colne Valley district there was only a very small amount of night work and overtime, and employment generally was bad. In the Heavy Woollen District (Dewsbury, Batley, etc.) employment showed no general improvement, and was poor generally, though some manufacturers of blankets, and of velours and tweeds and face-cloths were fairly well employed. In the rag and shoddy trade there was no improvement, and employment remained bad. In the blanket trade some full time working was reported at Hebden Bridge, but employment generally was slack or moderate. In the Stockport and Rochdale areas employment showed no improvement. At Saddleworth employment was bad;

* 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.

about 85 per cent. of the trade union operatives were on short time at the end of August. Under-employment was reported at Shaw; the improvement reported last month was not maintained. There was however, a slight improvement at Littleborough and at Mossley.

In the West of England short time working was still general. In Wales employment on the whole continued slack.

In Scotland employment declined, and the depression was acute. At least 90 per cent. of the trade union operatives were reported to be on short time, either losing some hours in the day or some days in the week, or being suspended for a week or more at a time. At Galashiels a further decline was reported; the August holidays were extended by many firms, and the operatives placed on short time when the mills re-opened. At Alloa there was some improvement, a number of women spinners having resumed full time working.

Carpet Section.—Employment on the whole continued very slack. At Kidderminster all firms closed for a week in August, and most of them had not resumed their normal activity at the end of the month. In Yorkshire a slight improvement was reported with some firms. In Scotland employment at the principal centres continued slack except with some firms in the Axminster section, in which employment was reported as fairly steady.

In the carpet industry as a whole, 46 per cent. of the workpeople covered by the employers' returns were on short time in the week ended 22nd August, losing 11 hours each on an average; little or no overtime was recorded.

The following Table summarises the returns received from employers:—

	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 22nd August, 1931.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (−) on a month before.	Index figure. (Jan., 1926 = 100.)	Week ended 22nd August, 1931.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (−) on a month before.	Index figure. (Jan., 1926 = 100.)
Departments :						
WORSTED SECTION :						
Wool Sorting and Combing ...	9,437	− 9·6	76·6	17,493	− 9·1	56·7
Spinning ...	32,479	− 2·4	77·9	38,768	− 12·9	59·2
Weaving ...	15,255	− 6·9	73·7	22,987	− 12·3	53·9
Other Depts. ...	8,744	− 5·6	88·1	17,539	− 9·2	66·3
Not specified ...	1,576	− 7·8	88·4	2,188	− 16·5	49·0
Total—Worsted	67,491	− 5·0	77·8	98,975	− 11·6	58·5
WOOLLEN SECTION :						
Wool Sorting ...	856	− 1·8	69·6	1,753	− 6·0	66·8
Spinning ...	11,201	+ 0·6	78·2	20,417	+ 0·8	72·8
Weaving ...	19,611	+ 0·0	81·9	30,329	− 1·9	72·1
Other Depts. ...	14,429	− 2·1	81·8	28,698	− 4·4	74·4
Not specified ...	1,752	+ 0·9	68·9	3,527	− 1·5	73·1
Total—Woollen	47,849	− 0·5	80·2	84,724	− 2·2	72·8
CARPET SECTION ...	9,211	+ 2·6	101·2	15,162	+ 3·7	88·6
Total—Wool Textile Industry ...	124,551	− 2·8	80·0	198,861	− 6·7	65·9
Districts† :						
WORSTED SECTION :						
Bradford ...	28,394	− 5·7	74·0	42,938	− 12·5	53·2
Huddersfield ...	7,596	− 5·5	83·7	11,206	− 8·7	56·7
Halifax ...	7,881	− 3·0	76·0	10,830	− 11·7	57·3
Leeds ...	6,933	− 9·7	79·0	9,497	− 17·5	60·8
Keighley ...	7,171	− 1·6	82·7	10,227	− 11·3	68·0
Heavy Woollen (Dewsbury, Batley, etc.) ...	3,138	− 4·5	91·4	4,112	− 7·0	79·5
Total, West Riding ...	61,113	− 5·3	77·4	88,810	− 12·1	57·1
West of England and Midlands ...	4,368	− 2·4	80·5	6,944	− 6·9	66·4
Lancashire ...	295	− 0·3	101·2	514	− 3·2	89·8
Scotland ...	1,715	− 2·3	82·2	2,707	− 4·1	105·1
Total—Worsted	67,491	− 5·0	77·8	98,975	− 11·6	58·5
WOOLLEN SECTION :						
Huddersfield ...	10,327	+ 1·2	73·7	19,409	+ 2·9	60·9
Heavy Woollen (Dewsbury, Batley, etc.) ...	9,393	+ 2·1	80·1	17,041	− 4·2	81·6
Leeds ...	6,519	− 0·7	84·1	12,174	− 1·3	78·4
Halifax and Calder Vale ...	1,939	− 1·9	81·6	3,765	− 0·9	67·2
Bradford ...	886	+ 4·6	97·3	1,541	− 5·9	70·8
Total, West Riding ...	29,064	+ 1·0	80·1	53,930	− 0·9	72·7
Lancashire ...	4,407	− 0·5	82·3	8,061	+ 2·2	78·2
West of England and Midlands ...	3,511	− 1·8	85·9	5,907	+ 0·6	88·6
Scotland ...	10,739	− 3·9	77·6	16,656	− 8·8	66·9
Wales ...	128	+ 3·2	100·0	170	+ 0·6	95·8
Total—Woollen	47,849	− 0·5	80·2	84,724	− 2·2	72·8
CARPET SECTION ...	9,211	+ 2·6	101·2	15,162	+ 3·7	88·6
Total—Wool Textile Industry ...	124,551	− 2·8	80·0	198,861	− 6·7	65·9

* Comparison of earnings is affected by reductions in rates of wages which have been made by certain firms at various dates since February, 1929.
† 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 22nd August, 1931, by those firms who supplied returns for the purpose of the foregoing Table (excluding the carpet section), as compared with the week ended 25th July, 1931:—

	Percentage Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) in numbers employed as compared with previous month. (...signifies "no change."—without a figure, signifies "few or no workpeople returned.")				
	Wool Sorting and Combing.	Spinning.	Weaving.	Other Depts.	All Depts. (including not specified).
WORSTED SECTION:					
Bradford ...	— 10·7	— 3·2	— 4·1	— 1·5	— 5·7
Huddersfield ...	— 0·7	+ 6·9	— 9·9	— 12·8	— 5·5
Halifax ...	— 18·6	— 1·2	— 7·3	— 4·7	— 3·0
Leeds ...	—	— 5·9	— 17·3	— 10·5	— 9·7
Keighley ...	— 0·9	— 1·2	— 2·3	— 3·4	— 1·6
Heavy Woollen (Dewsbury, Batley, etc.) ...	—	— 3·7	—	— 1·7	— 4·5
Total, West Riding ...	— 9·9	— 2·3	— 7·4	— 6·5	— 5·3
West of England and Midlands ...	— 4·5	— 4·0	+ 0·6	— 2·2	— 2·4
Lancashire ...	—	—	—	—	— 0·3
Scotland ...	—	— 3·2	—	— 2·0	— 2·3
TOTAL ...	— 9·6	— 2·4	— 6·9	— 5·6	— 5·0

	Percentage Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) in numbers employed as compared with previous month (...signifies "no change.")			
	Spinning.	Weaving.	Other Depts.	All Depts. (including not specified).
WOOLLEN SECTION:				
Huddersfield ...	+ 1·3	+ 1·9	+ 0·5	+ 1·2
Heavy Woollen (Dewsbury, Batley, etc.) ...	+ 1·4	+ 5·0	+ 0·2	+ 2·1
Leeds ...	— 0·1	— 0·9	— 1·0	— 0·7
Halifax and Calder Vale ...	— 0·7	— 3·6	— 0·4	— 1·9
Bradford ...	+ 5·3	+ 3·9	+ 9·1	+ 4·6
Total, West Riding ...	+ 0·9	+ 1·7	+ 0·3	+ 1·0
Lancashire ...	— 3·2	+ 1·6	— 2·3	— 0·5
West of England and Midlands ...	+ 0·4	— 2·9	— 3·0	— 1·8
Scotland ...	+ 0·9	— 4·0	— 7·5	— 3·9
Wales ...	+ 8·3	+ 5·3	—	+ 3·2
TOTAL ...	+ 0·6	+ 0·0	— 2·1	— 0·5

The following Table shows the number of men and of women (other than casuals) on the registers of Employment Exchanges in the principal wool textile trade centres at 24th August, 1931:—

Department.	Numbers (excluding Casuals) on the Registers at 24th August, 1931.						
	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.			Total.
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
Wool Sorting ...	424	12	436	792	2	794	1,230
Wool Washing and Preparing ...	845	1,056	1,901	877	501	1,378	3,279
Wool Combing ...	530	775	1,305	1,370	849	2,219	3,524
Wool Carding ...	763	267	1,030	1,285	177	1,462	2,492
Woollen Spinning ...	626	403	1,029	770	480	1,250	2,279
Worsted Drawing and Spinning ...	1,018	5,316	6,334	964	5,838	6,802	13,136
Wool Winding and Warping ...	202	78	280	464	159	623	903
Worsted Winding and Warping ...	254	966	1,220	533	1,671	2,204	3,424
Woollen Weaving ...	438	2,489	2,927	830	3,175	4,005	6,932
Worsted Weaving ...	358	2,461	2,819	364	6,568	6,932	9,751
Other Processes ...	1,596	278	1,874	1,700	354	2,054	3,928
Total ...	7,054	14,101	21,155	9,949	19,774	29,723	50,878

The following Table shows the increases and decreases as compared with 27th July, 1931:—

Department.	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.			Total.
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
Wool Sorting ...	+ 22	+ 6	+ 28	+ 93	— 3	+ 90	+ 118
Wool Washing and Preparing ...	— 29	+ 52	+ 23	+ 113	+ 2	+ 115	+ 138
Wool Combing ...	+ 72	+ 13	+ 85	+ 374	+ 112	+ 486	+ 571
Wool Carding ...	— 29	— 4	— 33	+ 227	— 61	+ 166	+ 133
Woollen Spinning ...	+ 17	+ 39	+ 56	— 24	+ 10	— 14	+ 42
Worsted Drawing and Spinning ...	— 37	+ 23	— 14	— 1	— 323	— 324	— 338
Wool Winding and Warping ...	+ 21	— 10	+ 11	— 5	— 39	— 44	— 33
Worsted Winding and Warping ...	+ 50	+ 41	+ 91	+ 43	+ 111	+ 154	+ 245
Woollen Weaving ...	+ 31	+ 72	+ 103	— 268	— 630	— 898	— 795
Worsted Weaving ...	+ 3	+ 298	+ 301	+ 3	+ 192	+ 195	+ 496
Other Processes ...	+ 24	...	+ 24	+ 93	+ 24	+ 117	+ 141
Total ...	+ 145	+ 530	+ 675	+ 648	— 605	+ 43	+ 718

The imports (less re-exports) of raw wool (sheep's or lambs') were 5,528,400 lbs. in August, 1931, compared with 20,687,500 lbs. in the previous month and 19,730,500 lbs. in August, 1930.

The exports of woollen and worsted yarns were 3,097,700 lbs. compared with 3,516,300 lbs. in July, 1931, and with 3,115,200 lbs. in August, 1930.

The exports of woollen and worsted tissues in August, 1931, were 7,910,600 square yards, compared with 8,719,800 square yards in the previous month, and with 10,999,100 square yards in August, 1930.

The exports of blankets were 27,162 pairs, 43,761 pairs, and 61,206 pairs in August, 1931, July, 1931, and August, 1930, respectively.

BOOT AND SHOE INDUSTRY.

THE customary holiday at the beginning of August was extended by many firms. After the resumption of work employment was generally slack or quiet; by the end of the month, however, there was some improvement, and employment was moderate at most establishments, showing a slight general improvement on the previous month.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, was 20·3 at 24th August, 1931, as compared with 23·5 at 27th July, 1931, and with 16·9 at 25th August, 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 22nd August, 1931.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (−) on a		Week ended 22nd August, 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	1,674	+ 0·6	− 1·0	3,573	+ 0·2	− 3·4
Leicester	10,138	+ 2·1	− 1·9	23,037	+ 4·4	− 1·7
Leicester Country District	3,854	+ 1·3	+ 2·9	8,229	+ 0·6	+ 2·3
Northampton... ..	6,974	+ 2·2	− 6·3	15,675	− 3·2	− 9·8
Higham, Rushden and District	5,619	+ 1·6	+ 1·5	13,140	+ 3·1	− 0·5
Kettering and District	5,567	+ 0·8	− 0·5	13,679	− 0·1	+ 0·7
Rest of Northants	1,535	− 0·4	− 11·4	3,224	+ 1·0	− 16·8
Stafford and District	2,481	− 0·9	− 0·7	4,986	+ 6·2	− 4·4
Norwich and District	5,500	− 1·0	− 4·6	10,780	+ 3·0	− 2·4
Bristol, Kingswood and District	2,071	− 0·6	− 2·4	4,160	+ 3·1	+ 0·8
Leeds and District	1,649	+ 1·7	− 5·7	3,352	+ 8·3	− 14·5
Lancashire (mainly Rossendale Valley)	5,705	+ 3·0	+ 1·7	10,145	− 6·9	− 12·3
Birmingham and District	948	+ 0·2	− 9·1	1,906	+ 2·0	− 0·8
Other parts of England and Wales	3,852	+ 1·1	− 2·5	8,663	− 0·8	− 4·1
England and Wales	57,567	+ 1·2	− 2·1	124,549	+ 0·9	− 4·2
Scotland	2,200	− 2·0	− 1·2	4,726	− 3·8	− 4·4
Great Britain... ..	59,767	+ 1·1	− 2·1	129,275	+ 0·7	− 4·2

Returns received from firms employing about 58,600 workpeople in the week ended 22nd August indicated that about 43 per cent. of those operatives were on short time in that week, losing about 9½ hours each on the average; very little overtime was worked.

Employment in London continued slack or moderate at most establishments. At Leicester employment remained slack generally, though a few firms were busy; many firms extended the holiday stoppage, some to a full fortnight. At the end of the month there was some improvement; though a little more than half of the operatives covered by the employers' returns for the week ended 22nd August were losing 11 hours each on the average, these figures compared with nearly two-thirds, and 12 hours, in the previous month. In the Leicester country district there was little change, and employment remained slack. At Northampton many firms extended the holiday stoppage; in the latter half of the month employment was slack on the whole. In the week ended 22nd August, a little over two-thirds of the operatives covered by the employers' returns were on short time, losing about 8½ hours each on the average. In the Higham and Rushden district there was a slight improvement, and employment was moderate; several firms worked full time, and an appreciable amount of overtime was reported. At Kettering employment continued moderate to fair; less short time was worked at this centre than at most of the other centres. There was a slight improvement at Wellingborough towards the end of the month, and employment was moderate with most firms; there is a considerable surplus of labour in the lasting and finishing departments at this centre. An improvement was reported at Wollaston, less short time being worked; employment remained moderate to fair at Raunds and at Finedon; it was bad generally at Irthlingborough, though some firms were well employed. At Stafford employment remained slack; more than two-thirds of the workpeople were on short time in the week ended 22nd August, though this was not quite so high a proportion as in July. At Norwich employment remained slack with most firms; many operatives were unemployed, and there was much short time working.

In the Bristol and Kingswood district employment showed a further slight improvement, chiefly in the light goods trade, in which it was moderate to fair; it remained quiet with most firms in the heavy trade. At Leeds employment continued bad; at the

end of the month it showed a slight improvement as compared with July, but was considerably worse than in August of last year. In the slipper trade in Lancashire there was little general change, and short time working still prevailed, though some firms were better employed than others; it remained bad at Rawtenstall and moderate at Bury; it remained good at Preston, and there was a slight improvement at Bacup.

In Scotland there was a decline on the whole; although employment remained good, and showed a further improvement, at Maybole.

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 24th August, 1931:—

August, 1931:-							
Department.	Numbers (excluding Casuals) on the Registers at 24th August, 1931.						Total.
	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.			
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women	Total.	
Boot and Shoe Manu- facture :							
Preparing Depart- ment	242	91	333	140	46	186	519
Rough Stuff De- partment	546	76	622	347	9	356	978
Clicking Department	1,177	25	1,202	1,250	13	1,263	2,465
Closing Department	35	2,106	2,141	14	1,646	1,660	3,801
Making Department	2,646	115	2,761	2,129	44	2,173	4,934
Finishing Depart- ment	1,987	1,003	2,990	1,364	628	1,992	4,982
Slipper Making ...	375	268	643	747	536	1,283	1,926
Clog Making... ..	26	8	34	2	1	3	37
Repairing and Hand- sewn Work	737	4	741	33	2	35	776
TOTAL	7,771	3,696	11,467	6,026	2,925	8,951	20,418

The following Table shows the increases and decreases as compared with 27th July, 1931:—

Department.	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.			Total.
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
Boot and Shoe Manufacture:							
Preparing Department ...	+ 37	+ 6	+ 43	- 180	+ 14	- 166	- 123
Rough Stuff Department ...	+ 30	+ 11	+ 41	+ 17	- 12	+ 5	+ 46
Clicking Department ...	- 145	+ 1	- 144	- 344	+ 3	- 341	- 485
Closing Department ...	+ 2	+ 27	+ 29	- 28	- 706	- 734	- 705
Making Department ...	+ 118	- 4	+ 114	- 149	...	- 149	- 35
Finishing Department ...	+ 154	+ 106	+ 260	+ 59	- 43	+ 16	+ 276
Slipper Making ...	+ 16	+ 17	+ 33	- 1	+ 37	+ 36	+ 69
Clog Making ...	+ 2	+ 1	+ 3	- 1	...	- 1	+ 2
Repairing and Hand-sewn Work ...	- 7	- 4	- 11	- 14	+ 1	- 13	- 24
TOTAL ...	+ 207	+ 161	+ 368	- 641	- 706	- 1,347	- 979

The exports of boots and shoes in August, 1931, amounted to 71,930 dozen pairs, or 8,278 dozen pairs less than in July, 1931, and 28,364 dozen pairs less than in August, 1930.

BRICK INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT during August showed a slight decline, but was still moderate on the whole.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, was 17.4 at 24th August, 1931, as compared with 16.4 at 27th July, 1931, and 12.9 at 25th August, 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 22nd Aug., 1931.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month before.	Week ended 22nd Aug., 1931.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month before.
	Per cent.	Per cent.		£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Northern Counties, Yorkshire, Lancashire and Cheshire ...	1,582	+ 4.9	- 8.8	3,595	- 4.9	- 15.4
Midlands and Eastern Counties ...	6,992	+ 0.4	- 4.8	18,753	+ 0.7	- 8.1
South and South-West Counties and Wales ...	1,973	+ 1.8	+ 2.7	4,374	- 1.8	- 7.3
Scotland ...	166	+ 2.5	- 14.0	347	- 12.4	- 29.9
TOTAL ...	10,713	+ 1.3	- 4.3	27,069	- 0.7	- 9.3

Returns from employers relative to short-time working, exclusive of time lost on account of bad weather, showed that, of 10,031 workpeople employed by firms furnishing information, 7½ per cent. were working on an average about 14 hours less than full time in the week ended 22nd August, 1931; the amount of overtime worked was very small.

POTTERY INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT in North Staffordshire showed little change, and continued bad, generally; in many cases the August holidays were extended, and there was much short-time working. At Derby, employment continued slack; at Worcester and at Bristol it was fair; in the stoneware section in Scotland it remained bad.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, was 36.2 at 24th August, 1931, as compared with 37.0 at 27th July, 1931, and 26.9 at 25th August, 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 22nd August, 1931.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month before.	Week ended 22nd August, 1931.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month before.
	Per cent.	Per cent.		£	Per cent.	Per cent.
China Manufacture ...	1,380	- 6.1	- 12.5	2,335	- 9.7	- 17.9
Earthenware Manufacture ...	6,396	+ 0.4	- 6.9	9,697	- 2.5	- 18.3
Other Branches (including unspecified) ...	1,699	- 4.4	- 3.8	2,903	- 7.6	- 15.8
TOTAL ...	9,475	- 1.5	- 7.2	14,935	- 4.7	- 17.7
DISTRICTS.						
North Staffordshire ...	7,296	- 1.8	- 5.8	10,504	- 5.6	- 15.4
Other Districts ...	2,179	- 0.6	- 11.6	4,431	- 2.6	- 22.8
TOTAL ...	9,475	- 1.5	- 7.2	14,935	- 4.7	- 17.7

Returns from employers relative to short-time working showed that, of 8,373 workpeople employed by firms making returns, 4,338, or nearly 52 per cent., were working on an average about 14½ hours less than full time in the week ended 22nd August, 1931; the amount of overtime worked was very small.

BUILDING.

THERE was a slight decline during August, and employment was slack on the whole. It was reported as good at Hull and Oxford, however, and as fair or fairly good at a few other centres, including Preston, Lancaster and Southend-on-Sea. As compared with August, 1930, employment was worse in each administrative division, particularly in Northern Ireland.

As regards individual occupations employment was moderate to slack with bricklayers and masons; very slack with carpenters, slaters, plasterers, painters and tradesmen's labourers; and bad with plumbers. During the month there was a decline with masons and painters and some improvement with plumbers; the level of employment with other classes showed little change. As compared with August, 1930, employment was considerably worse 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 24th August, 1931, together with the increase or decrease as compared with the previous month and with August, 1930:—

OCCUPATIONS.	Estimated Numbers of Insured Workpeople at July, 1930.	Total Numbers Unemployed at 24th August, 1931.	Numbers 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	22,637	800	18.0	+ 0.4	+ 7.6
Bricklayers ...	73,790	8,388	482	11.4	+ 0.2	+ 3.8
Masons ...	21,180	2,875	326	13.6	+ 1.1	+ 5.7
Slaters ...	6,020	1,142	97	19.0	+ 0.1	+ 5.0
Plasterers ...	24,260	4,411	260	18.2	+ 0.1	+ 7.6
Painters ...	105,660	24,633	964	23.3	+ 0.8	+ 8.2
Plumbers ...	32,850	6,736	427	20.5	- 0.8	+ 6.5
Labourers to above ...	240,660	46,618	1,440	19.4	...	+ 3.8
All other occupations ...	202,150	46,186	1,633	22.8	+ 2.2	+ 4.7
Total ...	832,270	163,626	6,429	19.7	+ 0.8	+ 5.5
DIVISIONS.						
London ...	177,960	30,885	59	17.4	- 0.1	+ 7.8
South-Eastern ...	134,170	16,778	114	12.5	+ 0.2	+ 5.1
South-Western ...	102,830	15,985	194	15.5	+ 0.5	+ 4.9
Midlands ...	101,130	18,310	1,342	18.1	+ 0.9	+ 5.2
North-Eastern ...	95,710	22,634	1,863	23.6	+ 1.0	+ 1.8
North-Western ...	103,210	26,209	1,563	25.4	+ 1.9	+ 3.5
Scotland ...	75,250	17,071	946	22.7	+ 1.3	+ 5.5
Wales ...	25,640	9,479	343	37.0	+ 2.9	+ 8.7
Northern Ireland ...	16,370	6,275	5	38.3	- 0.9	+ 16.6
Great Britain and Northern Ireland ...	832,270	163,626	6,429	19.7	+ 0.8	+ 5.5

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

BUILDING PLANS APPROVED.

Returns from Local Authorities in 142 of the principal urban areas in Great Britain (except the London County Council area), with a total population of 16,042,000, show that in August, 1931, plans were passed for buildings of an estimated cost of £3,046,300, as compared with £7,556,400 in July, 1931, and £3,514,700 in August, 1930. Of the total for August, 1931, dwelling-houses accounted for £2,001,400; factories and workshops for £201,000; shops, offices, warehouses and other business premises for £156,900; and other buildings, and additions and alterations to existing buildings, for £687,000.

PAPER MANUFACTURE, PRINTING, AND BOOKBINDING.

EMPLOYMENT in the paper making industry during August was moderate on the whole. Full time was again reported in many mills, but in others short time was still being worked.

In the letterpress printing trade employment remained moderate, though there was a slight decline generally, compared with July. Employment was reported as slack at Bristol, Newcastle and Glasgow, and as bad at Bradford, Liverpool, Birmingham and Cardiff. An improvement during the month, however, was noted at the two last-named centres and also at Bristol, Leeds and Norwich. With electrotypers and stereotypers employment continued fairly good generally; it was reported as worse than during July in London and at Manchester and Sheffield.

Employment with lithographic printers was slack on the whole; short time was reported from many centres, including Bristol, Leeds, Liverpool and Glasgow. With lithographic artists employment on the whole was slack to fair.

In the bookbinding trade employment continued moderate on the whole, though slightly worse than during July.

The percentage unemployed among insured workpeople in the paper and paper-board industries was 15.3 at 24th August, compared with 15.8 at 27th July, and 8.4 at 25th August, 1930. In the printing and bookbinding industries the percentage was 10.4 at 24th August, compared with 9.9 at 27th July, and 6.8 at 25th August, 1930. In the cardboard box, paper bag, and stationery industries the percentage was 12.8 at 24th August, compared with 13.0 at 27th July, and 8.1 at 25th August, 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 August, 1931.	Percentage Unemployed at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (—) on a	
		August, 1931.	July, 1931.	August, 1930.	Month before.	Year before.
Letterpress Printing:						
London	38,809	6.4	6.1	2.9	+ 0.3	+ 3.5
Northern Counties, Yorkshire, Lancashire and Cheshire.	17,080	6.6	6.7	4.0	— 0.1	+ 2.6
Midlands and Eastern Counties	10,877	4.7	5.0	2.8	— 0.3	+ 1.9
Scotland	6,253	7.0	6.3	3.0	+ 0.7	+ 4.0
Other Districts ...	11,052	5.8	5.3	3.0	+ 0.5	+ 2.8
Total	84,071	6.2	6.0	3.1	+ 0.2	+ 3.1
Lithographic Printing	11,611	8.8	8.0	4.0	+ 0.8	+ 4.8
Bookbinding	19,027	8.4	8.2	5.7	+ 0.2	+ 2.7

DOCK AND RIVERSIDE LABOUR.

EMPLOYMENT during August remained bad. Among insured workpeople in the dock, harbour, river and canal service, 40.3 per cent. were unemployed at 24th August, 1931, as compared with 40.1 per cent. at 27th July, 1931, and with 35.7 at 25th August, 1930.

London.—Employment remained 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—					
1st Aug., 1931	3,779	1,926	5,705	7,057	12,762
8th " "	3,581	1,731	5,312	7,146	12,458
15th " "	3,706	1,534	5,240	6,969	12,209
22nd " "	3,676	1,606	5,282	6,764	12,046
29th " "	3,879	1,441	5,320	6,957	12,277
Average for 5 weeks ended 29th Aug., 1931	3,729	1,645	5,374	6,973	12,347
Average for July, 1931	3,879	1,870	5,749	7,002	12,751
Average for Aug., 1930	4,033	1,595	5,628	6,994	12,622

Tilbury.—The average daily number of dock labourers employed during August was 666, compared with 656 in July, 1931, and with 878 in August, 1930.

East Coast.—On the North-East coast employment remained bad on the whole. At Hull it continued to be moderate, and at Yarmouth, Lowestoft, Lynn and Ipswich it was fair.

Liverpool.—Employment showed a further slight decline and was very bad.

The average weekly number of dock labourers registered at the clearing houses under the Liverpool Docks Scheme as employed in the four weeks ended 28th August, 1931, was 10,332, compared with 10,399 in July, 1931, and with 12,184 in August, 1930. The average weekly amount of wages paid to these men through the clearing houses was £22,648 in the four weeks ended 28th August, 1931, compared with £22,992 in July, 1931, and with £28,263 in August, 1930.

Other Ports in England and Wales.—Employment remained slack at the South Wales ports, but there was a continued improvement at Bristol, Avonmouth and Gloucester, mainly due to increased timber imports. Employment was only moderate at Southampton and was somewhat below the level of the previous month. It remained slack at Plymouth and other South-Western ports. At Manchester it continued poor.

Scottish and Irish Ports.—Employment was good at Leith and better than in July. It continued bad at Glasgow and Dundee. At Belfast it continued fair.

SEAMEN.

DURING August employment remained bad. The supply of seamen was more than adequate for requirements at most ports.

Among insured workpeople in the shipping service the percentage unemployed at 24th August, 1931, was 35.1, compared with 35.2 at 27th July, 1931, and 23.6 at 25th August, 1930.

The demand for men on the Thames varied from slack to fair, and in the last week was moderate. On the Tyne it was slack apart from a slight increase in activity in the middle of the month; on the Tees it was quiet, with an improving tendency. At the Hartlepoons it was dull, with slackness more marked in the second and last weeks of August; on the Wear and at Hull the demand was slack until the last week, when conditions improved. The demand at Southampton was fair throughout the month. At Bristol it was slack, except during the second week when some activity was noted; at Avonmouth it was moderate until the last week, when it slackened somewhat. The demand at Newport varied from quiet to moderate; at Cardiff it improved during the first half of the month from poor to fair and was moderate thereafter until the end of August; at Swansea it was good until the last week, when it became slack. On the Mersey the demand declined during the first three weeks, but improved substantially in the last week and at the end of August was good; at Manchester, apart from some slackness in the middle of the month, it was fair. On the Clyde the demand was very slack at the beginning of the month, it improved during the second week to fair, but declined thereafter and was poor at the end of August. At Leith it was variable, but showed an improving tendency towards the end of the month. At Belfast it was very slack.

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 August:—

Principal Ports.	Number of Seamen* shipped in				
	August, 1931.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) on a		Eight Months ended	
		Month before.	Year before.	August, 1931.	August, 1930.
ENGLAND AND WALES:					
Liverpool†	10,772	+ 68	— 2,382	75,023	97,688
Manchester	631	— 23	— 135	4,882	5,261
London	7,260	— 2,179	— 3,409	63,983	78,887
Southampton... ..	9,490	+ 377	— 1,576	68,358	77,516
Tyne Ports	1,687	— 172	— 404	15,858	18,327
Sunderland	317	+ 120	+ 88	1,869	2,070
Middlesbrough ...	291	— 69	— 140	1,739	2,983
Hull	754	— 170	— 197	7,107	8,327
Bristol†	953	— 181	+ 79	7,668	7,664
Newport, Mon. ...	411	+ 111	— 22	3,110	4,523
Cardiff§	2,089	+ 245	— 71	14,940	17,191
Swansea	662	+ 48	— 209	4,583	5,650
SCOTLAND:					
Leith	306	+ 43	— 27	1,989	2,146
Kirkcaldy, Methil and Grangemouth ...	261	— 393	— 131	3,063	3,581
Glasgow	2,329	— 824	— 1,368	21,446	27,680
NORTHERN IRELAND:					
Belfast	151	+ 1	— 42	1,395	1,921
TOTAL for above Ports	38,364	— 2,998	— 9,946	297,013	361,415

* 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 24th August, 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 354 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 354.

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 24th AUGUST, 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	4,267	82	4,349	112	125	237	4,379	207	4,586	4,362	207	4,569
Mining :—												
Coal Mining	205,921	1,278	207,199	122,445	506	122,951	328,366	1,784	330,150	328,307	1,784	330,091
Iron Ore and Ironstone Mining, etc.	4,152	6	4,158	2,075	—	2,075	6,227	6	6,233	6,198	5	6,203
Lead, Tin and Copper Mining ...	3,070	13	3,083	79	—	79	3,149	13	3,162	3,149	13	3,162
Stone Quarrying and Mining ...	5,452	17	5,469	1,710	6	1,716	7,162	23	7,185	6,785	23	6,808
Slate Quarrying and Mining ...	1,259	2	1,261	2,011	—	2,011	3,270	2	3,272	3,266	2	3,268
Mining and Quarrying not separately specified	2,762	275	3,037	652	3	655	3,414	278	3,692	3,329	278	3,607
Clay, Sand, Gravel and Chalk Pits	2,887	32	2,919	661	16	677	3,548	48	3,596	3,480	48	3,528
Non-Metalliferous Mining Products :—												
Coke Ovens and By-Product Works	2,945	39	2,984	1,192	5	1,197	4,137	44	4,181	4,137	44	4,181
Artificial Stone and Concrete ...	3,513	186	3,699	580	56	636	4,093	242	4,335	4,049	242	4,291
Cement, Limekilns and Whiting ...	2,436	156	2,592	403	8	411	2,839	164	3,003	2,814	164	2,978
Brick, Tile, etc., Making	9,681	1,725	11,406	2,987	330	3,317	12,668	2,055	14,723	12,346	2,055	14,401
Pottery, Earthenware, etc.	5,411	8,852	14,263	5,728	8,443	14,171	11,139	17,295	28,434	11,120	17,293	28,413
Glass Trades :—												
Glass (excluding Bottles and Scientific Glass)	3,785	1,150	4,935	2,031	273	2,304	5,816	1,423	7,239	5,796	1,423	7,219
Glass Bottles	3,198	346	3,544	1,588	112	1,700	4,786	458	5,244	4,786	458	5,244
Chemicals, etc. :—												
Chemicals	14,405	2,094	16,499	1,733	358	2,091	16,138	2,452	18,590	15,976	2,449	18,425
Explosives	1,268	895	2,163	509	112	621	1,777	1,007	2,784	1,777	1,007	2,784
Paint, Varnish, Red and White Leads	1,508	502	2,010	192	23	215	1,700	525	2,225	1,690	525	2,215
Oil, Glue, Soap, Ink, Matches, etc.	5,917	2,092	8,009	1,485	357	1,842	7,402	2,449	9,851	7,360	2,417	9,777
Metal Manufacture :—												
Pig Iron (Blast Furnaces)	6,496	81	6,577	2,143	18	2,161	8,639	99	8,738	8,634	98	8,732
Steel Melting and Iron Puddling, Iron and Steel Rolling and Forging	39,027	507	39,534	41,949	243	42,192	80,976	750	81,726	80,967	750	81,717
Brass, Copper, Zinc, Tin, Lead, etc.	6,964	587	7,551	3,067	81	3,148	10,031	668	10,699	9,953	667	10,620
Tin Plates	3,805	381	4,186	6,807	637	7,444	10,612	1,018	11,630	10,612	1,018	11,630
Iron and Steel Tubes	5,270	244	5,514	6,875	72	6,947	12,145	316	12,461	12,143	316	12,459
Wire, Wire Netting, Wire Ropes ...	2,785	745	3,530	3,545	256	3,801	6,330	1,001	7,331	6,328	1,001	7,329
Engineering, etc. :—												
General Engineering; Engineers' Iron and Steel Founding	111,950	5,449	117,399	46,325	4,247	50,572	158,275	9,696	167,971	156,104	9,688	165,792
Electrical Engineering	8,936	2,247	11,183	1,896	373	2,269	10,832	2,620	13,452	10,729	2,619	13,348
Marine Engineering, etc.	22,534	131	22,665	3,790	77	3,867	26,324	208	26,532	23,562	207	23,769
Constructional Engineering	5,936	127	6,063	1,391	17	1,408	7,327	144	7,471	7,313	144	7,457
Construction and Repair of Vehicles :—												
Motor Vehicles, Cycles and Aircraft Carriages, Carts, etc.	37,755	3,179	40,934	18,029	1,355	19,384	55,784	4,534	60,318	55,456	4,527	59,983
Railway Carriages, Wagons and Tramcars	3,176	292	3,468	515	89	604	3,691	381	4,072	3,636	381	4,017
Tramcars	9,185	150	9,335	2,368	38	2,406	11,553	188	11,741	11,545	188	11,733

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 ...	108,009	497	108,506	5,556	120	5,676	113,565	617	114,182	107,227	572	107,799
Metal Trades :—												
Stove, Grate, Pipe, etc., and General												
Iron Founding ...	14,435	1,539	15,974	6,550	470	7,020	20,985	2,009	22,994	20,908	2,008	22,916
Electrical Wiring and Contracting ...	3,010	92	3,102	256	4	260	3,266	96	3,362	3,149	95	3,244
Electrical Cables, Wire and Lamps	8,082	5,371	13,453	1,296	575	1,871	9,378	5,946	15,324	9,340	5,946	15,286
Hand Tools, Cutlery, Saws, Files ...	5,812	2,668	8,480	4,863	1,010	5,873	10,675	3,678	14,353	10,667	3,678	14,345
Bolts, Nuts, Screws, Rivets, Nails, etc.	2,552	3,081	5,633	2,596	1,728	4,324	5,148	4,809	9,957	5,148	4,809	9,957
Brass and Allied Metal Wares ...	3,247	2,289	5,536	1,159	492	1,651	4,406	2,781	7,187	4,404	2,781	7,185
Heating and Ventilating Apparatus	1,201	36	1,237	152	5	157	1,353	41	1,394	1,343	41	1,384
Watches, Clocks, Plate, Jewellery, etc.	3,352	3,513	6,865	1,460	1,032	2,492	4,812	4,545	9,357	4,787	4,544	9,331
Metal Industries not separately specified ...	21,155	15,097	36,252	8,761	4,077	12,838	29,916	19,174	49,090	29,728	19,168	48,896
Textile Trades :—												
Cotton ...	45,804	103,068	148,872	31,659	60,682	92,341	77,463	163,750	241,213	77,446	163,671	241,117
Woolen and Worsted ...	12,727	22,942	35,669	19,684	32,662	52,346	32,411	55,604	88,015	32,251	55,482	87,733
Silk Manufacture and Artificial Silk												
Weaving ...	3,664	4,894	8,558	2,103	5,364	7,467	5,767	10,258	16,025	5,763	10,255	16,018
Artificial Silk Yarn ...	3,115	2,539	5,654	988	1,049	2,037	4,103	3,588	7,691	4,054	3,579	7,633
Linen ...	5,998	11,578	17,576	1,991	5,186	7,177	7,989	16,764	24,753	1,166	4,039	5,205
Jute ...	4,085	10,472	14,557	1,258	2,737	3,995	5,343	13,209	18,552	5,343	13,209	18,552
Hemp, Rope, Cord, Twine, etc. ...	1,192	2,812	4,004	555	1,940	2,495	1,747	4,752	6,499	1,552	4,263	5,815
Hosiery ...	1,995	10,414	12,409	2,179	9,542	11,721	4,174	19,956	24,130	4,152	19,831	23,983
Lace ...	706	1,247	1,953	734	1,437	2,171	1,440	2,684	4,124	1,440	2,684	4,124
Carpets ...	742	1,605	2,347	1,998	3,157	5,155	2,740	4,762	7,502	2,739	4,691	7,430
Textiles not separately specified ...	1,849	5,229	7,078	871	2,996	3,867	2,720	8,225	10,945	2,445	7,489	9,934
Textile Bleaching, Printing, Dyeing, etc.	12,783	6,407	19,190	18,729	5,730	24,459	31,512	12,137	43,649	30,098	10,618	40,716
Leather and Leather Goods :—												
Tanning, Currying and Dressing ...	4,015	1,289	5,304	1,808	476	2,284	5,823	1,765	7,588	5,818	1,765	7,583
Leather Goods ...	1,965	2,128	4,093	606	591	1,197	2,571	2,719	5,290	2,538	2,704	5,242
Clothing Trades :—												
Tailoring ...	10,690	11,469	22,159	2,596	15,413	18,009	13,286	26,882	40,168	12,639	26,023	38,662
Dress Making and Millinery ...	1,159	6,125	7,284	101	3,069	3,170	1,260	9,194	10,454	1,229	8,744	9,973
Hats and Caps (including Straw Plait)	1,309	2,271	3,580	857	1,477	2,334	2,166	3,748	5,914	2,166	3,738	5,904
Shirts, Collars, Underclothing, etc.	924	8,669	9,593	94	5,359	5,453	1,018	14,028	15,046	820	8,168	8,988
Dress Industries not separately specified ...	1,027	1,272	2,299	591	694	1,285	1,618	1,966	3,584	1,615	1,961	3,576
Boots, Shoes, Slippers and Clogs ...	10,830	5,367	16,197	7,585	3,826	11,411	18,415	9,193	27,608	18,229	9,186	27,415
Food, Drink and Tobacco :—												
Bread, Biscuits, Cakes, etc. ...	11,071	6,611	17,682	553	493	1,046	11,624	7,104	18,728	10,941	6,996	17,937
Grain Milling ...	2,408	292	2,700	264	17	281	2,672	309	2,981	2,568	293	2,861
Cocoa, Chocolate and Sugar Confectionery ...	3,468	5,995	9,463	418	1,266	1,684	3,886	7,261	11,147	3,865	7,228	11,093
Food Industries not separately specified ...	8,286	11,717	20,003	683	1,297	1,980	8,969	13,014	21,983	8,877	12,883	21,760
Drink Industries ...	9,669	4,362	14,031	673	395	1,068	10,342	4,757	15,099	9,929	4,725	14,654
Tobacco, Cigars, Cigarettes and Snuff	1,272	3,716	4,988	77	382	459	1,349	4,098	5,447	1,211	3,962	5,173
Sawmilling, Furniture and Woodwork :—												
Sawmilling and Machined Woodwork	9,043	274	9,317	1,265	203	1,468	10,308	477	10,785	10,005	473	10,478
Wood Boxes and Packing Cases ...	2,307	392	2,699	667	101	768	2,974	493	3,467	2,924	493	3,417
Furniture Making, Upholstering, etc.	18,363	3,207	21,570	2,332	700	3,032	20,695	3,907	24,602	20,400	3,877	24,277
Woodworking not separately specified ...	3,405	986	4,391	938	408	1,346	4,343	1,394	5,737	4,214	1,378	5,592
Printing and Paper Trades :—												
Paper and Paper Board ...	2,847	1,447	4,294	2,712	1,548	4,260	5,559	2,995	8,554	5,532	2,989	8,521
Cardboard Boxes, Paper Bags and Stationery ...	1,918	4,303	6,221	247	990	1,237	2,165	5,293	7,458	2,086	5,169	7,255
Wall Paper Making ...	396	456	852	42	19	61	438	475	913	438	475	913
Stationery and Typewriting Requisites (not paper) ...	337	410	747	23	58	81	360	468	828	357	467	824
Printing, Publishing and Bookbinding	16,333	9,495	25,828	1,063	1,307	2,370	17,396	10,802	28,198	17,116	10,584	27,700
Building and Public Works Contracting :—												
Building ...	156,762	435	157,197	6,400	29	6,429	163,162	464	163,626	156,900	451	157,351
Public Works Contracting, etc. ...	79,597	49	79,646	1,751	2	1,753	81,348	51	81,399	79,355	51	79,406
Other Manufacturing Industries :—												
Rubber ...	6,268	4,389	10,657	1,520	1,326	2,846	7,788	5,715	13,503	7,772	5,712	13,484
Oilcloth, Linoleum, etc. ...	1,455	294	1,749	575	74	649	2,030	368	2,398	2,027	356	2,383
Brushes and Brooms ...	1,193	623	1,816	428	297	725	1,621	920	2,541	1,532	918	2,450
Scientific and Photographic Instruments and Apparatus ...	1,600	640	2,240	479	340	819	2,079	980	3,059	2,073	978	3,051
Musical Instruments ...	4,106	871	4,977	663	130	793	4,769	1,001	5,770	4,756	1,001	5,757
Toys, Games and Sports Requisites	899	876	1,775	284	193	477	1,183	1,069	2,252	1,183	1,069	2,252
Gas, Water and Electricity Supply Industries ...	14,350	255	14,605	626	24	650	14,976	279	15,255	14,676	278	14,954
Transport and Communication :—												
Railway Service ...	14,120	440	14,560	795	26	821	14,915	466	15,381	14,743	462	15,205
Tramway and Omnibus Service ...	6,881	747	7,628	324	19	343	7,205	766	7,971	6,988	761	7,749
Road Transport not separately specified ...	34,836	597	35,433	2,210	12	2,222	37,046	609	37,655	36,036	604	36,640
Shipping Service ...	49,394	716	50,110	461	40	501	49,855	756	50,611	48,971	744	49,715
Dock, Harbour, River and Canal Service ...	66,784	255	67,039	1,319	36	1,355	68,103	291	68,394	66,640	289	66,929
Transport, Communication and Storage not separately specified	3,066	197	3,263	106	41	147	3,172	238	3,410	3,138	238	3,376
Distributive Trades ...	137,618	65,337	202,955	6,930	5,435	12,365	144,548	70,772	215,320	139,513	69,192	208,705
Commerce, Banking, Insurance and Finance ...	10,739	2,145	12,884	147	31	178	10,886	2,176	13,062	10,743	2,155	12,898
Miscellaneous Trades and Services :—												
National Government ...	10,818	1,183	12,001	334	53	387	11,152	1,236	12,388	10,758	1,194	11,952
Local Government ...	42,396	836	43,232	1,276	34	1,310	43,672	870	44,542	41,875	840	42,715
Professional Services ...	4,826	2,239	7,065	267	69	336	5,093	2,308	7,401	4,963	2,257	7,220
Entertainments and Sports ...	12,472	5,675	18,147	296	163	459	12,768	5,838	18,606	12,318	5,750	18,068
Hotel, Public House, Restaurant, Boarding House, Club, &c., Service	22,106	36,212	58,318	213	1,145	1,358	22,319	37,357	59,676	21,752	36,915	58,667
Laundries, Dyeing and Dry Cleaning	3,056	9,800	12,856	139	2,007	2,146	3,195	11,807	15,002	3,102	11,554	14,656
Industries and Services not separately specified ...	39,301	3,649	42,950	1,464	1,023	2,487	40,765	4,672	45,437	39,264	4,639	43,903
TOTAL ...	1,660,856	481,965	2,142,821	457,473	212,869	670,342	2,118,329	694,834	2,813,163*	2,069,454	668,183	2,737,637

* Including 116,643 Casuals (Males, 114,416; Females, 2,227).

NUMBERS INSURED AND PERCENTAGES UNEMPLOYED.

GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.																	GREAT BRITAIN ONLY. TOTAL PER- CENTAGES AT 24TH AUGUST, 1931.
INDUSTRY.	ESTIMATED NUMBER OF INSURED PERSONS AT JULY, 1930.			PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED AT 24TH AUGUST, 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	27TH JULY, 1931.	25TH AUG., 1930.	26TH AUG., 1929.		
Fishing	27,110	880	27,990	15.7	9.3	15.5	0.5	14.2	0.9	16.2	23.5	16.4	+ 0.7	+ 6.6	+ 8.4	16.4	
Mining :—	1,063,350	6,130	1,069,480	19.4	20.8	19.4	11.5	8.3	11.5	30.9	29.1	30.9	+ 5.5	+ 7.2	+14.7	30.9	
Coal Mining	14,770	20	14,790	28.1	30.0	28.1	14.1	—	14.0	42.2	30.0	42.1	+ 8.3	+19.3	+37.2	42.2	
Iron Ore and Ironstone Mining, etc.	5,310	40	5,350	57.8	32.5	57.6	1.5	—	1.5	59.3	32.5	59.1	+ 0.3	+26.1	+42.2	59.2	
Lead, Tin and Copper Mining ...	42,980	480	43,460	12.7	3.5	12.6	4.0	1.3	3.9	16.7	4.8	16.5	+ 2.3	+ 3.5	+ 8.1	16.3	
Stone Quarrying and Mining ...	10,480	10	10,490	12.0	20.0	12.0	19.2	—	19.2	31.2	20.0	31.2	+ 0.5	+ 6.5	+21.6	31.2	
Slate Quarrying and Mining ...	15,350	1,600	16,950	18.0	17.2	17.9	4.2	0.2	3.9	22.2	17.4	21.8	+ 3.7	+ 9.3	+13.2	21.8	
Mining and Quarrying not separately specified	16,490	200	16,690	17.5	16.0	17.5	4.0	8.0	4.0	21.5	24.0	21.5	+ 1.4	+10.5	+16.5	21.4	
Clay, Sand, Gravel and Chalk Pits ...	11,720	100	11,820	25.1	39.0	25.2	10.2	5.0	10.2	35.3	44.0	35.4	+ 0.5	+10.1	+25.8	35.4	
Non-Metalliferous Mining Products :—	16,280	1,420	17,700	21.6	13.1	20.9	3.5	3.9	3.6	25.1	17.0	24.5	+ 0.1	+ 5.2	+12.2	24.4	
Coke Ovens and By-Product Works ...	18,230	860	19,090	13.4	18.1	13.6	2.2	1.0	2.1	15.6	19.1	15.7	+ 0.4	+ 4.9	+10.3	15.9	
Artificial Stone and Concrete ...	77,250	7,430	84,680	12.5	23.2	13.5	3.9	4.5	3.9	16.4	27.7	17.4	+ 1.0	+ 4.5	+ 9.1	17.2	
Cement, Limekilns and Whiting ...	35,750	42,830	78,580	15.1	20.7	18.2	16.1	19.7	18.0	31.2	40.4	36.2	+ 0.8	+ 9.3	+20.9	36.2	
Brick, Tile, etc., Making	22,390	6,220	28,610	16.9	18.5	17.2	9.1	4.4	8.1	26.0	22.9	25.3	+ 0.6	+11.5	+15.8	25.3	
Glass Trades :—	14,990	2,240	17,230	21.3	15.4	20.6	10.6	5.0	9.8	31.9	20.4	30.4	+ 2.9	+ 6.4	+12.0	30.5	
Glass (excluding Bottles and Scien- tific Glass)	79,610	24,000	103,610	18.1	8.7	15.9	2.2	1.5	2.0	20.3	10.2	17.9	+ 0.6	+ 5.3	+11.7	17.9	
Glass Bottles	13,060	5,700	18,760	9.7	15.7	11.5	3.9	2.0	3.3	13.6	17.7	14.8	+ 0.2	+ 5.5	+ 9.9	14.8	
Chemicals, etc. :—	14,340	4,810	19,150	10.5	10.4	10.5	1.4	0.5	1.1	11.9	10.9	11.6	+ 0.9	+ 4.8	+ 7.4	11.6	
Explosives	55,290	21,100	76,390	10.7	9.9	10.5	2.7	1.7	2.4	13.4	11.6	12.9	+ 0.2	+ 3.5	+ 6.6	12.9	
Paint, Varnish, Red and White Leads	21,720	180	21,900	29.9	45.0	30.0	9.9	10.0	9.9	39.8	55.0	39.9	+ 5.2	+ 9.2	+29.5	39.9	
Oil, Glue, Soap, Ink, Matches, etc....	176,420	4,380	180,800	22.1	11.6	21.9	23.8	5.5	23.3	45.9	17.1	45.2	+ 2.4	+ 8.4	+25.2	45.2	
Metal Manufacture :—	36,170	3,440	39,610	19.3	17.1	19.1	8.4	2.3	7.9	27.7	19.4	27.0	+ 0.4	+10.0	+18.1	27.1	
Pig Iron (Blast Furnaces)	27,900	3,720	31,620	13.6	10.2	13.2	24.4	17.2	23.6	38.0	27.4	36.8	+ 4.9	+ 4.9	+12.4	36.8	
Steel Melting and Iron Puddling, Iron and Steel Rolling and Forging	28,160	1,520	29,680	18.7	16.1	18.6	24.4	4.7	23.4	43.1	20.8	42.0	+ 2.3	+17.7	+32.5	42.0	
Brass, Copper, Zinc, Tin, Lead, etc.	18,870	4,160	23,030	14.8	17.9	15.3	18.7	6.2	16.5	33.5	24.1	31.8	+ 2.2	+ 9.3	+21.0	31.8	
Tin Plates	542,540	49,710	592,250	20.6	11.0	19.8	8.6	8.5	8.6	29.2	19.5	28.4	+ 0.1	+10.1	+18.7	28.3	
Iron and Steel Tubes	69,680	20,180	89,860	12.8	11.1	12.4	2.7	1.9	2.6	15.5	13.0	15.0	+ 0.3	+ 6.5	+11.0	14.9	
Wire, Wire Netting, Wire Ropes ...	59,050	1,020	60,070	38.2	12.8	37.7	6.4	7.6	6.5	44.6	20.4	44.2	+ 0.5	+25.4	+34.9	44.2	
Engineering, etc. :—	26,860	1,110	27,970	22.1	11.4	21.7	5.2	1.6	5.0	27.3	13.0	26.7	+ 1.3	+ 7.9	+16.0	26.7	
General Engineering; Engineers' Iron and Steel Founding	221,620	25,520	247,140	17.0	12.5	16.6	8.2	5.3	7.8	25.2	17.8	24.4	+ 1.1	+ 6.9	+15.4	24.5	
Electrical Engineering	16,630	2,460	19,090	19.1	11.9	18.2	3.1	3.6	3.1	22.2	15.5	21.3	+ 0.1	+ 6.5	+12.7	21.3	
Marine Engineering, etc.	52,520	1,570	54,090	17.5	9.6	17.3	4.5	2.4	4.4	22.0	12.0	21.7	+ 0.1	+ 7.9	+11.7	21.8	
Constructional Engineering	201,530	3,190	204,720	53.6	15.6	53.0	2.7	3.7	2.8	56.3	19.3	55.8	+ 1.3	+21.4	+31.8	56.1	
Construction and Repair of Vehicles :—	81,730	8,710	90,440	17.7	17.7	17.7	8.0	5.4	7.7	25.7	23.1	25.4	+ 0.3	+ 6.6	+16.7	25.4	
Motor Vehicles, Cycles and Aircraft	17,150	1,360	18,510	17.6	6.8	16.8	1.4	0.3	1.4	19.0	7.1	18.2	+ 2.7	+ 7.1	+12.1	17.8	
Carriages, Carts, etc.	62,090	40,530	102,620	13.0	13.3	13.1	2.1	1.4	1.8	15.1	14.7	14.9	+ 0.7	+ 5.5	+10.4	14.9	
Railway Carriages, Wagons and Tramcars	24,180	11,010	35,190	24.0	24.2	24.1	20.1	9.2	16.7	44.1	33.4	40.8	+ 0.7	+ 7.9	+25.8	40.8	
Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing ...	14,080	12,210	26,290	18.1	25.2	21.4	18.5	14.2	16.5	36.6	39.4	37.9	+ 8.3	+18.8	+27.8	37.9	
Metal Trades :—	17,550	10,910	28,460	18.5	21.0	19.5	6.6	4.5	5.8	25.1	25.5	25.3	+ 1.7	+ 7.3	+16.2	25.3	
Stove, Grate, Pipe, etc., and General Iron Founding	8,580	660	9,240	14.0	5.5	13.4	1.8	0.7	1.7	15.8	6.2	15.1	+ 0.8	+ 6.4	+10.3	15.0	
Electrical Wiring and Contracting ...	22,450	20,370	42,820	14.9	17.2	16.0	6.5	5.1	5.8	21.4	22.3	21.8	+ 0.4	+ 8.2	+15.2	21.9	
Electrical Cables, Wire and Lamps ...	123,690	78,380	202,070	17.1	19.3	17.9	7.1	5.2	6.4	24.2	24.5	24.3	+ 0.9	+ 6.2	+16.1	24.3	
Hand Tools, Cutlery, Saws, Files ...	196,710	367,380	564,090	23.3	28.1	26.4	16.1	16.5	16.4	39.4	4						

INDUSTRY.	ESTIMATED NUMBER OF INSURED PERSONS AT JULY, 1930.			PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED AT 24TH AUGUST, 1931.									INCREASE (+) OR DECREASE (—) IN TOTAL PERCENT- AGES AS COMPARED WITH			GREAT BRITAIN ONLY. TOTAL PER- CENTAGES AT 24TH AUGUST, 1931.
				WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED (including Casuals).			TEMPORARY STOPPAGES.			TOTAL.						
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males	Fe- males.	Total.	Males	Fe- males.	Total	Males	Fe- males.	Total.	27TH JULY, 1931.	25TH AUG., 1930.	26TH AUG., 1929.	
Sawmilling, etc. (cont.)																
Furniture Making, Upholstering, etc.	102,360	22,740	125,100	17.9	14.1	17.2	2.3	3.1	2.5	20.2	17.2	19.7	+ 0.3	+ 8.1	+14.0	19.6
Woodworking not separately specified	18,090	5,510	23,600	18.8	17.9	18.6	5.2	7.4	5.7	24.0	25.3	24.3	+ 1.7	+ 8.3	+13.6	24.1
Printing and Paper Trades :—																
Paper and Paper Board ...	40,630	15,430	56,060	7.0	9.4	7.7	6.7	10.0	7.6	13.7	19.4	15.3	- 0.5	+ 6.9	+10.4	15.3
Cardboard Boxes, Paper Bags and Stationery ...	19,660	38,680	58,340	9.8	11.1	10.7	1.2	2.6	2.1	11.0	13.7	12.8	- 0.2	+ 4.7	+ 8.6	12.6
Wall Paper Making ...	4,450	1,850	6,300	8.9	24.7	13.5	0.9	1.0	1.0	9.8	25.7	14.5	+ 2.7	+ 7.4	+11.0	14.5
Stationery and Typewriting Requisites (not paper) ...	2,680	3,550	6,230	12.6	11.5	12.0	0.8	1.7	1.3	13.4	13.2	13.3	- 1.8	+ 5.7	+ 9.9	13.2
Printing, Publishing and Bookbinding	175,130	97,260	272,390	9.3	9.8	9.5	0.6	1.3	0.9	9.9	11.1	10.4	+ 0.5	+ 3.6	+ 6.1	10.3
Building and Public Works Contracting :—																
Building ...	822,770	9,500	832,270	19.1	4.6	18.9	0.7	0.3	0.8	19.8	4.9	19.7	+ 0.8	+ 5.5	+10.5	19.3
Public Works Contracting, etc. ...	185,090	1,240	186,330	43.0	4.0	42.7	1.0	0.1	1.0	44.0	4.1	43.7	+ 2.0	+18.0	+24.0	44.1
Other Manufacturing Industries :—																
Rubber ...	39,850	27,620	67,470	15.7	15.9	15.8	3.8	4.8	4.2	19.5	20.7	20.0	+ 1.1	+ 4.1	+13.0	20.0
Oilcloth, Linoleum, etc. ...	11,780	2,050	13,830	12.4	14.3	12.6	4.8	3.7	4.7	17.2	18.0	17.3	+ 0.9	+ 5.7	+12.9	17.3
Brushes and Brooms ...	6,320	4,770	11,090	18.9	13.1	16.4	6.7	6.2	6.5	25.6	19.3	22.9	- 0.8	+ 5.0	+ 9.9	22.3
Scientific and Photographic Instruments and Apparatus ...	16,960	8,940	25,900	9.4	7.2	8.6	2.9	3.8	3.2	12.3	11.0	11.8	- 0.3	+ 6.5	+ 9.3	11.8
Musical Instruments ...	19,990	6,290	26,280	20.5	13.8	18.9	3.4	2.1	3.1	23.9	15.9	22.0	- 1.4	+ 6.9	+16.8	22.0
Toys, Games and Sports Requisites	7,130	6,760	13,890	12.6	13.0	12.8	4.0	2.8	3.4	16.6	15.8	16.2	+ 0.7	+ 6.8	+10.8	16.2
Gas, Water and Electricity Supply Industries ...	159,800	6,050	165,850	9.0	4.2	8.8	0.4	0.4	0.4	9.4	4.6	9.2	+ 0.1	+ 1.7	+ 3.7	9.1
Transport and Communication :—																
Railway Service ...	130,710	7,120	137,830	10.8	6.2	10.6	0.6	0.3	0.6	11.4	6.5	11.2	+ 0.1	+ 2.5	+ 6.6	11.1
Tramway and Omnibus Service ...	156,370	6,710	163,080	4.4	11.1	4.7	0.2	0.3	0.2	4.6	11.4	4.9	+ 0.2	+ 1.2	+ 2.4	4.8
Road Transport not separately specified ...	180,610	8,200	188,810	19.3	7.3	18.8	1.2	0.1	1.1	20.5	7.4	19.9	+ 0.7	+ 4.2	+ 9.0	19.8
Shipping Service ...	137,470	6,770	144,240	35.9	10.6	34.7	0.4	0.6	0.4	36.3	11.2	35.1	- 0.1	+11.5	+19.7	35.3
Dock, Harbour, River and Canal Service ...	167,450	2,340	169,790	39.9	10.9	39.5	0.8	1.5	0.8	40.7	12.4	40.3	+ 0.2	+ 4.6	+10.5	40.2
Transport, Communication and Storage not separately specified ...	14,870	2,410	17,280	20.6	8.2	18.9	0.7	1.7	0.8	21.3	9.9	19.7	- 0.2	+ 3.8	+ 7.4	19.8
Distributive Trades ...	1,063,620	700,770	1,764,390	12.9	9.3	11.5	0.7	0.8	0.7	13.6	10.1	12.2	+ 0.5	+ 3.4	+ 6.5	12.1
Commerce, Banking, Insurance and Finance ...	158,070	74,840	232,910	6.8	2.9	5.5	0.1	0.0	0.1	6.9	2.9	5.6	+ 0.3	+ 1.9	+ 3.1	5.6
Miscellaneous Trades and Services :—																
National Government ...	91,620	20,480	112,100	11.8	5.8	10.7	0.4	0.2	0.4	12.2	6.0	11.1	+ 0.4	+ 2.6	+ 4.6	11.0
Local Government ...	287,590	20,800	308,390	14.7	4.0	14.0	0.5	0.2	0.4	15.2	4.2	14.4	+ 0.7	+ 3.4	+ 5.9	14.1
Professional Services ...	72,550	54,350	127,000	6.6	4.1	5.6	0.4	0.1	0.2	7.0	4.2	5.8	- 0.1	+ 1.7	+ 2.8	5.8
Entertainments and Sports ...	51,130	26,920	78,050	24.4	21.1	23.3	0.6	0.6	0.5	25.0	21.7	23.8	- 0.5	+ 7.3	+14.1	23.6
Hotel, Public House, Restaurant, Boarding House, Club, etc. Service	126,520	224,350	350,870	17.5	16.1	16.6	0.1	0.6	0.4	17.6	16.7	17.0	+ 0.3	+ 5.7	+10.5	17.0
Laundries, Dyeing and Dry Cleaning	28,570	111,920	140,490	10.7	8.8	9.2	0.5	1.7	1.5	11.2	10.5	10.7	+ 0.7	+ 3.3	+ 6.4	10.6
Industries and Services not separately specified ...	98,320	35,420	133,740	40.0	10.3	32.1	1.5	2.9	1.9	41.5	13.2	34.0	+ 0.6	+ 7.8	+16.2	33.5
TOTAL ...	8,931,530	3,474,170	12,405,700	18.6	13.9	17.3	5.1	6.1	5.4	23.7	20.0	22.7	+ 0.1	+ 5.6	+12.8	22.6

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 24th August, 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 ...	4,267	0.3	112	0.0	82	0.0	125	0.1
Mining ...	225,503	13.6	129,633	28.3	1,623	0.3	531	0.2
Non-Metalliferous Mining Products	8,894	0.5	2,175	0.5	381	0.1	69	0.0
Brick, Tile, etc. ...	9,681	0.6	2,987	0.6	1,725	0.4	330	0.2
Pottery ...	5,411	0.3	5,728	1.3	8,852	1.8	8,443	4.0
Glass Trades ...	6,983	0.4	3,619	0.8	1,496	0.3	385	0.2
Chemicals, etc. ...	23,098	1.4	3,919	0.9	5,583	1.2	850	0.4
Metal Manufacture	64,347	3.9	64,386	14.1	2,545	0.5	1,307	0.6
Engineering, etc. ...	149,356	9.0	53,402	11.7	7,954	1.6	4,714	2.2
Vehicles ...	50,116	3.0	20,912	4.6	3,621	0.8	1,482	0.7
Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing	108,009	6.5	5,556	1.2	497	0.1	120	0.1
Metal Trades ...	62,846	3.8	27,093	5.9	33,686	7.0	9,393	4.4
Textile Trades ...	94,660	5.7	82,749	18.1	183,207	38.0	132,482	62.2
Leather ...	5,980	0.4	2,414	0.5	3,417	0.7	1,067	0.5
Boots, Shoes, Slippers and Clogs	10,830	0.7	7,585	1.7	5,367	1.1	3,826	1.8
Clothing Trades ...	15,109	0.9	4,239	0.9	29,806	6.2	26,012	12.2
Food, Drink and Tobacco ...	36,174	2.2	2,668	0.6	32,693	6.8	3,850	1.8
Sawmilling, Furniture and Woodwork ...	33,118	2.0	5,202	1.1	4,859	1.0	1,412	0.7
Printing and Paper	21,831	1.3	4,087	0.9	16,111	3.3	3,922	1.8
Building and Public Works Contracting	236,359	14.2	8,151	1.8	484	0.1	31	0.0
Other Manufacturing Industries ...	15,521	0.9	3,949	0.9	7,693	1.6	2,360	1.1
Gas, Water and Electricity Supply Industries ...	14,350	0.9	626	0.1	255	0.1	24	0.0
Transport and Communication	175,081	10.5	5,215	1.1	2,952	0.6	174	0.1
Distributive Trades	137,618	8.3	6,930	1.5	65,337	13.6	5,435	2.6
Commerce, Banking, etc. ...	10,739	0.6	147	0.0	2,145	0.4	31	0.0
Miscellaneous ...	134,975	8.1	3,989	0.9	59,594	12.4	4,494	2.1
Total ...	1,660,856	100.0	457,473	100.0	481,965	100.0	212,869	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 24th August, 1931, differed from the figures for 27th July, 1931, to the extent of 1,000 or more :—

Industry.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Numbers recorded as Unemployed at 24th August, 1931, as compared with 27th July, 1931.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.
Coal-Mining ...	58,972	60	59,032
Jute ...	3,604	8,800	12,404
Boots, Shoes, Slippers and Clogs ...	2,226	2,042	4,268
Stone Quarrying and Mining ...	1,024	2	1,026
Hotel, etc., Service ...	881	228	1,109
Pig Iron (Blast Furnaces) ...	1,074	58	1,132
Sawmilling, etc. ...	1,092	70	1,162
Carpets ...	563	631	1,194
Iron Ore and Ironstone Mining, etc. ...	1,236	2	1,234
Printing, Publishing, etc. ...	977	310	1,287
Woollen and Worsted ...	629	731	1,360
Textile Bleaching, Printing, Dyeing	1,125	240	1,365
Shirts, Collars, Underclothing, etc. ...	14	1,381	1,367
Road Transport ...	1,481	2	1,479
Tin Plates ...	1,466	87	1,553
Metal Industries not separately specified ...	1,453	291	1,744
Silk Manufacture and Artificial Silk Weaving ...	585	1,369	1,954
Dress Making and Millinery ...	72	2,059	2,131
Bolts, Nuts, Screws, Rivets, etc. ...	1,123	1,055	2,178
Local Government ...	2,222	112	2,334
Ship-building and Ship Repairing	2,514	51	2,565
Motors, Cycles and Aircraft	2,495	361	2,856
Food Industries not separately specified ...	802	2,370	3,172
Public Works Contracting, etc. ...	3,795	6	3,789
Steel Melting, Iron and Steel Rolling, etc. ...	4,296	46	4,342
Building ...	6,039	22	6,061
Cotton ...	2,044	5,233	7,277
Tailoring ...	1,485	6,932	8,417
Distributive Trades ...	5,749	3,953	9,702
Net Variation for above Industries	18,594	16,680	1,914
Total Net Variation	9,286	15,974	6,688

COMPOSITION OF UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS: GREAT BRITAIN.

On page 350 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 24th August, 1931, of the composition of these statistics. Lines 1 to 3 make up the number of persons on the register; while, by omitting the uninsured persons (line 3) and including lines 4 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. Claims admitted or under consideration	1,912,074	33,805	570,368	21,497	2,537,744
2. Insured non-claimants and claimants disqualified, but maintaining registration	51,879	9,996	18,284	7,559	87,718
3. Uninsured persons on Register	22,315	32,107	22,077	31,821	108,320
4. Two months' file	52,862	4,502	45,607	4,418	107,389
5. Unemployed—Special Schemes	4,315	21	439	11	4,786
Persons on Register (lines 1—3)	1,986,268	75,908	610,729	60,877	2,733,782
Books Lodged (lines 1, 2, 4 and 5)	2,021,130	48,324	634,698	33,485	2,737,637

NUMBERS ON THE REGISTERS OF EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES.*

Date.	Great Britain.					Great Britain and Northern Ireland.
	Men.	Boys.	Women.	Girls.	Total.	
27th July 1931	1,991,757	70,800	594,588	56,205	2,713,350	2,783,237
3rd Aug., 1931	No figures available.					
10th " "	1,976,289	72,168	607,450	58,452	2,714,359	2,786,074
17th " "	1,970,430	75,222	613,388	60,336	2,719,376	2,790,015
24th " "	1,986,268	75,908	610,729	60,877	2,733,782	2,805,416
31st " "	2,008,935	77,293	614,626	61,365	2,762,219	2,833,722
Average (4 weeks)	1,985,480	75,148	611,548	60,258	2,732,434	2,803,807

Analysis of figures for 31st August, 1931.

—	31st August, 1931.				27th July, 1931.
	Persons normally in Regular Employment.		Persons normally in Casual Employment.	Total.	Total.
	Wholly Unemployed.	Temporarily Stopped.			
Great Britain.					
Men ...	1,449,433	450,004	109,498	2,008,935	1,991,757
Boys ...	61,883	15,158	252	77,293	70,800
Women ...	415,956	196,494	2,176	614,626	594,588
Girls ...	49,390	11,956	19	61,365	56,205
Total ...	1,976,662	673,612	111,945	2,762,219	2,713,350
Great Britain and Northern Ireland.					
Men ...	1,489,827	452,599	112,693	2,055,119	2,037,276
Boys ...	63,020	15,262	255	78,537	71,899
Women ...	434,155	201,363	2,187	637,705	617,071
Girls ...	50,152	12,190	19	62,361	56,991
Total ...	2,037,154	681,414	115,154	2,833,722	2,783,237

VACANCIES NOTIFIED AND FILLED.

(Great Britain and Northern Ireland.)

Vacancies filled† 30th December, 1930, to 31st August, 1931.		Period 28th July to 31st August, 1931.	
Number.	Increase (+) or Decrease (−) as compared with year before.	Week ended	Vacancies filled.†
			Number. Per cent. of vacancies notified.
Men	843,070	+ 147,053	3rd Aug. 73,229
Boys	104,372	− 5,983	10th " 40,485
Women	305,951	+ 37,337	17th " 37,762
Girls	99,323	+ 358	24th " 36,631
			31st " 37,549
Total	1,352,716	+ 178,765	Total .. 193,832

Of the 178,868 vacancies filled during the five weeks ended 31st August, 109,276 were for men, 41,005 for women, and 28,587 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, work in alternate weeks. During the four weeks ended 3rd August, 1931, the average number of such placings of men and women was 6,073 per week. The average number of placings of casual workers during the five weeks ended 31st August, 1931, was 525 per week.

NUMBERS ON THE REGISTERS IN THE 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 31st August, 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 31st August, 1931.				Inc. (+) Dec. (−) in total as compared with	
	Men.	Women.	Juveniles.	Total.	27th July, 1931.	25th Aug., 1930.
London Division	200,144	58,900	11,655	270,699	+ 7,208	+ 100,561
South-Eastern Division	81,593	15,272	6,044	102,909	+ 8,830	+ 38,683
Brighton	3,145	649	379	4,173	+ 293	+ 1,654
Chatham	3,958	710	687	5,355	+ 427	+ 1,507
Ipswich	3,396	401	304	4,101	+ 164	+ 997
Norwich	4,648	1,769	262	6,679	+ 165	+ 451
Rest of Division	66,446	11,743	4,412	82,601	+ 7,781	+ 34,074
South-Western Division	95,863	18,359	6,698	120,920	+ 4,749	+ 26,958
Bristol	16,355	5,101	1,586	23,042	+ 514	+ 3,561
Plymouth	7,059	1,558	409	9,026	+ 148	+ 1,967
Portsmouth	6,617	794	716	8,127	+ 272	+ 2,371
Reading	1,813	489	275	2,577	+ 53	+ 548
Southampton	8,836	941	522	10,299	+ 465	+ 3,332
Swindon	2,246	365	247	2,858	+ 553	+ 1,681
Rest of Division	52,937	9,111	2,943	64,991	+ 2,744	+ 23,498
Midlands Division	284,138	110,851	19,530	414,519	+ 7,656	+ 124,309
Birmingham	49,214	22,734	3,091	75,039	+ 3,579	+ 21,807
Coventry	11,654	3,075	653	15,382	+ 1,168	+ 2,684
Cradley Heath	7,512	2,009	396	9,917	+ 593	+ 3,431
Derby	7,456	2,548	768	10,772	+ 693	+ 5,217
Leicester	10,005	7,443	504	17,952	+ 181	+ 3,560
Northampton	3,947	1,766	359	6,072	+ 248	+ 1,510
Nottingham	14,825	6,492	927	22,244	+ 2,558	+ 6,685
Smethwick	5,877	2,839	413	9,129	+ 1,733	+ 4,070
Stoke-on-Trent	20,943	14,755	1,664	37,362	+ 2,021	+ 7,443
Walsall	7,399	2,760	871	11,030	+ 173	+ 2,860
West Bromwich	4,731	1,528	411	6,670	+ 285	+ 2,222
Wolverhampton	12,111	3,103	740	15,954	+ 670	+ 3,575
Rest of Division	128,464	39,799	8,733	176,996	+ 132	+ 59,245
North-Eastern Division	475,416	101,665	31,845	608,926	+ 14,000	+ 163,612
Barnsley	10,028	1,336	501	11,865	+ 4,553	+ 1,496
Bradford	20,986	13,339	1,460	35,785	+ 719	+ 7,110
Darlington	4,532	516	449	5,497	+ 59	+ 1,305
Dewsbury	2,815	1,846	434	5,095	+ 862	+ 639
Doncaster	14,447	787	1,050	16,284	+ 6,653	+ 11,239
Gateshead	10,746	1,977	1,003	13,726	+ 412	+ 3,226
Grimsby	3,874	455	233	4,562	+ 128	+ 1,870
Halifax	5,498	3,801	270	9,569	+ 117	+ 1,935
Hartlepool	10,840	714	692	12,246	+ 502	+ 3,123
Huddersfield	7,297	5,748	791	13,836	+ 10	+ 5,422
Hull	14,736	2,212	808	17,756	+ 10	+ 2,545
Leeds	26,641	14,145	1,635	42,421	+ 3,581	+ 12,186
Lincoln	4,166	502	436	5,104	+ 51	+ 1,366
Middlesbrough	17,516	1,038	845	19,399	+ 1,087	+ 3,025
Newcastle-on-Tyne	22,028	4,184	1,658	27,870	+ 559	+ 7,234
Rotherham	7,823	647	558	9,028	+ 1,065	+ 3,451
Sheffield	45,997	9,671	3,493	59,161	+ 1,392	+ 16,552
South Shields	12,408	636	938	13,982	+ 429	+ 3,162
Stockton-on-Tees	11,081	731	694	12,506	+ 728	+ 3,804
Sunderland	21,276	2,225	1,412	24,913	+ 1,417	+ 8,555
Wakefield	6,448	1,499	539	8,486	+ 1,034	+ 3,031
York	3,554	801	239	4,594	+ 350	+ 1,023
Rest of Division	190,679	32,855	11,707	235,241	+ 21,836	+ 70,207
North-Western Division	413,047	223,293	33,096	669,436	+ 26,684	+ 85,180
Accrington	7,152	5,980	609	13,741	+ 118	+ 446
Ashton-under-Lyne	6,814	4,877	709	12,400	+ 409	+ 955
Barrow	5,602	533	470	6,605	+ 958	+ 1,781
Birkenhead	10,000	1,371	903	12,274	+ 1,017	+ 4,265
Blackburn	11,618	16,226	1,115	28,959	+ 499	+ 2,170
Blackpool	3,292	924	155	4,371	+ 413	+ 912
Bolton	14,656	10,189	1,075	25,920	+ 3,753	+ 1,086
Burnley	8,319	10,087	736	19,142	+ 176	+ 1,550
Bury	4,448	4,193	338	8,979	+ 123	+ 1,385
Chorley	4,266	2,997	308	7,571	+ 543	+ 2,167
Liverpool	75,555	15,811	6,615	97,981	+ 2,352	+ 20,982
Manchester	43,369	21,574	3,401	68,344	+ 2,711	+ 13,846
Nelson	3,994	4,126	285	8,405	+ 1,239	+ 16
Oldham	23,704	16,492	1,535	41,731	+ 3,465	+ 6,119
Preston	8,459	8,691	521	17,671	+ 3,907	+ 476
Rochdale	8,617	7,222	700	16,539	+ 7	+ 2,981
St. Helens	9,172	1,170	506	10,848	+ 874	+ 2,779
Salford	17,972	8,498	1,113	27,583	+ 1,374	+ 5,318
Stockport	6,119	5,297	535	11,951	+ 712	+ 1,151
Warrington	5,199	1,346	696	7,241	+ 362	+ 2,090
Wigan	11,178	4,568	755	16,501	+ 289	+ 1,003
Rest of Division	123,542	71,121	10,016	204,679	+ 4,783	+ 27,262
Scotland Division	274,822	76,939	20,832	372,593	+ 1,385	+ 122,923
Aberdeen	6,834	1,787	468	9,089	+ 181	+ 2,774
Clydebank	8,133	1,887	606	10,626	+ 279	+ 6,059
Dundee	13,849	13,828	1,410	29,087	+ 9,413	+ 8,664
Edinburgh	16,259	4,517	1,011	21,787	+ 1,170	+ 4,202
Glasgow	95,487	21,899	7,138	124,524	+ 7,421	+ 39,536
Greenock	13,737	2,273	1,327	17,337	+ 861	+ 9,644
Motherwell	8,179	717	588	9,484	+ 711	+ 4,076
Paisley	5,973	2,143	706	8,822	+ 695	+ 3,512
Rest of Division	106,371	27,888	7,578	141,837	+ 1,460	+ 44,456
Wales Division	183,912	9,347	8,958	202,217	+ 6,357	+ 50,291
Cardiff	14,381	2,376	1,005	17,762	+ 571	+ 2,995
Llanelli	5,415	357	271	6,043	+ 177	+ 929
Newport	9,241	598	553	10,392	+ 765	+ 1,003
Swansea	10,605	881	932	12,418	+ 200	+ 2,509
Rest of Division	144,270	5,135	6,197	155,602	+ 4,644	+ 42,855
Northern Ireland	46,184	23,079	2,240	71,503	+ 1,616	+ 5,324
Belfast	28,910	13,904	1,414	44,228	+ 451	+ 5,602
Londonderry	2,415	1,347	108	3,870	+ 326	+ 285
Lurgan	959	1,324	72	2,355	+ 105	+ 532
Lisburn	1,098	724	52	1,874	+ 131	+ 254
Newry	1,089	214	25	1,328	+ 47	+ 1,432
Rest of Northern Ireland	11,713	5,566	569	17,848	+ 766	+ 1,147
Great Britain and Northern Ireland	2,055,119	637,705	140,898	2,833,722	+ 50,485	+ 727,841

[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 24TH AUGUST, 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 ...	3,355	3,563	6,918	2,147	2,811	4,958
South-Eastern ...	1,404	1,689	3,093	1,175	1,647	2,822
South-Western ...	1,552	1,978	3,530	1,121	1,907	3,028
Midlands ...	6,290	3,749	10,039	5,574	3,529	9,103
North-Eastern ...	11,509	6,925	18,434	5,542	7,601	13,143
North-Western ...	9,684	7,659	17,343	8,243	7,499	15,742
Scotland ...	6,534	4,311	10,845	4,517	4,702	9,219
Wales ...	3,473	2,233	5,706	737	2,125	2,862
Great Britain ...	43,801	32,107	75,908	29,056	31,821	60,877

JUVENILES PLACED IN EMPLOYMENT. FOUR WEEKS ENDED 3RD AUGUST, 1931.

Division.	Number of Vacancies Filled.			Juveniles placed in first situation since leaving School.		
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
South-Eastern ...	4,830	4,166	8,996	1,534	1,469	3,003
South-Western ...	1,003	742	1,745	282	157	439
Midlands ...	1,050	1,039	2,089	250	246	496
North-Eastern ...	1,748	1,929	3,677	551	715	1,266
North-Western ...	1,614	1,560	3,174	572	601	1,173
Scotland ...	806	972	1,778	274	387	661
Wales ...	408	366	774	112	103	215
Great Britain ...	11,459	10,774	22,233	3,575	3,678	7,253

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

Division.	Estimated number insured at July, 1930.		Percentage Unemployed at 24th August, 1931.					
			Boys.			Girls.		
	Boys.	Girls.	Wholly unemployed.	Temporarily stopped.	Total.	Wholly unemployed.	Temporarily stopped.	Total.
London ...	116,770	105,050	3.7	0.0	3.7	2.8	0.2	3.0
South-Eastern ...	47,710	32,560	3.3	0.3	3.6	3.5	1.0	4.5
South-Western ...	44,940	29,960	3.5	0.5	4.0	3.8	1.1	4.9
Midlands ...	91,380	76,550	4.3	3.0	7.3	3.7	4.3	8.0
North-Eastern ...	102,190	60,770	7.5	4.6	12.1	6.0	4.4	10.4
North-Western ...	90,280	80,510	7.7	3.9	11.6	6.3	4.8	11.1
Scotland ...	64,260	51,450	9.3	2.0	11.3	7.2	2.8	10.0
Wales ...	32,470	9,150	6.3	5.1	11.4	7.4	2.5	9.9
Special Schemes...	5,000	3,000	0.4	...	0.4	0.4	...	0.4
Great Britain ...	595,000	449,000	5.7	2.4	8.1	4.7	2.8	7.5

JUVENILES IN ATTENDANCE AT APPROVED COURSES OF INSTRUCTION DURING WEEK ENDED 26TH AUGUST, 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	623	220	...	...	623	220	...	...	5,969	...
S.-Eastern ...	233	192	...	10	233	202	...	...	2,063	315
S.-Western ...	163	100	2	2	165	102	...	...	2,109	61
Midlands	1,204	626	40	16	1,244	642	...	...	6,823	280
N.-Eastern ...	3,147	712	789	22	3,936	734	...	...	15,426	268
N.-Western ...	2,949	2,224	207	191	3,156	2,415	...	...	20,209	...
Scotland ...	1,936	943	172	19	2,108	962	...	...	11,267	...
Wales	431	4	508	78	939	82	...	...	6,596	80
Gt. Britain ...	10,686	5,021	1,718	338	12,404	5,359	...	...	70,462	1,004

There were 51 Junior Instruction Centres for boys, 25 for girls, and 21 mixed centres open in Great Britain during the week. In addition, there were 10 Junior Instruction Classes for boys, 4 for girls, and 2 mixed classes. Thirty-seven centres and 11 classes were closed for holidays.

* Based on the numbers of Juvenile Unemployment Books lodged at Local Offices, which exceed the numbers of insured juveniles on the Register.
† Closed for holidays.

DETERMINATION OF CLAIMS TO UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFIT IN GREAT BRITAIN.

14TH JULY TO 10TH AUGUST, 1931.

THE following Table gives, for the period from 14th July to 10th August, 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 ...	817,001	252,847	42,405	1,112,253
Average number of claims current	1,911,878	561,769	55,780	2,529,427

B.—Decisions of Courts of Referees.

Ground on which referred.	Benefit Allowed.	Benefit Disallowed.	Total.
First Statutory Condition (applies to juveniles only) ...	10	278	288
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) ...	47	216	263
Men ...	38	66	104
Women ...	85	282	367
Total ...	5,383	11,613	16,996
Not normally insurable and/or will not normally seek to obtain livelihood by means of insurable employment ...	2,834	5,258	8,092
Men ...	2,549	6,355	8,904
Women ...	5,383	11,613	16,996
Total ...	1,954	3,122	5,076
Employment left voluntarily without just cause ...	1,287	2,693	3,980
Men ...	190	613	803
Women ...	3,431	6,428	9,859
Total ...	1,605	2,517	4,122
Employment lost through misconduct ...	673	792	1,465
Men ...	205	531	736
Women ...	2,483	3,840	6,323
Total ...	448	1,069	1,517
Failure or refusal to apply for or accept suitable employment, or failure to carry out written directions... ...	780	3,287	4,067
Men ...	38	325	363
Women ...	1,266	4,681	5,947
Total ...	534	2,290	2,824
Not unemployed ...	99	729	828
Men ...	13	147	160
Women ...	646	3,166	3,812
Total ...	244	522	766
Not capable of work, or not available for work ...	470	1,505	1,975
Men ...	11	38	49
Women ...	725	2,065	2,790
Total ...	417	2,496	2,913
Other grounds ...	115	770	885
Men ...	27	182	209
Women ...	559	3,448	4,007
Total ...	8,083	17,490	25,573
Men ...	6,011	16,197	22,208
Women ...	494	2,114	2,608
Total ...	14,588	35,801	50,389

C.—Trade Dispute* Cases.

	Benefit Allowed.	Benefit Disallowed.	Total.
Cases dealt with by Insurance Officers ...	171	1,907	2,078
Appeals against disallowances by Insurance Officers dealt with by Courts of Referees ...	43	86	129
Men ...	...	9	9
Women ...	2	1	3
Juveniles ...	45	96	141
Total Appeals ...	45	96	141

* 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 ...	128	242	370
	Women	70	187	257
	Juveniles	1	10	11
	Total ...	199	439	638
Appeals by Associations	Men ...	96	177	273
	Women	17	83	100
	Juveniles	...	1	1
	Total ...	113	261	374
Appeals by Claimants	Men ...	105	434	539
	Women	42	208	250
	Juveniles	3	9	12
	Total ...	150	651	801
Total ...	Men ...	329	853	1,182
	Women	129	478	607
	Juveniles	4	20	24
	Grand Total ...	462	1,351	1,813

CUMULATIVE FIGURES, 10TH MARCH TO 10TH AUGUST, 1931.

	Benefit Allowed.	Benefit Dis-allowed.	Total.
<i>Decisions of Courts of Referees.</i>			
First Statutory Condition (applies to juveniles only) ...	84	1,605	1,689
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) ...	571	1,978	2,549
Not normally insurable and/or will not normally seek to obtain livelihood by means of insurable employment ...	35,200	72,023	107,223
Employment left voluntarily without just cause ...	18,643	33,632	52,275
Employment lost through misconduct ...	13,865	20,960	34,825
Failure or refusal to apply for or accept suitable employment, or failure to carry out written directions ...	6,884	25,817	32,701
Not unemployed ...	4,259	18,054	22,313
Not capable of work, or not available for work ...	4,271	11,623	15,894
Other grounds ...	3,557	20,371	23,928
Total ...	87,334	206,063	293,397
<i>Trade Dispute* Cases.</i>			
Cases dealt with by Insurance Officers ...	567	8,586	9,153
Appeals against disallowances by Insurance Officers dealt with by Courts of Referees...	497	1,395	1,892
<i>Decisions by Umpire.*</i>			
Appeals by Insurance Officers ...	1,263	2,384	3,647
Appeals by Associations ...	499	1,699	2,198
Appeals by Claimants ...	771	3,639	4,410
Total ...	2,533	7,722	10,255

WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED BENEFIT CLAIMANTS.

ANALYSIS ACCORDING TO LENGTH OF TIME ON THE REGISTER.

The following Table gives 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 24th August, 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.	
Numbers.							
Men: 21-64 ...	69,285	62,558	56,404	44,700	232,947	1,024,816	1,257,763
Young men: 18-20 ...	6,722	6,642	6,647	4,287	24,298	85,707	110,005
Boys: 16-17 ...	2,108	1,706	1,450	927	6,191	13,318	19,509
Women: 21-64...	10,922	17,270	13,022	9,196	45,410	281,553	326,963
Young women: 18-20 ...	2,967	3,051	2,999	2,021	11,038	40,112	51,150
Girls: 16-17 ...	1,128	835	741	496	3,200	6,144	9,344
Total ...	93,132	87,062	81,263	61,627	323,084	1,451,650	1,774,734
Percentages.							
Men: 21-64 ...	5.5	5.0	4.5	3.5	18.5	81.5	100.0
Young men: 18-20 ...	6.1	6.0	6.1	3.9	22.1	77.9	100.0
Boys: 16-17 ...	10.8	8.7	7.4	4.8	31.7	68.3	100.0
Women: 21-64...	3.3	3.8	4.0	2.8	13.9	86.1	100.0
Young women: 18-20 ...	5.8	6.0	5.9	3.9	21.6	78.4	100.0
Girls: 16-17 ...	12.1	8.9	7.9	5.3	34.2	65.8	100.0
Total ...	5.2	4.9	4.6	3.5	18.2	81.8	100.0

* The decisions of G

* 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 24th August, 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.
<i>Numbers.</i>					
Wholly unemployed:					
Condition satisfied...	977,178	17,988	271,467	8,501	1,275,134
Not satisfied ...	356,814	...	94,639	...	451,453
Total ...	1,333,992	17,988	366,106	8,501	1,726,587
Temporarily stopped:					
Condition satisfied...	402,414	13,038	179,659	10,935	606,046
Not satisfied ...	8,604	...	6,155	...	14,759
Total ...	411,018	13,038	185,814	10,935	620,805
Casual claimants:					
Condition satisfied...	101,051	250	1,940	19	103,260
Not satisfied ...	8,812	...	206	...	9,018
Total ...	109,863	250	2,146	19	112,278
Insured non-claimants*	45,101	9,848	14,086	7,427	76,462
Total:					
Condition satisfied	1,480,643	31,276	453,066	19,455	1,984,440
Not satisfied ...	419,331	9,848	115,086	7,427	551,692
Total ...	1,899,974	41,124	568,152	26,882	2,536,132
<i>Percentages.</i>					
Wholly unemployed:					
Condition satisfied...	73.3	100.0	74.1	100.0	73.9
Not satisfied ...	26.7	...	25.9	...	26.1
Temporarily stopped:					
Condition satisfied...	97.9	100.0	96.7	100.0	97.6
Not satisfied ...	2.1	...	3.3	...	2.4
Casual claimants:					
Condition satisfied...	92.0	100.0	90.4	100.0	92.0
Not satisfied ...	8.0	...	9.6	...	8.0
Total (including non-claimants):					
Condition satisfied	77.9	76.1	79.7	72.4	78.2
Not satisfied ...	22.1	23.9	20.3	27.6	21.8

UNEMPLOYMENT FUND.

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

	Five weeks ended 29th August, 1931.	Four weeks ended 25th July, 1931.	Five weeks ended 30th August, 1930.
<i>Contributions received from:—</i>			
Employers ...	£ 1,490,000	£ 1,375,000	£ 1,480,000
Employed Persons ...	1,270,000	1,190,000	1,270,000
Exchequer (including additional Exchequer contribution in respect of Transitional Benefit (U.I. Act, 1930)) ...	3,805,000	3,035,000	3,110,000
Total ...	6,565,000	5,600,000	5,860,000
Unemployment Benefit ...	11,565,000	8,970,000	8,220,000
Cost of Administration ...	585,000	505,000	615,000
Interest accrued on Treasury Advances ...	425,000	325,000	210,000
Other Items ...	40,000	10,000	20,000
Total ...	12,615,000	9,810,000	9,065,000
Treasury Advances outstanding ...	97,550,000	91,920,000	47,230,000
Other Liabilities (net), including accrued interest and deposits ...	1,840,000	1,420,000	980,000

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. 350-351 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 showed an increase during July.

The total number of persons reported by the Employment Exchanges as available for and seeking work at the end of July, 1931, was 4,111,204, as compared with 4,082,596 at the end of June, 1931, and with 2,819,699 at the end of July, 1930. On 31st August, 1931, the total was 4,324,560 (provisional figure).

The total number of persons reported by the Employment Exchanges as unemployed was 3,989,686 at the end of July, 1931, 3,953,946 at the end of June, 1931, and 2,765,258 at the end of July, 1930. On 31st August, 1931, the provisional total was 4,195,000.

On the last day of July, 1931, 1,204,880 persons were in receipt of standard unemployment benefit and 1,026,633 in receipt of emergency benefit, giving a total of 2,231,513, as compared with 2,353,657 at the end of June, 1931, and with 1,900,961 at the end of July, 1930. The number in receipt of standard and emergency benefit at 31st August, 1931, was 2,376,014 (provisional figure).

Among 4,197,100 members of trade unions for which statistics are available, 31.0 per cent. were unemployed at 25th July, 1931, as compared with 29.7 per cent. at 27th June, 1931, and 20.5 per cent. at the end of July, 1930. In addition 19.1 per cent. were working short time, as compared with 17.7 per cent. at the end of June, 1931, and 13.9 per cent. at the end of July, 1930. The following Table gives particulars for various groups of trade unions included:—

Groups of Trade Unions.	Membership reported on at end of July, 1931.	Percentage Wholly Unemployed and on Short Time at end of month.			
		Wholly Unemployed.		On Short Time.	
		July, 1931.	June, 1931.	July, 1931.	June, 1931.
Mining	140,700	13.3	13.4	27.3	26.2
Quarrying, stone, brick, pottery, etc.:—					
Workers subject to seasonal influences ...	132,100	47.9	44.8	7.7	6.8
Other workers	90,100	35.8	35.0	21.0	18.4
Engineering and metal ...	937,600	30.6	28.7	26.9	25.7
Chemical	109,600	22.9	21.7	22.4	20.8
Textile	330,500	20.6	20.6	38.9	35.3
Paper	112,600	23.4	22.7	26.0	22.6
Leather	54,300	36.0	35.0	31.3	23.6
Wood	287,100	48.5	46.9	11.7	10.9
Food, tobacco, etc. ...	279,400	19.3	18.1	21.9	15.4
Clothing, boots and shoes	146,700	36.2	33.0	33.0	33.8
Building	633,600	57.9	56.6	0.5	0.4
Printing	151,000	26.1	23.5	10.0	7.6
Hairdressing	3,800	19.8	19.3	24.5	24.3
Miscellaneous	788,000	13.7	13.4	15.5	14.9
All Unions making Returns	4,197,100	31.0	29.7	19.1	17.7

FRANCE.†

Unemployment showed a further increase during August. The total number of persons on the registers of the Employment Exchanges at the end of the last week of August was 53,232 (39,700 men and 13,532 women). At the end of July the corresponding total was 50,292, and at the end of August, 1930, 12,031.

At the beginning of August the number of persons employed in mining, industrial, transport and commercial undertakings covered by the special monthly official investigation‡ showed a decline of 8.42 per cent. as compared with August, 1930. The percentage of workpeople on short time (i.e. working less than 48 hours per week) was 33.29 at the beginning of August, 1931, as compared with 3.23 at the beginning of August, 1930.

SWITZERLAND.§

Returns from 187 unemployment funds show that out of an aggregate of 353,034 members 3.6 per cent. were totally unemployed, and 9.7 per cent. partially so, at the end of June, 1931. At the end of March, 1931, the corresponding percentages were 5.7 and 12.6 and at the end of June, 1930, 1.7 and 5.7.

AUSTRIA.¶

Unemployment increased during July. The total number of persons in receipt of unemployment benefit at the end of the month was 194,364 (including 88,611 in Vienna), as compared with 191,150 (85,250 in Vienna) at the end of June, 1931, and 153,188 (73,178 in Vienna) at the end of July, 1930.

* Reichsarbeitsblatt, 25th August, 1931, and Reichsarbeitsmarkt-Anzeiger, 8th September, 1931. Berlin.

† Bulletin du Marché du Travail, 28th August, and 4th September, 1931. Paris.

‡ See the March issue of this GAZETTE, page 111.

§ La Vie Economique, August, 1931. Berne.

¶ Statistische Nachrichten, 27th August, 1931. Vienna.

ITALY.*

During July there was an increase in the number unemployed. According to statistics furnished by the National Social Insurance Fund, 637,531 workpeople were recorded as unemployed at the end of the month, as compared with 573,593 at the end of June, and 342,061 at the end of July, 1930. In addition, 25,821 persons were partially unemployed at that date, as compared with 24,206 at the end of June and 24,209 at the end of July, 1930.

SCANDINAVIAN COUNTRIES.

Unemployment increased in Denmark during July; but in Sweden it showed little change.

Denmark.†—Returns supplied to the Danish Statistical Department by trade unions and by the Central Employment Exchange show that, out of 294,419 workpeople, 12.4 per cent. were unemployed at the end of July, 1931, as compared with 11.3 per cent. at the end of the preceding month, and 9.3 per cent. at the end of July, 1930.

Sweden.‡—The percentage of members of trade unions making returns who were unemployed at 31st July, 1931, was 12.0 as compared with 11.7 at 30th June, and 7.5 at 31st July, 1930.

POLAND.§

Unemployment showed a slight decrease in August. According to the official journal of the Central Statistical Office of Poland, the number of unemployed registered at Employment Exchanges at 29th August, 1931, was 251,600, as compared with 261,100 at the end of July, and 176,810 at the end of August, 1930. On these dates the number of unemployed persons entitled to benefit was 68,700, 72,600 and 71,839 respectively.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA.||

Unemployment decreased in June. The total number of unemployed registered at Employment Exchanges in June, 1931, was 220,038, as compared with 249,686 in May, and 73,464 in June, 1930.

JAPAN.||

Unemployment increased in March. The total number of persons registered at Employment Exchanges in that month was 396,828, as compared with 387,460 in February and 351,589 in March, 1930.

UNITED STATES.¶

According to returns received by the Federal Bureau of Labour Statistics, covering 46,058 establishments in 15 principal industrial groups, these establishments employed 4,491,521 workpeople in July, 1931, showing a decrease of 2.0 per cent. as compared with the total employed in these establishments in the preceding month. During the same period the aggregate earnings in these establishments decreased by 4.8 per cent.

If the monthly average index number of employment in manufacturing industries alone in 1926 be taken as 100, the corresponding figure for July, 1931, is 70.4, as compared with 72.2 for June, and with 81.6 for July, 1930.

Among members of trade unions, in 24 cities, affiliated to the American Federation of Labour, 26.0 per cent. were reported to be unemployed in August, 1931, as compared with 26.0 per cent. in July, 1931, and 22.0 per cent. in August, 1930.

NEW ZEALAND.**

Unemployment increased in June. The number of applicants remaining on the registers of the Government Employment Bureaux at 29th June, 1931, was 45,264, as compared with 40,507 at 25th May. These totals include respectively 34,049 and 24,329 men receiving partial employment under the Unemployment Board's schemes for relief.

CANADA.

Employment at the beginning of August showed a further improvement. Returns were received by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics from 7,887 firms with an aggregate of 956,238 workpeople on their pay-rolls on 1st August, 1931, as compared with 943,419 on 1st July, an increase of 1.4 per cent. If the average employment of the reporting firms in the year 1926 be represented by 100, the index number of employment for August, 1931, is 105.2, as compared with 103.8 at the beginning of the preceding month, and 118.8 on 1st August, 1930.†† At the end of July, 1931, 16.2 per cent. of the aggregate membership of trade unions making returns were unemployed, as compared with 16.3 per cent. at the end of June, and 9.2 per cent. at the end of July, 1930.††

* Bollettino Mensile di Statistica, August, 1931. Rome.

† Statistiske Efterretninger, 20th August, 1931. Copenhagen.

‡ Information supplied by the Department of Social Affairs. Stockholm.

§ Wiadomości Statystyczne, 5th September, 1931. Warsaw.

|| International Labour Review, August-September, 1931. Geneva.

¶ Trend of Employment and Labour Turnover, July, 1931, and American Federationist, September, 1931. Washington.

** Monthly Abstract of Statistics, July, 1931. Wellington, N.Z.

†† The August Employment Situation, 1930. Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Ottawa.

††† Information supplied by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Ottawa.

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

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 August in Great Britain and Northern Ireland resulted in an aggregate decrease of about £24,150 in the weekly full-time wages of 284,000 workpeople and in an increase of £2,050 in those of nearly 22,000 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	...	125,000	£	£
Metal	18,000	119,000	1,550	6,600
Other	3,750	40,000	500	5,250
Total ...	21,750	284,000	2,050	24,150

The principal body of workpeople in the mining and quarrying group affected by decreases consisted of coal miners in Scotland, for whom the percentage addition to basis rates was reduced by an amount equivalent to about $4\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. on current rates. Coal miners in Cumberland sustained a reduction equivalent to about $5\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. on current rates, and there was a small reduction (under 1 per cent. on current rates) in the wages of coal miners in Warwickshire. Other workpeople in this group whose wages were reduced in August included shale miners and oil workers in Scotland, cast stone makers, and ironstone miners in Lincolnshire.

Workpeople in the metal group whose wages were reduced included various classes of iron and steel workers, among whom those employed in steel-melting shops and in steel-rolling mills in a number of districts in England and Scotland sustained a reduction of $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on their standard basis rates (generally equivalent to about 1 per cent. on current rates); iron puddlers and iron and steel millmen in the Midlands a reduction equivalent to nearly 2 per cent. on current rates; and steel workers at Sheffield a reduction amounting for the higher-paid men to 2s. 6d. per week, or 5d. per shift. Workpeople employed in the light castings industry had their wages reduced by 1s. or 1s. 6d. per week in the case of adult timeworkers, and by 2s. 6d. per week in that of pieceworkers. Other bodies of workpeople in this group who sustained reductions included keg and drum makers (under a Trade Board order), lower-paid men at tinplate works, malleable ironfounders at Walsall, and nut and bolt makers in the Midlands. Under cost-of-living sliding scales there were increases in the wages of electrical cable-makers and of chain makers.

In the other industrial groups the principal bodies of workpeople whose wages were reduced included retail bespoke tailors in Scotland (under a Trade Board order), woollen and worsted operatives employed by certain firms in Yorkshire, shoe and slipper makers in the Rossendale district, and the employees of various Local Authorities in the West Riding of Yorkshire. There was an increase in wages for hosiery workers at Hawick, due to a cost-of-living sliding scale.

Of the total decrease of £24,150 per week, about £12,300 took effect under arrangements made by Conciliation Boards or other joint standing bodies of employers and workpeople, including £600 under cost-of-living sliding scales agreed upon by such bodies; other cost-of-living sliding scales accounted for £1,400, while sliding scales based on selling prices (iron or steel) or on the proceeds of the industry (coal mining) accounted for £3,200. Of the remainder, nearly £350 was due to arbitration or mediation, and the balance the result of direct negotiation between the parties, or of independent action on the part of employers. Reductions preceded by disputes causing stoppage of work accounted for about £1,700.

Nearly the whole of the total increase of £2,050 per week was due to the operation of cost-of-living sliding scales.

SUMMARY OF CHANGES REPORTED IN JANUARY–AUGUST, 1931.

The following Table shows the number of workpeople in Great Britain and Northern Ireland affected by changes in rates of wages reported to the Department during the eight completed months of 1931, and the net aggregate amounts of such changes:—

Group of Industries.	Approximate Number of Workpeople† affected by Net		Estimated Net Amount of Change in Weekly Wages.	
	Increases.	Decreases.	Increases.	Decreases.
Coal Mining	2,500	350,000	£ 20	£ 40,400
Other Mining and Quarrying ... ..	...	27,000	...	2,350
Brick, Pottery, Glass, Chemical, etc.	1,000	122,500	30	18,400
Iron and Steel	3,350	66,000	275	9,100
Engineering† ... ..	...	342,000	...	65,600
Other Metal	100	146,000	30	21,800
Textile	3,500	361,000	130	48,500
Clothing	350	25,750	90	3,750
Food, Drink and Tobacco	1,250	11,750	95	2,050
Woodworking, Furniture, etc.	250	44,500	25	8,700
Paper, Printing, etc. ...	...	5,500	...	750
Building, Public Works Contracting, etc.	1,100	498,000	110	43,500
Gas, Water and Electricity Supply	1,100	31,500	210	3,200
Transport†	12,500	438,000	1,925	51,500
Public Administration Services	3,400	63,500	430	5,350
Other	150	56,000	30	9,800
Total	30,550	2,589,000	3,400	334,750

In the corresponding eight months of 1930 there were net increases of £57,300 in the weekly wages of 756,000 workpeople, and net decreases of £111,400 in those of 1,031,000 workpeople.

Hours of Labour.

The principal change reported during August affected coal miners in Scotland, whose hours were slightly increased on average in the case of underground workers, and reduced in that of surface workers.

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

Industry.	District.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change. (Decreases in italics.)
Agriculture	Shropshire	9 Aug.	Male workers	<i>Decreases in the minimum rates fixed under the Agricultural Wages (Regulation) Act, 1924, of 6d. or 1s. per week for those 15 years of age and over, the rate for those under 15 remaining unchanged, leaving minimum rates for a week of 54 hours: 10s. at 14, increasing each year to 24s. at 18 and 31s. 6d. at 21 and over.</i>
Coal Mining	Cumberland... ..	17–24 Aug.	Workpeople employed in or about coal mines, other than those whose wages are regulated by movements in other industries.	<i>Minimum percentage addition payable on basis rates reduced from 30 to 22½, subject to total wages not falling below 6s. 10d. per shift for adult day wage men, 6s. 6d. per shift for youths 18 to 21 years of age, and 3s. 8d. per shift for women.‡</i>
	Warwickshire	1 Aug.		<i>Decrease of 1 per cent. on basis rates of 1911, leaving wages 44 per cent. above basis rates at the majority of the collieries, and from 38 to 40 at certain other collieries; also subsistence wage paid to adult able-bodied surface workers reduced by ½d. per day (to 7s. 1½d. at the majority of the collieries).||</i>
	Scotland	Beginning of 1st pay period after 7 Aug.		<i>Minimum percentage addition to 1888 basis rates reduced from 110 to 100; also subsistence allowances previously paid to day-wage surface workers reduced from a maximum of 1s. to 11½d. per shift for male workers 18 years and over, from 6d. to 5½d. per shift for male workers under 18, from 8d. to 7½d. per shift for female workers 18 and over, and from 4d. to 3½d. per shift for female workers under 18.¶</i>
Coke, etc. Manufacture.	Cumberland... ..	15 Aug.	Cokemen and by-product workers.	<i>Minimum percentage addition payable on standard base rates reduced from 30 to 22½, subject to the total wages of lower-paid men and youths not falling below the limits shown above for coal miners in Cumberland.</i>

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

† In addition to the numbers quoted, wages stand at the same level as at the beginning of the year in the case of about 70,000 workpeople, whose wages have been increased and reduced by equal amounts during the year.

‡ Changes affecting workpeople employed in railway workshops are included under Engineering.

§ The minimum total wages quoted are the subsistence wages which have been operative since 1927. In the case of youths the "make-up" is not to exceed 6d. per shift.

|| The subsistence wage for adult able-bodied underground workers at the majority of the collieries remained unchanged at 8s. 3d. per day.

¶ See also under "Changes in Hours of Labour." The subsistence allowance varies inversely with the gross daily wage, being now calculated to ensure total earnings of at least 6s. 8d. per shift for men with a gross daily wage of 5s. 8½d. or over, 3s. 4d. per shift for youths with 2s. 10½d. or over, 4s. 9d. per shift for women with 4s. 1½d. or over, 2s. 4½d. per shift for girls with 2s. 0½d. or over, workers with a gross daily wage of less than the above amounts receiving the maximum allowance, and those with a gross daily wage equal to or exceeding 6s. 8d., 3s. 4d., 4s. 9d., and 2s. 4½d., per shift in the case of men, youths, women and girls respectively, receiving no allowance. The previous limits of payment exceeded these four amounts by 4d., 2d., 3d., and 1½d. respectively.

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

Industry.	District.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change. (Decreases in italics.)
Coke, etc. Manufacture (continued).	South Wales and Monmouthshire.	27 June	Cokemen and by-product workers.	Percentages payable on standard base rates reduced by $6\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. at those works where the previous percentages were 30, $32\frac{1}{2}$ and 35, and by 7 per cent. at works where the previous percentage was 40.*
Other Mining and Quarrying.	North Lincolnshire	2 Aug.	Ironstone miners and quarrymen ...	Decrease† of $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages $20\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. above the standard, subject to previous additions and bonuses.
	Newcastle-on-Tyne and Gateshead districts.	1 July	Freestone quarry workers (certain classes).	Decrease of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour. Rate after change for quarrymen, stone planing, machine men, and grindstone turners, 1s. 6d. per hour.†
Artificial Stone Manufacture	Scotland ...	5 Aug.	Workpeople employed in or about shale mines and oil works (except apprentices).	Decrease of 5 per cent. on tonnage and shift rates ruling at 18th October, 1927.
	Various districts in Great Britain.‡	Pay day in week ending 29 Aug.	Workpeople employed in the cast stone industry.	Decrease of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour in the minimum rate for adult timeworkers (1s. 2d. to 1s. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.), and of $5\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. for pieceworkers; boys to have their wages reduced by half the amount applicable to adult timeworkers.§
Firebrick Manufacture.	Stourbridge, Dudley, Brierley Hill, Kingswinford, Lye and Rowley Regis.	1st pay day after 17 Aug.	Male workers ...	Decrease of 2s. per full ordinary week for timeworkers and pieceworkers 21 years of age and over, of 1s. 6d. per week for those 18 and under 21, and of 9d. per week for those under 18. Minimum rates after change for timeworkers include: labourers, 44s.; brickmakers, 57s. 6d.; boys and youths, 12s. 9d. at 14, increasing each year to 35s. 6d. at 20. (See Decision 1517 of the Industrial Court on page 368).
			Female workers ...	Decrease of 1s. 3d. per full ordinary week for timeworkers and pieceworkers 18 years of age and over, and for pieceworkers under 18 working in setting, drawing and loading gangs, etc., and of 9d. per week for dayworkers under 18. Minimum rate after change for timeworkers 18 and over, 27s. 3d. (See Decision 1517 of the Industrial Court on page 368).
Pig Iron Manufacture.	North Lincolnshire...	2 Aug.	Workpeople (excluding craftsmen and bricklayers on maintenance work) employed at blastfurnaces.	Decrease† of $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages $20\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. above the standard, subject to the previous addition of 1s. 1d. per shift for all classes, with bonuses varying from 11d. to 1d. per shift for day-wage men on base rates of 3s. 8d. to 4s. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per shift. Minimum rate after change for general labourers, 3s. 8d. per shift, plus $20\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., plus 1s. 1d. per shift, plus bonus of 11d. per shift.
	West of Scotland ...	2 Aug.¶	Workpeople (excluding certain lower-paid day-wage men) employed at blastfurnaces.	Decrease† of 2 per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 6 per cent. above the standard.¶
	Midlands and part of South Yorkshire and South Lancashire.	3 Aug.	Workpeople employed at iron puddling furnaces and iron and steel rolling mills and forges.	Percentage payable on basis rates reduced† from 35 to $32\frac{1}{2}$ for workpeople on base rates up to and including 5s. 10d. per shift, and from 30 to $27\frac{1}{2}$ for workpeople on base rates over 5s. 10d. per shift.**
	Various districts in England†† and West of Scotland.	2 Aug.	Men employed in steel-melting shops:— Melters, pitmen, slagmen, ladle-men, furnace helpers, etc., and gas producermen and charge wheelers. Semi-skilled workers and labourers.	Decrease† of $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on the standard, leaving wages 25 per cent. above the standard (basic process) and at the standard (acid process).
	North-east Coast Area.	2 Aug.	Semi-skilled workers, labourers, etc., employed at puddling furnaces and in rolling mills, whose wages are based on a 47-hour week (excluding those in receipt of base rates from 3s. 10d. to 6s. per shift); also youths and boys under 21 years of age.	Decrease† of $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 25 per cent. above the standard.
	North-east Coast Area (except certain men employed at Gateshead).	2 Aug.	Men employed on direct production in steel-rolling mills.	Decrease† of $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 25 per cent. above the standard.
Iron and Steel Manufacture.	Workington ...	2 Aug.	Steel millmen and labourers (datal workers).	Decrease† of $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 25 per cent. above the standard.
	Barrow-in-Furness	2 Aug.	Workpeople employed at steel works:— Rail millmen ...	Decrease† of $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 16 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. above the standard.
		3 Aug.	Merchant millmen, enginemen, crane-men, etc.	Decrease† of $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 25 per cent. above the standard.
	Scunthorpe ...	2 Aug.	Wire and hoop millmen ...	Percentage payable on basis rates reduced† from 35 to $32\frac{1}{2}$ for workpeople on base rates up to and including 5s. 10d. per shift, and from 30 to $27\frac{1}{2}$ for workpeople on base rates over 5s. 10d. per shift.**
	West of Scotland ...	2 Aug.	Steel millmen, wagon builders and repairers.	Decrease† of $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 25 per cent. above the standard.
	Sheffield ...	1st full pay period following 29 Aug.††	Millmen, gas producermen, enginemen, crane-men, firemen and mill labourers, semi-skilled workers and general labourers employed in steel rolling mills.	Decrease† of $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 25 per cent. above the standard.
			Men employed in open hearth and electric melting departments, rolling mills, forges and press shops, with ancillary men and service-men.	Consolidated shift war bonus of 17s. 6d. per week of 6 shifts reduced to 15s., subject to plain time datal workers on base rates under 5s. 9d. per shift having their base rates increased as follows: base rates under 5s. 9d. per shift and down to 5s. 5d., $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per shift; under 5s. 5d. to 5s. 1d., 1d. per shift; under 5s. 1d. to 4s. 9d., $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. per shift; under 4s. 9d. to 4s. 5d., 2d. per shift; under 4s. 5d. to 4s. 1d., $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. per shift; under 4s. 1d. to 3s. 9d., 3d. per shift.††
			Men employed in crucible steel melting departments.	Consolidated shift war bonus reduced by 5d. per shift, leaving latter 1s. 4d. per shift, plus $17\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on datal rate and tonnage earnings for productive workers, and 2s. 6d. per shift for datal workers, subject to plain time datal workers on basis rates under 5s. 9d. per shift receiving the same increases as above.††
			Youths 18 to 21 years of age employed in steel trades generally.	Consolidated shift war bonus reduced by 1s. 6d. per week for those in receipt of a base rate of 14s. and under per week, and by 2s. 6d. per week for those in receipt of a base rate of over 14s. per week leaving bonus in both cases at 10s. 6d. per week.††

* These reductions were made as the result of an Award issued 10th August, by an Arbitrator appointed under the Industrial Courts Act, 1919. (See page 368).

† Under selling-price sliding-scale arrangements.

‡ See also under "Changes in Hours of Labour."

§ The reductions described are in accordance with an agreement made by the Joint Industrial Council for the Cast Stone Industry.

¶ The change took effect from the pay starting nearest 1st August—in most cases this was 2nd August.

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

†† In addition to the above percentages on base rates, bonuses are paid to production men on basis rates up to 6s. 10d. per shift and to other men on basis rates up to 6s. 3d. per shift. The bonuses, which vary inversely in amount with the base rates, range from $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 1d. per shift in the case of the higher-paid men to 1s. 5d. per shift for production men on a base rate of 3s. 10d., and 1s. 0 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. or 1s. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. for other men on the same rates.

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

§§ This reduction is the second instalment of a general reduction operating in two stages, the first instalment—involving reductions of similar amounts—having operated from the first full pay period following 27th June. The effect of the increases in base rates was to modify the full reduction of 5s. per week operating in August for the lowest-paid datal workers, who sustained a net reduction varying, according to base rates, from 2s. to 4s. 6d. per week. It was agreed that there should be no reduction for men receiving a total wage (including bonus) of 6s. 9d. or less per shift.

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

Industry.	District.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change. (Decreases in italics.)
Keg and Drum Manufacture.	Great Britain ...	31 Aug.	Workpeople employed in the manufacture of kegs and drums.	New schedule of minimum rates adopted under Trade Boards Acts resulting in decreases varying for male workers from $\frac{1}{4}$ d. to $\frac{3}{4}$ d. per hour in the general minimum time-rates, and from $\frac{1}{4}$ d. to $\frac{3}{4}$ d. per hour in the piece-work basis time-rates, and for female workers from $\frac{1}{4}$ d. to $\frac{3}{4}$ d. per hour in both time and piece-rates. General minimum time-rates after change: male workers: 3d. per hour for workers under 15 years of age, increasing to 11 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per hour at 21 years of age and over; female workers: 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per hour for workers under 15 years of age, increasing to 6 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per hour at 18 years of age and over. (See Notice of Order on page 368.)
Tinplate Manufacture.	South Wales and Monmouthshire.	2 Aug.	Lower-paid workers ...	Ex-gratia bonus of 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. previously paid to workers in receipt of basis rates of 6s. 10 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. or less per shift reduced to 5 per cent.* Total rate after change for labourers, 44s. 5d. per week (i.e., 5s. 6d. per day, plus 25 per cent., plus 7.625 per cent. on total).
Electrical Cable Manufacture.	Great Britain ...	Pay preceding 3rd pay day in Aug.	Workpeople employed in the electrical cable-making industry (except plumber-jointers, etc.).	Increase† of 1s. 11 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. or 2s. per week for men 21 years of age and over, of 1s. 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. or 1s. 6d. per week for youths 18 to 20 years, of 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. or 6d. per week for youths and girls 14 to 17 years, and of 1s. per week for women 18 years and over; pieceworkers' wages to be correspondingly increased. Rates after change for lowest grades: men 21 years and over, 45s. 6d. or 50s. 11d. (according to district); women 18 years and over, 26s. 6d.
File Manufacture	Sheffield ...	1st full pay period following 1 Aug.	Datal workers (except grinders and hand cutters).	Decreases in bonus for male workers of 1s. 3d. per week of 47 hours for those in receipt of under 45s. per week (provided that no man shall be reduced to less than 40s. per week of 47 hours), 2s. 6d. per week on earnings from 45s. and under 47s. 6d., 3s. 9d. per week on earnings from 47s. 6d. and under 50s., and 5s. per week for those in receipt of 50s. and over, leaving a bonus of 12s. per week for the latter: female workers 18 years and up to 21 years to have their bonus reduced by 2s. per week (8s. to 6s.).
			Pieceworkers (except grinders and hand cutters).	Deduction of 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. from piecework price lists, leaving such lists subject to a deduction of 17 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. for men 21 years and over, and girls under 18, and 10 per cent. for women 18 and over.
			File grinders (men and youths) ...	Deduction of 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. from datal rates and piecework prices, leaving such rates and prices subject to a deduction of 17 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.
Chain, etc., Manufacture.	Great Britain ...	1 Aug.	Workpeople employed in making hand-hammered chain from iron up to and including $\frac{1}{4}$ in. diameter.	Increase† of 5 per cent. on the general minimum time rates as fixed under the Trade Boards Acts at 1st November, 1923, and on piecework rates as fixed, varied and extended under Trade Boards Acts at 5th November, 1928. General minimum time rate after change for adult workers, 5 $\frac{1}{8}$ d. per hour.
	Great Britain ...	1 Aug.	Workpeople employed in making dollied and tommyied chain from iron No. 6 I.S.W.G. up to and including $\frac{1}{4}$ in. diameter, and hand-hammered chain from iron $\frac{3}{8}$ in. up to and including $\frac{1}{4}$ in. diameter.	Increase† of 5 per cent. on general minimum time rates and piecework rates as varied under Trade Boards Acts at 1st February, 1924, and on piecework rates as fixed, varied or extended under Trade Boards Acts at 16th August, 1926. General minimum time rate after change for lowest-paid adult workers, 1s. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour.
	Cradley Heath and District, Chester, Stoke and Pontypridd.	1st full pay day in Aug.	Commercial end-welded dollied and tommyied chain makers (except those whose wages are regulated by the Chain Trade Board) and cable shackle makers.	Increase† of 5 per cent. on list prices, leaving prices 15 per cent. below the lists of 1922.
	Cradley Heath and District, Chester, Stoke and Pontypridd.	1st full pay day in Aug.	Admiralty end-welded chain makers	Increase† of 5 per cent. on list prices, leaving prices 10 per cent. below the lists of 1922.
Farriery	Manchester, Hanley, and Stoke-on-Trent. Larger towns in Lancashire and Cheshire (except Manchester, Liverpool and Birkenhead).† Other towns in Lancashire and Cheshire, with Kendal and High Peak District.	31 Aug.	Side-welded chain makers ...	Increase† of amounts varying according to size from 2d. to 4 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per cwt.
			Anchor and grapnel makers ...	Increase† of 3d. per cwt.
			Farriers ...	Decrease of $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per hour. Rates after change: firemen, 1s. 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per hour; doormen, 1s. 5d.
Light Castings Manufacture.	England and Scotland.	31 Aug.	Men 21 years of age and over ...	Decrease of $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per hour. Rates after change: firemen, 1s. 5d. per hour; doormen, 1s. 4 $\frac{1}{4}$ d.
Malleable Ironfounding.	Walsall ...	Week ending 15 Aug.	Youths and boys under 21 years of age.	Decrease of $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per hour. Rates after change: firemen, 62s. 6 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per week; doormen, 59s. 6 $\frac{1}{4}$ d.
Tube Manufacture.	Birmingham and Wolverhampton Districts.	10 Aug.	Workpeople employed in the malleable ironfounding trade.	Decreases in bonus of 1s. per week (20s. 6d. to 19s. 6d.) for time-workers earning less than 50s. per week, 1s. 6d. per week (20s. to 18s. 6d.) for timeworkers earning 50s. and over per week, and 2s. 6d. per week (12s. to 9s. 6d.) for pieceworkers. Rates after change for timeworkers include: England—labourers, 42s. per week; Scotland—moulders, 64s. 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ d.; labourers, 43s. 6d.
Safe Making	Birmingham, West Bromwich and Wolverhampton Districts.	1 Aug.	Fitting and socket makers employed in the welded tube trade.	Decreases in bonus varying from 4d. to 1s. per week for timeworkers, and amounting to 1s. 7d. per week for pieceworkers 18 and under 21 years of age, and 7d. per week for pieceworkers under 18.
Bolt and Nut Manufacture.	Birmingham and Darlaston District.	Pay preceding 28 Aug.	Steel safe engineers ...	Decrease of 5 per cent. on time rates and also in percentage payable on piece prices. Percentage addition after change to piece price lists: cupola men, 30 per cent.; crucible work or tub men, 35 per cent.; buckle men, 40 per cent.
Electric Welding.	Various districts in Scotland.‡	27 Aug.	Pieceworkers employed in the machine bolt and nut trade.	Decrease of 10 per cent. on gross piecework prices—war bonus not to enter into calculations, nor to be altered.
			Electric welders ...	Decrease of 5 per cent. on time and piece rates. Minimum time rate after change, 56s. 9d. per week.
				Percentage addition to base piece rates reduced from 50 to 40, —in cases where the bonus is incorporated, the reduction to be 6 $\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. on net prices.
				Decrease of 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per hour (2s. to 1s. 10 $\frac{1}{4}$ d.).

* In addition to this percentage the workpeople mentioned receive the sliding-scale percentage addition of 2.625, making a total percentage of 7.625 payable on basis rates. The wages of workpeople in receipt of basis rates over 6s. 10 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per shift remain unaltered at 2.625 per cent. above basis rates.
† Under cost-of-living sliding-scale arrangements.
‡ Including Accrington, Altrincham, Ashton, Blackburn, Blackpool, Bolton, Burnley, Bury, Chorley, Clitheroe, Colne, Lancaster, Leigh, Middleton, Nelson and District, Oldham (where the reduction operated from October, 1930), Ormskirk, Preston, Rochdale, Rossendale, Southport, Stockport, St. Helens, Warrington, Widnes and Wigan.
§ Including Alsager, Bentham, Cheadle, Chester, Congleton, Crewe, Furness District, Garstang, Kirkham, Knutsford, Macclesfield, Middlewich, Nantwich, Northwich, and Tarporley.
|| Under an Agreement between the Scottish Welding Employers' Association and the Boilermakers and Iron and Steel Shipbuilders' Society.

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

Industry.	District.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change. (Decreases in italics.)
Woollen and Worsted Industry.	West Riding of Yorkshire (various firms).*	Aug. (various dates).	Workpeople employed in the woollen and worsted industry.	<i>Decreases amounting usually to 11·7 per cent. on current total rates for adult timeworkers, with corresponding reductions for pieceworkers and juveniles.*</i>
Flannel Manufacture.	Rochdale and District	15 Aug.†	Workpeople engaged in the manufacture of flannel.	Adjustment of basis rates of wages resulting in increases for some workers and reductions for others.†
Hosiery Manufacture.	Hawick	1st full pay day in Aug.	Men and women	Flat rate bonuses of 3s. 3d. per week for men and 2s. 6d. per week for women increased‡ to 6s. 6d. and 5s. respectively, the bonus of 20 per cent. on base rates remaining unchanged.
			Apprentices	Flat rate bonus of 1s. 1½d. per week increased‡ to 2s. 3d. per week, the bonus of 15 per cent. on base rates remaining unchanged.
Elastic Web Weaving.	Leicester	1st pay day after 21 Aug.	Male workers	<i>Bonus reduced‡ from 11s. to 10s. 6d. in the £.</i>
Machine Calico Printing.	Great Britain and Northern Ireland.	1st pay day in Sept.§	Machine calico printers	<i>Supplementary cost-of-living wage reduced‡ from 32·90 per cent. to 31·50 per cent. on basis wages, the flat rate bonuses of 17s. per week for journeymen and 11s. per week for apprentices remaining unchanged.</i>
Silk Dyeing and Finishing.	Macclesfield	Pay day in week ending 15 Aug.	Male workers	<i>Decreases‡ of from 3d. to 10d. per week. Rates after change: 13s. 9d. at 14 increasing each half-year to 27s. 1d. at 18 and to 45s. 11d. at 21 and over.</i>
			Female workers 18 and over	<i>Decrease‡ of 5d. per week (27s. 4d. to 26s. 11d.).</i>
			Timeworkers:— Trimmers Auxiliary workers	<i>Decrease‡ of ½d. per hour (1s. 5½d. to 1s. 5d.).</i> <i>Decreases‡ for male workers of ½d. or ¼d. per hour (except for those 15, 16, 18 and 20 for whom there was no change), for female auxiliary workers of ½d. per hour, and for menders of ¼d. or ½d. per hour. Rates after change for those 21 and over: men, 1s.; women—menders, 9½d.; other workers, 7½d.</i>
Hosiery Finishing, etc.	Nottingham... ..	1 Aug.	Pieceworkers:— Trimmers (other than web trimmers) Web trimmers	<i>Bonus of 40 per cent. on list prices reduced‡ to 35 per cent.</i> <i>Bonus of 25 per cent. on list prices reduced‡ to 20 per cent.</i>
Shoe and Slipper Manufacture.	Rossendale district (including Bacup, Stacksteads, Rawtenstall and Waterfoot).	12 or 14 Aug.§	Shoe and slipper operatives	<i>Decrease‡ of 3½ per cent. on basis wages of 1920, leaving wages 30 per cent. below basis wages.</i>
			Workers on piecework time statement.	<i>Piecework time statement revised and extended; time rates to be applied to the statement to be 1d. per "log" hour less than previously for male workers in all Areas and ½d. or 1d. per "log" hour less for female workers in all Areas except Area 5 (where the rate remains unchanged). Minimum rates after change: male workers, 1s. 1d. to 1s. 5d. per "log" hour (according to area); female workers, 11d. to 1s. 2d. per "log" hour. (See Notice of Order on page 328 of August GAZETTE.)</i>
			Other male workers (with not less than five years' employment).	<i>Decreases in the minimum time rates of ½d. or 1d. per hour for Grade I and II workers in all Areas and for Grade III workers in all Areas except Area 5 (where the rate remains unchanged), and of ½d. or 1d. per hour in the piecework basis time rates in all Areas; definition of Grade III workers revised to include all who have completed five years' employment after the age of 14 (unless covered by Grade I or II), resulting in the case of workers newly brought within the definitions of Grade III in an increase of ½d. per hour in Area 4 and 1d. per hour in Area 5. Minimum time rates after change: Grade I workers, 1s., 1s. 0½d., or 1s. 2d. (according to area); Grade II, 11½d. or 1s. 1d.; Grade III, 11d. or 1s.; piecework basis time rates, 1s. 1d., 1s. 1½d. or 1s. 4d. (See Notice of Order on page 328 of August GAZETTE.)</i>
Retail Bespoke Tailoring.	Scotland	17 Aug.	Other female workers	<i>Decreases in minimum rates for Grade I workers of ½d. or 1d. per hour in time rates and ½d. per hour in piecework basis time rate, the rates for other workers remaining unchanged, leaving minimum time rates: Grade I workers, 8d., 8½d. or 8¾d. (according to area); other workers after 4 years' employment after 14, 7d. or 7½d. (See Notice of Order on page 328 of August GAZETTE.)</i>
Baking and Confectionery	Liverpool, Birkenhead and Wallasey	24 Aug.	Bakers and confectioners	<i>Decrease‡ of 2s. per week for adult workers and of 1s. per week for juniors. Rates after change for daywork: adult workers—forehands and ovenmen, 64s.; tablehands, 58s.; juniors—18 years, 23s.; 19, 28s.; 20, 38s.</i>
Mill-Sawing	Leicester	8 Aug.	Woodcutting machinists and sawyers.	<i>Decrease of ½d. per hour (1s. 5d. to 1s. 4½d.).</i>
	Birmingham and District.||	7 or 8 Aug.§	Timeworkers	<i>Decreases of ½d. per hour for adult male workers, ¼d. per hour for adult female workers and of proportionate amounts for juniors. Rates after change: skilled adult male workers, 1s. 5½d.; women, 8¾d.||</i>
			Pieceworkers	<i>Percentage addition to pre-war piecework prices reduced from 67½ to 65.||</i>
Furniture Manufacture.	High Wycombe	Pay day for week ending 5 Sept.	Journeymen	<i>Decrease‡ of ½d. per hour. Rates after change: men on skilled processes, 1s. 4½d.; windsor, cane and cheap rush bottom chair-makers, packers, markers-out and benders, 1s. 4d.</i>
			Apprentices	<i>Decreases‡ of from 3d. to 10d. per week.</i>
			Cabinet makers, carvers, chair-makers, french polishers, machinists, upholsterers, sanders by hand or machine and packers.	<i>Decrease‡ of ½d. per hour for journeymen and of proportionate amounts for apprentices and improvers. Rates after change: sanders (single band) and packers, 1s. 2½d.; other workers, 1s. 5½d.</i>
	Nottingham... ..	1 Aug.	Upholstresses and female polishers	<i>Decrease‡ of ½d. per hour. Rates after change: upholstresses, 7½d. polishers, 9½d.</i>
Building	Leicester	1 Aug.	Plasterers	<i>Decrease of ½d. per hour (1s. 7d. to 1s. 6½d.)</i>
	Inverness	1 Aug.	Masons, joiners, slaters, plumbers and plasterers.	<i>Decrease of ½d. per hour (1s. 5d. to 1s. 4½d.).</i>
Railway Service	Liverpool	24 Aug.	Clerical, supervisory, and conciliation staffs employed by Overhead Railway Company.	<i>Decrease for adults of 15 per cent. on wages exceeding 80s. per week, of 10 per cent. on wages over 50s. and up to 80s., and of 5 per cent. on wages of 50s. and under per week and for juniors, subject to such deductions not reducing adult earnings below 40s. per week.</i>

* The above decreases were the result of individual action on the part of the firms concerned. No trade union was a party to the arrangement. The decreases were effected in most cases by withdrawing the special addition of 5 per cent. payable on basis rates and reducing the cost-of-living wage from 64 per cent. (paid on basis rates plus 5 per cent.) to 52 per cent. (paid on net basis rates), subject to a maximum of 15s. 7d. per week for adult timeworkers, and from 56·32 per cent. to 45·76 per cent. for pieceworkers. In some cases the reductions did not apply to certain ancillary classes, such as enginemakers, firemen, mechanics, etc. The districts principally affected included Bradford, Halifax, Keighley, Leeds, Morley, and Dewsbury. Reductions of similar amount had been made by various other firms in July (see page 319 of August GAZETTE).

† The change took effect as a result of an agreement arrived at by a Joint Committee representing the Rochdale and District Flannel Manufacturers' Association and the trade unions appointed to prepare a schedule of rates of wages based on the rates prevailing for similar work in the West Riding. The schedule came into operation on 15th August, but increases or decreases in wages were to be credited or debited to the workers from earlier dates.

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

§ In respect of the preceding pay period.

|| The reductions described are in accordance with the terms of a notice posted by members of the Birmingham and District Furniture Manufacturers and Allied Trades Association. The reduction was not formally accepted by the trade unions concerned.

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

Industry.	District.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change. (Decreases in italics.)
Local Government (Non-Trading Services).	Various Authorities in West Riding of Yorkshire.*	1st full pay week in Aug.	Manual workers	Decrease of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour for Grade A, B and C areas, the rates in other areas to remain unchanged leaving minimum hourly rates for labourers as follows:—Grade A areas, 1s., Grade B, 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., Grade C, 11d., Grade D, 11d., Grade E, 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., Grade F, 10d., Grade G, 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.
	Dundee	22 July	Carters employed in the works department.	Decrease of 1s. per week (54s. 6d. to 53s. 6d.).
		23 July	Cleansing department:— Carters, motormen and mates	Decrease of 1s. per week. Rates after change: carters, 56s. 6d., motormen, 67s., mates, 56s. 6d.
		20 Aug.	Road scavengers, refuse collectors, depot men and stablemen.	Decrease of 1s. per week. Rates after change: stablemen, 58s. 6d. other classes, 54s.
Skip and Basket Making.	Lancashire and Cheshire.	2 Aug.	Skip and basket makers	Increase† of 2 per cent. on Lancashire price list, making wages 74 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. and 64 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. above the list for timeworkers and pieceworkers respectively.
Retail Co-operative Societies.	Various districts in Yorkshire.†	1st pay day in week beginning 3 Aug.	Distributive employees (other than transport workers):— All workers (except branch managers and milk distributive workers).	Decrease of approximately 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on minimum rates for those 21 and over and of 5 per cent. for those under 21. Minimum rates after change: juniors in all departments (except dressmakers and milliners): males—11s. 9d. at 14, increasing each year to 40s. at 20; females—10s. 6d. at 14, increasing each year to 32s. 3d. at 20; adult assistants: males—53s. 6d. at 21 to 62s. 6d. at 23; females—34s. 9d.; dressmakers and milliners, 10s. 6d. at 14, increasing each year to 34s. 9d. at 21; clerks: males—53s. 6d. at 21 to 66s. 6d. at 23; females—35s. 9d. at 21, 39s. 6d. at 22; charge clerks: males—68s. 3d.; females, 5s. over rate for age; branch manageresses, 42s. 6d. (if buyers, 48s. 3d.); head warehousemen, 69s. 3d.; warehousemen—53s. 6d. at 21, 58s. 6d. at 22; porters, caretakers, etc., 53s. 9d.†
			Branch managers	Revised scale of wages adopted based on weekly sales involving the introduction of lower rates for sales below £80 in grocery branches and £50 in butchery branches, the rates for higher sales in these departments and for all other departments remaining unchanged.†
			Milk distributive workers ...	Scales of minimum weekly rates adopted which include the following: foremen, 70s. or 72s. 6d.; male sterilisers, 16s. 6d. at 14, increasing to 60s. at 21 and over; roundsmen, 12s. at 14, increasing to 58s. at 21 and over; other male workers, 12s. at 14, increasing to 56s. at 21 and over; roundswomen, 24s. at under 18, increasing to 44s. at 21 and over; other female workers, 13s. 6d. at 14, increasing to 35s. 6d. at 21 and over†.

CHANGES IN HOURS OF LABOUR REPORTED DURING AUGUST, 1931.

Agriculture	Berkshire	2 Aug.	Male workers	Hours in respect of which the minimum weekly rates fixed under the Agricultural Wages (Regulation) Act, 1924, are payable fixed at 52 $\frac{1}{2}$ instead of 50 as previously.
Mining and Quarrying.	Scotland	Beginning of 1st pay period after 7 Aug. 1 July	Coal miners	Adoption of a 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ hour shift (Monday to Saturday) for underground workers, in lieu of eleven 8-hour shifts per fortnight previously worked; surface workers' hours to be reduced by 1 hour per week (49 to 48).§
	Newcastle-on-Tyne and Gateshead Districts.		Freestone quarry workers ...	Decrease of 2 hours per week (46 to 44).§

* The reductions described are in accordance with a recommendation made by the Provincial Joint Industrial Council for Local Authorities Non-Trading Services. The new rates are to remain in operation until 31st July, 1932. The rates paid by some of the Authorities differ slightly from the scheduled rates shown above. The Authorities affected include:—Grade A.—Batley (no change for scavengers), Dewsbury, Doncaster, Halifax, Harrogate, Leeds, Wakefield, Ardsley, East and West, Golcar, Holmfirth, Honley, Kirkheaton, Lepton, Marsden, Meltham, Queensbury, Saddleworth, Slaithwaite, Stanley, Yeadon. Grade B.—Brighouse, Keighley (no change for scavengers and refuse collectors), Pontefract, Todmorden, Goole, Luddendenfoot, Rawmarsh, Spennorth, Whitwood, Grade C.—Ossett, Barnoldswick, Horsforth, Mirfield, Selby, Skipton.

† Under cost-of-living sliding scale arrangements.

‡ The changes described took effect under a decision of the National Conciliation Board for the Co-operative Service and applied to the Airedale, Calderdale, Dewsbury, Huddersfield and East and South Yorkshire districts. It was provided that nothing in the award should reduce higher wages or better conditions of service by more than the difference between the rates set out in the award and the rates set out in the agreement of June, 1923.

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

PRICES AND WAGES IN THE IRON AND STEEL INDUSTRIES.

The following Table shows the results of recent ascertainment upon which are based variations in district rates of wages:—

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. Apr.–June	s. d. 55 2	s. d. – 1 1 $\frac{1}{2}$	s. d. – 10 8
Cumberland	May–June	65 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	– 0 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	– 9 10 $\frac{1}{2}$
(Hematite mixed numbers.)				
Lincolnshire	Apr.–June	61 7 $\frac{1}{2}$	– 1 5	– 2 11 $\frac{1}{2}$
Nottinghamshire ...	Apr.–June	57 10	– 2 1 $\frac{1}{2}$	– 8 3 $\frac{1}{2}$
North Staffordshire	Apr.–June	62 3	+ 2 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	– 6 4 $\frac{1}{2}$
Northamptonshire	Apr.–June	51 4	– 1 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	– 9 0
West of Scotland ...	Apr.–June	71 8	– 2 6	– 5 7
Manufactured Iron:				
North of England (Bars.)	May–June	188 11 $\frac{1}{2}$	+ 2 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	+ 6 6 $\frac{1}{2}$
West of Scotland ...	May–June	208 11 $\frac{1}{2}$	+ 1 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	– 1 10 $\frac{1}{2}$
(Rounds, flats, squares, angles, hoops, tees and rods.)				
Steel:				
South-West Wales (Steel tin bars.)	Apr.–June	94 5 $\frac{1}{2}$	– 2 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	– 28 1 $\frac{1}{2}$

* Stated to the nearest farthing.

The variation from the previous audit in the price of Cleveland pig iron resulted in a decrease in July of 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on the standard

rates of blastfurnacemen in that area. As a result of the Cumberland ascertainment workpeople employed at West Cumberland and North Lancashire blastfurnaces sustained a reduction in July of 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on their standard rates. The ascertainment for Lincolnshire resulted in a decrease in August of 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. on the standard rates of blastfurnacemen, ironstone miners and quarrymen in that area. In Nottinghamshire the ascertainment warranted a reduction in July of 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ 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 an increase in July of 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on the standard rates for blastfurnacemen on tonnage rates in that area. In Northamptonshire the ascertainment resulted in a reduction at the end of July of 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on the standard rates of blastfurnacemen, ironstone miners and limestone quarrymen. In the West of Scotland the ascertainment resulted in a decrease in August of 2 per cent. on the standard rates of blastfurnacemen (with the exception of the lower-paid day-wage men).

As regards manufactured iron, the ascertainment for North of England resulted in an increase in July of 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on the standard rates of iron puddlers and millmen in that area; whilst the West of Scotland ascertainment also resulted in an increase in July of 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on standard rates.

In the case of Siemens steel workers in South-West Wales the ascertained price remained below the standard, and in consequence did not warrant a change in wages.

Further details of the changes referred to will be found on page 318 of the August GAZETTE and page 359 of the present issue.

TRADE DISPUTES IN AUGUST.*

Number, Magnitude and Duration.—The number of disputes involving stoppages of work, reported to the Department as beginning in August in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, was 36, as compared with 38 in the previous month, and 35 in August, 1930. In these new disputes about 21,200 workpeople were directly involved, and 24,800 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 17,900 workpeople were involved, either directly or indirectly, in 14 disputes which began before August and were still in progress at the beginning of that month. The number of new and old disputes was thus 50, involving about 63,900 workpeople, and resulting in a loss, during August, of about 349,000 working days.

In the following Table is given an analysis of the disputes in progress in August 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 ...	3	9	12	51,200	207,000
Metal, Engineering and Shipbuilding ...	3	8	11	4,400	25,000
Textile ...	3	...	3	2,300	56,000
Woodworking, Furniture, etc. ...	...	5	5	3,800	46,000
Building, Public Works Contracting, etc. ...	2	6	8	1,200	10,000
Other ...	3	8	11	1,000	5,000
Total, August, 1931 ...	14	36	50	63,900	349,000
<i>Total, July, 1931 ...</i>	<i>13</i>	<i>38</i>	<i>51</i>	<i>36,800</i>	<i>356,000†</i>
<i>Total, August, 1930 ...</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>35</i>	<i>45</i>	<i>8,200</i>	<i>49,000</i>

Causes.—Of the 36 disputes beginning in August, 13, directly involving 15,400 workpeople, arose out of proposed reductions in wages; 14, directly involving 2,400 workpeople, on other wage questions; 2, directly involving 700 workpeople, on questions as to working hours; 4, directly involving 2,600 workpeople, on questions respecting the employment of particular classes or persons; and 3, directly involving 100 workpeople, on other questions of working arrangements.

Results.—Settlements were effected in the case of 24 new disputes, directly involving 17,200 workpeople, and 10 old disputes, directly involving 19,100 workpeople. Of these new and old disputes, 4, directly involving 400 workpeople, were settled in favour of the workpeople; 15, directly involving 25,300 workpeople, were settled in favour of the employers; and 15, directly involving 10,600 workpeople, were compromised. In the case of 2 disputes, directly involving 500 workpeople, work was resumed pending negotiations.

TOTALS FOR THE FIRST EIGHT MONTHS OF 1930 AND 1931.‡

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

Industry Group.	January to August, 1930.			January to August, 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 ...	104	42,600	130,000	109	262,800	2,782,000
Other Mining and Quarrying ...	5	400	5,000	5	200	4,000
Brick, Pottery, Glass, etc. ...	5	500	5,000	10	1,000	19,000
Chemical ...	3	400	3,000	5	800	2,000
Engineering ...	9	700	5,000	6	500	9,000
Shipbuilding ...	17	3,200	10,000	7	500	10,000
Other Metal ...	27	2,800	17,000	31	7,800	47,000
Textile ...	32	125,400	3,318,000†	22	159,100	3,641,000
Clothing ...	14	1,100	4,000	13	1,000	4,000
Food, Drink and Tobacco ...	1	500	2,000	2	100	500
Woodworking, Furniture, etc. ...	20	3,200	86,000	10	5,200	72,000
Paper, Printing, etc. ...	3	600	6,000	4	400	1,000
Building, Public Works Contracting, etc. ...	33	2,900	39,000	42	10,300	137,000
Transport ...	17	4,900	24,000	15	5,000	13,000
Commerce, Distribution and Finance ...	4	3,500	51,000	4	200	500
Other ...	8	700	5,000	13	1,100	12,000
Total ...	302	193,400	3,710,000†	298	456,000	6,754,000

PRINCIPAL DISPUTES INVOLVING STOPPAGES OF WORK DURING AUGUST, 1931.

Occupations and Locality. §	Approximate Number of Workpeople involved.		Date when Dispute		Cause or Object. §	Result. §
	Directly.	In-directly. §	Began.	Ended.		
COAL MINING :—						
Colliery workpeople—Cumberland	8,000	1,300	24 June 1931.	15–22 Aug. 1931.	Against enforcement of reduction in wages recommended by Coal Mines National Industrial Board.	Reduction accepted; certain concessions granted by employers. (See also page 358.)
Colliery workpeople—Fifeshire and other districts in Scotland (<i>certain collieries only</i>).	11,000		9 July||	1 Aug.||	Refusal of workpeople to continue the existing temporary arrangement of working hours (a fortnightly "spread-over") pending agreement as to wages payable for the 7½ hours day.	Work resumed on existing temporary basis at some collieries; at others men remained out until general agreement was arrived at as to wages payable for the 7½ hours day. (See also page 358.)
Colliery workpeople—Scotland (various districts) (<i>certain collieries only</i>).	30,000¶		7 Aug.**	27 Aug.**	Dissatisfaction of surface workers and others with wages payable for the 7½ hours day under general agreement.	Work resumed on terms of the general agreement.
Putters and other colliery workpeople—South Shields.	153	1,797	12 Aug.	13 Aug.	Refusal to perform certain extra duties without additional payment.	Amicable settlement effected.
BOLT AND NUT INDUSTRY :—						
Bolt and nut makers—Darlaston	3,300		19 Aug.	22 Aug.	Against proposed reduction in wages	Proposed reduction accepted. (See also page 360.)
LACE INDUSTRY :—						
Lace curtain workers—Ayrshire, Glasgow and Nottinghamshire.	2,200		15 June	...	Against proposed reduction in wages	††
FURNITURE MANUFACTURE :—						
Cabinet makers, chairmakers, machinists, french polishers, etc.—London.	3,000		14 Aug.	...	Against proposed reduction in wages	No settlement reported.

* 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.

‡ 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, 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.

|| Except in Fifeshire the stoppage in most cases lasted one or two days only.

¶ Estimated total number of workpeople directly or indirectly involved for one or more days during the period.

** Stoppages began and ended on various dates, mainly between 10th August and 17th August, and lasted about 3 days on the average.

†† In Nottinghamshire a settlement was effected on 14th Sept.; in Ayrshire and Glasgow no settlement has been reported.

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

Summary: Average Increases since July, 1914.

All Items included	...	...	45%
Food only	...	...	28%

FOOD.

At 1st September the average level of the retail prices of the principal articles of food showed practically no change as compared with 1st August, a reduction in the average price of potatoes being largely offset by small advances in the average prices of eggs, bacon and butter.

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 28 per cent. at both 1st September and 1st August, 1931, as compared with 44 per cent. at 1st September, 1930.

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

Article.	Average Price (per lb. unless otherwise indicated— to the nearest ½d.)			Average Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) at 1st Sept., 1931, as compared with	
	July, 1914.	1st Aug., 1931.	1st Sept., 1931.	July, 1914.	1st Aug., 1931.
Beef, British—	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Ribs ...	0 10	1 3½	1 3½	+ 0 5½	...
Thin Flank ...	0 6½	0 8½	0 8½	+ 0 2	...
Beef, Chilled or Frozen—					
Ribs ...	0 7½	0 9½	0 9½	+ 0 2½	+ 0 0½
Thin Flank ...	0 4½	0 5	0 5	+ 0 0½	...
Mutton, British—					
Legs ...	0 10½	1 5½	1 5½	+ 0 6½	...
Breast ...	0 6½	0 9	0 9	+ 0 2½	...
Mutton, Frozen—					
Legs ...	0 6½	0 10½	0 10½	+ 0 3½	...
Breast ...	0 4	0 4½	0 4½	+ 0 0½	...
Bacon (streaky)*	0 11½	0 11	0 11½	+ 0 0½	+ 0 0½
Flour ... per 7 lb.	0 10½	0 11	0 10½	+ 0 0½	— 0 0½
Bread ... per 4 lb.	0 5½	0 6½	0 6½	+ 0 1	...
Tea ...	1 6½	1 9½	1 9	+ 0 2½	— 0 0½
Sugar (granulated) ...	0 2	0 2½	0 2½	+ 0 0½	...
Milk ... per quart	0 3½	0 5½	0 5½	+ 0 2½	...
Butter—					
Fresh ...	1 2½	1 4½	1 4½	+ 0 2½	+ 0 0½
Salt ...	1 2½	1 3	1 3½	+ 0 1	+ 0 0½
Cheese† ...	0 8½	0 10	0 10	+ 0 1½	...
Margarine ...	0 7	0 7	0 7	...	...
Eggs (fresh) ... each	0 1½	0 1½	0 1½	+ 0 0½	+ 0 0½
Potatoes ... per 7 lb.	0 4½	0 9½	0 7½	+ 0 3	— 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 Sept., 1931, as compared with July, 1914.			Corre- sponding General Average for 1st Aug., 1931.
	Large Towns (Popula- tions over 50,000).	Small Towns and Villages.	General Average.	
Beef, British—	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Ribs ...	59	58	59	59
Thin Flank ...	28	31	29	30
Beef, Chilled or Frozen—				
Ribs ...	32	36	34	32
Thin Flank ...	1	10	6	4
Mutton, British—				
Legs ...	63	66	65	65
Breast ...	40	40	40	40
Mutton, Frozen—				
Legs ...	55	48	51	50
Breast ...	4	13	9	7
Bacon (streaky)*	3	4	4	—2
Fish ...	114	91	103	101
Flour ...	2	5	3	5
Bread ...	17	17	17	18
Tea ...	8	22	15	16
Sugar (granulated) ...	25	18	21	22
Milk ...	59	65	62	61
Butter—				
Fresh ...	12	19	15	13
Salt ...	6	8	7	5
Cheese† ...	16	17	17	16
Margarine ...	1	—4	—2	—2
Eggs (fresh) ...	47	43	45	33
Potatoes ...	71	56	63	97
All above articles of Food (Weighted Percentage Increase) ...	27	28	28	28

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

RENT, CLOTHING, FUEL AND LIGHT.

As regards *rents*, inquiries which have been made into the changes which have taken effect under the Rent and Mortgage Interest (Restrictions) Acts indicate that the average increase in the controlled rents (including rates) of working-class dwellings between July, 1914, and 1st September, 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 September 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 90 and 95 per cent. higher than in July, 1914.

In the *fuel and light* group the prices of coal were advanced in a number of towns and at 1st September averaged between 80 and 85 per cent. above the level of July, 1914. The average price of gas remained 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 September, as compared with July, 1914, was between 70 and 75 per cent.

ALL ITEMS.

If the average increases in the cost of all the foregoing items are combined in accordance with their relative importance in pre-war working-class family expenditure, allowance being also made for the increase in the prices of soap, soda, domestic ironmongery, brushware and pottery, tobacco, fares and newspapers (averaging about 75 per cent.), the resultant general average increase for 1st September, 1931, is approximately **45 per cent.*** over the level of July, 1914, as compared with 45 per cent. at 1st August, 1931, and 67 per cent. at 1st September, 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 (begin- ning 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	45
July ...	152	119	84	69	70	73	70	66	65	61	55	47
Aug. ...	155	122	81	71	71	73	70	64	65	63	57	45
Sept. ...	161	120	79	73	72	74	72	65	65	64	57	45
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.

RETAIL PRICES OVERSEAS.

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

I.—FOOD.

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

Country.	Percentage Increase as compared with July, 1914.*					Latest figures available.	
	July, 1927.	July, 1928.	July, 1929.	July, 1930.		Rlse.	Date.
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.		
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND ...	59	57	49	41	28		1931. 1 Sept.
FOREIGN COUNTRIES.							
Czechoslovakia...	...	...	...	30	17	July	
Denmark ...	53	53	49	37	19	July	
Egypt (Cairo)† ...	47	44	40	32	23	Apl.	
Finland ...	965	1,016	979	837	718	July	
France (Paris)† ...	...	...	522	503	505†	Aug.	
(other towns)† ...	...	...	503**	514**	507†	May	
Germany ...	57	54	56	46	26	Aug.	
Italy ...	440	416	458	407	342	July	
Norway ...	75	73	57	51	38	Aug.	
Spain (Madrid)† ...	84	73	77	80	89	June	
(Barcelona)† ...	64	65	73	72	77	June	
Sweden† ...	51	57	51	40	29	Aug.	
Switzerland ...	57	57	55	52	40	July	
United States ...	50	50	55	41	17	July	
BRITISH DOMINIONS, &c.							
Australia ...	52	52	60	47	25	July	
Canada ...	49	47	50	49	12	Aug.	
India (Bombay):							
Native families ...	54	43	45	36	0	Aug.	
Irish Free State ...	66	66	66	56	39	May	
New Zealand ...	44	46	46	43	18†	July	
South Africa ...	19	16	16	9	4	July	

II.—ALL ITEMS

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

Country.	Items on which Computation is based.†	Percentage Increase as compared with July, 1914.*					Latest figures available.	
		July, 1927.	July, 1928.	July, 1929.	July, 1930.		Rlse.	Date.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.		
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND ...	A,B,C,D,E	66	65	61	55	45		1931. 1 Sept.
FOREIGN COUNTRIES.								
Belgium ...	A,O,D,E	690	711	771	769	689	July	
Czechoslovakia (Prague) ...	A,B,C,D,E	...	...	...	9	4	July	
Denmark ...	A,B,C,D,E	76	76	73	65	54	July	
Egypt (Cairo)...	A,B,C,E	51	51	50	48	40	Apl.	
Finland ...	A,B,C,D,E	1,081	1,113	1,101	1,008	904	July	
France (Paris) ...	A,B,C,D,E	407¶	419¶	455¶	492¶	489	2nd Qr.	
Germany ...	A,B,C,D,E	50	53	54	49	35	Aug.	
Holland (Amsterdam) ...	A,B,C,D,E	67§	70§	69§	62§	54	June	
Italy (Milan) ...	A,B,C,D,E	448	426	442	431	388	June	
(Rome) ...	A,B,C,D,E	403	387	407	400	348	June	
Norway ...	A,B,C,D,E	103	93	80	75	66	Aug.	
Poland (Warsaw) ...	A,B,C,D,E	15	23	23	19	5	July	
Sweden ...	A,B,C,D,E	69	73	69	64	58	July	
Switzerland ...	A,B,C,D	60	61	61	59	50	July	
United States... A,B,C,D,E		73§	70§	70§	67§	50	June	
BRITISH DOMINIONS, &c.								
Australia ...	A,B,C,D,E	46¶	47¶	50¶	...	35	4th Qr.'30	
Canada ...	A,B,C,D,E	55	55	56	56	38	Aug.	
India (Bombay):								
Native families ...	A,B,C,D	56	47	48	40	8	Aug.	
Irish Free State ...	A,B,C,D,E	71	73	74	68	56	May	
New Zealand ...	A,B,C,D,E	61	62	60	58	45†	July	
South Africa ...	A,B,C,D,E	32	31	31	28	22	July	

* 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.

FATAL INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS.

THE number of workpeople, other than seamen, in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, reported during August, 1931, as killed in the course of their employment was 122, as compared with 158 in the previous month and with 174* in August, 1930. Fatal accidents to seamen reported in August, 1931, numbered 29, as compared with 21 in the previous month and 39 in August, 1930.

RAILWAY SERVICE.		Factories and Workshops (continued).	
Brakesmen and Goods		Other Metal Trades ...	...
Guards ...	1	Shipbuilding ...	2
Engine Drivers and Motor-men ...	1	Wood ...	1
Firemen ...	...	Gas ...	...
Guards (Passenger) ...	...	Electric Generating Stations	1
Permanent Way Men ...	1	Clay, Stone, Glass, etc. ...	3
Porters ...	4	Chemicals, etc. ...	2
Shunters ...	1	Food and Drink ...	3
Mechanics ...	1	Paper, Printing, etc. ...	2
Labourers ...	2	Tanning, Currying, etc. ...	...
Miscellaneous ...	6	Rubber Trades ...	...
Contractors' Servants ...	...	Other Non-Textile Industries	3
TOTAL, RAILWAY SERVICE	17		
MINES.		PLACES UNDER SS. 104-106, FACTORY ACT, 1901.	
Underground ...	51	Docks, Wharves, etc. ...	2
Surface ...	4	Buildings ...	8
TOTAL, MINES	55	Warehouses and Railway Sidings ...	...
QUARRIES over 20 feet deep	2	TOTAL, FACTORY ACTS	46
Factories and Workshops.		CONSTRUCTION OR REPAIR of Railway† ...	
Cotton ...	...	USE OR WORKING of Tram-road ...	1
Wool, Worsted and Shoddy	5	Total (excluding Seamen)	122
Other Textiles ...	1		
Textile Bleaching and Dyeing ...	...	SEAMEN.	
Metal Extracting and Refining ...	2	Trading Vessels, Sailing ...	2
Metal Conversion, including Rolling Mills and Tube Making ...	4	" " Steam ...	24
Metal Founding ...	2	Fishing Vessels, Sailing ...	...
Engineering and Machine Making ...	2	" " Steam ...	3
Boiler Making and Constructional Engineering ...	1	TOTAL, SEAMEN	29
Locomotives, Railway and Tramway Carriages, Motors, Aircraft... 2		Total (including Seamen)	151

INDUSTRIAL DISEASES.

THE total number of cases‡ of poisoning, anthrax, and epitheliomatous and chrome ulceration in Great Britain and Northern Ireland reported during August, 1931, under the Factory and Workshop Act, or under the Lead Paint (Protection against Poisoning) Act, was 42; the total number of deaths‡ reported was 2.

In addition, one case of lead poisoning among plumbers not employed in factories came to the knowledge of the Home Office during August, but notification of such cases is not obligatory.

I. Cases.		I. Cases (continued).	
(a) LEAD POISONING.		(d) EPITHELIOMATOUS ULCERATION (SKIN CANCER).	
Among Operatives engaged in—		Pitch ...	8
Smelting of metals ...	2	Tar ...	5
Plumbing and Soldering ...	...	Paraffin ...	...
Shipbreaking ...	...	Oil ...	5
Printing ...	...	TOTAL, EPITHELIOMATOUS ULCERATION	18
Tinning of Metals ...	...	
Other Contact with Molten Lead ...	2	(e) CHROME ULCERATION.	
Pottery§ ...	1	Dyeing and Finishing ...	1
Vitreous Enamelling ...	2	Chromium Plating ...	4
Paint and Colour Works	1		
Painting of Buildings ...	7	TOTAL, CHROME ULCERATION	5
TOTAL, LEAD POISONING	15		
(b) OTHER POISONING.		II. Deaths.	
Carbon Bisulphide ...	1	LEAD POISONING.	
Aniline ...	2	Pottery§ ...	1
TOTAL, OTHER POISONING	3	EPITHELIOMATOUS ULCERATION (SKIN CANCER).	
(c) ANTHRAX.		Oil ...	1
Wool ...	1		

* The figure previously published for August, 1930, has been revised.

† Accidents occurring in the use or working of railways are included under "Railway Service."

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

§ In each case the person affected was a woman.

POOR RELIEF IN AUGUST.

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

THE number of persons* relieved on one day† in August, 1931, in the forty-seven selected areas named below, was 561,587, or 2.0 per cent. more than in the previous month and 10.6 per cent. more than in August, 1930. The numbers relieved at these three dates were equivalent, respectively, to rates of 337, 330 and 306 per 10,000 of the estimated population.

In the forty-three selected areas in England and Wales, the number of persons relieved in August, 1931, was 463,092, an increase of 1.9 per cent. as compared with July, 1931, and of 8.0 per cent. as compared with August, 1930. In the four areas in Scotland, the number relieved was 98,495, an increase of 2.2 per cent. as compared with a month ago, and an increase of 24.2 per cent. as compared with a year ago.

Recipients of indoor relief in the forty-seven areas in August numbered 101,908, or 0.6 per cent. less than in the previous month, and 10.9 per cent. less than a year ago. Recipients of outdoor relief numbered 459,679, or 2.6 per cent. more than in the previous month and 16.8 per cent. more than a year ago.

Of the forty-seven areas, thirty-six showed increases in the number per 10,000 relieved in August, as compared with July, while ten showed small decreases. In one area there was no change. Compared with August, 1930 thirty-nine areas showed increases, while eight showed decreases.

	Number of Persons* in receipt of Poor Relief on one day† in August, 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	38,477	84,226	122,703	279	+ 3	- 23
Birkenhead ...	848	4,393	5,241	344	+ 15	+ 75
Birmingham ...	5,300	12,424	17,724	178	+ 5	- 4
Blackburn ...	793	2,363	3,156	253	- 15	+ 12
Bolton ...	901	2,416	3,317	184	+ 3	+ 6
Bradford ...	1,229	8,067	9,296	312	+ 41	+ 50
Brighton ...	1,052	1,770	2,822	193	- 2	- 5
Bristol ...	2,229	6,284	8,513	215	+ 9	+ 20
Burnley ...	506	1,599	2,105	211	- 4	- 9
Cardiff ...	1,538	7,015	8,553	382	+ 8	+ 22
Coventry ...	455	1,496	1,951	118	+ 3	+ 8
Croydon ...	1,043	1,690	2,733	120	+ 1	+ 5
Derby ...	601	5,784	6,385	449	- 1	+ 59
East Ham ...	640	2,564	3,204	221	+ 3	+ 36
Gateshead ...	738	6,307	7,045	571	+ 7	+ 64
Huddersfield ...	498	1,468	1,966	173	+ 8	+ 16
Kingston-upon-Hull	1,614	15,093	16,707	536	+ 14	+ 45
Leeds ...	2,791	11,019	13,810	286	- 1	+ 22
Leicester ...	820	4,286	5,106	210	+ 5	+ 12
Liverpool ...	7,270	41,344	48,614	562	+ 13	+ 128
Manchester ...	3,825	30,379	34,204	447	+ 14	+ 124
Middlesbrough ...	552	3,246	3,798	278	- 2	- 17
Newcastle-on-Tyne	970	12,935	13,905	489	+ 4	+ 63
Norwich ...	896	4,926	5,822	461	+ 8	+ 40
Nottingham ...	1,800	8,317	10,117	376	+ 7	+ 32
Oldham ...	934	1,276	2,210	155	+ 3	+ 19
Plymouth ...	535	5,324	5,859	280	- 1	+ 14
Portsmouth ...	1,356	2,190	3,546	140	+ 3	+ 4
Preston ...	664	776	1,440	117	+ 6	+ 34
St. Helens ...	503	3,325	3,828	352	...	- 39
Salford ...	1,669	4,477	6,146	267	+ 6	+ 7
Sheffield ...	1,858	26,499	28,357	548	+ 13	+ 113
Southampton ...	1,357	2,408	3,765	216	+ 1	+ 12
Southend-on-Sea ...	252	1,138	1,390	119	- 4	+ 16
South Shields ...	724	2,914	3,638	312	+ 6	- 3
Stockport ...	581	1,342	1,923	151	+ 20	+ 16
Stoke-on-Trent ...	1,743	5,197	6,940	248	+ 2	+ 20
Sunderland ...	906	7,763	8,669	466	+ 4	- 2
Swansea ...	720	5,109	5,829	355	- 1	+ 21
Wallasey ...	259	1,112	1,371	139	+ 7	+ 28
Walsall ...	606	3,297	3,903	379	+ 1	+ 22
West Ham...	2,205	10,928	13,133	436	+ 15	+ 94
Wolverhampton ...	578	1,770	2,348	175	+ 5	+ 21
Total of the above-named County Boroughs ...	56,359	284,030	340,389	327	+ 7	+ 42
Total, County of London and Selected County Boroughs ...	94,836	368,256	463,092	313	+ 6	+ 23
SCOTLAND.						
Glasgow ...	4,768	70,045	74,813	687	+ 15	+ 135
Edinburgh...	1,294	15,496	16,790	382	+ 9	+ 45
Dundee ...	629	3,305	3,934	224	- 2	+ 44
Aberdeen ...	381	2,577	2,958	177	+ 1	+ 13
Total for the above Scottish Burghs	7,072	91,423	98,495	527	+ 12	+ 93
TOTAL for above 47 areas in August, 1931...	101,908	459,679	561,587	337	+ 7	+ 31

* 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.
† 15th August in London, 29th August in the rest of England and Wales, and 15th August in Scotland.
‡ The rate per 10,000 for August, 1931, and July, 1931 are calculated on the basis of the estimated populations of the areas at mid-1930, and for August, 1930 on the populations at mid-1929.

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 Aug., 1931.	Total Applications Approved.		Depar- tures in Aug., 1931.	Total Departures.	
		1922 to 1930.	Jan.- Aug., 1931.		1922 to 1930.	Jan.- Aug., 1931.
Australia ...	23	172,620	184	12	171,938	162
Canada ...	38	131,357	1,879	57	126,426	1,263
New Zealand ...	50	45,246	358	40	44,198	348
Africa and other parts of Empire	3	1,159	29	3	978	37
Total ...	114	350,382	2,450	112	343,540	1,810

LEGAL CASES AFFECTING LABOUR.

Trade Boards Acts.

MILK DISTRIBUTIVE TRADE.

AN employer and another person were prosecuted for conspiring together to do an act tending to the public mischief by obstructing officers of the Ministries of Labour and of Agriculture and Fisheries, and for conspiring together to infringe the provisions of Section 15 (2) of the Trade Boards Act of 1909 by causing false information to be given. The defendants pleaded guilty, the employer being fined £25, or six months in the second division, and the accomplice £10, or one month in the second division. The employer was also ordered to pay costs of £22 1s. 11d.—*Rex v. Harold Dean and Vincent Talbot, Jones. Bolton Quarter Sessions. 30th July, 1931.*

An employer was charged with failing to keep adequate records, and was fined £2, with £1 1s. costs.—*Rex v. Edward Walter Turner. Hastings Police Court. 27th August, 1931.*

DRESSMAKING AND WOMEN'S LIGHT CLOTHING TRADE (ENGLAND, AND WALES).

An employer was prosecuted on charges of (a) underpaying two workers; (b) failing to keep records; and (c) failing to post notices. He was fined £3 on charge (a) and £1 on each of charges (b) and (c), with £2 2s. costs. Arrears of wages amounting to £2 17s. 9d. were ordered to be paid.—*Rex v. Bowman. Marlborough Street Police Court. 25th August, 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.

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 decisions are of general interest:—

Case No. 16848/31. (24.8.31).

SECTION 4 (1) (NO. 2) ACT, 1924 (AS AMENDED)—TRADE DISPUTE—APPLICANTS NOT INTERESTED IN DISPUTE LOST EMPLOYMENT WHEN OTHER MEN CEASED WORK—UNION TOOK UP MEN'S CASE SUBSEQUENT TO DATE OF STOPPAGE—APPLICANTS RECEIVED UNEMPLOYMENT PAY FROM UNION ON DAY FOLLOWING TERMINATION OF STOPPAGE—HELD TO BE "FINANCING" DISPUTE AS FROM DATE UNION TOOK ACTION.

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

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

"The claimants, who are colliery workers of different grades, are

* 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 1930 (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 June, 1931.

members of the Yorkshire Mine Workers' Association, and they lost employment on 12th May, 1931, in the following circumstances.

"At the New Sharlston Colliery at which they were employed the checkweigher was a man of 65 years of age, and the persons entitled by Section 13 of the Coal Mines Regulation Act, 1887, as extended by Section 2 (1) of the Coal Mines (Weighing of Minerals) Act, 1905, decided to appoint an assistant checkweigher to assist him in his work. This they did, and when the assistant checkweigher presented himself at the colliery the employers refused to afford him facilities for acting as a checkweigher. The persons by whom he had been appointed interviewed the employers, and endeavoured unsuccessfully to persuade them to allow the assistant checkweigher to act, and on the employers' refusal to do so they withdrew their labour on 12th May, 1931.

"By this withdrawal of their labour on the part of the men who were paid on tonnage rate, the other workmen, who were not interested in the appointment of the additional checkweigher, lost employment on the same date.

"Work was resumed on 3rd June.

"It is contended that as the employers acted illegally in refusing to allow the assistant checkweigher to perform any duties as such, and as the stoppage of work resulted from such alleged illegality, there should be no disqualification for receiving benefit, on the analogy of such cases as 2358/20*, 6926/20†, 306/29‡, 7303/29§ and 5008/31§.

"I have not been referred to any statute of which it is alleged the employers' action constitutes a breach.

"The appointment of a checkweigher and the facilities to be afforded to him appear to be regulated by Section 13 of the Coal Mines Regulation Act, 1887, the Coal Mines (Checkweigher) Act, 1894 and the Coal Mines (Weighing of Minerals) Act, 1905. Each of those Acts of Parliament provides for the appointment of one checkweigher in a mine, and by the last-mentioned Act, Section 1 (1), a second checkweigher can only be appointed to act as a deputy 'in the absence of the checkweigher for reasonable cause,' and 'the expression "checkweigher" when used in the Principal Act and in this Act shall include any such deputy checkweigher during such absence as aforesaid.' See also *Thorpe v. Davies* (1908) 2 K.B. 750.

"In these circumstances I see no ground for saying that there is any evidence of any breach of statute on the part of the employers which would entitle me to hold that this case is analogous to the Umpire's Decisions to which I have referred.

"With regard to the claimant, Hall, therefore, disqualification for receiving unemployment benefit must operate during the stoppage of work, as such stoppage, by which he lost employment, was due to a trade dispute at the premises at which he was employed to the date of the stoppage: (Section 8 (1) of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920).

"The other claimants are likewise disqualified unless they are afforded relief by Section 4 (1) of the Unemployment Insurance (No. 2) Act, 1924, as amended by Section 6 of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1927.

"It is not disputed that these claimants were neither participating in nor were directly interested in the trade dispute, nor is it suggested that they were members of a grade or class any of which were so participating or interested.

"The Court of Referees (fully constituted) by a majority has decided that the claimants were financing the trade dispute. The Insured Contributors' Representative 'dissented on principle,' as he did in the case of the claimant, Hall.

"The evidence in relation to 'financing' is as follows:—

"On 1st June the Council of the Yorkshire Mine Workers' Association passed a resolution in these terms: 'That this Council meeting instructs the officials to take this case up, with power to act.' On 4th June, the day after that on which work was resumed, each financial member of the Association received a grant of money equivalent in amount to three weeks' unemployment benefit. On 15th June the Executive Committee of the Yorkshire Mine Workers' Association passed this resolution: 'That this Executive Committee recommends the Council Meeting to endorse the action of the Officials in paying Financial Members a Grant equal to Three Weeks' Benefits.'

"In each case in which the question of 'financing a trade dispute' arises, the date from which the disqualification operates by reason of such financing must depend upon the particular circumstances of the case.

"On the peculiar facts of this case I do not think that disqualification for receiving unemployment benefit on the ground of financing the trade dispute (see Decision 13/25)|| should operate until 1st June. That appears to be the date on which these claimants' Association 'took up the case,' that is, recognised the action of its members. It was apparently on the authority of the resolution passed on that day that the payments were made after work had been resumed.

"With regard, therefore, to the claimants (other than the claimant Hall) disqualification for receiving benefit will operate only in respect of the 1st and 2nd June."

Case No. 16914/31. (24.8.31).

SECTION 8 (1) OF PRINCIPAL ACT (AS AMENDED) AND SECTION 4 (1) OF 1930 ACT—TRADE DISPUTE AND OFFERS OF SUITABLE EMPLOYMENT.—MINERS ACCUSTOMED TO RECEIVING COUNTY RATE WORKED ON LOWER RATE—SUSPENDED FOR ECONOMIC CAUSES—REFUSED TO RE-ENGAGE EXCEPT AT COUNTY RATE—HELD NO STOPPAGE DUE TO TRADE DISPUTE—OFFER OF EMPLOYMENT HELD TO BE UNSUITABLE UNDER SECTION 4 (2) (b).

The claimants, who were miners, were employed at the colliery in question to 25th April, 1931, when the colliery was closed down for an indefinite period owing to bad trade. The claimants had been working on a day-to-day basis, and on terms which had been arranged between the owners and themselves. The owners, having had an offer of a contract, decided to reopen the colliery on 25th May, 1931, and offered re-employment to their old employees on the old terms. The claimants, however, refused to accept the offer except on the terms of the General County Agreement, which terms they had obtained when working for other employers.

The Court of Referees found that there was no stoppage of work due to a trade dispute and, further, having regard to the claimants' experience they were entitled to consider the conditions of the offer less favourable than those prevailing in the county generally. They accordingly decided that the claim should be allowed.

The additional circumstances are as stated in the following decision given by the Umpire.

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

"In this case I have derived considerable assistance from the detailed report of the evidence given to the Court of Referees and from the careful findings of fact which the Court has made; assistance which the Umpire does not invariably receive.

"I agree with the decision of the Court of Referees on the question whether the claimant is disqualified under the provisions of Section 8 (1) of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920, for receiving benefit, and with the grounds on which the decision is based.

"The Insurance Officer's appeal on that part of the case is based on the subsistence of a contract of employment between the employer and his employees during the month when the colliery was closed for economic reasons, and that when an offer of employment was made by the employer to reopen his colliery and resume work on 26th May, the employees, by refusing to resume work, were guilty of a breach of contract.

"I am unable to accept that contention, which involves a finding that if any of these employees had accepted employment elsewhere during the period for which the colliery was closed, they would have been guilty of a breach of contract if they were, by reason of such acceptance, not in a position to resume work at the colliery in question on 26th May.

"Having decided that no disqualification for receiving benefit should be imposed under the provisions of Section 8 (1) of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920, the Court of Referees, following Decision 16825/30,* then considered whether the claimant should be disqualified for receiving benefit under the provisions of Section 4 (1) of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1930; and the Court decided the question in the claimant's favour.

"With that decision I also agree.

"The Insurance Officer has appealed against that decision on the ground that the employment offered on 26th May cannot be held to be not suitable employment, as it was employment under the same terms and conditions as those which the men more than a year before had specifically agreed to work under.

"Section 4 (2) (b) of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1930, which defines 'unsuitable employment' repeats Section 7 (1) (b) of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920, as amended by Section 3 (1) (b) of the Unemployment Insurance (No. 2) Act, 1924, and Section 5 (1) (b) of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1927; and if the employment offered is as defined in Section 4 (2) (b) of the 1930 Act it 'shall not be deemed to be suitable employment in relation to any claimant.' The words 'continued to be so employed' in that subsection do not mean 'continued to be employed by the same employer or by an employer paying the same rate,' but mean 'continued to be employed in his usual employment in the same district' (Decision 8038/20).† See also Decision 1271/25‡, in which the Umpire said 'I am bound to have regard to the usual conditions of employment in the district and not merely to the practice of the colliery at which the applicants were last employed.'

"The colliery in question opened in August, 1929, and at that date, according to the evidence given on the hearing of this appeal, the employees accepted employment on the terms prevailing to the date of the closing of the colliery in April last, and which were those offered and refused in May; but such acceptance was conditional on the rate of wage being later raised to that prevailing generally throughout the county of Durham. All the employees, previously to August, 1929, had been employed as colliers in other mines, and had then obtained the agreed county rate.

"On this evidence I agree with the Court of Referees that it has not been proved that the claimants refused to accept an offer of suitable employment as defined by Section 4 (1) of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1930, and the reason for the unsuitability of the employment, in my view, is that the employment offered was at a rate of wages lower than that which the claimants might reasonably have expected to obtain in their usual occupation in that district or would have obtained had they continued to be so employed."

* See Vol. II (Pamphlet No. 9), Umpire's Selected Decisions, and U.I. Code 8.

† See Vol. III (Pamphlet No. 37), Umpire's Selected Decisions and U.I. Code 8.

‡ See page 12, Vol. VIII (Pamphlet No. 1/1929), Umpire's Selected Decisions and U.I. Code 8a.

§ Not published.

|| See page 1, Vol. IV (Pamphlet No. 1/1925), Umpire's Selected Decisions and U.I. Code 8.

* See page 201 (Pamphlet No. 12/1930), Umpire's Selected Decisions.

† See Vol. III (Pamphlet No. 45), Umpire's Selected Decisions and U.I. Code 8.

‡ See page 145, Vol. IV (Pamphlet No. 9/1925), Umpire's Selected Decisions and U.I. Code 8.

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

Recent Proceedings.

(A)—INDUSTRIAL COURT DECISIONS.

FIREBRICK WORKERS, STOURBRIDGE DISTRICT.—*Wages and Conciliation Board for Stourbridge Firebrick District, Employers' Side v. Trade Union Side. Difference.*—Claim for reduction in wages. *Decision:* The Court awarded the following reductions as from the beginning of the first pay period following 17th August, 1931:—Men workers of 21 years of age and over, a reduction of 2s. per full ordinary week. Men piece-workers, a reduction of 2s. per full week. Men workers 18 years and under 21, a reduction of 1s. 6d. per full week. Women time workers 18 years of age and over, a reduction of 1s. 3d. per full week. Women piece-workers 18 years of age and over, a reduction of 1s. 3d. per full week. Boys and girls (day workers) under 18 years of age, a reduction of 9d. per full week. Girl piece-workers under 18 years, working in setting, drawing and loading gangs, or otherwise employed as piece-workers, a reduction of 1s. 3d. per full week. Award issued 13th August, 1931. (1517.)

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

COKE OVENS: SOUTH WALES.—*Monmouthshire and South Wales Coke Ovens and By-Product Works Association v. South Wales Miners' Federation and National Union of Cokemen and By-Product Workers. Difference.*—Claim that the percentages on standard base rates at eight works be reduced by 20 points. Mr. Lindsay M. Jopling appointed under the Industrial Courts Act, 1919, to act as Arbitrator, with Mr. J. McKie Bryce, C.B.E., and Mr. David Evans, J.P., as assessors for the employers and operatives respectively. *Award.*—Percentages on standard base rates reduced as from 27th June, 1931, by 6½ points in the case of seven works and by 7 points in the case of the other.

TRADE BOARDS ACTS.

I.—CONFIRMING ORDER.

Keg and Drum Trade Board (Great Britain).

Order K.D. (6), dated 26th August, 1931, confirming variations of general minimum time-rates, piece-work basis time-rates and overtime rates for male and female workers, and specifying 31st August, 1931, as the date from which such rates should become effective.

II.—NOTICES OF PROPOSAL.

Milk Distributive Trade Board (England and Wales).

Proposal M.D. (15), dated 17th August, 1931, to vary general minimum time-rates and overtime rates for certain classes of male and female workers.

Objection period expires 14th October, 1931.

Retail Bespoke Tailoring Trade Board (England and Wales).

Proposal R.B. (N) 5, dated 1st September, 1931, to vary general minimum time-rates, piece-work basis time-rates and overtime rates for certain classes of male and female workers, and general minimum piece-rates for certain classes of male workers in the area comprising the counties of Cumberland, Durham and Northumberland, and the county borough of Middlesbrough, the municipal borough of Thornaby-on-Tees, the urban district of Eston and the rural district of Middlesbrough, in the county of Yorkshire.

Proposal R.B. (Y) 7, dated 1st September, 1931, to vary general minimum time-rates, piece-work basis time-rates and overtime rates for certain classes of male and female workers, and general minimum piece-rates for certain classes of male workers, in the area comprising the county of Yorkshire (except the county borough of Middlesbrough, the municipal borough of Thornaby-on-Tees, the urban districts of Barnoldswick, Earby, Eston, and Skipton and the rural district of Middlesbrough).

Proposal R.B. (E.L.) 7, dated 1st September, 1931, to vary general minimum time-rates, piece-work basis time-rates and overtime rates for certain classes of male and female workers, and general minimum piece-rates for certain classes of male workers, in the area comprising the counties of Lancashire (eastern part) and Westmorland, and the urban districts of Barnoldswick, Earby, and Skipton in the county of Yorkshire.

Proposal R.B. (W.L.) 8, dated 1st September, 1931, to vary general minimum time-rates, piece-work basis time-rates and overtime rates for certain classes of male and female workers, and general minimum piece-rates for certain classes of male workers, in the area comprising the counties of Cheshire, Lancashire (western part), and Shropshire.

Proposal R.B. (N.M.) 7, dated 1st September, 1931, to vary general minimum time-rates, piece-work basis time-rates and overtime rates for certain classes of male and female workers, and general minimum piece-rates for certain classes of male workers, in the area comprising the counties of Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Lincolnshire, Nottinghamshire, and Rutlandshire.

Proposal R.B. (C.M.) 8, dated 1st September, 1931, to vary general minimum time-rates, piece-work basis time-rates and overtime rates for certain classes of male and female workers, and general minimum piece-rates for certain classes of male workers, in the

area comprising the counties of Gloucestershire (except the county borough of the city and county of Bristol, the urban district of Kingswood and the civil parishes of Hanham Abbots and Mangotsfield Rural in the rural district of Warmley), Herefordshire, Northamptonshire, Staffordshire, Warwickshire, and Worcestershire.

Proposal R.B. (S.M.) 6, dated 1st September, 1931, to vary general minimum time-rates and overtime rates for certain classes of male and female workers, and piece-work basis time-rates and general minimum piece-rates for certain classes of male workers in the area comprising the counties of Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Hertfordshire (excluding that part which lies within the Metropolitan Police District), and Oxfordshire.

Proposal R.B. (E) 6, dated 1st September, 1931, to vary general minimum time-rates, piece-work basis time-rates and overtime rates for certain classes of male and female workers and general minimum piece-rates for certain classes of male workers, in the area comprising the counties of Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Essex (excluding that part which lies within the Metropolitan Police District), Huntingdonshire, Norfolk, and Suffolk.

Proposal R.B. (S.E.) 8, dated 1st September, 1931, to vary general minimum time-rates, piece-work basis time-rates and overtime rates for certain classes of male and female workers, and general minimum piece-rates for certain classes of male workers in the area comprising the counties of Kent and Surrey (excluding in each case the Metropolitan Police District), and Sussex.

Proposal R.B. (L) 8, dated 1st September, 1931, to vary general minimum time-rates, piece-work basis time-rates and overtime rates for certain classes of male and female workers, and general minimum piece-rates for certain classes of male workers in the area comprising the City of London and the Metropolitan Police District.

Proposal R.B. (S.W.) 6, dated 1st September, 1931, to vary general minimum time-rates, piece-work basis time-rates and overtime rates for certain classes of male and female workers, and general minimum piece-rates for certain classes of male workers in the area comprising the counties of Cornwall, Devonshire and Somersetshire, the county borough of the city and county of Bristol, the urban district of Kingswood, and the civil parishes of Hanham Abbots and Mangotsfield Rural in the rural district of Warmley in the county of Gloucester.

Proposal R.B. (C.S.) 5, dated 1st September, 1931, to vary general minimum time-rates, piece-work basis time-rates and overtime rates for certain classes of male and female workers, and general minimum piece-rates for certain classes of male workers in the area comprising the counties of Dorsetshire, Hampshire (including the Isle of Wight), and Wiltshire.

Proposal R.B. (N.Wa.) 6, dated 1st September, 1931, to vary general minimum time-rates, piece-work basis time-rates and overtime rates for certain classes of male and female workers, and general minimum piece-rates for certain classes of male workers in the area comprising the counties of Anglesey, Carnarvonshire, Denbighshire, Flintshire, Merionethshire, and Montgomeryshire.

Proposal R.B. (S.Wa.) 7, dated 1st September, 1931, to vary general minimum time-rates, piece-work basis time-rates and overtime rates for certain classes of male and female workers, and general minimum piece-rates for certain classes of male workers in the area comprising the counties of Brecknockshire, Cardiganshire, Carmarthenshire, Glamorganshire, Monmouthshire, Pembrokeshire, and Radnorshire.

The objection periods in respect of the above Notices of Proposal issued by the Retail Bespoke Tailoring Trade Board (England and Wales) expire on 28th October, 1931.

Linen and Cotton Embroidery Trade Board (Northern Ireland).

Proposal N.I.E. (N. 21), dated 12th August, 1931, to fix certain additional general minimum piece-rates and to vary certain other general minimum piece-rates, general minimum time-rates and piece-work basis time-rates for female workers.

Objection period expires on 11th September, 1931.

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

Lower rates of wages became effective as from 1st September, 1931, in the undermentioned trade. The minimum rates now applicable are those appropriate to a cost-of-living figure of 45 and are set out in the Confirming Orders quoted below:—

Chain Trade Board (Great Britain), C. (25) and C. (27), column 6.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT, 1901.

Draft Building (Amendment) Regulations: Cranes and other Hoisting and Lifting Appliances.

The Home Secretary issued, on 1st July, 1930, a draft code of Regulations dealing with cranes and other hoisting and lifting appliances used in connection with the building industry. Various objections were received to these draft Regulations, and, after negotiations with the chief employers' associations and trade unions connected with the building industry, revised draft Regulations were issued on 31st March, 1931.*

Further objections were received to the revised draft; and the Home Secretary has now issued a further notice, dated 4th September, 1931, stating that, in pursuance of Section 80 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, in consultation with the National Federation of Building Trades Employers, the Engineering and Allied Employers' National Federation, and other representative bodies, he has revised

* See the issue of this GAZETTE for April, 1931, page 164.

the draft Regulations of 31st March, 1931, and that he proposes to make Regulations in accordance with the revised draft.

Copies of the proposed Regulations may be obtained on application to the Chief Inspector of Factories, Home Office (Whitehall, London, S.W.1.); and any objection to them, by or on behalf of any persons affected thereby, must be sent to the Secretary of State at the Home Office within 21 days from the date of the notice.

Proposed Regulations for the Asbestos Industry.

In a Report published last year,* it was shown that the principal safeguard against the ill-effects of asbestos dust on the lungs of the workers is to be found in improved exhaust ventilation and in dust suppression.

Following on the publication of this Report, the asbestos textile manufacturers were invited to a conference at the Home Office. Complete agreement was expressed that everything possible must be done to suppress dust, and those present undertook to render every possible assistance. As a first step it was decided to set up a Committee, consisting of three representatives of the industry and two of the Engineering Inspectors of Factories; and the Report of this Committee has now been published.†

A series of Agreements, covering all the processes reviewed, has been reached, in most cases embodying specific recommendations for securing the suppression of dust by exhaust ventilation. The Agreements also deal with such matters as ventilation, heating, and the settling of dust extracted from the workrooms. The Agreements, twenty-five in number, are appended to the Report.

The Report is illustrated by a number of diagrams in the text, and by eleven plates.

The Home Secretary has decided to give effect to the recommendations contained in these two Reports. He has therefore, as required by Section 79 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, certified as dangerous the manipulation of asbestos and the manufacture or repair of articles composed wholly or partly of asbestos and processes incidental thereto; and he issued, on 15th September, draft Regulations in accordance with the procedure laid down by Section 80 of the Act.

Copies of the draft Regulations may be obtained on application to the Factory Department, Home Office (Whitehall, London, S.W.1.). Any objection with respect to the draft Regulations by or on behalf of any person affected thereby must be sent to the Secretary of State, at the Home Office, within 30 days from the date of the notice.

WELFARE OF WORKERS.

Sugar Factories.

THE Home Secretary, on 7th August, 1931, made an Order‡ under Section 7 of the Police, Factories, etc. (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1916, for securing the welfare of the workers employed in all factories or parts thereof in which the manufacture or refining of sugar is carried on.

The Order, which may be cited as the Sugar Factories Welfare Order, 1931, will come into force on 1st October, 1931.

BOARD FOR MINING EXAMINATIONS.

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

EXAMINATIONS for first and second class certificates of competency as Managers and Under-Managers of Mines will be held on 25th and 26th November, 1931, at Edinburgh, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Sheffield, Wigan, Cardiff, and Birmingham.

The written part of an examination for certificates of qualification as Surveyors of Mines will be held at the same centres on 26th November, 1931.

Applications for the necessary forms should be made as early as possible, and not later than 12th October, 1931. In order that the appropriate forms may be sent, it is important that candidates should state whether they have already sat at one of the Board's examinations.

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

OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

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

AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS.—*Agricultural Statistics, 1930. Vol. LXV. Part I. Report on the acreage and production of crops and number of live stock in England and Wales, with summaries for Great Britain and Ireland.* Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. (S.O. publication; price 1s. 6d.)

Contains statistics of numbers of workers employed on agricultural holdings above one acre on 4th June, 1929 and 1930.

* *Report on Effects of Asbestos Dust on the Lungs, and Dust Suppression in the Asbestos Industry.* H.M. Stationery Office; price 1s. 3d. net (1s. 5d. post free).

† *Report on Conferences between Employers and Inspectors concerning Methods for Suppressing Dust in Asbestos Textile Factories.* H.M. Stationery Office; price 1s. net (1s. 2d. post free).

‡ *Statutory Rules and Orders, 1931; No. 684.* H.M. Stationery Office; price 1d. net (1½d. post free).

ALIENS.—*Aliens Order, 1920. A return of alien passengers, excluding transmigrants, landed, embarked, and refused leave to land, in the United Kingdom during the three months ending June 30, 1931.* Home Office. (Cmd. 3877. I; price 1d.)

CENSUS OF PRODUCTION.—*Third Census of Production of the United Kingdom, 1924. Final Report. The iron and steel trades, the engineering trades, and the non-ferrous metals trades.* Board of Trade. (S.O. publication; price 7s.)

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES.—*Report of the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies for 1929. Part 2. Friendly Societies. Report for 1930. Part 3. Industrial and provident societies. Section II. Directory and summary tables.* (S.O. publications; price 3s. and 7s., respectively.)

HEALTH, POOR LAW, HOUSING, ETC.—*Twelfth Annual Report of the Ministry of Health, 1930-1931.* (Cmd. 3937; price 5s.)

JUVENILE EMPLOYMENT.—*Reports of Bootle, Dundee, Great Marlborough Street, Jarrow, Rhondda, and Walsall Advisory Committees for Juvenile Employment for the year 1930.* Ministry of Labour. (S.O. publications; price 3d. each); also of Bristol (price 6d.)

MINING.—(i) *Tenth Annual Report of the Secretary for Mines for the year ended December 31, 1930, and the Annual Report of H.M. Chief Inspector of Mines for the same period.* Mines Department. (S.O. publication; price 3s. 6d.) (see page 337.) (ii) *Output and employment at metalliferous mines, quarries, etc., during the quarter ended March 31, 1931.* Mines Department. (S.O. publication; price 4d.) (iii) *Safety in Mines Research Board. Ninth Annual Report, 1930, including a Report of matters dealt with by the Health Advisory Committee.* Mines Department. (S.O. publication; price 2s.)

POOR RELIEF.—*Statement showing the number of persons in receipt of poor relief in England and Wales in the quarter ending in June, 1931, with some particulars as to the number of "unemployed" persons in receipt of such relief.* Ministry of Health. (S.O. publication; price 4d.)

PRICES OF BUILDING MATERIALS.—*Inter-departmental Committee appointed to survey the prices of building materials. Chairman's Report, for period up to July, 1931.* Ministry of Health. (Cmd. 3943; price 3d.)

RAILWAY ACCIDENTS.—*Report to the Minister of Transport upon the accidents which occurred on the railways of Great Britain during the year 1930.* Ministry of Transport. (Cmd. 3939; price 9d.) (See page 336.)

SALESMANSHIP.—*Final Report of the Committee on Education for Salesmanship.* Board of Education. (S.O. publication; price 1s. 6d.)

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE.—(i) *Unemployment Insurance Acts, 1920 to 1930. Decisions given by the Umpire respecting claims for benefit. Vol. IX. Selected decisions given during the calendar year 1930 (together with index).* U.I. 440 and U.I. Code 8B. Ministry of Labour. (S.O. publication; price 7s. 6d.) (ii) *Minutes of evidence taken before the Royal Commission on Unemployment Insurance, 35th and 36th, 37th, 38th and 39th days.* Ministry of Labour. (S.O. publications; price 5s. 6d., 2s., 2s. 6d., and 1s. 3d., respectively.) (iii) *Appendices to the minutes of evidence taken before the Royal Commission on Unemployment Insurance. Part II. Special returns from poor law authorities in respect of unemployed persons in receipt of domiciliary poor relief during the week ended 7th February, 1931 (See page 334.) Part III. Reports of a special investigation in eight industrial areas into the subsequent history of persons with disallowed claims to unemployment benefit. (See page 334.) Part IV. Memoranda by the Ministry of Labour on unemployment insurance in overseas countries. (See page 339).* Ministry of Labour. (S.O. publications; price 2s. 6d., 8s., and 3s. 6d. respectively.)

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS.

LIST OF NEW CONTRACTS, AUGUST, 1931.

ADMIRALTY.

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

Chatham : Railway Materials : P. & W. Maclellan, Ltd., London S.W.—**Haslar : Heating and Hot Water Installation :** Haywards Ltd., London, S.E.—**Greenock : Steelwork :** W. Bain & Co., Ltd. Coatbridge.

(Contract and Purchase Department.)

Anchors : S. Taylor & Sons (Brierley Hill), Ltd., Brierley Hill.
—**Batteries, Dry :** Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.
—**Belts, Swimming :** Adam & Lane & Neeve, Ltd., London, E.
—**Bindings for Blocks :** Laird & Son, Ltd., Irvine.—**Boiler, Vertical Multi-tubular :** Cochran & Co., Annan, Ltd., Annan.—**Boxes, Cartridge :** F. Braby & Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—**Boxes, Projectile :** Brownlee & Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—**Brushes, Tooth :** G. B. Kent & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.; W. R. Speer & Son, London, E.; W. R. Tilbury & Son, London, E.—**Cable, Electric :** Hoopers Telegraph & India Rubber Works, Ltd., London, E.—**Camshafts and Cams :** William Beardmore & Co., Ltd., Dalmuir.—**Caps, Blue Cloth and White Duck :** R. Z. Bloomfield, Ltd., London, S.W.; J. Compton, Sons & Webb, Ltd., London, E.—**Capstan Gear :** Clarke Chapman & Co., Ltd., Gateshead-on-Tyne.—**Castings, Stems, Shaft Brackets, etc. :** F. H. Lloyd & Co., Ltd., Wednesbury; Head Wrightson & Co., Ltd., Thornaby-on-Tees.—**Clutches and Operating Gear :** Vickers-Armstrongs, Ltd., Barrow-in-Furness.

—**Compressors, Air**: Peter Brotherhood, Ltd., Peterborough; Reavell & Co., Ltd., Ipswich.—**Condensers W/T**: British Insulated Cables, Ltd., Prescott.—**Cooking Equipment**: Moorwoods, Ltd., Sheffield.—**Doors and Waterways, Cast Steel Condenser**: Vickers-Sheffield.—**Drills, High Speed**: B.S.A. Armstrongs, Ltd., Barrow-in-Furness.—**Electrodes**: Quasi-Arc Thos. Firth & John Brown, Ltd., Sheffield.—**Engines and Reverse Gears for Motor Boats**: The Ferry Engine Co., Ltd., Southampton; The Parsons Oil Engine Co., Ltd., Southampton.—**Generators, Motor**: Mawdsleys, Ltd., Dursley, Glos.—**Hides, Upholstery**: Bryant & Co., London, S.E.; George Brooke & Co., London, E.C.—**Hoists, Ammunition**: Laurence Scott & Electromotors, Ltd., Norwich.—**Lathe, Auto**: Alfred Herbert, Ltd., Coventry.—**Lathe, Hexagon Turret**: H. W. Ward & Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Lathes, Capstan**: Alfred Herbert, Ltd., Coventry; Brown & Ward (Lathes) Ltd., Birmingham; H. W. Ward & Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Lathes, Heavy Duty Engine**: Denhams Engineering Co., Ltd., Halifax.—**Life Belts and Jackets**: Speedings, Ltd., Sunderland.—**Machine, Bending, Hydraulic Pipe**: Hugh Smith & Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—**Machine, Cutting Out and Facing**: Campbells & Hunter, Ltd., Leeds.—**Machine, Grinding**: Churchill Machine Tool Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Machine, Grinding, Propeller Blade**: Charles Churchill & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Machines, Milling**: Cunliffe & Croom, Ltd., Manchester; William Muir & Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Machine, Drilling and Tapping**: Kitchen & Wade, Ltd., Halifax.—**Margarine**: Co-Operative Wholesale Society, Ltd., Manchester.—**Meat and Vegetable Rations**: C. & T. Harris (Calne) Ltd., Calne.—**Nests for Mines**: Rose Street Foundry & Engineering Co., Ltd., Inverness.—**Nozzle Plates**: Wallsend Slipway & Engineering Co., Ltd., Wallsend-on-Tyne.—**Oil, Mineral, Lubricating**: Silvertown Lubricants, Ltd., London, E.—**Plywood**: Aeronautical & Panel Plywood Co., Ltd., London, E.; Saunders-Roe, Ltd., East Cowes; Venesta, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Pumping Sets, Motor-driven**: Sturtevant Engineering Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Pumps, Bilge**: Drysdale & Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—**Switchgear, E.H.T.**: Ferguson Pailin, Ltd., Manchester.—**Testing Equipments**: Metropolitan Vickers Electrical Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Turbine Wheels, L.P. and Units**: The Fairfield Shipbuilding & Engineering Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—**Varnishes**: Lewis Berger & Sons, Ltd., London, E.; Blundell Spence & Co., Ltd., Hull; Gross Sherwood & Heald, Ltd., Barking; Indestructible Paint & Standard Varnish, Ltd., London, N.W.; London Varnish & Enamel Co., Ltd., London, E.; Nobel Chemical Finishes, Ltd., Slough; Nobles & Hoare, Ltd., London, S.E.; Walpamur Co., Ltd., Darwen; L. G. Wilkinson, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Vessels, Explosion**: Vickers-Armstrongs, Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne.—**Wire Rope, Steel**: R. Hood Haggie & Son, Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne; British Ropes, Ltd., Dagenham; Latch & Batchelor, Ltd., Birmingham; Dixon Corbitt, Ltd., Gateshead-on-Tyne; Whitecross Co., Ltd., Warrington; Binks Bros., Ltd., London, E.

WAR OFFICE.

Acetone: Barter Trade Corporation, Ltd., Hull.—**Acetylene Gas**: British Oxygen Co., Ltd., London, N.—**Barge**: J. Pollock, Sons & Co., Ltd., Faversham.—**Bodies for 6-wheeled Vehicles**: C. Roberts & Co., Ltd., Horbury.—**Boilers, Steel, Vertical**: J. Thomson (Wolverhampton), Ltd., Wolverhampton.—**Boring and Screwcutting Machines**: H. W. Kearns & Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Boring and Turning Mill**: G. Richards & Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Boxes, Ammunition**: Brownlee & Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—**Cable, Electric**: Hackbridge Cable Co., Ltd., Hackbridge; Union Cable Co., Ltd., Dagenham.—**Chassis, 6-wheeled**: Guy Motors, Ltd., Wolverhampton; Leyland Motors, Ltd., Leyland.—**Cloth, D.M., W.P.**: G. H. Hirst & Co., Ltd., Batley.—**Conductors, Copper**: E. & E. Kaye, Ltd., Ponders End.—**Cooking Apparatus, Spares**: Richmond Gas Stove Co., Ltd., Warrington.—**Copper Ingot**: Brandeis, Goldschmidt & Co., London, E.C.—**Cord, Bedford**: S. Cordingley, Ltd., Pudsey.—**Drain Pipes**: Stoneware (1928), Ltd., Dosthill.—**Drawers, Brown, Cotton**: Nottingham Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Loughborough.—**Drawers, Cellular, Short**: E. H. P. (Hadhleigh), Ltd., Hadhleigh.—**Extinguishers, Fire**: Valor Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Filtration and Chlorination Plant**: Candy Filter Co., Ltd., London, W.—**Generating Set and Spares**: Petters, Ltd., Yeovil.—**Hides, Backs, Collar**: Barrow, Hepburn & Gale, Ltd., London, S.E.—**Jerseys, Pullover**: I. & R. Morley, Leicester.—**Lathes**: H. W. Ward & Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Denham's Engineering Co., Ltd., Halifax; J. Lang & Sons, Ltd., Johnstone; G. & A. Harvey, Ltd., Glasgow; A. Herbert, Ltd., Coventry; A. Butterworth & Co., Rochdale.—**Limousines**: Austin Motor Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Magnesium Powder**: British Maxium, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Milling Machines**: J. Holroyd & Co., Ltd., Milrow.—**Paint, Service Colour**: Burrell & Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Plates, Bullet-proof**: Vickers-Armstrongs, Ltd., Sheffield.—**Presses, Stamping**: Taylor & Challen, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Puttees**: Fox Bros. & Co., Ltd., Wellington.—**Rags, Old**: W. C. Jones, Ltd., Manchester.—**Shirts, Angola, Drab**: Johnson & Sons, Ltd., Gt. Yarmouth.—**Steel, Round**: Colvilles, Ltd., Motherwell.—**T.N.T.**: Imperial Chemical Industries, Ltd., Ardeer.—**White Spirit**: H. E. Hanson, Ltd., Hull.—**Woven Wire Fencing**: Darlington Fencing Co., Ltd., Doncaster.—**Works Services: Building Works and Services**: Blackdown, Drill Hall, etc.: Boulton & Paul, Ltd., Norwich. Aldershot, Stanhope Lines, Sanitary Annexes: E. C. Hughes, Wokingham. Aldershot, Marlborough Lines, Sanitary Annexes: Lee Bros. (Aldershot), Ltd., Aldershot. Shorncliffe, alteration to Hospital Isolation Block: G. Lewis & Sons (Dover), Ltd., Dover. Colchester, Repairs to Roads: W. F. Rees, Ltd., Cheltenham. Woolwich, Royal Arsenal, Felt Work: F. McNeill & Co., Ltd., London, W.C. Woolwich, Royal Arsenal and Enfield, Glazing

work: W. H. Heywood & Co., Ltd., Huddersfield; Paragon Glazing Co., London, S.W. Tidworth, Periodical Services: S. Lupton & Sons, London, S.W. Derby, Term Contract: Orton & Dalby, Hugglescote. Halifax Term Contract: J. R. Surtees, Blackhill, Durham. Pontefract, Term Contract: Barber & Heseltine, Pontefract. Sandhurst, Camberley and Arborfield Cross, Painting Services: A. Bagnall & Sons, Ltd., Shipley. Aldershot, Waterloo Barracks and Cambridge Hospital, Pointing Brickwork: T. H. Jones, South Farnborough. Aldershot, Tournay Barracks, Alterations to Regimental Institute: W. Tanner & Sons, Aldershot. Aldershot, Beaumont Barracks, Grocery Shop and Messing Store: J. B. Edwards & Co. (Whyteleafe), Ltd., London, W. Aldershot, Salamanca Barracks, Vehicle Shed: Braithwaite & Co. (Engineers), Ltd., London, S.W. Colchester, Mobilization Stores: A. E. Flory & Co., Colchester. Shorncliffe and Hythe, Tar Spraying and Repairs to Roads: Smith, Wright & Co., London, S.W. Lydd, Periodical Painting: C. J. Else, Matlock. Dover (West), Periodical Painting: G. Lewis & Sons (Dover), Ltd., Dover. Woolwich, Repairs to Roads, etc.: J. B. Edwards & Co. (Whyteleafe), Ltd., London, W. Aldershot, Wellington Lines, Badajos Barracks, Provide W.C's.: Lee Bros. (Aldershot), Ltd., Aldershot. Blackdown, Deepcut and Woking, Periodical Painting: A. Bagnall & Sons, Ltd., Shipley. Longmoor, Resurfacing Road and Parade Ground: Constable, Hart & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. Aberdeen, New Depot Barracks, Cricket and Football Ground: Maxwell M. Hart, Glasgow. Glasgow, Maryhill Barracks, Tar-spraying, etc.: H. V. Smith & Co., Ltd., Edinburgh. Woolwich, Repair and renewal of frames, sashes and doors: E. J. Logan, London, W.C. Hounslow, Repairs to roads and parades: J. B. Edwards & Co. (Whyteleafe), Ltd., London, W. Woolwich, Military College of Science, etc., Painting: Oates Brothers, Bradford. Tidworth, Treatment of buildings with Stone Liquid: W. E. Chivers & Sons, Ltd., Devizes. Didcot, R.A.O. Depot, Widening and resurfacing road: W. F. Rees, Ltd., Cheltenham. Fort Monckton, Conversion of 2 Barrack Rooms: John Hunt, Ltd., Gosport. Fort Smethwick, Alterations and additions: Cresdee & Tilbury, Southsea. Catterick, Bedding Store: G. R. Wade & Son, Richmond, Yorks. York, Cavalry Barracks M.T. Depot, Provide and fix roller shutters: Haskin & Co., Ltd., London, E. York, Infantry Barracks, Improvements to Married Soldiers' Quarters: J. W. Maw & Sons, Ltd., York.

AIR MINISTRY.

—**Accumulators**: Peto & Radford, London, S.W.; Oldham & Sons, Ltd., Manchester.—**Acetylene, Dissolved**: British Oxygen Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Aircraft**: A. V. Roe & Co., Ltd., Manchester; Fairey Aviation Co., Ltd., Hayes, Middlesex; Sir W. G. Armstrong-Whitworth Aircraft, Ltd., Coventry; Supermarine Aviation Works (Vickers), Ltd., Southampton.—**Aircraft, Miscellaneous Work**: Short Bros. (R. & B.) Ltd., Rochester; Supermarine Aviation Works (Vickers), Ltd., Southampton.—**Aircraft, Modifications**: Blackburn Aero & Motor Co., Ltd., Brough, E. Yorks; Handley Page, Ltd., London, N.W.; Sir W. G. Armstrong-Whitworth Aircraft, Ltd., Coventry; Vickers (Aviation) Ltd., Weybridge.—**Aircraft, Reconditioning**: Blackburn Aeroplane & Motor Co., Ltd., Brough, E. Yorks; Boulton & Paul, Ltd., Norwich; H. G. Hawker Engineering Co., Ltd., Kingston-on-Thames; Supermarine Aviation Works (Vickers) Ltd., Southampton.—**Aircraft, Repairs**: Fairey Aviation Co., Ltd., Hayes, Middlesex; H. G. Hawker Engineering Co., Ltd., Kingston-on-Thames.—**Aircraft, Spares**: Blackburn Aeroplane & Motor Co., Ltd., Brough, E. Yorks; Fairey Aviation Co., Ltd., Hayes, Middlesex; Vickers (Aviation), Ltd., Weybridge.—**Aircraft, Test**: Gloster Aircraft Co., Ltd., Hucclecote.—**Aircscrews**: Aircscrew Co., Ltd., Weybridge; Fairey Aviation Co., Ltd., Hayes, Middlesex; Sir W. G. Armstrong-Whitworth Aircraft, Ltd., Coventry.—**Bombs**: Hadfields, Ltd., Sheffield.—**Bomb Carriers, Modifications**: Handley Page, Ltd., London, N.W.—**Bombing Target Repairs**: John Deheer, Ltd., Hull.—**Buildings and Works Services**: Artificers' Work (Halton): F. Wood, Wendover. Artificers' Work (Kidbrook and Uxbridge): E. J. Logan, London, W. Artificers' Work (Gosport and Lee-on-Solent): J. Hunt, Ltd., Gosport. Artificers' Work (Croydon, Kenley, Hawkinge and Lympne): Pearce Bros., Bromley. Artificers' Work (Upavon, Larkhill, Old Sarum and Netheravon): Wort & Way, Salisbury. Artificers' Work (Eastchurch and Leysdown): G. E. Wallis & Sons, Ltd., Maidstone. Artificers' Work (Felixstowe and Martlesham Heath): W. F. Cross, Ltd., Felixstowe. Artificers' Work (Leuchars and Turnhouse): R. Durie, Jnr., Inverkeithing. Artificers' Work (Farnborough, Odiham and Andover): H. J. Goodall & Sons, Basingstoke. Artificers' Work (Manston): W. W. Martin, Ramsgate. Artificers' Work (Grantham and Harston): Rudd & Son, Grantham. Artificers' Work (Cranwell, Digby and Waddington): F. Hossack & Son, Sleaford. Artificers' Work (Wittering): E. S. Ireson, Stamford. Artificers' Work (Aldergrove): J. Miskimmen & Sons, Belfast. Artificers' Work (Hucknall): R. Hustwayte, Sherwood. Artificers' Work (Bircham Newton): Fisher & Sons, Fakenham. Artificers' Work (Andover): H. J. Goodall & Sons, Basingstoke. Artificers' Work (Henlow): Wilmott & Sons, Hitchin. Artificers' Work (Tangmere): West Sussex General Builders, Chichester. Artificers' Work (Hawkinge and Lympne): Pearce Bros., Bromley. Artificers' Work (Upper Heyford and Bicester): B. Jackson, Bicester. Artificers' Work (Catterick): J. R. Surtees, Blackhill, Co. Durham. Artificers' Work (Hornchurch): S. Cronin & Sons, Brentwood. Builders' Work (Northolt): Halse & Sons, Ltd., London, W. Equipment to Test Tank (Farnborough): Vickers-Armstrongs, Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne. Heating Installations (Abingdon and Henlow): Brightside Foundry & Engineering Co., Ltd., Birmingham. Jointless Flooring (Farnborough): Athena Composition Flooring Co., London, W. L. T. Switchboard (Abingdon): Ferguson Pailin

& Sons, Manchester. Maintenance of Weighbridges (All Stations): Ashworth, Son & Co., Ltd., Dewsbury.—**Controllers**: Engineering & Lighting Equipment Co., Ltd., St. Albans.—**Detonators**: Imperial Chemical Industries, Ltd., London, S.W.; Vickers-Armstrongs, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Drogue Release Gear**: Saunders-Roe, Ltd., London, W.C.—**Duralumin**: James Booth & Co. (1915) Ltd., Birmingham.—**Engines, Aircraft**: Armstrong Siddeley Motors, Ltd., Coventry; Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Bristol; Rolls Royce, Ltd., Derby.—**Engines, Aircraft, Conversion**: Rolls Royce, Ltd., Derby.—**Engines, Aircraft, Hubs**: D. Napier & Son, Ltd., London, W.—**Engines, Aircraft, Overhauls**: Rolls Royce, Ltd., Derby.—**Engines, Aircraft, Rebuilding**: Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Bristol.—**Engines, Aircraft, Reconditioning**: Rolls Royce, Ltd., Derby.—**Engines, Aircraft, Spares**: Armstrong Siddeley Motors, Ltd., Coventry; Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Bristol; D. Napier & Son, Ltd., London, W.; Ransomes & Marles Bearing Co., Ltd., Derby.—**Engines, Aircraft, Tests**: Armstrong Siddeley Motors, Ltd., Coventry; Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Bristol; D. Napier & Son, Ltd., London, W.; W. Beardmore & Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—**Enlargers, Camera**: Williamson Manufacturing Co., Ltd., London, N.W.—**Aviation Fuel (Flight to M.E.)**: Asiatic Petroleum Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Hack Saw, Blades**: Sheffield & Hallamshire Hack Saw Co., Ltd., Sheffield.—**Leyland, M.T. Spares**: Leyland Motors, Ltd., Leyland.—**Lubricating Oil**: Silvertown Lubricants, Ltd., London, E.—**Morris Spares**: Morris Commercial Cars, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Photographic Plates**: Ilford, Ltd., Ilford.—**Puttees**: Fox Bros. & Co., Ltd., Wellington, Somerset.—**Radiators, Aircraft**: John Marston, Ltd., Wolverhampton.—**Radiators, Aircraft**: Serck Radiators, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Sheets, Barrack**: J. Hoyle & Sons, Ltd., Manchester.—**Thermometers, Air Temperature**: S. & A. Calderara, London, E.—**Tin Tetrachloride**: Wm. Blythe & Co., Ltd., Church, Lancs.—**Transmitters**: Gambrell Bros., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Transmitter-Receiver**: Marconi's W/T Co., Ltd., London, W.C.—**Turn Indicators**: Reid & Sigrist, Ltd., Kingston-on-Thames.—**Wheels, Aero**: Palmer Tyre, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Wheels and Tyres, Aero**: Dunlop Rubber Co., Ltd., Birmingham.

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES.

Band Instruments: Boosey & Hawkes, London, W.—**Boiler Accessories**: Babcock & Wilcox, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Boiler Tubes**: Universal Steel Tube Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Cable Boxes**: Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Canvas**: Waterproofing Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Cement**: Imperial Chemical Industries, Ltd., (Casebourne & Co. (1926), Ltd.), Stockton-on-Tees.—**Clothing**: J. Compton Sons & Webb, Ltd., London, E.—**Coal**: Watts, Watts & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Electrical Equipment**: T. Smith & Sons (Rodley), Ltd., Leeds.—**Electrical Materials**: Chloride Elec. Storage Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Electric Detonators**: Nobels Explosives Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Electric Generator**: Bellis & Morcom, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Excavator**: Priestman Bros., Ltd., Hull.—**Fire Engine**: Merryweather & Sons, Ltd., London, S.E.—**Locomotive Boilers**: R. & W. Hawthorn Leslie & Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne; Kitson & Co., Leeds; R. Stephenson & Co., Ltd., Darlington.—**Novarsenobillon**: May & Baker, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Paper**: E. Collins & Sons, Ltd., Glasgow.—**Quinine**: Howards & Sons, Ltd., Ilford.—**Steel Bars**: P. & W. Maclellan, Ltd., Glasgow.—**Steel shelving**: G. A. Harvey & Co. (London), Ltd., London, S.E.—**Steel Tubes**: Stewarts & Lloyds, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Tanks**: Newton Chambers & Co., Ltd., Sheffield.—**Tar**: Lancashire Tar Distillers, Ltd., Manchester.—**Telephone Materials**: General Electric Co., Ltd., London, W.C.—**Train Lighting Material**: J. Stone & Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Transit Shed**: Braithwaite & Co., Engineers, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Tyres**: J. Baker & Bessemer, Ltd., Rotherham; Monk Bridge Iron & Steel Co., Ltd., Leeds; United Steel Cos., Ltd., Sheffield.—**Varnish**: R. Kearsley & Co., Ripon.—**Waterworks Material**: Scottish Tube Co., Ltd., Glasgow.

H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE.

Cardboards: Wiggins, Teape & Alex. Pirie (Sales), Ltd., Bucksburn.—**Cloth, Tracing**: Winterbottom Book Cloth Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Paper**: Caldwells Paper Mill Co., Ltd., Inverkeithing; Alex. Cowan & Sons, Penicuik; R. Craig & Sons, Ltd., Airdrie; Disley Paper Mill Co., Ltd., Darwen; East Lancs. Paper Mill Co., Ltd., Manchester; Golden Valley Paper Mills, Ltd., Bitton; Hollingworth & Co., Maidstone; Imperial Paper Mills, Ltd., Gravesend; London Paper Mills, Ltd., Dartford; New Northfleet Paper Mills, Ltd., Northfleet; Olives Paper Mill Co., Ltd., Bury; Portals, Ltd., Whitechurch, Hants; Wiggins, Teape & Alex. Pirie (Sales), Ltd., Inverness.—**Printing, Ruling, Binding, etc.**: Group 622—Jobwork Printing: Barclay & Fry, Ltd., London, S.E.; Annual Motor Licences, 1932: Bradbury Wilkinson & Co., Ltd., New Malden. British Industries Fair Brochures: T. De La Rue & Co. Ltd., London, E.C. Group 623, Group 624, Group 625—Jobwork Printing: W. P. Griffith & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C. Group 627—Jobwork Printing: Charles Sever, Ltd., Manchester. Group 626—Jobwork Printing: C. Tinling & Co., Ltd., Prescott. Group 629, Group 630—Jobwork Printing: Waterlow & Sons, Ltd., Dunstable. Army Forms C.2128, etc.: C. Tinling & Co., Ltd., Prescott. Frieze (Empire Communications): Waterlow & Sons, Ltd., Watford. National Mark Leaflets 22B: Waterlow & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C. Telephone Kiosk Folders: Waterlow & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.

POST OFFICE.

Apparatus, Mail Bag Exchanging: Barrow, Hepburn & Gale, Ltd., London, S.E.—**Apparatus, Telephonic**: General Electric Co., Ltd., Coventry; General Electric Co., Ltd., Telephone Works, Coventry; Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; Telephone Manufacturing

Co. (1929), Ltd., London, S.E.—**Apparatus, Testing and Protective**: Automatic Telephone Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Liverpool; Phoenix Telephone & Electric Works, Ltd., London, N.W.—**Blocks, Terminal**: Ebonestos Insulators, Ltd., London, S.E.—**Blocks, Wood**: East & Son, Ltd., Berkhamsted.—**Bodies for Motor Vehicles**: Plessey Co., Ltd., Ilford; Wm. & Thos. Robson, Ltd., London, E.C.; Weybridge Motor Engineering Co., Ltd., Weybridge; F. Willis & Son, London, N.—**Boxes, Coin Collecting**: Hall Telephone Accessories (1928), Ltd., London, N.W.—**Cabinets, Telephone**: Boulton & Paul, Ltd., Norwich; Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Cable**: British Insulated Cables, Ltd., Prescott; Connollys (Blackley), Ltd., Manchester; Hackbridge Cable Co., Ltd., Hackbridge; Pirelli General Cable Works, Ltd., Eastleigh; Standard Telephones & Cables, Ltd., London, E.—**Cable, Submarine**: Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; Telegraph Construction & Maintenance Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Cartage of Cable**: Fisher Renwick Manchester-London Steamers, Ltd., Manchester.—**Cells, Secondary**: Accumulators of Woking (1928), Ltd., Woking; Alton Battery Co., Ltd., Alton; D.P. Battery Co., Ltd., Bakewell; Oldham & Son, Ltd., Manchester.—**Chassis**: Albion Motors, Ltd., Glasgow; Morris Commercial Cars, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Clips, Earth**: Edwin Showell & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Coils, Loading**: Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; Standard Telephones & Cables, Ltd., London, E.—**Cords, Telephone**: British Insulated Cables, Ltd., Helsby; L.P.S. Electrical Co., Ltd., Wembley; Reliance Electrical Wire Co., London, E.C.; Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Ducts**: Albion Clay Co., Ltd., Burton-on-Trent; Donington Sanitary Pipe & Firebrick Co., Ltd., Burton-on-Trent; Doulton & Co., Ltd., Dudley; Sutton & Co. (Overseal), Ltd., Overseal.—**Fittings, Electric Light**: Hailwood & Ackroyd, Ltd., Leeds.—**Insulators**: Thos. De La Rue & Co., Ltd., London, E.; Doulton & Co., Ltd., Burslem; Litholite Insulators, Ltd., London, E.; Taylor Tunnicliff & Co., Ltd., Hanley.—**Lamps, Electric**: British Electric Transformer Co., Ltd., London, N.; British Thomson-Houston Co., Ltd., Rugby; Cryselco, Ltd., Bedford; Edison Swan Electric Co., Ltd., Ponders End; General Electric Co., Ltd., London, W.; Siemens Electric Lamps & Supplies, Ltd., Preston, Lancs; Stella Lamp Co., Ltd., London, N.W.—**Lamps, Electric, for Postmen**: Ever Ready Co. (Great Britain), Ltd., London, N.—**Materials for P.O. Clothing**: Buttons, Ltd., Birmingham; W. Hughes & Son, Ltd., London, E.—**Motors, Electric**: Creed & Co., Ltd., Croydon.—**Motor Vans**: Trojan, Ltd., Croydon.—**Pipes, Steel**: British Mannesmann Tube Co., Ltd., Landore; Bromford Tube Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Stewarts & Lloyds, Ltd., Coatbridge.—**Plates, Earth**: Bullers, Ltd., Tipton.—**Rectifiers**: Edison Swan Electric Co., Ltd., Ponders End.—**Saddles, G.I.**: Bullers, Ltd., Tipton.—**Stamps, I.R. and Accessories**: E. H. Hamlet, London, E.C.—**Swivels, Stay**: Bert Birks & Co., Cradley Heath; Bullers, Ltd., Tipton.—**Tape, Insulating**: W. T. Henley's Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Thread, String, etc.**: Wrights' Ropes, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Conduit Laying, etc.**: Camberley (Surrey); Merrylee (Glasgow); Derby-Leeds (Sections I, III & VI); Plympton (Devon); Albert Dock (London): The Norwest Construction Co., Ltd., Liverpool. Finchley (Regents Park Road); Tandem-Wembley-Byron-Harrow; Merton Abbey, S.W. (Scheme II); Lee Green Exchange Area (W); New Southgate (High Road); Hammersmith, etc.; Bowes Park, N.; Bexleyheath-Erith: O. C. Summers, London, N. Braintree (Essex); Cambridge-Peterborough (Sec. IV); W. & C. French, Ltd., Buckhurst Hill. Battersea-Tooting, S.W.; Northampton; Hendon (East): Howard Farrow, Ltd., London, N.W. Newbury (Berks): C.D.L. Construction Co., Ltd., Egham. Oxford-Witney and Kingham; Bleadon (Somerset): James F. Hodge, Birmingham. Derby-Leeds (Section V); Salisbury-Amesbury-Upavon-Tidworth (Section III): Wm. Dobson (Edinburgh), Ltd., Edinburgh. Honley (Huddersfield); Derby-Leeds (Section II); Aston-Newton (Cheshire), Maer, etc., (Staffs.); Cambridge-Peterborough (Section II): W. P. & P. G. Hayes, Ltd., Warrington. Bexleyheath-Sidcup and Eltham-Bexleyheath; Sloane Street and Knightsbridge (S.W.); Battersea, etc.; Kensington Automatic Exchange Area: Hodge Bros. (Contractors), Ltd., Birmingham. Cambridge-Peterborough (Section I): Alex. Thomson & Co. (London), Ltd., London, W.C. Hounslow-Isleworth; Hounslow (High Street): Greig & Matthews, London, E.C. Salisbury-Ower; Salisbury-Amesbury-Upavon-Tidworth (Sections I and II): Wort & Way, Salisbury. Cambridge-Peterborough (Section III): Harvey Collingridge, London, W.C. Manchester (Hanging Ditch); Newcastle (Kenton Lane), Benton (Croft Park) and Jesmond; Dungannon (Co. Tyrone): Thornleys (Bolton), Ltd., Bolton. Leeds (The Headrow, South Side): E. W. Moulson, Bradford. **Electric Goods Lift**: Hastings (Railway Station) Post Office Sorting Office: Evans Lifts, Ltd., Leicester.—**Electric Lighting**: Money Order Office Extension (Holloway): G. E. Taylor & Co., London, E.C.—**Experimental Packet Clearing Apparatus—Alterations**: Mount Pleasant Sorting Office (London, E.C.): A. Sauvée & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Rectifiers and Transformers**: Money Order Office (Holloway): Hewitt Electric Co., Ltd., Walton-on-Thames.—**Telephone Exchange Equipment**: Southend-on-Sea Borough Electricity Dept.: The Relay Automatic Telephone Co., Ltd., London, S.W. Messrs. A. Lee & Sons (Sheffield); Amherst (London, E.); Primrose (London, N.W.); Bishopsgate (London, E.); Monument (London, E.C.); Metropolitan and National (London E.C.); Hendon (London, N.W.); Hillside (London, N.); Portsmouth; Southport Multi Office Area; Holborn (London, W.C.); Preston (Torquay Automatic Area); Bishopsgate Tandem (London Director Area): Automatic Telephone Manufacturing Co., Ltd., London, W.C. Sub-contractors for Bishopsgate Tandem: The Chloride Electrical Storage Co., Ltd., Clifton Junction, near Manchester, for Batteries. Pollards (London, S.W.); Livingstone (London, S.E.); Mitcham; Gulliver (London, N.W.); Addiscombe; Beckenham; Whitehall; Ilford; Western (London, W.); Sutton Coldfield (Birmingham); Four Oaks (Birmingham); Maida Vale (London, W.); Brighton Central (Brighton Multi-

Exchange Area): Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. Sub-contractors for Brighton Central: Hart Accumulator Co., Ltd., London, E., for Batteries. Broadwell (Birmingham Area): Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. Sub-Contractors for Broadwell: The Chloride Electrical Storage Co., Ltd., Clifton Junction, near Manchester, for Batteries; The Electric Construction Co., Ltd., London, W.C., for Charging Machine; Crompton Parkinson, Ltd., Chelmsford, for Ringing Machines. Hampstead (London, N.W.); Gladstone (London, N.W.); Shepherds Bush (London, W.); Stechford (Birmingham Area); Priory (Birmingham Area); Tipton (Birmingham Area): Ericsson Telephones, Ltd., London, W.C. Sub-contractors for Tipton: Hart Accumulator Co., Ltd., London, E., for Batteries; The Electric Construction Co., Ltd., London, W.C., for Motor Generator Sets and Ringing Machines. Preston, Fulwood, Leyland and Ashton-on-Ribble (Preston Observation Area); Watford; Archway (London, N.); Reliance (London, S.E.); Leytonstone (London, E.); Fairfield (Croydon); Flaxman (London, S.W.); Macaulay (London, S.W.); Edgware; Park, Dundee (Dundee Multi-Exchange Area); Epsom: The General Electric Co., Ltd., Coventry. Sub-Contractors for Park and Epsom: D. P. Battery Co., Ltd., Bakewell, Derbyshire, for Batteries; Crompton Parkinson, Ltd., Chelmsford, for Charging Machine and Ringing Machines.—**Telephonic Repeater Equipment:** Metropolitan Telephone Exchange (London, E.C.): Standard Telephones and Cables, Ltd., London, W.C.

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Building Works: Acomb, York, Telephone Exchange—Erection: W. Birch & Sons, Limited, York. Addiscombe, Croydon, Surrey, Telephone Exchange—Reinforcement: Helical Bar and Engineering Co., Ltd., London, S.W.; Steelwork: A. D. Dawnay & Sons, Ltd., London, S.W. Adel, Leeds, Telephone Exchange—Asphalter: Tunstalls Seyssel & Limmer Rock Asphalte Co., Ltd., Leeds; Painter: Charles Fenton & Sons, Leeds; Steelwork: George Depledge & Co., Ltd., Leeds; Tiler: James Season, Leeds. Admiralty, S.W.—Lantern Lights, etc.: C. H. Boyd & Son, Ltd., London, W. Ardrossan, Ayrshire, Employment Exchange—Mason: J. & M. McLellan, Stevenston; Plasterer: William Sinclair & Sons, Saltcoats; Plumber: James Frew, Stevenston; Slater: Andrew Kennedy, Stevenston. Ashstead, Epsom, Surrey, Telephone Exchange—Pavior: William Shepherd & Sons, Ltd., Rochdale. Baldock, Herts, Wireless Station—Road: John Cronk & Sons, Ltd., London, S.W. Batley, Yorks, Employment Exchange—Asphalter: Hornby & Partners, Ltd., Bradford. Birmingham Employment Exchange, etc.—Erection: W. J. Whittall & Son, Ltd., Birmingham; Steelwork: Dorman, Long & Co., Ltd., London, S.W.; Charles Wade & Co., Ltd., Birmingham. Birmingham, "Priory" Telephone Exchange—Asphalter: Limmer & Trinidad Lake Asphalt Co., Ltd., London, S.W.; Fencing: C. & G. Robinson, Ltd., Hockley Heath; Glazier: Martin Dunn, Ltd., West Bromwich; Granolithic Work, etc.: Dows Granolithic, Ltd., Birmingham; Plasterer: Essanbee Plaster Co., Ltd., Worcester; Roofing: D. Anderson & Son, Ltd., Birmingham; Steelwork: Rubery, Owen & Co., Darlaston; Stonework: J. Waterhouse, Birmingham. Birmingham, Springfield Telephone Exchange—Plumber: W. J. Grant, Birmingham. Brentwood, Essex, Telephone Exchange—Plumbing Labour: G. T. Farmer, Chelmsford; Tarmac Surfacing: J. Thornback & Sons, Southend. Bristol, Nelson Street Employment Exchange—Stonework: Frank Freeman & Co., Bristol. Cannon Street, E.C., P.O.—Alterations: E. Pollard & Co., Ltd., London, E.C. Cardiff Head P.O.—Slater: Roberts, Adlard & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. Cheltenham, Glos, Telephone Exchange—Alterations: William Bowers & Co., Hereford. Cleveleys, Blackpool, Postmen's Office—Erection: Lancashire Building Co., Ltd., St. Annes. Coventry, Warwickshire, Gibbet Hill Telephone Exchange—Slater: Wormells, Coventry. Cromer, Norfolk, P.O.—Steelwork: A. S. Thorne & Son, Norwich. Dorking, Surrey, P.O.—Plasterer: W. C. Greenslade & Co., West Croydon; Roofing: Field & Palmer, Ltd., London N.; Tiler: A. W. Allard & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. Douglas, Isle of Man, Telephone Exchange—Erection: Universal Housing Co., Ltd., Douglas. Dunston, Gateshead, Co. Durham, Ministry of Pensions Hospital—Asphalter: Wallace & Son, Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne. Edinburgh, Hope Street P.O.—Glazier: Geo. Lindsay & Co., Edinburgh; Painter: Wm. Sinclair & Sons, Edinburgh; Plasterer: David Fisher & Sons, Edinburgh; Plumber: Morrisons, Ltd., Edinburgh; Steelwork, etc.: Brown & Clegg, Ltd., Wm. Gerard & Sons. Epsom, Surrey, Telephone Exchange—Glazier: Pennycook Patent Glazing & Engineering Co., Ltd., London, S.W. Failsworth, Manchester, Telephone Exchange—Erection: W. Rigby (1920), Ltd., Radcliffe. Four Oaks, Sutton Coldfield, Birmingham, Telephone Exchange—Erection: W. Kendrick & Sons, Ltd., Walsall. Geological Museum, S.W.—Asphalter: Permanite, Ltd., London, E.; Excavator: Westminster Wharfage Co., Ltd., London, S.W.; Roof, etc.: Helical Bar & Engineering Co., Ltd., London, S.W.; Stone Carving: H. H. Martyn & Co., Ltd., London, N.W.; James Walker (Architectural Decorations), Ltd., London, W. Glasgow Central Employment Exchange—Escape Stairs: Folding Gate Co., Ltd., Glasgow. Halesowen, Birmingham, Telephone Exchange—Asphalter: Asphalte & Cement Co., Ltd., Birmingham. Hendon, N.W., Repository—Plasterer: W. A. Telling, Ltd., London S.E.; Sheetting: Richardson Building Supplies, Ltd., London, W.C. Hounslow, Middlesex, P.O.—Roofing: Field & Palmer, Ltd., London, N. Kettering, Northants, Employment Exchange—Plasterer: J. R. Routhorn, Northampton; Slater: Wilkins & Bedford, Northampton. Kingsway, W.C., York House, etc.—Alterations: C. H. Boyd & Son, Ltd., London, W. Knightsbridge, S.W., P.O.—Alterations: C. H. Boyd & Son, Ltd., London, W.

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* July, 1931 contract.

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