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

EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT.

WITHIN a fortnight of the departure of sterling from the gold standard on 21st September, there was an improvement in employment, which continued throughout October.

Among workpeople insured against unemployment in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the percentage unemployed in all industries taken together was 21·9 at 26th October, 1931, as compared with 22·6* at 21st September, 1931, and 18·5 at 27th October, 1930. For males alone the percentage at 26th October, 1931, was 23·6, and for females 17·5. At 21st September, 1931, the corresponding percentages were 23·7* and 19·7*.

Insured Persons in Work in Great Britain.—It is estimated that on 26th October, 1931, there were approximately 9,436,000 insured persons aged 16 to 64 in work in Great Britain. This was 110,000 more than a month before, but 145,500 less than a year before.

Numbers Unemployed (excluding Persons normally in Casual Employment).—At 26th October, 1931, there were 2,127,943 persons on the Registers of Employment Exchanges in Great Britain who were out of a situation. This was 83,461 more than a month before, and 576,848 more than a year before. The total on 26th October, 1931, included 1,582,194 men, 60,271 boys, 438,612 women and 46,866 girls. It was made up approximately of 1,412,880 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; 604,550 insured persons who had paid less than 30 contributions during the preceding two years; and 110,510 uninsured persons. The claimants for benefit, numbering 1,932,085, included 284,628 men, 7,084 boys, 56,140 women and 3,685 girls, who had been on the Register for less than one month.

Numbers Temporarily Stopped.—At 26th October, 1931, there were registered as unemployed in Great Britain 349,407 men, 10,146 boys, 116,423 women and 6,577 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 482,553 was 172,202 less than a month before, and 99,061 less than a year before.

Numbers Unemployed normally in Casual Employment.—At 26th October, 1931, there were on the Registers in Great Britain 113,252 men, 217 boys, 2,115 women and 12 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 115,596 was 3,218 more than a month before, and 10,804 more than a year before.

Industries in which Principal Variations occurred.—There was a marked improvement in employment in

all the textile industries, particularly in cotton and wool. Employment also improved in the mining and metal manufacturing industries, in general engineering, motor vehicle and metal goods manufacture, and in the clothing, boot and shoe, glass and paper trades.

The seasonal decline continued in building, public works contracting, hotel and boarding house service, and in the distributive and transport industries.

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 October, exclusive of those affecting shipyard workers (*see below*), resulted in an estimated decrease of £12,800 in the weekly full-time wages of nearly 170,000 workpeople, and in an increase of £380 in those of 6,400 workpeople.

The largest bodies of workpeople covered by the above figures who sustained reductions included workers employed in the textile bleaching, dyeing, etc., industries in Yorkshire, Lancashire, and Scotland; woollen and worsted operatives employed by certain firms in Yorkshire; men employed by civil engineering contractors in Great Britain, and by public works contractors in London; and workpeople employed in the linen and cotton embroidery trade in Northern Ireland. There were also reductions in the wages of various classes of workpeople employed in federated shipyards, full particulars of which are not yet available.

COST OF LIVING.

At 31st October the average level of retail prices of the commodities taken into account in the statistics compiled by the Ministry of Labour (including food, rent, clothing, fuel and light, and miscellaneous items) was approximately 46 per cent. above the level of July, 1914, as compared with 45 per cent. a month earlier and 57 per cent. a year earlier. For food alone the corresponding figures were 30, 28, and 44.

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 October was 28. In addition, 8 disputes which began before October were still in progress at the beginning of the month. The number of workpeople involved in all disputes in October (including workpeople thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, but not themselves parties to the disputes) was about 13,600, and the aggregate duration of all disputes in October was about 55,000 working days.

* The percentages for September have been revised.

CHANGES IN THE ESTIMATED NUMBERS INSURED AGAINST UNEMPLOYMENT, 1923-1931.

THE number of persons insured against unemployment under the Unemployment Insurance Acts is estimated once a year on the basis mainly of information derived from the exchange of unemployment books in July. The classes of persons who are within the scope of the Acts are indicated in the introduction to the unemployment Tables on page 430 of this issue.

For the purpose of the statistics compiled from the working of the Acts, "insured" persons include persons in respect of whom unemployment books have been issued by the Ministry of Labour and who are either in insured employment, or, if unemployed, are maintaining contact with Employment Exchanges or have ceased to do so within a limited period.

The total number of insured workers, aged 16 to 64 inclusive, in Great Britain at the beginning of July, 1931, is estimated at 12,500,000 (including persons insured under the Special Schemes for the banking and insurance industries). For Great Britain and Northern Ireland the corresponding total is 12,770,000.

The following Table shows the growth in the insured population of Great Britain and Northern Ireland from July, 1923 to July, 1931. The index numbers have been calculated in the manner indicated in the footnote on page 437, the estimated figure for 1927 for persons aged 16 to 64 being equated to that for persons aged 16 and over in the same year, so as to yield a continuous series of index numbers covering the whole period.

Year. (July).	Number.	Index No. (1923 = 100).	Year. (July).	Number.	Index No.
AGES 16 AND OVER.			AGES 16 TO 64.		
1923 ...	11,485,800	100.0	1927 ...	11,784,000	105.6
1924 ...	11,664,000	101.6	1928 ...	11,881,500	106.5
1925 ...	11,892,000	103.5	1929 ...	12,094,000	108.4
1926 ...	12,041,000	104.8	1930 ...	12,405,700	111.2
1927 ...	12,131,000	105.6	1931 ...	12,770,000	114.5

It will be seen that between 1923 and 1928, although there were minor fluctuations from year to year, the rate of expansion was fairly uniform, and amounted on the average each year to about 1.3 per cent. of the numbers insured in 1923. In the three subsequent years, however, the rate of increase was greatly accelerated, and between 1930 and 1931 it reached 3.3 per cent. of the numbers insured at July, 1923.

It may be mentioned that this increase is supported not only by the statistics of unemployment books exchanged, but also by the figures showing the receipts of the Unemployment Fund by way of contributions by insured persons.

For the purpose of examining the movement in the later years it will be desirable to set out the figures for men, boys, women and girls separately, as follows:—

Date.	Insured at date in first column.	Increase (+) or Decrease (–) during preceding year.	
		Number.	Per Cent.
MEN.			
July, 1929	8,157,820	+ 107,950	+ 1.3
„ 1930	8,326,600	+ 168,780	+ 2.1
„ 1931	8,598,200	+ 271,600	+ 3.3
BOYS.			
July, 1929	597,530	+ 25,500	+ 4.5
„ 1930	604,930	+ 7,400	+ 1.2
„ 1931	588,800	– 16,130	– 2.7
WOMEN.			
July, 1929	2,890,340	+ 53,250	+ 1.9
„ 1930	3,014,360	+ 124,020	+ 4.3
„ 1931	3,135,000	+ 120,640	+ 4.0
GIRLS.			
July, 1929	448,310	+ 25,800	+ 6.1
„ 1930	459,810	+ 11,500	+ 2.6
„ 1931	448,000	– 11,810	– 2.6

The decrease among juveniles in 1930-31 was no doubt due largely to the acute industrial depression, which reduced the numbers of juveniles reaching 16 years of age who were able to secure insured employment during the year. Possibly the fall in the birth rate in 1915 may also have had some influence.

The Table shows that among men the rate of increase has steadily accelerated; in 1930-31 the number insured rose by over 270,000, as compared with about 108,000 in 1928-29.

Among women the heaviest increase occurred in 1929-30, when the numbers rose by 124,000, or over twice as many as in the preceding year. In 1930-31 the increase was only slightly below the corresponding figure for 1929-30.

The net change, between any two dates, in the numbers insured, represents the balance between the number of entrants and re-entrants on the one side and the number of exitants on the other. Usually about 75 per cent. of the new entrants are juveniles under 18 years of age. The remaining 25 per cent. of new entrants and the re-entrants

consist almost entirely of adults from uninsured industries such as agriculture and private domestic service; persons who give up business on their own account; men discharged from the Forces; persons returning from abroad; and non-manual workers whose salaries have fallen below the £250 income limit. The exitants consist of persons who pass out of insurance through death or through reaching the age of 65 or through entering one of the classes from which adult entrants and re-entrants are drawn.

During the past four years there has been little change in the number of new entrants into insurance. They have in fact shown some tendency to decline. (Figures for this class are published each month in this GAZETTE—see, for example, the Table on page 422 of this issue. Re-entrants are not included in these figures.)

The rate of exit through death and through reaching age 65 has probably not varied to any considerable extent, and it is clear therefore that the abnormal rise in the numbers within the Scheme must be the result of a decrease in the numbers passing out from other causes, or to an increase in the number of re-entrants, or to both these causes operating together.

The following Table gives an analysis on these lines. The figures in each line represent, for males and females separately, percentages of the numbers insured at the beginning of the year. Separate figures are not available for the total number of exitants nor for the number of re-entrants. For these items the utmost that can be done is to give a figure representing the balance of exitants over re-entrants. The Table relates to Great Britain only. For the years 1925-1927 the figures relate to persons aged 16 and over, and for the years 1927-1931, to persons aged 16 to 64.

Year.	New Entrants into Insurance. Per cent.			Exitants from Insurance, minus re-entrants. Per cent.			Net Increase. Per cent.		
	Males.	Fe- males.	Total.	Males.	Fe- males.	Total.	Males.	Fe- males.	Total.
1925-26 ...	5.5	12.3	7.3	-4.0	-11.6	-6.0	+1.5	+0.7	+1.3
1926-27 ...	5.1	11.5	6.8	-4.4	-10.3	-5.9	+0.7	+1.2	+0.9
1927-28 ...	5.0	11.8	6.8	-4.5	-10.1	-6.0	+0.5	+1.7	+0.9
Average 1925-28 ...	5.2	11.9	7.0	-4.3	-10.7	-6.0	+0.9	+1.2	+1.0
1928-29 ...	4.9	11.4	6.7	-3.4	-9.0	-4.9	+1.5	+2.4	+1.8
1929-30 ...	4.9	11.3	6.7	-2.9	-7.2	-4.1	+2.0	+4.1	+2.6
1930-31 ...	4.7	9.8	6.1	-1.8	-6.6	-3.1	+2.9	+3.2	+3.0

The Table brings out the substantial decline in the last three years in the net rate of exit after deducting re-entrants. Among males, as compared with the average for the three years 1925-28, the figure for 1930-31 shows a reduction from 4.3 per cent. to 1.8 per cent., while among females the reduction is from 10.7 per cent. to 6.6 per cent.

Some comment on the figures for the period 1925 to 1930 was given on page 396 of the November, 1930, issue of this GAZETTE.

The reduced net rate of exit in subsequent years occurred during a period of abnormal trade depression, when the numbers in employment showed a heavy decline. So far as men are concerned the figures are no doubt affected by the considerable reduction in emigration in recent years. There is also little doubt that fewer insured persons have entered business on their own account, while a number have given up business and re-entered insurance. A reduction in salaries would tend at the same time to reduce the numbers of non-manual workers passing above the £250 income limit, and to increase the numbers re-entering insurance through a fall in salary below that limit. In the period under review there were important relaxations in the conditions for the receipt of unemployment benefit. These began to operate towards the end of 1929. In March, 1930, the Unemployment Insurance Act of that year came into operation, and removed certain grounds of disallowance which had previously accounted for a large proportion of benefit disallowances. These included the provisions under which claimants were required to prove that they were genuinely seeking work, and had had a reasonable period of insurable employment during the preceding two years. These changes immediately gave benefit to many thousands of unemployed persons who had formerly been disallowed; they attracted a renewal of claims from large numbers who had ceased to register at Employment Exchanges; and there is ample evidence that many married women who in former years would have refrained from claiming benefit adopted the practice, whether as the result of the new conditions, or possibly, in some measure, through the pressure of unemployment on other members of their families.

It is possible also that the increases in certain rates of benefit, introduced in March, 1930, may have had an influence in the same direction.

It may be computed that if the average net rate of exit experienced during the three years 1925-28 had continued during the subsequent three years, while the numbers of new entrants remained the same, there would have passed out of the insurance scheme approximately 394,000 males and 237,000 females who are now included in the figures for July, 1931. There can be little doubt that this change materially affects the comparison between the numbers now recorded as unemployed and those for the period prior to 1928.

CHANGES IN INDIVIDUAL INDUSTRIES, 1930-31.

The changes in the estimated numbers of insured persons in the various industry classifications represent the net result of the influence of a number of factors.

On the one hand each industry receives each year an inflow which is made up of new entrants and re-entrants to unemployment insurance, and in a number of cases insured persons transfer from other industries. On the other hand, every industry experiences wastage, through deaths, emigration, retirement

from employment, the passing of individuals out of the scope of unemployment insurance through entering into business on their own account, through enlistment in the Forces, through increases in salary for non-manual workers above the £250 limit, or through reaching the age limit of 65; in addition the industry may lose workers who have transferred to other industries. The effect of these influences is, so far as practicable, indicated in the Table on page 436, which gives for the year July, 1930, to June, 1931, for certain industry groups in Great Britain, the estimated numbers of insured workpeople at July, 1931, and these numbers, together with the new entrants and the net losses during the year, expressed as percentages of the estimated numbers insured at July, 1930. While precise figures of the numbers who have transferred from one industry to another during the year are not known, some idea of the extent of the net movement out of, or into, a particular industry may be gathered by comparing its wastage figure with that for all industries combined. When the net losses from a particular industry have been at a greater rate than those from industry as a whole, while the rate of fresh entry has been approximately the same, it may be concluded that there has been, in addition to the movement common to all industries, a net transference to other industries, and *vice versa*. Corresponding statistics for the previous five years were published in the issues of this GAZETTE for November, 1926, 1927, 1928, 1929 and 1930, respectively.

Gas, water and electricity supply, and railway service, have been omitted from the Table on the ground that in their case the figures are influenced by the granting of certificates of exception from unemployment insurance, and are, therefore, unreliable as a measure of expansion or contraction.

A comparison of the figures given in the Table with those for the previous year, as published in the issue of this GAZETTE for November, 1930, shows that in the case of individual industries equally with industry as a whole, the proportion of new entrants to unemployment insurance has not varied to any great extent. It is noticeable, however, that concurrently with a heavy increase in unemployment, there has been an appreciable decline in the new entrants to the artificial silk industry. There are important changes, in a number of industries, in the figures showing the losses during the year and the net increases or decreases.

The most striking feature of the Table on page 436, so far as men are concerned, is the large increase in the numbers in the public works contracting classification, amounting to no less than 83,480, or 46.7 per cent. of the numbers insured at July, 1930. This results, of course, from the institution of works for the relief of unemployment, and a similar movement appears in constructional engineering. These industries have clearly received large numbers of insured men from the depressed heavy industries such as coal mining, iron and steel manufacture, shipbuilding and ship repairing. There is also evidence of a movement among men from other trades with heavy unemployment, such as pottery, chemicals, general and marine engineering, cotton, artificial silk, and musical instruments. The industries into which men have transferred include, in addition to public works contracting and constructional engineering referred to above, the transport and dock industries, national and local government, hotel, boarding house and restaurant service, laundries, dyeing and dry cleaning, the building trade, electrical wiring, and electric cables and lamp manufacture.

In musical instrument manufacture the change in the character of the industry, of which an important feature is the growth of the gramophone and wireless section, is illustrated by the figures for men and women respectively. While men have been transferring to other industries, there has been an inflow of women from other trades; and while the number of men in the industry has fallen by 12.4 per cent., the number of women has risen by 15.3 per cent.

As might be expected, the numbers of women in the cotton and wool textile industries, and in textile finishing and bleaching, show a decline during the year, while there has been an increase in the hosiery trade. The clothing, food, furniture, paper, and distributive trades also show important increases.

The Table on page 436, referred to above, divides the whole insured population into 54 industry groups. In the year July, 1930–June, 31, there were net increases in the numbers of insured workers in 36 of these groups, as compared with increases in 43 in 1929–30, 47 in 1928–29, 32 in 1927–28, and 33 in 1926–27.

The remaining 18 industry groups, with a net decrease in numbers insured in 1930–1931, are:—

	Percentage decrease.
Silk and Artificial Silk	7.1
Iron and Steel Manufacture	6.8
Marine Engineering	6.3
Musical Instruments	5.8
Vehicles other than Motors, Cycles, etc.	4.6
Shipbuilding and Ship-repairing	4.4
Tinplate Manufacture	3.9
General Engineering	2.7
Cotton	2.5
Coke Ovens and By-Products	2.5
Coal Mining	2.1
Chemicals, Paints, Oils, etc.	1.8
Watches, Clocks, Plate, Jewellery, etc.	1.8
Textile Bleaching and Finishing	1.7
Manufacture of Metals other than Iron and Steel and Tinplate... ..	1.6
Mining (other than coal mining) and Quarrying	0.6
Woollen and Worsted	0.6
Rubber	0.2

The industries in which the rate of increase in 1930–31 was above the average for all industries taken together include:—

	Percentage increase.
Public Works Contracting	46.4
Shipping Service and Fishing	11.7
Hotel, Boarding House, Restaurant, etc., Service	9.5
Miscellaneous Industries and Services	8.8
Electrical Wiring, and Electric Cables, Lamps, etc., Manufacture	8.0
National and Local Government	7.8
Road Transport, Communication and Storage	7.7
Distributive Trades	6.2
Laundries, Dyeing and Dry Cleaning	6.1
Tailoring	5.4
Furniture making	5.4
Constructional Engineering	5.3
Hosiery	3.9
Paper, Cardboard Boxes, Stationery, etc.	3.9
Brick and Tile Manufacture	3.5
Bread, Biscuit, Cake, etc., Manufacture	3.2

CHANGES BETWEEN 1923 AND 1931.

The Table given on pages 437–438 indicates, by means of index numbers, the degree of expansion or contraction which has occurred during the period of eight years, 1923–31, in the numbers of persons belonging to various industries, so far as indicated by the statistics of insured persons. For the years 1923–27 the available figures relate to persons aged 16 and over, while for 1928–31 they relate to persons aged 16 to 64 inclusive. For the year 1926 estimates have been made of the numbers aged 16–64 in each industry, and these estimates have been used to provide a means of linking up the two series of figures on a comparable basis. In the first part of the Table, figures are given for the industries in which the numbers insured have increased, and in the second part for the industries in which the numbers have declined. The industries are arranged in descending order of degree of increase.

The Table includes 68 industries in which increases have occurred and 32 in which there have been decreases. The acute depression in the heavy export trades, and the industries associated therewith, in the last eight years, has inevitably had its effect on the numbers of insured workers in their respective classifications. The list of industries in which decreases have occurred includes a large proportion of such trades, together with a number in which the progress of invention, changes of fashion, and the development of labour-saving methods and organisation, have been reflected in a fall in the numbers of insured workers. On the other hand it is clear that the industries in which the greatest increases have occurred are those which are primarily concerned in manufacture or services for the home market. In most of these industries the movement has been steady and continuous.

In the silk and artificial silk industry there has been a decline in 1930–31, but it still shows an increase of 99.8 per cent. over 1923. In the cotton textile industry the acute depression of 1930 and 1931 has led to a drop in the numbers within that classification, which now stand at 98.3 per cent. of the figures for 1923. The woollen and worsted industry had also suffered a further decline down to July, 1931.

It will be of interest to compare the relative proportions of the total insured population who were included in certain large groups of industries in 1923 and 1931. These are as follows:—

Relative Proportions of the Total Insured Population which were included in certain Large Groups of Industries in 1923 and 1931.

Industry Group.	Percentages of Total Number Insured at	
	July, 1923.	July, 1931.
Shipping and Fishing	1.3	1.5
Mining and Coke Ovens	11.9	9.1
Metal Trades (including Engineering, Vehicles and Shipbuilding)	19.2	16.8
Pottery and Glass	1.0	1.0
Chemicals	1.8	1.7
Textiles	11.4	10.3
Leather Trades	0.6	0.5
Clothing	5.0	4.8
Food, Drink and Tobacco	4.4	4.2
Woodworking and Paper	4.7	5.0
Building, Public Works Contracting, Bricks, Artificial Stone, Cement, etc.	8.1	9.8
Gas, Water and Electricity	1.5	1.4
Transport and Communication (except Shipping)	5.8	5.6
Distributive	10.9	14.7
Commerce, Banking, Insurance and Finance	2.0	1.8
Other Miscellaneous Manufactures and Services	10.4	11.8
Totals	100.0	100.0

The decline in the mining and coke ovens group is, of course, mainly accounted for by the coal-mining industry. The metal trades (including engineering, vehicles and shipbuilding) also show an important decline in the proportion which they represent of the total insured population; while other industries which have moved in the same direction include textiles, clothing, food, drink and tobacco, and transport and communication, other than shipping services. On the other hand, the distributive trades now include 14.7 per cent. of the whole insured population, as compared with 10.9 per cent. in 1923. The woodworking and paper group, the building industry, public works contracting, and the manufacture of bricks, artificial stone, cement, etc., have also increased their proportions.

COAL MINING.

As already indicated, the decrease in the number of insured persons classified as belonging to the coal-mining industry continued during the year ended June, 1931. This decline first appeared in the year 1924-25, and since July, 1924, the numbers in the industry in Great Britain have declined by more than 15 per cent. Since July, 1927, there has been a net decrease of 117,440 in the numbers of insured workpeople aged 16 to 64 in the industry, and of this decline 22,620 occurred during 1930-31. The decline, which seemed to be partly arrested in 1929-30, has therefore been resumed.

Between the end of June, 1930, and the end of June, 1931, the number of wage earners on colliery books fell from 913,522 to 840,305 or by 73,217, and this includes the decline already referred to of about 22,000 in the estimated numbers insured, and an increase of over 50,000 in the numbers of insured persons recorded as wholly unemployed.

The new entrants into insurance during the year 1930-31 in the coal-mining industry numbered 31,303, and 7,437 persons transferred thereto from other industries. The gross departures from the industry from all causes between July, 1930, and June, 1931, must therefore, have numbered not less than 61,360, as compared with 46,232 in the preceding year and with 80,287 in 1928-29.

In order to determine the extent to which insured persons moved during the year from coal mining to other industries and also in the contrary direction, special steps were again taken in connection with the exchange of Unemployment Insurance books this year to obtain a record of such transfers in the case of men 18 to 64 years of age. The result is shown in the following Table, which gives an industrial analysis of the transfers recorded on unemployment books exchanged in July-September:—

Industry Group.	Transfers from coal-mining.	Transfers to coal-mining.	Net transfers from coal-mining.
Building and public works contracting ...	19,554	1,718	17,836
Transport and communication, fishing, etc.	1,977	526	1,451
Metal and metal goods manufacture ...	1,082	736	346
Engineering, engineers' iron and steel founding ...	741	734	7
Explosives, chemicals, coke ovens, etc. ...	595	155	440
Brick, tile, etc., making ...	1,210	452	758
Mining (other than coal-mining) ...	717	284	433
Hotel and laundry services ...	565	107	458
Construction and repair of vehicles ...	269	226	43
Textile industries ...	237	357	-120*
Shipbuilding ...	219	119	100
Food, drink and tobacco ...	206	71	135
Rubber and leather trades ...	77	44	33
Sawmilling, furniture and woodworking ...	218	107	111
Papermaking, printing, etc. ...	81	38	43
Clothing trades (including boots and shoes) ...	50	43	7
Commerce and finance ...	53	15	38
Other industries and services ...	7,806	1,705	6,101
Totals ...	35,657	7,437	28,220

The following Table has been prepared in order to compare the movement into and out of this industry during recent years for which

* Net transfer to coal mining.

figures are available. The Table shows, on the one hand, the new entrants to insurance and the number of transfers from other industries, and, on the other hand, the number of transfers out of coal mining into other industries, the losses due to all other causes and the net decline in the estimated numbers insured. The table shows that between 1927 and 1930 the transfers from other industries remained stationary at about 8,500 per annum, while the transfers from coal mining to other industries tended slightly to decline. In 1930-31, however, the transfers from other industries decreased, while the movement into other industries showed an increase, due, evidently, to the heavy transfers to public works contracting. It will be seen that the marked fall during 1929-30 in the number of persons who passed out of the industry from other causes has continued during 1930-31; this no doubt has been influenced by changes in the conditions for the receipt of unemployment benefit referred to at the beginning of this article.

COAL MINING INDUSTRY—GREAT BRITAIN.

	1926-27 (Aged 16 and over).	1927-28 (Aged 16-64).	1928-29 (Aged 16-64).	1929-30 (Aged 16-64).	1930-31 (Aged 16-64).
Numbers insured at beginning of year ...	1,225,220	1,164,190	1,115,750	1,074,610	1,069,370
ADDITIONS TO NUMBERS IN THE INDUSTRY.					
New entrants to insurance ...	42,156	34,008	30,667	32,508	31,303
Transfers from other industries ...	17,520	8,557	8,480	8,484	7,437
Total additions ...	59,676	42,565	39,147	40,992	38,740
LOSSES FROM INDUSTRY.					
Transfers to other industries ...	30,805	27,387	30,782	23,440	35,657
Other causes ...	55,291	63,618	49,505	22,792	35,703
Total losses ...	86,096	91,005	80,287	46,232	61,360
NET DECLINE ...	-26,420	-48,440	-41,140	-5,240	-22,620

The degree of change in this industry during the past eight years has not been uniform throughout all districts. In the Kent coalfield the numbers have risen rapidly since July, 1926, from approximately 2,000 to 5,900. During the past year the only other areas which have shown an increase in numbers have been Yorkshire, Derbyshire, and Warwickshire.

The decline since 1924 has been continuous in Scotland, Northumberland, Durham, Staffs, Worcester and Salop, Gloucester and Somerset, and Wales and Monmouthshire. The rate of net decline has been greatest in Gloucester and Somerset and in Lancashire and Cheshire. In Yorkshire the figures showed a steady decline from 1927 to 1930, but last year (as mentioned above) they showed an increase. In Derbyshire there was a decline from July, 1926, until July, 1929, followed by an increase in the next two years; and in Notts and Leicester a decline set in at July, 1927, which has continued down to the present time. District figures are given in the following Table:—

COAL MINING INDUSTRY—GREAT BRITAIN.

	Estimated Number of Insured Persons aged 16 and over.		Estimated Number of Insured Persons aged 16 to 64 inclusive.			Index Number of Insured Persons (1923=100).							
						Aged 16 and over.				Aged 16 to 64 inclusive.			
	July, 1923.	July, 1927.	July, 1927.	July, 1930.	July, 1931.	July, 1924.	July, 1925.	July, 1926.	July, 1927.	July, 1928.	July, 1929.	July, 1930.	July, 1931.
Great Britain ...	1,243,450	1,198,800	1,164,190	1,069,370	1,046,750	101.3	99.2	98.6	96.5	92.4	89.1	88.7	86.8
England and Wales ...	1,090,240	1,057,210	1,026,770	947,830	926,150	101.2	99.3	98.8	97.0	93.3	90.0	89.5	87.5
Scotland ...	153,210	141,590	137,420	121,540	120,600	101.6	98.6	96.6	92.4	86.2	81.8	81.7	81.1
<i>Principal Districts in England and Wales:</i>													
Northumberland ...	63,040	60,190	58,510	51,990	50,760	101.6	97.5	96.6	95.5	87.0	85.8	84.9	82.9
Durham ...	178,550	165,850	161,240	153,630	148,370	101.6	99.0	98.2	92.9	91.7	88.5	88.5	85.5
Cumberland and Westmorland ...	12,390	12,830	12,480	11,820	11,380	101.5	104.1	103.4	103.6	103.6	98.6	98.1	94.5
Yorkshire ...	180,420	194,860	189,480	178,740	179,240	101.8	105.8	106.4	108.0	106.7	104.6	101.9	102.2
Lancashire and Cheshire ...	117,260	104,940	102,030	90,900	88,280	101.7	95.8	94.4	89.5	84.9	78.8	79.7	77.4
Derbyshire ...	64,960	67,830	65,950	62,960	64,510	101.8	98.4	106.0	104.4	98.4	96.6	99.6	102.1
Notts and Leicester ...	69,980	73,410	71,360	66,390	64,170	101.7	104.8	100.9	104.9	100.2	98.9	97.6	94.3
Warwickshire ...	15,160	13,770	13,370	12,210	12,590	101.8	91.4	94.6	90.8	90.0	92.2	83.0	85.6
Staffs., Worcs. and Salop ...	86,320	81,720	79,450	70,820	69,330	101.9	97.5	94.9	94.7	89.0	84.6	84.5	82.7
Gloucester and Somerset ...	16,460	14,270	13,870	11,870	11,430	101.8	96.1	92.7	86.7	84.7	79.4	74.2	71.5
Kent ...	2,040	2,800	2,720	5,330	5,900	102.0	106.4	98.5	137.3	190.8	221.1	269.0	297.8
Wales and Monmouth ...	282,740	264,150	255,770	230,100	218,950	99.8	96.7	95.9	93.4	88.6	84.2	84.0	79.9

CHANGES IN GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION.

The gradual change in the geographical distribution of the insured population has been dealt with in the surveys published in the November issues of this GAZETTE since 1927, and in the issue for December, 1926. The analysis of the industrial changes given above have shown that the industries in which the numbers of insured persons have declined have been mainly coal mining, the heavy iron and steel industries and, latterly, the textile trades, which are mainly carried on in the Northern Section of the country

and in Wales; while the industries in which the greatest expansion has occurred are carried on to the greatest extent in the Southern Section. This change in the industrial distribution of the insured population has necessarily involved a corresponding geographical change. The following Table shows the changes since 1923 in the total number of insured persons in each of the Divisions into which the country is divided for the purpose of the administration of the Unemployment Insurance Acts. The figures are exclusive of persons insured under the special schemes for the Banking and Insurance Industries, for which a geographical analysis is not available.

CHANGES IN THE GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION OF PERSONS INSURED UNDER THE UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACTS.

Division.	Estimated Number of Insured Persons aged 16 and over.		Estimated Number of Insured Persons aged 16 to 64 inclusive.			Index Number of Insured Persons. (1923 = 100).							
						Aged 16 and over.				Aged 16 to 64.			
	July, 1923.	July, 1927.	July, 1927.	July, 1930.	July, 1931.	July, 1924.	July, 1925.	July, 1926.	July, 1927.	July, 1928.	July, 1929.	July, 1930.	July, 1931.
	Thousands.	Thousands.	Thousands.	Thousands.	Thousands.								
London ...	2,004	2,150	2,091	2,256	2,347	100.4	103.9	105.3	107.3	110.2	113.6	115.7	120.4
South-Eastern ...	756	876	849	930	973	103.8	107.8	111.9	115.8	118.4	122.0	126.9	132.8
South-Western ...	767	833	807	864	895	101.3	103.3	106.0	108.6	109.8	113.0	116.2	120.4
Midlands ...	1,682	1,783	1,733	1,847	1,893	101.7	103.9	105.3	106.0	107.0	109.7	113.0	115.8
North-Eastern ...	1,964	2,025	1,962	2,021	2,073	100.9	102.0	102.7	103.1	103.5	104.4	106.2	108.9
North-Western ...	2,071	2,148	2,090	2,182	2,223	101.0	102.2	103.4	103.7	103.9	105.2	108.3	110.4
Scotland...	1,288	1,306	1,268	1,308	1,350	100.9	102.5	102.8	101.4	101.1	101.6	104.6	108.0
Wales ...	618	629	608	592	606	101.1	100.8	101.8	101.8	99.1	97.6	99.1	101.4
Northern Ireland ...	253	254	249	266	270	102.1	105.2	105.2	100.5	101.3	104.1	107.3	108.9
Great Britain and Northern Ireland	11,403	12,004	11,657	12,266	12,630	101.2	103.2	104.5	105.3	106.1	108.0	110.8	114.1

It will be seen from this Table that until July, 1929, the numbers of insured persons in the Southern Section of the country (including London, South-Eastern, South-Western and Midlands Divisions) were increasing at a much higher rate than in the other Divisions (in Wales the figures showed an absolute decline between July, 1927, and July, 1929). During 1929-30, however, while the increase in the Southern Section continued, there was in the Northern Section an accelerated rate of increase, and in Wales the decline was arrested and converted into a slight increase. Broadly speaking, this movement was continued during 1930-31, but there has been an accelerated rate of advance in the Southern Section. During the two years 1927-1929 the numbers insured in the Southern Section increased by 261,000 and in the Northern Section by only 40,000. In the year 1929-30, however, the numbers insured in the Southern Section increased by 156,000, while the numbers in the Northern Section, including Wales and Northern Ireland, increased by 152,000. In 1930-31 the increase in the Southern Section was 211,000 and in the Northern Section it was 153,000. This apparent arrest of the movement from North to South is attributable largely to the retention within the scheme of unemployment insurance, in areas where unemployment has been heavy, of numbers of persons who otherwise would have passed out of the scheme if the changes in the conditions for the receipt of benefit introduced by the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1930, had not been made. The figures do not indicate a real modification in the trend of the industrial movement itself in recent years, and support is given to this view by a comparison of the corresponding numbers of insured persons in employment. Between mid-1927 and mid-1929 the numbers in the Southern Section rose by 230,000, while in the Northern Section they fell by 53,000. Between mid-1929 and mid-1931 the numbers in the Southern Section fell by 151,000, while in the Northern Section they fell by 718,000.

The London and South Eastern Divisions, which cover roughly an area lying to the east of a line drawn from the Wash to Portsmouth, now include 26.3 per cent. of the insured population, as compared with 24.2 per cent. in 1923. At July, 1931, the Southern Section of Great Britain and Northern Ireland as a whole included 48.4 per cent. of the insured population, as compared with 45.7 per cent. in July, 1923. While the increase for the whole of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in the eight years is 14.1 per cent. of the numbers insured at July, 1923, the increase in the Southern Section is 20.7 per cent.; and the increase in the Northern Section (including Wales and Northern Ireland) is only 8.4 per cent.

In the following Table a list is given of the more important industries in which there has been an increase in the numbers insured in the Southern Section since 1927 concurrently with a decrease in the rest of the country, or in which the increase in the South was much greater than in the North. Because of the exclusion of persons aged 65 and over from the scheme of unemployment insurance as from January, 1928, figures for persons aged 16 to 64 are not available for the whole period since 1923. It will be seen that the principal industries in which there has been an appreciable expansion in the Southern Section concurrently with a decline in the Northern Section include building, general engineering, railway carriage, wagon and tramcar building, oil, glue, soap, etc. making, textile bleaching, dyeing and finishing, the manufacture of non-ferrous metals and glass, commerce and finance, and railway service.

In the electrical and motor vehicle industries, in the distributive trades, hotel and boarding-house service, road transport, paper and leather trades, and a number of other industries, the expansion in the South has been much greater than in the North.

Industry.	Southern Section.	Northern Section.
Building ...	+ 47,560	- 850
Pottery, Earthenware, China, Porcelain ...	+ 8,870	- 90
General Engineering, Engineers' Iron and Steel, etc., Founding ...	+ 8,070	- 9,640
Railway Carriage, Wagon and Tramcar Building ...	+ 3,320	- 5,840
Glass (excluding Bottles and Scientific Glass) ...	+ 2,950	- 440
Commerce, Banking, Insurance and Finance (excluding Special Schemes) ...	+ 2,530	- 2,370
Oils, Greases, Glue, Soap, Inks, Matches, etc. ...	+ 2,400	- 1,460
Railway Service ...	+ 2,000	- 6,600
Dress and Mantle Making, Millinery ...	+ 1,680	- 2,920
Textile Bleaching, Printing, Dyeing, etc. ...	+ 1,650	- 1,610
Cotton ...	+ 1,190	- 13,240
Bolts, Nuts, Screws, Rivets, Nails, etc. ...	+ 1,120	- 220
Musical Instruments ...	+ 890	- 60
Manufacture of Brass, Copper, Zinc, Tin and Lead, etc. ...	+ 870	- 1,500

Industry.	Southern Section.	Northern Section.
Distributive Trades ...	+ 171,190	+ 142,640
Local Government ...	+ 48,660	+ 37,110
Hotel, Boarding House, Club Service ...	+ 46,970	+ 28,930
Electric Cables, Wire and Electric Lamps ...	+ 22,550	+ 2,010
Road Transport not separately specified ...	+ 20,560	+ 16,810
Printing, Publishing and Bookbinding ...	+ 18,760	+ 9,490
Metal Industries not separately specified ...	+ 17,610	+ 5,740
Laundries, Dyeing and Dry Cleaning ...	+ 16,140	+ 8,520
Furniture, Upholstery, etc. ...	+ 14,350	+ 7,310
Construction and Repair of Motor Vehicles, Cycles and Aircraft... ..	+ 12,800	+ 7,920
Professional Services ...	+ 11,380	+ 6,870
Miscellaneous Industries and Services ...	+ 11,260	+ 9,310
Gas, Water and Electricity Supply ...	+ 10,490	+ 430
Silk and Artificial Silk ...	+ 10,260	+ 8,620
Hosiery ...	+ 8,820	+ 3,910
Electrical Engineering ...	+ 8,270	+ 5,920
Stoves, Grates, Pipes, etc., and General Iron-founding ...	+ 6,710	+ 940
Food Industries not separately specified ...	+ 6,590	+ 3,860
Electrical Wiring and Contracting ...	+ 5,260	+ 2,860
Cardboard Boxes, Paper Bags and Stationery	+ 5,020	+ 850

REVISED PERCENTAGES OF INSURED PERSONS UNEMPLOYED, JULY, 1930, TO JUNE, 1931.

THE numbers of insured persons are estimated once a year, at the end of October in respect of the previous July. During the year July, 1930, to June, 1931, the number of insured persons aged 16 to 64 increased by about 362,000 in Great Britain, and 364,300 in Great Britain and Northern Ireland. These increases obviously did not all take place at the end of the year, and the intervening monthly percentages of unemployment, as published in previous issues of this GAZETTE, accordingly require some adjustment. The available information suggests that the increase was spread more or less uniformly over the rest of the year. In the following Table the adjustment of the monthly percentages has been made on that basis. Persons insured under the Special Schemes for the Banking and Insurance Industries, numbering approximately 140,000 for Great Britain and Northern Ireland, are included in the figures.

Month.	Great Britain.		Great Britain and Northern Ireland.	
	Estimated Numbers Insured.	Percentage of Insured Persons Unemployed.	Estimated Numbers Insured.	Percentage of Insured Persons Unemployed.
1930.				
July ...	12,165,000	16.5	12,432,900	16.7
August ...	12,200,000	16.8	12,468,100	17.0
September ...	12,225,000	17.3	12,493,300	17.5
October ...	12,260,000	18.3	12,528,500	18.5
November ...	12,290,000	18.7	12,558,700	18.9
December ...	12,320,000	19.6	12,588,900	19.9
1931.				
January ...	12,350,000	20.9	12,619,100	21.1
February ...	12,380,000	21.1	12,649,300	21.3
March ...	12,410,000	20.8	12,679,500	21.0
April ...	12,440,000	20.2	12,709,700	20.4
May ...	12,460,000	20.1	12,729,800	20.3
June... ..	12,500,000	21.1	12,770,000	21.2

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE.

NATIONAL ECONOMY ORDER AND REGULATIONS.

A summary is given on page 449 of the principal provisions of the Unemployment Insurance (National Economy) (No. 2) Order, 1931, and of Regulations made by the Minister of Labour in regard to Transitional Payments.

AGRICULTURAL WAGES AND EMPLOYMENT IN ENGLAND AND WALES IN 1928-29 AND 1929-30.

THE Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries have issued a Report of proceedings under the Agricultural Wages (Regulation) Act, 1924, for the two years ending 30th September, 1930.*

CHANGES IN WAGES AND HOURS, ETC.

No changes in the minimum rates of wages for adult male workers occurred in the year ended 30th September, 1929; but in the following year increases of 1s. per week (in some cases not applying to all classes) occurred in the East and North Ridings of Yorkshire, in Cornwall, in Glamorgan, and in Montgomery and Merioneth. In the East and North Ridings, however, the increases were only in force for a year; and the rates reverted, in the autumn of 1930, to those previously in force. The only other reductions were one of 1s. per week in the Eastern area of Lancashire, and one of 1s. 6d. per week in the Holland division of Lincolnshire.

The lowest minimum rate for ordinary adult male workers at the end of September, 1930, remained at 30s.: this was the rate paid in thirteen areas. In nine other areas the rate was 31s.; and in four-fifths of the areas the rate fell within the range 30s. and 32s. 6d. The highest rates were 35s., in three areas, and 36s., also in three areas.†

The average weekly minimum wage for adult male workers (other than workers of the special classes) remained constant at approximately 31s. 8d. This rate takes no account of overtime payments, or of additional payments at special seasons.

Estimates based on cases investigated by inspectors of the Ministry of Agriculture, covering some 6,700 ordinary workers, suggest a figure of 33s. 8d. for the average weekly *earnings* actually received by such workers, or 2s. more than the average minimum rate. A similar calculation suggests an estimate of 37s. 5d. for horsemen, and of 39s. 1d. for stockmen. These amounts are all a few pence in excess of the corresponding estimates for two years earlier.

In the great majority of areas no change was made during the two years in the number of hours in respect of which the minimum weekly wage is payable. Taking the country as a whole, the average number of hours in respect of which the weekly minimum wage for ordinary male workers is payable is 51½ in summer (usually the eight months March to October) and 49½ in winter (November to February).

This part of the Report ends with two sections, dealing respectively with the history of wage regulation in agriculture in this country (which goes back only to the year 1917), and with the results of that system. The general conclusions reached are thus summarised in the Report:—

“The principal features of the agricultural labour situation in England and Wales since the passing of the Agricultural Wages (Regulation) Act, 1924, may be summarised as (i) increased receipts by agricultural workers; (ii) heavier labour costs to farmers which, while they have been set off to some extent by reductions in staffs, have accentuated the depression brought about by the heavy fall in the prices realisable for agricultural produce; (iii) less secure employment for workers in the arable districts during the winter months; (iv) improved labour organisation and management on a number of farms previously conducted in a haphazard manner; and (v) labour disputes, strikes and lock-outs have been avoided. Apart, however, from these material results, wage regulation in agriculture has been associated with an indirect or psychological change to which many persons familiar with the conditions in the countryside attach great importance. The relationship between employer and worker has altered and is still altering. The old relationship which existed up to 20 or less years ago varied greatly from farm to farm. A good employer treated his worker as an old and trusted friend. On the other hand, a bad employer treated his employees as little more than serfs. In neither case were the hours of employment numbered or discussed. These conditions are gradually being altered, and new conditions more comparable with those obtaining in the industrial world are taking their place. It would not be true to say that this change is due solely to wage regulation, although it has contributed to the result.”

STATE OF EMPLOYMENT.

Reports of exceptional unemployment were received during the winter of 1928-29, which was very severe. It is pointed out in the Report that there is always a tendency to reduce the regular staffs on farms during a winter of abnormal severity. There was less than the usual demand for casual workers during the spring, summer, and autumn of 1929.

During the winter of 1929-30 the unemployment position was reported as being worse than for some years past; an appreciable number of regular workers who had never been unemployed before were stood off. The position improved as the season advanced, and most of the unemployed agricultural workers who did not find work in other directions were able to return to agricultural work; but the position was somewhat less satisfactory than in previous years.

* H.M. Stationery Office; price 2s. net (2s. 3d. post free).
† Minimum rates of 37s. 6d. and of 41s. were payable in the Northern and in the Eastern areas of Lancashire respectively; but it is understood that the majority of the regular workers in these areas are of the special classes (stockmen, etc.).

RECRUITMENT AND TRAINING OF BOYS.

An Appendix to the Report summarises the replies to a questionnaire on this subject issued by the Ministry of Agriculture in March, 1929. There has been a persistent reduction, in recent years, in the number of male workers under 21 years of age employed by farmers; not, apparently, owing to any reluctance on the part of farmers to engage such boys, but owing to the reluctance of boys to enter agricultural employment. Country boys appear to be attracted even more than formerly by the conditions of urban employment, and improved local transport has enormously extended their facilities for taking advantage of openings in neighbouring towns. The shortage of boys willing to undertake farm work is, of course, accentuated where there are prosperous competing industries providing openings on a large scale. In some areas many of the boys who do take up farm work on leaving school are said to regard it as a transitory occupation, and make every endeavour to obtain industrial employment on approaching manhood. It is also suggested that the absence of unemployment insurance for farm workers, and the difficulty of securing a cottage in the event of marriage, have an influence in the same direction.

POOR RELIEF (ENGLAND AND WALES).

ANALYSIS FOR 1st JANUARY, 1931.

ACCORDING to a Return* which has been issued by the Ministry of Health, the total number of persons (men, women, and children) in receipt of poor relief on the night of 1st January, 1931, was 1,014,933, as compared with 1,099,356 on 1st January, 1930, and 1,136,164 on 1st January, 1929. These numbers are exclusive, in each case, of rate-aided patients in mental hospitals. The reduction as compared with 1930 was 84,423, or 7·7 per cent. This reduction follows on substantial reductions in each of the three previous years.

In spite of the general reduction, the proportion per 10,000 remained exceptionally high on the North-East Coast, in South Wales, and in certain county boroughs in other districts, particularly sea-ports, and county boroughs largely engaged in the coal mining and iron and steel industries. The highest *county* rates on 1st January, 1931, were 591 per 10,000 in Glamorgan, 527 per 10,000 in Durham, and 418 per 10,000 in Monmouthshire. The highest rates for *county boroughs* were:—Lincoln (1,024 per 10,000); Merthyr Tydfil (784); Barnsley (564); Gateshead (556); Kingston-upon-Hull (544); Sheffield (528); Liverpool (517); Sunderland (498); and Newcastle (490). The rate for the Administrative County of London was 321 per 10,000; separate figures are not now published for the several districts of London, some of which showed high proportions in former years.

At the other end of the scale, many of the English and four of the Welsh counties showed rates of less than 250 per 10,000; these were mostly counties with a predominantly rural or suburban population. Among the county boroughs, 48, out of a total of 83, had rates of less than 250 per 10,000; these included Birmingham, Bristol, and several other large industrial centres, particularly in Lancashire.

Comparison with 1st January, 1930, is possible only as regards the total figures (given above). A detailed comparison is not possible, owing to the transference, as from 1st April, 1930, of the poor law functions of Boards of Guardians to the councils of counties and county boroughs.

As in the two previous years, the reduction was almost entirely among those in receipt of domiciliary relief on account of unemployment, as will be seen from the following Table: the figures in all cases exclude rate-aided patients in mental hospitals:—

	1st January, 1931.	1st January, 1930.	Increase (+) or Decrease (–) in 1931 as compared with 1930.
Persons in receipt of domiciliary relief:—			
On account of unemployment ...	155,658	250,098	– 94,440
Not on account of unemployment ...	635,580	616,968	+ 18,612
Persons in receipt of institutional relief ...	223,695	232,290	– 8,595
Total ...	1,014,933	1,099,356	– 84,423

The number of *casuals* included in the total for 1st January, 1931, was 11,576, as compared with 11,454 on 1st January, 1930.

The following Table classifies the numbers in receipt of relief on 1st January, 1931 (excluding rate-aided patients in mental hospitals); according to the reported causes of relief:—

Causes of Relief.	Total on 1st January, 1931.	Increase (+) or Decrease (–) as compared with 1st January, 1930.
Sickness, accident, or bodily infirmity	366,516	– 6,432
Mental infirmity ...	35,080	+ 27
Ill-health of a dependant ...	5,913	+ 1,420
Unemployment (domiciliary relief) ...	155,658	– 94,440
Other causes (including widowhood and orphanhood) ...	451,766	+ 15,002
Total ...	1,014,933	– 84,423

* House of Commons Paper 137 of Session 1931. H.M. Stationery Office; price 9d. net (9½d. post free).

THE EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGE SERVICE AS A LABOUR CLEARING HOUSE.

AN article in the International Labour Review for October, 1931,* describes the way in which the Employment Exchanges in Great Britain act as a clearing house for labour, and explains the working of the machinery that is set in motion throughout a series of gradually widening areas to find the worker or workers best suited for a particular vacancy which a local Exchange is unable to fill. Figures given in the article indicate the magnitude of the operations of the clearing-house system, and the increasing use of it by employers.

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

Second Quarter of 1931.

A STATISTICAL summary† of the output, and of the costs of production, proceeds and profits of the coal-mining industry for the quarter ended 30th June, 1931,‡ prepared by the Mines Department and based partly upon returns made for the purpose of wages ascertains for certain districts and partly upon other returns supplied by individual colliery owners, shows that at undertakings which produced 51,595,921 tons of saleable coal, or about 96 per cent. of the total quantity raised in the quarter, 47,532,035 tons were disposable commercially.

The net costs, after deducting the proceeds of miners' coal, amounted to £33,094,540, equivalent to 13s. 11.10d. per ton. The proceeds of commercial disposals amounted to £32,829,974, equivalent to 13s. 9.76d. per ton. There was thus a debit balance of £264,566 or 1.34d. per ton. An analysis by districts shows that there were credit balances in Yorkshire, North Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire, South Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Cannock Chase and Warwickshire, ranging from 1.22d. to 8.87d. per ton. In other districts there were debit balances, ranging from 0.92d. per ton in South Wales and Monmouthshire to 7.34d. per ton in Scotland.

The number of workpeople employed was 818,718, and the number of man-shifts worked was 48,140,285. The average output per man-shift worked was 21.44 cwt., and the average earnings per man-shift worked were 9s. 2.18d.

Information as to the value of allowances in kind is also given in the return, based, so far as Northumberland and Durham are concerned, on returns furnished for the purpose of the wages ascertains, and, for other districts, on information supplied by the Mining Association of Great Britain. For Great Britain as a whole the average value of such allowances was 4.55d. per shift.

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

Quarter ended	Proportion of Industry covered.	Amount of Saleable Coal raised.	Credit (+) or Debit (−) balance per ton.‡	No. of Work-people employed.	Output per man-shift worked.	Earnings per man-shift worked.||
1928.	Per cent.	Tons.	s. d.		Cwts.	s. d.
31st Mar.	97	61,833,281	−0 9.34	921,448	21.24	9 5.02
30th June	97	55,034,291	−1 5.02	890,863	20.98	9 3.09
30th Sept.	96	53,552,053	−1 4.11	859,259	21.13	9 3.25
31st Dec.	96	59,099,369	−0 2.87	850,770	21.80	9 2.84
1929.						
31st Mar.	97	63,851,058	+0 9.15	880,941	22.13	9 2.69
30th June	96	59,422,734	−0 3.43	894,282	21.45	9 2.59
30th Sept.	97	60,497,604	−0 0.22	894,390	21.40	9 2.61
31st Dec.	97	64,872,965	+0 11.29	903,914	21.78	9 2.78
1930.						
31st Mar.	97	64,749,447	+1 1.37	911,218	21.94	9 3.25
30th June	96	55,850,573	−0 1.94	886,229	21.32	9 3.26
30th Sept.	96	54,249,688	−0 2.40	853,477	21.34	9 3.85
31st Dec.	96	57,061,222	+0 6.20	849,344	21.84	9 3.79
1931.						
31st Mar.	96	56,723,277	+0 9.04	838,696	21.78	9 2.45
30th June	96	51,595,921	−0 1.34	818,718	21.44	9 2.18

HOURS OF WORK IN COAL MINES.

DRAFT CONVENTION ADOPTED AT FIFTEENTH SESSION OF INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONFERENCE.

THE issue of this GAZETTE for July last (page 256) contained an account of the proceedings at the fifteenth Session of the General Conference of the International Labour Organisation of the League of Nations, held at Geneva from 28th May to 18th June, 1931. A Draft Convention concerning hours of work in coal mines was adopted by the Conference, which provided (in general) for the limitation of the daily hours of underground workers to 7½ "bank to bank," which is the equivalent of 7¼ hours in terms of legislation in the United Kingdom. Provision was, however, made for the working of overtime, within definite limits, in certain circumstances.

The provisional text of the Draft Convention was published in the same issue of the GAZETTE (pages 256-7); and the official text of the Convention has now been published as a Command Paper [Cmd. 3960. H.M. Stationery Office; price 4d. net (5d. post free)].

* Published in the United Kingdom, for the International Labour Office, by George Allen and Unwin, Ltd. (30, Museum Street, London, W.C.1); price 2s. 6d. post free.

† Cmd. 3955. H.M. Stationery Office; price 1d. net (1½d. post free).

‡ In the case of South Wales and Monmouthshire the period covered is the quarter ended 31st July, 1931.

§ Calculated on the quantity of coal disposable commercially.

|| Excluding the value of allowances in kind.

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION.

FIFTY-FIFTH SESSION OF THE GOVERNING BODY.

The Governing Body of the International Labour Office held its fifty-fifth Session at Geneva from October 12th to 17th, 1931. His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom was represented by Mr. F. W. Leggett, of the Ministry of Labour. Mr. H. S. Kirkaldy (substitute for Mr. J. B. Forbes Watson) represented British employers. Owing to the political engagements of Mr. Hayday, no representative of British workers was present at the session. The chief business of the session was as follows :—

Professor Ernest Mahaim (Belgium) was unanimously elected Chairman in place of the late M. Arthur Fontaine. It was decided that the Chairman should in future hold office for one year only, without being eligible for re-election, and should be chosen in turn from among the permanent European, the permanent overseas, and the elected States members.

It was also decided to appoint a Vice-Chairman from the Government group; and Sir Atul Chatterjee (India) was unanimously elected to fill this post.

The following subjects were placed upon the provisional list from which the agenda for the 1933 Conference will be finally selected next January :—

- (i) Organisation of work and systems of rest in automatic glass works;
- (ii) Unemployment insurance and unemployment relief;
- (iii) Paid holidays;
- (iv) Underground work of women and young persons.

On the proposal of His Majesty's Government and the German Government, the Governing Body decided, in principle, to submit the Draft Convention concerning the Protection against Accidents of Workers engaged in Loading and Unloading Ships to the International Labour Conference, with a view to its revision in regard to certain specified points.

A proposal to set up an Advisory Committee for women's work to assist the International Labour Office is to be the subject of a report from the International Labour Office to the Governing Body in January next.

The session of the Governing Body was followed by a meeting of the Committee set up to advise regarding the proposed enquiry into conditions of work in the textile industry. After considering the views expressed by the various Governments upon the questionnaire originally proposed the Committee suggested a restricted and simplified set of questions, which will be considered by the Governing Body in January.

GERMAN UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE: FURTHER AMENDMENTS.

IN further exercise of the emergency powers granted by Article 48, paragraph 2, of the Federal Constitution, the President of the German Reich, on 6th October, 1931, signed the Third Order of the Federal President for the Safeguarding of the National Finances and Economic Structure. The Order is in eight parts, and Part 2, which deals with employment exchange work, unemployment insurance and emergency benefit, effects a number of amendments of the Employment Exchanges and Unemployment Insurance Act, which, in the main, are designed to remove hardships resulting from the unemployment insurance provisions of the second Presidential Order of 5th June, 1931 (see this GAZETTE for June, 1931, page 217).

Unemployment Benefit.—The rules governing the grant of benefit have been relaxed in the following respects :—

(a) Assignment to a wage class for the purposes of benefit is again to be based on the average earnings during the last twenty-six (instead of thirteen) weeks of insurable employment preceding the first claim for benefit after completion of the qualifying period. Further, the assignment to a wage class for benefit purposes of a totally unemployed person who has been working short-time is again to be based on his normal earnings for full-time employment.

(b) Unemployed persons under twenty-one years of age, who had been declared ineligible for benefit if they had a legal right of family maintenance, may now receive benefit if their families are unable to support them. It is understood that this amendment merely brings the regulations into line with actual practice.

(c) Persons employed in seasonal trades* are again to receive benefit at the ordinary rates (instead of at the reduced rates of emergency benefit) during periods of unemployment falling outside the recognised period of seasonal unemployment. This amendment does not become effective until 28th March, 1932, the date which previous experience has shown to be the normal termination of seasonal unemployment.

Benefit in Kind.—The Executive Committee of the Federal Board may order the payment of benefit in kind, up to one-third of the amount of benefit. The authority given to the employment exchanges

* Persons employed in seasonal trades are, for the time being, those who during the last 52 (formerly 26) weeks preceding the first registration of unemployment following upon the completion of the qualifying period for benefit, have been employed for at least 26 (formerly 14) weeks in one of the occupations which were scheduled as seasonal during the period 29th June, 1930, to 28th June, 1931, under regulations dated 18th December, 1928, as amended by Orders dated 18th November, 1929, and 27th August, 1931.

to withhold a proportion of the benefit and pay it to the landlord of the unemployed person in respect of rent due has been withdrawn.

Emergency Benefit.—(a) The provision respecting the obligation of unemployed persons to refund amounts received by them as principal emergency benefit (i.e., excluding dependants' allowances) is repealed.

(b) The former regulations governing emergency benefit urged upon the employment exchange authorities and the communal authorities administering poor relief the necessity for close co-operation in the application of the means test. A specific obligation to co-operate is now imposed upon the communal authorities in all cases where the grant of benefit is conditional upon proof of need.

Alternating Employment.—Proposals to equalise the burden of unemployment in Germany by the temporary suspension, in regular rotation, of a proportion of the employed workers, and their replacement in the undertaking by workers recruited from the ranks of the unemployed, have hitherto proved impracticable by reason of the fact that persons temporarily suspended from employment were not deemed to be unemployed within the meaning of the Employment Exchanges and Unemployment Insurance Act, and could not therefore receive unemployment benefit during the period of their suspension. The Presidents of the State Employment Exchanges* may now order, in cases where approved arrangements are concluded and subject to specific safeguards (including the previous agreement of the Works Council), that workers temporarily suspended in favour of unemployed workers for periods not exceeding one month may receive unemployment benefit, if the general conditions for the receipt of benefit are otherwise fulfilled. The serving of a waiting period may be dispensed with, but the amount of the benefit may not exceed one-half the normal rate of benefit payable in the individual case.

The foregoing are the chief amendments effected by the Presidential Order of 6th October, 1931. In general, they came into force, apart from transitional arrangements, on 12th October, 1931. A number of further amendments have, however, recently been made under Orders issued by various authorities.

Reduction of Benefit Period.—In the exercise of the powers conferred by the Presidential Order of 5th June, 1931, the Executive Committee of the Federal Board has reduced the normal maximum period for the receipt of ordinary benefit from 26 to 20 weeks, and for seasonal workers from 20 to 16 weeks. This measure, which took effect as from 5th October, 1931, will, it is anticipated, enable the Federal Board to preserve the necessary balance between current revenue and expenditure during the forthcoming winter, on the basis of an estimated maximum figure of 6½ million unemployed persons.

Extension of Emergency Benefit Period,† etc.—An Order of the Federal Minister of Labour, dated 23rd October, 1931, which came into force on 9th November, 1931, increases by six weeks the period during which emergency benefit may be paid, i.e., to 38 weeks in ordinary cases, and to 42 weeks in the case of seasonal workers. These limits may be extended by 13 weeks for persons over 40 years of age, when the state of the labour market justifies this extension. Another Order of the same date amends in certain respects the general regulations governing emergency benefit, and brings the emergency benefit scheme into closer relationship with the poor relief system. The former Orders, dated 11th October, 1930, are repealed.

Short-Time Benefit.—By an Order of 27th August, 1931, with effect from 31st August, 1931, the Administrative Council of the Federal Board has amended the regulations governing the grant of unemployment benefit to persons employed on short-time. The revised regulations are designed to simplify the earlier procedure,‡ and, in accordance with the requirements of the Presidential Order of 5th June, 1931, to adapt the benefit rates to the reduced rates now prevailing for total unemployment. The principal amendments are as follows:—

(a) The waiting period is now served when the majority of the workers in an undertaking (or department thereof) have, in consecutive weeks, lost eight full working days, with at least two working days lost in each week. Formerly, the individual worker in respect of whom the claim was made had also to serve the waiting period.

(b) It is no longer a condition for the grant of short-time benefit that the worker should have qualified for ordinary unemployment benefit; as before, however, he must be compulsorily insurable against unemployment.

(c) Public holidays may now count as days lost, if, on those days, under the working schedule in force, no work would in any case have been performed by the short-time worker.

(d) The benefit, formerly computed as a multiple of the daily rate of ordinary benefit in the several wage classes, is to be paid in future at fixed rates varying according to wage class, the number of days (not less than three in a calendar week) lost by the worker and the number of his dependants (not exceeding four) entitled to allowances. Assignment to a wage class is based on the amount that would have been earned by the worker for full-time employment during the week in respect of which benefit is claimed. The amount of the benefit ranges, in the lowest wage class, from 1 Reichsmark

a week for a person without dependants who loses three days in the week to 4.60 Reichsmarks for a person with four or more dependants who loses five days in the week, the corresponding limits in the highest wage class being 2.90 and 21.30 Reichsmarks a week respectively.

(e) The grant of short-time benefit is, subject to the general conditions, without limit of time. Weeks in which (i) two days only, or (ii) less than two days are lost, do not break the continuity of the claim, although no short-time benefit is paid. In the second case, however, continuity is broken after three weeks, or after a period of less than three weeks, if this period and other similar interruptions of short-time benefit during the preceding year amount altogether to over eight weeks. These continuity rules apply only to interruptions of the collective claim, and not to the individual worker. When continuity has been broken, a fresh waiting period must be served.

WAGES AND HOURS MOVEMENTS OVERSEAS.

BELGIUM.

Coal-mining Industry.—The National Joint Commission for the coal-mining industry has agreed to a reduction of wages by 5 per cent. as from the first Sunday in November.

Dockworkers : Antwerp.—The minimum shift rates for dockworkers at Antwerp were reduced as from 1st November, 1931, by 2 francs for day shifts, 3 francs for night shifts, and 3.50 francs for Sunday and holiday shifts.

GERMANY.

Textile Industry.—Wage agreements affecting all the German textile areas, with the exception of Silesia and North and South Bavaria, and covering approximately 600,000 of the total of 700,000 workers at present employed in the industry, have recently been terminated by the employers with a view to a general wage reduction. A conciliation award has been issued for West Saxony, affecting about 200,000 workers, under which wages are reduced by 5 per cent.

Iron and Steel and Metal and Engineering Industry.—With the support of the employers' vote, the conciliator in the dispute regarding working hours in the North West Group of the heavy iron and steel industry (see this GAZETTE for October, 1931, page 381), issued an award on 12th October, 1931, extending the original agreement beyond 30th September, 1931, until 30th November, 1931. The wage agreement set up by the binding award of 24th July, 1931 (see this GAZETTE for August, 1931, page 299), is to be terminated by the employers at 30th November next.

The employers in the metal and engineering industry have given notice to terminate wage agreements covering some 600,000 metal workers throughout Germany, with a view to the reduction of costs by the fixing of lower wage rates.

For the Hagen-Schwelm area a recent award provided for a wage reduction of 6 per cent., with effect from 7th October until 30th November, 1931. The wage agreement set up by this award is again to be terminated by the employers as from the latter date. Under an award for the Cologne area the standard wage rate is to be reduced from 85 to 80 pfennigs until 31st March, 1932. Another recent award reduced the collective agreement minimum rates for Württemberg by 5 pfennigs an hour, piece rates to be adjusted proportionately. By agreement between employers and workers in Lower Silesia, the standard wage of 79 pfennigs an hour was reduced by 4.5 pfennigs in the beginning of November. The agreement is to be in force until 14th January, 1932.

Shipbuilding Industry.—A conciliation award for the marine shipbuilding industry, issued on 27th October and subsequently declared binding, provides for a wage reduction of 10 per cent. The new minimum hourly rates for skilled workers are fixed at 85 pfennigs in Hamburg, 76 pfennigs in other North Sea shipyards, and 75 pfennigs in the Baltic shipyards.

Coal-mining Industry.—The new wage agreement recently set up by the binding award for the Ruhr coal-mining industry (see this GAZETTE for October, 1931, page 381) is to be terminated by the employers at 30th November, 1931. The agreement for the Aix-la-Chapelle area, on the other hand, is to be extended, by agreement between the parties, beyond 30th November until 31st December, 1931. The working hours agreement for this area has also been extended by free agreement, and is to remain in force until 30th April, 1932. In Upper Silesia the wages of coal miners have been reduced by 7 per cent. under a binding award with effect from 8th October until 30th November, 1931. A similar reduction affecting adult male workers has been effected by a binding award for the Waldenburg and Neurode areas in Lower Silesia. The award is valid from 1st November, 1931, to 31st December, 1931. In both Upper and Lower Silesia, underground workers and their employers have been relieved of the obligation to pay unemployment insurance contributions under special Orders of the Federal Government similar to that noticed in the issue of this GAZETTE for October, 1931, (page 381) in connection with the wage reduction in the Ruhr and Aix-la-Chapelle coal-mining areas. This concession has also been granted in the case of the coal-mining industry in Saxony.

Dockworkers.—The award of a conciliation chamber, issued on 23rd October, 1931, reduced the wage rate of Hamburg dockworkers for the first shift from 8.80 to 8.30 Reichsmarks, as from 1st November, 1931. This award, which is valid up to the end of February, 1932, has been declared binding by the Federal Minister of Labour. (In 1929, over 80 per cent. of the dockers' work was performed during the first or lowest paid shift, i.e., from 7 a.m. to 11 a.m. and 11.30 a.m. to 3.30 p.m.)

* The President of the State Employment Exchange may delegate his powers to the President of the local Employment Exchange, and the President of the Federal Board may issue administrative regulations for the carrying out of this provision.

† This extension was prematurely reported in the German press, and noted in the last issue of this GAZETTE, page 380.

‡ Short-time benefit had formerly been regulated under the Order and Regulations governing Short-time Benefit, dated 30th October, 1928, the validity of which, with certain minor amendments, has been extended from time to time (cf. this GAZETTE for January, 1929, page 11).

EMPLOYMENT IN OCTOBER.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

WITHIN a fortnight of the departure of sterling from the gold standard on 21st September there was an improvement in employment, which continued throughout October.

There was a marked improvement in employment in all the textile industries and particularly in cotton and wool. Employment also improved in the mining and metal manufacturing industries, in general engineering, motor vehicle and metal goods manufacture, and in the clothing, boot and shoe, glass, and paper trades.

The seasonal decline continued in building, public works contracting, hotel and boarding house service, and in the distributive and transport industries.

The improvement in employment occurred mainly in the Midlands and Northern divisions of England, and to a slighter degree in Wales and Scotland, but in all these areas employment was still very bad. It also remained very bad, though showing an improvement, in Northern Ireland. In London and the Southern areas employment showed a decline, mainly of a seasonal nature, but it was still moderate, and much better than in other areas.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS.

Among the workpeople, numbering approximately 12,770,000 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 26th October, 1931 (including those temporarily stopped as well as those wholly unemployed), was 21.9, as compared with 22.6* at 21st September, 1931, and with 18.5 at 27th October, 1930. The percentage wholly unemployed at 26th October, 1931, was 18.1, as compared with 17.4* at 21st September, 1931; while the percentage temporarily stopped was 3.8, as compared with 5.2.* For males alone the percentage at 26th October, 1931, was 23.6, and for females 17.5; at 21st September, 1931, the corresponding percentages were 23.7* and 19.7*.

At 26th October, 1931, the numbers of persons on the Registers of Employment Exchanges in Great Britain were 2,127,943 wholly unemployed, 482,553 temporarily stopped, and 115,596 normally in casual employment, making a total of 2,726,092. This was 85,523 less than a month before, but 488,591 more than a year before. The total included 2,044,853 men, 70,634 boys, 557,150 women, and 53,455 girls.

The 2,127,943 wholly unemployed included approximately 1,412,880 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; 604,550 insured persons who had paid less than 30 contributions during the preceding two years; and 110,510 uninsured persons. The wholly unemployed claimants for benefit, numbering 1,932,085, included 284,628 men, 7,084 boys, 56,140 women and 3,685 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 26th October, 1931, was 2,792,320.

Mining and Quarrying.—Employment in the coal-mining industry showed a further improvement but was still bad. The total number of wage earners on the colliery books at 24th October, 1931, showed an increase of 1.2 per cent. as compared with 26th September, 1931, but a decrease of 6.2 per cent. as compared with 25th October, 1930. The average number of days worked per week in the fortnight ended 24th October, 1931, was 4.69, an increase of 0.06 of a day as compared with the fortnight ended 26th September, 1931, but a decrease of 0.01 of a day as compared with the fortnight ended 25th October, 1930.

In the iron mining industry employment showed a slight improvement but remained very bad. In the West Lothian shale mines it declined and was very bad. 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 very slack. In the slate quarries in North Wales employment showed an improvement and was fair. In the East of Scotland whinstone quarries it was moderate. At chalk quarries it was very slack. At tin mines employment was very slack; and at china clay quarries it was moderate.

Pig Iron, Iron and Steel and Tinplate.—In the pig iron industry employment showed an improvement but was still very bad. Of 356 furnaces, the number in blast at the end of October was 66, as compared with 62 at the end of September, and 96 at the end of October, 1930.

At iron and steel works employment showed some improvement but remained very bad. The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed was 44.4 at 26th October, 1931, as compared with 49.2* at 21st September, 1931, and 41.4 at 27th October, 1930.

In the tinplate industry employment showed a marked improvement but was still very slack on the whole. In steel sheet manufacture it remained bad, though showing some improvement.

Engineering, Shipbuilding and Metal Industries.—In engineering employment remained bad, but there was a slight improvement in textile and general engineering and in the manufacture of motor vehicles; in the motor vehicle section the improvement was mainly confined to the Midlands, other divisions showing a decline. In marine and in constructional engineering, employment was very bad and showed a slight further decline. In electrical engineering it remained slack, with little change.

In shipbuilding and ship-repairing employment remained very bad. In the North-Eastern Division and in Scotland (the two principal districts) the percentages of insured workpeople recorded as unemployed were 70.6 and 68.8 respectively.

In the other metal trades employment showed a fairly general improvement, but was slack on the whole. It was moderate in the hollow-ware trade; slack in the tube, brasswork, nut and bolt, wire manufacturing, stove and grate, edge tool, cutlery, lock, latch and key, metallic bedstead, needle and fishing tackle, and jewellery and plated ware trades; and bad in the sheet metal, file, and chain and anchor trades.

Textile Industries.—In the cotton industry employment showed a marked improvement in all the principal departments and in nearly all districts. In the spinning department, particularly in the section spinning American cotton, a number of closed mills were re-opened, and there was a large reduction in the number of operatives on short time. The improvement in the weaving department, though substantial, was not quite so marked as in the spinning department. The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed was 34.4 at 26th October, 1931, as compared with 45.8 at 21st September, 1931*, and 41.3 at 27th October, 1930.

In the wool textile industry there was a marked increase of activity in all the principal departments and districts, both in the worsted and in the woollen sections. Unemployment and short time were much reduced, and there was a good deal of overtime. The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed was 22.0 at 26th October, 1931, as compared with 35.5 at 21st September, 1931*, and 24.9 at 27th October, 1930.

Employment in the hosiery trade showed an improvement and was moderate on the whole. In the lace trade it showed a considerable improvement at the principal centres but was still slack. There was an improvement also in the silk and artificial silk industries, but employment generally was still very slack. In the linen and jute industries it showed some improvement, but remained bad in the former and very bad in the latter. It remained very bad also, though improving slightly, in the textile bleaching, printing, dyeing, etc., trades.

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

In the boot and shoe industry employment showed an improvement in nearly all districts, which mainly took the form of a reduction in short-time working, but it was still only moderate on the whole. The improvement was partly seasonal. The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed was 16.0 at 26th October, 1931, as compared with 19.6 at 21st September, 1931, and 16.1 at 27th October, 1930.

Leather Trades.—Employment in the leather trades showed a further improvement. In the tanning and currying section it was moderate, but in the portmanteau, trunk, and fancy leather section, and with saddlery and harness makers, it was still slack.

Building, Woodworking, etc.—In the building trades there was a further general decline, and employment was very slack on the whole. As regards individual occupations, employment declined with each class of operative, the decline being most marked with painters and bricklayers. Employment was slack with bricklayers and masons, very slack with plasterers and tradesmen's labourers, and bad with painters, carpenters, slaters and plumbers. In brick manufacture employment showed a further decline and continued slack on the whole.

Employment in the furnishing trades showed little change and remained slack; with mill sawyers it declined slightly and continued slack; with coachbuilders it showed an improvement but was still very slack.

Paper Manufacture, Printing and Bookbinding. In the paper-making industry employment showed some improvement at the majority of centres, and was fair on the whole. With letterpress printers employment showed a decline, and was generally only moderate; at some of the principal centres it was reported as bad. With electrotypers and stereotypers it remained fairly good on the whole. With lithographic printers employment again declined and was slack at most of the principal centres. With lithographic artists it was generally slack to moderate. With bookbinders it continued to decline and was slack.

Pottery and Glass.—In the pottery industry employment in North Staffordshire showed a further seasonal improvement but was still bad on the whole. At Derby employment was slack, but at Worcester it was fair and showed a slight improvement. It was also fair at Bristol.

In the glass trades employment continued bad in all sections, but improved slightly in the bottle making section.

Fishing.—Employment with fishermen showed some improvement but was slack on the whole.

Dock Labourers and Seamen.—Employment with dock labourers remained slack. With seamen it declined and was very slack on the whole. The number of engagements was substantially less than in the previous month.

SUMMARY OF EMPLOYERS' RETURNS.

In Tables which appear on subsequent pages of this GAZETTE detailed statistics bearing on the state of employment during October 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

* The percentages for September have been revised (see page 435.)

* See footnote * in previous column.

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 October, 1931.	October, 1931.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (−) as compared with a	
			Month before.	Year before.
		Days Worked per week by Mines.	Days.	Days.
Coal Mining ...	831,688	4.69	+ 0.06	− 0.01
Iron ...	5,303	5.40	+ 0.17	+ 0.08
Shale ...	1,550	5.81	− 0.07	− 0.18
		Furnaces in Blast.	Number.	Number.
Plg Iron ...	...	66	+ 4	− 30
		Mills working.		
Tinplate and Steel Sheet	...	426	+ 59	+ 80
		Shifts Worked (one week).	Per cent.	Per cent.
Iron and Steel ...	48,844	254,551	+ 9.1	− 9.7

(b) OTHER INDUSTRIES.

Industry.	Number of Workpeople Employed.		Total Wages Paid to all Workpeople.	
	Week ended 24th Oct., 1931.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (−) on a	Week ended 24th Oct., 1931.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (−) on a
		Month before.		Month before.
		Year before.		Year before.
Textiles:—		Per cent.	£	Per cent.
Cotton ...	68,972	+ 13.4	114,914	+ 20.2
Woollen ...	52,309	+ 6.4	103,146	+ 16.2*
Worsted ...	75,119	+ 8.0	129,219	+ 22.5*
Carpet ...	9,981	+ 2.2	18,373	+ 10.9
Boot and Shoe ...	59,567	+ 1.8	131,098	+ 6.0
Pottery ...	10,071	+ 0.4	16,760	− 0.1
Brick ...	10,266	− 1.8	26,330	− 3.6

UNEMPLOYMENT SUMMARY BY DISTRICTS.

The following Table shows the variations in the rates of unemployment at 26th October, 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, 1931. (Totals).	Percentage Unemployed at 26th October, 1931.			Increase (+) or Decrease (−) in Total Percentages as compared with a	
		Males.	Females.	Total.	Month before.†	Year before.‡
London ...	2,346,610	15.5	9.1	13.4	+ 1.1	+ 4.2
South-Eastern ...	973,250	14.4	9.7	13.3	+ 1.6	+ 4.4
South-Western ...	894,700	17.4	11.7	16.1	+ 2.0	+ 4.0
Midlands ...	1,893,050	20.4	18.5	19.8	− 1.5	+ 3.6
North-Eastern ...	2,073,010	29.5	18.8	27.0	− 2.3	+ 2.8
North-Western ...	2,222,930	28.7	27.3	28.2	− 2.6	+ 0.8
Scotland ...	1,350,330	29.9	19.6	27.0	− 0.3	+ 5.6
Wales ...	606,120	35.0	19.3	33.3	− 0.4	+ 3.0
Northern Ireland	270,000	29.2	20.8	26.0	− 2.5	− 1.3
Special Schemes	140,000	4.7	1.2	3.6	+ 0.1	+ 1.1
Total ...	12,770,000	23.6	17.5	21.9	− 0.7	+ 3.4

UNEMPLOYMENT DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS.

The following Table shows, month by month from October, 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.	Total.		
1930.						1930.	
27 October ...	19.2	16.6	13.8	4.7	18.5	27 Oct.	2,308,000
24 November ...	19.6	17.0	14.6	4.3	18.9	24 Nov.	2,359,000
22 December ...	20.4	18.5	14.7	5.2	19.9	29 Dec.	2,725,000
1931.						1931.	
26 January ...	21.7	19.5	16.2	4.9	21.1	26 Jan.	2,671,000
23 February ...	22.2	19.2	16.4	4.9	21.3	23 Feb.	2,694,000
23 March ...	22.2	17.9	16.2	4.8	21.0	30 Mar.	2,655,000
27 April ...	21.5	17.5	16.0	4.4	20.4	27 Apr.	2,594,000
18 May ...	21.4	17.4	15.9	4.4	20.3	1 June	2,702,000
22 June ...	22.5	17.8	16.0	5.2	21.2	29 June	2,736,000
27 July ...	23.2	18.9	16.2	5.8	22.0	27 July	2,783,000
24 August ...	23.1	19.4	16.8	5.2	22.0	31 Aug.	2,834,000
21 September ...	23.7	19.7	17.4	5.2	22.6	28 Sept.	2,897,000
26 October ...	23.6	17.5	18.1	3.8	21.9	26 Oct.	2,792,000

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

† The percentages for September have been revised (see page 435).

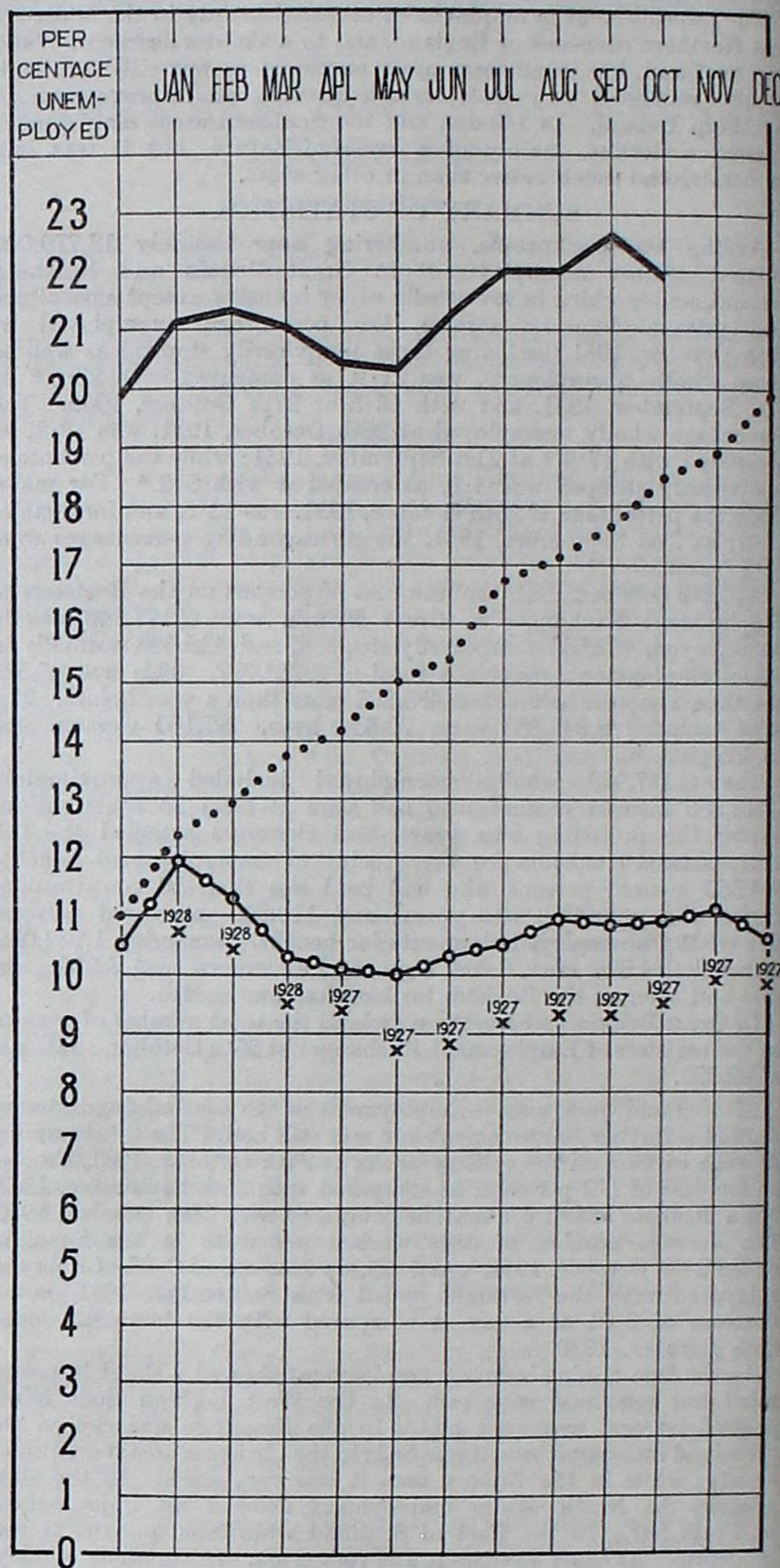
‡ The percentages for October, 1930, to September, 1931, have been revised (see pages 417 and 435).

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 OCTOBER, 1931.

Area.	Men.	Boys.	Women.	Girls.	Total.	
					Num- bers.	Per- centage of numbers Insured at July, 1931.
London ...	2,088	4,888	2,560	4,519	14,055	0.60
South-Eastern ...	1,041	2,437	1,013	1,774	6,265	0.64
South-Western ...	957	2,065	740	1,488	5,250	0.59
Midlands ...	811	4,135	699	3,282	8,927	0.47
North-Eastern ...	919	4,377	937	2,884	9,117	0.44
North-Western ...	1,165	3,896	816	3,529	9,406	0.42
Scotland ...	2,001	2,474	576	1,457	6,508	0.48
Wales... ..	537	1,406	407	481	2,831	0.47
GREAT BRITAIN ...	9,519	25,678	7,748	19,414	62,359	0.50

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 October showed some improvement as compared with the previous month, but was still bad.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, was 29.0 at 26th October, 1931, as compared with 30.4* at 21st September, 1931, and 26.5 at 27th October, 1930. The percentage wholly unemployed decreased by 0.6 from 19.9* to 19.3, and the percentage temporarily stopped decreased by 0.8 from 10.5* to 9.7.

The total number of wage earners on the colliery books at 24th October, 1931, showed an increase of 1.2 per cent. as compared with 26th September, 1931, but a decrease of 6.2 per cent. as compared with 25th October, 1930.

The average number of days worked per week in the fortnight ended 24th October, 1931, was 4.69, an increase of 0.06 of a day as compared with the fortnight ended 26th September, 1931, but a decrease of 0.01 of a day as compared with the fortnight ended 25th October, 1930.

The following Table shows, for the principal coal-mining districts, the total number of wage earners on the colliery books and the average number of days worked per week† during the fortnight ended 24th October, 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.†			
	24th October, 1931.	Inc.(+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a	Fortnight ended 24th Oct., 1931.	Inc.(+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a	Month before.	Year before.
ENGLAND AND WALES:		Percent	Percent	Days.	Days.	Days.
Northumberland ...	40,773	+ 5.6	- 8.2	5.32	+0.59	+0.19
Durham ...	107,578	+ 2.3	-11.7	4.94	+0.36	-0.12
Cumberland and Westmorland ...	7,928	+ 2.2	-13.8	5.17	-0.31	-0.03
South Yorkshire ...	108,094	+ 1.2	- 6.1	4.33	-0.15	-0.13
West Yorkshire ...	49,493	+ 0.0	- 1.1	4.00	-0.01	-0.16
Lancs. and Cheshire ...	69,299	+ 0.0	- 4.7	3.96	+0.25	-0.14
Derbyshire ...	52,947	+ 0.3	- 2.2	3.99	-0.31	-0.06
Notts. and Leicester ...	60,342	- 0.2	- 2.5	4.13	-0.13	+0.05
Warwick ...	17,269	+ 0.3	+ 0.9	4.99	+0.28	+0.25
North Staffordshire...	21,641	+ 0.3	-14.6	4.33	-0.28	-0.05
South Staffs†, Worcs. and Salop ...	29,901	+ 0.2	+ 0.2	4.35	-0.04	+0.08
Glos. and Somerset ...	9,681	+ 0.4	+ 0.5	4.75	-0.45	-0.48
Kent ...	5,857	+ 0.4	+13.4	5.50	...	+0.08
North Wales...	13,765	+ 0.4	- 3.2	4.89	-0.24	-0.16
South Wales and Mon.	152,195	+ 1.1	- 7.0	5.22	+0.09	+0.01
England and Wales	746,763	+ 1.1	- 6.0	4.61	+0.06	-0.05
SCOTLAND:						
Mid. & East Lothians	12,579	+ 0.6	- 6.2	5.48	-0.02	+0.62
Fife and Clackmannan	19,893	+ 2.1	-10.0	5.57	+0.40	+0.76
Rest of Scotland ...	52,453	+ 3.1	- 8.0	5.30	...	+0.13
Scotland ...	84,925	+ 2.5	- 8.2	5.39	+0.09	+0.35
GREAT BRITAIN	831,688	+ 1.2	- 6.2	4.69	+0.06	-0.01

The average number of coal-winding days lost in Great Britain during the fortnight ended 24th October, 1931, was 1.10 days per week, of which 1.06 days were due to want of trade and transport difficulties. The figure for the fortnight ended 26th September, 1931, was 1.16 days per week, of which 1.10 days were due to want of trade and transport difficulties; the corresponding figures for the fortnight ended 25th October, 1930, were 1.08 and 1.06 days per week, respectively. The average non-winding time for the October and September, 1931, periods, was between one-fifth and one-quarter of a day per week, as compared with about one-fifth of a day per week during the October, 1930, period.

The output of coal in Great Britain for the four weeks ended 24th October, 1931, was reported to the Mines Department as 17,635,600 tons, as compared with 16,917,700 tons in the four weeks ended 26th September, 1931, and 18,771,100 tons in the four weeks ended 25th October, 1930.

The numbers and percentages unemployed among insured workpeople in the respective areas at 26th October, 1931, and the increases or decreases as compared with 21st September, 1931, and 27th October, 1930, are shown in the following Table:—

Area.	Insured Persons Recorded as Unemployed at 26th Oct., 1931.					Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Total percentages as compared with a	
	Numbers.		Percentages.			Month before.*	Year before.
	Wholly Unemployed (incl. Casuals).	Temporary stoppages.	Wholly Unemployed.	Temporary stoppages.	Total.		
Great Britain ...	201,886	102,093	19.3	9.7	29.0	- 1.4	+ 2.5
England and Wales...	172,039	98,030	18.6	10.6	29.2	- 1.3	+ 2.3
Scotland...	29,847	4,063	24.7	3.4	28.1	- 0.8	+ 4.7
Principal Districts in England and Wales:—							
Northumberland...	11,232	457	22.1	0.9	23.0	-14.0	+ 0.9
Durham ...	41,674	1,155	28.1	0.8	28.9	- 5.4	+ 4.2
Cumberland and Westmorland...	3,555	413	31.2	3.7	34.9	+ 1.2	+ 3.4
Yorkshire ...	23,146	32,557	12.9	18.2	31.1	- 0.2	- 0.9
Lancashire and Cheshire ...	15,868	20,070	18.0	22.7	40.7	+ 1.2	+ 10.3
Derbyshire ...	5,571	4,784	8.6	7.5	16.1	+ 0.5	- 1.3
Notts. and Leicestershire	6,413	4,535	10.0	7.1	17.1	+ 1.6	- 0.8
Warwickshire	1,078	88	8.6	0.7	9.3	- 5.3	+ 1.7
Staffs., Worcester and Salop ...	10,709	5,106	15.4	7.4	22.8	+ 0.6	+ 0.8
Glos. and Somerset ...	1,514	1,433	13.2	12.6	25.8	- 1.3	+ 8.8
Kent ...	279	—	4.7	—	4.7	- 0.1	+ 0.3
Wales and Monmouth ...	49,489	27,428	22.6	12.5	35.1	+ 0.3	+ 2.9

The exports of coal, including that shipped for the use of steamers engaged in the foreign trade and the coal equivalent of coke and manufactured fuel, amounted to 5,880,400 tons in October, 1931, as compared with 5,197,500 tons in September, 1931, and with 6,573,300 tons in October, 1930.

IRON AND SHALE MINING.

IRON MINING.

EMPLOYMENT showed a slight improvement during October, but remained very bad. The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, in the iron ore and ironstone mining industry was 43.8 at 26th October, 1931, as compared with 48.5* at 21st September, 1931, and 27.2 at 27th October, 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.†		
	Fortnight ended 24th Oct., 1931.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a		Fortnight ended 24th Oct., 1931.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a	
		Month before.	Year before.		Month before.	Year before.
Cleveland ...	2,031	Per cent. - 0.7	Per cent. - 34.9	5.38	+ 0.01	+ 0.69
Cumberland and Lancashire ...	1,923	+ 36.9	- 24.1	6.00	+ 0.58	...
Other Districts ...	1,349	+ 5.2	- 16.0	4.57	- 0.21	- 0.92
ALL DISTRICTS	5,303	+ 12.1	- 27.0	5.40	+ 0.17	+ 0.08

SHALE MINING.

The number of workpeople employed at the West Lothian mines during the fortnight ended 24th October, 1931, by firms making returns was 1,550, showing a decrease of 6.4 per cent. as compared with September, 1931, and a decrease of 38.7 per cent. as compared with October, 1930. The average number of days worked per week† in the period by the mines making returns was 5.81 in October, 1931, as compared with 5.88 in September, 1931, and 5.99 in October, 1930.

PIG IRON INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT during October showed an improvement, but was still very bad. The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, was 41.5 at 26th October, 1931, as compared with 45.4* at 21st September, 1931, and 34.6 at 27th October, 1930.

According to information received from the National Federation of Iron and Steel Manufacturers, 66 furnaces were in operation at

* The percentages for September have been revised (see page 435).
† See footnote † in previous column.

* The percentages for September have been revised (see page 435).
† 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 end of October, 1931, as compared with 62 at the end of September, 1931, and 96 at the end of October, 1930. In the case of 68 firms employing 8,822 workpeople at the end of October, 1931, the returns showed an increase of 3.8 per cent. in the numbers employed compared with September, 1931, but a decrease of 32.7 per cent. compared with October, 1930.

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

Districts.	Total Number of Furnaces.	Number of Furnaces in Blast.			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Oct., 1931.	Sept., 1931.	Oct., 1930.	Month before.	Year before.
ENGLAND AND WALES.						
Durham and Cleveland	87	18	18	24	...	- 6
Cumberland and W. Lancs. ...	36	5	5	9	...	- 4
Parts of Lancs. and Yorks. (including Sheffield) and North Wales ...	25	4	4	8	...	- 4
Derby, Leicester, Notts. and Northants ...	43	22	21	24	+ 1	- 2
Lincolnshire ...	23	6	6	10	...	- 4
Staffs., Shropshire, Worcester and Warwick ...	38	6	6	9	...	- 3
South Wales and Monmouthshire ...	21	2	1	2	+ 1	...
England and Wales	273	63	61	86	+ 2	- 23
SCOTLAND ...	83	3	1	10	+ 2	- 7
GREAT BRITAIN ...	356	66	62	96	+ 4	- 30

The production of pig iron in October, 1931, amounted to 284,200 tons, compared with 248,200 tons in September, 1931, and 415,000 tons in October, 1930.

IRON AND STEEL MANUFACTURE.

EMPLOYMENT during October showed a slight improvement, but remained very bad. The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, was 44.4 at 26th October 1931, as compared with 49.2* at 21st September, 1931, and 41.4 at 27th October, 1930.

At certain firms, employing 48,844 workpeople, from which returns were received for the week ended 24th October, 1931, the volume of employment in that week (as indicated by the number of shifts† during which work was carried on in each department) increased by 9.1 per cent. as compared with the week ended 26th September, 1931, but decreased by 9.7 per cent. as compared with October, 1930. The average number of shifts during which the works were open was 5.2 in the week ended 24th October, 1931, as compared with 5.1 in both September, 1931, and October, 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 24th Oct., 1931.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a		Week ended 24th Oct., 1931.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a	
		Month before.	Year before.		Month before.	Year before.
		Per cent.	Per cent.		Per cent.	Per cent.
Open Hearth Melting Furnaces ...	4,264	+ 11.8	- 16.1	24,540	+ 12.9	- 15.0
Puddling Forges ...	1,131	+ 24.7	- 34.7	4,639	+ 37.8	- 38.2
Rolling Mills ...	19,371	+ 10.6	- 3.6	93,358	+ 18.5	+ 3.1
Forging & Pressing	1,166	+ 5.3	- 38.7	5,493	+ 0.1	- 44.5
Founding ...	6,194	+ 1.0	- 12.9	33,749	+ 0.1	- 13.3
Other Departments	6,758	+ 4.8	- 3.6	37,987	+ 2.9	- 5.0
Mechanics, Labourers ...	9,960	+ 2.1	- 16.6	54,785	+ 2.6	- 17.2
TOTAL ...	48,844	+ 6.9	- 11.0	254,551	+ 9.1	- 9.7
DISTRICTS.						
		Per cent.	Per cent.		Per cent.	Per cent.
Northumberland, Durham and Cleveland ...	10,449	+ 3.5	- 4.5	57,784	+ 7.7	+ 1.2
Sheffield & Rotherham ...	14,622	+ 4.8	- 10.9	76,719	+ 6.7	- 10.7
Leeds, Bradford, etc. Cumberland, Lancs. and Cheshire ...	259	+ 3.2	- 27.9	1,207	- 1.0	- 30.8
Staffordshire ...	4,262	+ 19.5	+ 17.0	21,671	+ 19.0	+ 19.0
Other Midland Counties ...	4,446	+ 8.2	+ 7.9	23,765	+ 9.3	+ 10.5
Wales and Monmouth ...	2,917	+ 5.6	- 2.1	15,175	+ 7.2	- 4.5
	5,093	+ 20.2	- 17.9	27,130	+ 18.8	- 12.0
Total, England and Wales ...	42,048	+ 7.9	- 5.8	223,451	+ 9.7	- 3.4
Scotland ...	6,796	+ 1.4	- 33.5	31,100	+ 4.8	- 38.6
TOTAL ...	48,844	+ 6.9	- 11.0	254,551	+ 9.1	- 9.7

* The percentages for September have been revised (see page 435).
† The figures relate to the number of shifts during which the works were in operation, taken in conjunction with the number of men employed. No account is taken of time lost by individuals owing to absenteeism, etc., and it is not intended to imply that the number of shifts shown were actually worked by all the men employed. Works closed are omitted in computing the average number of shifts.

The production of steel ingots and castings, as shown in returns received from the National Federation of Iron and Steel Manufacturers, amounted to 457,400 tons in October, 1931, as compared with 400,500 tons in September, 1931, and 512,500 tons in October, 1930.

TINPLATE AND STEEL SHEET INDUSTRIES.

In the tinplate industry employment showed a marked improvement but was still very slack on the whole. In the week ended 24th October, 1931, 344 tinplate mills were in operation at works for which information is available, as compared with 297 in the week ended 26th September, 1931, and with 280 in the week ended 25th October, 1930.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, was 33.4 at 26th October, 1931, as compared with 42.3* at 21st September, 1931, and 40.4 at 27th October, 1930.

There was some improvement also in steel sheet manufacture, but employment was still bad. In the week ended 24th October, 1931, 82 mills were in operation at works for which information is available, as compared with 70 in the week ended 26th September, 1931, and with 66 in the week ended 25th October, 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 24th Oct., 1931.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 24th Oct., 1931.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month before.	Year before.		Month before.	Year before.
Tinplate ...	63	+ 10	+ 9	344	+ 47	+ 64
Steel Sheet	9	...	+ 4	82	+ 12	+ 16
TOTAL ...	72	+ 10	+ 13	426	+ 59	+ 80

The exports of tinned and galvanised plates and sheets in October, 1931, amounted to 67,770 tons, or 13,737 tons more than in September, 1931, but 6,225 tons less than in October, 1930.

SHIPBUILDING AND SHIP-REPAIRING.

EMPLOYMENT remained very bad during October, and was slightly worse, on the whole, than during the previous month. In the North-Eastern division and Scotland (the two principal districts) the percentages of insured workpeople recorded as unemployed were 70.6 and 68.8 respectively; the former showing a decline in employment and the latter a slight improvement. In Wales there was a decline. In the North-Western Division and in Northern Ireland there was a slight improvement. The South Eastern and South Western divisions, which showed a decline, were the only divisions with less than 35 per cent. unemployed.

Compared with a year ago there was a heavy decline in practically all districts.

The following Table shows the numbers and percentages of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, at 26th October, 1931, and the increase or decrease as compared with 21st September, 1931, and 27th October, 1930:—

Divisions.	Total Number of Insured Workpeople Unemployed at 26th Oct., 1931.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Numbers Unemployed as compared with a		Percentage Unemployed at 26th Oct., 1931.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Percentage Unemployed as compared with a	
		Month before.	Year before.		Month before.*	Year before.
London ...	4,127	- 105	+ 977	43.4	- 1.1	+ 10.6
South-Eastern...	1,406	+ 140	+ 399	20.4	+ 2.1	+ 7.0
South-Western	6,235	+ 536	+ 1,662	29.6	+ 2.6	+ 8.1
Midlands ...	119	- 22	- 24	37.2	- 6.9	- 6.1
North-Eastern	40,047	+ 963	+ 11,403	70.6	+ 1.7	+ 23.7
North-Western	15,433	- 63	+ 2,560	54.9	- 0.2	+ 10.2
Scotland ...	37,332	- 138	+ 12,980	68.8	- 0.3	+ 25.6
Wales ...	4,793	+ 262	+ 652	69.0	+ 3.8	+ 12.9
Northern Ireland	5,811	- 57	+ 2,513	50.1	- 0.5	+ 23.5
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND ...	115,303	+ 1,516	+ 33,122	59.0	+ 0.8	+ 18.9

ENGINEERING.

EMPLOYMENT during October remained bad, but there was a slight improvement in textile and general engineering and in the manufacture of motor vehicles; in the motor vehicle section the improvement was mainly confined to the Midlands, other divisions showing a decline. In marine and in constructional engineering employment was very bad, and showed a slight further decline. In electrical engineering it remained slack, with little change.

Compared with a year ago 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 26th October, 1931, and the increase or decrease as compared with a month before and a year before:—

* The percentages for September have been revised (see page 435).

Number of Insured Workpeople Unemployed
at 26th October, 1931.

Division.	General Engineering; Engineers' Iron and Steel Founding.	Electrical Engineering.	Marine Engineering, etc.	Constructional Engineering.	Motor Vehicles, Cycles, and Aircraft.	TOTAL.	Increase (+) or Decrease (—) as compared with a	
							Month before.*	Year before.
London ...	11,214	1,653	274	614	6,561	20,316	+ 1,380	+ 8,816
South-Eastern ...	7,491	995	378	143	4,664	13,671	— 509	+ 4,535
South-Western ...	5,367	262	1,067	127	3,885	10,708	+ 414	+ 4,491
Midlands ...	20,512	4,530	242	1,915	28,602	55,801	— 6,351	+ 16,525
North-Eastern ...	39,911	1,428	12,104	2,330	2,879	58,652	— 2,231	+ 12,393
North-Western ...	48,113	4,107	311	1,116	6,419	60,066	— 2,013	+ 9,220
Scotland ...	29,694	678	10,007	2,192	2,342	44,913	+ 63	+ 16,281
Wales ...	1,925	79	56	267	643	2,970	+ 10	+ 538
Northern Ireland	2,328	71	3,015	54	361	5,829	— 170	+ 2,973
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTH-ERN IRELAND	166,555	13,803	27,454	8,758	56,356	272,926	— 9,407	+ 75,772
Percentages Unemployed at 26th October, 1931.								
London ...	13.4	11.2	40.9	15.5	16.3	14.2	+ 1.0	+ 6.3
South-Eastern ...	17.0	13.1	17.3	15.9	15.8	16.2	— 0.6	+ 5.8
South-Western ...	15.1	7.1	15.8	24.4	13.5	14.2	+ 0.6	+ 5.9
Midlands ...	23.2	15.0	16.8	26.2	28.9	24.7	— 2.8	+ 7.3
North-Eastern ...	36.0	14.4	59.4	31.4	19.8	35.9	— 1.4	+ 8.3
North-Western ...	38.6	18.8	37.9	37.0	27.6	34.6	— 1.1	+ 5.6
Scotland ...	38.6	19.8	55.7	40.3	20.7	39.1	+ 0.1	+ 14.2
Wales ...	34.2	18.8	40.0	32.2	26.6	31.5	+ 0.1	+ 4.4
Northern Ireland	34.1	9.7	61.8	31.8	15.4	39.0	— 1.1	+ 21.0
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTH-ERN IRELAND	28.9	14.9	49.7	29.6	22.4	27.2	— 0.9	+ 7.8
<i>Ditto, Sept., 1931*</i>	<i>30.1</i>	<i>15.0</i>	<i>49.3</i>	<i>28.4</i>	<i>23.6</i>	<i>28.1</i>	...	...
<i>Ditto, Oct., 1930</i>	<i>21.5</i>	<i>10.1</i>	<i>26.2</i>	<i>21.0</i>	<i>15.7</i>	<i>19.4</i>	...	...

On the North-East Coast employment remained very bad, especially in marine engineering. In Yorkshire it showed an improvement in the textile machinery section but was still bad, on the whole. In Lincolnshire it continued bad. In Lancashire and Cheshire there was an improvement in the textile section, but employment generally remained very bad.

In the Birmingham, Wolverhampton and Coventry district there was a further improvement in the motor vehicle section and also some improvement in general engineering, but employment in both sections was still bad. In the Nottingham, Derby and Leicester district employment remained slack. In London and the Southern Counties employment remained quiet in all sections, and showed a slight decline on the whole; it remained much better, however, than in other parts of the country.

In Scotland employment remained very bad, particularly in marine engineering. It remained very bad also in Wales and in Northern Ireland.

COTTON INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT showed a marked improvement in all the principal departments, and in nearly all districts. In the spinning department, particularly in the section spinning American cotton, a number of closed mills were re-opened, production showed a substantial increase, and there was a large reduction in the number of operatives on short time. Some firms engaged in cotton doubling worked overtime. Employment also showed a considerable improvement as compared with October of last year.

The improvement in the weaving department, though substantial, was not quite so marked as in the spinning department, and was very unevenly distributed; some firms, or even whole districts, showed little or no improvement, particularly those manufacturing for the Indian market.

The percentage of insured workpeople recorded as unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, was 34.4 at 26th October, 1931, as compared with 45.8* at 21st September, 1931, and with 41.3 at 27th October, 1930.

At Ashton-under-Lyne employment with spinners showed a further improvement in both the American and Egyptian sections; several mills spinning American cotton re-opened during October; there was also a great improvement in the doubling section. At Glossop employment showed an improvement, but was still depressed. Some improvement was also reported at Stalybridge, Stockport and Hyde.

At Oldham employment in the spinning section was better than in September, and better also than a year ago; many mills which had been closed for a considerable time re-opened during October: at the end of October production had reached 62 per cent. of normal capacity, as compared with 38 per cent. in September. In the manufacturing section employment, though still slack, improved considerably, and was better than a year ago; some firms in the heavy section were on full time or overtime. In velvet manufacturing, on the other hand, there was a decline. At Royton short time working had practically ceased; at Shaw there was less short time working than for eighteen months past; at Middleton there was an improvement in the American section, and full time continued in the Egyptian section.

At Bolton and at Leigh employment with spinners improved; the percentage of operative spinners at Bolton working less than

half time was reduced from 47 per cent. on 26th September to 29 per cent. on 24th October. With weavers and winders at Bolton employment was described as fair, and better than in September, though there was still considerable under-employment, particularly in the quilt manufacturing section. At Bury there was a reduction in short-time working, and one closed mill was re-opened. At Rochdale there was a marked improvement; two mills were re-opened, and many more spindles were running in other mills.

At Preston there was a slight improvement in the spinning section, but up to the end of October there had been little or no improvement in the weaving section; irregular short-time working and sectional stoppages continued. At Chorley there was some improvement. At Blackburn the general depression continued, owing to the small demand from India; three mills re-opened, but 75 mills remained closed at the end of the month. At Accrington and at Darwen some closed mills were re-opened, but there was little general change. At Great Harwood and at Clitheroe there was a slight improvement, but employment remained very poor; at Clitheroe about half the looms were still idle. At Burnley, on the other hand, there was a distinct improvement; some of the mills had all their looms running, and many firms were re-engaging workers. There was also an improvement at Nelson; more looms were running, and workpeople were being re-engaged. There was an improvement at Barnoldswick (in the Colne district), due, in part, to the increased demand from China, but no improvement at Colne itself. At Padiham there was a slight improvement. In the Rossendale Valley employment, though still bad, was slightly better than in September.

In Yorkshire there was a marked improvement; about 10 per cent. of the workpeople covered by the employers' returns for the week ended 24th October were on short time, as compared with more than 50 per cent. at the end of September. A number of cotton doubling firms were working overtime. Full time was worked at Hebden Bridge and at Keighley, and employment was brisk at Brighouse. At Sowerby Bridge all the firms with one exception reverted to full time; at Dewsbury and at Todmorden there was considerable improvement, but some short time was still being worked.

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 24th Oct., 1931.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) on a		Week ended 24th Oct., 1931.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) on a	
		Month before.	Year before.		Month before.	Year before.
Preparing ...	12,157	+ 20.2	+ 18.6	19,069	+ 28.9	+ 25.0
Spinning ...	22,421	+ 18.2	+ 13.6	35,390	+ 29.6	+ 28.9
Weaving ...	26,420	+ 7.9	+ 4.8	42,660	+ 13.1	+ 10.4
Other ...	7,974	+ 9.6	+ 7.0	17,795	+ 12.8	+ 8.6
TOTAL ...	68,972	+ 13.4	+ 10.1	114,914	+ 20.2	+ 17.6
DISTRICTS.						
Ashton ...	6,195	+ 29.1	+ 19.7	9,515	+ 37.3	+ 25.9
Stockport, Glossop and Hyde ...	5,568	+ 2.7	— 19.7	9,049	+ 12.9	— 12.7
Oldham ...	10,259	+ 20.1	+ 26.9	17,408	+ 28.5	+ 38.5
Bolton and Leigh ...	12,759	+ 9.7	+ 11.5	20,355	+ 14.8	+ 24.1
Bury, Rochdale, Heywood, Walsden and Todmorden ...	6,049	+ 15.3	+ 4.1	10,536	+ 26.5	+ 9.6
Manchester ...	4,620	+ 18.4	+ 18.0	7,354	+ 20.5	+ 24.7
Preston and Chorley ...	5,175	— 4.4	+ 5.2	8,261	— 2.4	+ 2.9
Blackburn, Accrington and Darwen ...	5,060	+ 9.5	+ 20.2	8,665	+ 9.4	+ 28.3
Burnley and Padiham ...	3,713	+ 13.8	+ 14.0	7,297	+ 28.9	+ 20.1
Colne and Nelson ...	2,419	+ 4.8	— 5.9	5,248	+ 8.0	— 1.3
Other Lancashire Towns ...	1,846	+ 26.7	+ 100.2	2,407	+ 44.7	+ 113.6
Yorkshire Towns ...	3,062	+ 53.0	+ 2.8	5,573	+ 74.5	+ 19.5
Other Districts ...	2,247	+ 0.2	— 7.0	3,246	+ 2.9	— 3.8
TOTAL ...	68,972	+ 13.4	+ 10.1	114,914	+ 20.2	+ 17.6

Returns from firms employing about 67,700 operatives in the week ended 24th October showed that about 12 per cent. were on short time in that week, with a loss of about 15½ hours each on the average.

The following Table shows the number of men and of women (other than casuals) on the registers of Employment Exchanges in the principal cotton trade centres in Lancashire at 26th October, 1931:—

Department.	Numbers (excluding Casuals) on the Registers at 26th October, 1931.						
	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.			Total
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
Card and Blow- ing Room ...	2,520	13,883	16,403	863	4,546	5,409	21,812
Spinning ...	14,026	10,571	24,597	5,409	3,695	9,104	33,701
Beaming, Wind- ing and Warp- ing ...	3,146	13,581	16,727	1,507	6,695	8,202	24,929
Weaving ...	13,683	45,652	59,335	3,509	9,418	12,927	72,262
Other Processes	2,108	596	2,704	360	269	629	3,333
Total ...	35,483	84,283	119,766	11,648	24,623	36,271	156,037

* The percentages for September have been revised (see page 435).

The following Table shows the increases and decreases as compared with 21st September, 1931:—

Department.	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.			Total.
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
Card and Blowing Room ...	- 133	- 1,096	- 1,229	- 1,774	- 6,863	- 8,637	- 9,866
Spinning ...	- 1,281	- 1,358	- 2,639	- 8,577	- 5,540	- 14,117	- 16,756
Beaming, Winding and Warping ...	+ 105	- 1,023	- 918	- 1,240	- 7,229	- 8,469	- 9,387
Weaving ...	+ 135	- 134	+ 1	- 3,368	- 7,791	- 11,159	- 11,158
Other Processes ...	- 52	+ 28	- 24	- 439	- 227	- 666	- 690
Total ...	- 1,226	- 3,583	- 4,809	- 15,398	- 27,650	- 43,048	- 47,857

The imports (less re-exports) of raw cotton (including cotton linters) were 55,809,000 lbs. in October, 1931, compared with 40,055,000 lbs. in September, 1931, and with 100,475,100 lbs. in October, 1930.

The exports of cotton yarn were 12,817,400 lbs. in October, 1931, compared with 9,006,500 lbs. in September, 1931, and with 11,685,300 lbs. in October, 1930.

The exports of cotton piece goods in October, 1931, were 143,060,100 square yards, compared with 128,460,100 square yards in the previous month, and 150,340,000 square yards in October, 1930.

WOOL TEXTILE INDUSTRY.

THERE was a marked increase of activity during October in all the principal departments and districts, in both the worsted and in the woollen sections. Unemployment and short time were much reduced, and there was a considerable amount of overtime. In the carpet trade there was a further improvement.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed in the woollen and worsted industry, including those temporarily stopped, was 22.0 at 26th October, 1931, as compared with 35.5* at 21st September, 1931, and with 24.9 at 27th October, 1930.

Worsted Section.—At Bradford a further marked improvement took place during October, particularly with spinners and in the dress goods trade; all the leading firms were reported to be working full time, and some had started extra shifts at night. At Huddersfield, Halifax, and Leeds there was also a distinct improvement; at Halifax, some firms, particularly those spinning hosiery yarns, were working overtime and night shifts. In the Keighley district, where the improvement was particularly marked in the spinning section, over 2,000 women returned to full time employment, and overtime was prevalent. In the worsted section as a whole, returns from employers for the week ended 24th October showed that a little over 20 per cent. were on short time,† losing about 12 hours each on the average; about 23 per cent. worked overtime, to the extent of 6 hours each on the average.

With wool sorters employment was fair; only 5 per cent. of the trade union operatives were on short time at the end of October, as compared with 25 per cent. at the end of September. In the wool combing department there was still much short time, but there was an improvement in machinery activity, particularly in the merino section. About 12½ per cent. of the operatives covered by the employers' returns in the sorting, combing, and preparing departments lost, on an average, about 13 hours each in short time in the week ended 24th October; about 15 per cent. were on overtime, to the extent of 9 hours each on the average.

There was a very marked improvement in the worsted spinning department in all the principal districts, and overtime was worked in a large number of mills. About 11½ per cent. of the operatives covered by the employers' returns worked short time in the week ended 24th October, losing about 11 hours each on the average; overtime was worked by 34 per cent., to the extent of 6 hours each.

There was also an improvement in the worsted weaving department; but it was not quite so marked as in the spinning department. About 39 per cent. of the operatives covered by the employers' returns worked short time in the week ended 24th October, losing 12 hours each on the average; while 8 per cent. worked overtime, to the extent of 7 hours each on the average.

Woollen Section.—This section also showed an improvement; but it was not quite so marked (taking each section as a whole) as in the worsted section. Employers' returns for the week ended 24th October showed that 22 per cent. of the workers in the spinning department, and 29 per cent. of those in the weaving department, were on short time,† losing about 11 hours each, on the average, in both departments. Overtime was worked by 25 per cent. of the workers in the spinning section to the extent of 8½ hours each, and by 14 per cent. of those in the weaving section to the extent of 6 hours each on the average. In the woollen section as a whole, 26 per cent. of the operatives lost, on an average, about 11 hours each in short time† in the week ended 24th October, and 17 per cent. worked overtime, to the extent of 8 hours each on the average.

At Huddersfield and in the Colne Valley (particularly the latter) there was a distinct improvement; a fair amount of overtime was worked, and there was some night work. In the Heavy Woollen District (Dewsbury, Batley, etc.) there was a further improvement; there was also an improvement at Leeds and at Morley. Employ-

ment in the rag and shoddy trade was still described as poor, but showed a slight improvement. In the blanket trade a further improvement was reported in Yorkshire.

There was an improvement in the Stockport area, and a marked improvement at Rochdale; but some firms were still not running at full capacity.

In the West of England there was some improvement, especially in the Trowbridge district.

There was an improvement in Wales. Most of the larger woollen factories in South Cardiganshire were working; at Newtown, however, irregular short time was still being worked.

In Scotland the improvement previously reported continued; firms were engaging additional labour, and better time was worked.

Carpet Section.—Employment showed a further improvement, but remained only moderately good generally. Some departments, however, were on full time in certain districts. The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, was 17.2 at 26th October, 1931, as compared with 22.6* at 21st September, 1931, and with 18.2 at 27th October, 1930.

At Kidderminster employment was slightly better than a month earlier; irregular time was still worked in the Wilton section, but operatives in the Axminster and tapestry sections were mostly on full time; several firms were working overtime. In Yorkshire a further slight improvement was recorded. In Scotland a decided improvement was reported.

In the carpet industry as a whole, 21 per cent. of the workpeople covered by the employers' returns were on short time in the week ended 24th October, losing 14 hours each on an average; 11 per cent. were on overtime to the extent of 6 hours each on the average.

The following Table summarises the returns received from employers:—

	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 24th Oct., 1931.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (−) on a month before.	Index figure. (Jan., 1926 = 100.)	Week ended 24th Oct., 1931.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (−) on a month before.	Index figure. (Jan., 1926 = 100.)
Departments :						
WORSTED SECTION :						
Wool Sorting and Combing ...	11,181	+ 12.2	87.9	24,741	+ 43.1	76.8
Spinning ...	35,537	+ 8.8	86.4	51,358	+ 22.7	79.7
Weaving ...	17,272	+ 7.1	85.3	29,580	+ 15.6	70.7
Other Depts. ...	9,356	+ 3.4	92.7	20,531	+ 12.0	76.7
Not specified ...	1,773	+ 4.2	99.4	3,009	+ 27.5	67.4
Total—Worsted	75,119	+ 8.0	87.0	129,219	+ 22.5	76.4
WOOLLEN SECTION :						
Wool Sorting ...	966	+ 0.7	72.7	2,099	+ 8.8	74.4
Spinning ...	12,199	+ 6.3	84.4	25,435	+ 18.5	89.8
Weaving ...	21,130	+ 6.6	89.1	37,176	+ 18.2	89.3
Other Depts. ...	15,850	+ 5.7	89.3	34,049	+ 12.8	87.8
Not specified ...	2,164	+ 12.4	76.3	4,387	+ 18.4	81.1
Total—Woollen	52,309	+ 6.4	87.2	103,146	+ 16.2	88.1
CARPET SECTION ...	9,981	+ 2.2	104.6	18,373	+ 10.9	103.3
Total—Wool Textile Industry ...	137,409	+ 7.0	88.0	250,738	+ 19.0	82.6
Districts† :						
WORSTED SECTION :						
Bradford ...	31,719	+ 10.1	83.0	57,428	+ 28.1	70.6
Huddersfield ...	8,607	+ 4.2	96.8	15,255	+ 17.6	78.7
Halifax ...	8,704	+ 7.1	83.7	13,533	+ 15.5	72.4
Leeds ...	8,031	+ 6.5	91.5	13,039	+ 20.0	83.5
Keighley ...	7,585	+ 8.5	88.0	12,271	+ 25.1	82.1
Heavy Woollen (Dewsbury, Batley, etc.) ...	3,439	+ 5.9	101.3	5,224	+ 20.5	103.2
Total, West Riding ...	68,085	+ 8.1	86.7	116,750	+ 23.5	75.0
West of England and Midlands ...	4,716	+ 5.1	86.9	8,462	+ 12.9	80.9
Lancashire ...	324	+ 9.1	111.1	615	+ 6.4	107.4
Scotland ...	1,994	+ 12.8	95.6	3,392	+ 19.0	131.8
Total—Worsted	75,119	+ 8.0	87.0	129,219	+ 22.5	76.4
WOOLLEN SECTION :						
Huddersfield ...	11,101	+ 10.6	80.9	24,749	+ 24.2	79.2
Heavy Woollen (Dewsbury, Batley, etc.) ...	10,365	+ 10.5	89.1	21,077	+ 18.6	100.9
Leeds ...	6,901	+ 6.9	92.8	14,027	+ 17.0	92.9
Halifax and Calder Vale ...	2,360	+ 2.8	86.0	4,903	+ 7.0	77.3
Bradford ...	1,215	+ 2.6	98.6	2,068	+ 10.5	72.3
Total, West Riding ...	31,942	+ 8.8	87.9	66,824	+ 19.0	89.7
Lancashire ...	4,545	− 0.0	85.4	8,809	+ 9.1	85.5
West of England and Midlands ...	3,618	+ 0.6	88.5	6,171	+ 4.8	92.6
Scotland ...	12,035	+ 4.3	85.3	21,125	+ 14.5	83.1
Wales ...	169	+ 19.0	132.1	217	+ 12.4	122.2
Total—Woollen	52,309	+ 6.4	87.2	103,146	+ 16.2	88.1
CARPET SECTION ...	9,981	+ 2.2	104.6	18,373	+ 10.9	103.3
Total—Wool Textile Industry ...	137,409	+ 7.0	88.0	250,738	+ 19.0	82.6

* The percentages for September have been revised (see page 435).

† 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.

† 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 24th October, 1931, by those firms who supplied returns for the purpose of the foregoing Table (excluding the carpet section), as compared with the week ended 26th September, 1931:—

	Percentage Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) in numbers employed as compared with previous month. (—without a figure, signifies "few or no workpeople returned.")				
	Wool Sorting and Combing.	Spinning.	Weaving.	Other Depts.	All Depts. (including not specified).
WORSTED SECTION:					
Bradford ...	+ 13.4	+ 10.1	+ 8.9	+ 3.4	+ 10.1
Huddersfield ...	+ 7.7	+ 2.6	+ 5.0	+ 4.6	+ 4.2
Halifax ...	+ 6.1	+ 9.0	+ 4.3	+ 0.4	+ 7.1
Leeds ...	—	+ 4.8	+ 8.2	+ 6.6	+ 6.5
Keighley ...	+ 11.9	+ 9.2	+ 9.1	+ 2.0	+ 8.5
Heavy Woollen (Dewsbury, Batley, etc.) ...	—	+ 6.8	—	+ 2.8	+ 5.9
Total, West Riding ...	+ 12.5	+ 8.3	+ 7.6	+ 3.6	+ 8.1
West of England and Midlands ...	+ 9.6	+ 12.5	— 1.7	+ 0.7	+ 5.1
Lancashire ...	—	+ 7.9	—	—	+ 9.1
Scotland ...	+ 2.7	+ 16.3	—	+ 9.9	+ 12.8
TOTAL ...	+ 12.2	+ 8.8	+ 7.1	+ 3.4	+ 8.0

	Percentage Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) in numbers employed as compared with previous month.			
	Spinning.	Weaving.	Other Depts.	All Depts. (including not specified).
WOOLLEN SECTION:				
Huddersfield ...	+ 11.1	+ 10.5	+ 10.2	+ 10.6
Heavy Woollen (Dewsbury, Batley, etc.) ...	+ 8.5	+ 14.7	+ 7.5	+ 10.5
Leeds ...	+ 4.8	+ 6.2	+ 6.7	+ 6.9
Halifax and Calder Vale ...	+ 3.6	+ 2.6	+ 2.9	+ 2.8
Bradford ...	+ 9.5	— 1.0	+ 3.0	+ 2.6
Total, West Riding ...	+ 8.3	+ 9.6	+ 7.7	+ 8.8
Lancashire ...	— 3.0	— 3.7	+ 4.1	— 0.0
West of England and Midlands ...	+ 5.5	— 2.6	+ 1.4	+ 0.6
Scotland ...	+ 4.3	+ 5.2	+ 3.0	+ 4.3
Wales ...	+ 17.2	+ 41.7	+ 1.9	+ 19.0
TOTAL ...	+ 6.3	+ 6.6	+ 5.7	+ 6.4

The following Table shows the numbers of men and of women (other than casuals) on the registers of Employment Exchanges in the principal wool textile trade centres at 26th October, 1931:—

Department.	Numbers (excluding Casuals) on the Registers at 26th October, 1931.						
	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.			Total.
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
Wool Sorting ...	302	6	308	181	6	187	495
Wool Washing and Preparing ...	795	952	1,747	326	259	585	2,332
Wool Combing ...	508	734	1,242	495	284	779	2,021
Wool Carding ...	686	230	916	443	85	528	1,444
Woollen Spinning ...	469	302	771	266	211	477	1,248
Worsted Drawing and Spinning ...	1,010	4,099	5,109	368	1,445	1,813	6,922
Wool Winding and Warping ...	150	60	210	348	70	418	628
Worsted Winding and Warping ...	226	677	903	276	421	697	1,600
Woollen Weaving ...	411	2,005	2,416	420	1,962	2,382	4,798
Worsted Weaving ...	348	2,110	2,458	177	2,947	3,124	5,582
Other Processes ...	1,565	257	1,822	1,181	129	1,310	3,132
Total ...	6,470	11,432	17,902	4,481	7,819	12,300	30,202

The following Table shows the increases and decreases as compared with 21st September, 1931:—

Department.	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.			Total.
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
Wool Sorting ...	— 109	— 4	— 113	— 740	— 5	— 745	— 858
Wool Washing and Preparing ...	— 63	— 127	— 190	— 575	— 187	— 762	— 952
Wool Combing ...	— 125	— 60	— 185	— 994	— 966	— 1,960	— 2,145
Wool Carding ...	— 183	— 39	— 222	— 672	— 129	— 801	— 1,023
Woollen Spinning ...	— 158	— 98	— 256	— 420	— 199	— 619	— 875
Worsted Drawing and Spinning ...	— 108	— 1,215	— 1,323	— 538	— 3,567	— 4,105	— 5,428
Wool Winding and Warping ...	— 169	— 30	— 199	— 99	— 88	— 187	— 386
Worsted Winding and Warping ...	+ 73	— 273	— 200	— 235	— 1,000	— 1,235	— 1,435
Woollen Weaving ...	— 8	— 486	— 494	— 326	— 1,354	— 1,680	— 2,174
Worsted Weaving ...	— 37	— 547	— 584	— 68	— 3,223	— 3,291	— 3,875
Other Processes ...	— 57	— 37	— 94	— 527	— 158	— 685	— 779
Total ...	— 944	— 2,916	— 3,860	— 5,194	— 10,876	— 16,070	— 19,930

The imports (less re-exports) of raw wool (sheep's or lambs') were 5,850,800 lbs. in October, 1931, compared with 25,646,800 lbs. in

the previous month. In October, 1930, imports were 29,203,900 lbs. but re-exports amounted to 30,436,700 lbs.

The exports of woollen and worsted yarns in October, 1931 were 3,959,900 lbs. compared with 3,723,800 lbs. in September, 1931, and with 3,570,700 lbs. in October, 1930.

The exports of woollen and worsted tissues in October, 1931, were 6,669,800 square yards, compared with 6,798,100 square yards in the previous month, and with 8,711,400 square yards in October, 1930.

The exports of blankets were 38,545 pairs, 32,034 pairs, and 51,494 pairs in October, 1931, September, 1931, and October, 1930, respectively.

BOOT AND SHOE INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT during October showed an improvement in nearly all districts, which mainly took the form of a reduction in short time working; but it remained only moderate on the whole. The improvement was partly seasonal. There was little change as compared with October, 1930.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, was 16.0 at 26th October, 1931, as compared with 19.6* at 21st September, 1931, and with 16.1 at 27th October, 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 24th Oct., 1931.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) on a		Week ended 24th Oct., 1931.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) on a	
		Month before.	Year before.		Month before.	Year before.†
England and Wales :—		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
London	1,627	+ 3.9	+ 0.2	3,676	+ 6.2	— 0.3
Leicester	9,918	+ 2.7	— 1.4	23,097	+ 7.0	— 3.9
Leicester Country District	3,972	+ 2.7	+ 6.6	9,220	+ 8.6	+ 4.0
Northampton... ..	6,596	+ 1.6	— 10.5	14,468	— 0.1	— 10.2
Higham, Rushden and District	5,085	+ 1.3	+ 0.8	11,885	+ 12.5	+ 1.7
Kettering and District	5,589	+ 1.4	+ 0.1	13,594	+ 5.4	+ 0.6
Rest of Northants	1,531	— 0.1	— 10.9	3,560	+ 4.3	+ 0.6
Stafford and District	2,394	— 1.5	— 3.8	4,141	+ 9.5	— 6.6
Norwich and District	5,766	+ 2.0	+ 3.1	11,583	+ 2.5	+ 8.8
Bristol, Kingswood and District	2,034	— 3.3	— 4.2	3,781	— 4.8	— 8.0
Leeds and District	1,682	+ 2.2	— 5.1	4,001	+ 10.3	— 3.4
Lancashire (mainly Rossendale Valley)	6,154	+ 5.9	+ 3.3	12,205	+ 14.9	+ 1.0
Birmingham and District	1,121	— 1.4	— 6.5	2,214	...	+ 5.4
Other parts of England and Wales	3,912	+ 2.2	— 1.0	9,019	+ 5.7	+ 1.6
England and Wales	57,381	+ 2.0	— 1.4	126,444	+ 6.3	— 1.1
Scotland	2,186	— 2.6	— 6.9	4,654	— 0.8	— 11.0
Great Britain... ..	59,567	+ 1.8	— 1.6	131,098	+ 6.0	— 1.5

Returns received from firms employing about 58,600 workpeople in the week ended 24th October indicated that about 35 per cent. of these operatives were on short time in that week, losing about 9½ hours each on the average; on the other hand, about 13 per cent. were on overtime, to the extent of about 4½ hours each on the average.

Employment in London showed some improvement, and was moderate. At Leicester employment showed an improvement, but was still only moderate generally, short time being still very prevalent: in the week ended 24th October, about 46 per cent. of the workpeople covered by the employers' returns were on short time, losing nearly 10 hours each on the average; about 10 per cent. worked a little overtime. There was also an improvement in the Leicester country district. At Northampton employment remained slack generally, although a few firms were busy and working overtime; in the week ended 24th October, about two-thirds of the operatives covered by the employers' returns were on short time, losing about 9½ hours each on the average; employment was considerably below the level of October, 1930. In the Higham and Rushden district there was an improvement, and employment was fair, with more workers on overtime than on short time. At Kettering also employment was fair, and better than in September. It also improved at Wellingborough and in the smaller Northamptonshire centres. At Stafford employment, though showing an improvement, remained slack; more than three-quarters of the workpeople covered by the employers' returns were on short time, to the extent of 15½ hours a week each on the average. At Norwich employment showed a slight improvement, and was considerably better than in October last year, but remained slack generally; there was still much unemployment and short time at this centre.

In the Bristol and Kingswood district employment declined; it was described as very quiet at Bristol, and as fair at Kingswood. At Leeds employment showed a decided improvement, but remained slack with most firms. In the slipper trade in Lancashire there was a further and marked improvement at all centres, which was largely seasonal; overtime was worked by a number of firms; employment was reported as very good at Bury.

In Scotland employment remained moderate on the whole, and was considerably below the level of October, 1930; at Maybole, however, it was again described as fair.

* The percentages for September have been revised (see page 435).

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

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 26th October, 1931:—

October, 1931.

Department.	Numbers (excluding Casuals) on the Registers at 26th October, 1931.						Total.
	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.			
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
Boot and Shoe Manu- facture :							
Preparing Depart- ment ...	244	61	305	88	28	116	421
Rough Stuff De- partment ...	469	48	517	150	4	154	671
Clicking Department	921	34	955	1,075	41	1,116	2,071
Closing Department	36	1,794	1,830	15	1,059	1,074	2,904
Making Department	2,478	65	2,543	1,277	33	1,310	3,853
Finishing Depart- ment ...	1,846	909	2,755	728	246	974	3,729
Slipper Making ...	385	216	601	336	305	641	1,242
Clog Making...	20	3	23	—	—	—	23
Repairing and Hand- sewn Work ...	809	4	813	29	—	29	842
TOTAL ...	7,208	3,134	10,342	3,698	1,716	5,414	15,756

The following Table shows the increases and decreases as compared with 21st September, 1931:—

Department.	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.			Total.
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
Boot and Shoe Manufacture:							
Preparing Department ...	+ 16	- 30	- 14	- 36	- 19	- 55	- 69
Rough Stuff Department ...	- 52	- 16	- 68	- 176	- 22	- 198	- 266
Clicking Department ...	- 202	+ 9	- 193	- 304	+ 13	- 291	- 484
Closing Department ...	- 26	- 382	- 408	- 21	- 537	- 558	- 966
Making Department ...	- 242	- 48	- 290	- 609	- 14	- 623	- 913
Finishing Department ...	- 114	- 139	- 253	- 406	- 162	- 568	- 821
Slipper Making ...	- 18	- 15	- 33	- 570	+ 17	- 553	- 586
Clog Making ...	- 3	- 2	- 5	- 2	- 2	- 4	- 9
Repairing and Hand-sewn Work ...	+ 99	+ 2	+ 101	- 15	- 8	- 23	+ 78
TOTAL ...	- 542	- 621	- 1,163	- 2,139	- 734	- 2,873	- 4,036

The exports of boots and shoes in October, 1931, amounted to 88,565 dozen pairs, or 4,805 dozen pairs more than in September, 1931, but 26,300 dozen pairs less than in October, 1930.

POTTERY INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT in North Staffordshire showed a further seasonal improvement, but was still bad on the whole. At Derby employment was slack, but at Worcester and at Bristol it continued fair, and a slight improvement was reported at the former centre.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, was 30.5 at 26th October, 1931, as compared with 32.7* at 21st September, 1931, and 22.5 at 27th October, 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.		
	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		
	Week ended 24th Oct., 1931.	Month before.	Year before.	Week ended 24th Oct., 1931.	Month before.	Year before.†
		Per cent.	Per cent.		£	Per cent.
China Manufacture ...	1,598	+ 4.4	- 12.9	2,949	+ 3.8	- 15.3
Earthenware Manufacture ...	6,797	+ 0.5	- 3.2	11,000	- 1.3	- 15.9
Other Branches (including unspecified) ...	1,676	- 3.5	- 6.2	2,811	+ 1.1	- 14.5
TOTAL ...	10,071	+ 0.4	- 5.4	16,760	- 0.1	- 15.6
DISTRICTS.						
North Staffordshire ...	7,887	+ 0.7	- 3.9	12,124	+ 0.0	- 15.0
Other Districts ...	2,184	- 0.6	- 10.3	4,636	- 0.3	- 17.0
TOTAL ...	10,071	+ 0.4	- 5.4	16,760	- 0.1	- 15.6

Returns from employers relative to short-time working showed that, of 9,448 workpeople employed by firms making returns, 3,799, or about 40 per cent., were working on an average about 16 hours less than full time in the week ended 24th October, 1931; the amount of overtime worked was very small.

* The percentages for September have been revised (see page 435).
† Comparison of earnings is affected by reductions in rates of wages.

BRICK INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT during October showed a further decline, and continued slack on the whole.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, was 19.0 at 26th October, 1931, as compared with 17.7* at 21st September, 1931, and 15.6 at 27th October, 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.		
	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		
	Week ended 24th Oct., 1931.	Month before.	Year before.	Week ended 24th Oct., 1931.	Month before.	Year before.
		Per cent.	Per cent.		£	Per cent.
Northern Counties, Yorkshire, Lancashire and Cheshire ...	1,645	+ 1.0	- 3.3	4,017	+ 1.3	- 4.2
Midlands and Eastern Counties ...	6,520	- 2.7	- 8.6	17,502	- 5.5	- 14.0
South and South-West Counties and Wales ...	1,930	- 1.9	- 0.9	4,394	- 1.3	- 7.5
Scotland ...	171	+ 4.3	- 8.6	417	+ 6.4	- 13.1
TOTAL ...	10,266	- 1.8	- 6.4	26,330	- 3.6	- 11.6

Returns from employers relative to short-time working, exclusive of time lost on account of bad weather, showed that, of 9,584 workpeople employed by firms furnishing information, about 4½ per cent. were working on an average 10½ hours less than full time in the week ended 24th October, 1931; the amount of overtime worked was very small.

BUILDING.

THERE was a further general decline during October, and employment was very slack on the whole, although it was reported as fair or fairly good at some centres, including Lancaster, Southend-on-Sea, Preston, Hull and Reading. Weather conditions were generally favourable for outside work. As compared with October, 1930, employment was slightly worse in the North Eastern Counties of England and considerably worse in each of the other administrative divisions.

As regards individual occupations, employment declined with each class of operative, the decline being most marked with painters and bricklayers. Employment was slack with bricklayers and masons, very slack with plasterers and tradesmen's labourers, and bad with painters, carpenters, slaters, and plumbers. As compared with October, 1930, employment was much 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 26th October, 1931, together with the increase or decrease as compared with the previous month and with October, 1930:—

OCCUPATIONS.	Estimated Numbers of Insured Workpeople at July, 1931.	Total Numbers Unemployed at 26th Oct., 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 ...	131,060	29,078	1,142	22.2	+ 3.3	+ 8.7
Bricklayers ...	79,010	13,178	744	16.7	+ 5.0	+ 5.9
Masons ...	21,620	3,776	344	17.5	+ 3.1	+ 7.4
Slaters ...	6,370	1,366	149	21.4	+ 3.1	+ 8.1
Plasterers ...	26,500	5,514	281	20.8	+ 2.9	+ 7.4
Painters ...	111,220	38,524	1,346	34.6	+ 7.0	+ 9.4
Plumbers ...	35,500	7,699	421	21.7	+ 1.5	+ 6.9
Labourers to above ...	245,110	58,810	1,829	24.0	+ 3.5	+ 6.1
All other occupations ...	201,780	53,620	1,780	26.6	+ 2.2	+ 5.8
Total ...	858,170	211,565	8,036	24.7	+ 3.7	+ 7.0
DIVISIONS.						
London ...	182,790	47,123	94	25.8	+ 5.6	+ 10.1
South-Eastern ...	137,690	25,126	243	18.2	+ 3.9	+ 7.9
South-Western ...	105,180	21,356	248	20.3	+ 3.8	+ 7.3
Midlands ...	104,260	22,103	1,570	21.2	+ 2.3	+ 6.6
North-Eastern ...	101,780	26,633	2,241	26.2	+ 3.0	+ 1.3
North-Western ...	103,410	31,456	2,147	30.4	+ 3.1	+ 5.0
Scotland ...	78,430	20,771	1,188	26.5	+ 2.8	+ 5.7
Wales ...	26,780	10,651	291	39.8	+ 2.7	+ 7.7
Northern Ireland ...	17,850	6,346	14	35.6	+ 0.7	+ 11.4
Great Britain and Northern Ireland ...	858,170	211,565	8,036	24.7	+ 3.7	+ 7.0

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 16,086,000, show that in October, 1931, plans were passed for buildings of an estimated cost of £4,717,100, as compared with £5,391,200 in September, 1931, and £7,882,700 in October, 1930. Of the total for October, 1931, dwelling-houses

* The percentages for September have been revised (see page 435).

accounted for £2,739,200; factories and workshops for £117,900; shops, offices, warehouses and other business premises for £912,200; and other buildings, and additions and alterations to existing buildings, for £947,800.

PAPER MANUFACTURE, PRINTING, AND BOOKBINDING.

EMPLOYMENT in the paper making industry during October was fair on the whole, and showed some improvement at the majority of centres.

In the letterpress printing industry employment was generally only moderate, and showed a decline on the previous month. In London and at Birmingham, Liverpool, Manchester and Bristol it was reported as bad, whilst at Leeds and Glasgow it was slack; in a number of the smaller centres, however, it was described as fair. Electrotypers and stereotypers on the whole continued fairly well employed.

With lithographic printers employment again declined, and was slack at most of the principal centres; some improvement, however, on the previous month was reported at Manchester and Birmingham. Employment with lithographic artists was generally slack to moderate.

In the bookbinding industry employment continued to decline and was slack.

The percentage unemployed among insured workpeople in the paper and paper-board industries was 11·9 at 26th October, compared with 17·4* at 21st September, and 10·2 at 27th October, 1930. In the printing and bookbinding industries the percentage was 11·2 at 26th October, compared with 10·4* at 21st September, and 7·9 at 27th October, 1930. In the cardboard box, paper bag and stationery industries the percentage was 11·0 at 26th October, compared with 12·1* at 21st September and 8·1 at 27th October, 1930.

The following Table summarises the returns received from certain trade unions who furnished information as to the extent of unemployment among their members :—

	No. of Members of Unions at end of October, 1931.	Percentage Unemployed at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (—) on a	
		Oct., 1931.	Sept., 1931.	Oct., 1930.	Month before.	Year before.
Letterpress Printing :						
London	32,945	8·8	7·2	4·4	+ 1·6	+ 4·4
Northern Counties, Yorkshire, Lancashire and Cheshire.	13,991	8·2	8·2	5·8	...	+ 2·4
Midlands and Eastern Counties	7,574	6·7	5·7	4·2	+ 1·0	+ 2·5
Scotland	5,528	9·9	8·5	4·6	+ 1·4	+ 5·3
Other Districts ...	8,781	7·1	5·9	3·6	+ 1·2	+ 3·5
Total	68,819	8·3	7·2	4·6	+ 1·1	+ 3·7
Lithographic Printing	11,642	10·8	10·0	5·4	+ 0·8	+ 5·4
Bookbinding	8,222	15·3	12·4	7·1	+ 2·9	+ 8·2
Printing and Bookbinding (branches not distinguished) ...	25,245	5·8	4·7	2·8	+ 1·1	+ 3·0

SEAMEN.

EMPLOYMENT during October declined, and was very slack on the whole. The aggregate number of engagements was substantially less than in September, 1931, and October, 1930. The supply of seamen was considerably in excess of requirements at all ports.

Among insured workpeople in the shipping service, the percentage unemployed at 26th October, 1931, was 35·3, compared with 32·5* at 21st September, 1931, and 29·0 at 27th October, 1930.

The demand for men on the Thames was quiet to moderate, but became slacker in the last week. On the Tyne it improved slightly in the first three weeks but was quieter in the concluding week; on the Tees it was quiet until the last week, when conditions became rather better. At the Hartlepoons the demand was slack, especially in the closing stages of the month; on the Wear it was moderate. At Hull the demand was fair up to the middle of October but dull thereafter. At Southampton it was slack on the whole. At Bristol the demand fluctuated and at the end of October was moderate; at Avonmouth apart from some slackness early in the month, it was fair. At Newport the demand declined throughout the month and at the end of October was very slack; at Cardiff it improved during the first three weeks but declined thereafter; at Swansea it was quiet. The demand on the Mersey was fair in the first week but slack subsequently. At Manchester it was moderate to fair until the last week, when it slackened. On the Clyde it was moderate generally, with a slight decline in the last week. At Leith the demand was slack and showed little variation. At Belfast it was very slack in the first half of the month was rather more active thereafter.

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

Principal Ports.	Number of Seamen* shipped in				
	Oct., 1931.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) on a		Ten Months ended	
		Month before.	Year before.	Oct., 1931.	Oct., 1930.
ENGLAND AND WALES :					
Liverpool†	7,246	— 3,599	— 4,301	93,114	121,556
Manchester	912	+ 347	+ 194	6,359	6,638
London	8,505	— 457	— 1,335	81,450	99,359
Southampton... ..	6,358	— 2,977	— 3,046	84,051	97,965
Tyne Ports	2,806	+ 436	+ 1,058	21,034	22,540
Sunderland	309	+ 26	+ 186	2,461	2,467
Middlesbrough ...	279	+ 22	+ 58	2,275	3,326
Hull	1,055	+ 399	— 16	8,818	10,367
Bristol‡	1,184	+ 42	+ 242	9,994	9,627
Newport, Mon. ...	317	— 234	— 1	3,978	5,542
Cardiff§	2,333	+ 479	+ 657	19,127	21,550
Swansea	454	— 168	— 545	5,659	7,465
SCOTLAND :					
Leith	287	+ 27	+ 51	2,536	2,707
Kirkcaldy, Methil and Grangemouth ...	310	— 108	— 65	3,791	4,364
Glasgow	2,986	+ 806	— 414	26,612	34,879
NORTHERN IRELAND :					
Belfast	181	— 39	+ 60	1,796	2,350
TOTAL for above Ports	35,522	— 4,998	— 7,217	373,055	452,702

DOCK AND RIVERSIDE LABOUR.

EMPLOYMENT remained slack during October. Among insured workpeople in the dock, harbour, river and canal service, 39·4 per cent. were unemployed at 26th October, 1931, as compared with 38·7 per cent.‡ at 21st September, 1931, and with 37·3 per cent. at 27th October, 1930.

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

Period.	Average Daily Number of Labourers employed in Docks and at Principal Wharves in London.				
	In Docks.			At Wharves making Returns.	Total, Docks and Principal Wharves.
	By the Port of London Authority or through Contractors.	By Ship-owners, etc.	Total.		
Week ended—					
3rd October, 1931	4,655	1,465	6,120	7,879	13,999
10th " "	4,293	1,118	5,411	7,985	13,396
17th " "	3,950	1,499	5,449	7,549	12,998
24th " "	4,003	1,800	5,803	7,998	13,801
31st " "	3,995	1,700	5,695	8,110	13,805
Average for 5 weeks ended 31st October, 1931	4,179	1,516	5,695	7,904	13,599
Average for Sept., 1931	4,051	1,680	5,731	7,173	12,904
Average for Oct., 1930	4,510	1,716	6,226	7,847	14,073

Tilbury.—The average daily number of dock labourers employed during October was 729, compared with 820 in September, 1931, and with 820 in October, 1930.

East Coast.—Employment remained slack at most of the North-East Coast ports, but there was a slight improvement at Middlesbrough, and increased coal shipments from Sunderland provided more employment. Employment continued moderate at Hull. It improved at Yarmouth and Lowestoft, and was described as good. At Lynn it remained fair and at Ipswich slack.

Liverpool.—Employment, though still slack, was somewhat better than in September, fruit cargoes providing more work.

The average weekly numbers of dock labourers registered at the clearing houses under the Liverpool Docks Scheme as employed in the five weeks ended 30th October, 1931, was 10,982, compared with 10,010 in September, 1931, and with 12,724 in October, 1930. The average weekly amount of wages paid to these men through the clearing houses was £24,252 in the five weeks ended 30th October, 1931, compared with £20,703 in September, 1931, and with £29,721 in October, 1930.

Other Ports in England and Wales.—At the South Wales ports employment was, on the whole, slack, but a little better than in September. It continued to be good at Avonmouth, but was slack and worse than in the previous month at Southampton. At Plymouth and other South-Western ports it remained slack.

Scottish and Irish Ports.—Employment showed an improvement at several Scottish ports; it was fair at Dundee and at Grangemouth, and moderate at Glasgow. At Leith, on the other hand, it was reported to have declined. At Belfast it remained fair.

* 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.

|| The percentages for September have been revised (see page 435).

* The percentages for September have been revised (see page 435.)

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 26th October, 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 434 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 434.

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 26th OCTOBER, 1931.

INDUSTRY.	GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.									GREAT BRITAIN ONLY.		
	WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED (including Casuals).			TEMPORARY STOPPAGES.			TOTAL.			WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED TEMPORARY STOPPAGES, AND CASUALS.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Fishing	5,056	71	5,127	99	15	114	5,155	86	5,241	5,133	85	5,218
Mining :—												
Coal Mining	200,715	1,213	201,928	101,409	684	102,093	302,124	1,897	304,021	302,082	1,897	303,979
Iron Ore and Ironstone Mining, etc.	4,763	3	4,766	870	—	870	5,633	3	5,636	5,602	3	5,605
Lead, Tin and Copper Mining ...	3,118	10	3,128	69	—	69	3,187	10	3,197	3,185	10	3,195
Stone Quarrying and Mining ...	6,653	24	6,677	2,349	1	2,350	9,002	25	9,027	8,532	23	8,555
Slate Quarrying and Mining ...	1,239	5	1,244	30	—	30	1,269	5	1,274	1,269	5	1,274
Mining and Quarrying not separately specified	2,918	273	3,191	531	20	551	3,449	293	3,742	3,345	292	3,637
Clay, Sand, Gravel and Chalk Pits	3,334	34	3,368	624	5	629	3,958	39	3,997	3,882	39	3,921
Non-Metalliferous Mining Products :—												
Coke Ovens and By-Product Works	3,463	40	3,503	519	10	529	3,982	50	4,032	3,982	50	4,032
Artificial Stone and Concrete ...	3,751	182	3,933	666	30	696	4,417	212	4,629	4,338	212	4,550
Cement, Limekilns and Whiting ...	2,709	171	2,880	535	10	545	3,244	181	3,425	3,197	181	3,378
Brick, Tile, etc., Making	11,921	1,756	13,677	2,675	316	2,991	14,596	2,072	16,668	14,307	2,071	16,378
Pottery, Earthenware, etc.	5,630	7,843	13,473	4,164	6,366	10,530	9,794	14,209	24,003	9,712	14,207	23,919
Glass Trades :—												
Glass (excluding Bottles and Scien- tific Glass)	4,275	1,093	5,368	1,368	249	1,617	5,643	1,342	6,985	5,629	1,342	6,971
Glass Bottles	3,473	410	3,883	1,220	48	1,268	4,693	458	5,151	4,691	458	5,149
Chemicals, etc. :—												
Chemicals	14,875	2,077	16,952	1,360	170	1,530	16,235	2,247	18,482	16,094	2,244	18,338
Explosives	1,390	874	2,264	418	90	508	1,808	964	2,772	1,808	964	2,772
Paint, Varnish, Red and White Leads	1,587	555	2,142	187	49	236	1,774	604	2,378	1,770	604	2,374
Oil, Glue, Soap, Ink, Matches, etc.	6,566	2,084	8,650	1,159	289	1,448	7,725	2,373	10,098	7,678	2,340	10,018
Metal Manufacture :—												
Pig Iron (Blast Furnaces)	6,844	43	6,887	1,191	12	1,203	8,035	55	8,090	8,030	55	8,085
Steel Melting and Iron Puddling, Iron and Steel Rolling and Forging	40,218	523	40,741	34,269	149	34,418	74,487	672	75,159	74,476	672	75,148
Brass, Copper, Zinc, Tin, Lead, etc.	7,462	569	8,031	2,968	46	3,014	10,430	615	11,045	10,356	613	10,969
Tin Plates	5,207	485	5,692	4,108	363	4,471	9,315	848	10,163	9,315	848	10,163
Iron and Steel Tubes	5,553	253	5,806	7,817	57	7,874	13,370	310	13,680	13,369	310	13,679
Wire, Wire Netting, Wire Ropes ...	2,848	701	3,549	2,060	129	2,189	4,908	830	5,738	4,907	830	5,737
Engineering, etc. :—												
General Engineering; Engineers' Iron and Steel Founding	117,415	5,768	123,183	41,002	2,370	43,372	158,417	8,138	166,555	156,102	8,125	164,227
Electrical Engineering	9,150	2,279	11,429	1,978	396	2,374	11,128	2,675	13,803	11,058	2,674	13,732
Marine Engineering, etc.	23,422	139	23,561	3,827	66	3,893	27,249	205	27,454	24,237	202	24,439
Constructional Engineering	6,400	79	6,479	2,249	30	2,279	8,649	109	8,758	8,595	109	8,704
Construction and Repair of Vehicles :—												
Motor Vehicles, Cycles and Aircraft Carriages, Carts, etc.	40,509	3,404	43,913	11,768	675	12,443	52,277	4,079	56,356	51,925	4,070	55,995
Railway Carriages, Wagons and Tramcars	3,063	287	3,350	529	56	585	3,592	343	3,935	3,538	343	3,881
Tramcars	10,204	165	10,369	2,044	17	2,061	12,248	182	12,430	12,241	182	12,423

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 ...	109,779	569	110,348	4,854	101	4,955	114,633	670	115,303	108,865	627	109,492
Metal Trades :—												
Stove, Grate, Pipe, etc., and General Iron Founding ...	15,146	1,561	16,707	5,242	289	5,531	20,388	1,850	22,238	20,303	1,850	22,153
Electrical Wiring and Contracting ...	3,183	82	3,265	190	6	196	3,373	88	3,461	3,319	87	3,406
Electrical Cables, Wire and Lamps	8,195	4,712	12,908	1,199	466	1,665	9,395	5,178	14,573	9,355	5,178	14,533
Hand Tools, Cutlery, Saws, Files ...	6,041	2,433	8,474	4,247	593	4,840	10,288	3,026	13,314	10,283	3,025	13,308
Bolts, Nuts, Screws, Rivets, Nails, etc.	2,492	2,868	5,360	1,800	873	2,673	4,292	3,741	8,033	4,292	3,741	8,033
Brass and Allied Metal Wares ...	3,123	2,087	5,210	1,037	301	1,338	4,160	2,388	6,548	4,150	2,388	6,538
Heating and Ventilating Apparatus	1,297	70	1,367	189	3	192	1,485	73	1,559	1,476	73	1,549
Watches, Clocks, Plate, Jewellery, etc.	3,102	2,983	6,085	1,271	751	2,022	4,373	3,734	8,107	4,354	3,733	8,087
Metal Industries not separately specified ...	21,932	14,062	35,994	6,668	2,654	9,322	28,650	16,716	45,366	28,461	16,706	45,167
Textile Trades :—												
Cotton ...	44,467	93,239	143,706	15,723	29,672	45,395	60,190	128,911	189,101	60,180	128,903	189,083
Woolen and Worsted ...	11,742	19,030	30,772	8,688	12,972	21,660	20,430	32,002	52,432	20,268	31,878	52,146
Silk Manufacture and Artificial Silk Weaving ...	3,393	4,749	8,142	1,518	2,981	4,499	4,911	7,730	12,641	4,904	7,728	12,632
Artificial Silk Yarn ...	2,936	2,713	5,649	805	864	1,669	3,801	3,577	7,378	3,747	3,566	7,313
Linen ...	6,032	10,482	16,514	1,430	2,621	4,051	7,432	13,103	20,535	1,200	3,689	4,889
Jute ...	4,160	10,152	14,312	453	735	1,188	4,613	10,887	15,500	4,613	10,887	15,500
Hemp, Rope, Cord, Twine, etc.	1,269	2,619	3,888	381	901	1,282	1,650	3,520	5,170	1,456	3,088	4,544
Hosiery ...	1,753	8,166	9,919	1,188	4,100	5,288	2,941	12,266	15,207	2,914	12,188	15,102
Lace ...	654	1,027	1,681	503	789	1,292	1,157	1,816	2,973	1,157	1,815	2,972
Carpets ...	731	1,616	2,347	934	1,250	2,184	1,665	2,866	4,531	1,665	2,866	4,531
Textiles not separately specified ...	1,911	4,892	6,803	943	1,939	2,882	2,854	6,831	9,685	2,652	6,233	8,885
Textile Bleaching, Printing, Dyeing, etc.	13,410	6,142	19,552	14,814	4,345	19,159	28,224	10,487	38,711	27,049	9,349	36,398
Leather and Leather Goods :—												
Tanning, Currying and Dressing ...	4,037	1,171	5,208	1,084	238	1,322	5,121	1,409	6,530	5,115	1,409	6,524
Leather Goods ...	1,853	1,607	3,460	425	394	819	2,288	2,001	4,289	2,273	1,987	4,260
Clothing Trades :—												
Tailoring ...	10,217	12,389	22,606	2,482	12,839	15,321	12,699	25,228	37,927	11,912	24,549	36,461
Dress Making and Millinery ...	1,041	7,009	8,050	116	2,233	2,349	1,157	9,242	10,399	1,136	8,940	10,076
Hats and Caps (including Straw Plait)	1,377	2,488	3,865	1,038	1,530	2,568	2,415	4,018	6,433	2,413	3,989	6,402
Shirts, Collars, Underclothing, etc.	974	8,055	9,029	89	4,019	4,108	1,063	12,074	13,137	837	7,398	8,235
Dress Industries not separately specified ...	1,008	1,443	2,451	574	603	1,177	1,582	2,046	3,628	1,578	2,039	3,617
Boots, Shoes, Slippers and Clogs ...	10,166	4,768	14,934	4,775	2,301	7,076	14,941	7,069	22,010	14,710	7,056	21,766
Food, Drink and Tobacco :—												
Bread, Biscuits, Cakes, etc. ...	12,769	7,146	19,915	623	515	1,138	13,392	7,661	21,053	12,722	7,545	20,267
Grain Milling ...	2,501	306	2,807	212	31	243	2,713	337	3,050	2,631	327	2,958
Cocoa, Chocolate and Sugar Confectionery ...	3,525	5,981	9,506	602	1,692	2,294	4,127	7,673	11,800	4,069	7,625	11,694
Food Industries not separately specified ...	8,222	10,709	18,931	705	1,017	1,722	8,927	11,726	20,653	8,800	11,644	20,444
Drink Industries ...	10,440	5,025	15,465	709	723	1,432	11,149	5,748	16,897	10,731	5,692	16,423
Tobacco, Cigars, Cigarettes and Snuff	1,388	3,563	4,951	59	240	299	1,447	3,803	5,250	1,378	3,648	5,026
Sawmilling, Furniture and Woodwork :—												
Sawmilling and Machined Woodwork	9,989	290	10,279	1,068	57	1,125	11,057	347	11,404	10,699	342	11,041
Wood Boxes and Packing Cases ...	2,316	357	2,673	541	45	586	2,857	412	3,269	2,839	412	3,251
Furniture Making, Upholstering, etc.	17,652	2,874	20,526	1,926	460	2,386	19,578	3,334	22,912	19,216	3,298	22,514
Woodworking not separately specified ...	3,306	892	4,198	671	238	909	3,977	1,130	5,107	3,830	1,114	4,944
Printing and Paper Trades :—												
Paper and Paper Board ...	2,992	1,385	4,377	1,501	903	2,404	4,493	2,288	6,781	4,472	2,281	6,753
Cardboard Boxes, Paper Bags and Stationery ...	1,955	3,929	5,884	212	677	889	2,167	4,606	6,773	2,115	4,489	6,604
Wall Paper Making ...	533	316	849	60	23	83	593	339	932	593	339	932
Stationery and Typewriting Requisites (not paper) ...	286	371	657	23	32	55	309	403	712	309	402	711
Printing, Publishing and Bookbinding	18,570	10,209	28,779	1,114	1,420	2,534	19,684	11,629	31,313	19,333	11,393	30,726
Building and Public Works Contracting :—												
Building ...	202,969	560	203,529	8,005	31	8,036	210,974	591	211,565	204,638	581	205,219
Public Works Contracting, etc. ...	83,246	65	83,311	1,852	5	1,857	91,098	70	91,168	89,075	70	89,145
Other Manufacturing Industries :—												
Rubber ...	6,540	4,552	11,092	1,450	1,293	2,743	7,990	5,845	13,835	7,977	5,842	13,819
Oilcloth, Linoleum, etc. ...	1,451	343	1,794	496	48	544	1,947	391	2,338	1,947	390	2,337
Brushes and Brooms ...	1,255	574	1,829	334	130	464	1,589	704	2,293	1,559	702	2,261
Scientific and Photographic Instruments and Apparatus ...	1,610	732	2,342	554	319	873	2,174	1,051	3,225	2,161	1,051	3,212
Musical Instruments ...	4,035	720	4,755	464	29	493	4,499	749	5,248	4,493	749	5,242
Toys, Games and Sports Requisites	1,085	745	1,830	366	130	496	1,451	875	2,326	1,450	875	2,325
Gas, Water and Electricity Supply Industries ...	15,945	380	16,325	599	20	619	16,544	400	16,944	16,283	396	16,679
Transport and Communication :—												
Railway Service ...	17,654	640	18,294	1,090	17	1,107	18,744	657	19,401	18,529	650	19,179
Tramway and Omnibus Service ...	9,222	884	10,106	376	35	411	9,593	919	10,512	9,346	913	10,259
Road Transport not separately specified ...	39,807	757	40,564	2,014	16	2,030	41,821	773	42,594	40,933	768	41,701
Shipping Service ...	55,352	1,078	56,430	475	99	574	55,827	1,177	57,004	54,934	1,164	56,098
Dock, Harbour, River and Canal Service ...	66,647	266	66,913	1,283	48	1,331	67,930	314	68,244	66,695	313	67,008
Transport, Communication and Storage not separately specified	3,240	184	3,424	94	22	116	3,334	206	3,540	3,314	205	3,519
Distributive Trades ...	157,787	74,952	232,739	6,886	5,080	11,966	164,673	80,032	244,705	159,316	78,413	237,729
Commerce, Banking, Insurance and Finance ...	11,630	2,587	14,217	195	42	237	11,825	2,629	14,454	11,668	2,602	14,270
Miscellaneous Trades and Services :—												
National Government ...	11,753	1,368	13,121	334	83	417	12,087	1,451	13,538	11,683	1,392	13,075
Local Government ...	52,079	1,460	53,539	1,701	60	1,761	53,780	1,520	55,300	51,842	1,490	53,332
Professional Services ...	5,811	2,470	8,281	285	68	353	6,096	2,538	8,634	5,950	2,481	8,431
Entertainments and Sports ...	14,506	6,529	21,035	298	170	468	14,804	6,699	21,503	14,374	6,648	21,022
Hotel, Public House, Restaurant, Boarding House, Club, &c., Service	28,946	54,420	83,366	322	1,122	1,444	29,268	55,542	84,810	28,621	54,780	83,401
Laundries, Dyeing and Dry Cleaning	3,420	11,556	14,976	134	2,167	2,301	3,554	13,733	17,287	3,454	13,410	16,864
Industries and Services not separately specified ...	44,252	3,667	47,919	1,382	656	2,038	45,634	4,323	49,957	44,214	4,235	48,449
TOTAL ...	1,805,929	499,459	2,305,388	361,747	125,844	487,591	2,167,676	625,303	2,792,979*	2,119,215	603,696	2,722,911

* Including 117,866 Casuals (Males, 115,673; Females, 2,193).

NUMBERS INSURED AND PERCENTAGES UNEMPLOYED.

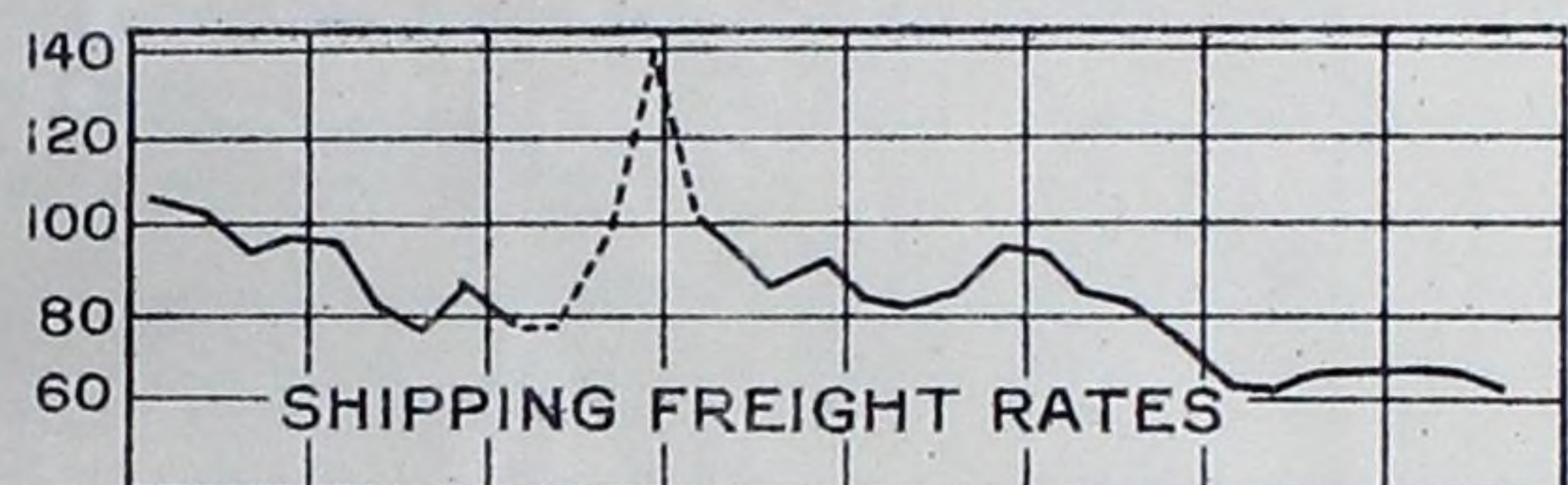
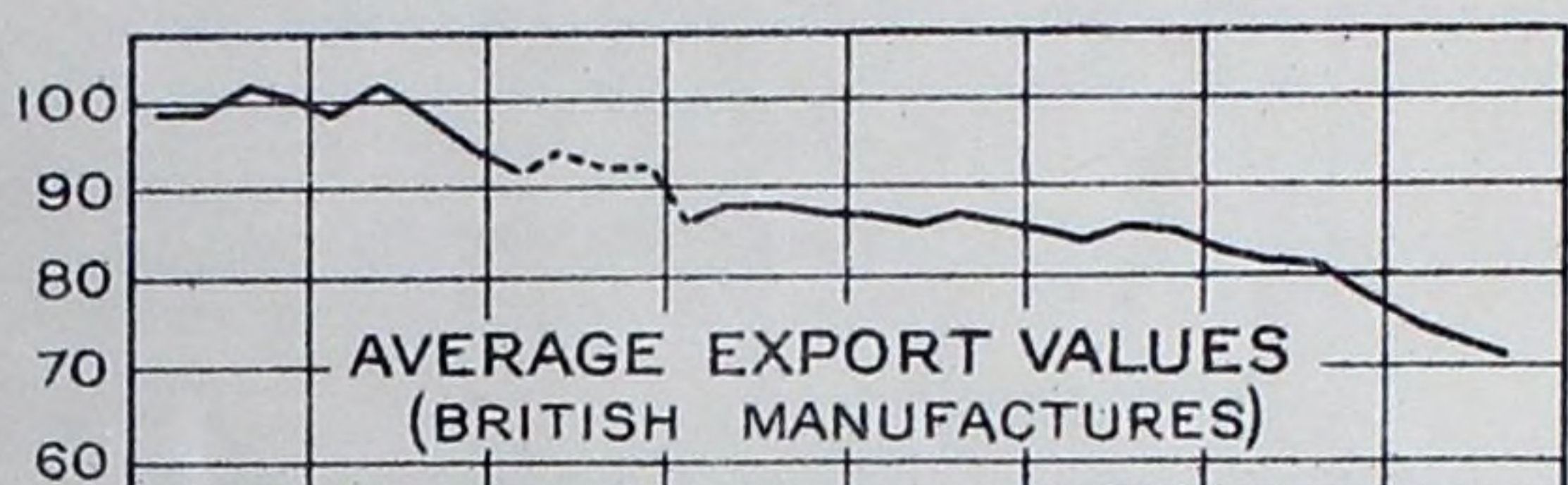
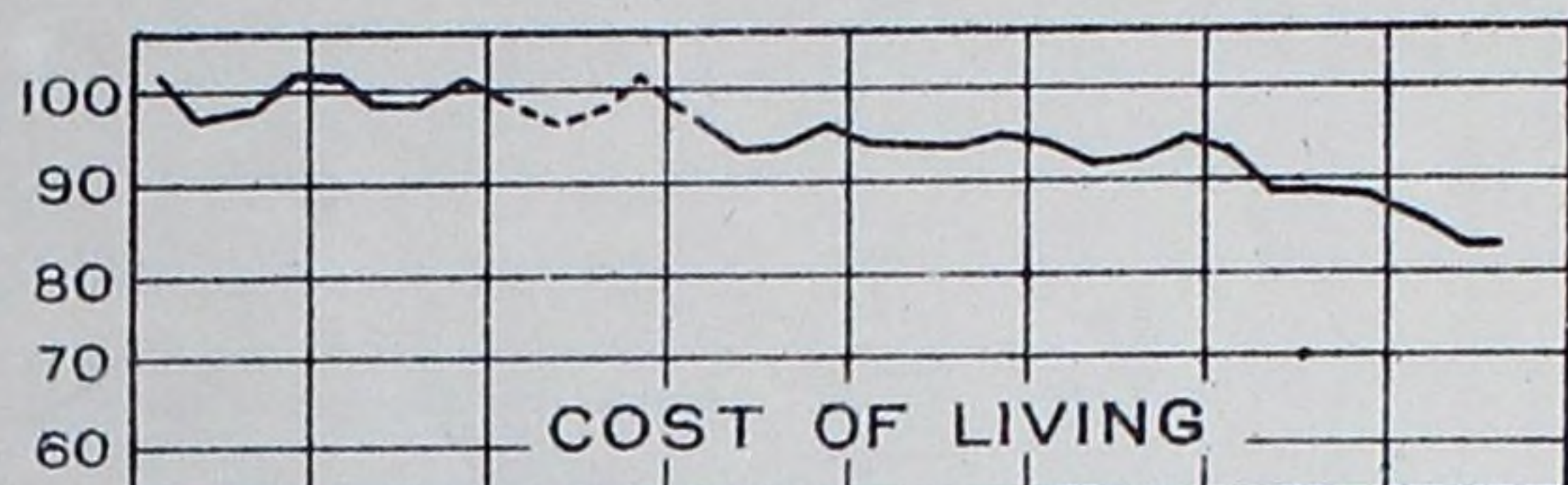
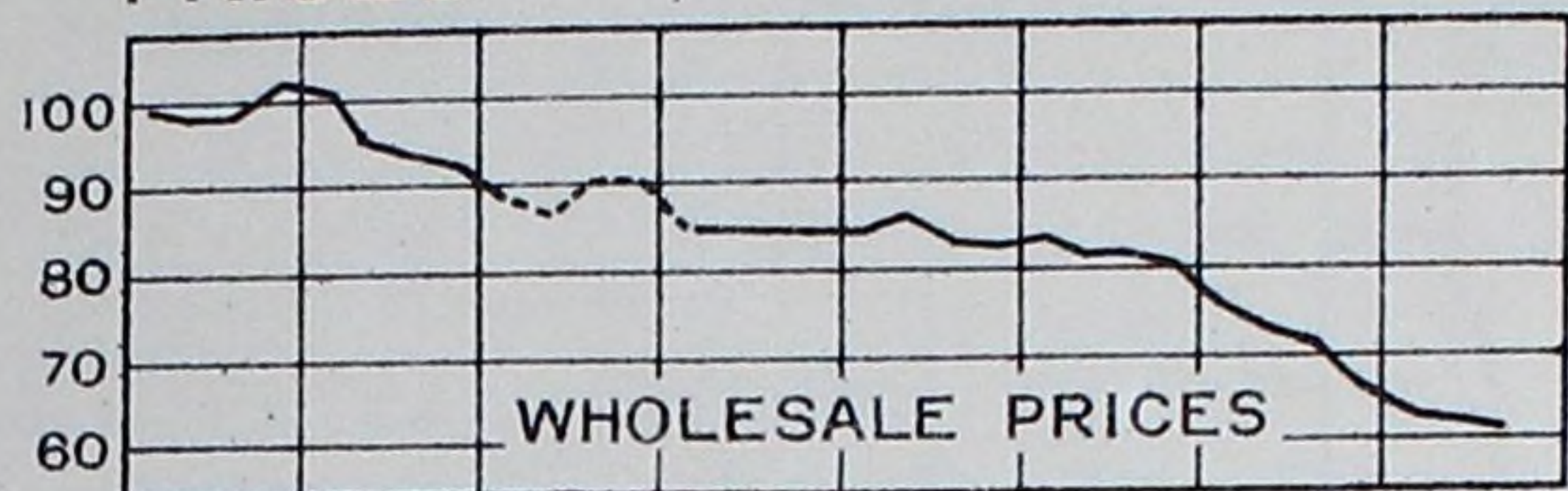
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.																	GREAT BRITAIN ONLY. TOTAL PER- CENTAGES AT 26TH OCT., 1931.
INDUSTRY.	ESTIMATED NUMBER OF INSURED PERSONS AT JULY, 1931.			PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED AT 26TH OCTOBER, 1931.									INCREASE (+) OR DECREASE (-) IN TOTAL PERCENT- AGES AS COMPARED WITH				
				WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED (including Casuals).			TEMPORARY STOPPAGES.			TOTAL.							
				Males.	Females.	Total.	Males	Fe- males.	Total.	Males	Fe- males.	Total				Males.		Fe- males.	Total	21ST SEPT., 1931.*	27TH OCT., 1930.	21st OCT., 1929.
Fishing	29,800	950	30,750	17.0	7.5	16.7	0.3	1.6	0.3	17.3	9.1	17.0	- 1.7	+ 4.9	+ 7.7	17.1	
Mining :—	1,041,120	5,750	1,046,870	19.3	21.1	19.3	9.7	11.9	9.7	29.0	33.0	29.0	- 1.4	+ 2.5	+13.5	29.0	
Coal Mining	12,860	20	12,880	37.0	15.0	37.0	6.8	—	6.8	43.8	15.0	43.8	- 4.7	+16.6	+39.0	43.7	
Iron Ore and Ironstone Mining, etc.	4,830	40	4,870	64.6	25.0	64.2	1.4	—	1.4	66.0	25.0	65.6	...	+ 8.9	+47.1	65.7	
Lead, Tin and Copper Mining ...	46,020	410	46,430	14.5	5.9	14.4	5.1	0.2	5.0	19.6	6.1	19.4	+ 2.4	+ 3.4	+10.0	19.2	
Stone Quarrying and Mining ...	10,340	10	10,350	12.0	50.0	12.0	0.3	—	0.3	12.3	50.0	12.3	-19.2	- 8.5	- 2.7	12.3	
Slate Quarrying and Mining ...	14,220	1,650	15,870	20.5	16.5	20.1	3.8	1.3	3.5	24.3	17.8	23.6	+ 0.6	+ 9.8	+14.5	23.6	
Mining and Quarrying not separately specified	16,770	250	17,020	19.9	13.6	19.8	3.7	2.0	3.7	23.6	15.6	23.5	+ 0.4	+ 9.8	+17.0	23.3	
Clay, Sand, Gravel and Chalk Pits ...	11,410	120	11,530	30.3	33.3	30.4	4.6	8.4	4.6	34.9	41.7	35.0	- 3.4	+ 6.2	+24.8	35.0	
Non-Metalliferous Mining Products :—	18,070	1,560	19,630	20.8	11.7	20.0	3.6	1.9	3.6	24.4	13.6	23.6	+ 0.7	+ 3.0	+ 9.5	23.3	
Coke Ovens and By-Product Works	17,050	870	17,920	15.9	19.7	16.1	3.1	1.1	3.0	19.0	20.8	19.1	+ 1.7	+ 5.9	+11.1	19.3	
Artificial Stone and Concrete ...	80,220	7,400	87,620	14.9	23.7	15.6	3.3	4.3	3.4	18.2	28.0	19.0	+ 1.3	+ 3.4	+ 8.8	18.9	
Cement, Limekilns and Whiting ...	35,310	43,400	78,710	15.9	18.1	17.1	11.8	14.6	13.4	27.7	32.7	30.5	- 2.2	+ 8.0	+19.5	30.4	
Brick, Tile, etc., Making	21,000	6,470	27,470	20.4	16.9	19.5	6.5	3.8	5.9	26.9	20.7	25.4	- 1.6	+11.0	+17.6	25.4	
Glass Trades :—	16,680	2,260	18,940	20.8	18.1	20.5	7.3	2.2	6.7	28.1	20.3	27.2	- 3.7	+ 3.2	+10.9	27.2	
Glass (excluding Bottles and Scien- tific Glass)	73,510	25,430	98,940	20.2	8.2	17.1	1.9	0.6	1.6	22.1	8.8	18.7	- 0.1	+ 3.8	+12.1	18.6	
Glass Bottles	11,320	5,430	16,750	12.3	16.1	13.5	3.7	1.7	3.1	16.0	17.8	16.6	+ 0.8	+ 5.0	+11.0	16.6	
Chemicals, etc. :—	15,310	5,200	20,510	10.4	10.7	10.4	1.2	0.9	1.2	11.6	11.6	11.6	+ 0.6	+ 2.5	+ 7.1	11.6	
Chemicals	54,760	22,910	77,670	12.0	9.1	11.1	2.1	1.3	1.9	14.1	10.4	13.0	- 0.2	+ 3.1	+ 6.9	13.0	
Explosives	19,330	150	19,480	35.4	28.7	35.4	6.2	8.0	6.1	41.6	36.7	41.5	- 3.9	+ 6.9	+31.2	41.5	
Paint, Varnish, Red and White Leads	165,080	4,270	169,350	24.4	12.2	24.1	20.7	3.5	20.3	45.1	15.7	44.4	- 4.8	+ 3.0	+24.4	44.4	
Oil, Glue, Soap, Ink, Matches, etc....	34,720	3,470	38,190	21.5	16.4	21.0	8.5	1.3	7.9	30.0	17.7	23.9	- 1.8	+ 7.6	+20.3	23.9	
Metal Manufacture :—	26,950	3,440	30,390	19.3	14.1	18.7	15.3	10.6	14.7	34.6	24.7	33.4	- 8.9	- 7.0	+ 6.1	33.4	
Pig Iron (Blast Furnaces)	28,050	1,770	29,820	19.8	14.3	19.5	27.9	3.2	26.4	47.7	17.5	45.9	- 1.5	+13.2	+34.2	45.9	
Steel Melting and Iron Puddling, Iron and Steel Rolling and Forging	18,710	4,060	22,770	15.2	17.3	15.6	11.0	3.1	9.6	26.2	20.4	25.2	- 8.2	- 1.3	+13.9	25.2	
Brass, Copper, Zinc, Tin, Lead, etc.	528,910	47,470	576,380	22.2	12.2	21.4	7.8	4.9	7.5	30.0	17.1	28.9	- 1.2	+ 7.4	+19.0	28.8	
Tin Plates	71,960	20,510	92,470	12.7	11.1	12.4	2.8	1.9	2.5	15.5	13.0	14.9	- 0.1	+ 4.8	+10.8	15.0	
Iron and Steel Tubes	54,180	1,060	55,240	43.2	13.1	42.7	7.1	6.2	7.0	50.3	19.3	49.7	+ 0.4	+23.5	+39.6	48.5	
Wire, Wire Netting, Wire Ropes ...	28,310	1,270	29,580	22.6	6.2	21.9	8.0	2.4	7.7	30.6	8.6	29.6	+ 1.2	+ 8.6	+18.5	29.6	
Engineering, etc. :—	225,710	25,610	251,320	17.9	13.3	17.5	5.3	2.6	4.9	23.2	15.9	22.4	- 1.2	+ 6.7	+14.4	22.5	
General Engineering; Engineers' Iron and Steel Founding	15,850	2,480	18,330	19.3	11.6	18.3	3.4	2.2	3.2	22.7	13.8	21.5	- 1.6	+ 5.4	+12.7	21.6	
Electrical Engineering	49,990	1,560	51,550	20.4	10.6	20.1	4.1	1.1	4.0	24.5	11.7	24.1	+ 0.9	+ 7.9	+13.4	24.2	
Marine Engineering, etc.	192,400	2,990	195,390	57.1	19.0	56.5	2.5	3.4	2.5	59.6	22.4	59.0	+ 0.8	+18.9	+33.8	59.6	
Constructional Engineering	83,200	9,240	92,440	18.2	16.9	18.1	6.3	3.1	6.0	24.5	20.0	24.1	- 1.5	+ 4.5	+15.2	24.0	
Construction and Repair of Vehicles :—	20,780	1,680	22,460	15.3	4.9	14.5	0.9	0.3	0.9	16.2	5.2	15.4	- 0.3	+ 5.5	+ 9.1	15.4	
Motor Vehicles, Cycles and Aircraft Carriages, Carts, etc.	64,910	43,430	108,340	12.6	10.8	11.9	1.9	1.1	1.6	14.5	11.9	13.5	- 0.4	+ 3.8	+ 9.5	13.4	
Railway Carriages, Wagons and Tramcars	23,500	11,080	34,580	25.7	22.0	24.5	18.1	5.3	14.0	43.8	27.3	38.5	- 2.3	+ 9.1	+22.6	38.5	
Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing ...	14,420	11,830	26,250	17.3	24.2	20.4	12.5	7.4	10.2	29.8	31.6	30.6	- 2.3	+ 4.9	+20.7	30.6	
Metal Trades :—	16,930	10,670	27,600	18.4	19.6	18.9	6.2	2.8	4.8	24.6	22.4	23.7	- 2.9	+ 5.1	+15.4	23.7	
Stove, Grate, Pipe, etc., and General Iron Founding	8,470	700	9,170	15.3	10.0	14.9	2.2	0.4	2.1	17.5	10.4	17.0	+ 2.2	+ 6.7	+12.6	17.1	
Electrical Wiring and Contracting ...	22,390	19,710	42,100	13.9	15.1	14.5	5.6	3.8	4.8	19.5	18.9	19.3	- 2.2	+ 6.5	+14.0	19.3	
Electrical Cables, Wire and Lamps...	127,800	78,530	206,330	17.2	17.9	17.5	5.2	3.4	4.5	22.4	21.3	22.0	- 1.8	+ 4.5	+14.0	22.0	
Hand Tools, Cutlery, Saws, Files ...	190,640	359,470	550,110	23.3	27.6	26.1	8.3	8.3	8.3	31.6	35.9	34.4	-11.4	- 6.9	+22.2	34.4	
Bolts, Nuts, Screws, Rivets, Nails, etc.	95,570	143,300	238,870	12.3	13.3	12.9											

CHARTS ILLUSTRATING THE COURSE OF TRADE

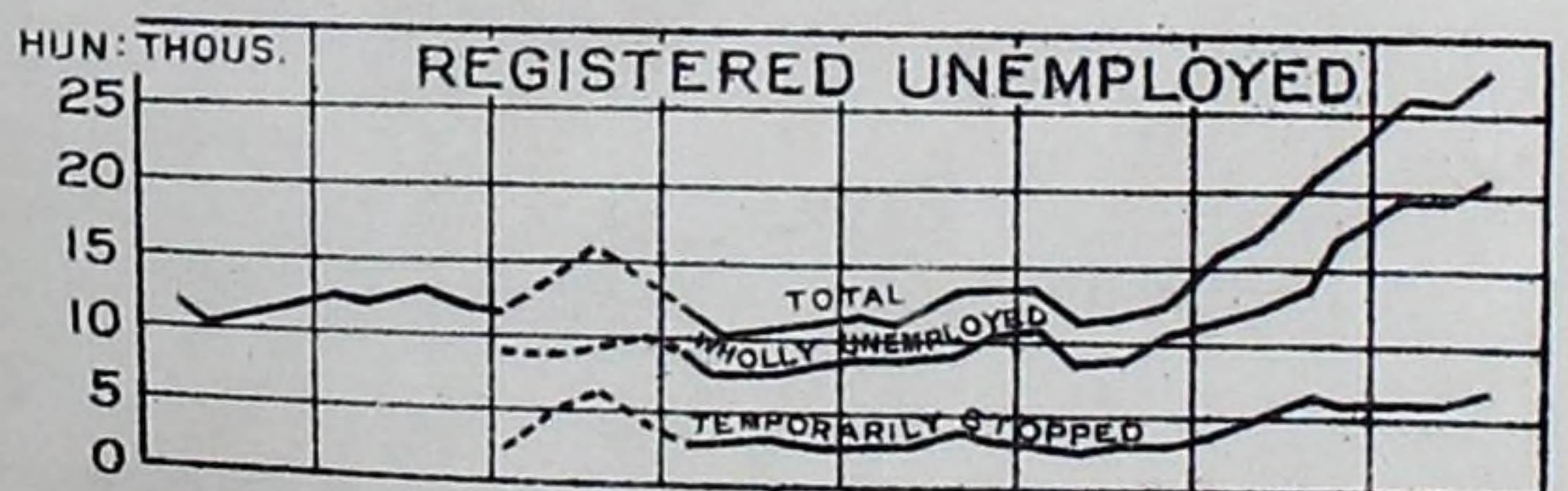
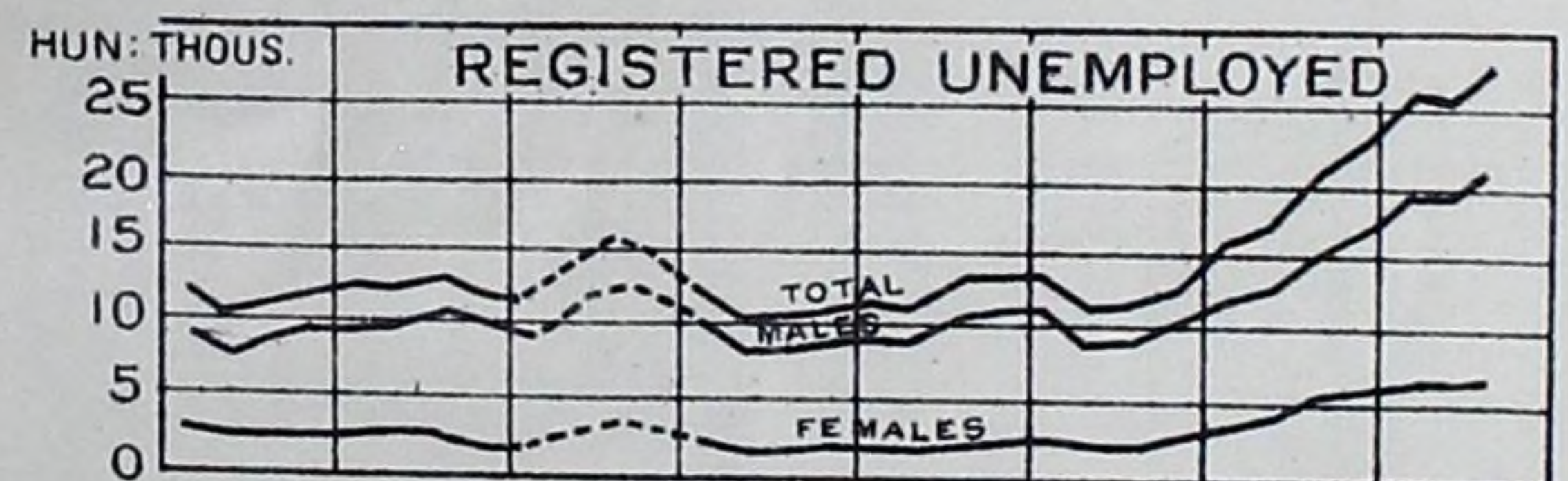
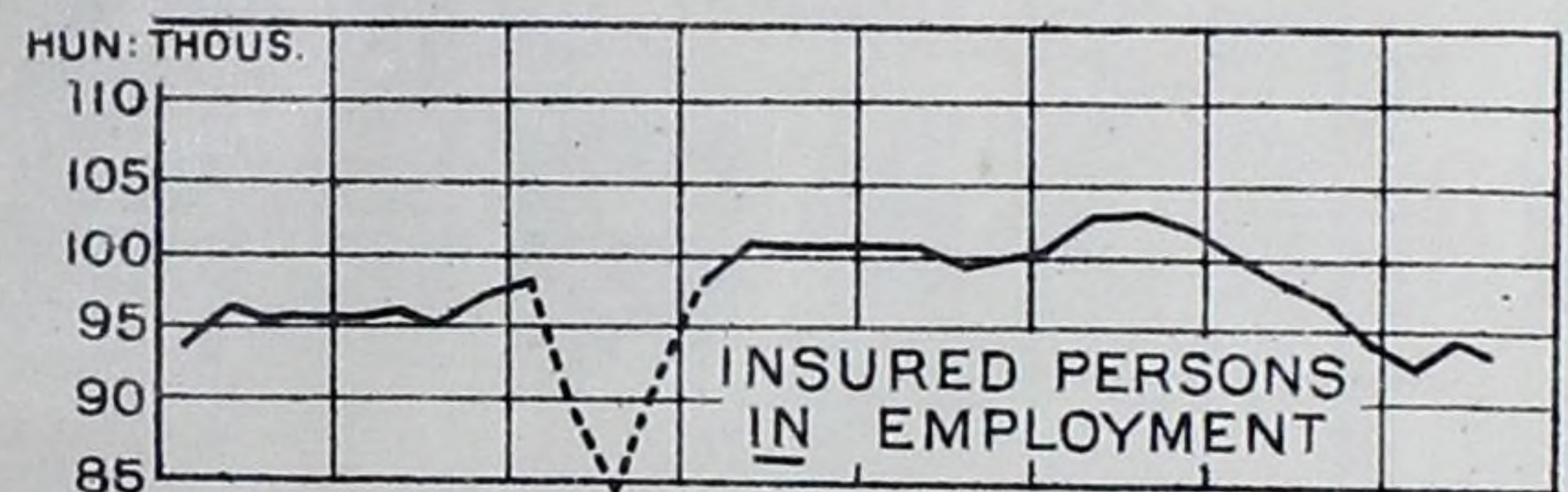
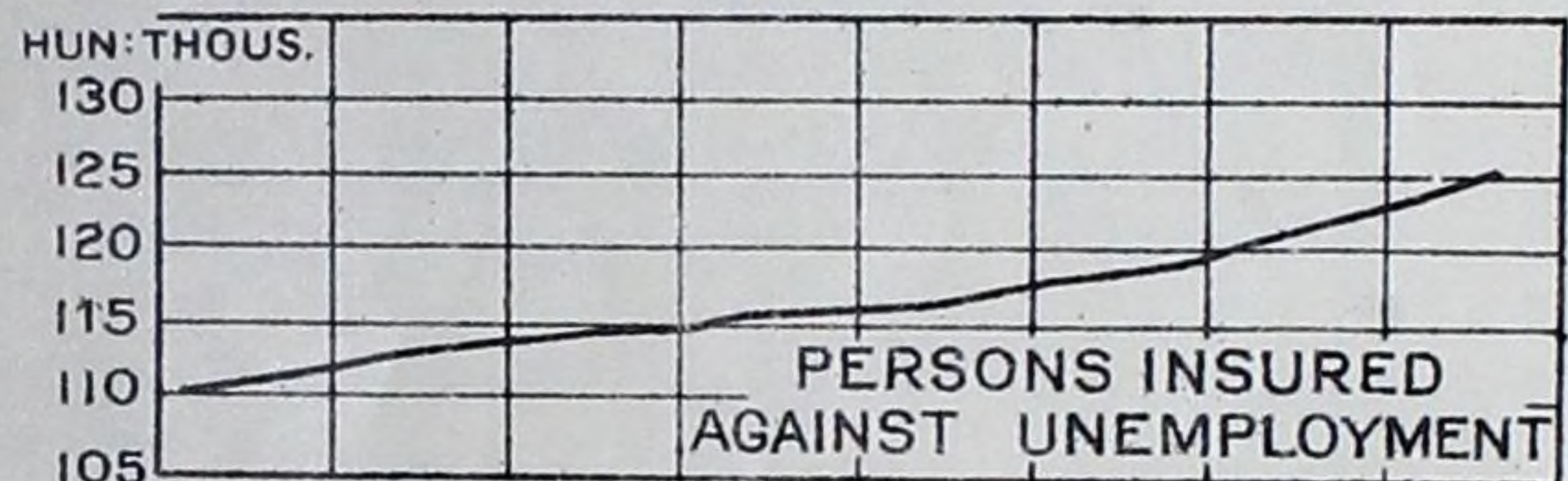
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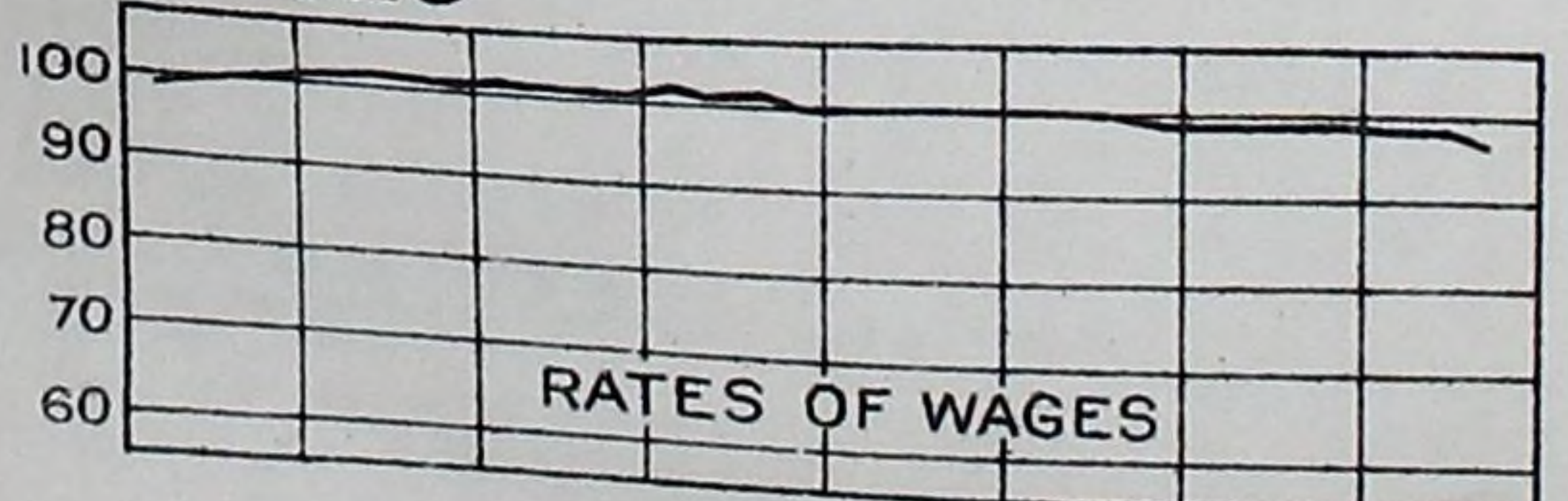
PRICES



EMPLOYMENT



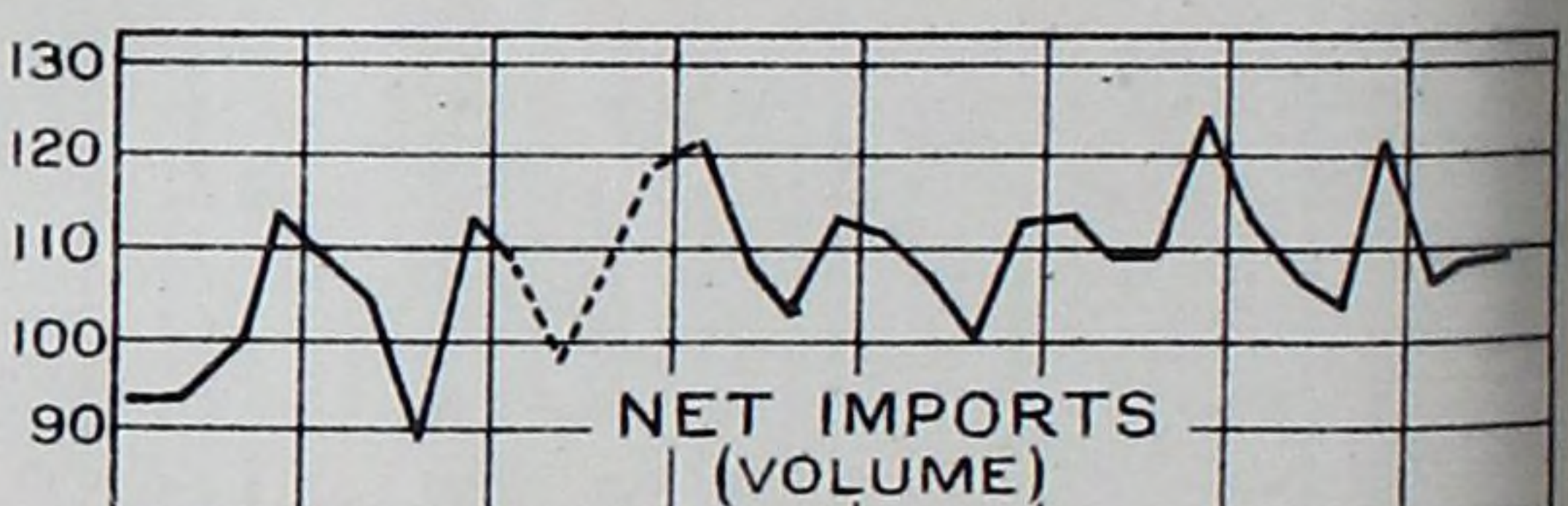
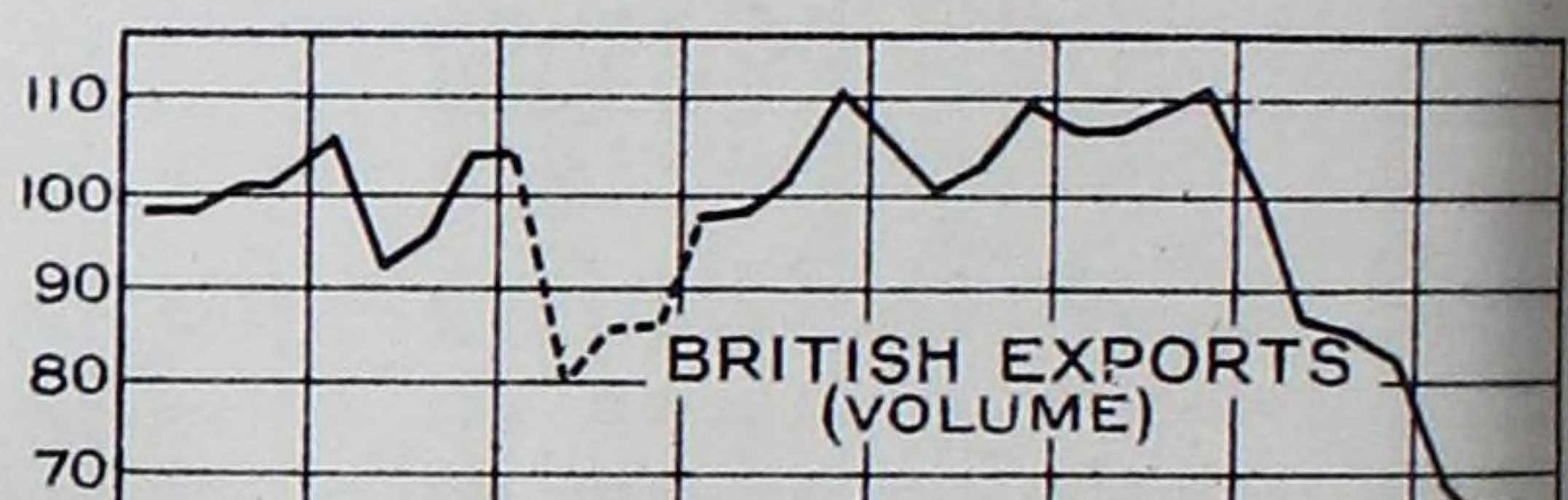
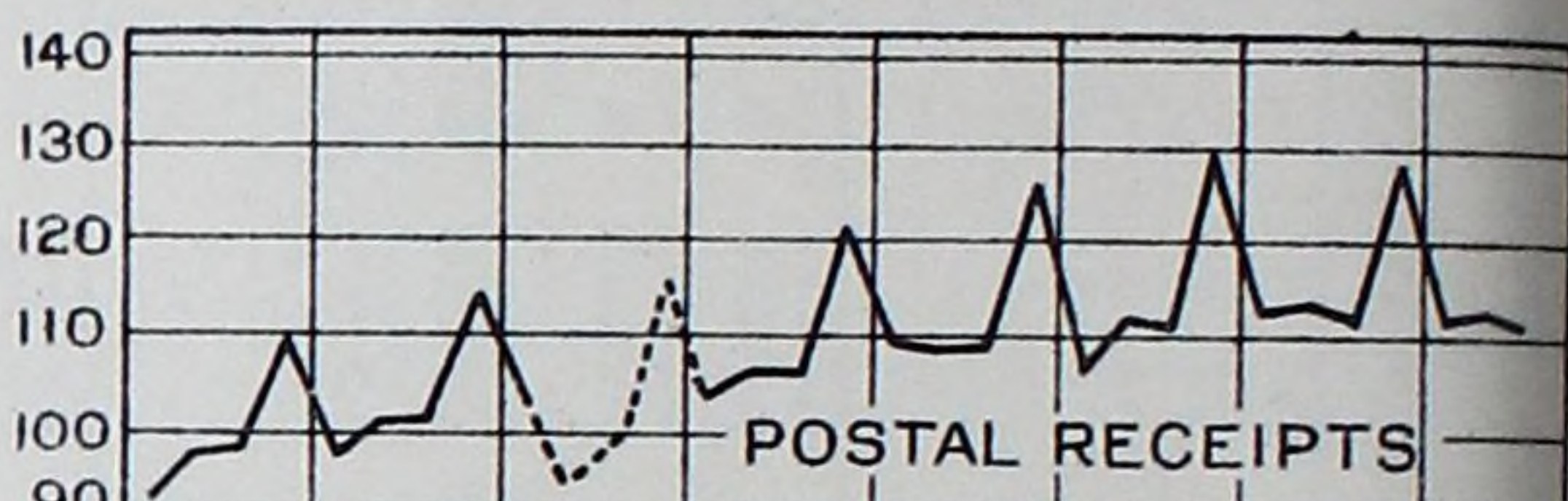
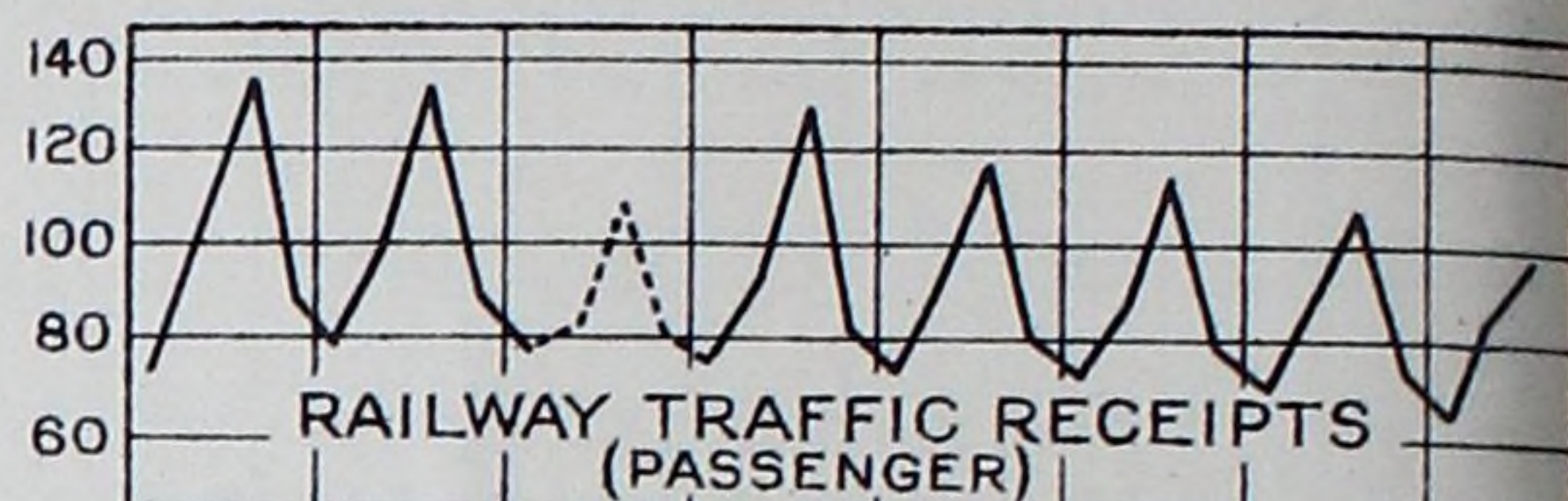
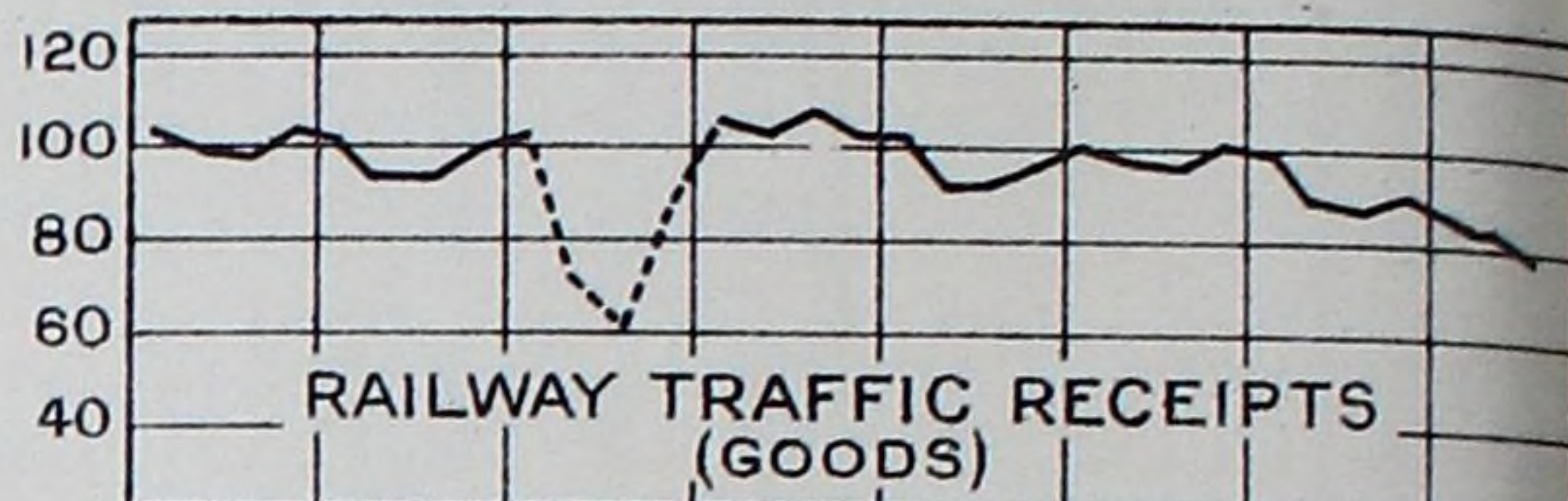
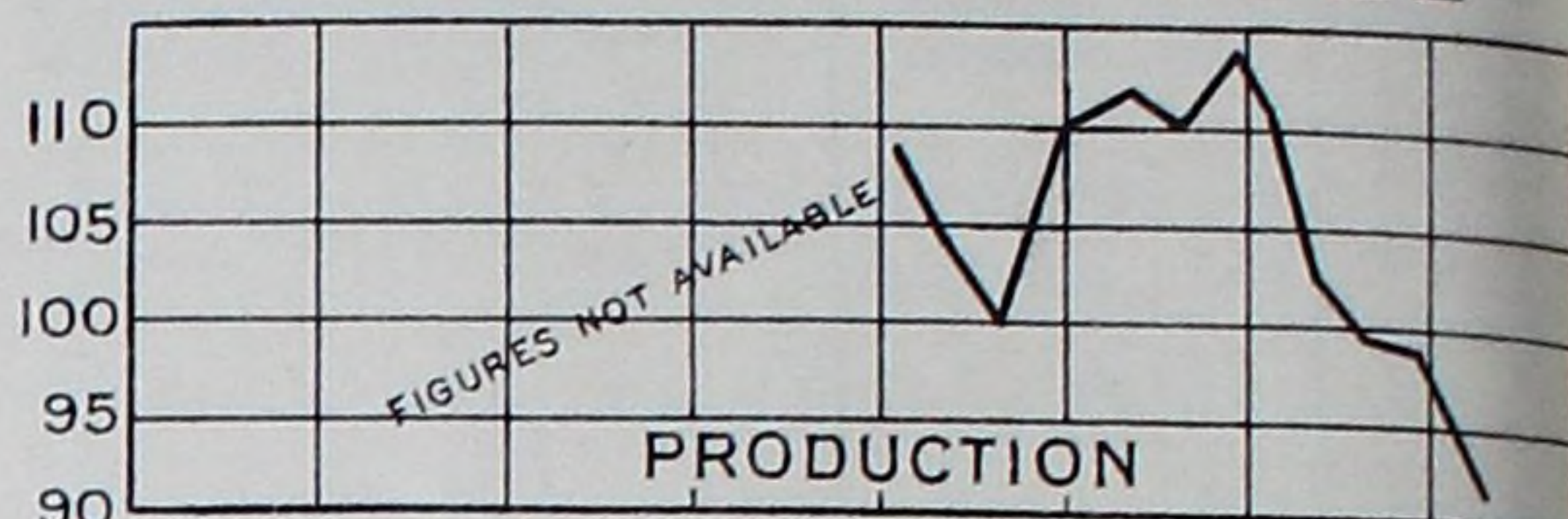
WAGES



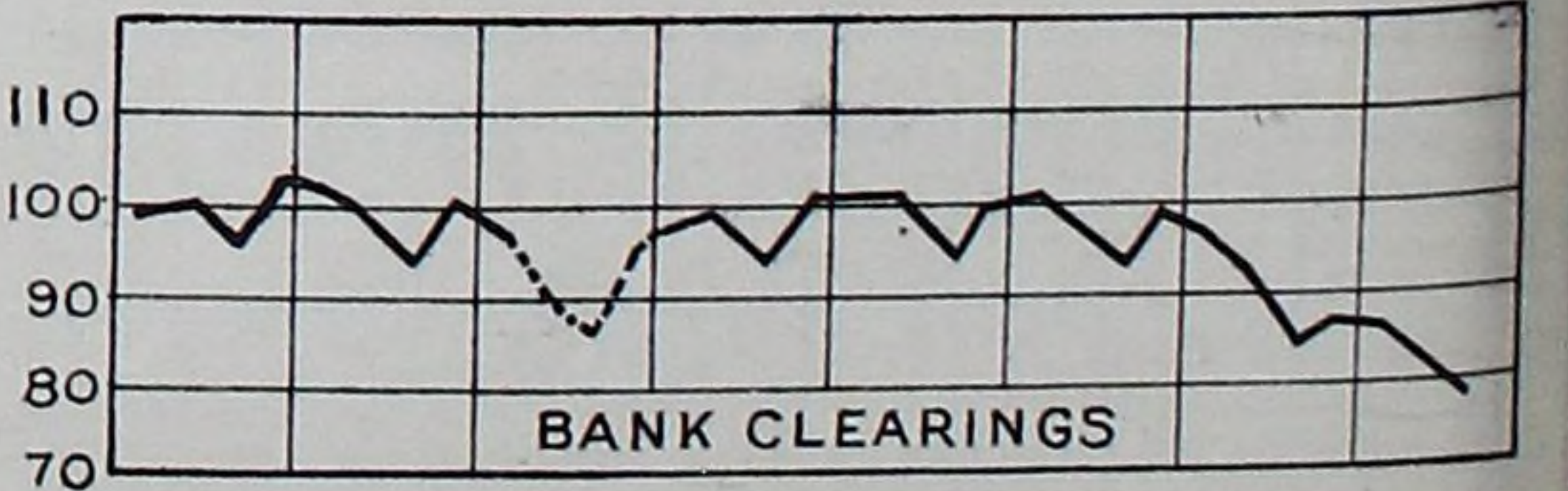
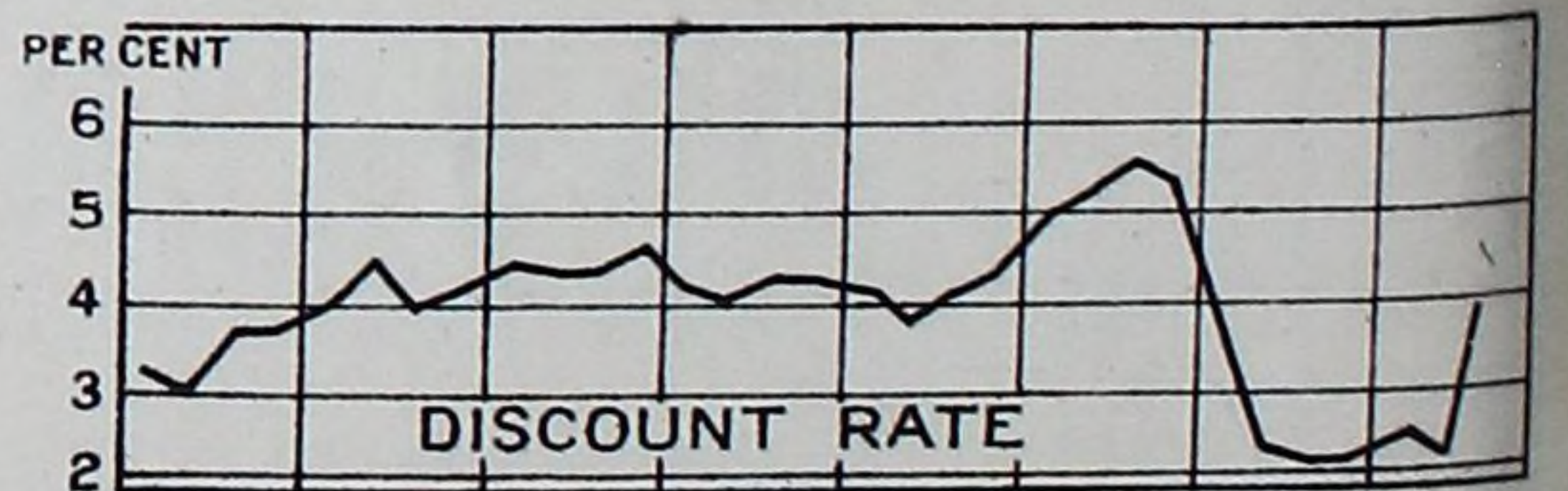
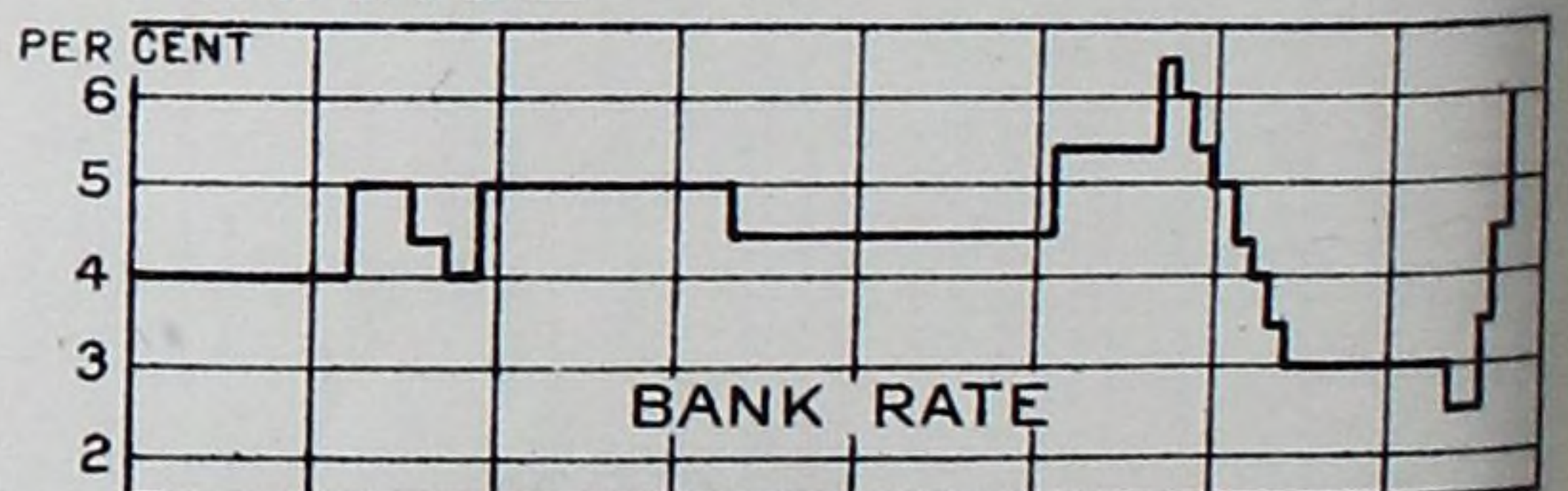
1924 1925 1926 1927 1928 1929 1930 1931

1924 1925 1926 1927 1928 1929 1930 1931

PRODUCTION AND TRADE



FINANCE



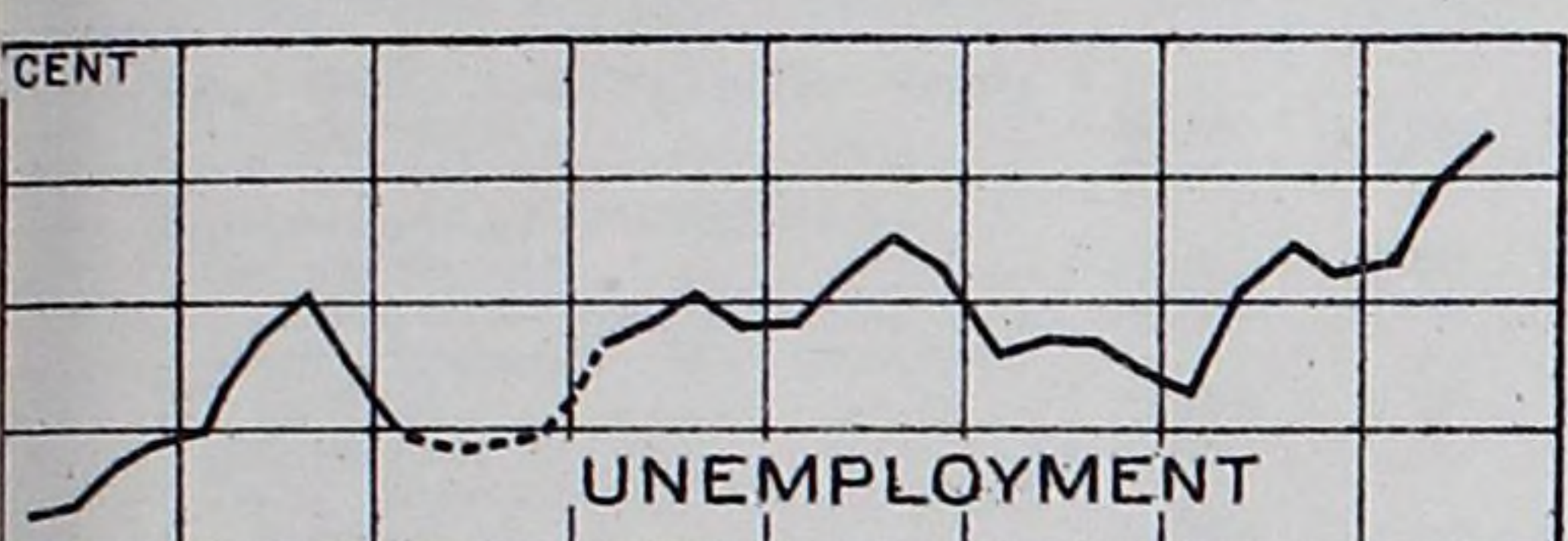
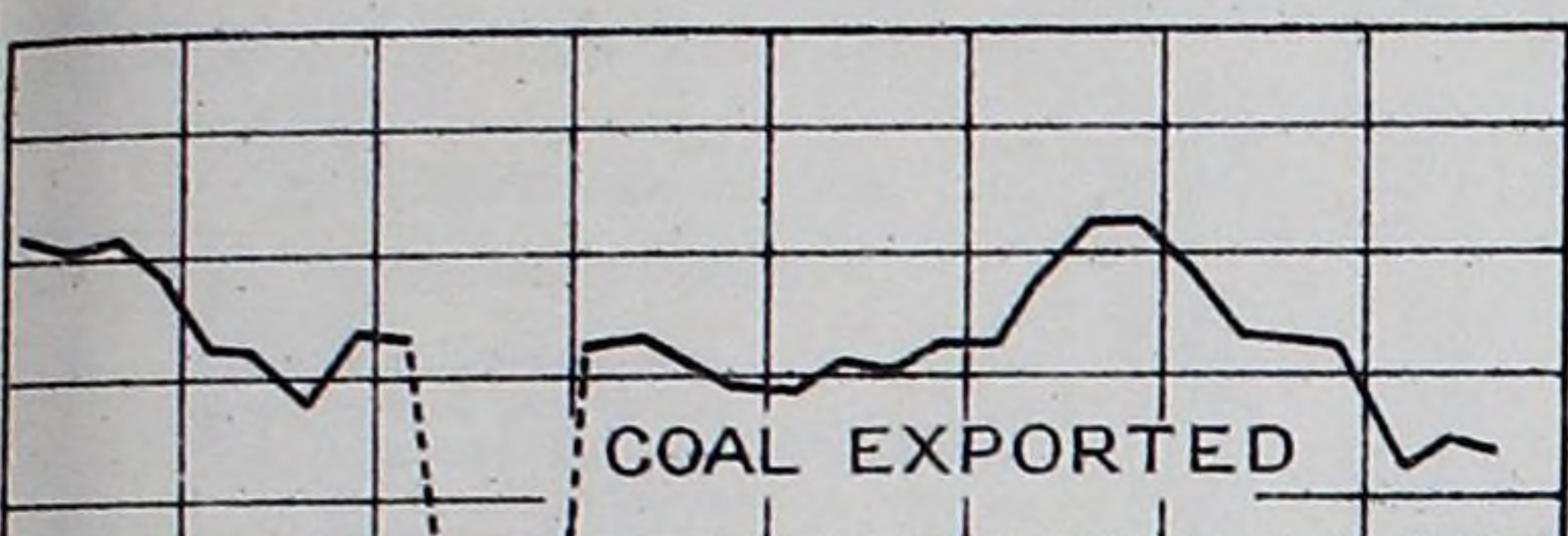
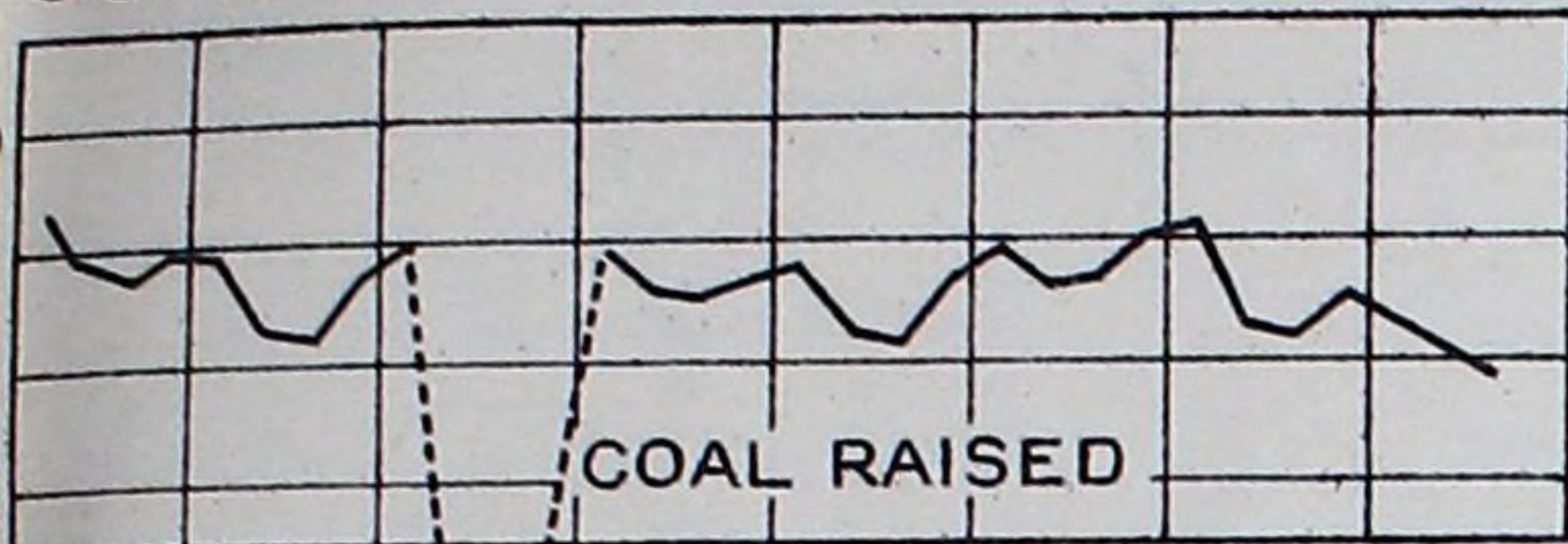
1924 1925 1926 1927 1928 1929 1930 1931

PUT, PRICES, WAGES, FINANCE AND EMPLOYMENT.

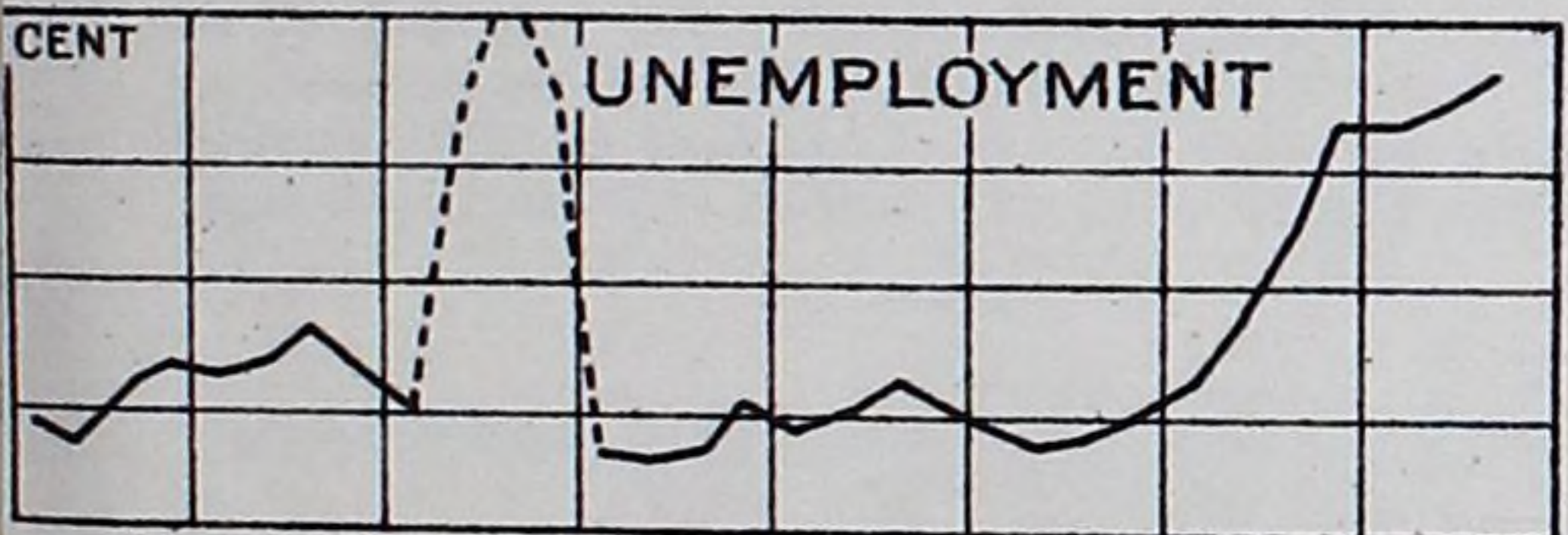
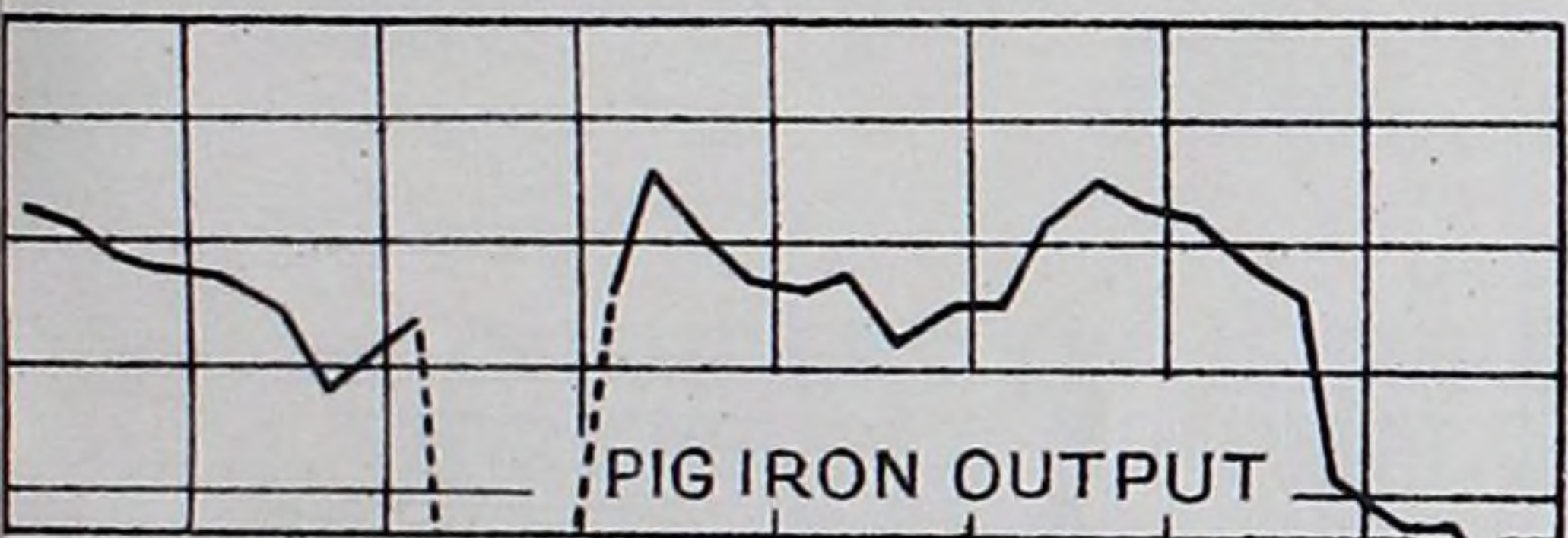
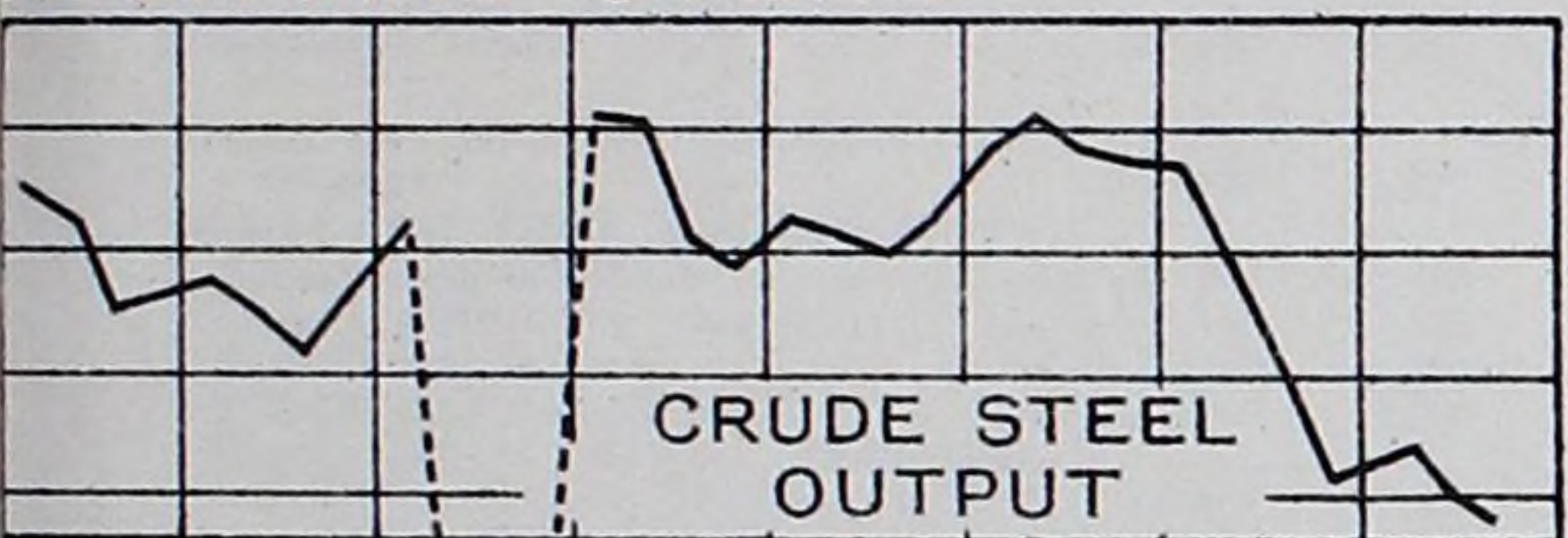
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1924 1925 1926 1927 1928 1929 1930 1931

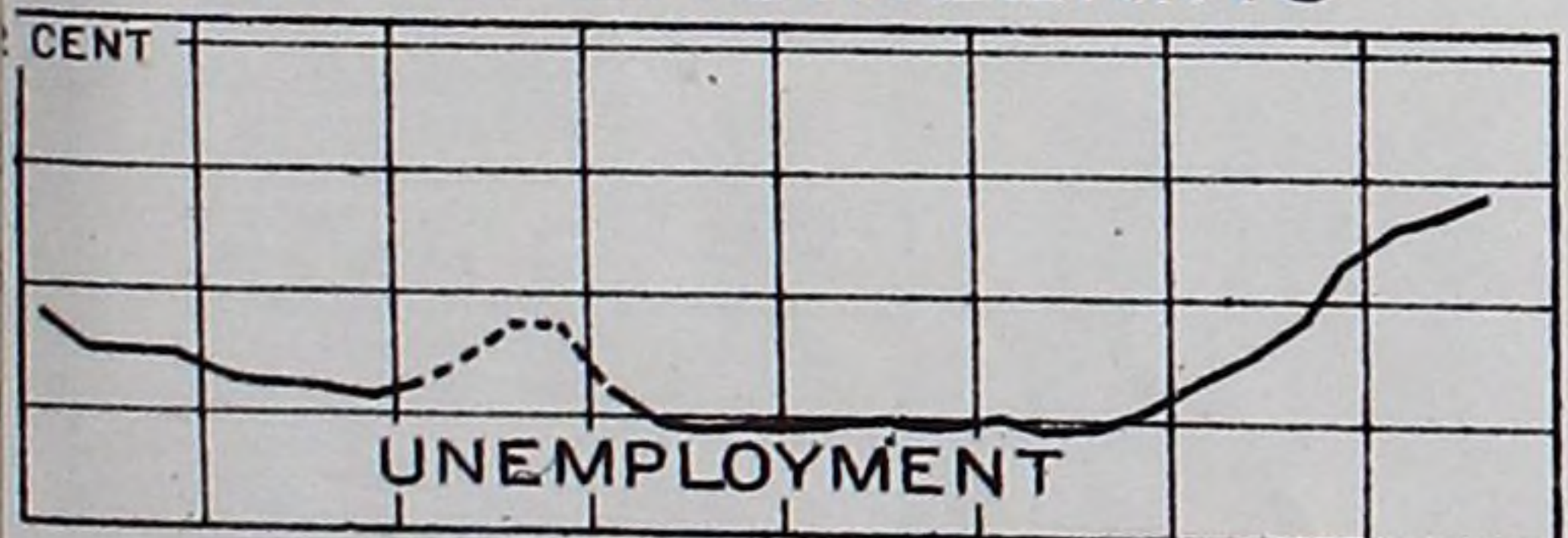
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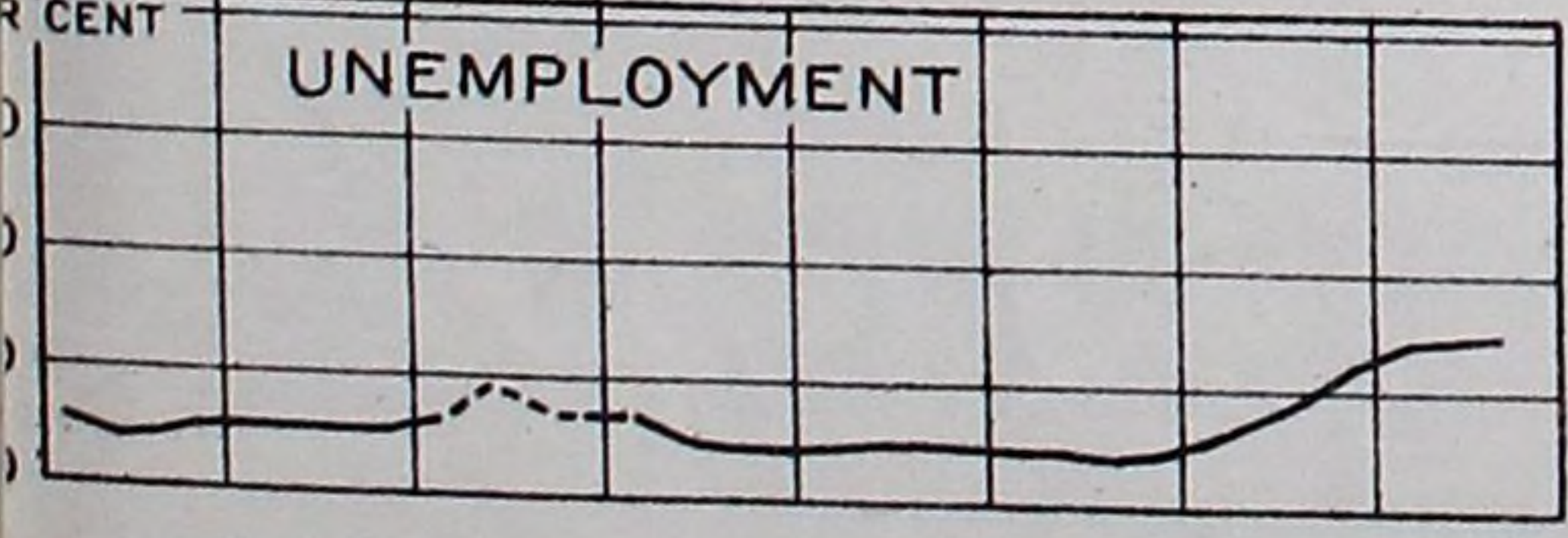
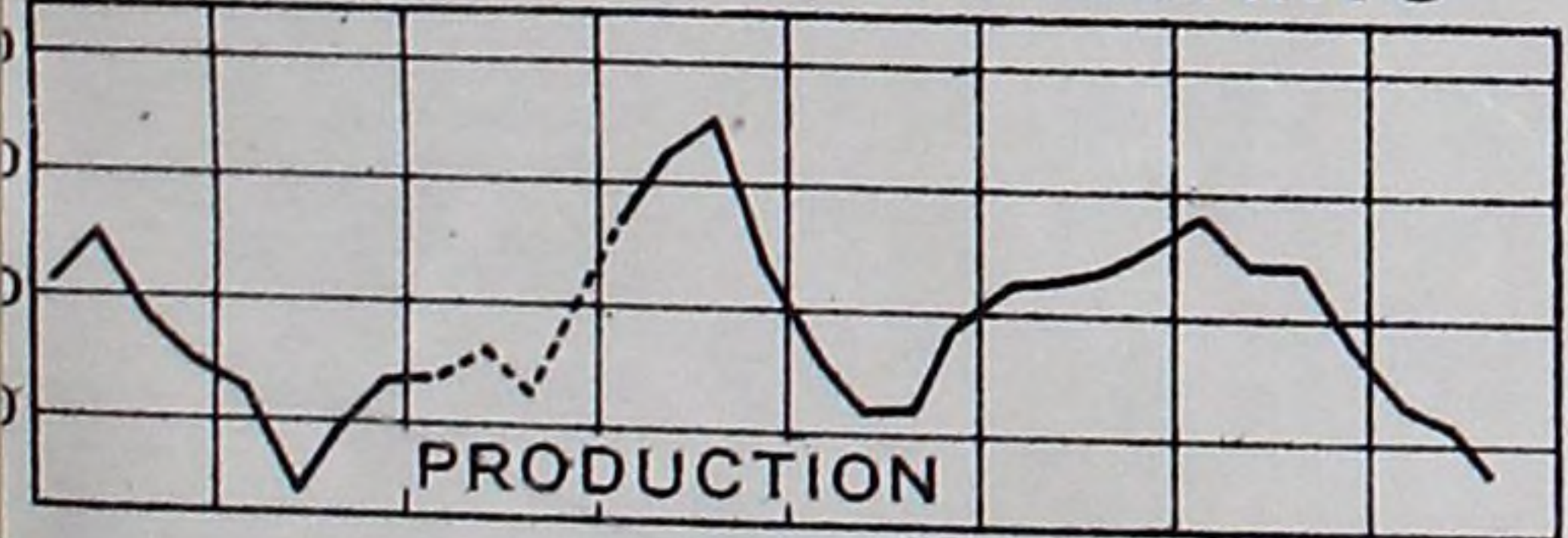
IRON AND STEEL



GENERAL ENGINEERING



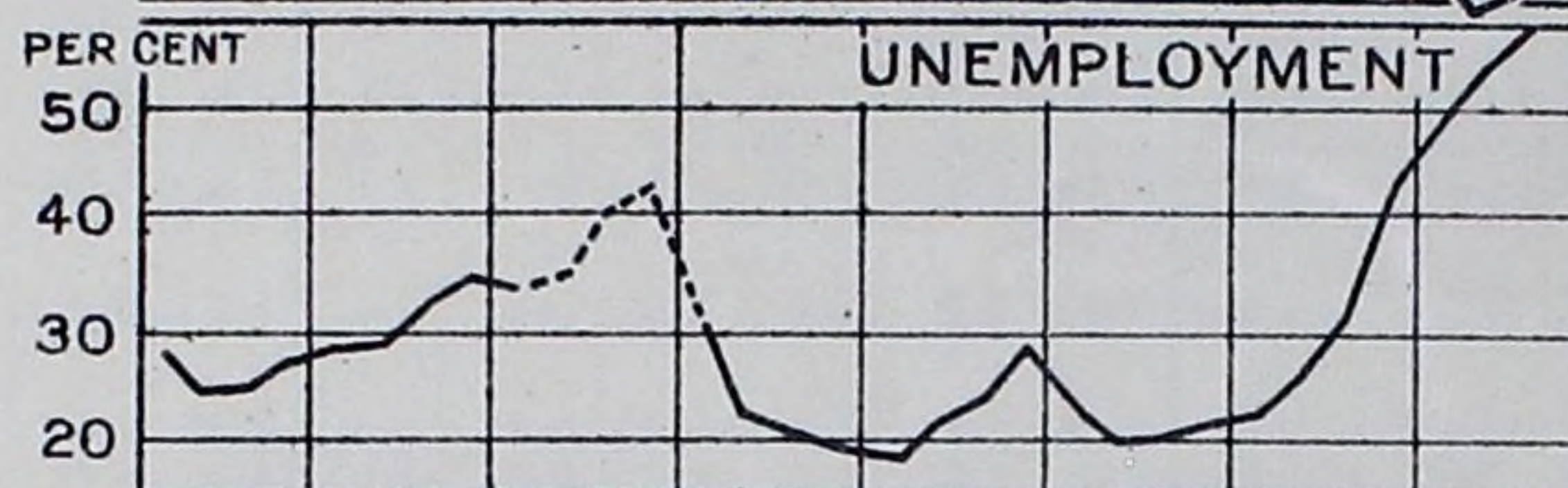
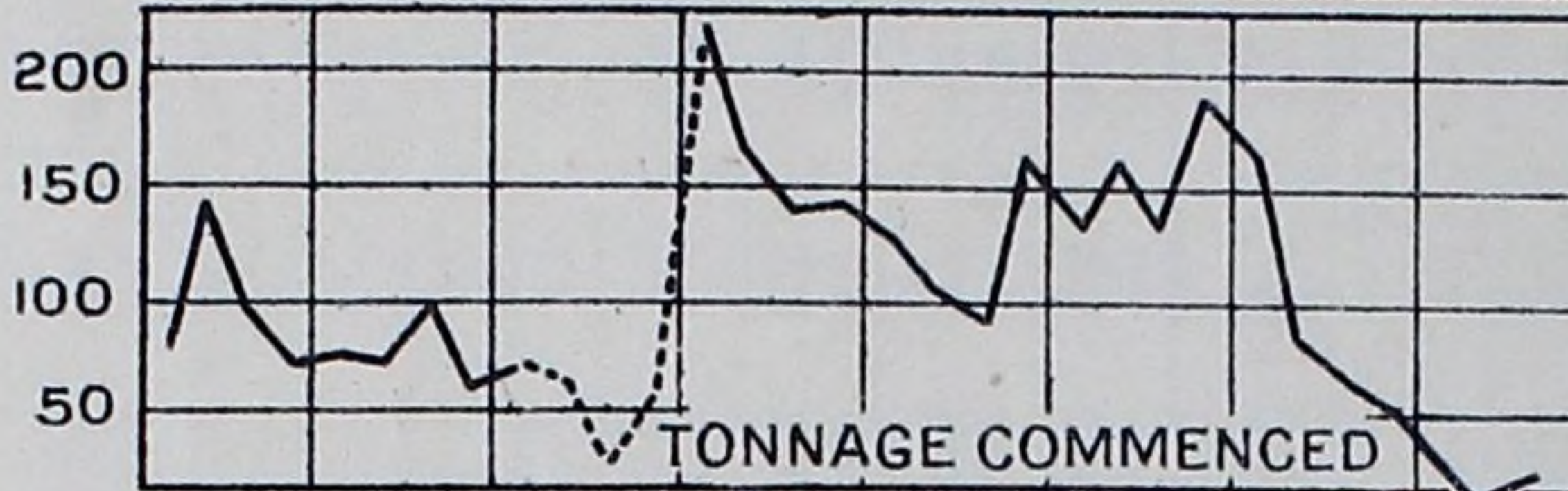
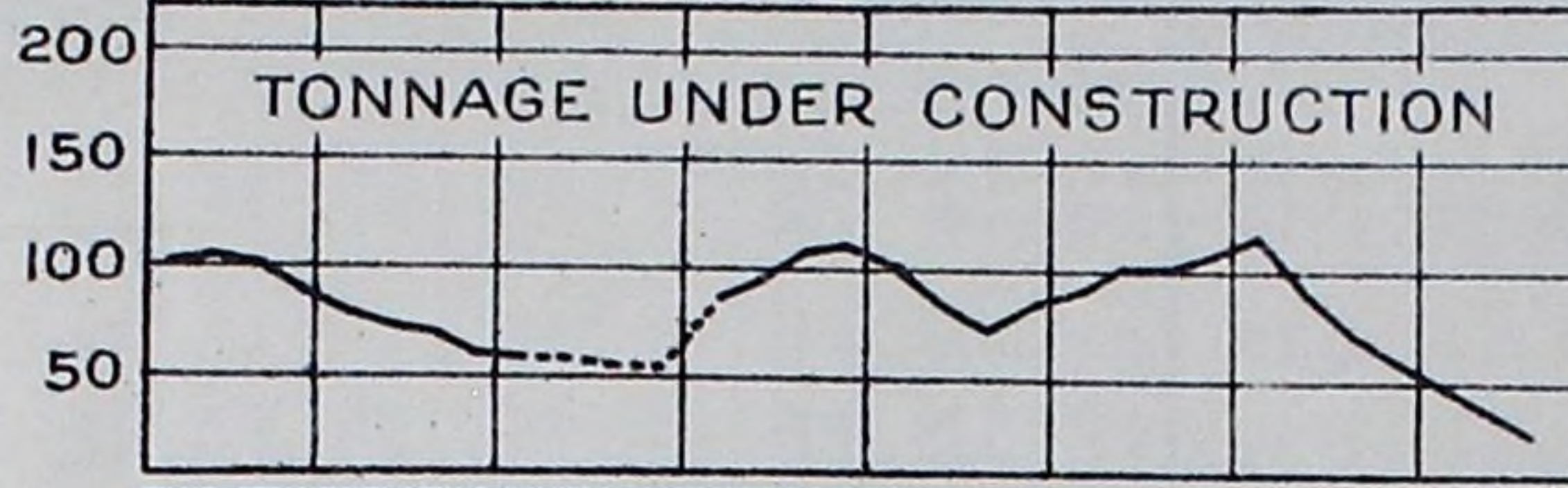
ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING



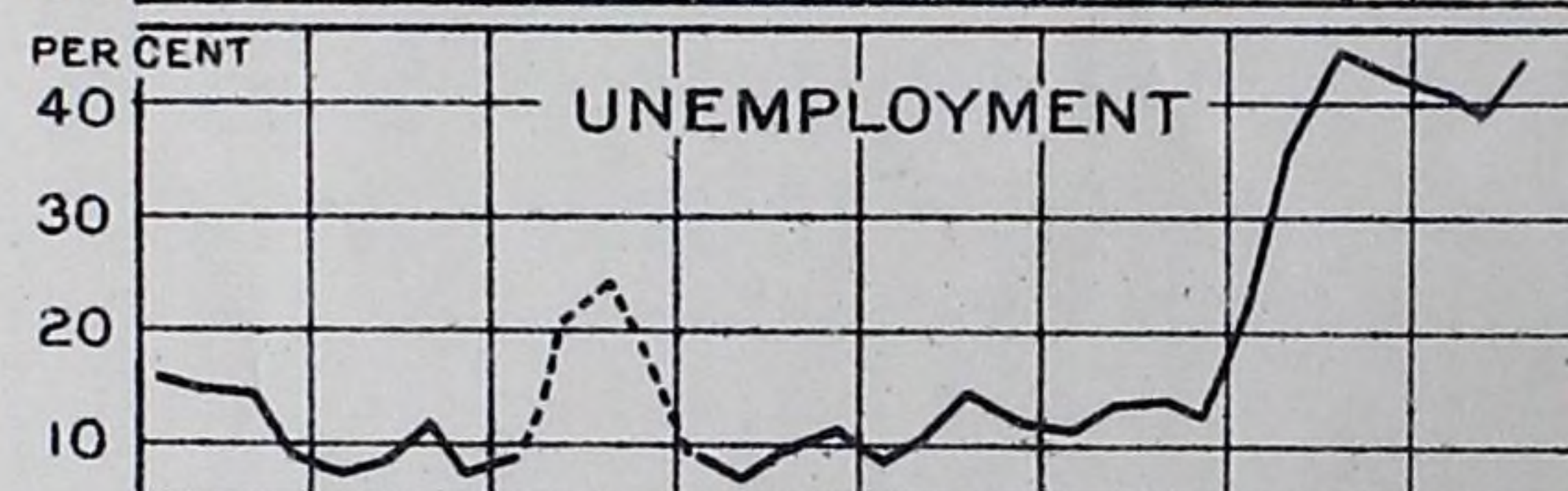
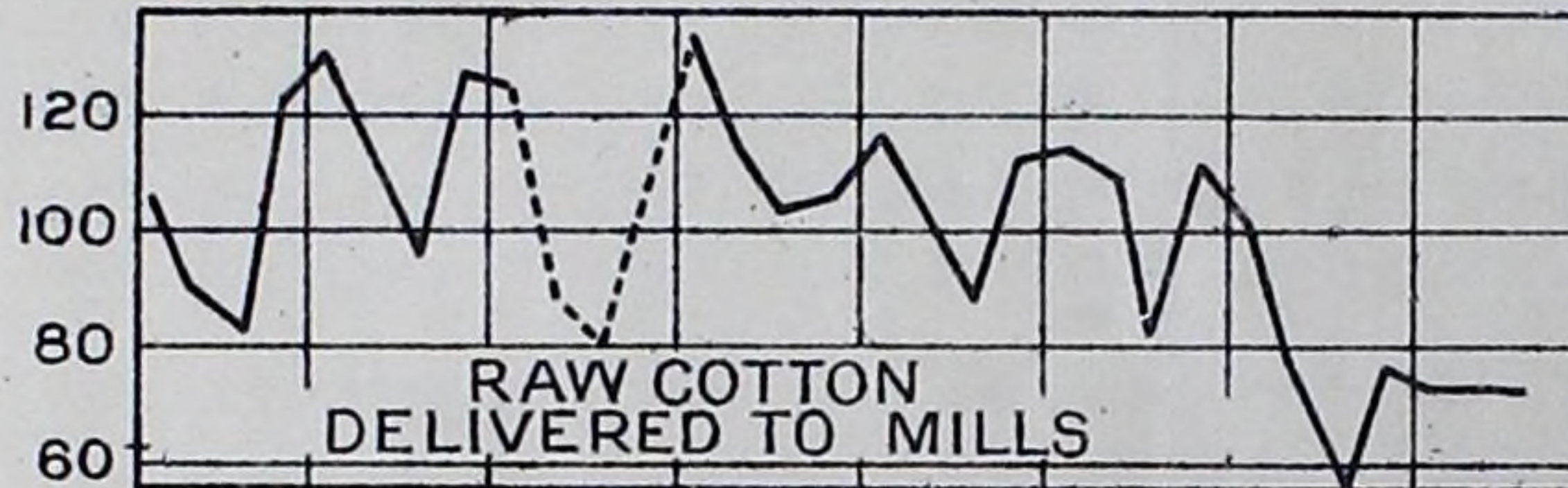
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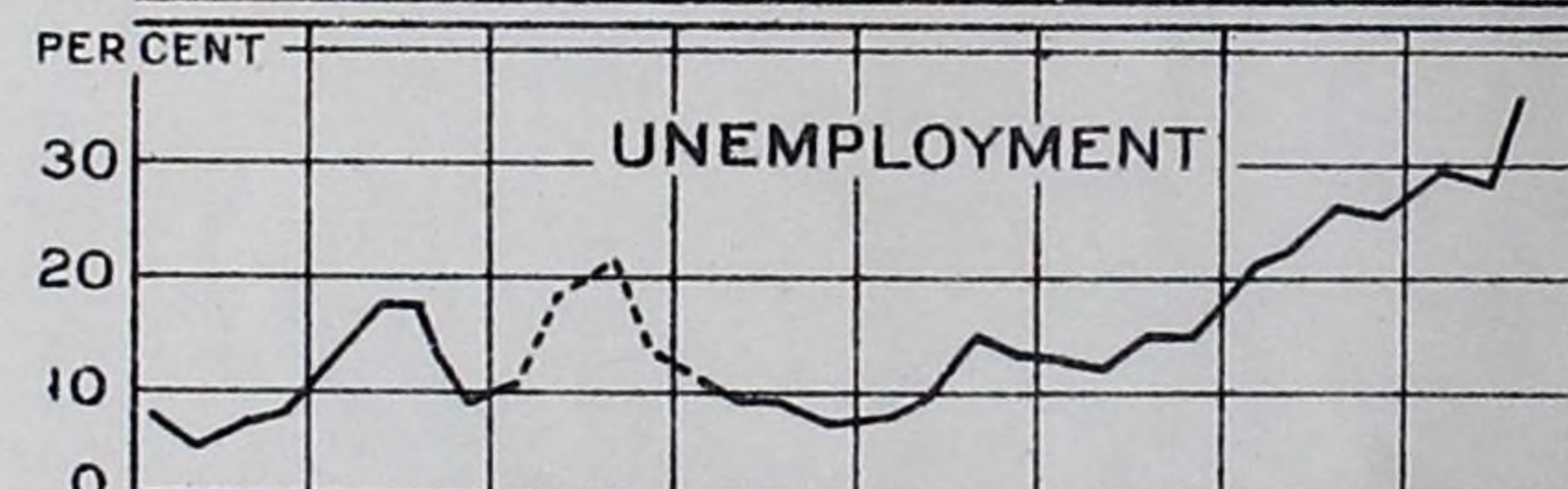
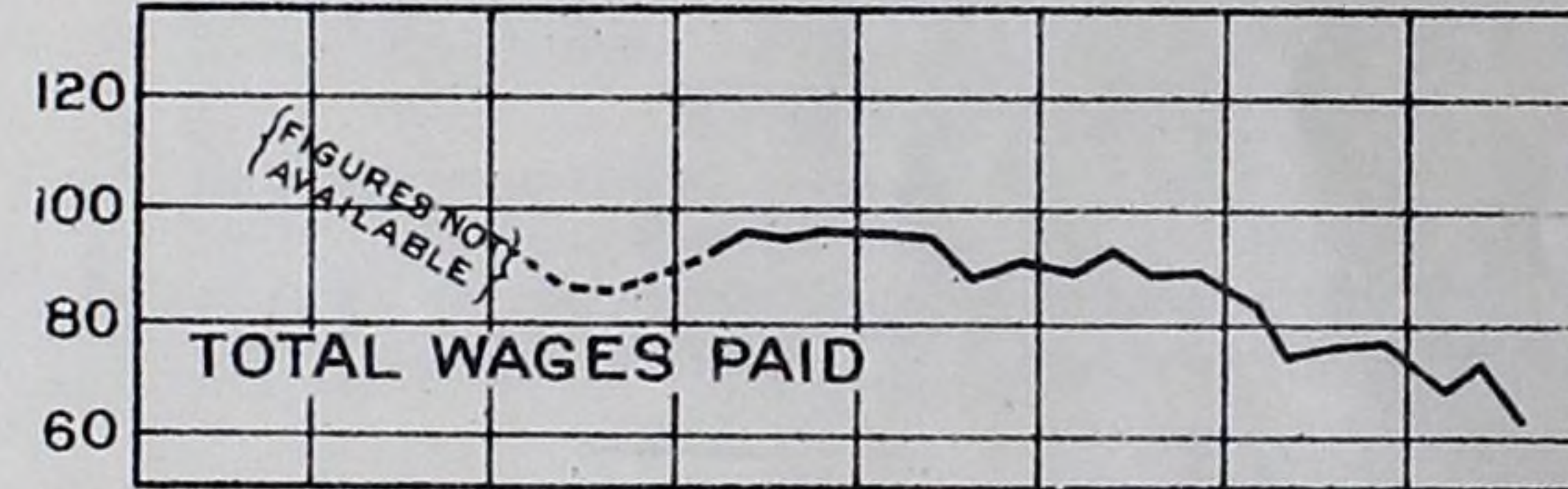
SHIPBUILDING



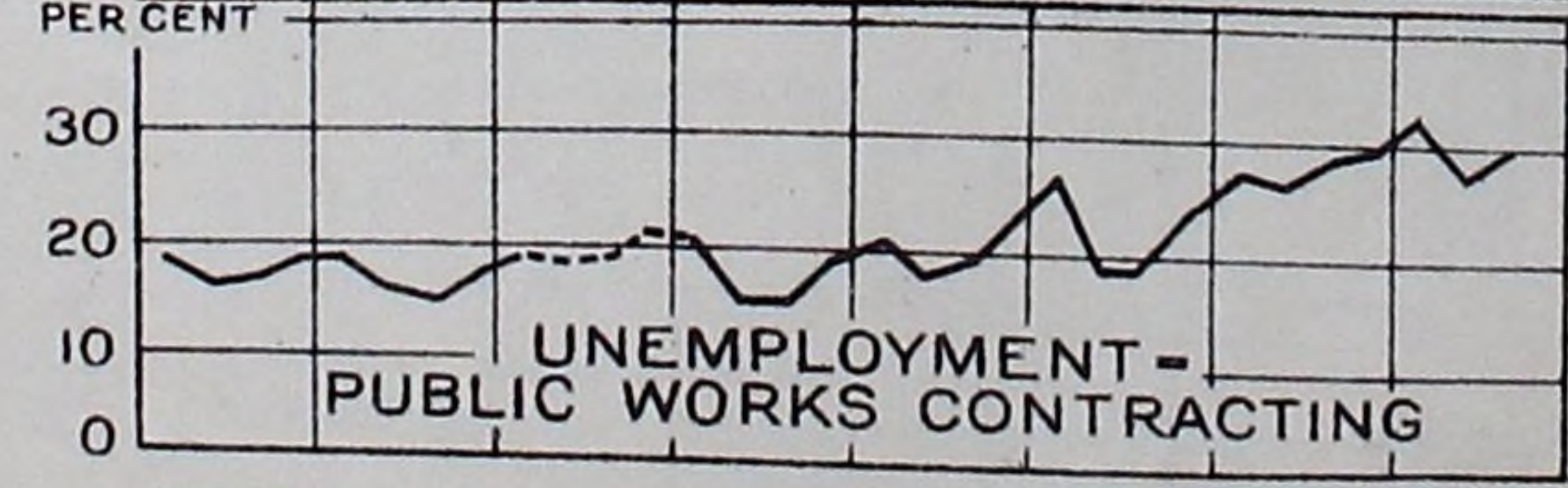
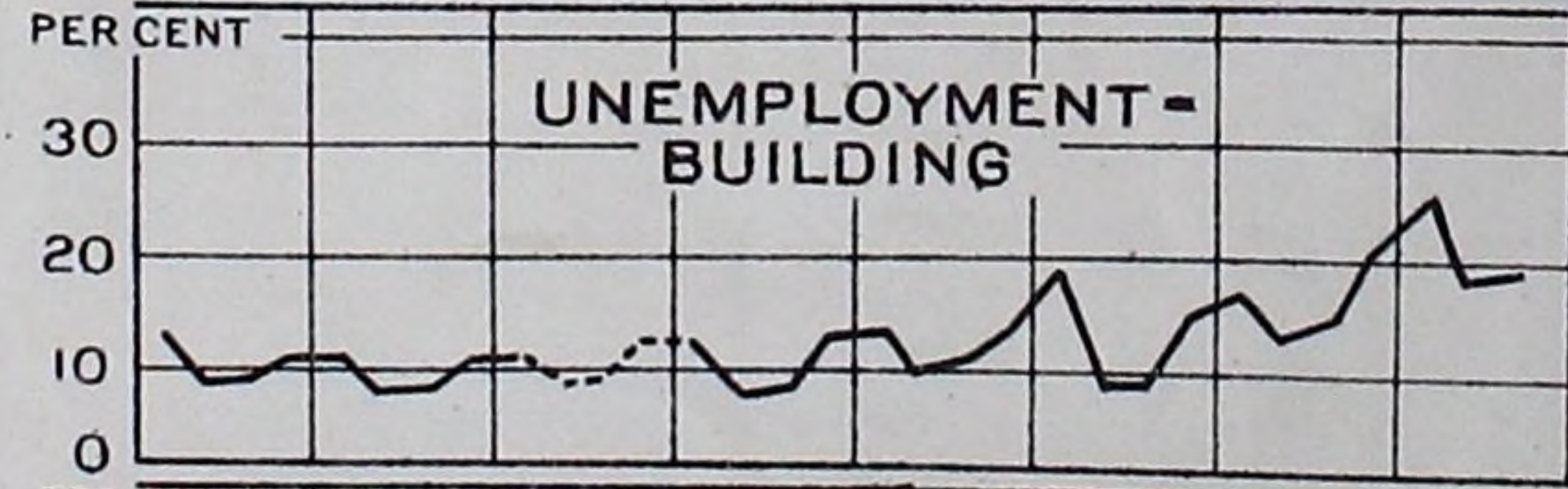
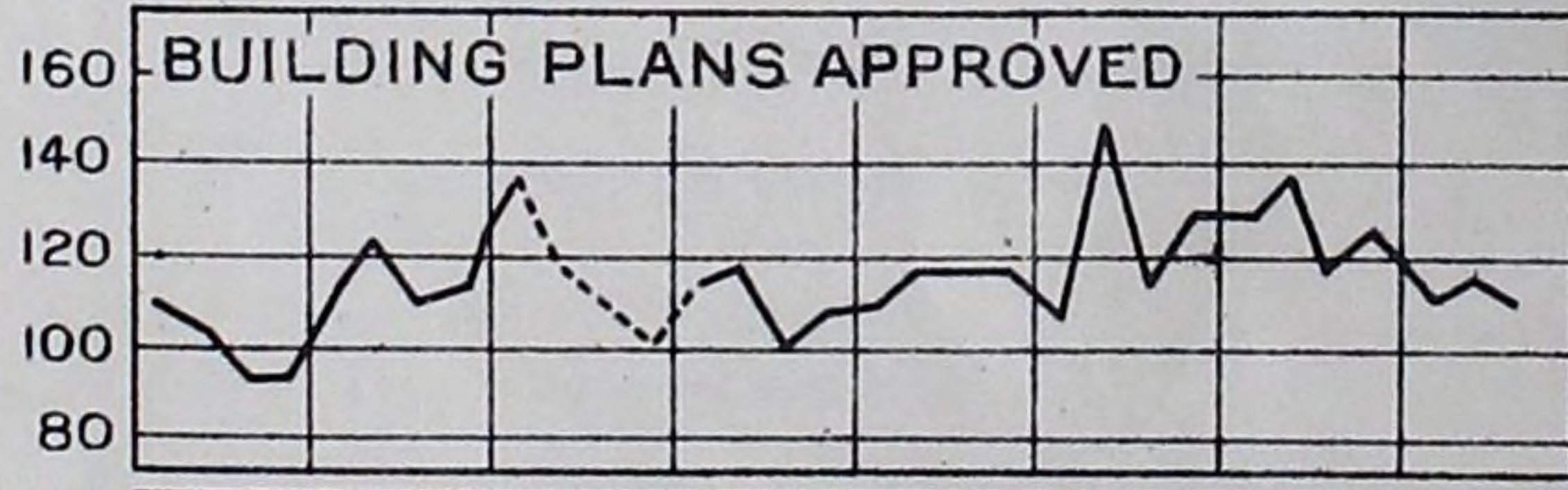
COTTON



WOOL



BUILDING



1924 1925 1926 1927 1928 1929 1930 1931

INDUSTRY.	ESTIMATED NUMBER OF INSURED PERSONS AT JULY, 1931.			PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED AT 26TH OCTOBER, 1931.									INCREASE (+) OR DECREASE (-) IN TOTAL PERCENTAGES AS COMPARED WITH			GREAT BRITAIN ONLY. TOTAL PERCENTAGES AT 26TH OCT., 1931.
				WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED (including Casuals).			TEMPORARY STOPPAGES.			TOTAL.						
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Fe- males.	Total.	Males.	Fe- males.	Total.	Males.	Fe- males.	Total.	21ST SEPT., 1931.*	27TH OCT., 1930.	21ST OCT., 1929.	
Sawmilling, etc. (cont.)																
Furniture Making, Upholstering, etc.	108,530	23,490	132,020	16.3	12.2	15.5	1.7	2.0	1.9	18.0	14.2	17.4	- 0.4	+ 5.4	+ 12.4	17.3
Woodworking not separately specified	18,270	5,790	24,060	18.1	15.4	17.4	3.7	4.1	3.8	21.8	19.5	21.2	- 2.2	+ 4.6	+ 12.5	21.0
Printing and Paper Trades :-																
Paper and Paper Board ...	41,380	15,710	57,090	7.2	8.8	7.7	3.7	5.8	4.2	10.9	14.6	11.9	- 5.5	+ 1.7	+ 7.1	11.9
Cardboard Boxes, Paper Bags and Stationery ...	20,870	40,960	61,830	9.4	9.6	9.5	1.0	1.6	1.5	10.4	11.2	11.0	- 1.1	+ 2.9	+ 7.3	10.8
Wall Paper Making ...	4,370	2,130	6,500	12.2	14.8	13.1	1.4	1.1	1.2	13.6	15.9	14.3	+ 1.9	+ 5.4	+ 11.1	14.3
Stationery and Typewriting Requisites (not paper) ...	2,740	3,710	6,450	10.4	10.0	10.2	0.9	0.9	0.8	11.3	10.9	11.0	- 3.6	+ 3.4	+ 7.5	11.0
Printing, Publishing and Bookbinding	181,440	97,530	278,970	10.2	10.5	10.3	0.6	1.4	0.9	10.8	11.9	11.2	+ 0.8	+ 3.3	+ 6.7	11.2
Building and Public Works Contracting :-																
Building ...	848,250	9,920	858,170	23.9	5.6	23.7	1.0	0.4	1.0	24.9	6.0	24.7	+ 3.7	+ 7.0	+ 11.7	24.4
Public Works Contracting, etc. ...	269,330	1,300	270,630	33.1	5.0	33.0	0.7	0.4	0.7	33.8	5.4	33.7	+ 2.7	+ 5.5	+ 11.7	33.8
Other Manufacturing Industries :-																
Rubber ...	39,190	28,140	67,330	16.7	16.2	16.5	3.7	4.6	4.0	20.4	20.8	20.5	- 1.2	+ 3.6	+ 11.6	20.6
Oilcloth, Linoleum, etc. ...	11,580	2,170	13,750	12.5	15.8	13.0	4.3	2.2	4.0	16.8	18.0	17.0	+ 0.1	- 8.5	+ 12.6	17.0
Brushes and Brooms ...	6,470	4,990	11,460	19.4	11.5	16.0	5.2	2.6	4.0	24.6	14.1	20.0	- 3.0	- 0.5	+ 8.4	20.0
Scientific and Photographic Instruments and Apparatus ...	16,600	9,430	26,030	9.7	7.8	9.0	3.4	3.3	3.4	13.1	11.1	12.4	...	+ 6.0	+ 9.8	12.4
Musical Instruments ...	17,500	7,240	24,740	23.1	9.9	19.2	2.6	0.4	2.0	25.7	10.3	21.2	- 0.4	+ 9.5	+ 17.7	21.2
Toys, Games and Sports Requisites	7,070	6,990	14,060	15.3	10.7	13.0	5.2	1.8	3.5	20.5	12.5	16.5	- 0.8	+ 4.8	+ 11.5	16.5
Gas, Water and Electricity Supply Industries ...	166,290	7,580	173,870	9.6	5.0	9.4	0.3	0.3	0.3	9.9	5.3	9.7	+ 0.6	+ 1.5	+ 3.9	9.7
Transport and Communication :-																
Railway Service ...	132,560	7,460	140,020	13.3	8.6	13.1	0.8	0.2	0.8	14.1	8.8	13.9	+ 2.1	+ 2.3	+ 8.4	13.8
Tramway and Omnibus Service ...	166,370	7,490	173,860	5.5	11.8	5.8	0.3	0.5	0.2	5.8	12.3	6.0	+ 1.1	+ 1.1	+ 2.8	6.0
Road Transport not separately specified ...	195,960	9,430	205,390	20.3	8.0	19.7	1.0	0.2	1.0	21.3	8.2	20.7	+ 1.8	+ 2.7	+ 8.4	20.7
Shipping Service ...	154,860	6,570	161,430	35.7	16.4	35.0	0.4	1.5	0.3	36.1	17.9	35.3	+ 2.8	+ 6.3	+ 16.5	35.5
Dock, Harbour, River and Canal Service ...	170,740	2,350	173,090	39.0	11.3	38.7	0.8	2.1	0.7	39.8	13.4	39.4	+ 0.7	+ 2.1	+ 11.8	39.6
Transport, Communication and Storage not separately specified ...	16,290	2,040	18,330	19.9	9.0	18.7	0.6	1.1	0.6	20.5	10.1	19.3	- 0.4	+ 2.5	+ 8.5	19.4
Distributive Trades ...	1,136,530	738,250	1,874,780	13.9	10.2	12.4	0.6	0.6	0.7	14.5	10.8	13.1	+ 0.9	+ 2.9	+ 6.7	12.9
Commerce, Banking, Insurance and Finance ...	160,480	75,170	235,650	7.2	3.4	6.0	0.2	0.1	0.1	7.4	3.5	6.1	+ 0.4	+ 1.9	+ 3.4	6.1
Miscellaneous Trades and Services :-																
National Government ...	99,200	22,200	121,400	11.8	6.2	10.8	0.4	0.3	0.4	12.2	6.5	11.2	+ 0.3	+ 1.3	+ 3.8	11.1
Local Government ...	310,410	21,510	331,920	16.8	6.8	16.1	0.5	0.3	0.6	17.3	7.1	16.7	+ 2.3	+ 4.1	+ 6.9	16.4
Professional Services ...	76,180	56,970	133,150	7.6	4.3	6.2	0.4	0.2	0.3	8.0	4.5	6.5	+ 0.6	+ 1.5	+ 3.2	6.4
Entertainments and Sports ...	60,950	31,660	92,610	23.8	20.6	22.7	0.5	0.6	0.5	24.3	21.2	23.2	+ 2.0	+ 3.1	+ 11.1	23.1
Hotel, Public House, Restaurant, Boarding House, Club, etc. Service	135,810	248,480	384,290	21.3	21.9	21.7	0.3	0.5	0.4	21.6	22.4	22.1	+ 4.5	+ 4.1	+ 11.6	22.0
Laundries, Dyeing and Dry Cleaning Industries and Services not separately specified ...	31,310	117,670	148,980	10.9	9.8	10.1	0.5	1.9	1.5	11.4	11.7	11.6	+ 1.0	+ 2.9	+ 7.2	11.5
	106,240	36,790	143,030	41.7	10.0	33.5	1.3	1.8	1.4	43.0	11.8	34.9	+ 2.1	+ 6.5	+ 15.7	34.5
TOTAL ...	9,187,000	3,583,000	12,770,000	19.7	13.9	18.1	3.9	3.6	3.8	23.6	17.5	21.9	- 0.7	+ 3.4	+ 11.6	21.8

* See note * on previous page.

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 26th October, 1931, are analysed so as to show the proportion of the total unemployed classified as belonging to various industry groups :-

Industry Group.	Males.				Females.			
	Number Wholly Unemployed.	Percentage of Total.	Number Temporarily Stopped.	Percentage of Total.	Number Wholly Unemployed.	Percentage of Total.	Number Temporarily Stopped.	Percentage of Total.
Fishing ...	5,056	0.3	99	0.0	71	0.0	15	0.0
Mining ...	222,740	12.3	105,882	29.3	1,562	0.3	710	0.6
Non-Metalliferous Mining Products	9,923	0.5	1,720	0.5	393	0.1	50	0.0
Brick, Tile, etc. ...	11,921	0.7	2,675	0.7	1,756	0.3	316	0.3
Pottery ...	5,630	0.3	4,164	1.1	7,843	1.6	6,366	5.1
Glass Trades ...	7,748	0.4	2,588	0.7	1,503	0.3	297	0.2
Chemicals, etc. ...	24,418	1.4	3,124	0.9	5,590	1.1	598	0.5
Metal Manufacture	68,132	3.8	52,413	14.5	2,574	0.5	756	0.6
Engineering, etc. ...	156,387	8.7	49,056	13.6	8,265	1.7	2,862	2.3
Vehicles ...	53,776	3.0	14,341	4.0	3,856	0.8	748	0.6
Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing	109,779	6.1	4,854	1.3	569	0.1	101	0.1
Metal Trades ...	64,562	3.6	21,843	6.0	30,858	6.2	5,936	4.7
Textile Trades ...	92,488	5.1	47,380	13.1	170,827	34.2	63,169	50.2
Leather ...	5,900	0.3	1,509	0.4	2,778	0.6	632	0.5
Boots, Shoes, Slippers and Clogs	10,166	0.6	4,775	1.3	4,768	1.0	2,301	1.8
Clothing Trades ...	14,617	0.8	4,299	1.2	31,384	6.3	21,224	16.9
Food, Drink and Tobacco	38,845	2.2	2,910	0.8	32,730	6.5	4,218	3.4
Sawmilling, Furniture and Woodwork	33,263	1.8	4,206	1.2	4,423	0.9	800	0.6
Printing and Paper Building and Public Works Contracting	24,336	1.3	2,910	0.8	16,210	3.2	3,055	2.4
Other Manufacturing Industries ...	292,215	16.2	9,857	2.7	625	0.1	36	0.0
Gas, Water and Electricity Supply Industries ...	15,976	0.9	3,674	1.0	7,666	1.5	1,949	1.6
Transport and Communication	15,945	0.9	599	0.2	380	0.1	20	0.0
Distributive Trades	191,922	10.6	5,332	1.5	3,809	0.8	237	0.2
Commerce, Banking, etc. ...	157,787	8.7	6,886	1.9	74,952	15.0	5,080	4.0
Miscellaneous	11,630	0.6	195	0.1	2,587	0.5	42	0.0
...	160,767	8.9	4,456	1.2	81,480	16.3	4,326	3.4
Total ...	1,805,929	100.0	361,747	100.0	499,459	100.0	125,844	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 26th October, 1931, differed from the figures for 21st September, 1931, to the extent of 2,000 or more :-

Industry.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Numbers recorded as Unemployed at 26th Oct., 1931, as compared with 21st Sept., 1931.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.
Cotton ...	- 22,363	- 40,378	- 62,741
Woolen and Worsted ...	- 11,359	- 20,943	- 32,302
Coal Mining ...	- 13,740	- 61	- 13,801
Steel Melting, Iron and Steel Rolling, etc. ...	- 8,104	- 95	- 8,199
General Engineering, Engineers' Iron and Steel Founding ...	- 5,315	- 1,723	- 7,038
Textile Bleaching, Printing, Dyeing ...	- 5,027	- 1,810	- 6,837
Hosiery ...	- 881	- 4,788	- 5,669
Boots, Shoes, Slippers and Clogs ...	- 3,018	- 1,996	- 5,014
Linen ...	- 911	- 4,061	- 4,972
Tailoring ...	- 418	- 3,613	- 4,031
Silk Manufacture and Artificial Silk Weaving ...	- 921	- 3,055	- 3,976
Jute ...	- 1,024	- 2,858	- 3,882
Metal Industries not separately specified ...	- 1,651	- 2,012	- 3,663
Shirts, Collars, Underclothing, etc. ...	- 9	- 3,162	- 3,171
Paper and Paper Board ...	- 2,308	- 862	- 3,170
Motor Vehicles, Cycles and Aircraft	- 2,444	- 413	- 2,857
Food Industries not separately specified ...	- 741	- 2,023	- 2,764
Tin Plates ...	- 2,384	- 320	- 2,704
Tramway and Omnibus Service ...	+ 1,948	+ 136	+ 2,084
Printing, Publishing and Bookbinding ...	+ 2,030	+ 273	+ 2,303
Railway Service ...	+ 2,649	+ 163	+ 2,812
Road Transport, not separately specified ...	+ 3,694	+ 88	+ 3,782
Shipping Service ...	+ 4,228	+ 293	+ 4,521
Local Government ...	+ 6,839	+ 509	+ 7,348
Public Works Contracting, etc. ...	+ 7,381	+ 7	+ 7,388
Distributive Trades ...	+ 10,829	+ 6,046	+ 16,875
Hotel, etc., Service ...	+ 4,287	+ 12,774	+ 17,061
Building ...	+ 31,116	+ 106	+ 31,222
Net Variation for above Industries	- 7,617	- 73,778	- 81,395
Total Net Variation for all Insured Industries ...	- 5,626	- 81,941	- 87,567

COMPOSITION OF UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS: GREAT BRITAIN.

On page 430 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 26th October, 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	1,961,460	30,805	508,319	15,845	2,516,429
2. Insured non-claimants and claimants disqualified, but maintaining registration	57,536	10,519	23,178	7,919	99,152
3. Uninsured persons on Register	25,857	29,310	25,653	29,691	110,511
4. Two months' file	49,821	4,569	43,580	4,341	102,311
5. Unemployed—Special Schemes	4,475	30	500	14	5,019
Persons on Register (lines 1—3)	2,044,853	70,634	557,150	53,455	2,726,092
Books Lodged (lines 1, 2, 4 and 5)	2,073,292	45,923	575,577	28,119	2,722,911

NUMBERS ON THE REGISTERS OF EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES.*

Date.	Great Britain.					Great Britain and Northern Ireland.
	Men.	Boys.	Women.	Girls.	Total.	
28th Sept. 1931	2,070,639	75,909	617,600	60,624	2,824,772	2,896,989
5th Oct., 1931	2,058,634	74,894	599,743	58,249	2,791,520	2,863,498
12th " "	2,052,810	73,056	584,739	56,141	2,766,746	2,836,287
19th " "	2,043,428	70,569	569,875	54,006	2,737,878	2,807,253
26th " "	2,044,853	70,634	557,150	53,455	2,726,092	2,792,320
Average (4 weeks)	2,049,931	72,288	577,877	55,463	2,755,559	2,824,840

Analysis of figures for 26th October, 1931.

—	26th October, 1931.				28th Sept., 1931.
	Persons normally in Regular Employment.		Persons normally in Casual Employment.	Total.	Total.
	Wholly Unemployed.	Temporarily Stopped.			
Great Britain.					
Men ...	1,582,194	349,407	113,252	2,044,853	2,070,639
Boys ...	60,271	10,146	217	70,634	75,909
Women ...	438,612	116,423	2,115	557,150	617,600
Girls ...	46,866	6,577	12	53,455	60,624
Total ...	2,127,943	482,553	115,596	2,726,092	2,824,772
Great Britain and Northern Ireland.					
Men ...	1,622,686	351,764	115,831	2,090,281	2,116,935
Boys ...	61,389	10,192	219	71,800	77,196
Women ...	454,743	119,246	2,120	576,109	641,209
Girls ...	47,461	6,657	12	54,130	61,649
Total ...	2,186,279	487,859	118,182	2,792,320	2,896,989

VACANCIES NOTIFIED AND FILLED.

(Great Britain and Northern Ireland.)

Vacancies filled† 30th December, 1930, to 26th Oct., 1931.			Period 29th Sept. to 26th Oct., 1931.			
—	Number.	Increase (+) Decrease (—) as compared with year before.	Week ended	Applica- tions from Em- ployers.	Vacancies filled.†	
					Number.	Per cent. of va- cancies notified.
Men ...	1,019,748	+ 160,639	5th Oct.	43,176	39,706	92.0
Boys ...	130,421	— 5,775	12th "	41,662	38,243	91.8
Women	374,078	+ 42,486	19th "	41,459	37,537	90.5
Girls ...	125,260	+ 2,392	26th "	41,685	38,139	91.5
Total	1,649,507	+ 199,742	Total ..	167,982	153,625	91.5

Of the 153,625 vacancies filled during the four weeks ended 26th October, 1931, 91,314 were for men, 35,379 for women, and 26,932 for juveniles.

* The term "Employment Exchange," as used in this connection, includes Ministry of Labour Employment Exchanges and Branch Employment Offices, and also Juvenile Employment Bureaux under the control of Local Education Authorities which are exercising powers under Sec. 107 of the Education Act, 1921, and Sec. 6 of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1923.
† "Vacancies filled" include certain types of cases (described as Class B placings) in which the work of the Exchanges was limited; for instance, obtaining for an employer former employees, or placing the same men in relief work in alternate weeks. During the four weeks ended 5th October, 1931, the average number of such placings of men and women was 7,894 per week. The average number of placings of casual workers during the four weeks ended 26th October, 1931, was 475 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 26th October, 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 26th October, 1931.				Inc. (+) Dec. (−) in total as compared with	
	Men.	Women.	Juveniles.	Total.	28th Sept., 1931.	27th Oct. 1930.
London Division ...	234,519	62,253	11,689	308,461	+ 16,879	+ 106,720
South-Eastern Division ...	101,767	19,488	7,008	128,263	+ 8,969	+ 46,182
Brighton ...	4,046	1,234	384	5,664	+ 929	+ 1,895
Chatham ...	4,869	896	766	6,531	+ 591	+ 2,010
Ipswich ...	3,480	503	297	4,280	− 129	+ 1,062
Norwich ...	4,763	1,606	188	6,557	− 585	+ 109
Rest of Division	84,609	15,249	5,373	105,231	+ 8,163	+ 41,106
South-Western Division ...	117,152	22,177	7,221	146,550	+ 13,963	+ 41,519
Bristol ...	17,993	5,765	1,211	24,969	+ 963	+ 3,305
Plymouth ...	7,502	1,824	473	9,799	+ 540	+ 1,886
Portsmouth ...	8,687	1,454	1,096	11,237	+ 1,467	+ 3,444
Reading ...	2,543	475	302	3,320	+ 399	+ 955
Southampton ...	12,410	1,213	787	14,410	+ 2,493	+ 4,574
Swindon ...	2,423	302	220	2,945	+ 22	+ 1,788
Rest of Division	65,594	11,144	3,132	79,870	+ 8,079	+ 25,567
Midlands Division	262,205	93,652	14,075	369,932	− 48,316	+ 75,695
Birmingham ...	47,214	20,212	2,216	69,642	− 5,230	+ 17,452
Coventry ...	9,844	2,885	469	13,198	− 1,614	+ 3,315
Cradley Heath ...	6,919	1,821	305	9,045	− 1,408	+ 1,554
Derby ...	7,680	2,023	784	10,487	− 900	+ 2,921
Leicester ...	8,260	3,855	84	12,199	− 3,763	+ 233
Northampton ...	4,215	1,833	249	6,297	− 796	− 115
Nottingham ...	13,221	4,489	493	18,203	− 2,572	+ 2,844
Smethwick ...	5,201	1,974	174	7,349	− 1,862	+ 2,140
Stoke-on-Trent ...	20,185	12,788	1,161	34,134	− 1,488	+ 7,780
Walsall ...	7,296	2,245	497	10,038	− 1,095	+ 2,038
West Bromwich	4,615	1,408	311	6,334	− 899	+ 1,892
Wolverhampton	12,137	3,027	657	15,821	− 255	+ 3,854
Rest of Division	115,418	35,092	6,675	157,185	− 26,434	+ 29,787
North-Eastern Division ...	458,505	81,636	27,284	567,425	− 37,889	+ 75,284
Barnsley ...	7,684	1,339	412	9,435	− 1,411	− 2,783
Bradford ...	17,583	9,325	727	27,635	− 7,820	+ 2,184
Darlington ...	5,594	474	431	6,499	+ 113	+ 1,719
Dewsbury ...	2,889	1,360	409	4,658	− 172	− 434
Doncaster ...	11,439	793	704	12,936	+ 3,762	− 622
Gateshead ...	10,961	2,068	1,038	14,067	+ 206	+ 2,233
Grimsby ...	4,435	723	375	5,533	+ 680	+ 4,403
Halifax ...	4,999	2,477	180	7,656	− 1,470	− 210
Hartlepool ...	10,858	825	699	12,382	− 265	+ 1,857
Huddersfield ...	6,674	3,514	615	10,803	− 2,739	+ 1,995
Hull ...	16,200	2,270	945	19,415	+ 814	+ 2,072
Leeds ...	26,860	10,596	1,076	38,532	− 5,096	+ 4,893
Lincoln ...	4,364	573	399	5,336	− 356	+ 1,330
Middlesbrough ...	17,997	1,384	1,087	20,468	− 277	+ 1,304
Newcastle-on-Tyne ...	22,798	4,598	1,977	29,373	+ 1,113	+ 6,922
Rotherham ...	8,870	789	571	10,230	− 2,843	+ 1,700
Sheffield ...	45,146	8,787	2,384	56,317	− 2,753	+ 12,980
South Shields ...	12,653	747	868	14,268	− 66	+ 2,935
Stockton-on-Tees	11,158	901	658	12,717	− 141	+ 3,056
Sunderland ...	21,489	2,400	1,201	25,090	− 164	+ 6,555
Wakefield ...	6,248	1,049	349	7,646	+ 50	+ 722
York ...	3,894	793	294	4,981	+ 182	+ 736
Rest of Division	177,712	23,851	9,885	211,448	− 19,236	+ 24,105
North-Western Division ...	406,172	195,548	28,513	630,233	− 42,881	+ 29,924
Accrington ...	6,986	5,612	561	13,159	− 2,307	− 1,338
Ashton-under-Lyne ...	5,583	4,038	492	10,113	− 1,894	− 1,615
Barrow ...	5,157	747	530	6,434	− 375	+ 1,097
Birkenhead ...	10,538	1,580	1,027	13,145	+ 347	+ 3,039
Blackburn ...	11,446	15,497	913	27,856	− 2,009	− 809
Blackpool ...	4,985	2,684	317	7,986	+ 2,970	+ 1,165
Bolton ...	12,810	7,107	633	20,550	− 4,262	− 5,490
Burnley ...	7,340	8,767	673	16,780	− 2,284	+ 1,045
Bury ...	3,757	3,645	213	7,615	− 1,679	+ 7
Chorley ...	4,126	2,298	258	6,682	− 693	− 1,881
Liverpool ...	79,336	17,065	6,232	102,633	+ 1,410	+ 17,806
Manchester ...	45,810	20,066	2,502	68,378	− 2,323	+ 10,934
Nelson ...	3,373	3,535	248	7,156	− 1,110	− 376
Oldham ...	17,141	10,017	781	27,939	− 6,487	+ 7,151
Preston ...	8,388	6,437	657	15,482	− 346	+ 569
Rochdale ...	6,778	4,848	287	11,913	− 3,253	+ 2,170
St. Helens ...	10,179	1,298	559	12,036	+ 1,209	+ 3,101
Salford ...	17,852	7,279	833	25,964	− 2,087	+ 2,269
Stockport ...	5,789	4,042	362	10,193	− 1,941	− 762
Warrington ...	4,859	1,222	547	6,628	− 1,578	− 332
Wigan ...	11,563	3,283	664	15,510	− 1,983	+ 1,284
Rest of Division	122,376	64,481	9,224	196,081	− 12,206	+ 11,622
Scotland Division	280,225	70,630	18,911	369,766	+ 7,270	+ 90,157
Aberdeen ...	7,491	1,711	475	9,677	+ 231	+ 3,228
Clydebank ...	8,518	1,982	625	11,125	+ 60	+ 5,373
Dundee ...	12,565	10,842	839	24,246	− 4,577	+ 1,527
Edinburgh ...	18,165	4,632	1,061	23,858	+ 269	+ 3,943
Glasgow ...	98,563	21,882	6,966	127,411	+ 2,285	+ 31,231
Greenock ...	13,737	2,441	1,102	17,280	− 15	+ 7,402
Motherwell ...	8,134	795	601	9,530	+ 177	+ 2,940
Paisley ...	5,927	1,861	579	8,367	− 252	+ 2,651
Rest of Division	107,125	24,484	6,663	138,272	− 5,448	+ 31,862
Wales Division	184,308	11,766	9,388	205,462	+ 2,135	+ 23,104
Cardiff ...	15,174	2,834	1,046	19,054	+ 371	+ 3,380
Llanelli ...	4,441	252	215	4,908	− 1,545	− 520
Newport ...	9,259	771	581	10,611	− 322	+ 1,259
Swansea ...	11,429	1,018	879	13,326	+ 127	+ 3,061
Rest of Division	144,005	6,891	6,667	157,563	− 24	+ 15,924
Northern Ireland	45,428	18,959	1,841	66,228	− 5,989	+ 4,090
Belfast ...	28,235	11,244	1,181	40,660	− 3,323	+ 1,308
Londonderry ...	2,158	1,318	108	3,584	− 192	− 90
Lurgan ...	985	961	68	2,014	− 465	− 632
Lisburn ...	1,172	538	53	1,763	− 120	− 154
Newry ...	1,193	203	28	1,424	− 39	+ 469
Rest of Northern Ireland	11,685	4,695	403	16,783	− 1,850	− 1,437
Great Britain and Northern Ireland	2,090,281	576,109	125,930	2,792,320	− 104,669	+ 484,501

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

The Table on pages 432 and 433 gives, industry by industry, the estimated numbers of persons insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts at the beginning of July, 1931. It is not possible to compute the annual estimate until about the end of October, and consequently the percentages of insured workers recorded as unemployed at the end of June, July, August and September, 1931, as given in previous issues of this GAZETTE, were calculated on the estimated numbers insured at July, 1930. The following Table gives the corrected total percentages unemployed for each insured industrial group in Great Britain, and in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, respectively :—

INDUSTRY.	TOTAL PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED.							
	GREAT BRITAIN.				GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.			
	22nd June, 1931.	27th July, 1931.	24th Aug., 1931.	21st Sept., 1931.	22nd June, 1931.	27th July, 1931.	24th Aug., 1931.	21st Sept., 1931.
Fishing	14.9	14.3	15.0	18.8	14.9	14.3	14.9	18.7
Mining :—								
Coal Mining	36.2	37.2	31.5	30.4	36.2	37.2	31.5	30.4
Iron Ore and Ironstone Mining, etc.	43.1	38.8	48.4	48.5	43.1	38.8	48.4	48.5
Lead, Tin and Copper Mining ...	65.1	65.4	65.1	65.6	64.9	65.2	64.9	65.6
Stone Quarrying and Mining ...	13.9	13.0	15.3	16.8	14.1	13.3	15.5	17.0
Slate Quarrying and Mining ...	17.8	31.1	31.6	31.5	17.8	31.1	31.6	31.5
Mining and Quarrying not separately specified ...	18.1	19.3	23.4	23.1	18.1	19.3	23.3	23.0
Clay, Sand, Gravel and Chalk Pits...	17.9	19.4	21.0	23.0	18.2	19.7	21.1	23.1
Non-Metalliferous Mining Products :—								
Coke Ovens and By-Product Works	32.7	36.8	36.3	38.4	32.7	36.8	36.3	38.4
Artificial Stone and Concrete ...	22.4	22.1	22.0	22.7	22.6	22.1	22.1	22.9
Cement, Limekilns and Whiting ...	18.6	16.6	17.0	17.5	18.4	16.3	16.8	17.4
Brick, Tile, etc., Making	15.6	15.6	16.6	17.6	15.8	15.8	16.8	17.7
Pottery, Earthenware, etc.	36.5	37.0	36.2	32.7	36.4	36.9	36.1	32.7
Glass Trades :—								
Glass (excluding Bottles and Scientific Glass)	24.3	25.7	26.3	27.0	24.3	25.7	26.4	27.0
Glass Bottles	25.4	25.0	27.7	30.9	25.4	25.0	27.7	30.9
Chemicals, etc. :—								
Chemicals	18.8	18.0	18.7	18.7	18.8	18.1	18.8	18.8
Explosives	16.4	16.8	16.6	15.8	16.3	16.8	16.6	15.8
Paint, Varnish, Red and White Leads	10.0	9.9	10.8	11.0	10.0	10.0	10.8	11.0
Oil, Glue, Soap, Ink, Matches, etc.	12.4	12.4	12.7	13.2	12.4	12.5	12.7	13.2
Metal Manufacture :—								
Pig Iron (Blast Furnaces)	38.2	39.0	44.9	45.4	38.2	39.0	44.9	45.4
Steel Melting and Iron Puddling, Iron and Steel Rolling and Forging	48.2	45.7	48.3	49.2	48.2	45.7	48.3	49.2
Brass, Copper, Zinc, Tin, Lead, etc.	29.0	27.6	28.0	30.8	29.1	27.6	28.0	30.7
Tin Plates	38.7	33.2	38.3	42.3	38.7	33.2	38.3	42.3
Iron and Steel Tubes... ..	42.2	44.0	41.8	47.4	42.2	44.1	41.8	47.4
Wire, Wire Netting, Wire Ropes ...	29.9	29.9	32.2	33.4	29.9	29.9	32.2	33.4
Engineering, etc. :—								
General Engineering; Engineers' Iron and Steel Founding	28.3	29.1	29.1	30.0	28.4	29.1	29.1	30.1
Electrical Engineering	14.3	14.2	14.5	15.0	14.3	14.3	14.5	15.0
Marine Engineering, etc.	46.4	46.4	47.2	48.1	47.6	47.5	48.0	49.3
Constructional Engineering	25.0	24.1	25.4	28.5	24.9	24.0	25.3	28.4
Construction and Repair of Vehicles :—								
Motor Vehicles, Cycles and Aircraft Carriages, Carts, etc.	21.3	23.0	24.1	23.6	21.2	22.9	24.0	23.6
Railway Carriages, Wagons and Tramcars	17.6	22.2	22.3	23.2	17.5	22.1	22.2	23.1
Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing ...	56.3	57.2	58.7	58.7	56.6	57.1	58.4	58.2
Metal Trades :—								
Stove, Grate, Pipe, etc., and General Iron Founding	24.8	24.5	24.9	25.6	24.9	24.6	24.9	25.6
Electrical Wiring and Contracting ...	14.4	16.8	14.7	15.6	14.6	17.3	15.0	15.7
Electrical Cables, Wire and Lamps	14.2	14.8	14.1	13.9	14.2	14.8	14.1	13.9
Hand Tools, Cutlery, Saws, Files ...	40.2	40.8	41.5	40.9	40.2	40.8	41.5	40.8
Bolts, Nuts, Screws, Rivets, Nails, etc.	30.7	29.6	37.9	32.9	30.7	29.6	37.9	32.9
Brass and Allied Metal Wares	25.0	24.3	26.1	26.6	25.0	24.3	26.6	26.

ESTIMATED NUMBERS OF INSURED WORKPEOPLE IN VARIOUS INDUSTRY GROUPS IN GREAT BRITAIN AT JULY, 1931, AND THESE NUMBERS, TOGETHER WITH THE NEW ENTRANTS AND THE NET LOSSES DURING THE TWELVE MONTHS JULY, 1930, TO JUNE, 1931, EXPRESSED AS PERCENTAGES OF THE ESTIMATED NUMBERS INSURED AT JULY, 1930.

[See Special Article on pages 414 to 417.]

INDUSTRY.	MALES.				FEMALES.				TOTAL.			
	Estimated Number Insured, July, 1931.	New Entrants July, 1930, to June, 1931.	Net effect of Normal Wastage and Transfers in and out.	Number Insured at July, 1931, as a Percentage of July, 1930, Number.	Estimated Number Insured, July, 1931.	New Entrants July, 1930, to June, 1931.	Net effect of Normal Wastage and Transfers in and out.	Number Insured at July, 1931, as a Percentage of July, 1930, Number.	Estimated Number Insured, July, 1931.	New Entrants July, 1930, to June, 1931.	Net effect of Normal Wastage and Transfers in and out.	Number Insured at July, 1931, as a Percentage of July, 1930, Number.
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	11.	12.	13.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.		Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.		Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Mining :—												
Coal Mining	1,041,000	2.9	— 5.0	97.9	5,750	9.1	— 15.3	93.8	1,046,750	2.9	— 5.0	97.9
Other Mining and Quarrying, etc. ...	102,490	3.6	— 4.2	99.4	2,360	9.4	— 7.7	101.7	104,850	3.8	— 4.4	99.4
Non-Metalliferous Mining Products :—												
Coke Ovens and By-Product Works	11,410	0.9	— 3.5	97.4	120	16.0	+ 4.0	120.0	11,530	1.0	— 3.5	97.5
Artificial Stone, Concrete, Cement, etc.	34,580	3.0	— 1.3	101.7	2,410	9.7	— 3.1	106.6	36,990	3.5	— 1.5	102.0
Brick, Tile, etc., Making	79,110	5.2	— 1.3	103.9	7,390	7.4	— 7.8	99.6	86,500	5.4	— 1.9	103.5
Pottery, Earthenware, etc.	35,190	5.8	— 7.1	98.7	43,370	6.4	— 5.1	101.3	78,560	6.1	— 6.0	100.1
Glass Trades	37,620	4.0	— 3.2	100.8	8,720	8.7	— 5.5	103.2	46,340	4.9	— 3.6	101.3
Chemicals, Paints, Oils, etc.	154,230	2.6	— 7.1	95.5	58,660	8.6	— 2.6	106.0	212,890	4.1	— 5.9	98.2
Metal Manufacture :—												
Pig Iron, Steel Melting and Iron Puddling, etc.	184,380	1.8	— 8.7	93.1	4,420	6.8	— 9.9	96.9	188,800	1.9	— 8.7	93.2
Tin Plates	26,950	3.7	— 7.1	96.6	3,440	9.3	— 16.8	92.5	30,390	4.3	— 8.2	96.1
Other Metals	81,180	2.1	— 4.1	98.0	9,290	6.5	— 4.5	102.0	90,470	2.6	— 4.2	98.4
Engineering, etc. :—												
General Engineering; Engineers' Iron and Steel Founding	522,280	4.0	— 6.5	97.5	47,280	7.4	— 11.9	95.5	569,560	4.2	— 6.9	97.3
Electrical Engineering	71,290	5.0	— 2.2	102.8	20,450	7.6	— 6.1	101.5	91,740	5.6	— 3.1	102.5
Marine Engineering, etc.	49,310	1.8	— 8.3	93.5	1,050	5.1	— 1.1	104.0	50,360	1.9	— 8.2	93.7
Constructional Engineering	28,140	2.8	+ 2.1	104.9	1,270	7.7	+ 6.7	114.4	29,410	3.0	+ 2.3	105.3
Construction and Repair of Vehicles :—												
Motor Vehicles, Cycles and Aircraft	223,560	4.7	— 2.9	101.8	25,410	6.7	— 6.4	100.3	248,970	4.9	— 3.3	101.6
Other Vehicles	65,310	3.2	— 8.1	95.1	4,040	6.4	— 6.2	100.2	69,350	3.4	— 8.0	95.4
Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing...	180,990	2.4	— 6.8	95.6	2,800	5.3	— 11.7	93.6	183,790	2.4	— 6.8	95.6
Metal Trades :—												
Stove, Grate, Pipe, etc., and General Iron Founding	82,960	4.2	— 2.3	101.9	9,230	8.9	— 2.8	106.1	92,190	4.7	— 2.5	102.2
Electrical Wiring, Electrical Cables and Lamps	85,300	8.5	— 0.4	108.1	45,070	11.2	— 3.5	107.7	130,370	9.5	— 1.5	108.0
Watches, Clocks, Plate, Jewellery, etc.	22,190	4.4	— 4.8	99.6	19,670	4.7	— 8.0	96.7	41,860	4.5	— 6.3	98.2
Other Metal Industries	190,290	5.4	— 3.8	101.6	112,740	8.7	— 9.0	99.7	303,030	6.7	— 5.8	100.9
Textile Trades :—												
Cotton	190,590	3.2	— 6.3	96.9	359,330	3.7	— 5.9	97.8	549,920	3.5	— 6.0	97.5
Woollen and Worsted	94,950	3.3	— 3.5	99.8	142,800	4.3	— 5.3	99.0	237,750	3.9	— 4.5	99.4
Silk (including Artificial Silk)	30,070	2.4	— 11.2	91.2	42,360	5.9	— 11.7	94.2	72,430	4.4	— 11.5	92.9
Hosiery	23,600	6.5	— 5.8	100.7	88,100	7.1	— 2.3	104.8	111,700	7.0	— 3.1	103.9
Other Textile Industries	52,370	5.5	— 5.0	100.5	106,300	6.4	— 5.5	100.9	158,670	6.1	— 5.3	100.8
Textile Bleaching, Printing, Dyeing, etc.	76,790	2.5	— 4.4	98.1	29,530	4.8	— 6.0	98.8	106,320	3.1	— 4.8	98.3
Leather and Leather Goods ...	42,350	5.0	— 5.5	99.5	23,920	8.7	— 7.0	101.7	66,270	6.3	— 6.0	100.3
Clothing Trades :—												
Tailoring	67,850	5.7	— 4.1	101.6	140,230	8.8	— 1.5	107.3	208,080	7.8	— 2.4	105.4
Other Dress Industries	39,450	5.8	— 6.5	99.3	195,950	9.7	— 6.0	103.7	235,400	9.0	— 6.0	103.0
Boots, Shoes, Slippers and Clogs	83,340	5.2	— 4.1	101.1	53,440	6.0	— 4.0	102.0	136,780	5.5	— 4.1	101.4
Food, Drink and Tobacco :—												
Bread, Biscuits, Cakes, etc.	89,440	6.0	— 3.7	102.3	60,690	10.4	— 5.8	104.6	150,130	7.8	— 4.6	103.2
Other Food Industries	105,250	3.8	— 4.6	99.2	111,280	10.4	— 8.4	102.0	216,530	7.1	— 6.5	100.6
Drink, Tobacco, etc.	99,680	2.8	— 1.0	101.8	56,440	7.0	— 4.8	102.2	156,120	4.3	— 2.3	102.0
Sawmilling, Furniture and Wood-work :—												
Furniture Making, Upholstering, etc.	107,150	7.5	— 1.6	105.9	23,260	10.1	— 6.7	103.4	130,410	8.0	— 2.6	105.4
Other Woodworking	81,800	5.8	— 5.6	100.2	10,640	10.3	— 7.6	102.7	92,440	6.3	— 5.9	100.4
Printing and Paper Trades :—												
Paper, Cardboard Boxes, Stationery, etc.	68,800	3.8	— 1.0	102.8	61,680	10.9	— 5.7	105.2	130,480	7.1	— 3.2	103.9
Printing, Publishing and Book-binding	179,010	5.9	— 2.3	103.6	96,340	9.8	— 9.3	100.5	275,350	7.3	— 4.8	102.5
Building and Public Works Contracting :—												
Building	830,540	3.8	— 0.8	103.0	9,780	8.7	— 4.2	104.5	840,320	3.8	— 0.8	103.0
Public Works Contracting, etc.	262,250	6.2	+ 40.5	146.7	1,280	8.6	— 3.7	104.9	263,530	6.2	+ 40.2	146.4
Other Manufacturing Industries :—												
Rubber	39,090	3.4	— 5.1	98.3	28,090	8.0	— 6.1	101.9	67,180	5.3	— 5.5	99.8
Musical Instruments	17,460	3.7	— 16.1	87.6	7,240	5.4	+ 9.9	115.3	24,700	4.1	— 9.9	94.2
Other Manufacturing Industries	41,510	5.7	— 6.8	98.9	23,510	9.2	— 4.6	104.6	65,020	6.9	— 6.0	100.9
Transport and Communication :—												
Shipping Service and Fishing	181,120	4.6	+ 7.8	112.4	7,420	6.1	— 7.7	98.4	188,540	4.6	+ 7.1	111.7
Dock, Harbour, River and Canal Service	166,740	0.9	+ 0.8	101.7	2,330	4.0	— 3.1	100.9	169,070	1.0	+ 0.6	101.6
Other Transport, Communication and Storage	371,570	3.6	+ 4.0	107.6	18,790	8.6	+ 1.1	109.7	390,360	3.9	+ 3.8	107.7
Distributive Trades	1,111,000	9.8	— 3.0	106.8	725,680	12.8	— 7.5	105.3	1,836,680	11.0	— 4.8	106.2
Commerce, Banking, Insurance and Finance	158,780	4.1	— 1.7	102.4	74,700	5.1	— 4.2	100.9	233,480	4.4	— 2.5	101.9
Miscellaneous Trades and Services :—												
National Government	96,590	6.8	+ 1.8	108.6	21,620	14.1	— 5.6	108.5	118,210	8.1	+ 0.5	108.6
Local Government	303,740	4.0	+ 3.8	107.8	21,360	9.5	— 6.0	103.5	325,100	4.4	+ 3.1	107.5
Hotel, Public House, Restaurant, Boarding House, Club, etc., Service	133,610	6.4	+ 0.9	107.3	245,230	21.3	— 10.5	110.8	378,840	15.9	— 6.4	109.5
Laundries, Dyeing and Dry Cleaning	30,830	8.5	+ 1.3	109.8	115,920	11.1	— 6.0	105.1	146,750	10.6	— 4.5	106.1
Other Industries and Services	238,310	6.9	+ 2.7	109.6	123,970	16.4	— 8.9	107.5	362,280	10.2	— 1.4	108.8
ALL INDUSTRIES AND SERVICES...	9,021,000	4.7	— 1.8	102.9	3,479,000	9.8	— 6.6	103.2	12,500,000	6.1	— 3.1	103.0

CHANGES BETWEEN JULY, 1923, AND JULY, 1931, IN THE ESTIMATED NUMBERS OF INSURED WORKPEOPLE IN CERTAIN INDUSTRIES IN GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.

[See Special Article on pages 414 to 417].

Industry.	Estimated Number of Insured Persons aged 16 and over.		Estimated Number of Insured Persons aged 16 to 64 inclusive.			Index Numbers. July 1923, = 100. (See note at foot of page).							
	July, 1923.	July, 1927.	July, 1927.	July, 1930.	July, 1931.	July, 1924.	July, 1925.	July, 1926.	July, 1927.	July, 1928.	July, 1929.	July, 1930.	July, 1931.
(A) INDUSTRIES IN WHICH INCREASES HAVE OCCURRED.													
Public Works Contracting, etc. ...	127,940	169,300	162,410	186,330	270,630	104.5	117.3	130.0	132.4	130.4	134.0	151.8	220.5
Silk and Artificial Silk ...	37,300	55,070	53,580	78,100	72,510	111.2	124.8	136.2	147.6	193.6	203.4	215.1	199.8
Electrical Wiring and Contracting ...	11,900	14,810	14,310	18,510	22,460	107.7	106.8	117.6	124.4	135.0	144.4	160.9	195.2
Artificial Stone and Concrete ...	10,540	17,050	16,390	17,700	19,630	111.8	129.1	155.4	161.8	164.4	172.1	174.8	193.9
Heating and Ventilating Apparatus ...	5,640	7,640	7,350	9,240	9,170	101.2	133.2	125.0	135.5	147.5	161.1	170.3	169.0
Tramway and Omnibus Service ...	108,240	134,520	130,960	163,080	173,860	109.6	110.8	118.7	124.2	134.1	146.8	154.7	164.9
Entertainments and Sports ...	60,050	67,810	66,560	78,050	92,610	109.0	110.6	110.4	112.9	116.0	125.4	132.4	157.1
Paints, Varnish, Red and White Leads... ..	13,570	18,720	18,090	19,150	20,510	121.3	121.8	126.7	138.0	142.1	144.2	146.0	156.4
Electrical Engineering ...	60,960	79,300	77,800	89,860	92,470	117.0	124.6	125.4	130.1	133.3	141.2	150.3	154.7
Scientific and Photographic Instruments and Apparatus ...	17,550	24,240	23,550	25,900	26,030	112.2	118.2	126.8	138.1	141.4	154.5	151.9	152.7
Distributive Trades ...	1,253,980	1,581,070	1,552,730	1,764,390	1,874,780	108.1	116.8	120.8	126.1	131.0	136.4	143.4	152.4
Electrical Cables, Wire and Lamps ...	72,120	84,510	83,730	102,620	108,340	103.9	112.9	121.3	117.2	120.6	131.6	143.7	151.8
Stone Quarrying and Mining ...	31,930	43,060	41,230	43,460	46,430	112.5	121.6	128.8	134.8	134.8	139.6	142.1	151.8
Hotel, Public House, Restaurant, Boarding House, Club, etc., Service... ..	258,960	312,590	306,590	350,870	384,290	108.0	115.7	115.4	120.7	124.0	131.4	138.1	151.3
Brick, Tile, etc., Making ...	61,200	87,160	82,580	84,680	87,620	114.7	127.9	134.9	142.4	140.0	141.4	146.0	151.1
Local Government ...	241,760	263,880	244,850	308,390	331,920	100.3	106.4	107.8	109.1	113.8	122.1	137.4	147.9
Furniture Making, Upholstering, etc. ...	94,090	114,480	110,020	125,100	132,020	103.7	108.4	114.8	121.7	127.7	133.1	138.4	146.1
Wall Paper Making ...	4,680	5,340	5,180	6,300	6,500	120.1	104.5	114.1	114.1	125.3	135.9	138.8	143.2
Laundries, Dyeing and Dry Cleaning ...	106,780	126,650	124,250	140,490	148,980	106.0	110.2	114.8	118.6	123.6	128.9	134.1	142.2
Road Transport not separately specified	148,900	172,460	168,080	188,810	205,390	101.6	106.7	109.5	115.8	121.5	125.8	130.1	141.5
Clay, Sand, Gravel and Chalk Pits ...	12,610	15,370	14,730	16,690	17,020	107.3	114.6	120.5	121.9	123.0	131.2	138.1	140.8
Stationery and Typewriting Requisites (not paper) ...	4,720	5,770	5,640	6,230	6,450	96.8	101.7	108.2	122.2	129.3	135.2	135.0	139.8
Slate Quarrying and Mining ...	7,890	11,160	10,700	10,490	10,350	130.4	134.8	137.0	141.4	140.7	138.5	138.6	136.8
Industries and Services not separately specified ...	107,660	123,800	122,120	133,740	143,030	103.6	108.6	115.1	115.0	116.0	118.0	125.9	134.6
Shirts, Collars, Underclothing, etc. ...	66,610	74,910	74,500	84,990	88,320	108.9	111.1	109.2	112.5	116.3	121.6	128.4	133.5
Brushes and Brooms ...	8,830	10,600	10,310	11,090	11,460	111.6	116.2	121.4	120.0	126.2	118.2	129.0	133.3
Motor Vehicles, Cycles and Aircraft ...	191,830	232,860	230,130	247,140	251,320	106.1	111.6	116.6	121.4	123.9	129.5	130.4	132.6
Musical Instruments ...	19,600	24,750	23,920	26,280	24,740	101.9	110.6	124.6	126.3	138.3	149.9	138.8	130.6
Constructional Engineering ...	23,230	27,460	26,790	27,970	29,580	103.2	111.4	116.7	118.2	120.4	124.6	123.4	130.5
Shipping Service ...	127,240	142,270	140,190	144,240	161,430	99.3	108.5	110.7	111.8	111.0	112.8	115.0	128.7
Fishing ...	24,760	28,460	27,550	27,990	30,750	106.2	110.6	113.2	115.0	116.0	115.6	116.9	128.4
Metal Industries not separately specified	164,760	187,020	182,890	202,070	206,330	107.0	109.2	112.5	113.5	113.8	118.8	125.5	128.1
Hosiery ...	89,880	101,190	99,510	107,950	112,240	104.6	108.5	108.3	112.6	116.4	119.7	122.2	127.0
Food Industries not separately specified	96,800	111,240	108,560	114,960	119,220	111.1	117.7	118.0	114.9	114.4	117.6	121.7	126.2
Building ...	716,020	847,860	807,210	832,270	858,170	101.4	106.0	112.4	118.4	119.8	121.2	122.2	126.0
Printing, Publishing and Bookbinding ...	227,920	256,690	250,380	272,390	278,970	105.5	106.9	109.9	112.6	114.0	117.4	122.4	125.4
Professional Services ...	108,590	116,710	114,560	127,000	133,150	101.5	105.1	107.5	107.5	109.8	114.2	119.2	125.0
Iron and Steel Tubes ...	24,820	28,120	27,450	29,680	29,820	109.1	111.2	113.1	113.3	114.5	120.1	122.5	123.1
Rubber ...	57,080	59,920	58,430	67,470	67,330	102.5	105.4	105.0	105.0	112.6	117.4	121.3	121.1
Glass Bottles ...	16,290	18,340	17,680	17,230	18,940	111.6	116.2	110.2	112.6	110.8	110.3	109.7	120.6
Toys, Games and Sports Requisites ...	12,120	11,750	11,460	13,890	14,060	91.8	90.8	93.7	97.0	99.1	106.3	117.6	119.0
Hand Tools, Cutlery, Saws, Files ...	29,990	35,090	34,220	35,190	34,580	105.2	112.6	116.8	117.0	111.1	114.7	120.3	118.3
Oilcloth, Linoleum, etc. ...	12,070	14,260	13,750	13,830	13,750	117.4	113.0	121.7	118.2	117.4	118.4	118.8	118.1
Tailoring ...	186,460	200,970	197,980	201,830	213,020	102.3	105.4	104.5	107.8	108.3	108.6	110.0	116.1
Stove, Grate, Pipe, etc., and General Iron Founding ...	84,660	89,370	84,840	90,440	92,440	96.6	100.3	105.9	105.6	109.9	110.5	112.6	115.1
Drink Industries ...	100,290	111,750	109,100	109,530	112,470	108.2	112.1	110.2	111.4	109.6	110.8	111.8	114.8
Cement, Limekilns and Whiting... ..	16,390	19,600	18,810	19,090	17,920	97.3	110.9	115.0	119.6	120.8	123.8	121.3	113.9
Pottery, Earthenware, etc. ...	72,060	72,530	69,900	78,580	78,710	102.2	100.9	101.7	100.7	102.1	106.5	113.2	113.4
Cardboard Boxes, Paper Bags and Stationery ...	55,070	56,380	55,980	58,340	61,830	100.7	99.4	103.1	102.4	101.8	106.1	106.7	113.1
Textile Industries not separately specified	42,910	44,020	43,290	45,660	47,180	102.2	105.2	103.6	102.6	105.7	107.8	108.2	111.8
Tobacco, Cigars, Cigarettes and Snuff ...	44,560	43,380	42,790	47,460	47,590	99.0	97.7	99.3	97.4	100.3	104.9	108.0	108.3
Paper and Paper Board ...	55,570	54,960	52,810	56,060	57,090	99.5	98.2	99.9	98.9	100.1	103.4	105.0	106.9
Hats and Caps (including Straw Plait) ...	34,320	33,480	32,940	35,100	36,130	99.7	99.5	99.8	97.5	100.8	104.5	103.9	106.9
Tin Plates ...	29,920	32,230	30,770	31,620	30,390	97.8	94.2	106.1	107.8	112.3	109.6	110.8	106.5
Railway Carriages, Wagons and Trams	50,700	56,120	54,150	54,090	51,550	102.7	109.6	110.0	110.7	115.2	110.8	110.6	105.4
Gas, Water and Electricity Supply Industries ...	173,040	171,190	163,170	165,850	173,870	99.0	102.6	106.3	98.9	98.9	98.2	100.5	105.4
Carpets ...	25,380	24,780	24,380	26,090	26,290	107.0	102.7	102.4	97.6	97.7	101.1	104.4	105.2
Textile Bleaching, Printing, Dyeing, etc. ...	114,950	120,960	115,330	116,900	115,000	105.0	102.8	102.7	105.2	106.5	106.0	106.6	104.9
Oil, Glue, Soap, Ink, Matches, etc. ...	77,510	80,080	76,620	76,390	77,670	102.9	103.1	102.9	103.3	102.8	101.4	103.0	104.7
Commerce, Banking, Insurance and Finance ...	226,660	222,820	221,550	232,910	235,650	99.8	97.5	97.3	98.3	98.4	101.4	103.3	104.5
Sawmilling and Machined Woodwork ...	57,720	59,190	56,330	57,050	57,120	100.1	98.7	100.6	102.6	103.9	106.2	103.9	104.0
Wood Boxes and Packing Cases... ..	12,710	13,200	12,750	12,870	12,770	99.7	107.4	102.4	103.8	101.8	103.9	104.8	104.0
Cocoa, Chocolate and Sugar Confectionery	28,960	31,230	29,360	28,940	28,320	108.7	107.3	108.6	107.8	105.8	108.5	106.3	104.0
Hemp, Rope, Cord, Twine, etc. ...	69,490	78,450	77,470	73,510	71,290	106.0	110.8	110.0	112.9	108.9	105.6	107.2	104.0
Tanning, Currying and Dressing... ..	19,930	19,530	19,020	19,920	19,840	104.3	106.3	99.8	98.0	96.7	98.0	102.7	102.3
Jute... ..	41,190	41,680	41,360	41,330	41,630	103.4	103.2	98.0	101.2	102.4	101.2	101.1	101.8
Glass (excluding Bottles and Scientific Glass) ...	41,000	39,900	38,400	41,290	40,150	100.6	103.0	101.5	97.3	100.4	100.0	104.6	101.8
Total of above industries ...	6,568,440	7,608,430	7,396,970	8,121,270	8,560,550	104.7	109.6	112.9	115.8	118.5	122.4	127.1	134.0

NOTE.

For mode of calculation, see MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE for November, 1928, page 388. For 1928 to 1931 the available information relates only to persons aged 16 to 64. Although the figures annually collected for earlier years were in respect of persons aged 16 and over, information which was available as to the proportion of insured workers aged 65 years and over enabled estimates to be made of the total numbers aged 16-64 in 1926, and those estimates have been used to provide a basis for linking up the index numbers for 1923-27 with those for later years on a comparable basis. As, however, figures are not available showing the number of persons aged 65 or over who retired from each industry on obtaining old age pensions, it should not be assumed that the index numbers given necessarily represent the changes in the total number of workers, insured and uninsured, attached to any industry.

Industry.	Estimated Number of Insured Persons aged 16 and over.		Estimated Number of Insured Persons aged 16 to 64 inclusive.			Index Numbers.* July 1923 = 100.							
	July, 1923.	July, 1927.	July, 1927.	July, 1930.	July, 1931.	July, 1924.	July, 1925.	July, 1926.	July, 1927.	July, 1928.	July, 1929.	July, 1930.	July, 1931.

(B) INDUSTRIES IN WHICH DECREASES HAVE OCCURRED.

Boots, Shoes, Slippers and Clogs ...	141,890	141,740	138,010	135,840	137,840	101.0	101.7	102.4	99.9	97.4	97.9	98.3	99.8
Wire, Wire Netting, Wire Ropes ...	24,160	22,900	21,770	23,030	22,770	101.4	102.2	103.1	94.8	100.6	97.1	100.3	99.2
Lead, Tin and Copper Mining ...	5,120	5,710	5,480	5,350	4,870	97.7	104.9	103.9	111.5	114.6	111.3	108.9	99.1
Bread, Biscuits, Cakes, etc. ...	159,890	147,060	144,750	151,030	155,760	91.4	89.0	91.3	92.0	91.8	92.0	96.0	99.0
Linen ...	81,770	85,130	82,860	81,430	78,210	101.7	105.8	109.5	104.1	102.0	100.0	102.4	98.4
Cotton ...	567,650	570,110	562,130	564,090	550,110	100.9	101.0	101.3	100.4	99.0	99.1	100.8	98.3
Chemicals ...	104,010	95,420	92,600	103,610	98,940	94.4	92.7	90.4	91.7	99.3	104.9	102.6	98.0
Dock, Harbour, River and Canal Service ...	190,870	180,760	170,570	169,790	173,090	102.2	99.8	98.6	94.7	94.9	95.1	94.3	96.1
Brass, Copper, Zinc, Tin, Lead, etc. ...	42,020	40,610	38,940	39,610	38,190	95.3	99.6	100.3	96.6	93.2	100.5	98.2	94.7
Explosives ...	18,790	18,960	18,350	18,760	16,750	101.5	97.7	98.0	100.9	110.2	101.1	103.2	92.1
Woollen and Worsted ...	269,420	249,180	239,800	240,460	238,870	97.1	95.1	94.1	92.5	93.6	92.2	92.7	92.1
Woodworking not separately specified ...	27,410	24,300	23,520	23,600	24,060	97.3	93.3	91.3	88.6	87.0	87.5	88.9	90.6
Bolts, Nuts, Screws, Rivets, Nails, etc. ...	29,720	25,910	25,340	26,290	26,250	92.8	91.8	88.1	87.2	87.1	87.3	90.5	90.4
General Engineering; Engineers' Iron and Steel Founding ...	666,950	600,390	577,920	592,250	576,380	94.2	93.5	91.8	90.0	90.7	91.4	92.3	89.8
Dress Making and Millinery ...	117,160	105,740	104,960	101,890	103,520	92.0	90.9	91.6	90.3	90.6	88.9	87.6	89.0
Brass and Allied Metal Wares ...	32,460	29,630	28,760	28,460	27,600	92.9	93.5	95.5	91.3	88.0	89.1	90.4	87.7
Watches, Clocks, Plate, Jewellery, etc. ...	49,380	44,970	43,820	42,820	42,100	97.0	91.4	92.0	91.1	89.1	86.7	89.1	87.6
Leather Goods ...	29,170	26,630	26,080	24,980	24,820	96.1	91.5	91.7	91.3	88.5	91.0	87.5	86.9
Coal Mining ...	1,243,580	1,198,990	1,164,380	1,069,480	1,046,870	101.3	99.2	98.6	96.5	92.5	89.1	88.7	86.8
Marine Engineering, etc. ...	65,540	57,130	55,970	60,070	55,240	100.6	93.4	88.6	87.2	85.8	91.1	93.6	86.1
Dress Industries not separately specified ...	32,770	27,550	26,990	27,550	27,430	91.5	86.8	86.2	84.1	84.1	85.5	85.8	85.4
Lace ...	21,220	18,170	17,310	16,760	17,200	95.9	91.9	89.0	85.6	84.7	83.7	82.9	85.1
Steel Melting and Iron Puddling, Iron and Steel Rolling and Forging ...	210,960	194,520	187,990	180,800	169,350	98.0	93.9	91.2	92.2	87.6	87.7	88.7	83.1
Coke Ovens and By-Products Works ...	15,000	11,800	11,300	11,820	11,530	90.7	77.5	77.7	78.7	71.9	83.7	82.3	80.3
Railway Service (Non-permanent Workers Shipbuilding and Ship-repairing ...	190,210	148,660	144,280	137,830	140,020	90.8	88.0	84.1	78.2	76.0	75.0	74.7	75.9
Transport, Communication and Storage not separately specified ...	26,340	18,970	18,200	17,280	18,330	88.5	87.5	80.9	72.0	71.5	73.0	68.4	72.6
Pig Iron (Blast Furnaces) ...	28,900	24,920	23,360	21,900	19,480	104.2	88.3	84.2	86.2	81.8	81.4	80.8	71.9
National Government ...	181,170	136,490	130,870	112,100	121,400	88.5	87.1	83.8	75.3	72.2	68.4	64.5	69.8
Iron Ore and Ironstone Mining, etc. ...	19,460	14,870	14,250	14,790	12,880	87.5	82.6	78.6	76.4	78.2	80.3	79.3	69.1
Carriages, Carts, etc. ...	28,100	20,870	20,270	19,090	18,330	89.1	88.3	78.0	74.2	71.6	69.1	69.9	67.1
Mining and Quarrying not separately specified ...	26,300	18,450	17,720	16,950	15,870	83.8	79.2	74.1	70.1	65.9	67.3	67.0	62.7
Total of above Industries ...	4,917,360	4,522,570	4,387,030	4,284,430	4,209,450	97.3	95.4	94.1	92.0	90.4	89.6	89.8	88.3
TOTAL OF ALL INDUSTRIES AND SERVICES	11,485,800	12,131,000	11,784,000	12,405,700	12,770,000	101.6	103.5	104.8	105.6	106.5	108.4	111.2	114.5

* See note at foot of page 437.

JUVENILE UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS.

NUMBERS OF JUVENILES AGED 14 AND UNDER 18 ON THE REGISTERS OF EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES AND JUVENILE EMPLOYMENT BUREAUX AT 26TH OCTOBER, 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 ...	3,721	3,138	6,859	1,889	2,941	4,830
South-Eastern ...	2,075	1,559	3,634	1,500	1,874	3,374
South-Western ...	2,102	1,784	3,886	1,481	1,854	3,335
Midlands ...	5,126	2,896	8,022	3,334	2,719	6,053
North-Eastern ...	9,716	6,269	15,985	4,502	6,797	11,299
North-Western ...	8,632	7,055	15,687	6,145	6,681	12,826
Scotland ...	6,426	4,230	10,656	3,983	4,272	8,255
Wales ...	3,526	2,379	5,905	930	2,553	3,483
Great Britain ...	41,324	29,310	70,634	23,764	29,691	53,455

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

Division.	Estimated number insured at July, 1931.		Percentage Unemployed at 26th October, 1931.					
	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.			Girls.		
			Wholly unemployed.	Temporarily stopped.	Total.	Wholly unemployed.	Temporarily stopped.	Total.
London ...	110,260	98,150	4.3	0.0	4.3	2.6	0.1	2.7
South-Eastern ...	48,790	32,960	4.7	0.3	5.0	4.9	0.6	5.5
South-Western ...	43,060	29,640	5.1	0.4	5.5	5.4	0.8	6.2
Midlands ...	88,610	73,940	3.9	2.3	6.2	2.9	2.2	5.1
North-Eastern ...	99,650	60,060	7.7	2.9	10.6	6.9	2.1	9.0
North-Western ...	87,870	78,960	8.0	2.7	10.7	5.9	2.7	8.6
Scotland ...	64,260	51,570	9.6	1.6	11.2	7.4	1.7	9.1
Wales ...	32,500	9,720	6.9	4.7	11.6	10.3	1.6	11.9
Special Schemes ...	4,000	3,000	0.8	...	0.8	0.5	...	0.5
Great Britain ...	579,000	438,000	6.2	1.7	7.9	4.9	1.5	6.4

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

JUVENILES PLACED IN EMPLOYMENT. FOUR WEEKS ENDED 5TH OCTOBER, 1931.

Division.	Number of Vacancies Filled.			Juveniles placed in first situation since leaving School.		
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
South-Eastern ...	5,427	4,989	10,416	1,202	1,159	2,361
South-Western ...	1,002	899	1,901	289	286	575
Midlands ...	1,467	1,558	3,025	462	540	1,002
North-Eastern ...	1,567	1,745	3,312	499	577	1,076
North-Western ...	1,934	2,433	4,367	718	837	1,555
Scotland ...	787	938	1,725	219	297	516
Wales ...	374	299	673	130	150	280
Great Britain ...	12,558	12,861	25,419	3,519	3,846	7,365

JUVENILES IN ATTENDANCE AT APPROVED COURSES OF INSTRUCTION DURING WEEK ENDED OCTOBER 28TH, 1931.

Division.	Average Daily Attendance.								Total No. of Separate Individuals who have attended since 1st April, 1931.	
	Junior Instruction Centres and Classes.						Existing Educational Institutions (Claimants).		J.I. Centres and Classes.	Existing Educational Institutions.
	Claimants.		Non-Claimants.		Total.		Boys.	Girls.		
	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.				
London ...	607	120	...	...	607	120	...	...	8,363	...
S.-Eastern ...	411	130	6	8	417	138	185	83	2,784	703
S.-Western ...	417	193	40	35	457	228	54	29	2,999	158
Midlands ...	1,298	546	44	23	1,342	569	477	309	9,255	1,623
N.-Eastern ...	3,719	712	880	42	4,599	754	263	284	20,368	881
N.-Western ...	2,937	1,567	266	197	3,203	1,764	165	128	26,831	386
Scotland ...	2,805	1,174	433	134	3,238	1,308	295	198	16,305	916
Wales ...	1,209	85	1,061	252	2,270	337	67	75	8,817	210
Gt. Britain ...	13,403	4,527	2,730	691	16,133	5,218	1,506	1,106	95,722	4,877

There were 76 Junior Instruction Centres for boys, 29 for girls, and 30 mixed centres open in Great Britain during the week. In addition, there were 15 Junior Instruction Classes for boys, 7 for girls, and 5 mixed classes. The number of other Institutions to which unemployed juveniles were admitted was 100 for boys, 86 for girls, 198 mixed. The attendances at these Institutions are mainly in the evening.

DETERMINATION OF CLAIMS TO UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFIT IN GREAT BRITAIN.

15TH SEPTEMBER TO 12TH OCTOBER, 1931.

THE following Table gives, for the period from 15th September to 12th October, 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 ...	809,818	227,544	40,516	1,077,878
Average number of claims current	1,986,122	567,201	53,811	2,607,134

B.—Decisions of Courts of Referees.

Ground on which referred.	Benefit Allowed.	Benefit Dis-allowed.	Total.
First Statutory Condition (applies to juveniles only) ...	25	1,035	1,060
Less than 8 contributions paid in past 2 years and less than 30 contributions paid at any time (Sec. 14 (2), U.I. Act 1927) ...	Men ... 50 Women ... 48 Total ... 98	291 113 404	341 161 502
Not normally insurable and/or will not normally seek to obtain livelihood by means of insurable employment ...	Men ... 4,668 Women ... 3,341 Total ... 8,009	9,164 9,150 18,314	13,832 12,491 26,323
Employment left voluntarily without just cause ...	Men ... 2,045 Women ... 1,434 Juveniles ... 263 Total ... 3,742	3,184 3,187 629 7,000	5,229 4,621 892 10,742
Employment lost through misconduct ...	Men ... 1,659 Women ... 714 Juveniles ... 208 Total ... 2,581	2,624 1,070 655 4,349	4,283 1,784 863 6,930
Failure or refusal to apply for or accept suitable employment, or failure to carry out written directions... ..	Men ... 321 Women ... 676 Juveniles ... 37 Total ... 1,034	848 2,926 328 4,102	1,169 3,602 365 5,136
Not unemployed	Men ... 704 Women ... 118 Juveniles ... 7 Total ... 829	2,566 863 177 3,606	3,270 981 184 4,435
Not capable of work, or not available for work	Men ... 292 Women ... 514 Juveniles ... 17 Total ... 823	716 1,916 64 2,696	1,008 2,430 81 3,519
Other grounds	Men ... 441 Women ... 131 Juveniles ... 56 Total ... 628	2,691 855 379 3,925	3,132 986 435 4,553
Total	Men ... 10,180 Women ... 6,976 Juveniles ... 613 Grand Total ... 17,769	22,084 20,080 3,267 45,431	32,264 27,056 3,880 63,200

C.—Trade Dispute* Cases.

	Benefit Allowed.	Benefit Dis-allowed.	Total.
Cases dealt with by Insurance Officers ...	106	690	796
Appeals against disallowances by Insurance Officers dealt with by Courts of Referees ...	Men ... 90 Women ... 4 Juveniles ... — Total Appeals ... 94	195 22 1 218	285 26 1 312

* 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 ... 76 Women ... 46 Juveniles ... 1 Total ... 123	222 119 2 343	298 165 3 466
Appeals by Associations ...	Men ... 73 Women ... 19 Juveniles ... — Total ... 92	214 82 2 298	287 101 2 390
Appeals by Claimants ...	Men ... 50 Women ... 24 Juveniles ... 1 Total ... 75	343 121 3 467	393 145 4 542
Total	Men ... 199 Women ... 89 Juveniles ... 2 Grand Total ... 290	779 322 7 1,108	978 411 9 1,398

CUMULATIVE FIGURES, 10TH MARCH TO 12TH OCTOBER, 1931.

	Benefit Allowed.	Benefit Dis-allowed.	Total.
Decisions of Courts of Referees.			
First Statutory Condition (applies to juveniles only) ...	141	3,872	4,013
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) ...	790	2,904	3,694
Not normally insurable and/or will not normally seek to obtain livelihood by means of insurable employment ...	50,679	107,986	158,665
Employment left voluntarily without just cause ...	26,969	49,364	76,333
Employment lost through misconduct ...	19,511	30,492	50,003
Failure or refusal to apply for or accept suitable employment, or failure to carry out written directions ...	9,306	35,354	44,660
Not unemployed ...	6,070	27,063	33,133
Not capable of work, or not available for work ...	6,037	17,413	23,450
Other grounds ...	5,068	30,104	35,172
Total	124,571	304,552	429,123
Trade Dispute* Cases.			
Cases dealt with by Insurance Officers ...	936	10,735	11,671
Appeals against disallowances by Insurance Officers dealt with by Courts of Referees...	757	1,937	2,694
Decisions by Umpire.*			
Appeals by Insurance Officers ...	1,550	3,213	4,763
Appeals by Associations ...	702	2,322	3,024
Appeals by Claimants ...	942	4,697	5,639
Total	3,194	10,232	13,426

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 26th October, 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 ...	77,174	66,237	59,080	57,690	260,181	1,128,126	1,388,307	
Young men : 18-20 ...	6,740	6,242	5,813	5,652	24,447	94,023	118,470	
Boys : 16-17 ...	2,093	1,849	1,552	1,590	7,084	13,612	20,696	
Women : 21-64 ...	11,753	10,930	10,195	10,978	43,856	295,400	339,256	
Young women : 18-20 ...	3,385	3,043	2,836	3,020	12,284	43,643	55,927	
Girls : 16-17 ...	1,178	929	808	770	3,685	5,744	9,429	
Total ...	102,323	89,230	80,284	79,700	351,537	1,580,548	1,932,085	
		Percentages.						
Men : 21-64 ...	5.6	4.8	4.2	4.1	18.7	81.3	100.0	
Young men : 18-20 ...	5.7	5.2	4.9	4.8	20.6	79.4	100.0	
Boys : 16-17 ...	10.1	8.9	7.5	7.7	34.2	65.8	100.0	
Women : 21-64 ...	3.5	3.2	3.0	3.2	12.9	87.1	100.0	
Young women : 18-20 ...	6.1	5.4	5.1	5.4	22.0	78.0	100.0	
Girls : 16-17 ...	12.5	9.8	8.6	8.2	39.1	60.9	100.0	
Total ...	5.3	4.6	4.2	4.1	18.2	81.8	100.0	

* See note * in previous column.

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 26th October, 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 was not satisfied, adults, but not boys and girls, might until 11th November, 1931, 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.

As from 12th November, 1931, under the Unemployment Insurance (National Economy) (No. 2) Order, 1931, and the Regulations made thereunder, important changes have been made in these provisions. (See page 449 of this issue).

Position with regard to First Statutory Condition.	Men.	Boys.	Women.	Girls.	Total.
Numbers.					
Wholly unemployed :					
Condition satisfied...	1,066,841	19,348	278,747	8,599	1,373,535
Not satisfied ...	402,132	...	102,615	...	504,747
Total ...	1,468,973	19,348	381,362	8,599	1,878,282
Temporarily stopped :					
Condition satisfied...	325,439	9,488	108,562	6,089	449,578
Not satisfied ...	7,830	...	4,244	...	12,074
Total ...	333,269	9,488	112,806	6,089	461,652
Casual claimants :					
Condition satisfied...	102,590	214	1,881	11	104,696
Not satisfied ...	9,333	...	196	...	9,529
Total ...	111,923	214	2,077	11	114,225
Insured non-claimants*	49,658	10,308	18,060	7,773	85,799
Total :					
Condition satisfied	1,494,870	29,050	389,190	14,699	1,927,809
Not satisfied ...	468,953	10,308	125,115	7,773	612,149
Total ...	1,963,823	39,358	514,305	22,472	2,539,958
Percentages.					
Wholly unemployed :					
Condition satisfied...	72.6	100.0	73.1	100.0	73.1
Not satisfied ...	27.4	...	26.9	...	26.9
Temporarily stopped :					
Condition satisfied...	97.7	100.0	96.2	100.0	97.4
Not satisfied ...	2.3	...	3.8	...	2.6
Casual claimants :					
Condition satisfied...	91.7	100.0	90.6	100.0	91.7
Not satisfied ...	8.3	...	9.4	...	8.3
Total (including non-claimants) :					
Condition satisfied	76.1	73.8	75.7	65.4	75.9
Not satisfied ...	23.9	26.2	24.3	34.6	24.1

UNEMPLOYMENT FUND.

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

	Five weeks ended 31st October, 1931.	Four weeks ended 26th September, 1931.	Four weeks ended 25th October, 1930.
Contributions received from :—			
Employers ...	£ 1,655,000	£ 1,375,000	£ 1,210,000
Employed Persons ...	1,580,000	1,005,000	1,040,000
Exchequer (including additional Exchequer contribution in respect of Transitional Benefit (U.I. Act, 1930)) ...	4,500,000	3,195,000	3,070,000
Total ...	7,735,000	5,575,000	5,320,000
Unemployment Benefit			
Cost of Administration ...	11,225,000	9,435,000	7,120,000
Interest accrued on Treasury Advances ...	675,000	460,000	570,000
Other Items ...	475,000	360,000	190,000
Total ...	12,385,000	10,265,000	7,885,000
Treasury Advances outstanding ...	108,110,000	101,910,000	53,220,000
Other Liabilities (net), including accrued interest and deposits ...	620,000	2,170,000	350,000

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.

POOR RELIEF IN OCTOBER.

(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 October, 1931, in the forty-seven selected areas named below, was 589,075, or 5.6 per cent. more than in the previous month and 12.3 per cent. more than in October, 1930. The numbers relieved at these three dates were equivalent, respectively, to rates of 354, 335 and 316 per 10,000 of the population.

In the forty-three selected areas in England and Wales, the number of persons relieved in October, 1931, was 489,108, an increase of 6.4 per cent. as compared with a month earlier and an increase of 10.9 per cent. as compared with October 1930. In the four areas in Scotland, the number relieved was 99,967, or 2.2 per cent. more than in the previous month and 19.6 per cent. more than a year ago.

Recipients of indoor relief in the forty-seven areas in October numbered 101,918, or 0.5 per cent. more than in the previous month, but 12.1 per cent. less than a year ago. Recipients of outdoor relief numbered 487,157, or 6.8 per cent. more than in the previous month and 19.2 per cent. more than in October, 1930.

Of the forty-seven areas, thirty-five showed increases in the number per 10,000 relieved in October as compared with September, while nine showed decreases. In three areas there was no change. Compared with October, 1930, thirty-nine areas showed increases, including Sheffield (324 per 10,000), Manchester (149 per 10,000), Liverpool (134 per 10,000), Norwich (130 per 10,000), and Glasgow (109 per 10,000); while seven showed decreases. In one area there was no change.

	Number of Persons* in receipt of Poor Relief on one day† in October, 1931.				Increase (+) or Decrease (−) in rate per 10,000 of Population as compared with a	
	Indoor.	Outdoor.	Total.	Rate per 10,000 of Population.	Month ago.	Year ago.
ENGLAND AND WALES.						
County of London	38,107	84,794	122,901	280	+ 9	− 27
Birkenhead ...	898	4,602	5,500	372	+ 11	+ 93
Birmingham ...	5,346	12,549	17,895	179	+ 5	− 3
Blackburn ...	795	2,528	3,323	271	− 2	+ 24
Bolton ...	899	2,382	3,281	185	+ 6	+ 4
Bradford ...	1,261	6,871	8,132	273	...	+ 30
Brighton ...	1,066	1,830	2,896	196	+ 4	− 6
Bristol ...	2,115	7,579	9,694	244	+ 28	+ 37
Burnley ...	525	1,615	2,140	218	...	...
Cardiff ...	1,593	7,228	8,821	394	− 1	+ 17
Coventry ...	455	1,495	1,950	117	− 2	+ 9
Croydon ...	1,080	2,090	3,170	136	+ 16	+ 18
Derby ...	599	6,530	7,129	501	+ 63	+ 96
East Ham ...	680	2,788	3,468	243	+ 10	+ 51
Gateshead ...	754	6,334	7,088	579	+ 12	+ 37
Huddersfield ...	513	1,326	1,839	162	− 7	+ 6
Kingston-upon-Hull	1,709	16,036	17,745	566	+ 31	+ 55
Leeds ...	2,837	11,133	13,970	289	+ 3	+ 12
Leicester ...	822	4,093	4,915	206	− 2	+ 6
Liverpool ...	7,225	43,649	50,874	595	+ 22	+ 134
Manchester ...	3,859	34,653	38,512	503	+ 45	+ 149
Middlesbrough ...	567	3,420	3,987	288	+ 14	− 7
Newcastle-on-Tyne	935	13,754	14,689	519	+ 18	+ 57
Norwich ...	869	5,589	6,458	512	+ 38	+ 130
Nottingham ...	1,856	9,418	11,274	419	+ 42	+ 75
Oldham ...	923	1,349	2,272	162	...	+ 35
Plymouth ...	525	5,529	6,054	291	+ 11	+ 28
Portsmouth ...	1,379	2,291	3,670	147	+ 2	+ 11
Preston ...	688	775	1,463	123	+ 1	+ 27
St. Helens ...	499	3,241	3,740	350	− 6	− 48
Salford ...	1,602	5,423	7,025	314	+ 38	+ 45
Sheffield ...	1,821	37,775	39,596	774	+ 224	+ 324
Southampton ...	1,341	2,505	3,846	218	+ 3	+ 7
Southend-on-Sea ...	241	1,806	2,047	170	+ 36	+ 46
South Shields ...	716	2,877	3,593	317	+ 6	− 5
Stockport ...	583	1,176	1,759	140	+ 7	+ 14
Stoke-on-Trent ...	1,789	5,249	7,038	254	+ 5	+ 33
Sunderland ...	933	7,594	8,527	459	− 3	− 37
Swansea ...	683	5,138	5,821	353	+ 6	+ 11
Wallasey ...	272	1,087	1,359	139	− 3	+ 27
Walsall ...	596	3,350	3,946	383	+ 15	+ 10
West Ham ...	2,250	11,063	13,313	453	+ 4	+ 91
Wolverhampton ...	579	1,809	2,388	179	+ 5	+ 23
Total of the above-named County Boroughs ...	56,678	309,529	366,207	354	+ 25	+ 59
Total, County of London and Selected County Boroughs ...	94,785	394,323	489,108	331	+ 19	+ 33
SCOTLAND.						
Glasgow ...	4,948	70,397	75,345	692	+ 9	+ 109
Edinburgh ...	1,114	16,092	17,206	392	+ 22	+ 38
Dundee ...	659	3,398	4,057	231	− 5	+ 41
Aberdeen ...	412	2,947	3,359	201	+ 16	+ 36
Total for the above Scottish Burghs	7,133	92,834	99,967	534	+ 11	+ 77
TOTAL for above 47 areas in October, 1931...	101,918	487,157	589,075	354	+ 19	+ 38

* 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.

† 17th October in London, 31st October in the rest of England and Wales, and 15th October in Scotland.

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. 421–422 to compare the actual level of employment in Great Britain and Northern Ireland with that of other countries.]

GERMANY.*

UNEMPLOYMENT showed a further increase during September.

The total number of persons reported by the Employment Exchanges as available for and seeking work, at the end of September, 1931, was 4,460,263, as compared with 4,325,283 at the end of August, 1931, and 3,067,185 at the end of September, 1930. At 31st October, 1931, the total was 4,721,130 (provisional figure).

The total number of persons reported by the Employment Exchanges as unemployed was 4,354,983 at the end of September, 1931, 4,214,765 at the end of August, 1931, and 3,004,275 at the end of September, 1930. At 31st October, 1931, the provisional total was 4,621,686.

On the last day of September, 1931, 1,344,772 persons were in receipt of standard unemployment benefit, and 1,139,512 in receipt of emergency benefit, giving a total of 2,484,284, as compared with 2,376,589 at the end of August, 1931, and 1,965,348 at the end of September, 1930. The number in receipt of standard and emergency benefit at 31st October, 1931, was 2,534,710.

Among members of trade unions for which statistics are available 35.0 per cent. were unemployed at 26th September, 1931, as compared with 33.6 per cent. at 29th August, 1931, and 22.5 per cent. at 27th September, 1930. In addition 22.1 per cent. were working short time, as compared with 21.4 per cent. at the end of August, 1931, and 15.1 at the end of September, 1930.†

FRANCE.‡

Unemployment showed a further increase during October. The total number of persons on the registers of the Employment Exchanges at the end of the last week of October was 79,688 (61,000 men and 18,688 women). At the end of September, the corresponding total was 56,080, and at the end of October, 1930, 14,963.

At the beginning of October the number of persons employed in mining, industrial, transport and commercial undertakings covered by the special monthly official investigation§ showed a decline of 9.50 per cent. as compared with October, 1930. The percentage of workpeople on short time (i.e., working less than 48 hours per week) was 37.55 at the beginning of October, 1931, as compared with 4.93 at the beginning of October, 1930.

AUSTRIA.||

Unemployment continued to increase during September. The total number of persons in receipt of benefit at the end of the month was 202,130 (80,876 in Vienna), as compared with 196,321 (86,241 in Vienna) at the end of August, 1931, and 163,894 (70,221 in Vienna) at the end of September, 1930.

BELGIUM.¶

Unemployment showed little change during August. Provisional returns received by the Ministry of Industry, Labour and Social Welfare from 175 unemployment insurance societies, with a total membership of 717,757, show that 9.9 per cent. of these were totally unemployed at the end of the month; in the preceding month the percentage was 9.0 and in August, 1930, 3.0. In addition, 16.8 per cent. of the membership were employed intermittently during the month. In August, 1931, 12.3 per cent. of the aggregate possible working days were lost through unemployment; in the preceding month the percentage was 12.9 and in August, 1930, 5.17.

SCANDINAVIAN COUNTRIES.

Unemployment continued to increase during September in both Denmark and Sweden.

*Denmark.***—Returns supplied to the Danish Statistical Department by trade unions, and by the Central Employment Exchange, show that, out of 297,124 workpeople, 12.5 per cent. were unemployed at the end of September, 1931, as compared with 11.8 per cent. at the end of August and 9.0 per cent. at the end of September, 1930.

Sweden.††—The percentage of members of trade unions making returns who were unemployed at 30th September, 1931, was 13.3, as compared with 12.3 at the end of August, and 9.5 at the end of September, 1930.

* *Reichsarbeitsblatt (Statistische Beilage)*, 5th November, 1931, and *Reichsarbeitsmarkt-Anzeiger*, 10th November, 1931. Berlin.

† The Table giving particulars of unemployment and short time among various groups of trade unions which is regularly reproduced here is not available.

‡ *Bulletin du Marché du Travail*, 23rd October, 1931, and 6th November, 1931. Paris.

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

|| *Statistische Nachrichten*, 27th October, 1931. Vienna.

¶ *Revue du Travail*, September, 1931. Brussels.

** *Statistiske Efterretninger*, 20th October, 1931. Copenhagen.

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

ITALY.*

There was a further increase in the number unemployed during September. According to statistics furnished by the National Social Insurance Fund, 747,764 workpeople were recorded as unemployed at the end of the month, as compared with 693,273 at the end of August and 394,630 at the end of September, 1930. In addition 29,822 persons were partially unemployed at that date, as compared with 30,636 at the end of August, and 22,734 at the end of September, 1930.

POLAND.†

Unemployment showed little change during October. According to the official journal of the Central Statistical Office of Poland, the number of unemployed registered at Employment Exchanges at 24th October, 1931, was 251,300, as compared with 251,400 at the end of September and 164,600 at the end of October, 1930. At these dates the number of unemployed persons entitled to benefit was 70,000, 67,400 and 65,700 respectively.

SWITZERLAND.‡

Unemployment increased during September, partly owing to seasonal causes. At the end of the month 19,789 applications for employment (15.1 per thousand of the employed population according to the Census of 1920) were registered at Employment Exchanges, as compared with 18,506 at the end of August, and 11,613 at the end of September, 1930. Offers of situations at the dates mentioned above numbered 2,284, 2,207 and 2,652 respectively.

HOLLAND.§

Unemployment increased slightly during September. According to figures compiled by the State Department of Unemployment Insurance and Employment Exchanges, out of 450,984 members of subsidised unemployment funds making returns for the week ended 26th September, 1931, 11.2 per cent. were unemployed during the whole week and 4.2 per cent. for less than six days. In the corresponding week of the preceding month the percentages were 10.5 and 4.3, and in the last week of September, 1930, 6.5 and 2.5 respectively. At the end of September, 1931, 152,300 applicants for employment were registered at public employment exchanges of whom 128,500 were actually unemployed.

UNITED STATES.||

According to returns received by the Federal Bureau of Labour Statistics, covering 47,521 establishments in 15 principal industrial groups, these establishments employed 4,707,018 workpeople in September, 1931, showing an increase of 0.8 per cent., as compared with the total employed in the preceding month. During the same period the aggregate earnings in these establishments decreased by 2.8 per cent. This decrease in earnings from August to September is partly due to the wide observance of the Labour Day holiday, which, falling in the pay period reported by many companies, materially affected the earnings of the employees in the reporting establishments.

If the monthly average index number of employment in manufacturing industries alone in 1926 be taken as 100, the corresponding figure for September, 1931, is 69.6, as compared with 70.0 for August, and 79.7 for September, 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 September, 1931, as compared with the same percentage in August, and with 21.0 per cent. in September, 1930.

CANADA.

Employment showed a decline at the beginning of October. Returns were received by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics from 7,862 firms with an aggregate of 945,842 workpeople on their pay rolls on 1st October, 1931, as compared with 974,331 on 1st September. If the average employment of the reporting firms in the year 1926 be represented by 100, the index number of employment for October, 1931, is 103.9, as compared with 107.1 at the beginning of the preceding month, and 116.2 at 1st October, 1930.¶ At the end of September, 1931, 18.1 per cent. of the aggregate membership of trade unions making returns were unemployed, as compared with 15.8 per cent. at the end of August, and 9.4 per cent. at the end of September, 1930.**

NEW ZEALAND.††

Unemployment increased during August. The number of applicants remaining on the registers of the Government Employment Bureaux at 31st August, 1931, was 50,033 as compared with 47,772 at 27th July. These totals include respectively 36,097 and 35,135 men receiving partial employment under the Unemployment Board's schemes for relief.

IRISH FREE STATE.‡‡

Unemployment decreased during July. The number of insured workpeople registered as unemployed in July, 1931, was 21,427, as compared with 23,016 in June, and 19,146 in July, 1930.

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

† *Wiadomości Statystyczne*, 5th November, 1931. Warsaw.

‡ *La Vie Economique*, October, 1931. Berne.

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

|| *Trend of Employment and Labour Turnover*, September, 1931, and *American Federationist*, October, 1931. Washington.

¶ *The October Employment Situation*, 1931. Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Ottawa.

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

†† *Monthly Abstract of Statistics*, September, 1931. Wellington, N.Z.

‡‡ *Monthly Bulletin of Statistics (League of Nations)*, September, 1931. Geneva.

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

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 October in Great Britain and Northern Ireland resulted in an aggregate decrease of about £12,800 in the weekly full-time wages of nearly 170,000 workpeople and in an increase of £380 in those of 6,400 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.
Textile	50	88,000	£ 5	£ 3,400
Building, Public Works Contracting, etc. ...	...	37,000	...	3,700
Other	6,350	44,000	375	5,700
Total†	6,400	169,000	380	12,800

The principal bodies of workpeople affected by reductions in the textile group of industries were those employed in the bleaching, dyeing, printing, etc., industries in Yorkshire, Lancashire, and Scotland, whose wages were reduced under the operation of cost-of-living sliding scales; in Yorkshire the reductions generally amounted to rather over 1 per cent. on current rates, while in Lancashire and Scotland they were 8d. and 5d. per week for men and women respectively. Other workpeople in this group whose wages were reduced in October included woollen and worsted operatives employed by certain firms in Yorkshire, and engravers employed by calico printers, etc.

The principal changes in the building and allied group affected men employed by civil engineering contractors in Great Britain generally, and those employed by public works contractors in London, a reduction of ½d. per hour applying in both cases.

In the other industrial groups, workpeople affected by reductions taken into account in the statistics on this page included ironstone miners and blastfurnacemen in Northamptonshire, blastfurnacemen in the Cleveland district, most timeworkers employed in the lock, latch and key manufacturing trade, and road transport workers employed by various firms at Bradford; also, as the result of reductions in the minimum Trade Board rates, workpeople employed in the linen and cotton embroidery trade in Northern Ireland, and those in the retail bespoke tailoring trade at Belfast and Londonderry. Among those whose wages were increased were carters employed at certain towns in Scotland, and (under a Trade Board Order) female workers in the cerement making trade. Reductions which occurred during October in the wages of various classes of workpeople employed in federated shipyards are not included in the statistics,

owing to the necessary information regarding the effect of the changes being as yet incomplete.

Of the total decrease of £12,800 per week, nearly £6,700 took effect under arrangements made by Conciliation Boards or other joint standing bodies of employers and workpeople; £2,250 took effect by the operation of cost-of-living sliding scales; nearly £400 under sliding scales based on selling prices (iron or steel); and the remaining sum as the result of direct negotiation between employers and workpeople, or of independent action on the part of employers. Reductions preceded by disputes causing stoppage of work accounted for about £120 of the total.

Of the total increase of £380, about £250 was due to mediation; while the remainder (except for a small sum which resulted from arrangements made by joint standing bodies of employers and workpeople) was the result of direct negotiation between the parties.

SUMMARY OF CHANGES REPORTED IN JANUARY-OCTOBER, 1931.

Group of Industries.	Approximate Number of Workpeople† affected by Net		Estimated Net Amount of Change in Weekly Wages.	
	Increases.	Decreases.	Increases.	Decreases.
Coal Mining	2,500	351,000	£ 20	£ 40,100
Quarrying ... ..	...	27,500	...	2,600
Brick, Pottery, Glass, Chemical, etc. ...	1,000	124,500	30	18,700
Iron and Steel	900	73,000	150	9,950
Engineering§ ... ..	...	343,000	...	65,800
Other Metal	150	155,000	10	24,500
Textile	3,500	399,000	145	57,150
Clothing	9,000	73,000	1,125	13,200
Food, Drink and Tobacco	1,250	12,500	95	2,150
Woodworking, Furniture, etc.	400	52,500	70	10,125
Paper, Printing, etc. ...	...	5,500	...	750
Building, Public Works Contracting, etc. ...	1,100	498,000	110	47,150
Gas, Water and Electrici- ty Supply	1,100	32,000	210	3,250
Transport§	14,500	448,000	2,900	52,700
Public Administration Services	3,400	64,500	430	5,550
Other	200	58,000	30	10,125
Total†	39,000	2,717,000	5,325	363,800

In the corresponding ten months of 1930 there were net increases of £55,500 in the weekly full-time wages of 745,000 workpeople, and net decreases of £112,400 in those of 1,036,000 workpeople.

Hours of Labour.

No important changes were reported in October, apart from those affecting agricultural labourers in certain counties in England, where there were increases or decreases in the hours in respect of which the statutory minimum wages apply.

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

Industry.	District.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change. (Decreases in italics.)
Coal Mining	North Staffordshire	1 July	Enginemmen, firemen, mechanics, etc., under 21 years of age.	Revised scale of basis rates adopted, with provision for half-yearly in lieu of yearly increments, increasing the previous rates by ½d. per shift in certain cases, the new intermediate rates (for 14½, 15½, 16½, etc. years of age) resulting in increases varying from 1d. to 3d. per shift. Basis rates after change: 1s. 8d. per shift at 14 years, increasing each half-year to 3s. at 18 and 4s. at 20½ years of age (plus 32 per cent. in each case).
Other Mining and Quarrying.	Northamptonshire and Banbury and District.	1st pay day in Nov.†	Ironstone miners and quarrymen and limestone quarrymen.	Decrease¶ of 4 per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 12½ per cent. above the standard.
	East of Scotland ...	9 Oct.	Roadstone quarrymen	Decrease of 1d. per hour for cutters, of ½d. per hour for luggers and labourers, of 5 per cent. on the weekly wage for steammen, and of 5 per cent. for pieceworkers. Rates after change: cutters, 1s. 5d.; luggers, 1s. 2½d.; labourers, 1s. 0½d. per hour; steammen, 6s. to 7s. per week less 5 per cent.
Brickmaking	North-East Kent and South-East Essex (certain firms).	1 Oct.	Stock brickmakers	Decrease of 5 per cent. on current rates.
Pig Iron Manufacture.	Cleveland and Durham.	4 Oct.	Blastfurnacemen	Decrease¶ of 1 per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages at the standard of 1919 (plus, in some cases, an output or input bonus). Minimum rate after change for scale labourers, 6s. per shift.
	Tees-side ... North Staffordshire	1st making-up day in Oct.	Cokemen and by-product workers Tonnagemen employed at blast-furnaces.	Decrease** of 3½ per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 34½ per cent. above the standard.
Steel Manufacture and Engineering.	Northamptonshire ...	Pay preceding 1st pay day in Nov.	Blastfurnacemen	Decrease¶ of 4 per cent. on standard rates of 1930, leaving wages 12½ per cent. above the standard. Rates after change: general labourers, 5s. 4d. per shift (average); by-turn labourers, 5s. 5d. per shift (average); plus, in each case, 12½ per cent.
	Sheffield District ...	1st full pay period after 30 Sept.	Building trade operatives employed in steel and engineering works.	Decrease of 4s. per week (71s. to 67s.) for craftsmen, of 4s. per week (52s. to 48s.) for craftsmen's labourers and scaffolders and of 1s. per week (46s. to 45s.) for navvies††; payment for nightshift to be at the rate of time and a sixth (in lieu of time and a third).††

* 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 rates of wages of these classes are included in the list of principal changes recorded. The statistics are based on normal conditions of employment, and do not take into account the effect of short-time working, etc.

† The totals are exclusive of the changes taking effect in October in the wages of workpeople employed in shipyards (see page 443), full particulars of which are not yet available.

‡ In addition to the numbers quoted, wages stand at the same level as at the beginning of the year in the case of about 66,000 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.

¶ In respect of the preceding pay period.

** It was agreed that the full reduction of 9 per cent. due under the selling-price sliding scale should not be enforced, but that, without prejudice to future negotiations, the percentage payable on standard rates for the current quarter should be 34½.

†† Men working on chimney and stack work over 40 feet high are to be paid 4s. per week, and over 90 feet, 8s. per week above the rates stated. Navvies called upon to do timbering in trenches, pits, etc., are to be paid an "all-in" rate of 48s. for the time so employed.

‡‡ This change took effect under an Agreement made between the Sheffield and District Engineering Trades Employers' Association and the National Federation of Building Trade Operatives (Sheffield Branch).

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

Industry.	District.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change. (Decreases in italics.)
Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing.	Principal districts in Great Britain.	Oct.	Workpeople employed in shipyards	See footnote *.
			Time workers :— Men	New scale of rates adopted, ranging from 53s. to 65s. for Class A, 52s. to 61s. for Class B, 51s. to 58s. for Class C, and from 50s. to 56s. for Class D. The new rates resulted in most cases in reductions, varying from 1s. 6d. or less up to about 3s. 6d. per week.†
			Boys and youths	Uniform scale of rates adopted (in lieu of the separate scales previously in operation for apprentices and for workers not apprenticed), starting at 10s. at 14 years of age and increasing to 16s. at 16 years, 25s. at 18 years, and to 36s. at 20 years— <i>the new rates resulting in increases in some cases and reductions in others.</i> †
Lock, Latch and Key Manufacture.	Birmingham, Wolverhampton, Walsall and Walsall Districts; also London, Bolton and Wigan.	1st full pay period after 5 Oct.	Women and girls	Uniform scale of rates adopted (in lieu of the separate scales previously in operation for particular occupations), starting at 10s. at 14 years of age, and increasing to 16s. at 16 years, 21s. at 18 years, and to 25s. at 20 years. Women of 20 years of age and over engaged on power-pressing, varnishing, emery-wheeling and polishing to receive 27s. per week. The new rates resulted in most cases in reductions, varying from 1s. or less up to about 4s. per week.†
			Pieceworkers	Piecework prices arranged so as to enable a worker of average skill and ability to earn at least 25 per cent. above the plain day rate (in lieu of the plain day rate as previously fixed).† Decreases amounting usually to 11·7 per cent. on current total rates for adult timeworkers, with corresponding reductions for pieceworkers and juveniles.§
Woollen and Worsted Industry.	West Riding of Yorkshire (various firms).§ West Riding of Yorkshire.	Oct. (various dates). Pay day in week ending 17 Oct.¶	Workpeople employed in the woollen and worsted industries. Roller coverers employed in the worsted spinning industry.	Cost-of-living wage reduced from 64 per cent. to 52 per cent. on pre-war basis rate. Standard rate after change: 30s. per week, plus 52 per cent., plus 5s. (50s. 6d.).
	Yorkshire (majority of firms) and certain firms in Lancashire.¶	1st pay day in Nov.¶	Workpeople employed in the dyeing and finishing trades.	Cost-of-living wage reduced** from 47 per cent. to 45 per cent. on basic rates for timeworkers, from 37½ per cent. to 36 per cent. for pieceworkers (except pressers), and from 28½ per cent. to 27 per cent. for hand pressers. Minimum rates after change for timeworkers††: The Bradford Dyers' Association, Ltd.—men 21 and over, 28s. per week, plus 8 per cent., plus 45 per cent. on total; Other firms—men 21 and over, 30s. 3d. per week, plus 45 per cent.; women 18 and over, 18s. per week, plus 45 per cent.
Textile Bleaching, Dyeing, Printing, & Finishing, etc.	Lancashire, Cheshire and Derbyshire (majority of firms) and certain firms in Yorkshire††; also Scotland.	1st pay day in Nov.¶	Workpeople employed in the bleaching, dyeing, calico printing and finishing trades (except waste bleachers, machine calico printers, engravers, and mechanics, etc., employed in repair and maintenance of plant).	Cost-of-living wage reduced** from 14s. 3d. per week to 13s. 7d. per week for men 21 and over and from 8s. 6d. per week to 8s. 1d. per week for women 18 and over in Lancashire, Cheshire and Derbyshire, and 21 and over in Scotland, and by corresponding amounts for those under these ages. Minimum rates after change for timeworkers††: Lancashire, etc.—men 21 and over, 28s., plus 13s. 7d.; women 18 and over, 18s., plus 8s. 1d.; Scotland—men 21 and over, 25s., plus 13s. 7d., women 21 and over, 15s., plus 8s. 1d.
	Middleton	1st pay day in Nov.¶	Timeworkers	Cost-of-living wage reduced** from 14s. 3½d. to 13s. 8½d. per week for men, and from 8s. 9½d. to 8s. 5½d. per week for women, and by corresponding amounts for juveniles.††
	Lancashire, Cheshire, Derbyshire and Scotland.	1st pay day in Nov.¶	Engravers, etc., employed in calico print works.	Cost-of-living wage reduced** from 24s. 1d. per week to 23s. 6d. per week for engravers and from 14s. 3d. per week to 13s. 7d. per week for turners, polishers and varnishers.
	Lancashire, Cheshire, Derbyshire, Scotland and Belfast.	1st pay day in Nov.¶	Engravers employed in engraving works.	Cost-of-living wage reduced** from 24s. 1d. per week to 23s. 6d. per week for men, and from 14s. 9d. per week to 14s. 5d. per week for women, and by corresponding amounts for youths under 21.
	West Riding of Yorkshire.	1st pay day after 8 Oct.	Mechanics employed in dyeworks.	Uniform rate of 58s. per week adopted.§§
Linen and Cotton Handkerchief and Household Goods, etc.	Northern Ireland ...	30 Oct.	Female pieceworkers employed in the linen and cotton handkerchief and household goods and linen piece goods trade.	General minimum piece rates fixed under the Trade Boards Act (Northern Ireland), 1923, revised in respect of certain operations resulting in slight increases in some cases and no change in other cases: additional piece rates also fixed for punch hem-stitching of handkerchiefs. (See Notice of Order on page 451.)
			Workpeople employed in the retail bespoke tailoring trade :— Male timeworkers with not less than 5 years' experience. Male learners Other male timeworkers Male pieceworkers	Decreases in the minimum rates fixed under the Trade Boards Act (Northern Ireland), 1923, of the following amounts for the classes named respectively (see Notice of Order on page 451):— Decrease of 1½d. per hour (1s. 3½d. to 1s. 1½d.). Decreases of from 9d. to 3s. 6d. per week. Decreases of from 1s. to 5s. per week. Minimum rates after change: 10s. at under 15, increasing each year to 45s. 6d. at 22. Decrease in piecework basis time rate of 1½d. per hour (1s. 4½d. to 1s. 3½d.).
Retail Bespoke Tailoring.	County Boroughs of Belfast and Londonderry.	26 Oct.	Female workers 20 and over employed on certain operations.¶¶ Female workers 19 and over employed as button-holers or finishers Female machinists Female learners Other female workers Workers remunerated on the "log" system of payment.	Decrease of 1d. per hour. Minimum rates after change: time 8½d.; piecework basis time, 9½d. Decrease of ½d. per hour. Minimum rates after change: time, 7½d.; piecework basis time, 8½d. Decrease of ¾d. or 1d. per hour. Decreases of from ½d. to 1½d. per hour. Decrease of ¾d. per hour. Minimum time and piecework basis time rate after change: 5½d. Decrease of 1d. or 1½d. per "log" hour.

* Reductions in rates of wages of certain classes of workers in federated shipyards occurred during October. Full particulars are not yet available but details will be published in the December issue of this GAZETTE.

† These changes were agreed to by the Joint Industrial Council for the Lock, Latch and Key Industry. The arrangement whereby wages were regulated by a cost-of-living sliding-scale has now been abandoned.

‡ An increase of one-third of the difference between the rate at 20 years and the grade rate is to be paid to youths 20½ years of age, and a similar increase each six months subsequently, until the grade rate is reached.

§ The above decreases were the results 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. Certain firms are reported to have made deductions of smaller amounts. In some cases the reductions did not apply to certain ancillary classes, such as enginemen, firemen, mechanics, etc. The principal districts affected included Huddersfield, Halifax, Calder Vale, Bradford and Leeds. Reductions of similar amount had been made by various other firms in July, August and September (see GAZETTE for August, page 319; September, page 371; and October, page 400).

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

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

‡‡ The change applied to workers employed by firms who are members of the Federation of Calico Printers, the Employers' Federation of Dyers and Finishers, the Employers' Federation of Bleachers and the Employers' Federation of Cotton Yarn Bleachers, Dyers and Sizars (certain firms). At Hebden Bridge the decreases for timeworkers were similar to those in Lancashire (see above); for pieceworkers the cost-of-living wage was reduced from 40 per cent. to 39 per cent. for netherwood cutters, from 36 per cent. to 35 per cent. for hand cutters, from 31 per cent. to 29 per cent. for menders and from 35 per cent. to 33 per cent. for all other pieceworkers.

§§ The above rate took effect under an agreement made between The Bradford Dyers' Association, Ltd. and the Amalgamated Engineering Union.
¶¶ Those employed (1) making cassocks, soutanes, clerical cloaks, municipal and judicial robes, (2) on the constructional parts of coats, (3) as vestmakers, trousers-makers, breeches-makers, (4) making ladies' and gentlemen's coats where the garment is made throughout by one worker.

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

Industry.	District.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change. (Decreases in italics.)
Linen and Cotton Embroidery.	Northern Ireland ...	16 Oct.	Female workers employed in the linen and cotton embroidery trade.	<i>Decreases in the minimum time and piecework basis time rates fixed under the Trade Boards Act (Northern Ireland), 1923, of from ½d. to 1½d. per hour (except for top sewing), and general minimum piece rates reduced by varying amounts, usually from about 25 per cent. to 30 per cent. (except for thread drawing of sheets and for top sewing of ordinary corners on handkerchiefs); piece rates also fixed for household linens (thread drawing), and for hand hemstitching of handkerchiefs (drawn thread work). Minimum rates after change vary from 2½d. to 4½d. per hour. (See Notice of Order on page 451.)</i>
Baking and Confectionery.	Various towns in Northumberland and Durham, with Middlesbrough and Carlisle.	1 Oct.	Bakers and confectioners (other than those employed by Co-operative Societies):— Adult male allied workers ...	<i>Decrease of 2s. per week. Minimum rates after change for day-work include: secondhands, singlehands, dough and oven men, 64s.; tablehands, 62s.</i>
			Women and apprentices ...	<i>Decrease of 1s. per week. Minimum rates after change for women: skilled, 36s. 6d.; unskilled, 29s.</i>
	Various towns in North Staffordshire and Cheshire.*	1st pay day in week commencing 5 Oct.	Bakers and confectioners employed by Co-operative Societies:— Adult male workers ...	Revised schedule of rates adopted, resulting in increases for regular workers in most cases, varying up to 2s. 6d. per week. Rate for jobbers reduced by 1d. per hour (1s. 4d. to 1s. 3d.) and addition for night work reduced from 12s. to 10s. per week. Rates after change for daywork: firsthands, 64s.; machine-men, ovenmen and mixers, 62s. 6d.; other adult hands, 60s. New scale of rates adopted resulting in increases varying up to 7½d. per week. New rates start at 10s. at 14 and increase each year to 35s. at 21.
Furniture Manufacture.	London (certain firms).†	†	Furniture trade operatives ...	<i>Decreases of ½d. or 1d. per hour in minimum rates for men and women on time rates, and of 5 per cent. on prices and wages in force up to 14th August for pieceworkers, learners and improvers. Minimum hourly rates after change: four-cutter and spindle hands, 1s. 9d.; male polishers, japanners and chair shapers, 1s. 7½d.; other craftsmen, 1s. 8d.; carpet and blind sections 1s. 7d.; packers and porters in wholesale establishments, 1s. 4½d. and 1s. 3d. respectively; hand sand-paperers, 1s. 4½d.; female polishers, 1s. 2½d.; female caners, 11½d.; upholstresses, 10½d.†</i>
	Leeds, Bradford, Halifax, Huddersfield, Keighley, Shipley, Brighouse, Dewsbury, York and Scarborough.	1 Oct.	Cabinet makers, carvers, chair makers, machinists, upholsterers and french polishers.	<i>Decrease of ½d. per hour. Rates after change: carriers and spindle hands who are all-round machinists, 1s. 7½d.; other classes, 1s. 6½d.</i>
	Ripon ...	1 Oct.	Female workers ...	<i>Decrease of ½d. per hour. Rate after change: skilled upholstresses, 9½d.</i>
	Birmingham and District (certain firms).‡	9 or 10 Oct.§	Cabinet makers, upholsterers and french polishers.	<i>Decrease of ½d. per hour. Rate after change, 1s. 5½d.</i>
	Furniture trade operatives ...			<i>Decrease in the minimum rates for timeworkers of ½d. per hour for adult male workers and of ¼d. per hour for adult female workers, with proportionate reductions for juniors; and the percentage addition to pre-war piecework prices reduced by 2½ (65 per cent. to 62½) for pieceworkers. Minimum hourly rates after change: skilled men, 1s. 5d.; women, 8½d. per hour.†</i>
Civil Engineering.	Nottingham...	1 Oct.	Cabinet makers, carvers, chair makers, french polishers, machinists, upholsterers, sanders by hand or machine, and packers. Upholstresses and female polishers	<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. 2d.; other workers, 1s. 5d.</i>
				<i>Decrease of ½d. per hour. Rates after change: upholstresses, 7½d. polishers, 9½d.</i>
Public Works Contracting.	Great Britain||	1st pay in Oct.	Men employed by civil engineering contractors.	<i>Decrease of ½d. per hour. Rates after change for navvies and labourers: County of London, 1s. 2d.; Class I districts 1s. 1½d.; Class I (A), 1s. 1d.; Class II, 1s. 0½d.; Class III 11½d.; Class IV., 10½d.; Class V, 9½d.||</i>
Public Works Contracting.	London (Metropolitan Police Area).¶	1st full pay in Oct.	Men employed by public works contractors.	<i>Decrease of ½d. per hour. Rates after change: City and County of London—granite masons and kerb fixers, 1s. 7½d.; blacksmiths, fitters, granite set dressers, paviors, street masons, and flag dressers, 1s. 6½d.; steam roller drivers, 1s. 6d.; scaffolders, 1s. 5d.; platelayers and pipe jointers, 1s. 3d. to 1s. 4d.; petrol locomotive, roller or air compressor plant drivers, 1s. 4d.; blacksmiths' mates or strikers, duct or earthenware drainlayers, jointers, pneumatic pick operators, rammers, screeders, tarpot men, timbermen and wood block layers, 1s. 3d.; concrete levellers and labourers, 1s. 2d.; Acton, Croydon, East Ham, Ilford, Leyton, West Ham, Walthamstow, Wimbledon, Barking Town, Dagenham, Edmonton, Mitcham, Tottenham and Willesden—½d. per hour less; Rest of District—1d. per hour less.</i>
Omnibus Undertaking.	Tunbridge Wells ...	7 Oct.	Drivers and conductors ...	Increase of 2s. 6d. per week to drivers (65s. to 67s. 6d.) and of 3s. per week to conductors (50s. to 53s.).
Motor Coach Services.	London and District**	7 Oct.	Drivers ...	Increase of 2s. 6d. per week (75s. to 77s. 6d.).**
Port, Harbour and River Authorities.	Mersey ...	1 Oct.	Navvies and labourers on new works employed by Docks and Harbour Board.	<i>Decrease of 1s. 10d. per week (51s. 4d. to 49s. 6d.).</i>

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

† The changes described were embodied in notices issued to its members by the London Furniture Trades Federation during the course of a trade dispute lasting from the middle of August to the middle of October, and have not formally been accepted by the Trade Unions concerned.

‡ The changes described were embodied in a notice issued to its members by the Birmingham and District Furniture Manufacturers' and Allied Trades Association, and have not formally been accepted by the Trade Unions concerned.

§ In respect of the preceding pay period.

¶ The change took effect under an agreement arrived at by the Civil Engineering Construction Conciliation Board. It is understood that the rates of wages agreed by the Board are followed by certain public bodies in various parts of the country. The classes in which districts are placed are determined by economic or geographic conditions. The Board have agreed on the following classifications of districts: Class I—Acton, Barking Town, Croydon, Dagenham, East Ham, Edmonton, Ilford, Leyton, Mitcham, Tottenham, West Ham, Willesden, Wimbledon, and an area beyond the boundary of the Metropolitan Police Area for a width of 3 miles on the south side of the River Thames to Gravesend inclusive and for a width of 2 miles on the north side of the river to Tilbury inclusive, Newcastle-on-Tyne, North and South Shields, Hartlepool, Sunderland, Bradford, Huddersfield, Hull, Leeds, Middlesbrough, Sheffield, Barrow-in-Furness, Birkenhead, Blackburn, Bolton, Burnley, Liverpool, Manchester, Oldham, Rochdale, Stockport, Birmingham, Coventry, Derby, Leicester, Newcastle-under-Lyme, Nottingham, Smethwick, Stoke-on-Trent, Hanley, Longton and Tunstall, West Bromwich, Wolverhampton, Bristol, Cardiff, Merthyr Tydfil, Newport (Mon.), Swansea; Class I(A)—the whole of the Metropolitan Police Area (except the County of London and areas classified as Class I); Class II—Blackpool, Carlisle, Dalton-in-Furness, Nelson, Rugby; Class III—Hanchurch (Staffs.), Harwich, Tunbridge Wells, Ulverston, Wickersley and Dalton (near Rotherham), Lytham St. Anne's; Class IV—Hadleigh (Suffolk), Forest of Dean.

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

†† The above increase affected one of the largest companies operating in the area mentioned, and covering a radius of 40 miles from London. It represents a step to the maximum rate which was provided for under an agreement made last May between the company and the Transport and General Workers' Union.

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

Industry.	District.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change. (Decreases in italics.)
Merchant Shipping Service.	United Kingdom* ...	1 Oct.	Engineer officers on motor ships (cargo liners and general traders).	<i>Revised scales of pay adopted resulting in decreases varying from 5s. per month for junior fourth engineers to 110s. per month for chief engineers on ships exceeding 3,000 tons gross, and from 10s. per month for fourth engineers to 70s. per month for chief engineers on ships from 1,001 to 3,000 tons gross.*</i>
Road Transport.	Isle of Man ...	1st pay day in Oct.	Carters and general labourers ...	<i>Decrease† of 1s. per week. Rates after change: Northern, Southern and Western Areas: 38s.; Eastern Area: 40s. per week.</i>
	Bradford‡ ...	Oct.	Road transport workers ...	<i>Decrease of 5s. per week. Rates after change: one-horse drivers, 47s. 6d.; two-horse drivers, 52s. 6d.; motor vehicle drivers: up to and including two tons, 50s. 6d.; over two tons, 57s. 6d.; steam wagon drivers, 60s. 6d.; steam wagon steerers, 49s. 6d.; mates and truilermen, 47s. 6d. per week.†</i>
	Various towns in Scotland (excluding those in Angus).§	1st pay day in Oct.	Horse carters (excluding those employed by railway contractors).	<i>Increase to a minimum rate of 50s. per week for towns outside the Glasgow District.§</i>
National Government.	Great Britain ...	1 Oct.	Workpeople employed in His Majesty's Dockyards and other Admiralty Establishments:— Men in receipt of standard bonus of 14s. per week. Other workmen (excluding tradesmen and others whose wages are regulated by those paid in their own industries):— On a 7-day basis ... Yardcraftmen ... Other men in London Area Certain classes on consolidated rates (night watchmen, ship-keepers, caretakers, etc.).	<i>Bonus reduced to 12s. per week.</i> <i>Bonus reduced from 16s. 4d. per week to 14s.</i> <i>Bonus reduced from 15s. 9d. per week in London and 14s. 7d. per week elsewhere to a uniform 12s. 3d.</i> <i>Bonus reduced from 16s. or 15s. per week to a uniform 12s.</i> <i>Decrease of 2s. per week.</i>
	Great Britain ...	1 Oct.	Workpeople employed in War Department Establishments (including those at Naval Dockyard Stations):— Men paid on an engineering trade (or similar) basis.	<i>Bonuses reduced by amounts varying from 3s. to 6s. per week in London area and from 2s. to 4s. per week elsewhere, leaving the bonuses generally at 12s. per week for timeworkers and 10s. per week for pieceworkers.</i>
	Great Britain ...	1 Oct.	Crews of War Department Vessels. Workpeople employed in Air Ministry Establishments who are paid on an engineering trade basis.	<i>Bonus reduced from 14s. 7d. per week to 12s. 3d.</i> <i>Bonuses reduced by 3s. or 4s. per week in London Area and 2s. per week elsewhere, leaving the bonuses generally at 12s. per week for timeworkers and 10s. per week for pieceworkers.</i>
	London ...	1 Oct.	Engineering staff of Office of Works:— Engineering fitters and lift attendants.	<i>Bonuses reduced by 4s. per week for fitters and 1s. per week for lift attendants, leaving a uniform bonus of 12s. per week.</i>
	Provincial districts in Great Britain	1 Oct.	Engineering fitters, attendants, labourers, lift attendants, stokers, etc.	<i>Bonus reduced from 14s. per week to 12s.</i>
Local Government (Non-Trading Services).	Hampshire ...	1 July	Road workers employed by County Council.	<i>Decrease† of 1½th of basic rates. Rate after change for road labourers, 35s. 8d.</i>
	Erith ...	1 Oct.	Manual workers ...	<i>Decrease of ½d. per hour. Rates after change include: general yard labourers, 1s. 1d.; road scavengers and sweepers, 1s. 0½d.</i>
	Dumfries-shire ...	30 Oct.	Road workers employed by County Council.	<i>Uniform schedule of minimum and maximum rates adopted, applicable to all districts, resulting in most cases in decreases varying from about 2s. to 3s. per week, some increases also resulting, varying from 1s. to 2s. Rates after change include: roller drivers, 46s. to 50s.; quarrymen, 40s. to 45s.; road surfacemen, 36s. to 38s.</i>
Made-up Leather Goods Manufacture.	London (certain firms).||	10 July	Workpeople employed in the fancy and solid leather goods trade.	<i>Decreases in the minimum time rates for skilled workers 21 years of age and over of 1d. per hour for men and ½d. per hour for women; also decreases for juvenile workers amounting to not more than 10 per cent. on the existing scales. Minimum hourly rates after change for skilled workers: men, 1s. 2d.; women, 7d.||</i>
Umbrella and Sunshade Manufacture.	Manchester and District.	Pay day nearest 30 Oct.	Male timeworkers:— Cutters, framemakers, repairers and finishers.	<i>Decreases of from ½d. to 1½d. per hour. Minimum rates after change: 2½d. during 1st year increasing each year to 1s. 3½d. after seven years' experience.</i>
			Packers and porters ...	<i>Decreases of from ½d. to 1d. per hour. Minimum rates after change: 3½d. at 14, increasing each year to 1s. at 21.</i>
			Female timeworkers ...	<i>Decreases of ½d. or 1d. per hour in time rates (except for machinists and finishers in first six months' employment) and of 1d. per hour in piecework basis time rate. Minimum time rate after change after four years' experience, 7d. per hour.</i>
Cerement Making.	Great Britain ...	1 Oct.	Pieceworkers ...	<i>Decreases usually of about 7½ per cent.</i>
			Female workers ...	<i>Increase in minimum rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts of ½d. per hour for those 16 and over, the rates for those under 16 remaining unchanged. (See Notice of Order on page 164 of April GAZETTE.)</i>

CHANGES IN HOURS OF LABOUR REPORTED DURING OCTOBER, 1931.

Agriculture	Berkshire ...	31 Oct.	Male agricultural workers ...	Hours in respect of which the minimum weekly rates fixed under the Agricultural Wages (Regulation) Act, 1924, are payable fixed at 50, instead of 52½ as fixed in August.
	Northamptonshire and Soke of Peterborough.	25 Oct.	Male agricultural workers ...	Hours in respect of which the minimum weekly rates fixed under the Agricultural Wages (Regulation) Act, 1924, are payable fixed at 54 in summer and 50 in winter, instead of 50 in summer and 48 in winter as previously.
	Nottinghamshire ...	4 Oct.	Male agricultural workers ...	Hours in respect of which the minimum weekly rates fixed under the Agricultural Wages (Regulation) Act, 1924, are payable fixed at 52½ in summer and 50 in winter, instead of 50 all the year round as previously.
	Warwickshire ...	28 Oct.	Male agricultural workers ...	Hours in respect of which the minimum weekly rates fixed under the Agricultural Wages (Regulation) Act, 1924, are payable fixed at 52 in summer and 48 in winter, instead of 50 in summer and 48 in winter as previously.

* The revised scales took effect as the result of a decision made by the National Maritime Board. There was no change in the rates for fifth engineers.

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

‡ The above reduction is in accordance with an arrangement made by the Bradford and District Commercial Vehicle Owners' Federation. No trade union was a party to the arrangement.

§ The increase described is the result of an Agreement between the Scottish Horse and Motor Contractors' Federation and the Scottish Horse and Motormen's Association, which fixed a minimum rate of 50s. per week (as already operative) for the Glasgow district, and for other districts 49s. as from 4th April, 1931, with the proviso that this should be increased to 50s. in October. The minimum of 50s. is to remain in operation until 31st March, 1932.

|| The decreases described are in accordance with the terms of a decision made by the London Branch of the National Leather Goods and Saddlery Manufacturers' Association. They have not formally been accepted by the Trade Union concerned.

TRADE DISPUTES IN OCTOBER.*

Number, Magnitude and Duration.—The number of disputes involving stoppages of work, reported to the Department as beginning in October in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, was 28, as compared with 28 in the previous month, and 26 in October, 1930. In these new disputes about 9,600 workpeople were directly involved, and 2,900 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 1,100 workpeople were involved, either indirectly or indirectly, in 8 disputes which began before October and were still in progress at the beginning of that month. The number of new and old disputes was thus 36, involving about 13,600 workpeople, and resulting in a loss, during October, of about 55,000 working days.

In the following Table is given an analysis of the disputes in progress in October 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 ...	1	7	8	2,900	9,000
Metal, Engineering and Shipbuilding ...	2	4	6	1,800	16,000
Textile ...	2	2	4	1,100	5,000
Food, Drink and Tobacco ...	1	1	2	5,100	9,000
Woodworking, Furniture, etc. ...	1	1	2	1,000	8,000
Building, Public Works Contracting, etc. ...	...	8	8	1,500	7,000
Other ...	1	5	6	200	1,000
Total, Oct., 1931 ...	8	28	36	13,600	55,000
<i>Total, Sept., 1931 ...</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>28</i>	<i>40</i>	<i>13,300</i>	<i>101,000</i>
<i>Total, Oct., 1930 ...</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>26</i>	<i>38</i>	<i>5,900</i>	<i>41,000</i>

Causes.—Of the 28 disputes beginning in October, 8, directly involving 5,400 workpeople, arose out of proposed reductions in wages; 9, directly involving 1,300 workpeople, on other wage questions; 2, directly involving 800 workpeople, on questions as to working hours; 4, directly involving 1,600 workpeople, on questions respecting the employment of particular classes or persons; and 5, directly involving 500 workpeople, on other questions.

Results.—Settlements were effected in the case of 26 new disputes, directly involving 9,500 workpeople, and 5 old disputes, directly involving 3,300 workpeople. Of these new and old disputes, 8, directly involving 1,300 workpeople, were settled in favour of the workpeople; 11, directly involving 2,900 workpeople, were settled in favour of the employers; and 12, directly involving 8,600 workpeople, were compromised. In the case of 2 disputes, directly involving 100 workpeople, work was resumed pending negotiations.

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

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

Industry Group.	January to Oct., 1930.			January to Oct., 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 ...	120	50,000	171,000	130	272,400	2,809,000
Other Mining and Quarrying ...	7	500	7,000	6	300	7,000
Brick, Pottery, Glass, etc. ...	7	800	6,000	11	1,000	19,000
Chemical ...	3	400	3,000	5	900	2,000
Engineering ...	10	800	7,000	7	700	11,000
Shipbuilding ...	20	3,800	13,000	12	2,000	32,000
Other Metal ...	29	3,200	20,000	34	8,200	52,000
Textile ...	37	126,600	3,339,000	28	160,400	3,689,000
Clothing ...	18	1,300	7,000	17	900	5,000
Food, Drink and Tobacco ...	1	500	2,000	3	5,100	11,000
Woodworking, Furniture, etc. ...	21	3,300	87,000	13	5,800	82,000
Paper, Printing, etc. ...	5	600	7,000	4	400	1,000
Building, Public Works Contracting, etc. ...	42	3,500	42,000	52	11,900	143,000
Transport ...	19	5,000	25,000	18	5,400	13,000
Commerce, Distribution and Finance ...	5	3,500	51,000	7	600	2,000
Other ...	8	700	6,000	16	1,400	12,000
Total ...	352	204,500	3,793,000	363	477,400	6,890,000

PRINCIPAL DISPUTES INVOLVING STOPPAGES OF WORK DURING OCTOBER, 1931.

Occupations and Locality.‡	Approximate Number of Workpeople involved.		Date when Dispute		Cause or Object.‡	Result.‡
	Directly.	Indirectly.‡	Began.	Ended.		
SHIPBUILDING AND SHIP-REPAIRING INDUSTRY:— Platers, rivetters, caulkers, holders-up, platers' helpers and rivet warmers—Bristol Channel.	1,300§		1931. 1 Oct.	1931. 8–10 Oct.	Against reduction in wages, in alleged disregard of customary procedure involving local negotiations.	Work resumed at the reduced rates of wages.
FISH CURING INDUSTRY:— Herring curers (females), foremen, carters, labourers, etc.—Great Yarmouth.	3,500	1,500	13 Oct.	14 Oct.	Against reduction in "subsistence money" below the rate paid in previous season.	Modified reduction accepted.
FURNITURE MANUFACTURE:— Cabinet makers, chairmakers, machinists, french polishers, etc.—London.	3,000||		14 Aug.	10 Oct.	Against proposed reduction in wages.	Work resumed without general settlement being effected. (See also entry in "Changes in Rates of Wages" Table on page 444.)
Woodcutting machinists, cabinet makers, french polishers, upholsterers, etc., piano workers and apprentices—Birmingham.	367	124	8 Oct.	13 Oct.	Against proposed reduction in wages.	Old rates of wages to be continued until the end of 1931.

* 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.
† 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.
§ Estimated number.
|| Estimated number involved at 14th August; number subsequently considerably reduced.

CHANGES IN COST OF LIVING: STATISTICS FOR 31st OCTOBER.*

Summary: Average Increases since July, 1914.

All Items included	...	...	46%
Food only	...	...	30%

FOOD.

During October there was a slight advance in the average level of the retail prices of the principal articles of food. Eggs showed a further seasonal advance in price, and potatoes, cheese and butter were also dearer at the end of the month. On the other hand, bacon and meat were somewhat cheaper, on the average.

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 30 per cent. at 31st October, 1931, as compared with 28 per cent. at 1st October, 1931, and 44 per cent. at 1st November, 1930.

In the following Table is given a comparison of retail prices of these articles of food in July, 1914, and at 1st October and 31st October, 1931:—

Article.	Average Price (per lb. unless otherwise indicated— to the nearest ½d.)			Average Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) at 31st Oct., 1931, as compared with	
	July, 1914.	1st Oct., 1931.	31st Oct., 1931.	July, 1914.	1st Oct., 1931.
Beef, British—					
Ribs ...	s. d. 0 10	s. d. 1 3½	s. d. 1 3½	+ 0 5½	...
Thin Flank ...	0 6½	0 8½	0 8½	+ 0 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 4½	1 4½	+ 0 6	— 0 0½
Breast ...	0 6½	0 9	0 8½	+ 0 2½	— 0 0½
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 11½	0 11	— 0 0½	— 0 0½
Flour ... per 7 lb.	0 10½	0 10½	0 10½	+ 0 0½	...
Bread ... per 4 lb.	0 5½	0 6½	0 6½	+ 0 1	...
Tea ...	1 6½	1 8½	1 8½	+ 0 2½	...
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 5	1 5½	+ 0 2½	+ 0 0½
Salt ...	1 2½	1 3½	1 4	+ 0 1½	+ 0 0½
Cheese‡ ...	0 8½	0 10½	0 10½	+ 0 2	+ 0 0½
Margarine ...	0 7	0 7	0 7	...	...
Eggs (fresh) ... each	0 1½	0 2	0 2½	+ 0 1½	+ 0 0½
Potatoes ... per 7 lb.	0 4½	0 7½	0 7½	+ 0 3	+ 0 0½

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

Article.	Average Percentage Increase at 31st Oct., 1931, as compared with July, 1914.			Corre- sponding General Average for 1st Oct., 1931.
	Large Towns (Popula- tions over 50,000).	Small Towns and Villages.	General Average.	
Beef, British—				
Ribs ...	Per cent. 55	Per cent. 56	Per cent. 56	Per cent. 56
Thin Flank ...	26	28	27	28
Beef, Chilled or Frozen—				
Ribs ...	30	34	32	33
Thin Flank ...	2	8	5	5
Mutton, British—				
Legs ...	57	61	59	61
Breast ...	36	35	36	37
Mutton, Frozen—				
Legs ...	51	47	49	51
Breast ...	6	11	8	10
Bacon (streaky)†	—3	—2	—3	1
Fish ...	108	88	98	99
Flour ...	1	4	3	2
Bread ...	16	15	16	16
Tea ...	5	21	13	13
Sugar (granulated) ...	25	18	22	19
Milk ...	60	70	65	64
Butter—				
Fresh ...	16	23	19	17
Salt ...	11	13	12	11
Cheese‡ ...	24	23	24	18
Margarine ...	2	—3	—1	—2
Eggs (fresh) ...	92	92	92	58
Potatoes ...	74	54	64	58
All above articles of Food (Weighted Percentage Increase) ...	30	30	30	28

* As 1st November fell on a Sunday, the statistics relate to 31st October, in accordance with the usual practice.

† If this kind is seldom dealt with in a locality, the returns quote the prices 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 prices 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 31st October, 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 31st October 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 about 90 per cent. higher than in July, 1914.

In the *fuel and light* group the prices of coal at 31st October averaged approximately 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 31st October, as compared with July, 1914, was about 75 per cent.

ALL ITEMS.

If the average increases in the cost of all the foregoing items are combined in accordance with their relative importance in pre-war working-class family expenditure, allowance being also made for the increase in the prices of soap, soda, domestic ironmongery, brushware and pottery, tobacco, fares and newspapers (averaging about 75 per cent.), the resultant general average increase for 31st October, 1931, is approximately 46 per cent.† over the level of July, 1914, as compared with 45 per cent. at 1st October, 1931, and 57 per cent. at 1st November, 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	45
Nov. ...	176	103	80	75	80	76	79	69	67	67	57	46
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.

* See note * in previous column.

† 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.*					
	July, 1928.	July, 1929.	July, 1930.	July, 1931.	Latest figures available.	
					Rise.	Date.
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND ...	Per cent. 57	Per cent. 49	Per cent. 41	Per cent. 30	Per cent. 30	1931. 31 Oct.
FOREIGN COUNTRIES.						
Czechoslovakia... ..	...	...	30	17	12	Sept.
Denmark	53	49	37	19	19	Oct.
Egypt (Cairo)†... ..	44	40	32	...	16	Aug.
Finland	1,016	979	837	718	717	Sept.
France (Paris)†... ..	...	522†	503†	517†	477†	Oct.
„ (other towns)†... ..	...	503**	514**	502**	502†	Aug.
Germany	54	56	46	30	25	Sept.
Italy	416	458	407	342	338	Sept.
Norway	73	57	51	38	36	Oct.
Spain (Madrid)†... ..	73	77	80	93	95	Aug.
„ (Barcelona)†... ..	65	73	72	77	79	Aug.
Sweden†	57	51	40	30	29	Oct.
Switzerland	57	55	52	40	39	Sept.
United States	50	55	41	17	17	Sept.
BRITISH DOMINIONS, &c.						
Australia	52	60	47	25	24	Sept.
Canada	47	50	49	10	7	Oct.
India (Bombay): Native families	43	45	36	0	0	Oct.
Irish Free State	66	66	56	43**	43	Aug.
New Zealand	46	46	43	18†	16†	Sept.
South Africa	16	16	9	4	2	Sept.

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, 1928.	July, 1929.	July, 1930.	July, 1931.	Rise.	Date.
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND ...	A,B,C,D,E	Per cent. 65	Per cent. 61	Per cent. 55	Per cent. 47	Per cent. 46	1931. 31 Oct.
FOREIGN COUNTRIES.							
Belgium ...	A,C,D,E	711	771	769	689	686	Sept.
Czechoslovakia (Prague) ...	A,B,C,D,E	...	...	9	4	2	Sept.
Denmark ...	A,B,C,D,E	76	73	65	54	54	Oct.
Egypt (Cairo)...	A,B,C,E	51	50	48	...	35	Aug.
Finland ...	A,B,C,D,E	1,113	1,101	1,008	904	897	Sept.
France (Paris) ...	A,B,C,D,E	419¶	455¶	492¶	465¶	465	3rd Qr.
Germany ...	A,B,C,D,E	53	54	49	37	34	Sept.
Holland (Amsterdam) ...	A,B,C,D,E	70§	69§	62§	54§	51	Sept.
Italy (Milan) ...	A,B,C,D,E	426	442	431	386	381	Aug.
„ (Rome) ...	A,B,C,D,E	387	407	400	...	352	July
Norway ...	A,B,C,D,E	93	80	75	67	50‡	Oct.
Poland (Warsaw) ...	A,B,C,D,E	23	23	19	5	2	Oct.
Sweden ...	A,B,C,D,E	73	69	64	58	58	Oct.
Switzerland ...	A,B,C,D	61	61	59	50	49	Sept.
United States...	A,B,C,D,E	70§	70‡	67§	50§	50	June
BRITISH DOMINIONS, &C.							
Australia ...	A,B,C,D,E	47¶	50¶	...	...	35	4th Qr. '30
Canada ...	A,B,C,D,E	55	56	56	37	35	Oct.
India (Bombay): Native families ...	A,B,C,D	47	48	40	8	8	Oct.
Irish Free State ...	A,B,C,D,E	73	74	68	57**	57	Aug.
New Zealand ...	A,B,C,D,E	62	60	58	45‡	42‡	Sept.
South Africa ...	A,B,C,D,E	31	31	28	22	22	Sept.

* 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 October, 1931, as killed in the course of their employment was 162, as compared with 155 in the previous month and with 179* in October, 1930. Fatal accidents to seamen reported in October, 1931, numbered 20, as compared with 25 in the previous month and with 30 in October, 1930.

RAILWAY SERVICE.		Factories and Workshops (continued).	
Brakemen and Goods	...	Locomotives, Railway and Tramway Carriages,	...
Guards ...	...	Motors, Aircraft...	4
Engine Drivers and Motor-men ...	3	Other Metal Trades ...	4
Firemen ...	2	Shipbuilding ...	4
Guards (Passenger) ...	...	Wood ...	5
Permanent Way Men ...	4	Gas ...	1
Porters ...	3	Electric Generating Stations	2
Shunters ...	...	Clay, Stone, Glass, etc. ...	3
Mechanics ...	...	Chemicals, etc. ...	2
Labourers ...	2	Food and Drink ...	1
Other Grades ...	6	Paper, Printing, etc. ...	2
TOTAL, RAILWAY SERVICE	20	Tanning, Currying, etc. ...	...
		Rubber Trades ...	...
		Other Non-Textile Industries	4
MINES.		PLACES UNDER SS. 104-106, FACTORY ACT, 1901.	
Underground ...	56	Docks, Wharves, etc. ...	4
Surface ...	6	Buildings ...	17
TOTAL, MINES	62	Warehouses and Railway Sidings ...	3
QUARRIES over 20 feet deep		TOTAL, FACTORY ACTS	76
FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.		Total (excluding Seamen)	162
Cotton ...	5	SEAMEN.	
Wool, Worsted and Shoddy	5	Trading Vessels, Steam	16
Textile Bleaching and Dyeing ...	3	Fishing Vessels, Steam	4
Metal Extracting and Refining ...	...	TOTAL, SEAMEN	20
Metal Conversion, including Rolling Mills and Tube Making ...	3	Total (including Seamen)	182
Metal Founding ...	2		
Engineering and Machine Making ...	1		
Boiler Making and Constructional Engineering ...	1		

INDUSTRIAL DISEASES.

The total number of cases† of poisoning, anthrax, and epitheliomatous and chrome ulceration in Great Britain and Northern Ireland reported during October, 1931, under the Factory and Workshop Act, or under the Lead Paint (Protection against Poisoning) Act, was 33; the total number of deaths† reported was 7.

In addition, two cases of lead poisoning (including 1 death) among plumbers not employed in factories came to the knowledge of the Home Office during October, but notification of such cases is not obligatory.

I. Cases.

(a) LEAD POISONING.		I. Cases (continued).	
Among Operatives engaged in—		(c) ANTHRAX.	
Smelting of metals ...	5	Handling of Horsehair	1
Plumbing and Soldering ...	...	(d) EPITHELIOMATOUS ULCERATION (SKIN CANCER).	
Shipbreaking ...	...	Pitch ...	4
Printing ...	...	Tar ...	...
Tinning of Metals ...	...	Paraffin ...	...
Other Contact with Molten Lead ...	...	Oil ...	3
White and Red Lead Works ...	...	TOTAL, EPITHELIOMATOUS ULCERATION	7
Pottery ...	...	(e) CHROME ULCERATION.	
Vitreous Enamelling ...	...	Dyeing and Finishing ...	2
Electric Accumulator Works ...	1	Chromium Plating ...	2
Paint and Colour Works	1	TOTAL, CHROME ULCERATION	4
Indiarubber Works ...	...	II. Deaths.	
Coach and Car Painting	1	LEAD POISONING.	
Shipbuilding ...	1	Painting of Buildings	2
Paint used in Other Industries ...	...	ANTHRAX.	
Other Industries...	2	Handling of Horsehair ...	1
Painting of Buildings	6	EPITHELIOMATOUS ULCERATION (SKIN CANCER).	
TOTAL, LEAD POISONING	17	Pitch ...	1
		Oil ...	3
(b) OTHER POISONING.		TOTAL, EPITHELIOMATOUS ULCERATION	4
Aniline ...	3		
Toxic Jaundice...	1		
TOTAL, OTHER POISONING	4		

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

† 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.

PRICES AND WAGES IN THE IRON AND STEEL INDUSTRIES.

THE following Table shows the results of recent ascertainments of selling prices of pig iron and of manufactured iron upon which are based changes in the rates of wages of certain classes of iron and steel and other workers in particular districts:—

Product and District.	Price according to last Audit.*		Inc. (+) or Dec. (–) of last Audit* on	
	Period covered by last Audit.	Average selling price per ton.	Previous Audit.	A year ago.
Pig Iron:	1931.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Cleveland ...	July–Sept.	53 0½	– 2 1½	– 9 3
Cumberland ...	July–Aug.	63 3	– 2 3½	– 8 5
(Hematite mixed numbers.)	July–Sept.	54 8½	– 3 1½	– 8 11½
Nottinghamshire ...	July–Sept.	55 1½	– 7 1½	– 11 0½
North Staffordshire	July–Sept.	47 7½	– 3 8½	– 10 2½
Northamptonshire				
Manufactured Iron:				
North of England (Bars.)	July–Aug.	181 8½	– 7 3	– 1 3
West of Scotland ...	July–Aug.	205 8½	– 3 2½	– 4 9
(Rounds, flats, squares, angles, hoops, tees and rods.)				

The variation from the previous audit in the price of Cleveland pig iron warranted a decrease of 2 per cent. on the standard rates of blastfurnacemen in that area, but the employers agreed to make a reduction of 1 per cent. only. As a result of the Cumberland ascertainment, blastfurnacemen sustained a reduction of 2½ per cent. on standard rates. The ascertainment for North Staffordshire warranted a reduction of 9 per cent., but the employers agreed that the reduction (which applied to tonnagemen only) should be 3½ per cent. In Northamptonshire the ascertainment resulted in a reduction of 4 per cent. on the standard rates of blastfurnacemen, ironstone miners and limestone quarrymen.

As regards manufactured iron, the ascertainment for the North of England resulted in a decrease of 5 per cent. on the standard rates of iron puddlers and millmen, whilst the West of Scotland ascertainment resulted in a decrease of 2½ per cent.

Further details of the changes referred to will be found on page 399 of the October GAZETTE, and page 442 of the present issue.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACTS, 1920–31.

THE UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE (NATIONAL ECONOMY) (No. 2) ORDER, 1931.†

THE following is a summary of the principal provisions of the Unemployment Insurance (National Economy) (No. 2) Order, 1931,† dated 7th October, 1931, which has been issued under the National Economy Act, 1931‡:—

Article 1 of the Order terminates, as from and after 12th November, 1931, the payment of unemployment benefit under sub-section (2) of section 14 of the Act of 1927. [This sub-section provided that, within a certain period—which has since been several times extended—of the commencement of the Act, an insured contributor of the age of 18 or over who had ceased to satisfy the first statutory condition (30 contributions in past two years) might nevertheless receive benefit on satisfying a less exacting contributions condition (eight contributions in past two years, or 30 contributions at any time), together with certain other additional conditions.] It also terminates, as from and after the same date, the benefit of any person who has become entitled to benefit in respect of 156 days in a benefit year, during the remainder of that benefit year, and until ten contributions have been paid in respect of him since the hundred and fifty-sixth day of benefit.

For the payment of unemployment benefit in such cases the Order substitutes, as from and after the same date, what are called “transitional payments,” as follows:—

“As from and after the 12th day of November, 1931, where a person who has attained the age of eighteen years proves that he fulfils the following conditions, namely—

(a) that he is normally employed in, and will normally seek to obtain his livelihood by means of, insurable employment; and

(b) that he would, but for the operation of the preceding paragraph of this Article, have been entitled to benefit,

and also proves that his circumstances are such that whilst unemployed he is in need of assistance by way of transitional payments, such payments shall, subject to the provisions of this Order, be made to him out of the Unemployment Fund so long as he continues to fulfil the said conditions.”

Any question as to the needs of an applicant for transitional payments are to be remitted to the council of the county or county borough in which he is resident, and are to stand referred to such committee or sub-committee of the council as may be prescribed. The committee or sub-committee will deal with the case as though it were that of an unemployed able-bodied person who had applied

for public assistance, and will indicate what amount (if any) of transitional payments should be made to him: with the proviso, however, that the amount must not exceed the amount of unemployment benefit to which he would have been entitled but for the operation of the Order. Any other question arising in connection with the application will be dealt with as though it were a claim for unemployment benefit.

Article 2 of the Order provides that interim payments, covering not more than six days of unemployment, may be made to an applicant for transitional payments, pending a determination with respect to his needs.

Article 3 gives the Minister of Labour power to make regulations* covering a number of points not specified in the Unemployment Insurance Act of 1920. These include:—prescribing the committee or sub-committee to whom questions of “need” are to be referred; authorising the appointment of additional members of such committees, and the appointment of special sub-committees to deal with cases of urgency; laying down the procedure of such committees, the information to be furnished, etc.; regulations with respect to the making of interim determinations by officers of the council, pending full enquiries and consideration, etc., etc.

Article 4 makes certain minor consequential changes in various Acts, etc.

Article 5 contains transitory provisions and has effect only during a period of two months commencing on 12th November, 1931, or during such longer period, not exceeding four months, commencing on that date as the Minister may, as respects any particular area, direct. It provides that, in the case of a person who is affected by the provisions of paragraph (1) of Article 1 of this Order, transitional payments equal to the payments to which, if he had made an application for benefit, he would, but for the operation of that paragraph, have been entitled as benefit may, pending the making and determination of an application for transitional payments, be made to him out of the Unemployment Fund.

Article 6 authorises the refunding, subject to the consent of the Treasury, of any additional expenses incurred by a council in consequence of the Order, if the council apply for such refund.

Article 7 authorises the Minister of Labour to appoint a person or persons to carry out the duties imposed on a council or committee by the Order, if the council or committee do not carry them out themselves, or do not carry them out efficiently.

Article 8 contains various provisions as to the accounts of, and as to deficiencies in, the Unemployment Fund. Article 9 is an interpretation clause. By Articles 10 and 11 the Order is made to apply (with certain modifications) to Scotland; but it does not extend to Northern Ireland.

THE UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE (TRANSITIONAL PAYMENTS) REGULATIONS, 1931.†

REGULATIONS† applying the provisions of the Order summarised above were made on 16th October, 1931, by the Minister of Labour under Section 35 of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920. An explanatory Memorandum has also been issued, addressed to County Councils and County Borough Councils, explaining the duties and functions of Local Authorities under the Order and Regulations.

The Regulations prescribe the manner in which applications for transitional payments shall be made. Applicants must apply in a form as directed, and attend at such places or offices as may be required; provided, however, that they will not be required to attend at a Poor Law institution, except in areas where the Minister of Labour expressly approves such attendance.

Regulation 4 provides that “transitional payment” cases shall be referred to the Public Assistance Committee (or sub-committee) of the County or County Borough Council, or, in cases of urgency, to a special sub-committee. The determinations of committees or sub-committees are to be forwarded to the Minister, if practicable, within seven days.

Under Regulation 5, determinations may be reviewed in the same manner as decisions on applications for public assistance. A determination may be reviewed either because the applicant's circumstances have changed, or for any other reason for which at present a committee may review a decision regarding a grant of public assistance. Unless and until a fresh determination is made, the authority's decision is final.

Under Regulation 6, determinations are in general to have effect for four weeks, unless altered meanwhile by the Authority. The amount of transitional payments must not exceed in any case the amount which the applicant would have been entitled to draw by way of unemployment benefit (including dependants' benefit): this amount will be notified to the Authority on the application form. Transitional payments can be made only in respect of the days on which the applicant was unemployed within the meaning of the Unemployment Insurance Acts. Directions may be given by the Authority as to the sum (not being less than one-sixth of the weekly rate of payment) by which the weekly amount should be reduced for each day on which the applicant is not unemployed.

Regulation 7 provides that the Public Assistance Officer, or other authorised officer of the County or County Borough Council, shall have power to make interim determinations if this is necessary to enable a determination to be given within the time (seven days) normally allowed.

Regulation 8 provides for the appointment of additional members to Public Assistance Committees (or sub-committees), to facilitate the discharge of the duties imposed by the Order.

Regulation 9 provides for the appointment of special sub-committees to deal with cases of urgency.

* Stated to the nearest farthing.

† Statutory Rules and Orders, 1931: No. 853. H.M. Stationery Office; price 2d. net (2½d. post free).

‡ 21 and 22 Geo. 5, ch. 48. A notice of this Act appeared in last month's issue of this GAZETTE, page 374.

* Regulations have now been issued under this order: see summary below.
† Statutory Rules and Orders, 1931, No. 875. H.M. Stationery Office; price 2d. net (2½d. post free).

Regulation 10 provides that an inspector of the Ministry of Health may attend any meeting of a committee or sub-committee, and may also require the production of documents relating to duties imposed by the Order.

Regulation 11 prescribes a period of ten weeks during which the rate laid down in an earlier determination would hold good for the purpose of interim payments made under Article 2 of the Order.

Regulation 15 applies the Regulations to Scotland, subject to certain adaptations.

The remaining Regulations deal with minor and formal matters, including the application to transitional payments of Regulations made under the Unemployment Insurance Acts.

The scheme as set out in the Order in Council and the Regulations comes into force on 12th November. In order to give Authorities a reasonable period in which to conduct their enquiries and to make their determinations for the initial accumulation of cases, transitional payments at the appropriate rate of benefit may be made by the Employment Exchanges for a period of two months from 12th November, with power to the Minister to extend the period for any area for a further two months. The power to make these payments, which is limited to the initial period from 12th November, is permissive, and will only be exercised to the extent to which this proves to be necessary in each area, having regard to the volume of applications to be disposed of. The Minister has expressed the hope that Authorities, in co-operation with the Employment Exchanges, will in general find it practicable to bring the scheme into full working by the end of the period of two months.

The explanatory memorandum issued to Local Authorities with the Order and the Regulations points out that persons affected by the scheme will continue to prove unemployment and to receive the payments that may be determined in their case at the Employment Exchanges as before; they will continue to be considered for submission to suitable employment in the same way as claimants to ordinary benefit, and to have the same opportunities of training at the Ministry of Labour training centres. For all purposes other than the determination of the amount of transitional payments to be made to them, the Employment Exchanges will continue to deal with them as they deal with all persons within the insurance field. It is also pointed out that the applications made under the scheme will represent all the degrees of industrial skill and experience that are to be found in the whole body of contributors under the Unemployment Insurance Acts, and that large numbers of the applicants, up to the beginning of the present depression, have been employed regularly. Although many of these may have suffered the deprivations inseparable from long unemployment, they have in general been kept from the necessity of having recourse to public assistance by the receipt of unemployment benefit. These facts are brought to the notice of Local Authorities so that regard may be had to them in determining the amount of transitional payments of which an applicant may be in need while unemployed.

In a covering letter, addressed to County Councils and County Borough Councils, it is pointed out that the proper administration of the scheme will depend upon close personal co-operation between the Local Authorities and the local organisation of the Ministry of Labour. The Minister states that he is confident that this will be secured, and that the duties placed jointly upon the Authorities and upon the officers of the Ministry will be executed so as to insure due regard for economy, and equally for avoiding hardship to applicants.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE (EMPLOYMENT OUTSIDE THE UNITED KINGDOM) REGULATIONS, 1931.*

These Regulations, dated 1st October, 1931, which have been made by the Minister of Labour under the Unemployment Insurance Acts, 1920 and 1930, provide that, where a person in the employment of a person resident, or having his principal place of business, in Great Britain is engaged outside the United Kingdom for the purpose of the execution of some particular work, in employment which, if it were employment in Great Britain, would make him an employed person within the meaning of the Unemployment Insurance Acts, he shall, if he was, immediately before leaving Great Britain, an insured contributor, be deemed for the purposes of those Acts to be an employed person and insurable thereunder.

It is provided, however, that these Regulations shall not apply :— (a) unless the engagement for employment outside the United Kingdom was made before the insured contributor left Great Britain, or, if having left Great Britain to take up insurable employment in Northern Ireland, before he left Northern Ireland, or unless it followed, or was one of a consecutive series of engagements in insurable employment (whether under the same employer or different employers) that followed, immediately upon the termination of an engagement so made as aforesaid; (b) to so much of any continuous period of employment outside the United Kingdom as is in excess of ten years from the date of the commencement of the first engagement; (c) to employment within paragraph (b) of Part I of the First Schedule to the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920, (i.e., to employment as a member of a crew of a British ship).

These Regulations came into force on 2nd November, 1931. A leaflet containing further particulars may be obtained from any Employment Exchange.

* Statutory Rules and Orders, 1931; No. 820. H.M. Stationery Office; price 1d. net (1½d. post free).

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. 20626/31. (23.10.31).

SECTION 8 (2) OF PRINCIPAL ACT—MISCONDUCT—APPLICANTS DISMISSED FOR BREACH OF EMPLOYERS' REGULATION, OF WHICH THEY WERE AWARE—ALLEGED THAT OTHER EMPLOYEES HAD PREVIOUSLY BEEN GUILTY OF SUCH BREACHES BUT WERE NOT DISCHARGED—DISALLOWED THREE WEEKS.

The claimants, an omnibus driver and a conductor, were discharged from their employment on the ground that they had been guilty of a breach of the employers' regulations. It appeared that the claimants left their 'bus unattended, and went to discuss with another driver and conductor the subject of the issue of a new time-table of the Company's service. When requested by the inspector to stand by their 'bus the claimants refused to do so, owing to the alleged objectionable manner in which they had been addressed.

The Court of Referees decided that the claims should be disallowed for six weeks from 26th July, 1931. The Court was of opinion that, having regard to the employers' regulations that employees were not to leave their 'buses while on duty, the conduct of the claimants amounted to misconduct within the meaning of Section 8 (2) of the principal Act.

Decision.—"On the facts before me my decision is that the claim for benefit should be disallowed for three weeks from 26th July.

"In a case of this nature the only two questions which the statutory authority can determine are: (i) did the claimants lose their employment; (ii) if they did, was it through their misconduct? If these questions are answered in the affirmative, the statutory authority is required by the Unemployment Insurance Act to hold that the claimants are disqualified for receiving unemployment benefit.

"The claimants have admitted that they lost their employment because they were guilty of a breach of their employers' regulations, of which they were aware. This disqualifies them for receiving benefit (*see* Decision 1997/20†).

"It is said that other employees have been guilty of similar breaches of regulations and have not been discharged therefor. This is not a material consideration (*see* Decisions 1997/20, 2336/20, ‡ 4589/20§, 6067/20|| and 7728/20¶), except in so far as the period of disqualification is concerned.

"In the decisions last referred to the period of disqualification was reduced, except in the two last named, which were cases of serious misconduct.

"In this case I think the appropriate period of disqualification is one of three weeks."

Case No. 20842/31. (26/10/31.)

SECTION 4 (1) OF 1930 ACT—OFFERS OF SUITABLE EMPLOYMENT—APPLICANT REFUSED SITUATION, AT A PLACE WHERE THERE WAS NO TRADE DISPUTE, MADE VACANT BY AN EMPLOYEE LEAVING TO TAKE UP A SITUATION WHERE THERE WAS A STOPPAGE OF WORK DUE TO A TRADE DISPUTE—HELD TO BE A SUITABLE SITUATION.

The material 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 for three weeks, from and including the first day of the benefit period immediately following that in which this decision is given.

"The claimant, who was a motor omnibus driver, together with the conductor of the omnibus which he drove, was discharged from his employment for a breach of his employers' regulations. On losing their employment these two men made claims for unemployment benefit, and the Court of Referees decided that they were disqualified for receiving benefit, as they had lost their employment through their misconduct. This decision was upheld (except with regard to the period of the disqualification) by Umpire's Decision 20626/31 [*printed above*].

* 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 September, 1931.

† *See* Vol. I, Umpire's Selected Decisions, page 440.

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

§ *See* Vol. II, Umpire's Selected Decisions (Pamphlet No. 22), and U.I. Code 8.

|| *See* Vol. III, Umpire's Selected Decisions (Pamphlet No. 32), and U.I. Code 8.

¶ *See* Vol. III, Umpire's Selected Decisions (Pamphlet No. 43), and U.I. Code 8.

"Arising out of the dismissal of these two men, a strike of drivers and conductors employed by the claimant's employers took place.

"The date on which the claimant lost his employment was 25th July, 1931. He made his claim for unemployment benefit two days later, and he registered for the occupation of a motor driver.

"On 21st August the claimant was notified of a vacancy for a driver of a motor omnibus belonging to another company, at whose premises there was no trade dispute in existence, and he refused to apply for the vacant situation.

"The Court of Referees (by a majority) has decided that the claimant had good cause for refusing to apply for the vacant situation, and so no disqualification for receiving benefit was incurred by the refusal.

"The circumstances in which the vacancy occurred were these: A driver of the company which had the vacancy had left that company to take the place of a driver who had left the employ of the claimant's late employers when the strike took place; and it was the vacancy so caused which was notified to the claimant, and for which he refused to apply.

"It was suggested at the hearing of this appeal that the employment notified to the claimant was not suitable employment by virtue of Section 4 (2) (a) of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1930, which re-enacts Section 7 (1) (a) of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920.

"Section 4 (2) reads: 'For the purposes of this section employment shall not be deemed to be suitable employment in relation to any claimant if it is . . . (a) employment in a situation vacant in consequence of a stoppage of work due to a trade dispute.'

"In my opinion the circumstances of this case do not bring it within the words which I have quoted. The situation notified to the claimant was not 'vacant in consequence of a stoppage of work due to a trade dispute,' as there was no trade dispute or stoppage of work at the premises at which the vacancy existed.

"What Section 4 (2) (a) was intended to prevent was disqualification for receiving unemployment benefit being imposed on a person who had refused to fill a vacancy caused by another person being on strike or locked out owing to a trade dispute. That was not such a vacancy as was notified to the claimant.

"Employment may be unsuitable employment in the case of a claimant although it does not offend against the provisions of Section 4 (2) (a), (b) or (c) of the Act of 1930. For example, it has been held that employment which necessitated a married woman who had a family being absent from her home on Sundays was not suitable employment (Decision 5578/20*). So also was employment which would entail a claimant leaving an invalid mother who had no one but the claimant to look after her (Decision 7108/20†), and employment which a claimant was not capable of undertaking because of his nervous condition (Decision 602/20‡). None of the employments offended against the provisions of Section 7 (1) (a), (b) or (c) of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920.

"It must, therefore, be considered apart from the provisions of Section 4 (2) (a) of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1930, whether there was anything in the employment notified to the claimant which rendered it 'unsuitable in his case.'

"It was the employment for which the claimant had registered at the Employment Exchange, and there is no suggestion that there was anything in the rate of wage offered or in the conditions of the employment which rendered it unsuitable for the claimant. The fact that the claimant resented the action of the man whose place he was offered, and so he was disinclined to fill the vacancy which the man's action had created, does not, in my view, render the employment unsuitable in his case.

"Although the employment was suitable in the claimant's case he is not disqualified for receiving benefit if he had good cause for refusing to apply for the vacant situation.

"I do not think that the claimant's resentment and disinclination, to which I have previously referred, constituted good cause for his refusal to apply for the situation in the employment which I have held was suitable. They may have been natural, but they do not justify him in becoming a participant in the Unemployment Insurance Fund rather than accept the employment.

"I must, therefore, hold that the claimant is disqualified under the provisions of Section 4 (1) of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1930, for receiving benefit; but the period of disqualification may be reduced to three weeks, which means that the claimant will in all suffer disqualification for six weeks; three weeks for losing his employment through his misconduct (Decision 20626/31), and three weeks for his refusal without good cause to apply for the vacant situation."

TRADE BOARDS ACTS.

I.—CONFIRMING ORDERS.

Linen and Cotton Embroidery Trade Board (Northern Ireland).

Order N.I.E. (22), made by the Ministry of Labour for Northern Ireland, dated 28th September, 1931, confirming the fixation of certain additional general minimum piece-rates and the variation of certain other general minimum piece-rates, general minimum time-rates, and piece-work basis time-rates for female workers in the linen and cotton embroidery trade in Northern Ireland, and specifying 16th October, 1931, as the date from which the said rates and variations of rates become effective.

* See Vol. III, Umpire's Selected Decisions (Pamphlet No. 29), and U.I. Code 8.

† See Vol. III, Umpire's Selected Decisions (Pamphlet No. 39).

‡ See Vol. I, Umpire's Selected Decisions, page 206, and U.I. Code 8.

Retail Bespoke Tailoring Trade Board (Northern Ireland).

Order N.I.T.R.B. (31), made by the Ministry of Labour for Northern Ireland, dated 20th October, 1931, confirming the variation of general minimum time-rates, piece-work basis time-rates, general minimum piece-rates, and general overtime rates for male and female workers employed in the retail bespoke tailoring trade in the county boroughs of the cities of Belfast and Londonderry, and specifying 26th October, 1931, as the date from which such minimum rates become effective.

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

Order N.I.H.H.G. (43 and 46), made by the Ministry of Labour for Northern Ireland, dated 20th October, 1931, confirming the fixation of certain additional general minimum piece-rates and the variation of certain other general minimum piece-rates and general overtime rates for female workers in the linen and cotton handkerchief and household goods and linen piece-goods trade in Northern Ireland, and specifying 30th October, 1931, as the date from which such rates and variation of rates become effective. Certain other minimum rates for male and female workers incorporated in the Order are effective as provided by previous Orders of the Ministry of Labour.

II.—NOTICES OF PROPOSAL.

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

Proposal Q. (37), dated 14th October, 1931, to vary general minimum time-rates, piece-work basis time-rates and overtime rates for female workers.

Objection period expires 13th December, 1931.

Retail Bespoke Tailoring Trade Board (Northern Ireland).

Proposal N.I.T.R.B. (N. 30), dated 20th October, 1931, to vary general minimum time-rates, piece-work basis time-rates, and general overtime rates for male and female workers employed in Northern Ireland, *excluding* the county boroughs of the cities of Belfast and Londonderry, and to vary the general minimum piece-rates in operation in the same area, with the *further exclusion* of the urban district of Lisburn.

Objection period expired on 3rd November, 1931.

Brush and Broom Trade Board (Northern Ireland).

Proposal N.I.B.B. (N. 39), dated 31st October, 1931, to vary general minimum time-rates, piece-work basis time-rates, general minimum piece-rates, and general overtime rates for male and female workers in the trade.

Objection period expired on 13th November, 1931.

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

[There are no cases for insertion under this heading.]

OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

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

AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS.—*Report on the acreage and production of crops and number of live stock in Scotland. Agricultural Statistics, 1930. Vol. XIX. Part I.* Department of Agriculture for Scotland. (S.O. publication; price 1s.)

Contains a table of numbers of workers employed on agricultural holdings above one acre in extent in each county.

CENSUS OF PRODUCTION.—*Final Report on the Third Census of Production of the United Kingdom (1924). The chemical and allied trades; the leather, rubber and canvas goods trades; the paper, printing and allied trades.* Board of Trade. (S.O. publication; price 7s.)

HEALTH INSURANCE.—*Memoranda of decisions as to liability or title to insurance under the National Health Insurance Acts given from 1912 to 31st March, 1931.* Memo. 151. Ministry of Health. (S.O. publication; price 3s. 6d.)

HOURS OF WORK IN COAL MINES.—*League of Nations. International Labour Conference. Draft Convention adopted by the Conference at its fifteenth session, 28th May to 18th June, 1931.* (Cmd. 3960; price 4d.) (See page 419.)

JUVENILE EMPLOYMENT.—*Report on the Work of Local Committees for Juvenile Employment during the year 1930.* Ministry of Labour. (S.O. publication; price 9d.)

POLICE PENSIONS.—*Police pensions. Report by the Government Actuary, dated 31st December, 1930.* Home Office. (S.O. publication; price 6d.)

POOR RELIEF.—*Return showing the number of persons in receipt of poor relief in England and Wales on 1st January, 1931.* Ministry of Health. (H.C. 137; price 9d.) (See page 418.)

TRANSITIONAL PAYMENTS.—*Unemployment Insurance (National Economy) (No. 2) Order, 1931. Transitional payments. Explanatory memorandum.* 17th October, 1931. L.A.I. (Part 2). Ministry of Labour. (S.O. publication; price 2d.) (See pages 449–450.)

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE.—*Unemployment Insurance Acts, 1920 to 1931. Selected decisions given by the Umpire on claims for benefit during the month of September, 1931.* U.I. Code 8B. Pamphlet 9/1931. Ministry of Labour. (S.O. publication; price 6d.)

WELFARE.—*Cloakrooms, washing facilities, drinking water and sanitary accommodation in factories and workshops.* Welfare Pamphlet No. 8. (2nd edition.) Home Office. (S.O. publication; price 9d.)

WORLD DEPRESSION.—*The course and phases of the world economic depression.* League of Nations. (Geneva, 1931; price 6s.)

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS.

LIST OF NEW CONTRACTS, OCTOBER, 1931.

ADMIRALTY.

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

Portsmouth: Portland Cement: Thames Portland Cement Co., Ltd., London, E.C. **Chatham:** Steelwork: Dorman, Long & Co., Ltd., Middlesbrough. **Yards Abroad:** Steelwork: Rees & Kirkby, Ltd., Morriston; Rubery, Owen & Co., Darlaston.

(Contract and Purchase Department.)

Air Bottles, H.P.: Vickers-Armstrongs, Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne.—**Breakers, Ring Main:** Whipp & Bourne, Ltd., Manchester.—**Brisling:** Norseland Canning Co., Ltd., Leeds.—**Cable, Electric:** Anchor Cable Co., Ltd., Leigh, Lancashire; British Insulated Cables, Ltd., Helsby; Derby Cables, Ltd., Derby; Edison Swan Cables, Ltd., Lydbrook; Enfield Cable Works, Ltd., Brimsdown; General Electric Co., Ltd., Southampton; Glover & Co., Ltd., Manchester; Hackbridge Cable Co., Ltd., Hackbridge; Hoopers Telegraph & India Rubber Works, Ltd., London, E.; Johnson & Phillips, Ltd., London, S.E.; St. Helens Cable & Rubber Co., Ltd., Slough; Siemens Brothers & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Canvas, Drab, for Hammocks:** Boase Spg. Co. (1920), Ltd., Dundee.—**Capstans:** Sir William Arrol & Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—**Cloth, Blue:** Wm. Lupton & Co., Ltd., Leeds; Smith & Hutton, Ltd., Ecclehill; W. E. Yates, Ltd., Bramley, Leeds.—**Coils, Inductance:** Marconi's W/T Co., Ltd., Chelmsford; H. W. Sullivan, Ltd., London, S.E.—**Dials, Slow Motion:** Marconi's W/T Co., Ltd., Chelmsford; Radio Instruments, Ltd., Croydon.—**Drill, Satin:** Langworthy Brothers & Co., Ltd., Salford; J. Hoyle & Sons, Ltd., Summerseat.—**Drums, Steel:** G. T. Johnson & Co., Liverpool.—**Engines, Diesel, Marine for Launches:** J. & H. McLaren, Ltd., Leeds.—**Engines, Forced Draught Fan:** Matthew Paul & Co., Ltd., Dumbarton.—**Engines, Petrol, Marine for Launches:** Ferry Engine Co., Ltd., Southampton.—**Engines, Reciprocating, and Boilers for Tugs:** J. S. White & Co., Ltd., East Cowes.—**Flannel:** Wm. Clegg, Ltd., Milnrow; T. & C. Littlewood & Co., Ltd., Rochdale; Jas. Schofield & Sons (Buckley), Ltd., Rochdale.—**Furnace, Fittings for:** Muir, Murray & Co., Ltd., Paisley.—**Gearing and Electrical Equipment for Drainage Pump:** W. H. Allen, Sons & Co., Ltd., Bedford.—**Generating Set, Portable Searchlight:** The Liquidators, Arrol, Johnston & Aster Engineering Co., Ltd., London, W.—**Hammer, Drop, 8-cwt.:** Brett's Patent Lifter Co., Ltd., Coventry.—**Heaters, Feed Water:** John Kirkcaldy, Ltd., Colchester.—**Ingots, Bronze, Manganese:** J. Stone & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Ingots, Tin:** Vivian Younger & Bond, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Lamps, Electric, Self-contained:** Engineering & Lighting Equipment Co., Ltd., St. Albans.—**Lathes, Precision, 4½-in.:** Holbrook & Sons, London, E.—**Launch, Motor Towing:** Hugh McLean & Sons, Govan.—**Machine, Bending, Plate:** Sedgwick, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Machine, Grinding:** Snow & Co., Ltd., Sheffield.—**Machine, Grinding, Internal Cylinder:** Churchill Machine Tool Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Machine, Grinding, Universal:** Churchill Machine Tool Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Machine, Milling:** Campbells & Hunter, Ltd., Hunslet.—**Machine, Punching and Shearing:** Scriven & Co., Leeds.—**Machine, Shaping:** Butler Machine Tool Co., Ltd., Halifax.—**Macintoshes, Blue:** C. Macintosh & Co., Ltd., Manchester; D. Moseley & Sons, Ltd., Manchester.—**Overcoats and Watchcoats:** J. Compton, Sons & Webb, Ltd., London, E.; H. Lotery & Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Pickles (Unsweetened):** J. Stephens, Sons & Co., Ltd., Gloucester; Purnell & Panter, Ltd., Bristol.—**Pickles (Sweetened):** Purnell & Panter, Ltd., Bristol; Crosbie's Pure Food Co., Ltd., Southall.—**Propeller:** Manganese Bronze & Brass Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Pumps:** Bertrams, Ltd., Edinburgh.—**Pumps, Portable Submersible:** W. H. Allen, Sons & Co., Ltd., Bedford.—**Scuttles, Side, etc.:** John Roby, Ltd., Liverpool; J. & J. Woods, Ltd., Liverpool.—**Serge, Blue:** Reuben, Gaunt & Sons, Ltd., Farsley; T. & J. Tinker, Ltd., Holmfirth.—**Sheets, Aluminium:** Aluminium Corporation, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Shirting, Cotton:** John Wilkinson (Manchester and Nelson), Ltd., Nelson; W. A. Rothwell, Walkden.—**Shorts and Vests, Cellular and Cotton Fabric:** E.H.P. (Hadleigh), Ltd., Hadleigh, Suffolk; Frank Lane, Ltd., London, E.C.; Milns, Cartwright, Reynolds, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Soap, Hard:** John Knight, Ltd., London, E.; T. H. Harris & Son, Ltd., London, E.; Palmer & Co. Ltd., London, E.; Hills & Sons, Ltd., London, S.E.; J. Watson & Son, Ltd., Leeds.—**Socks and Stockings:** Hall & Son, Leicester; A. Yates & Co., Sileby.—**Starters, Automatic and Resistances:** Watford Electric & Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Watford.—**Switchgear, E.H.T. Protective Apparatus for:** General Electric Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Metropolitan-Vickers Electrical Co., Ltd., Manchester; G. Ellison, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Switches, Fuse Release, etc.:** Bertram Thomas, Manchester; Whipp & Bourne, Ltd., Manchester.—**Switches, Service, Change-over:** Whipp & Bourne, Ltd., Manchester; Bertram Thomas, Manchester; General Electric Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Transmitters, Wireless:** Gambrell Bros., Ltd., London, S.W.; Marconi's W/T Co., Ltd., Chelmsford.—**Traveller, Electric, 5-ton:** J. Adamson & Co., Hyde.—**Turbine Blading Material:** Monel-Weir, Ltd., Glasgow; Parsons Marine Steam Turbine Co., Ltd., Wallsend; J. Samuel White & Co., Ltd., East Cowes; Bruntons (Musselburgh), Ltd., Musselburgh.—**Valves, Wireless:** General Electric Co., Ltd., London, W.—**Vests, Summer and Winter:** Atkins Bros., Hinckley; J. B. Lewis & Sons, Ltd., Nottingham; I. & R. Morley, Heanor.—**Weighbridge:** Ashworth, Son & Co., Ltd., Dewsbury.—**Zinc Cake and Antimony:** British Metal Corporation, Ltd., London, E.C.; Cookson Lead & Antimony Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Zinc Slabs, etc.:** London Zinc Mills, Ltd., London, N.; Locke, Lancaster & W. W. & R. Johnson & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.; F. Braby & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.

WAR OFFICE.

Bearings, Ball and Roller: Rudge Whitworth & Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Boring Rig and Equipment:** English Drilling Equipment Co., Gainsborough.—**Calico:** Eccles Spinning & Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Manchester; United Turkey Red Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—**Canvas, Flax:** Island Spinning Co., Ltd., Belfast.—**Canvas, W.P.:** J. Stott, Ltd., Oldham.—**Chassis, Six-wheeled:** Morris Commercial Cars, Ltd., Birmingham; Crossley Motors, Ltd., Manchester; J. I. Thornycroft & Co., Ltd., Basingstoke; Leyland Motors, Ltd., Leyland.—**Cloth, Blue:** J. Hainsworth & Sons, Leeds; Colbeck Bros., Ltd., Wakefield; A. W. Hainsworth & Sons, Ltd., Leeds.—**Cloth, Blue-Grey:** J. Hainsworth & Sons, Leeds; J. Watkinson & Sons, Ltd., Holmfirth.—**Cloth, D.M., W.P.:** J. Hainsworth & Sons, Leeds; J. Harper & Sons, Bradford; Colbeck Bros., Ltd., Wakefield; J. Watkinson & Sons, Ltd., Holmfirth; A. W. Hainsworth & Sons, Ltd., Leeds; H. Booth & Son, Leeds; J. Hoyle & Sons, Ltd., Huddersfield.—**Cloth, Scarlet:** T. & H. Harper, Ltd., Bradford; J. Harper & Sons, Bradford; J. Halliday & Co., Leeds.—**Conduits and Fittings:** Barton & Sons (1930), Ltd., Walsall.—**Cord, Bedford:** J. Watkinson & Sons, Ltd., Holmfirth; J. Pilley & Sons, Ltd., Ecclehill.—**Drawing Machines:** Greenwood & Batley, Ltd., Leeds.—**Drill (Brown, Drab and Khaki):** J. H. Greenhow & Co., Ltd., Manchester; Langworthy Bros. & Co., Ltd., Salford; Fothergill & Harvey, Ltd., Littleborough; Ashton Bros. & Co., Ltd., Hyde.—**Drilling Machine:** J. Holroyd & Co., Ltd., Milnrow.—**Duck, Cotton, Black:** Sir E. Armitage & Sons, Ltd., Manchester; Oswald & Duncan, Ltd., Rochdale.—**Fire Engine Gear:** Merryweather & Sons, Ltd., Greenwich.—**Flannelette:** J. Nelson & Sons, Ltd., Todmorden.—**Gabardine, Drab, W.P.:** J. Halliday & Sons, Ltd., Bradford.—**Hydraulic Pellet Presses:** Davy Bros., Ltd., Sheffield.—**Lathes:** A. Butterworth & Co., Rochdale; Graham & Normanton, Halifax.—**Linen:** Ulster Weaving Co., Ltd., Belfast.—**Linoleum, Brown:** Barry, Ostlere & Shepherd, Ltd., Kirkcaldy.—**Magnesium Powder:** British Maxium, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Nickel:** H. Gardner & Co., Ltd., Clydach, Swansea.—**Pipes and Fittings:** Stewarts & Lloyds, Ltd., Halesowen; Mucklow Bros., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Plates, Bullet-proof:** Hadfields, Ltd., Sheffield.—**Road Roller:** Wallis & Stevens, Ltd., Basingstoke.—**Sawing Machine:** Clifton & Baird, Ltd., Johnstone.—**Serge, Blue:** Colbeck Bros., Ltd., Wakefield.—**Serge, S.D.:** P. Womersley & Sons, Pudsey; J. Hoyle & Son, Ltd., Longwood; H. Booth & Sons, Ltd., Leeds; Colbeck Bros., Ltd., Wakefield; J. W. Whitworth, Ltd., Luddendenfoot; Fox Bros. & Co., Ltd., Wellington, Somerset; T. & H. Harper, Ltd., Bradford; A. W. Hainsworth & Sons, Ltd., Leeds; J. Watkinson & Sons, Ltd., Holmfirth; J. Harper & Sons, Bradford; R. Gaunt & Sons, Ltd., Farsley.—**Serge, White Lining:** J. Berry & Sons, Ltd., Buckfastleigh.—**Shirting, Angola, Drab:** W. Clegg, Ltd., Milnrow; J. Smith (Milnrow), Ltd., Milnrow; J. Harper & Sons, Bradford; Kelsall & Kemp, Ltd., Rochdale.—**Shirting, Angola, Blue:** J. Schofield & Sons (Buckley), Ltd., Rochdale.—**Shirts, Angola, Blue:** Kelsall & Kemp, Ltd., Rochdale.—**Silk Cloth:** E. Wilman & Sons, Ltd., Hadfield.—**Soda (Crystals, Caustic and Ash):** Imperial Chemical Industries, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Spares for 6-Wheeler Chassis:** Albion Motors, Ltd., Glasgow; Morris Commercial Cars, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Steel Bars:** T. Firth & J. Brown, Ltd., Sheffield.—**Steel, Medium Tensile:** Jonas & Colver (Novo), Ltd., Sheffield; Langley Forge Co., Langley, Birmingham.—**Steel, Mild, Sheets:** Dorman Long & Co., Ltd., Middlesbrough.—**Steel, Nickel Chrome:** Hadfields, Ltd., Sheffield; Colvilles, Ltd., Motherwell.—**Surgical Dressings:** T. J. Smith & Nephew, Ltd., Hull.—**Tartan, Highland:** D. Ballantyne Bros. & Co., Ltd., Peebles.—**Trailers:** Ransomes, Sims & Jefferies, Ltd., Ipswich; Eagle Engineering Co., Ltd., Warwick; Taskers of Andover, Ltd., Andover.—**Wireless Telegraph Sets and Parts:** India Rubber, Gutta Percha & Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Works Services:** Building Works and Services: Hounslow Area, Artificers' Work: J. B. Edwards & Co. (Whyteleafe), Ltd., London, W. Catterick, Officers' and Sergeants' Mess, etc.: H. Coxhead & Co., Ltd., Middlesbrough. Didcot, R.A.O. Depot, Re-roofing of Sheds: A. H. Banfield, Swansea. Colchester and Harwich, Painting Work: S. Lupton & Sons, London, S.W. Bovington and Lulworth, Periodical Services: S. Lupton & Sons, London, S.W. Bordon and Longmoor, Periodical Services: A. Bagnall & Son, Ltd., Shipley, Yorks. Woolwich, Royal Artillery Barracks, Reconstruction of Tod Brown Hall and Barrington Foote Institute, etc.: E. H. Burgess, Ltd., London, S.W. Woolwich, The Common, Additions to Quarters: W. Harris, Ltd., London, E. Woolwich, Royal Military Academy, etc., Painting: W. R. Payne, Ltd., Shipley, Yorks. Glasgow, Maryhill Barracks, Provision of Baths and General Improvement to Married Soldiers' Quarters: J. McGlashan & Son, Glasgow. Colchester, Royal Artillery Barracks, Provision of Baths to Married Soldiers' Quarters: Ventris & King, Southend-on-Sea. Colchester, Periodical Painting: S. Lupton & Sons, London, S.W. Aldershot, Waterloo Barracks (East), Provision of Baths to Married Soldiers' Quarters: H. W. Fisk, Godalming. Aldershot, Cavalry Barracks, Provision of W.C.'s and Urinals in Ablution Rooms: W. M. Jones, Farnborough, Hants. Aldershot, Marlborough Lines, Provision of Bathrooms at Provost Married Quarters: E. J. Logan, London, W.C. Deepcut, North Minden Barracks, Alterations to Regimental Institute: J. B. Edwards & Co. (Whyteleafe), Ltd., London, W.

AIR MINISTRY.

Accumulators: C.A.V.-Bosch, Ltd., London, W.—**Aircraft:** Fairey Aviation Co., Ltd., Hayes, Middlesex; H. G. Hawker Engineering Co., Ltd., Kingston-on-Thames; Westland Aircraft Works, Yeovil.—**Aircraft and Spares:** Vickers (Aviation), Ltd., Weybridge.—**Aircraft, Aircrow Tests:** Westland Aircraft Works, Yeovil.—**Aircraft, Cockpit Heating Test:** Fairey Aviation Co., Ltd., Hayes, Middlesex.—**Aircraft, Engine Installation:** Boulton & Paul,

Ltd., Norwich; Gloster Aircraft Co., Ltd., Gloucester; Sir W. G. Armstrong Whitworth Aircraft, Ltd., Coventry.—**Aircraft, Auto Slot, Fuel and Wheel Brake Fittings:** Vickers (Aviation), Ltd., Weybridge.—**Aircraft Gas Starter Incorporation:** Westland Aircraft Works: Yeovil.—**Aircraft, Interceptor Slots:** Sir W. G. Armstrong Whitworth Aircraft, Ltd., Coventry.—**Aircraft, Modifications:** Boulton & Paul, Ltd., Norwich.—**Aircraft, Reconditioning:** Supermarine Aviation Works (Vickers), Ltd., Woolston, Southampton.—**Aircraft, Spares:** Blackburn Aeroplane & Motor Co., Ltd., Brough, Yorks.; Boulton & Paul, Ltd., Norwich; Fairey Aviation Co., Ltd., Hayes, Middlesex; Sir W. G. Armstrong Whitworth Aircraft, Ltd., Coventry; Supermarine Aviation Works (Vickers), Ltd., Woolston, Southampton; Vickers (Aviation), Ltd., Weybridge; Westland Aircraft Works, Yeovil.—**Aircraft, Work on:** Short Bros. (Rochester & Bedford), Ltd., Rochester.—**Aircrews and Reconditioning:** Fairey Aviation Co., Ltd., Hayes, Middlesex.—**Aviation Suits:** Robinson & Cleaver, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Balloons:** Rubber Novelties Ltd., Manchester.—**Bodies and Cabs for Crossley Chassis:** Chas. Roberts & Co., Ltd., Horbury Junction, Wakefield.—**Bomb Carriers:** Hobbies, Ltd., Dereham.—**Bomb Gear:** Vickers-Armstrongs, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Bombing Targets, Work on:** John Debeer, Ltd., Hull.—**Bombs, Repairs, etc.:** Vickers-Armstrongs, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Boots, Flying:** Clark Son & Morland, Ltd., Glastonbury; G. T. Hawkins, Ltd., Northampton.—**Buildings and Works Services:** Artificers' Works (Norton Barracks, Worcester): J. E. Harper & Son, Ltd., Birmingham. Artificers' Work (Boscombe Down): James & Crockerell, Durrington, Salisbury. Artificers' Work (Milton): J. E. Harper & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C. Electric Crane (Leuchars): J. M. Henderson & Co., Ltd., Aberdeen. Heating Installations (Abingdon): Heywood & Bryett, London, S.E. Heating Installations (Uxbridge): Clark, Hunt & Co., Ltd., London, E. Hutting Accommodation (Usworth): Ashford Builders Co., Ltd., London, W.C. Improvements to Landing Ground (Donibristle): Pirie & Co., Ltd., Edinburgh Kite Balloon Shed (Larkhill): Pearson & Knowles Engineering Co., Ltd., Warrington. Married Quarters (Boscombe Down): Carkeek & Sons, Ltd., Redruth. Married Quarters (Cranwell): W. Wright & Sons, Ltd., Lincoln. Officers' Married Quarters (Abingdon): Anglo-Scottish Construction Co., Ltd., London, S.W. Re-roofing Aircraft Sheds (Leuchars): W. & R. Brownlee, Ltd., Dundee. Sergeants' Mess (Duxford): Negus & Sons, Ltd., Cambridge. Tensile Testing Machine (Cranwell): W. & T. Avery, Ltd., London, E.C. Turntable and Trolley (Felixstowe): Ransome & Rapier, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Carden Lloyd Machine Gun Carrier:** Vickers-Armstrongs, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Castor Oil:** Hull Oil Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Hull; Premier Oil Extracting Mills, Ltd., Hull.—**Chamois Leathers:** Edward Cope & Son, Nuneaton.—**Condensers:** Muirhead & Co., Ltd., Beckenham.—**Conversion Sets for Leylands:** Hands & Co., Letchworth.—**Drilling Machines:** Vidal Engineering Co., Ltd., Croydon; White, Jacoby & Co., Ltd., London, N.W.—**Engines, Aircraft:** Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Bristol.—**Engines, Aircraft, Overhaul and Spares:** Rolls Royce, Ltd., Derby.—**Engines, Aircraft Repairs:** Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Bristol; D. Napier & Son, Ltd., London, W.—**Engines, Aircraft, Spares:** Armstrong Siddeley Motors, Ltd., Coventry; Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Bristol.—**Engines, Aircraft, Work on:** D. Napier & Son, Ltd., London, W.—**Glycerine:** Haller & Phillips, London, E.C.; Scottish Corporation Wholesale Society, Grangemouth.—**Jackets:** J. Hammond & Co. (1922), Ltd., Newcastle, Staffs.; J. Compton Sons & Webb, Ltd., London, E.—**Machine Guns and Spares:** Vickers-Armstrongs, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Mahogany:** James Latham & Son, Ltd., London, E.; Wm. Mallinson & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.; B. G. Elliott, London, N.W.; R. M. Turner & Hunters, Ltd., London, E.—**Morris Spares:** Morris Commercial Cars, Ltd., Birmingham; Morris Motors, Ltd., Cowley, Oxford.—**Ram Tubes:** W. Beardmore & Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—**Steel Sheets:** Baldwins, Ltd., Stourport.—**Steel Wire Rope:** Halls Barton Ropery Co., Ltd., Hull.—**Tents, M.T.:** Harland & Wolff, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Thermometers, Repair:** Negretti & Zambra, London, E.C.—**Universal Grinder:** A. A. Jones & Shipman, Ltd., Leicester.—**Wavemeters:** Marconi's Wireless Telegraph Co., Ltd., London, W.C.

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES.

Aeroplanes: De Havilland Aircraft Co., Ltd., Edgware.—**Amoa Agents:** Amoa Chemical Co., London, S.E.—**Asphaltum Colas:** Colas Products, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Boiler Parts:** Babcock & Wilcox, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Buckle Plates:** J. Spencer, Ltd., Wednesbury.—**Cement:** Cement Marketing Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Cleaning Machine:** Bon-Accord Engineering Co., Ltd., Aberdeen.—**Disinfectant:** Jeyes Sanitary Compounds Co., Ltd., London, W.—**Dogspikes:** Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, London, E.C.—**Dredges:** Ruston Bucyrus, Ltd., London, W.C.—**Engines:** Peckett & Sons, Ltd., Bristol.—**Fire-fighting Apparatus:** Merryweather & Sons, Ltd., London, S.E.—**Helio Type Linen:** S. C. & P. Harding, Ltd., London, S.E.—**Iron Stays:** Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Locomotive Spares:** Armstrong Whitworth & Co. (Engineers), Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne.—**Lorry:** Morris Commercial Cars, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Meters and Fittings:** Tylors (W. & S.), Ltd., London, N.—**Oils:** Premier Oil Extracting Mills, Ltd., Hull; Vacuum Oil Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Paper:** Carrongrove Paper Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Pipes:** Cochrane & Co., Ltd., Middlesbrough.—**Plant and Machinery:** Thos. Robinson & Sons, Ltd., Rochdale.—**Pumping Plant:** Tangyes, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Quinine:** Howards & Sons, Ltd., Ilford.—**Rails and Fishplates:** Cargo Fleet Iron Co., Ltd., Middlesbrough; Barrow Haematite Steel Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Saw:** A. Ransome & Co., Ltd., Newark-on-Trent.—**Sheet Fencing:** A. & J. Main & Co., Ltd., London, W.C.—**Spares for**

Well Boring Plant: C. Isler & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Steel Bars:** United Steel Co., Ltd., Sheffield.—**Steel Shelving:** G. A. Harvey & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Steel Sleepers:** British (Guest, Keen & Baldwins) Iron & Steel Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Switches and Crossings:** Anderston Foundry Co., Ltd., Middlesbrough; Darlington Railway Plant & Foundry Co., Ltd., Darlington.—**Tickets:** Waterlow & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Tubes:** Stewarts & Lloyds, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Wagons:** R. Hudson, Ltd., Leeds.—**Water Meter Fittings:** Manchester Water Meter Co., Manchester.—**Wire:** British Insulated Cables, London, W.C.; W. T. Henley's Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**X-Ray Apparatus:** Schall & Son, Ltd., London, W.

H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE.

Cartage (Edinburgh): Bell & Co., Edinburgh.—**Packing Cases:** G. Dingwall & Son, Ltd., London, S.E.—**Paper:** Jas. Brown & Co., Ltd., Penicuik; Caldwell's Paper Mill Co., Ltd., Inverkeithing; Alex. Cowan & Sons, Ltd., Penicuik; Jas. Cropper & Co., Ltd., Kendal; Disley Paper Mill Co., Ltd., Disley; Golden Valley Paper Mills, Ltd., Bitton; London Paper Mills Co., Ltd., Dartford; Waterside Paper Mill Co., Ltd., Darwen.—**Printing, Ruling, Binding, etc.:** Printing and Supplying Calendars for H.M. Prison, Lewes: Lewes Press (Wightman & Co., Ltd.), Lewes. 350,000 copies S.W.B. 63: Waterlow & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C. 550,000 copies S.W.B. 66: J. Weiner, Ltd., London, W.—**Typewriter Ribbons:** P. & J. Arnold, Ltd., London, N.; Swallow Manufacturing Co., Ltd., London, N.W.

POST OFFICE.

Apparatus, Telephonic: Ericsson Telephones, Ltd., Beeston, Notts; Phoenix Telephone & Electric Works, Ltd., London, N.W.; Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; Standard Telephones & Cables, Ltd., London, N.W.; Telephone Manufacturing Co. (1929), Ltd., London, S.E.—**Bodies for Motor Lorries:** G. Scammell & Nephew, Ltd., London, E.—**Boxes, Battery:** Ericsson Telephones, Ltd., Beeston, Notts; Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Building Work (Melksham P.O.):** Blackford & Son, Calne.—**Building Work (Marlborough P.O. and T.E.):** T. E. Leadley, Marlborough.—**Cable:** British Insulated Cables, Ltd., Prescott; Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; Standard Telephones & Cables, Ltd., London, E.—**Canvas:** Baxter Bros. & Co., Ltd., Dundee; Brookfield Linen Co., Ltd., Belfast; Craiks, Ltd., Forfar; Gourrock Ropework Co., Ltd., Port Glasgow; Richards, Ltd., Aberdeen.—**Cleaners, Vacuum:** British Vacuum Cleaner & Engineering Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Clocks:** Gillett & Johnston, Ltd., Croydon.—**Cloth, etc., for Uniform Clothing:** Colbeck Bros., Ltd., Wakefield; Fox Bros. & Co., Ltd., Wellington; A. W. Hainsworth & Sons, Ltd., Leeds; J. Hainsworth & Sons, Leeds; T. & H. Harper, Ltd., Bradford; W. & T. Huggan, Ltd., Leeds; John D. Johnstone, Ltd., Leeds; Joseph Smith & Co., Greetland.—**Coils, Loading:** Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Cords, Telephone:** Phoenix Telephone & Electric Works, Ltd., London, N.W.—**Ducts:** Albion Clay Co., Ltd., Burton-on-Trent; Donington Sanitary Pipe & Firebrick Co., Ltd., Burton-on-Trent; Doulton & Co., Ltd., St. Helens; Hepworth Iron Co., Ltd., Sheffield; G. Jennings, Parkstone; H. R. Mansfield, Ltd., Burton-on-Trent; J. Oakes & Co. (Riddings Collieries), Ltd., Jacksdale; Oates & Green, Ltd., Halifax; Standard Brick & Terra Cotta Co., Ltd., Chester; Stanley Bros., Ltd., Nuneaton; Sutton & Co. (Overseal), Ltd., Overseal.—**Extinguishers, Fire:** The Valor Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Headresses:** L. Silberston & Sons, London, E.—**Line, Sash:** British Ropes, Ltd., London, S.E.—**Lorries:** Morris Commercial Cars, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Meters:** Chamberlain & Hookham, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Punkah Louvres:** Thermotank, Ltd., Glasgow.—**Rectifiers:** Edison Swan Electric Co., Ltd., Ponders End.—**Rods, Sweep:** Cakebread, Robey & Co., Ltd., London, N.; Marshall Bros., Birmingham.—**Rope, Steel Wire:** Hall's Barton Ropery, Ltd., Beverley.—**Seals, Lead:** Dunham, White & Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Suspenders:** Wright's Ropes, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Tarpaulins:** J. McIlwraith & Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—**Units, Plenum:** Visco Engineering Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Vans:** Morris Commercial Cars, Ltd., Birmingham; Morris Motors, Ltd., Cowley, Oxford.—**Victualling:** John Henderson & Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Wire, V.I.R.:** Enfield Cable Works, Ltd., Brimsdown.

Conduit Laying, etc.: Concord-Monument (Great Tower Street, E.C.): Greig & Matthews, London, E.C. City of London: Hodge Bros. (Contractors), Ltd., Birmingham. Parkstone (Dorset): Stonecross, Lagny & Pett (Sussex); Newcastle (East): Norwest Construction Co., Ltd., Liverpool. Finsbury, Shoreditch and Holborn; Brixton (Railton Road) and Battersea-Clapham Common; Bethnal Green (N.E. and N.W.) and Avenue (Cable Street, etc.); New Cross, Grove Vale, S.E.: O. C. Summers, London, N. Westminster and Chelsea: J. Cochrane & Sons, Ltd., London, S.W. Eagleley (Lancs): Wm. Pollitt & Co., Ltd., Bolton. Kensington, Paddington and St. Marylebone: Alex. Thomson & Co. (London), Ltd., London, W.C. Tottenham-Clissold; G.P.O. (South)-Grange-wood Junction, London; Merton Abbey-Tooting: Howard Farrow, Ltd., London, N.W. Woking (Surrey): Edwards Construction Co., Ltd., London, W.C. Exeter: J. McLaren, Ltd., Newcastle. Bramley, Ripley and Shalford (Surrey): Tandem-Colindale-Wordsworth (London); Ongar (Essex): J. E. Billings & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. Wimbledon, Worple Road; Rodney-Peckham (Norfolk): W. P. & P. G. Hayes, Ltd., Warrington. Mickleover and Burton-on-Trent: James F. Hodge, Birmingham.—**Fire Alarm System:** Willesden District Council: Automatic Telephone Manufacturing Co., Ltd., London, W.C.—**Loading, Additional:** London-Birmingham-Liverpool Cable: Standard Telephones & Cables, Ltd., London, W.C.—**Power Plant:** Nottingham Telephonic Repeater

Station: Haslam & Newton, Ltd., Derby.—**Telephone Exchange Equipment:** Urmston (Manchester Automatic Area): The General Electric Co., Ltd., Coventry. Sub-Contractors: D.P. Battery Co., Ltd., Bakewell, for Batteries. Leeds (Leeds Area): Automatic Telephone Manufacturing Co., Ltd., London, W.C. Southampton: Aston Cross (Birmingham); Uxbridge (Middlesex): Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. Sub-Contractors for Uxbridge: Hart & Co., Ltd., London, E., for Batteries; Crompton-Accumulator Co., Ltd., London, E., for Charging Machine and Ringing Parkinson, Ltd., Chelmsford, for Charging Machine and Ringing Machines. Terminus (London): Standard Telephones and Cables, Ltd., London, W.C.—**Telephonic Repeater Equipment:** Glasgow: Standard Telephones & Cables, Ltd., London, W.C.

H.M. OFFICE OF WORKS.

Building Works: Abbey Wood Sorting Office—Erection: J. B. Sharman, Ltd., Ramsgate; Reinforcement: Whitehead Iron & Steel Co., Ltd., Tredegar; Roofing: Field & Palmer, Ltd., London, N.; Steelwork: Dorman, Long & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. Acomb Telephone Exchange—Steelwork: G. Dupledge & Co., Ltd., Leeds. Addiscombe Telephone Exchange—Roofing: Helical Bar & Engineering Co., Ltd., London, S.W. Adel Telephone Exchange—Roofing: Kleine Co., Ltd., London, W.C.; Permanite, Ltd., London, E. Anderston P.O.—Glazier: A. S. Wright & Co., Ltd., Glasgow; Mason: Donald McIntyre & Son, Glasgow; Painter: Charles Caldwell, Glasgow; Plasterer: John Struthers & Sons, Glasgow; Plumber: A. Watson & Hulme, Glasgow; Steelwork: P. & W. Maclellan, Ltd., Glasgow. Ardrossan Telephone Exchange—Erection: L. B. White, Bellshill. Aston Cross Telephone Exchange—Slater: Wormells, Coventry. Belfast Law Courts—Joinery: Stewart & Partners, Ltd., Belfast; Pavior: Toffolo, Jackson & Co., Glasgow. Belfast Parliament Building—Joinery: Waring & Gillow, Ltd., London, W.; Railings Foundation, etc.: Stewart & Partners, Ltd., Belfast. Belfast, Stormont Castle Estate—Railings: Musgrave & Co., Ltd., Belfast. Bethnal Green Telephone Exchange—Flooring: Stevens & Adams, Ltd., London, S.W. Bristol, North, Telephone Exchange—Casements: Birmingham Metal Window Co., Birmingham. Budleigh Salterton P.O.—Alterations: J. W. Palmer, Budleigh Salterton; Steelwork: Redpath, Brown & Co., Ltd., Edinburgh. Burnham Telephone Exchange—Erection: Cox & Sons, Maidenhead. Cheltenham Telephone Exchange—Asphalter: Western Trinidad Lake Asphalt Co., Ltd., Cardiff; Painter: Hyett Bros., Gloucester; Steelwork: Rubery, Owen & Co., Darlaston. Churston Telephone Exchange—Mason: J. Pollard, Paignton; Slater: Henry Ede & Son, Ltd., Plymouth; Steelwork: Blight & White, Ltd., Plymouth. Cleveleys Postmen's Office—Asphalter: Ragusa Asphalte Paving Co., Ltd., London, W.; Concretor, etc.: Pearson Bros. & Campbell, Ltd., Liverpool; Mason: Henry A. Clegg & Sons, Chester; Plasterer: Arkwright Bros. (Blackpool), Ltd., Poulton-le-Fylde; Plumber, etc.: Wilfred Coop, Ltd., Blackpool; Roofing: Diespeker & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; Slater: T. Pearson & Son, St. Annes; Smith, etc.: Joseph Webb & Sons, Ltd., Bury. Cowes P.O.—Alterations: T. Westbrook & Son, Cowes. Derby, Midland Road, P.O.—Flooring: J. Gerrard & Son, Ltd., Manchester. Douglas Telephone Exchange—Asphalter: Penmaenmawr & Trinidad Lake Asphalt Co., Ltd., Liverpool; Granolithic Work: Stuart's Granolithic Co., Ltd., London, W.C.; Joinery: Midland Joinery Works, Ltd., Burton-on-Trent; Roofing: Diespeker & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; Steelwork: Redpath, Brown & Co., Ltd., Edinburgh. Eastbourne Branch P.O.—Alterations: Mark Martin & Sons, Eastbourne. Eastern District P.O.—Alterations: Thomas & Edge, Ltd., London, S.E. Epsom Head P.O.—Completion: Copley Bros., Ltd., Epsom. Exeter Head P.O.—Steelwork: Archibald D. Dawney & Sons, Ltd., London, S.W. Failsworth Telephone Exchange—Asphalter: Ernest Shepherd, Rochdale; Plasterer: James Glynn, Oldham. Geological Museum, S.W.—Glazier: James Clark & Son, Ltd., London, S.E.; Slater: Williams, Smith & Evans, London, S.E. Hastings Employment Exchange—Glazier: James Clark & Son, Ltd., Canterbury. Hatton Garden, E.C., P.O.—Alterations: Leslie & Co., Ltd., London, W. Hayling Island Telephone Exchange—Erection: Green & Foley, Portsmouth. Hendon, N.W., Repository—Flooring: Brookes, Ltd., Halifax. Hounslow P.O.—Glazier: J. M. Newton & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C. Hyde Park, W.—Road Surfacing: Highways Construction, Ltd., London, S.W. Ilford, "Valentine" Telephone Exchange—Glazier: S. A. Clark, Ltd., Ilford; Plumber: G. Simpson & Son, London, S.W. Jarrow P.O.—Asphalter: Limmer & Trinidad Lake Asphalt Co., Ltd., London, S.W.; Slater: J. E. Nelson & Son, Sunderland. Kenton, "Wordsworth" Telephone Exchange—Plumber: A. Higginbotham & Sons, Bradford. Mount Pleasant, E.C., Letter Office—Plasterer: James Glynn, Oldham. Natural History Museum, S.W.—Flooring: Korkoid Decorative Floors, Glasgow. Norwich Head P.O.—Joinery: G. Johnson Bros., London, E.C.; Stonework: A. J. Woods, Norwich. Pershore P.O.—Erection: E. Crowder, Birmingham. Plymouth Head P.O.—Alterations: Carkeek & Sons, Ltd., Redruth. Richmond, Surrey, Park Sheds—Tiler: Harry Thornton & Co. (Leatherhead), Ltd., Leatherhead. Royal Albert Docks, E., Customs and Excise—Additions: W. H. Cooper & Son, London, W. Shirley Telephone Exchange—Erection: A. Walker & Son, Birmingham. Shoreditch, E., County Court—Alterations: J. B. Sharman, Ltd., Ramsgate. Stechford Telephone Exchange—Mason: G. Butler & Co., Birmingham. Surbiton,

"Elmbridge" Telephone Exchange—Plasterer: W. A. Telling, Ltd., London, S.E.; Steps: F. Bradford & Co., Ltd., London, E. Sutton Coldfield Telephone Exchange—Erection: G. T. Stephens & Sons, Birmingham; Asphalter: Limmer & Trinidad Lake Asphalt Co., Ltd., London, S.W.; Plasterer: G. Michael, Birmingham; Steelwork: Rubery, Owen & Co., Darlaston; Stonework: G. Smith & Son, Sutton Coldfield. Swadlincote Telephone Exchange—Erection: W. Simkin & Son, Burton-on-Trent. Swinton P.O.—Brickwork: G. & J. Seddon, Ltd., Little Hulton; Plasterer, etc.: A. Hogg, Ltd., Manchester; Plumber, etc.: Rd. Crabtree, Manchester; Slater: F. Brown & Son, Ltd., Walkden; Steelwork: Banister, Walton & Co., Ltd., Manchester; Stonemason: J. & E. Moores, Manchester. Teddington, National Physical Laboratory—Asphalter: Ragusa Asphalte Paving Co., Ltd., London, W.; Roofing: French Asphalte Co., Ltd., London, S.W.; Steelwork: Rees & Kirby, Ltd., Morriston. Thornton Heath Telephone Exchange—Asphalter: Ragusa Asphalte Paving Co., Ltd., London, W.; Glazier: Wooton & Son, Croydon; Plumber: Ellis (Kensingtons), Ltd., London, S.W.; Steelwork: Ed. Wood & Co., Ltd., Manchester; Stonework: Emerson & Norris, Ltd., Brentford. Walkden Telephone Exchange—Asphalter: Bradshaw & Co. (Asphalters), Ltd., Manchester; Bricklayer: G. & J. Seddon, Ltd., Little Hulton; Mason: Bolton Stone, Concrete & Asphalte Co., Ltd., Bolton; Painter: F. & J. Pilling Bros., Ltd., Manchester; Plasterer: F. Lindsay, Manchester; Plumber, etc.: Brooks Bros., Farnworth; Steelwork: Redpath, Brown & Co., Ltd., Edinburgh. Warstock Telephone Exchange—Asphalter: Limmer & Trinidad Lake Asphalt Co., Ltd., London, S.W.; Concretor: Dow's Granolithic, Ltd., Birmingham; Fencing: Wyckham Blackwell, Ltd., Birmingham; Glazier: Wm. Pearce & E. Cutler, Ltd., Birmingham; Plasterer: Essanbee Plastering Co., Ltd., Bromsgrove; Plumber: W. J. Grant, Birmingham; Steelwork: Redpath, Brown & Co., Ltd., Edinburgh; Stonework: D. French & Co., Birmingham. Wembley, "Arnold" Telephone Exchange—Pavior: Kendell's Paving Co., Ltd., London, S.W.; Roofing: Diespeker & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; Steelwork Erection: Cozens & Sutcliffe, London, N. West Bromwich, Stonecross Telephone Exchange—Slater: Wormells, Coventry. Woodseats Telephone Exchange—Erection: M. J. Gleeson, Ltd., Sheffield. Worcester Sorting Office—Erection: Haughton Bros., Worcester.—**Maintenance Works:** Blackpool: Sir Lindsay Parkinson & Co., Ltd., Blackpool. Croydon: H. D. Ebbutt & Son, Croydon. Leicester: F. E. Winterton, Leicester. Newcastle-on-Tyne—Plumber: M. Aynsley & Sons, Ltd., Newcastle. Oldham: S. Ashton (Oldham), Ltd., Oldham. Poole: R. J. Bishop, Upper Parkstone. Weston-super-Mare: J. Dyer & Son, Weston.—**Engineering Services:** Birmingham Head P.O.—Hot Water Installation: J. Combe & Son, Ltd., Welwyn Garden City. Geological Museum, S.W.—Switchgear: Malcolm & Allan (London), Ltd., London, W.C. Harrow, H.M. Stationery Office—Ventilation: Hall & Kay, Ltd., London, S.W. Kenton, "Wordsworth" Telephone Exchange—Heating: R. H. & J. Pearson, Ltd., London, W. Mall, S.W.—Lighting: Charing Cross Electricity Supply Co., Ltd., London, W.C. Teddington, National Physical Laboratory—Converter Plant, etc.: General Electric Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Painting:** F. Troy & Co., Ltd., London, N.W.—**Miscellaneous:** Cartage: B. C. Newman, Surbiton. Furniture and Fittings: Dent & Hellyer, Ltd., London, W.C.; Archibald Kenrick & Sons, Ltd., West Bromwich; Northampton Machinery Co., Ltd., Northampton; J. & T. Scott, Edinburgh; A. Younger, Ltd., London, E. Plates (Steel): Roneo, Ltd., London, E.C. Window Cleaning: City Window Cleaning Co., Ltd., London, E.C.

METROPOLITAN POLICE.

Mackintosh Coats, etc., 1931-33: Campbell, Achnach & Co., London, E.C.

H.M. PRISON COMMISSION.

Leather: Executors of R. Nickols, Leeds.—**Yarns, Cotton, Flax, Hemp and Jute:** Blackstaff Flax Spinning and Weaving Co., Ltd., Belfast; Jute Industries, Ltd., Dundee.

COMMISSIONERS OF CROWN LANDS.

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