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THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE

Principal Contents

*Weekly Expenditure of Working-Class Households
in Rural Areas in 1937-38.*

*Joint Industrial Councils for Retail Distributive
Trades.*

*Conditions of Employment and National Arbitration
Order: National Arbitration Tribunal Awards.*

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Trade Disputes.

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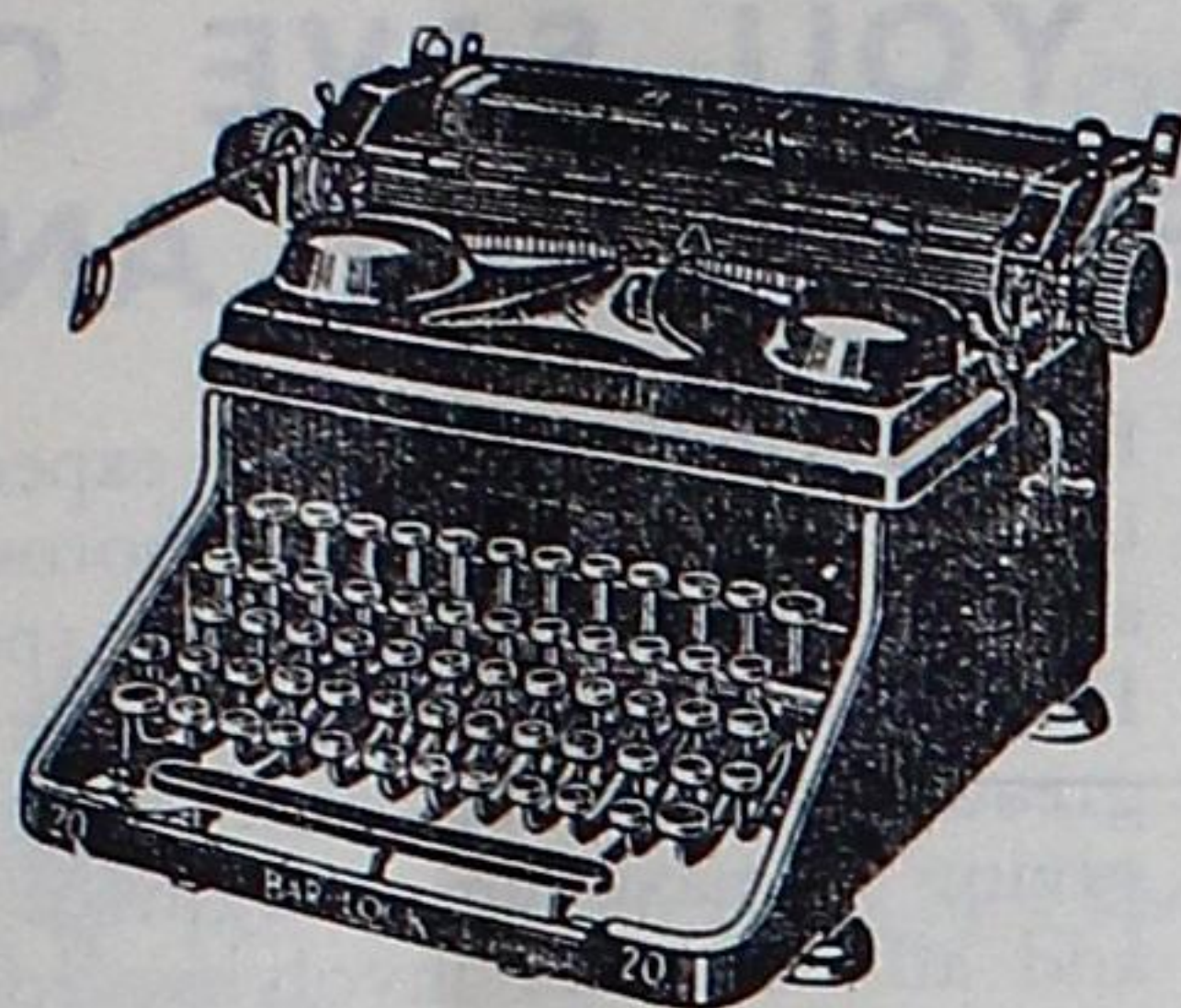
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February

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THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE

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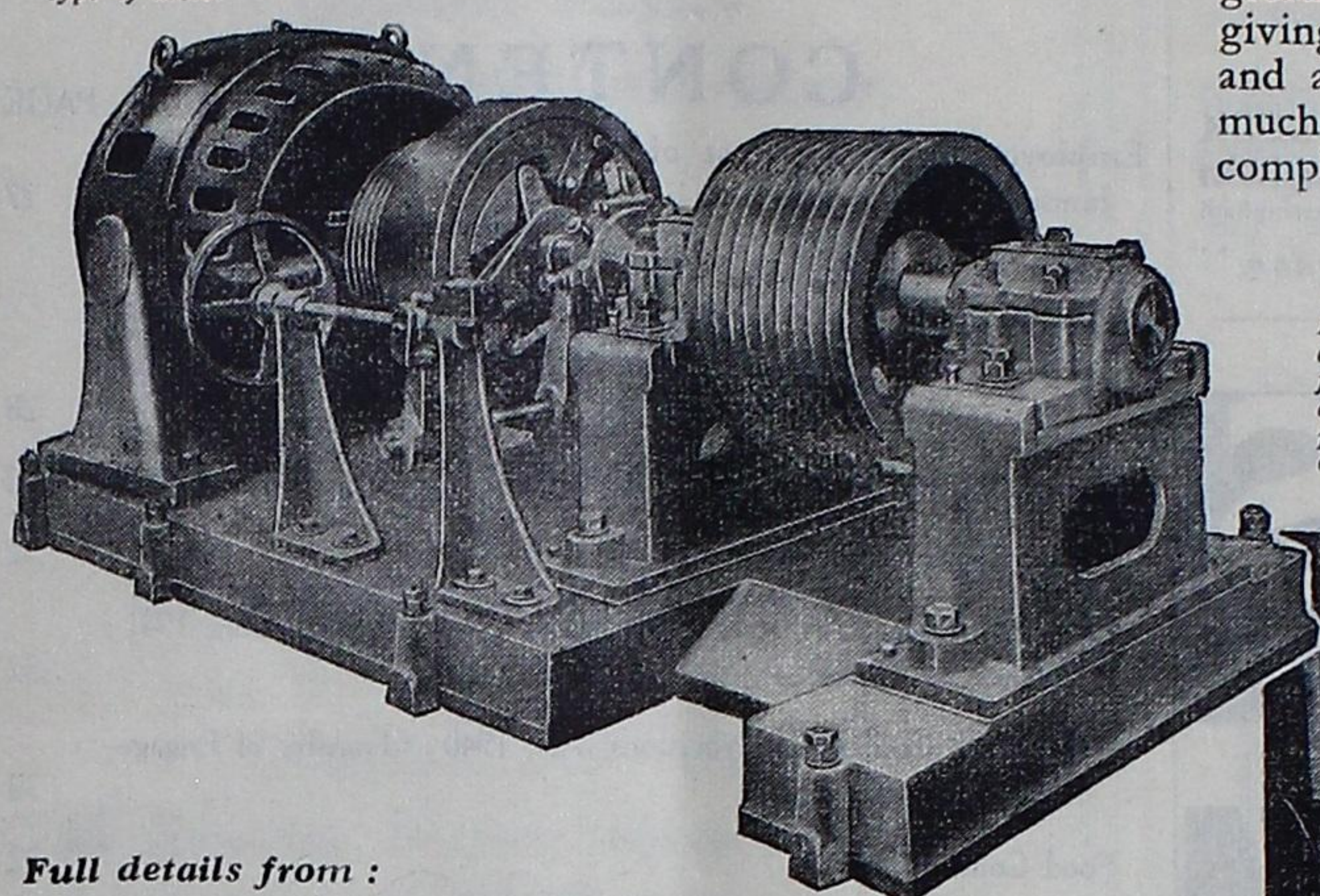
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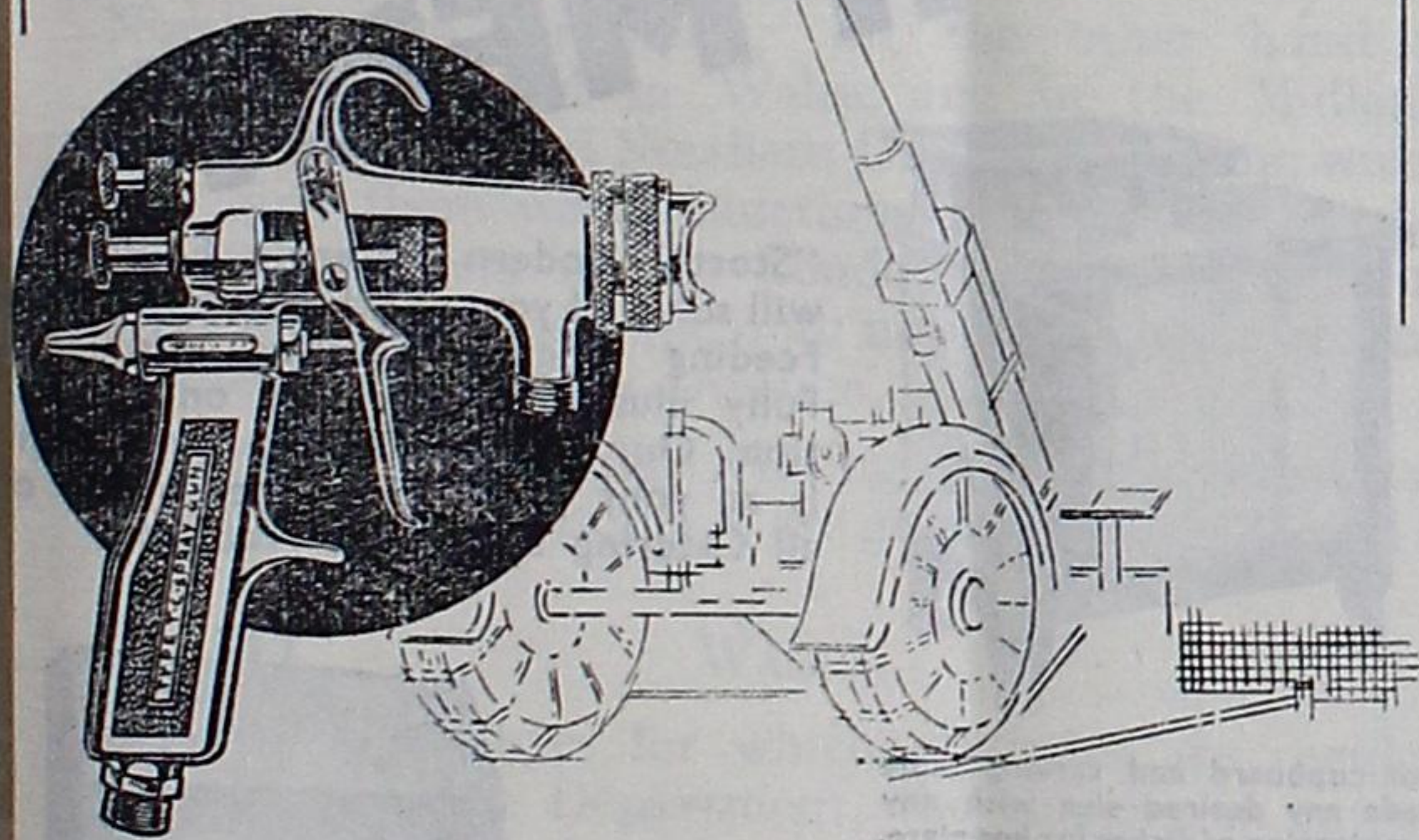
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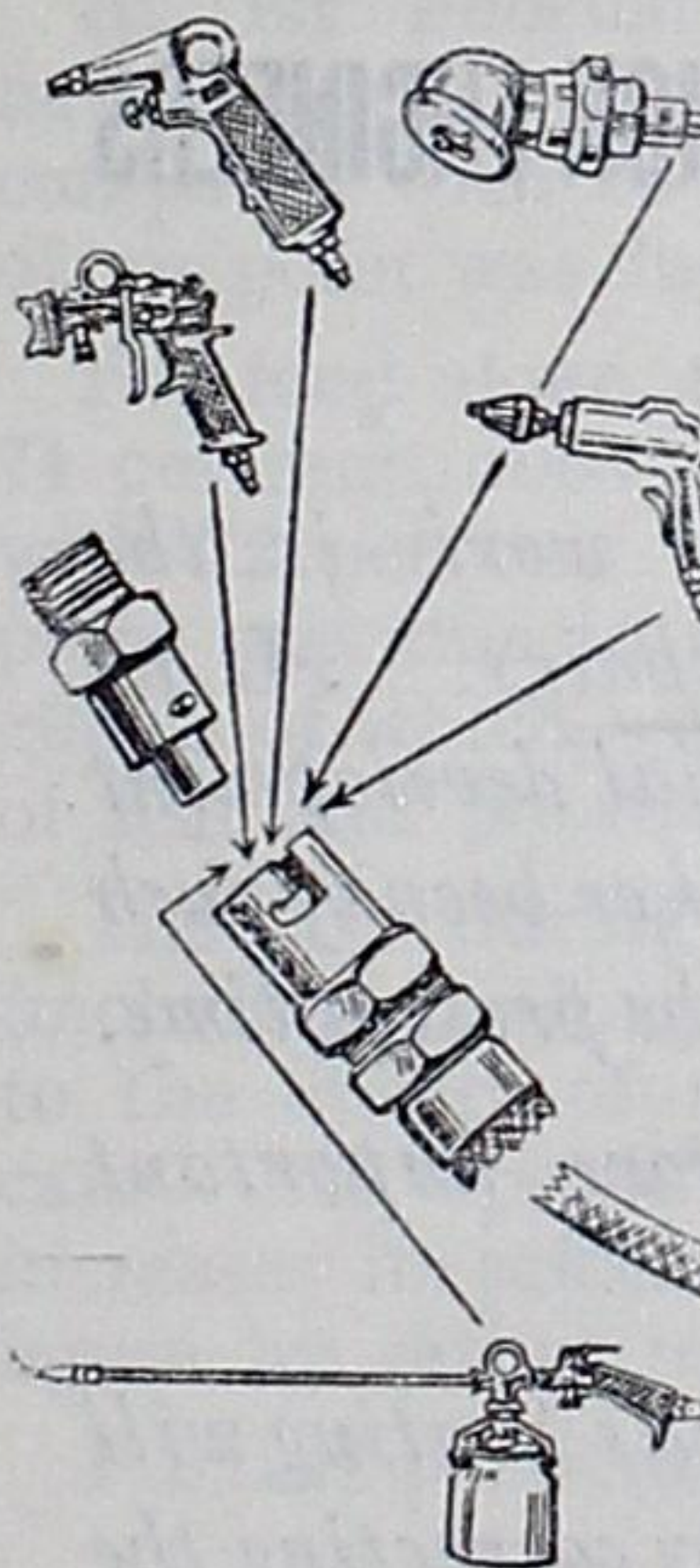
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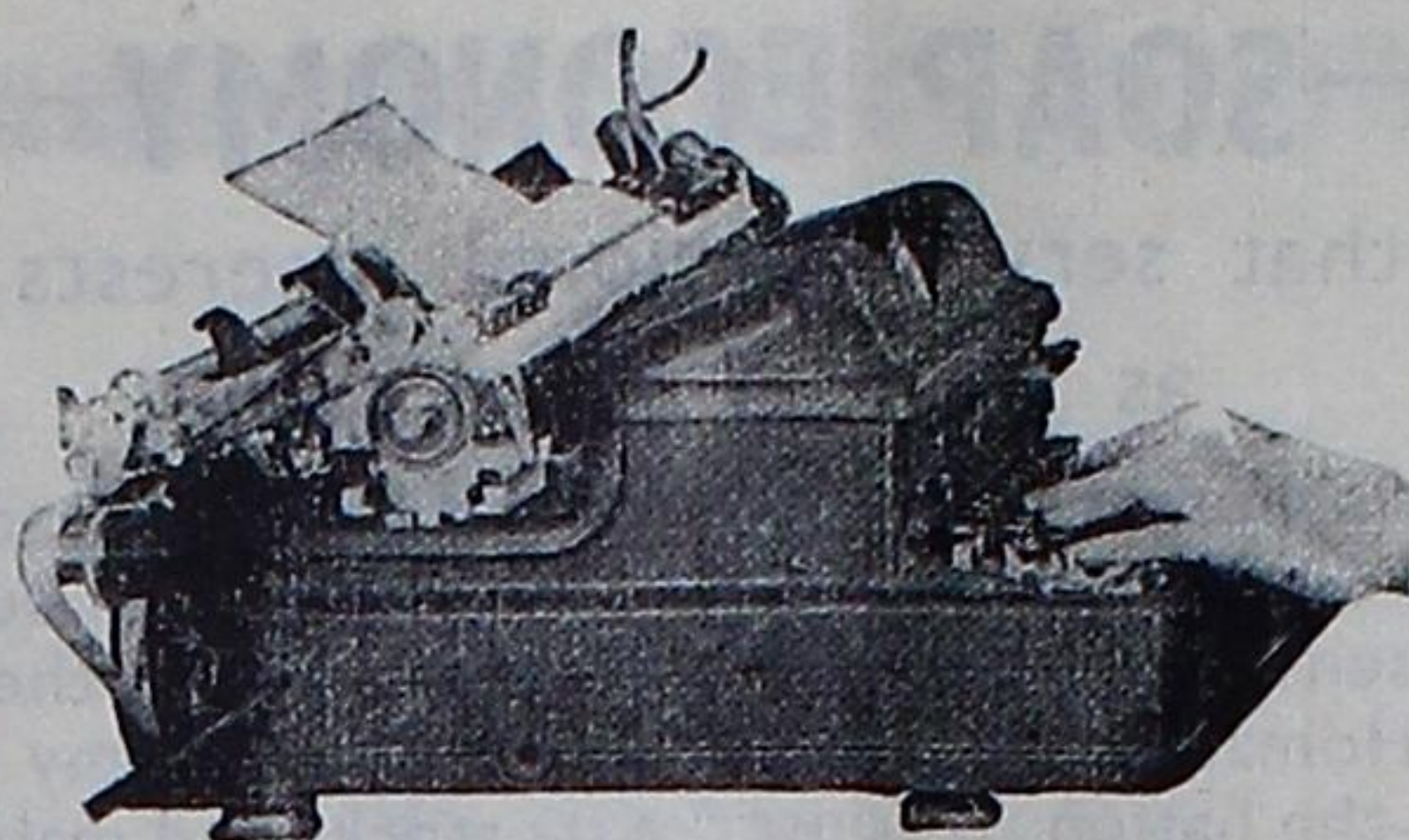
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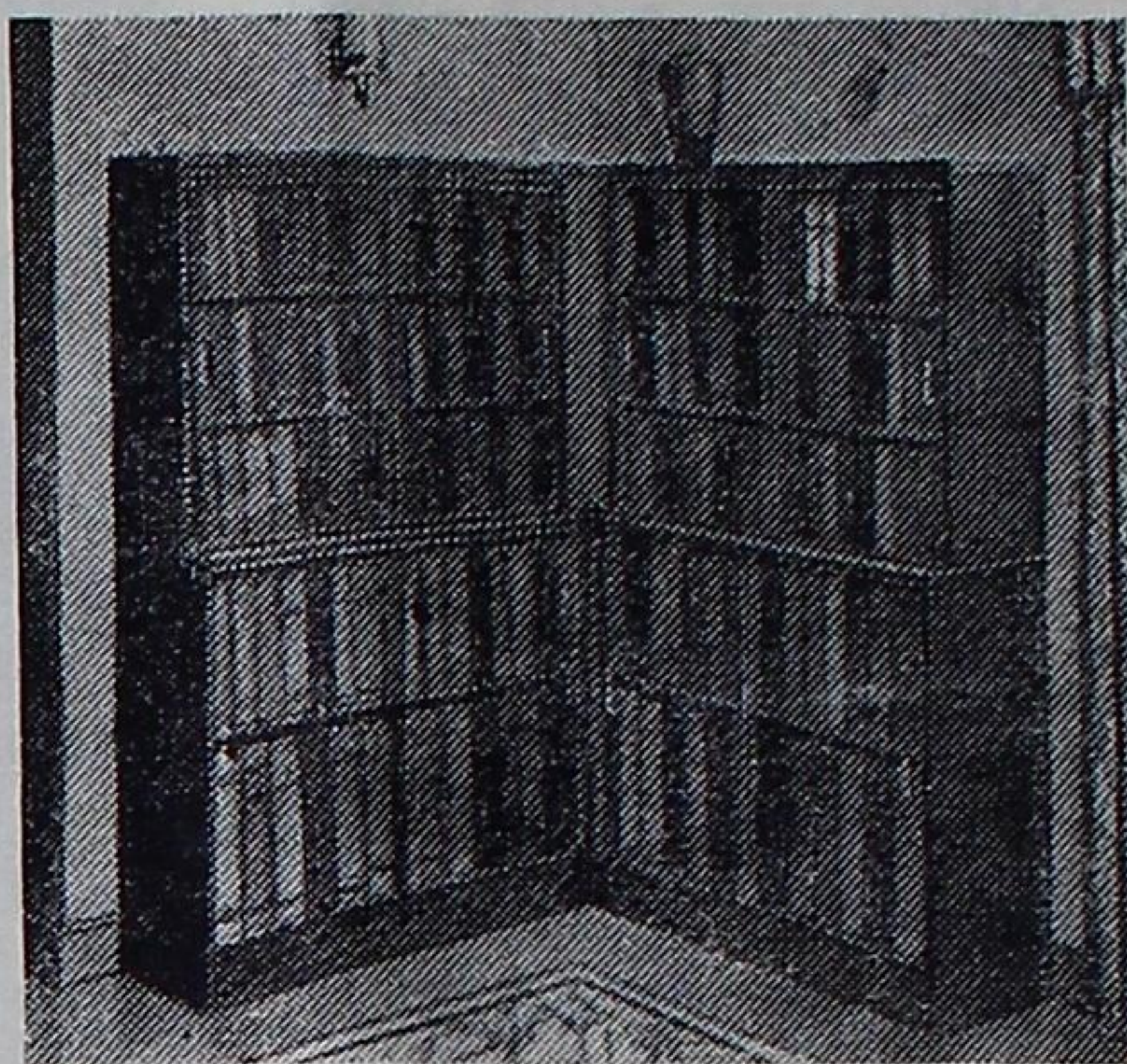
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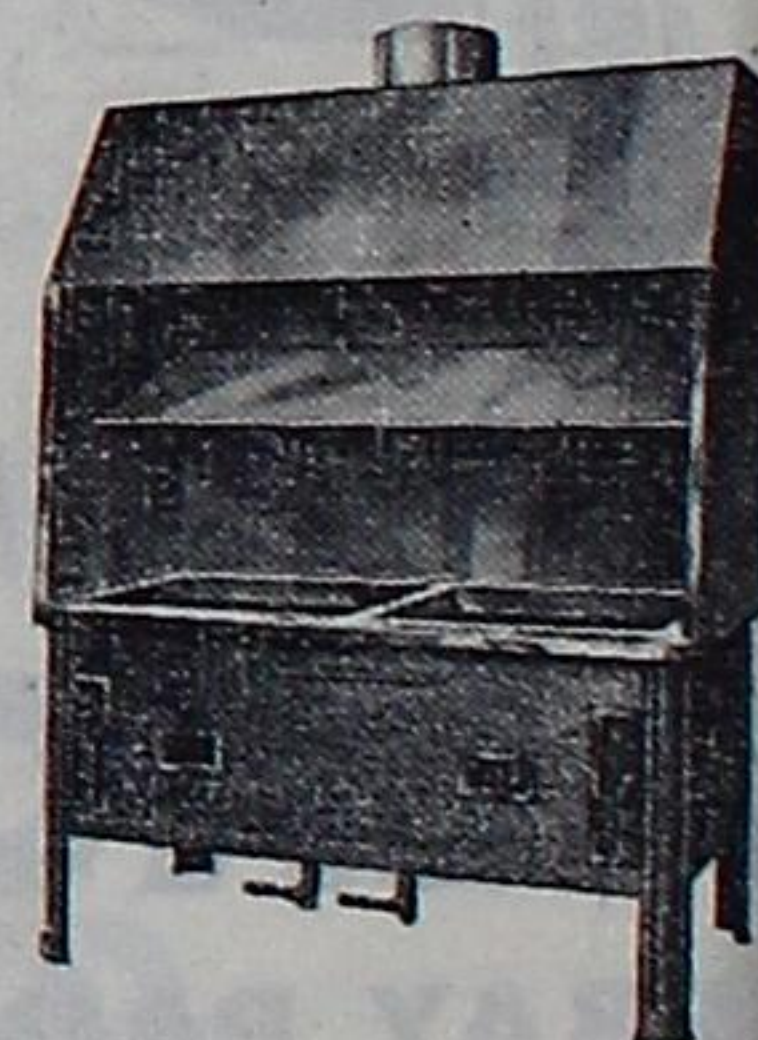
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EMPLOYMENT, WAGES, COST OF LIVING, AND TRADE DISPUTES IN JANUARY.

EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT.

THE number of men and boys registered at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain as wholly unemployed at 13th January was 258,962, a reduction of 6,049 as compared with 9th December. Those registered as on short time, or otherwise temporarily suspended from work on the understanding that they were shortly to return to their former employment, numbered 92,059; this was an increase of 7,209 as compared with 9th December. Those registered as unemployed casual workers (being persons who normally seek their livelihood by jobs of short duration) numbered 20,674, an increase of 239 as compared with 9th December.

The corresponding figures for women and girls on the registers at 13th January were 262,426 wholly unemployed, 60,322 temporarily stopped, and 1,163 unemployed casual workers. As compared with 9th December the numbers wholly unemployed showed a decrease of 14,463, those temporarily stopped an increase of 3,324, and unemployed casual workers an increase of 67.

There is usually a marked seasonal increase in the numbers of unemployed persons on the registers in January. This is the first occasion since January, 1927, on which the total for January has shown a reduction as compared with the previous month.

The number of applicants for unemployment benefit or allowances on the registers at 13th January was 582,573, as compared with 586,081 at 9th December and 1,346,015 at 15th January, 1940.

The total numbers of men and boys on the registers at 13th January showed increases as compared with 9th December in Scotland and in the Eastern and North-Eastern Divisions; on the other hand the numbers decreased in Wales, and in the Midlands, North-Midlands and Northern Divisions. Among women and girls there were reductions in the total numbers on the registers in the London, South-Western and Midlands Divisions; the only notable increase occurred in the North-Eastern Division.

Further particulars relating to employment and unemployment in January are given on pages 33 and 34.

WAGES.

In the industries for which statistics are regularly compiled by the Department, the changes in rates of wages reported to have come into operation in January are estimated to have resulted in an increase of about £470,000 in the weekly full-time wages of about 3,250,000 workpeople.

The principal groups of workpeople affected were those employed in coal mining, iron and steel manufacture, engineering, shipbuilding and ship-repairing, cotton spinning and weaving, textile bleaching, dyeing and finishing, furniture manufacture, and merchant shipping. Coal miners in all districts received increases under a

cost-of-living sliding scale, the amounts being usually 6d. a shift for men and 3d. for youths and boys; in some districts there were also changes in rates of wages resulting from fluctuations in the proceeds of the industry. Workpeople employed in iron and steel manufacture in various districts received increases of 2·4d. a shift for men and 1·2d. a shift for youths and boys. Men in the engineering, shipbuilding and ship-repairing industries received a general advance of 3s. 6d. a week, with smaller advances, according to age, for youths and boys. The rates of wages of cotton operatives were raised by approximately 4 per cent. on current rates. Workpeople employed in textile bleaching, dyeing and finishing had their wages advanced by $3\frac{1}{4}$ or $3\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. on current rates in Yorkshire, and by 2s. 2d. or 2s. 3d. a week for men and 1s. 4d. a week for women in Lancashire and in Scotland. Furniture trade operatives in various districts received increases, amounting in the case of men on timework to $\frac{1}{2}$ d. an hour, and seamen received a special payment of £2 a month or 1s. 4d. a day.

Other groups of workpeople whose rates of wages were increased included ironstone miners and limestone quarrymen in various districts, tinplate workers, flax and hemp workers in Great Britain, vehicle builders, bakers in England, Wales and Scotland, tobacco workers, and brewery workers at Burton-on-Trent.

Further particulars relating to changes in rates of wages in January are given on pages 36–42.

COST OF LIVING.

At 1st February, the official cost-of-living index figure was 97 per cent. above the level of July, 1914, as compared with 96 per cent. at 1st January. The rise of one point was due to increases in the prices of clothing.

For food alone, the index figure at 1st February was 71 per cent. above the level of July, 1914, as compared with 72 per cent. at 1st January. The decline of one point was due to reductions in the prices of eggs, the effects of which were partly offset by increases in those of fish and potatoes.

The rise during January in the prices of clothing (including clothing materials) was largely attributable to the effects of the Purchase Tax. Since this Tax came into operation, on 21st October, the resulting increases in prices have raised the cost-of-living index figure by rather more than three points.

Further particulars are given on page 35.

TRADE DISPUTES.

The number of trade disputes involving stoppages of work, reported to the Department as beginning in January, was 64. In addition, 10 disputes which began before January were still in progress at the beginning of that month. The approximate number of workpeople involved in these 74 disputes (including workpeople thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred) was 13,000, and the aggregate duration of the disputes in January was about 24,000 working days.

Further particulars relating to trade disputes in January are given on page 43.

WEEKLY EXPENDITURE OF WORKING-CLASS HOUSEHOLDS IN 1937-38.

III.—BUDGETS COLLECTED FROM A SELECTION OF HOUSEHOLDS IN RURAL AREAS IN ENGLAND AND WALES.

IN last month's issue of this GAZETTE a summary was given of the information collected by the Department in 1937-38 from over 1,600 households of agricultural workers who supplied budgets analysing their weekly expenditure. Similar particulars in respect of over 10,000 industrial households who had also supplied budgets were published in the previous issue.*

In addition to the direct collection of budgets from the households referred to above, arrangements were made to obtain a supplementary collection of budgets from a selection of village households through the agency of the National Federation of Women's Institutes, with which are affiliated large numbers of local Women's Institutes in rural districts throughout England and Wales. Through the co-operation of the National Federation and the associated County Federations, to whom the Department is indebted for their valuable assistance, a representative selection of over 400 of the local Institutes were invited to obtain budgets analysing the household expenditure of certain of their members in the four weeks (in October, 1937, and January, April and July, 1938) covered by the Department's enquiries. They were informed that only one series of budgets was required from any individual local Institute, and that households with lodgers should be excluded. Subject to these conditions, they were asked to arrange that the households who were to supply budgets should, as far as possible, be chosen by some method of random selection (*e.g.*, by drawing lots) so as to avoid the over-representation of particular types of households. The budget forms, which were provided by the Department, were identical with those used for the main collection of budgets organised through the Employment Exchanges.†

NUMBER OF BUDGETS RECEIVED.

The number of households from which effective budgets (suitable for tabulation and eligible for inclusion in the statistics) were obtained under these arrangements ranged from 413 in October, 1937, to 373 in July, 1938. The number who supplied budgets for the complete series of four weeks covered by the enquiry was 366, of whom 351 were in England and 15 in Wales and Monmouthshire (the National Federation having no members in Scotland or Northern Ireland). The great majority of the budgets were supplied by households the head of which was an agricultural worker, but a small number were received from householders in other occupations, including general labourers, road labourers, carters, grooms, and building trade operatives; the non-agricultural households included, however, were all living in villages or rural districts. A considerable number of the households included supplementary wage-earners, many of whom were engaged in non-agricultural occupations.

The information furnished by these households is summarised in the Table on pages 30 and 31, in which are given figures, in separate columns, compiled from (a) all the effective budgets obtained in October, 1937, and January, 1938, and (b) the budgets received from the 366 households who furnished information for all the four weeks.‡ It will be seen from the Table that the average number of adults, the average number of wage-earners, and the average weekly expenditure were slightly higher in the households which supplied less than four budgets than in the households which supplied the complete series of four budgets. The differences, however, were not so marked as to invalidate the general averages given in the last column of the Table, based on the expenditure shown by the 366 households for four weeks, and those figures have accordingly been utilised for the purpose of the summary given below.

COMPOSITION OF THE HOUSEHOLDS.

From the particulars given on page 30 it will be seen that the average number of persons in these 366 households was 4.25, of whom 2.23 were aged 18 years or over. The average number of persons (4.25) in these households was appreciably higher than in the agricultural households from whom budgets were collected directly by the Department, the average for those households (as shown in last month's issue of this GAZETTE) having been 3.79. The difference is mainly due to the fact that while precautions were taken to ensure, so far as practicable, that different types of households should be represented in their correct proportions in the main collection of budgets obtained by the Department, households without children were under-represented in the budgets collected through the Women's Institutes.

HOUSING, RENTS, ETC.

Of the 366 village households from whom a complete series of budgets was collected by the Women's Institutes, 95 per cent. were either directly renting their dwellings or occupying a dwelling provided by their employer, the value (or part of the value) of which was regarded as in part payment of wages.§ Of the total of 95 per cent. of all households in this group, three-fifths were directly renting their dwellings, and the average amount paid in rent, rates, etc., by these households was 5s. 1d.

* The two articles, on this subject, which appeared in the issues of the GAZETTE for December, 1940, and January, 1941, have been re-printed separately and are obtainable from H.M. Stationery Office, price 3d. each.

† See the second column on page 300 of the December, 1940, issue of this GAZETTE.

‡ The numbers of budgets supplied in April and July, 1938, by households who did not furnish effective budgets for all four weeks were so small that their inclusion would have had no appreciable effect on the statistics. The figures relating to April and July, 1938, given in the Table on pages 30 and 31, have accordingly been based solely on the particulars supplied by the 366 households.

§ Orders which were in operation under the Agricultural Wages (Regulation) Act, fixing minimum rates of wages for workers in agriculture, contained clauses permitting the value of cottages and certain other allowances in kind, where provided by the employer, to be reckoned as part payment of wages, at amounts specified in the Orders, in lieu of payment in cash.

a week. The remaining two-fifths had their dwellings provided by their employers, the average value at which these dwellings were reckoned as part payment of wages being 3s. 7d. a week.

About 5 per cent. of all the households stated that they owned or were buying their dwellings, and the weekly payments made by these households for instalments of purchase price, ground rent, rates and water charges, etc. (after deducting any rent received for rooms sub-let) averaged 5s. 0d.

The average weekly payment (or corresponding deduction from cash wages) in respect of rent or purchase instalments, rates, water charges, etc., distributed over all the 366 households who supplied four budgets, was 4s. 7d.

EXPENDITURE ON FOOD.

The average weekly amount spent on food by the 366 households who supplied budgets for four weeks was 28s. 1d.* Of this total, meat accounted for 7s. 6½d., or nearly 27 per cent., the principal items included being 2s. 10d. for beef and veal, 1s. 9½d. for bacon and ham, and 1s. 1½d. for mutton and lamb. Bread, flour, cakes, biscuits, oatmeal, rice and other cereals and cereal products accounted for 5s. 7½d., or 20 per cent., including 3s. 0d. for bread, 1s. 3d. for flour, and 11½d. for cakes, buns, pastries, biscuits, etc. Expenditure on butter, margarine, lard, dripping and other cooking fats averaged 3s. 5½d., or over 12 per cent. of the total, the principal item included being 2s. 3½d. for butter. Milk and cream accounted for 2s. 4½d., tea 1s. 5d., sugar 1s. 3½d., eggs 1s. 0d., and cheese 10½d. Further details as to expenditure on food are given on page 30.

The following Table shows the average quantities of some of the principal foods bought by the 366 households who supplied budgets for each of the four weeks; for most of the other important articles a large proportion of the budgets did not give sufficiently exact information as to the quantities bought to afford a satisfactory basis for general averages.

Article.	Average weekly quantity bought.	Article.	Average weekly quantity bought.
Bread	15.7 lb.	Lard	0.7 lb.
Flour	6.5	Cheese sold by weight† ..	0.9
Beef, veal, mutton, lamb and pork (joints, cuts and mince)	4.7	Tea	0.6
Bacon, ham, etc.	1.6	Sugar	6.0
Milk, fresh, whole	9.2 Pints	Jam and marmalade	0.7
Butter	1.7 lb.	Potatoes	4.2
Margarine	0.8	Eggs	8.1
		Oranges	3.2
		Bananas	2.0
		Apples	0.7 lb.

The particulars given above, and in the Table on page 30, relate only to the food *bought* by the households in the four weeks covered by the enquiry, and do not include the values or quantities of (a) allowances of food received by many of the households from the employers of the wage-earners, or (b) garden, allotment, etc., produce raised by the households and consumed in the weeks to which the enquiry related.

The main items of food provided by employers were milk and potatoes. Of the households who supplied the complete series of four budgets, 25 per cent. received a regular allowance of milk from the wage-earners' employers, amounting on average to 11½ pints a week, and about 4 per cent. received an allowance of potatoes, averaging about 13½ lb. a week. If averaged over all the households who supplied four budgets, these allowances are equivalent, per household, to about 3 pints of milk and ½ lb. of potatoes a week. About 6 per cent. of the households stated that a member of the household was provided with some meals by the employer, and a small proportion of the households received allowances of other items of food; but the quantities of these, when averaged over all the 366 households, were very small. The Orders made under the Agricultural Wages (Regulation) Acts, fixing minimum rates of wages for agricultural workers, permit some of these allowances in kind, when provided by the employer, to be reckoned as part-payment of wages, at values fixed by the Orders. On the basis of the values specified in the Orders in operation in 1937-38, and of such information as is available in other cases, it is estimated that the total value of the allowances of food received from employers, when distributed over the whole of the households covered by the enquiry, was equivalent to an average of about 10½d. a week.

The principal items of garden, allotment, etc., produce raised by the 366 households and consumed at home during the weeks covered by the enquiry were potatoes and eggs. Nearly three-fourths of the households showed some consumption of home-produced potatoes during the four weeks to which the enquiry related, the average weekly quantity in these cases being about 15 lb., and rather more than 20 per cent. of the households showed an average weekly consumption of 14 eggs produced at home. When distributed over all the households, these quantities are equivalent to averages of 10½ lb. of potatoes and 3 eggs a week. A number of the budgets also showed consumption of other vegetables, and of small quantities of fruit, produced at home. Of the vegetables, cabbages, beans and peas formed the principal items, the quantities raised at home and consumed in the four budget weeks representing an average of nearly 1½ lb. of cabbages and 1½ lb. of beans and peas a week for all the households covered by the enquiry.

* This figure excludes expenditure on alcoholic drinks, mineral waters, etc., and on food for animals, poultry, etc., which is included under "Expenditure on Other Items."

† The quantity shown does not include cheese sold by the box or packet: the average weekly expenditure was approximately 9½d. per household on cheese sold by weight, and ¾d. on cheese sold in boxes or packets.

EXPENDITURE ON CLOTHING.

The average expenditure on clothing, clothing materials and footwear (including repairing, dyeing and cleaning), as shown by the budgets supplied by the 366 households for the four weeks to which the enquiry related, was 5s. 3d., of which 1s. 3½d. was spent on men's clothing and materials, 1s. 0d. on women's clothing and materials, 9½d. on children's clothing and materials, 1d. on clothing repairs, dyeing, cleaning, etc., and 2s. 1d. on footwear (including repairs). A small proportion of these households undertook to supply supplementary returns giving particulars of their expenditure on clothing week by week over a period of twelve months, and the particulars so obtained are summarised in the following Table showing the average weekly expenditure, in each of four periods of 13 weeks, of about 40 households who supplied such returns:—

	Average weekly expenditure of 40 households in the undermentioned periods.				Weekly average for the twelve months.
	17 Oct., 1937, to 15 Jan., 1938.	16 Jan., 1938, to 16 April, 1938.	17 April, 1938, to 16 July, 1938.	17 July, 1938, to 15 Oct., 1938.	
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Men's clothing and materials	1 6	1 0½	1 8	1 3½	1 4½
Women's clothing and materials	1 4½	1 2½	1 7½	1 2	1 4½
Children's clothing and materials*	1 6½	0 9½	1 3½	1 2½	1 2½
Clothing repairs, and dyeing and cleaning	0 0½	0 0½	0 1½	0 0½	0 0½
Boots, shoes, etc.	1 6	1 4	1 4½	1 5½	1 5
Boot and shoe repairs	0 6½	0 5½	0 5½	0 5½	0 5½
Total	6 5½	4 11	6 6½	5 7	5 10½

These figures are of interest as providing some indication of the variations in expenditure on clothing at different periods of the year. As, however, the average expenditure on clothing shown by the 40 households in the four weeks for which complete budgets were supplied was about 6d. higher than that shown by *all* the budgets received for the same four weeks, the figures given in the Table should not be regarded as representative of the average weekly expenditure of all the 366 households who supplied budgets. It seems probable that the average level of weekly expenditure on clothing among these households generally is more accurately reflected by the figure of 5s. 3d., derived from the budgets, than by the figure of 5s. 10½d. shown in the above Table.

EXPENDITURE ON FUEL AND LIGHT.

The average weekly amount spent on fuel and light by the 366 households who supplied four budgets was 4s. 9d. Expenditure on coal averaged 2s. 11½d.; the average weekly quantity of coal bought in the four weeks to which the budgets related was about 1·5 cwt. in October, 1·8 cwt. in January, 1·4 cwt. in April, and 1 cwt. in July, the general average for the four weeks being 1·4 cwt. In addition, a few of the households received allowances of coal from employers of the wage-earners, but the average quantity so allowed was insignificant when distributed over all the 366 households, being equivalent to less than one-twentieth of one cwt. a week. Expenditure on gas and electricity (including payments for meter rent and fittings) averaged 7d. a week (of which payments through slot meters accounted for 4½d.), and expenditure on lamp oil averaged 7½d. a week. Coke, firewood and other fuel, candles and matches accounted for 7½d. a week, on average.

EXPENDITURE ON OTHER ITEMS.

Expenditure on items other than food, rent, clothing, fuel and lighting averaged 14s. a week, or nearly one-fourth of the total expenditure. From the particulars given in the Table on page 31 it will be seen that, of this amount, tobacco and cigarettes accounted for 1s. 10½d., contributions to statutory insurance schemes (unemployment, health, pensions, etc.) for 1s. 7½d., other insurance premiums and payments to pension funds, etc., for 1s. 7d., medical, etc., expenses (for doctor, dentist, optician, nursing, medicines, etc.) for 1s. 3½d., household utensils, furnishings and equipment for 11½d., soap, soda and other cleaning and polishing materials for 11½d., travelling for 9d., subscriptions to trade unions, friendly societies, burial clubs, etc., for 6½d., licences (for wireless set, dog, motor-cycle, etc.) for 5d., postages, telephones and telegrams for 4½d., and entertainments for 4d. As in the case of the budgets collected by the Department from industrial and agricultural households and summarised in previous issues of the GAZETTE, there are indications that expenditure on tobacco and cigarettes was not always fully stated, and there is little doubt that the figures given on page 31 relating to expenditure on beer, spirits, etc., should also be regarded as an under-statement.

SUMMARY OF TOTAL EXPENDITURE.

The total expenditure, as shown by the budgets supplied by these 366 village households who furnished information for the four weeks covered by the enquiry, averaged 56s. 8d. a week. Of this total, food accounted for 28s. 1d., or about 49½ per cent., rent or house purchase (including local rates and water charges) for 4s. 7d., or 8 per cent., clothing and footwear (including repairs) for 5s. 3d., or over 9 per cent., fuel and lighting for 4s. 9d., or nearly 8½ per cent., and other items for 14s. 0d., or nearly 25 per cent.

* In comparing the expenditure on children's clothing, shown in this Table, with that shown in the corresponding Table on page 8 of last month's issue of this GAZETTE, it should be noted that households without children were under-represented in the budgets collected through the Women's Institutes (see paragraph on page 28 relating to "Composition of the Households"). Consequently, the average number of children in the households to which these budgets related was considerably higher than in the households whose budgets were summarised in last month's GAZETTE.

COMPARISONS WITH THE BUDGETS COLLECTED FROM AGRICULTURAL WORKERS.

The figures given above, as to the average expenditure of the 366 village households from whom budgets were collected through the National Federation of Women's Institutes, correspond closely with those published in last month's issue of this GAZETTE, relating to the expenditure of nearly 1,500 households of agricultural workers from whom budgets were collected by the Department during the same period in 1937-38. The budgets from which the particulars given in last month's GAZETTE were compiled, however, included considerable numbers from agricultural workers in Scotland and Northern Ireland, whereas the 366 households from whom budgets were collected by the local Women's Institutes were all in England and Wales. The following Table compares the average expenditure of the 366 village households from whom budgets were collected by the Women's Institutes with that of the households of agricultural workers in England and Wales from whom budgets were collected direct by the Department:—

Item.	1,036 Agricultural Households with average of 3·72 persons. (Budgets collected direct by Ministry of Labour).		366 Village Households with average of 4·25 persons. (Budgets collected through Women's Institutes).	
	Average weekly expenditure	Proportion of total expenditure	Average weekly expenditure	Proportion of total expenditure
	s. d.	Per cent.	s. d.	Per cent.
Rent (or purchase instalments), rates, etc.	5 0	8·6	4 7	8·1
Food:—				
Bread and flour	4 0½	7·0	4 3	7·5
Other cereals and cereal products	1 3½	2·3	1 4½	2·4
Meat, poultry, rabbits, etc.	5 8½	9·8	5 8½	10·1
Bacon, ham, etc.	1 9½	3·1	1 9½	3·2
Fish	0 9	1·3	0 9	1·3
Milk (fresh, condensed and dried) and cream	2 6	4·3	2 4½	4·2
Butter	2 1½	3·7	2 3½	4·0
Margarine, lard, suet and other cooking fats	1 2	2·0	1 2½	2·1
Cheese	0 10½	1·5	0 10½	1·5
Eggs	0 11½	1·7	1 0	1·8
Tea	1 6	2·6	1 5	2·5
Sugar	1 3	2·1	1 3½	2·3
Potatoes	0 5½	0·7	0 3½	0·5
Other vegetables (fresh, dried, canned, etc.)	0 6	0·8	0 4½	0·7
Fruit (fresh, dried, canned, etc.) and nuts	1 2½	2·1	1 5	2·5
Other food	1 7½	2·8	1 8	2·9
Total—Food	27 9	47·8	23 1	49·5
Clothing and Footwear:—				
Clothing and materials, including repairs, etc.	3 5	5·9	3 2	5·6
Boots, shoes, etc., including repairs	2 1	3·6	2 1	3·7
Total—Clothing, etc.	5 6	9·5	5 3	9·3
Fuel and Light:—				
Coal and coke	3 1	5·3	2 11½	5·3
Gas and electricity	0 8½	1·2	0 7	1·0
Other fuel and lighting	1 3½	2·3	1 2½	2·1
Total—Fuel and Light	5 1	8·8	4 9	8·4
Other Items:—				
Soap and other cleaning and polishing materials	0 10½	1·5	0 11½	1·7
Household equipment	1 5	2·4	0 11½	1·7
Tobacco and cigarettes	1 10	3·2	1 10½	3·3
Travelling	0 10	1·4	0 9	1·3
Newspapers and periodicals	0 10½	1·5	0 10½	1·6
Entertainments	0 4½	0·6	0 4	0·6
Doctor, dentist, nursing, medicines, etc.	1 3	2·2	1 3½	2·3
National Health, Pensions and Unemployment Insurance	1 7½	2·8	1 7½	2·9
Other insurances, pension funds, etc.	1 5½	2·5	1 7	2·8
Subscriptions to trade unions, friendly societies, burial clubs, etc.	0 6½	1·0	0 6½	1·0
Other expenditure	3 7	6·2	3 1½	5·5
Total—Other Items	14 8	25·3	14 0	24·7
Grand Total—All Items	53 0	100·0	56 8	100·0

Although the average number of persons in the household was appreciably higher* among the 366 village households from whom budgets were collected by the Women's Institutes than among the 1,036 agricultural households in England and Wales who supplied budgets direct to the Department, the figures of average weekly expenditure show a marked similarity in respect of nearly all the items specified in the Table. In the case of potatoes (the figures for which show the greatest proportionate variation) the differences in average expenditure were largely due to variations in the quantities produced by the two groups of households in their gardens or allotments. In view of the fact that the two collections of budgets, whilst both relating mainly to households living in rural areas and engaged in similar occupations, were obtained through different channels, the close correspondence between the two sets of figures suggests that the particulars published in last month's issue of this GAZETTE may be accepted as broadly representative of the expenditure of households of agricultural workers generally in 1937-38.

* For the explanation of this difference, see the paragraph on page 28, relating to "Composition of the Households."

SUMMARY OF BUDGETS COLLECTED BY WOMEN'S INSTITUTES, IN 1937-38, FROM A SELECTION OF WORKING-CLASS HOUSEHOLDS IN RURAL AREAS IN ENGLAND AND WALES.

[With a few exceptions, the budgets summarised in this Table were obtained from households of agricultural workers: a small number, however, were obtained from households the head of which was engaged in an industrial occupation.]*

Item.	Week ended 23rd October, 1937.†		Week ended 29th January, 1938.†		Week ended 30th April, 1938.†	Week ended 23rd July, 1938.†	General Average for households who supplied budgets for the 4 weeks.
	All households.	Households supplying budgets for 4 weeks.	All households.	Households supplying budgets for 4 weeks.	Households supplying budgets for 4 weeks.†	Households supplying budgets for 4 weeks.†	
Composition, etc., of the Households :							
1. Number of households from which budgets were received	413	366	399	366	366	366	366
2. Average number of persons per household :—							
Children under 14 years	1.65	1.65	1.65	1.67	1.65	1.59	1.64
Males 14 and under 18 years	0.20	0.21	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.24	0.23
Females 14 and under 18 years	0.13	0.13	0.15	0.15	0.16	0.16	0.15
Males 18 years and over	1.14	1.13	1.17	1.14	1.15	1.18	1.15
Females 18 years and over	1.10	1.08	1.09	1.08	1.08	1.07	1.08
Total—all persons	4.22	4.20	4.29	4.27	4.27	4.24	4.25
3. Average number of wage or salary-earners per household	1.54	1.52	1.58	1.55	1.58	1.58	1.58
4. Average number of days worked, in previous week\$, by :—							
(a) Head of household.. .. .	5.9	5.9	6.1	6.1	6.1	6.2	6.1
(b) All wage or salary-earners in household	5.7	5.7	5.8	5.9	5.9	5.9	5.9
Housing :							
5. Percentage, of total number of households, who were renting¶ their dwellings	95.4	95.1	95.5	95.1	95.1	94.8	95.0
6. Average weekly payments, by those households, for rent¶, rates and water charges (after deducting any rent received for rooms sub-let)	4s. 7d.	4s. 6d.	4s. 7d.	4s. 6d.	4s. 6½d.	4s. 6½d.	4s. 6d.
7. Average number of rooms rented¶ per household (including kitchens, but excluding sculleries, bathrooms, etc., and any rooms sub-let)	4.3	4.3	4.3	4.3	4.3	4.3	4.3
8. Percentage, of total number of households, who owned or were buying their dwellings	4.6	4.9	4.5	4.9	4.9	5.2	5.0
9. Average weekly payments, by those households, in respect of purchase instalments, ground rent, rates and water charges, etc. (after deducting any rent received for rooms sub-let)	4s. 5½d.	4s. 7½d.	4s. 7½d.	4s. 7½d.	5s. 1d.	5s. 8½d.	5s. 0d.
10. Average expenditure per household on rent¶ or purchase of dwelling, ground rent, rates and water charges, etc.¶	4s. 7d.	4s. 6d.	4s. 7d.	4s. 6½d.	4s. 7d.	4s. 7½d.	4s. 7d.
Average Expenditure per Household on Food :							
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
11. Bread	3 1	3 1½	3 0½	3 0	3 0	2 11½	3 0
12. Flour	1 3	1 3	1 3	1 3½	1 3½	1 1½	1 3
13. Cakes, buns, pastries, currant bread, etc.	0 9½	0 9½	0 8½	0 8½	0 8½	0 10	0 9
14. Biscuits	0 2½	0 2½	0 2½	0 2½	0 2½	0 2½	0 2½
15. Oatmeal, oatcakes, oats and proprietary cereals	0 4½	0 4½	0 3½	0 3½	0 3	0 3	0 3½
16. Rice, sago, tapioca, semolina, barley, macaroni and vermicelli	0 1½	0 1½	0 1½	0 1½	0 1½	0 1½	0 1½
17. Beef and veal (joints, cuts and mince)	2 9½	2 9	3 0½	2 11½	2 10½	2 8½	2 10
18. Mutton and lamb (" ")	0 11	0 10½	0 10½	0 10½	1 3½	1 6	1 1½
19. Pork	0 6½	0 6½	0 7½	0 8	0 4½	0 3	0 5½
20. Canned and potted meat	0 2	0 2½	0 2	0 2	0 2	0 2½	0 2½
21. Sausages and meat pies	0 8	0 7½	0 9	0 8½	0 7½	0 5½	0 7½
22. Other meat (kidney, liver, fry, heart, head, sweetbreads, tripe, brawn, cowheels, etc.)	0 3½	0 3½	0 4½	0 4½	0 3½	0 3½	0 3½
23. Rabbits, poultry, game, etc.	0 2½	0 2½	0 2	0 2	0 0½	0 1½	0 1½
24. Bacon, ham (cooked or uncooked) and gammon	1 9½	1 9	1 9	1 8½	1 9½	2 0½	1 9½
25. Fish—fresh (including shell fish)	0 4½	0 4½	0 4½	0 4½	0 4½	0 3½	0 4½
26. " dried or cured	0 1½	0 1½	0 1½	0 1½	0 1½	0 1	0 1½
27. " canned, and paste	0 1½	0 1½	0 1½	0 1½	0 1½	0 2½	0 1½
28. " fried, and chips	0 1½	0 1½	0 1½	0 1½	0 1½	0 1½	0 1½
29. Milk—fresh, whole (including milk at school)	2 0½	2 1	2 2	2 1½	2 1	2 2	2 1½
30. " skimmed (liquid) and buttermilk	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½
31. " condensed	0 1½	0 1	0 1½	0 1	0 1	0 1	0 1
32. " dried, and milk preparations	0 1	0 1½	0 1	0 1	0 1	0 1	0 1
33. Cream	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½
34. Butter	2 4½	2 4½	2 3	2 2½	2 2½	2 3½	2 3½
35. Margarine	0 5½	0 5½	0 6	0 5½	0 6½	0 6½	0 6
36. Lard, including compound lard	0 6½	0 6½	0 6	0 6	0 5½	0 5½	0 5½
37. Suet, dripping, and other cooking fats	0 3½	0 3½	0 3	0 3½	0 2½	0 2	0 2½
38. Cheese	0 10½	0 10½	0 10½	0 10½	0 10½	0 11	0 10½
39. Eggs	0 10½	0 10½	0 11½	0 11½	1 1	1 1½	1 0
40. Tea	1 4½	1 4½	1 5	1 4½	1 5½	1 5½	1 5
41. Cocoa and cocoa essence	0 3	0 3	0 2½	0 2½	0 2½	0 1½	0 2½
42. Coffee and coffee essence	0 1½	0 1½	0 1½	0 1½	0 1	0 1	0 1½
43. Sugar	1 3	1 3½	1 3½	1 3½	1 3	1 5½	1 3½
44. Jam, marmalade, etc.	0 3½	0 3½	0 4½	0 4	0 4½	0 4½	0 4
45. Syrup, treacle and honey	0 1½	0 1½	0 2	0 2½	0 1½	0 1½	0 1½
46. Potatoes	0 2½	0 2½	0 4	0 4	0 5	0 2½	0 3½
47. Green vegetables and legumes (fresh)**	0 1½	0 1	0 1	0 0½	0 1½	0 1½	0 1
48. Dried legumes	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½
49. Root vegetables, etc.††	0 1½	0 1½	0 0½	0 0½	0 2½	0 5½	0 2½
50. Onions, leeks and shallots	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½
51. Canned and bottled vegetables	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½
52. Apples	0 2½	0 2½	0 2½	0 2½	0 2	0 1½	0 2½
53. Oranges	0 1½	0 1½	0 5½	0 5½	0 4	0 3	0 3½
54. Bananas	0 1½	0 1½	0 1½	0 1½	0 2	0 2½	0 2
55. Other fresh fruit, and nuts	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½	0 3½	0 1½
56. Dried fruits	0 5½	0 6	0 6	0 6	0 6½	0 5½	0 6
57. Canned and bottled fruits	0 1½	0 1½	0 1½	0 1½	0 2	0 2½	0 1½
58. Meals, etc., away from home††	0 2½	0 2½	0 3½	0 3½	0 3½	0 3½	0 3½
59. Other food (excluding food for animals, poultry, birds, etc., see item 99)	0 7½	0 8	0 7½	0 6½	0 7	0 8½	0 7½
Total expenditure on food	27 8½	27 6	28 5	27 11½	28 1½	28 9	28 1

For footnotes see next page.

[Continued on page 31]

SUMMARY OF BUDGETS COLLECTED BY WOMEN'S INSTITUTES, IN 1937-38, FROM A SELECTION OF WORKING-CLASS HOUSEHOLDS IN RURAL AREAS IN ENGLAND AND WALES—continued.

Item.	Week ended 23rd October, 1937.†		Week ended 29th January, 1938.†		Week ended 30th April, 1938.†	Week ended 23rd July, 1938.†	General Average for households who supplied budgets for the 4 weeks.
	All households.	Households supplying budgets for 4 weeks.	All households.	Households supplying budgets for 4 weeks.	Households supplying budgets for 4 weeks.‡	Households supplying budgets for 4 weeks.‡	
Average Expenditure per Household on Clothing§§ :							
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
60. Men's clothing and materials	1 2½	1 1½	1 1½	1 1	1 2½	1 7½	1 3½
61. Women's clothing and materials	0 11	0 11	0 10	0 10½	1 0½	1 2½	1 0
62. Children's clothing and materials	0 9½	0 10½	0 8½	0 8½	0 9½	0 11½	0 9½
63. Clothing repairs, dyeing and cleaning	0 1½	0 1½	0 0½	0 0½	0 1½	0 0½	0 1
64. Boots and shoes	1 2½	1 1	1 3½	1 3	1 3	1 7	1 3½
65. Repairs to boots and shoes	0 9½	0 9½	0 8½	0 8½	0 11	0 9	0 9½
Total expenditure on clothing§§	5 0	4 10½	4 8	4 7½	5 2½	6 2	5 3
Average Expenditure per Household on Fuel and Light :							
66. Coal	3 0½	3 0½	3 8	3 8½	2 11½	2 0	2 11½
67. Coke	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½
68. Gas (including payment for meter rent and fittings)¶¶	0 2½	0 2½	0 2½	0 2½	0 2	0 2½	0 2½
69. Electricity (including payment for meter rent and fittings)¶¶	0 4½	0 4½	0 5½	0 5½	0 4½	0 4	0 4½
70. Lamp oil	0 7½	0 7½	0 8½	0 8½	0 6½	0 6½	0 7½
71. Firewood and other fuel, candles and matches	0 8	0 7½	0 8	0 7½	0 5½	0 6½	0 7
Total expenditure on fuel and light	4 11½	4 11	5 10	5 9½	4 7½	3 8½	4 9
Average Expenditure per Household on Other Items :							
72. Soap (including soap flakes)	0 7½	0 7½	0 7½	0 7½	0 7½	0 8½	0 7½
73. Soda, polishes and cleaning materials	0 4	0 3½	0 3½	0 3½	0 3½	0 3½	0 3½
74. Ironmongery, hollow-ware, cutlery, tools, etc.	0 1	0 1	0 2	0 1½	0 1½	0 1	0 1½
75. Household brushes and brooms	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½	0 1½	0 0½	0 0½
76. Pottery and glass-ware	0 0½	0 0½	0 1	0 1	0 0½	0 1	0 0½
77. Drapery and haberdashery	0 2½	0 2½	0 7½	0 7½	0 4½	0 3½	0 4½
78. Furniture	0 0½	0 0½	0 1	0 1	0 3½	0 4½	0 2½
79. Carpets, linoleum, mats, etc.	0 1½	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½	0 3	0 1½	0 1½
80. Other household utensils and equipment	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½	0 1½	0 0½
81. Tobacco and cigarettes	1 9	1 9½	1 9½	1 9½	1 11½	2 0½	1 10½
82. Travelling :—							
Railway fares, to and from work	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½
Bus, tram and coach fares, to and from work	0 2½	0 2½	0 2½	0 2½	0 1½	0 2½	0 2½
Other rail, bus, tram and coach fares	0 4½	0 4½	0 5½	0 5½	0 7	0 8	0 6½
Total—travelling	0 7½	0 7½	0 8½	0 8½	0 9½	0 10½	0 9
83. Newspapers, magazines and other periodicals	0 10½	0 10½	0 11	0 11	0 10½	0 10½	0 10½
84. Books, stationery, pens, pencils, etc.	0 1½	0 1½	0 1½	0 1½	0 2	0 1½	0 1½
85. Postages, telephones and telegrams	0 4	0 4½	0 5½	0 5½	0 4½	0 3½	0 4½
86. Entertainments :—							
Cinemas	0 1½	0 1½	0 1½	0 1½	0 1½	0 1½	0 1½
Theatres, music-halls, concerts, dances, etc., and admission charges for sports, games, etc.	0 2½	0 2½	0 3½	0 3½	0 2	0 1½	0 2½
87. Education, music lessons, etc.	0 0½	0 1	0 2	0 2½	0 2	0 0½	0 1½
88. Hairdressing, shaving, etc.	0 1½	0 1½	0 1½	0 1½	0 1½	0 2½	0 2
89. Laundry charges	0 0½	0 0½	0 1½	0 1½	0 0½	0 1	0 0½
90. Doctor, dentist, optician, midwife, nursing fees, etc.	0 9½	0 10½	0 11½	0 11½	0 5½	0 5	0 8½
91. Medicines, drugs, medical and surgical appliances, etc.	0 3½	0 3½	0 4	0 3½	0 4½	0 2½	0 3½
92. Payments to hospital funds	0 3	0 3	0 4	0 4	0 4	0 3½	0 3½
93. National Health, Pensions, and Unemployment Insurance contributions	1 7½	1 7½	1 8	1 7½	1 8	1 8	1 7½
94. Insurance premiums, payments to pension funds, etc.	1 9½	1 10½	1 6½	1 6½	1 4½	1 6½	1 7
95. Subscriptions to trade unions, friendly societies, burial clubs, etc.¶¶	0 7½	0 7½	0 5½	0 6	0 6½	0 7½	0 6½
96. Licences (dog, wireless, motor-cycle, etc.)	0 5½	0 5½	0 10½	0 10½	0 2½	0 2	0 5
97. Wages paid for domestic help	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½	—	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½
98. Holiday expenditure	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½	0 3½	0 1½
99. Food for animals, poultry, birds, etc.	0 3½	0 3½	0 4	0 4	0 4½	0 4½	0 4½
100. Drink (beer, mineral waters, etc.)	0 3½	0 3½	0 2½	0 2½	0 3½	0 4½	0 3½
101. Other expenditure	1 2	1 0½	1 0½	1 1	1 2½	1 0	1 1
Total expenditure on "other items"	13 7	13 5½	14 7½	14 8	13 11	14 0	14 0
Summary of Average Expenditure per Household :—							
Rent¶ or purchase of dwelling, ground rent, rates, etc.	4 7	4 6	4 7	4 6½	4 7	4 7½	4 7
Food	27 8½	27 6	28 5	27 11½	23 1½	28 9	23 1
Clothing§§	5 0	4 10½	4 8	4 7½	5 3½	6 2	5 3
Fuel and light	4 11½	4 11	5 10	5 9½	4 7½	3 8½	4 9
Other items	13 7	13 5½	14 7½	14 8	13 11	14 0	14 0
Total	55 10	55 3	58 1½	57 7	56 6½	57 3	56 8

* For particulars of the classes of households covered, see text on page 28.

† In cases in which, owing to holidays or other special circumstances, it was found impracticable to obtain satisfactory budgets for the week specified, the nearest week of a normal character was substituted.

‡ The numbers of other households who supplied budgets for a week in April and a week in July were insignificant.

§ In the April budgets, the particulars of days worked related to the week ended 30th April, as the previous week included Easter Monday.

¶ The figures under this heading include those cases in which dwellings were provided by employers, the value (or part of the value) being reckoned as part payment of wages; for further particulars of such cases see the section relating to "Housing, Rents, etc.," on page 28.

¶¶ The figures against item 10 have been obtained by averaging the total expenditure on rent, house purchase, rates, etc., over all the households supplying budgets (including those who owned their houses). Where the dwelling was provided by the employer, the amount at which it was reckoned as part payment of wages has been taken into account in computing the averages.

** Including cabbage, cauliflower, broccoli, sprouts, greens, spinach, kale, parsley, lettuce, celery, cress and fresh beans and peas.

†† Including carrots, swedes, turnips, beetroot, radishes, cucumber, marrows and tomatoes.

‡‡ Including meals, etc., in restaurants, and meals or food (other than milk) bought at school. Milk bought at school is included in item 29.

§§ For further details of expenditure on clothing, based on information supplied by approximately 40 households who furnished weekly returns throughout the twelve months from October, 1937, to October, 1938, see page 29.

¶¶ Where a slot meter was used, the budgets showed the expenditure on gas and electricity during the budget week. In other cases they showed the expenditure during the period covered by the last account, and the average weekly expenditure during that period has been taken for the purpose of the figures given in this Table.

¶¶¶ In the Tables in the issues of this GAZETTE for December, 1940 (page 305), and January, 1941 (page 11), the figures shown for trade union subscriptions included also contributions to friendly societies, burial clubs, etc.

ALLOWANCES IN KIND; GARDEN AND ALLOTMENT PRODUCE.

THE figures given in the above Table relate to the expenditure of the households in the weeks covered by the enquiry and do not include the value of (a) allowances of food, fuel, etc., received by many of the wage-earners from their employers or (b) garden and allotment produce raised and consumed by the households. Some particulars as to the quantities and values of these items are given on page 28.

NEW JOINT INDUSTRIAL COUNCILS FOR RETAIL DISTRIBUTIVE TRADES.

FOUR new Joint Industrial Councils for groups of Retail Distributive Trades in England and Wales have recently been set up as follows:—

- Group A.—Food Trades (excluding Butchers and Bakers).
- Group B.—Drapery, Outfitting and Footwear Trades.
- Group C.—Stationery, Bookselling, Newsagency, Tobacco and Confectionery Trades.

Group D.—Hairdressing (including Beauty Specialists).

In *Group A*, the trades covered by the Joint Industrial Council are grocery and provisions (including dairy shops, except for workers covered by the Milk Distributive Trade Board), cooked meats and other cooked foods, fresh fish, game, poultry and rabbits, fruit, vegetables and flowers, and alcoholic drinks (off license).

The employers' side of the Council is represented by the Amalgamated Master Dairymen, Ltd., the Multiple Grocers' Association, the Multiple Shops Federation, the National Dairymen's Association Inc., the National Chamber of Trade, the National Federation of Grocers' and Provision Dealers' Associations, the Co-operative Union, Ltd., the Retail Fruit Trades' Federation, the National Federation of Off-License Holders' Associations, the London Employers' Association, the Cooked Meats National Trade Association, the National Federation of Fishmongers, Ltd., and the Retail Distributors' Association.

The employees' side consists of representatives of the National Union of Clerks, the National Amalgamated Union of Shop Assistants, Warehousemen and Clerks, the Transport and General Workers' Union, and the National Union of Distributive and Allied Workers.

In *Group B*, the trades covered by the Joint Industrial Council are drapery, millinery, hosiery, etc., outfitting (men), outfitting (women and children), boots and shoes, and tailoring.

The employers' side of the Council is represented by the Drapers' Chamber of Trade, the National Association of Outfitters, the National Federation of Credit Traders, the Multiple Shops Federation, the Co-operative Union, Ltd., the Retail Distributors' Association, the National Federation of Merchant Tailors, the London Employers' Association, and the Incorporated National Federation of Boot Trades Associations.

The employees' side consists of representatives of the National Union of Clerks, the National Amalgamated Union of Shop Assistants, Warehousemen and Clerks, the Transport and General Workers' Union, and the National Union of Distributive and Allied Workers.

In *Group C*, the trade covered by the Joint Industrial Council is hairdressing (including beauty specialists).

The employers' side of the Council is represented by the Hairdressers' Parliamentary Council, the Co-operative Union, Ltd., the Multiple Shops Federation, the Retail Distributors' Association, and the London Employers' Association.

The employees' side consists of representatives of the National Amalgamated Union of Shop Assistants, Warehousemen and Clerks, and the National Union of Distributive and Allied Workers.

In *Group D*, the trades covered by the Joint Industrial Council are books, newsagents, stationery, sugar and chocolate confectionery (including ice cream), and tobacco.

The employers' side of the Council is represented by the National Federation of Retail Newsagents, Booksellers and Stationers, the National Union of Retail Confectioners, the National Union of Retail Tobacconists, the Stationers' Association of Great Britain and Ireland, the Associated Booksellers of Great Britain and Ireland, the Co-operative Union, Ltd., the Multiple Shops Federation, the Retail Distributors' Association, and the London Employers' Association.

The employees' side consists of representatives of the National Union of Clerks, the Transport and General Workers' Union, the Retail Book, Stationery and Allied Trades Employees' Association, the National Amalgamated Union of Shop Assistants, Warehousemen and Clerks, and the National Union of Distributive and Allied Workers.

The object of each Council is to secure the largest possible measure of joint action between employers and employees in its particular group, including the regular consideration of remuneration and working conditions, and the constitution of each council provides procedure for the settlement of differences.

WELFARE OF CONSTRUCTIONAL WORKERS.

UNDER an Order* recently made by the Minister of Labour and National Service, any contractor undertaking building operations or works of engineering construction in the construction of a munitions factory, aerodrome, defence works or similar works required on behalf of the Crown, must, if so required by the Chief Inspector of Factories or other authorised inspector, make provision for the supervision of the welfare and safety of the employees in such works. He must also, if so required, make arrangements for the provision on or near the site of the works of canteen facilities where hot meals can be purchased.

* The Building Operations and Works of Engineering Construction (Welfare and Safety Provisions) Order, 1941; *Statutory Rules and Orders*, 1941, No. 66. The text of the Order is reproduced on page 48.

NATIONAL SERVICE (ARMED FORCES) ACTS.

ROYAL PROCLAMATION, 1941.

HIS Majesty the King, on 29th January, 1941, signed a further Proclamation extending the operation of the National Service (Armed Forces) Acts to men who had at that date reached the age of 18 and had not reached the age of 41. Men belonging to the age classes 1904 to 1920 inclusive had already been registered for military service in accordance with earlier Royal Proclamations and the new Proclamation extends the younger range to the 1921 and 1922 age classes and the older range to the 1903, 1902 and 1901 age classes and to men in the 1900 class unless and until they reach the age of 41.

FURTHER REGISTRATIONS.

The new Proclamation was necessary to provide for a steady flow of men into the three fighting Services. It must also be remembered that men in the older age classes are now encouraged to apply for vacancies in certain of the Civil Defence Services. The first of the new age classes to register was the 1921 class (the 19-year-olds) which was required to register on 22nd February.

Registration of further age classes will be accompanied by amendment of the existing Schedule of Reserved Occupations. These amendments, besides raising the existing ages of reservation in a number of cases, will make reservation depend to an increasing extent upon the actual work being done by the man for whom reservation is sought and not simply upon his age and registered occupation. The preparation of the necessary amendments to the Schedule on this revised basis has reached an advanced stage and as soon as the work is completed details will be announced.

The 1922 class (18-year-olds) will probably be left until the last and may not be required to register for some months.

In connection with the registration of the 19-year-olds, arrangements are already in existence to safeguard the supply of men studying to obtain certain scientific and technical qualifications that will fit them for important national work. The University Joint Recruiting Boards have power to recommend the deferment of the calling up of such men who are studying at Universities or who are studying for the Higher National Certificate or Higher National Diploma. These arrangements will be extended in future to young men engaged in the particular scientific and technical studies who are still at school but will shortly be proceeding to Universities provided that they have obtained the Higher Certificate, or will shortly be sitting for the Higher Certificate and show exceptional promise. Consideration is being given to the reservation of all medical and dental students irrespective of the stage they may have reached in their studies.

SOCIETIES (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) ACT, 1940.

TRANSFER OF ENGAGEMENTS OF TRADE UNIONS.

THE Minister of Labour and National Service and the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies have made Regulations* in respect of the transfer of engagements by one trade union to another under Section 6 of the Societies (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1940.

The Regulations provide that notice of every such transfer shall be given, in duplicate, to the Chief Registrar by the trade union transferring its engagements, together with the necessary statutory declarations and a fee of £1. The forms of notice and of declaration are specified in Schedules to the Regulations.

Where the consent of two-thirds of the members has not been obtained it may be dispensed with by the Chief Registrar, who can confirm the transfer, after notice thereof has been published in the "London (Edinburgh) Gazette," and, if required, in one or more newspapers.

The Regulations came into force on 31st December, 1940.

FOOD CONTROL.

MAXIMUM RETAIL PRICES OF FOOD.

SINCE the issue of the Orders referred to in the January number of this GAZETTE, further Orders relating to retail prices have been made by the Minister of Food.

Maximum prices of home-produced and *Eire* hen eggs (other than preserved eggs) were reduced by 3d. per dozen, from 3rd February, and maximum prices were fixed for duck eggs, also from 3rd February†. Maximum retail prices of oranges (imported, other than tangerine, mandarin and bitter oranges) were raised to 6d. per lb., from 1st February, and maximum retail prices of bitter oranges were fixed at 9d. per lb., from 12th February. Maximum prices were fixed for poultry, from 27th January, and for nuts, from 3rd February. Prices of bread, from 10th February, must not exceed the prices current on 2nd December, 1940, with certain exceptions. In Northern Ireland the maximum prices of milk were raised on 2nd February, by ½d. per quart, in order to secure that the increase in milk prices there since the outbreak of war should be the same as in Great Britain.

* The Trade Union Regulations, 1940. *Statutory Rules and Orders*, 1940, No. 2100. H.M. Stationery Office, price 1d. net (2d. post free).

† Prices of home-produced eggs were further reduced from 17th February.

EMPLOYMENT IN JANUARY.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

THE number of men and boys registered at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain as wholly unemployed at 13th January was 258,962, a reduction of 6,049 as compared with 9th December. Those registered as on short time or otherwise temporarily suspended from work on the understanding that they were shortly to return to their former employment numbered 92,059; this was an increase of 7,209 as compared with 9th December. Those registered as unemployed casual workers (being persons who normally seek their livelihood by jobs of short duration) numbered 20,674, an increase of 239 as compared with 9th December.

The corresponding figures for women and girls on the registers at 13th January were 262,426 wholly unemployed, 60,322 temporarily stopped and 1,163 unemployed casual workers. As compared with 9th December, the numbers wholly unemployed showed a decrease of 14,463, those temporarily stopped an increase of 3,324, and unemployed casual workers an increase of 67.

The number of applicants for unemployment benefit or allowances on the registers at 13th January was 582,573, as compared with 586,081 at 9th December, and 1,346,015 at 15th January, 1940.

The following Table shows the numbers on the registers of Employment Exchanges (a) in Great Britain and (b) in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, at 13th January, 1941, and the increase or decrease as compared with 9th December, 1940, and 15th January, 1940:—

	Wholly Unemployed.	Temporarily Stopped.	Unemployed Casual Workers.
Great Britain.			
Men	236,957	89,699	20,606
Boys	22,005	2,360	68
Women	222,142	56,936	1,149
Girls	40,284	3,386	14
Total	521,388	152,381	21,837
Increase (+) or Decrease (—) as compared with:			
9th December, 1940 ..	— 20,512	+10,533	+ 306
15th January, 1940 ..	—698,115	—97,342	—27,833
Great Britain and Northern Ireland.			
Men	267,623	91,557	22,599
Boys	23,903	2,425	68
Women	246,215	62,144	1,180
Girls	42,787	3,815	14
Total	580,528	159,941	23,861
Increase (+) or Decrease (—) as compared with:			
9th December, 1940 ..	— 21,967	+11,188	+ 187
15th January, 1940 ..	—715,705	—94,051	—28,465

There is usually a marked seasonal increase in the numbers of unemployed persons on the registers in January. This is the first occasion since January, 1927, on which the total for January has shown a reduction as compared with the previous month.

UNEMPLOYMENT SUMMARY BY DISTRICTS.

The following Table shows, for each administrative division, the numbers of unemployed persons on the registers of the Employment Exchanges at 13th January, 1941:—

Division.	Men 18 years and over.	Boys 14-17 years.	Women 18 years and over.	Girls 14-17 years.	Total.
Wholly Unemployed.					
London	38,876	3,286	54,120	6,327	102,609
Eastern	14,357	1,112	22,156	2,562	40,187
Southern	6,768	805	11,775	2,529	21,877
South-Western	10,563	1,440	15,165	2,982	30,150
Midlands	8,435	769	8,575	1,160	18,939
North-Midlands	11,002	553	15,696	1,800	29,051
North-Eastern	17,642	1,132	12,067	2,567	33,408
North-Western	28,500	2,510	26,692	3,504	61,206
Northern	29,767	3,800	11,881	6,981	52,429
Scotland	36,680	3,144	31,882	4,899	76,605
Wales	34,367	3,454	12,133	4,973	54,927
Great Britain	236,957	22,005	222,142	40,284	521,388
Northern Ireland	30,666	1,898	24,073	2,503	59,140
Great Britain and Northern Ireland	267,623	23,903	246,215	42,787	580,528
Temporarily Stopped.					
London	4,712	53	7,059	183	12,007
Eastern	2,608	44	847	84	3,583
Southern	1,370	9	1,026	76	2,481
South-Western	1,866	52	1,305	96	3,319
Midlands	3,379	61	7,790	251	11,481
North-Midlands	4,718	90	4,424	333	9,565
North-Eastern	13,597	224	10,693	971	25,485
North-Western	8,945	132	12,916	329	22,322
Northern	14,775	242	2,282	263	17,562
Scotland	14,305	607	7,320	600	22,832
Wales	19,424	846	1,274	200	21,744
Great Britain	89,699	2,360	56,936	3,386	152,381
Northern Ireland	1,858	65	5,208	429	7,560
Great Britain and Northern Ireland	91,557	2,425	62,144	3,815	159,941

Division.	Men 18 years and over.	Boys 14-17 years.	Women 18 years and over.	Girls 14-17 years.	Total.
Unemployed Casual Workers.					
London	7,398	—	471	6	7,875
Eastern	845	—	103	2	950
Southern	398	—	12	—	410
South-Western	1,296	—	30	2	1,328
Midlands	26	—	28	—	54
North-Midlands	444	1	55	—	500
North-Eastern	1,032	—	—	—	1,032
North-Western	3,557	16	150	—	3,723
Northern	2,914	24	107	3	3,048
Scotland	1,320	21	190	1	1,532
Wales	1,376	6	3	—	1,385
Great Britain	20,606	68	1,149	14	21,837
Northern Ireland	1,993	—	31	—	2,024
Great Britain and Northern Ireland	22,599	68	1,180	14	23,861

The changes between 9th December, 1940, and 13th January, 1941, in the numbers of persons on the registers in the various administrative divisions were as shown below:—

Division.	Wholly Unemployed.		Temporarily Stopped.		Unemployed Casual Workers.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
London	— 1,980	— 6,693	+ 2,748	+ 2,093	— 491	+ 35
Eastern	+ 1,594	— 276	+ 2,280	— 769	+ 153	+ 56
Southern	— 523	— 1,722	+ 999	+ 570	+ 33	— 1
South-Western	— 97	— 2,288	+ 501	— 1,208	+ 437	— 17
Midlands	— 115	— 1,857	+ 3,639	+ 2,635	+ 4	+ 11
North-Midlands	— 564	+ 861	+ 2,120	— 1,047	+ 93	— 44
North-Eastern	— 3	+ 491	+ 3,045	+ 2,211	+ 330	—
North-Western	— 1,642	+ 1,802	+ 1,258	+ 2,385	+ 1,181	— 7
Northern	— 1,240	+ 595	+ 1,842	+ 485	+ 182	+ 18
Scotland	+ 599	— 1,049	+ 9,713	+ 926	— 317	+ 16
Wales	— 2,078	— 723	+ 5,734	+ 313	— 706	—
Northern Ireland	— 36	— 1,419	+ 168	+ 487	— 123	+ 4

UNEMPLOYMENT DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS.

The following Table shows the numbers of persons (insured and uninsured) on the registers of Employment Exchanges at one date in each month since January, 1940:—

Date.	Great Britain.					G. Britain & N. Ireland.
	Men 18 years and over.	Boys 14-17 years.	Women 18 years and over.	Girls 14-17 years.	Total.	Total.
Wholly Unemployed.						
1940.						
15 January	805,026	38,427	319,691	56,359	1,219,503	1,296,233
12 February	759,164	33,387	298,808	49,999	1,141,358	1,216,759
11 March	628,456	24,103	273,486	39,622	965,667	1,032,570
15 April	538,570	21,528	243,480	36,449	840,027	902,295
20 May	468,990	15,843	217,832	28,108	730,773	790,956
17 June	382,337	14,047	225,777	26,153	648,314	708,069
15 July* (a)	344,086	18,363	248,025	33,852	644,326	704,452
15 July* (b)	336,292	—	—	—	636,532	696,658
12 August	303,979	27,168	235,192	46,817	613,156	670,488
16 September	318,234	25,145	227,293	42,999	613,671	675,642
14 October	309,357	24,579	257,300	44,195	635,431	695,864
11 November	285,790	22,341	255,055	40,055	603,241	665,471
9 December	248,068	16,943	244,166	32,723	541,900	602,495
1941.						
13 January	236,957	22,005	222,142	40,284	521,388	580,528
Temporarily Stopped.						
1940.						
15 January	184,960	3,086	58,191	3,486	249,723	253,992
12 February	253,533	5,653	52,666	3,220	315,072	318,930
11 March	69,374	1,501	36,615	1,890	109,380	112,323
15 April	54,786	1,092	32,748	1,556	90,182	93,301
20 May	56,266	1,317	43,012	2,135	102,730	107,224
17 June	38,681	988	39,522	2,189	81,380	86,918
15 July	76,958	2,765	69,293	4,226	153,242	162,659
12 August	75,407	2,603	71,993	4,377	154,380	163,362
16 September	97,548	3,056	78,995	5,401	185,000	194,401
14 October	92,886	2,739	71,593	3,864	171,082	178,472
11 November	93,738	2,839	63,247	3,540	163,364	171,210
9 December	82,435	2,415	53,952	3,046	141,848	148,753
1941.						
13 January	89,699	2,360	56,936	3,386	152,381	159,941
Unemployed Casual Workers.						
1940.						
15 January	47,472	77	2,099	22	49,670	52,326
12 February	45,802	102	1,748	18	47,670	50,195
11 March	44,474	69	1,602	21	46,166	48,366
15 April	40,590	103	1,786	7	42,486	44,748
20 May	45,456	125	1,736	2	47,319	49,572
17 June	35,390	94	1,654	3	37,141	39,227
15 July	35,716	103	1,665	8	37,492	39,359
12 August	30,265	91	1,554	6	31,916	33,889
16 September	29,486	110	1,561	18	31,175	33,394
14 October	26,898	131	1,299	10	28,338	30,144
11 November	23,471	77	1,012	15	24,575	26,132
9 December	20,372	63	1,076	20	21,531	23,674
1941.						
13 January	20,606	68	1,149	14	21,837	23,861

* The figures in line (a), and those for previous dates, include men at Government Training Centres, who are excluded from line (b) and from the figures for later dates (see page 223 of the issue of this GAZETTE for August, 1940).

UNEMPLOYMENT AMONG BOYS AND GIRLS.

On page 33 details are given of the number of boys and girls aged 14-17 years on the registers of Employment Exchanges and Juvenile Employment Bureaux at 13th January, 1941, distinguishing those wholly unemployed, those temporarily stopped, and unemployed casual workers. The following Table shows the total numbers of juveniles, (a) aged 14 and 15 years, and (b) aged 16 and 17 years, on the registers of Employment Exchanges and Juvenile Employment Bureaux at the same date:—

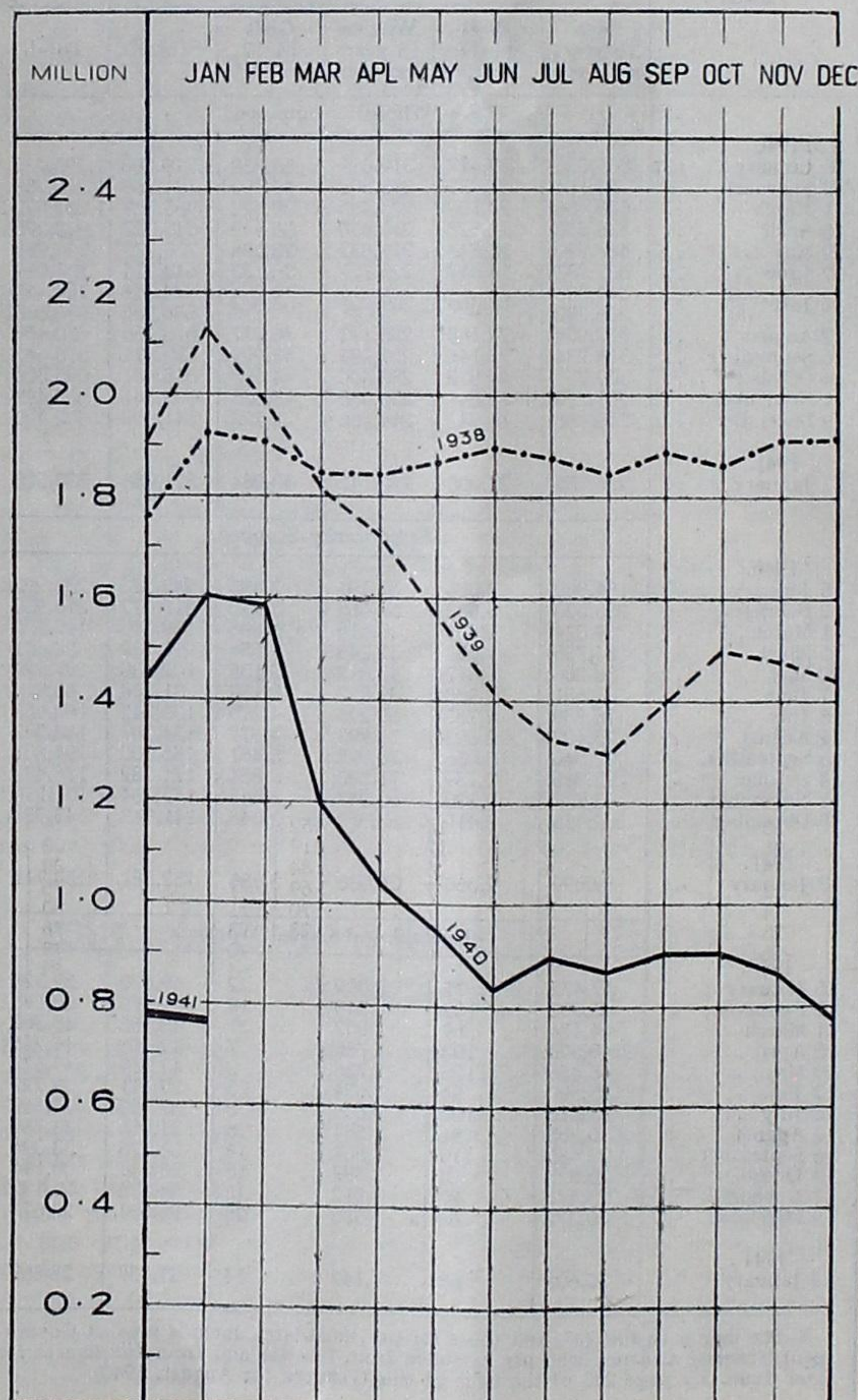
Division.	Boys.			Girls.		
	Aged 14 and 15.	Aged 16 and 17.	Total.	Aged 14 and 15.	Aged 16 and 17.	Total.
London	1,644	1,695	3,339	3,091	3,425	6,516
Eastern	415	741	1,156	773	1,875	2,648
Southern	469	345	814	994	1,611	2,605
South-Western ..	824	668	1,492	1,582	1,498	3,080
Midlands	453	377	830	671	740	1,411
North-Midlands ..	269	375	644	833	1,300	2,133
North-Eastern ..	653	703	1,356	1,417	2,121	3,538
North-Western ..	1,471	1,187	2,658	1,907	1,926	3,833
Northern	2,403	1,663	4,066	4,041	3,206	7,247
Scotland	1,402	2,370	3,772	2,168	3,332	5,500
Wales	1,723	2,583	4,306	2,200	2,973	5,173
Great Britain ..	11,726	12,707	24,433	19,677	24,007	43,684
Northern Ireland	262	1,701	1,963	385	2,547	2,932
Gt. Britain and N. Ireland ..	11,988	14,408	26,396	20,062	26,554	46,616

The total number of insured juveniles, under 18 years of age, recorded as unemployed in Great Britain and Northern Ireland at 13th January, 1941, was 59,833, of whom 22,922 were boys and 36,911 were girls. Of these, 7,391 boys and 11,158 girls were under 16 years of age.

In the week ended 22nd January, 1941, the number of juveniles, under 18 years of age, who attended authorised courses of instruction was 3,089, including 985 boys and 2,104 girls. Of this total, 460 were in the North-Eastern Division, 672 in the Northern Division, 399 in Scotland, and 1,268 in Wales.

UNEMPLOYMENT CHART.

NUMBERS OF UNEMPLOYED PERSONS ON THE REGISTERS OF EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES IN GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.



COMPOSITION OF UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS: GREAT BRITAIN.

ANALYSIS FOR 13TH JANUARY, 1941.

	Men (18 years and over).	Boys (under 18 years).	Women (18 years and over).	Girls (under 18 years).	Total.
A. Insured on Register:—					
1. Claimants to Benefit and Applicants for Unemployment Allowances ..	316,631	9,659	220,848	17,243	564,381
2. Non-claimants:—					
(a) Aged 16 and over	11,513	1,791	21,377	3,275	37,956
(b) Aged 14 and 15 ..	—	5,336	—	7,934	13,270
B. Others on Register:—					
3. Applicants for Unemployment Allowances	8,028	99	9,687*	378	18,192*
4. Persons without applications:—					
(a) Aged 16 and over	11,090	1,158	28,315	3,111	43,674
(b) Aged 14 and 15 ..	—	6,390	—	11,743	18,133
C. TOTAL ON REGISTER ..	347,262	24,433	280,227	43,684	695,606
D. Insured Unemployed:—					
Aged 16 and over:					
5. Number on Register (items 1 and 2 (a)) ..	323,144	11,450	242,225	20,518	602,337
6. Two months' file ..	27,709	2,290	56,715	2,660	89,374
7. Special Schemes—Claimants to Benefit.	388	10	375	21	794
Total aged 16 and over	356,241	13,750	299,315	23,199	692,505
8. Aged 14 and 15:					
(a) Item 2 (b)	—	5,336	—	7,934	13,270
(b) Two months' file	—	1,739	—	2,841	4,580
Total aged 14 and over	356,241	20,825	299,315	33,974	710,355

UNEMPLOYMENT FUND.

THE following Table shows, *approximately*, the income and expenditure of the Unemployment Fund† in Great Britain for the periods stated:—

	Four weeks ended 25th Jan., 1941.	Four weeks ended 28th Dec., 1940.	Four weeks ended 27th Jan. 1940.
(1) General Account.	£	£	£
Contributions received from:—			
Employers	1,809,000	1,873,000	1,632,000
Employed persons	1,809,000	1,873,000	1,631,000
Exchequer	1,810,000	1,875,000	1,632,000
Miscellaneous Receipts	93,000	2,000	423,000
Total Income	5,521,000	5,623,000	5,318,000
Benefit	1,711,000	1,587,000	3,458,000
Cost of Administration	326,000	550,000†	431,000
Accrued Charge for Debt Service§ ..	153,000	153,000	297,000
Miscellaneous Payments	24,000	29,000	32,000
Total Expenditure	2,214,000	2,319,000	4,218,000
Debt Outstanding§	38,974,000	38,974,000	77,082,000
(2) Agricultural Account.			
Contributions received from:—			
Employers	28,000	25,000	24,000
Employed persons	28,000	24,000	24,000
Exchequer	28,000	25,000	24,000
Miscellaneous Receipts	8,000	—	27,000
Total Income	92,000	74,000	99,000
Benefit	66,000	51,000	143,000
Cost of Administration	10,000	9,000	9,000
Miscellaneous Payments	2,000	—	—
Total Expenditure	78,000	60,000	152,000

UNEMPLOYMENT ALLOWANCES.

For the period of four weeks ended 25th January, 1941, expenditure on unemployment allowances (excluding the cost of administration) amounted to approximately £750,000 compared with £786,000 during the four weeks ended 28th December, 1940, and £2,068,000 during the four weeks ended 27th January, 1940.

Owing to the increase which was made on 4th November, 1940, in the scale which forms the basis for the calculation of unemployment allowances (see the issues of this GAZETTE for October and November, 1940, pages 264 and 297), the figures for December, 1940, and January, 1941, are not strictly comparable with those for January, 1940.

* This total includes, in addition to applicants for unemployment allowances, 2,094 women, aged 60-64, who had ceased to be insurable under the Unemployment Insurance Acts at 1st July, 1940, but were still applying for unemployment benefit under Section 3 (4) of the Old Age and Widows' Pensions Act, 1940.

† A detailed account of the Fund is presented to Parliament annually (see H.C. 22 of 1940 for the period ended 31st March, 1939).

‡ Includes adjustment.

§ Statutory provision was made for the repayment (including interest) of the debt outstanding on 1st July, 1934 (amounting to £105,780,000) by half-yearly payments of £2,500,000 commencing on 30th September, 1934. Under the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1938, additional sums of £20,000,000, £3,000,000 and £37,000,000 were repaid on 31st March, 1938, 31st March, 1939, and 30th March, 1940, respectively. After each such repayment the half-yearly payment was reduced accordingly.

CHANGES IN RETAIL PRICES AND COST OF LIVING.

Summary of Index Figures for 1st February, 1941.

	Food	All Items
Increase since July, 1914	71%	97%
Change since 1st January, 1941 :—		
Index points	—1	+1
Per cent.	— $\frac{1}{2}$ *	+ $\frac{1}{2}$ *

FOOD.

THE principal changes in the retail prices of food during January were reductions in the prices of eggs and increases in those of some kinds of fish. There was also a slight rise, on average, in the prices of potatoes.

The following Table compares the average retail prices in the United Kingdom generally at 1st February, 1941, with the corresponding prices at 1st January, 1941, and 1st September, 1939 :—

Article.	Average Price (per lb. unless otherwise indicated— to the nearest $\frac{1}{4}$ d.) at—			Percentage Inc. or Dec. (—) at 1st Feb., 1941, compared with	
	1st Feb., 1941.	1st Jan., 1941.	1st Sept., 1939.	1st Jan., 1941.	1st Sept., 1939.
Beef, British—	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Ribs	1 3 $\frac{1}{4}$	1 3 $\frac{1}{4}$	1 2 $\frac{1}{4}$	—	10
Thin Flank	0 9 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 9 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 7 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	25
Beef, Chilled or Frozen					
Ribs	1 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 9 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	34
Thin Flank	0 6	0 6	0 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	22
Mutton, British—					
Legs	1 5 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 5 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 3 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	12
Breast	0 8	0 8	0 7 $\frac{1}{2}$	—1	7
Mutton, Frozen—					
Legs	1 0	1 0	0 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	15
Breast	0 4	0 4	0 4	—	—
Bacon†	1 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 3	—	23
Fish	—	—	—	7	87
Flour .. per 7 lb.	1 1 $\frac{1}{4}$	1 1 $\frac{1}{4}$	1 1 $\frac{1}{4}$	—	—1
Bread .. per 4 lb.	0 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	3
Tea	2 6	2 6	2 4	—	7
Sugar (granulated) ..	0 4	0 4	0 3	—	32
Milk .. per quart	0 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 9	0 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	—1	31
Butter—					
Fresh	1 7	1 7	1 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	15
Salt	—	—	1 3 $\frac{1}{4}$	—	24
Cheese‡	1 1	1 1	0 10	—	30
Margarine§—					
Special	0 9	0 9	0 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	12
Standard	0 5	0 5	—	—	—
Eggs (fresh) .. each	0 3 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 3 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 2	—8	72
Potatoes .. per 7 lb.	0 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	3	36

The average rise of 1d. per lb. in the price of sugar since 1st September, 1939, is due to increased duty.

The following Table shows the average percentage increases or decreases in prices at 1st September, 1939, 1st January, 1941, and 1st February, 1941, respectively, as compared with July, 1914 :—

Article.	Average Percentage Increase or Decrease (—) since July, 1914, at—		
	1st Sept., 1939.	1st Jan., 1941.	1st Feb., 1941.
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Beef, British—			
Ribs	44	59	59
Thin Flank	15	44	44
Beef, Chilled or Frozen—			
Ribs	32	77	77
Thin Flank	1	23	24
Mutton, British—			
Legs	48	66	66
Breast	14	23	22
Mutton, Frozen—			
Legs	51	74	74
Breast	—3	—3	—3
Bacon†	35	67	66
Fish	116	278	304
Flour	26	25	25
Bread	42	46	46
Tea	52	63	63
Sugar (granulated) ..	46	93	93
Milk	92	155	153
Butter—			
Fresh	13	30	30
Salt	7	33	33
Cheese‡	16	50	50
Margarine§	—8	3	3
Eggs (fresh)	58	193	171
Potatoes	33	76	81
All above articles (Weighted Average)	38	72	71

On the basis of the figures in the foregoing Table, the average level of retail prices of food at 1st February was rather more than $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. lower than at 1st January, and about 24 per cent. higher than at the beginning of September, 1939.

* A fall of 1 point on a total of 172 for food (the figure for July, 1914, being 100) is equivalent to rather more than $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.; similarly, a rise of 1 point on a total of 196 for "all items" is equivalent to about $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

† The description of bacon specified for quotation is streaky, but where this kind was seldom being sold the returns relate to another kind, locally representative.

‡ Mostly Canadian or New Zealand cheese, but in some districts the returns relate to another kind, locally representative.

§ On 1st January and 1st February, 1941, two brands of margarine, "special" and "standard," were on sale at 9d. and 5d. per lb., respectively. The figures for 1st September, 1939, and July, 1914, are averages calculated from the prices of various brands on sale at those dates.

ITEMS OTHER THAN FOOD.

There was no change during January in the general level of working-class *rents* (including rates), the average level at 1st February being about 1 per cent. above that at the beginning of September, 1939, and about 64 per cent. above that in July, 1914.

As regards *clothing*, information collected from representative retailers in a number of the principal towns indicates that at 1st February the retail prices of clothing of the kinds generally bought by working-class families averaged about 3 per cent. higher than at 1st January, and about 65 per cent. higher than at 1st September, 1939. The average increase during January was about 3 per cent. for men's suits and overcoats, about 4 per cent. for woollen materials, underclothing and hosiery, about 3 per cent. for cotton materials and hosiery, and about 2 per cent. for boots and shoes. These increases were partly due to the operation of the Purchase Tax. Owing to the wide range of quotations, to changes in qualities, and to the variations in the extent to which different articles have been affected by price changes, it is not possible to make an exact comparison over a long period of years, but on the basis of such information as is available it is estimated that at 1st February the average rise over the level of July, 1914, was about 240 to 245 per cent.

In the *fuel and light* group the prices of coal in a number of towns were slightly higher at 1st February than at 1st January, the average increase being about 1 per cent.; compared with 1st September, 1939, the average increase was about 19 per cent., and with July, 1914, about 131 per cent. The prices of gas showed little change as compared with 1st January, and were about 21 per cent. higher than at 1st September, 1939, and about 87 per cent. higher than in July, 1914. Lamp oil, candles and matches showed little change in price during the month. In the fuel and light group as a whole, the average level of prices at 1st February was about 1 per cent. higher than at 1st January, about 24 per cent. higher than at 1st September, 1939, and about 125 per cent. higher than in July, 1914.

As regards *other items* included in these statistics, there were increases in the prices of domestic ironmongery, brushware and pottery, averaging nearly 4 per cent., but the remaining items included in this group showed little change during January. In the group as a whole, the average level at 1st February was less than 1 per cent. higher than at 1st January, about 25 per cent. higher than at 1st September, 1939, and about 123 per cent. above the level of July, 1914.

ALL ITEMS.

If the average increases in the cost of all the foregoing items are combined in accordance with their relative importance in working-class family expenditure prior to August, 1914, the resultant general average increase at 1st February, 1941, is approximately 97 per cent. over the level of July, 1914, as compared with 96 per cent. at 1st January, 1941, and 55 per cent. at 1st September, 1939. The result of this calculation (in which the same quantities and, as far as possible, the same qualities of each item are taken at each date) is to show the average increase in the cost of maintaining unchanged the standard of living prevailing in working-class families prior to August, 1914, *no allowance being made for any changes in the standard of living since that date, or for any economies or readjustments in consumption and expenditure since the outbreak of the war.*

The rise of 1 point between 1st January and 1st February is equivalent to about $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. The rise of 42 points since the beginning of September, 1939, is equivalent to about 27 per cent. Of these 42 points, about 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ points are due to the increases, since that date, in the taxes on sugar, tobacco and cigarettes, and matches, and rather more than 3 points are due to increases resulting from the Purchase Tax.

SUMMARY TABLE: ALL ITEMS.

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 since January, 1920 :—

Year.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1920 ..	125	130	130	132	141	150	152	155	161	164	176	169
1921 ..	165	151	141	133	128	119	119	122	120	110	103	99
1922 ..	92	88	86	82	81	80	84	81	79	78	80	80
1923 ..	78	77	76	74	70	69	69	71	73	75	75	77
1924 ..	77	79	78	73	71	69	70	71	72	76	80	81
1925 ..	80	79	79	75	73	72	73	73	74	76	76	77
1926 ..	75	73	72	68	67	68	70	70	72	74	79	79
1927 ..	75	72	71	65	64	63	66	64	65	67	69	69
1928 ..	68	66	64	64	64	65	65	65	65	66	67	68
1929 ..	67	65	66	62	61	60	61	63	64	65	67	67
1930 ..	66	64	61	57	55	54	55	57	57	56	57	55
1931 ..	53	52	50	47	47	45	47	45	45	45	46	48
1932 ..	47	47	46	44	43	42	43	41	41	43	43	43
1933 ..	42	41	39	37	36	36	38	39	41	41	43	43
1934 ..	42	41	40	39	37	38	41	42	43	43	44	44
1935 ..	43	42	41	39	39	40	43	43	43	45	47	47
1936 ..	47	47	46	44	44	44	46	46	47	48	51	51
1937 ..	51	51	51	51	52	52	55	55	55	58	60	60
1938 ..	59	57	56	54	56	55	59	56	55	55	56	56
1939 ..	55	55	53	53	53	53	56	55	55	65	69	73
1940 ..	74	77	79	78	80	81	87	85	87	89	92	95
1941 ..	96	97	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

A detailed account of the method of compilation of these statistics, "The Cost of Living Index Number: Method of Compilation," is obtainable, price 3d. net, from H.M. Stationery Office at any of the addresses shown on the cover of this GAZETTE.

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

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 Great Britain and Northern Ireland during January are estimated to have resulted in an increase of about £470,300 in the weekly full-time wages of 3,250,000 workpeople.

The workpeople affected by the increases were mainly employed in the coal-mining, iron and steel, engineering, shipbuilding and textile industries.

In the coal mining industry there was a flat-rate increase under a cost-of-living sliding scale, in all districts except Nottinghamshire, amounting to 6d. a shift for men and to 3d. a shift for youths and boys. In Nottinghamshire the equivalent of this flat-rate advance was merged into an increase in the percentage addition to basis rates. In Yorkshire there was an increase in the percentage addition to basis rates in addition to the flat-rate advance. In Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Cannock Chase and Warwickshire, the percentage addition to basis rates was reduced slightly, but the decreases were more than counterbalanced by the general flat-rate increase. In the other mining and quarrying industries, ironstone miners and limestone quarrymen in various districts obtained increases in wages under cost-of-living sliding-scale arrangements.

There were general increases of 3s. 6d. a week for men in the engineering, shipbuilding, ship-repairing and certain other metal industries, with smaller increases, according to age, for apprentices, youths and boys. Blastfurnacemen, iron puddlers and millmen, workers employed in steel melting and rolling in various districts and tinplate workers received increases, under cost-of-living sliding scales, which amounted in most cases to 2·4d. a shift for men, and to 1·2d. a shift for youths and boys. There were also increases for steel workers at Sheffield, surgical instrument makers, brass workers in Yorkshire, and workers employed in bobbin and shuttle making and outside steelwork erection.

The principal increases in the textile group took place under cost-of-living sliding scales. In the cotton industry rates of wages

were advanced by approximately 4 per cent. on current rates in both the spinning and the manufacturing sections, while in the textile bleaching, dyeing, printing and finishing industries there were increases amounting to about 3½ per cent. for timeworkers and 3¼ per cent. for pieceworkers on current rates in Yorkshire, and to 2s. 3d. a week for men on time rates, 2s. 2d. a week for men on piece rates and 1s. 4d. a week for women in Lancashire and Scotland. Other workers whose wages were increased included those engaged in the woollen and worsted industry in the South of Scotland and the Leicester district, flax and hemp workers in Great Britain, textile makers-up and packers at Manchester, and workpeople employed in the linen and cotton handkerchief and household goods and linen piece goods trade in Northern Ireland.

In other industry groups, seamen received a special payment of £2 a month or 1s. 4d. a day, and the rates of wages of furniture trade operatives in various districts were increased to the extent of ½d. an hour in the case of men on timework as the result of the operation of a cost-of-living sliding scale. Other increases affected shoe and slipper operatives in the Rossendale Valley district, felt hat makers in various districts, vehicle builders, brewery workers at Burton-on-Trent, coal tipplers and teamers, and workpeople employed by certain waterworks undertakings. The minimum rates of wages fixed under the Trade Boards Acts for the baking, tobacco, toy, hair, bass and fibre, and perambulator and invalid carriage trades were also increased.

Of the estimated total increase of £470,300 a week, about £3,150 was due to the operation of sliding scales based on fluctuations in the proceeds of the coal mining industry; £69,500 was due to arrangements made by joint standing bodies (including £4,900 under cost-of-living sliding scales arranged by such bodies); £143,000 was due to the operation of other sliding scales based on the cost of living; £222,350 was due to arbitration awards; and the remaining £32,300 was the result of direct negotiation between employers and workpeople or their representatives.

Hours of Labour.

No important changes were reported during January.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING JANUARY.

Industry.	District.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change.
Coal Mining	Various districts in Great Britain.†	1 Jan.	Workpeople employed in and about coal mines.	Flat-rate war advance increased‡ by 6d. a shift for men and by 3d. a shift for youths and boys.
	South Yorkshire ..	1 Jan.	Workpeople employed in and about coal mines.	Increase of 2 per cent. on basis rates, making wages 38 per cent. above the basis rates, and flat-rate advance increased‡ by 6d. a shift (2s. 10d. to 3s. 4d.) for men and by 3d. a shift (1s. 5d. to 1s. 8d.) for youths and boys.§
	West Yorkshire ..			Increase of 2 per cent. on basis rates, making wages 38 per cent. above the basis rates for underground workers, 35·34 per cent. for surface workers in the Eastern sub-division and 33 per cent. for surface workers in the Western sub-division; and flat-rate advance increased‡ by a further war addition of 6d. a shift (2s. 10d. to 3s. 4d.) for men and by 3d. a shift (1s. 5d. to 1s. 8d.) for youths and boys.§
	Derbyshire (except South Derbyshire) ..			Decrease of 0·73 per cent. on basis rates, leaving wages 6·77 per cent. above the basis rates, but flat-rate advance increased‡ by 6d. a shift (2s. 7d. to 3s. 1d.) for men and by 3d. a shift (1s. 3d. to 1s. 6d.) for youths and boys, resulting in a net increase in wages.
	South Derbyshire ..			Decrease of 6·03 per cent. on basis rates, leaving wages 45·90 per cent. above the basis rates, but flat-rate advance increased‡ for underground workers by 6d. a shift (2s. 10d. to 3s. 4d.) for men and by 3d. a shift (1s. 5d. to 1s. 8d.) for youths and boys, and for surface workers by 6d. a shift (2s. 4d. to 2s. 10d.) for men and by 3d. a shift (1s. 2d. to 1s. 5d.) for youths and boys, resulting in net increases in wages.
	Nottinghamshire ..	1 Jan.	Workpeople employed in and about coal mines other than engine winders, deputies and firemen, examiners and shotlighters.	Increase of 4 per cent. on basis rates, making wages 104 per cent. above the basis rates, the flat-rate advance, previously paid, of 1s. 8d. a shift for men and 10d. a shift for youths and boys remaining unchanged.
	Leicestershire ..			Decrease of 2·76 per cent. on basis rates, leaving wages 75·03 per cent. above the basis rates, but flat-rate advance increased‡ by 6d. a day (2s. 10d. to 3s. 4d.) for men and by 3d. a day (1s. 5d. to 1s. 8d.) for youths and boys, resulting in a net increase in wages.
	Cannock Chase ..			Decrease of 2·20 per cent. on basis rates, leaving wages 60·95 per cent. above the basis rates for shopmen, mechanics and surface workers not handling coal and 58·95 per cent. for all other workers, but flat-rate advance increased‡ by 6d. a day (2s. 10d. to 3s. 4d.) for men and by 3d. a day (1s. 5d. to 1s. 8d.) for youths and boys, resulting in a net increase in wages.§
	Warwickshire ..		Engine winders, deputies and firemen, examiners and shotlighters employed in coal mines.	Flat-rate war advance increased‡ by 6d. a shift for men and by 3d. a shift for youths and boys.
		1 Jan.	Workpeople employed in and about coal mines.	Decrease of 3 per cent. on basis rates, leaving wages 89 per cent. above the basis rates at the majority of collieries and 84 per cent. at others, but flat-rate advance increased‡ by 6d. a day (2s. 10d. to 3s. 4d.) for men and by 3d. a day (1s. 5d. to 1s. 8d.) for youths and boys, resulting in a net increase in wages.

* The particulars of numbers affected and amount of change in the weekly wages and hours of labour 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 wages and hours of these classes are shown in the list of principal changes recorded. The estimates of the effects of the changes on weekly wages are based on normal conditions of employment and do not take into account the effect of overtime working, etc.

† Northumberland, Durham, Cumberland, Lancashire and Cheshire, North Staffordshire, South Staffordshire and East Worcestershire, Shropshire, Forest of Dean, Bristol, Radstock and Newbury districts of Somerset, Kent, South Wales and Monmouthshire, North Wales and Scotland.

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

§ Adult day-wage workers whose basis wages plus the percentage addition amount to less than 8s. 9d. a shift (plus 3s. 4d. a shift) are paid, as previously, a subsistence allowance sufficient to bring their wages up to that amount, subject to a maximum allowance of 6d. a shift.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING JANUARY—continued.

Industry.	District.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change.
Coke, etc., Manufacture.	Cumberland	1 Jan.	Cokemen and by-product workers	Flat-rate war advance increased* by 6d. a shift for men and by 3d. a shift for youths and boys.
	South Yorkshire ..			Increase of 2 per cent. on basis rates, making wages 38 per cent. above the basis rates, and flat-rate advance increased* by 6d. a shift (2s. 10d. to 3s. 4d.) for men and by 3d. a shift (1s. 5d. to 1s. 8d.) for youths and boys.†
	West Yorkshire ..			Flat-rate war advance increased* by 6d. a shift for men and by 3d. a shift for youths and boys.
	Cleveland	6 Jan.	Ironstone miners	Flat-rate addition to wages (previously granted) increased* by 2·4d. a shift (1s. to 1s. 2·4d.) for men and by 1·2d. a shift (6d. to 7·2d.) for youths and boys.‡
	Cumberland	21 Jan.	Dayworkers employed in and about iron ore mines.	Special payment granted of 6d. a day to all day workers, except men on light work and compensation cases.§
	Leicestershire and adjoining parts of Lincolnshire.	1st pay day in Jan.	Ironstone and limestone quarrymen	Flat-rate addition to wages (previously granted) increased* by 2·4d. a shift (1s. to 1s. 2·4d.) for men and by 1·2d. a shift (6d. to 7·2d.) for youths and boys.
	North Lincolnshire ..	5 Jan.	Ironstone miners and quarrymen ..	
	Northamptonshire (excluding Corby).	5 Jan.	Ironstone miners and quarrymen ..	
	Banbury and district	5 Jan.	Ironstone miners and quarrymen ..	
	Corby	5 Jan.	Certain ironstone miners and quarrymen.	
Other Mining and Quarrying.	Northamptonshire (excluding Corby).	5 Jan.	Limestone quarrymen	Flat-rate addition to wages (previously granted) increased* by 2½d. a shift (1s. 6d. to 1s. 8½d.) for those 18 years and over and by 1d. a shift (9d. to 10d.) for those under 18 years of age.
	South and West Durham.	6 Jan.	Limestone quarrymen	
	West Cumberland ..	6 Jan.	Limestone quarrymen	
	Portland	1 Jan.	Limestone quarryworkers:— Quarrymen	Increase* of ½d. in the shilling on earnings. Minimum daily rates after change: dayworkers, 13s. 2d.; pieceworkers, 13s. 6d.
			Craftsmen, lorry drivers, labourers, etc.	Increase of 7d. a day for riggers, of 6d. a day for fitters, lorry drivers and other craftsmen, and of 5d. a day for labourers. Rate after change for labourers, 10s. 6d. a day.
	Northumberland, Durham, Cumberland, Westmorland, and North Yorkshire.	1st pay week in Jan.	Roadstone quarryworkers	Increase of ½d. an hour for datal workers, and of 3 per cent. for pieceworkers. Minimum hourly rates after change: shotfirers, 1s. 5½d.; quarrymen and drillers, 1s. 6d.; labourers (unskilled), 1s. 4d.; piecework rates 15 per cent. above the standard.
	East of Scotland (Fifeshire, Perthshire, Kinross and Clackmarnanshire).	1st pay week in Jan.	Whinstone quarryworkers	Increase of ½d. an hour. Rates after change: labourers, 1s. 3½d. luggers, 1s. 5½d.
	West and South of Scotland.	Beginning of pay week following 8 Jan.	Whinstone quarryworkers:— Timeworkers	Total war wage increased to 2½d. an hour above pre-war rates. Rates after change: skilled workers, 1s. 8½d.; luggers, 1s. 6½d.; labourers, 1s. 4½d.
			Pieceworkers	Percentage addition on piecework rates operating prior to November, 1939, increased to 13½.
	Northern Ireland (Belfast to Lisburn).	1st pay week in Jan.	Quarryworkers	Increase of 1d. an hour for lorry drivers, and of 1½d. an hour for all other workers. Rates after change include: lorry drivers—heavy, 59s. 8d.; light, 49s. 8d.; quarrymen, 53s. 5d.; sledgers, 51s. 4d.; labourers, 49s. 3d.
Glassworking	England and Scotland¶	1st pay day in Jan.	Flint glass makers	Increase* of 1½d. a turn.
	Birmingham and district.	1 Jan.	Glass bevellers engaged on piecework	Increase of 5 per cent. on existing rates.
	Glasgow, Edinburgh and Aberdeen.	1 Jan.	Glass bevellers, silverers, cutters and blockers.	Increase of ½d. an hour (1s. 10d. to 1s. 10½d.) for bevellers, silverers and cutters and of 1d. an hour (1s. 7d. to 1s. 8d.) for blockers.
Chemical, etc., Manufacture.	England and Wales (certain firms)**	Beginning of first full pay week after 11 Dec.	Workpeople employed in the manufacture of heavy chemicals (except those whose wages are regulated by movements in other industries).	Increase of 1d. an hour for adult males, of ½d. for youths, boys and females and of proportional amounts for pieceworkers; shiftworkers (other than those employed on two-shift systems) to receive an additional ½d. an hour, increasing the shift differential from 1½d. to 2d. an hour. Minimum rates after change for men: shiftworkers—(on 3-shift system) 1s. 7d.; (on two 8-hour shift system) 1s. 6d.; labourers, 1s. 5d.; women, 9½d.
Match Manufacture.	Great Britain ..	9 Jan.	Male timeworkers under 20 years of age. Female timeworkers	Increase of ½d. an hour. Rate after change: 6½d. at 14 and under 15 increasing to 1s. 2d. at 19 to 20 years.†† Increase of ½d. an hour for those 16 years and over and of ¼d. an hour for those under 16. Rates after change: 5½d. at 14 to 15 years increasing to 9½d. at 18 years and over.‡‡
Iron and Steel Manufacture.	Cleveland and Durham, West Cumberland and North Lincs., North Staffs., South Staffs., Bilston, Northants., Corby and South Wales and Monmouthshire.	5 Jan.	Workpeople employed at blast-furnaces (except those whose wages are regulated by movements in other industries).	Flat-rate addition to wages (previously granted) increased* by 2·4d. a shift (1s. to 1s. 2·4d.) for men and by 1·2d. a shift (6d. to 7·2d.) for youths and boys.
	Nottinghamshire and Leicestershire.	1st pay day in Jan.	Workpeople (excluding those engaged on maintenance work) employed at blastfurnaces.	Flat-rate addition to wages (previously granted) increased* by 2·4d. a shift (1s. to 1s. 2·4d.) for men and by 1·2d. a shift (6d. to 7·2d.) for youths and boys.
	Great Britain‡‡	6 Jan.	Workpeople employed at steel sheet rolling mills.	Flat-rate addition to wages (previously granted) increased* by 2·4d. a shift (11·2d. to 1s. 1·6d.) for men and by 1·2d. a shift (5·6d. to 6·8d.) for youths and boys.

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

† Adult day-wage workers whose basis wages plus the percentage addition amount to less than 8s. 9d. a shift (plus 3s. 4d. a shift) are paid, as previously, a subsistence allowance sufficient to bring their wages up to that amount, subject to a maximum allowance of 6d. a shift.

‡ A flat-rate addition of 4d. a shift for men and 2d. a shift for youths and boys granted in February, 1936, is also paid.

§ This increase is the result of an Award by an independent arbitrator appointed under the Conciliation Act, 1896.

¶ This increase affected mainly the employees of firms affiliated to the No. 4 Area Joint Industrial Council for the Roadstone Quarrying Industry.

** Including Birmingham, Dudley, Stourbridge, Tutbury, Edinburgh, Glasgow, London, Manchester and Sheffield.

*** These increases were agreed upon by the Chemical Trade Joint Industrial Council and did not apply to workpeople employed by constituent firms of Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd., or by firms affiliated to the London Chemical Manufacturers' Convention.

†† These increases affected mainly the employees of firms affiliated to the Joint Industrial Council for the Match Manufacturing Industry.

‡‡ This increase affected mainly the employees of firms who are members of the Sheet Trade Board, the principal districts affected being Staffordshire, Cheshire, Tees-side, South Wales and Monmouthshire and the Glasgow district.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING JANUARY—*continued*.

Industry.	District.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change.
Iron and Steel Manufacture — <i>contd.</i>	North-East Coast Area	5 Jan.	Workpeople employed at iron puddling furnaces and rolling mills.	Flat-rate addition to wages (previously granted) increased* by 2·4d. a shift (1s. to 1s. 2·4d.) for men and by 1·2d. a shift (6d. to 7·2d.) for youths and boys.
	West of Scotland	27 Jan.	Workpeople employed at iron puddling forges and mills and sheet mills.	Flat-rate addition to wages (previously granted) increased* by 0·8d. a shift (1s. 2·4d. to 1s. 3·2d.) for men and by 0·4d. a shift (7·2d. to 7·6d.) for youths and boys.
	Great Britain†	5 Jan.	Workpeople employed at steel melting shops (melters, pitmen, slagmen, ladlemen, furnace helpers, gas producers, semi-skilled workers and labourers, etc.).	Flat-rate addition to wages (previously granted) increased* by 2·4d. a shift (1s. to 1s. 2·4d.) for men and by 1·2d. a shift (6d. to 7·2d.) for youths and boys.
	North-East Coast Area (except certain men employed at Gateshead).		Men employed at steel rolling mills	
	Midlands and part of South Yorkshire and South Lancashire.	26 Jan.	Workpeople (excluding those engaged on maintenance work) employed at iron puddling furnaces and iron and steel rolling mills and forges.	Flat-rate addition to wages (previously granted) increased* by 2·4d. a shift (1s. 2·4d. to 1s. 4·8d.) for men and by 1·2d. a shift (7·2d. to 8·4d.) for youths and boys.
	Barrow-in-Furness	5 Jan.	Rail millmen, merchant millmen, enginemen, crane-men, etc.	Flat-rate addition to wages (previously granted) increased* by 2·4d. a shift (1s. to 1s. 2·4d.) for men and by 1·2d. a shift (6d. to 7·2d.) for youths and boys.
	Workington		Steel millmen and labourers (datal workers).	
	Scunthorpe		Steel millmen, wagon builders and repairers.	
	Bilston		Steel millmen, maintenance men, etc.	
	West of Scotland		Millmen, gas producers, engine-men, crane-men, firemen and mill labourers, semi-skilled workers and general labourers employed at steel rolling mills.	
	South Wales and Monmouthshire (certain firms).§	5 Jan.	Workpeople (excluding those engaged on maintenance work) employed in melting shops and iron and steel rolling mills.	Cost-of-living bonus increased* by 2s. 6d. a week (11s. to 13s. 6d.) for adults and by 1s. 3d. a week (5s. 6d. to 6s. 9d.) for youths and boys. Minimum rate after change for labourers, 63s. 6d. a week (50s. plus 13s. 6d. cost-of-living bonus).
	South-West Wales	5 Jan.	Workpeople (excluding those engaged on maintenance work) employed in Siemens steel manufacture.	Flat-rate addition to wages (previously granted) increased* by 2·4d. a shift (11·2d. to 1s. 1·6d.) for men and by 1·2d. a shift (5·6d. to 6·8d.) for youths and boys.
	Sheffield	Beginning of 1st full pay period following 20 Jan.	Adult workers employed in open hearth and electric melting departments, rolling mills, forges and press shops, with ancillary men and service men.	Consolidated shift war bonus of 5s. a shift increased to 5s. 8d. a shift.
			Adult workers employed in crucible steel melting departments.	Consolidated shift war bonus increased by 8d. a shift, making bonus 4s. 6d. a shift for productive workers and 5s. 8d. a shift for datal workers, the percentage bonus of 17·5 on the datal and tonnage earnings of productive workers remaining unchanged.
			Boys and youths employed on shifts in the steel trade.	Consolidated shift war bonus increased by 1s. a week for those under 18 years, and by 2s. a week for those 18 years and over.
			Daymen 21 years of age and over on a 47-hour week (and under engineering conditions) employed in steel melting departments (Siemens, electric and crucible furnaces), heavy rolling mills, wire rolling mills, forge and tilting shops.	War bonus increased by 3s. 6d. a week.
			Building trade operatives employed in steel works.	Increase of 3s. 6d. a week. Rates after change: bricklayers, carpenters, joiners, painters, plumbers, 85s. 6d.; labourers, 66s. 6d.; navvies, 63s. 6d.†
Engineering, Shipbuilding and Ship-repairing.	Great Britain and Northern Ireland (except South Wales).	Beginning of 1st full pay period following 20 Jan.	Workpeople employed in the engineering and allied industries (except those whose wages are regulated by wage movements in other industries, e.g., building, electrical contracting, etc.):— Adult male workers	War bonus increased by 3s. 6d. a week.¶
			Apprentices, youths and boys..	Increases of 7d. a week for those 14 and 15 years of age, 10½d. a week for those 16, 1s. 2d. a week for those 17, 1s. 5½d. a week for those 18, and 1s. 9d. a week for those 19 and 20.
	All federated ship-building and ship-repairing centres in Great Britain and Northern Ireland.	Beginning of 1st full pay period following 20 Jan.	Workpeople employed in the ship-building and ship-repairing industry except those whose wages are regulated by movements in other industries:— Adult male workers	War bonus increased by 3s. 6d. a week for both timeworkers and pieceworkers.¶ National uniform rates after change (inclusive of bonus) for principal classes of timeworkers engaged on new work: skilled men, 78s. 6d. a week; unskilled men, 59s. 6d. The rates in West of England districts and in Aberdeen are 1s. a week less.
			Apprentices, youths and boys..	War bonus increased by 1s. 9d. a week for apprentices on both time-work and piecework in the last 3 years of apprenticeship, and by 10½d. a week in the previous years, by 1s. 9d. a week for youths 18 to 21 years, and by 10½d. a week for boys under 18 years.
	Great Britain and Northern Ireland.	Beginning of 1st full pay period following 20 Jan.	Fitters, turners, etc., employed in federated shipyards.	War bonus increased by 3s. 6d. a week for men and by 7d. to 1s. 9d. a week for apprentices, youths and boys.

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

† This increase affected mainly the employees of firms affiliated to the Iron and Steel Trades Employers' Association, the principal districts affected being the North-East Coast, Cumberland, Lancashire, South Yorkshire, Lincolnshire, the Midlands, South Wales, and the West of Scotland.

‡ Men working on chimney and stack work over 40 feet high are to be paid 4s. a week extra, and over 90 feet high, 8s. a week extra. Navvies called upon to do timbering in trenches, pits, etc., are to be paid an "all-in" rate of 63s. a week for the time so employed.

§ This increase affected the employees of firms who are members of the South Wales and Monmouthshire Iron and Steel Manufacturers' Association.

|| Workpeople in the allied industries include those employed by federated firms in railway carriage and wagon building, pressed steel motor-body work, constructional engineering, sheet metal working, gas meter making, scale, beam and weighing machine making in various districts in Great Britain; in the drop forging and stamping, cycle, small arms, small tools, steel casement and sash window, ammunition, axle and spring, cast-iron hollow-ware, furnace, grate and stove, malleable ironfounding, nail, tank, spring, tube and wire rope, etc., trades in the Birmingham and Wolverhampton districts, and in spindle and flyer making in Yorkshire, Lancashire, Cheshire and at Belfast.

¶ These increases were the results of Awards of the National Arbitration Tribunal (see page 46).

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING JANUARY—*continued.*

Industry.	District.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change.
Engineering, Shipbuilding and Ship-repairing— <i>contd.</i>	Portsmouth*	Beginning of 1st full pay period following 20 Jan.	Mechanics and labourers employed in the shipbuilding, engineering, etc., industries.	Increase of 3s. 6d. a week for men and of 7d. to 1s. 9d. a week for apprentices, youths and boys. Rates after change for adults: mechanics, 78s. 6d. a week; labourers, 58s. 6d.
	Hull†	ditto	Shipwrights, electricians, etc., employed on repairs to fishing vessels.	Increase of 3s. 6d. a week.
Railway Workshops.	Great Central section of the L. and N. E. Railway.	Beginning of 1st full pay period following 20 Jan.	Railway shopmen whose wages are regulated by wage movements in the engineering industry.	War bonus increased by 3s. 6d. a week for men with proportional increases for apprentices, youths and boys.
Constructional Engineering.	Great Britain	Beginning of 1st full pay period following 20 Jan.	Workpeople employed on outside steelwork erection.	Increase of $\frac{1}{4}$ d. an hour. Hourly rates after change include: London Area (within a radius of 16 miles from Charing Cross)—erectors, 1s. 10d.; erectors' helpers, 1s. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; riveters, 1s. 11d.; riveters' holders-up, 1s. 10d.; sheeters, 2s. 0d.; sheeters' holders-up, 1s. 10d.; rivet heaters§ (adults), 1s. 8d. Outside London Area—erectors, 1s. 9d.; erectors' helpers, 1s. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; riveters, 1s. 10d.; riveters' holders-up, 1s. 9d.; sheeters, 1s. 10d.; sheeters' holders-up, 1s. 9d.; rivet heaters§ (adults), 1s. 7d.
	Tees-side (certain non-federated firms).	Beginning of 1st full pay period following 20 Jan.	Male workers employed in engineering, boilermaking, bridge-building, etc., shops.	War bonus increased by 3s. 6d. a week for men and by 1s. 2d. to 2s. 4d. a week for apprentices, youths and boys.
Galvanising	England and Wales	6 Jan.	Workpeople employed in galvanising processes (excluding the process of annealing).	Flat-rate addition to wages (previously granted) increased¶ by 2·4d. a shift (11·2d. to 1s. 1·6d.) for men and by 1·2d. a shift (5·6d. to 6·8d.) for youths and boys.
Tinplate Manufacture.	South Wales and Monmouthshire and Gloucestershire.	5 Jan.	Workpeople (excluding those engaged on maintenance work) employed in tinplate manufacture.	Cost-of-living war bonus increased¶ by 2·4d. a shift (1s. 0·8d. to 1s. 3·2d.) for men and by 1·2d. a shift (6·4d. to 7·6d.) for women and juveniles.
Shuttle-making	Lancashire and Yorkshire.	1st pay day in Jan.	Shuttle-makers	Increase¶ of 8 per cent. on basis rates. Minimum day work rate after change for journeymen, 1s. an hour plus 83 per cent. (1s. 9·96d. an hour).
			Shuttle-makers' apprentices	Increase¶ of 8 per cent. on basis rates making wages 83 per cent. above the basis piece rates and 65·5 per cent. above the basis time rates.
Bobbin Making.	England and Wales..	1st pay day in Jan.	Men employed in the bobbin-making industry.	Increase¶ of 2s. a week. Rates after change: higher-skilled, 70s. 6d. a week; lesser-skilled, 62s.; labourers, 52s.
Wire Manufacture.	Glasgow	1 Jan.	Wire workers	Increase¶ of 2s. (12s. to 14s.) in cost-of-living bonus, for a 47-hour week for both timeworkers and pieceworkers.
Surgical Instrument Manufacture.	England and Wales (except Sheffield).	6 Jan.	Workpeople employed in surgical instrument manufacture (excluding surgical appliance and orthopaedic instrument makers).	War bonus increased by 4s. a week of 47 hours for men and youths and by 2s. for boys.
Pen and Stationers' Metal Sundries Manufacture.	Birmingham and district.	Pay day following 1st Monday in Jan.	Male timeworkers 21 years and over	Increase of 1s. 4d. a week for skilled men and charge hands and of 1s. a week for others. Rates after change: tool makers over 25 years, 76s. 6d. to 86s.; tool makers 21 to 25 years, 66s. 6d.; charge hands, 70s. 6d. to 78s. 6d.; others, 55s.
			Male timeworkers under 21 years	Increases of 3d. to 9d. a week according to age.
			Apprentices	Increases of 2d. to 6d. a week according to age.
			Female dayworkers and learners	Increases of 2d. to 5d. a week according to age. Rate after change for dayworkers 18 years and over, 30s. 8d. a week.
			Female pieceworkers	Increase of 5d. a week in basis piecework rate.
Musical Instrument Making.	London and St. Albans	1st pay day in Jan.	Military and orchestral musical instrument makers.	Increase¶ of $\frac{1}{4}$ d. an hour. Rates after change for skilled men: Section 1—brass construction: Class A, 1s. 10d.; Section 2: woodwind workers: Class A, 1s. 10d.; Section 3: polishers and finishers—Class A, 1s. 8d.
Needle, Fish Hook and Fishing Tackle.	Redditch and district.	1 Jan.	Male workers employed in the needle, fish-hook and fishing tackle industry.	Increase¶ of 2s. a week for those 21 years and over, and of 1s. a week for those 18 and under 21 years. Bonuses payable after change for adult dayworkers and pieceworkers respectively: Grade A, 13s. and 11s.; Grade B, 13s. 6d. and 11s. 6d.; Grade C, 15s. 6d. and 13s. 6d. The bonus for those 18 and under 21 years is 3s. a week.
Brass Manufacture.	Rotherham, Sheffield, Doncaster, Halifax, and Dewsbury districts.	Beginning of 1st full pay period following 20 Jan.	Male workers	War bonus increased by 3s. 6d. a week for those 21 years of age and over and by 7d. to 1s. 9d. a week for those 14 to 20 years.
Rivet, Nut and Bolt Manufacture.	Atherton and district	Beginning of 1st full pay period following 20 Jan.	Male workers employed in the nut and bolt making trade.	War bonus increased by 3s. 6d. a week for men and by 7d. to 1s. 9d. a week for apprentices, youths and boys.
	Scotland	Beginning of 1st full pay period following 20 Jan.	Workpeople employed in the machine rivet, nut and bolt trade.	War bonus increased by 3s. 6d. a week for men, by 1s. 9d. a week for youths and for females 18 years and over, by 1s. 2d. a week for boys and girls 16 and under 18 years, and by 7d. a week for boys and girls under 16 years.
Spring Manufacture.	Accrington, Bury and Rochdale.	Beginning of 1st full pay period following 20 Jan.	Spring makers and grinders	Increases of 3s. 6d. a week (73s. to 76s. 6d.) for men and of 7d. to 1s. 9d. a week for apprentices, youths and boys.
	Sheffield	Beginning of 1st full pay period following 20 Jan.	Smiths and strikers employed on daywork in laminated spring manufacture. Laminated spring fitters and vice-men, smiths and strikers.	Increase of 3s. 6d. a week. Rates after change: smiths, 79s. 6d. a week; strikers, 65s. 6d.
Tube Manufacture	Sheffield and Chesterfield.	ditto	Workpeople employed in tube manufacture.	War bonus increased by 3s. 6d. a week. Rate after change: piece price list of September, 1922, plus 22 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. plus 8s. 6d. a week.
Screw Manufacture.	Birmingham and district.	Beginning of 1st full pay period following 20 Jan.	Male workers employed in the screw-making trade.	War bonus increased by 3s. 6d. a week for men and by 7d. to 1s. 9d. a week for apprentices, youths and boys. Rates after change for men: fitters—daywork, 77s., piecework, 86s. 6d.; labourers—daywork, 61s., piecework, 66s. 6d.

* This increase affected workpeople employed by members of the Portsmouth and District Engineering and Shipbuilding Employers' Association.

† This increase affected workpeople employed by members of the Hull Fishing Vessel Owners' Association.

‡ It was agreed that the increase conceded in the Engineering Industry should be applied by increasing the hourly rate of the workers by $\frac{1}{4}$ d. an hour and crediting the additional 6d. a week to the holiday credits of the workers.

§ Rivet heaters (adults), if employed to assist in rigging of scaffolding or work usually carried out by an erector, receive the erectors' rate while so employed.

|| This increase affected mainly the employees of firms who are members of the Galvanising Conciliation Board.

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

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING JANUARY—*continued.*

Industry.	District.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change.
Cotton Industry	Lancashire, Cheshire, Yorkshire and Derbyshire.	1st pay day in Jan.	Workpeople employed in the cotton spinning industry.	Increase* of 9 per cent. (123 to 132) on standard piece price lists, equivalent to an increase of 4.035 per cent. on current wages, and an increase of 4.035 per cent. on current wages in the case of workers for whom there are no standard price lists.
			Workpeople employed in the cotton weaving industry.	Increase* of 5 per cent. (25 to 30) on the rates operative in September, 1939.
Woollen and Worsted Industry.	Leicester	1st pay day in Jan.	Workpeople employed in the lambs-wool and worsted yarn spinning industry (excluding engineers, etc.).	Cost-of-living bonus increased* from 3d. to 4d. in the shilling. Minimum rates after change: men, 23 and over, 47s. 6d.; women 21 and over, 28s., plus in each case, 4d. in the shilling.
	South of Scotland†..	1st full pay period in Jan.	Workpeople employed in the woollen and worsted industry.	Cost-of-living percentage addition to weekly base rates increased from 84 to 90.5 for timeworkers and pieceworkers (in the case of weavers, drawers, tuners and tuners' assistants paid according to uniform piece price lists, the prices are subject to a fixed percentage of 2.6 as well as the cost-of-living percentage addition, making the total percentage 95.5).
Flax and Hemp	Great Britain ..	20 Jan.	Male workers	Increases of 3s. 3d. to 4s. 9d. a week in the general minimum time rates for men with smaller amounts for youths and boys, of 4s. 5d. a week in the piecework basic time rates for hosepipe weavers, and of 4½d. to 6½d. a piece in the general minimum piece rates for canvas weavers.‡
			Female workers	Increase of 2s. 2d. or 2s. 5d. a week in the general minimum time rates for those 18 years and over, of 10d. to 2s. 5d. for those under 18 and of 2s. 6d. in the piecework basis time rates.‡
Rope, Twine and Net Manufacture.	Northern Ireland ..	10 Jan.	Workpeople employed in the rope, twine and net trade.	Increases of ½d. to 1½d. an hour in the general minimum time rates for males, of ½d. to 1d. for females and of 1d. an hour for men and ½d. or ¾d. for women in the piecework basis time rates.‡
Elastic Web Manufacture.	Leicester	20 Jan.	Elastic web weavers and braid hands (male workers).	Bonus on earnings increased* from 19s. to 20s. in the £.
	Yorkshire (majority of firms) and certain firms in Lancashire.§	1st pay day in Feb.	Workpeople employed in the dyeing and finishing trades.	Cost-of-living wage increased* from 89 to 96 per cent. on basic rates for timeworkers, from 71½ to 76½ for pieceworkers (except pressers) and from 53½ to 57½ for hand pressers. Minimum weekly rates after change for timeworkers.¶: adult male process workers, 32s. plus 96 per cent. plus 2s. 6d. special payment; women, 18 years and over, 20s. plus 96 per cent., plus 1s. 6d. special payment.
	Lancashire, Cheshire and Derbyshire (majority of firms) and certain firms in Yorkshire; also Scotland.**	1st pay day in Feb.	Workpeople employed in the bleaching, dyeing, calico printing and finishing trades (except waste bleachers, machine calico printers, engravers, mechanics, firemen, etc.)	Cost-of-living wage increased* from 28s. 6d. to 30s. 9d. a week for male timeworkers 21 years and over; from 27s. 7d. to 29s. 9d. for male pieceworkers 21 years and over; from 16s. 11d. to 18s. 3d. for women 18 years and over in Lancashire, Cheshire and Derbyshire, and 21 years and over in Scotland; and by proportional amounts for juveniles. Minimum weekly rates after change for timeworkers¶: Lancashire, etc.—men 21 years and over, 30s. plus 30s. 9d. plus 2s. 6d. special payment; women 18 years and over, 20s. plus 18s. 3d. plus 1s. 6d. special payment. Scotland—men 21 years and over, 27s. plus 30s. 9d. plus 2s. 6d. special payment; women 21 years and over, 17s. plus 18s. 3d. plus 1s. 6d. special payment.
Textile Bleaching, Dyeing, Finishing, etc.	Lancashire, Cheshire and Derbyshire (majority of firms) and certain firms in Yorkshire.	1st pay day in Feb.	Firemen, engine tenters, oilers and greasers and assistant firemen employed in bleaching, dyeing, etc., works.	Increase* of 2s. 5d. a week. Minimum rate after change for firemen, 68s. 7d. plus 2s. 6d. special payment.
	Middleton	1st pay day in Feb.	Workpeople employed in the bleaching, dyeing, printing and finishing trades.	Cost-of-living wage increased * from 89 to 96 per cent. for male dyers; from 28s. 6d. to 30s. 9d. a week for male polishers; from 16s. 11d. to 18s. 3d. for female polishers; and by proportional amounts for juveniles. Minimum weekly rates after change for timeworkers¶: men—dyers, 32s. plus 96 per cent.; polishers, 30s. plus 30s. 9d. plus 2s. 6d. special payment in each case; women—polishers, 23s. 6d. plus 18s. 3d. plus 1s. 6d. special payment.
	Lancashire, Cheshire, Derbyshire and Scotland.	1st pay day in Feb.	Engravers, etc., employed in calico print works.	Cost-of-living wage increased* from 34s. 8d. to 36s. 10d. a week for engravers and from 28s. 6d. to 30s. 9d. for turners, polishers and varnishers.
			Engravers employed in engraving works.	Cost-of-living wage increased* from 34s. 8d. to 36s. 10d. a week for men 21 years and over and from 19s. 8d. to 20s. 9d. for women.
Fustian Cutting, Dyeing and Finishing.	Hebden Bridge ..	1st pay day in Feb.	Timeworkers	Cost-of-living wage increased* from 28s. 6d. to 30s. 9d. for men 21 years and over; from 16s. 11d. to 18s. 3d. for women 18 years and over; and by proportional amounts for juveniles. Minimum weekly rates after change¶: men 21 years and over, 34s. plus 30s. 9d.; women 18 years and over, 30s. plus 18s. 3d.
			Pieceworkers	Cost-of-living wage increased* from 80 to 86 per cent. for netherwood cutters; from 73 to 79 per cent. for hand cutters; from 62 to 67 per cent. for menders and from 69 to 74 per cent. for other pieceworkers.
Textile Making-up and Packing.	Manchester	1st pay day in Jan.	Workpeople employed in the making-up and packing industry.	War wage increased* by 3s. 4d. a week (13s. 4d. to 16s. 8d.) for men, by 2s. (8s. to 10s.) for women and by proportional amounts for juveniles.
Linen and Cotton Handkerchief and Household Goods and Linen Piece-Goods.	Northern Ireland ..	6 Jan.	Male workers	Increases of ½d. to ¾d. an hour in the general minimum time rates and piecework basis time rates.‡
			Female workers	Increases of ½d. to ¾d. an hour in the general minimum time rates and piecework basis time rates; also the 10 per cent., or 2s. in the £, previously paid on minimum piece rates increased to 15 per cent., or 3s. in the £.‡
Waterproof Garment Manufacture.	Manchester and Salford (certain firms).	1 Jan.	Workpeople employed in waterproof garment manufacture.	Increase* of 2½ per cent. on rates in operation at 3rd September, 1939, making bonus 27½ per cent., except for pieceworkers employed on hand-made Government Coat Capes for whom the bonus is 20 per cent.

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

† Principally Peebles, Galashiels, Earlston, Selkirk, Dumfries, Langholm, Hawick, Jedburgh, Innerleithen, Walkerburn and Newtown St. Boswells.

‡ These increases took effect under Orders issued under the Trade Boards Acts. Details of the minimum rates are contained in the Confirming Orders of the Minister of Labour, obtainable from H.M. Stationery Office.

§ This increase applied to workers employed by firms who are members of the Yorkshire Master Dyers' Committee, The Bradford Dyers' Association, Ltd., and the Employers' Federation of Cotton Yarn Bleachers, Dyers and Sizers (certain firms). Except in a few cases in the Bradford Area, the change did not apply in the dyeing and finishing departments of those woollen and worsted manufacturers who do their own dyeing and finishing.

|| In respect of the preceding pay period.

¶ Temporary payments, ranging up to 3s. a week for men, and up to 1s. for women are made, in addition, to certain timeworkers engaged in productive process work for which a system of collective piecework has not yet been introduced.

** This increase 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, the Employers' Federation of Cotton Yarn Bleachers, Dyers and Sizers (certain firms), and the Scottish Federation of Dyers and Bleachers (Piece Goods).

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING JANUARY—*continued.*

Industry.	District.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change.
Felt Hat Making.	Denton, Stockport, Hyde, Bury, Failsworth and Romiley districts, also Carlisle.	3 Jan.	Timeworkers	Bonus increased* from 55 to 60 per cent. Minimum rate after change : 10½d. an hour, plus 60 per cent.†
			Pieceworkers	Bonus increased* from 60 to 65 per cent.
Shoe and Slipper Manufacture.	Rossendale Valley (Bacup, Waterfoot, Rawtenstall), Burnley, Bury, Great Harwood, Radcliffe, Rochdale and St. Annes ..	3 or 8 Jan. according to make-up day.	Shoe and slipper operatives ..	Increase* of 3½ per cent. on basis wages of 1920, leaving wages 11½ per cent. below basis wages.
Baking	England and Wales..	20 Jan.	Bakers and confectioners (including jobbers) :— Male workers	Increase‡ of ½d. an hour in general minimum time rates for those 21 years and over including night workers, and of ¼d. an hour for those under 21 years. General minimum time rates after change for daywork include :—foremen, 68s. to 81s. ; tablehands, 52s. to 68s. according to Area.
			Female workers	Increase‡ of ½d. an hour in general minimum time rates for those 21 years and over, and of ¼d. an hour for those under 21 years. General minimum time rates after change for daywork include :—forewomen, 45s. to 54s. ; confectioners, 38s. to 45s. according to Area.
	Scotland	1 Jan.	Bakers and confectioners	Increases* of 6d., 9d. or 1s. according to weekly wages. General minimum time rates after change include :—men—foremen, 79s. 6d. to 95s., journeymen bakers, 67s. 6d. to 75s. ; women—forewomen, 42s. to 55s. 9d., confectioners, table workers, etc., 40s. to 47s. 9d. according to Area.§
	Aberdeen	6 Jan.	Bakers and confectioners	Increase* of 1s. a week (79s. to 80s.) for journeymen and of 6d. for other classes.
	Ayrshire	1st pay day in Jan.	Bakers and confectioners	Increase* of 1s. a week. Rates after change : journeymen—Ayr and Kilmarnock co-operative societies, 78s. a week of 45 hours ; other co-operative societies and private traders, 77s. a week of 47 hours.
	Edinburgh and Leith.	1st pay day in Jan.	Bakers and confectioners	Increase* of 1s. a week. Rates after change : 81s. to 86s. 6d. according to times of start.
	Greenock and district	1st pay day in Jan.	Bakers and confectioners	Increase* of 1s. a week. Rate after change for journeymen, 80s.
Brewing	Paisley and district..	15 Jan.	Bakers and confectioners	Increase* of 1s. a week. Rate after change (including war bonus), 78s. 6d.
	Burton-on-Trent ..	1st pay day in Jan.	Brewery workers	War bonus granted of 5s. a week to men, of 1s. 2d. to 4s. 5d. to youths, and of 1s. 2d. to 3s. 2d. to women. Rates after change (including war bonus) : men—labourers, 66s., loaders and stowers, 69s., shift-men, 70s., lorry drivers, 76s., steersmen, 71s., carters—one-horse, 66s., two-horse, 68s. ; youths—15s. 11d. at 14 years increasing each year to 57s. 5d. at 20 years ; female workers in bottling store—15s. 11d. at 14 years increasing each year to 41s. 8d. at 21 years.
Tobacco	Great Britain ..	1 Jan.	Workpeople employed in the tobacco trade.	Increase* of 1s. 1½d. a week in the minimum rate for men, of 9d. for women and juveniles, with corresponding increases for pieceworkers.§
Mill-sawing.	Certain towns in Scotland.¶	1 Jan.	Labourers employed in sawmills ..	Increase of 1d. an hour. Rates after change : Glasgow and district, 1s. 3½d. ; Dundee, Falkirk and Grangemouth, 1s. 4½d.
Packing Case Making.	London (within a 25 mile radius of Charing Cross).	1st pay day in Jan.	Men	Increase* of ½d. an hour. Rates after change : saw doctors, 1s. 11d. ; saw sharpeners (hand filing), 1s. 10½d. ; case makers, sawyers and other skilled men, 1s. 9½d. ; nailing machinists (6 and under), dovetailing machinists and lock-cornermen, 1s. 9½d. ; panel planers, tonguers and groovers, 1s. 8½d. ; hand holers, branders, printers and borers, 1s. 7½d. ; labourers, 1s. 6d.
			Women	Increase* of ½d. an hour (1s. 1½d. to 1s. 1½d.).
			All workers under 21 years (including apprentices and improvers).	Increase* of ½d. an hour for male apprentices and improvers 20½ to 21 years and of ¼d. an hour for other classes (except for boys and girls aged 17 and 17½ years, for whom there was no change).
Furniture Manufacture.	Nottingham	24 Jan.	Packing case makers	Increase* of ½d. an hour for men 23 years and over and of proportional amounts for youths and boys. Rate after change for sawyers, machinists, box and packing case makers 23 years and over, 1s. 7d. an hour.
	Various districts in Great Britain.¶	1 Jan.	Furniture trade operatives (excluding those whose wages are regulated by movements in other industries).	War bonus increased* by ½d. an hour for journeymen timeworkers, by ¼d. an hour for female timeworkers, by 2½ per cent. on current rates for juveniles, and by 2½ per cent. on basis rates of August, 1939, for pieceworkers.
	Hull	Commencement of week ending 3 Jan.	Furniture trade operatives	Increase of ½d. an hour (1s. 9d. to 1s. 9½d.) for journeymen.
Vehicle Building.	Great Britain and Northern Ireland.**	Beginning of the 1st full pay period after 20 Jan.	Men	War bonus of 1½d. an hour increased to 8s. 6d. a week of 47 hours.
			Youths, boys and apprentices ..	War bonus of ¾d. to ¾d. an hour, according to age, increased to 1s. 5d. to 4s. 3d. a week.
Perambulator and Invalid Carriage Manufacture.	Great Britain ..	1 Jan.	Male metal polishers	Increase* of ½d. an hour.§
			Other male and female workers 21 years and over.	Increase* of ¼d. or ½d. an hour for men and of ¼d. or 1d. an hour for women (except those employed on certain operations for whom there was no change).§
			Male porters and labourers 18 and under 21 years.	Increase* of ½d. or ¾d. an hour according to age.§
			Other male and female workers under 21 years of age.	Increase* of 1s. to 2s. 3d. a week for males according to age and of 1s. a week for females 20 and under 21 years. §

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

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

‡ These increases took effect under an Order issued under the Trade Boards Acts. Representatives of the employers and workers on the Trade Board have agreed that all employers be recommended to pay the full weekly increases for 48 hours to all workers, who, in the course of the week, have worked not less than 36 hours. Full details of the minimum rates are contained in the Confirming Order of the Minister of Labour and National Service, obtainable from H.M. Stationery Office.

§ These increases took effect under Orders issued under the Trade Boards Acts. Details of the minimum rates are contained in the Confirming Orders of the Minister of Labour and National Service, obtainable from H.M. Stationery Office.

¶ Including Glasgow, Dundee, Falkirk and Grangemouth.

¶ This increase took effect under a recommendation of the Joint Industrial Council for the British Furniture Manufacturing Trades. The districts in which the recommendation is known to have been adopted include : London (15 mile radius of Charing Cross), Northumberland, Durham, Yorkshire (excluding Hull and Sheffield), North-East Lancashire, Liverpool, Nottingham and district, Birmingham and district, Bristol and certain towns in the West of England, South Wales and Scotland.

** This increase took effect under an agreement between the United Kingdom Joint Wages Board of Employers for the Vehicle Building Industry, the Scottish National Vehicle Builders' Association and the National Union of Vehicle Builders and the Amalgamated Society of Woodcutting Machinists.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING JANUARY—*continued.*

Industry.	District.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change.
Printing and Bookbinding.	Northern Ireland ..	1st full pay following 7 Jan.	Cutters, head stock-keepers, relief stampers, embossers, packers, assistant stock-keepers, warehousemen, male feeders, general assistants, male feeders of cylinder machines, copy holders and women.	Increase of 3s. 6d. a week for men, of 2s. for women and of 1s. 6d. for juveniles.*
Waterworks Undertakings.	Certain Undertakings in Lancashire and Cheshire.†	1st full pay week in Jan.	Manual workers except those whose wages are regulated by movements in other industries.	Increase‡ of ½d. an hour. Minimum rates after change include: labourers, 1s. 5½d.; pipe jointers, 1s. 7½d.; stokers, 1s. 7½d.
	Certain Undertakings in Yorkshire.†	1st full pay in Jan.		Increase‡ of ½d. an hour. Scheduled minimum rates after change for labourers: Grade A undertakings, 1s. 5d.; Grade B, 1s. 4½d.; Grade C, 1s. 3½d.
	Certain Undertakings in the South Midlands Area.†	1st complete pay week in Jan.		Increase‡ of 2s. a week for Grade D Areas, of 1s. 10d. for Grade C, of 1s. 8d. for Grade B, and of 1s. 6d. for Grade A. Minimum weekly rates after change for labourers: Grade D Areas, 61s. 6d.; Grade C, 59s.; Grade B, 56s. 6d.; Grade A, 49s. 7d.
	Certain Undertakings in the Home Counties Area.†	1st pay day following 1 Jan.		Increase‡ of 1s. a week. Weekly rates after change for labourers: Grade C Areas, 59s. 6d.; Grade B, 57s.; Grade A, 53s.
	Certain Undertakings in South Wales and Monmouthshire.†	1 Jan.		Increase‡ of 2s. a week for adults and of 1s. for juniors. Rates after change for labourers: Class 1 Areas, 1s. 3d.; Class 2, 1s. 2d.; Class 3, 1s. 1d.; plus 10s. a week war bonus in each case.
Railway Electricity Generating Stations.	Great Britain ..	1 Jan.	Adult male workers (excluding electrical fitters, etc., engaged in installation work and other craftsmen whose wages are regulated by movements in their respective trades) employed in main line railway companies' electricity generating stations and sub-stations and on high-tension cables between them.	Increase‡ of 2s. a week. Rates after change in London: switchboard attendants (up to 5,000 kw.), 85s. 6d.; (5,000 kw. and over), 99s. 6d.; turbine mechanics, 84s.; drivers, 78s.; stokers—leading, 82s., others, 76s.; trimmers, 69s.; electrical fitters on maintenance work 80s. 5d.; electricians' mates, 67s. 5d.; plus 4s. a week for shift workers.
Dock, Wharf and Riverside Labour.	Various ports in Great Britain.	1 Jan.	Coal tipplers, teemers, hoistmen and boxmen.	Increase‡ of 5 per cent., and special war allowance of 7½ per cent. previously granted increased to 10 per cent., making payments on tariffs and incidentals 120 per cent. above those in operation prior to 1914, but subject to the minimum weekly wage of 62s. 6d.‡
Merchant Navy	Great Britain ..	1 Jan.	Officers and men of the Merchant Navy.	"Differential payment" of £2 a month or 1s. 4d. a day granted to all ranks and ratings, and of half these amounts to boys.
Local Authorities (Non-Trading Services).	Certain Authorities in Glamorganshire.¶ Certain Authorities in Monmouthshire.¶	1 Jan.	Manual workers except those whose wages are regulated by movements in other industries.	War bonus increased‡ by 2s. a week for adults and by 1s. a week for juniors. Rate after change for labourers: 1s. 3d. an hour plus 10s. a week war bonus.
Leather Tanning, etc.	Bradford, Halifax, Retford, Rochdale, Todmorden and district.	1 Jan.	Buffalo picker makers, tanners and skip makers.	Increase of 1d. an hour for men, of ½d. for women and of proportional amounts for juveniles; and of 5 per cent. (17½ to 22½) on pre-war rates for pieceworkers. Rates after change for adult timeworkers:—men, skilled, 1s. 5½d.; semi-skilled, 1s. 4½d.; unskilled, 1s. 3½d.; women, 20 years and over, 11d.
Saddle and Harness Making.	London (Metropolitan Police Area).	1 Jan.	Saddlery and harness makers ..	Increase‡ of 1d. an hour for timeworkers and of 7½ per cent. for pieceworkers making wages for heavy work 97½ per cent., and for other work 82½ per cent. above the list price. Minimum hourly rate after change for timeworkers, 1s. 7d.
Leather Goods Manufacture.	Great Britain ..	1st pay week in Jan.	Workpeople employed in the fancy and solid leather goods (including substitute for leather) trade.	Adoption of National basic time rates involving increases of varying amounts. Rates after change include: skilled men—London, 1s. 6d. an hour, other districts, 1s. 5d.; skilled women—London, 9d. an hour, other districts, 8½d.; piecework rates to be such as to enable workers of average ability to earn at least 15 per cent. above the hourly time rates.**
Skip and Basket Making.	Lancashire and Cheshire.	6 Jan.	Skip and basket makers ..	Increase‡ of 3 per cent. on list prices making wages 122½ per cent. above the list for both timeworkers and pieceworkers.
Hair, Bass and Fibre Manufacture.	Great Britain ..	1 Jan.	Workpeople employed in the hair, bass and fibre trade.	Increase‡ of ½d. an hour in the general minimum time rates for males and certain classes of females and juveniles and of ½d. for males and of ¼d. for females in piecework basis time rates.†† ‡‡
Toy Manufacture	Great Britain ..	15 Jan.	Workpeople employed in the toy manufacturing trade.	Increase of 2s. a week in the general minimum time rate for men and women 21 years of age and over, and of 1s. a week for workers under 21.††
Entertainments	West of Scotland ..	16 Jan.	Workpeople employed in cinema theatres:— Operators	New scale of minimum weekly wage rates adopted involving increases of varying amounts. Class A theatres—chief operators, 100s.; operators, 72s.; Class B—chief operators, 84s., operators, 63s.; Class C—chief operators, 70s., operators, 60s.‡‡
			Other employees	Increase of 5 per cent. for those receiving 50s. and under and of 2½ per cent. for those receiving over 50s.

* This increase was the result of an award of the National Arbitration Tribunal (Northern Ireland), (*see* page 47).

† The Undertakings affected are mainly those affiliated to the District Joint Industrial Council for the Waterworks Undertakings Industry in the Area concerned.

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

§ This increase applied to the principal coal-exporting centres including those on the North-East Coast, the East Coast (except Goole), the East of Scotland and the Bristol Channel. At certain North-East Coast Ports an extra 5 per cent. is paid in addition to the 120 per cent. quoted and higher percentages are also paid at Bristol Channel Ports.

|| This differential payment was made as the result of decisions of the Navigating Officers', Engineer Officers', Sailors' and Firemen's and Catering Department Panels of the National Maritime Board. The payment is to be regarded as a temporary measure of alleviation to bring the remuneration of British crews more into line with the pay and allowances of crews of allied merchant navies. The differential payment is made only whilst actually on articles, and is not payable during leave periods. In administering this differential payment the same conditions apply as for payment of seafarers' war risk money which remains unchanged.

¶ The Authorities affected are mainly those affiliated to the Joint Wages Board of Local Authorities in the Area concerned.

** This change took effect as the result of an agreement between the National Leather Goods and Saddlery Manufacturers' Association (Inc.) and the National Union of Leather Workers.

†† These increases took effect under Orders issued under the Trade Boards Acts. Details of the minimum rates are contained in the Confirming Orders of the Minister of Labour and National Service, obtainable from H.M. Stationery Office.

‡‡ This increase did not apply to those employed in the weaving of hair machine belting, who are outside the scope of the Trade Board, and no change was made in the general minimum piece-rates for workers employed in hand-loom weaving (other than damask seating hand-loom weaving).

§§ This change took effect under an Industrial Court Award No. 1783, dated 16th January, 1941 (*see* page 45).

TRADE DISPUTES IN JANUARY.*

Number, Magnitude and Duration.—The number of disputes involving stoppages of work, reported to the Department as beginning in January in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, was 64, as compared with 61 in the previous month and 73 in January, 1940. In these 64 new disputes about 9,100 workpeople were directly involved, and 2,400 workpeople indirectly involved (*i.e.*, thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, though not themselves parties to the disputes). In addition, about 1,800 workpeople were involved, either directly or indirectly, in 10 disputes which began before January and were still in progress at the beginning of that month. The number of new and old disputes was thus 74, involving about 13,300 workpeople, and resulting in a loss, during January, estimated at 24,000 working days.

Causes.—Of the 64 disputes beginning in January, 14, directly involving 800 workpeople, arose out of demands for advances in wages, 3, directly involving 100 workpeople, out of proposed reductions in wages, and 22, directly involving 5,200 workpeople, on other wage questions; 12, directly involving 1,500 workpeople, on questions respecting the employment of particular classes or persons; 10, directly involving 1,300 workpeople, on other questions respecting working arrangements; and 3, directly involving 200 workpeople, on questions of trade union principle.

Results.—Final settlements of disputes which terminated during January have been effected in the case of 57 disputes,

directly involving 6,900 workpeople. Of these disputes, 7, directly involving 500 workpeople, were settled in favour of the workpeople; 28, directly involving 3,900 workpeople, were settled in favour of the employers; and 22, directly involving 2,500 workpeople, resulted in a compromise. In the case of 6 other disputes, directly involving 2,600 workpeople, work was resumed pending negotiations.

In the following Table an analysis is given, by groups of industries, of all disputes in progress in January:—

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..	5	21	26	7,600	14,000
Metal, Engineering and Shipbuilding	23	23	3,300	4,000
Other	5	20	25	2,400	6,000
Total, January, 1941 ..	10	64	74	13,300	24,000
Total, December, 1940..	8	61	69	16,500	50,000
Total, January, 1940 ..	3	73	76	56,800	108,000

PRINCIPAL DISPUTES INVOLVING STOPPAGES OF WORK DURING JANUARY.

Occupations† and Locality.	Approximate Number of Workpeople Involved.		Date when Dispute		Cause or Object.	Result.
	Directly.	Indirectly.†	Began.	Ended.		
COAL MINING:— Hewers, fillers, putters and other colliery workpeople—Sunderland (one colliery).	623	1,111	17 Jan.	18 Jan.	Dispute respecting wages of 36 fillers.	Work resumed on advice of trade union officials.
Surface workers (boys) and other colliery workpeople—Pontardulais, Swansea (one colliery).	800	..	20 Jan.	20 Jan.	Demand by boys on surface for the provision of gloves as a protection against cold weather.	Work resumed, on advice of trade union officials, to permit of negotiations.
WHOLESALE CLOTHING MANUFACTURE:— Workpeople employed in wholesale clothing manufacture—Leeds (one firm).	800	..	20 Jan.	21 Jan.	For reinstatement of a dismissed employee.	Work resumed pending negotiations, which resulted in an agreement providing for the suspension of the employee in question for a period of four weeks.
BUILDING, PUBLIC WORKS CONTRACTING, ETC.:— Workpeople employed on civil engineering contract—near Goole, Yorks. (one firm).	515	..	30 Jan.	30 Jan.	Dispute respecting interpretation of a clause of an agreement, providing for <i>inter alia</i> a guaranteed week.	Amicable settlement effected.

* 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, etc.) exceeded 100 days.

† The occupations printed in italics are those of workpeople indirectly involved, *i.e.*, thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, but not themselves parties to the disputes.

FATAL INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS.

STATISTICS of workpeople, other than seamen*, killed in industrial accidents reported in January†, in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, are given below:—

MINES AND QUARRIES†... 80	FACTORIES— <i>continued</i> .
FACTORIES.	Electrical Stations ... 2
Clay, Stone, Pottery, etc. 4	Other Industries... 1
Chemicals, Oils, Soap, etc. 6	WORKS AND PLACES
Metal Extracting, etc. ... 3	UNDER SS. 105, 107, 108,
Metal Conversion and Founding ... 18	FACTORIES ACT, 1937 †45
Engineering, Locomotive Building, Boilermaking 16	TOTAL, FACTORIES ACT ... 154
Railway and Tramway Carriages, Motor, etc., Vehicles, and Aircraft... 13	RAILWAY SERVICE.
Shipbuilding ... 16	Brakesmen, Goods Guards 3
Other Metal Trades ... 4	Engine Drivers, Motormen 1
Cotton ... 1	Firemen
Wool, Worsted, Shoddy... 1	Guards (Passenger)
Other Textile Manufacture ... 4	Labourers... .. 5
Textile Printing, etc. ... 1	Mechanics 3
Tanning, Currying, etc.... 7	Permanent Way Men... 16
Food and Drink... 7	Porters
General Woodwork, etc.... 4	Shunters 6
Paper, Printing, etc. ... 3	Other Grades 10
Rubber 1	Contractors' Servants ... 1
Gas Works 4	TOTAL, RAILWAY SERVICE 45
	Total (excluding Seamen) 279

INDUSTRIAL DISEASES.

THE Table below shows the number of cases* and deaths* in Great Britain and Northern Ireland reported during January, under the Factories Act, 1937, or under the Lead Paint (Protection against Poisoning) Act, 1926:—

I. Cases.	I. Cases— <i>continued</i> .
LEAD POISONING.	CHROME ULCERATION.
Among Operatives engaged in—	Manufacture of Bichromates ... 1
Shipbreaking ... 1	Dyeing and Finishing
Pottery ... 2	Chrome Tanning
Electric Accumulator Works ... 1	Chromium Plating ... 3
TOTAL ... 4	Other Industries... 5
OTHER POISONING† ... 5	TOTAL ... 9
ANTHRAX‡ ... 2	Total, Cases ... 34
EPITHELIOMATOUS ULCERATION (SKIN CANCER).	II. Deaths.
Pitch ... 5	POISONING.
Tar ... 3	LEAD POISONING (Pottery) 1
Oil ... 6	TOXIC JAUNDICE ... 1
TOTAL ... 14	EPITHELIOMATOUS ULCERATION
	Tar ... 1
	Total, Deaths ... 3

* Statistics of fatal accidents to seamen are not available.

† For mines and quarries, weekly returns are furnished, and the figures cover the 5 weeks ended 1st February, 1941, in comparison with the 4 weeks ended 28th December, 1940, and the 5 weeks ended 3rd February, 1940. Of the 80 accidents, 75 were at coal mines (underground, 68; surface, 7), and 5 were at quarries.

‡ Docks, Wharves, Quays and Ships, 14; Building Operations, 27; Works of Engineering Construction, 3; Warehouses, 1.

* 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.

† Mercurial, 1; Carbon Bisulphide, 1; Aniline, 2; Toxic Jaundice, 1.

‡ Handling and sorting of Hides and Skins.

EMPLOYMENT OVERSEAS.

ÉIRE.

Information supplied by the Department of Industry and Commerce shows that the number of persons on the live registers of the Employment Exchanges rose from 96,386 at 28th December, 1940, to 106,529 at 25th January, 1941. At 27th January, 1940, the corresponding figure was 118,461.

UNITED STATES.

Information supplied by the Social Security Board shows that the number of applications for employment registered at Public Employment Offices at 30th November, 1940, was 4,566,901, a decline of 1.1 per cent. as compared with the number registered at the end of October, 1940.

According to estimates of the American Federation of Labour published in the *American Federationist* for January, 1941, the total number of unemployed persons in the United States of America was approximately 8,184,000 in November, 1940, as compared with 8,140,000 in October, 1940, and 9,346,000 in November, 1939.

In all cases the figures include a large number of persons provided with employment on public relief work schemes.

AUSTRALIA.

Information supplied by the Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics, Canberra, shows that unemployment declined during the third quarter of 1940. The percentage of members of trade unions who were out of work for three days or more during a specified week in that quarter was 7.4, as compared with a corresponding percentage of 10.5 in the preceding quarter, and 10.2 in the third quarter of 1939.

CANADA.

Industrial employment showed little general change at 1st December, 1940. According to returns received by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics from 12,444 firms, the number of workpeople employed at 1st December, 1940, was 1,364,348, as compared with 1,365,146 at 1st November. If the average number of workpeople employed by the reporting firms in the year 1926 be represented by 100, the index of employment for 1st December, 1940, was 139.1, as compared with 139.2 at 1st November, 1940, and 122.7 at 1st December, 1939.

At the end of October, 1940, 5 per cent. of the aggregate membership (approximately 263,000) of trade unions making returns were unemployed, as compared with 4.4 per cent. at the end of September, 1940, and 9 per cent. at the end of October, 1939.

RETAIL PRICES OVERSEAS.

In the following paragraphs a summary is given of the latest information contained in official publications received since last month's issue of this GAZETTE was prepared, relating to changes in retail prices and the cost of living in oversea countries.

GERMANY.

In October, 1940, the official cost-of-living index figure was 1.1 per cent. below the figure for September, 1940, but 2.3 per cent. above the figure for August, 1939. For food alone, the index figure for October, 1940, showed a decline of 2.5 per cent. as compared with the figure for September, 1940, but an increase of 1.4 per cent. as compared with the figure for August, 1939.

UNITED STATES.

In the middle of November, 1940, the official index number relating to the cost of food was 0.3 per cent. below the figure for the middle of October, 1940, but 2.6 per cent. above the figure for the middle of August, 1939.

AUSTRALIA.

In the third quarter of 1940 the official cost-of-living figure for the six capital cities showed an increase of 0.5 per cent. as compared with the figure for the previous quarter, and of 4.6 per cent. as compared with the figure for the second quarter of 1939. In November, 1940, the official index figure relating to the cost of food in 30 towns showed an increase of 0.5 per cent. as compared with the figure for October, 1940, and of 4 per cent. as compared with the figure for August, 1939.

CANADA.

The new official cost-of-living index number at the beginning of December, 1940, was 0.2 per cent. above the figure at the beginning of November, 1940, and 7.1 per cent. above the figure at the beginning of September, 1939. For food alone, the corresponding percentage increases were 0.4 and 9.8, respectively.

INDIA.

In October, 1940, the official cost-of-living figure for the working classes in Bombay City was 0.9 per cent. above the figure for September, 1940, and 7.6 per cent. above the figure for August, 1939. For food alone, the corresponding percentage increases were 1.6 and 13.4, respectively.

NEW ZEALAND.

In November, 1940, the official cost-of-living figure showed an increase of 0.4 per cent. as compared with the figure for October, 1940, and of 5.7 per cent. as compared with the figure for August, 1939. For food alone, the index figure for November, 1940, remained unchanged as compared with the previous month, but showed a rise of 2.5 per cent. as compared with the figure for August, 1939.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE.

DECISIONS GIVEN BY THE UMPIRE.

The Umpire is a judicial authority independent of the Ministry of Labour, appointed by the Crown (*see* Section 40 of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1935), 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 leave of the Chairman 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 recent decision is of general interest:—

Case No. 55/41. (3.1.41).

SECTION 28 OF THE UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACT, 1935, SUB-SECTION (1) (a) —REFUSAL OR FAILURE TO APPLY FOR WORK: OFFERS OF SUITABLE EMPLOYMENT —A CLAIMANT WHO HAD BEEN UNEMPLOYED FOR OVER FOURTEEN DAYS AND WHO REFUSED TO APPLY FOR WORK CERTIFIED TO BE OF NATIONAL IMPORTANCE AT A DISTANCE FROM HER HOME BECAUSE SHE DID NOT WISH TO LEAVE HER SOLDIER HUSBAND, FAILED TO SHOW GOOD CAUSE: PERSONAL CONVENIENCE IS NOW SUBORDINATE TO NEEDS OF NATIONAL EMERGENCY: SEPARATION OF HUSBANDS AND WIVES OR MEMBERS OF FAMILIES IS A COMMON EXPERIENCE.

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

Decision.—"On the facts before me my decision is that the claim for benefit is disallowed, the claimant being disqualified for the receipt of benefit for six weeks from and including the first day of the benefit period immediately following that in which this decision is given.

"The claimant is a button-hole machinist and she was employed as such in London until the 17th September, 1940, when she moved to Morpeth, where her husband, a member of the Armed Forces, was then stationed.

"On the 4th October, the claimant was offered a vacancy in employment as a munitions worker in a factory about 200 miles from her home. Her railway fare would have been paid and she would have received travelling allowances.

"The employment, if the claimant had obtained it, would have commenced immediately and would have lasted for the duration of the war.

"The claimant had been unemployed for not less than 14 days; the rate of wage offered was not lower, and the conditions of the employment were not less favourable than those generally recognised in the district by good employers; and the Minister of Labour and National Service had certified the work in question to be work of national importance. Consequently, the employment could not be deemed to be unsuitable for the claimant only on the ground that it was employment of a kind other than employment in the claimant's usual occupation (Emergency Powers (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations, 1940, S. R. & O., 1940, No. 1235, Regulation 3).

"The claimant refused to apply for the vacancy offered and the reason she gave was that her husband in the Armed Forces, was at that time stationed at or about Morpeth, that she did not wish to leave him, and that if he was moved from Morpeth she would go with him.

"The Insurance Officer disqualified the claimant for the receipt of benefit for six weeks, but, on appeal, the majority of the Court of Referees (the Chairman dissenting) reversed the decision of the Insurance Officer and allowed the claim.

"The majority found 'that work in a munitions factory is unsuitable for a button-hole machinist.'

"If that finding means that the particular work in which the vacancy was notified was unsuitable for the claimant the evidence does not justify the finding. As the claimant had refused to allow her name to be submitted for employment, neither she nor the Court of Referees had any knowledge that the work would have been unsuitable for the claimant. Many women are employed in munitions factories and the Court of Referees had no reason to assume that the work would have been beyond the capacity of the claimant.

"If, on the other hand, the finding of the majority means that the work was unsuitable because it was of a kind different from the claimant's usual occupation that was a finding which was contrary to the terms of the above-mentioned Regulation.

"The majority also found that the wages offered to the claimant were 'inadequate in comparison to wages in her previous occupation.' That finding was not relevant. The wages were not lower than those recognised in the district by good employers, and the claimant was not entitled to object to the rate of wages, nor did she in fact attempt to do so, either in her grounds of appeal to the Court of Referees or in her evidence.

"The majority of the Court of Referees did not make any finding on the objection which the claimant raised about her desire to be near her husband, wherever he might be stationed.

"In the time of peace it was held that a young married woman (such as the claimant is) was justified in leaving her regular employment voluntarily for the purpose of joining her husband

* Selected decisions of the Umpire are published: (i) in monthly pamphlets—U.I. Code 8b; (the latest pamphlet is that for the months of June and July, 1940, price 2d. net.); the pamphlets are also obtainable by annual subscription of 2s. 6d. net); (ii) in annual volumes (the latest volume is that for 1937, price 3s. net); (iii) in the following special volumes:—(a) U.I. Code 8, containing specially selected decisions prior to 19th April, 1928 (price 15s. net); (b) U.I. Code 8a, containing specially selected decisions from 19th April, 1928, to 12th March, 1930 (price 6s. net); and (c) U.I. Code 8c, containing selected decisions from 13th March, 1930, to 31st December, 1934 (price 10s. net). The analytical guide to Umpire's decisions (U.I. Code 7), originally published in 1930, has been revised and is on sale in four parts.

(that is, for the purpose of living with her husband) when he was in permanent employment and was able to provide a home, away from the place at which the claimant was working (Decision 221/28),* but that she was not justified in leaving her employment to join her husband if he was out of work (Decision 1439/29),† or if he had obtained work of a casual nature (Decision 1069/26).‡

"The principles which are applied for the purpose of determining whether there is 'just cause' for voluntary leaving are equally applicable to the question whether there is 'good cause' for refusing employment or for refusing to apply for a vacancy notified.

"It may be said (*see* Decision 814/40 not reported) that, in the absence of evidence to the contrary, the fact that a member of the Armed Forces is stationed at a particular place in the course of his training is not equivalent to the permanent employment contemplated in Decision 221/28, but there are also other reasons why that decision is not applicable to the circumstances of this case.

"The three decisions, to which reference has been made above, show that even in peace time the Umpire did not take the view that a wife was entitled in all circumstances to abandon employment in order to be with her husband. He was of opinion that 'just cause' had to be determined in the light of all the circumstances.

"Similarly, circumstances affecting industry and the position of workers, existing in consequence of the national emergency arising from the fact that the country is at war, must be considered.

"Circumstances which in the days of peace may justify the refusal of employment, or the refusal to apply for employment, may not justify such a refusal in the times of war, when citizens are expected to subordinate, and with very few exceptions are ready and willing to subordinate, their personal convenience to the needs of the national emergency; and one of the common experiences of the times is the separation of husbands and wives or members of families in the discharge of their moral obligation to render effective assistance in industry towards the support of the national effort to secure the defence of the country.

"The claimant had no prospect of employment in her usual occupation where she was living. Whether she would be able to obtain any employment in the locality, which would not prevent her living near her husband, is not stated, but she had not obtained such during a period of more than a fortnight. The employment in which a vacancy was notified to the claimant was not only suitable for her but was work of national importance.

"Taking all the circumstances into consideration, I agree with the Chairman of the Court of Referees that the claimant has not shown good cause for refusing to apply for the vacancy notified to her."

EMERGENCY POWERS (AMENDMENT) (No. 4) REGULATIONS.

The Unemployment Insurance (Emergency Powers) (Amendment) (No. 4) Regulations, 1940§, dated December 31st, 1940, made by the Minister of Labour and National Service under the Unemployment Insurance (Emergency Powers) Act, 1939 (2 & 3 Geo.6.c.92).

These Amendment Regulations, which came into force on 31st December, 1940, provide that insured contributors in receipt of training allowances while undergoing a course of training arranged by or on behalf of the Minister of Labour and National Service shall be regarded as not available for work, but that the time spent in training shall be included in computing continuous periods of unemployment. Further, the Regulations amend the conditions under which grants are paid from the Unemployment Fund towards the cost of authorised training courses and provide that the amounts of these grants shall be determined by the Minister with the consent of the Treasury. The Regulations also amend the existing provisions regarding the amount of the repayments made out of the Unemployment Fund to the Exchequer in respect of travelling expenses of insured contributors incurred for the purpose of obtaining employment.

LEGAL CASES AFFECTING LABOUR.

Trade Boards Acts, 1909-1918.

BAKING TRADE BOARD (ENGLAND AND WALES).

An employer was charged with underpaying one male worker and failing to keep adequate records. He was fined £2 on each charge with £1 1s. advocate's fee and 1s. witness's expenses. Arrears amounting to £55 0s. 9d. were ordered to be paid.—*Rex v. William Morris*. Merthyr Tydfil Police Court, 10th December, 1940.

A company and its agent were charged with underpaying five male workers. The charges against the company were withdrawn but the agent was fined £5 on each charge (total £25) with advocate's fee of £2 2s. and witnesses' expenses of 5s. Arrears of wages amounting to £110 2s. 6d. were paid prior to the hearing.—*Rex v. Howfield & Son Ltd., and George Blethyn Howfield as agent*. Merthyr Tydfil Police Court, 10th December, 1940.

* U.I. 440, page 17 (Pamphlet No. 2/1928).

† U.I. 440, page 48 (Pamphlet No. 2/1929).

‡ U.I. 440, page 93 (Pamphlet No. 5/1926).

§ Statutory Rules and Orders, 1940, No. 2211. H.M. Stationery Office, price 1d. net (2d. post free).

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

Recent Proceedings.

INDUSTRIAL COURT AWARDS.

TECHNICAL ENGINEERS, ELECTRICITY DEPARTMENT, STOCKTON-ON-TEES CORPORATION.—The Electrical Power Engineers' Association claimed that the technical engineers employed in the corporation's electricity department should be paid the rates of salary and benefit from the conditions of service laid down in the Agreements made by the National Joint Board for the Electricity Supply Industry. The Court decided in favour of the claim.—*Award No. 1781*; dated 13th January, 1941.

LABOURERS, CARRON COMPANY LIMITED.—The National Union of General and Municipal Workers claimed that the bonus payment of 1d. an hour granted to craftsmen on maintenance work be also made to other workers on the same work in the boiler and engineering departments of the firm. The firm counter-claimed that the increase to craftsmen did not apply to labourers, that it had not been so applied anywhere in the West of Scotland; also that the rates of the workers on whose behalf the claim is made are higher than those of similar workmen in other establishments and than those of the same classes in other departments of the company. The Court found that the claim had not been established.—*Award No. 1782*; dated 13th January, 1941.

CINEMA OPERATORS, WEST OF SCOTLAND AREA.—The Electrical Trades Union claimed a cost-of-living bonus at a flat-rate of 14s. 2d. a week and that the bonus should be adjusted quarterly in accordance with the basis determined by the Union's computation. The Cinema Exhibitors' Association of Great Britain and Ireland (Scottish Branch) counter-claimed that the present system of classification on which wages are based should be revised in association with any further adjustment of wages, and that further wage adjustments should not be considered in the present uncertain circumstances of the trade. The Court awarded increases in wages, in which the present bonus of 7½ per cent. was to be merged. The Court also awarded that no change should be made in the method of classification of the cinemas, and that future changes in wages should be determined from time to time in the light of all relevant considerations, including changes in the cost of living.—*Award No. 1783*; dated 16th January, 1941.

SEMI-SKILLED AND UNSKILLED WORKMEN, PHILIP AND SON, LIMITED.—The Transport and General Workers' Union claimed that the workmen concerned shall receive for all hours worked either before or after normal working hours an allowance of one-half plain time rate in addition to their ordinary earnings. The Court awarded that the workpeople employed by the company as timeworkers shall receive the allowance claimed.—*Award No. 1784*; dated 23rd January, 1941.

MANUAL WORKERS, NON-TRADING SERVICES, HULL CORPORATION.—The National Union of General and Municipal Workers asked the Court to determine the rates of wages to be paid to all manual workers engaged in the non-trading services of the corporation, to determine the date from which such wages shall operate and whether or not the method decided upon by the corporation for future regulation of such wages is appropriate. The Court awarded no change in the standard rates, but awarded the following war wage advances: adult male workers 8s. a week, male workers under the age of 21 years 4s. a week, adult women 6s. a week, or 1½d. an hour, junior women 3s. a week, or ¾d. an hour. All war wage advances previously given were to be merged in these sums. The Court also awarded that the existing practice of settling wage questions shall continue.—*Award No. 1785*; dated 28th January, 1941.

SINGLE ARBITRATORS AND AD HOC BOARDS OF ARBITRATORS.

FELT MANUFACTURE: BACUP.—A claim by the National Union of General and Municipal Workers that the terms and conditions of an agreement with certain firms in the felt manufacturing industry should be observed by Gaskell and Company (Bacup) Limited, having been reported to the Ministry as a dispute under the Conditions of Employment and National Arbitration Order, 1940, and not having been otherwise disposed of, the parties agreed to the matter being referred to a single Arbitrator. Mr. A. N. Shimmin, M.A., was appointed under the powers conferred on the Minister by the Order and by the Industrial Courts Act, 1919. In his Award dated 11th January, 1941, the Arbitrator found against the Union's claim but incorporated in the Award an increase in wages of adult male felt makers offered by the firm.

IRON ORE TRADE: CUMBERLAND.—A request having been received from the two sides of the Board of Conciliation for the Cumberland Iron Ore Trade for the appointment of a neutral chairman in connection with a difference between the two sides relating to wages upon which no agreement could be reached, Sir Harold Morris, K.C., was appointed under the Conciliation Act, 1896, to act in that capacity. Sir Harold issued two Awards on this matter. In the first of these dated 20th December, 1940, he decided that the claim by the employees' side upon which the difference arose was one which required six months' notice, and in the second dated 16th January, 1941, that an increase of 6d. a day should operate as from the expiry of such notice, *i.e.*, from 21st January, 1941.

NAIL TRADE : CLYDE.—A dispute arising out of a claim by the National Union of General and Municipal Workers that war bonus paid by the Clyde Nail Company Limited should be embodied in wage rate for the purpose of overtime payments was reported to the Minister under the Conditions of Employment and National Arbitration Order, 1940. Not having been otherwise disposed of, the matter was, by agreement of the parties, referred to a single Arbitrator. Mr. John Stewart, B.L., was appointed under the Order and the Industrial Courts Act, 1919, to act as Arbitrator and in his Award dated 28th January, 1941, decided in favour of the claim.

THE CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT AND NATIONAL ARBITRATION ORDER, 1940.

NATIONAL ARBITRATION TRIBUNAL AWARDS.

THE WAGES OF WORKERS EMPLOYED IN THE MANCHESTER AND GLASGOW OFFICES OF THE "DAILY EXPRESS," THE "DAILY HERALD," THE "DAILY MAIL" AND THE "NEWS CHRONICLE."

Parties : The Proprietors of the *Daily Express*, the *Daily Herald*, the *Daily Mail* and the *News Chronicle* and the Printing and Kindred Trades Federation.

Claim : For a declaration that the advances granted by the National Arbitration Tribunal's Award No. 1 do not apply to the employees in the Manchester and Glasgow offices of the above-named newspapers.

Award : The Tribunal found in favour of the newspapers and they awarded accordingly.

Award No. 51 : dated 3rd January, 1941.

DISMISSAL OF THREE EMPLOYEES BY A LONDON FIRM OF MANUFACTURING CLOTHIERS.

Parties : The London Mantle and Costume Branch of the National Union of Tailors and Garment Workers and Messrs. Wallis and Company (Contractors) Limited.

Dispute : As to whether the dismissal by the Company of certain workers was justified.

Award : The Tribunal found in favour of the Company and they awarded accordingly.

Award No. 52 : dated 4th January, 1941.

REMUNERATION IN THE MENTAL HOSPITAL SERVICES UNDER THE SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL.

Parties : The Mental Hospital and Institutional Workers' Union and the Surrey County Council.

Claim : For the adoption in respect of the Mental Health Services under the direction of the Surrey County Council of the cost-of-living wage increases recommended by the Joint Conciliation Committee of the Mental Hospitals' Association and the Union.

Award : The Tribunal found against the claim and they awarded accordingly.

Award No. 53 : dated 20th January, 1941.

PAYMENT FOR WHIT MONDAY, 1940, OF THE ENGINEERING EMPLOYEES OF THE BLACKPOOL CORPORATION.

Parties : The Amalgamated Engineering Union and the Blackpool Corporation.

Claim : For payment of time-and-a-half for hours worked on Whit Monday, 13th May, 1940.

Award : The Tribunal were of opinion that, irrespective of the merits of the claim, they had no power under the terms of the Conditions of Employment and National Arbitration Order, 1940, in this case to grant a claim for retrospective payment in respect of a date in May, 1940; they therefore found against the claim and awarded accordingly.

Award No. 54 : dated 20th January, 1941.

WAGES IN THE GLOVE MAKING INDUSTRY.

Parties : The Operatives' Side of the National Joint Industrial Council for the Glove Making Industry and the Employers' Side of the National Joint Industrial Council for the Glove Making Industry.

Claim : For an increase in wages to all workers of 10 per cent. to operate as from the first pay-day in November, 1940.

Award : The Tribunal found against the claim and they awarded accordingly.

Award No. 55 : dated 20th January, 1941.

WAGES IN THE ENGINEERING INDUSTRY.

Parties : The Amalgamated Engineering Union and the Engineering and Allied Employers' National Federation.

Claim : For an increase of 3d. per hour on the basic rate and the restoration of pre-June, 1931, working conditions.

Award : The Tribunal awarded that the National Bonus be increased by 3s. 6d. per week to all adult male workers, such increase to be applied in the same manner as the existing National Bonus. The Tribunal found against the claim for the full restoration of the pre-June, 1931, working conditions and they awarded on this point accordingly.

Date of Operation : As from the first full pay period following the date of the award.

Award No. 56 : dated 20th January, 1941.

WAGES IN THE ENGINEERING INDUSTRY.

Parties : The National Union of Foundry Workers and the

Engineering and Allied Employers' National Federation.

Claim : For an increase of 3d. per hour on the basic rate and the restoration of pre-June, 1931, working conditions.

Award : The Tribunal awarded that the National Bonus be increased by 3s. 6d. per week to all adult male workers, such increase to be applied in the same manner as the existing National Bonus. The Tribunal found against the claim for the full restoration of the pre-June, 1931, working conditions and they awarded on this point accordingly.

Date of Operation : As from the first full pay period following the date of the award.

Award No. 57 : dated 20th January, 1941.

WAGES IN THE ENGINEERING INDUSTRY.

Parties : The Engineering Joint Trades Movement and the Engineering and Allied Employers' National Federation.

Claim : For an increase of 10s. a week for time-workers, with an equivalent to men employed on payment by results.

Award : The Tribunal awarded that the National Bonus be increased by 3s. 6d. per week to all adult male workers, such increase to be applied in the same manner as the existing National Bonus.

Date of Operation : As from the beginning of the first full pay period following the date of the award.

Award No. 58 : dated 20th January, 1941.

WAGES IN THE SHIPBUILDING INDUSTRY.

Parties : The Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions and the Shipbuilding Employers' Federation.

Claim : For an increase of 10s. per week to plain time-workers with a corresponding increase to piece-workers.

Award : The Tribunal awarded that the War Bonus be increased by 3s. 6d. per week to all adult male workers, such increase to be applied in the same manner as the existing War Bonus provided by the Agreement of 23rd February, 1940.

Date of Operation : As from the beginning of the first full pay period following the date of the award.

Award No. 59 : dated 20th January, 1941.

WAGES AND WEEK-END OVERTIME PAYMENT OF EMPLOYEES OF A FIRM OF RAYON MANUFACTURERS.

Parties : The Transport and General Workers' Union and Messrs. Courtaulds Limited.

Claim : For improved week-end working overtime payment for process day workers and process shift workers at certain of the Company's factories and higher minimum day rates and three-shift rates in the process and spinning departments at the Company's Preston establishment.

Award : The Tribunal awarded in respect of the claim for improved week-end working overtime payment as follows :

(a) For process day workers, the overtime payment to apply to the period from finishing time on Saturday to midnight on Saturday shall be time-and-a-quarter for the first two hours of such period and time-and-a-half for any subsequent hours of such period; and the overtime payment to apply to the period from midnight on Saturday to midnight on Sunday shall be double-time.

(b) For process shift workers, the overtime payment to apply to the period from 2 p.m. on Saturday to 6 a.m. on Monday shall be time-and-a-half in respect of the three shifts of 8 hours between 10 p.m. on Saturday and 10 p.m. on Sunday, or between midnight on Saturday and midnight on Sunday, and time-and-a-quarter in respect of any other part of the period between 2 p.m. on Saturday and 6 a.m. on Monday.

These rates are without prejudice to existing rates which are in excess of these rates.

The Tribunal found against the claim in respect of the minimum day rates and the minimum three-shift rates at the Company's Red Scar Mill, Preston, and they awarded on this part of the claim accordingly.

Date of Operation : As from the beginning of the first full-pay period following the date of the award.

Award No. 60 : dated 28th January, 1941.

MUSICIANS EMPLOYED AT AN EDINBURGH THEATRE.

Parties : The Musicians' Union and Edinburgh Varieties Limited.

Claim : For the re-instatement of two musicians.

Award : Without expressing any opinion in regard to the propriety or otherwise of the termination of the men's employment the Tribunal, in view of the time which had elapsed since the dispute arose and of the fact that the men had had other employment in the meantime, found against the claim and they awarded accordingly.

Award No. 61 : dated 29th January, 1941.

PAYMENT OF OVERTIME TO EMPLOYEES OF A MIDLANDS FIRM OF HOSIERY MANUFACTURERS.

Parties : The National Federation of Hosiery Unions and Messrs. Towles (1928) Limited.

Question raised : Whether the Company are observing terms and conditions which are not less favourable than "the recognised terms and conditions."

Claim : That the Company should observe the Overtime Agreement of the Hosiery Joint Industrial Council.

Award : The Tribunal found that the terms and conditions of employment observed by the Company are less favourable in respect of payment for overtime than "the recognised terms and conditions," being the terms and conditions of the Agreement of the Hosiery Joint Industrial Council and they awarded that

the company shall observe the terms and conditions of such Agreement in respect of overtime payment.

Date of Operation : As from the beginning of the first full pay period following 28th February, 1941.

Award No. 62; dated 30th January, 1941.

WAGES OF EMPLOYEES OF THE NORTH-WESTERN WHOLESALE MEAT SUPPLY ASSOCIATION LIMITED.

Parties : The Manchester Abattoir Clerks' Association and the North-Western Wholesale Meat Supply Association Limited.

Claim : For an increase in wages.

Award : The Tribunal awarded a further advance in wages of 2s. per week in the case of workers on a rate of £4 a week or over and of 1s. a week in the case of workers on a rate of under £4 a week.

Date of Operation : As from the beginning of the first full pay period following the date of the award.

Award No. 63; dated 31st January, 1941.

NATIONAL ARBITRATION TRIBUNAL (NORTHERN IRELAND) AWARDS.

RATES AND CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT OF MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL UNION OF PRINTING, BOOKBINDING AND PAPER WORKERS.

Parties : The National Union of Printing, Bookbinding and Paper Workers and The Belfast Printing Trades Employers' Association.

Claim : That the wage rates, hours, conditions of labour and classification set out and agreed to in the National Agreements between the British Federation of Master Printers and the National Union of Printing, Bookbinding and Paper Workers and others, be applicable to cutters, head stock-keepers, relief stampers, embossers, packers, assistant stock-keepers, warehousemen, male feeders, general assistants, male feeders of cylinder machines, copy holders, and all female workers in the industry.

Award : The Tribunal awarded an increase of 3s. 6d. per week on the current rate of wages in the case of men, 2s. 0d. to women and 1s. 6d. to juveniles. The claim in respect of "all female workers" was amended to a claim for "women workers in the printing and bookbinding trades." The Tribunal expressed the opinion that the relations between the parties should be settled by the Joint Industrial Council of the Printing and Allied Trades.

Date of Operation : As from the beginning of the first full pay period following the date of the award.

Award No. 19; dated 7th January, 1941.

WAGES OF MALE AND FEMALE STAFF OF TYRONE AND FERMANAGH MENTAL HOSPITAL, OMAGH.

Parties : The Amalgamated Transport and General Workers' Union and The Tyrone and Fermanagh Mental Hospital.

Claim : For an increase of 20s. per month in the wages of the male and female staff.

Award : The Tribunal awarded an increase of £6 10s. per annum on the salaries of the male and female staff.

Date of Operation : As from the payment of salary in respect of the month of January, 1941.

Award No. 20; dated 8th January, 1941.

WAGES OF SURFACEMEN AND FOREMEN IN THE COUNTY OF ANTRIM.

Parties : The National Union of General and Municipal Workers, The Amalgamated Transport and General Workers' Union and The Antrim County Council.

Claim : For a minimum rate of 40s. per week for surfacemen with a corresponding increase for foremen.

Award : The Tribunal awarded that the wages of surfacemen and foremen in all districts of the county shall be increased to 38s. per week and 43s. per week respectively.

Date of Operation : As from the beginning of the first full pay period following the date of the award.

Award No. 21; dated 13th January, 1941.

WAGES OF ADULT MALE WORKERS EMPLOYED IN THE GAS AND SURVEYOR'S DEPARTMENTS OF THE NEWTOWNARDS BOROUGH COUNCIL.

Parties : The National Union of General and Municipal Workers and The Newtownards Borough Council.

Claim : For an increase of 3d. per hour for adult day workers and 6d. per shift for shift workers with effect as from the first pay day following the 25th June, 1940.

Award : The Tribunal awarded that the wages of adult day workers shall be increased by 2s. 6d. per week and of adult shift workers by 5d. per shift.

Date of Operation : As from the 1st December, 1940.

Award No. 22; dated 16th January, 1941.

WAGES OF WORKERS EMPLOYED IN THE HIDE AND SKIN TRADE.

Parties : The National Union of General and Municipal Workers and The Northern Ireland Registered Hide Markets Association.

Claim : For an increase of 6s. per week on current rates of wages.

Award : The Tribunal awarded that the claim be not granted.

Award No. 23; dated 17th January, 1941.

TRADE BOARDS ACTS.

A.—NOTICES OF PROPOSAL.

Proposals to vary minimum rates of wages have been issued by the Trade Boards shown below. Further information may be obtained by persons engaged in the respective trades on application to the Secretary of the Trade Board concerned, at the Gordon Hotel, Leicester Street, Southport, Lancs., in the case of Trade Boards in Great Britain, or at Stormont, Belfast, in the case of Trade Boards in Northern Ireland.

RETAIL BESPOKE TAILORING TRADE BOARD (ENGLAND AND WALES).

Proposal R.B. (E. & W.) 17, dated 17th January, 1941, to vary minimum rates of wages.

COFFIN FURNITURE AND CEREMENT MAKING TRADE BOARD (GREAT BRITAIN).

Proposal U. (39), dated 21st January, 1941, to vary minimum rates of wages.

WHOLESALE MANTLE AND COSTUME TRADE BOARD (GREAT BRITAIN).

Proposal W.M. (33), dated 21st January, 1941, to vary minimum rates of wages.

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

Proposals W.D. (36), and W.D. (37), dated 27th January, 1941, to vary minimum rates of wages.

HAT, CAP AND MILLINERY TRADE BOARD (ENGLAND AND WALES).

Proposal H.M. (25), dated 28th January, 1941, to vary minimum rates of wages.

RETAIL BESPOKE TAILORING TRADE BOARD (SCOTLAND).

Proposal R.B.S. (18), dated 4th February, 1941, to vary minimum rates of wages.

SHIRT MAKING TRADE BOARD (NORTHERN IRELAND).

Proposal N.I.S. (N.23), dated 10th January, 1941, to vary minimum rates of wages for male and female workers.

B.—CONFIRMING ORDERS.

In pursuance of the powers conferred by the Trade Boards Acts, the Minister of Labour and National Service in Great Britain has made Orders confirming minimum rates of wages as varied by the Trade Boards indicated below. Copies of the Orders may be purchased from H.M. Stationery Office, either directly or through any bookseller.

OSTRICH AND FANCY FEATHER AND ARTIFICIAL FLOWER TRADE BOARD (GREAT BRITAIN).

Order O.F. (12), dated 1st February, 1941, confirming a variation of minimum rates of wages and specifying 12th February, 1941, as the date from which such rates became effective.

SUGAR CONFECTIONERY AND FOOD PRESERVING TRADE BOARD (GREAT BRITAIN).

Order F. (25), dated 3rd February, 1941, confirming a variation of minimum rates of wages and specifying 12th February, 1941, as the date from which such rates became effective.

ROPE, TWINE AND NET TRADE BOARD (GREAT BRITAIN).

Order R. (67) and (68), dated 4th February, 1941, confirming a variation of minimum rates of wages and specifying 10th February, 1941, as the date from which such rates became effective.

BOARD FOR MINING EXAMINATIONS.

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

THE written parts of the examinations for first and second class certificates of competency as managers and under managers of mines will be held on 2nd and 3rd July, 1941, at the under-mentioned centres. The oral parts of the examinations, to be attended only by those candidates who qualify in the written tests, will be held at the same centres on 24th September, 1941.

The written part of the examination for certificates of qualification as surveyors of mines will be held at the same centres on 3rd July, 1941, and the oral and practical examination, to be attended only by those candidates who qualify in the written test, in August, 1941.

In view of the war, the examinations will be held at only four centres, viz.: Glasgow, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Doncaster and Cardiff, and no further examinations will be held during 1941.

Intending candidates should apply after 15th March, for the necessary forms, stating whether they have previously attended any of the Board's examinations.

The completed applications should be returned to the Secretary as soon as possible, and must in any case be received not later than 14th May, 1941.

Letters should be addressed to the Secretary, Board for Mining Examinations, Mines Department, Block "C," Temporary Office Buildings, Heyhouses Lane, Lytham St. Annes, Lancashire.

EMERGENCY POWERS (DEFENCE).

EMPLOYMENT IN CIVIL DEFENCE AND FIRE PREVENTION.

AN Order in Council* made on 15th January, under the Emergency Powers (Defence) Acts, 1939 and 1940, gives powers to the Secretary of State to provide for the registration and compulsory enrolment for part-time civil defence duties of British subjects of either sex who are between 16 and 60 years of age, and also empowers him to require occupiers of business premises to make and carry out adequate arrangements for the detection and prevention of fires resulting from hostile attack.

Under the above Order in Council the Minister of Home Security made, on 18th January, the Fire Prevention (Business Premises) Order, 1941,† which requires occupiers of business premises in prescribed areas to satisfy the appropriate local authority that their arrangements for fire fighting are adequate. Under this Order it shall be the duty of all British male persons between 16 and 60 years of age, with certain specified exceptions, who work on the premises, to take turns of duty, for fire-prevention purposes, not exceeding 48 hours a month in the aggregate. Where satisfactory voluntary arrangements can be made compulsion will not be applied.

PROTECTION OF GLASS IN FACTORIES. (NORTHERN IRELAND).

THE Ministry of Labour for Northern Ireland has made an Order‡ for the provision and maintenance of safeguards against the risk of injury to factory employees which might be caused by broken glass. The terms of the Order are similar to those of a corresponding Order for Great Britain, reported on page 307 of the December, 1940, issue of this GAZETTE. The Ministry has also issued a Circular,§ dated 10th January, 1941, for the guidance of occupiers of factories to which the Order applies.

WELFARE OF CONSTRUCTIONAL WORKERS.

The Building Operations and Works of Engineering Construction (Welfare and Safety Provisions) Order, 1941,|| dated January 8, 1941, made by the Minister of Labour and National Service under Regulation 60 of the Defence (General) Regulations, 1939.

IN pursuance of the powers conferred on him by Regulation 60 of the Defence (General) Regulations, 1939, and of all other powers enabling him in that behalf, the Minister of Labour and National Service (hereinafter referred to as "the Minister") hereby makes the following Order:—

1.—Any contractor undertaking building operations or works of engineering construction in the construction of a munitions factory, aerodrome, defence works or similar works required on behalf of the Crown shall, if so directed on behalf of the Minister by the Chief Inspector of Factories or by any other Inspector of Factories expressly authorised by the Minister to give directions under this Order, make

* Statutory Rules and Orders, 1941, No. 68: H.M. Stationery Office; price 2d. net (3d. post free).

† Statutory Rules and Orders, 1941, No. 69: H.M. Stationery Office; price 2d. net (3d. post free).

‡ Statutory Rules and Orders of Northern Ireland, 1941, No. 5. H.M. Stationery Office; price 1d. net (2d. post free).

§ Circular No. M.L.C.D.I. H.M. Stationery Office; price 1d. net (2d. post free).

|| Statutory Rules and Orders, 1941, No. 66. H.M. Stationery Office, price 1d. net (2d. post free).

arrangements to the satisfaction of the Inspector by way of the employment of such numbers of supervisory officers as the Inspector may specify for one or both of the following services, namely:—

- (a) supervision of the welfare of persons employed by him in such operation or works,
- (b) supervision of the safety of such persons on the site of the works.

2.—Any such contractor shall, if so directed by the Chief or other Inspector of Factories authorised as aforesaid, make arrangements to secure the provision on or in the immediate vicinity of the site of the works of sufficient and suitable canteen facilities where hot meals can be purchased by the workers.

3.—This Order may be cited as the Building Operations and Works of Engineering Construction (Welfare and Safety Provisions) Order, 1941, and shall come into force on the date hereof.

Signed by Order of the Minister of Labour and National Service this eighth day of January, 1941.

T. W. PHILLIPS,
Secretary of the Ministry of
Labour and National Service.

OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

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

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.—*Annual report of the Chief Inspector of Factories and Workshops for the year 1939.* Ministry of Labour and National Service. [Cmd. 6251; price 1s.]

NATIONAL SERVICE (ARMED FORCES).—*Selected decisions given by the Umpire in respect of applications for postponement of liability to be called up for service in the Armed Forces of the Crown during the months of October and November, 1940.* N. S. Code 2. Pamphlets Nos. 10 and 11/1940. Ministry of Labour and National Service. [S.O. publications; price 2d. each.]

WEEKLY EXPENDITURE OF WORKING-CLASS HOUSEHOLDS IN THE UNITED KINGDOM IN 1937–38.

I.—*Households of industrial, etc., workers (preceded by a general introduction to the enquiry).* (Reprinted from the Ministry of Labour Gazette, December, 1940.)

II.—*Households of agricultural workers.* (Reprinted from the Ministry of Labour Gazette, January, 1941.)

Ministry of Labour and National Service. [S.O. publications; price 3d. each.]

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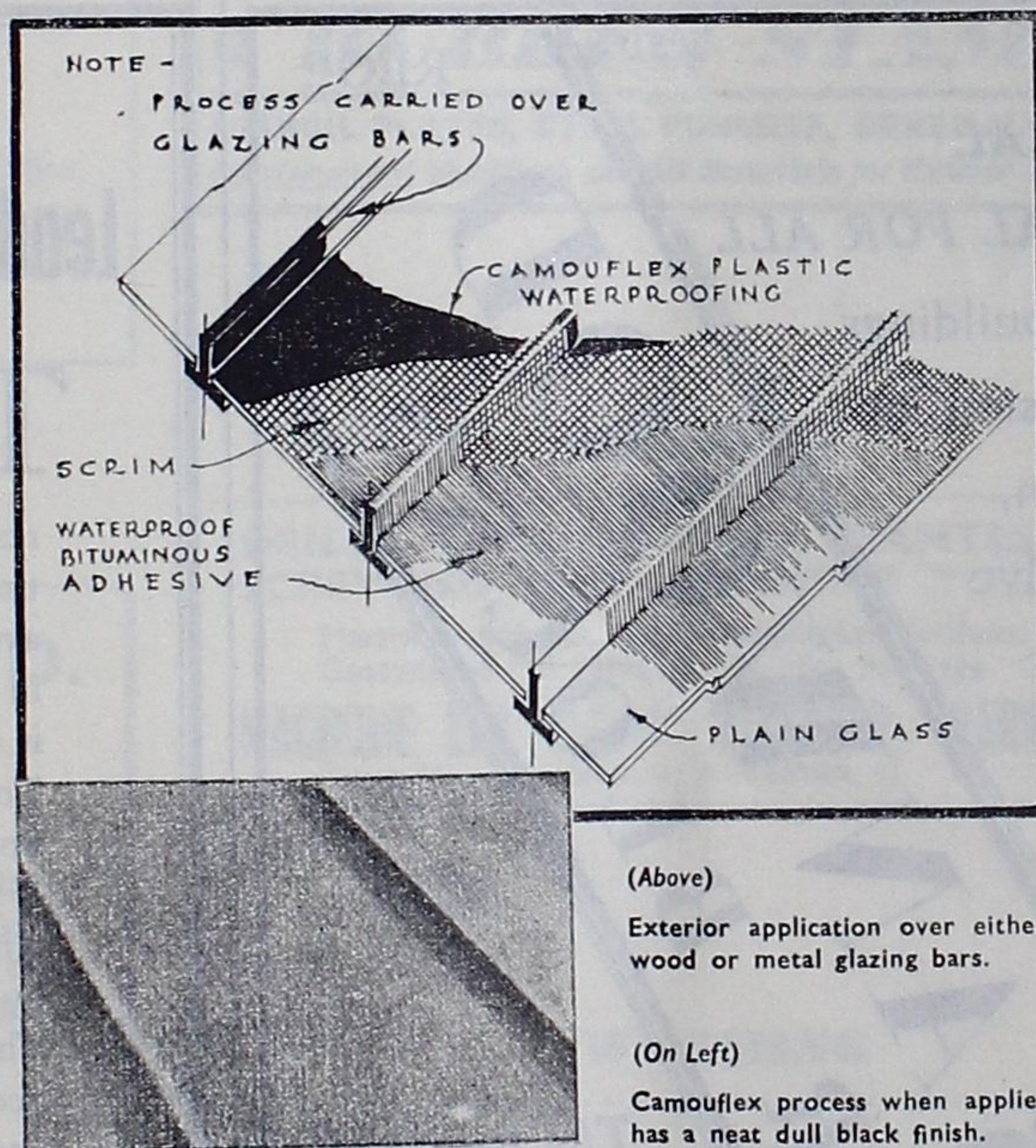
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