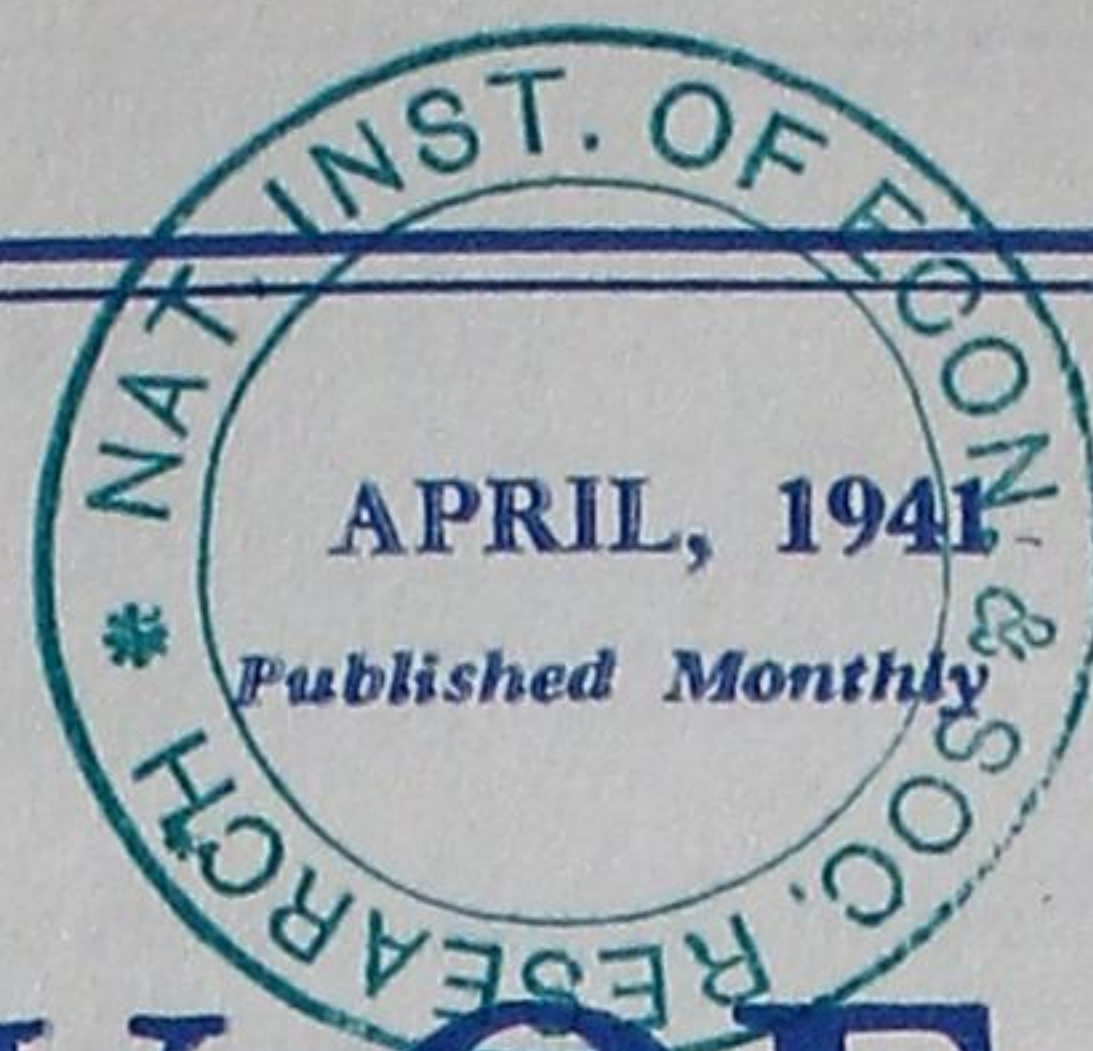


Vol. XLIX.
No. 4.



THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE

Principal Contents

Determination of Needs Act, 1941.

Concentration of Production.

National Service Act, 1941.

Schedule of Reserved Occupations and Protected Work.

Financial Condition of the Unemployment Fund.

Monthly Statistics:

Employment and Unemployment, Changes in Rates of Wages, Cost of Living, Trade Disputes, etc.

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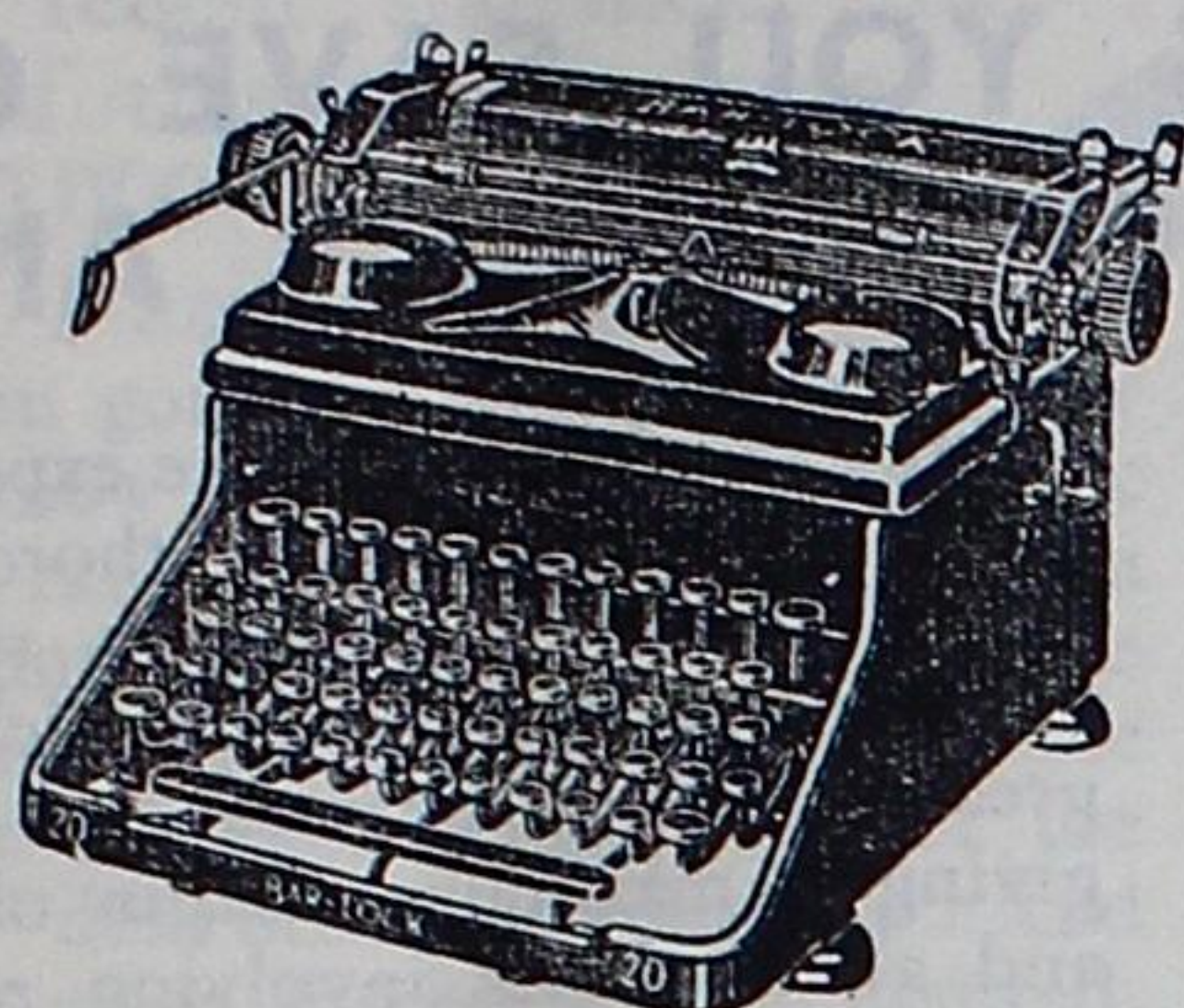
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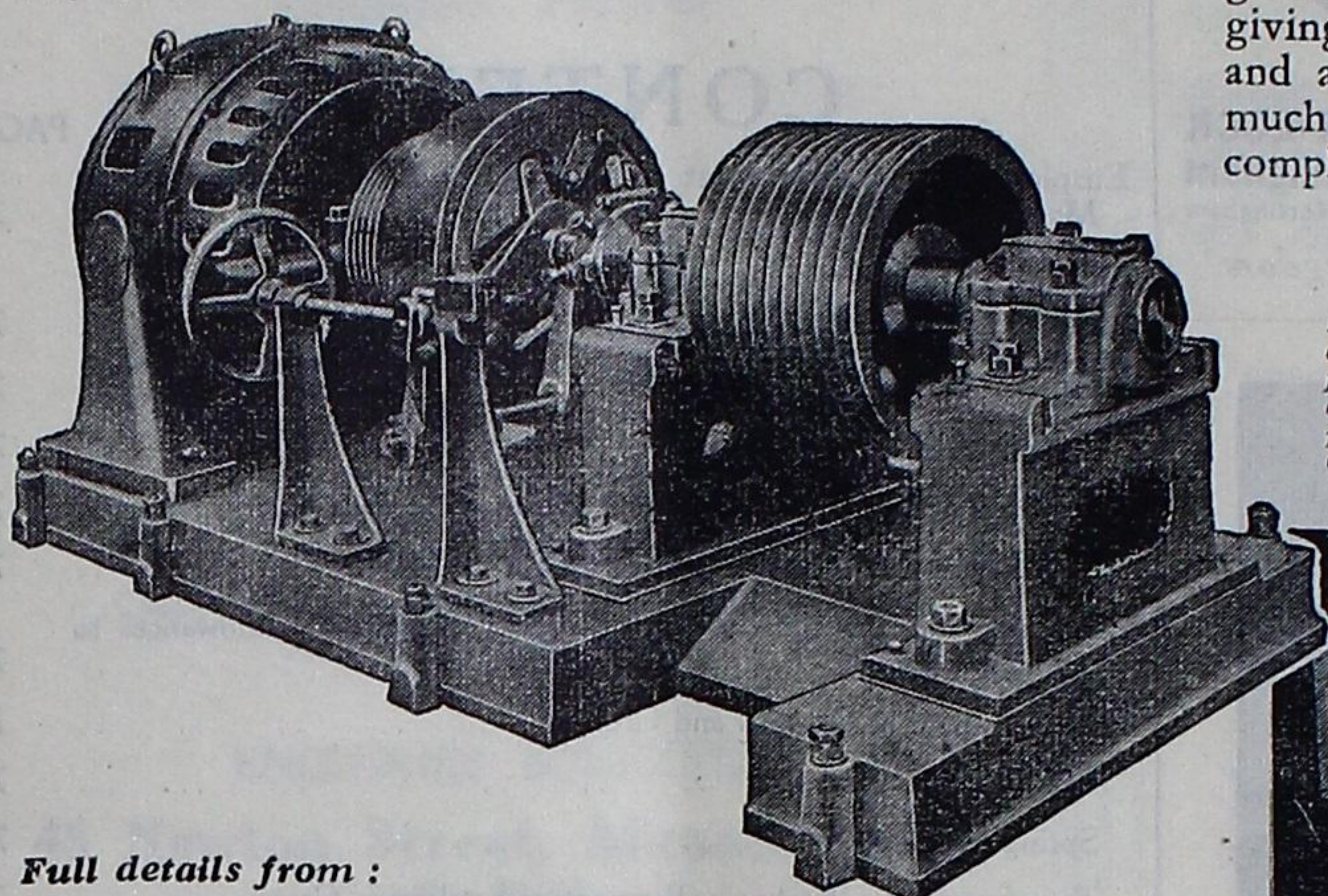
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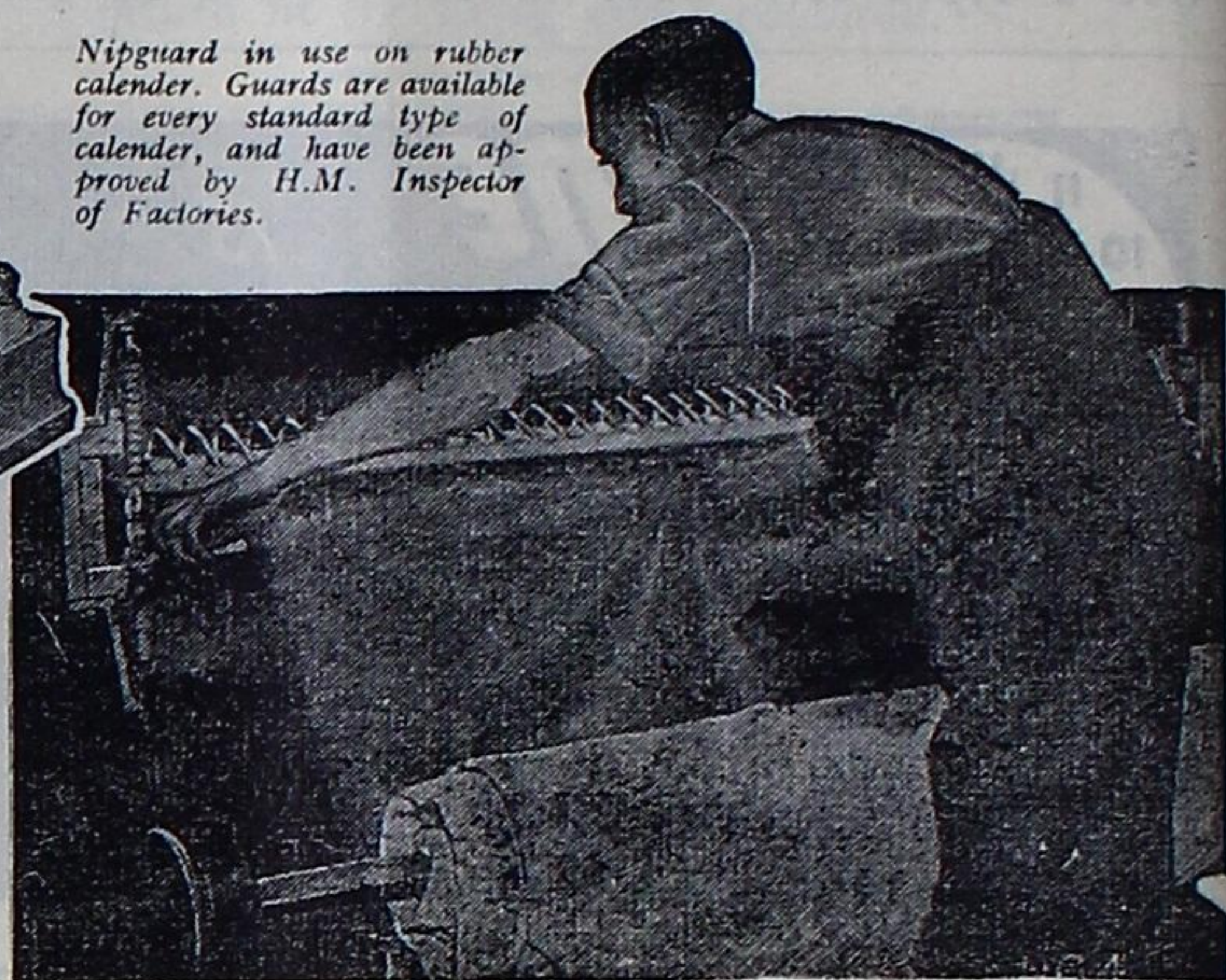
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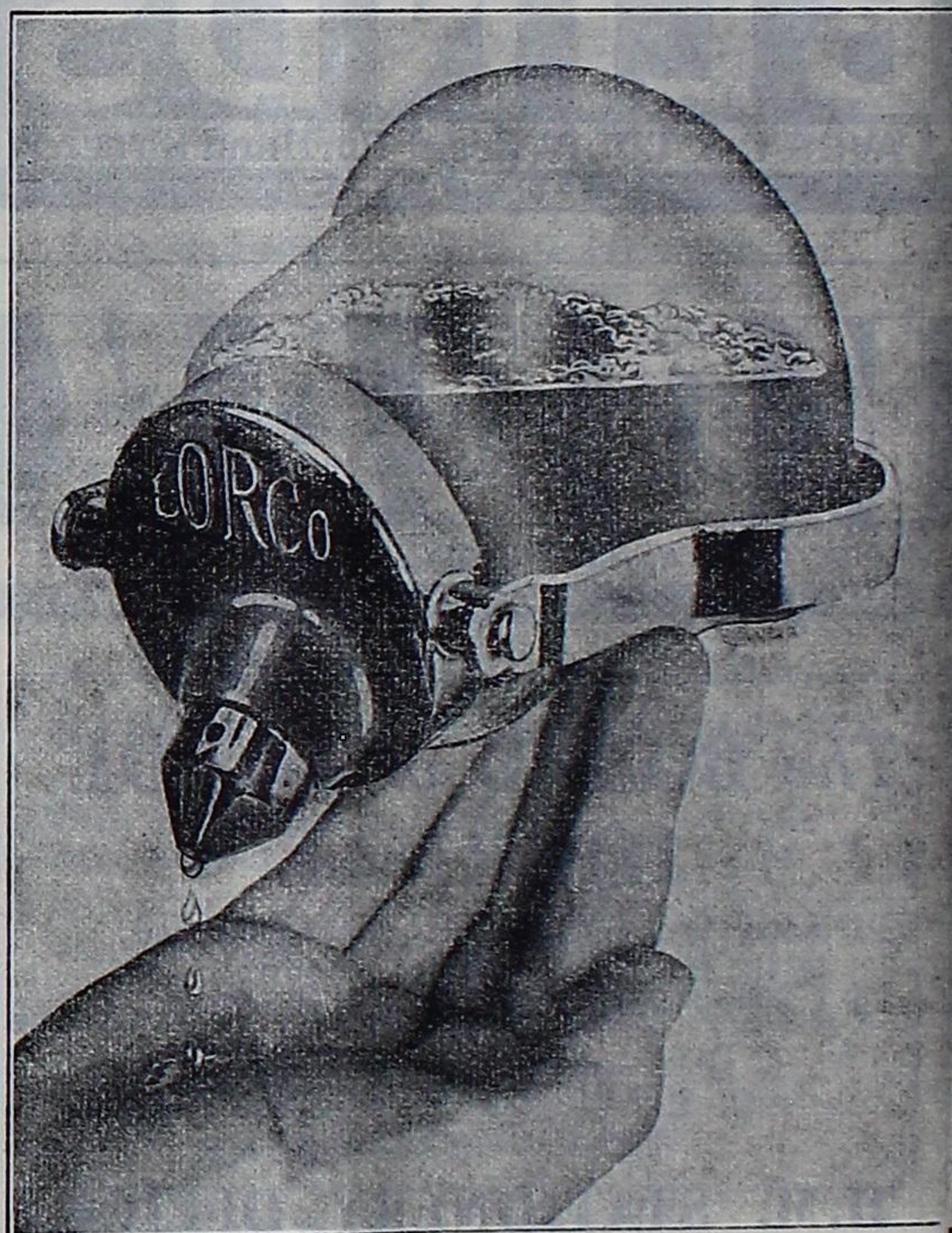
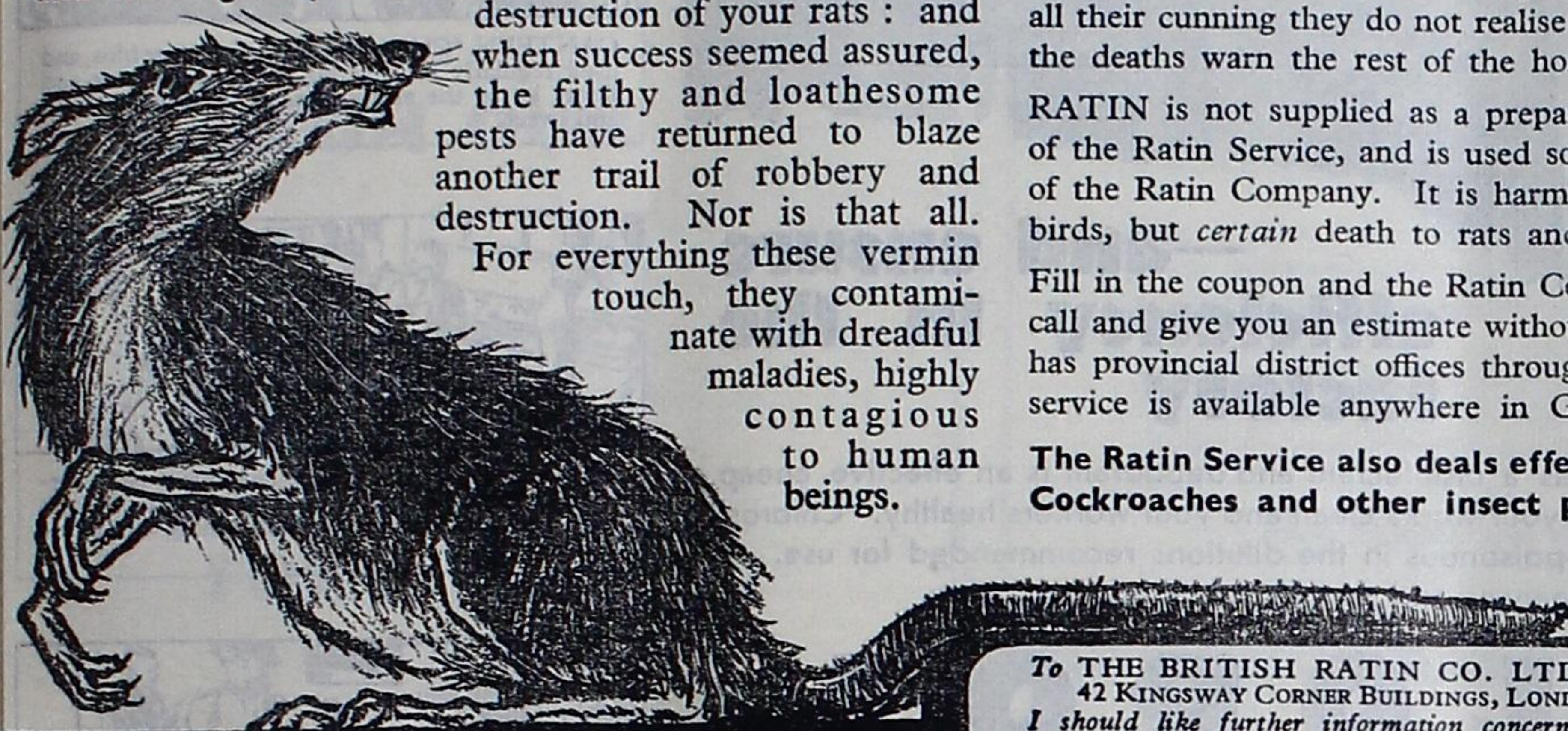


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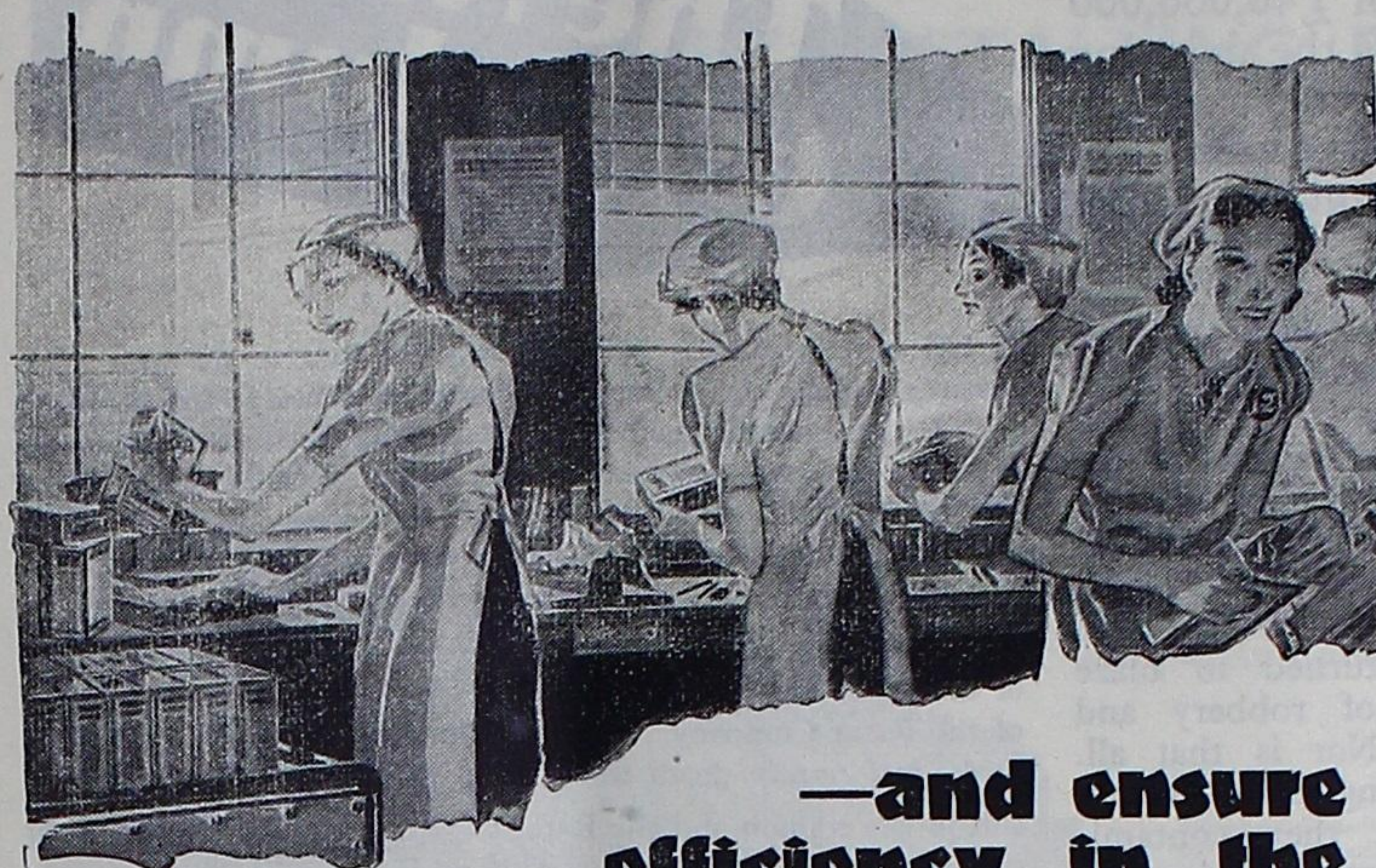
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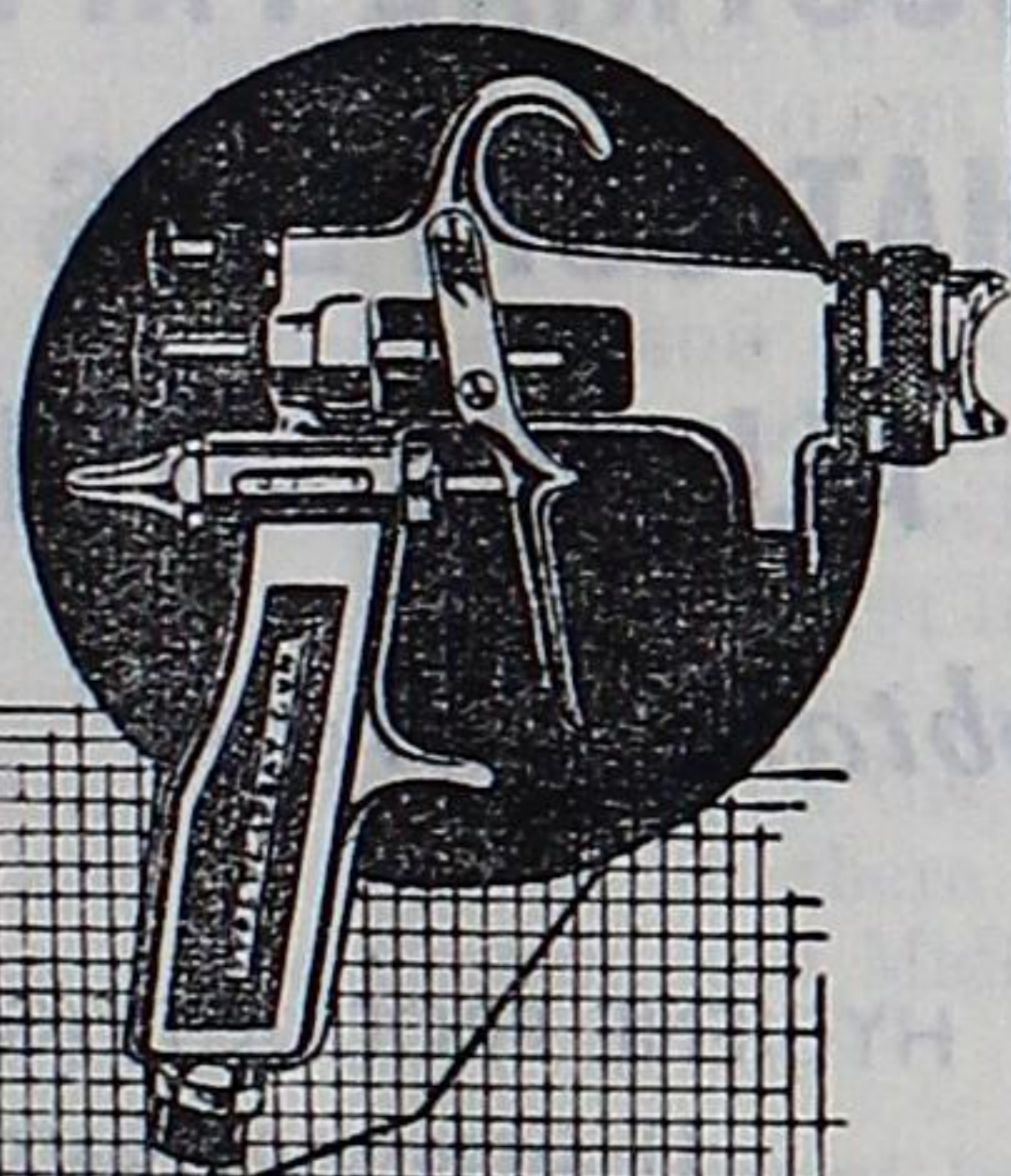
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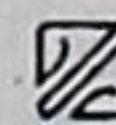
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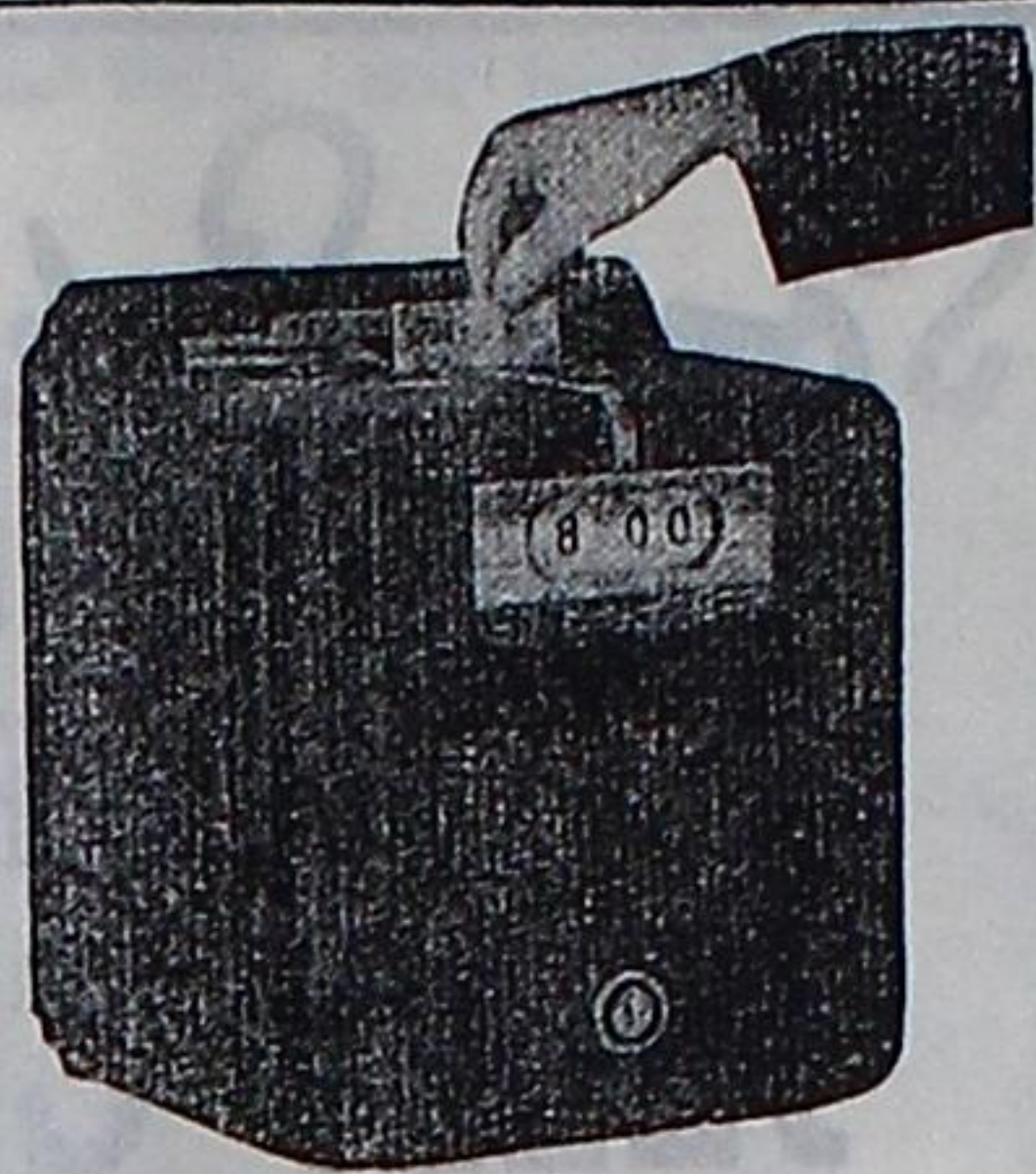
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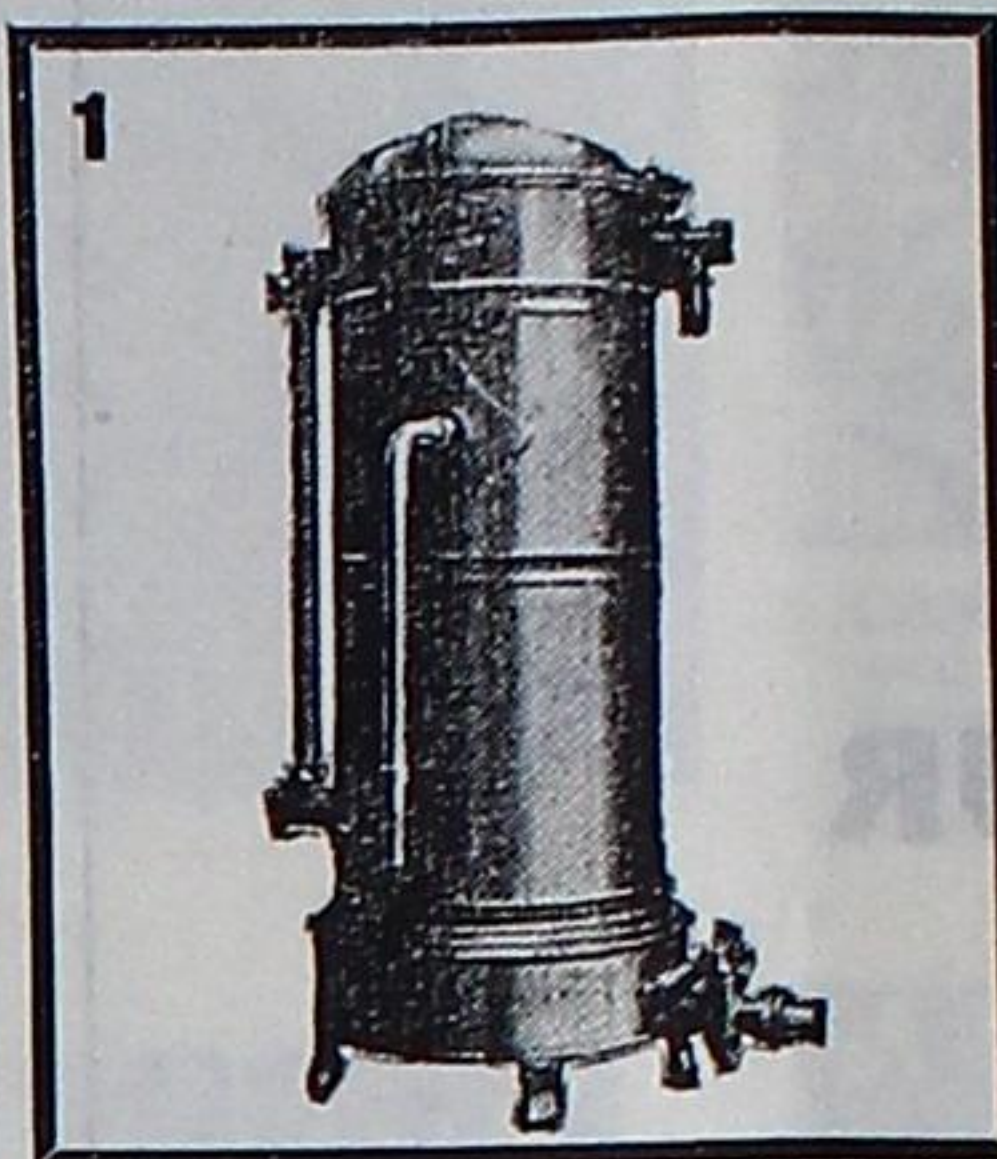
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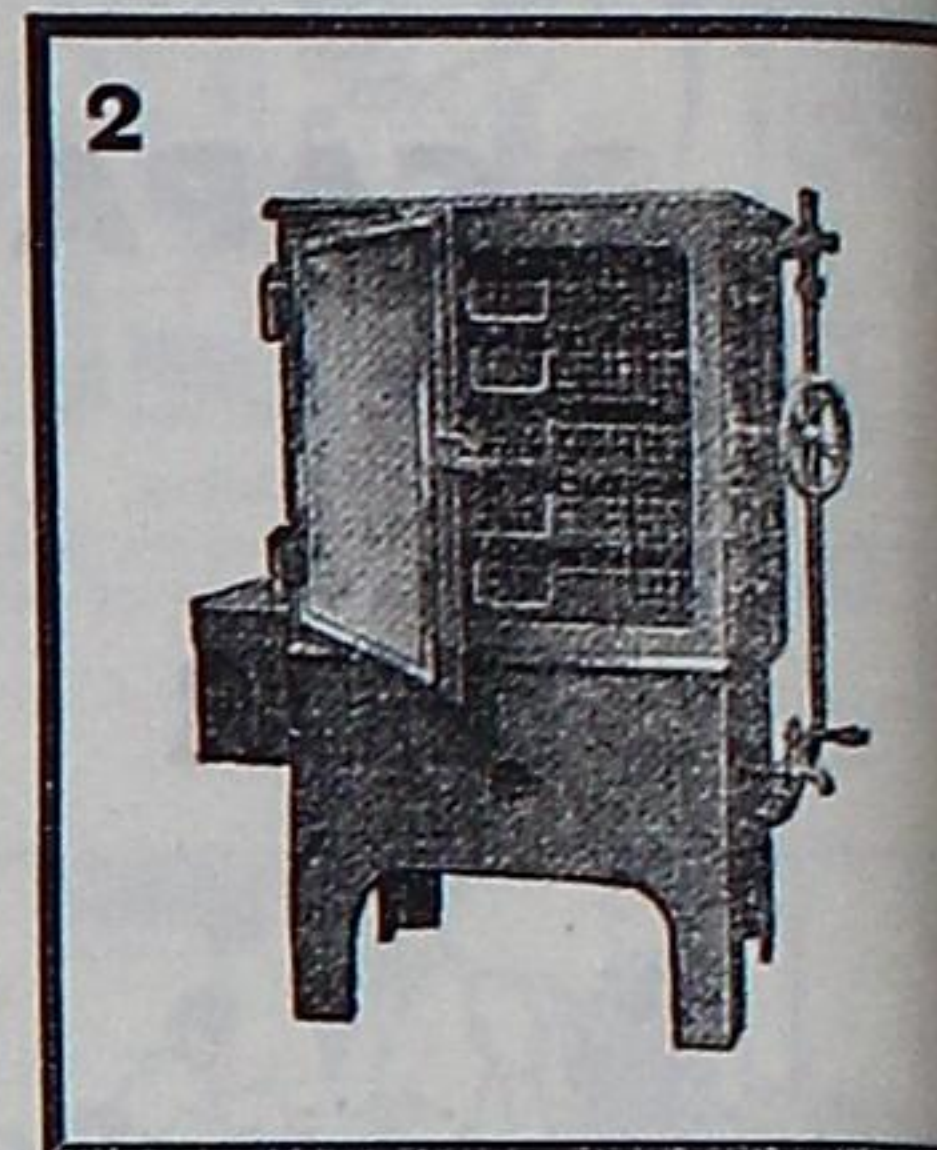


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THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE

PUBLISHED MONTHLY.

VOL. XLIX.—No. 4.]

APRIL, 1941.

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

EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT.

THE number of men and boys registered at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain as wholly unemployed at 17th March was 172,660, a reduction of 44,886 as compared with 10th February. Of this total, 36,408 had been classified by interviewing panels as unsuitable for ordinary industrial employment.

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 41,676; this was a decrease of 27,741 as compared with 10th February. Those registered as unemployed casual workers (being persons who normally seek their livelihood by jobs of short duration) numbered 17,000, an increase of 415 as compared with 10th February.

The corresponding figures for women and girls on the registers at 17th March were 191,648 wholly unemployed (of whom 2,011 had been classified by interviewing panels as unsuitable for normal full-time employment), 34,015 temporarily stopped, and 919 unemployed casual workers. As compared with 10th February, the numbers wholly unemployed showed a decrease of 39,781, those temporarily stopped a decrease of 10,803, and unemployed casual workers a decrease of 135.

The total numbers of men and boys and of women and girls on the registers at 17th March showed decreases as compared with 10th February in every Division. Among men and boys the decreases were greatest in the London, North-Eastern and Northern Divisions and in Scotland and Wales. Among women and girls the most marked reduction occurred in London, but there were also substantial decreases in the Eastern and Midlands Divisions and in Scotland.

The number of applicants for unemployment benefit or allowances on the registers at 17th March was 351,783, as compared with 470,002 at 10th February, and 976,830 at 11th March, 1940.

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 March are estimated to have resulted in an increase of about £95,000 in the weekly full-time wages of about 920,000 workpeople, and in a decrease of about £1,600 in those of 32,000 workpeople.*

The principal groups of workpeople affected included coal miners, iron and steel workers, youths and boys in the engineering, shipbuilding, and ship-repairing industries, retail bespoke tailors, and workers in the laundry trade. Coal miners in Yorkshire, Derbyshire,

* The workpeople whose rates of wages were reduced in March had received increases of greater amount during the first two months of 1941.

and Leicestershire received increases, while those in Cannock Chase, Warwickshire, and Somerset had their wages reduced, the changes in each case being due to the operation of sliding-scale agreements under which wage rates vary in correspondence with fluctuations in the ascertained proceeds of the industry. Workpeople employed in iron and steel manufacture in various districts received increases of 0·8d. a shift in the case of men and of 0·4d. a shift in the case of youths and boys. The rates of wages of apprentices, youths, and boys in the engineering, shipbuilding, and ship-repairing industries were increased as a result of the introduction of standard scales of pay. The minimum rates of wages fixed under the Trade Boards Acts for workpeople employed in retail bespoke tailoring in England and Wales were raised by 5 per cent. on pre-war rates, and those for laundry workers were advanced by $\frac{1}{2}$ d. an hour for men and women, and by $\frac{1}{4}$ d. an hour for juveniles.

Other groups of workpeople whose rates of wages were increased included ironstone miners and limestone quarrymen in various districts; paint, colour and varnish workers; glass bottle makers in Yorkshire; heating, ventilating and domestic engineers; workpeople employed in the light castings industry; woollen and worsted operatives in the South of Scotland; workpeople employed in the made-up textile trade, and tobacco workers.

The changes reported in the first three months of 1941 are estimated to have resulted in a net increase of about £770,000 a week in the full-time wages of 5,500,000 workpeople.

COST OF LIVING.

At 1st April, the official cost-of-living index figure was 98 per cent. above the level of July, 1914, as compared with 97 per cent. at 1st March.

For food alone, the index figure at 1st April was 70 per cent. above the level of July, 1914, as compared with 69 per cent. at 1st March, the rise being due to increases in the prices of bacon. Among items other than food, there was a slight increase during March in the prices of clothing (including clothing materials), partly attributable to the effects of the Purchase Tax. Since this Tax came into operation, on 21st October last, the resulting increases in prices have raised the cost-of-living index figure by nearly $4\frac{1}{2}$ points.

TRADE DISPUTES.

The number of trade disputes involving stoppages of work, reported to the Department as beginning in March, was 121. In addition, 8 disputes which began before March were still in progress at the beginning of that month. The approximate number of workpeople involved in these 129 disputes (including workpeople thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred) was 63,000, and the aggregate duration of the disputes in March was about 285,000 working days.

DETERMINATION OF NEEDS ACT, 1941.

THIS Act,* which abolishes the requirement that, in determining the need and assessing the needs of applicants for unemployment assistance or supplementary pensions, the resources of all members of their households must be taken into account, received Royal Assent on 26th March. Under the Act Draft Regulations must be submitted to Parliament and made within one month from that date. The Minister of Labour and National Service has now submitted to Parliament draft Unemployment Assistance Regulations† and the Minister of Health and the Secretary of State for Scotland have submitted draft Supplementary Pensions Regulations‡. These Regulations, which require an affirmative resolution of both Houses before they can become effective, supply the details of the new test of need introduced by the Act and, with the Act, give effect to the changes foreshadowed in the Prime Minister's statement of 6th November last.§ The purpose of these changes, as stated by the Prime Minister, is to remove certain causes of complaint against the household means test which is applied in determining whether an applicant for an unemployment allowance or a supplementary pension is in need and to substitute, in place of that test, a test of personal need.

Since the object is to remove causes of complaint against the household means test, it follows that the changes now proposed do not affect the position of a person who is not living as a member of a household (that is, one who is living alone in his or her own house or rooms, or who is living as a boarder with strangers) unless he happens to have "War Savings," which are referred to below. As regards persons who are living as members of households the most important change is that, in future, the only resources which will be aggregated in assessing the needs of an applicant are those belonging to the applicant, his wife or her husband and his or her dependants and not, as at present, the resources of all members of the household. This new rule applies whether or not the applicant is the householder, but the presence of non-dependent members in a household may affect the amount of an allowance. The position of a householder applicant and that of an applicant who is a member of a household but not the householder are dealt with separately in the Act and Regulations and may be contrasted here.

Contributions by Members of the Household.

If the applicant (or his wife or her husband) is the householder, his resources are to be deemed to include a contribution towards the household expenses from each non-dependent member. That contribution is never to be more than 7s. a week, and if there are special circumstances it may be less; in particular, if the non-dependent member's income consists of earnings, the contribution is to be reckoned on the following scale:—

Earnings under 55s. a week but over 30s. ...	5s.
" 30s. a week or less, but more than 20s. ...	2s. 6d.
" 20s. a week or less ...	nil.

If the earner has dependants, his contribution will be in accordance with this scale or equal to his proportionate share of the rent of the household for himself and his dependants, whichever is less. (The treatment of rent is set out in detail below.)

In all cases the contribution is intended to be, in the words of the Explanatory Memorandum which accompanies the Regulations, "a fair assessment of the benefit accruing to the householder from the presence in the household of a member who can be assumed to be paying an amount for his board and lodging which would be normal for a person in his circumstances."

If the applicant is a member of a household but not the householder, the earnings or other income of other members will not, with one exception, affect the amount of his allowance at all. Their presence in the household will, however, affect, usually slightly, the extent to which his allowance is adjusted for rent, as is indicated below. The exception to the general rule, already noted, occurs when the applicant has no dependents living in the house with him, and is living in the household of his father, mother, son, or daughter and the householder's income exceeds a prescribed limit. The prescribed limit is £6 a week (£5 5s. if the applicant is under 18), but is increased, if the householder has more than one dependant, by 15s. for each dependant after the first, and, if there is more than one applicant in the household to whom these conditions might apply, by 25s. for each such applicant after the first. It may also be increased if there are any special circumstances in the case. If the householder's wife is also the applicant's mother, her income, if she has any, will also be included in the calculation; apart from this, however, only the householder's income, and not the total household income, is taken into account for the purposes of this provision.

If the householder's income exceeds the prescribed limit, the applicant will be deemed not to be required to pay for his

board and lodging; but, subject to any resources he himself may possess, an applicant for an Unemployment Assistance allowance in such circumstances will be paid 5s. a week for his personal expenses. An old age pensioner in whose case these conditions are fulfilled will, of course, have his pension of 10s. a week for personal expenses and the draft Supplementary Pension Regulations accordingly provide that, in such circumstances, no supplementary pension is to be paid. They also provide that, whether or not these particular conditions are satisfied, if a pensioner living in a household is not, in fact, required to make a substantial contribution towards the cost of his board and lodging, no supplementary pension is to be paid.

Both in determining whether a householder's income exceeds £6 a week (or other appropriate figure) and whether a non-dependent member's income exceeds 55s. a week (or 30s. or 20s.) for the purpose of fixing his contribution, earnings from overtime and Sunday work are to be excluded.

Allowance for Rent.

There is an important change in the treatment of rent, which can again be conveniently considered in relation to the householder and non-householder separately. At present the "standard rent" of a household is computed by taking one-quarter of the total scale rates of all members of the household whether dependent or not; and, if the net rent of the household exceeds or is below this standard, the allowance of an applicant, whether householder or not, may be increased or reduced accordingly. This treatment of rent implies that each non-dependent member of the household makes a contribution of 2s. 6d. towards the rent (slightly less in the case of a woman or a person under 21).

It is the intention of the new Regulations that the contribution of 7s. or less assumed to be made by non-dependent members shall be deemed to include their contribution towards rent, and that in all normal cases full provision for meeting the actual rent will be made in the applicant's allowance where he is the householder. In future, therefore, the "standard rent" will apply only when the applicant is the householder and it will be limited to one-quarter of the scale rates of the applicant and his dependants.

If the applicant is not the householder, an addition in respect of rent is to be made to his normal scale allowance, unless he is under 18 years of age, or is being paid the special 5s. rate mentioned above. This addition will be his proportionate share of the actual rent of the household, calculated by reference to the number of persons in the household, and the number of his dependants (if any), children under 16 being counted as half units. There are, however, upper limits to this addition; 5s. if the applicant has no dependants, 7s. if he has one or more dependants.

Other Provisions.

One change of some interest, affecting only applicants for Unemployment Allowances, is the abolition of the "benefit fall-back" proviso and the consequent increase in the scale rate for a man and wife from 24s. to 26s.

The Act and Regulations also give effect to the undertaking given last year by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, on behalf of the Government, to exempt from the test of need new money lent to the Government during the war up to a limit of £375; what is now known as "War Savings." Subject to some technical qualifications, "War Savings" means, very briefly, money invested in War Stock issued since 2nd September, 1939, or in National (or Ulster) Savings Certificates purchased, or money deposited with the Post Office Savings Bank or any Trustee Savings Bank since that date; or money lent to the Treasury free of interest; provided always that it is new money and not money re-invested.

An Explanatory Memorandum* on Unemployment Assistance, prepared by the Assistance Board, sums up the changes as follows:—

"The general effect of the changes proposed to be made by the draft Regulations can be summed up under two heads. First, the allowance to a householder, instead of being reduced by a proportion of the wages of self-supporting members of the household, will only be affected to the extent of contributions of fixed amount equivalent to the benefit derived by the householder from the presence in the household of a person paying a reasonable sum for his board and lodging. Second, the allowance to a non-householder applicant (except in cases where the special rule referred to in paragraph 14† applies) will in future not be affected at all by the resources of other members of the household. On the other hand, it will include an addition for rent up to 5s. or 7s., as the case may be. The changes will both increase allowances in a large proportion of existing cases and also enable many persons to qualify for allowances who are not at present entitled to them by reason of the resources of the households in which they are living. No estimate of the number of such persons can be given or consequently of the cost to the Exchequer of the changes now made."

The new provisions will, if the draft Regulations are approved by Parliament, come into force on 2nd June and all existing cases will be reviewed on the basis of the new provisions by 2nd August.

* Cmd. 6263; H.M. Stationery Office, price 2d. net (3d. post free). A similar memorandum (Cmd. 6265) has been issued, at the same price, in relation to Supplementary Pensions.

† i.e., the rule under which the special 5s. rate is applied.

* Determination of Needs Act, 1941; 4 and 5 Geo. 6, Ch. 11. H.M. Stationery Office, price 2d. net (3d. post free).

† Unemployment Assistance (Determination of Need and Assessment of Needs) (Amendment) Draft Regulations, 1941; H.M. Stationery Office, price 2d. net (3d. post free).

‡ Supplementary Pensions (Determination of Need and Assessment of Needs) (Amendment) Draft Regulations, 1941; H.M. Stationery Office, price 2d. net (3d. post free).

§ See the November, 1940, issue of this GAZETTE, page 282.

CONCENTRATION OF PRODUCTION

A MEMORANDUM* has been issued by the Board of Trade explaining the arrangements which are being made for the concentration of production, in certain industries, in a reduced number of factories in order to implement the Government's policy of facilitating the fullest possible transfer of resources to war production while maintaining exports as far as practicable. This policy demands the severe reduction of civil consumption and the release of labour, materials, and factory space for more essential purposes.

The Memorandum states that from the point of view of the national interest it is most undesirable that the reduced production for civil needs should be met by large-scale part-time working. A spread-over of this kind results in an uneconomical use of certain types of labour; it does not free the factory and storage space which will, in many cases, be needed for Government use, and the effect of a diminished turn-over on costs may, in some instances, have serious repercussions on prices.

The policy of the Government must, therefore, be to concentrate production in a reduced number of factories working full time. These factories should be able to produce the output required for Government orders, the greatest practicable export trade and the minimum needs of our population, while at the same time preserving the goodwill of the factories closed down. The closed factories should be kept ready to start up again as soon as possible after the war. The Departments concerned will then take all measures open to them to assist their speedy re-opening; meanwhile, the Board of Trade will keep a record of factories closed down, and the Ministry of Labour will keep a record of transferred workers so that their return to their old employment after the war may be facilitated. The Government will facilitate this concentration by granting to undertakings which fulfil the necessary conditions—"nucleus" firms, as they are to be called—special help to safeguard their requirements of labour and of raw materials.

Individual firms in each industry will be expected to make arrangements with one another that will provide for the required degree of concentration. The degree of concentration required in every industry will be indicated by the Board of Trade, and a procedure, which will differ in detail from industry to industry, will be suggested for attaining it.

It will be for each individual firm which wishes to qualify as a "nucleus" firm to make arrangements with others that permit it to "run full" or to approach as nearly to that condition as circumstances permit. A firm which wishes to qualify as a "nucleus" firm is also required to satisfy certain other conditions. The arrangements must provide for the complete closing down of the factory or works whose output is to be transferred to the protected firm; the "nucleus" firm must make its own financial arrangements to compensate the firm or firms whose works are to be closed as a result of the scheme; the arrangement must provide for the plant of the closed firm to be kept intact, unless the premises should be requisitioned; it must also provide for the maintenance of the production for export and for the Government which was previously undertaken by the firm closed down; and the arrangements for dealing with the workers affected by the scheme must be satisfactory.

Firms will be required by the Board of Trade and Ministry of Labour to ensure that production is concentrated, so far as possible, in areas where the competing demands of the munitions industries are least severe; that the labour released is adaptable and of a type likely to be readily absorbed in the new employment; that labour which is displaced from factories closed down, and which cannot be absorbed into the war industries will, as far as possible, be taken on in the factories remaining in production; and that the time for the release of labour will be, as far as possible, regulated to the demand.

The objectives are twofold:—firstly, to obtain the labour required for the war industries and, secondly, to avoid unnecessary unemployment. Thus, it is necessary to keep in production factories in areas where alternative employment is not available, and to time the release of workers so that they can be immediately transferred to war work. Firms remaining in production should be prepared to release their younger and more adaptable workers so as to make room for elderly workers displaced from other factories.

There are many urgent demands for labour that must be filled, and it is not possible to suspend the existing method of filling them, in part, by the transfer of workers from less essential industries. It is, therefore, very desirable that schemes for concentration should be settled as early as possible so that the withdrawal of labour from these industries may be made to conform with the plans for concentration.

Firms are advised to obtain from the Divisional Controllers of the Ministry of Labour at an early stage of their arrangements information relevant to the conditions set out above.

A firm which qualifies as a "nucleus" firm will enjoy certain advantages. It will be eligible for inclusion on the list of protected firms, that is, in occupations in which there are two ages of reservation under the Schedule of Reserved Occupations the lower age will apply, and the fact that it is on the list will be taken into consideration in dealing with applications for deferment of the calling-up of any of its workpeople; the Ministry of Labour will safeguard the labour requirements of the firm in appropriate cases upon the recommendation of the Board of Trade; Government orders will, as far as possible, be given to the firm; the Board of Trade will, as far as possible, prevent its factory from being requisitioned; and help will be given to the firm to safeguard as far as possible its supplies of

raw materials.

In order to help the Board of Trade in carrying out their task, the scope of the Export Council is being expanded, and it has been renamed the Industrial and Export Council. A Committee of the Council has been formed, under the Chairmanship of the President of the Board of Trade, which includes the Parliamentary Secretary of Raw Materials of the Ministry of Supply and a Parliamentary Secretary of the Ministry of Labour.

The industries affected are in general those covered by the Limitation of Supplies (Miscellaneous) Order, and certain industries subject to raw material control. The lists given below, which are not necessarily final, show the industries concerned:—

(a) *Industries Covered by the Limitations of Supplies Order*: pottery (except stoneware and agricultural and horticultural pottery); blown glass (domestic ware); hosiery; lace; gloves (leather, fur and fabric); perfumery and toilet preparations; carpets (excluding Kidderminster); toys; cutlery; jewellery; silver and electro-plate; light and imitation leather goods; corsets; braces; sports goods; photographic goods; fancy goods of plastic materials; mechanical lighters; combs; linoleum; lighting fittings (domestic); musical instruments; fountain pens and propelling pencils.

(b) *Industries Subject to Raw Material Control*: cotton (including finishing); woollen and worsted (including finishing); paper; boots and shoes; linen; silk.

NATIONAL SERVICE ACT, 1941.

THIS Act,* which makes provision for calling up men for civil defence and amends the National Service (Armed Forces) Act, 1939, received the Royal Assent on 10th April, 1941. It provides, in the first place, that every person who, for the time being, is liable under the National Service (Armed Forces) Act, 1939, to be called up for service in the armed forces, or is not so liable by reason only that he is a conditionally registered conscientious objector, shall be liable to be called up for civil defence. Persons liable to be called up may now express a preference for service with the Civil Defence Forces, or any particular Civil Defence Force and such preference must be recorded.

The Act empowers the Minister of Labour and National Service to require persons who have been medically examined under the principal Act to enrol with a Civil Defence authority for service in such Civil Defence Force as may be specified. An "enrolment notice" issued under these powers is treated, in regard to postponement of liability to serve and suspension pending appeals, as if it were an enlistment notice under the principal Act.

The amendments to the principal Act relate to (i) the enforcement of requirements as to medical examination, (ii) breaches of conditions of registration as conscientious objectors, (iii) transfer of non-combatants from the military service register to the register of conscientious objectors, (iv) applications by conscientious objectors for service, (v) the hearing of appeals for postponement of service by an umpire (or deputy umpire) in the absence of one or both of the assessors appointed to sit with him (vi) exemption from liability of persons not ordinarily resident in Great Britain, (vii) reinstatement in civil employment, on the termination of their service, of persons called up or called out and (viii) the admissibility of certain evidence on prosecutions.

ELECTRICAL INSTALLATION (RESTRICTION ON ENGAGEMENT) ORDER, 1941.

UNDER this Order† no employer engaged wholly or mainly in the installation, maintenance or repair of electrical equipment may engage a worker, or seek to engage one, except by notifying particulars of the vacancy to the Local Office of the Ministry of Labour and National Service and engaging for that vacancy a worker submitted to him by such a Local Office. Similarly, workers may obtain work in this industry only by applying at a Local Office of the Ministry. The Order was made by the Minister of Labour and National Service, under Regulation 58A of the Defence (General) Regulations, on 15th March and came into force on 31st March.

The Order does not apply in certain cases where the employer wishes to re-engage a worker whose employment has been temporarily interrupted, nor does it prevent the engagement of workers through arrangements, approved by the Minister, between employers, or organisations of employers, and trade unions. Further, the Order does not restrict the engagement of managers, salesmen or clerks (other than costing clerks, progress clerks and draughtsmen) or persons in domestic service.

Where an employer, who is not wholly or mainly engaged in the installation, maintenance or repair of electrical equipment, has a branch or department which is so engaged, the Order applies to this branch or department.

Electrical equipment includes accumulators, batteries, bells, lamps, signs, sparking plugs, switches, telegraph, telephone and wireless instruments, wires and cables, dynamos, generators, motors, transformers and any other equipment of a similar nature.

The Order does not apply to the manufacture of electrical equipment, but a similar Order, namely the Undertakings (Restriction on Engagement) Order, 1940,‡ already covers much of that work under the definition of general engineering.

* Concentration of Production: Explanatory Memorandum. Cmd. 6258; H.M. Stationery Office, price 1d. net (2d. post free).

* National Service Act, 1941; 4 and 5 Geo 6, Ch. 15 H.M. Stationery Office, price 3d. net (4d. post free).

† Statutory Rules and Orders, 1941, No. 409; H.M. Stationery Office, price 1d. net (2d. post free). The text of the Order is given on page 92.

‡ See the June, 1940, issue of this GAZETTE, page 156.

SCHEDULE OF RESERVED OCCUPATIONS AND PROTECTED WORK.

A REVISED edition* of the Schedule of Reserved Occupations has been issued by the Ministry of Labour and National Service. This edition supersedes the issue of May, 1940, which is now obsolete.

The revised Schedule has a double object: to increase the number of men in the Armed Forces, and to increase the number of men engaged on civilian work of national importance. The ages of reservation from service in the Armed Forces of men in many occupations are, therefore, being raised. These changes are taking place in the following three stages (though men may be required to attend for medical examination before the dates mentioned below):—

- (a) under which men losing their reservation may be required to join their units on or after 1st June.
- (b) under which they will not, as a rule, be required to join their units before the middle of July.
- (c) under which they will not, as a rule, be required to join their units before 1st October.

Men losing their reservation will not be called up if, before they receive enlistment notices, they have transferred to occupations in which they are reserved, and the Ministry has been notified that they have done so.

A new principle of "Protected Work" is introduced into the new Schedule. An employer may apply for his establishment to be included in a Register of Protected Establishments. Many occupations are given two ages of reservation in the Schedule, and men in such an occupation in a Protected Establishment are reserved at the lower of the two ages.

Changes in the Schedule will continue to be made from time to time in the light of the changing man-power needs of the Armed Forces and of Industry.

The above points, and many others, are made clear in the very full Explanatory Memorandum at the beginning of the new Schedule.

Part I consists of the list of occupations in which men and women are reserved; and Part IV contains a list of occupations in which women only are reserved.

Part II defines the classes of establishments which will be considered for admission to the Register of Protected Establishments.

Part III contains exceptions from the operation of the Schedule and details of special arrangements for certain classes of men.

A full alphabetical index of occupations in Part I is given at the end of the Schedule.

Copies of the Schedule may be purchased, either directly or through any bookseller, from H.M. Stationery Office at any of the addresses shown on the front cover of this GAZETTE: information as to the effect of the Schedule in individual cases may be obtained at any Local Office of the Ministry of Labour and National Service.

TRAINING FOR MUNITIONS WORK.

CHANGES IN RATES OF ALLOWANCES TO YOUNG PERSONS.

THE rates of allowances payable to trainees under nineteen years of age at Government Training Centres and Emergency Training Establishments were increased as from 31st March. The increases bring the allowances into accord with the changed basis of payment to older trainees, of which particulars were given on page 53 of last month's issue of this GAZETTE.

In the case of young persons training at a centre within daily travelling distance from their homes the new rates are as follows:—*Males*, aged 18, 23s.; aged 16 but under 18, 17s.; *Females*, aged 18, 21s.; aged 16 and under 18, 15s. The previous rates for males aged 18, 17 and 16 were 22s., 15s. and 12s., respectively; for females of corresponding ages they were 20s., 13s. 6d. and 11s.

Young trainees living away from home are paid a lodging allowance and, in addition, a sum by way of pocket money. This sum has now been increased by 1s.; the new rates for males are 7s. for those aged 18 and 6s. for those aged 16 and under 18; in the case of females aged 18 the rate is 6s.

In addition to the above allowances each trainee is given a free mid-day meal, or, if the training centre is without full canteen facilities, a further allowance of 5s. a week.

The former scheme of dependant's allowances has been discontinued, but trainees beyond daily travelling distance from their homes who have to maintain a home in the area from which they have come may, subject to certain conditions, receive an allowance of 24s. 6d. a week during training. Trainees living away from home who are not eligible for this allowance receive a "settling-in" grant of 24s. 6d. at the end of their first week of training.

Increments of 2s. a week, conditional upon passing proficiency tests during training, will be paid to trainees under 19 years of age at Government Training Centres but not to those at Emergency Training Establishments. The tests are normally taken at intervals of one month and the number of increments is limited to three.

Except for these changes, trainees under 19 years of age will continue to be recruited and trained under the conditions in force hitherto. None of these changes applies to trainees in Auxiliary Training Establishments.

* Schedule of Reserved Occupations and Protected Work (Revision 10th April, 1941). H.M. Stationery Office, price 1s. net (1s. 2d. post free).

DOCK LABOUR AT GLASGOW AND GREENOCK.

To secure the quickest possible turn-round of ships the Government instituted a new scheme for the employment of dockers at certain large ports. Under this scheme, the application of which in Merseyside was described on page 52 of last month's issue of this GAZETTE, dock labourers are no longer engaged on a casual basis but become permanent employees of the Minister of Transport, on a guaranteed (weekly) basis, combined, where possible, with payment by results.

Similar arrangements have been introduced at Glasgow and Greenock. The Minister of Transport guarantees payment to each man for a minimum of eleven turns in each full pay week: each man is to be paid the total amount of his earnings (whether on a time or a piece-work basis) and in addition, if the number of turns worked by him in any full pay week falls short of eleven turns, the difference in the number of turns is credited to him at 7s. 6d. per turn.

The guarantee of payment for eleven turns will, of course, lapse if a man is absent from employment or fails to turn out when required. If the Port Labour inspector certifies that a man has been absent through sickness or other adequate cause the guarantee will be reduced by the number of turns covered by the certificate.

FOOD CONTROL.

MAXIMUM RETAIL PRICES OF FOOD.

SINCE the issue of the Orders referred to in the March number of this GAZETTE, further Orders have been made by the Minister of Food, prescribing maximum retail prices for Icelandic cod (except in Northern Ireland) from 31st March, for rice from 7th April, for imported tomatoes from 9th April, and for imported canned pilchards and herrings from 14th April.

FOOD RATIONING.

The domestic ration of meat, which had been 1s. 2d. per head per week since 13th January, was reduced to 1s. from 31st March. For children under six the meat ration is one-half of the adult ration.

Rationing of cheese will begin on 5th May. The general ration will be at the rate of 1 oz. per head per week. For miners who are underground workers, for agricultural workers, and for vegetarians the ration will be 8 oz.

RESTRICTIONS ON THE SALE OF MILK.

Under the Sale of Milk (Restriction) Order, which came into force on 13th April, retail sales of milk in Great Britain are restricted to six-sevenths of the quantities sold in the week beginning 2nd March, 1941.

The object of the Order is not to ration milk, but to withdraw supplies from the liquid market and so increase the manufacture of cheese and condensed milk, which can be stored for the winter.

The Order does not affect members of the National Milk Scheme, children taking milk in school or inmates of hospitals and maternity and nursing homes; and special provision is made for sufferers from certain diseases.

SPRING HOLIDAYS.

ORDERS in Council entitled "The Defence (St. Patrick's Day Holiday) Regulations, 1941,* and "The Defence (Good Friday) Regulations, 1941,"† made under the Emergency Powers (Defence) Acts, 1939 and 1940, cancelled Monday, 17th March, as a bank or public holiday in Northern Ireland and Friday, 11th April, as a statutory holiday in England and Wales and Northern Ireland, save in respect of certain financial transactions.

Although work was to continue on Good Friday, the Government decided that the interests of war production would best be served if workpeople in general had a short break at Easter. The Ministry of Labour recommended that the break should be taken in England and Wales between the usual stopping time on Saturday, 12th April, and Tuesday morning, 15th April. In Scotland the corresponding break would be the usual spring holiday.

TRANSFER OF WAR WORKERS.

PAYMENT OF "SETTLING-IN" GRANTS.

IN the March issue of this GAZETTE (page 51), it was stated that a scheme had been introduced for payment of "settling-in" grants for workers, transferred from a distance to work of national importance, who do not receive a lodging allowance. It should be noted that while both men and women workers are eligible for the grant of 24s. 6d. for the first week of employment in such circumstances, the supplementary allowance of 10s. for the second week of employment, to which reference was made, is payable only to women workers so transferred.

* Statutory Rules and Orders, 1941, No. 344, H.M. Stationery Office, price 1d. net (2d. post free).

† Statutory Rules and Orders, 1941, No. 468, H.M. Stationery Office, price 1d. net (2d. post free).

FINANCIAL CONDITION OF THE UNEMPLOYMENT FUND.

REPORT BY THE STATUTORY COMMITTEE.

THE Unemployment Insurance Statutory Committee are required by statute to present to the Minister of Labour and National Service by the end of February in each year a Report on the financial condition of the Unemployment Fund at the previous 31st December. They are required to report separately with regard to the General and Agricultural Accounts of the Fund. The Reports for 1940 have now been published.*

GENERAL ACCOUNT.

The Report states that income during 1940 again exceeded expenditure. The total income of about £67 millions in 1940 was substantially the same as that recorded in 1939. On the other hand, the total expenditure of about £33 millions in 1940 showed a decrease of nearly £18 millions as compared with the expenditure of nearly £51 millions in 1939. The result was that the balance of about £57½ millions at the end of 1939, which had been reduced by the allocation of £37 millions to the repayment of debt, was again built up to over £54½ millions by the end of 1940.

The decrease in expenditure was mainly due to the reduction of unemployment, though, as the Committee point out, the continuing expenditure of nearly £26 millions on unemployment benefit in a year of war and intense industrial activity was high enough to be surprising, and the Committee express the opinion that that is itself a reason against excessive hopefulness as to what may be accomplished by Government action in solving the critical problems of reconstruction.

Looking forward to the post-war period, the Committee have come to the same conclusion which they reached in their last Annual Report, namely, that the war in effect makes impossible any reasonable forecast of the future course of unemployment, beyond the general forecast that any great reduction of unemployment during the war is certain to be followed by a great rise of unemployment after it. Moreover, in addition to the industrial dislocation common to this war and the last, there is in this war a greater regional dislocation of industry, a high concentration of activity in certain areas, and transference to those areas of large numbers of workpeople whose homes and regular workplaces remain elsewhere. The Committee consider, therefore, that reserves must be built up so that the unemployment insurance scheme may serve as an adequate first line of defence against unemployment in the aftermath of the war.

The Committee therefore recommend, for substantially the same reasons as in their last Report, that part of the balance should be devoted to the final extinction of the debt, which at 31st March, 1941, stood at over £38½ millions, and express the hope that it will be possible to build such reserves that it will not be necessary to exercise the powers of reborrowing. They add, however, "we cannot hope with such confidence as would justify us in treating the net gain of income as a disposable surplus." The balance at the end of 1941 is estimated as likely to be at least £55 millions if the war continues through the year.

The Committee suggest that enquiry should be made into the question of the waiting time and into the Anomalies Regulations for married women, with a particular view to the industrial position after the war; these are questions which have been persistently pressed by the trade unions. Without prejudging the general principle of waiting time, the Committee also refer to the possibility of modifying the provisions as to waiting time and the continuity rules in favour of persons thrown out of employment by direct enemy action.

AGRICULTURAL ACCOUNT.

The Report indicates that there has been a reduction on both sides of the Account, but, nevertheless, income during 1940 exceeded expenditure by £461,000, which made, with the balance of £3,397,000 carried forward at 31st December, 1939, a net balance at 31st December, 1940, of £3,858,000.

Two outstanding features of the agricultural scheme, noted in this Report and in more than one of the previous Reports of the Committee, have been the high rates of unemployment among women and girls and the small percentage of the total unemployment in the industry that ranks for benefit. The Committee observe that the second of these features has been largely responsible for the financial prosperity of the scheme: that is to say, for the continuous large excess of income over expenditure. Since seasonal conditions make it likely that substantial expenditure on unemployment will continue in agriculture throughout the war, in spite of the acute shortage of man-power, and since, owing to industrial dislocation, expenditure on agricultural benefit may rise disproportionately after the war, the Committee have no hesitation in concluding that no part of the balance should be regarded as a disposable surplus.

The Minister of Labour and National Service announced in the House of Commons on 10th April that action had been taken to pay off the remaining debt of the Unemployment Fund as recommended by the Committee; that the Committee were being invited to enquire into the Married Women's Anomalies Regulations and the waiting period in accordance with their suggestion and that their further suggestion in regard to the war-time relaxation of the waiting period and continuity rule in favour of persons thrown out of employment by direct enemy action was being considered.

UNEMPLOYMENT IN NORTHERN IRELAND.

SECOND INTERIM REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF INQUIRY.

THE Select Committee of the House of Commons of Northern Ireland, appointed on 1st October, 1940, to enquire into unemployment in Northern Ireland,* have issued a second interim Report.

In this Report the Committee devote their attention to the extension of land drainage schemes. They consider that this work is urgently necessary, both to relieve unemployment and to increase the area of land available for food production; it is important also because flooding has an adverse effect on the health of the community living in the areas concerned, and prevents pasture lands from being fully used for feeding cattle.

Field drainage schemes in Northern Ireland are carried out by farmers with the assistance of labour grants made by the Ministry of Agriculture under the Land Improvement Scheme. These grants are, however, restricted to farmers whose holdings are valued at not more than £250 per annum. Moreover, schemes which have been undertaken have been handicapped because the river-beds have not been enlarged to take the additional flow of water.

The responsibility for arterial drainage schemes lies with the County Councils. The Councils, it is stated, have been hampered by (1) the inadequacy of financial assistance from the State; (2) the presence of vested interests; and (3) disabling rules and regulations. The chief difficulty, however, is that the cost of such schemes has to be recovered by rates levied on lands which would be benefited, and this burden is too great for the occupiers to bear. In many Counties, the Councils have done much expensive preliminary work on drainage schemes which have had to be abandoned as being too costly.

In view of these facts, the Committee recommend that the scope of the Land Improvement Scheme should be extended to cover all holdings, irrespective of their value. Where appropriate, the County Surveyor should be empowered to carry out a minor scheme on behalf of the farmers; and recovery of the part of the cost payable by the farmers should be spread over five years. The Committee also recommend the appointment of a Drainage Commission, which should become responsible for the investigation of all flooding of main rivers and water-courses, and the initiation of steps for its alleviation. The Commission should also be given power to arrange for the immediate carrying into effect of those major schemes which have already been prepared but have been held up by prohibitive costs. The actual work of carrying out these drainage schemes should, however, remain the responsibility of the County Councils, acting as agents for the Commission. A regular income should be voted by Parliament to the Commission, which should also receive contributions from County Councils, as well as special rates levied on land which is improved by drainage schemes. The Committee further urge that the question of weirs and water rights should be investigated.

As they were unable to complete their enquiry, the Select Committee, in a Special Report, recommend that a Committee on the same subject should be appointed in the next Session of Parliament.

NATIONAL ARBITRATION TRIBUNAL.

CHANGES IN MEMBERSHIP.

A NUMBER of changes in the membership of the National Arbitration Tribunal have occurred since the Tribunal was established in August, 1940.† The present constitution of the Tribunal is as follows:—

Appointed Members.—The Hon. Sir Gavin Turnbull Simonds (Chairman), Sir John Forster and Sir W. David Ross, K.B.E., M.A., LL.D., F.B.A.

Panel of Representative Employers.—Mr. H. F. Brand, Mr. Clive Cookson, Mr. F. C. Fairholme, Lieutenant-Colonel H. Rivers Fletcher, O.B.E., Mr. W. O. R. Holton, Mr. R. G. Hosking, Sir Walter Benton Jones, Bart., Mr. Henry Main, Mr. G. H. Parker, Mr. Herbert E. Parkes, and Mr. W. M. Wiggins, J.P.

Panel of Representative Workers.—Mr. J. Bell, J.P., Mr. J. W. Bowen, C.B.E., J.P., Mr. H. Bullock, Mr. Lincoln Evans, Mr. W. J. Farthing, Mr. Luke Fawcett, Mr. M. Hodgson, Mr. J. Kaylor, Mrs. Madeline Robinson, Mr. J. Stokes, Mr. W. Stott, and Mr. A. M. Wall.

The Secretary of the Tribunal is Mr. F. Popplewell, O.B.E., 25-28 Buckingham Gate, London, S.W.1.

JOINT INDUSTRIAL COUNCILS FOR RETAIL DISTRIBUTIVE TRADES

THE National Chamber of Trade should have been included in the list of organisations shown in the February issue of this GAZETTE (page 32) as represented on the employers' side of the following Councils:—

Drapery, Outfitting and Footwear Trades Joint Industrial Council.

Hairdressing (including Beauty Specialists) Joint Industrial Council.

Stationery, Bookselling, Newsagency, Tobacco and Confectionery Trades Joint Industrial Council.

* See the October, 1940, issue of this GAZETTE, page 264. The first interim Report was summarised on page 12 of the January, 1941, issue.

† See the August, 1940, issue of this GAZETTE, page 210.

EMPLOYMENT IN MARCH.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

THE number of men and boys registered at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain as wholly unemployed at 17th March was 172,660, a reduction of 44,886 as compared with 10th February. Of this total, 36,408 had been classified by interviewing panels* as unsuitable for ordinary industrial employment.

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 41,676, a decrease of 27,741 as compared with 10th February. Those registered as unemployed casual workers (being persons who normally seek their livelihood by jobs of short duration) numbered 17,000, an increase of 415 as compared with 10th February.

The corresponding figures for women and girls on the registers at 17th March were 191,648 wholly unemployed (of whom 2,011 had been classified by interviewing panels as unsuitable for normal full-time employment), 34,015 temporarily stopped, and 919 unemployed casual workers. As compared with 10th February, the numbers wholly unemployed showed a decrease of 39,781, those temporarily stopped a decrease of 10,803, and unemployed casual workers a decrease of 135.

The number of applicants for unemployment benefit or allowances on the registers at 17th March was 351,783, as compared with 470,002 at 10th February, and 976,830 at 11th March, 1940.

The numbers registered as unemployed at 17th March are analysed below:—

	Wholly Unemployed.	Temporarily Stopped.	Unemployed Casual Workers.
Great Britain.			
Men	159,638	40,856	16,938
Boys	13,022	820	62
Women	165,319	31,786	916
Girls	26,329	2,229	3
Total	364,308	75,691	17,919
Increase (+) or Decrease (—) as compared with:—			
10th February, 1941 ..	— 84,667	— 38,544	+ 280
11th March, 1940 ..	— 601,359	— 33,689	— 28,247
Great Britain and Northern Ireland.			
Men	176,627	42,338	18,299
Boys	14,213	864	63
Women	185,640	35,213	962
Girls	28,058	2,404	3
Total	404,538	80,819	19,327
Decrease (—) as compared with:—			
10th February, 1941 ..	— 97,861	— 39,610	— 330
11th March, 1940 ..	— 628,032	— 31,504	— 29,039

UNEMPLOYMENT SUMMARY BY DISTRICTS.

The following Table shows the numbers of unemployed persons on the registers at 17th March in each administrative division:—

Division.	Men 18 years and over.	Boys 14-17 years.	Women 18 years and over.	Girls 14-17 years.	Total.
Wholly Unemployed.					
London†	22,419	2,056	34,393	3,590	62,458
Eastern	7,395	528	14,307	1,601	23,831
Southern† .. .	4,086	388	7,089	1,357	12,920
South-Western† ..	6,060	504	10,275	1,177	18,016
Midlands	4,844	440	5,790	544	11,618
North-Midlands ..	6,096	273	11,292	1,002	18,663
North-Eastern ..	12,548	514	9,750	1,527	24,339
North-Western ..	22,549	1,386	22,900	1,989	48,824
Northern	21,329	2,359	10,918	5,738	40,344
Scotland	26,413	2,168	27,747	3,796	60,124
Wales	25,899	2,406	10,858	4,008	43,171
Great Britain ..	159,638	13,022	165,319	26,329	364,308
Northern Ireland ..	16,989	1,191	20,321	1,729	40,230
Great Britain and Northern Ireland	176,627	14,213	185,640	28,058	404,538
Temporarily Stopped.					
London†	801	3	1,903	46	2,753
Eastern	231	15	508	60	814
Southern† .. .	81	—	475	83	639
South-Western† ..	346	9	761	55	1,171
Midlands	1,497	35	3,566	64	5,162
North-Midlands ..	2,415	13	1,839	154	4,421
North-Eastern ..	8,400	79	6,296	434	15,209
North-Western ..	5,628	60	8,399	248	14,335
Northern	6,832	115	1,576	203	10,726
Scotland	4,786	134	5,155	568	10,643
Wales	9,839	357	1,308	314	11,818
Great Britain ..	40,856	820	31,786	2,229	75,691
Northern Ireland ..	1,482	44	3,427	175	5,128
Great Britain and Northern Ireland	42,338	864	35,213	2,404	80,819

* See page 213 of the August, 1940, issue of this GAZETTE, and page 12 of the January, 1941, issue.

† The figures relate to the areas as now constituted, i.e., after the changes in boundaries at 10th March, 1941 (see page 55 of the issue of this GAZETTE for March, 1941). As a result of the changes, the total number on the registers at 17th March, 1941, including wholly unemployed, temporarily stopped, and unemployed casual workers, in the London Division, was raised by 1,447, while the totals for the Southern and South-Western Divisions were reduced by 618 and 829 respectively.

Division.	Men 18 years and over.	Boys 14-17 years.	Women 18 years and over.	Girls 14-17 years.	Total.
Unemployed Casual Workers.					
London	5,676	1	364	1	6,042
Eastern	675	—	91	—	766
Southern	185	—	5	—	190
South-Western ..	1,034	1	16	—	1,051
Midlands	16	—	22	—	38
North-Midlands ..	385	—	59	—	444
North-Eastern ..	1,999	3	19	—	2,021
North-Western ..	1,597	13	116	—	1,726
Northern	2,074	21	59	2	2,156
Scotland	1,927	23	163	—	2,113
Wales	1,370	—	2	—	1,372
Great Britain ..	16,938	62	916	3	17,919
Northern Ireland ..	1,361	1	46	—	1,408
Great Britain and Northern Ireland	18,299	63	962	3	19,327

The changes between 10th February, 1941, and 17th March, 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*	7,515	11,467	884	1,477	777	116
Eastern	4,373	5,713	1,017	179	4	53
Southern* .. .	1,445	2,767	274	13	88	3
South-Western*	2,517	2,879	503	268	261	15
Midlands	2,661	2,320	2,182	2,781	10	2
North-Midlands ..	2,901	3,232	2,471	1,401	86	5
North-Eastern ..	3,649	2,079	4,724	1,969	565	15
North-Western ..	3,622	2,731	1,469	636	113	15
Northern	5,479	1,902	4,924	566	78	43
Scotland	6,034	3,617	2,972	1,438	525	3
Wales	4,690	1,074	6,321	75	64	1
Northern Ireland ..	9,772	3,422	265	801	555	55

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 March, 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.						
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
(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
10 February ..	200,160	17,386	197,293	34,136	448,975	502,399
17 March	159,638	13,022	165,319	26,329	364,308	404,538
Temporarily Stopped.						
1940.						
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
10 February ..	67,711	1,706	42,588	2,230	114,235	120,429
17 March	40,856	820	31,786	2,229	75,691	80,819
Unemployed Casual Workers.						
1940.						
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
10 February ..	16,515	70	1,035	19	17,639	19,657
17 March	16,938	62	916	3	17,919	19,327

* See footnote † in previous column. The figures given in this Table are based on a comparison of the numbers, both at 10th February and at 17th March, in the Divisions as now constituted.

† 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 80 details are given of the number of boys and girls under 18 years of age, on the registers of Employment Exchanges and Juvenile Employment Bureaux at 17th March, 1941. 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 at the same date :—

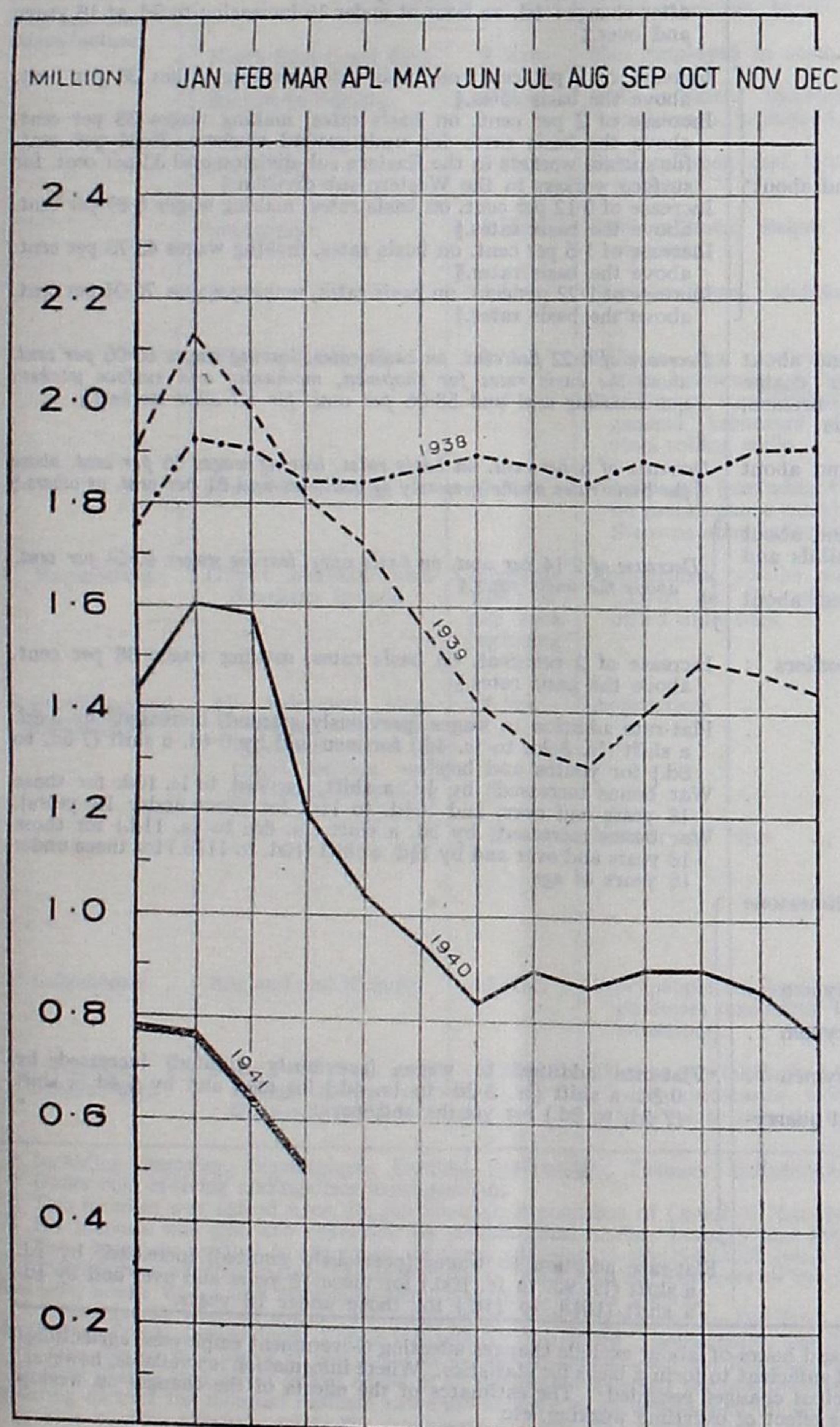
Division.	Boys.			Girls.		
	Aged 14 and 15.	Aged 16 and 17.	Total.	Aged 14 and 15.	Aged 16 and 17.	Total.
London*	871	1,189	2,060	1,557	2,080	3,637
Eastern ..	200	343	543	462	1,199	1,661
Southern*	245	143	388	608	832	1,440
South-Western*	213	301	514	446	786	1,232
Midlands ..	251	224	475	288	320	608
North-Midlands	118	168	286	417	739	1,156
North-Eastern ..	236	360	596	702	1,259	1,961
North-Western ..	556	903	1,459	955	1,282	2,237
Northern ..	1,254	1,241	2,495	2,963	2,980	5,943
Scotland ..	936	1,389	2,325	1,612	2,752	4,364
Wales ..	1,143	1,620	2,763	1,777	2,545	4,322
Great Britain..	6,023	7,881	13,904	11,787	16,774	28,561
Northern Ireland.	102	1,134	1,236	200	1,704	1,904
Gt. Britain and N. Ireland ..	6,125	9,015	15,140	11,987	18,478	30,465

The total number of insured juveniles, under 18 years of age, recorded as unemployed in Great Britain and Northern Ireland at 17th March, 1941 (including those, not on the register, whose unemployment books were in the two months' file), was 41,967, of whom 16,031 were boys and 25,936 were girls. Of these, 5,606 boys and 7,951 girls were under 16 years of age.

In the week ended 19th March, 1941, the number of juveniles, under 18 years of age, who attended authorised courses of instruction was 2,334, including 718 boys and 1,616 girls. Of this total, 344 were in the North-Eastern Division, 544 in the Northern Division, 239 in Scotland, and 1,035 in Wales.

UNEMPLOYMENT CHART.

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



* The figures relate to the areas as now constituted, i.e., after the changes in boundaries at 10th March, 1941 (see page 55 of the issue of this GAZETTE for March, 1941).

COMPOSITION OF UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS: GREAT BRITAIN.

ANALYSIS FOR 17TH MARCH, 1941.

	Men (18 years and over).	Boys (under 18 years).	Women (18 years and over).	Girls (under 18 years).	Total.
Insured on Register :—					
1. Claimants to Benefit and applicants for Unemployment Allowances ..	191,589	5,370	130,557	10,581	338,097
2. Non-claimants :—					
(a) Aged 16 and over ..	9,509	1,595	21,423	2,968	35,495
(b) Aged 14 and 15 ..	—	3,611	—	5,177	8,788
Others on Register :—					
3. Applicants for Unemployment Allowances ..	6,262	71	5,567	352	12,252
4. Women, aged 60–64, claiming Benefit*	—	—	1,434	—	1,434
5. Persons without applications :—					
(a) Aged 16 and over ..	10,072	845	39,040	2,873	52,830
(b) Aged 14 and 15 ..	—	2,412	—	6,610	9,022
Total on Register ..	217,432	13,904	198,021	28,561	457,918
Insured Unemployed :—					
Aged 16 and over :					
6. Number on Register (items 1 and 2 (a)) ..	201,098	6,965	151,980	13,549	373,592
7. Two months' file ..	28,358	2,195	53,913	2,666	87,132
8. Special Schemes—Claimants to Benefit ..	220	7	239	10	476
Total aged 16 and over ..	229,676	9,167	206,132	16,225	461,200
Aged 14 and 15 :					
9. Numbers on Register (item 2 (b)) ..	—	3,611	—	5,177	8,788
10. Two months' file ..	—	1,803	—	2,563	4,366
Total aged 14 and over ..	229,676	14,581	206,132	23,965	474,354

UNEMPLOYMENT FUND.

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

	Five weeks ended 29th Mar., 1941	Four weeks ended 22nd Feb., 1941	Five weeks ended 30th Mar., 1940
	£	£	£
(1) General Account.			
Contributions received from :—			
Employers	2,469,000	2,005,000	2,031,000
Employed persons	2,468,000	2,005,000	2,030,000
Exchequer	2,478,000	2,003,000	2,024,000
Miscellaneous Receipts	—	224,000	71,000
Total Income	7,415,000	6,237,000	6,156,000
Benefit	1,222,000	1,354,000	2,869,000
Cost of Administration	418,000	322,000	309,000†
Accrued Charge for Debt Service§ ..	192,000	153,000	372,000
Miscellaneous Payments	35,000	25,000	538,000
Total Expenditure	1,867,000	1,854,000	4,088,000
Debt Outstanding§	38,974,000	38,974,000	39,354,000
(2) Agricultural Account.			
Contributions received from :—			
Employers	62,000	35,000	48,000
Employed persons	62,000	35,000	48,000
Exchequer	62,000	35,000	48,000
Miscellaneous Receipts	—	11,000	4,000
Total Income	186,000	116,000	148,000
Benefit	76,000	104,000	136,000
Cost of Administration	23,000	14,000	18,000
Miscellaneous Payments	2,000	—	24,000
Total Expenditure	101,000	118,000	178,000

UNEMPLOYMENT ALLOWANCES.

For the period of five weeks ended 29th March, 1941, expenditure on unemployment allowances (excluding the cost of administration) amounted to approximately £723,000 compared with £677,000 during the four weeks ended 22nd February, 1941, and £2,302,000 during the five weeks ended 30th March, 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 February and March, 1941, are not strictly comparable with those for March, 1940.

* These are women who had ceased to be insurable under the Unemployment Insurance Acts at 1st July, 1940, or on reaching the age of 60, 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. 20 of 1941 for the period ended 31st March, 1940).

‡ 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 RATES OF WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR IN MARCH.

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 March are estimated to have resulted in an increase of about £95,000 in the weekly full-time wages of 920,000 workpeople, and in a decrease of about £1,600 in those of 32,000 workpeople.†

The majority of the workpeople affected by the increases were employed in the mining and quarrying, metal, and clothing groups of industries, while the decreases affected coal miners in a few districts.

In the mining and quarrying group there were increases in the rates of wages of coal miners in Yorkshire, Derbyshire, and Leicestershire, and decreases in Cannock Chase, Warwickshire, and Somerset, the changes being due to the operation of sliding-scale agreements under which wage rates fluctuate in correspondence with the ascertained proceeds of the industry. Other changes in this group affected ironstone miners and limestone quarrymen in various districts, who received increases in wages under cost-of-living sliding-scale arrangements.

In the metal industries, blastfurnacemen, workers employed in steel melting and rolling in various districts, tinplate workers, and galvanisers received increases, under cost-of-living sliding scales, amounting to 0·8d. a shift for men and to 0·4d. a shift for youths and boys. A large number of apprentices, youths, and boys employed in the engineering and shipbuilding and ship-repairing industries received increases of various amounts as a result of the introduction of standard scales of pay. Other workpeople whose wages were increased included heating, ventilating and domestic engineers, light castings workers, and metallic bedstead makers.

In the clothing industries the minimum rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts were increased by a further 5 per cent. on pre-war rates for workpeople in the retail bespoke tailoring trade in England and Wales, and the minimum rates in the laundry

trade were raised by ½d. an hour for men and women, and by ¼d. an hour for juveniles.

In other industry groups the principal increases affected paint, colour and varnish makers, who received increases of 4s. a week for men, and of 2s. 4d. a week for women, with proportional amounts for juniors, and tobacco workers, whose minimum rates under the Trade Boards Acts were increased by 4½d. a week for men and by 3d. for women and juveniles. Other workpeople whose wages were increased included heavy chemical workers in Scotland, glass bottle makers in Yorkshire, woollen and worsted operatives in the South of Scotland, asbestos workers, furniture trade operatives at High Wycombe, journeymen electricians employed by electrical contractors in Scotland, and workers in the made-up textile trade.

Of the estimated total increase of £95,000 a week, about £6,650 was due to the operation of sliding scales based on fluctuations in the proceeds of the coal mining industry; £18,500 was due to arrangements made by joint standing bodies (including £1,500 under cost-of-living sliding scales arranged by such bodies); £5,900 was due to the operation of other sliding scales based on the cost of living; £150 was due to arbitration awards; and the remaining £63,800 was the result of direct negotiation between employers and workpeople or their representatives. The whole of the estimated decrease of £1,600 a week was due to the operation of sliding scales based on the proceeds of the coal mining industry.

The changes reported in the first three months of 1941 are estimated to have resulted in a net increase of about £770,000 a week in the full-time wages of 5,500,000 workpeople. In the corresponding three months of 1940 there were net increases estimated at about £850,000 in the weekly full-time wages of 5,250,000 workpeople.

Hours of Labour.

No important changes were reported during March.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING MARCH.

Industry.	District.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change. (Decreases in <i>Italics</i> .)
Agriculture	Kent	30 Mar.	Women and girls	Increase in minimum rates of 1½d. or 2d. an hour. Minimum rates after change: 6d. an hour at under 16 increasing to 9d. at 18 years and over.†
	South Yorkshire ..	1 Mar.	Workpeople employed in and about coal mines.	Increase of 2 per cent. on basis rates, making wages 38 per cent. above the basis rates.§
	West Yorkshire ..			Increase of 2 per cent. on basis rates, making wages 38 per cent. above the basis rates for underground workers, 36·34 per cent. for surface workers in the Eastern sub-division and 33 per cent. for surface workers in the Western sub-division.§
	Derbyshire (except South Derbyshire) ..			Increase of 0·12 per cent. on basis rates, making wages 6·89 per cent. above the basis rates.§
	Leicestershire ..			Increase of 1·5 per cent. on basis rates, making wages 43·73 per cent. above the basis rates.§
Coal Mining	Cannock Chase ..	1 Mar.	Workpeople employed in and about coal mines other than engine winders, deputies and firemen, examiners and shotlighters.	Increase of 1·22 per cent. on basis rates, making wages 76·04 per cent. above the basis rates.§
	Warwickshire ..	1 Mar.	Workpeople employed in and about coal mines.	Decrease of 0·22 per cent. on basis rates, leaving wages 60·06 per cent. above the basis rates for shopmen, mechanics and surface workers not handling coal and 58·06 per cent. for all other workers.§
	Radstock district of Somerset.	1 Mar.	Workpeople employed in and about coal mines other than bailiffs and examiners.	Decrease of 3 per cent. on basis rates, leaving wages 86 per cent. above the basis rates at the majority of collieries and 81 per cent. at others.§
	Newbury district of Somerset.	1 Mar.	Workpeople employed in and about coal mines.	Decrease of 2·14 per cent. on basis rates, leaving wages 40·24 per cent. above the basis rates.§
Coke, etc., Manufacture.	South Yorkshire ..	1 Mar.	Cokemen and by-product workers ..	Increase of 2 per cent. on basis rates, making wages 38 per cent. above the basis rates.§
	Cleveland	3 Mar.	Ironstone miners	Flat-rate addition to wages (previously granted) increased|| by 0·8d. a shift (1s. 3·2d. to 1s. 4d.) for men and by 0·4d. a shift (7·6d. to 8d.) for youths and boys.
	Cumberland	3 Mar.	Iron ore miners	War bonus increased|| by ½d. a shift (1s. 9½d. to 1s. 10d. for those 18 years and over, and 10½d. to 11d. for those under 18 years).
	Furness and district ..	2 Mar.	Iron ore miners	War bonus increased|| by 3d. a shift (1s. 8d. to 1s. 11d.) for those 18 years and over and by 1½d. a shift (10d. to 11½d.) for those under 18 years of age.
Other Mining and Quarrying.	Leicestershire and adjoining parts of Lincolnshire.	1st pay day in Mar.	Ironstone miners and limestone quarrymen.	Flat-rate addition to wages (previously granted) increased|| by 0·8d. a shift (1s. 3·2d. to 1s. 4d.) for men and by 0·4d. a shift (7·6d. to 8d.) for youths and boys.
	North Lincolnshire ..	2 Mar.	Ironstone miners and quarrymen ..	
	Northamptonshire (excluding Corby).	2 Mar.	Ironstone miners and quarrymen ..	
	Banbury and district	2 Mar.	Ironstone miners and quarrymen ..	Flat-rate addition to wages (previously granted) increased|| by 0·8d. a shift (1s. 3·2d. to 1s. 4d.) for men and by 0·4d. a shift (7·6d. to 8d.) for youths and boys.
	Corby	2 Mar.	Certain ironstone miners and quarrymen.	
	Northamptonshire (excluding Corby).	2 Mar.	Limestone quarrymen	
	South and West Durham.	3 Mar.	Limestone quarrymen	
	West Cumberland ..	3 Mar.	Limestone quarrymen	Flat-rate addition to wages (previously granted) increased|| by 1d. a shift (1s. 9d. to 1s. 10d.) for those 18 years and over and by ½d. a shift (10½d. to 11d.) for those under 18 years.

* 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.

† The workpeople whose rates of wages were reduced in March had received increases of greater amount during the first two months of 1941.

‡ This increase took effect under an Order issued under the Agricultural Wages (Regulation) Acts, 1924 and 1940.

§ Flat-rate advances, previously paid in addition to basis rates and percentages, remained unchanged.

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

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

Industry.	District.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change.
Glass Manufacture.	Certain districts in England and Scotland.*	1st pay day in Mar.	Flint glass makers	Increase† of 1½d. a turn.
			Flint glass cutters	Increase† of 1s. a week.
	Gateshead, Sunderland and Knottingley.	28 Feb.	Pressed glass makers	War bonus increased† by 2s. a week (11s. to 13s.).
Chemical Manufacture.	Yorkshire	Last pay day in Mar.	Workpeople employed in glass bottle manufacture (except those whose wages are regulated by movements in other industries).	Bonus increased† by 1s. a week (13s. to 14s.) for men and by 6d. (6s. 6d. to 7s.) for youths, women and girls.
	Scotland‡	14 Mar.§	Workpeople employed in the manufacture of heavy chemicals.	Increase of 1d. an hour. Rate after change for shiftworkers, 1s. 6d.
Paint, Colour and Varnish Manufacture.	England and Wales ||	1st pay day in week commencing 24 Feb.	Men, youths and boys	War bonus increased by 4s. a week (2s. to 6s.) for men and by proportional amounts for youths and boys. Minimum rates after change for timeworkers, 15s. 2d. at 14 years increasing to 58s. 6d. at 21 years and over plus 1s. 6d. to 6s. a week war bonus according to age (in the case of men who are newcomers to a firm, the minimum rate to be 56s. 6d. for the first six months of their service with such firm).
			Women and girls	War bonus increased by 2s. 4d. a week (1s. 2d. to 3s. 6d.) for women and by proportional amounts for girls. Minimum rates after change for timeworkers, 13s. 4d. at 14 years increasing to 33s. 9d. at 21 and over plus 1s. 6d. to 3s. 6d. a week war bonus according to age.
Iron and Steel Manufacture.	Cleveland and Durham, West Cumberland and North Lincs., North Staffs., South Staffs., Bilston, Northants., Corby, and South Wales and Monmouthshire.	2 Mar.	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 0·8d. a shift (1s. 3·2d. to 1s. 4d.) for men and by 0·4d. a shift (7·6d. to 8d.) for youths and boys.
	Nottinghamshire and Leicestershire.	1st pay in Mar.	Workpeople (excluding those engaged on maintenance work) employed at blastfurnaces.	Flat-rate addition to wages (previously granted) increased† by 0·8d. a shift (1s. 3·2d. to 1s. 4d.) for men and by 0·4d. a shift (7·6d. to 8d.) for youths and boys.
	West of Scotland ..	2 Mar.	Workpeople (excluding those engaged on maintenance work) employed at certain blastfurnaces.	Flat-rate addition to wages (previously granted) increased† by 0·8d. a shift (1s. 1·6d. to 1s. 2·4d.) for men and by 0·4d. a shift (6·8d. to 7·2d.) for youths and boys.
	Great Britain¶ ..	3 Mar.	Workpeople employed in steel sheet rolling 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.
	North-East Coast Area	2 Mar.	Workpeople employed at iron puddling furnaces and rolling mills.	
	Great Britain** ..	2 Mar.	Workpeople employed at steel melting shops (melters, pitmen, slagmen, ladlemen, furnace helpers, gas producermen, semi-skilled workers and labourers, etc.).	
	North-East Coast Area	2 Mar.	Men employed in steel rolling mills	
	Barrow-in-Furness ..	2 Mar.	Rail millmen, merchant millmen, enginemmen, cranemen, etc.	
	Workington	2 Mar.	Steel millmen and labourers (datal workers).	Flat-rate addition to wages (previously granted) increased† by 0·8d. a shift (1s. 3·2d. to 1s. 4d.) for men and by 0·4d. a shift (7·6d. to 8d.) for youths and boys.
	Scunthorpe	2 Mar.	Steel millmen, wagon builders and repairers.	
	Bilston	2 Mar.	Steel millmen, maintenance men, etc.	
	West of Scotland ..	2 Mar.	Millmen, gas producermen, enginemmen, cranemen, firemen and mill labourers, semi-skilled workers and general labourers employed at steel rolling mills.	
	South-West Wales ..	2 Mar.	Workpeople (excluding those engaged on maintenance work) employed in Siemens steel manufacture.	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.
Engineering	Great Britain and Northern Ireland.	Commencement of pay week beginning 31 Mar.	Apprentices, youths and boys employed in the engineering and allied industries.	Adoption of schedules of rates (consisting of base rates and bonus) of 25 per cent. at 16 years, 30 per cent. at 17, 42½ per cent. at 18, 50 per cent. at 19, and 60 per cent. at 20, of the engineering production fitters' rate in each district.††
Shipbuilding and Shiprepairing.	All federated ship-building and ship repairing centres in Great Britain and Northern Ireland.	28 Mar.	Apprentices	Adoption of National Uniform time rates consisting of basis rates and bonus. Rates after change (inclusive of bonus) for new work; 19s. in 1st year of apprenticeship, 23s. 1½d. in 2nd year, 32s. 6d. in 3rd year, 39s. 11d. in 4th year, and 47s. in 5th year. For repair work the rates are subject to the addition of a repair work allowance of 1s. 6d. a week.††
			Youths and boys	Adoption of National Uniform time rates consisting of basis rates and bonus. Rates after change (inclusive of bonus) for new work; 15s. at 15 years, 19s. at 16 years, 23s. 1½d. at 17 years, 32s. 6d. at 18 years, 39s. 11d. at 19 years, and 47s. at 20 years. For repair work the rates are subject to the addition of a repair work allowance of 1s. 6d. a week.††
Galvanising	England and Wales§§	3 Mar.	Workpeople employed in galvanising processes (excluding the process of annealing).	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.
Tinplate Manufacture.	South Wales and Monmouthshire and Gloucestershire.	2 Mar.	Workpeople (excluding those engaged on maintenance work) employed in tinplate manufacture.	Cost-of-living war bonus increased† by 0·8d. a shift (1s. 4d. to 1s. 4·8d.) for men and by 0·4d. a shift (8d. to 8·4d.) for women and juveniles.

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

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

‡ This increase was agreed upon by the Scottish Association of Chemical Manufacturers and the National Union of General and Municipal Workers.

§ The increase was put into operation by certain firms during January and February.

|| These increases applied to employees of firms affiliated to the National Joint Industrial Council for the Paint, Colour and Varnish 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.

** 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.

†† This change took effect as the result of an agreement between the Engineering and Allied Employers' National Federation and the trade unions concerned.

‡‡ This change took effect as the result of an agreement between the Shipbuilding Employers' Federation and the trade unions concerned. In the River Thames ship-repairing district the national uniform rates are subject to an addition of 3s. 3d. a week.

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

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

Industry.	District.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change.
Metallic Bedstead Manufacture.	Birmingham, Smethwick, Dudley, Bilston, Manchester, Warrington, Sowerby Bridge and Keighley.	7 Mar.	Workpeople employed in the metallic bedstead trade.	Flat-rate bonus increased* by 2s. a week for men, by 1s. 6d. for youths 20 to 21 years, by 1s. for youths 18 to 20 years, by 1s. for women 18 years and over, and by 6d. for girls over 16 and under 18 years and for boys under 18 years. Rates after change include: cupola men 1s. 3d. an hour (56 hours), general minimum (men) 1s. 1½d. an hour, less in each case 5 per cent. and plus a bonus of 20s. a week; frame setters 1s. 4d. an hour (48 hours) less 7·5 per cent. and plus a bonus of 20s. a week; women 18 years and over 7d. or 8d. an hour, less 2·5 per cent. and plus a bonus of 10s. a week.
Light Castings Manufacture.	Great Britain†	3 Mar.	Workpeople employed in the light castings industry.	Increases in bonus of 3s. 6d. a week for men (30s. 6d. to 34s.† for timeworkers and 23s. 6d. to 27s. for pieceworkers), of 2s. for women (10s. to 12s.) and of proportional amounts for juveniles. Rates after change (inclusive of bonus) for timeworkers include: moulders 79s. 7½d. a week; labourers, 58s. a week.
Heating, Ventilating and Domestic Engineering.	England and Wales..	1 Mar.	Skilled craftsmen	Increase of ½d. an hour. Rates after change: London—within 12 miles radius of Charing Cross, 2s. 0½d. an hour; area between 12 and 15 miles radii from Charing Cross, 2s. an hour; cities with over 500,000 population, 1s. 11½d. an hour; all other districts, 1s. 11d. an hour.
			Assistants	Increase of ½d. an hour. Rates after change: London district—within 15 miles radius of Charing Cross, 1s. 7d. an hour; all other districts, 1s. 5d. an hour.
			Apprentices	Increase of ½d. an hour.
Farriery	Scotland	1 Mar.	Heating, ventilating and domestic engineers (pipe fitters).	Increase of ½d. an hour (1s. 10½d. to 1s. 11½d.).
			Farriers	Increase of 3s. a week. Rates after change: firemen, 81s. a week; doormen, 78s. a week.§
			Farriers	Increase of 3s. a week. Rates after change: firemen, 84s. a week; doormen, 81s. a week.§
Lock, Latch and Key Manufacture.	England||	Pay day in week commencing 31 Mar.	Workpeople employed in the lock, latch and key trade.	Increase* of 5 per cent. for all workers. Weekly time rates|| after change for adult workers: men, Class A occupations, 72s. 6d. to 87s. 6d.; Class B, 70s. to 81s. 3d.; Class C, 67s. 6d. to 76s. 3d.; Class D, 66s. 3d. to 73s. 9d.; bobbers, 79s. 4d. to 97s. 1d.; women, 20 years and over, 33s. 9d. (35s. 9d. on power pressing, varnishing, emery wheeling, on capstan lathes, polishing and burnishing, lacquering and plating).
			Workpeople employed in the lock, latch and key trade.	Increase* of 5 per cent. (20 to 25) on rates in operation prior to December, 1939.
Coloured Cotton and Woollen Goods Manufacture.	Glasgow and West of Scotland.	1st pay day in Mar.	Workpeople employed in the manufacture of shirtings, costume cloths, and other coloured cotton and woollen goods.	Increase* of 6d. a week. Rate after change for men timeworkers, 67s. 10d.
Woollen and Worsted Industry.	Rosendale Valley District (certain firms).	31 Mar.	Workpeople employed in the woollen and worsted industry (pressed felt).	Cost-of-living wage increased* from 29s. 10d. to 31s. 2d. a week for men 21 years and over, from 18s. 8d. to 19s. 6d. for women 18 years and over and by proportional amounts for juveniles. Minimum rates after change for timeworkers: men, 26s. 6d. plus 31s. 2d. cost-of-living wage plus 3s. war bonus; women, 20s. plus 19s. 6d. cost-of-living wage plus 2s. war bonus.
	Bury and district ..	1st pay day in Mar.	Workpeople employed in the manufacture of cloth (woven felt and cotton filler cloths) for mechanical purposes.	Cost-of-living bonus increased* from 4d. to 4½d. in the shilling. Minimum rates after change: men, 23 years and over, 47s. 6d.; women, 21 years and over, 28s. plus, in each case, 4½d. in the shilling.
	Leicester	1st pay day in Mar.	Workpeople employed in the lambs-wool and worsted yarn spinning industry (excluding engineers, etc.).	Cost-of-living percentage addition to weekly base rates increased from 90·5 to 95·5 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 100·6).
	South of Scotland¶	1st full pay period in Mar.	Workpeople employed in the woollen and worsted industry.	Cost-of-living percentage addition to weekly base rates increased from 90·5 to 95·5 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 100·6).
Asbestos Manufacture.	Great Britain ..	3 Mar.	Workpeople employed in the asbestos industry.	Increases* of ½d. an hour for men, of ¼d. for women and of proportional amounts for juveniles. Minimum rates after change: men, 1s. 4½d.; women, 11½d.
Made-up Textiles	Great Britain ..	1 Mar.	Workpeople employed in the made-up textile trade.	Increase* of 5 per cent. (20 to 25) on existing Trade Board rates.**
Drift Nets Mending Trade.	Great Britain ..	31 Mar.	Women and girls employed in the drift nets mending trade.	Increase* of ½d. or 1d. an hour in the general minimum time rate according to period of employment, and of 6d. to 1s. per net in the general minimum piece rates for home workers.**
Retail Bespoke Tailoring.	England and Wales ..	28 Mar.	Workpeople employed in the retail bespoke tailoring trade.	Increase of 5 per cent. (10 to 15) on general minimum time rates, piecework basis time rates and general minimum piece rates.**
Shirtmaking	Great Britain ..	10 Mar.	Men and boys—Experienced cutters	Increase of 1½d. an hour in general minimum time rates and piecework basis time rate, except for the cutters for whom there was no change.††
			Other workers	Increase of 1½d. an hour in general minimum time rates for men and of ¼d. or ½d. for boys.††
			Women and girls	Increase of 1d. an hour in general minimum time rates for women and of ¼d. or ½d. for learners, and of 1d. in piecework basis time rate.††
			Men and boys	Increase of 1d. an hour in general minimum time rates for experienced cutters, of ½d. to 1d. for apprentice cutters and other workers, and increase of 1d. in piecework basis time rates for experienced cutters.**
Corset Making	Northern Ireland ..	10 Mar.	Women and girls	Increase of 1d. an hour in general minimum time rates for those other than learners, of ¼d. to ½d. for learners, of 1d. in piecework basis time rates and increase of 12½ per cent. in piecework price list.**
			Men and boys	Increase of 1d. an hour in general minimum time rates for experienced cutters, of ½d. to 1d. for apprentice cutters and other workers, and increase of 1d. in piecework basis time rates for experienced cutters.**
Corset Making	Great Britain ..	31 Mar.	Workpeople employed in the corset making trade.	Increases of 1½d. an hour for men, of 1d. for women and of ¼d., ½d. or 1d. for learners.††
Waterproof Garment Manufacture.	Manchester and Salford (certain firms).	1 Mar.	Workpeople employed in waterproof garment manufacture.	Increase* in bonus of 2½ per cent. on rates in operation at 3rd September, 1939, making bonus 30 per cent., except for pieceworkers employed on hand-made government coat capes for whom the bonus is 22½ per cent.

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

† These increases affected mainly workers employed by firms affiliated to the National Light Castings Ironfounders' Federation and the Greensand Pipe Founders' Association of Scotland.

‡ For unskilled workers in receipt of a total wage of 50s. a week or over prior to 1st January, 1940, the bonus was increased from 31s. to 34s. 6d.

§ This increase took effect under an Industrial Court Award No. 1791, dated 13th March, 1941.

|| Principally Birmingham, Wolverhampton, Willenhall and Walsall districts, Bolton, Wigan and London. In the case of firms outside the Midland Area, 15 per cent. is to be added to the rates quoted.

¶ 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.

†† Details of the minimum rates are contained in the Confirming Order of the Minister of Labour, obtainable from H.M. Stationery Office. Increases equivalent to the amounts stated above had already been granted in November, 1940, under an Award of the National Arbitration Tribunal and in February, 1941, under an agreement between the employers' association and the trade union concerned.

‡‡ These increases were the result of an agreement between the Corset Manufacturers' Association and the National Union of Tailors and Garment Workers.

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

Industry.	District.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change.
Laundering	Great Britain	12 Mar.	Men and boys	Increase of $\frac{1}{4}$ d. an hour in general minimum time rates for men and of $\frac{1}{4}$ d. for boys.* Rates after change: $4\frac{1}{4}$ d. at under 15 years increasing to 1s 4d. at 21 and over.
			Women and girls:— Timeworkers	Increase of $\frac{1}{4}$ d. an hour in general minimum time rates for women, of $\frac{1}{4}$ d. for girls and of $\frac{1}{4}$ d. in piecework basis time rates.* Minimum time rates after change†: $3\frac{1}{4}$ d. at under 15 years, increasing to $9\frac{1}{4}$ d. at 20 and over; casual workers or workers employed for emergency work, $9\frac{1}{4}$ d.
			Pieceworkers	Increase of $\frac{1}{4}$ d. an hour in guaranteed time rates for women and of $\frac{1}{4}$ d. for girls.* Rates after change†: $3\frac{1}{4}$ d. at under 15 years increasing to $8\frac{1}{4}$ d. at 20 and over.
Baking	Northern Ireland	28 Mar.	Workpeople employed in the laundry trade.	Increase of $\frac{1}{4}$ d. an hour in general minimum time rates for men and women, of $\frac{1}{4}$ d. an hour for boys and girls, and increase of $\frac{1}{4}$ d. an hour in piecework basis time rate.*
Baking	Border district‡	1 Mar.	Bakers and confectioners employed by co-operative societies.	Increase§ of 1s. a week for adults and of proportional amounts for apprentices. Rate after change for journeymen, 76s.
Sugar Confectionery and Food Preserving.	Northern Ireland	28 Mar.	Men and boys	Increase of $\frac{1}{4}$ d. to $3\frac{1}{4}$ d. an hour in general minimum time rates and of $1\frac{1}{4}$ d. an hour in piecework basis time rates.*
			Women and girls	Increase of $\frac{1}{4}$ d. to $1\frac{1}{4}$ d. an hour in general minimum time rates and of $1\frac{1}{4}$ d. an hour in piecework basis time rates.*
Tobacco	Great Britain	1 Mar.	Workpeople employed in the tobacco trade.	Increase§ of $4\frac{1}{4}$ d. a week in the minimum time rates for men, of 3d. for women and juveniles with corresponding increases for pieceworkers.*
Millsawing	Scotland||	1st pay day in March.	Woodcutting machinists and sawyers employed in sawmills.	Increase of $\frac{1}{4}$ d. an hour (1s. 9d. to 1s. $9\frac{1}{4}$ d.) for men and of proportional amounts for apprentices.
Packing Case Making.	Liverpool	1 Mar.	Packing case makers:— Women Apprentices	Increase of 1d. an hour (1s. to 1s. 1d.). Increase of 10 per cent. on existing rates.
	Scotland (excluding Aberdeen).	1st pay day in Mar.	Woodcutting machinists, sawyers, boxmakers and mill workers employed in packing case shops.	Increase of $\frac{1}{4}$ d. an hour (1s. 9d. to 1s. $9\frac{1}{4}$ d.) for men and of proportional amounts for apprentices.
Furniture Manufacture.	Great Britain	14 Mar.	Workpeople employed in the bedding branch except apprentices or learners to the craft of mattress making and men and women during their first twelve months employment in the trade — Timeworkers: Men	Adoption of general minimum time rates of 1s. 7d., 1s. 5d. or 1s. 3d. an hour (according to occupation).*
			Youths and boys	Adoption of general minimum time rates of $4\frac{1}{4}$ d. an hour at under $15\frac{1}{2}$ years, of $5\frac{1}{4}$ d. at $15\frac{1}{2}$ and under 16, and of 22s. 6d. a week at 16 increasing to 56s. 3d. at 20 and in some occupations to 63s. 9d. at $20\frac{1}{2}$ years.*
			Women 19 years and over ..	Adoption of general minimum time rates of 11d. or 9d. an hour (according to occupation).*
			Girls	Adoption of general minimum time rates of $3\frac{1}{4}$ d. an hour at under $15\frac{1}{2}$ years, $4\frac{1}{4}$ d. at $15\frac{1}{2}$ and under 16, and of 19s. 6d. a week at 16 and under $16\frac{1}{2}$ increasing to 32s. 6d. at 18 and in some occupations to 35s. 9d. at $18\frac{1}{2}$ years.*
			Pieceworkers 17 years and over..	Adoption of piecework basis time rates of 1s. 7d., 1s. 5d. or 1s. 3d. an hour (according to occupation) for males, and of 11d. or 9d. an hour (according to occupation) for females, plus 15 per cent. in each case.*
Electrical Contracting.	Hull	7 Mar.	Furniture trade operatives ..	Increase of $\frac{1}{4}$ d. an hour (1s. $9\frac{1}{4}$ d. to 1s. 10d.) for journeymen.
	High Wycombe	17 Mar.	Journeymen Women timeworkers	Increase of 1d. an hour. Standard rate after change 1s. 9d.; Wycombe Section; packers, markers-out and benders, 1s. $8\frac{1}{4}$ d. Increase of $\frac{1}{4}$ d. an hour ($11\frac{1}{4}$ d. to 1s.).
Electrical Contracting.	Scotland	1 Mar.	Journeymen electricians employed by electrical contractors.	Cost-of-living (war) bonus increased§ by $\frac{1}{4}$ d. an hour. Rate after change, 1s. 7d. plus $3\frac{1}{4}$ d. an hour war bonus.
Monumental Masonry.	Aberdeen	10 Mar.	Cutters, turners, polishers, etc., employed in granite yards.	Increase of $\frac{1}{4}$ d. an hour (apprentices 2s. 6d. a week). Rates after change include: granite cutters, scabblers and toolsmiths, 1s. $8\frac{1}{4}$ d.; granite polishers, 1s. $7\frac{1}{4}$ d.
	Edinburgh and district	10 Mar.	Monumental masons and polishers ..	Increase of $\frac{1}{4}$ d. an hour (apprentices 2s. 6d. a week). Rates after change: monumental masons 1s. $9\frac{1}{4}$ d.; polishers, 1s. $8\frac{1}{4}$ d.
	Glasgow	10 Mar.	Monumental masons and sculptors ..	Increase of $\frac{1}{4}$ d. an hour (apprentices 2s. 6d. a week). Rates after change: cutters, turners and scabblers 1s. $9\frac{1}{4}$ d.; polishers, bed-setters and sawmen, 1s. $8\frac{1}{4}$ d.
Railway Service.	Northern Ireland (except Belfast and County Down Railway). Belfast and County Down Railway.	1st pay period after 24 Mar.	All conciliation and clerical grades and traffic department staffs.	War bonus increased by 2s. 6d. a week (2s. 6d. to 5s.) for adults and by 1s. 3d. a week (1s. 3d. to 2s. 6d.) for juniors.¶ War bonus granted of 2s. 6d. a week.¶
Local Authorities (Non-Trading Services).	Certain Authorities in the London Area.**	1st pay day following 1 Feb.	Manual workers except those whose wages are regulated by movements in other industries.	Increase of 5s. a week for men, of 3s. for women, of 2s. 6d. for youths and girls 18 to 21 years, and of 1s. 6d. for boys and girls under 18 years. Rates after change include: Grade A occupations (scavengers, park keepers, etc.), 63s.; Grade B occupations, (labourers, dust collectors, etc.), 66s; plus, in each case, a bonus of 8s. a week.
Skip and Basket Making.	Lancashire and Cheshire.	3 Mar.	Skip and basket makers	Increase§ of 1 per cent. on list prices, making wages $124\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. above the list for both timeworkers and pieceworkers.
Boot and Shoe Retail Distributive Trade.	Various towns in Great Britain.	Pay day in week commencing 10 Mar.	Workpeople employed in multiple shops:— Men, youths and boys Women and girls	War advance increased by 3s. a week (4s. to 7s.) for those 21 years and over, by 2s. (2s. 6d. to 4s. 6d.) for those 18 and under 21, and by 1s. (1s. 6d. to 2s. 6d.) for those 16 and under 18. War advance increased by 2s. 6d. a week (2s. 6d. to 5s.) for those 21 years and over, by 1s. 6d. (2s. to 3s. 6d.) for those 18 and under 21, and by 1s. (1s. 6d. to 2s. 6d.) for those 16 and under 18.

* These changes 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.

† The rates for Cornwall and North of Scotland are $\frac{1}{4}$ d. an hour below these rates.

‡ Including Galashiels, Hawick, Jedburgh, Kelso, Peebles and Selkirk and Tweedside.

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

|| Including Glasgow, Dundee, Falkirk, and Grangemouth.

¶ These increases were the result of an Award of the Irish Railway Wages Board.

** The Authorities affected are mainly those affiliated to the Joint Industrial Council for Local Authorities' Non-Trading Services (Manual Workers) in the Administrative County of London.

CHANGES IN RETAIL PRICES AND COST OF LIVING.

Summary of Index Figures for 1st April, 1941.

	Food	All Items
Increase since July, 1914 ...	70%	98%
Change since 1st March, 1941 :—		
Index points ...	+1	+1
Per cent. ...	+½*	+½*

FOOD.

THERE was a general rise in the retail prices of bacon during March, the average increase being nearly 2d. per lb. The level of prices of the other articles of food included in these statistics was substantially the same at 1st April as a month earlier.

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

Article.	Average Price (per lb. unless otherwise indicated— to the nearest ½d.) at—			Percentage Inc. or Dec. (—) at 1st Apl., 1941, compared with	
	1st Apl., 1941.	1st Mar., 1941.	1st Sept., 1939.	1st Mar., 1941.	1st Sept., 1939.
Beef, British—					
Ribs ..	s. d. 1 3½	s. d. 1 3½	s. d. 1 2½	—	11
Thin Flank ..	0 9½	0 9½	0 7½	—	26
Beef, Chilled or Frozen					
Ribs ..	1 0½	1 0½	0 9½	—	34
Thin Flank ..	0 6	0 6	0 4½	—	22
Mutton, British—					
Legs ..	1 5½	1 5½	1 3½	—	13
Breast ..	0 8	0 8	0 7½	—	8
Mutton, Frozen—					
Legs ..	1 0	1 0	0 10½	—	15
Breast ..	0 4	0 4	0 4	—	—
Bacon† ..	1 8½	1 6½	1 3	10	36
Fish ..	—	—	—	—1	84
Flour .. per 7 lb.	1 1½	1 1½	1 1½	—	—1
Bread .. per 4 lb.	0 8½	0 8½	0 8½	—	3
Tea ..	2 6	2 6	2 4	—	7
Sugar (granulated) ..	0 4	0 4	0 3	—	32
Milk .. per quart	0 8½	0 8½	0 6½	—	31
Butter—					
Fresh ..	1 7	1 7	1 4½	—	15
Salt ..	—	—	1 3½	—	24
Cheese† ..	1 1	1 1	0 10	—	30
Margarine§—					
Special ..	0 9	0 9	0 6½	—	12
Standard ..	0 5	0 5	—	—	—
Eggs (fresh) .. each	0 2½	0 2½	0 2	—2	44
Potatoes .. per 7 lb.	0 9	0 9	0 6½	1	41

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 March, 1941, and 1st April, 1941, respectively, as compared with July, 1914 :—

Article.	Average Percentage Increase or Decrease (—) since July, 1914, at—		
	1st Sept., 1939.	1st Mar., 1941.	1st Apl., 1941.
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Beef, British—			
Ribs ..	44	59	59
Thin Flank ..	15	44	45
Beef, Chilled or Frozen—			
Ribs ..	32	77	77
Thin Flank ..	1	23	23
Mutton, British—			
Legs ..	48	66	66
Breast ..	14	23	23
Mutton, Frozen—			
Legs ..	51	74	74
Breast ..	—3	—3	—3
Bacon† ..	35	66	83
Fish ..	116	301	297
Flour ..	26	25	25
Bread ..	42	46	46
Tea ..	52	63	63
Sugar (granulated) ..	46	93	93
Milk ..	92	152	152
Butter—			
Fresh ..	13	30	30
Salt ..	7	33	33
Cheese† ..	16	50	50
Margarine§ ..	—8	3	3
Eggs (fresh) ..	58	131	127
Potatoes ..	33	85	88
All above articles (Weighted Average) ..	38	69	70

On the basis of the figures in the foregoing Table, the average level of retail prices of food at 1st April was rather more than one-half of one per cent. higher than at 1st March, and about 23 per cent. higher than at the beginning of September, 1939.

* A rise of 1 point on a total of 169 for food (the figure for July, 1914, being 100) is equivalent to rather more than ½ per cent.; similarly, a rise of 1 point on a total of 197 for "all items" is equivalent to about ½ 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 March and 1st April, 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 March in the general level of working-class *rents* (including rates), the average level at 1st April 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 April the retail prices of clothing of the kinds generally bought by working-class families averaged about 2 per cent. higher than at 1st March, and about 72 per cent. higher than at 1st September, 1939. The average increase during March was about 2 per cent. for men's suits and overcoats, about 2 per cent. for woollen materials, underclothing and hosiery, about 3 per cent. for cotton materials and hosiery, and about 1 per cent. for boots and shoes. These increases were partly the result of 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 April the average rise over the level of July, 1914, was about 255 to 260 per cent.

In the *fuel and light* group the level of coal prices was about the same as at 1st March, about 19 per cent. higher than at 1st September, 1939, and about 131 per cent. above the level of July, 1914. The prices of gas at 1st April were about 1 per cent. higher, on the average, than at 1st March, about 22 per cent. higher than at 1st September, 1939, and about 88 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 April was about the same as at 1st March, 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, averaging about 2 per cent., in the prices of domestic ironmongery, brushware and pottery, but the remaining items included in this group showed little change during March. In the group as a whole, the average level at 1st April was about 1 per cent. higher than at 1st March, about 26 per cent. higher than at 1st September, 1939, and about 126 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 April, 1941, is approximately **98 per cent. over the level of July, 1914**, as compared with 97 per cent. at 1st March, 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 43 points since the beginning of September, 1939, is equivalent to about 28 per cent. Of these 43 points, about 2½ points are due to the increases, since that date, in the taxes on sugar, tobacco and cigarettes, and matches, and nearly 4½ 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	56	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	97	98	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

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.

TRADE DISPUTES IN MARCH.*

Number, Magnitude and Duration.—The number of disputes involving stoppages of work, reported to the Department as beginning in March in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, was 121, as compared with 60 in the previous month and 82 in March, 1940. In these 121 new disputes about 41,900 workpeople were directly involved, and 8,600 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 12,900 workpeople were involved, either directly or indirectly, in 8 disputes which began before March, and were still in progress at the beginning of that month. The number of new and old disputes was thus 129, involving about 63,400 workpeople, and resulting in a loss, during March, estimated at 285,000 working days.

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

Industry Group.	Number of Disputes in progress in Month.			Number of Workpeople involved in all Disputes in progress in Month.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress in Month.
	Started before beginning of Month.	Started in Month.	Total.		
Mining and Quarrying ..	1	48	49	14,400	42,000
Metal, Engineering and Shipbuilding ..	7	40	47	43,800	223,000
Other .. .. .	..	33	33	5,200	20,000
Total, March, 1941 ..	8	121	129	63,400	285,000
Total, February, 1941 ..	8	60	68	13,100	23,000
Total, March, 1940 ..	15	82	97	52,600	165,000

Causes.—Of the 121 disputes beginning in March, 33, directly involving 13,700 workpeople, arose out of demands for advances in wages, 10, directly involving 3,400 workpeople, out of proposed reductions in wages, and 20, directly involving 5,300 workpeople, on other wage questions; 4, directly involving 400 workpeople, on questions as to working hours; 20, directly involving 8,600

workpeople, on questions respecting the employment of particular classes or persons; 26, directly involving 4,500 workpeople, on other questions respecting working arrangements; and 7, directly involving 5,400 workpeople, on questions of trade union principle. One stoppage of work, directly involving 600 workpeople, was in support of workers involved in another dispute.

Results.—Final settlements of disputes which terminated during March have been effected in the case of 94 disputes, directly involving 38,300 workpeople. Of these disputes, 15, directly involving 6,700 workpeople, were settled in favour of the workpeople; 52, directly involving 8,800 workpeople, were settled in favour of the employers; and 27, directly involving 22,800 workpeople, resulted in a compromise. In the case of 18 other disputes, directly involving 4,000 workpeople, work was resumed pending negotiations.

TOTALS FOR THE FIRST THREE MONTHS OF 1941 AND 1940.†

Industry Group.	January to March, 1941.			January to March, 1940.		
	No. of Disputes beginning in period.	Number of Workpeople involved in all Disputes in progress.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress.	No. of Disputes beginning in period.	Number of Workpeople involved in all Disputes in progress.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress.
Mining and Quarrying ..	107	29,800†	68,000	97	95,400†	277,000
Engineering and Shipbuilding ..	59	40,300	198,000	32	12,600	35,000
Other Metal ..	29	10,600	37,000	27	4,000	17,000
Textile ..	8	300	1,000	18	3,300	44,000
Clothing ..	7	1,900	7,000	10	3,500	12,000
Building, etc. ..	13	2,800	3,000	14	5,700	26,000
Transport ..	13	2,300	8,000	8	1,600	4,000
Other ..	20	1,500	9,000	26	8,100	34,000
Total ..	256	89,500†	331,000	232	134,200†	449,000

PRINCIPAL DISPUTES INVOLVING STOPPAGES OF WORK DURING MARCH.

Occupations‡ and Locality.	Approximate Number of Workpeople Involved.		Date when Dispute		Cause or Object.	Result.
	Directly.	Indirectly.‡	Began.	Ended.		
COAL MINING :— Colliery workpeople—Monmouthshire (one colliery).	1,000	..	3 Mar.	8 Mar.	For reinstatement of an employee who had been suspended following his refusal to withdraw a remark made to an official.	Employee reinstated after he had withdrawn the remark in question.
ENGINEERING AND SHIPBUILDING :— Engineering and shipbuilding apprentices—various towns in Ayrshire, Lanarkshire, Renfrewshire, and Mid-Lothian.	12,500§	..	28 Feb.§	19 Mar.§	For increases in rates of wages.	Work resumed, following sittings of a Court of Inquiry appointed under the Industrial Courts Act, 1919, on the understanding that negotiations on the apprentices' claim would be begun forthwith. A national agreement governing the wages of apprentice engineers was subsequently negotiated by employers' association and trade unions.
Engineering and shipbuilding apprentices—Belfast.	1,800||	..	7 Mar.	27 Mar.¶	For increases in rates of wages.	Work resumed after a national agreement governing the rates of wages of apprentice engineers had been negotiated by employers' association and trade unions.
Fitters, turners, machinists and fitters' assistants—Belfast.	3,770	470	8 Mar.	12 Mar.	For reinstatement of two fitters who had been dismissed in order that they could return to their previous employers, who desired their services.	Fitters reinstated.
Engineering and shipbuilding apprentices—Barrow.	1,820	..	18 Mar.	26 Mar.	For increases in rates of wages.	Work resumed after a national agreement governing the rates of wages of apprentice engineers had been negotiated by employers' association and trade unions.
Engineers, etc.—Hertfordshire (one firm).	1,265	125	19 Mar.	22 Mar.	Against proposed reduction in piece-work rate for a particular operation, following modification of certain specifications.	Modified reduction accepted.
Engineering apprentices—Manchester and district.	6,000	..	27 Mar. and later dates.	5 Apr.**	Dissatisfaction with the terms of a new national agreement respecting rates of wages of apprentices.	Work resumed on the terms of the agreement; local negotiations to be opened in respect of the rates of wages of younger apprentices who were not covered by the national agreement.
TINPLATE, ETC., MANUFACTURE :— Clerical and works staff and other workpeople employed at tinplate works, sheet works, steel works, and foundry—various towns in West Wales.††	7,500††	..	24 Mar. and later dates.	5 Apr.	Against suspension of a clerk for fourteen days for alleged breach of discipline, and for recognition of clerical and works staffs' trade union.	Work resumed; discussion to follow.

* 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.

† In making up these totals the figures have been amended in accordance with the most recent information. Workpeople involved in more than one dispute are counted more than once in the totals; the amount of such duplication, however, is slight, except in coal mining, in which the *net* number of workpeople involved was approximately 24,000 in 1941, and 74,000 in 1940. For all the industries combined the *net* totals were approximately 82,000 in 1941, and 113,000 in 1940.

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

§ The stoppage began on 28th February in one district and extended after a few days to other areas. It is estimated that about 12,500 workpeople were idle in the course of the dispute. A number of apprentices resumed work before 20th March.

|| Approximate maximum number involved.

¶ Work was resumed on 17th March, but the stoppage recommenced during the afternoon of 19th March.

** A number of apprentices resumed work before 7th April.

†† About 750 workpeople were involved, directly and indirectly, in a sympathetic dispute at tinplate works not directly concerned in this dispute.

‡‡ Number involved on 31st March.

FATAL INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS.

THE number of workpeople, other than seamen*, whose deaths from accidents in the course of their employment occurred or were reported in March† in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, was 264, as compared with 274‡ in the previous month, and with 207‡ in March, 1940.

MINES AND QUARRIES†		Factories—continued.	
Under Coal Mines Acts :—		Paper, Printing, etc. ...	1
Underground	70	Rubber	2
Surface	8	Gas Works	3
Metalliferous Mines ... ..	...	Electrical Stations	2
Quarries	6	Other Industries	4
TOTAL, MINES AND QUARRIES	84		
Factories.		WORKS AND PLACES UNDER ss. 105, 107, 108, FACTORIES ACT, 1937.	
Clay, Stone, Cement, Pottery and Glass	7	Docks, Wharves, Quays, and Ships	12
Chemicals, Oils, Soap, etc.	5	Building Operations	35
Metal Extracting and Refining	5	Works of Engineering Construction	1
Metal Conversion and Founding (including Rolling Mills and Tube Making)	13	Warehouses ... ..	...
Engineering, Locomotive Building, Boilermaking, etc.	14	TOTAL, FACTORIES ACT...	151
Railway and Tramway Carriages, Motor and other Vehicles, and Aircraft Manufacture	14	RAILWAY SERVICE.	
Shipbuilding	11	Brakesmen, Goods Guards	2
Other Metal Trades	6	Engine Drivers, Motormen	1
Cotton	3	Firemen	2
Wool, Worsted, Shoddy	1	Guards (Passenger)	1
Other Textile Manufacture ... ..	...	Labourers... ..	3
Textile Printing, Bleaching and Dyeing	1	Mechanics... ..	2
Tanning, Currying, etc.	2	Permanent Way Men	7
Food and Drink	5	Porters	4
General Woodwork and Furniture	4	Shunters ... ..	...
		Other Grades	6
		Contractors' Servants	1
		TOTAL, RAILWAY SERVICE	29
		Total (excluding Seamen)	264

INDUSTRIAL DISEASES.

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

I. Cases.		I. Cases—continued.	
LEAD POISONING.		EPITHELIOMATOUS ULCERATION (SKIN CANCER).	
Among Operatives engaged in :		Pitch... ..	3
Smelting of Metals ... ..	...	Tar	3
Plumbing and Soldering	1	Oil	3
Shipbreaking ... ..	...	TOTAL	9
Printing ... ..	...	
Other Contact with Molten Lead	3	CHROME ULCERATION.	
White and Red Lead Works ... ..	...	Manufacture of Bichromates ... ..	...
Pottery	1	Dyeing and Finishing ... ..	...
Vitreous Enamelling ... ..	...	Chrome Tanning ... ..	...
Electric Accumulator Works ... ..	...	Chromium Plating... ..	3
Paint and Colour Works ... ..	...	Other Industries	3
Coach and Car Painting ... ..	...	TOTAL	6
Shipbuilding ... ..	...	Total, Cases	79
Paint used in Other Industries... ..	1		
Other Industries	2	II. Deaths.	
Painting of Buildings... ..	2	LEAD POISONING.	
TOTAL	10	Pottery	1
		OTHER POISONING.	
OTHER POISONING.		Toxic Jaundice	1
Aniline	51	TOTAL	1
Toxic Jaundice	2		
TOTAL	53	ANTHRAX.	
		Wool	1
TOTAL	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 4 weeks ended 29th March, 1941, in comparison with the 4 weeks ended 1st March, 1941, and the 4 weeks ended 30th March, 1940.

‡ Revised figure.

§ 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.

EMPLOYMENT OVERSEAS.

ÉIRE.

THE number of persons on the live registers of the Employment Exchanges fell from 106,145 at 22nd February, 1941, to 69,278 at 29th March. The decline was due, in the main, to the entry into force on 5th March, 1941, of an Order issued under the Unemployment Assistance Act, 1933, the effect of which is to restrict, during the period from 5th March to 28th October, the eligibility for unemployment assistance of certain classes of persons living in rural areas. At 30th March, 1940, when two Orders, similar in character, but of more restricted scope, were in force, the total number of persons on the live registers was 87,689.

SWITZERLAND.

There was a heavy seasonal increase in unemployment during December. According to information published in the Swiss co-operative journal *Schweiz. Konsum-Verein* for 25th January, there were 24,477 applicants for employment registered at Employment Exchanges at the end of December, 1940, as compared with 14,321 at the end of the previous month, and 29,535 at the end of December, 1939.

UNITED STATES.

Employment in the middle of December, 1940, showed an increase of 1.9 per cent. as compared with the previous month, according to information published in *The New York Times* for 26th January, 1941, based on returns received by the Bureau of Labour Statistics from employers covering over 55 per cent. of the aggregate number of wage-earners in all manufacturing industries. If the average monthly index of employment in the establishments covered for the three years 1923-25 be represented by 100, the corresponding index (revised series) for December, 1940, was 116.2, as compared with 114.0 for November, 1940, and 107.8 for December, 1939.

Information supplied by the Social Security Board shows that the number of applications for employment registered at Public Employment Offices at 31st January, 1941, was 5,093,050, as compared with 4,759,836 at the end of December, 1940, and 6,079,495 at the end of January, 1940. These 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 continued to decline during the fourth 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 6.2, as compared with corresponding percentages of 7.4 in the preceding quarter, and 9.5 in the fourth quarter of 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 overseas countries.

ÉIRE.

In mid-February, 1941, the official cost-of-living index figure was 1.9 per cent. above the figure for mid-November, 1940, and 26 per cent. above the figure for mid-August, 1939. For food alone, the corresponding percentages were 1.0 and 24.1, respectively.

SWEDEN.

At 1st December, 1940, the official index figure relating to the cost of food, and fuel and light, showed an increase of 2.2 per cent. as compared with the figure for 1st November, 1940, and of 22.1 per cent., as compared with the figure for 1st September, 1939.

UNITED STATES.

In the middle of January, 1941, the official index figure relating to the cost of food showed an increase of 0.5 per cent. over the figure for December, 1940, and of 4.6 per cent. over the figure for August, 1939.

AUSTRALIA.

In the fourth quarter of 1940, the official cost-of-living index figure for six capital cities showed a rise of 2.8 per cent. as compared with the figure for the previous quarter, and of 7.4 per cent. as compared with the figure for the second quarter of 1939. In December, 1940, the official index figure relating to the cost of food in 30 towns showed an increase of 0.6 per cent. as compared with the figure for November, 1940, and of 4.7 per cent. as compared with the figure for August, 1939.

INDIA.

In January, 1941, the official cost-of-living figure for the working classes in Bombay City was 1.7 per cent. above the figure for December, 1940, and 11.4 per cent. above the figure for August, 1939. For food alone, the corresponding percentage increases were 2.3 and 17.0, respectively.

NEW ZEALAND.

In January, 1941, the official cost-of-living figure showed a decline of 0.2 per cent. as compared with the figure for December, 1940, but an increase of 5.4 per cent. as compared with the figure for August, 1939. For food alone, the index figure for January, 1941, showed a decline of 0.7 per cent. as compared with the figure for December, 1940, but an increase of 1.5 per cent. as compared with the figure for August, 1939.

LEGAL CASE AFFECTING LABOUR

FACTORIES ACT, 1937—QUESTIONS WHETHER A LONDON COUNTY COUNCIL TECHNICAL INSTITUTE IS A FACTORY WITHIN THE MEANING OF THIS ACT AND WHETHER APART FROM THE ACT, THEY ARE LIABLE FOR ACCIDENTS SUSTAINED BY STUDENTS.

These proceedings arose out of an accident sustained by the plaintiff, a student at the Hackney Technical Institute, conducted by the defendants, the London County Council. As a result of the accident, which occurred whilst the plaintiff was working at a vertical spindle machine, the plaintiff lost a finger. The plaintiff had spent many years in a woodworking factory, and went for instruction at the Technical Institute in order to improve himself and to learn new machines and new processes.

Mr. Justice Wrottesley, in the course of his judgment, dismissing the plaintiff's claim, reviewed the history of the case, and after describing the operations on the machine which resulted in the accident proceeded:—"The question is, in those circumstances is the London County Council at law liable to compensate the Plaintiff for the undoubted misfortune which has befallen him by the loss of his finger, for which if the London County Council were liable, they ought to pay and to give him something for the pain and suffering he has had, and the fact that he has to go through life without a finger, which was to some extent useful, and is no longer there.

"The first consideration that arises is this: Does the Factories Act, 1937, apply to this technical institute? If it does there are certain obligations upon it in regard to fencing, and there is no doubt about this—this machine was not fenced at this time. *Prima facie*, of course, a technical institute is not a factory, but the Factories Act, 1937, applies to places which are not factories in the ordinary accepted use of the word. The general definition of a factory is to be found in Section 151, and is as follows:—'(1) Subject to the provisions of this section, the expression "factory" means any premises in which, or within the close or curtilage or precincts of which, persons are employed in manual labour in any process for or incidental to any of the following purposes, namely: (a) the making of any article or part of any article—I will leave out the unnecessary words—or (c) the adapting for sale of any article, being premises in which or within the close or curtilage or precincts of which, the work is carried on by way of trade or for purposes of gain, and to or over which the employer of the persons employed therein has the right of access or control'. So far as that is concerned, I do not think that anyone could suggest that this institute falls within that general definition. In the first place, while it is true that manual labour takes place here, I do not think there are any persons employed in manual labour here in any process other than the Instructor, nor do I think the persons engaged there are engaged in a process which is for or incidental to any of the purposes there set out, such as the making of articles, the altering of articles or the adapting for sale of articles.

"I think, in the first place, they are not employed, as I say, because I do not think the work 'employed' there means 'busy, engaged' or 'occupied,' and, further, in so far as they are occupied, they are not occupied in a process which is incidental to any of the purposes mentioned, and it appears to me they are there for the purposes of instruction. Whether I am right in that or not, it is quite clear they are not occupied there or employed there by way of trade, in any work which is carried on by way of trade or any work which is carried on for gain, so the Institute is not 'premises' within the general definition to be found in Section 151 of the Factories Act. But the Section goes on to say there are premises which may not fall within that general definition, but which, nevertheless, Parliament has thought right to subject to the various forms of control which are exercised on a factory, and a list is set out of special cases. The only special case coming anywhere near to this case, as far as I can find, is No. 10, in Roman figures. The Section goes on: 'And (whether or not they are factories by reason of the foregoing definition) the expression "factory" also includes the following premises in which persons are employed in manual labour, that is to say (X) any premises in which mechanical power is used in connection with the making or preparing of articles of metal or wood incidentally to any business carried on by way of trade or for purposes of gain.' There being neither trade nor purpose of gain here, that special case cannot be said to cover this case of a technical institute."

His Lordship then considered and rejected a contention strongly urged on behalf of the plaintiff that technical institutes of this kind were covered by sub-section (9) of section 151 of the Act which provides that "any premises belonging to or in the occupation of the Crown or any municipal or other public authority, shall not be deemed not to be a factory . . . by reason only that the work carried on thereat is not carried on by way of trade or for purposes of gain."

After an analysis of certain sections of the Factories Act, 1937, his Lordship stated: "Generally, therefore, while technical schools and colleges are in many particulars to enforce at least the standard laid down in the Factories Act, 1937, there are many other respects in which they are quite inappropriate, and it is not, at any rate, to that Act, if I am right, that I have to resort in order to find out what is the duty of the London County Council in regard to a technical institute under their control, and I need not, therefore, consider the Regulations nor the Conditions of Sections 14 and 16 of the Factories Act, 1937."

His Lordship then dealt with the question whether apart from the Factories Act, 1937, the facts disclosed a neglect of duty on the part of the London County Council towards the Plaintiff. His Lordship said:—"Unless the Council has done something

wrong by itself, and that something wrong caused the accident, however sorry I may be for the Plaintiff I cannot, of course, give him the rate-payers' money to compensate him. First of all I say this: that the degree of care which the tutor owes the pupil must, I think, depend on the nature of the pupil. I have not here to deal with the case of a child, a boy or a girl, but a man of 31 years of age, who was not illiterate, whose life has been spent in a woodworking machine shop, where guards are in common use, and are used on machinery of this type. The Plaintiff himself told me of some of the sorts of guards he has seen in the machine shops where he has worked, and which he has been in the habit of passing. I certainly am not going to assume that the Council Instructor would not very soon ascertain how far advanced he was, and that he did know about woodworking shops and woodworking machines.

"Now that being the nature of the man who comes for instruction, I am not prepared to say that it was unreasonable or careless, in the circumstances of this case, first of all to leave a grown man of that experience to adjust those knives while the Instructor went away to another machine to help and guide another pupil. It is not irrelevant and I accept this, that when working on other machines—he had been on at least one other machine—he had been instructed not to start up the machine until the Instructor told him that all was safe."

Later in his judgment the learned judge made the following observations:—"I am certainly not going to say that those engaged in the teaching of these dangerous machines have got to obey the code as laid down in the Factory Act or under it as applying to guards as if I did so instruction might be seriously hampered, if not stopped altogether. One has to bear in mind that admittedly here there was an instructor standing by waiting to answer questions, ready to help and ready to show the student.

"This accident came about, I think, because the Plaintiff, instead of calling the Instructor—who was not out of the way—chose to go on experimenting and in experimenting, did the very thing he has told me he had been told before the accident occurred not to do. I do not think I have before me an injury caused by the negligence of the Instructor, who was standing close by and could have been called, I do not think he did anything which was unreasonable, careless, or not up to the standard of duty which one would expect of an Instructor in a London County Council School."

Weston v. London County Council. High Court of Justice (King's Bench Division), 11th March, 1941.

UNEMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE. PREVENTION AND RELIEF OF DISTRESS (REFUGEES) REGULATIONS.

The Unemployment Assistance (Prevention and Relief of Distress) (Refugees) Regulations, 1941,* dated February 21, 1941, made by the Minister of Labour and National Service under the Unemployment Assistance (Emergency Powers) Act, 1939 (2 and 3 Geo. 6., c.93).

THESE Regulations, which came into force on 21st February, 1941, extend the scope of the Unemployment Assistance Scheme to certain persons aged 16 years and over who were not normally resident in the United Kingdom immediately before 3rd September, 1938. The persons concerned are those who have since that date had employment which was insurable under the Widows' Orphans' and Old Age Contributory Pensions Acts for a limited period, but whose normal occupation would be regarded as insurable under those Acts if followed in the United Kingdom or employment as master or a member of the crew of a foreign or foreign-registered ship. Such persons shall be included within the scheme if they are in distress as a result of the war, and are not already receiving allowances payable out of public funds granted in respect of circumstances caused by the war.

STATUTORY HOLIDAYS.

Orders in Council entitled "The Defence (St. Patrick's Day Holiday) Regulations, 1941,"† and "The Defence (Good Friday) Regulations, 1941,"‡ made under the Emergency Powers (Defence) Acts, 1939 and 1940, cancelled Monday, 17th March, as a bank or public holiday in Northern Ireland and Friday, 11th April, as a statutory holiday in England and Wales and Northern Ireland, save in respect of certain financial transactions.

OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

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

DOCK LABOUR.—(i) *Dock Labour in the Port of Glasgow*. Explanatory memorandum by Minister of Transport. Ministry of Transport. [S.O. publication; price 3d.] (ii) *Dock Labour in Merseyside, Manchester, and Preston Areas*. Explanatory memorandum by Minister of Transport. Ministry of Transport. [S.O. publication; price 2d.] (iii) *Dock Labour in the Port of Greenock*. Explanatory memorandum by Minister of Transport. Ministry of Transport. [S.O. publication; price 2d.]

UNEMPLOYMENT FUND.—*Reports of the Unemployment Insurance Statutory Committee on the Financial Condition of the Unemployment Fund on the 31st December, 1940*. Ministry of Labour and National Service. (H.C., 65; price 3d.)

* *Statutory Rules and Orders, 1941, No. 284.* H.M. Stationery Office, price 1d. net (2d. post free).

† *Statutory Rules and Orders, 1941, No. 344.* H.M. Stationery Office, price 1d. net (2d. post free).

‡ *Statutory Rules and Orders, 1941, No. 468.* H.M. Stationery Office, price 1d. net (2d. post free). See also note on page 78 of this issue relating to Spring Holidays.

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

INDUSTRIAL COURT AWARDS.

WHOLESALE GROCERY TRADE, LONDON.—The National Amalgamated Union of Shop Assistants, Warehousemen, and Clerks claimed increased wages and improved working conditions for the employees of George T. Cox and Sons Limited, London. The Court awarded an increase of 3s. a week to adults and 1s. 6d. a week to youths under 21 years of age, and decided against any change in the working conditions. *Award No. 1788*; dated 4th March, 1941.

CARLISLE AND DISTRICT STATE MANAGEMENT SCHEME.—The Trade Union Side of the Miscellaneous Trades Joint Council for Government Industrial Establishments claimed a war wage increase for barmen and barmaids and male brewery workers under the Scheme. The Court awarded a war advance of 4s. a week to adult barmen and male brewery workers, and 3s. a week to adult barmaids (full time), payable from 1st July, 1940, to 28th February, 1941, and a further advance of 4s. and 3s. a week respectively payable from 1st March, 1941.—*Award No. 1789*; dated 6th March, 1941.

CEMETERY WORKERS IN PRIVATELY OWNED CEMETERIES, LONDON.—The British Funeral Workers' Association claimed increased wages for all grades of workers coming within the scope of the agreement of 20th December, 1937, between the Cemeteries Association, Ltd., and the British Funeral Workers' Association. The Court awarded increases as claimed.—*Award No. 1790*; dated 12th March, 1941.

FARRIERS, LONDON.—The London District Committee of the Amalgamated Society of Farriers and Blacksmiths claimed an increase of 2s. a day for firemen and doormen as from September, 1940. The Court awarded to firemen and doormen employed within twelve miles of Charing Cross, an increase of 3s. a week from the first pay week in January, 1941, and a further increase of 3s. a week from the beginning of the first pay week following the date of the award.—*Award No. 1791*; dated 13th March, 1941.

MARKERS-OFF (LINERS-OFF) EMPLOYED ON BOARD SHIPS, VICKERS-ARMSTRONGS LTD., BARROW-IN-FURNESS. The Amalgamated Engineering Union claimed that the wages of markers-off employed on board ships should be raised to the same level as that paid to markers-off in the shops. The Court awarded that the men concerned should be paid at a rate not less than 2s. a week above the rate for qualified fitters. —*Award No. 1792*; dated 19th March, 1941.

SINGLE ARBITRATORS AND AD HOC BOARDS OF ARBITRATION.

CHEMICAL INDUSTRY: YORKSHIRE.—Mr. A. N. Shimmin was appointed under the Industrial Courts Act, 1919, to act as Arbitrator to determine a difference between the National Union of Enginemen, Firemen, Mechanics and Electrical Workers and the South Yorkshire Chemical Works Ltd., arising out of a claim for improved rates of pay of certain categories of men. In his Award dated 3rd March, Mr. Shimmin granted increases in some cases.

FOUNDRY WORKERS AND PATTERNMAKERS: MIDDLESBROUGH.—Disputes were reported under the Conditions of Employment and National Arbitration Order, 1940, by the National Union of Foundry Workers and the United Patternmakers' Association respectively, concerning certain employees of Cochrane's (Middlesbrough) Foundry Ltd., a subsidiary of the Stanton Iron Works Co. Ltd., and not having been otherwise disposed of, the parties agreed to the dispute being referred for settlement to a single Arbitrator. Professor D. T. Jack was appointed under the powers conferred on the Minister by the Order and by the Industrial Courts Act, 1919, to act as Arbitrator in both cases, and he issued his Award on 1st March. In the case of the foundry workers, where the dispute related to the working week of machine moulders, Professor Jack decided that these workers should be conditioned to a 47-hour week, and in the case of the patternmakers he decided against the Union's claim which concerned the payment of a bonus.

THE CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT AND NATIONAL ARBITRATION ORDER, 1940.

NATIONAL ARBITRATION TRIBUNAL AWARDS.

PAYMENT FOR WHIT-MONDAY, 1940, OF THE EMPLOYEES OF MESSRS. ALLEN WEST AND COMPANY LIMITED.

Parties: The Amalgamated Engineering Union and Messrs. Allen West and Company Limited.

Claim: That time-and-a-half payment shall be made to all employees who worked on Whit-Monday, 1940.

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

Award No. 73; dated 8th March, 1941.

WAGES OF FEMALE WORKERS IN THE ENGINEERING INDUSTRY.

Parties: The Transport and General Workers' Union and the National Union of General and Municipal Workers and the Engineering and Allied Employers National Federation.

Claim: For advances in the wages of women and girls.

Award: The Tribunal awarded that the National Bonus for female workers be increased by 3s. per week to workers of 18 years and over, by 2s. per week to workers of 16 and under 18 years, and by 1s. per week to workers of 14 and under 16 years, such increases to be applied in the same manner as the existing National Bonus for female workers.

Date of Operation: As from the first full pay period following 16th February, 1941.

Award No. 74; dated 10th March, 1941.

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

Parties: The National Union of Tailors and Garment Workers and Messrs. B. Morris and Company (Clothiers) Limited.

Claim: For the reinstatement of two employees whose dismissal by the Company was said to be unjustified.

Award: The Tribunal found that the case for reinstatement of the employees had not been established and they awarded accordingly.

Award No. 75; dated 12th March, 1941.

WAGES AND CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT OF THE SAW MILL WORKERS OF A DAIRY COMPANY.

Parties: The National Union of Distributive and Allied Workers and Wilts. United Dairies Limited.

Claim: For a revision and improvement in the wages and conditions of male employees in one of the Company's saw mills.

Award: The Tribunal found that the claim taken as a whole, had not been established, but they awarded that the Company should, within a period of eight weeks from the date of the award, establish scales of minimum hourly time rates for male labourers and machinists, and should also establish overtime rates for such workers to operate after a number of hours of employment to be specified.

Award No. 76; dated 19th March, 1941.

WAGES OF EMPLOYEES OF AN OXFORD ENGINEERING FIRM.

Parties: The Transport and General Workers' Union and Messrs. W. Lucy and Company Limited.

Claim: For rates of 1s. 7½d. per hour for moulders, of 1s. 6½d. per hour for plate moulders, and of 1s. 3½d. per hour for labourers.

Award: The Tribunal found that the claim for the alteration of rates had not been established and they awarded accordingly.

Award No. 77; dated 20th March, 1941.

OVERTIME RATES IN THE SHIP REPAIRING INDUSTRY AT MILFORD HAVEN.

Parties: The Milford Haven Ship Repairers' Federation and the United Society of Boilermakers and Iron and Steel Shipbuilders.

Claim: For certain overtime payments to piece-workers and "lieu" workers.

Award: The Tribunal awarded that the Federation should observe the terms of the joint agreement dated 3rd May, 1938, between the Bristol Channel Ship Repairers' Association and the United Society of Boilermakers and Iron and Steel Shipbuilders as respects overtime payment, subject to the proviso that, in lieu of the provision of paragraph 3 of that agreement, the overtime rate payable for each hour of overtime in the case of "lieu" workers when working after 5.0 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, or Friday and between 12 noon and 4.0 p.m. on Saturday, should be 75 per cent. in excess of the normal hourly rate for "lieu" workers.

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

Award No. 78; dated 21st March, 1941.

WAGES FOR THE ADJUSTING AND STRAIGHTENING OF BULLET-PROOF PLATE AND ARMOUR PLATE.

Parties: The United Society of Boilermakers' and Iron and Steel Shipbuilders and Messrs. William Beardmore and Company Limited.

Cause of Dispute: An alleged refusal by the Company to recognise the terms of an agreement of September, 1937, between the Society and the Company.

Award: The Tribunal found that the following work is properly to be regarded as boilermakers' work and they awarded accordingly, that is to say: all work, wherever it may be carried out, of adjusting and straightening plate of thicknesses up to and including the maximum thickness which up to the present time has habitually been carried out in the Company's bullet-proof department, and all work of adjusting and straightening plate of any other thicknesses which is carried out now or in the future in the Company's bullet-proof department. This award is without prejudice to the general question (which is not raised in the reference and in regard to which the Tribunal express no opinion) whether the adjusting and straightening of all plate by the use of a hand hammer is properly to be regarded as boilermakers' work.

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

Award No. 79; dated 21st March, 1941.

RATES OF REMUNERATION OF WORKERS EMPLOYED IN COTTON WASTE PURIFICATION IN LANCASTER.

Parties : The National Union of Dyers, Bleachers, and Textile Workers and Lansil Limited.

Claim : For the adoption of a minimum wages arrangement for the workers employed by the Company in connection with cotton waste purification.

Award : The Tribunal awarded that the Company should apply to male and female workers scales of minimum normal rates (made up of basic rate, war bonus, output bonus, and night work allowance) and overtime rates for day workers and night workers, as specified in detail in the award.

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

Award No. 80 ; dated 24th March, 1941.

NATIONAL ARBITRATION TRIBUNAL (NORTHERN IRELAND) AWARDS.

WAGES OF VAN SALESMEN IN THE MINERAL WATERS INDUSTRY.

Parties : The National Union of General and Municipal Workers and the Belfast and Ulster Mineral Water Manufacturers' Association.

Claim : For an increase in wages to £2 10s. per week, with an increase of 3d. in the £1 on commission and an allowance of 2d. per dozen to van salesmen on bottle charge (to customers) of 1s. per dozen.

Award : The Tribunal awarded that wages be increased to £2 10s. per week, and that the claims for increased commission and bottle charge allowances be not granted.

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

Award No. 30 ; dated 7th March, 1941.

SKIN-CASING INDUSTRY IN BELFAST.

Parties : The National Union of General and Municipal Workers and the Universal Casing Company Limited, the North of Ireland Butchers' Hide Marketing Association Limited, Messrs. Stephenson Fat Refining Company Limited, and Messrs. W. A. Conlon and Company.

Claim : That the agreement between the parties regulating wages and conditions which terminated on 30th December, 1940, be revised in accordance with the draft agreements submitted by the Union and the Employers respectively.

Award : The Tribunal awarded as follows:—The hours of labour shall be 48 per week ; men of 21 years and over to receive 1s. 3d. per hour, and casual workers 1s. 4d. per hour. Leading hands to be paid a minimum of £3 7s. 6d. per week, and those in receipt of higher rates not to be reduced. Boys and youths to receive 16s. per week at 16 years, 20s. at 17 years, 26s. at 18 years, 32s. at 19 years, and 42s. at 20 years of age.

Two boys or youths to be employed for five men, three for seven men, and four for twelve men except where machines are used, in such cases three boys or youths to be employed at each machine. An extra boy to be engaged as soon as an apprentice has completed his third year. Every apprentice to be rotated and given an opportunity to learn each section of the trade.

Overtime to be paid at the rate of time and a quarter for the first two hours and time-and-a-half thereafter.

After three months' service six days holiday with pay to be allowed annually, to be arranged by the firm, and the representative of the Union. Double time to be paid to any employee required to work on any of the said holidays.

The Union to supply employers with men and boys as vacancies occur. Only Union members to be employed, except in cases where the Union is unable to supply a worker with the necessary skill.

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

Award No. 31 ; dated 14th March, 1941.

WAGES OF EMPLOYEES OF MESSRS. JOHN DISMORE AND SONS LIMITED.

Parties : The Amalgamated Transport and General Workers' Union and Messrs. John Dismore and Sons (Oldgreen), Limited, Ballymena.

Claim : For an increase of 10s. a week for men, and 5s. for women and young persons employed in various departments.

Award : The Tribunal awarded an increase of 3s. per week to men and 1s. 6d. a week to women and young persons employed in the departments in question.

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

Award No. 32 ; dated 18th March, 1941.

WAGES OF CARPENTERS AND JOINERS EMPLOYED BY MASTER BUILDERS IN ENNISKILLEN.

Parties : The Amalgamated Society of Woodworkers and Messrs. H. Pierce and Sons, Messrs. John Donnelly and Son, and Mr. W. H. Nelson.

Claim : That the rate of wages of carpenters and joiners employed in Enniskillen be increased from 1s. 5d. to 1s. 8d. per hour, to date from 2nd December, 1940.

Award : The Tribunal awarded that the rate of wages shall be increased from 1s. 5d. to 1s. 6d. per hour.

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

Award No. 33 ; dated 20th March, 1941.

WAGES OF PAINTERS AT NEWRY.

Parties : The National Society of Painters and Messrs J. Ward, W. J. McMurray, A. Hanna, and F. Patterson, all of Newry.

Claim of Society : "The rate of 1s. 9½d. per hour as from 1st November, 1940, being one half-penny per hour below the rate agreed to by the Newry Master Builders' Association, and in future, wages to be adjusted in accordance with the rates adopted in Northern Ireland under the War Emergency Agreement."

Award : The Tribunal awarded a rate of wages of 1s. 11d. per hour, being the rate for painters at present observed by the Newry Master Builders' Association, and that rates of wages in future be regulated in accordance with the War Emergency Agreement in the Building Trade. They recommend that an agreement be concluded between the parties whereby unfair competition against the employers by members of the Union may be obviated.

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

Award No. 34 ; dated 24th March, 1941.

WAGES AND CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT OF DENTAL MECHANICS.

Parties : The National Union of Distributive and Allied Workers and the British Dental Association (Northern Ireland Branch).

Claim : That the terms of the Agreement dated 1st February, 1941, between the Incorporated Dental Society of Great Britain (Ulster Branch) and the National Union of Distributive and Allied Workers should be observed by the members of the British Dental Association (Northern Ireland Branch).

Award : The Tribunal awarded that the claim be granted.

Date of Operation : As from 1st February, 1941.

Award No. 35 ; dated 31st March, 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, Lancashire, in the case of Trade Boards in Great Britain, or at Stormont, Belfast, in the case of Trade Boards in Northern Ireland.

STAMPED OR PRESSED METAL WARES TRADE BOARD (GREAT BRITAIN).

Proposal Q. (47), dated 10th March, 1941, to vary minimum rates of wages for female workers.

AERATED WATERS TRADE BOARD (SCOTLAND).

Proposal A.S. (15), dated 18th March, 1941, to vary minimum rates of wages for male and female workers.

AERATED WATERS TRADE BOARD (ENGLAND AND WALES).

Proposal A. (18), dated 21st March, 1941, to vary minimum rates of wages for male and female workers.

LAUNDRY TRADE BOARD (GREAT BRITAIN).

Proposal W. (36), dated 24th March, 1941, to fix minimum rates of wages and holidays with pay for male transport workers.

BOOT AND SHOE REPAIRING TRADE BOARD (GREAT BRITAIN).

Proposal D. (63), dated 25th March, 1941, to vary minimum rates of wages for male and female workers.

BUTTON MANUFACTURING TRADE BOARD (GREAT BRITAIN).

Proposal V. (28), dated 28th March, 1941, to vary minimum rates of wages for male and female workers.

PIN, HOOK AND EYE AND SNAP FASTENER TRADE BOARD (GREAT BRITAIN).

Proposal O. (23), dated 1st April, 1941, to vary minimum rates of wages for male and female workers.

PAPER BAG TRADE BOARD (GREAT BRITAIN).

Proposal P (28), dated 3rd April, 1941, to vary overtime rates.

PAPER BOX TRADE BOARD (GREAT BRITAIN).

Proposal B. (27), dated 3rd April, 1941, to vary overtime rates.

RUBBER MANUFACTURING TRADE BOARD (GREAT BRITAIN).

Proposal R.U. (9), dated 4th April, 1941, to vary minimum rates of wages for male and female workers.

LINEN AND COTTON HANDKERCHIEF AND HOUSEHOLD GOODS AND LINEN PIECE GOODS TRADE BOARD (NORTHERN IRELAND).

Proposal N.I.H.H.G. (N.71), dated 14th March, 1941, to vary minimum rates of wages for certain male 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 and the Minister of Labour in Northern Ireland have 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.

SHIRTMAKING TRADE BOARD (GREAT BRITAIN).

Order S. (23), dated 5th March, 1941, confirming a variation of minimum rates of wages and specifying 10th March, 1941, as the date from which such rates became effective.

GENERAL WASTE MATERIALS RECLAMATION TRADE BOARD (GREAT BRITAIN).

Order D.B. (30), dated 6th March, 1941, confirming a variation of minimum rates of wages and specifying 12th March, 1941, as the date from which such rates became effective.

LAUNDRY TRADE BOARD (GREAT BRITAIN).

Order W. (35), dated 6th March, 1941, confirming a variation of minimum rates of wages and specifying 12th March, 1941, as the date from which such rates became effective.

FURNITURE MANUFACTURING TRADE BOARD (GREAT BRITAIN).

Order F.M. (9), dated 8th March, 1941, confirming the fixing of minimum rates of wages for certain classes of male and female workers employed in the bedding branch of the trade, and specifying 14th March, 1941, as the date from which such rates became effective.

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

Order U. (40), dated 10th March, 1941, confirming a variation of minimum rates of wages for female workers and specifying 19th March, 1941, as the date from which such rates became effective.

RETAIL BESPOKE TAILORING TRADE BOARD (ENGLAND AND WALES).

Order R.B. (E. & W.) (18) dated 18th March, 1941, confirming a variation of minimum rates of wages and specifying 28th March, 1941, as the date from which such rates became effective.

DRIFT NETS MENDING TRADE BOARD (GREAT BRITAIN).

Order E. (14), dated 24th March, 1941, confirming a variation of minimum rates of wages for female workers and specifying 31st March, 1941, as the date from which these rates became effective.

COTTON WASTE RECLAMATION TRADE BOARD (GREAT BRITAIN).

Order C.W. (31), dated 27th March, 1941, confirming a variation of minimum rates of wages and specifying 4th April, 1941, as the date from which these rates became effective.

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

Order W.D. (38) and (39), dated 28th March, 1941, confirming a variation of minimum rates of wages and specifying 7th April, 1941, as the date from which these rates became effective.

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

Order H.M. (26), dated 28th March, 1941, confirming a variation of minimum rates of wages and specifying 7th April, 1941, as the date from which these rates became effective.

WHOLESALE MANTLE AND COSTUME TRADE BOARD (GREAT BRITAIN).

Order W.M. (34), dated 29th March, 1941, confirming a variation of minimum rates of wages and specifying 7th April, 1941, as the date from which these rates became effective.

RETAIL BESPOKE TAILORING TRADE BOARD (SCOTLAND).

Order R.B.S. (19), dated 3rd April, 1941, confirming a variation of minimum rates of wages and specifying 10th April, 1941, as the date from which these rates became effective.

FUSTIAN CUTTING TRADE BOARD (GREAT BRITAIN).

Order F.C. (18), dated 3rd April, 1941, confirming a variation of minimum rates of wages and specifying 10th April, 1941, as the date from which these rates became effective.

SHIRTMaking TRADE BOARD (NORTHERN IRELAND).

Order N.I.S. (24), dated 4th March, 1941, confirming the variation of general minimum time rates, piecework basis time rates and general overtime rates for male and female workers and the general minimum piece rates for certain female workers, and specifying 10th March, 1941, as the date from which these rates became effective.

SUGAR CONFECTIONERY AND FOOD PRESERVING TRADE BOARD (NORTHERN IRELAND).

Order N.I.F. (11), dated 12th March, 1941, confirming the variation of general minimum time rates, piecework basis time rates and general overtime rates for male and female workers, and specifying 28th March, 1941, as the date from which these rates became effective.

LAUNDRY TRADE BOARD (NORTHERN IRELAND).

Order N.I.L. (16), dated 14th March, 1941, confirming the variation of general minimum time rates and general overtime rates for male and female workers and piecework basis time rate for female workers, and specifying 28th March, 1941, as the date from which these rates became effective.

SUPERANNUATION SCHEMES (WAR SERVICE) ACT, 1940.

CERTIFICATE BY THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND NATIONAL SERVICE.

Fire Prevention Duties.

The Minister of Labour and National Service hereby certifies the employment specified in the Schedule to this certificate to be such as, in his opinion, may properly be treated for the purposes of the Superannuation Schemes (War Service) Act, 1940, in the same manner as service in the Forces of the Crown.

Signed by Order of the Minister of Labour and National Service this thirteenth day of March, 1941.

T. W. PHILLIPS,

Secretary of the Ministry of Labour and National Service.

SCHEDULE.

Whole-time employment in fire prevention duties, that is to say, the duties of keeping a watch for the fall of incendiary bombs, taking such steps as are immediately practicable to combat a fire caused by such bombs, and summoning such assistance as may be necessary and including the duty of being in readiness to perform any such duties as aforesaid.

EMERGENCY POWERS (DEFENCE).

ELECTRICAL INSTALLATION (RESTRICTION ON ENGAGEMENT).

The Electrical Installation (Restriction on Engagement) Order, 1941,* dated March 15, 1941, made by the Minister of Labour and National Service under Regulation 58A of the Defence (General) Regulations, 1939.

THE Minister of Labour and National Service (hereinafter referred to as "the Minister") by virtue of the powers conferred on him by Regulation 58A of the Defence (General) Regulations, 1939, hereby makes the following Order:—

1.—This Order may be cited as the Electrical Installation (Restriction on Engagement) Order, 1941.

2.—This Order shall apply to any undertaking which is wholly or mainly engaged in the installation, maintenance or repair of electrical equipment.

3.—(1) Subject as hereafter provided—

(a) an employer carrying on an undertaking to which this Order applies shall not seek to engage or engage any worker for work in that undertaking except by notifying to a local office particulars of the vacancy to be filled and by engaging for that vacancy a worker submitted to him by a local office;

(b) a worker seeking to engage for work in any such undertaking shall register himself for work at a local office and obtain his employment by means of being submitted to an employer by a local office.

(2) This Article shall not apply to the re-engagement of any person by an employer if the re-engagement of that person occurs—

(a) within a period of not more than fourteen consecutive days immediately following the day on which he was last employed by that employer or immediately following the end of a period of sickness if his engagement with that employer was terminated by reason of such sickness; or

(b) on his resumption of work on the termination of any stoppage of work due to a trade dispute where he ceased to be employed owing to such stoppage of work.

(3) This Article shall not apply to persons who are employed as managers, salesmen or clerks (other than costing clerks, progress clerks and draughtsmen) or in domestic service.

4. Where the engagement or re-engagement of workers by employers is effected in accordance with arrangements made whether before or after the date of this Order between an employer or any organisation of employers and a trade union, being arrangements approved by the Minister and in accordance with such directions, if any, as may be given by the Minister with respect to the operation of the arrangements, the provisions of Article 3 of this Order shall not apply to the engagement or re-engagement.

5. In this Order the following expressions have the meanings hereby respectively assigned to them:—

"electrical equipment" includes accumulators, batteries, bells, lamps, signs, sparking plugs, switches, telegraph, telephone and wireless instruments, wires and cables, dynamos, generators, motors, transformers, and any other equipment of a similar nature;

"local office" means an employment exchange or other office appointed by the Minister as a local office for the purposes of this Order;

"trade dispute" means any dispute or difference between employers and workmen or between workmen and workmen which is connected with the employment or non-employment or the terms of the employment or with the conditions of labour of any person;

"undertaking" includes any branch or department of an undertaking.

6. The provisions of this Order shall come into force on the 31st day of March, 1941;

Provided that directions may be given by or on behalf of the Minister that as regards any area the provisions of this Order shall not apply or shall only apply to such an extent as may be specified in the directions in respect of any period not exceeding fourteen days after the said 31st day of March, 1941.

Signed by order of the Minister of Labour and National Service this 15th day of March, 1941.

T. W. PHILLIPS,

Secretary of the Ministry of Labour and National Service.

* Statutory Rules and Orders, 1941, No 409; H.M. Stationery Office, price 1d. net (2d. post free).

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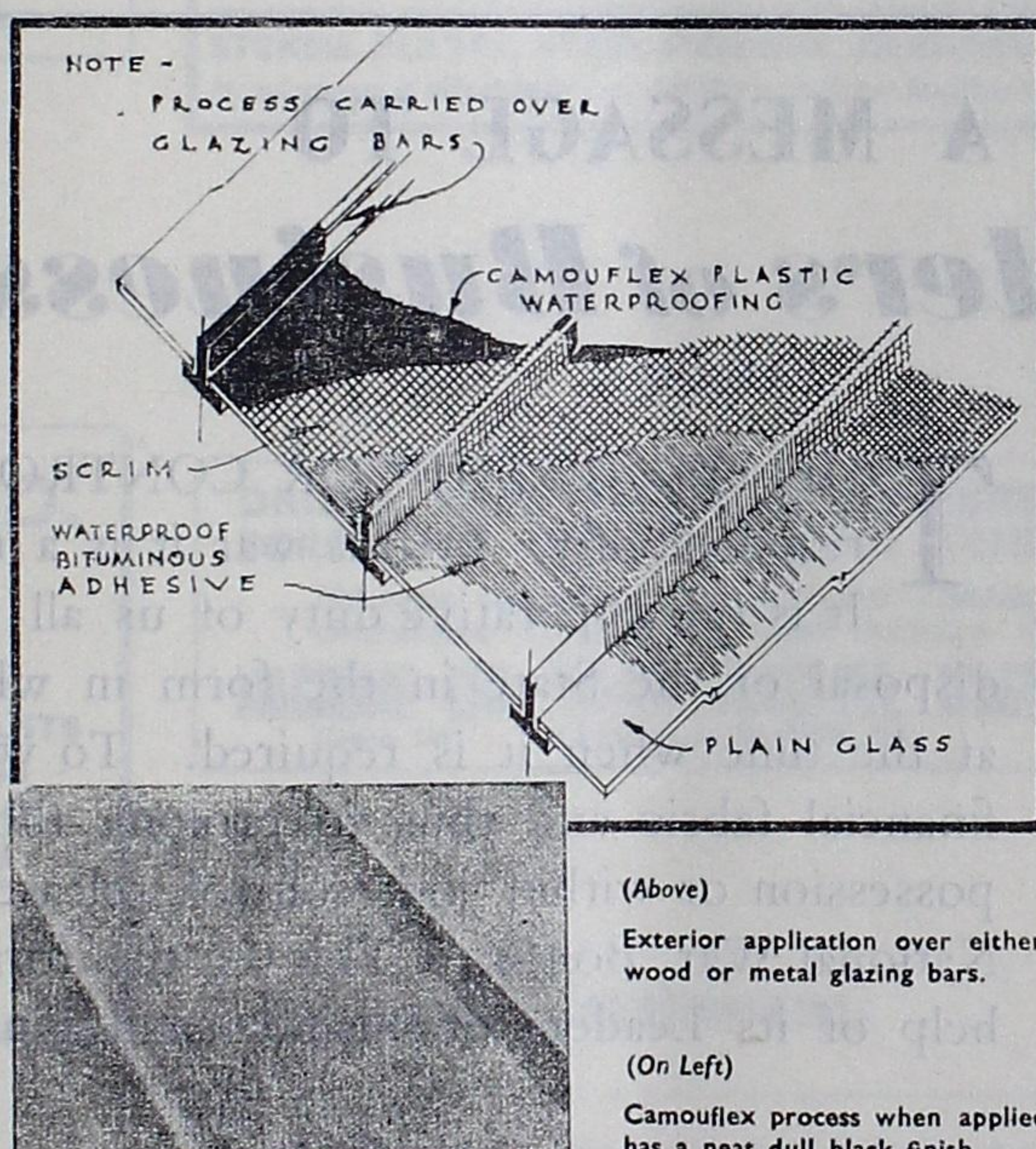
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