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

EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT.

THE number of men and boys registered at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain as wholly unemployed at 14th July was 113,662, a decrease of 7,900 as compared with 16th June. Of this total, 33,048 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 20,862; this was an increase of 2,816 as compared with 16th June. Those registered as unemployed casual workers (being persons who normally seek their livelihood by jobs of short duration) numbered 11,005, an increase of 1,202 as compared with 16th June.

The corresponding figures for women and girls on the registers at 14th July were 105,915 wholly unemployed (of whom 3,814 had been classified by interviewing panels as unsuitable for normal full-time employment, and 4,658 had been classified as unable for good cause to transfer to another area although employment was not likely to be available locally), 25,165 temporarily stopped, and 671 unemployed casual workers. As compared with 16th June, the numbers wholly unemployed showed a decrease of 16,179, those temporarily stopped a decrease of 4,522, and unemployed casual workers a decrease of 76.

The total numbers of men and boys on the registers decreased between 16th June and 14th July in the North-Eastern, North-Western and Northern Regions, but increased in Wales; in other areas there was little change. Among women and girls the numbers on the registers were lower at 14th July in every Region, the decreases being greatest in the London and South-Eastern, North-Eastern and Northern Regions, and in Scotland and Wales.

The number of applicants for unemployment benefit or allowances on the registers at 14th July was 207,311, as compared with 225,759 at 16th June, and 653,949 at 15th July, 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 July resulted in an aggregate increase estimated at about £111,500 in the weekly full-time wages of about 1,070,000 workpeople, while about 5,000* workpeople sustained a small decrease under the operation of cost-of-living sliding scales.

In the coal-mining industry, a flat-rate increase, amounting to 4d. a shift for men and to 2d. a shift for youths and boys, was granted, under a cost-of-living sliding scale, in all districts except Nottinghamshire,

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

where the equivalent of the advance was merged into an increase in the percentage addition to basis rates. In South Derbyshire, there was an increase in the percentage addition to basis rates, in addition to the flat-rate advance, and in Cannock Chase and Leicestershire there was a slight reduction in the percentage which was more than counterbalanced by the general flat-rate advance. In the brick and tile industry in England and Wales, the wage rates for men engaged in the manufacture of building bricks, tiles, etc., were advanced by 1d. an hour, with smaller increases for women and juvenile workers. In the textile bleaching, dyeing, finishing, etc., industries, there were increases amounting to about one-half of 1 per cent. on current rates in Yorkshire, and to 4d. or 3d. a week in Lancashire and Scotland. A war bonus of 7s. a week for men and of 5s. 3d. a week for women employed by various company-owned motor omnibus undertakings in England and Wales (excluding the Metropolitan Area) was replaced by a war wage of 2½d. an hour for both men and women.

Other industries in which wage increases were granted included roadstone quarrying, refractory brick making in Scotland, bobbin making, heating and domestic engineering, and rubber manufacture.

The changes reported in the first seven months of 1941, in the industries for which statistics are compiled, are estimated to have resulted in a net increase of about £1,400,000 a week in the full-time rates of wages of 7,100,000 workpeople. In the corresponding months of last year, 7,150,000 workpeople in these industries received a net increase estimated at about £1,600,000 a week.

Particulars of the principal changes in rates of wages in July are given on pages 161 to 164.

COST OF LIVING.

At 1st August the official cost-of-living index figure was 99 per cent. above the level of July, 1914, showing no change as compared with 1st July. The index figure of food prices also remained unchanged at 67 per cent. above the level of July, 1914, a slight reduction in the average price of potatoes being offset by increases in the price of milk in some districts. Further particulars of the changes in retail prices during July are given on page 165.

TRADE DISPUTES.

The number of trade disputes involving stoppages of work, reported to the Department as beginning in July, was 60. In addition, 5 disputes which began before July were still in progress at the beginning of that month. The approximate number of workpeople involved in these 65 disputes (including workpeople thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred) was 16,500, and the aggregate duration of the disputes in July was about 25,000 working days.

The aggregate duration of all disputes in progress during the first seven months of 1941 was about 720,000 working days, and the total number of workpeople involved in these disputes was about 205,000.

PRICE STABILISATION AND INDUSTRIAL POLICY.

STATEMENT BY HIS MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT.

A COMMAND PAPER has been issued* containing a Statement by His Majesty's Government on Price Stabilisation and Industrial Policy, the full text of which is given below:—

1. There is evidence that the Government policy of stabilising prices, designed to avoid the evils of inflation, is not generally understood; it may be well, therefore, to re-state the considerations bearing upon this policy.

2. Our shipping difficulties and the diversion of man-power, machinery and factory space to the production of war materials have already greatly reduced the supply of goods for civilian consumption. The existence of stocks allowed some easement, but only for a time, and it is clear that not only must luxuries be cut out, but also there must be a reduction in the consumption of goods which in peace-time had almost come to be regarded as necessities.

3. This curtailment is inevitable, whatever money wages, salaries or profits are paid out. Increases in wages or other incomes would not make more goods available. Such increases would not raise the general standard of living; they would merely tend to send up prices and to denude the shops, making it difficult to secure a fair distribution of the limited supply of goods. Those with the least amount of money or least able to spend time in shopping and standing in queues would suffer most.

4. The beginning of the "vicious spiral" of inflation is found in increased prices; these force a demand for increased wages which is generally followed by a further increase in prices and so on, indefinitely. It has always been found impossible to check inflation when it has gone beyond a certain stage. Consequently it is of the first importance to check it at the beginning. By creating insecurity and confusion it would impede our productive effort, give great opportunities to the profiteer and impose hardship on those who were not lucky enough to secure a share in the general advance of money incomes. People in receipt of old age pensions, insurance benefits or small fixed incomes would be able to buy less of the necessities of life. At the same time the money costs of running the war would rise and the Government, unable to raise new taxes sufficiently quickly, would have to issue fresh money, which would further inflame the disease.

5. When the Chancellor of the Exchequer introduced his Budget this year, it was estimated that people would in 1941-2 have incomes amounting (after the deduction of taxation and saving at the then existing levels) to £500 millions in excess of the value of goods available for purchase.

To prevent this excess of spendable money leading to a rise in the prices of necessities and to bring about an equitable distribution of the limited available supplies of consumers' goods, three main methods have been adopted:—

(i) Severe additional direct taxes have been imposed, which should have the effect of restricting the expenditure of those most able to bear the burden.

(ii) Rationing of foodstuffs and of clothing has been introduced to conserve supplies and to ensure a fair distribution.

(iii) A policy of price control has been adopted through the Prices of Goods Act, now extended by the Goods and Services (Price Control) Bill† through the exercise of direct price-fixing powers and through the grant of subsidies.

6. This policy of price stabilisation has recently been extended by the statement of the Chancellor of the Exchequer made at the time of the introduction of his Budget:—

"I propose to continue and extend the policy of stabilisation in an endeavour to prevent any further rise of the cost-of-living index number, apart from minor seasonal changes, above the present range of 125-130 in terms of the pre-war level."

The Chancellor explained that this policy of restricting increases in prices would also be extended to cover transport charges, the prices of coal and gas, electricity charges, and the prices of "other articles in common use." But it was made clear that the policy was necessarily dependent upon the following circumstances:—

"I hope that we may thus create conditions which will enable the wages situation to be held about where it now is. It is clear that persistence of the tendency toward rising wage-rates, which necessarily increases costs of production at every stage of the productive process, would compel abandonment of the stabilisation policy."

7. The Government believe that all parties in industry are alive to the dangers of inflation. It is incumbent on employers and trade unions, with all the help the Government can give them, to do their best to prevent the costs of production from rising, from whatever cause. A special responsibility falls upon managements to eliminate waste and to see that the organisation of work is such as to make the most effective and economic use of plant capacity. By the concessions in regard to Excess Profits Tax, the Government have endeavoured in the most effective way to provide an incentive to maximum development of productive capacity, and the urgent needs of the country make it a duty to increase efficiency of production to the utmost.

The Government will take such steps as are possible to secure efficiency in establishments engaged on war production and the most effective use of labour resources.

8. It is regarded as the duty of both sides in industry to consider together all possible means of preventing the rise of costs of production and so to obviate rise of prices which is the initial step in the inflationary process. The use of the experience and knowledge of workpeople is not less necessary than the application of managerial training and experience, and the maintenance of wages and employers' remuneration at a reasonable level should be achieved as far as possible by improvement in the efficiency of production by the joint efforts of employers and workpeople. At the same time there may, consistently with these considerations, be proper grounds for adjustment of wages in certain cases, particularly among comparatively low paid grades and categories of workers, or for adjustment owing to changes in the form, method or volume of production.

9. It is the traditional and well-tried practice of the principal industries to regulate wages through their joint voluntary machinery for wage negotiation. On the recommendation of the representatives of the Trades Union Congress General Council and the British Employers' Confederation on the Joint Consultative Committee and the National Joint Advisory Council, the Government decided to entrust the responsibility for wage regulation in war-time (save where machinery for statutory wage-fixing already existed) to the industrial joint machinery, subject only to the Conditions of Employment and National Arbitration Order, which was made with the concurrence of the Joint Consultative Committee and the National Joint Advisory Council and which provides for the more effective enforcement of agreed rates of wages, the reference of unsettled claims to arbitration and the prohibition of strikes and lock-outs.

10. Since the outbreak of war, the existing joint voluntary machinery for wage negotiations has operated successfully. Increases in wage-rates have been reasonable; the authority of the unions in the day to day adjustment of wages and conditions has been maintained; the freedom of opportunity to make claims and to have them discussed has enabled industrial peace to be maintained.

11. The policy of the Government, therefore, is to avoid modification of the machinery for wage negotiations and to continue to leave the various voluntary organisations and wage tribunals free to reach their decisions in accordance with their estimate of the relevant facts. These will no doubt pay due regard to cases where there are special grounds for adjustment, such as those referred to in paragraph 8. If there were to be further increases in the cost of living this would need to be taken properly into account; but it is the object of the policy of price stabilisation to prevent such increases from arising, or at least to keep them within small dimensions, and the success of this policy will be dependent on the extent to which it achieves this object. It will therefore be necessary to bear in mind, particularly when dealing with general wage applications, that the policy of price stabilisation will be made impossible and increases of wage rates will defeat their own object unless such increases are regulated in a manner that makes it possible to keep prices and inflationary tendencies under control.

GOODS AND SERVICES (PRICE CONTROL) ACT, 1941.

EXTENDED provision has been made against excessive rises in the charges made for both goods and services by the Goods and Services (Price Control) Act,* dated 22nd July, 1941, which amends, and supplements the Prices of Goods Act, 1939.†

The Act empowers the Board of Trade to issue Orders fixing the maximum prices that may be charged at any stage of production or distribution for goods specified in the Orders, and such Orders may require traders to take specified steps to make known to their customers the maximum prices fixed for goods sold by them. Similarly, power is given to the Board to issue Orders fixing the maximum charges that may be made for the performance of any specified service in relation to goods. The Board may also issue Orders forbidding either generally in the United Kingdom or in a particular part thereof, the sale, except by businesses registered in accordance with the Orders, of such second-hand goods as may be specified in the Orders, if the Board are satisfied that excessive prices are being charged for the goods.

The Act provides in effect that the Board of Trade may by Order prohibit (subject to licensed exceptions) the re-sale of goods by wholesalers except to retailers, unless the price of the goods would not thereby be increased, and may restrict the making of payments to persons for procuring the sale of goods controlled under the Limitation of Supplies Orders by persons registered under those Orders. The purpose of the latter provision is to prevent increases in price due to commissions paid to intermediaries, who bring together wholesalers whose quotas under the Limitation of Supplies Orders are unexhausted and manufacturers or other wholesalers whose quotas are exhausted but who wish to dispose of further goods.

An important amendment of the principal Act is that whereby the Board of Trade are given power to make Orders amending the First Schedule to the principal Act by omitting or altering any of the matters specified in it. Any Order amending this

* Cmd. 6294. H.M. Stationery Office; price 1d. net (2d. post free).

† This Bill has since passed through both Houses of Parliament and received the Royal Assent: a summary of the new Act is given in the next column.

* H.M. Stationery Office; price 4d. net (5d. post free).

† See the December, 1939, issue of this GAZETTE, page 410.

Schedule (which specifies the matters to be taken into consideration in fixing permitted increases in prices) is, however, to have effect only after a draft of it has been approved by resolution of both Houses of Parliament.

Other amending and supplementary provisions are concerned with preventing evasions of the Act. In particular, the transfer of property in price-regulated goods by barter is made unlawful, and provision is made for the appointment of inspectors to enforce the principal Act and this Act.

ESSENTIAL WORK (GENERAL PROVISIONS) (AMENDMENT) ORDER, 1941.

By the Essential Work (General Provisions) (Amendment) Order, 1941,* which took effect on 18th July, the Minister of Labour and National Service has amended the Essential Work General Provisions Order, 1941,† in the light of experience of its practical working. Consideration is to be given to similar amendments of the various special Orders‡ so far as this may be necessary, in consultation with the industries concerned. The main changes effected by the new Order are set out below.

Disciplinary Suspension.—The principal Order did not interfere directly with any power an employer might have to suspend a worker from his job, but the guaranteed minimum wage provisions set out in Article 4 (1) (d) of the Order had the effect of entitling a worker to wages in respect of the whole of the "prescribed period" (a week or a day) even though he might have been suspended for part of it on disciplinary grounds. In practice, therefore, suspension without pay was deprived of its significance as a disciplinary measure, and accordingly where workers committed offences which, though serious, were not serious enough to justify dismissal, the employer had no choice but dismissal. This situation also tended to encourage the infliction of fines, which is generally agreed to be unsatisfactory as a disciplinary measure. Accordingly, a new provision has been added to the principal Order to the effect that, where an employer suspends a worker in accordance with his conditions of service for a period not exceeding three days, the worker will not be entitled to the guaranteed wage for the days on which he is suspended unless (1) he appeals to the Local Appeal Board within three days of the beginning of the suspension, and (2) either the Board is unanimously of the opinion that the suspension was unjustified or, if the Board is not unanimous, the National Service Officer considers that the suspension was unjustified.

Where the finding is in favour of the worker, he will not, because of the suspension, forfeit his right to the guaranteed wage for the period of suspension. Where the finding is against the worker, he will not be entitled to such a wage for the days of suspension, but if he is a time worker, he will remain entitled to a proportionate minimum wage for the remainder of the week concerned.

Absence Due to Sickness.—The strict effect of the original rule for calculating the guaranteed minimum wage under the Order, was that where a time worker was absent for part of the week owing to sickness, he lost his right to guaranteed payments for that week. To remedy this anomaly the amending Order provides that a time worker who is absent owing to sickness during part of a week shall, nevertheless, have a proportionate guaranteed payment for the remainder of the week if, should he be so required, he submits satisfactory evidence of sickness. No similar provision is necessary in the case of piece workers because their guaranteed minimum wage is based on each day separately.

Appeal Boards.—It is now provided that if the Chairman and one other member is present, an Appeal Board shall be deemed to be properly constituted if the Chairman so thinks fit, and if the appellant consents or has previously consented and the other person concerned, if present at the hearing, also consents.

Indiscipline.—The various special Essential Work Orders, which were made later than the General Provisions Order, have provided that employers may report to the National Service Officer not only cases of absenteeism and lateness, but also of indiscipline, whereas the corresponding provision of the General Provisions Order covered only cases of absenteeism or persistent lateness at work. Under the new Amending Order the matters which employers scheduled under the General Provisions Order may report include:— "Failure to comply with lawful and reasonable orders (including orders as to the working of day or night work and of a reasonable amount of overtime."

Procedure for Scheduling.—Power has now been given, similar to that already possessed under the Essential Work (Building and Civil Engineering) Order, to schedule an undertaking in respect of specified classes or descriptions of persons. The original provision requiring that every worker in a scheduled undertaking must be covered has been found too rigid in certain cases, and although it is still the intention that, in ordinary cases, all the persons employed in an undertaking shall be scheduled, it will now be possible for particular classes of persons to be excluded from the provisions of the General Provisions Order when the undertaking in which they are employed is scheduled.

Provisional Certificates.—As a measure of administrative economy, the amended Order allows provisional certificates to be issued or extended for a maximum period of six months at a time, instead of three as hitherto. The power to suspend a certificate at any time remains unaffected by this change.

* Statutory Rules and Orders, 1941, No. 1051; H.M. Stationery Office, price 1d. net (2d. post free). The text of the Order is given on page 170.

† See the March issue of this GAZETTE, pages 50 and 69-71.

‡ See the issues of this GAZETTE for March (pages 51 and 71), May (pages 95-96 and 111-112) and June (pages 116 and 129-132).

ESSENTIAL WORK (DOCK LABOUR) ORDER, 1941.

THE Minister of Labour and National Service and the Minister of War Transport recently asked the National Joint Council for Dock Labour to submit proposals designed to secure to the port transport industry, by the application of an Essential Work Order, a regular, sufficient, and mobile labour force. The Council subsequently reported to the Ministry that they had reached agreement on new conditions of employment to operate at selected ports, and that they would set up a Company to finance and administer port schemes, embodying the new conditions.

On the basis of these proposals, and in full consultation with the representatives of the industry, there has been prepared an Essential Work (Dock Labour) Order* and a model port scheme, which would meet the requirements of the Minister of Labour and National Service under the Order. The provisions of the Order and the new terms of employment agreed by the National Joint Council do not apply in a port unless and until a scheme for that port has been approved by the Minister and is in operation. The principal features of the arrangements are as follows:—

National Administration.—The National Joint Council is forming a Company to be known as the National Dock Labour Corporation Limited, whose duty it will be to promote, finance, and administer port schemes. The Corporation will also be responsible for the transfer of dockers from one port to another. The Board of Directors of the Corporation will include a Chairman, appointed by the Minister after consultation with the National Joint Council, a Finance Member appointed by the Minister, and three representatives of employers and three representatives of workers appointed by the National Joint Council.

Local Administration.—There will be a Local Board and a Port Labour Manager appointed by the Corporation. The Local Boards will be responsible to the Corporation for matters of local policy and general administration, and will co-operate with the Regional Port Directors and Port Emergency Committees in providing the labour required for the quick turn-round of ships. The Port Registration Committees will continue to register port transport workers and employers, and will have certain new functions under the Schemes, but they will no longer control the arrangements for engaging labour. The Local Joint Committees will continue to be responsible for industrial negotiations.

Terms of Employment.—Though the Order will apply to permanent men, their employment will not be affected by the new arrangements. Other dockers selected for inclusion in the scheme will now always be in employment. While employed in port transport work or other work for which the scheme provides, the docker will be paid the appropriate rate for the job. Piece rates are to be introduced as widely as possible. As soon as his job finishes the docker will come automatically into the employment of the Corporation and, so long as he fulfils the conditions, he will be paid 5s. for each of the eleven half-days (normally Monday to Saturday noon, inclusive) on which he reports as required, but is not allocated to work. Special provision will be made for aged and light-work men, who cannot be expected to do a full week's manual work. It is a condition of the docker's employment under the scheme that he shall not only report regularly as required, but be prepared to take any suitable work offered, including any work necessary for the clearance of the port area, and travel to other ports as may be necessary.

Failure to carry out the conditions involves loss of any payments otherwise due from the Corporation for the week in which the failure occurs, and may be followed by disciplinary action including, in extreme cases, exclusion from the scheme. Appeal Panels will be appointed within the industry to decide appeals arising from disciplinary action taken by the management. All wages due, whether from employers for whom men have worked, or from the Corporation, will be paid weekly by the Manager, who will also stamp the men's insurance cards. Regular workers will be eligible for an annual week's holiday, for which they will be paid by the Corporation 80s. or 75s., according to the size of the port.

Termination of Employment.—Except in cases of dismissal for serious misconduct, seven days' notice must be given before a docker can leave or be discharged from the scheme. If objection is raised, and also where an appeal is made against dismissal for serious misconduct, the case is to be referred to the Appeal Panel whose decision, if unanimous, is final, and may be supported by a direction of the National Service Officer. If the Panel is not unanimous, the case is to be referred to the National Service Officer for decision.

Duties of Employers.—Only registered employers will be entitled to engage in port transport work, and they will be allowed to employ on such work only their own permanent men or men allocated to them by the Manager. They must give due notice of their labour requirements, keep records, and pay to the Manager each week the wages earned by men allocated to them together with the prescribed contributions to the National Management Fund. An employer who fails to comply with the requirements of a scheme may be removed from the register, subject to an appeal to the Minister.

Finance.—The cost of all schemes will be met from a National Management Fund maintained by the Corporation. Employers under approved schemes will be required to make a contribution to the Fund which will not, under present arrangements, exceed

* The text of the Order will be reproduced in next month's issue of this GAZETTE

25 per cent. of their gross wages bill. The Fund will be underwritten by the Exchequer which will, in addition, make a contribution in respect of certain administrative expenses of the Corporation.

Ports to which the Order will apply.—The preparation of schemes covering the Port of London and the principal ports on the Bristol Channel, Firth of Forth, Humber, Tees, Tyne, and Wear will commence immediately the Corporation has been formed and the Order made. The Order will not be applied to the Merseyside and Clydeside ports (where the Minister of War Transport is now the employer of all dock workers) without further consideration.

ESSENTIAL WORK (GENERAL PROVISIONS) ORDER, 1941.

APPLICATION TO THE CHEMICAL INDUSTRY AND THE IRON AND STEEL INDUSTRY.

THE Minister of Labour and National Service has decided, after consultation with the Ministry of Supply and with representatives of the employers and workers concerned, to apply the provisions of the Essential Work (General Provisions) Order, 1941 (as amended),* to undertakings in specified branches of the chemical industry and the iron and steel industry.† The production of some parts of these industries has to be increased and the most economical use must be made both of man-power and plant. Accordingly, arrangements have been laid down whereby a special Labour Supply Organisation for each of the industries concerned is (i) to secure, in co-operation with the Ministry of Supply (Chemical Control and Iron and Steel Control, respectively) the best use of labour in the industry (including the employment of women wherever possible); (ii) to facilitate and arrange, through the normal machinery of the Ministry of Labour and National Service, the transfer of workers from one operation to another, or between one undertaking and another, or both; and (iii) to arrange for obtaining such additional labour from outside the industry as may be necessary.

The undertakings or separate branches of undertakings which are to be subject to the respective Labour Supply Organisations and, accordingly, are to observe a prescribed procedure for the control of their labour supply, will be, in the case of the chemical industry, those which are scheduled under the Order by the Ministry of Labour and National Service on the recommendation of the Chemical Control, and in the case of the iron and steel industry, those which are already under the Iron and Steel control. The undertakings to be covered by the scheme in the chemical industry are those concerned with heavy chemicals, (including acids, alkalis, salt, and other heavy chemicals, including inorganic pigments); fine chemicals (including medicinal, laboratory and photographic chemicals and rare earths); industrial alcohols, acetone, and their derivatives; fertilizers; explosives; dyestuffs and their intermediates (including organic pigments); coal tar distillation products; plastics, resins and plasticisers; gelatines, glues and sizes; and chemicals and extracts for tanning. In the iron and steel industry the undertakings to be covered are those concerned with iron ore mining and quarrying; blast furnaces; iron puddling; steel smelting; iron and steel rolling; iron and steel forging; drop forging; iron founding; steel founding; iron and steel tube, pipe and fittings making; iron and steel wire and wire products making; manufacture of steel sheets and tinplate; manufacture of nuts, bolts, rivets, screws and nails; production of ferro alloys; coke ovens attached to iron and steel works; manufacture of carbon electrodes; scrap collection and distribution (including ship-breaking).

The Labour Supply Organisations are to be based on the normal machinery of the Ministry of Labour and National Service, supplemented by Local Labour Supply Committees which are to be appointed, one for each industry, in each of the civil regional areas, except that in the case of the chemical industry one Committee acts for both the London and Southern Regions. The Committees, which are to be centrally co-ordinated, are to comprise an officer of the Ministry of Labour and National Service as chairman; not more than three representatives each of employers and workers, nominated by the Ministry of Supply after consultation with the organisations of employers and workers concerned; a representative of the Area Organisation of the Ministry of Supply; and a Secretary.

PROVINCIAL ORGANISATION OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND NATIONAL SERVICE.

In order to bring the provincial organisation of the Ministry of Labour and National Service more into conformity with the Regional organisation for Government Departments, it has been decided that the Divisions of the Ministry shall in future be known as Regions and the Divisional Controllers as Regional Controllers. The statistics quoted in the present issue of this GAZETTE for the various Regions are comparable with those given in previous issues relating to the Divisions which covered the same geographical areas.

REGISTRATION FOR EMPLOYMENT ORDER, 1941.

REGISTRATIONS OF MEN AND WOMEN.

THE Minister of Labour and National Service has decided to effect the registration under the Registration for Employment Order, 1941,* of further age-groups of men and women in accordance with the under-mentioned programme extending over the period from August to December. By the announcement of this programme, which, however, is subject to alteration according as circumstances may require, men and women affected by it will have the advantage of as long notice as possible of the plans for their registration, and this will also be of convenience to employers.

The programme covers, with the exceptions provided for in the Order, men born in 1897, 1896 and 1895, and women born in the years 1916 to 1910. Men born in 1897 were registered on 16th August and those born in 1896 and 1895 are to register on 13th September and 11th October respectively. Women born in 1916 were registered on 2nd August, and those born in earlier years are to register as follows: 1915, 30th August; 1914, 27th September; 1913, 25th October; 1912, 8th November; 1911, 22nd November; and 1910, 6th December.

Men over military age are urgently required to take the places of men who are being called up under the National Service Acts and to meet the demands of expanding industry, especially for engineering, aircraft and other vital munitions factories. Many of these jobs are semi-skilled and suitable men will be given the requisite training at a Government Training Centre. Large unsatisfied demands also exist for men capable of performing heavy unskilled labouring jobs. A total of nearly 600,000 have been registered under the previous registrations of the 1898, 1899 and 1900 classes. Of these about 100,000 have so far been selected for interview and in the great majority of cases have already been interviewed. About 40,000 have been found to be already engaged on work of national importance or for various reasons not to be available for transfer to more urgent work of national importance. At 12th July, 13,490 had already been placed on the National Work Register or transferred to other work.

These results, although reflecting the willingness of the men approached to play their part, are wholly inadequate when judged in relation to the total demand. The state of the man power requirements has been reached where the country can no longer afford that men should be doing jobs that can be done by women, nor can their services be spared for work which is not essential to the war effort or to the civil life and well-being of the community.

The number of women registered in the 1920 to 1916 classes totalled nearly 1,517,000; of these women it is estimated that approximately 650,000 not clearly already engaged on work of urgent national importance will be called for interview.

Selection interviews for women began towards the middle of May and were at the rate of approximately 25,000 per week. As more experience has been gained, the rate has increased so that during the fortnight ended 28th June, the latest period for which statistics are available, over 83,000 selection interviews took place.

Out of a total of 267,000 women interviewed up to 12th July, over 67,000 have been placed on the National Work Register, or have already been transferred to other work. These figures indicate that, on the whole, between one quarter and one-third of the women interviewed are found available for transfer. The proportion varies, however, according to the category being interviewed, a higher proportion being found available for transfer from amongst women in industries which are being concentrated or in which contraction is known to be taking place than from amongst those women who have no occupation but are engaged in household duties. In order to expedite the process of transfer, arrangements are being considered by which notices to attend for interview will be issued on a more selective basis. No departure is contemplated, however, from the policy of interviewing women not in full-time paid employment before those in full-time paid employment.

Out of the total number of women so far interviewed, less than 2 per cent. have disagreed with the judgment of the interviewer that they should transfer to more urgent work. This ready acceptance by the women of the responsibility for undertaking war work of the kind indicated to them has, however, occasioned some difficulty with employers who have represented that their interests and requirements have not been sufficiently taken into account under the procedure hitherto followed.

The force of these representations has been recognised and, after consultation with representatives of the British Employers' Confederation and of the Trades Union Congress, a new procedure applying both to men and women is being put into operation as soon as practicable. In future, a notification of the impending selection interview of his employees will be sent to an employer in sufficient time to allow him to make observations in regard to any or all of the employees concerned, if he so desires. The nature of any observations by the employer will be communicated to the person concerned when being interviewed. Where a number of employees are involved, the employer will be free to ask for a discussion with the Local Office of the Ministry of Labour

* See the March issue of this GAZETTE, pages 50 and 69-71, and also pages 155 and 170 of this issue.

† The text of an Order modifying the Essential Work (General Provisions) Order in its application to the iron and steel industry is given on page 171 of this issue.

* See the March issue of this GAZETTE, pages 51 and 73.

and National Service, so that any question of a timetable of interviews or programme of withdrawals can be gone into. To facilitate the new procedure, men and women will be interviewed at the Local Office nearest the employer's premises and that Local Office will be responsible for conducting the negotiations with the employer.

The chief need is for women who are free to go wherever their services are required. It is the policy of the Minister to regard women in the younger age groups as having a special obligation to go into the women's auxiliary services or into vital war jobs which involve going away from their homes, leaving their places of employment to be filled by older women, or those who for good reasons are not mobile.

The task of transferring young women to vital war employment or to the Services will be further facilitated if a reserve can be built up of older women who are prepared to come forward to offer their services. Even if a woman is available only part-time she may find that her part-time services can be utilised. It is hoped that older women will realise that by filling jobs vacated by young women they will be directly contributing to the War effort, even though the job may not be a war job.

SCHEDULE OF RESERVED OCCUPATIONS.

POSITION OF MEN IN OCCUPATIONS WITH ALTERNATIVE AGES OF RESERVATION.

THE Schedule of Reserved Occupations and Protected Work*, published in April, 1941, introduced the new principle that men in certain occupations are reserved at a lower age if employed in a protected establishment and at a higher age if employed in any other establishment, and it was indicated in paragraph 24 of the Explanatory Memorandum, published with the Schedule, that men in occupations with alternative ages of reservation who are doing work which is unprotected may be called up for service at any time after the middle of July, 1941.

In an announcement made on 12th August, relating to occupations which have been given alternative ages of reservation at Stage B in the Schedule, the Ministry of Labour and National Service stated that the following decisions had been taken to apply until further notice to men in respect of whom notification (as set out below) of employment upon protected work is received at the Regional Office of the Ministry of Labour and National Service before the issue of enlistment notices :—

- (1) Men in occupations with alternative ages of reservation employed at protected establishments on 9th August, 1941, will be reserved at the lower age of reservation, provided that notification of the employment was received at the Regional Office of the Ministry of Labour and National Service before 18th August. In most cases this would already have been done by the completion and despatch of the Form N.S.171 to the Regional Office of the Ministry
- (2) Men in occupations with alternative ages of reservation employed at an establishment which is admitted to the Register of Protected Establishments after 9th August will be reserved at the lower age of reservation, provided that they were employed at the establishment on the date of its admission to the Register and that notification (on Form N.S.171) of such employment is received at the Regional Office of the Ministry of Labour and National Service within 10 days of that date.
- (3) Men in occupations with alternative ages of reservation who are reserved in accordance with (1) and (2) above will, upon transfer from one protected establishment to another, continue to be reserved at the lower age if the interval between the engagements does not exceed 14 days and if notification (upon Form N.S. 171) of their new engagement is received at the Regional Office of the Ministry of Labour and National Service within 10 days of the date of such engagement.
- (4) Men in occupations with alternative ages of reservation who are not reserved at the lower age in accordance with (1), (2), or (3) above, and men who enter employment on unprotected work, will be reserved at the higher age of reservation. Any such man whose age at registration under the National Service Acts falls between the lower and the higher age of reservation for his occupation will be regarded as available for calling up for service, as and when required, although he may have obtained protected work after 9th August or after the date of the admission of the establishment at which he is employed to the Register of Protected Establishments.

For the present, it is open to employers, whether their establishments are protected or unprotected, to make application for the deferment of the calling-up of indispensable men employed on work of urgent public importance who, in accordance with the foregoing, are available for calling up. Information regarding applications for deferment may be obtained at any Local Office of the Ministry of Labour and National Service.

LABOUR IN FILLING FACTORIES.

REPORT BY THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL EXPENDITURE.

VISITS to two filling factories were recently made by the Sub-Committee on Supply Services of the Select Committee on National Expenditure. The report of the Sub-Committee on these visits was adopted without modification and published as the Seventeenth Report* from the Select Committee.

The Sub-Committee state that at the filling factories in question they found several labour problems which, although they are common to all types of factory, are accentuated by the special conditions in which this particular work has to be done. By reason of the nature of some of the work, the factories have to be built in a comparatively rural area, covering a large acreage, with small separated buildings.

Dealing firstly with the problem of absenteeism, the Sub-Committee state that this is causing considerable dislocation of work and that filling factories suffer more in this way than ordinary engineering works, because many of the operations take place in small shops where much of the work is done by hand and the absence, for any reason, of individual workers is obviously more seriously felt than in larger shops where work is carried on almost exclusively by mechanical means. During the winter months up to the middle of March, 1941, the two-shift system was worked and absenteeism during this period varied between 15 and 20 per cent. On the adoption of the three-shift system it fell at once to 10 per cent., but was tending to rise again to about 12 per cent. Female absenteeism was shown to be between 60 per cent. and 90 per cent. higher than male absenteeism. In every case the morning shift was the worst and among the days of the week Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning are clearly the times at which people absent themselves more than at any other time, the figure of absenteeism on the Saturday afternoon in a given week having risen to 26 per cent. for females and 16.8 per cent. for males and on the Sunday morning to 22 per cent. and 18.4 per cent. respectively. By way of contrast to the foregoing figures a neighbouring engineering factory, where the same employees are working as in peace time and live in the immediate neighbourhood, shows only 0.75 per cent. of absenteeism over a given period of four weeks.

Having regard to the necessary conditions of site and construction, it does not follow, the Sub-Committee state, that the bulk of the absenteeism is culpable. The high figures revealed at the factories visited appear largely to be the product of factors peculiar to the circumstances—factors which, to a great extent, can and should be eliminated by administrative action.

Careful enquiries made by the Sub-Committee showed that the causes of the high figures seemed to be : (i) the difficulties of transport over the long distances which workers have to travel ; (ii) the absence of adequate accommodation near the factories ; (iii) the conditions of work in the factories, particularly the canteen arrangements ; and (iv) the seven-day week. In the view of the Sub-Committee these avoidable causes should be dealt with at once, and then any residue of culpable absenteeism could be remedied by appropriate action.

The Sub-Committee then proceed to consider other problems found to exist, affecting transport, accommodation, canteens and hours of work, and after putting forward their detailed observations on these matters they set out in a summary the following statement of their views :—

- (1) Absenteeism in filling factories is due to causes which should be cured largely by administrative action, after which the residue of culpable absentees could be dealt with.
- (2) The provision of adequate transport facilities for the workers should be regarded as a primary duty of the Ministry of Supply, either by special arrangements with the railway and omnibus companies or otherwise.
- (3) The provision of an adequate number of hostels, as near as possible to the factories, should be speeded up as a matter of urgency, and the scale of charges should be reconsidered on the lines of rent for a room and payment for meals taken.
- (4) The canteens should be the subject of special and urgent consideration, especially the problem of cooking arrangements, the provision of adequate equipment and the prices charged. The supply of food should be given reasonable priority and the Ministry of Food should be approached on this question.
- (5) Sunday work should be abolished, except for maintenance of plant or in real emergencies. Some adjustment of time rates is probably a necessary corollary to this step.
- (6) Increase in production can be achieved by the removal of causes of legitimate grievances and by increasing incentive. Piece work should be introduced where appropriate.
- (7) The conditions of work should be improved so as to reduce industrial fatigue.
- (8) The appointment of men of first class ability to manage Royal Ordnance Factories is of the highest importance, but the Ministry is handicapped by the scale of salaries laid down by the Treasury. This scale should be urgently reviewed.

With regard to the recommendation contained in (4) above concerning canteens, the Sub-Committee declare that canteen arrangements are made difficult by the size and character of the factories. Nevertheless, it is urgently necessary that the authorities on the spot should solve the problems connected therewith at the earliest possible moment and thereby remove sources of grievance which undoubtedly exist.

* Seventeenth Report from the Select Committee on National Expenditure, Session 1940-1941, H.C. 102; H.M. Stationery Office, price 1d. net (2d. post free).

* See the issues of this GAZETTE for April (page 78) and June (page 116).

TRAINING FOR THE ENGINEERING INDUSTRY.

HIGHER GRADE COURSES.

ARRANGEMENTS for providing Higher Grade Courses at Government Training Centres, Technical Colleges and in industrial establishments where the equipment and instructors are available are now to be developed to the fullest possible extent, and have been brought to the notice of employers in the engineering industry in a recently published leaflet.*

Training experienced workpeople to a higher level of skill than that which they already possess, *e.g.*, the training of employers' operatives as setters (autos, capstans, millers, etc.) toolroom workers and other skilled grades engaged on production work, is regarded as one of the most valuable forms of training which the Department can undertake in order to assist employers, and the present arrangements enable employers to secure such training for their skilled operatives free of charge at courses which will normally last a few weeks.

The instruction is given by competent craftsmen with up-to-date experience of industry and with the ability and experience to impart their knowledge. The operatives remain on the employer's pay-roll during training and return to their employers afterwards. In appropriate cases the Ministry of Labour and National Service is prepared to provide some financial assistance to meet the expenses which the employer may incur owing to the man's absence. Trainees from Government Training Centres will be submitted if necessary, to take the places of men undergoing training.

In certain circumstances allowances for travelling and lodging will be payable to employees taking an upgrading course.

COURSES OF LECTURES ON FOREMANSHIP.

THE Ministry of Labour and National Service, in conjunction with the Board of Education and the Scottish Education Department, is organising courses of lectures in foremanship at Technical Colleges in a considerable number of industrial areas. The establishment of a course in any particular locality will be dependent upon sufficient local demand, and employers and workpeople interested in the scheme should get in touch with their local Employment Exchange. The lectures will cover the following subjects:—General Principles of Foremanship and Supervision; Principles of Production and Planning; Elements of Labour Management; Costing and Remuneration. The courses will be open to suitably qualified women on the same terms as men.

The courses will be normally of 72 hours' duration, and will usually be given in evening meetings of two hours each, held twice a week. Accordingly, no allowances or expenses will be paid by the Ministry to students; no fees will, however, be charged for the course.

It is appreciated that it is impossible to produce a foreman simply by a course of lectures; both personality and considerable technical experience are required, and the intention of the courses is to give the wider background which will be useful to men already possessing these qualifications. On this account only existing foremen and other applicants with the necessary experience will be accepted, and only these should apply for admission to the courses. Employers, however, are invited to put forward other persons of the same type whom they consider will benefit from taking the course.

An examination will be held at the conclusion of each course.

A written statement will be given by the Technical College, to those who pass it, to the effect that they have attended the course and passed the examination successfully.

TRAINING OF LORRY DRIVERS.

THE Ministry of Labour and National Service has started a scheme for the training of drivers, particularly women, for light commercial lorries up to three tons unladen weight. The intention is to fill the gaps caused by the calling-up for military service of existing male drivers of such vehicles, and also to release the male drivers for heavy lorry work, where their physical strength will be more effectively employed.

Training is to be given by motor driving schools and road haulage operators, to whom appropriate fees are to be paid. Recruitment, through the local Employment Exchange, is open to persons over 17 who satisfy the physical standards for holding a driving licence, and who are not already reserved from military service. Trainees are paid during training, and on its conclusion there is a driving test imposed on behalf of the Ministry of War Transport.

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR FORCE.

REGISTRATION OF AUSTRIANS, GERMANS AND ITALIANS.

THE text of an Order made by the Minister of Labour and National Service on 11th July, providing for the registration of certain classes of Austrians, Germans, and Italians in Great Britain is given on page 172.

Registration took place during the period 11th to 22nd August.

* Leaflet P.L. 92/1941; obtainable from any Employment Exchange.

NATIONAL SERVICE ACTS, 1939 TO 1941.

NUMBER REGISTERED IN JULY.

THE number of men, liable to be called up for service under the National Service Acts, 1939 to 1941, who registered on 12th July* was 120,699.

FURTHER REGISTRATION.

A FURTHER registration of men liable to be called up for service under the National Service Acts is to be effected on 6th September. The men concerned are those born between 1st July, 1922, and 31st December, 1922, both dates inclusive.

NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE, CONTRIBUTORY PENSIONS AND WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ACT, 1941.

THE National Health Insurance, Contributory Pensions and Workmen's Compensation Act, 1941, received the Royal Assent on 7th August, 1941.

Under Part I of the Act provision is made for the weekly rates of sickness and disablement benefits under the National Health Insurance Acts to be increased for both men and women by three shillings a week, with effect as from the beginning of the next benefit year on 5th January, 1942. As from the same date the joint weekly Health Insurance contribution is to be increased by twopence a week, the increase being shared equally by the employer and the worker, and the Exchequer is to assume additional liability in the respect that the usual proportionate payment is to be made of the cost of the increased benefits. Provision is also made, with effect from 5th January, 1942, for the extension from £250 to £420 of the annual remuneration limit for the compulsory Health and Pensions Insurance of non-manual workers, and as a corollary the remuneration limit which determines the exclusion from medical benefit of voluntary contributors is correspondingly raised.

A further important provision enables Regulations to be made adapting the Health and Pensions Insurance schemes to war-time conditions, so that unforeseen contingencies may be dealt with as they arise. It is stipulated, however, that any such Regulations must be laid before Parliament, and no such Regulations may alter the statutory rates of benefit, pension or contribution or alter the statutory proportion of the funds required for the cost of benefits and the expenses of their administration which is to be derived from the contributions of insured persons or their employers.

Part II of the Act provides for the extension of the scope of the Workmen's Compensation Act so as to cover non-manual workers earning up to £420 a year, as compared with the present limit of £350 a year. This change is to operate as from 1st January, 1942.

FOOD CONTROL.

MAXIMUM RETAIL PRICES OF FOOD.

THE maximum retail prices of potatoes of the 1941 crop, which were to have been reduced on 21st July, were retained unaltered at 2½d. per lb. until 28th July, when the 1941 crop control Order came into force. The maximum retail prices under this Order vary according to district, variety classification (grade A or B) and quantity bought. In Great Britain during the period 28th July to 17th August the maximum retail prices range from 4½d. to 5½d. per 3½ lb. for an amount less than 7 lb., from 8½d. to 10½d. per 7 lb. for an amount less than 14 lb., and from 1s. 5d. to 1s. 9d. per 14 lb. for an amount less than 1 cwt.; rates per cwt. are also prescribed. In Northern Ireland the maxima are lower. The Order does not apply in certain parts of Scotland. Maximum retail prices of potatoes are also fixed for the period 18th to 31st August and for September, the prices for these two later periods being, in many cases, lower than those for the period 28th July to 17th August.

Maximum prices have also been fixed for green (or salad) onions from 21st July, for imported canned meats from 24th and 28th July, for threshed home-grown peas of the 1941 crop from 28th July, for "cooking eggs," from 28th July (these eggs at a maximum retail price of 1½d. each being on sale outside the general egg scheme), and for plums (including damsons and greengages) from 11th August.

The prices of shredded suet, cocoa powder and drinking chocolate have been removed from the control of the Orders to which they were formerly subject; the sale of shredded beef suet is now governed by agreement between the Ministry of Food and manufacturers, and control of the prices of cocoa powder and drinking chocolate is being exercised by the Cocoa and Chocolate (War Time) Association, on lines laid down by and subject to the approval of the Ministry of Food.

FOOD RATIONING.

The ordinary domestic ration of cheese is to be increased from 2 oz. to 3 oz. per week from 25th August. The special ration of 8 oz. per week for underground miners, agricultural workers and vegetarians is to remain unchanged. An extra allowance of 8 oz. per week is being provided, during the period of harvest, for workers engaged in harvesting.

* See the June issue of this GAZETTE, page 116.

EMPLOYMENT IN JULY.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

THE number of men and boys registered at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain as wholly unemployed at 14th July was 113,662, a decrease of 7,900 as compared with 16th June. Of this total, 33,048 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 20,862, an increase of 2,816 as compared with 16th June. Those registered as unemployed casual workers (being persons who normally seek their livelihood by jobs of short duration) numbered 11,005, an increase of 1,202 as compared with 16th June.

The corresponding figures for women and girls on the registers at 14th July were 105,915 wholly unemployed (of whom 3,814 had been classified by interviewing panels as unsuitable for normal full-time employment, and 4,658 had been classified as unable for good cause to transfer to another area although employment was not likely to be available locally), 25,165 temporarily stopped, and 671 unemployed casual workers. As compared with 16th June, the numbers wholly unemployed showed a decrease of 16,179, those temporarily stopped a decrease of 4,522, and unemployed casual workers a decrease of 76.

The number of applicants for unemployment benefit or allowances on the registers at 14th July was 207,311, as compared with 225,759 at 16th June, and 653,949 at 15th July, 1940.

The numbers registered as unemployed at 14th July are analysed below:—

	Wholly Unemployed.	Temporarily Stopped.	Unemployed Casual Workers.
Great Britain.			
Men	102,010	20,340	10,986
Boys	11,652	522	19
Women	88,852	23,854	670
Girls	17,063	1,311	1
Total	219,577	46,027	11,676
Increase (+) or Decrease (—) as compared with:—			
16th June, 1941	— 24,079	— 1,706	+ 1,126
15th July, 1940	— 416,955	— 107,215	— 25,816
Great Britain and Northern Ireland.			
Men	113,849	21,232	12,204
Boys	12,674	595	19
Women	106,608	27,634	674
Girls	18,871	1,537	1
Total	252,002	50,998	12,898
Increase (+) or Decrease (—) as compared with:—			
16th June, 1941	— 26,236	— 421	+ 1,010
15th July, 1940	— 444,656	— 111,661	— 26,461

UNEMPLOYMENT SUMMARY BY DISTRICTS.

THE following Table shows the numbers of unemployed persons on the registers at 14th July in each administrative region†:—

Region†.	Men 18 years and over.	Boys 14-17 years.	Women 18 years and over.	Girls 14-17 years.	Total.
Wholly Unemployed.					
London and South-Eastern	15,621	2,129	17,184	2,442	37,376
Eastern	3,646	349	4,953	800	9,748
Southern	2,329	346	3,522	633	6,830
South-Western	4,016	499	5,234	903	10,652
Midlands	2,534	320	2,111	324	5,289
North-Midlands	3,095	220	3,102	466	6,883
North-Eastern	8,209	430	6,135	929	15,703
North-Western	16,200	1,663	17,709	1,620	37,192
Northern	12,052	1,392	5,891	3,225	22,560
Scotland	18,872	2,744	17,402	3,146	42,164
Wales	15,436	1,560	5,609	2,575	25,180
Great Britain	102,010	11,652	88,852	17,063	219,577
Northern Ireland	11,839	1,022	17,756	1,808	32,425
Great Britain and Northern Ireland	113,849	12,674	106,608	18,871	252,002
Temporarily Stopped.					
London and South-Eastern	316	2	1,638	41	1,997
Eastern	70	1	532	67	670
Southern	30	—	206	13	249
South-Western	236	7	358	15	616
Midlands	451	5	1,054	15	1,525
North-Midlands	643	8	1,564	114	2,329
North-Eastern	3,429	21	4,885	102	8,437
North-Western	4,074	59	8,044	198	12,375
Northern	669	12	872	113	1,666
Scotland	2,097	106	3,846	306	6,355
Wales	8,325	301	855	327	9,808
Great Britain	20,340	522	23,854	1,311	46,027
Northern Ireland	892	73	3,780	226	4,971
Great Britain and Northern Ireland	21,232	595	27,634	1,537	50,998

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

† See note on page 156 relating to the provincial organisation of the Ministry of Labour and National Service.

Region*.	Men 18 years and over.	Boys 14-17 years.	Women 18 years and over.	Girls 14-17 years.	Total.
Unemployed Casual Workers.					
London and South-Eastern	3,172	—	282	1	3,455
Eastern	697	—	11	—	708
Southern	153	—	5	—	158
South-Western	1,140	—	6	—	1,146
Midlands	10	—	—	—	10
North-Midlands	265	—	60	—	325
North-Eastern	545	1	—	—	546
North-Western	540	9	112	—	661
Northern	2,000	6	53	—	2,059
Scotland	994	1	140	—	1,135
Wales	1,470	2	1	—	1,473
Great Britain	10,986	19	670	1	11,676
Northern Ireland	1,218	—	4	—	1,222
Great Britain and Northern Ireland	12,204	19	674	1	12,898

THE increases (+) or decreases (—) between 16th June, 1941, and 14th July, 1941, in the numbers of persons on the registers in the various administrative regions were as shown below:—

Region*.	Wholly Unemployed.		Temporarily Stopped.		Unemployed Casual Workers.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
London & South-Eastern	+ 200	— 3,593	— 56	— 669	+ 780	— 31
Eastern	— 731	— 1,438	— 27	+ 67	+ 397	— 10
Southern	— 455	— 938	— 8	+ 14	— 4	— 9
South-Western	— 420	— 1,424	+ 106	— 48	+ 531	+ 3
Midlands	— 513	— 458	— 157	— 395	— 12	— 2
North-Midlands	— 583	— 1,147	+ 183	— 222	+ 26	+ 35
North-Eastern	— 644	— 1,156	— 353	— 1,949	— 813	—
North-Western	— 544	+ 310	— 946	— 1,884	— 74	— 1
Northern	— 1,579	— 1,991	— 348	— 15	+ 290	— 43
Scotland	+ 200	— 1,987	+ 267	+ 148	— 88	— 19
Wales	— 2,831	— 2,357	+ 4,155	+ 431	+ 169	+ 1
Northern Ireland ..	— 1,399	— 758	+ 83	+ 1,202	— 110	— 6

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 July, 1940:—

Date.	Great Britain.					G. Britain & N. Ireland.
	Men 18 years and over	Boys 14-17 years.	Women 18 years and over.	Girls 14-17 years.	Total.	Total.
Wholly Unemployed.						
1940.						
15 July ..	336,292	18,363	248,025	33,852	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
21 April ..	139,895	17,344	133,056	28,477	318,772	359,122
12 May ..	127,733	14,251	122,002	26,326	290,312	334,887
16 June ..	110,428	11,134	102,181	19,913	243,656	278,238
14 July ..	102,010	11,652	88,852	17,063	219,577	252,002
Temporarily Stopped.						
1940.						
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
21 April ..	40,992	803	31,809	1,769	75,373	80,711
12 May ..	27,261	523	36,016	1,944	65,744	70,643
16 June ..	17,656	390	28,268	1,419	47,733	51,419
14 July ..	20,340	522	23,854	1,311	46,027	50,998
Unemployed Casual Workers.						
1940.						
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
21 April ..	15,479	36	846	5	16,366	17,655
12 May ..	12,028	27	873	4	12,932	14,338
16 June ..	9,786	17	742	5	10,550	11,888
14 July ..	10,986	19	670	1	11,676	12,898

* See footnote† in previous column.

UNEMPLOYMENT AMONG BOYS AND GIRLS.

On page 159 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 14th July, 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 that date:—

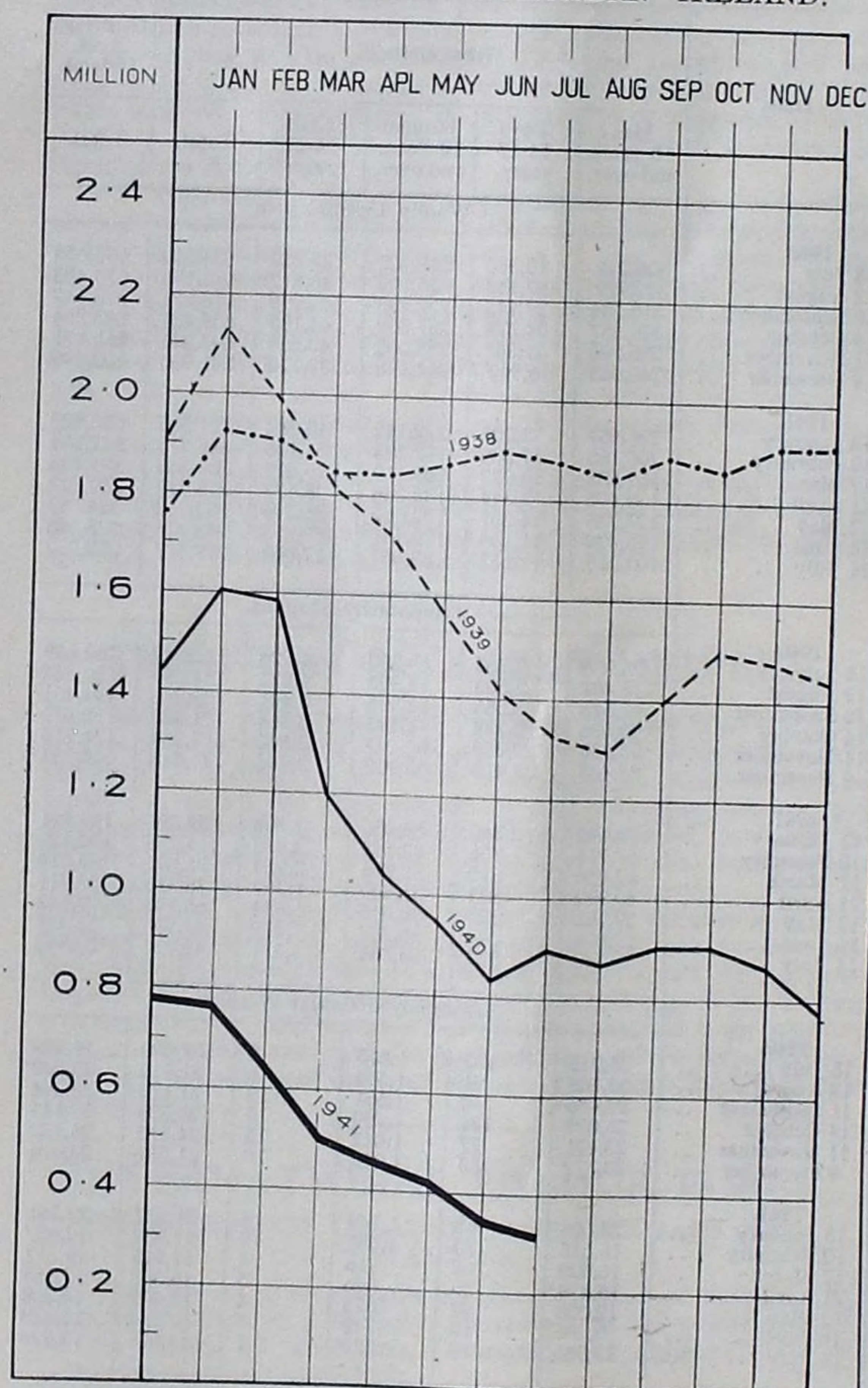
Region.*	Boys.			Girls.		
	Aged 14 and 15.	Aged 16 and 17.	Total.	Aged 14 and 15.	Aged 16 and 17.	Total.
London and South-Eastern ..	838	1,293	2,131	1,168	1,316	2,484
Eastern ..	148	202	350	305	562	867
Southern ..	202	144	346	377	269	646
South-Western ..	272	234	506	353	565	918
Midlands ..	144	181	325	178	161	339
North-Midlands ..	102	126	228	204	376	580
North-Eastern ..	199	253	452	409	622	1,031
North-Western ..	959	772	1,731	917	901	1,818
Northern ..	864	546	1,410	1,747	1,591	3,338
Scotland ..	1,426	1,425	2,851	1,710	1,742	3,452
Wales ..	718	1,145	1,863	1,137	1,765	2,902
Great Britain	5,872	6,321	12,193	8,505	9,870	18,375
Northern Ireland	72	1,023	1,095	185	1,849	2,034
Gt. Britain and N. Ireland ..	5,944	7,344	13,288	8,690	11,719	20,409

The total number of insured juveniles, under 18 years of age, recorded as unemployed in Great Britain and Northern Ireland at 14th July, 1941, (including those, not on the register, whose unemployment books were in the two months' file) was 32,158, of whom 13,516 were boys and 18,642 were girls. Of these, 4,560 boys and 6,057 girls were under 16 years of age.

In the week ended 23rd July, 1941, the number of juveniles, under 18 years of age, who attended authorised courses of instruction was 716, including 268 boys and 448 girls. Of this total, 101 were in the North-Eastern Region, 91 in the Northern Region, and 484 in Wales.

UNEMPLOYMENT CHART.

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



* See note on page 156 relating to the Provincial Organisation of the Ministry of Labour and National Service.

COMPOSITION OF UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS: GREAT BRITAIN.

ANALYSIS FOR 14TH JULY, 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 ..	113,366	3,468	75,247	5,713	197,794
2. Non-claimants:—					
(a) Aged 16 and over ..	8,159	2,009	13,395	2,304	25,867
(b) Aged 14 and 15 ..	—	2,882	—	3,574	6,456
Others on Register:—					
3. Applicants for Unemployment Allowances ..	4,143	43	3,871	166	8,223
4. Women aged 60-64 claiming Benefit*	—	—	1,294	—	1,294
5. Persons without applications:—					
(a) Aged 16 and over ..	7,668	801	19,569	1,687	29,725
(b) Aged 14 and 15 ..	—	2,990	—	4,931	7,921
Total on Register ..	133,336	12,193	113,376	18,375	277,280
Insured Unemployed					
Aged 16 and over:—					
6. Number on Register (items 1 and 2(a)) ..	121,525	5,477	88,642	8,017	223,661
7. Two months' file ..	24,081	2,277	40,460	2,744	69,562
8. Special Schemes—Claimants to Benefit ..	155	1	147	6	309
Total aged 16 and over ..	145,761	7,755	129,249	10,767	293,532
Aged 14 and 15:—					
9. Numbers on Register (Item 2 (b)) ..	—	2,882	—	3,574	6,456
10. Two months' file ..	—	1,508	—	2,280	3,788
Total aged 14 and over ..	145,761	12,145	129,249	16,621	303,776

UNEMPLOYMENT FUND.

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

	Four weeks ended 26th July, 1941.	Four weeks ended 28th June, 1941.	Four weeks ended 27th July, 1940.
(1) General Account.	£	£	£
Contributions received from:—			
Employers ..	1,987,000	2,078,000	1,776,000
Employed persons ..	1,987,000	2,077,000	1,775,000
Exchequer ..	1,987,000	2,078,000	1,777,000
Miscellaneous Receipts ..	96,000	—	215,000
Total Income ..	6,057,000	6,233,000	5,543,000
Benefit ..	505,000	570,000	1,415,000
Cost of Administration ..	301,000	303,000	314,000
Accrued Charge for Debt Service† ..	—	—	153,000
Miscellaneous Payments ..	30,000	29,000	725,000
Total Expenditure ..	836,000	902,000	2,607,000
Debt Outstanding† ..	—	—	39,354,000
(2) Agricultural Account.			
Contributions received from:—			
Employers ..	60,000	56,000	80,000
Employed persons ..	60,000	55,000	79,000
Exchequer ..	60,000	55,000	78,000
Miscellaneous Receipts ..	7,000	—	17,000
Total Income ..	187,000	166,000	254,000
Benefit ..	4,000	8,000	11,000
Cost of Administration ..	23,000	21,000	30,000
Miscellaneous Payments ..	—	—	33,000
Total Expenditure ..	27,000	29,000	74,000

UNEMPLOYMENT ALLOWANCES.

For the period of four weeks ended 26th July, 1941, expenditure on unemployment allowances (excluding the cost of administration) amounted to approximately £325,000 compared with £369,000 during the four weeks ended 28th June, 1941, and £948,000 during the four weeks ended 27th July, 1940.

Comparison of the figures for June and July, 1941, with those for the corresponding months of 1940, is affected by an increase in 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).

* 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).

‡ 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. The balance of the debt amounting to £38,587,000 which remained after the discharge of the half-yearly payment on 31st March, 1941, was repaid on that date.

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

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 July resulted in an aggregate increase estimated at about £111,500 in the weekly full-time wages of about 1,070,000 workpeople, and in a decrease estimated at about £100 in those of 5,000 workpeople.†

The majority of the workpeople affected by the increases were employed in the coal mining, brick, textile and transport industries, while the decreases affected mainly iron miners and quarrymen in Cumberland and Furness, and iron workers in the West of Scotland.

In the coal mining industry, there was a flat-rate increase under a cost-of-living sliding scale in all districts except Nottinghamshire, amounting to 4d. a shift for men and to 2d. a shift for youths and boys. In Nottinghamshire, the equivalent of this flat-rate advance was merged into an increase in the percentage addition to basis rates. In South Derbyshire, there was an increase in the percentage addition to basis rates in addition to the flat-rate advance. In Cannock Chase and Leicestershire, the percentage addition to basis rates was reduced slightly, but the decreases were more than counterbalanced by the general flat-rate increase.

In the brick and tile industry in England and Wales, the wage rates for men engaged in the manufacture of building bricks, etc., were advanced by 1d. an hour, with smaller increases for women and juvenile workers. Increases in wage rates were also granted in the refractory brick industry in Scotland.

In the textile industries, the majority of the workpeople whose wages were advanced were employed in bleaching, dyeing,

finishing, etc., in which trades there were increases amounting to about one-half of 1 per cent. on current rates in Yorkshire, and to 4d. a week for men on timework and 3d. a week for men on piecework and for women in Lancashire and Scotland.

In the transport industry, the war bonuses of 7s. a week for men and 5s. 3d. for women employed by various company-owned motor omnibus undertakings in England and Wales (excluding the Metropolitan Area) were replaced by a war wage of 2½d. an hour for both men and women.

Other industries in which wage increases were granted included roadstone quarrying, bobbin making, heating, ventilating and domestic engineering, and rubber manufacture.

Of the estimated total increase of £111,500 a week, about £500 was due to the operation of sliding scales based on fluctuations in the proceeds of the coal mining industry; £25,500 was due to arrangements made by joint standing bodies; £64,700 was due to the operation of sliding scales based on the cost of living; £16,100 was due to arbitration awards; and the remaining £4,700 was the result of direct negotiation between employers and workpeople or their representatives. The whole of the estimated decrease of £100 a week was due to the operation of sliding scales based on the cost of living.

The changes reported in the first seven months of 1941 are estimated to have resulted in a net increase of about £1,400,000 a week in the full-time wages of 7,100,000 workpeople.* In the corresponding seven months of 1940, there was a net increase estimated at about £1,600,000 in the weekly full-time wages of 7,150,000 workpeople.

Hours of Labour.

No important changes were reported during July.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING JULY.

Industry.	District.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change (Decreases in Italics).
Agriculture	Gloucestershire ..	27 July	Women and girls (other than casual workers).	New scale of minimum weekly rates fixed, for a working week of 48 hours in winter and 52 hours in summer, of 16s. at 14 and under 15 years, increasing to 36s. at 21 years and over, in lieu of hourly rates previously fixed.†
			Women and girls 19 years and over.—casual workers.	Increase of 1d. an hour (8d. to 9d.) for women, of ½d. for girls 20 and under 21 and of ¼d. for girls 19 and under 20.‡
			Boys and girls 12 to 14 years of age	Minimum rate fixed at 3d. an hour.‡
	Middlesex	27 July	Boys and girls 12 to 14 years of age	Minimum rate fixed at 4½d. an hour.‡
Coal Mining	Various districts in Great Britain§	1 July	Workpeople employed in and about coal mines.	Flat-rate war advance increased by 4d. a shift for men and by 2d. a shift for youths and boys.
	South Derbyshire ..	1 July	Workpeople employed in and about coal mines.	Increase of 4·78 per cent. on basis rates, making wages 80·89 per cent. above the basis rates, and flat-rate war advance increased by 4d. a shift for men and by 2d. a shift for youths and boys.
	Nottinghamshire ..			Increase of 4 per cent. on basis rates, making wages 108 per cent. above the basis rates, the flat-rate advance, previously paid, remaining unchanged.
	Leicestershire ..			Decrease of 0·14 per cent. on basis rates, leaving wages 76·20 per cent. above the basis rates, but flat-rate war advance increased by 4d. a shift for men and by 2d. a shift for youths and boys, resulting in a net increase in wages.
	Cannock Chase ..	1 July	Workpeople employed in and about coal mines, other than engine winders, deputies and firemen, examiners and shotlighters.	Decrease of 1·47 per cent. on basis rates, leaving wages 55·81 per cent. above the basis rates for shopmen, mechanics and surface workers not handling coal and 53·81 per cent. above the basis rates for all other workers; but flat-rate war advance increased by 4d. a shift for men and by 2d. a shift for youths and boys, resulting in a net increase in wages.¶
			Engine winders, deputies and firemen, examiners and shotlighters employed in coal mines.	Flat-rate war advance increased by 4d. a shift for men and by 2d. a shift for youths and boys.
Coke, etc., Manufacture.	Durham	1 July	Cokemen and by-product workers ..	Increase of 3·5 per cent. on basis rates, making wages 70 per cent. above the basis rates.
	Cumberland ..	1 July	Cokemen and by-product workers ..	Flat-rate war advance increased by 4d. a shift for men and by 2d. a shift for youths and boys.
	South Yorkshire ..			
	West Yorkshire ..			
Other Mining and Quarrying.	Cumberland ..	28 July	Iron ore miners	War bonus reduced by ½d. a shift (2s. to 1s. 11½d. for those 18 years and over, and 1s. to 11½d. for those under 18 years).
	Furness and district ..	27 July	Iron ore miners	War bonus reduced by 2d. a shift (2s. 1d. to 1s. 11d.) for those 18 years and over, and by 1d. a shift (1s. 0½d. to 11½d.) for those under 18 years.
	West Cumberland ..	28 July	Limestone quarrymen ..	Flat-rate addition to wages (previously granted) reduced by 1d. a shift (2s. 0½d. to 1s. 11½d.) for those 18 years and over, the flat-rate addition for those under 18 years remaining unchanged at 1s. a shift.
	Great Britain**	1 July	Roadstone quarry workers ..	War bonus increased by ½d. an hour (3d. to 3½d.).

* 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 July had received increases of greater amount during the earlier months of 1941.

‡ These changes took effect under Orders issued under the Agricultural Wages (Regulation) Acts.

§ Northumberland, Durham, Cumberland, South Yorkshire, West Yorkshire, Lancashire and Cheshire, Derbyshire (except South Derbyshire), North Staffordshire, South Staffordshire and East Worcestershire, Shropshire, Warwickshire, Forest of Dean, Bristol, Radstock and Newbury districts of Somerset, Kent, South Wales and Monmouthshire, North Wales and Scotland.

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

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

** The districts affected are those affiliated to the National Joint Industrial Council for the Roadstone Quarrying Industry, and include North-East England, North Lancashire and South Westmorland, Clitheroe District, Derbyshire and District, North Wales, Leicestershire and District, Warwickshire, West Midlands, South-East and South-West of England, South Wales and various districts in Scotland.

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

Industry.	District.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change (Decreases in <i>Italics</i>)
Brickmaking	England and Wales ..	7 July	Workpeople employed in the making of building bricks (other than glazed bricks), roofing and flooring tiles (unglazed), terra cotta (unglazed), chimney pots and finials.	Increase of 1d. an hour for men, of 3d. for women and youths, and of 4d. for boys and girls, for both timeworkers and pieceworkers. Rates after change include: shotfirers, 1s. 6½d.; getters, 1s. 6d.; fillers, 1s. 5½d.; panmen, millfeeders and clay mixers, 1s. 4d.; wheelers (only), 1s. 4½d.; wheelers and setters, 1s. 5½d.; setters (only), 1s. 6½d.; wheelers and drawers, 1s. 5½d.; kiln firemen and boiler firemen, 11s. 11d. a shift of 8 hours; labourers, 1s. 4d.; women 18 years and over, 39s. a week.*
	Scotland	1st full pay day after 19 July	Workpeople employed in the refractory section of the brickmaking trade:— Men, youths and boys Women and girls	Further war addition granted of 4s. a week to men, of 3s. a week to youths 18 to 20 years, of 2s. a week to boys 16 and 17 years, and of 1s. a week to boys 14 and 15 years of age. Rate after change, at 21 years and over, 64s., including 15s. war addition.† Further war addition granted of 2s. 6d. a week to women 18 years and over, and of 2s. a week to girls 16 and 17 years of age. Rate after change, at 18 years and over, 32s. 6d. to 38s. 6d., including 9s. war addition.†
Iron and Steel Manufacture.	South Wales and Monmouthshire (certain firms).‡	1 July	Workpeople (excluding those engaged on maintenance work) employed in melting shops and iron and steel rolling mills.	Cost-of-living bonus increased§ by 1s. 6d. a week (14s. to 15s. 6d.) for men and by 1s. a week (7s. to 8s.) for youths and boys. Minimum rate after change for labourers, 65s. 6d. a week (50s. plus 15s. 6d. cost-of-living bonus).
	West of Scotland ..	28 July	Workpeople employed at iron puddling forges and mills and sheet mills.	Flat-rate addition to wages (previously granted) reduced§ by 0.8d. a shift (1s. 6.4d. to 1s. 5.6d.) for men and by 0.4d. a shift (9.2d. to 8.8d.) for youths and boys.
Engineering	Nottingham Area ..	Beginning of 1st pay week after 14 July	Labourers	Increase of 1s. 6d. a week on basic rate. Rate after change, 30s. plus a bonus of 30s. 6d. for timeworkers.
	Loughborough district	Pay day in week beginning 28 July	Labourers	Increase of 1s. 6d. a week on basic rate. Rate after change, 30s. plus a bonus of 30s. 6d. for timeworkers.
	Ipswich, Norwich and Colchester.	Beginning of 1st pay period after 28 July	Fitters, turners and all other classes of skilled workers.	Increase of 1s. a week on basic rates. Rate after change for fitters and turners, 45s. plus a bonus of 30s. 6d. for timeworkers.
Shuttlemaking	Lancashire and Yorkshire.	1st pay day in July.	Shuttlemakers Shuttlemakers' apprentices ..	Increase§ of 3 per cent. on basis rates. Minimum day work rate after change for journeymen: 1s. an hour plus 88 per cent. (1s. 10.56d.). Increase§ of 3 per cent. on basis rates, making wages 88 per cent. above the basis piece rates and 70.5 per cent. above the basis time rates.
Bobbin Making	England and Wales ..	1st pay day in July	Men and women	Increase§ of 1s. a week for men and of 6d. for women. Rates after change, higher-skilled men, 72s. 6d. a week; lesser-skilled, 64s.; labourers, 54s.; women, 30s.
Wire Manufacture.	Glasgow	1 July	Wire workers	Increase§ of 2s. (16s. to 18s.) in cost-of-living bonus, for a 47-hour week, for both timeworkers and pieceworkers.
Farriery	Newcastle, Sunderland, North Shields and South Shields.	1 July	Farriers	Increase of 1d. an hour. Rates after change: firemen, 1s. 9½d.; doormen, 1s. 9d.
	Glasgow, Paisley and Greenock.	1 July	Farriers	Increase§ of ½d. an hour. Rates after change: firemen, 1s. 9d.; drivers, 1s. 8½d.
Heating, Ventilating and Domestic Engineering.	England and Wales ..	1 July	Skilled craftsmen	Increase of ½d. an hour. Rates after change: London—within 12 miles radius of Charing Cross, 2s. 1d.; area between 12 and 15 miles radii from Charing Cross, 2s. 0½d.; cities with over 500,000 population, 1s. 11½d.; all other districts, 1s. 11½d.
			Adult mates and assistants ..	Increase of ½d. an hour. Rates after change: London district—within 15 miles radius of Charing Cross, 1s. 7½d.; all other districts, 1s. 5½d.
	Scotland	1 July	Heating, ventilating and domestic engineers (pipe fitters).	Increase of ½d. an hour (1s. 11½d. to 1s. 11½d.).
Textile Bleaching, Dyeing, Finishing, etc.	Yorkshire (majority of firms) and certain firms in Lancashire.¶	1st pay day in Aug.¶	Workpeople employed in the dyeing and finishing trades.	Cost-of-living wage increased§ from 98 to 99 per cent. on basic rates for men on timework, from 78½ to 79½ per cent. for men and women on piecework (except pressers), from 58½ to 59½ per cent. for hand pressers, by 1d. to 4d. a week, varying according to age, for youths and boys, and by 1d. or 2d. for girls under 18. Minimum weekly rates after change for timeworkers,** adult male process workers 32s., plus 99 per cent., plus 2s. 6d. special payment; women (18 years and over), 20s., plus 99 per cent., plus 1s. 6d. special payment.
	Lancashire, Cheshire and Derbyshire (majority of firms), and certain firms in Yorkshire; also Scotland.††	1st pay day in Aug.¶	Workpeople employed in the bleaching, dyeing, calico printing, and finishing trades (except waste bleachers, machine calico printers, engravers, mechanics, firemen, etc.).	Cost-of-living wage increased§ from 31s. 4d. to 31s. 8d. a week for men on timework, from 30s. 5d. to 30s. 8d. for men on piecework, from 18s. 7d. to 18s. 10d. for women, 18 years and over in Lancashire, Cheshire and Derbyshire and 21 years and over in Scotland, by 1d. to 3d. a week, varying according to age, for youths and boys and by 1d. or 2d. for girls. Minimum weekly rates after change for timeworkers** : Lancashire, etc.—men 21 years and over, 30s., plus 31s. 8d., plus 2s. 6d. special payment; women 18 years and over, 20s., plus 18s. 10d., plus 1s. 6d. special payment; Scotland—men 21 years and over, 27s., plus 31s. 8d., plus 2s. 6d. special payment; women 21 years and over, 17s., plus 18s. 10d., plus 1s. 6d. special payment.
	Lancashire, Cheshire and Derbyshire (majority of firms), and certain firms in Yorkshire.	1st pay day in Aug.¶	Firemen, engine tenters, oilers and greasers and assistant firemen employed in bleaching, dyeing, etc., works.	Increase§ of 4d. a week. Minimum rate after change for firemen, 69s. 8d., plus 2s. 6d. special payment.
	Middleton	1st pay day in Aug.¶	Workpeople employed in the bleaching, dyeing, printing and finishing trades.	Cost-of-living wage increased§ from 98 to 99 per cent. for male dyers, from 31s. 4d. to 31s. 8d. for male polishers, from 18s. 7d. to 18s. 10d. for female polishers, and by proportional amounts for juveniles. Minimum weekly rates after change for timeworkers** : men—dyers, 32s., plus 99 per cent.; polishers, 30s., plus 31s. 8d., plus 2s. 6d. special payment in each case; women polishers, 23s. 6d., plus 18s. 10d., plus 1s. 6d. special payment.

* This increase was agreed upon by the National Joint Industrial Council for the Clay Industries.

† This increase applied to employees of firms affiliated to the Scottish Employers' Council for the Clay Industries.

‡ This increase applied to employees of firms which are members of the South Wales and Monmouthshire Iron and Steel Manufacturers' Association.

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

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

¶ In respect of the preceding pay period.

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

†† This increase applied to workers employed by firms which are members of the Federation of Calico Printers, the Employers' Federation of Dyers and Finishers, the Employers' Federation of Bleachers, the Employers' Federation of Cotton Yarn Bleachers, Dyers and Sizers (certain firms), and the Scottish Federation of Dyers and Bleachers (Piece Goods).

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

Industry.	District.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change.
Textile Bleaching, Dyeing, Finishing, etc.— <i>contd.</i>	Lancashire, Cheshire, Derbyshire and Scotland.	1st pay day in Aug.*	Engravers, etc., employed in calico print works.	Cost-of-living wage increased† from 39s. 5d. to 39s. 8d. a week for engravers, and from 31s. 4d. to 31s. 8d. for turners, polishers, and varnishers.
			Engravers employed in engraving works.	Cost-of-living wage increased† from 39s. 5d. to 39s. 8d. a week for men, and from 22s. 1d. to 22s. 3d. for women.
Fustian Cutting, Dyeing and Finishing.	Hebden Bridge ..	1st pay day in Aug.*	Timeworkers	Cost-of-living wage increased† from 31s. 4d. to 31s. 8d. for men, from 18s. 7d. to 18s. 10d. for women (18 years and over), and by proportional amounts for juveniles. Minimum weekly rates after change‡: men, 34s., plus 31s. 8d.; women, 30s., plus 18s. 10d.
			Pieceworkers	Cost-of-living wage increased† from 88 to 89 per cent. for netherwood cutters, from 81 to 82 per cent. for hand cutters, and from 76 to 77 per cent. for other pieceworkers, except menders.
Textile Making-up and Packing.	Manchester	1st pay day in July	All workpeople.	War wage increased† by 1s. 3d. a week (17s. 6d. to 18s. 9d.) for men, by 9d. (10s. 6d. to 11s. 3d.) for women, and by proportional amounts for juveniles.
Coir Mat and Matting Manufacture.	Great Britain ..	Pay day in week ending 26 July	All workpeople.	Increase of 1½d. an hour for men, of 1d. for women, and of proportional amounts for juveniles. Rates after change include: timeworkers, 3½d. at under 14 years, increasing to 1s. 2d. and 8½d. for men and women, respectively, at 21 years and over; pieceworkers, men, 1s. 3½d., women, 9d.
Ready-made and Wholesale Bespoke Tailoring.	Great Britain ..	25 July	Men and boys	Increase of 1½d. an hour in the general minimum time rates for those 22 years and over, of ½d., ¾d., or 1d. for those under 22, and of 1½d. an hour in piecework basis time rates.§
			Women and girls	Increase of 1d. an hour in the general minimum time rates for those other than learners, of ½d. or ¾d. for learners, and of 1d. an hour in piecework basis time rates.§
	Northern Ireland ..	28 July	Men and boys	Increase of 1½d. an hour in the general minimum time rates for those 22 years and over, of ½d., ¾d., or 1d. for those under 22, and of 1½d. an hour in piecework basis time rates.§
			Women and girls	Increase of 1d. an hour in the general minimum time rates for those other than learners, of 2s. or 3s. a week for learners, and of 1d. an hour in piecework basis time rates.§
Corset Making	Great Britain ..	4 July	Men and boys	Increase of 1½d. an hour in the general minimum time rates for those 22 years and over, of ½d., ¾d., or 1d. for those under 22, and of 1½d. an hour in piecework basis time rates.§
			Women and girls	Increase of 1d. an hour in the general minimum time rates for those other than learners, of ½d. or ¾d. for learners, and of 1d. an hour in piecework basis time rates.§
Laundering	Great Britain ..	21 July	Transport workers (men and boys)	Scale of general minimum time rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts as follows:—drivers, 21 years of age and over, 64s.; drivers under 21, 41s. to 54s., according to length of service; vanguards, 17s. at under 15 years, rising to 38s. at 18 and over.§
	Various districts in England.	21 July	Workpeople employed in laundries by co-operative societies.	War bonus increased by 3s. a week (7s. to 10s.) for men, by 2s. (4s. to 6s.) for youths, by 2s. (5s. to 7s.) for women, by 1s. 6d. (3s. 6d. to 5s.) for girls 18 to 21 years, and by 1s. (2s. 6d. to 3s. 6d.) for boys and girls under 18 years.
Brewing	Sheffield	1st pay day after 7 July	Brewery workers	Increase of 5s. a week for men and of 3s. for youths, 16 to 21 years, and women and girls. Rates after change include: motor lorry drivers and drivers of two-horse vehicles, 75s.; other men, 73s.; women 20 years and over, 41s.
Millsawing	North-East Coast ..	21 July	Woodcutting machinists and sawyers employed in sawmills.	Increase of ¾d. an hour. Minimum rates after change: Berwick, 1s. 11d.; other towns, 1s. 11½d.
	Certain towns in Scotland.	1 July	Labourers employed in sawmills ..	Increase of ¾d. an hour. Rates after change: Glasgow and district, 1s. 4½d.; Leith, 1s. 5½d.; other towns, 1s. 5d.
Furniture Manufacture.	Sunderland** (certain firms) ..	Pay day in week ending 25 July	Craftsmen	War bonus increased by ½d. an hour. Rate after change for craftsmen, 1s. 10d. plus ½d. an hour "tool money" for woodworkers.
Building	Isle of Man	1st full pay week in July	Building trade operatives	Increase of ½d. an hour. Rates after change for Eastern and other districts respectively: craftsmen, 1s. 9d., 1s. 7½d.; labourers, 1s. 4½d., 1s. 3½d.
Electrical Contracting.	Scotland	1st full pay week after 18 July	Apprentices	Adoption of schedule of rates of 15s. in 1st year of apprenticeship rising to 40s. in 5th year, for a week of 47 hours.
Monumental Masonry.	Aberdeen	28 July	Cutters, turners, polishers, etc., employed in granite yards.	Increase of ½d. an hour. Rates after change include: granite cutters, scabblers and toolsmiths, 1s. 9d.; granite polishers, 1s. 8d.
	Edinburgh and district	28 July	Monumental masons and polishers ..	Increase of ½d. an hour. Rates after change: monumental masons, 1s. 10d.; polishers, 1s. 9d.
	Glasgow	28 July	Monumental masons and sculptors ..	Increase of ½d. an hour. Rates after change: cutters, turners and scabblers, 1s. 10d.; polishers, bed setters and sawmen, 1s. 9d.
Road Passenger Transport.	Various Undertakings in England and Wales (excluding Metropolitan Area).††	1st full pay week after 5 Apr.‡‡	Employees of company-owned motor omnibus undertakings, other than those whose wages are regulated by movements in other industries.	War wage granted of 2½d. an hour to all employees 21 years and over, of 1½d. to those 19 and 20 years, of 1½d. to those 17 and 18 years, and of ¾d. to those 14 to 16 years, in lieu of war bonus previously granted of 7s. a week to men, of 5s. 3d. to women, of 3s. 6d. to youths and girls 19 and 20 years, of 2s. 7½d. to boys and girls 17 and 18 years and of 1s. 9d. to boys and girls 14 to 16 years.
Local Authorities (Non-Trading Services).	Belfast	1st full pay period after 11 July	Manual workers except those whose wages are regulated by movements in other industries.	War bonus increased by 2s. 6d. a week for men and by 1s. 3d. for women and juveniles. Minimum rate after change for labourers, 50s., plus 12s. 6d. war bonus.§§

* In respect of the preceding pay period.

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

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

§ 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. In the case of the Ready-made and Wholesale Bespoke Tailoring Trade (Great Britain), increases equivalent in sum to the amounts stated above had already been granted in September, 1940, under an Award of the National Arbitration Tribunal, and in January, 1941, under an Agreement between the employers' association and the trade union. In the case of the Corset-making Trade, increases of equivalent amounts were granted in March 1941, under an agreement between the employers' association and the trade union.

|| Including Grimsby, Hull, York, Stockton, Middlesbrough, Hartlepool, Sunderland, Seaham Harbour, Gateshead, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Jarrow, North and South Shields, Blyth and Berwick-on-Tweed.

** This increase applied to employees of firms which are members of the Sunderland and District Furniture Manufacturers' Association.

†† The Undertakings affected are mainly those affiliated to the National Council for the Omnibus Industry (excluding Municipal Undertakings and the London Passenger Transport Board).

‡‡ This increase was the result of an Award of the Tribunal of Arbitration set up under the Constitution of the National Council for the Omnibus Industry dated 10th July, 1941, with retrospective effect to the date shown.

§§ This increase was the result of an Award of the National Arbitration Tribunal (Northern Ireland) (see page 169).

¶ Including Aberdeen, Dundee, Falkirk, Glasgow, Grangemouth, Leith and Tayport.

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

Industry.	District.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change.
Retail Food Distribution	England and Wales..	Pay day in week commencing 21 July	Workpeople employed in retail food distribution, excluding butchery and bakery shops (branch shop managers and manageresses, shop assistants, van salesmen, cashiers, clerks, central warehouse staff, and other employees in retail shops except craftsmen, production staff and transport workers).	Scales of general minimum weekly rates of wages adopted. Minimum rates after change, inclusive of all forms of commissions and bonuses, for shop assistants, van salesmen, cashiers, clerks and central warehouse staff: London—males, 21s. 6d. at 16 years, increasing to 65s. at 25; females, 19s. 6d. at 16 years, increasing to 43s. at 24. Provincial "A"—males, 18s. 6d. at 16 years, increasing to 62s. at 25; females, 16s. 6d. at 16 years, increasing to 40s. at 24. Provincial "B"—males, 16s. 6d. at 16 years, increasing to 60s. at 25; females, 14s. 6d. at 16 years, increasing to 38s. at 24.*
Toy Manufacture	Great Britain ..	25 July	All workpeople	Increase of 4s. a week in the general minimum time rates for those 21 years and over, of 3s. for those 18 years and under 21, of 2s. for those 16 years and under 18, and of 1s. for those under 16.†
Rubber Manufacture.	Great Britain ..	4 July	All workpeople	Increase of 1d. an hour in the general minimum time rates for men, of ½d. for women, of ¾d. for youths, of ¼d. for boys, and of ¾d. or ¼d. for girls. Rates after change: males, 4½d. at under 16 years, increasing to 1s. 3d. at 21 and over; females, 4½d. at under 16 years, increasing to 9d. at 21 and over.†
Rubber Proofing	Manchester and District.	4 July	Workpeople employed in rubber proofing (except spreaders and calender men).	Increase of ½d. an hour.
		11 July	Ditto	Increase of 1d. an hour. Rates after change: dry mixers, 1s. 6½d.; wet mixers and cold store men, 1s. 6d.; general labourers, 1s. 5d.
Entertainments	Northern Area (certain towns).‡	21 July	Workpeople employed in cinema theatres.	War bonus increased by 5 per cent. (from 7½ to 12½ per cent.) on minimum weekly rates of wages.

* This change took effect as the result of a Decision of the Retail Food Trades Joint Industrial Council, and applied to workpeople engaged in the retail grocery and provisions, cooked meats and other cooked foods (excluding fried fish), fresh, cured, dried, and smoked fish, game, poultry and rabbits, fruit, vegetables and flowers, and excisable liquor (off-licence) trades in England and Wales. The rates quoted are minima and do not supersede agreements providing for the payment of higher rates or the operation of better conditions of employment (e.g. Co-operative Societies). Provincial "A" includes all places with more than 5,000 inhabitants (excluding the Metropolitan Police District) and Provincial "B" includes all other places.

† 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.

‡ Including Newcastle-on-Tyne, Gateshead, North Shields, South Shields, Sunderland, West Hartlepool, Durham, Stockton-on-Tees, Middlesbrough, and Darlington

FATAL INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS.

THE number of workpeople, other than seamen*, in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, whose deaths from accidents in the course of their employment occurred or were reported in July† was 275, as compared with 251‡ in the previous month and with 220‡ in July, 1940.

MINES AND QUARRIES....	Factories— <i>continued.</i>
Under Coal Mines Acts:—	Paper, Printing, etc. .. 2
Underground 109	Rubber 1
Surface.. .. . 11	Gas Works 3
Metalliferous Mines	Electrical Stations .. 6
Quarries 5	Other Industries 5
TOTAL : —	WORKS AND PLACES UNDER
MINES AND QUARRIES.. 125	SS. 105, 107, 108, FACTORIES
FACTORIES.	ACT, 1937.
Clay, Stone, Cement, Pot-	Docks, Wharves, Quays
tery and Glass	and Ships 9
Chemicals, Oils, Soap, etc. 10	Building Operations .. 39
Metal Extracting and Re-	Works of Engineering
fining 3	Construction 2
Metal Conversion and	Warehouses
Founding (including	TOTAL, FACTORIES ACT 135
Rolling Mills and Tube	RAILWAY SERVICE.
Making) 14	Brakemen, Goods Guards 1
Engineering, Locomotive	Engine Drivers, Motor-
Building, Boilermaking,	men 1
etc. 14	Firemen
Railway and Tramway	Guards (Passenger) ..
Carriages, Motor, and	Labourers.. .. . 1
other Vehicles and Air-	Mechanics.. .. . 2
craft Manufacture .. 5	Permanent Way Men .. 5
Shipbuilding 6	Porters 2
Other Metal Trades .. 3	Shunters 1
Cotton	Other Grades 2
Wool, Worsted, Shoddy.. 1	Contractors' Servants ..
Other Textile Manufac-	TOTAL, RAILWAY SERVICE 15
ture	Total (excluding Seamen) 275
Textile Printing, Bleach-	
ing and Dyeing 2	
Tanning, Currying, etc... 1	
Food and Drink 5	
General Woodwork and	
Furniture 4	

INDUSTRIAL DISEASES.

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

I. Cases.	I.—Cases— <i>continued.</i>
LEAD POISONING.†	EPITHELIOMATOUS ULCERATION
Among Operatives en-	(SKIN CANCER).
gaged in :	Pitch 10
Smelting of Metals	Tar 4
Plumbing and Soldering ..	Oil 6
Shipbreaking	TOTAL 20
Printing	CHROME ULCERATION.
Other Contact with	Manufacture of Bichro-
Molten Lead	mates 5
White and Red Lead	Dyeing and Finishing .. 1
Works	Chrome Tanning
Pottery	Chromium Plating 2
Vitreous Enamelling	Other Industries 2
Electric Accumulator	TOTAL 10
Works 4	Total, Cases 55
Paint and Colour Works ..	II.—Deaths.
Coach and Car Painting ..	LEAD POISONING.
Shipbuilding 1	Pottery 1
Paint used in Other	Electric Accumulator
Industries.. .. .	Works 1
Other Industries	TOTAL 2
Painting of Buildings.. ..	OTHER POISONING.
TOTAL 5	OTHER POISONING.
OTHER POISONING.	Toxic Jaundice 1
Aniline 14	EPITHELIOMATOUS ULCERATION
Toxic Jaundice 3	(SKIN CANCER).
TOTAL 17	Tar 1
ANTHRAX.	Total, Deaths 4
Wool 1	
Handling of Horsehair ..	
Handling and Sorting of	
Hides and Skins 1	
Other Industries 1	
TOTAL 3	

* Statistics of fatal accidents to seamen are not available.

† For mines and quarries, weekly returns are furnished, and the figures cover the 5 weeks ended 2nd August, 1941, in comparison with the 4 weeks ended 28th June, 1941, and the 5 weeks ended 3rd August, 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.

† In addition to the cases included in the Table one case of lead poisoning was reported among plumbers not employed in factories.

CHANGES IN RETAIL PRICES AND COST OF LIVING.

Summary of Index Figures for 1st August, 1941.

	Food	All Items
Increase since July, 1914 ...	67%	99%
Change since 1st July, 1941 ...	nil.	nil.

FOOD.

At 1st August the average level of retail prices of the articles of food included within the scope of these statistics was practically the same as at 1st July. The prices of potatoes showed a slight reduction, on the whole, the average for new potatoes at 1st August (by which date the old crop was exhausted) being lower, by about $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per 7 lb., than the combined average for old and new potatoes at 1st July. On the other hand, there were increases in the price of milk in some towns.

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

Article.	Average Price (per lb. unless otherwise indicated— to the nearest $\frac{1}{4}$ d.) at—			Percentage Inc. or Dec. (—) at 1st August, 1941, compared with	
	1st Aug. 1941.	1st July, 1941.	1st Sept., 1939.	1st July, 1941.	1st Sept., 1939.
Beef, British—	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Ribs	1 3 $\frac{1}{4}$	1 3 $\frac{1}{4}$	1 2 $\frac{1}{4}$	—	11
Thin Flank ..	0 9 $\frac{1}{4}$ *	0 9 $\frac{1}{4}$	0 7 $\frac{1}{4}$	—	27
Beef, Chilled or Frozen					
Ribs	1 0 $\frac{1}{4}$	1 0 $\frac{1}{4}$	0 9 $\frac{1}{4}$	—	34
Thin Flank ..	0 6	0 6	0 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	22
Mutton, British—					
Legs	1 5 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 5 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 3 $\frac{1}{4}$	—	13
Breast	0 8	0 8	0 7 $\frac{1}{4}$	—	8
Mutton, Frozen—					
Legs	1 0	1 0	0 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	15
Breast	0 4	0 4	0 4	—	—
Bacon†	1 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 3	—	36
Fish	—	—	—	—	56
Flour .. per 7 lb.	1 1 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 1 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 1 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	—1
Bread .. per 4 lb.	0 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	3
Tea	2 6	2 6	2 4	—	7
Sugar (granulated) ..	0 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 3	—	32
Milk .. per quart	0 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	1	30
Butter—					
Fresh	1 7	1 7	1 4 $\frac{1}{4}$	—	15
Salt	—	—	1 3 $\frac{1}{4}$	—	24
Cheese§	1 1	1 1	0 10	—	30
Margarine —					
Special	0 9	0 9	0 6 $\frac{1}{4}$	—	12
Standard	0 5	0 5	—	—	—
Eggs (fresh)¶ .. each	0 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 2	—	26
Potatoes per 7 lb.	0 9 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 9 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	—3	46

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

Article.	Average Percentage Increase or Decrease (—) since July, 1914, at—		
	1st Sept., 1939.	1st July, 1941.	1st August, 1941.
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Beef, British—			
Ribs	44	59	59
Thin Flank	15	46	46
Beef, Chilled or Frozen—			
Ribs	32	77	77
Thin Flank	1	24	23
Mutton, British—			
Legs	48	66	67
Breast	14	24	24
Mutton, Frozen—			
Legs	51	74	74
Breast	—3	—3	—3
Bacon†	35	83	83
Fish	116	237	237
Flour	26	25	25
Bread	42	46	46
Tea	52	63	63
Sugar (granulated) ..	46	93 $\frac{1}{2}$	93 $\frac{1}{2}$
Milk	92	147	149
Butter—			
Fresh	13	30	30
Salt	7	33	34
Cheese§	16	50	50
Margarine	—8	3	3
Eggs (fresh)	58	100	100
Potatoes	33	99	95
All above articles (Weighted Average)	38	67	67

On the basis of the figures in the foregoing Table, the average level of retail prices of food at 1st August was approximately the same as at 1st July, and about 21 per cent. higher than at the beginning of September, 1939.

* The increase in price, as compared with 1st July, was slight, but sufficient to alter the average to the nearest $\frac{1}{4}$ d.

† 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.

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

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

|| On 1st July and 1st August, 1941, two brands of margarine, "special" and "standard," were on sale at 9d. and 5 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.

¶ Of the two prices shown for eggs at 1st July and 1st August, 1941, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. was for large eggs (in Ministry of Food category I) and 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. for small eggs (in category II). The figure for 1st September, 1939, is an average of the varying prices charged at that date.

ITEMS OTHER THAN FOOD.

The average level of working-class *rents* (including rates) at 1st August showed no appreciable change as compared with 1st July, being about 1 per cent. above the level at 1st 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 August the retail prices of clothing of the kinds generally bought by working-class families averaged between 1 and 2 per cent. higher than at 1st July, and about 83 per cent. higher than at 1st September, 1939. The average increase during July was about 1 per cent. for men's suits and overcoats, between 1 and 2 per cent. for woollen materials, underclothing and hosiery and 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 August the average rise over the level of July, 1914, was about 280 per cent.

In the *fuel and light* group the average level of the prices of coal and of gas was about the same at 1st August as a month earlier. Prices of coal averaged about 21 per cent. higher than at 1st September, 1939, and about 135 per cent. above the level of July, 1914. The prices of gas were about 23 per cent. higher than at 1st September, 1939, and about 89 per cent. higher than in July, 1914. There were increases in the prices of lamp oil and candles during July, averaging about 3 per cent. and 5 per cent., respectively. 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 August was about the same as at 1st July, about 25 per cent. higher than at 1st September, 1939, and about 128 per cent. higher than in July, 1914.

As regards *other items** included in these statistics, there were increases in the prices of domestic ironmongery, brushes and pottery, averaging between 3 and 4 per cent., but for the remaining items changes in prices during July were relatively slight. In the group as a whole, the average level at 1st August was about 1 per cent. higher than at 1st July, about 28 per cent. higher than at 1st September, 1939, and about 129 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 August, 1941, is approximately **99 per cent. over the level of July, 1914**, the same figure as a month earlier, as compared with 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 44 points since the beginning of September, 1939, is equivalent to about 28 per cent. Of these 44 points, about 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ points are due to the increases, since that date, in the taxes on sugar, tobacco and cigarettes, and matches; and approximately 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ points are due to increases resulting from the Purchase Tax.

SUMMARY TABLE: ALL ITEMS.

Average percentage increase, as compared with July, 1914, 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	100	100	99	99	—	—	—	—

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.

* Soap, soda, domestic ironmongery, brushes, pottery, tobacco and cigarettes, fares and newspapers.

TRADE DISPUTES IN JULY.*

Number, Magnitude and Duration.—The number of disputes involving stoppages of work, reported to the Department as beginning in July in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, was 60, as compared with 82 in the previous month and 40 in July, 1940. In these 60 new disputes about 14,200 workpeople were directly involved, and 800 workpeople indirectly involved (*i.e.*, thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, though not themselves parties to the disputes). In addition, about 1,500 workpeople were involved, either directly or indirectly, in 5 disputes which began before July, and were still in progress at the beginning of that month. The number of new and old disputes was thus 65, involving about 16,500 workpeople, and resulting in a loss, during July, estimated at 25,000 working days.

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

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 ..	—	18	18	6,400	8,000
Metal, Engineering and Shipbuilding ..	3	16	19	3,400	7,000
Other	2	26	28	6,700	10,000
Total, July, 1941 ..	5	60	65	16,500	25,000
Total, June, 1941 ..	12	82	94	28,200	89,000
Total, July, 1940 ..	2	40	42	11,700	33,000

Causes.—Of the 60 disputes beginning in July, 12, directly involving 500 workpeople, arose out of demands for advances in wages, 3, directly involving 400 workpeople, out of proposed reductions in wages, and 25, directly involving 8,300 workpeople, on other wage questions; 1, directly involving 600 workpeople,

on questions as to working hours; 9, directly involving 1,100 workpeople, on questions respecting the employment of particular classes or persons; and 10, directly involving 3,300 workpeople, on other questions respecting working arrangements.

Results.—Final settlements of disputes which terminated during July have been effected in the case of 45 disputes, directly involving 10,100 workpeople. Of these disputes, 5, directly involving 3,500 workpeople, were settled in favour of the workpeople; 31, directly involving 3,800 workpeople, were settled in favour of the employers; and 9, directly involving 2,800 workpeople, resulted in a compromise. In the case of 15 other disputes, directly involving 2,800 workpeople, work was resumed pending negotiations.

TOTALS FOR JANUARY–JULY, 1941 AND 1940.†

Industry Group.	January to July, 1941.			January to July, 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.
Coal Mining ..	282	98,800†	224,000	198	132,000†	357,000
Other Mining and Quarrying ..	6	400	1,000	4	200	1,000
Brick, Pottery, Glass, Chemical, etc. ..	22	1,600	5,000	18	1,200	4,000
Engineering and Shipbuilding ..	135	60,500	316,000	68	17,300	69,000
Other Metal ..	69	20,100	110,000	50	6,500	25,000
Textile ..	20	2,900	5,000	38	7,900	73,000
Clothing ..	14	2,900	11,000	15	4,600	14,000
Food, Drink, and Tobacco ..	8	600	1,000	9	4,700	12,000
Building, etc. ..	36	6,300	15,000	48	16,800	64,000
Transport ..	35	7,300	19,000	28	5,200	13,000
Other ..	30	4,200	15,000	41	11,700	43,000
Total ..	657	205,600†	722,000	517	208,100†	675,000

PRINCIPAL DISPUTES INVOLVING STOPPAGES OF WORK DURING JULY.

Occupations and Locality.	Approximate Number of Workpeople Involved.		Date when Dispute		Cause or Object.	Result.
	Directly.	Indirectly.‡	Began.	Ended.		
COAL MINING :— *Colliery workpeople—Nottinghamshire (two collieries).	1,638	..	16 July	16 July	Objection to employers' decision to pay out holiday savings on 6th August, workpeople contending that payment should be made before August Bank Holiday, in accordance with previous practice.	Workpeople's demand conceded.
STEEL MANUFACTURE :— Workpeople employed at steel works—Ayrshire (one firm).	309	72	9 July	10 July	Against dismissal of an employee who refused to work a "bye turn" during the progress of an embargo on overtime.	Embargo on overtime and on "bye turns" withdrawn.
ENGINEERING :— Workpeople employed in airscrew manufacture—Lancashire (one firm).	357	..	16 July	17 July	Workpeople's objection to introduction of individual time bonus scheme.	Work resumed pending negotiations, which proved abortive (<i>see below</i>).
	234	..	23 July	24 July	Workpeople's dissatisfaction with result of negotiations following a previous dispute respecting proposed new individual time bonus scheme.	Work resumed pending further negotiations.
SHIPBUILDING :— Workpeople employed in ship-repairing—Yorkshire (one firm).	185	236	1 July	1 July	Workpeople's objection to the wording of a notice posted by employers regarding the holding of meetings on firm's premises.	Work resumed after trade union official had pointed out that workpeople had misunderstood notice in question.
TEXTILE :— Workpeople employed in stocking manufacture—Middlesex (one firm).	1,600	..	22 July	23 July	For one week's holiday with pay. ..	Work resumed; one week's holiday with pay subsequently granted to workpeople with 12 months' service and <i>pro rata</i> paid holidays to those with less service.
Workpeople employed in cotton doubling—Cheshire (one firm).	332	..	29 and 30 July§	30 July	Workpeople's allegation that they were unable to keep pace with machinery which had been speeded up.	Employers agreed to halve the proposed speed increase.
PUBLIC WORKS CONTRACTING :— Labourers—Ayrshire (one firm).	556	..	14 July	15 July	For a guaranteed week of 47 hours and other concessions to compensate for loss of earnings arising from the cancellation of Sunday working.	Work resumed; adjustments to be made in the normal overtime arrangements.
TRANSPORT :— Omnibus drivers, conductors, and cleaners—Yorkshire (one firm).	389	84	5 July	5 July	Against dismissal of two cleaners for refusing to obey an order.	Amicable settlement effected.
Dock labourers—Glasgow. ..	2,000	..	31 July	1 Aug.	Objection to the introduction of a new system of allocation of labour under which men must report at specified Control Points; trade unionists claiming that they should retain the right to seek work at any place in the port.	Work resumed; operation of new arrangements suspended pending negotiations.

* 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 63,000 in 1941, and 93,000 in 1940. For all industries combined the *net* totals were approximately 165,000 in 1941, and 169,000 in 1940.

‡ *i.e.*, thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, but not themselves parties to the disputes.

§ About 70 workpeople ceased work at mid-day on 29th July.

|| Work was resumed at 11 a.m.

EMPLOYMENT OVERSEAS.

DENMARK.

At the end of April, 1941, 18.4 per cent. of the aggregate membership (approximately 519,000) of approved unemployment funds were unemployed, as compared with 26.8 per cent. at the end of March, 1941. At the end of April, 1940, the corresponding percentage was 26.0, but owing to subsequent changes in the method of compiling the data, this percentage is not strictly comparable with the foregoing figures.

ÉIRE.

The number of persons on the live registers of the Employment Exchanges fell from 56,061 at 28th June, 1941, to 53,630 at 26th July. The figures for both these dates are affected by 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, 1941, to 28th October, the eligibility for unemployment assistance of certain classes of persons living in rural areas. At 27th July, 1940, when three Orders, similar in character, but of more restricted scope, were in force, the total number of persons on the live registers was 59,822.

UNITED STATES.

According to returns received by the Bureau of Labour Statistics from employers, covering over 55 per cent. of the aggregate number of wage-earners in manufacturing industries, the number of workpeople employed at the middle of April, 1941, was the highest so far recorded. If the average monthly index of employment in the establishments covered for the three years 1923-25 be taken as 100, the corresponding figure for April, 1941, was 122.3, as compared with 119.9 for March, 1941, and 103.2 for April, 1940.

Information supplied by the Social Security Board shows that the number of applications for employment registered at Public Employment Offices at the end of May, 1941, was 5,155,923, an increase of 0.8 per cent. over the figure for the end of the previous month, but a decline of 10.3 per cent. below that for the end of May, 1940.

According to the estimates of the American Federation of Labour published in the *American Federationist* for July, 1941, the total number of unemployed persons in the United States in May, 1941, was approximately 6,149,000, as compared with 6,848,000 in April, 1941, and 9,712,000 in May, 1940. Estimates of the National Industrial Conference Board published in *The Conference Board Management Record* for June, 1941, give the total number of unemployed persons in April, 1941, as 5,412,000, as compared with 6,117,000 in March, 1941, and 8,938,000 in April, 1940.

Both the foregoing estimates and the official statistics of applications for employment include a large number of persons provided with employment on the various established systems of Federal works projects.

CANADA.

According to returns received by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics from 12,600 firms, the number of workpeople employed at 1st April, 1941, was 1,405,425, as compared with 1,344,138 at 1st March. If the average number of workpeople employed by the reporting firms in the year 1926 be taken as 100, the corresponding index of employment was 141.3, the highest on record, at 1st April, 1941, 135.3 at 1st March, 1941, and 111.9 at 1st April, 1940. The Bureau points out, however, that the unusually large increase in employment at 1st April, 1941, may be partly due to changes in the method of reporting the data.

At the end of April, 1941, 5.5 per cent. of the aggregate membership (approximately 284,000) of trade unions making returns were unemployed, as compared with 6.6 per cent. at the end of the previous month, and 9.6 per cent. at the end of April, 1940.

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.

FINLAND.

In March, 1941, the official cost-of-living index figure was one per cent. above the figure for February, 1941, and 39.3 per cent. above that for July, 1939. For food alone, the index figure for March, 1941, was 1.8 per cent. above that for February, 1941, and 43.3 per cent. above that for August, 1939.

GERMANY.

In February, 1941, the official cost-of-living index figure showed an increase of 0.3 per cent. as compared with the figure for January, 1941, and of 3.6 per cent. as compared with that for August, 1939. For food alone, the corresponding percentage increases were 0.2 and 2.0, respectively.

AUSTRALIA.

In April, 1941, the official index figure relating to the cost of food in 30 towns showed an increase of 0.1 per cent. as compared with the figure for the preceding month, and of 3.2 per cent. as compared with that for August, 1939.

NEW ZEALAND.

In April, 1941, the official cost-of-living index figure was 0.4 per cent. above the level of the figure for March, 1941, and 6.6 per cent. above that for August, 1939. For food alone, the corresponding percentage increases were 1.0 and 3.0, respectively.

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

INDUSTRIAL COURT AWARDS.

ELECTRICIANS: EARLS COURT.—The Electrical Trades Union claimed that an Agreement with Earls Court Ltd., covering hours of labour, rates of pay, etc., of November, 1938, should continue to be recognised and operated. The Court found that the Receiver and Manager of Earls Court Ltd., who had meanwhile been appointed in a debenture holders' action in the Chancery Division in the High Court of Justice, is not a party to the Agreement and is not bound to recognise its terms. The Court also found that the Agreement is still subsisting and would be operative as between the Union and Earls Court Ltd., when the appointment of the Receiver and Manager is terminated.—*Award No. 1812*; dated 8th July, 1941.

WOODWORKERS: NORTH RIDING COUNTY COUNCIL.—The National Union of Public Employees asked the Court to determine the rate to be paid to woodworkers at the Council's Central Depot, Northallerton. In their *Award No. 1802* the Court stated they were not satisfied that the men concerned should be regarded as employed in the building trade and adjourned the proceedings in order that the matter should be further considered by the parties in the light of the payments made by highway authorities in other areas. The parties were unable to reach a settlement and in a subsequent award, the Court awarded an increase of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. an hour on the existing rate of 1s. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.—*Award No. 1813*; dated 17th July, 1941.

SCOTTISH IRON AND STEEL TRADES.—The National Union of General & Municipal Workers (Scottish District Office) claimed that an output bonus should be paid to all labourers including platelayers, employed at the works of members of the Iron and Steel Trade Employers' Association in Scotland. Parties were heard on 2nd April, and the Court awarded that the matter should be further considered by the parties in the light of the provisions of clause III of an Agreement of 20th July, 1929. The parties were unable to reach a decision and in a further award the Court awarded that all labourers, including platelayers, shall be placed on an output bonus as part of their basis wage; that the adjustment of datal rates provided for in clause III of the Agreement of July, 1929, shall be by way of a reduction of $\frac{3}{4}$ d. an hour; and the amount of bonus to be paid to labourers shall be 60 per cent. of the bonus payable to bricklayers at each works.—*Award No. 1814*; dated 21st July, 1941.

ELECTRICIANS: ODHAMS (WATFORD) LIMITED.—The Electrical Trades Union referred to the Industrial Court the question of the payment due under an Agreement between the parties to workers on night-shift during a week in which a public holiday intervened. During the course of the hearing it appeared that the parties were likely to come to an agreement. The Court accordingly adjourned the case for further consideration by the parties and were subsequently informed that the parties had reached agreement.—*Award No. 1815*; dated 22nd July, 1941.

RAILWAY SHOPMEN: SOUTHERN RAILWAY.—The National Union of Railwaymen claimed that certain fitters grade II, employed at Eastleigh carriage works should be regraded as fitters grade I, under the Court's *Award No. 728* relating to railway shopmen generally. The Company pointed out that the men should have been graded in the first instance as carriage fitters grade I, but, as such, the rate paid to them would have been the same as that in fact paid to them as fitters grade II. The Court decided against the claim, and further awarded that the men should be regraded as carriage fitters grade I.—*Award No. 1816*; dated 24th July, 1941.

PORTERS: COVENT GARDEN MARKET.—The employees' side of the Joint Conciliation Board for Covent Garden Market claimed that the porters of Messrs. Monro should have their method of working changed from the method under clause A of an Agreement of May, 1939, to the method under clause B of the same Agreement. Under clause A the firm's porters do both carrying in and carrying out; under clause B they do not carry in but carry out. The Court awarded that whilst the present method of working is in no way at variance with the Agreement the evidence showed that a large and increasing proportion of firms are working in accordance with the method claimed and awarded that the method of working under clause B should apply.—*Award No. 1817*; dated 25th July, 1941.

SINGLE ARBITRATORS AND AD HOC BOARDS OF ARBITRATION.

SHIPREPAIRING: GRIMSBY.—A dispute was reported under the Conditions of Employment and National Arbitration Order, 1940, by the Ship Constructors' and Shipwrights' Association, Grimsby Branch, concerning the meaning and intention of an overtime clause of a Memorandum of Agreement made between the Association and the Grimsby Ship Repairers' Association. The matter, not having been otherwise disposed of, the parties agreed to the dispute being referred for settlement to a Single Arbitrator. Sir Charles Doughty, K.C., was appointed under the powers conferred on the Minister by the Order and by the Industrial Courts Act, 1919, to act as Arbitrator, and he issued his Award on 1st July.

CHEMICALS: BARNSELY.—Mr. A. N. Shimmin was appointed under the Industrial Courts Act, 1919, to act as Arbitrator in the matter of a claim by the National Union of Enginemen Firemen, Mechanics and Electrical Workers regarding the wages,

overtime rates and working conditions of all grades of workpeople employed by the Old Silkstone Chemical Works Limited. In his Award dated 8th July, the Arbitrator found that the claim of the Union, had not been established, and awarded that the terms of an offer made by the Company during earlier negotiations with the Union should be applied.

BRASS AND METAL MECHANICS: HALIFAX.—A dispute regarding the piece-rate system for night work at Hattersley (Ormskirk) Limited, Halifax, was reported under the Conditions of Employment and National Arbitration Order, 1940, by the National Union of Brass and Metal Mechanics, and not having been otherwise disposed of, the parties agreed to the dispute being referred for settlement to a Single Arbitrator. Mr. A. N. Shimmin was appointed under the powers conferred on the Minister by the Order and by the Industrial Courts Act, 1919, to act as Arbitrator, and he issued his Award on 28th July, authorising the continuance of the system of payment at present in operation.

COURTS OF INQUIRY.

I.—DISPUTE BETWEEN TRENT GUNS AND CARTRIDGES LIMITED, GRIMSBY, AND THE NATIONAL UNION OF GENERAL AND MUNICIPAL WORKERS.

The Minister of Labour and National Service appointed a Court of Inquiry consisting of Sir Charles Doughty, K.C. (Chairman), Gerald Lant, Esq., and J. W. Bowen, Esq., C.B.E., J.P., to inquire into the causes and circumstances of a dispute between Trent Guns and Cartridges Limited and the National Union of General and Municipal Workers.

The Report* of the Court showed that, in consequence of complaints concerning wages and conditions of employment made to the Union by individual workers of the undertaking concerned, all the female workers were organised and shop stewards were appointed. Subsequently the Union submitted an application for a meeting to discuss wages and working conditions, but the firm declined to meet the Union and dismissed one of the shop stewards. Intervention by the Minister of Labour failed to secure a meeting between the parties to discuss the matter. On 27th March last a second member of the Union was dismissed from the service of the firm and the workers declined to resume work unless the dismissed worker was reinstated. As a result about 77 workers left the firm's employment and again the Ministry of Labour was unable to bring about any joint negotiation on the matter.

In its conclusions the Court found that the immediate cause of the dispute was the dismissal of the Union member on 27th March, and that so long as the firm refused to recognise the Union it was difficult to see how the girls could have shown their sympathy with the dismissed worker without some form of demonstration such as had occurred. The fundamental cause of the dispute was the stubborn refusal of the Managing Director to have any dealings with any Trade Unions, and the active steps which he took to prevent, if possible, his workpeople joining the National Union of General and Municipal Workers. The Court strongly regretted the attitude of the Managing Director. The Union did, in fact acquire a membership of the overwhelming majority of the workers and the attitude of the Managing Director was bound to lead to a trade dispute with great possibilities of a stoppage of work, just as actually did happen in fact. The almost universal practice and well tried method of recognising and negotiating with the Trade Union or Unions fairly representing the workers should be adopted in these Works, and unless it were adopted the Court feared other troubles would arise.

The Court appreciated that the Managing Director was quite sincere in his belief that he was entitled to refuse to have any dealings with a Trade Union, and he claimed that if he liked he was entitled to run his works on non-union lines. The Report added that in peace time, if he chose to try to exercise this right and a trade dispute occurred in consequence, the national interest might not be gravely involved. In war time, however strongly individuals might desire to run their works in their own way, it was their duty to their country to fall into line with the vast majority of other good employers and to assist the Government in the accepted methods of conciliation.

II.—PARTIAL STOPPAGE OF WORK AT VICKERS ARMSTRONG LIMITED, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.

The rejection by a majority of the workers of the reintroduction of day and night shift working at this establishment led to a partial stoppage of work. In view of the national importance of the undertaking, the Minister of Labour and National Service set up a Court of Inquiry consisting of Sir Charles Doughty, K.C. (Chairman), Lieutenant-Colonel E. Briggs, D.S.O., and A. M. Wall, Esq., J.P., into the circumstances in which the reintroduction of day and night shift working had been rejected by the workpeople.

In the course of the hearing the Court was able to bring about an agreement between the two sides as follows:—

(1) The Amalgamated Engineering Union and the firm agree to hold a Conference in accordance with established agreements upon the question of the resumption of day and night working in the next week, that is, between June 23rd and June 29th.

(2) Pending agreement upon this question being reached, in order to use to the full all hours of daylight, the Union agree to do their best to procure a full resumption of work next Monday morning upon the double day shift system with the following modifications: The first shift shall start at 6 a.m. and end at 3 p.m.; the second shift shall start at 3 p.m. and end at midnight.

The Court adopted the agreement as part of its report, and in the circumstances the report has not been published.

CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT AND NATIONAL ARBITRATION ORDER, 1940.*

NATIONAL ARBITRATION TRIBUNAL AWARDS.

WAGES OF LIGHTING STAFF AND LIFT AND ESCALATOR STAFF OF THE LONDON PASSENGER TRANSPORT BOARD.

Parties: The London Passenger Transport Board and Employees of the Board.

Claim: (Made on behalf of the employees by the Electrical Trades Union). For an advance in wages to the lighting staff and lift and escalator staff.

Award: The Tribunal awarded that the special bonus payments at present made to the lighting staff and the lift and escalator staff be increased to the following amounts for a week of 47 hours:—*Lighting staff:* Skilled, 11s.; Semi-skilled, 9s.; Unskilled, 7s. 6d. *Lift and Escalator Staff:* Skilled, 14s. 6d.; Semi-skilled, 11s.; Unskilled, 9s. 3d. The award is without prejudice to the increase of 4s. per week in the war advance which, it was reported to the Tribunal, has been offered by the Board as from 24th February, 1941, but is in abeyance pending agreement as to the date of operation.

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

Award No. 94; dated 2nd July, 1941.

WAGES OF LIGHTING STAFF AND LIFT AND ESCALATOR STAFF OF THE LONDON PASSENGER TRANSPORT BOARD.

Parties: The London Passenger Transport Board and Employees of the Board.

Claim: (Made on behalf of the employees by the National Union of Railwaymen). For an advance in wages to the lighting staff and the lift and escalator staff.

Award and Date of Operation: As in Award No. 94, above.

Award No. 95; dated 2nd July, 1941.

WAGES OF WORKERS EMPLOYED BY A SCOTTISH FOUNDRY COMPANY IN THE STORE FOR MINISTRY OF SUPPLY MATERIAL.

Parties: Callander Abbots Foundry Companies Limited and Employees of the Company.

Claim: (Made on behalf of the employees by the National Union of General and Municipal Workers.) For a rate of 1s. 4½d. per hour for workers employed by the Company in the store for Ministry of Supply material.

Award: The Tribunal awarded that the rate to be paid to the workers concerned should be 1s. 3½d. per hour.

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

Award No. 96; dated 5th July, 1941.

WAGES OF WORKPEOPLE EMPLOYED BY A FIRM OF BISCUIT MANUFACTURERS IN ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCH.

Parties: John Ferguson Limited and Employees of the Company.

Claim: (Made on behalf of the employees by the Transport and General Workers' Union). For an increase in wages.

Award: The Tribunal awarded increases of wages as follows: Male workers of 24 years of age or over, 2s. per week. Female workers: aged 19 and under 20 years, 1s.; aged 20 and under 21 years, 2s.; aged 21 years or over, 3s.

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

Award No. 97; dated 10th July, 1941.

WAGES OF COACHMAKING REPAIR STAFF EMPLOYED BY A YORKSHIRE MOTOR SERVICES COMPANY.

Parties: East Yorkshire Motor Services Limited and Employees of the Company.

Claim: (Made on behalf of the employees by the National Union of Vehicle Builders). For payment of wages to the coachmaking repair staff in accordance with the national joint agreements for the Vehicle Building Industry.

Award: The Tribunal awarded that the Company should observe, as respects their coachmaking repair staff who are members of the National Union of Vehicle Builders, the rates of wages and conditions for all classes of workers except labourers which are provided by the joint agreements for the time being in operation between the United Kingdom Joint Wages Board of Employers for the Vehicle Building Industry and the National Union of Vehicle Builders and the Amalgamated Society of Wood-Cutting Machinists of Great Britain and Ireland. Provided that such rates and conditions should be subject to any modification in detail which may be agreed to from time to time between the Company and the Union.

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

Award No. 98; dated 17th July, 1941.

RATES OF WAGES OF APPRENTICE ELECTRICIANS IN THE ELECTRICAL CONTRACTING INDUSTRY IN SCOTLAND.

Parties: Employees of the respective Firms and (i) Allan

* Summaries of two cases, referred under Article 2 of the Order, and decided under the Industrial Courts Act, 1919, are printed among awards by Single Arbitrators and ad hoc Boards of Arbitration.

Arthur and Ure; (ii) Robert M. Russell Limited; and (iii) W. Muir Goodfellow and Company Limited.

Claim: (Made on behalf of the employees by the Electrical Trades Union). For rates of wages of apprentice electricians.

Award: The Tribunal awarded in each case rates of wages per week of 47 hours for apprentice electricians as follows: 1st year, 15s.; 2nd year, 20s. 6d.; 3rd year, 26s.; 4th year, 32s.; 5th year, 40s.

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

Awards Nos. 99, 100 and 101; dated 18th July, 1941.

WAGES OF WORKERS EMPLOYED BY A SAWMILLING AND BOX MAKING COMPANY IN ABERDEEN.

Parties: Aberdeen Mutual Sawmilling and Box Making Company Limited and Employees of the Company.

Claim: (Made on behalf of the employees by the Amalgamated Society of Wood-Cutting Machinists). For an increase in wages to sawyers and wood-cutting machinists.

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

Award No. 102; dated 18th July, 1941.

ADJUSTMENTS IN MINIMUM SALARY SCALES FOR FEMALE CLERICAL STAFF AND IN COST-OF-LIVING BONUSES FOR MALE AND FEMALE CLERICAL STAFF OF A SCOTTISH HEALTH ASSURANCE APPROVED SOCIETY.

Parties: The Scottish Legal Health Assurance Approved Society and Employees of the Society.

Claim: (Made on behalf of the employees by the National Union of Clerks and Administrative Workers (Scottish Area Council) (now the Clerical and Administrative Workers' Union)). For adjustments in the salary scales of female clerical staff and for increased cost-of-living bonuses for male and female clerical staff.

Award: The Tribunal awarded as follows:—(1) that in the case of any member of the female clerical staff whose weekly salary as on her 20th birthday is less than 27s. 6d., the salary should be raised to 27s. 6d. as from such birthday; and thereafter the annual increments provided under the scale should be payable as on each succeeding birthday instead of on the anniversaries of the date of entry into service; (2) that in the case of female clerical staff of Grade 3 an increment, over and above the increments provided by the scale, should be given of 2s. per week on completion of 20 years' service with the Society and of a further 2s. per week on completion of 21 years' service with the Society; (3) that revised cost-of-living bonuses be paid to all members of the clerical staff as follows: Male and Female employees under 18 years of age, 3s. per week; Male and Female employees of 18 and under 21 years of age, 5s. per week; Male employees of 21 years of age or over, 8s. 6d. per week; Female employees of 21 years of age or over, 6s. per week.

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

Award No. 103; dated 21st July, 1941.

WAGES AND CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT OF EMPLOYEES OF A YORKSHIRE FERTILIZER MANUFACTURING COMPANY.

Parties: George H. Anderton Limited and Employees of the Company.

Claim: (Made on behalf of the employees by the Chemical Workers' Union). For the observance by the Company of certain wages and conditions of employment.

Award: Having regard to the fact that the Company were observing the wages and conditions of employment laid down by the Fertilizer Group Joint Industrial Council and had intimated their intention of continuing to do so, the Tribunal made no award on the claim.

Award No. 104; dated 25th July, 1941.

REMUNERATION OF AGENTS OF THE CO-OPERATIVE INSURANCE SOCIETY LIMITED.

Parties: Co-operative Insurance Society Limited and Agents of the Society.

Claim: (Made on behalf of the agents by the National Union of Distributive and Allied Workers). For the payment of a war bonus to full-time agents.

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

Award No. 105; dated 28th July, 1941.

REMUNERATION OF LINOLEUM WORKERS IN KIRKCALDY.

Parties: (i) Barry, Ostlere and Shepherd Limited and (ii) Michael Nairn and Company Limited and Employees of the respective Companies.

Claim: (Made on behalf of the employees by the National Union of General and Municipal Workers (Scottish District)). For an increase of wages.

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

Awards Nos. 106 and 107; dated 29th July, 1941.

PAYMENT OF ENGINEERS ON SHIP REPAIRING WORK IN A "PRODUCTION" ESTABLISHMENT IN HULL.

Parties: Amos and Smith Limited and Employees of the Company.

Claim: (Made on behalf of the employees by the Amalgamated Engineering Union). For the payment of ship repairing rates in the Company's "production" establishment.

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

Award No. 108; dated 30th July, 1941.

RATES OF REMUNERATION FOR JIG AND EXPERIMENTAL WORK IN COVENTRY ENGINEERING ESTABLISHMENTS.

Parties: The National Union of Vehicle Builders and the Coventry and District Engineering Employers' Association.

Claim: For the payment to members of the Union employed on jig and experimental work of the rate applicable to toolroom workers.

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

Award No. 109; dated 30th July, 1941.

NATIONAL ARBITRATION TRIBUNAL (NORTHERN IRELAND) AWARDS.

WAGES OF PAINTERS: LURGAN, PORTADOWN AND ARMAGH.

Parties: The National Society of Painters and Messrs. R. Douglas, A. Murray, McIntyre, W. Maguire & Sons, and Lavery and McCann, of Lurgan; A. Adair, Mooney, T. Brownlee, F. McGurgan, W. J. Magee and J. Lamb, of Portadown; and A. H. Maxwell, J. Webster and Largey, of Armagh.

Claim of Trade Union: That the rate of wages for painters observed in the Building Trades in Lurgan, Portadown and Armagh respectively should be observed by the Master Painters in those towns.

Award: The Tribunal awarded that (a) the rate of wages for painters in Lurgan, Portadown and Armagh should be 1s. 8d. per hour, and (b) in future the rates of wages for painters in Lurgan, Portadown and Armagh should be regulated in accordance with the Building Trade (Northern Ireland) War Emergency Agreement.

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

Award No. 52; dated 4th July, 1941.

WAGES OF LOCAL AUTHORITY EMPLOYEES.

Parties: The National Union of General and Municipal Workers and the Belfast Corporation.

Claim of Trade Union: That (1) the present bonus of 10s. per week paid to male adult workers be converted into war wages and increased by 6s. per week, and (2) the bonus of 5s. per week paid to female workers, boys and juveniles, be converted into war wages and increased by 3s. per week.

Award: The Tribunal awarded as follows: (a) An increase of 2s. 6d. per week to adult male workers and an increase of 1s. 3d. per week to female and juvenile workers. The differential of 2s. 6d. per week which this award establishes between the labourers in the non-trading departments and the labourers in the electricity department shall be maintained in future. (b) The total war bonus of workers in the non-trading departments shall be taken into account when calculating pay for overtime and holiday work. (c) Rates of wages in the non-trading departments shall in future be regulated in accordance with the rates payable to labourers in the electricity department, subject to the differential awarded at (a) above.

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

Award No. 53; dated 11th July, 1941.

WAGES OF WORKERS IN THE BACON CURING INDUSTRY.

Parties: Employees of various firms and the Londonderry Employers' Federation Ltd. (Pork Section).

Claim: (Made on behalf of the employees by the National Union of General and Municipal Workers and Amalgamated Transport and General Workers' Union). For "an increase of 10s. per week on present rates of wages of men 21 years of age and over and 6s. per week to those under 21."

Award: The Tribunal awarded increases on current rates of wages of 2s. per week for employees of 21 years of age and over and 1s. per week for employees under 21 years of age.

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

Award No. 54; dated 24th July, 1941.

TRADE BOARDS ACTS AND HOLIDAYS WITH PAY ACT.

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:—

MILK DISTRIBUTIVE TRADE BOARD (ENGLAND AND WALES).

Proposal M.D. (31), dated 8th July, 1941, to vary minimum rates of wages for male and female workers 18 years of age or over.

FURNITURE MANUFACTURING TRADE BOARD (GREAT BRITAIN).

Proposal F.M. (11), dated 21st July, 1941, to vary minimum rates of wages by means of a "cost of living" scheme.

BAKING TRADE BOARD (ENGLAND AND WALES).

Proposal B.K. (10), dated 28th July, 1941, to vary minimum rates of wages for male and female workers.

TOY MANUFACTURING TRADE BOARD (GREAT BRITAIN).

Proposal Y. (28), dated 29th July, 1941, to vary minimum rates of wages for certain classes of 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 Ministry 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:—

LAUNDRY TRADE BOARD (GREAT BRITAIN).

Order W. (37) and (38), dated 11th July, 1941, confirming the fixing of minimum rates of wages and the direction for holidays with pay for male transport workers.

READY-MADE AND WHOLESALE BESPOKE TAILORING TRADE BOARD (GREAT BRITAIN).

Order R.M. (37), dated 16th July, 1941, confirming a variation of minimum rates of wages and specifying 25th July, 1941, as the date from which such rates became effective.

TOY MANUFACTURING TRADE BOARD (GREAT BRITAIN).

Order Y. (27), dated 16th July, 1941, confirming a variation of minimum rates of wages and specifying 25th July, 1941, as the date from which such rates became effective.

READY-MADE AND WHOLESALE BESPOKE TAILORING TRADE BOARD (NORTHERN IRELAND).

Order N.I.T.R.W. (20), dated 18th July, 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 July, 1941, as the date from which these rates became effective.

NATIONAL SERVICE ACTS, 1939-1941.**NATIONAL SERVICE (POSTPONEMENT CERTIFICATES) (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS, 1941.**

THESE Amendment Regulations,* made by the Minister of Labour and National Service and dated 30th June, 1941, amend the National Service (Armed Forces) (Postponement Certificates) Regulations, 1939 and 1940,† and provide as follows:—

"Regulation 2 of the Principal Regulations (which specifies the principles to be applied and the circumstances to which regard is or is not to be had in granting or renewing postponement certificates) shall have effect as if, in paragraph (3) thereof, the words 'Individual circumstances and' and 'on individual circumstances or' were omitted.

"Regulation 3 of the principal Regulations (which prescribes the period for which postponement certificates may be granted or renewed) shall have effect as if—

(a) at the end of paragraph (2) thereof there were inserted the words 'or, in any case in which there has been an appeal to the Umpire, a period of six months calculated as aforesaid or a period commencing on the date on which the applicant applied to the Minister for the renewal of the certificate and ending on a date not later than one month after the date of the decision of the Umpire in that case whichever period is the greater';

(b) in paragraph (3) thereof for the words 'and accordingly' there were substituted the words 'unless it is renewed on some other ground and accordingly (save as aforesaid)'; and

(c) at the end of paragraph (3) thereof there were inserted the words:—

'and

(4) no certificate renewed on the ground of business responsibilities and interests but granted on some other ground shall be allowed to remain in force for longer than twelve months calculated from the beginning of the period for which it was first renewed on the ground of business responsibilities and interests'."

MISCELLANEOUS REGULATIONS.**The National Service (Miscellaneous) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations, 1941, dated July 24, 1941, made by the Minister of Labour and National Service under the National Service Acts, 1939 to 1941.‡**

Whereas the Minister of Labour made the National Service (Armed Forces) (Miscellaneous) Regulations, 1939§ hereinafter referred to as "the principal Regulations" and those Regulations have been amended and it is desirable further to amend those Regulations;

Now, therefore, the Minister of Labour and National Service (hereinafter referred to as "the Minister") by virtue of the powers conferred on him by the National Service Acts, 1939 to 1941, the provisions of the Minister of National Service Order, 1939¶

* Statutory Rules and Orders, 1941, No. 1048, H.M. Stationery Office, price 1d. net (2d. post free).

† See the issues of this GAZETTE for November, 1939, page 404, and April, 1940, page 125.

‡ Statutory Rules and Orders, 1941, No. 1172, H.M. Stationery Office, price 1d. net. (2d. post free).

§ See the issues of this GAZETTE for October, 1939, pages 378-9; April, 1940, page 125, and August, 1940, page 238.

¶ See the issue of this GAZETTE for October, 1939, page 380.

and of all other powers in that behalf hereby makes the following Regulations:—

1.—(1) These Regulations may be cited as the National Service (Miscellaneous) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations, 1941, and shall come into force on the date hereof and shall be included amongst the Regulations that may be cited together as the National Service (Miscellaneous) Regulations, 1939 to 1941.

(2) The Interpretation Act, 1889, applies to the interpretation of these Regulations as it applies to the interpretation of an Act of Parliament.

2. An appeal to the Appellate Tribunal by a conditionally registered conscientious objector who is aggrieved by an order of a local tribunal made under section 5 of the National Service Act, 1941, or by its failure to make an order or report to the Minister or an appeal by the Minister in any such case shall be made within twenty-one days of the date on which the matter was determined by the local tribunal or within such further period as the Minister may in any particular case for special reasons allow; notice of any such appeal shall be in the form set out in the Schedule hereto and shall be given to the Minister or the applicant as the case may be.

Signed by order of the Minister of Labour and National Service this 24th day of July, 1941.

T. W. PHILLIPS,

Secretary of the Ministry of Labour and National Service.

SCHEDULE.

[The Schedule reproduces the form to be used for notices of appeal as provided for in Section 2 of the Order. The form is in three parts. Parts I and III are to be completed at the Regional Office of the Ministry of Labour and National Service, and provide for the giving of particulars regarding the local tribunal concerned in the case, the case number, the name and address of the appellant, the date and nature of the determination of the local tribunal and the date of receipt at the Regional Office of the completed form. Part II, which is to be completed and signed by the appellant, contains the formal notice of appeal, and provides for a statement of the grounds of appeal.]

EMERGENCY POWERS (DEFENCE).**ESSENTIAL WORK (GENERAL PROVISIONS).**

The Essential Work (General Provisions) (Amendment) Order, 1941,* dated July 18, 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 Regulations 58A and 98 of the Defence (General) Regulations, 1939, hereby makes the following Order:—

1.—(1) This Order may be cited as the Essential Work (General Provisions) (Amendment) Order, 1941, and shall come into force on the date hereof and this Order and the Essential Work (General Provisions) Order, 1941, may be cited together as the Essential Work (General Provisions) Orders, 1941.

(2) In this Order the expression "principal Order" means the Essential Work (General Provisions) Order, 1941.

2. Where the Minister enters the name of an undertaking in the Schedule of Undertakings under the principal Order, he may make such entry as respects any persons employed in the undertaking or any class or description of such persons and accordingly the following amendments shall be made in the principal Order, that is to say—

Article 2.

In paragraph (1), after the words "kept by him" there shall be inserted the words "as respects any persons employed in the undertaking or any class or description of such persons (hereinafter in this Order referred to as "specified persons")"; and at the end of the said paragraph there shall be inserted the words "in respect of the specified persons."

In paragraph (2), after the word "which" where that word first occurs, there shall be inserted the word "specified."

In paragraph (3), after the words "Schedule of Undertakings" there shall be inserted the words "in respect of the specified persons."

Article 4.

In sub-paragraph (a) of paragraph (1), for the words "person employed therein" there shall be substituted the words "specified person."

In sub-paragraph (b) of paragraph (1), for the words "a person employed in the undertaking" there shall be substituted the words "a specified person."

In sub-paragraph (c) of paragraph (1), for the words "person employed in the undertaking" and "person so employed" there shall be substituted the words "specified person."

In sub-paragraph (d) of paragraph (1), for the words "person employed in the undertaking" there shall be substituted the words "specified person," and after the words "specified person" there shall be inserted the words "(except as otherwise provided in this Order)."

Article 5.

In sub-paragraph (a) of paragraph (1), after the word "any" there shall be inserted the word "specified."

In sub-paragraph (b) of paragraph (1), for the words "a

* Statutory Rules and Orders, 1941, No. 1051. H.M. Stationery Office, price 1d. net (2d. post free).

person" there shall be substituted the words "a specified person."

In paragraph (3), for the words "any person" in both places where those words occur there shall be substituted the words "any specified person."

Article 8.

In paragraph (1) for the words "persons employed in that undertaking" and "persons employed in the aforesaid undertaking" there shall be substituted the words "specified persons."

3. Article 2 of the principal Order shall have effect as if in paragraph (3) (which deals with the proof of entries in the Schedule of Undertakings) for the words "has been" there were substituted the words "was on any particular date."

4. In paragraph (3) of Article 3 of the principal Order (which refers to the entry of an undertaking in the Schedule and the service of certificates) for the words "three months" in both places where those words occur there shall be substituted the words "six months."

5. The following sub-paragraphs shall be inserted at the end of sub-paragraph (d) of paragraph (1) of Article 4 of the principal Order (which contains provisions as to employment in scheduled undertakings):—

"(e) where during any prescribed period a specified person who is paid on a time rate basis is absent from work owing to sickness, and if required submits satisfactory evidence thereof, the prescribed period and the normal working hours in relation thereto shall as regards that person be treated for the purposes of sub-paragraph (d) of paragraph (1) of this Article as reduced by the extent of such absence and the normal working hours attributable thereto;

(f) if a specified person is in accordance with the conditions of his service suspended without pay from his work for a period not exceeding three consecutive days for reasons of a disciplinary character, then if he is paid otherwise than on a time rate basis the provisions of sub-paragraph (d) of paragraph (1) of this Article shall not apply to him, and if he is paid on a time rate basis those provisions shall apply as though the prescribed period as regards that person and the normal working hours were reduced by the days in the course of which he was so suspended and the normal working hours attributable to those days: Provided that if—

(i) within three days of the beginning of the period of suspension the specified person requests a national service officer to refer the question of the suspension to a Local Appeal Board; and

(ii) (a) the Board, after considering any representations that may be made by or on behalf of that person or the person carrying on the undertaking is unanimously of the opinion that the suspension was not justified; or

(b) where the Board is not unanimous, the national service officer is of opinion that the suspension was not justified;

the specified person shall not by reason of the suspension be disentitled to the payment of the sum set out in the said sub-paragraph (d)"

6. The following paragraph shall be inserted at the end of Article 5 of the principal Order:—

"(5) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (4) of this Article a Local Appeal Board, consisting of the chairman and one other member shall be deemed to be properly constituted for all the purposes of this Order, if—

(a) the chairman so thinks fit; and

(b) the person who has requested the national service officer to submit the matter to a Local Appeal Board consents or has consented; and

(c) the other person concerned in the submission, if he is present, also consents."

7. For paragraph (1) of Article 6 of the principal Order (which deals with absenteeism) there shall be substituted the following paragraphs:—

"6.—(1) If any specified person—

(a) absents himself from work without reasonable excuse; or

(b) is persistently late in presenting himself for work; or

(c) fails to comply with any lawful and reasonable orders given to him (including any orders as to the working of day or night work, and of a reasonable amount of overtime);

the person carrying on the undertaking may report such matters to a national service officer giving such particulars as the officer may require.

(2) The national service officer shall furnish a copy of such particulars to the person who is the subject of such report and if, after such further investigation as he may think necessary, he is satisfied of the truth of the matters so reported and that that person is capable of performing his work, he may give directions under Regulation 58A of the Defence (General) Regulations, 1939, to that person to perform his work and any such directions may contain provisions as to the method or manner of work and the times at which and during which that person shall present himself for and remain at work as the national service officer thinks fit."

Paragraphs (2) and (3) of the said Article 6 shall be renumbered (3) and (4).

In paragraph (4) so renumbered of the said Article 6, at the end there shall be inserted the words "or may withdraw any directions so given."

8. Nothing in this Order shall affect the validity of any entry made, or any certificate given, or anything done under the principal Order before the coming into operation of this Order.

Signed by order of the Minister of Labour and National Service this 18th day of July, 1941.

T. W. PHILLIPS,

Secretary of the Ministry of Labour and National Service.

ESSENTIAL WORK (IRON AND STEEL INDUSTRY) ORDER.

The Essential Work (Iron and Steel Industry) Order, 1941,* dated August 5, 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.—(1) This Order may be cited as the Essential Work (Iron and Steel Industry) Order, 1941, and shall come into force on the date hereof.

(2) The following expressions have the meanings hereby assigned to them:—

"principal Order" means the Essential Work (General Provisions) Order, 1941,† as amended by the Essential Work (General Provisions) (Amendment) Order, 1941.‡

"undertaking engaged in the iron and steel industry" means an undertaking wholly or mainly engaged in any of the following works, manufactures, processes or operations, that is to say—(a) iron ore mining and quarrying; (b) blast furnaces; (c) iron puddling; (d) steel smelting; (e) iron and steel rolling; (f) iron and steel forging; (g) steel drop forging; (h) iron founding; (i) steel founding; (j) iron and steel tubes, pipes and fittings manufacture; (k) iron and steel wire and wire products manufacture; (l) the manufacture of steel sheets and tinplate; (m) the manufacture of nuts, bolts, rivets, screws and nails from iron or steel; (n) production of ferro-alloys; (o) coke ovens carried on in connection with iron and steel works; (p) collection, sorting, adapting, and distribution of scrap iron or scrap steel, including ship-breaking; (q) the manufacture of carbon electrodes.

2. Where under the provisions of the principal Order, the Minister enters the name of an undertaking in the Schedule of Undertakings kept under that Order as respects specified persons and the undertaking is an undertaking engaged in the iron and steel industry, then and in that case as respects specified persons to whom one of the agreements set out in the Appendix to this Order is appropriate—

(a) there shall be substituted for sub-paragraph (d) of paragraph (1) of Article 4 of the principal Order the following sub-paragraph:—

"(d) without prejudice to any terms and conditions of employment more favourable to persons employed in the undertaking that may be provided for by the Conditions of Employment and National Arbitration Order, 1940,§ or by that Order, as amended by any subsequent Order, the person carrying on the undertaking shall pay to every specified person to whom one of the agreements set out in the Appendix is appropriate (except as otherwise provided in this Order) who is during his normal working hours—

(i) capable of and available for work; and

(ii) willing to perform services outside his usual occupation which in the circumstances he can reasonably be asked to perform during any period when work is not available for him in his usual occupation in the undertaking;

a sum that is not less than his appropriate agreed wage.

For the purposes of this sub-paragraph the expression—

'his appropriate agreed wage' means a wage calculated and payable in accordance with the provisions of and subject to the conditions contained in that one of the agreements set out in the Appendix (or any amendment thereof for the time being in force approved by the Minister) which is appropriate to the particular person concerned, having regard to the work carried on in the undertaking in which he is employed and to his normal occupation in that undertaking; and 'his normal working hours' means the normal working hours provided for in the appropriate agreement; "

(b) in sub-paragraphs (e) and (f) of paragraph (1) of the said Article 4 references to a prescribed period shall be construed as references to a week and references to a person paid on a time rate basis shall be construed as including references to an hourly rated worker or straight datal worker and the reference in the said sub-paragraph (f) to

* Statutory Rules and Orders, 1941, No. 1167; H.M. Stationery Office, price 1d. net (2d. post free).

† See the March issue of this GAZETTE, pages 69-71.

‡ See page 170 of this issue.

§ See the August, 1940, issue of this GAZETTE, pages 235 and 236.

- a person paid otherwise than on a time rate basis shall be construed as including a reference to a dotal plus tonnage bonus worker or a straight tonnage worker ;
- (c) the Appendix to this Order shall be inserted as an Appendix to the principal Order ; and
- (d) references to the Appendix shall be construed as references to the Appendix as amended by any subsequent Order, and references to an agreement set out in the Appendix shall be construed as references to that agreement as amended by any agreement that is approved by the Minister.

Signed by order of the Minister of Labour and National Service this 5th day of August, 1941.

T. W. PHILLIPS,

Secretary of the Ministry of Labour and National Service.

APPENDIX.

[In the Appendix particulars are given of the dates of and parties to eight agreements (referred to in Section 2 of the Order) concluded at dates ranging from 10th June to 14th July, 1941, between employers' and workers' organisations in the iron and steel industry.]

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR FORCE ORDER.

REGISTRATION OF AUSTRIANS, GERMANS AND ITALIANS.

The International Labour Force (Registration of Austrians, Germans and Italians) Order, 1941,* dated July 11, 1941, made by the Minister of Labour and National Service under Regulation 58A of the Defence (General) Regulations, 1939.

Whereas it is expedient, with a view to enabling the best use to be made of the services of the large body of Austrians, Germans and Italians in Great Britain who are well disposed to the Allied cause, that provision should be made for regulating the engagement of such persons in Great Britain by employers and that for that purpose Austrians, Germans and Italians of the classes or descriptions hereinafter specified should be required to register particulars about themselves in manner hereinafter appearing ;

Now, therefore, 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.—(1) This Order may be cited as the International Labour Force (Registration of Austrians, Germans and Italians) Order, 1941, and shall come into force on the date hereof.

(2) In this Order the expression "local office" means an Employment Exchange or other office appointed by the Minister for the purposes of this Order.

2.—(1) Subject as hereinafter provided, every person to whom this Order applies shall attend at a local office and register particulars about himself in the form set out in the Schedule hereto or in some other form approved by the Minister substantially to the like effect—

- (a) in the case of persons who are within Great Britain at the date on which this Order comes into force, on such day or within such period as the Minister may by public notice or otherwise direct ;
- (b) in the case of persons not within Great Britain at the date on which this Order comes into force, within ten days of the day on which they enter Great Britain, or within such further period as the Minister may in any particular case for special reasons allow ; and
- (c) in the case of persons who at the date on which this Order comes into force are not, but who subsequently become, persons to whom this Order applies, within ten days of the day on which they become persons to whom the Order applies.

(2) If the Minister by public notice or otherwise so requires, any person who has registered particulars about himself in accordance with the foregoing provisions of this Article, shall from time to time furnish such further particulars about himself at such times, in such manner and at such places as the Minister may require.

(3) Any person who proves to the satisfaction of the Minister that it is not reasonably practicable for him to attend at a local office for the purpose of registering or furnishing particulars about himself in accordance with any of the foregoing requirements of this Article may register or furnish such particulars by sending them by post to such local office, in such form and within such period as the Minister may direct.

3. This Order applies to every person of either sex who—

- (i) is an Austrian, a German or an Italian or is described as an Austrian, a German or an Italian in his registration certificate issued under Article 6 or Article 6A of the Aliens Order, 1920 ; or

(ii) has been a national of Austria, Germany or Italy and has not since become a national of any other country ; and who, in the case of a male, has attained the age of sixteen years but has not attained the age of sixty-five years or, in the case of a female, has attained the age of sixteen years but has not attained the age of fifty years, except that the Order does not apply to—

- (a) persons serving in His Majesty's armed forces (otherwise than as members of the Home Guard) or in the Allied or other foreign forces serving in association with His Majesty's armed forces ;
- (b) female persons whilst actually rendering full-time service with His Majesty's armed forces or with the Allied or other foreign forces serving in association with His Majesty's armed forces ;
- (c) prisoners of war ;
- (d) persons in internment.

4. Every person carrying on an undertaking in which persons who are registered or required to register in accordance with the provisions of this Order are employed shall—

- (a) keep such records concerning those persons as the Minister may from time to time by notice direct ;
- (b) produce such records to such persons as may be designated by or on behalf of the Minister and furnish such information relating to such persons as may be set out in any notice or direction ; and
- (c) permit any person so designated as aforesaid to enter and inspect with a view to securing compliance with this Order any premises used for or in connection with the undertaking.

Signed by order of the Minister of Labour and National Service this eleventh day of July, 1941.

T. W. PHILLIPS,

Secretary of the Ministry of Labour and National Service.

SCHEDULE.

[The Schedule to the Order reproduces the form on which persons to whom the Order applies are required to furnish particulars about themselves. The principal particulars required relate to the name, address, and nationality of the person concerned, his date and place of birth, marital status, police registration certificate and national registration identity card numbers, present and previous occupation, main language, and any other language qualifications.]

OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

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

LABOUR AND NATIONAL DEFENCE.—(i) *The Labour Situation in Great Britain*. A survey, May-October, 1940. Studies and Reports, Series B (Economic Conditions) No. 34. (ii) *Labour Supply and National Defence*. Studies and Reports, Series C (Employment and Unemployment) No. 23. [Published in London for the International Labour Office by P. S. King & Son Ltd. ; price 1s. and 4s. respectively.]

NATIONAL SERVICE (ARMED FORCES).—*Selected decisions given by the Umpire in respect of applications for postponement of liability to be called up for service in the Armed Forces of the Crown during the month of May, 1941*. N.S. Code 2. Pamphlet No. 3/1941. Ministry of Labour and National Service. [S.O. publication ; price 2d.]

PRICE STABILISATION.—*Statement by His Majesty's Government on Price Stabilisation and Industrial Policy*. July, 1941. [Cmd. 6294 ; price 1d.]

SAFETY IN MINES RESEARCH BOARD.—*Eighteenth annual report, 1939, including a report of matters dealt with by the Health Advisory Committee*. [S.O. publication ; price 1s.]

TRADE DISPUTE.—*Industrial Courts Act, 1919. Report by a Court of Inquiry into a dispute between Trent Sons & Cartridges, Ltd. and the National Union of General and Municipal Workers*. Ministry of Labour and National Service, [Cmd. 6300 ; price 2d.]

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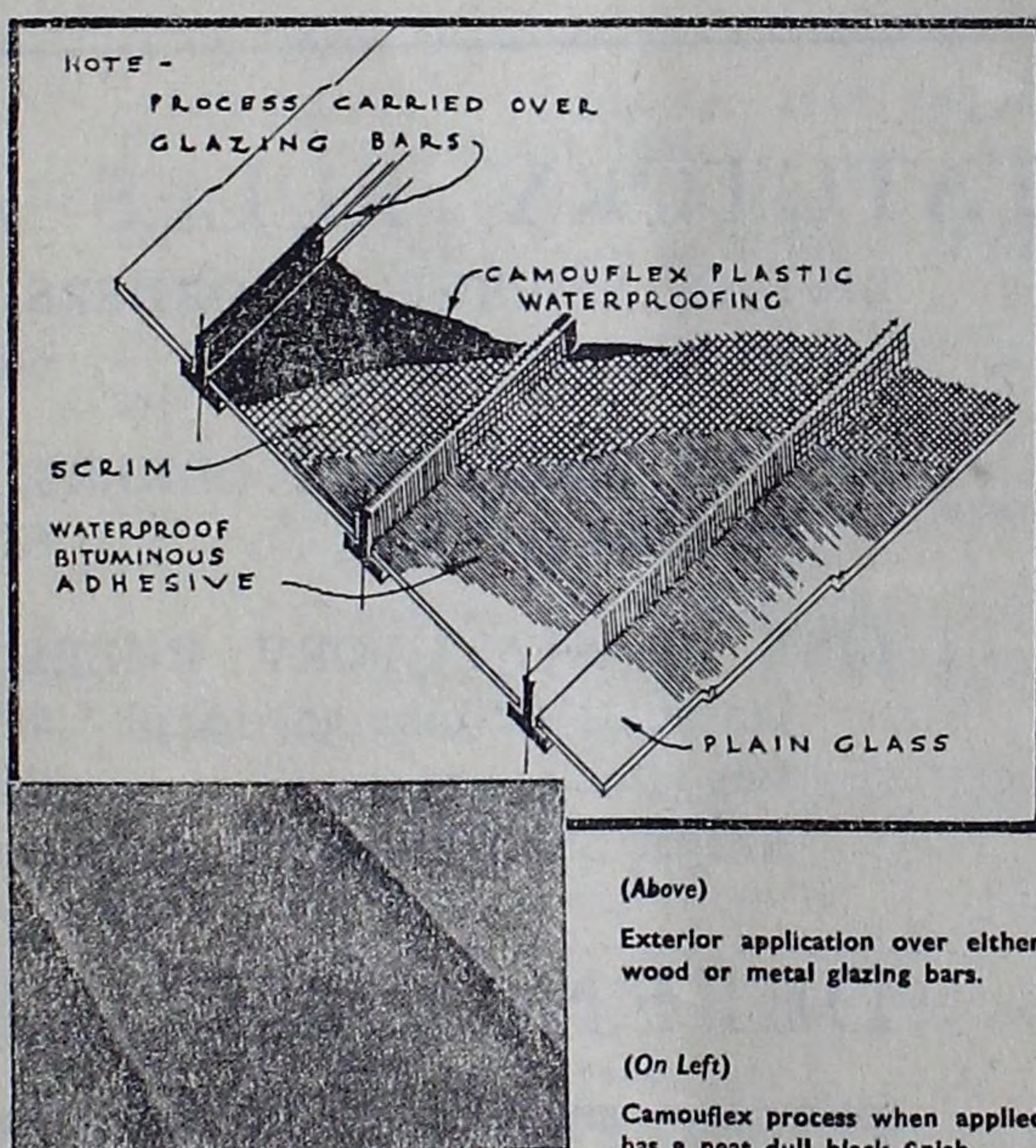
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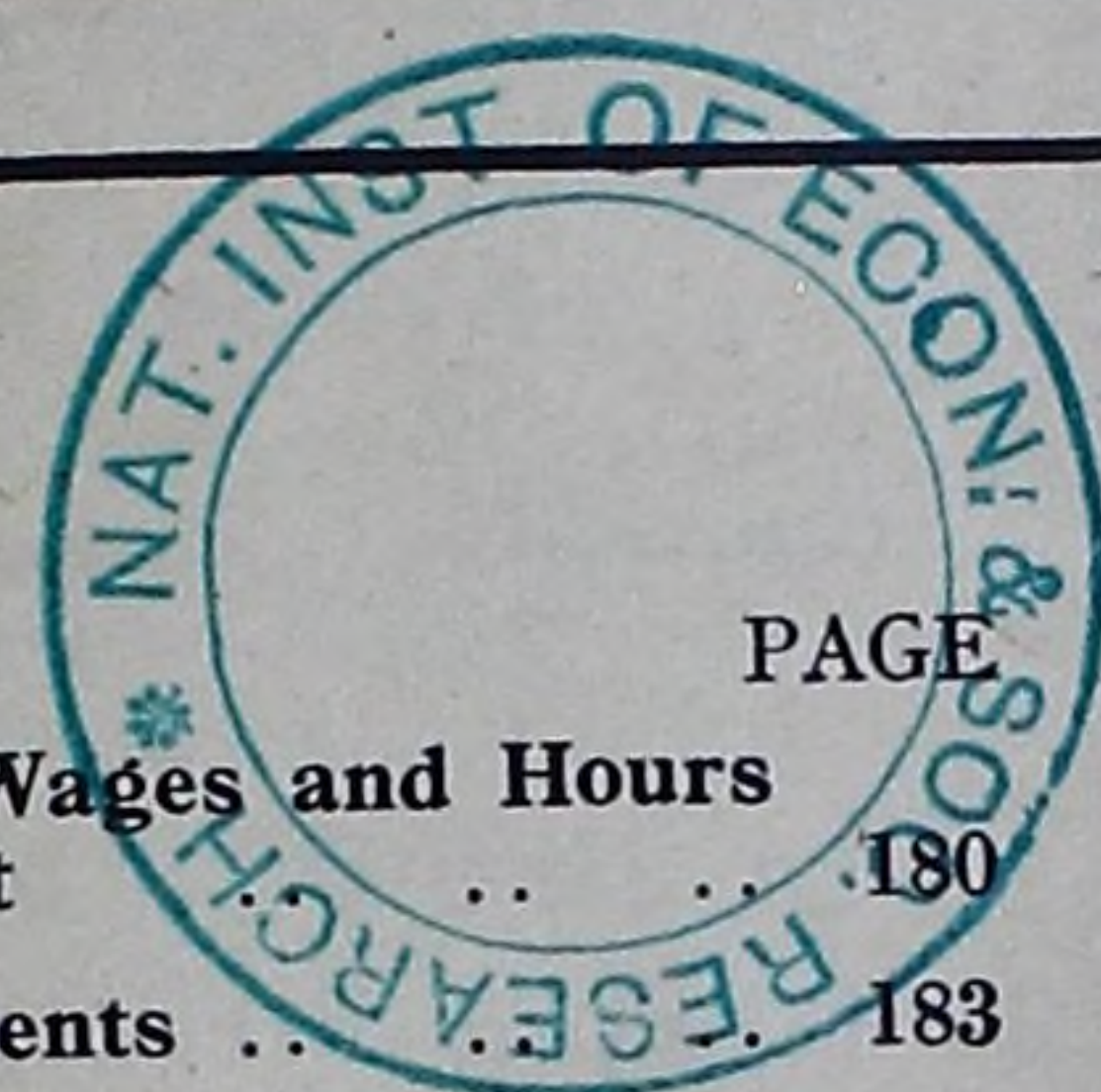
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Contents

	PAGE		PAGE
Employment, Wages, Cost of Living and Trade Disputes in August ..	173	Changes in Rates of Wages and Hours of Labour in August ..	180
Special Articles, Reviews, etc. :—		Fatal Industrial Accidents ..	183
Recruitment of Women for War Work : Revised Procedure under the Registration for Employment Order ..	174	Industrial Diseases ..	183
The Use of Skilled Man-Power in the Services: Committee's Interim Report ..	174	Changes in Retail Prices and Cost of Living ..	184
Schedule of Reserved Occupations: De-reservation at Stage C ..	174	Trade Disputes in August ..	185
Labour Problems of the War Industries: Report by the Select Committee on National Expenditure ..	175	Employment Overseas ..	186
Road Haulage Industry: Changes in Wages and Conditions ..	175	Retail Prices Overseas ..	186
The Trades Union Congress, 1941 ..	176	Industrial Courts Act, 1919, and Conciliation Act, 1896 :—	
Fall-Back Wage for Cotton Weavers ..	176	Industrial Court Awards ..	187
Food Control ..	176	Civil Service Arbitration Tribunal Award ..	187
Social Legislation in Australia :—		Single Arbitrators and <i>ad hoc</i> Boards of Arbitration ..	187
I.—Child Endowment ..	177	Court of Inquiry ..	187
II.—Pay-Roll Tax ..	177	Conditions of Employment and National Arbitration Order, 1940 :—	
Unemployment Insurance in Eire: Increase in Rates of Dependants' Benefit ..	177	National Arbitration Tribunal Awards ..	188
Compulsory Arbitration in Bombay ..	177	National Arbitration Tribunal (Northern Ireland) Awards ..	189
Employment in August :—		Trade Boards Acts, Holidays with Pay Act and Road Haulage Wages Acts ..	190
General Summary ..	178	Unemployment Insurance :—	
Unemployment among Boys and Girls ..	179	Decisions given by the Umpire ..	190
Unemployment Chart ..	179	Unemployment Assistance Fund (Closing) Order ..	192
Composition of Unemployment Statistics for Great Britain ..	179	Factory Acts: Factory Forms ..	192
Unemployment Fund ..	179	Official Publications Received ..	192
Unemployment Allowances ..	179		



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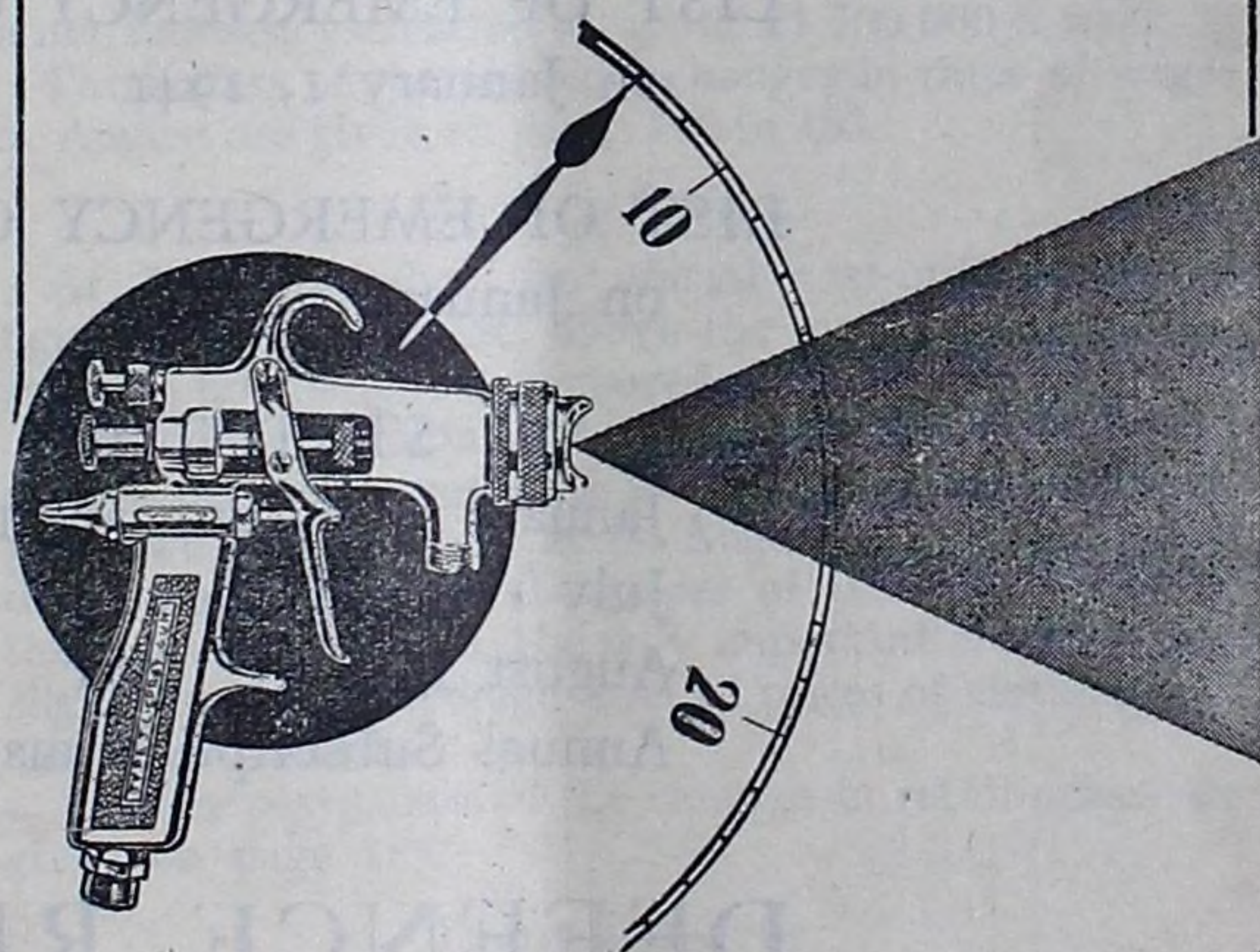
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