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

EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT.

THE number of men and boys registered at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain as wholly unemployed at 15th September was 100,048, a decrease of 16,079 as compared with 11th August. Of this total, 30,462 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 7,924; this was a decrease of 7,642 as compared with 11th August. Those registered as unemployed casual workers (being persons who normally seek their livelihood by jobs of short duration) numbered 9,511, a decrease of 2,471 as compared with 11th August.

The corresponding figures for women and girls on the registers at 15th September were 96,546 wholly unemployed (of whom 3,477 had been classified by interviewing panels as unsuitable for normal full-time employment, and 3,088 had been classified as unable for good cause to transfer to another area although employment was not likely to be available locally), 16,049 temporarily stopped, and 543 unemployed casual workers. As compared with 11th August, the numbers wholly unemployed showed a decrease of 7,098, those temporarily stopped a decrease of 6,335, and unemployed casual workers a decrease of 43.

The total numbers of men and boys and women and girls on the registers decreased between 11th August and 15th September in all Regions. Among men and boys the decreases were greatest in Wales, in the London and South-Eastern, North-Western and Northern Regions, and in Scotland. Among women and girls the greatest decreases occurred in the London and South-Eastern, North-Eastern and North-Western Regions and in Scotland.

The number of applicants for unemployment benefit or allowances on the registers at 15th September was 157,466, as compared with 191,178 at 11th August, and 683,156 at 16th September, 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 September resulted in an aggregate increase estimated at about £39,000 in the weekly full-time wages of about 238,000 workpeople, and in a decrease estimated at about £1,500 in those of 76,000 workpeople.*

In the flax spinning industry in Northern Ireland, the existing addition to wages was increased from 15 per cent. to 22½ per cent. on the rates in operation prior to 4th December, 1939. Gas workers, 18 years of age and over, received a bonus of ¾d. an hour or 6d. a shift,

with proportional increases for piece workers. The Trade Board minimum rates for workpeople engaged in milk distribution in England and Wales were raised by 3s. a week for men, with smaller increases for youths, women and girls over 18 years of age. In the electrical contracting industry in England and Wales and Northern Ireland, the cost-of-living (war) bonus was increased from 11s. 8d. to 18s. 4d. a week. In the leather tanning, currying and dressing industry in Great Britain, there were increases of 1d. an hour for men and of ¾d. for youths, women and girls employed on time work, with additions to piece-work rates. Increases also occurred in the coal mining industry in Leicestershire and Somerset, shirt making in Northern Ireland, furniture manufacture in High Wycombe and district, and match manufacture.

In the coal mining industry, there were reductions in the percentage additions to basis rates in Derbyshire, Cannock Chase and Warwickshire, due to the operation of sliding scales based on fluctuations in the proceeds of the industry.

The changes reported in the first nine months of 1941, in the industries for which statistics are compiled, are estimated to have resulted in a net increase of about £1,500,000 a week in the wage rates of over 7,500,000 workpeople. In the corresponding nine months of 1940, approximately 7,700,000 workpeople in these industries received a net increase estimated at about £1,750,000 a week.

Particulars of the principal changes in rates of wages in September are given on pages 200 to 202.

COST OF LIVING.

At 1st October the official cost-of-living index figure was 99 per cent. above the level of July, 1914, showing no change as compared with 1st September.

For food prices alone, the index figure at 1st October was 65 per cent. above the level of July, 1914, as compared with 66 per cent. at 1st September, the decline being due to reductions in the prices of fish and potatoes. Among items other than food, the only important change was a slight rise in the average level of prices of clothing and clothing materials.

Further particulars of the changes in retail prices are given on page 203.

TRADE DISPUTES.

The number of trade disputes involving stoppages of work, reported to the Department as beginning in September, was 135. In addition, 13 disputes which began before September were still in progress at the beginning of that month. The approximate number of workpeople involved in these 148 disputes (including workpeople thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred) was 31,000, and the aggregate duration of the disputes in September was about 93,000 working days.

The great majority of the disputes involved less than 100 workpeople, and about two-thirds of them lasted for not more than three days.

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

CONTROL AND ORGANISATION OF DOCK LABOUR.

ESSENTIAL WORK (DOCK LABOUR) ORDER, 1941.

THE arrangements for securing to the port transport industry a regular, sufficient and mobile labour force, of which preliminary particulars were given in the August issue of this GAZETTE (pages 155-156), have now been formulated. The Essential Work (Dock Labour) Order* was made by the Minister of Labour and National Service on 15th September and a booklet† has been issued containing a memorandum explaining the purpose and application of the Order, together with the text of the Order, a model dock labour scheme and the terms of the National Dock Agreement of 16th July.

NATIONAL DOCK LABOUR CORPORATION.

The National Dock Labour Corporation Limited, whose duty it is to promote, finance and administer port schemes, has now been formed and the provisions of the Essential Work (Dock Labour) Order and the new terms of employment will not apply in a port unless and until a scheme for that port has been submitted by the Corporation, approved by the Minister of Labour and National Service, and is in operation.

The offices of the Corporation are at 9 Upper Brook Street, London, W.1. The following appointments to the Corporation have been made: *Chairman* (appointed by the Minister of Labour and National Service after consultation with the National Joint Council for Dock Labour), Mr. R. T. Garrett; *Financial Director* (appointed by the Minister of Labour and National Service), Mr. H. M. Barton, F.C.A.; *Directors* (nominated by the National Joint Council for Dock Labour), Messrs. A. Deakin, A. Howell, R. H. Jones, O.B.E., D. W. Milford, Sir Douglas Ritchie, M.C., Mr. W. M. Turner; *General Manager*, Mr. S. C. Parkin; *Secretary and Assistant General Manager*, Mr. F. G. Thomas, M.A.; *Chief Accountant*, Mr. D. Lemon, A.S.A.A. Sir Alan Rae Smith has been acting as financial adviser to the port transport industry in connection with the formation of the Corporation, and it is anticipated that he will continue to be associated with it in a consultative capacity.

ESSENTIAL WORK (AGRICULTURE) (SCOTLAND) ORDER, 1941.

The Essential Work (Agriculture) (Scotland) Order, 1941,‡ which was made on 2nd October by the Minister of Labour and National Service after consultation with the Secretary of State for Scotland, is designed, in the interests of agricultural production, to stabilise farm labour in Scotland by suspending during the war the normal practice among agricultural workers in Scotland of changing their employment in great numbers in May and November each year.

The Order, which is to be operative during the period from 1st November, 1941, to 1st November, 1942, provides that contracts of employment which, on the long hiring system, would ordinarily terminate without notice in November or in May, shall not so terminate but shall continue in force, subject to fourteen days' notice being given by either side: the circumstances in which such notice can be given are limited by the Order. The same rule is to apply to all engagements of agricultural workers made after the Order came into force, and all such engagements in Scotland will be deemed to be terminable only on fourteen days' notice on either side, except where it is a case of dismissal for serious misconduct. This rule is to apply to all engagements, whether they would ordinarily have been long hirings or not.

Farmers in Scotland may not engage any agricultural worker without first obtaining the approval of a local office of the Ministry of Labour and National Service, and it is not possible for a farmer to discharge an agricultural worker or for a worker to leave without permission except when the worker is entering the employment of an Agricultural Executive Committee and fourteen days' notice has been given.

All workers who fall out of employment on farms are to be taken into employment by an Agricultural Executive Committee and continuity of employment is thus guaranteed.

Agricultural Executive Committees in Scotland are to be scheduled under the Essential Work (General Provisions) Order, and the effect of this will be that (a) workers in the direct employment of Committees will be guaranteed continuity of employment and wages, but will not be able to leave the employment without both giving seven days' notice and obtaining the permission of the National Service Officer, and (b) the Committees will not discharge their workers without giving seven days' notice and obtaining the permission of the National Service Officer.

The arrangements do, however, enable a Committee to pass a worker over to employment with a farmer without delay where the Committee, the farmer and the worker wish this to be done.

In every case where the permission of a National Service Officer is required either party will have a right of appeal against his decision.

The scheme laid down by the Order does not apply to women or to seasonal workers.

* *Statutory Rules and Orders*, 1941, No. 1440; H.M. Stationery Office, price 1d. net (2d. post free). The text of the Order is given on page 208.

† *Dock Labour Schemes*; H.M. Stationery Office, price 2d. net (3d. post free).
‡ *Statutory Rules and Orders*, 1941, No. 1557/S.47; H.M. Stationery Office, price 2d. net. (3d. post free). The text of the Order is given on page 209.

FACTORY CONDITIONS IN 1940: CHIEF INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

In his Report, which has recently been published,* on the work of the Factory Inspectorate for the year 1940, the Chief Inspector of Factories states that the experience of that year has shown that some of the valuable lessons of the last war had been widely forgotten or were not yet sufficiently appreciated, and has provided further guidance for the future. In particular, he refers to the lessons that excessive hours mean less production, and that proper breaks and rest days are of great importance from the production standpoint. While many factory managements appreciate this, and did not adopt systems of hours which, in the light of experience were excessive and not calculated to produce the best output, others paid less attention to the lessons of experience or felt constrained to disregard them owing to insistent demands for greater output. The Report points out that if people are expected to work for excessive hours or without proper intervals for rest and recreation, there will be a reasonable tendency to take time off and stay away for odd days, thus disorganising production. In a special section of the Report hours of employment are discussed in detail and some examples are given of beneficial reductions in hours of work. Other sections of the Report deal with accident prevention, welfare arrangements generally, and health measures and medical supervision. The particulars given relating to various subjects which are specially discussed in the Report are briefly summarised below.

Accident Prevention.—There were 1,372 fatal and 230,607 non-fatal accidents in 1940. These figures represented serious increases, amounting to about 24 and 20 per cent. respectively, over the corresponding figures for 1939. In 1939 the increases over the preceding year were only 17 and 7 per cent. respectively. Inspectors in all parts of the country agreed that the main cause of the increased accidents in 1940 was the increase in the number of persons employed on the war effort, but there were special features that pointed to a relaxation of care in certain directions.

The chief increases occurred in the industries and on the machines that are concerned in the war effort. There were increases of 33 per cent. in engineering works, 47 per cent. in the making of machines, motor vehicles, etc., and 21 per cent. in chemicals. There was also a serious increase, particularly in fatal accidents, in the shipbuilding industry.

The effect of the employment of new and untrained labour could be seen in the increase of accidents on milling machines by 56 per cent., and on power presses by 48 per cent. In certain districts Inspectors had also noted decided increases in accidents on automatic lathes and drilling machines. To help in overcoming this increase in accidents amongst untrained workers, a specific educative campaign was launched in October, 1940. As the result of this campaign (particulars of which were given in the issue of this GAZETTE for November, 1940, page 284) a considerable number of new accident prevention committees had been formed in undertakings, and interest in the importance to the war effort of the reduction of accidents had been genuinely awakened.

The Report does not endorse the suggestion that there has been an increase in accident proneness in factories and areas that have been badly bombed: so far as can be ascertained there has been no increase of accidents in these areas which cannot be explained by other causes. There have been increases due to physical results of enemy action—falls while repairing roofs, falls over damaged floors and the like—but there is no evidence pointing to any appreciable number of accidents due to nervousness or jumpiness caused by air raids.

Accidents to Young Persons.—The decrease, in 1939 in accidents to young persons was not maintained in 1940. The actual figures of 26,492 accidents to boys and 8,493 to girls in 1940 represented increases of 18 and 11 per cent. respectively over the corresponding figures for 1939. The increases were immediately attributable, to some extent, to the fact that more of the young persons available for industry in 1940 had gone into factories; there had also been some increase in the hours worked and thus in the hours of exposure to risk. It was the general opinion of the Inspectors that the increases were due to the employment of the young persons in greater numbers on the accident producing machines, notably milling machines, power presses, etc., and to some deterioration, under war conditions, in the training and supervision of juvenile entrants to industry.

Ventilation.—As the result of efforts made during the year to secure improvements in the necessarily hurried arrangements instituted at the outbreak of war for the black-out of factories, it could be said that what seemed an almost insuperable difficulty had been largely overcome. The pamphlet "Factory Ventilation in the Black-out"† gave ideas which had been adopted in the smaller works, and the larger firms had come to the conclusion that the most satisfactory solution to their problem was to be obtained by facing up to the provision of more elaborate ventilating devices.

Various devices had been adopted to provide adequate temperature control in bakehouses and undertakings in which hot

* *Annual Report of the Chief Inspector of Factories for the Year 1940* (Cmd. 6316) H.M. Stationery Office, price 4d. net. (5d. post free).

† *Factory Form*, No. 301, April, 1940. H. M. Stationery Office, price 3d. net. (4d. post free).

processes were carried on, and the special difficulties of steel works, owing to the enclosure of melting shops, etc., had been partly overcome.

Lighting.—War conditions had greatly increased the time spent in working with artificial light, thereby aggravating the ill-effects of bad lighting on workers already subject to strain from working at high pressure for long hours. Moreover, the increased output to be obtained with improved lighting was a matter of urgent national importance. A standard of lighting substantially higher than had previously been suggested as a legal minimum had been recommended by the Departmental Committee on Lighting in Factories in their report submitted in June, 1940,* and new Regulations†, based on the Committee's recommendations, have been brought into force as the Factories (Standards of Lighting) Regulations, 1941.

Civil Defence.—During the year the original programme of shelter construction in factory premises, which was begun in 1939, was completed. Over 13,000 schemes for the provision of shelters were dealt with by the Inspectorate under this programme. Towards the end of the year the obligation to provide shelters, previously applicable only in specified areas, was extended throughout the country to all factories employing over 50 persons.

Welfare of Industrial Workers.—After a brief review of the development of welfare work amongst industrial workers the Report deals at some length with the question of canteens. The conditions of the present war had shown that a great extension of canteens in factories was necessary. To meet this situation the Factories (Canteens) Order had been made on 11th November, 1940, authorising the compulsory establishment of canteens in certain factories (see the issues of this GAZETTE for December, 1940, pages 307 and 323, and June, 1941, page 132). Similarly, to meet the problem of the feeding of dock workers, which had become pressing during the year under review, a special Order was made in February, 1941, (see the issue of this GAZETTE for March, 1941, page 74) under which Dock Authorities may be required to provide canteens.

Considerable difficulties on the labour side arose in connection with the immense extension of the Government building programme for the erection of new munition factories, aerodromes and camps, and earnest consideration had to be given to the conditions at these sites. Towards the end of the year the Minister of Labour and National Service announced his intention of making an Order under which better organisation of welfare on the sites could be required. This Order, entitled the Building Operations and Works of Engineering Construction (Welfare and Safety Provisions) Order, 1941‡, was made on 8th January, 1941. A pamphlet (Factory Form 1892) was also issued early in 1941, containing detailed recommendations for the consideration of contractors as to the provision to be made on the building sites for the welfare of workers.

Hours of Employment.—The problem of the regulation of hours of employment in war time was further complicated in 1940, firstly by the need to make good the loss of material consequent on the capitulation of France and secondly by systematic bombing. In the first five months of the year the method of issuing Emergency Orders described in a Home Office Report §functioned satisfactorily, but for two months after the withdrawal of the Expeditionary Force from France little heed was paid to formalities in connection with such Orders; the weekly total hours reached extravagant proportions. After July the hours of work of protected persons were brought under control again, but the inclination towards long hours of work and towards working seven days of the week still persisted to some extent in the case of adult men, whose hours are not regulated.

The first effect of systematic bombing was a reduction in the number of night shifts. This reaction, however, was short-lived and the night shifts were quickly resumed, but the hours in some cases were altered to enable the workpeople, so far as possible, to get to and from the factory before the bombing started.

Health in Factories.—Notwithstanding all the adverse circumstances of war-time conditions, there was no evidence, according to the special report on health in factories by the Senior Medical Inspector, that in general the health of the industrial workers had materially suffered. Medical supervision in factories, which had been greatly extended during the war of 1914-18, had since been steadily, if slowly, developed. The difficulties of developing a comprehensive medical service in factories were manifold, but progress was being made, and power to require the institution of such a service in certain factories was given by an Order made in July, 1940.||

The influence of war conditions was apparent as regards cases of poisoning. The number of cases of anilism from nitro bodies was far in excess of the number in any previous year and there had been an increase in some industries in lead poisoning. The number of accidents caused by gassing had increased to practically double the number in the previous year. There was a marked increase in the number of voluntarily reported cases of dermatitis, the number of such cases being 4,744 in 1940, as compared with 2,952 in 1939.

* See the issue of this GAZETTE for August, 1940, page 213.

† See the issue of this GAZETTE for November, 1940, page 284.

‡ See the issue of this GAZETTE for February, 1941, pages 32 and 48.

§ *Hours of Employment of Women and Young Persons* (Cmd. 6182); H.M. Stationery Office, price 3d. net. (4d. post free).

|| See the issue of this GAZETTE for August, 1940, pages 213 and 238.

WELFARE WORK OUTSIDE THE FACTORY.

A REPORT by the Minister of Labour and National Service on Welfare Work outside the Factory has recently been published.* The following is a summary of the information given in the Report as to the measures which have been taken to develop such welfare arrangements since June, 1940.

Reception of Transferred War Workers.—The reception of a worker transferred to war work away from home devolves on the Employment Exchange in the locality to which the worker is transferred. The general organisation of this work is carried out by Welfare Officers, with the help of employers, voluntary organisations and railway officials. For the first night or two transferred workers may be accommodated in reception hostels, where these have been established, but for permanent accommodation the workers are referred to suitable lodgings or are provided with billets.

Accommodation.—In areas in which lodgings have to be found, lodging lists are supplied by the local authorities concerned to the Local Offices of the Ministry of Labour and National Service. Where necessary, workers are accommodated in billets compulsorily acquired under arrangements instituted by the Ministry of Health (or the Department of Health for Scotland). Near a number of factories under Government control, hostels are being established to accommodate workers. For the management of these and the reception hostels mentioned above, a National Service Hostels Corporation† has been established as a company not trading for profit.

Food Supplies.—Normally, transferred workers have their breakfast and an evening meal in their lodgings and a mid-day (or midnight) meal in the factory canteen. Efforts are being made to ensure that in places where there are no factory canteens the needs of the industrial population are met by the local authority's scheme for restaurants (British Restaurants). Local schemes are also organised whereby married women engaged on war work, whose opportunities of shopping are limited, are enabled to buy a fair proportion of available unrationed food-stuffs.

Travelling To and From Work.—The problem of transporting war workers to and from their work is now very complex and to find ways of solving this problem committees have been set up comprising representatives of the various interested parties. Among the solutions which the committees consider is that of staggering the hours of different factories or of different sections in individual factories, and this solution is being increasingly adopted. The planning of transport arrangements has also been facilitated by the increase in recent months in the number of war factories working on the three-shift system, because the shift hours overlap the usual peak hours of travelling. Urgent attention is being given to preparations for transport during the coming winter.

Recreation.—Facilities for workers to make the best use of their leisure time are particularly important now that holidays are restricted and hours of work are longer, and the co-operation of recognised voluntary organisations has, in particular, been sought in order to give to workers, especially those who have been transferred away from home and are without their usual home ties, opportunities of recreation. Special attention is being given to the problem of the absence of recreational facilities on Sundays for workers transferred to areas where Sunday observance is strict.

Support has been given to the "Fitness for Service" scheme, which gives youths and men the opportunity in the evenings and at week-ends of taking part in physical training and games. A grant has been made reimbursing expenditure in respect of adult workers engaged on work of national importance and this grant has enabled the Scheme to be continued for men and to be extended to include women.

Entertainments.—The arrangements, instituted in July, 1940, for the provision by the Entertainments National Service Association (ENSA) of entertainments in factories have proved highly successful and factory managements have repeatedly testified to the beneficial effect on production of the entertainment which has been provided. Entertainment for war workers is also provided, both inside and outside the factories, by other arrangements.

Health.—For the care of transferred workers who fall ill, special arrangements have been concluded. These arrangements provide for the use by the workers of the District Nursing Service, and in certain cases, where nursing is necessary but cannot be provided at the workers' lodgings or billets, for their accommodation in hospitals set up under the Ministry of Health Emergency Scheme.

Freeing Mothers for War Work.—The local authorities in some ninety districts have been asked to arrange for the opening of day nurseries for the children of women recruited for work of national importance. The provision of nurseries, however, on a scale sufficient to meet in full the Government's needs for the increased employment of women has been found to be impossible, and a scheme for state registration of child-minders has been introduced experimentally in some areas.

Seamen's Welfare in Ports.—Developments in the promotion of seamen's welfare in ports were described on page 97 of the issue of this GAZETTE for May, 1941.

* Cm. 6310. H.M. Stationery Office; price 3d. net (4d. post free).

† See the issue of this GAZETTE for July, page 135.

REGISTRATION FOR EMPLOYMENT ORDER, 1941.

I.—REGISTRATION OF MEN BORN IN 1895.

ALL men born in the year 1895 were required to register on 11th October under the Registration for Employment Order, unless they were exempted from registration under the provisions of the National Service Acts or had already registered under the Order. Men covered by the registration of 11th October are not to be called upon to transfer to other work if they are already engaged on vital work from which they cannot be spared.

II.—WITHDRAWAL OF WOMEN FROM RETAIL DISTRIBUTION

With a view to increasing the supply of women for recruitment to the women's auxiliary services and other vital war work, all women aged 20-25 inclusive are to be withdrawn from businesses wholly or mainly engaged in retail distribution, other than those in the food trades. The matter has been discussed with the Retail Distributive Trades Conference (Employers' Side) and with the Trade Unions, who have expressed their intention of co-operating fully in effecting the withdrawal of these women from their existing employment. The machinery of the Registration for Employment Order is to be used for this purpose and the representatives of both the employers and the workers have formed a Central Advisory Panel to assist in the work.

Where the employer can show that the woman is a key worker and that time will be necessary to train a substitute, a reasonable period before withdrawal will be given, but it is considered that these cases should be exceptional. Employers will be consulted beforehand in respect of each worker, and women in the age groups 20-25 who are running their own businesses will have an opportunity, under the general procedure for the consideration of personal hardship, of appearing before a Women's Panel of the Local Employment Committee.

The Employment Exchanges of the Ministry of Labour and National Service will have discretion to regulate withdrawals to a timetable agreed with particular employers where an appreciable number of women are involved and undue inconvenience might therefore result.

For the purpose of securing machinery of consultation between the trade and the Ministry's Regional and Local Offices, Regional Panels will be set up in all Regions and sub-committees of Local Employment Committees will be established in all Employment Exchange areas. These will be composed equally of representatives from both sides of the retail trade (other than food) with an independent chairman. The Regional Panels will advise the Central Panels and the Regional Controller regarding the labour supply position in the region, and the Local Sub-Committees will advise on local labour supply problems in the retail trades other than food and will also consider representations made by employers in these trades to Local Offices regarding key workers.

LABOUR SUPPLY IN COAL-MINING.

RETURN OF EX-MINERS TO THE PITS.

In reply to questions in the House of Commons on 9th September, the Secretary for Mines stated that the total number of men who had registered on 17th and 18th July, in accordance with the obligation imposed on men who had left the coal-mining industry to register on those dates,* was 105,376, of whom 25,468 were willing to return to mining. A very substantial proportion of the men registering was found to be men who had left the industry by reason of physical incapacity, and many others were engaged in occupations from which their withdrawal would have caused disproportionate detriment to the war effort. Up to 8th September, 16,000 men had been actually placed at work, of which rather over two-thirds were face workers: in addition, a substantial number of men had received directions to return to duty at the mines. Mining managements were being required to accept all men considered suitable by the Ministry of Labour and National Service. Altogether, a total of over 30,000 men had been found and they would be returned to work as lodging accommodation and working accommodation became available.

FATAL ACCIDENTS AT MINES AND QUARRIES IN 1940.

A "Provisional Statement of Number of Deaths by Accidents at Mines and Quarries in Great Britain, together with the Isle of Man, during 1940,†" has been issued by the Mines Department.

The total number of persons killed by accidents which occurred during the year 1940 at mines and quarries in Great Britain, together with the Isle of Man, was 1,008; the corresponding figure for 1939 was 887.

Of the deaths caused by accidents in 1940, 923 were at mines under the Coal Mines Act, 1911, and of these 513 were caused by falls of ground.

CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT IN RETAIL DRAPERY, OUTFITTING AND FOOTWEAR TRADES.

THE Joint Industrial Council which was recently set up for the Retail Drapery, Outfitting and Footwear Trades in England and Wales* has arrived at an agreement on minimum rates of remuneration and conditions of employment, to become effective on 3rd November, 1941. A summary of the provisions of the agreement is given below:—

WAGES.

For wages purposes a distinction is made between (a) London, comprising the City of London and Metropolitan Police District, and (b) Provinces. Under the agreement rates of wages in the Provinces have been fixed only for towns or administrative districts with a population of 10,000 or over. Negotiations as to rates of wages applicable to places with a population of less than 10,000 are to commence at an early date, with a view to agreement being arrived at not later than 1st January, 1942. The minimum rates of weekly earnings agreed upon, inclusive of all forms of bonus and commission, are as follows:—

Sales staff, cashiers and clerks.—London: males—21s. 6d. at 16 years of age, increasing to 65s. at 25 years; females—19s. 6d. at 16 years, increasing to 43s. at 24 years; Provinces (Towns with population of 10,000 or over): males—18s. 6d. at 16 years, increasing to 62s. at 25 years; females—16s. 6d. at 16 years, increasing to 40s. at 24 years.

Other male employees (excluding craftsmen, productive staff, and transport workers).—London: 20s. 6d. at 16 years, increasing to 60s. at 24 years; Provinces (Towns with population of 10,000 or over): 17s. 6d. at 16 years, increasing to 57s. at 24 years.

Provision is made for special rates of pay for late entrants and for sub-normal workers, and for remuneration to be reduced by fixed amounts when dinner, tea, or board and lodging are provided.

Minimum rates of remuneration for branch managers and manageresses have not yet been fixed, but the Joint Industrial Council undertakes to commence an early re-examination of the matter with a view to a decision being arrived at not later than 1st January, 1942.

CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT.

The weekly rates of remuneration are for a working week of 48 hours (exclusive of meal-times) subject to an allowance of thirty minutes a day for not more than two days in the week and fifteen minutes a day for the remaining days in the week, solely for the purposes of clearing up and of clearing the shop of customers.

Overtime is to be paid for at the rate of time-and-a-quarter, except for all time worked on Sundays, Good Friday, Easter Monday, Whit Monday, August Bank Holiday, Christmas Day, Boxing Day, and any other nationally proclaimed holiday (or such days as may be substituted for them by local custom) when double rates shall be paid.

In addition to the bank and public holidays, annual holidays of six working days with full pay are to be granted, providing the employee has completed six months' continuous service by August 1st in any year, and twelve working days' annual holiday with full pay, providing the employee has completed twelve months' continuous service by that date. Where, however, it has been the general custom in any town to grant less than twelve days' holiday, the custom is to be allowed to continue during war-time.

Sick leave up to twelve days in any one year on full pay is to be granted upon the completion of three months' continuous service and subject to the production, if required, of a medical certificate.

The scales of remuneration and conditions of employment set out in the agreement are stated to be minima, and do not prevent the payment of higher rates or the operation of better conditions, and nothing in the agreement is to be taken to prejudice any higher rates or better conditions already in operation.

The agreement provides arrangements for the consideration of claims for special relief by employers who consider that, owing to war-time difficulties, they are unable to operate the agreement in whole or in part.

WAGES IN THE COAL MINING INDUSTRY.

In June last an agreement was arrived at between the Mining Association and the Mineworkers' Federation providing for the payment, subject to certain conditions, of an attendance bonus of 1s. a shift to adults and of 6d. a shift to others. The conditions of qualification included the provision that a worker should only be entitled to the bonus in any week if he was capable of and available for work throughout his normal working hours during the week. Certain specified types of absence, however, such as incapacity resulting from accidents, sickness, and Civil Defence duties, were not to disqualify a person from receiving the bonus in respect of days actually worked during the week.

* See the issue of this GAZETTE for July, page 134.

† H.M. Stationery Office. Price 1d. net. (2d. post free).

* See the issue of this GAZETTE for February, 1941, page 32.

Under an agreement made on 4th September it is provided that the conditions as to full attendance attached to the payment of the bonus shall be dispensed with. It was further agreed that, realising that the fullest possible output of coal is of vital importance to the national war effort, the District and Pit Production Committees shall co-operate fully in the production of coal and that it shall be the responsibility of the District Coal Production Committees to secure that machinery is set up at each pit which shall ensure that effective measures shall be taken at the pit to deal with any person whose conduct militates against the maximum possible production of coal.

REPORT OF THE SAFETY IN MINES RESEARCH BOARD FOR 1939.

THE Eighteenth Annual Report of the Safety in Mines Research Board,* which has recently been published, reviews the work of the Board during the year 1939 in directing the work of research of the Mines Department into the causes of mining dangers and the means for preventing such dangers. The Report also embodies a report on matters dealt with during the year by the Health Advisory Committee.

The main body of the Report deals with the progress of safety researches. The outbreak of war interrupted and curtailed the normal activities of the Research Stations and raised new problems for the industry which called for investigation by the Board; nevertheless, it is stated, the Board's policy has been, and is, to make every effort to maintain its research organisation in being and to continue those researches already on foot which have the most direct bearing on the safety and health of the miner and promise early results. Detailed accounts are given of experimental and other research work carried out on coal dust explosions; firedamp explosions; spontaneous combustion of coal; electrical researches; mining explosives; mine lighting; falls of ground; haulage; and wire ropes. A review of the progress made in the adoption of protective equipment in mines and quarries is also given.

An account of "Safety Instruction" activities shows that these chiefly took the form of the giving of demonstrations to mineworkers at the Buxton Research Station, the loan of exhibits, films and slides to teachers, mine officials and others, and the provision of lecturers for local efforts in the coal fields. The institution of air-raid precaution measures at technical colleges and new problems for colliery officials, it is stated, held up the safety instruction work of education authorities and of the industry for a while, but the loss was balanced by the calls for safety instruction services after the middle of October.

NEW JOINT INDUSTRIAL COUNCIL.

HOME GROWN TIMBER TRADE.

A National Joint Industrial Council has recently been set up to deal with industrial matters in the Home Grown Timber Trade, which is expanding rapidly as a result of the shortage of imported timber consequent upon the outbreak of war. The objects of the Council are to reach agreements on wages, hours and working conditions to be observed by all employers and employees in the industry, and to provide machinery for the prevention of strikes or lock-outs until any differences have been considered by the Council.

The Employers' Side of the Council consists of representatives of each of the six Associations comprising the Federation of Home Grown Timber Merchants' Associations: the Employees' Side consists of representatives of the Amalgamated Society of Woodcutting Machinists, the Transport and General Workers' Union, the National Union of General and Municipal Workers and the National Union of Distributive and Allied Workers.

An agreement with regard to minimum rates of wages and general conditions of employment for workers employed in this trade was adopted by the Council on August 26th, 1941.

The Council does not at present cover Scotland.

FOOD CONTROL.

MAXIMUM RETAIL PRICES OF FOOD.

THE Minister of Food has recently made Orders relating to the retail prices of flour, bread, fish, potatoes, and a number of other articles of food.

The Flour (Maximum Retail Prices) Order, 1941, came into force on 6th October. For plain flour the maximum retail price prescribed by the Order per container of 6 lb. but less than 70 lb. is at the rate of 2½d. per lb.; per container of 1½ lb. but less than 6 lb. it is 2½d. per lb.; and per container of less than 1½ lb. it is 2¾d. per lb. For self-raising flour the maximum retail price is 3½d. per lb.

Retail prices of bread were brought under the control of a new Order on 20th October, the previous Order (which restricted prices of bread, with certain exceptions, to those current on 2nd December, 1940) being revoked. For white bread and for National Wheatmeal bread, the maximum retail prices prescribed are 4d. per 4 lb., 3½d. per 1½ lb. and 2½d. per 1 lb. loaf. Specified higher prices for loaves of 4 lb., 2 lb., and 1½ lb. are permitted by a general licence in Scotland north of the Caledonian Canal, in the Western Islands and Orkney and Shetland, and in Northern Ireland. Further, subject to there being no increase in the price of bread to the public, licences may be granted for the retail sale of bread at prices not exceeding 8½d. per 4 lb. and 4½d. per 2 lb. in sparsely popu-

lated areas, and by bakers in whose area of supply the population has been reduced to 60 per cent. or less than 60 per cent. of the pre-war figure. "Speciality" bread and malt bread (subject to National Wheatmeal bread being available), Vienna bread and rolls may be sold without restriction as to price. The Order does not apply to fruit loaves and bun loaves.

Reductions in the maximum prices of many kinds of fish came into force on 29th September, in accordance with the Fish (Maximum Prices) (No. 2) Order, 1941. Most of the reductions in retail prices were of 1d. to 2d. per lb., but for some descriptions of fish, notably hake, the reductions were greater, while for others, including herrings and kippers, maximum prices remained unchanged.

The maximum retail prices of ware potatoes prescribed for September were continued up to 4th October, under the Potatoes (1941 Crop) (Control) (No. 2) Order, 1941. The Order introduced slight revisions in maximum prices from 5th October and provided for reductions (amounting to ½d. per 7 lb. in many areas) to operate from 19th October until 30th November. On 1st December there will be some reversions to the maximum prices applicable during 5th to 18th October. The prices vary according to district and variety classification. For the period from 19th October to 30th November the maximum retail prices range from 7d. to 9d. per 7 lb. in Great Britain; in Northern Ireland they are 7d. and 7½d. The prices of potatoes sold for delivery in a number of specified districts in Scotland are not controlled.

The control of retail prices of imported canned meat was extended to include U.S.A. canned pork sausage meat or pork sausage bulk from 15th September. Maximum prices of rabbits were revised and maximum prices of hares were introduced from 22nd September. Maximum prices of pickles and sauces were introduced from 1st October and of macaroni and similar products from 20th October. Maximum prices of dry bulb onions (except silverskin) and shallots were revised from 13th October, and maximum prices of raspberries have been raised for the period 6th October to 31st December, 1941, after which they are to revert to the previous level. Orders have also been made prescribing the maximum prices to be charged to consumers for chocolate and sugar confectionery, to operate from a date yet to be announced.

REGULATION OF EMPLOYMENT IN THE ENGINEERING INDUSTRY IN SOUTH AFRICA.

THE Controller of Industrial Man Power in the Union of South Africa issued on 10th July two Notices regulating the employment of "emergency labour" and hours of work in the engineering industry. These Notices, which are summarised below, were issued under Regulations made by the Governor-General on 13th February, which empowered the Minister of Defence (i) to issue notices declaring any particular industry to be a controlled industry in any specified area or areas, (ii) to appoint a Controller of Industrial Man Power with specified functions, and (iii) to appoint a Labour Control Board, comprising the Controller, as Chairman, and an equal number of representatives of employers' and workers' organisations.

Employment of Emergency Labour.—Without the prior consent of the competent industrial council,* the engagement by employers in the engineering industry of emergency labour is prohibited. Emergency labour, as defined in the above-mentioned Regulations, means "any untrained or partly trained labour employed during the war period additional to or as a substitute for skilled labour in any establishment," and consent to the employment of such labour may be granted only to employers engaged on defence work or work which is essential for the purposes of the mining industry or the Railways and Harbours Administration, or to other employers if the labour required is to replace journeymen transferred from their service by the Controller. Where the required consent is granted, the employers concerned may engage only such workers as have been provided by the industrial council with a registration card containing, in the individual case, particulars concerning the worker, the nature of the work to be performed by him, and the period during which he may be so employed. The cards are to be retained by the employer during the period of the employment and returned to the industrial council on the termination of the employment. Permission to employ female labour may not be granted except for (a) the operation of machine tools, (b) butt, spot or light welding, (c) light case making, and (d) armature winding.

Emergency workers are to be paid at prescribed hourly rates ranging, according to the total period or periods during which the worker has been employed as an emergency worker, from 1s. 4d. to 1s. 9d. for female workers and from 2s. 1d. to 2s. 8½d. for male workers.

Hours of Work.—Except with the prior consent of the Controller of Industrial Man Power, employers in the engineering industry may not require or permit any workshop employee, other than an unskilled worker, to work (a) on more than six days in any week, or (b) for less than fifty-four hours in any week, or (c) for more than sixty hours in any week. The stipulation under (b) is not, however, to apply to workers over 55 years of age; and for the purposes of both (b) and (c) the attendance of apprentices at technical classes during working hours is to count as time worked.

* Industrial councils representative of employers and workers may be set up in the several industries, and, when registered under the industrial conciliation legislation, are recognised as being competent to deal with any matters of mutual interest to the parties and to take steps to prevent and settle disputes.

* Eighteenth Annual Report of The Safety in Mines Research Board, 1939. H.M. Stationery Office. Price 1s. 0d. net. (1s. 2d. post free).

EMPLOYMENT IN SEPTEMBER.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

THE number of men and boys registered at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain as wholly unemployed at 15th September was 100,048, a decrease of 16,079 as compared with 11th August. Of this total, 30,462 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 7,924, a decrease of 7,642 as compared with 11th August. Those registered as unemployed casual workers (being persons who normally seek their livelihood by jobs of short duration) numbered 9,511, a decrease of 2,471 as compared with 11th August.

The corresponding figures for women and girls on the registers at 15th September were 96,546 wholly unemployed (of whom 3,477 had been classified by interviewing panels as unsuitable for normal full-time employment, and 3,088 had been classified as unable for good cause to transfer to another area although employment was not likely to be available locally), 16,049 temporarily stopped, and 543 unemployed casual workers. As compared with 11th August, the numbers wholly unemployed showed a decrease of 7,098, those temporarily stopped a decrease of 6,335, and unemployed casual workers a decrease of 43.

The number of applicants for unemployment benefit or allowances on the registers at 15th September was 157,466, as compared with 191,178 at 11th August, and 683,156 at 16th September, 1940.

The numbers registered as unemployed at 15th September are analysed below:—

	Wholly Unemployed.	Temporarily Stopped.	Unemployed Casual Workers.
Great Britain.			
Men	87,638	7,828	9,495
Boys	12,410	96	16
Women	78,854	15,465	537
Girls	17,692	584	6
Total	196,594	23,973	10,054
Decrease (—) as compared with 11th August, 1941	— 23,177	— 13,977	— 2,514
16th September, 1940	— 417,077	— 161,027	— 21,121
Great Britain and Northern Ireland.			
Men	94,257	8,647	10,548
Boys	13,091	132	16
Women	93,950	18,591	537
Girls	19,299	736	6
Total	220,597	28,106	11,107
Decrease (—) as compared with 11th August, 1941	— 26,697	— 14,341	— 2,572
16th September, 1940	— 455,045	— 166,295	— 22,287

UNEMPLOYMENT SUMMARY BY DISTRICTS.

THE following Table shows the numbers of unemployed persons on the registers at 15th September 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	13,640	2,304	14,720	2,667	33,331
Eastern	2,876	408	4,256	823	8,363
Southern	1,870	409	3,045	652	5,976
South-Western	3,560	679	4,228	847	9,314
Midlands	1,946	460	1,792	489	4,687
North-Midlands	2,568	275	2,994	526	6,363
North-Eastern	7,088	721	4,458	1,195	13,462
North-Western	14,296	1,864	17,056	1,885	35,101
Northern	10,552	1,648	5,669	3,500	21,369
Scotland	16,145	1,995	15,971	2,498	36,609
Wales	13,097	1,647	4,665	2,610	22,019
Great Britain	87,638	12,410	78,854	17,692	196,594
Northern Ireland	6,619	681	15,096	1,607	24,003
Great Britain and Northern Ireland	94,257	13,091	93,950	19,299	220,597
Temporarily Stopped.					
London and South-Eastern	278	—	1,222	13	1,513
Eastern	43	—	269	10	322
Southern	82	3	179	7	271
South-Western	70	—	524	6	600
Midlands	178	—	600	7	785
North-Midlands	297	—	838	32	1,167
North-Eastern	2,306	11	3,552	90	5,959
North-Western	2,826	57	5,442	134	8,459
Northern	465	3	725	93	1,286
Scotland	705	11	1,873	153	2,742
Wales	578	11	241	39	869
Great Britain	7,828	96	15,465	584	23,973
Northern Ireland	819	36	3,126	152	4,133
Great Britain and Northern Ireland	8,647	132	18,591	736	28,106

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

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	3,170	2	213	—	3,385
Eastern	392	—	6	2	400
Southern	179	—	3	—	182
South-Western	873	—	4	—	877
Midlands	4	—	—	—	4
North-Midlands	372	1	54	—	427
North-Eastern	572	—	3	4	579
North-Western	363	7	59	—	429
Northern	1,564	4	68	—	1,636
Scotland	877	2	127	—	1,006
Wales	1,129	—	—	—	1,129
Great Britain	9,495	16	537	6	10,054
Northern Ireland	1,053	—	—	—	1,053
Great Britain and Northern Ireland	10,548	16	537	6	11,107

The increases (+) or decreases (—) between 11th August, 1941, and 15th September, 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 and South-Eastern	— 2,945	— 1,648	— 122	— 835	— 1,265	— 44
Eastern	— 816	— 440	— 89	— 123	— 299	— 9
Southern	— 405	— 348	— 47	— 50	— 28	—
South-Western	— 1,038	— 747	— 317	— 52	— 382	— 4
Midlands	— 848	— 472	— 361	— 725	— 10	—
North-Midlands	— 513	— 81	— 286	— 1,108	— 43	— 10
North-Eastern	— 1,323	— 1,129	— 83	— 285	— 298	— 7
North-Western	— 2,062	— 904	— 303	— 1,009	— 71	— 48
Northern	— 1,752	— 543	— 271	— 157	— 329	— 13
Scotland	— 2,146	— 624	— 691	— 1,102	— 243	— 32
Wales	— 2,231	— 162	— 5,166	— 889	— 99	—
Northern Ireland	— 3,091	— 429	— 13	— 351	— 54	— 4

A further analysis of the numbers unemployed at 15th September in Great Britain, giving separate figures for persons insured against unemployment, together with the numbers applying for benefit or unemployment allowances is shown on page 199.

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 September, 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.						
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
11 August ..	98,737	17,390	82,208	21,436	219,771	247,294
15 September ..	87,638	12,410	78,854	17,692	196,594	220,597
Temporarily Stopped.						
1940.						
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
11 August ..	15,131	435	21,255	1,129	37,950	42,447
15 September ..	7,828	96	15,465	584	23,973	28,106
Unemployed Casual Workers.						
1940.						
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
11 August ..	11,958	24	585	1	12,568	13,679
15 September ..	9,495	16	537	6	10,054	11,107

UNEMPLOYMENT AMONG BOYS AND GIRLS.

On page 198 details are given of the numbers of boys and girls under 18 years of age on the registers of Employment Exchanges and Juvenile Employment Bureaux at 15th September, 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	976	1,330	2,306	1,311	1,369	2,680
Eastern	195	213	408	344	491	835
Southern	259	153	412	398	261	659
South-Western	387	292	679	377	476	853
Midlands	189	271	460	229	267	496
North-Midlands	115	161	276	243	315	558
North-Eastern	404	328	732	644	645	1,289
North-Western	953	975	1,928	954	1,065	2,019
Northern	1,045	610	1,655	2,039	1,554	3,593
Scotland	919	1,089	2,008	1,174	1,477	2,651
Wales	880	778	1,658	1,248	1,401	2,649
Great Britain..	6,322	6,200	12,522	8,961	9,321	18,282
Northern Ireland	105	612	717	173	1,586	1,759
Gt. Britain and N. Ireland ..	6,427	6,812	13,239	9,134	10,907	20,041

The total number of insured juveniles, under 18 years of age, recorded as unemployed in Great Britain and Northern Ireland at 15th September, 1941 (including those, not on the register, whose unemployment books were in the two months' file), was 30,777 of whom 13,306 were boys and 17,471 were girls. Of these, 5,339 boys and 6,354 girls were under 16 years of age.

In the week ended 24th September, 1941, the number of juveniles, under 18 years of age, who attended courses of instruction was 721, including 198 boys and 523 girls. Of this total, 61 were in the North-Eastern Region, 181 in the Northern Region, 70 in Scotland, and 409 in Wales.

UNEMPLOYMENT CHART.

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



COMPOSITION OF UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS: GREAT BRITAIN.

ANALYSIS FOR 15TH SEPTEMBER, 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 ..	86,315	2,687	55,977	4,193	149,172
2. Non-claimants :—					
(a) Aged 16 and over ..	7,345	1,919	13,222	2,455	24,941
(b) Aged 14 and 15 ..	—	3,320	—	3,698	7,018
Others on Register :—					
3. Applicants for Unemployment Allowances ..	3,779	27	3,294	137	7,237
4. Women, aged 60–64, claiming Benefit* ..	—	—	1,057	—	1,057
5. Persons without applications :—					
(a) Aged 16 and over ..	7,522	1,567	21,306	2,536	32,931
(b) Aged 14 and 15 ..	—	3,002	—	5,263	8,265
Total on Register ..	104,961	12,522	94,856	18,282	230,621
Insured Unemployed :—					
Aged 16 and over:					
6. Number on Register (items 1 and 2 (a)) ..	93,660	4,606	69,199	6,648	174,113
7. Two months' file ..	26,562	2,604	40,853	2,896	72,915
8. Special Schemes—Claimants to Benefit ..	144	3	125	4	276
Total aged 16 and over	120,366	7,213	110,177	9,548	247,304
Aged 14 and 15:					
9. Numbers on Register (Item 2 (b)) ..	—	3,320	—	3,698	7,018
10. Two months' file ..	—	1,859	—	2,421	4,280
Total aged 14 and over	120,366	12,392	110,177	15,667	258,602

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 27th Sept., 1941.	Five weeks ended 30th Aug., 1941.	Four weeks ended 28th Sept., 1940.
(1) General Account.			
Contributions received from :—	£	£	£
Employers	1,858,000	2,456,000	1,793,000
Employed persons	1,857,000	2,455,000	1,793,000
Exchequer	1,855,000	2,455,000	1,791,000
Miscellaneous Receipts	5,000	297,000	—
Total Income	5,575,000	7,663,000	5,377,000
Benefit	369,000	584,000	1,749,000
Cost of Administration	262,000	380,000	337,000
Accrued Charge for Debt Service‡ ..	—	—	154,000
Miscellaneous Payments	29,000	28,000	26,000
Total Expenditure	660,000	992,000	2,266,000
Debt outstanding†	—	—	39,354,000
(2) Agricultural Account.			
Contributions received from —			
Employers	26,000	32,000	18,000
Employed persons	26,000	32,000	17,000
Exchequer	26,000	33,000	18,000
Miscellaneous Receipts	—	25,000	—
Total Income	78,000	122,000	53,000
Benefit	4,000	11,000	16,000
Cost of Administration	10,000	12,000	7,000
Miscellaneous Payments	—	1,000	—
Total Expenditure	14,000	24,000	23,000

UNEMPLOYMENT ALLOWANCES.

FOR the period of four weeks ended 27th September, 1941, expenditure on unemployment allowances (excluding the cost of administration) amounted to approximately £289,000, compared with £415,000 during the five weeks ended 30th August, 1941, and £786,000 during the four weeks ended 28th September, 1940.

Comparison of the figures for August and September, 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), and by the operation of the Determination of Needs Act, 1941 (see the issue of this GAZETTE for April, 1941, page 76).

* 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).

‡ The debt which stood at £105,780,000 at 1st July, 1934, had been completely discharged at 31st March, 1941, by the principal repaid (£7,193,000) in the statutory half-yearly instalments and special repayments under the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1938 (£98,587,000).

§ Includes adjustment.

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

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 in September resulted in an aggregate increase estimated at about £39,000 in the weekly full-time wages of about 238,000 workpeople, and in a decrease estimated at about £1,500 in those of 76,000 workpeople.†

The majority of the workpeople whose wage rates were increased were employed in the flax spinning industry in Northern Ireland, the gas supply industry, milk distribution in England and Wales, the electrical contracting industry in England and Wales and Northern Ireland, and leather tanning, currying and dressing. The decreases occurred mainly in the coal mining industry in certain areas.

In the flax spinning industry in Northern Ireland, the existing addition to wages was increased from 15 per cent. to 22½ per cent. on the rates in operation prior to 4th December, 1939. Gas workers, 18 years of age and over, received a bonus of ¾d. an hour or 6d. a shift, with proportional increases for piece workers. In milk distribution in England and Wales, the general minimum time rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts were raised by 3s. a week for men, 2s. a week for youths and for women of 21 years and over, and 1s. 6d. for women and girls of 18 and under 21 years. In the electrical contracting industry in England and Wales and Northern Ireland, the cost-of-living (war) bonus was increased from 11s. 8d. to 18s. 4d. a week. In the leather tanning, currying and dressing industry in Great Britain, there were increases of 1d. an hour for men and ¾d. an hour for youths, women and girls employed on time work,

with additions to piece-work rates. Other industries in which wage rates were increased included coal mining in Leicestershire and Somerset, shirt making in Northern Ireland, furniture manufacture in High Wycombe and district, and match manufacture.

In the coal mining industry, there were reductions in the percentage additions to basis rates in Derbyshire, Cannock Chase and Warwickshire, due to the operation of sliding scales based on fluctuations in the proceeds of the industry.

Of the estimated total increase of £39,000 a week, about £200 was due to the operation of sliding scales based on fluctuations in the proceeds of the coal mining industry; £31,500 was due to arrangements made by joint standing bodies; £400 was due to the operation of sliding scales based on the cost of living; and the remaining £6,900 was the result of direct negotiation between the employers and workpeople or their representatives. Nearly all of the estimated decrease of £1,500 was due to the operation of sliding scales based on fluctuations in the proceeds of the coal mining industry.

The changes reported in the first nine months of 1941, in the industries covered by the statistics, are estimated to have resulted in a net increase of about £1,500,000 a week in the full-time wages of over 7,500,000 workpeople.* In the corresponding nine months of 1940, there was, in these industries, a net increase estimated at about £1,750,000 in the weekly full-time wages of approximately 7,700,000 workpeople.

Hours of Labour.

No important changes were reported during September.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING SEPTEMBER.

Industry.	District.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change.
Agriculture	Kesteven and Lindsey division of Lincolnshire.	28 Sept.	Waggoners (14 years of age and over). Shepherds (21 years of age and over). Stockmen (21 years of age and over). Other men, youths and boys (14 years of age and over).	Increase of 3s. a week (56s. 9d. to 59s. 9d.) in minimum rate for men and of 1s. 4d. to 2s. 9d. for youths and boys.† Increase of 3s. a week (54s. 3d. to 57s. 3d.) in minimum rate.† Increase of 3s. a week (55s. 6d. to 58s. 6d.) in minimum rate.† Increase of 3s. a week (48s. to 51s.) in minimum rate for men and of 1s. 3d. to 2s. 9d. for youths and boys.†
	Norfolk	21 Sept.	Men, youths and boys (14 years of age and over).	Increase of 6s. a week (48s. to 54s.) in minimum rate for men and of 2s. to 5s. 7d. for youths and boys.†
	Cambridgeshire and Isle of Ely.	27 Sept.	Horsemen, cowmen and shepherds (14 years of age and over). Other men, youths and boys (14 years of age and over). Women and girls (14 years of age and over), other than casual and part-time workers. Women and girls (14 years of age and over), casual and part-time workers. Boys and girls (12 to 14 years of age)	Increase of 8s. 3d. a week (56s. 5d. to 64s. 8d.) in minimum rate for men and of 6s. 3d. to 7s. 8d. for youths and boys.† Increase of 7s. a week (48s. to 55s.) in minimum rate for men and of 3s. 9d. to 6s. 6d. for youths and boys.† Increase of 4s. 11d. a week (33s. 10d. to 38s. 9d.) in minimum rate for women, 18 years and over, and of 3s. 7d. or 4s. 3d. for girls.† Increase of 1½d. an hour (9½d. to 10½d.) in minimum rate for women, 18 years and over, and of 1d. or 1½d. for girls.† Increase of ½d. an hour (4½d. to 5d.) in minimum rate.†
	Bedfordshire and Huntingdonshire.	28 Sept.	Men, youths and boys (14 years of age and over). Women and girls (14 years of age and over). Boys and girls (under 14 years of age)	Increase of 5s. a week (48s. to 53s.) in minimum rate for men and of 1s. 7d. to 4s. 7d. for youths and boys.† Increase of 1d. an hour (9½d. to 10½d.) in minimum rate for women, 18 years and over, and of ½d. or 1d. an hour for girls.† Increase of ½d. an hour (4d. to 4½d.) in minimum rate.†
	Hertfordshire ..	21 Sept.	Cowmen, horsemen, stockmen and shepherds (21 years of age and over). Other men, youths and boys (14 years of age and over). Women and girls (14 years of age and over). Boys and girls (12 to 14 years of age)	Increase of 7s. 4d. a week (58s. 6d. to 65s. 10d.) in minimum rate for cowmen and of 6s. 10d. a week (54s. 6d. to 61s. 4d.) for horsemen, stockmen and shepherds.† Increase of 6s. a week (48s. to 54s.) in minimum rate for men and of 2s. 2d. to 5s. 6d. for youths and boys.† Increase of 4s. 5d. a week (35s. to 39s. 5d.) in minimum rate for women, 19 years and over, and of 2s. 2d. to 4s. for girls.† Increase of ½d. an hour (4d. to 4½d.) in minimum rate.†
	Berkshire	21 Sept.	Men, youths and boys (14 years of age and over). Women and girls (14 years of age and over), other than part-time workers.	Increase of 4s. a week (48s. to 52s.) in minimum rate for men and of 1s. 6d. to 3s. 6d. for youths and boys.† New scale of minimum weekly rates fixed (in lieu of hourly rates previously fixed), for a normal working week of 48 hours, of 16s. at 14 and under 15 years, increasing to 36s. at 18 years and over.†
	Middlesex	21 Sept.	Men, youths and boys:— Stockmen (16 years of age and over). Carters (16 years of age and over)	Increase of 5s. a week (60s. to 65s.) in minimum rate for men, and of 2s. 6d. or 5s. for youths and boys.† Increase of 4s. 8d. a week (56s. to 60s. 8d.) in minimum rate for men and of 2s. 4d. or 4s. 8d. for youths and boys.†
			Casual workers (14 years of age and over). Other men, youths and boys (14 years of age and over).	Increase of 1d. an hour (1s. to 1s. 1d.) in minimum rate for men and of ½d. or 1d. for youths and boys.† Increase of 4s. 2d. a week (50s. to 54s. 2d.) in summer and of 4s. (48s. to 52s.) in winter in minimum rate for men, and of 2s. 1d. or 4s. 2d. in summer and 2s. or 4s. in winter for youths and boys.†
			Women and girls employed as:— Stockmen (16 years of age and over). Carters (16 years of age and over) Casual workers (14 years of age and over). Other women and girls (14 years of age and over).	Increase of 2s. 6d. a week (42s. 6d. to 45s.) in minimum rate for women, 18 years and over, and of 2s. 6d. or 3s. 3d. for girls.† Increase of 2s. 4d. a week in minimum rate. Rate after change, at 18 years and over, 42s.† Increase of ½d. an hour in minimum rate. Rate after change, at 18 years and over, 9d.† Increase of 2s. 1d. a week in minimum rate in summer and of 2s. in winter. Rate after change, at 18 years and over, 37s. 6d. in summer and 36s. in winter.†

* 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 change 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 September 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.

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

Industry.	District.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change. (Decreases in <i>Italics</i> .)
Coal Mining	All Districts	1 Sept.*	Workpeople employed in and about coal mines.	See Footnote †.
	Derbyshire (except South Derbyshire).	1 Sept.	Workpeople employed in and about coal mines.	Decrease of 0.49 per cent. on basis rates, leaving wages 6.76 per cent. above the basis rates.‡
	South Derbyshire ..			Decrease of 1.78 per cent. on basis rates, leaving wages 80.42 per cent. above the basis rates.‡
	Leicestershire ..			Increase of 0.88 per cent. on basis rates, making wages 77.27 per cent. above the basis rates.‡
	Cannock Chase ..	1 Sept.	Workpeople employed in and about coal mines, other than engine winders, deputies and firemen, examiners and shotlighters.	Decrease of 1.66 per cent. on basis rates, leaving wages 53.38 per cent. above the basis rates for shopmen, mechanics and surface workers not handling coal and 51.38 per cent. above the basis rates for all other workers.‡
	Warwickshire ..	1 Sept.	Workpeople employed in and about coal mines.	Decrease of 1 per cent. on basis rates, leaving wages 81 per cent. above the basis rates at the majority of collieries and 76 per cent. at others.‡
	Radstock district of Somerset.	1 Sept.	Workpeople employed in and about coal mines, other than bailiffs and examiners.	Increase of 1.84 per cent. on basis rates, making wages 42.08 per cent. above the basis rates.‡
Chalk Quarrying	Newbury district of Somerset.	1 Sept.	Workpeople employed in and about coal mines.	
	Thames and Medway Area.	Pay week ended 24 Sept.	Men, youths and boys	War bonus increased by 6d. a day (1s. 4d. to 1s. 10d.) for men, and by 3d. a day (8d. to 11d.) for youths and boys.§
Match Manufacture.	Great Britain and Northern Ireland.	1st pay day after 21 Sept.	Workpeople paid at time rates:— Men, youths and boys	Increase of 1d. an hour. Rates after change: 7½d. at 14 and under 15 years, increasing to 1s. 6½d. at 20 years and over.||
			Women and girls	Increase of ¾d. an hour. Rates after change: 6d. at 14 and under 15 years, increasing to 10½d. at 18 years and over.||
Engineering	Colchester district ..	17 Sept.	Unskilled and semi-skilled workers, except holders-up and chippers.	Increase of 6d. a week on basis rates. Rates after change include: blacksmiths' strikers, 31s., plate and machine moulders, 35s., foundry dressers, 34s., and labourers, 29s.; plus a bonus of 30s. 6d. for timeworkers in each case.
	Swansea, Llanelly, Port Talbot, Neath and Mid-Glamorgan-shire	1 Sept.	Apprentices employed in engineering and foundry shops.	Increases of 3s. to 10s. 9d. a week, according to year of apprenticeship. Rates after change: 5½d. an hour in 1st year of apprenticeship, increasing to 1s. 4d. in 5th year.
	Arbroath	12 Sept.	Fitters and turners	Increase of 2s. a week on basis rate. Rate after change: 45s. plus a bonus of 30s. 6d. for timeworkers.
Boiler Scaling	Glasgow	3 Sept.	Men	Increase of 1½d. an hour (1s. 7½d. to 1s. 9d.) with an additional 1½d. an hour when working with boilers (whether inside or outside) of oil-burning vessels.
Wire Manufacture	Great Britain ..	Beginning of first full pay period after 23 Sept.	Workpeople employed in iron and steel wire manufacture:— Men and youths	Minimum basic rates adopted. Rates after change, for a 47-hour week: men, 52s.; youths, 37s. 6d. at 20 years, 31s. at 19, and 26s. at 18; plus the appropriate cost-of-living bonus in each case.¶
			Women	Minimum basic rates adopted. Rates after change, for a 47-hour week: 32s. 6d. at 21 years and over, 30s. at 20, 28s. at 19, and 26s. at 18, plus the appropriate cost-of-living bonus in each case.¶
Wire Working	Glasgow, Edinburgh, and Falkirk.	1 Sept.	Men	Decrease** of 2s. (18s. to 16s.) in cost-of-living bonus for a 47-hour week for both timeworkers and pieceworkers.
Iron and Steel Scrap.	Great Britain ..	Pay day in week commencing 25 Aug.	Men	National minimum wage adopted of 1s. 4d. an hour or 64s. for a 48-hour week.
Calico Printing	Great Britain and Northern Ireland.	7 July	Machine calico printers	Supplementary wage increased from 45 to 50 per cent. on basis wage, the flat-rate bonuses of 20s. and 14s. for journeymen and apprentices, respectively, remaining unchanged.††
		1st pay day in Sept.‡‡	Ditto	Supplementary wage reduced** from 50 to 49.5 per cent. on basis wage, the flat-rate bonuses of 20s. and 14s. for journeymen and apprentices, respectively, remaining unchanged.††
Woollen and Worsted Industry.	Rosendale Valley district (certain firms).	30 Sept.	Workpeople employed in the manufacture of pressed felt.	Decrease** of 3d. a week. Minimum rate after change for men paid at time rates, 68s. 7d.
Linen	Northern Ireland ..	1 Sept.	Workpeople employed in the flax spinning section.	Further increase of 7½ per cent. (15 to 22½ per cent.) on wages in operation prior to 4th December, 1939.
Shirt Making	Northern Ireland ..	22 Sept.	Men, youths and boys	Increase of ½d. an hour in the general minimum time rate for those 22 years and over, and of ¾d. to 7d. an hour for those under 22 years; and increase of ½d. an hour in piecework basis time rates for experienced cutters.§§
Flour Milling	Great Britain ..	1st full pay period following 26 Sept.	Engineering apprentices	Scale of rates adopted of 25 per cent. of the mechanics' rate at 16 years of age, increasing to 60 per cent. at 20 years of age.
Furniture Manufacture.	High Wycombe and district.	Pay day in week ending 6 Sept.	Journeymen	Increase** of ½d. an hour. Standard rate after change, 1s. 9½d.; Wycombe Section, packers, markers-out and benders, 1s. 9d.
Vehicle Building	Great Britain and Northern Ireland.	1st full pay week in Sept.	Apprentices	Scale of recommended rates increased to 20 per cent. of the men's rate at 16 to 17 years, rising to 60 per cent. at 20 to 21 years.|||
Electrical Contracting.	England, Wales and Northern Ireland.	1st pay day in Sept.‡‡	Journeymen electricians and assistants employed by electrical contractors.	Cost-of-living (war) bonus increased from 11s. 8d. to 18s. 4d. a week (where less than 3 days are worked the payment to be 3s. 1d. for 1 day, 6s. 1d. for 2 days and 9s. 2d. for 3 days).
Gas Undertakings.	Great Britain and Northern Ireland.	1st pay day following 22 Sept.	Gasworkers, 18 years of age and over.	Bonus of ¾d. an hour granted to day workers and of 6d. a shift to shiftworkers, with proportional amounts to pieceworkers.

* 2nd September in Scotland.

† In June last, an attendance bonus was granted of 1s. a shift to men and of 6d. a shift to youths and boys. The payment was made on the condition that the worker was available for work throughout the week (see July, 1941, issue of this GAZETTE, page 141). As from 1st September, the conditions as to full attendance attached to the payment of the bonus were dispensed with (see page 196 of this issue).

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

§ These increases were agreed upon by the Chalk National Sectional Council of the National Joint Industrial Council of the Quarrying Industry.

|| These increases were agreed upon by the Joint Industrial Council for the Match Manufacturing Industry.

¶ This change was the result of an award of the National Arbitration Tribunal (see page 206).

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

†† These changes resulted from an amendment of the cost-of-living sliding-scale arrangements which was effected by an Award, dated 15th September, 1941, under the Industrial Courts Act, 1919.

‡‡ In respect of the preceding pay period.

§§ This increase took effect under an Order issued under the Trade Boards Acts. Details of the minimum rates are contained in the Confirming Order of the Minister of Labour, obtainable from H.M. Stationery Office.

||| This increase was embodied in a joint recommendation made by the employers' associations and trade unions.

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

Industry.	District.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change.
Merchant Navy	Great Britain ..	15 Sept.	Officers and men of the Merchant Navy on vessels of 2,500 tons gross or under which have cleared for a foreign-going voyage :— Navigating officers Deck department ratings (other than day workers).	Special allowance granted of 5s. a day.* Special allowance granted of 1s. 6d. a day to ordinary seamen and boys, and of 3s. to other ratings, where a two-watch system is maintained.*
Railway Service	Belfast and County Down Railway.	1 Sept.	All conciliation and clerical grades	War bonus increased by 2s. 6d. a week (2s. 6d. to 5s.) for men, and by 1s. 3d. (2s. 6d. to 3s. 9d.) for youths.
Local Authorities (Non-trading Services).	Belfast	1 Sept.	Manual workers employed by the Corporation.	War bonus increased by 1s. 6d. a week (12s. 6d. to 14s.). Rate after change for labourers, 50s., plus 14s. war bonus.
Leather Manufacture.	Various districts in Great Britain.	1st full pay week in Sept.	Workpeople employed in tanning, currying and leather dressing.	Increase of 1d. an hour for men and of ½d. for youths, women and girls on timework and a further bonus of 5 per cent. (15 to 20 per cent.) on pre-war rates for pieceworkers. Basic hourly rates after change for skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled men timeworkers, respectively :—London—1s. 8½d., 1s. 6½d., 1s. 5½d.; Scotland and Lancashire—1s. 7½d., 1s. 5½d., 1s. 5d.; rest of the country (except Walsall curriers)—1s. 7½d., 1s. 5½d., 1s. 5d. Women, 20 years and over : London (semi-skilled), 11½d.; Provinces, 11½d.; Scotland 11½d.
Distribution	England and Wales..	29 Sept.	Workpeople employed in milk distribution :— Foremen	Increase of 3s. a week in the general minimum time rate.†
			Other men and youths ..	Increase of 3s. a week in the general minimum time rates for men and of 2s. for youths.†
			Women	Increase of 2s. a week in the general minimum time rates for those 21 years and over and of 1s. 6d. for those 18 and under 21 years.†
	Oldham and district..	22 Sept.	Horse drivers and fillers employed by coal merchants.	Increase of 5s. a week. Rates after change : one horse drivers, 63s. 6d., fillers, 60s. 6d.
Entertainments	London and district..	1st pay day in Sept.	Laboratory workers employed in film processing and printing in the film production industry.	Cost-of-living bonus increased by 1s. a week (9s. to 10s.) for those 21 years and over and by 6d. (4s. 6d. to 5s.) for those under 21.

* These allowances were granted as the result of Agreements arrived at by the Navigating Officers' and the Sailors' and Firemen's Panels of the National Maritime Board. In the case of navigating officers, the allowances are conditional on less than three navigating officers being carried on vessels of 701–2,500 tons gross or less than two on vessels of 700 tons gross or less. The special allowances are paid only for every day at sea (except sailing or arrival days).
† This increase took effect under an Order issued under the Trade Boards Acts. Details of the minimum rates are contained in the Confirming Order of the Minister of Labour, obtainable from H.M. Stationery Office.

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 September† was 204, as compared with 215‡ in the previous month and with 219‡ in September, 1940.

MINES AND QUARRIES.	FACTORIES— <i>continued</i> .
Under Coal Mines Acts :—	Paper, Printing, etc. .. 3
Underground 52	Rubber
Surface 6	Gas Works 3
Metalliferous Mines .. 1	Electrical Stations .. 1
Quarries 6	Other Industries 2
TOTAL, MINES AND QUARRIES.. 65	WORKS AND PLACES UNDER SS. 105, 107, 108, FACTORIES ACT, 1937.
FACTORIES.	Docks, Wharves, Quays and Ships 10
Clay, Stone, Cement, Pottery and Glass 3	Building Operations .. 26
Chemicals, Oils, Soap, etc. 2	Works of Engineering Construction 6
Metal Extracting and Refining	Warehouses 1
Metal Conversion and Founding (including Rolling Mills and Tube Making) 9	TOTAL, FACTORIES ACT 117
Engineering, Locomotive Building, Boilermaking, etc. 19	RAILWAY SERVICE.
Railway and Tramway Carriages, Motor and other Vehicles and Aircraft Manufacture .. 6	Brakemen, Goods Guards 2
Shipbuilding 11	Engine Drivers, Motor-men
Other Metal Trades .. 3	Firemen 3
Cotton 2	Guards (Passenger) ..
Wool, Worsted, Shoddy.. 1	Labourers.. .. . 2
Other Textile Manufacture	Mechanics 3
Textile Printing, Bleaching and Dyeing 1	Permanent Way Men .. 4
Tanning, Currying, etc... ..	Porters 3
Food and Drink 6	Shunters 4
General Woodwork and Furniture 2	Other Grades 1
	Contractors' Servants ..
	TOTAL, RAILWAY SERVICE 22
	Total (excluding Seamen) 204

INDUSTRIAL DISEASES.

THE Table below shows the number of *cases** and *deaths** in Great Britain and Northern Ireland reported during September, 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 (SKIN CANCER).
Among Operatives engaged in :	Pitch 2
Smelting of Metals .. 4	Tar 1
Plumbing and Soldering 1	Paraffin 1
Shipbreaking	Oil 4
Printing	—
Other Contact with Molten Lead 1	—
White and Red Lead Works	CHROME ULCERATION.
Pottery	Manufacture of Bichromates
Vitreous Enamelling ..	Dyeing and Finishing ..
Electric Accumulator Works	Chrome Tanning
Paint and Colour Works ..	Chromium Plating 2
Coach and Car Painting ..	Other Industries 2
Shipbuilding.. .. .	TOTAL 4
Paint used in Other Industries.. .. .	Total, Cases .. 37
Other Industries.. ..	II.—Deaths
Painting of Buildings..	POISONING.
TOTAL 6	Toxic Jaundice 1
OTHER POISONING.	—
Aniline 17	EPITHELIOMATOUS ULCERATION (SKIN CANCER).
Toxic Jaundice 2	Paraffin 1
TOTAL 19	Total, Deaths .. 2

* Statistics of fatal accidents to seamen are not available.
† For mines and quarries, weekly returns are furnished, and the figures cover the 4 weeks ended 27th September, 1941, in comparison with the 4 weeks ended 30th August, 1941, and the 4 weeks ended 28th September, 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 or not included (as cases) in the same or previous returns.

CHANGES IN RETAIL PRICES AND COST OF LIVING.

Summary of Index Figures for 1st October, 1941.

	Food	All Items
Increase since July, 1914..	65%	99%
Change since 1st September, 1941:—		
Index Points	—1	nil
Per cent.	— $\frac{1}{2}$ *	nil

FOOD.

THE principal changes in retail food prices during September were reductions in the prices of many kinds of fish, following the introduction by the Ministry of Food of a revised schedule of maximum prices to operate from 29th September. There was also a slight decline, on average, in the prices of potatoes. On the other hand, the price of milk in some districts at 1st October showed a seasonal rise as compared with 1st September.

The following Table compares the average retail prices in the United Kingdom at 1st October, 1941, with the corresponding prices at 1st September, 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 Oct., 1941, compared with	
	1st Oct., 1941.	1st Sept., 1941.	1st Sept., 1939.	1st Sept., 1941.	1st Sept., 1939.
Beef, British—	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Ribs	1 3 $\frac{1}{4}$	1 3 $\frac{1}{4}$	1 2 $\frac{1}{4}$	..	10
Thin Flank	0 9 $\frac{1}{4}$	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 $\frac{1}{4}$	..	22
Mutton, British—					
Legs	1 5 $\frac{1}{4}$	1 5 $\frac{1}{4}$	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 $\frac{1}{4}$	..	15
Breast	0 4	0 4	0 4	..	..
Bacon†	1 8 $\frac{1}{4}$	1 8 $\frac{1}{4}$	1 3	..	36
Fish	—	—	—	—9	41
Flour per 7 lb.	1 1 $\frac{1}{4}$	1 1 $\frac{1}{4}$	1 1 $\frac{1}{4}$	..	—1
Bread per 4 lb.	0 8 $\frac{1}{4}$	0 8 $\frac{1}{4}$	0 8 $\frac{1}{4}$	..	2
Tea	2 6	2 6	2 4	..	7
Sugar (granulated) ..	0 4 $\frac{1}{4}$	0 4 $\frac{1}{4}$	0 3	..	32
Milk per quart	0 8 $\frac{1}{4}$	0 8 $\frac{1}{4}$	0 6 $\frac{1}{4}$	1	32
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 $\frac{1}{2}$	..	12
Standard	0 5	0 5	..	..	..
Eggs (fresh)|| .. each	0 2 $\frac{1}{4}$	0 2 $\frac{1}{4}$	0 2	..	26
Potatoes per 7 lb.	0 8 $\frac{1}{4}$	0 8 $\frac{1}{4}$	0 6 $\frac{1}{4}$	—4	31

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

Article.	Average Percentage Increase or Decrease (—) since July, 1914, at—		
	1st Sept., 1939.	1st Sept., 1941.	1st October, 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	24
Mutton, British—			
Legs	48	67	67
Breast	14	24	24
Mutton, Frozen—			
Legs	51	74	74
Breast	—3	—3	—3
Bacon†	35	83	83
Fish	116	237	205
Flour	26	25	25
Bread	42	46	46
Tea	52	63	63
Sugar (granulated) ..	46	93 $\frac{1}{4}$	93 $\frac{1}{4}$
Milk	92	151	153
Butter—			
Fresh	13	30	30
Salt	7	34	34
Cheese	16	50	50
Margarine	—8	3	3
Eggs (fresh)	58	100	100
Potatoes	33	82	75
All above articles (Weighted Average)	38	66	65

On the basis of the figures in the foregoing Table the average level of retail prices of food at 1st October was rather more than one-half per cent. lower than at 1st September and nearly 20 per cent. higher than at the beginning of September, 1939.

* A fall of 1 point on a total of 166 for food (the figure for July, 1914 being 100) is equivalent to rather more than $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

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

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

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

|| Of the two prices shown for eggs at 1st September and 1st October, 1941, 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. was for large eggs (in Ministry of Food category I) and 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. for small eggs (in category II). The figures for 1st September, 1939, and July, 1914, are averages of the varying prices charged at those dates.

ITEMS OTHER THAN FOOD.

The average level of working-class *rents* (including rates) at 1st October showed no appreciable change as compared with 1st September, being about 1 per cent. above the level of 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 October the retail prices of clothing of the kinds generally bought by working-class families averaged about 1 per cent. higher than at 1st September, and about 87 per cent. higher than at 1st September, 1939. The average increase during September 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. 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 October the average rise over the level of July, 1914, was about 285 to 290 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 October 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 candles during September, averaging about 4 per cent., but lamp oil and matches showed little change in price during the month. In the fuel and light group as a whole, the average level of prices at 1st October was less than 1 per cent. higher than at 1st September, about 26 per cent. higher than at 1st September, 1939, and about 129 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 about 2 per cent., but for the remaining items changes in prices during September were relatively slight. In the group as a whole, the average level at 1st October was less than 1 per cent. higher than at 1st September, about 29 per cent. higher than at 1st September, 1939, and about 131 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 October, 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 $\frac{1}{4}$ points are due to the increases, since that date, in the taxes on sugar, tobacco and cigarettes, and matches; and approximately 6 points are due to increases resulting from the Purchase Tax.

SUMMARY TABLE: ALL ITEMS.

The following Table shows the average percentage increase, as compared with July, 1914, for all the items included in the statistics, at the beginning of each month since January, 1920.

Year.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1920 ..	125	130	130	132	141	150	152	155	161	164	176	169
1921 ..	165	151	141	133	128	119	119	122	120	110	103	99
1922 ..	92	88	86	82	81	80	84	81	79	78	80	80
1923 ..	78	77	76	74	70	69	69	71	73	75	75	77
1924 ..	77	79	78	73	71	69	70	71	72	76	80	81
1925 ..	80	79	79	75	73	72	73	73	74	76	76	77
1926 ..	75	73	72	68	67	68	70	70	72	74	79	79
1927 ..	75	72	71	65	64	63	66	64	65	67	69	69
1928 ..	68	66	64	64	64	65	65	65	65	66	67	68
1929 ..	67	65	66	62	61	60	61	63	64	65	67	67
1930 ..	66	64	61	57	55	54	55	57	57	56	57	55
1931 ..	53	52	50	47	47	45	47	45	45	45	46	48
1932 ..	47	47	46	44	43	42	43	41	41	43	43	43
1933 ..	42	41	39	37	36	36	38	39	41	41	43	43
1934 ..	42	41	40	39	37	38	41	42	43	43	44	44
1935 ..	43	42	41	39	39	40	43	43	43	45	47	47
1936 ..	47	47	46	44	44	44	46	46	47	48	51	51
1937 ..	51	51	51	51	52	52	55	55	55	58	60	60
1938 ..	59	57	56	54	56	55	59	56	56	55	56	56
1939 ..	55	55	53	53	53	53	56	55	55	65	69	73
1940 ..	74	77	79	78	80	81	87	85	87	89	92	95
1941 ..	96	97	97	98	100	100	99	99	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 SEPTEMBER*

Number, Magnitude, and Duration.—The number of disputes involving stoppages of work, reported to the Department as beginning in September in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, was 135, as compared with 94 in the previous month and 83 in September, 1940. In these 135 new disputes about 25,100 workpeople were directly involved, and 4,400 workpeople indirectly involved (*i.e.*, thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, though not themselves parties to the disputes). In addition, about 1,100 workpeople were involved, either directly or indirectly, in 13 disputes which began before September, and were still in progress at the beginning of that month. The number of new and old disputes was thus 148, involving about 30,600 workpeople, and resulting in a loss, during September, estimated at 93,000 working days.

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

Industry Group.	Number of Disputes in progress in Month.			Number of Workpeople involved in all Disputes in progress in Month.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress in Month.
	Started before beginning of Month.	Started in Month.	Total		
Mining and Quarrying	1	38	39	10,500	27,000
Metal, Engineering and Shipbuilding ..	9	66	75	14,400	29,000
Textile .. .. .	..	4	4	2,100	24,000
Other	3	27	30	3,600	13,000
Total, September, 1941	13	135	148	30,600	93,000
Total, August, 1941 ..	4	94	98	22,100	44,000
Total, September, 1940	2	83	85	20,900	52,000

of trade union principle. One stoppage of work, directly involving 200 workpeople was in support of workers involved in another dispute.

Results.—Final settlements of disputes which terminated during September have been effected in the case of 111 disputes, directly involving 15,900 workpeople. Of these disputes, 18, directly involving 3,500 workpeople, were settled in favour of the workpeople; 61, directly involving 9,300 workpeople, were settled in favour of the employers; and 32, directly involving 3,100 workpeople, resulted in a compromise. In the case of 27 other disputes, directly involving 8,700 workpeople, work was resumed pending negotiations.

TOTALS FOR JANUARY-SEPTEMBER, 1941 and 1940.†

Industry Group.	January to September, 1941.			January to September, 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.
Fishing and Agriculture ..	4	1,100	3,000	4	4,400	27,000
Coal Mining ..	345	114,900†	261,000	260	151,100†	390,000
Other Mining and Quarrying ..	10	700	3,000	4	200	1,000
Brick, Pottery, Glass, Chemical, etc. ..	25	1,700	5,000	22	1,400	4,000
Engineering and Shipbuilding ..	219	78,600	354,000	88	20,500	80,000
Other Metal ..	103	26,900	122,000	72	8,000	31,000
Textile	34	5,700	32,000	44	8,600	75,000
Clothing	16	3,000	11,000	21	5,500	22,000
Food, Drink, and Tobacco ..	8	500	1,000	11	4,900	13,000
Woodworking, Furniture, etc. ..	7	700	6,000	7	400	1,000
Building, etc. ..	47	7,200	16,000	63	22,000	69,000
Transport ..	44	9,100	27,000	31	5,300	13,000
Commerce, Distribution and Finance ..	5	1,900	4,000	6	500	1,000
Other	26	2,500	10,000	32	6,800	16,000
Total	893	254,500†	855,000	665	239,600†	743,000

Causes.—Of the 135 disputes beginning in September, 39, directly involving 6,900 workpeople, arose out of demands for advances in wages, 7, directly involving 2,000 workpeople, out of proposed reductions in wages, and 39, directly involving 8,300 workpeople, on other wage questions; 6, directly involving 1,000 workpeople, on questions as to working hours; 16, directly involving 2,600 workpeople, on questions respecting the employment of particular classes or persons; 20, directly involving 3,400 workpeople, on other questions respecting working arrangements; and 7, directly involving 700 workpeople, on questions

PRINCIPAL DISPUTES INVOLVING STOPPAGES OF WORK DURING SEPTEMBER

Occupations‡ and Locality.	Approximate Number of Workpeople Involved.		Date when Dispute		Cause or Object.	Result.
	Directly.	Indirectly†	Began.	Ended.		
AGRICULTURE:— Casual hop-pickers, local hop-pickers and general farm hands—near Tenbury Wells, Worcestershire.	700	240	8 Sept.	10 Sept.	For advance in wages, above the agreed piece-work rate.	Work resumed at piece-work rate obtaining prior to stoppage.
COAL MINING:— Colliers and other colliery workpeople—near Barnsley (one colliery).	188	1,034	29 Sept.§	30 Sept.	Dissatisfaction with terms of an arbitration award.	Workpeople decided to accept terms of the award.
ENGINEERING, ETC.— Workpeople employed in aircraft construction—West of England (one firm).	900	..	8 Sept.	8 Sept.	Dispute respecting payment for travelling time, and objection to substitution of rail for road transport for workpeople.	Work resumed pending negotiations in respect of travelling time payment; workers agreed to travel by rail for a trial period.
Workpeople employed in aircraft construction—South of England (one firm).	1,464	..	17 Sept.||	18 Sept.	Against transfer of certain redundant workpeople without previous consultation with workpeople's representatives.	Transfers suspended.
Workpeople employed in engineering—Glasgow (one firm).	700	..	19 Sept.¶	22 Sept.¶	Demand that a special bonus of 5 per cent., hitherto paid to charge hands from the "pool" of workpeople's bonus earnings, should be paid by employers.	Employers conceded 2d. per hour increase in wages to charge hands, in compensation for the loss of the special bonus.
Aircraft electricians and fitters—Co. Antrim (one firm).	500	..	24 Sept.	27 Sept.	Against discontinuance of out-working allowance to workpeople transferred from main factory.	Work resumed pending negotiations.
Workpeople employed in light engineering—Leeds (two firms).	800	225	27 Sept.**	27 Sept.**	Alleged deliberate delay in negotiations respecting wages and working conditions.	Work resumed on advice of trade union official to permit of continuance of negotiations.
MISCELLANEOUS METAL:— Workpeople employed in aluminium alloy sheet and strip rolling—near Birmingham (one firm).	338	13	12 Sept.††	12 Sept.††	Workpeople's dissatisfaction with method of computing output bonus.	Agreement reached providing for modification of method of computing bonus.
Workpeople employed in non-ferrous tube manufacture—Leeds (one firm).	2,420	..	26 Sept.††	27 Sept.	Demand by female workers for advance in wages.	Work resumed; demand to be referred to arbitration.
TEXTILE:— Workpeople employed in lace, net and madras manufacture—Ayrshire (certain towns) and Glasgow.	1,399	157	15 Sept.	30 Sept.	Dissatisfaction with employers' interpretation of cost-of-living bonus Agreement, which resulted in a reduction of bonus from 22½ per cent. to 17½ per cent. on 25th July.	Bonus to be restored to 22½ per cent. and operatives to be paid half of the reductions from 25th July to 12th September pending further negotiations.
Workpeople employed in linen thread manufacture—Renfrewshire (one firm).	306	38	18 Sept.	23 Sept.	For an increase in wages.	Work resumed by majority of strikers; increase of 3s. 6d. per week granted on wage rates up to 17s. 1d. and 2s. 6d. on rates above 17s. 1d.

* 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 68,000 in 1941, and 97,000 in 1940. For all industries combined the *net* totals were approximately 200,000 in 1941, and 184,000 in 1940.

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

§ The stoppage began with the afternoon shift.

|| The stoppage began at 4.30 p.m.

¶ The stoppage lasted from 5.30 p.m. on 19th to 9 p.m. on 22nd September.

** The stoppage lasted about half a day.

†† The stoppage began with the night shift of the previous day.

‡‡ A full resumption of work took place 15th September.

EMPLOYMENT OVERSEAS.

ÉIRE.

THE number of persons on the live registers of the Employment Exchanges declined slightly from 57,921 at 30th August, 1941, to 57,822 at 27th September. The figures for both these dates are affected by the operation of an Order issued under the Unemployment Assistance Act, 1933, the effect of which is to restrict during the period from 5th March to 28th October, 1941, the eligibility for unemployment assistance of certain classes of persons living in rural areas. The figures may also be affected, to some extent, by a relaxation in the continuity rule for unemployment benefit and assistance which came into force during August. At 28th September, 1940, when three Orders, similar in character to that mentioned above, but of more restricted scope, were in force, the total number of persons on the live registers was 65,127. The new continuity rule permits of the payment of unemployment benefit and unemployment assistance for any three days or more of unemployment, whatever the order of their occurrence, in any period of six consecutive days, and requires the service of a new waiting period only after a period of employment lasting twenty weeks, instead of six weeks, as formerly.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Information supplied by the Social Security Board shows that the number of applications for employment registered at Public Employment Offices at the end of July, 1941, was 4,984,519, a decline of 2.8 per cent. as compared with the figure for the end of June, 1941, and of 10.7 per cent. as compared with that for the end of July, 1940.

According to estimates of the American Federation of Labour, published in the *American Federationist* for August, 1941, the total number of unemployed persons in the United States in June, 1941, was approximately 5,333,000, as compared with 6,059,000 (revised figure) in May, 1941, and 9,273,000 in June, 1940. Estimates of the National Industrial Conference Board, published in *The Conference Board Economic Record* for 11th August, 1941, give the total number of unemployed persons in June, 1941, as 2,536,000, as compared with 3,848,000 (revised figure) in May, 1941, and 8,132,000 in June, 1940. All these estimates include a large number of unemployed persons assigned to employment on the various established systems of Federal works projects.

CANADA.

At the end of June, 1941, 4.1 per cent. of the aggregate membership (approximately 291,000) of trade unions making returns were unemployed, as compared with 4.6 per cent. at the end of the previous month, and 7.6 per cent. at the end of June, 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 oversea countries.

ÉIRE.

In mid-August, 1941, the official cost-of-living index figure was 3.6 per cent. above the figure for mid-May, 1941, and 31.8 per cent. above that for mid-August, 1939. For food alone, the corresponding percentage increases were 2.0 and 27.2, respectively.

SWITZERLAND.

At the end of June, 1941, the official cost-of-living index figure showed a rise of 2.8 per cent. above that for the end of May 1941, and of 28.2 per cent. above the figure for the end of August, 1939. For food alone, the corresponding percentage increases were 3.6 and 35.7 respectively.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

At the middle of July, 1941, the official cost-of-living index figure showed an increase of 0.6 per cent. over the figure for the middle of the previous month, and of 6.7 per cent. over that for the middle of June, 1939. For food alone, the official index figure for the middle of July, 1941, was 0.8 per cent. above that for the middle of June, 1941, and 14.1 per cent. above the figure for the middle of August, 1939.

INDIA.

In June, 1941, the official cost-of-living index figure for the working classes in Bombay City showed no change as compared with the figure for May, 1941, and a rise of 16.2 per cent. as compared with that for August, 1939. For food alone, the official index figure for June, 1941, was 0.7 per cent. above that for May, 1941, and 24.1 per cent. above that for August, 1939.

NEW ZEALAND.

In July, 1941, the official cost-of-living index figure showed no change as compared with the figure for May and June, 1941, and an increase of 7.1 per cent. as compared with the figure for August, 1939. For food alone, the official index figure for July, 1941, was 0.2 per cent. above the figure for May and June, 1941, and 3.9 per cent. above that for August, 1939.

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

INDUSTRIAL COURT AWARDS.

WOMEN ON PROCESS WORK: MINISTRY OF SUPPLY: W.A. FACTORY.—The Transport and General Workers' Union and the National Union of General and Municipal Workers claimed that all women employed on process work at W.A. Factory should be paid the men's minimum rate together with the amounts of the men's "lead" according to the job done. They contended that the women were doing men's work and that in accordance with an agreement between the Unions and the Ministry of Supply the women were entitled to be paid the men's rates. The claim was opposed by the Ministry of Supply who contended that some of the women were employed on women's work and that the rest though engaged on men's work were not doing the whole of it, but something less. The Court awarded that women employed on certain sections of work should be paid 49s. a week, and on certain other processes 29s. 6d. basic plus 23s. 6d. bonus with the appropriate "leads" paid to men on these processes. The Court further decided that where a woman replaces a man in certain sections of the work and does the full work of the job without additional supervision or assistance she should receive the man's remuneration for the job.—*Award No. 1825*; dated 4th September, 1941.

COKEMEN AND BYE-PRODUCT WORKERS: BRANCEPETH GAS AND COKE (STRAKERS & LOVE) LTD.—The National Union of Cokemen and Bye-Product Workers claimed that having regard to the provisions of the agreement between the Durham Coke Owners' Association and the Union, the members of the Union employed by Brancepeth Gas and Coke (Strakers & Love) Ltd. should not be required to work with non-unionists. The issue between the parties was whether membership of the appropriate Trade Union should be a term of the employment of all the workers employed by the Company, including some twenty-five workers described as key-men. The claim was opposed by the Company on whose behalf it was stated that the Company had no objection to their employees being members of a Trade Union, but in view of the nature of the work of the key-men the Company desired to have special terms of employment for them. The Court were satisfied that the Company carry on business in the industry of Coke making and Bye-products in the district of the county of Durham and that there are in that industry "recognised terms and conditions" of which the provisions of the agreement referred to above form part, and awarded that for the period of the war membership of the appropriate Trade Union shall be a condition of employment of all workers employed by the Company.—*Award No. 1826*; dated 15th September, 1941.

MAINTENANCE ENGINEERS: JOHN & JAMES WHITE LTD., RUTHERGLEN.—The Amalgamated Engineering Union claimed that the amount of 3s. 6d. a week awarded by the National Arbitration Tribunal, *Award No. 56*, was payable by the firm to their maintenance engineers in addition to an advance of 4s. a week which had been granted by the firm to the workpeople concerned with effect as from 18th September, 1940. John and James White Ltd. is a firm of chemical manufacturers employing various classes of workpeople including chemical process workers and maintenance engineers. The wages of the chemical workers employed by the firm are regulated in accordance with the provisions of agreements between the Scottish Association of Chemical Workers and the Trade Unions concerned. The wages of the maintenance engineers are regulated in accordance with the changes taking effect locally in the engineering trade. It was submitted on behalf of the employers that their maintenance engineers were paid the district rate and that the advance of 4s. given in September, 1940, had been given on the condition that it should be merged in any decision on the national claim for an increase then pending. The Court found that the amount awarded by the National Arbitration Tribunal *Award No. 56* is not payable in the case of the maintenance engineers employed by John and James White Ltd.—*Award No. 1827*; dated 15th September, 1941.

SCOTTISH IRON AND STEEL TRADE.—Questions having arisen between the Iron and Steel Trades Employers' Association and the National Union of General and Municipal Workers (Scottish District Office) as to the interpretation of *Award 1814*, application was made on behalf of the Employers' Association to the Industrial Court for a decision as a matter of the interpretation of the *Award*. The question at issue was in regard to paragraph 4 of *Award 1814* in which provision is made for an output bonus to labourers to be calculated on a proportion of the bricklayers' bonus less an adjustment in datal rates. The Court ruled that in addition to the present basic hourly rates, sliding scale percentage and cost of living bonus there is payable to labourers an output bonus of 60 per cent. of the amount of the output bonus payable to bricklayers at each works less an amount equalling $\frac{1}{4}$ d. plus sliding scale percentage for each hour paid for the normal week's work, provided that such deduction shall not in any week exceed the amount of the 60 per cent. so payable. The output bonus is payable to each worker who has worked his full normal week, and *pro rata* if less than a full week has been worked. Payment for overtime falls to be made on the

basis of the present rates, without the addition of the output bonus.—Award No. 1828; dated 18th September, 1941.

DIAMOND INDUSTRY.—The Diamond Manufacturers' Association claimed that there should be a schedule of prices for diamond polishing upon which wages for work at individual factories should be based and they set out a schedule in their claim which should be operative in all factories. The Society of Goldsmiths, Jewellers and Kindred Trades, the other party in the proceedings, were not opposed in principle to the working of piecework but took the view that piecework was only practicable in large-scale production and was not suitable for adoption in the present case owing to the variety of work carried on. The Court awarded in favour of the piecework prices for fine polishing, the proportion for Brilliance and Kroitz work, and the proportionate reduction for Medium and Inferior work set out in the terms of reference, such prices not to apply to hard, knotty or cross-grained stones or in those cases where the employee is instructed to take out the feathers or piqués. The Award also dealt with matters relating to the settlement of disputes.—Award No. 1829; dated 24th September, 1941.

SINGLE ARBITRATORS AND AD HOC BOARDS OF ARBITRATION.

HOSIERY TRADE : LEICESTERSHIRE.—A dispute was reported under the Conditions of Employment and National Arbitration Order, 1940, by the Leicester and Leicestershire Trimmers' Association, concerning the wages payable to certain employees of Towles (1928) Ltd., Loughborough, and not having been otherwise disposed of, the parties agreed to the dispute being referred for settlement to a Single Arbitrator. Mr. V. R. Aronson 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 the 1st September, his decision being that the workpeople concerned shall be placed on piece work at the rates for piece work adopted by the Midland Joint Industrial Council for the industry for such work.

ELECTRIC BATTERY WORKERS : LEICESTERSHIRE.—Mr. F. A. Wells was appointed under the Industrial Courts Act, 1919 to act as Arbitrator to determine a difference between the Transport and General Workers Union and Tungstone Products Ltd., Market Harborough, arising out of a claim for a variation in the overtime conditions applicable to certain process workers. In his Award dated 5th September, Mr. Wells rejected the claim.

MACHINE CALICO PRINTERS : LANCASHIRE.—A dispute between the Federation of Calico Printers and the Trade Society of Machine Calico Printers was reported by the Society under the Conditions of Employment and National Arbitration Order, 1940, concerning the supplementary cost of living payment and holidays with pay of machine calico printers. The dispute not having been otherwise disposed of, the parties agreed to the case 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. In his Award dated the 15th September, the Arbitrator authorised an increase in the supplementary cost of living wage payment, and the grant of a weekly holiday credit.

BAKERY WORKERS : SCOTLAND.—Sir John Watson, K.C., was appointed under the Industrial Courts Act, 1919, to act as Arbitrator to determine a difference between the Scottish Union of Bakers, Confectioners and Bakery Workers and the Renfrewshire Co-operative Wages Board and Private Traders Association, Port Glasgow, regarding working hours, and cost of living bonus. In his Award issued on 15th September, Sir John Watson decided that baking establishments in the areas concerned employing more than ten men should be conditioned to a 45 hours' week and those with less than ten men to a 47 hours' week. The bonus claim was refused.

CHEMICAL TRADE.—A difference between the Transport and General Workers Union and the National Smelting Company Ltd., was referred to a Single Arbitrator (Sir Charles Doughty, K.C.), sitting with Mr. Lincoln Evans and Mr. Herbert Gibbon as Assessors for the Union and the Company respectively. The Award embodying the unanimous conclusions of the Arbitrator and Assessors was issued on 19th September.

METAL TRADE : LONDON.—Mr. V. R. Aronson was appointed under the Industrial Courts Act, 1919, to act as Arbitrator to determine a difference between the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation and the Enfield Rolling Mills, Ltd., Enfield (Middlesex) relating to the operation of a new bonus scheme in respect of certain employees of the Company. In his Award dated 26th September, the Arbitrator found the Unions' claim had not been established.

BRITISH OVERSEAS AIRWAYS CORPORATION.—Sir Harold Morris, K.C., was appointed under the Industrial Courts Act, 1919, to act as Arbitrator to determine a difference existing between the British Overseas Airways Corporation and certain of their employees in connection with the question of payment of travelling time. He issued his Award in this case on 27th September. On the same date Sir Harold issued a further Award in respect of other employees of the Corporation arising out of his previous Award dated 19th November, 1940.

CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT AND NATIONAL ARBITRATION ORDER, 1940.*

NATIONAL ARBITRATION TRIBUNAL AWARDS.

WAGES AND CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT OF EMPLOYEES OF A MIDLANDS CASTINGS FOUNDRY.

Parties : Fozel Castings Company Limited and Employees of the Company.

Claim : (Made on behalf of the employees by the Transport and General Workers' Union). For holidays with pay and certain increases in wages.

Supplemental Award : The Tribunal, in an award supplemental to Award No. 124, have decided that the principal Award shall be read as though for the references therein to a Memorandum of Agreement dated 28th July, 1937, between the Engineering and Allied Employers' National Federation and the Amalgamated Engineering Union and the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions relating to holidays with pay, which is an incorrect description of the document intended to be referred to, there be substituted references to "the Agreement of 12th August, 1937, between the Engineering and Allied Employers' National Federation and the Engineering Joint Trades Movement."

Award No. 124A ; dated 8th September, 1941.

QUESTION OF OUTWORKING ALLOWANCES FOR ENGINEERS EMPLOYED BY A TYNESIDE FIRM OF ENGINEERS AND SHIPBUILDERS.

Parties : Swan, Hunter and Wigham Richardson Limited and Employees of the Company.

Claim : (Made on behalf of the employees by the Amalgamated Engineering Union.) For payment of 6d. a day outworking allowance to men sent from one yard to another of the same Company.

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

Award No. 125 ; dated 10th September, 1941.

WAGES AND CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT OF ENGINEERS EMPLOYED BY A SCOTTISH COLLIERY COMPANY.

Parties : The United Collieries Limited and Employees of the Company.

Claim : (Made on behalf of the employees by the Amalgamated Engineering Union.) For the payment of the agreed rates in the engineering trade to workers at a central depot employed mainly on colliery repair and maintenance work.

Award : In the course of the hearing it was made clear to the Tribunal and was not contested by the Union that the authority of the Union to speak for the workmen had been withdrawn by the workmen. The Tribunal decided that in these circumstances they were unable to proceed further with the case and they made no award.

Award No. 126 ; dated 15th September, 1941.

THE WAGES OF HORSE CARTERS EMPLOYED BY A SCOTTISH FIRM OF RAILWAY CARTAGE CONTRACTORS.

Parties : Messrs. Wordie and Company Limited and Employees of the Company.

Claim : (Made on behalf of the employees by the Scottish Horse and Motormen's Association.) For the observance of the wages and conditions applicable under a joint agreement to carters employed by general cartage contractors.

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

Award No. 127 ; dated 17th September, 1941.

THE WAGES OF HORSE CARTERS EMPLOYED BY A SCOTTISH FIRM OF RAILWAY CARTAGE CONTRACTORS.

Parties : Messrs. Cowan and Company and Employees of the Firm.

Claim : As in Award No. 127 above.

Award : As in Award No. 127 above.

Award No. 128 ; dated 17th September, 1941.

THE WAGES OF HORSE CARTERS EMPLOYED BY A SCOTTISH FIRM OF RAILWAY CARTAGE CONTRACTORS.

Parties : Messrs. Mutter Howey and Company Limited and Employees of the Company.

Claim : As in Award No. 127 above.

Award : As in Award No. 127 above.

Award No. 129 ; dated 17th September, 1941.

SCALES OF MINIMUM BASIC RATES OF WAGES IN THE WIRE INDUSTRY.

Parties : All members of the British Steel Wire Industries Association and Workmen employed by such members.

Claim : (Made on behalf of the workmen by the Amalgamated Society of Wire Drawers and Kindred Workers.) For the establishment of scales of minimum basic rates of wages.

Award : The Tribunal awarded that the minimum basic wage rates per week of 47 hours for male and female workers

* 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.

of 18 years of age or over (over and above which cost-of-living bonus should be paid calculated in accordance with the terms of the agreement between the British Steel Wire Industries Association and the Amalgamated Society of Wiredrawers and Kindred Workers, dated 15th December, 1939, as amended in February, 1940, and as it may be amended in future), should be as follows, that is to say:

	Male Workers.	Female Workers.
	s. d.	s. d.
21 years or over	52 0	32 6
20 and under 21 years of age	37 6	30 0
19 and under 20 years of age	31 0	28 0
18 and under 19 years of age	26 0	26 0

Provided that this Award shall not operate to reduce any existing wage rates in excess of those required to be paid under the terms of the Award and the cost-of-living Bonus Agreement.

The Tribunal made no award in respect of workers under 18 years of age. They considered that the rates for such classes of workers should be settled by joint negotiation between the respective organisations.

Date of operation: As from the beginning of the first full pay period following the date of the Award.

Award No. 130; dated 23rd September, 1941.

THE INCIDENCE OF THE COST OF THE TRAVELLING EXPENSES OF THE EMPLOYEES OF A CARDIFF ENGINEERING FIRM.

Parties: Edward Curran and Company Limited and certain Employees of the Company.

Claim: (Made on behalf of the employees by the Transport and General Workers' Union.) For the application to the employees of the firm of the Ministry of Supply scheme in respect of travelling allowances as operated at Royal Ordnance Factories, etc., that is, that all expenses over 3s. per week shall be met.

Award: The Tribunal took into consideration the long-established custom in industry by which the cost of travelling to and from work has normally been a charge upon the workers. No evidence was adduced before them as to any general departure from this customary practice either nationally or in the Cardiff area. The Tribunal did not regard the operation of the "Assisted Travel" scheme in the few and exceptional cases to which it had been applied as constituting a national departure from the hitherto prevailing practice in this matter.

The Company were prepared to entertain the charges involved by the payment of certain travelling expenses of their workers, provided only that they were reimbursed therefor by the Contracting Department. The Tribunal were of opinion that the Company should not have this charge imposed on them unless they were so reimbursed. No assurance was given by the Ministry of Supply that such payment would be reimbursed. The Tribunal had no power, except in the presence of the Ministry of Supply as a party to the proceedings, to make any award binding upon that Department.

In all the circumstances, the Tribunal found against the claim and they awarded accordingly.

Award No. 131; dated 26th September, 1941.

WAGES AND CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT OF EMPLOYEES OF A YORKSHIRE COKING COMPANY.

Parties: The Barnsley District Coking Company Limited and certain Employees of the Company.

Claim: (Made on behalf of the employees by the National Union of Cokemen and Bye-Product Workers.) For the observance by the Company of certain wages and conditions of employment.

Award: The Tribunal awarded certain rates per shift for various classes of workers, such rates to be subject to certain Cost-of-Living War Additions and to the payment of the recognised rates for overtime, week-end work and holidays.

The Tribunal found against the claim in respect of the retrospective operation of the rates of wages awarded and of the adoption of the 48 hours' week.

Date of operation: As from the beginning of the first full pay period following the date of the Award.

Award No. 132; dated 27th September, 1941.

NATIONAL ARBITRATION TRIBUNAL (NORTHERN IRELAND) AWARDS.

WAGES OF CARTERS, MOTOR DRIVERS, STABLEMEN, ETC.

Parties: The Amalgamated Transport and General Workers' Union and the Belfast and North of Ireland Carriers' Association.

Claim of Trade Union: "That increased wages be paid to Carters, Motor Drivers, Stablemen, etc., owing to the increased cost of living."

Award: The Tribunal found that the claim for a further increase of wages had not been established and they awarded accordingly.

Award No. 61; dated 19th September, 1941.

DISPUTE REGARDING DISMISSAL OF A WORKMAN.

Parties: Messrs. Short and Harland Ltd., Belfast, and Employees of the Firm.

Claim: (Made on behalf of the employees by the National Union of Sheet Metal Workers and Braziers.) For "the reinstatement by the firm of a worker whose dismissal is said to be unjustified."

Award: The Tribunal awarded that the worker was guilty of insubordination, justifying his dismissal. They awarded that if the worker made an apology to the foreman concerned the firm should engage him in their main factory for a period of three months from the date of the award, at the end of which time they should consider sympathetically the question of employing him in the factory from which he was dismissed.

Award No. 62; dated 23rd September, 1941.

WAR BONUS OF SAW MILL WORKERS.

Parties: The Amalgamated Society of Woodcutting Machinists and the Amalgamated Transport and General Workers' Union, and the Ulster Sawmill Proprietors' Association.

Claim of Trade Unions: "That the war bonus of 7s. 6d. per week paid to labourers and craftsmen employed in the Saw Mill and Timber Yard Industry be increased by 6s. per week as from 1st June, 1941."

Award: The Tribunal awarded that the existing war bonus of labourers should be increased by 2s. 6d. per week and found against the claim for an increase in the existing war bonus of craftsmen.

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

Award No. 63; dated 30th September, 1941.

TRADE BOARDS ACTS AND HOLIDAYS WITH PAY ACT.

A.—NOTICE OF PROPOSAL.

A PROPOSAL to vary minimum rates of wages has been issued as shown below. Further information may be obtained by persons engaged in the trade on application to the Secretary of the Board at the Gordon Hotel, Leicester Street, Southport, Lancashire.

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

Proposal Q. (49), dated 2nd September, 1941, to vary minimum rates of wages for male and female workers.

B.—CONFIRMING ORDERS.

In pursuance of the powers conferred by the Trade Boards Acts and the Holidays with Pay Act, 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.

MILK DISTRIBUTIVE TRADE BOARD (ENGLAND AND WALES).

Order M.D. (32), dated 15th September, 1941, confirming a variation of minimum rates of wages and specifying 29th September, 1941, as the date from which such rates became effective.

BAKING TRADE BOARD (ENGLAND AND WALES).

Order BK. (E. & W.) 2, dated 23rd September, 1941, confirming a variation of minimum rates of wages and holiday remuneration and specifying 9th October, 1941, as the date from which such rates became effective.

TOY MANUFACTURING TRADE BOARD (GREAT BRITAIN).

Order Y. (29), dated 26th September, 1941, confirming a variation of minimum rates of wages and specifying 8th October, 1941, as the date from which such rates became effective.

LINEN AND COTTON HANDKERCHIEF AND HOUSEHOLD GOODS AND LINEN PIECE GOODS TRADE BOARD (GREAT BRITAIN).

Order H.L. (22), dated 26th September, 1941, confirming a variation of minimum rates of wages and specifying 8th October, 1941, as the date from which such rates became effective.

SHIRT MAKING TRADE BOARD (NORTHERN IRELAND).

Order N.I.S. (26), dated 12th September, 1941, confirming the variation of general minimum time rates, the piecework basis time rate and general overtime rates for male workers, and specifying 22nd September, 1941, as the date from which these rates became effective.

OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

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

DOCK LABOUR SCHEMES.—*Explanatory memorandum by the Minister of Labour and National Service together with Essential Work (Dock Labour) Order, 1941, Model Dock Labour Scheme and National Dock Agreement of July 16th, 1941.* [S.O. publication; price 2d.]

FACTORIES.—*Annual report of the Chief Inspector of Factories for the year 1940.* Ministry of Labour and National Service (Cmd. 6316; price 4d.)

NATIONAL SERVICE.—*Selected decisions given by the Umpire in respect of applications for postponement of liability to be called up for service under the National Service Acts, 1939-1941.* N.S. Code 2. Pamphlet No. 6/1941. Ministry of Labour and National Service. [S.O. publication; price 2d.]

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE.

DECISION GIVEN BY THE UMPIRE.

THE Umpire is a judicial authority independent of the Ministry of Labour, appointed by the Crown (*see* Section 40 of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1935) for the purpose of determining disputed claims to benefit. His decisions* are final.

Appeals to the Umpire may be made by the Insurance Officer or by an Association of which the claimant is a member, or, with the leave of the Chairman of the Court of Referees, by the claimant himself. The claimant may also appeal if the decision of the Court was not unanimous.

The following recent decision is of general interest:—

Case No. 1094/41. (23.8.41).

SECTION 23 OF THE UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACT, 1935: CONTINUOUSLY UNEMPLOYED: CLAIMANT RECEIVED A GUARANTEED WEEKLY WAGE AT A COLLIERY SCHEDULED UNDER THE ESSENTIAL WORK (COALMINING INDUSTRY) ORDER, 1941 (S.R. & O., 1941, No. 707): HE NORMALLY WORKED FIVE SHIFTS A WEEK, THE NORMAL IDLE DAY BEING SATURDAY: DURING THE PAY WEEK CLAIMANT WORKED LESS THAN THE NORMAL NUMBER OF SHIFTS, TWO DAYS HOLIDAY INTERVENING: CLAIM FOR THE SATURDAY WAS DISALLOWED AS THAT WAS ONE OF THE DAYS IN RESPECT OF WHICH THE GUARANTEED WEEKLY PAYMENT WAS MADE.

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

Decision. "On the facts before me my decision is that the claim for benefit is disallowed in respect of 31st May, 1941.

"The claimant is a collier, and at the material dates he was employed on the afternoon shift which normally works five shifts a week, Saturday being the normal idle day. In the calendar week which ended on Saturday, 31st May, 1941, the claimant had been unemployed on Monday, 26th May, in addition to the following Saturday. As he had not worked the normal number of shifts in that calendar week he would have been entitled to receive benefit in respect of the Saturday had it not been for the matters to which I will hereinafter refer.

"It has been well established by Umpire's decisions that when an applicant has worked the number of days or shifts which constitute his full normal working week he is not entitled to claim unemployment benefit in respect of any day in that week upon which he does not in fact work, . . . but a Saturday upon which normally there is no work done may be allowed to count for continuity purposes' (Decision 3387/29).†

"The colliery at which the claimant was employed was scheduled under the Essential Work (Coalmining Industry) Order, 1941 (S.R. & O. 1941, No. 707) with effect from the beginning of the pay week commencing on Wednesday, 28th May, 1941.

"By Article 4 (1) (d) of the Order 'the person carrying on the undertaking shall in respect of every week pay to every person employed in the undertaking . . . a sum which is not less than the guaranteed wage for that week if that person is during his normal working hours—

- (i) Capable of and available for work; and
- (ii) willing to perform any 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 industry"

'week' is defined in the Article as meaning 'the pay week of the undertaking.'

"By proviso (b) to Article 4 'where any holiday occurs during any week, that week and the normal working hours in relation to that week shall be treated as reduced by the extent of the holidays and the normal working hours attributable to those holidays.'

"Holidays' are defined in the order as meaning 'days recognised as such in accordance with any custom or agreement existing in the district in which a scheduled undertaking is carried on.'

"In the first pay week to which the Order applied there were two days of such holiday, namely, Whit Monday and Whit Tuesday, June 2nd and 3rd respectively.

"The claimant received in respect of the pay week which commenced on Wednesday, 28th May, 1941, the guaranteed weekly wage computed in accordance with the terms of the Order.

"In these circumstances the Insurance Officer disallowed benefit in respect of Saturday, 31st May, 1941, but he decided that that day might count for the purpose of continuity of unemployment, no doubt bearing in mind what was said in the passage which I have quoted above from Decision 3387/29.

"The Court of Referees, to whom the claimant appealed, by a majority reversed the decision of the Insurance Officer and allowed benefit in respect of Saturday, 31st May, 1941.

"The Chief Insurance Officer has appealed against the decision of the Court of Referees and he contends that the claimant is neither entitled to receive benefit in respect of the 31st May, nor to count that day for the purpose of continuity of unemployment.

"I said in a recent decision (Decision 958/41)‡ in which I had to consider the terms of the Building and Civil Engineering Industries Uniformity Agreement which provided for a guaranteed weekly wage—"There is a well-established principle which

was stated in these words in Decision 1/33* "Where a guaranteed minimum wage is paid in respect of any week in which work is done it has always been held that the recipient of that wage is not unemployed during that week on the ground that the wage is a payment made in respect of each and all of the days of the week and is a payment for the whole week"

"Applying that principle to this case the claimant is not entitled to benefit in respect of Saturday, 31st May, as that is one of the days in respect of which the guaranteed weekly payment was made, even assuming that by virtue of the proviso to Article 4 of the Order it could be said that it was not made in respect of the two days of holiday.

"For these reasons I allow the appeal of the Chief Insurance Officer."

EMERGENCY POWERS (DEFENCE).

ESSENTIAL WORK (DOCK LABOUR).

The Essential Work (Dock Labour) Order, 1941,† dated September 15, 1941, made by the Minister of Labour and National Service under Regulation 58A of the Defence (General) Regulations, 1939.

WHEREAS it appears to the Minister of Labour and National Service (hereinafter referred to as "the Minister") that undertakings engaged in port transport work are engaged in essential work;

Now therefore 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 (Dock Labour) Order, 1941, and shall come into force on the date hereof.

(2) In this Order the following expressions have the meanings hereby assigned to them, that is to say—

"dock labour scheme" means a scheme which has for its principal objects the rapid handling of goods and turn round of ships in any port by establishing an adequate, regular and mobile labour force for undertakings engaged in port transport work and by keeping a register of such force and undertakings;

"live register" means the live register of persons engaged in port transport work kept under the provisions of a dock labour scheme;

"port" includes a group of ports and any area in a port;

"port registration scheme" means a scheme approved by the Minister under the Dock Labour (Compulsory Registration) Order, 1940‡;

"port transport employer" means a person carrying on a port transport undertaking who is registered in accordance with the provisions of a port registration scheme;

"port transport undertaking" means an undertaking engaged in port transport work;

"port transport work" in relation to any port has the meaning assigned to it in the port registration scheme for that port;

"port transport worker" means a person engaged in port transport work, who is registered in the live register.

2.—(1) Where, as respects any port, a dock labour scheme is submitted to the Minister by the National Dock Labour Corporation Limited (hereinafter referred to as "the Corporation") and the scheme contains provisions as to all of the following matters, that is to say—

- (a) the appointment and functions of a manager and a dock labour board;
- (b) the work to which the scheme applies;
- (c) the terms and conditions of service of port transport workers and the payment of their wages;
- (d) the keeping of a register of port transport employers and port transport workers;
- (e) securing that there are sufficient but not more than sufficient port transport workers at that port;
- (f) the establishment of a Reserve Pool of labour by the employment by the Corporation of port transport workers who are not for the time being employed in a port transport undertaking or in other work to which they have been allocated by the Corporation;
- (g) the allocation, engagement and control of port transport workers and the termination of their employment;
- (h) the administration of disciplinary action;
- (i) defraying or contributing to the cost of any scheme;

the Minister may approve the scheme as from such date as he may determine and a scheme so approved is hereinafter referred to as "an approved dock labour scheme."

(2) The Minister may at any time withdraw his approval to an approved dock labour scheme and thereupon the scheme shall cease to be an approved dock labour scheme as from such date as the Minister may fix, but without prejudice to the power of the Minister to approve another dock labour scheme.

3. Where, as respects any port, a Port Registration Scheme is in force, then for the purpose of enabling a scheme to be submitted to the Minister by the Corporation under this Order, the Minister shall make such amendments to the Port Registration Scheme as in his opinion are expedient for that purpose and that Scheme, as so amended, shall be the Port Registration Scheme.

* U.I. Code 8B, Vol. XII, page 1 (Pamphlet No. 1/1933).

† Statutory Rules and Orders, 1941, No. 1440; H.M. Stationery Office, price 1d. net (2d. post free).

‡ Statutory Rules and Orders, 1940, No. 1013.

* Selected decisions of the Umpire are published (i) in monthly pamphlets—U.I. Code 8B; (ii) in annual volumes. Applications and enquiries should be addressed to H.M. Stationery Office at any of the addresses shown on the front cover of this GAZETTE.

† U.I. 440, Vol. VIII, page 118 (Pamphlet No. 5/1929).

‡ See the issue of this GAZETTE for July, pages 151-2; to be printed in Pamphlet No. 2/1941.

4. Where in any port an approved dock labour scheme is in force the following provisions shall apply:—

- (a) port transport work in the port shall be carried on only by port transport employers and by port transport workers, and accordingly—
 - (i) no person other than a person who is or who is acting on behalf of a port transport employer shall employ any worker on port transport work within the port;
 - (ii) no person shall employ any worker other than a port transport worker on port transport work within the port;
 - (iii) no person other than a port transport worker shall be employed on port transport work within the port;
 - (iv) a port transport worker shall not be employed on port transport work within the port otherwise than by a person who is or is acting on behalf of a port transport employer; and
 - (v) a port transport employer shall not employ a port transport worker and a port transport worker shall not be employed by a port transport employer, except in either case in accordance with the provisions of the scheme;

(b) a port transport worker so long as he is not employed in a port transport undertaking or in other work to or for which he has been allocated or sent by the Corporation shall be in the Reserve Pool and be in the employment of the Corporation; and

(c) where a port transport worker is employed by the Corporation:—

- (i) he shall report at such places and at such times as may be required by the Corporation, shall be ready to perform for any person any suitable work offered to him by the Corporation or to render any services considered by the Corporation to be necessary for the purpose of clearing the port or enabling work to be carried on therein or any fire prevention services over and above such as are required by law and shall travel as required to any other port or place for the purpose of performing work in accordance with the provisions of the scheme at that port or place;
- (ii) his employment by the Corporation shall not be terminated either by himself or the Corporation otherwise than in accordance with the provisions of the scheme; and
- (iii) his conditions of service as regards pay, allowances and other matters shall, subject to any conditions contained in the scheme, be such as the Corporation may from time to time determine and in making any such determination the Corporation shall have regard to any determination for the time being in force of the National Joint Council for Dock Labour or of such other joint body as may be appropriate.

5. For the purpose of the prosecution of any person for an offence under Regulation 58A of the Defence (General) Regulations, 1939, for a contravention of or failure to comply with any of the provisions of this Order:—

- (a) a certificate by the Minister that on any date or during any period an approved dock labour scheme was in force shall be sufficient evidence of that fact unless the contrary is proved; and
- (b) a copy of an approved dock labour scheme purporting to be certified as correct by the manager appointed under the scheme shall be received as sufficient evidence of the contents of the scheme unless the contrary is proved, and no proof shall be required of the handwriting or official position of the person certifying the same.

6. Where in any port an approved dock labour scheme is in force the Corporation and every port transport employer shall—

- (a) keep such records relating to the port or to the undertaking (as the case may be) as the Minister may from time to time direct;
- (b) produce to such persons as may be designated by or on behalf of the Minister such records relating to the port or the undertaking and furnish such information relating thereto 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 in the occupation of the Corporation or any premises used for the purposes of port transport work by a port transport employer.

7. Nothing in this Order or in any approved dock labour scheme shall affect the power of the Minister or a national service officer under paragraphs (1) to (3) of Regulation 58A of the Defence (General) Regulations, 1939, to give directions to persons to perform such services as they may be directed to perform.

Signed by order of the Minister of Labour and National Service this fifteenth day of September, 1941.

F. N. TRIBE,
Deputy Secretary of the Ministry of
Labour and National Service.

ESSENTIAL WORK (IRON AND STEEL INDUSTRY).

The Essential Work (Iron and Steel Industry) (No. 2) Order, 1941, dated September 30, 1941,* made by the Minister of Labour and National Service under Regulation 58A of the Defence (General) Regulations, 1939.

The above Order amends the original Essential Work (Iron and Steel Industry) Order, 1941†, by adding further specified agreements, concluded between 14th July and 4th September, 1941, to those already scheduled in the Appendix to the original Order for the purpose of ascertaining the appropriate agreed wage of specified persons in scheduled undertakings in the Iron and Steel Industry.

ESSENTIAL WORK (AGRICULTURE) (SCOTLAND)

The Essential Work (Agriculture) (Scotland) Order, 1941,‡ dated October 2, 1941, made by the Minister of Labour and National Service under Regulation 58A of the Defence (General) Regulations, 1939.

WHEREAS it appears to the Minister of Labour and National Service (hereinafter referred to as "the Minister") that agricultural undertakings in Scotland are engaged in essential work.

Now therefore 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 (Agriculture) (Scotland) Order, 1941, shall come into force on the 1st day of November, 1941, and shall cease to have effect on the 1st day of November, 1942.

(2) The cesser of effect of this Order under the foregoing provisions of this article shall not affect

- (a) the power of the Minister to make a new Order; or
- (b) the previous operation of this Order or anything duly done or suffered thereunder; or
- (c) any right, privilege, obligation or liability acquired, accrued or incurred under this Order; or
- (d) any punishment incurred under the Defence (General) Regulations, 1939; or
- (e) any investigation, legal proceeding or remedy in respect of any such right, privilege, obligation, liability or punishment as aforesaid;

and any such investigation, legal proceeding or remedy may be instituted, continued or enforced and any such punishment may be imposed as if this Order had not ceased to have effect.

(3) In this Order the following expressions have the meanings hereby assigned to them, that is to say:—

"agricultural undertaking" means an undertaking engaged in agriculture but does not include the undertaking of an Agricultural Executive Committee;

"agricultural worker" means a worker employed in agriculture but does not include

- (a) a worker so employed whose employment is an excepted employment by virtue of the provisions of the Unemployment Insurance (Subsidiary Employment) (Agriculture) Provisional Regulations, 1936; or
- (b) a worker so employed who is engaged by the day or by the hour; or
- (c) any worker specified in the Sixth Schedule to the Defence (Agriculture and Fisheries) Regulations, 1939; or
- (d) a male worker under the age of sixteen or a female worker;

"agriculture" has the same meaning as in the Agricultural Wages (Regulation) (Scotland) Acts, 1937 and 1940;

"farmer" means a person carrying on an agricultural undertaking in Scotland;

"local appeal board" means a Local Appeal Board constituted by the Minister in accordance with the provisions of the Essential Work (General Provisions) Orders, 1941;

"local office" means an Employment Exchange or other office appointed by the Minister as a local office for the purposes of this Order.

(4) Anything required or authorised by this Order to be done with the approval of a local office may be done with the approval of the manager or person acting as manager of the local office or any person duly authorised to act on his behalf.

(5) Nothing in this Order shall affect the power conferred on the Minister or a national service officer under paragraphs (1) to (3) of Regulation 58A of the Defence (General) Regulations, 1939, to give directions to persons to perform such services as they may be directed to perform.

(6) This Order shall extend to Scotland only.

2. A farmer shall not engage any person for employment as an agricultural worker unless he has previously obtained the approval in writing of a local office to the engagement of the particular person concerned or to the engagement of a person of the particular class or description of worker proposed to be engaged.

3. Subject as hereinafter provided, the following provisions

* Statutory Rules and Orders, 1941, No. 1556. H.M. Stationery Office, price 1d. net (2d. post free).

† See the August issue of this GAZETTE, pages 171-2.

‡ Statutory Rules and Orders, 1941, No. 1557/S.47; H.M. Stationery Office, price 2d. net (3d. post free).

shall have effect with respect to the duration of the employment of an agricultural worker by a farmer, that is to say:—

- (1) it shall be an implied term of every contract of employment whether entered into before or after this Order comes into force that the contract shall continue in force until
 - (a) permission to terminate the contract has been given by a national service officer to one of the parties to the contract and such permission has become effective;
 - (b) notice in writing of his intention to terminate the contract has been given by that party to the other party; and
 - (c) the prescribed period has elapsed, and any provision in any such contract which is inconsistent with this provision shall be void;
- (2) permission for an agricultural worker to terminate a contract shall not be withheld in any case in which the national service officer is satisfied that application for such permission has been made to enable the agricultural worker to enter the employment of an Agricultural Executive Committee;
- (3) where an agricultural worker employed by a farmer is guilty of serious misconduct nothing in the foregoing provisions of this article shall be construed as preventing his employer from terminating the contract of employment summarily and without notice;
- (4) for the purposes of this article—
 - (a) the permission of a national service officer to terminate a contract shall be deemed to become effective
 - (i) in the case of a permission as respects which there has been no appeal to a Local Appeal Board, at the expiration of a period of seven days from the day on which such permission is given;
 - (ii) in the case of a permission as respects which there has been an appeal to a Local Appeal Board and which is thereafter confirmed by the national service officer, on the day on which such permission is confirmed; and
 - (iii) in the case of a permission granted only after there has been an appeal to a Local Appeal Board, on the day on which such permission is given;
 - (b) the expression "appeal to a Local Appeal Board" means a request to submit the matter to a Local Appeal Board made in accordance with the provisions of article 6 of this Order; and
 - (c) the expression "prescribed period" means a period of seven days calculated from the day on which the permission of the national service officer to terminate the contract becomes effective.

4. A farmer shall not cause an agricultural worker employed by him to leave his employment and an agricultural worker employed by a farmer shall not leave his employment unless and until the contract of employment has been duly terminated in accordance with the foregoing provisions of this Order.

5.—(1) An application to a local office for any approval or to a national service officer for any permission required by virtue of any of the foregoing provisions of this Order shall be in writing and shall state the grounds upon which the application is based.

(2) The local office or the national service officer (as the case may be) shall so far as is practicable either give or refuse the approval or permission asked for within seven days of the receipt of the application, and where any approval or permission is given shall communicate such approval or permission in writing to the farmer and the agricultural worker concerned.

6.—(1) If

- (a) the farmer or any person by or in respect of whom an application to a national service officer has been made is aggrieved by reason of the grant or refusal of the permission asked for; or
- (b) an agricultural worker has been dismissed by a farmer from his employment on the ground that he has been guilty of serious misconduct

he may, within seven days after the grant or refusal or after such dismissal (as the case may be), request the national service officer to submit the matter to a Local Appeal Board.

(2) The national service officer shall on being so requested forthwith submit the matter to the Board and the Board shall make such recommendation to the national service officer as it thinks fit, so far as practicable within seven days of the matter being submitted to it.

(3) The national service officer after considering any such recommendation as aforesaid, may confirm or cancel any permission already given or give or refuse to give any such permission or direct the reinstatement by a farmer of any agricultural worker who has been dismissed from his employment on the ground of serious misconduct if the Board is of opinion that the dismissal was not justified on that ground.

7. Every farmer shall

- (a) keep such records relating to his undertaking as the Minister may from time to time by notice direct;
- (b) produce to such person as may be designated by or on behalf of the Minister such records relating to his undertaking and furnish such information relating thereto 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 his undertaking.

Signed by Order of the Minister of Labour and National Service this second day of October, 1941.

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

FIRE PREVENTION.

The Minister of Home Security made on the 12th September the Fire Prevention (Business Premises) (No. 2) Order, 1941,* which revokes the previous Order dated 18th January, 1941 (see the issue of this GAZETTE for February, 1941, page 48). The new Order requires every occupier of business premises in prescribed areas to make adequate arrangements for the detection and combating of fires caused by enemy attack, and all male British subjects between the ages of 18 and 60 years working at such premises are required to perform such fire prevention duties as may be allotted to them under the arrangements in force for the premises. Every occupier is required to consult with the persons working on the premises, or their representatives, with regard to the arrangements to be made under the Order, and the manner in which such arrangements are to be carried out. The procedure by which the employees may make representations about the arrangements to the appropriate authority is also specified. Subsistence allowances are to be paid for turns of fire prevention duties performed outside working hours under arrangements made for the premises. The amounts are fixed at 3s. for a period of 12 hours or less, 4s. 6d. for more than 12 hours and not exceeding 18 hours, and 6s. for more than 18 hours and not exceeding 24 hours.

The above Order specifies that the duties required of any person outside his working hours shall not exceed 48 hours in each prescribed period of four weeks. Another Order made by the Minister on the same date, The Civil Defence Duties (Compulsory Enrolment) (No. 2) Order, 1941,† provides that a person registered by a local authority who produces a certificate to the effect that he has undertaken, or is required, to perform fire prevention duties at his place of work, shall be exempted from enrolment by the local authority for such duties in its area if the number of hours (calculated in accordance with the Order) of fire prevention duties performed by him at his place of work exceeds 36 in a period of four weeks. If the hours do not exceed 36 he may be required to undertake additional duties, by virtue of his enrolment, within the maximum of 48 hours in four weeks.

Exemption from these duties is conferred by the Order on certain classes of persons.

FACTORY ACTS.

FACTORY FORMS.

From time to time the Ministry of Labour and National Service issues Factory Forms regarding regulations and orders issued under the Factory Acts. The undermentioned Forms have been issued or reprinted since the previous list was published in the September issue of the MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE. The prices in brackets include postage.

No.	Title and Price.
299.	Ventilation. September, 1941. 1d. (2d.).
932.	Carbon Monoxide (CO) Poisoning. July, 1941. 2d. (3d.).
990.	Electric Accumulator Regulations, 1925; July, 1938. Reprinted 1941, revised price 3d. (4d.).
997.	Manufacture of Cinematograph Film Regulations, 1928. Reprinted 1941, revised price 3d. (4d.).

* Statutory Rules and Orders, 1941, No. 1411. H.M. Stationery Office; price 4d. net (5d. post free).

† Statutory Rules and Orders, 1941, No. 1412. H.M. Stationery Office; price 1d. net (2d. post free).

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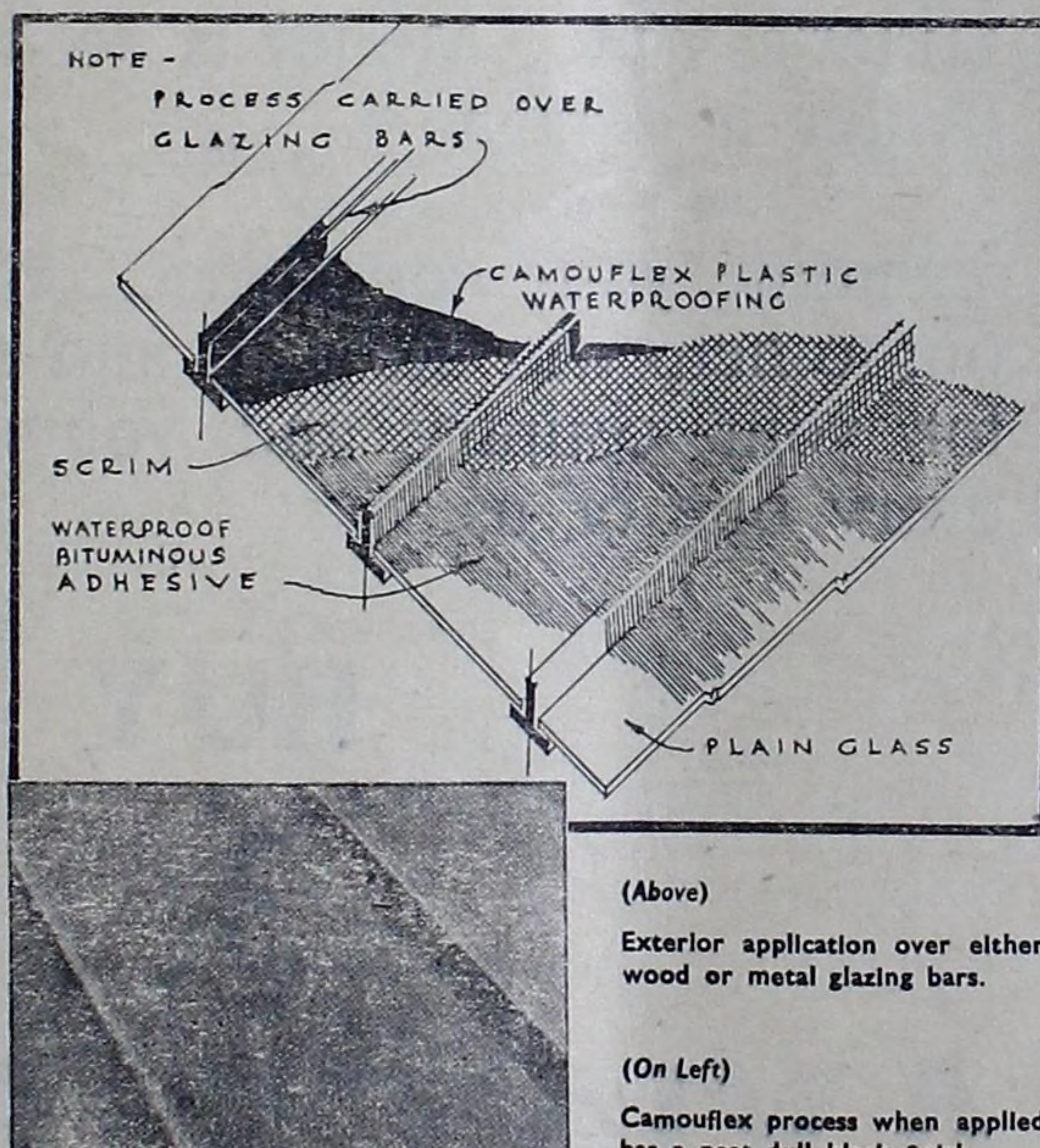
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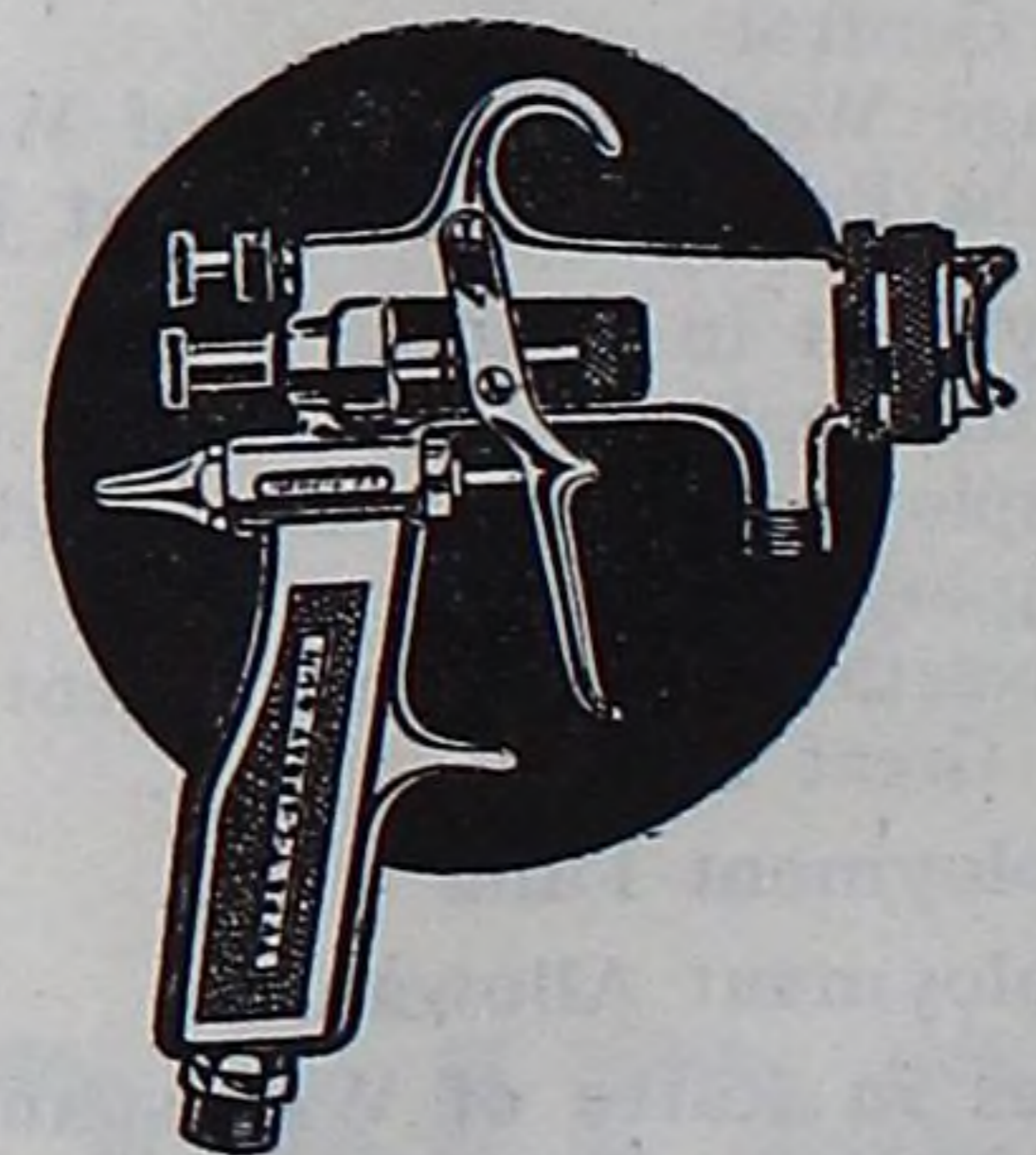
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