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## EMPLOYMENT, WAGES, COST OF LIVING, AND TRADE DISPUTES IN DECEMBER.

### EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT.

The number of men and boys registered at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain as wholly unemployed at 14th December (exclusive of 22,592 men who had been classified by interviewing panels as unsuitable for ordinary industrial employment) was 53,206; 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 1,148; and those registered as unemployed casual workers (being persons who normally seek their livelihood by jobs of short duration) numbered 2,699. As compared with 16th November, the numbers wholly unemployed showed a decrease of 5,945, those temporarily suspended from work showed a decrease of 211, but unemployed casual workers showed an increase of 107.

The corresponding figures for women and girls at 14th December were 28,737 wholly unemployed (exclusive of those, numbering 895, who had been classified by interviewing panels as unsuitable for normal full-time employment), 875 temporarily stopped, and 159 unemployed casual workers. Of the 28,737 wholly unemployed, 925 had been classified as unable for good cause to transfer to another area. As compared with 16th November, the numbers wholly unemployed showed a decrease of 2,774, those temporarily stopped showed an increase of 194, and unemployed casual workers showed an increase of 11.

### 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 December resulted in an aggregate increase estimated at about £250,000 in the weekly full-time

wages of nearly 1,240,000 workpeople. No reductions in wages were reported during the month.

The classes of workpeople whose wage rates were increased included women and girls in the engineering industry, and workpeople employed in the railway service, the heavy chemical and allied industries, sugar confectionery and food preserving, and the furniture industry.

### COST OF LIVING.

At 1st January the official cost-of-living index figure was 99 per cent. above the level of July, 1914, as compared with 100 per cent. a month earlier.

There was a further fall in the average level of clothing prices during December, as a result of the larger proportions of utility clothing and materials on sale at prices below those of non-utility goods. On the other hand, there was an increase in the price of coal as from 1st January. For food alone the index figure remained unchanged at 64 per cent. above the level of July, 1914.

### TRADE DISPUTES.

The number of trade disputes involving stoppages of work, reported to the Department as beginning in December, was 87. In addition, 7 disputes which began before December were still in progress at the beginning of that month. The approximate number of workpeople involved in these 94 disputes (including workpeople thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred) was 25,000, and the aggregate duration of the disputes in December was about 90,000 working days.



# EMPLOYMENT, WAGES, HOURS OF LABOUR, COST OF LIVING AND TRADE DISPUTES IN 1942.

## EMPLOYMENT.

The reduction in unemployment, which had been in progress since the early months of the war, continued throughout 1942. At 14th December, 1942, the total number of persons registered at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland as unemployed (exclusive of those classified as unsuitable for ordinary employment) was approximately 107,300, as compared with 186,100 at 8th December, 1941.

The Table below shows the numbers on the registers at one date in each month from December, 1941, to December, 1942; separate figures are given (i) for persons registered as wholly unemployed or out of a situation (exclusive of those classified as unsuitable for ordinary employment), and (ii) for persons registered as on short-time or otherwise temporarily suspended on the understanding that they were shortly to return to their former employment, and unemployed casual workers who normally seek a livelihood by means of jobs of short duration.

Date.	Numbers on the Registers of Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland.				
	Men 18 years and over.	Boys 14-17 years.	Women 18 years and over.	Girls 14-17 years.	Total.
Wholly Unemployed.*					
1941. 8 December ..	65,971	8,785	71,801	12,073	158,630
1942. 12 January ..	71,684	13,066	65,373	15,799	165,922
16 February ..	72,322	11,310	59,470	12,695	155,797
16 March ..	66,823	9,858	53,990	11,216	141,887
13 April ..	61,493	14,800	43,251	13,931	133,475
11 May ..	60,722	11,357	40,979	11,207	124,265
15 June ..	59,910	9,324	36,057	8,388	113,679
13 July ..	62,095	10,786	33,657	9,282	115,820
17 August ..	62,719	16,254	30,624	13,253	122,850
14 September ..	58,607	12,797	30,379	11,740	113,523
12 October ..	57,750	10,776	31,496	10,690	110,712
16 November ..	59,809	9,054	28,918	8,631	106,412
14 December ..	57,453	7,987	27,072	6,880	99,392
Temporarily Stopped and Unemployed Casual Workers.					
1941. 8 December ..	15,658	127	10,740	973	27,498
1942. 12 January ..	17,933	109	10,515	615	29,172
16 February ..	20,687	279	9,340	495	30,801
16 March ..	11,510	93	6,800	272	18,675
13 April ..	8,627	112	6,131	360	15,230
11 May ..	6,982	39	5,428	206	12,655
15 June ..	6,100	41	4,200	193	10,534
13 July ..	5,260	38	3,234	176	8,708
17 August ..	5,645	36	3,504	159	9,344
14 September ..	5,644	22	2,824	114	8,604
12 October ..	5,385	22	2,600	83	8,090
16 November ..	5,450	21	2,305	59	7,835
14 December ..	5,446	12	2,346	78	7,882

In each of the separate groups shown in the Table the numbers on the registers fell during the year, and the total in December, 1942, was lower than at any date since 1918. Those unemployed on 14th December consisted mainly of persons who were in course of changing from one job to another, unskilled labourers who (owing to age or physical disability) were suitable only for light work, married women or others not available for transfer to employment in other districts, and school leavers who had recently registered for employment but had not yet begun work.

The figures in the Table above exclude persons classified as unsuitable for ordinary employment. At 14th December, 1942, there were 22,592 men registered as wholly unemployed who had been classified by interviewing panels as unsuitable for ordinary industrial employment, and 895 women classified as unsuitable for normal full-time employment. The figures for 8th December, 1941, were 27,578 men and 2,812 women.

The numbers of unemployed persons\* on the registers of Employment Exchanges in each administrative Region at 8th December, 1941, and 14th December, 1942, are shown below:—

Region.	Wholly Unemployed.*		Temporarily Stopped and Unemployed Casual Workers.	
	8th Decem- ber, 1941.	14th Decem- ber, 1942.	8th Decem- ber, 1941.	14th Decem- ber, 1942.
London and South- Eastern ..	29,941	17,989	5,391	1,206
Eastern ..	7,272	3,425	916	117
Southern ..	4,739	2,434	335	44
South-Western ..	6,287	2,509	1,104	258
Midlands ..	2,710	1,701	319	102
North-Midlands ..	4,991	2,510	1,040	222
North-Eastern ..	8,583	4,329	2,645	484
North-Western ..	18,752	9,959	4,067	512
Northern ..	12,063	8,175	2,080	641
Scotland ..	26,525	18,707	2,766	561
Wales ..	12,971	10,205	2,467	734
Great Britain ..	134,834	81,943	23,130	4,881
Northern Ireland ..	23,796	17,449	4,368	3,001
Great Britain and Northern Ireland ..	158,630	99,392	27,498	7,882

\* Men classified as unsuitable for ordinary industrial employment and women classified as unsuitable for normal full-time employment are excluded from the figures. Prior to March, 1942, men and women in these categories were included in the numbers unemployed, published in the monthly issues of this GAZETTE.

In every Region the numbers on the registers were considerably lower in December, 1942, than in December, 1941.

The following Table shows, for each of the last fifteen years, the average numbers of (a) persons wholly unemployed, (b) persons temporarily stopped, and (c) unemployed casual workers on the registers of Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland:—

Year.	Average Numbers on the Registers of Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland.		
	Wholly Unemployed.	Temporarily Stopped.	Unemployed Casual Workers.
1928 ..	869,573	309,359	75,972
1929 ..	900,553	268,595	79,440
1930 ..	1,347,840	527,720	98,941
1931 ..	1,994,471	587,719	115,678
1932 ..	2,136,052	574,315	102,675
1933 ..	2,037,517	456,743	94,098
1934 ..	1,763,911	369,002	88,150
1935 ..	1,706,783	312,757	86,581
1936 ..	1,491,051	251,568	79,081
1937 ..	1,284,123	205,369	67,509
1938 ..	1,433,248	380,484	67,625
1939 ..	1,308,212	220,990	60,599
1940 ..	829,458	165,962	39,252
1941 ..	314,507	62,124	14,890
1942 ..	125,311*	8,615	5,346

In each category the figures for 1942 were substantially below those for 1941, and much lower than the corresponding figures for any year in the whole period for which statistics for these categories are available.

## RATES OF WAGES.

The rise in rates of wages which began soon after the outbreak of the war continued during 1942, though at a slower pace than in the previous two years.

In the industries for which statistics as to changes in wage rates are regularly compiled by the Department,† the changes reported during 1942 are estimated to have resulted in an aggregate net increase of over £1,600,000 in the weekly full-time rates of wages of about 6½ million workpeople, compared with a net increase of over £2 million in the weekly wage rates of about 8 million workpeople, in the same industries, during 1941. There were wide variations in the amounts of increase granted in different industries, but it is estimated that, at the end of 1942, the average level of full-time weekly rates of wages in all the industries (including agriculture) for which information is available was approximately 5 per cent. higher than at the end of 1941, and about 32 or 33 per cent. higher than at the beginning of the war. These figures relate to rates of wages and take no account of the marked increase in average earnings which have resulted from the operation of other factors such as fuller employment, overtime working, and the extension of systems of payment by results.‡

## PRINCIPAL INCREASES IN 1942.

Rates of wages were increased, in 1942, in most of the industries for which information is available. Particulars are given below of the increases granted in the principal industries and services.

**Mining.**—In the coal mining industry there was a general flat-rate addition to wages, as from 1st June, 1942, of 2s. 6d. a shift for underground workers aged 18 and over and surface workers aged 21 and over, with smaller additions for younger workers. At the same time about 18,000 of the lower-paid men received increases of various amounts as a result of the introduction of a minimum wage of 83s. a week for adult underground workers and of 78s. a week for adult surface workers, inclusive of the value of allowances. In addition, the operation of sliding scales, under which the percentage additions to basis rates of wages in each district are adjusted periodically in accordance with fluctuations in the proceeds of the industry, resulted in small increases in wage rates in South Derbyshire, Leicestershire and Warwickshire. In North Derbyshire, North Staffordshire, Cannock Chase, Nottinghamshire, and Somerset, on the other hand, the operation of the sliding scales resulted in slight reductions in the percentage additions to basis rates during the first half of the year, though these decreases were subsequently much more than counterbalanced by the general flat-rate advances referred to above. In other districts there were no changes in the percentage additions to basis rates. Towards the end of the year a scheme was introduced under which a bonus was payable in each district in which the output of coal exceeded a specified standard. Under this scheme, bonuses ranging from 3d. to 1s. 9d. a shift were paid in several districts for successive periods of four weeks during the last three months of 1942.

\* This figure excludes persons who were classified as unsuitable for ordinary employment. The average number of such persons who were registered as wholly unemployed during 1942 was 26,002.

† The statistics are exclusive of changes affecting agricultural workers, Government employees, domestic servants, shop assistants and clerks (see, however, the paragraphs respecting agricultural workers, etc., in the second column on page 3). They relate to rates of wages for a full week, and do not take account of variations in actual earnings resulting from other factors, such as changes in the state of employment or in weekly working hours. The changes reported are mainly those arranged by organisations of employers and workers. Changes arranged by individual employers and affecting unorganised groups of workpeople are not, in most cases, reported to the Department.

‡ Some particulars of the increases in average earnings between October, 1938, July, 1940, July, 1941, and January and July, 1942, were given in the issue of this GAZETTE for December, 1942.



*Chemical, Brick, Pottery, etc., Industries.*—In the heavy chemical industry, the rates of wages of men were increased during 1942, by 2d. to 2½d. an hour and those of women by 2d. to 2½d. an hour, the amount of increase varying with different firms. In the drug and fine chemical industry, men and women received an increase of 4s. a week. Men employed in the manufacture of building bricks in England and Wales were granted an increase of ½d. an hour and a special bonus (conditional on good timekeeping) of 3s. a week. In the pottery industry, all classes of workpeople received an increase of 10d. a day, conditional upon regular attendance and good timekeeping. Increases were also granted in the cement industry, the manufacture of chemical fertilisers and of glue and gelatine, the chemical manufacturing side of the plastics industry, soap and candle manufacture, the match making industry, and the manufacture of refractory goods.

*Metal, Engineering, etc., Industries.*—In the iron and steel industry, the flat-rate additions to wages were increased in most districts in November as a result of a revision of the terms of the agreements under which wage rates are adjusted, periodically, in accordance with the movements of the official cost-of-living index figures. The amount of increase was usually 1s. a shift for men, 1s. 1-6d. for youths and 6d. for boys. During the earlier months of the year, the operation of the cost-of-living sliding-scale agreements had resulted in increases and decreases in wage rates of equal amounts. In the engineering industry, the national bonus payable to women of 18 years and over on time-work and piece-work, other than those whose wages are related to the wages of men, was raised by 4s. a week and, in addition, those of 21 years and over on time-work received a special bonus of 3s. a week, the rates of wages of girls being increased in proportion. There was a general increase of 4s. a week in the war wage bonus of men employed in the workshops of the main-line railways, together with increases ranging from 1s. 6d. a week for the higher paid men up to 4s. 6d. for the lower paid men. Other industries in which wage rates were increased included heating, ventilating and domestic engineering, road vehicle repairing, and the manufacture of light castings, electrical cables, tin boxes, hollow-ware and cutlery.

*Textiles.*—In cotton spinning and manufacturing, wage rates were increased in January, under cost-of-living sliding scales, by approximately 2 per cent. of the rates current at the end of 1941, making the total increase since the outbreak of war about 35 per cent. In addition, operatives in the preparing and spinning departments were granted a war bonus of 3s.\* a week (2s. in the case of juvenile occupations) towards the end of the year. There were increases of about 7½ per cent. on current rates for timeworkers and 7 per cent. for pieceworkers in the woollen and worsted industry in the West Riding of Yorkshire. In the linen industry of Northern Ireland there were increases of about 20 per cent. on current rates in the flax spinning section and 7 per cent. in the weaving section. In the textile bleaching, dyeing and finishing industry, the operation of cost-of-living sliding scales resulted in slight net increases in wage rates (about one-half of 1 per cent. in Yorkshire, and 4d. a week for men and 2d. a week for women in Lancashire and Scotland). Increases were also granted in the wool textile industry in the West of England and in Scotland, the flax and hemp industry in Great Britain, the rope, twine and net industry, and the manufacture of linen and cotton handkerchiefs and household goods and linen piece goods.

*Clothing Industries.*—Workpeople employed in ready-made and wholesale bespoke tailoring and in shirt making in Great Britain received increases of 1½d. an hour for men and 1d. an hour for women and learners. In retail bespoke tailoring there were increases on current rates of about 6½ per cent. in England and Wales and 9 per cent. in Scotland. These increases were introduced by agreement between the respective employers' and workers' organisations, the corresponding minimum rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts being subsequently raised to the level of the rates thus increased. The minimum time rates of wages fixed under the Trade Boards Acts for workpeople employed in laundries were raised by 1½d. an hour for men, 1d. an hour for women and ¾d. an hour for youths, boys and girls; there was also an increase of 1d. an hour in the piece-work basis time rates. In boot and shoe repairing, men and women on time-work received an increase of 5s. a week and piece-workers 6½ per cent. on basic rates. The Trade Board minimum rates were raised also in the wholesale mantle and costume, dressmaking and women's light clothing, corset making, and hat, cap and millinery trades, the increases for timeworkers in Great Britain being in most cases 1½d. an hour for men and 1d. an hour for women.

*Food, Drink and Tobacco Industries.*—For men and women in most occupations in flour milling the war supplement was increased by 3s. and 2s. a week, respectively. In the baking industry, the statutory minimum rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts for both men and women were raised by 1d. an hour in England and Wales and by 3s. 6d. a week in Scotland. Other increases in the wage rates of bakers took effect in some districts under the provisions of voluntary agreements. There were also increases in rates of wages in seed crushing and compound and provender manufacture, sugar confectionery, cocoa and chocolate manufacture and food preserving, aerated waters manufacture, and brewing in the important centres.

*Woodworking, etc.*—In accordance with recommendations of the Joint Industrial Council for the furniture manufacturing industry, the war bonus of timeworkers in a number of districts was increased by 1d. an hour for men and women and by ½d. an hour for younger workers, with an increase of 5 per cent. on pre-war piece-work rates. Subsequently, the minimum time-rates fixed for the industry under the Trade Boards Acts were raised by the same amounts. Wage increases also occurred in the millsawing and packing case making industries, and in coopering.

*Printing, etc.*—In the printing and bookbinding industry in England and Wales (except London), the scheme under which the various towns are allocated to grades for wage purposes was revised during the year and as a result the rates of wages of men were raised by 1s. to 3s. a week in all areas except Liverpool and Manchester; while those of women were increased by 1s. to 2s. 6d. a week in all areas. The rates of wages of boys and girls were increased by proportionate amounts. In cases where the revision resulted in increases in excess of 3s. or 2s. 6d. for men and women respectively, the balance beyond these amounts is payable in March, 1943. The minimum rates of wages fixed under the Trade Boards Acts for the paper bag and paper box trades were raised during the year.

*Building and Contracting.*—Men employed in the building industry in England and Wales and in civil engineering contracting in Great Britain received an increase of ½d. an hour under cost-of-living sliding scales. Painters in London received an additional increase of ½d. an hour.

*Gas, Electricity and Water Supply.*—Gas workers were granted a general increase of 3s. 9d. a week or 7½d. a shift, and electricity supply workers additions to war bonus amounting to 1½d. an hour. Waterworks employees received an increase of 3s. 6d. a week in various districts in England, and of 3s. a week in South Wales and Monmouthshire.

*Transport.*—Railway traffic workers in Great Britain were granted increases ranging, in the majority of grades, from 1s. to 4s. 6d. a week; in addition, the general war advance was raised from 11s. to 16s. a week for men, with smaller increases for women and younger workers. The statutory minimum rates of remuneration of men in the road haulage industry were advanced by 2s. 6d., 3s. or 3s. 6d. a week, according to area, with increases of half these amounts for junior workers. Men employed on tramways and trolley and motor omnibuses in the London area, and by municipal undertakings outside that area, received an increase in war wage of 4s. a week, smaller increases being granted to women and younger workers. For men employed on company-owned motor omnibuses by various undertakings in the Provinces, the war bonus was increased by amounts ranging, according to age, from ½d. to 1d. an hour. The war risk money payable to officers and men in the merchant navy was increased from £5 to £10 a month or from 23s. 4d. to 46s. 8d. a week.

*Other Industries and Services.*—Manual workers in the non-trading departments of local authorities in most areas received an increase of 3s. a week for men and 2s. 3d. a week for women. Other branches of industry in which wage rates were advanced included rubber manufacture and reclamation, leather tanning and leather goods manufacture, milk distribution and cinemas in many areas.

*Agricultural Workers, Government Employees, etc.*—As is pointed out above,\* certain classes of workpeople (e.g., agricultural workers, Government employees and shop assistants) are excluded from the statistics which are regularly compiled by the Department as to the numbers of workpeople affected by changes in rates of wages. Some particulars of the changes in the rates of wages of these classes of workpeople are, however, given below.

In *agriculture*, the statutory minimum rate of wages for men in all districts in Scotland was raised in January, 1942, from 48s. to 60s. a week. Corresponding increases were made in the minimum rates for women and young workers and in the special rates for workers in charge of animals. In England and Wales, where the minimum rates for men had been raised by varying amounts to 60s. a week in December, 1941, the minimum rates for women and young workers were raised in a few districts during 1942.

In the case of *Government industrial establishments*, women employed by the Ministry of Supply, except those whose wages are related to the wages of men, received the same increases as those employed in the engineering industry. There was no general increase during the year in the rates of wages of men employed in Government engineering and shipbuilding establishments. In the case of *non-industrial Government employees* in receipt of salaries not exceeding £250 a year, the bonus was raised from 10s. to 13s. 6d. a week for men and from 7s. 6d. to 10s. a week for women. For those with salaries of over £250 and up to £500 a year, the bonus was increased from 5s. to 7s. 6d. a week and from 4s. to 6s. a week for men and women respectively. For employees under 21 years of age, the bonus was increased by 1s., 1s. 6d., 2s. 6d., or 3s. a week, according to age.

As regards *shop assistants*, the minimum rates of remuneration fixed in 1941 by the Joint Industrial Councils for retail drapery, outfitting and footwear distribution and for retail food distribution were raised, during 1942, by 3s. a week for men and

\* This war bonus was raised to 5s. a week (3s. for juvenile occupations) in January, 1943, to correspond with general advances granted in that month in other sections of the industry.

\* See footnote † in second column on page 2.



2s. a week for women. Minimum rates were fixed during 1942 by the Joint Industrial Council for retail furniture, furnishings, ironmongery, china, glass, etc., distribution, and these rates were increased later in the year by 3s. and 2s. a week for men and women respectively. Minimum rates of remuneration were also fixed by the recently formed Joint Industrial Councils for retail bookselling, newsagency and stationery, tobacco and confectionery distribution, retail meat distribution and wholesale grocery and provisions distribution. The fixing of these minima involved increases in the wage rates of a considerable number of workers. There was a general increase of 4s. a week in the rates of men employed by wholesale and retail co-operative societies; women employed by the wholesale societies received an increase of 3s. a week and those employed by the retail societies 6s. a week.

#### INDUSTRIES IN WHICH THERE WAS NO GENERAL CHANGE IN 1942.

Among the more important industries or branches of industries in which the general level of rates of wages remained unchanged during 1942 were paint, colour and varnish manufacture, soap and candle manufacture (male workers), engineering (most classes of male workers), shipbuilding and ship repairing, constructional engineering, brass working in the Midlands, silver and electro-plate working at Sheffield, woollen spinning at Leicester, silk manufacture at Leek and Macclesfield, lace making, jute manufacture, beet sugar manufacture, paper making, printing and bookbinding in London and in Scotland, building in Scotland, dock labour and coal trimming.

The rates of wages of about 200,000 workpeople were affected by two or more changes in wages during the year, which left the general level of wages the same at the end as at the beginning of the year. The principal classes of workers included in this total were hosiery workers in the Midlands and at Dumfries, boot and shoe operatives and tobacco workers.

#### CHANGES IN ACTUAL EARNINGS.

The particulars given above relate only to increases in rates of wages for a full normal week, and do not take account of increases in actual earnings resulting from fuller employment, longer working hours, the extension of night-shift working and of systems of payment by results, and the transference of workpeople from relatively low-paid to higher-paid occupations and industries. Statistics showing the changes in average weekly earnings in a large number of industries between October, 1938, July, 1940, July, 1941, and January and July, 1942, were published in last month's issue of this GAZETTE.

#### CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES IN THE YEARS 1928-1942.

The following Table shows the approximate numbers of workpeople, in the industries and services for which detailed statistics are available,\* whose rates of wages were increased or reduced (so far as reported) in each of the past fifteen years, and the net amount of increase or decrease in their weekly rates of wages:—

Year.	Approximate number of separate individuals† reported as affected by		Estimated Net Weekly Amount of Change in Rates of Wages.		Estimated Net Weekly Increase (+) or Decrease (—) in Rates of Wages of the Workpeople affected.
	Net Increases.	Net Decreases.	Increases.	Decreases.	
			£	£	£
1928 ..	217,000	1,615,000	21,800	163,800	— 142,000
1929 ..	142,000	917,000	12,900	91,700	— 78,800
1930 ..	768,000	1,100,000	59,500	116,100	— 56,600
1931 ..	47,000	3,010,000	5,150	406,300	— 401,150
1932 ..	33,500	1,949,000	2,600	251,800	— 249,200
1933 ..	179,500	894,000	17,250	82,500	— 65,250
1934 ..	1,344,000	85,500	95,500	4,000	+ 91,500
1935 ..	2,366,500	49,600	198,900	6,800	+ 192,100
1936 ..	4,062,400	800	493,075	175	+ 492,900
1937 ..	5,161,200	4,400	788,250	1,350	+ 786,900
1938 ..	2,381,500	322,200	262,100	18,800	+ 243,300
1939 ..	5,655,000	65,800	939,900	8,500	+ 931,400
1940 ..	8,040,000	—	2,213,000	—	+ 2,213,000
1941 ..	8,185,000	—	2,120,000	—	+ 2,120,000
1942‡ ..	6,500,000	400	1,625,350	50	+ 1,625,300

In view of the limitations to which attention has been drawn above,\* and especially of the fact that certain large groups of workpeople (notably agricultural workers) are not covered by the statistics, the figures in this Table should not be regarded as affording more than a general indication of the movement in rates of wages in any year in comparison with that in other years, and special significance should not be attached to small differences in the amount of change as between one year and another. It will be seen, however, that the net amounts of increase in weekly rates of wages in the industries covered by the statistics were much greater in 1940, 1941 and 1942 than in any previous year in the period covered by the Table.

#### HOURS OF LABOUR.

During 1942, the normal working week was increased in the match manufacturing industry from 44 to 47 hours, and in the china clay industry from 42 hours all the year round to 44 hours in winter and 47 hours during the remainder of the year. In agriculture there was some re-adjustment of the hours beyond which overtime rates become payable, under the Orders issued

\* See footnote † in the second column on page 2.

† In addition to the workpeople for whom figures are given in this Table, there were considerable numbers in most years (other than 1940 and 1941) whose wages during the year were increased and reduced by equal amounts.

‡ The figures given for 1942 are preliminary and subject to revision.

under the Agricultural Wages Regulation Acts, for certain classes of workers in Staffordshire, Leicestershire, Rutland and the Holland division of Lincolnshire. No other important changes in hours of work were reported during the year.

The following Table shows the number of workpeople, in the industries for which statistics are compiled, whose hours were reported as changed in each of the last fifteen years, and the aggregate net amount of the change. The figures do not include changes in the hours of agricultural workers, referred to above.

Year.	Approximate Number of Workpeople whose Hours of Labour were		Aggregate Net Increase (+) or Decrease (—) in Weekly Hours.
	Increased.	Reduced.	
1928 ..	1,400	2,000	— 200
1929 ..	4,050	1,050	+ 8,750
1930 ..	13,175	349,225	— 873,500
1931 ..	294,000	111,000	+ 142,000
1932 ..	6,000	3,750	+ 7,000
1933 ..	2,500	12,500	— 36,000
1934 ..	520	5,000	— 11,500
1935 ..	2,450	43,700	— 153,850
1936 ..	600	160,600	— 804,500
1937 ..	1,500	390,650	— 960,000
1938 ..	1,950	166,650	— 371,100
1939 ..	—	380,000	— 1,380,000
1940 ..	1,200	144,800	— 604,000
1941 ..	1,500	150	+ 1,500
1942* ..	4,100	—	+ 13,150

The comparatively large numbers affected in the years 1930 and 1931 consisted mainly of coal miners. In 1937 the workpeople affected were mainly printers, coal miners and flour millers, in 1938 mainly boot and shoe operatives, and in 1939 and 1940 mainly juvenile workers under 16 years of age employed in a large number of industries.

#### COST OF LIVING.

There was little variation, during 1942, in the average level of retail prices of the main items of working-class expenditure, the cost-of-living index figures compiled by the Department having fluctuated only within the narrow limits of 99 per cent. and 101 per cent. above the basic level of July, 1914. At 1st January, 1942, the index figure stood at 100 per cent. above the level of July, 1914; at 1st January, 1943, the corresponding figure was 99 per cent., showing a rise of 28 per cent.† as compared with September, 1939.

The stability of the index during 1942 was due to the action taken by the Government in subsidising essential goods and services and in controlling retail prices, in pursuance of the policy announced by the Chancellor of the Exchequer in his Budget statements of 1941 and 1942. As a result of this action, those increases in retail prices which took effect during the year were offset by decreases in the prices of some other commodities, and particularly by reduced prices for "utility" clothing after the remission of the purchase tax on such clothing from August, 1942, onwards.

The following Table shows, for 1st September, 1939, and for each month in 1942, the figures for each of the five main groups of items included within the scope of the cost-of-living index:—

#### Average Percentage Increases in Retail Prices, Rents, etc., over the level of July, 1914.

Date.	Food.	Rent (including Rates).	Clothing.	Fuel and Light.	Other Items included.	All Items included.
1939.						
1st September ..	38	62	108	82	79	55
1942.						
1st January ..	63	64	300	130	133	100
31st January ..	63	64	300-305	130	134	100
28th February ..	62	64	305	130	134	100
1st April ..	60	64	305	132	135	99
1st May ..	60	64	305	132	163	100
1st June ..	59	64	305	132	163	99
1st July ..	60	64	305	132	164	100
1st August ..	60	64	305	140	164	101
1st September ..	60	64	295-300	140	165	100
1st October ..	62	64	290	141	166	100
31st October ..	63	64	285	141	167	100
1st December ..	64	64	275-280	141	168	100
1943.						
1st January ..	64	64	270	144	168	99

Of the rise of 44 points between 1st September, 1939, and 1st January, 1943, the increases in the taxes on sugar, tobacco and cigarettes, and matches account for about 4 points; and between 3 and 3½ points are due to increases in prices resulting from the Purchase Tax.‡

Food.—At 1st January, 1942, the average level of retail prices of the articles of food included within the scope of these statistics was 63 per cent. above the level of July, 1914, as compared with 38 per cent. at 1st September, 1939. During the first half of 1942 the food index fell, owing to reductions in the prices of eggs and of milk, and at 1st June it was 59 per cent. above the level of 1914; thereafter it rose, as a result of increases in the prices of bread, flour, bacon and butter, and on 1st December, 1942, and 1st January, 1943, the index was 64 per cent. above the level of 1914.

\* The figures for 1942 are provisional and subject to revision.

† A rise of 44 points on a total of 155 at 1st September, 1939 (the figure for July, 1914, being taken as 100), is equivalent to approximately 28 per cent.

‡ Of the commodities of which account is taken in the cost-of-living index, non-utility clothing (including clothing materials and adults' footwear), domestic ironmongery and pottery were still subject to the Purchase Tax at 1st January, 1943.



The following Table shows the average retail prices at 1st January, 1943, in comparison with those a year earlier and at the outbreak of the war :—

Article.	Average Price (per lb. unless otherwise indicated) to the nearest ½d. at—			Average Percentage Increase or Decrease (—) at 1st Jan., 1943, as compared with	
	1st Sept., 1939.	1st Jan., 1942.	1st Jan., 1943.	1st Sept., 1939.	1st Jan., 1942.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Beef, British—					
Ribs .. ..	1 2½	1 3½	1 3½	11	..
Thin Flank ..	0 7½	0 9½	0 9½	27	..
Beef, Chilled or Frozen—					
Ribs .. ..	0 9½	1 0½	1 1	35	1
Thin Flank ..	0 4½	0 6	0 6	22	..
Mutton, British—					
Legs .. ..	1 3½	1 5½	1 5½*	13	..
Breast .. ..	0 7½	0 8	0 8	8	..
Mutton, Frozen—					
Legs .. ..	0 10½	1 0	1 0	16	..
Breast .. ..	0 4	0 4	0 4	..	..
Bacon† .. ..	1 3	1 8½	1 10½	50	10
Fish .. ..	—	—	—	32	—7
Flour .. per 7 lbs.	1 1½	1 3½	1 5	26	10
Bread .. per 4 lbs.	0 8½	0 8	0 9	9	12
Tea .. ..	2 4	2 6	2 6	7	..
Sugar (granulated) ..	0 3	0 3	0 3	—1	..
Milk .. per quart	0 6½	0 9	0 9	33	..
Butter—					
Fresh .. ..	1 4½	1 7	1 8	21	5
Salt .. ..	1 3½	1 1	1 1	31	..
Cheese .. ..	0 10	0 9	0 9	30	..
Margarine‡ .. ..	0 6½	0 5	0 5	12	..
Eggs (fresh)§ .. each	§	0 2½	0 1½	1	—20
Potatoes per 7 lbs.	0 6½	0 8½	0 6½	6	—17

The prices of all the articles of food included in the above Table continued to be controlled by the Ministry of Food, and the only material changes in prices during 1942 were those which followed alterations in the maximum prices permitted under the Orders made by that Department. The price of bread was raised by 1d. per 4 lb. during September, and there were increases in the price of flour, during September and October, amounting on average to nearly 1½d. per 7 lb. There were also increases of 2d. per lb. in the price of bacon during October and of 1d. per lb. in the price of butter during November. On the other hand, there was a reduction of ½d. each in the price of eggs at the end of March, and the prices of some kinds of fish were reduced during October. There was also a reduction in the prices of potatoes, which were lower by about 1½d. per 7 lb., on average, at the end of 1942 than at the beginning of the year. There was little change in the prices of the other articles of food shown in the Table, apart from some seasonal variation in the prices of milk.

**Rents.**—The rents of working-class dwellings remained subject to the control of the Rent Restrictions Acts, and the average level of such rents (including local rates) was practically stationary throughout 1942, being about 64 per cent. higher than in July, 1914, and about 1 per cent. above the average level of September, 1939. The rise of 1 per cent. since that date is wholly due to increases in local rates in some districts.

**Clothing.**—The average level of prices of working-class clothing and clothing materials was progressively affected during 1942 by increasing sales of "utility" clothing and materials at prices, controlled by Orders made by the Board of Trade, appreciably lower on the whole than those of non-utility goods of corresponding quality. Moreover, the Purchase Tax, to which all cloth and clothing, other than children's clothing, had been subject since October, 1940, was removed from "utility" apparel and materials despatched to retailers on and after 3rd August, 1942, with consequential reductions in the retail prices of such articles. The prices of clothing and materials outside the "utility" scheme advanced during the first seven months of the year, but the prices of such articles were made subject to stricter control as from 3rd August, by Orders designed to stop further increases and in some cases to effect reductions in prices.

In consequence of these measures, the upward trend of clothing prices, which had been in evidence since the early part of the war, was arrested in the spring of 1942, and there was a marked downward movement during the last five months of the year. The returns collected by the Department indicate that at 1st January, 1943, the average level of prices of working-class clothing generally was about 7 per cent. lower than on 1st January, 1942. The average decrease during the year was about 7 per cent. for men's suits and overcoats, about 12 per cent. for woollen materials, underclothing and hosiery, and about 7 per cent. for cotton materials and hosiery, the prices of boots and shoes showed little change, on average, as between these two dates.

**Fuel and Light.**—The average level of prices of coal remained practically stationary during the first half of 1942, but there was a general increase of 3s. per ton and 2d. per cwt. early in July, and a further general increase of 1s. per ton and ½d. per cwt. as from 1st January, 1943 : at this latter date the average level

\* The increase in price between 1st January, 1942, and 1st January, 1943, though sufficient to raise the average expressed to the nearest ½d., was equivalent to less than one-half of 1 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.

‡ On 1st January, 1942, and 1st January, 1943, two brands of margarine, "special" and "standard" were on sale at 9d. and 5d. per lb., respectively. The figure for 1st September, 1939, is an average calculated from the prices of various brands on sale at that date.

§ Of the two prices shown for eggs at 1st January, 1942, and also at 1st January, 1943, the higher price at each date was for large eggs (in Ministry of Food category I) and the lower price for small eggs (in category II). At 1st September, 1939, the average price for eggs, as shown by the returns received, was between 1½d. and 2d.

of prices was about 8 per cent. higher than a year earlier. Prices of gas rose, on the average, by about 5 per cent. during the year, and those of lamp oil by about 2 per cent. There was practically no change in the prices of matches, but at the end of the year the prices of candles were lower by about 5 per cent., on average, than in January, 1942, as a result of an Order issued by the Board of Trade fixing maximum retail prices.

**Miscellaneous Other Items.**—Among the items included in this group, the most marked change in price level during 1942 was in respect of tobacco and cigarettes, the prices of which rose by about 37 per cent. during April in consequence of the substantial increase in the rates of duty imposed by the Budget. There were increases in the prices of domestic ironmongery, brushware and pottery, but the upward movement had largely ceased towards the end of the year, when prices of pottery were showing some fall as a result of the introduction of price-controlled undecorated domestic pottery. Prices of household soap and soda rose by about 7 per cent., in each case, during the year, and those of soap were brought under control during December, by an Order made by the Minister of Food prescribing maximum retail prices. Changes in the prices of newspapers and in fares, were relatively unimportant.

**Comparison with previous years.**—The following Table compares the averages of the percentage increases recorded for the beginning of each of the twelve months of 1942 with the corresponding averages for each of the previous fourteen years :—

Average Percentage Increase over the level of July, 1914.

Year.	Food.	Rent (including Rates).	Clothing.	Fuel and Light.	Other Items included.	All Items included.
1928 ..	57	51	119	69	80	66
1929 ..	54	52½	118	71	80	64
1930 ..	45	53	111	72½	77½	58
1931 ..	31	54	96	74	75	47½
1932 ..	26	54	89	72	73	44
1933 ..	20	56	84	70	72½	40
1934 ..	22	56	86	70	72½	41
1935 ..	25	57	87	70	70	43
1936 ..	30	59	89	74	70	47
1937 ..	39	59	102	78	74	54
1938 ..	40½	60	109	81	75	56
1939 ..	41	62	114	84	79	58
1940 ..	64	63	185	110	108	84
1941 ..	68	64	269	127	127	99
1942 ..	61	64	299	135	155	100

It should be noted that the foregoing figures are designed to indicate the average percentage increase in the cost of maintaining unchanged the standard of living prevailing among working-class households at July, 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 resulting from the war.

#### TRADE DISPUTES.\*

The number of disputes involving stoppages of work, reported to the Department as having begun in 1942 in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, was 1,281, as compared with 1,251 in the previous year. The great majority of the stoppages affected only individual establishments and were of short duration.

The number of workpeople directly involved (*i.e.*, on strike or locked out) in disputes in progress in 1942 was about 349,000, while about 106,000 were indirectly involved (*i.e.*, thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, but not themselves parties to the disputes). The total number of workpeople involved, either directly or indirectly, in all disputes which were in progress in 1942 was thus about 455,000† as compared with about 361,000† in 1941.

The aggregate number of working days lost on account of disputes, at the establishments where the disputes occurred, is estimated at over 1,500,000 in 1942, compared with nearly 1,100,000 in 1941.

**Principal Disputes in 1942.**—There were no disputes of outstanding importance during 1942, and the great majority of the stoppages involved only small numbers of workpeople. About two-fifths of all the stoppages reported, and more than one-half of the aggregate loss of working days involved, occurred in the coal mining industry, in which there were numerous disputes at individual collieries, mostly on questions of wages. The majority of these disputes arose in the first half of the year, general increases in wage rates which were granted on the recommendation of a Board of Investigation having been followed by a marked reduction in the number of stoppages, and in the numbers of workpeople involved, during the later months of the year. Among the principal disputes in this industry were two on questions of wages, resulting in stoppages of work in May and June, by coal miners employed at certain pits in Lancashire; the first of these involved some 15,000 men and an aggregate loss of over 80,000 working days and the second involved about 13,000 men and a loss of about 60,000

\* Disputes involving less than ten workpeople, and those which lasted less than one day, are omitted from the statistics, except when the aggregate duration (*i.e.*, number of workpeople multiplied by number of working days, allowing for workpeople replaced by others, etc.) exceeded 100 days. The figures given for 1942 are preliminary and subject to revision.

† Workpeople are counted in the totals for each year as many times as they were involved in a dispute during the year. The resulting duplication during the years 1941 and 1942 was generally slight, except in the coal mining industry, in which the net number of workpeople involved was approximately 152,000 in 1942 and 79,000 in 1941. The net number of workpeople involved, in all industries, was approximately 338,000 in 1942, and 269,000 in 1941.



working days. At the end of May and in the early part of June, a demand for an increase in wages for youths and boys at certain collieries in South Wales caused a stoppage of work involving nearly 10,000 workpeople and an aggregate loss of about 28,000 working days. In Cumberland, objections to an arbitrator's award rejecting a claim for an advance in wages led to a stoppage of work, in June, involving nearly 5,000 coal miners and resulting in the loss of about 60,000 working days. In December, there was a protracted stoppage at a colliery in Yorkshire, on a question of a new price list for a particular seam, in which a total of about 40,000 working days were lost, though the number of workpeople affected was only about 1,500. Among industries other than coal mining, the engineering, shipbuilding and other metal industries accounted for nearly two-fifths of the total number of stoppages reported during 1942, and for approximately one-third of the aggregate number of working days lost. Most of these stoppages affected only individual establishments. In October, however, nearly 20,000 workers engaged in shipbuilding and ship-repairing on Tyneside ceased work in objection to a re-arrangement of their pay week, the aggregate number of working days lost being 135,000. In the same month about 9,000 workpeople in the engineering industry in Belfast and district were involved in a stoppage, in which over 120,000 working days were lost, in support of a demand for the reinstatement of two shop stewards who had been dismissed by their employers. Further particulars of these stoppages, and of the terms of settlement, have been published in previous issues of this GAZETTE.

In the following Table the disputes involving stoppages of work in 1942 are classified by industry and corresponding figures are given for 1941:—

Industry Group.	1942.			1941.		
	Number of Disputes beginning in 1942.	Number of Workpeople involved in all Disputes in progress.*	Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress.	Number of Disputes beginning in 1941.	Number of Workpeople involved in all Disputes in progress.*	Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress.
Coal Mining .. ..	504	249,900*	837,000	470	154,200*	335,000
Other Mining and Quarrying .. ..	29	4,600	22,000	12	800	3,000
Brick, Pottery, Glass, Chemical, etc. ..	39	5,500	10,000	35	4,800	10,000
Engineering .. ..	233	81,700	285,000	180	97,000	318,000
Shipbuilding .. ..	111	42,000	192,000	147	27,300	110,000
Iron and Steel and other Metal .. ..	132	18,100	51,000	145	29,600	127,000
Textile .. ..	47	9,600	26,000	42	7,300	37,000
Clothing .. ..	13	5,100	19,000	20	5,600	16,000
Food, Drink and Tobacco .. ..	12	2,000	4,000	13	700	2,000
Woodworking, Furniture, etc. .. ..	8	1,700	6,000	9	900	7,000
Building, Public Works Contracting, etc. ..	66	13,400	29,000	77	10,500	36,000
Transport .. ..	51	15,900	36,000	58	15,800	54,000
Commerce, Distribution and Finance ..	8	2,000	3,000	6	2,400	4,000
All Other Industries..	28	3,300	7,000	37	4,600	20,000
Total .. ..	1,281	454,800*	1,527,000	1,251	361,500*	1,079,000

Of the total numbers of workpeople shown above as involved in all disputes which were *in progress* in the two years, approximately 106,000 in 1942 and 63,500 in 1941 were only *indirectly* involved (*i.e.*, thrown out of work at the establishments affected, but not themselves parties to the disputes).

*Summary for 1928-1942.*—In the following Table the figures for 1942 are compared with those for each of the previous fourteen years:—

Year.	Number of Disputes beginning in Year.	Number of Workpeople involved in Disputes beginning in Year.†			Approximate Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress during Year.
		Directly.	Indirectly.	Total.	
1928 .. ..	302	80,000	44,000	124,000	1,390,000
1929 .. ..	431	493,000	40,000	533,000	8,290,000
1930 .. ..	422	286,000	21,000	307,000	4,400,000
1931 .. ..	420	424,000	66,000	490,000	6,980,000
1932 .. ..	389	337,000	42,000	379,000	6,490,000
1933 .. ..	357	114,000	22,000	136,000	1,070,000
1934 .. ..	471	109,000	25,000	134,000	960,000
1935 .. ..	553	230,000	41,000	271,000	1,960,000
1936 .. ..	818	241,000	75,000	316,000	1,830,000
1937 .. ..	1,129	388,000	209,000	597,000	3,410,000
1938 .. ..	875	211,000	63,000	274,000	1,330,000
1939 .. ..	940	246,000	91,000	337,000	1,350,000
1940 .. ..	922	225,000	74,000	299,000	940,000
1941 .. ..	1,251	297,000	63,000	360,000	1,080,000
1942 .. ..	1,281	349,000	106,000	455,000	1,530,000

The aggregate number of working days lost through stoppages of work due to industrial disputes in 1942, though larger than that for any of the four preceding years, was equivalent to only a small fraction of one working day per head when averaged over the whole of the wage-earning population. During the last war, the aggregate numbers of working days lost in disputes ranged from 2,450,000 in 1916 to nearly 5,900,000 in 1918.

\* See footnote † in second column on page 5.

† For the purpose of these totals workpeople are counted in the total for each year as many times as they were involved in a dispute during that year. The resulting duplication is mainly confined to the coal mining industry. The more considerable duplications in the totals for all industries have been as follows:—1931, 57,000; 1932, 70,000; 1935, 59,000; 1936, 66,000; 1937, 181,000; 1938, 66,000; 1939, 90,000; 1940, 87,000; 1941, 93,000; 1942, 117,000.

## NATIONAL SERVICE ACTS.

### NATIONAL SERVICE ACT, 1942.

The main purpose of the National Service Act, 1942, which received the Royal Assent on 17th December, 1942, is to give full effect to the recent decision of the Government to reduce the age of call-up for men from 18½ to 18 years (*see* the issue of this GAZETTE for November, 1942, page 188); accordingly provision is now made for the preliminary stages of registration and medical examination to be taken when men have reached the age of 17 years 8 months, so that they may be available for call-up immediately they become 18. Certain existing provisions regarding registration, medical examination, application for postponement and conscientious objection which have hitherto applied to men liable for call-up are extended to persons required to register under this Act before they reach the age of liability to be called up.

The Act empowers the Government to make new arrangements as regards the exemption of persons from the Dominions, Colonies, etc., and enables effect to be given to such arrangements by Defence Regulation. Unless and until such an arrangement is made with respect to persons from a particular territory, and is made operative by a Defence Regulation, the existing exemption will continue to apply to them. Provision is also made whereby officers holding commissions in the Sea Cadet Corps, the Army Cadet Force or the Air Training Corps, who have hitherto been exempt from liability as members of the Armed Forces of the Crown, are no longer to be exempted.

In addition, the Act simplifies the procedure with regard to the issue of Royal Proclamations, so that a Proclamation need no longer be limited to men who have reached the age of 18 on the date it is issued, but may make men under the age of 18 on the date of issue liable to be called up as and when they reach the age of 18.

### ROYAL PROCLAMATION.

A further Proclamation under the National Service Acts was signed by His Majesty the King on 13th January, 1943. The Proclamation extends the operation of the National Service Acts to (i) men who, at the date of the Proclamation, had reached the age of 18 and had not reached the age of 46, and (ii) women who, at the date of the Proclamation, had reached the age of 19 and had not reached the age of 31. These age limits are the same as those contained in previous Proclamations,\* except that the lower age limit for women is now reduced from 20 to 19 years. The effect of the present Proclamation is to extend the liability to men who have reached the age of 18 since 22nd October, 1942, and to women born between 24th July, 1922, and 13th January, 1924, both dates inclusive.

Under the powers given by Section 2 of the National Service Act, 1942 (*see* above), the Proclamation further directs that after 13th January, 1943, men will automatically become liable to be called up under the National Service Acts as and when they reach 18, and women as and when they reach 19 years.

### ARRANGEMENTS FOR CALLING-UP.

*Men.*—In the exercise of the power conferred on the Minister of Labour and National Service by the National Service Act, 1942 (*see* above), whereby young men may be registered under the National Service Acts, 1939-1942, as soon as they reach the age of 17 years and 8 months, the registration of young men born between 1st October, 1924 and 31st March, 1925, both dates inclusive, was effected on 9th January, 1943. After medical examination, the young men so registered will, subject to medical fitness, be called up as vacancies arise after their 18th birthdays.

*Women.*—It has been decided to call up under the National Service Acts single women born between 1st July, 1922, and 31st December, 1923, both dates inclusive. Women in this new age group have already been required to register under the Registration for Employment Order and will not have to register again. They will shortly receive through the post a full explanation of their position.

The arrangements for calling up the new age group will be similar to those already in operation for women in age classes already called up, namely, the 1918, 1919, 1920, 1921 and 1922 (older half) age classes. As in the case of women in these age classes, women in the new age group will be given the opportunity of opting for specified jobs in industry if they prefer industrial work to joining the Services, but the actual industrial jobs to which they are allocated will depend on the national needs at any given time. In any case, a woman who wishes to volunteer for nursing may do so up to the time when she receives her call up notice.

As from 14th January, 1943, single women in the age group now called up who wish to enter the Women's Auxiliary Services will not be accepted as volunteers, but will be allocated in accordance with Service requirements. Eligibility for the W.R.N.S. will depend upon the possession of certain qualifications which will be included in the explanation sent to each woman; the smallness of the W.R.N.S. in comparison with the other two Women's Services makes this limitation necessary.

Married women who are available for employment will continue to be recruited for industry under the Registration for Employment Order; they will be able to volunteer, if they wish, for the Women's Auxiliary Services.

\* For particulars of Proclamations issued in 1942, *see* the issues of this GAZETTE for November, 1942, page 188; August, 1942, page 147; and March, 1942, page 58.



## WITHDRAWAL OF WOMEN FROM RETAIL DISTRIBUTIVE TRADES.

In a statement in the House of Commons on 17th December, 1942, the Minister of Labour and National Service announced that, in view of the number of women urgently required for the Services and for vital war industry, he had decided in agreement with the President of the Board of Trade and after consultation with the Central Advisory Panel for the Retail Distributive Trades (other than food and coal) that, in addition to the withdrawals which have already taken place, all women born on or after 1st January, 1907, should be withdrawn from those trades, and that in certain specified sections of the industry (*see below*) the withdrawal should extend to women born on or after 1st January, 1897. A limited period of retention up to six months may be granted to women whose withdrawal would result in the closing down of the business or branch of the business in which they are employed. It will be further open to an employee to represent that exceptional hardship, which may include hardship to the employer, would result from the withdrawal. Such cases will be considered by the Ministry or, on an appeal, by a Local Appeal Board in the light of decisions given by the Umpire under the National Service (Postponement Certificates) Regulations.\* Employees making representations on hardship grounds will be informed that they may appeal to the Local Appeal Board and may be accompanied to the hearing at the board by their employers.

The various sections of the retail distributive trades (other than food and coal) from which women who were born on or after 1st January, 1897, are to be withdrawn were specified in a list furnished by the Minister as follows:—Hearth furniture and ornamental brassware; domestic lighting fittings; bathroom fittings; wallpaper; paints and colourman's wares; flowers; floral accessories and garden furniture; pet animals; cutlery, including spoons and forks; brushes and brooms; polishes and cleaning materials; sports goods; toys and games; handbags, shopping bags and gas mask containers; umbrellas and walking sticks; musical instruments (including pianos); domestic electrical goods and appliances, other than radio sets and parts; baskets and basketware; picture frames and art goods; stationery and stationers' wares; tobacco, cigarettes and smokers' requisites; cosmetics, toilet preparations and toilet requisites; fancy goods, including leather fancy goods; glassware; jewellery, including silversmiths' and goldsmiths' work; artificial jewellery and badges; clocks and watches; photographic goods and appliances; soft furnishing (except black-out estimators); fancy linens†; fancy drapery‡; furs; headwear for men or women; antiques; newspapers and periodicals; chocolate and sugar confectionery, when combined with the substantial sale of any other commodity included in this list; women wholly or mainly engaged in the pledge departments of pawnbrokers' establishments, in beauty treatment (including manicuring), or as mannequins, window dressers, shop walkers, shop guides and lift girls in all sections of retail distribution other than food and coal.

## GOVERNMENT TRAINING SCHEMES.

### REVISED RATES OF WAGES AND ALLOWANCES.

Certain changes have recently been made in the rates of wages and allowances payable to women and girl trainees in Government Training Centres and Emergency and Auxiliary Training Establishments. The effect of the changes is to increase in all cases the starting rates and final training rates of which particulars were given on page 8 of the issue of this GAZETTE for January, 1942. As regards wages, the weekly starting rates have been increased for the several age groups as follows:—Aged 21 years and over, from 43s. to 50s.; aged 20 years, from 41s. to 47s. 6d.; aged 19 years, from 39s. to 45s. In the case of trainees who undergo the longer course of training these rates are subject to two increments, which, as hitherto, are normally payable (subject to proficiency tests) at the end of the eighth and twelfth week of training. The increments are at the uniform rate of 2s. a week, so that the final training rates are now increased for the several age groups as follows:—Aged 21 years and over, from 49s. to 54s.; aged 20 years, from 47s. to 51s. 6d.; aged 19 years, from 44s. to 49s. Young trainees aged 18 years, who hitherto received allowances, are now to receive wages, the starting rate being fixed at 42s. 6d. and the final rate, after the addition of increments, at 46s. 6d. a week.

As regards the allowances payable to young trainees whose homes are within daily travelling distance from the training establishment, the starting rates of these allowances have been increased from 17s. to 21s. a week for those aged 17 years and from 17s. to 20s. a week for those 16 years. No change has been made in the increments on these allowances, so that the final rates of the allowances now amount to 25s. and 24s. for trainees aged 17 and 16 years respectively, as compared with the previous rate of 21s. for both age groups.

The revised rates took effect as from 21st December, 1942, at Government Training Centres, and as from 24th December at Emergency and Auxiliary Training Establishments.

\* See the issues of this GAZETTE for November, 1939, page 404, April, 1940 page 125, and August, 1941, page 170.

† Includes tablecloths, table napkins, table mats, doilies, etc.

‡ Includes lace and made lace, veilings, frilling, embroidery, artificial flowers, ribbons, leather belts, neck wear, art needlework goods (excluding knitting wools), pin cushions, work bags and all articles and materials used for decoration or adornment.

Boarder trainees who continue to maintain their homes in the areas from which they were recruited are normally eligible for Transferred War Workers' Allowances at the rate of 24s. 6d. a week, and young trainees of 16 and 17 years who are in receipt of allowances are supplied with a free mid-day meal.

## CONTROL AND ORGANISATION OF DOCK LABOUR.

### DOCK LABOUR SCHEMES AT CERTAIN PORTS.

Dock Labour Schemes drawn up by the National Dock Labour Corporation Limited came into operation on 26th October at the Port of Plymouth, and on 30th November at the Ayrshire Ports; these Schemes are in addition to those for other Ports mentioned in earlier issues of this GAZETTE.\*

Further, on 26th October, the Scheme for the East Coast of Scotland was extended to cover the Ports of Burntisland and Methil, and the Ports of Wisbech and Sutton Bridge were incorporated in the Scheme for the Wash Ports. The terms of employment under the Schemes are those laid down in the Agreement of the National Joint Council for Dock Labour of 16th July, 1941, which was summarised on page 32 of the issue of the GAZETTE for February, 1942.

### PROGRESS OF SCHEMES OF THE NATIONAL DOCK LABOUR CORPORATION.

In an address at the Second Annual General Meeting of the National Dock Labour Corporation Limited, held on 15th December, 1942, the Chairman, Mr. R. T. Garrett, said that 32,315 port transport workers were employed under Dock Labour Schemes drawn up by the Corporation. Nearly all the workers in the industry were now covered either by the Corporation's Schemes or by those of the Ministry of War Transport, and only three of the Ports originally scheduled by the Minister of Labour remained outside. In spite of a considerable addition to the areas covered by the Corporation's Schemes, the average daily number of men employed who were surplus to requirements had been reduced from about 8,000 in April to about 6,000 in October.

## SUPPLY OF CREWS FOR TRAWLERS.

### APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEE OF ENQUIRY.

The Secretary of State for Scotland, the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, the Minister of Labour and National Service, and the Minister of War Transport have jointly appointed Professor Alexander Gray, C.B.E., M.A. (Chairman), Mr. J. Twomey and Mr. G. W. Thomson to be a Committee of Enquiry with the following terms of reference:—"To enquire into the supply of crews for trawlers, the method of their engagement, and the terms of their employment; and to make recommendations."

The Secretary of the Committee is Mr. F. D. Grover of the Ministry of Labour and National Service, 15, Portman Square, London, W.1.

## FRACTURE TREATMENT FOR INDUSTRIAL WORKERS.

The Factory and Welfare Advisory Board of the Ministry of Labour and National Service are anxious that industrial workers who, because of accidents of any kind, may be in need of special treatment, should be in a position to take advantage of all the facilities that may be available for the provision of this treatment. In April, 1941, it was decided that the large-scale orthopaedic and fracture treatment service, with facilities for up-to-date rehabilitation, which has been evolved under the Emergency Hospital Scheme, should be available for fracture accidents among manual workers in war industry, as well as for other classes of patient with which the Scheme is concerned. In order to make this service as widely known as possible the Ministry of Labour and National Service have prepared a leaflet† which has been brought to the notice of the British Employers' Confederation, the Trades Union Congress, the Scottish Trades Union Congress, the Federation of British Industries and other organisations and unions, with a view to securing the co-operation of employers and workers in ensuring that the facilities provided are widely known and used.

The leaflet deals with the Orthopaedic and Fracture Services in England and Wales and in Scotland; their relation to the industrial worker; how to secure specialised treatment; co-operation of employers and trade unions; and the desire of the Factory and Welfare Advisory Board of the Ministry of Labour and National Service that industrial workers who because of accidents of any kind may be in need of special treatment shall take advantage of all available facilities. Copies of the leaflet can be obtained from any Employment Exchange or from the Director of Public Relations, Ministry of Labour and National Service, 8 St. James's Square, London, S.W.1.

\* See the issues of this GAZETTE for February, 1942, page 32, April, 1942, page 84, and June, 1942, page 123.

† *Fracture Treatment and Rehabilitation: Emergency Hospital Scheme.* P.L., 113/1942.



## HEALTH AND WELFARE OF WOMEN IN WAR FACTORIES.

### REPORT FROM SELECT COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL EXPENDITURE.

The results of an enquiry by the Select Committee on National Expenditure into the health and welfare of women in war factories have recently been published in the Committee's Third Report\* (Session 1942-43). The enquiry was directed to the examination of welfare and medical arrangements available for women employed in Royal Ordnance Factories and other Government assisted factories, and the results of the Committee's investigations are set out in the Report under three main divisions, viz., (i) Health and Welfare within the Factory; (ii) Health and Welfare outside the Factory, and (iii) the State and Industrial Health. These divisions are preceded by a section dealing with the relation of health to production, in which the Committee point out that the problem to-day is largely one of the most economical use of woman-power. Women have shown that they can perform successfully much work previously considered unsuitable for them, and it is gratifying to be able to record that, in spite of the special strains of war conditions, competent observers are finding that the general health of women in industry appears not only to be maintained but to be improving.

*Health and Welfare within the Factory.*—The general question of the maintenance of health within the factory is considered in the Report under three main headings, viz., (a) physical amenities; (b) medical provisions; and (c) general oversight. The Committee find that the general level of physical amenities (canteens, washing accommodation, rest rooms, etc.) is, on the whole, satisfactory, and in many factories the standard reached is a high one. In view, however, of the big increase in the number of cases of industrial dermatitis, they emphasise the importance of personal cleanliness in the prevention of this disorder. Regarding medical provisions, the Committee state that the provision of a factory medical service is a fundamental requisite if loss of output from fatigue, disease or accident is to be reduced to a minimum, and they recommend that the Government should give the closest attention to the problem of securing a satisfactory industrial medical service at least within all factories engaged on Government work. They consider that greater use in this connection could be made of women doctors and that the machinery for the recruitment of trained nurses into industry should be improved by the setting up of a centralised employment register for trained nurses. Other recommendations relate to specialised services for the prevention of tuberculosis and eye strain, and the improvement of lighting and ventilation. Concerning 'general oversight,' the Committee discuss and make various recommendations and suggestions affecting safety precautions, rehabilitation, hours of work and personnel management. In particular, they recommend that immediate steps should be taken to limit the hours of work in Royal Ordnance Factories to those approved by the Government, and suggest that where a two-shift system is worked, it would be advantageous for Departments, in cases where they are in the position of direct employers, to organise a five-day week for their women employees.

*Health and Welfare outside the Factory.*†—Regarding health and welfare outside the factory the Committee state that, if the health and powers of endurance of women in industry are to be maintained for an extended period, the stresses of daily life outside the factory should be reduced to a minimum. Problems specially considered by the Committee in this connection are those affecting shopping, the provision of war-time nurseries, the treatment of pregnant women in industry, billets and hostels for transferred workers, and the provision of rest breaks. Concerning these matters the Committee make a number of recommendations.

*The State and Industrial Health.*—The Committee state that, although the health of workers in war industry is remarkably satisfactory, the existing organisation for creating and maintaining the standards of industrial health does not rest on an altogether secure foundation. Central direction of policy on general matters affecting the health of the industrial population is lacking; the Ministry of Health have no power to deal with the problems of health in industry; and the Ministry of Labour lack the organisation necessary even to deal fully with day-to-day problems, and have neither the authority to lay down the lines for a broad comprehensive policy, nor the staff that would be required to implement such a policy, were it adopted. Accordingly, they recommend that (i) the medical branch of the Factory Inspectorate should be enlarged and strengthened; (ii) a central industrial health advisory committee should be set up forthwith to advise the Ministry of Labour and the Supply Departments on all questions of industrial health and on the co-ordination of medical services to meet the requirements of the war effort; (iii) regional industrial health advisory committees should be set up to advise the Ministry of Labour, the Regional Boards and employers on the co-ordination and extension of industrial health services in each region; and (iv) a central bureau should be set up for collecting, abstracting, and disseminating information and literature relating to all questions of industrial medicine.

The Committee believe that the proposed committees, working in close co-operation with such existing organisations as the

British Medical Association, the Medical Research Council—particularly the Industrial Health Research Board—and the Association of Industrial Medical Officers, and with an enlarged and strengthened organisation of Medical Inspectors of factories, could do much to reduce the incidence both of industrial disease and of general sickness among industrial workers and others, thereby materially increasing the volume of output with a corresponding reduction in cost to the nation.

## WELFARE OUTSIDE THE FACTORY AND SEAMEN'S WELFARE IN PORT.

In a recently issued White Paper\* a review is given by the Minister of Labour and National Service of developments in the work of the Welfare Department of the Ministry in promoting (i) welfare outside the factory and (ii) seamen's welfare in port. An account of the initial activities of the Welfare Department in these fields since its establishment in June, 1940, was given in a Report† issued in September, 1941, which was summarised in the issue of this GAZETTE for October, 1941, (page 195), and the present Report covers the work of the Department during the period from August, 1941, to August, 1942.

In an appendix to the Report details are given of the present constitution of the Factory and Welfare Advisory Board and the Seamen's Welfare Board.

Concerning welfare outside the factory the Report states that since the Welfare Department was established, the scope of its work has continually extended as developments in the course of the war have affected the lives and conditions of the workers. Expansion of war industries has made necessary the transfer of thousands of workers from their homes to the centres of war production. The proportion of women employed in industry has increased greatly and many of them are married women with children. Because of these developments there have been special difficulties during the past year in connection with accommodation, transport, feeding, shopping, care of children, recreation and other problems. Regarding the action taken to deal with these problems the Report states that the general arrangements for the transfer and reception of war workers which were outlined in the earlier Report have been continued, large numbers of women have been transferred from one part of the country to another, and special arrangements have been made to look after them during their journey. In order to facilitate the lodging and billeting of war workers, Local Advisory Committees, which consider and co-ordinate demands for accommodation and deal with special difficulties, have been formed in many areas; and this new development, it is stated, promises to give extremely good results in some difficult areas. The number of reception hostels where workers can be accommodated for one or two nights while they are found suitable lodgings has been increased from 15 to 76, and over 40 residential hostels have been built. Regarding the care during working hours of young children whose mothers have gone into industry the Report states that by 31st August, 1942, 826 nurseries were in operation with accommodation for 34,000 children, and another 468 nurseries with 21,000 additional places were in process of being opened or planned. Other matters with which the Report deals are gifts from workers in the United States, meals, the care of transferred workers during sickness, travelling to and from work, recreation, entertainment and holidays.

As regards seamen's welfare, the Report refers to the arrangements for dealing with this matter which were reviewed in the earlier Report on "Welfare Work Outside the Factory" (Cmd. 6310)‡ and gives an account of developments in these arrangements. Practically all ports in Great Britain, the Report states, are now within the areas covered by Seamen's Welfare Officers, who are responsible for promoting and co-ordinating seamen's welfare work in their respective areas, and Port Welfare Committees have been established at additional ports, viz., Tees-side, the Hartlepoons, Aberdeen, and Southampton. The provision of hostels for merchant seamen has been one of the major tasks of the Department, and such hostels have been set up at Liverpool, Cardiff, Newcastle, and Hull, under the management of the National Service Hostels Corporation.§ In certain ports the Welfare Department have also set up "Merchant Navy Clubs" where recreational facilities are provided.

Concerning welfare in overseas ports the Report states that substantial progress has been made in meeting the needs of crews of British vessels in overseas ports. The responsibility for welfare arrangements overseas rests on the Dominion or local Government in a Dominion or Colony, and elsewhere on the British Consul. For merchant seamen of overseas countries the Allied Governments now in this country have set up their own Seamen's Welfare organisations, which work in close co-operation with the Ministries of War Transport and of Labour and National Service. The welfare of Indian and Colonial seamen is the responsibility of the India Office and the Colonial Office respectively. Chinese seamen are accommodated principally in the ports of London, Liverpool and Glasgow.

\* *Welfare Outside the Factory and Seamen's Welfare in Port.* Cmd. 6411. H.M. Stationery Office, price 2d. net (3d. post free).

† *Welfare Work Outside the Factory.* Cmd. 6310. H.M. Stationery Office, price 3d. net (4d. post free).

‡ Particulars of the arrangements described in this Report were given in the issue of this GAZETTE for May, 1941, page 97.

§ See the issue of this GAZETTE for July, 1941, page 135.

\* *Third Report from the Select Committee on National Expenditure (Session 1942-43).* H.C. 19. H.M. Stationery Office, price 4d. net (5d. post free).

† See also article in next column.



## UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE.

### CREDIT OF CONTRIBUTIONS TO TEMPORARY OFFICERS IN THE FORCES AND OTHER CLASSES.

By the Unemployment Insurance (Emergency Powers) (Amendment) (No. 5) Regulations, 1942,\* which were made by the Minister of Labour and National Service on 15th December, 1942, provision has been made for bringing under the Unemployment Insurance Scheme certain classes of persons hitherto partly or wholly excluded from the scheme. These classes are: (a) officers of the naval, military and air forces of the Crown, including auxiliary forces, but excluding officers of the regular navy, army and air force; (b) members of certain additional auxiliary services; (c) members of the Home Guard and the Ulster Home Guard; (d) persons insured under the Unemployment Insurance Schemes of Great Britain and Northern Ireland who have been prevented by reason of the present war from returning to the United Kingdom; and (e) members of certain corps of civilian workers enrolled overseas who may be discharged in the United Kingdom.

The Regulations provide that these classes shall be added to the list of persons covered by Section 96 of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1935, (as amended), which prescribes that, subject to certain conditions, the persons concerned shall receive on discharge a free credit of one contribution for each week of service and that such contributions shall be available for the purposes of a claim to benefit, subject to the usual conditions.

Hitherto under Section 95 (2) of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1935, officers (other than regular officers) have been insured merely for the first four months of their service and then only if they have normally been insured in civil life. They will now receive a credit of one contribution for each week of service, irrespective of whether or not they were insured in civil life.

As regards members of the Home Guard, the credit of contributions is to be granted in respect of any period during which they are mustered for the purpose of resisting an actual or apprehended invasion, provided that the period of such service is not less than seven consecutive days and that the Home Guard concerned possesses a current unemployment book. This latter proviso is designed as a simple means of securing that a credit is given only to those who are normally insured and would suffer a loss of contributions when called away from their usual occupations.

In the case of merchant seamen, who are insured while they are employed on board but had hitherto ceased to be insurable if the vessel were sunk or captured or they were interned abroad, contributions are now to be credited under the Regulations in respect of any such period of internment or imprisonment. Other insured persons who have been prevented from returning to the United Kingdom by the war are to receive the credit of contributions if they had been employed in insurable employment within two years of the date on which they were interned or were otherwise prevented from returning.

A number of nationals of allied countries have come to work in this country on war work for various Government Departments under contracts made in their country of origin which provide that on the termination of employment the person concerned shall be repatriated. In view of the conditions of their service these persons are ordinarily excluded by the Regulations from insurance under the Unemployment Insurance Acts but in the event of any such person not being repatriated, provision has been made whereby he shall be given a credit under Section 96 of one contribution for each week of service.

For all classes of persons concerned, except members of the Home Guard, the credit of contributions on discharge will be made in respect of service or employment retrospective to 3rd September, 1939. A claim for benefit, however, can only be entertained during the operation of the Regulations, that is since 15th December, 1942.

## CONTROL OF RETAIL PRICES, AND FOOD RATIONING.

### MAXIMUM RETAIL PRICES OF FOOD.

The Minister of Food has made an Order prescribing maximum retail prices for various types of green vegetables including cabbages, brussels sprouts and tops, cauliflower and broccoli, and kale. The Order came into operation on 11th January and specified maximum retail prices, for each type of vegetable, by reference to weight, the prices varying according to season. The provisions of the Order do not apply to certain areas in Scotland.

Other recent Orders by the Minister of Food deal with the retail prices of home-grown tomatoes, salmon, fish cakes, rhubarb and rice.

### MAXIMUM RETAIL PRICES OF SOAP.

Under an Order made by the Minister of Food, operating from 13th December, maximum retail prices are prescribed for hard soap, and for soap flakes sold loose. Apart from certain premium and speciality brands of soap for which in-

dividual maximum prices are scheduled, the maximum prices are 6d. per lb. for carbolic soap, 5½d. per lb. for other hard soap and 1½d. per 3 ounces for soap flakes.

### FOOD RATIONING.

The ordinary domestic ration of cheese, which was increased from 4 ounces to 8 ounces per person per week in July, 1942, was reduced to 6 ounces as from 10th January, with a corresponding decrease from 16 ounces to 12 ounces in the special ration for vegetarians and certain classes of workers. The ordinary domestic ration is to be further reduced to 4 ounces a week as from 7th February.

Points rationing was extended from 13th December to include oat flakes, while canned beans in brine or gravy were excluded from the points scheme from 10th January.

## CONTROL OF EMPLOYMENT IN CANADA.

By an Order in Council, dated 26th August, 1942, introducing a more extensive control of employment, provision is made for the more effective war-time use of labour. The new measure, which took effect on 1st September, 1942, revokes earlier Orders for the control of employment, and replaces their provisions by a comprehensive set of regulations to be cited as the National Selective Service Regulations, 1942. The regulations are to be administered by the Director of National Selective Service under the general supervision of the Minister of Labour.

In accordance with the regulations, a National Selective Service Officer may, by written order, require any person to report for interview, and he may direct a person who has been unemployed or not gainfully occupied for more than seven consecutive days forthwith to apply for and accept any available suitable work. A person who has been on short time for more than two consecutive calendar weeks may be similarly directed to apply for and accept any available full-time suitable work of high or very high labour priority. In gauging the suitability of the work, regard is to be had to a person's physical fitness, training, experience and former earnings, to its distance from the place of residence, and to family and domestic responsibilities. No work is to be deemed suitable for which the wages are lower or the conditions less favourable than those generally observed in the locality. A transferred worker may be allowed the cost of removal of himself, his dependants and effects, and if the transfer involves a decrease in earnings, a supplementary allowance of not more than five dollars a week may be paid. A similar allowance may also be paid to a worker whose earning capacity on the new job is insufficient to offset the increased cost of living due to separation. Any person who is induced or, in accordance with these regulations, is directed to accept other work in which, in the opinion of the National Selective Service Officer, he can contribute more effectively to the prosecution of the war, may claim to be reinstated in his former employment on the termination of the work.

The regulations also provide that no employer may dismiss a person from employment and no person may leave his employment without giving seven days' notice, termed a notice of separation. All vacancies and dismissals must be notified to the nearest Employment and Selective Service Office immediately, and an employer may engage only those persons to whom a permit to seek employment has been granted. Persons engaged in agriculture, nursing and teaching, and certain other specified classes of persons are outside the scope of these provisions. A worker in agriculture, however, may not enter into employment outside agriculture unless he has a permit to do so.

Finally, the regulations empower the Director of Selective Service, in consultation with the Department of Munitions and Supply and the War-time Prices and Trade Board, to classify occupations, industries, firms or establishments according to the degree of their importance for the defence of Canada, for the efficient prosecution of the war and for civilian needs. The classification is to constitute a labour priority schedule which is to serve as a guide for meeting demands for labour. The schedule is not to be published, but it may be circulated to officers and employees of the Government of Canada whose duties relate to National Selective Service.

## INDUSTRIAL STATISTICS IN INDIA.

A Bill to make provision for the collection of industrial statistics was adopted by the Central Legislature in India in March, 1942, and received the assent of the Governor-General on 3rd April, 1942.

The Act, which is to be known as the Industrial Statistics Act, 1942, extends to the whole of British India, and is to come into force in any Province on such date as the Provincial Government may, by notification in the official Gazette, appoint. The Provincial Government is empowered by the Act to direct that statistics shall be collected concerning (a) any matter relating to factories within the meaning of the Factories Act, 1934, and (b) specified matters including, *inter alia*, commodity prices, attendance at work, living conditions, rents of dwelling houses, wages and hours of work, provident funds and other benefits, employment and unemployment, and industrial and labour disputes, in so far as these matters relate to the welfare of labour and conditions of labour.

\* Statutory Rules and Orders, 1942, No. 2669. See page 18.



## EMPLOYMENT IN DECEMBER.

## GENERAL SUMMARY.

The number of men and boys registered at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain as wholly unemployed at 14th December (exclusive of 22,592 men who had been classified by interviewing panels as unsuitable for ordinary industrial employment) was 53,206; 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 1,148; and those registered as unemployed casual workers (being persons who normally seek their livelihood by jobs of short duration) numbered 2,699. As compared with 16th November, the numbers wholly unemployed showed a decrease of 5,945, those temporarily suspended from work showed a decrease of 211, but unemployed casual workers showed an increase of 107.

The corresponding figures for women and girls at 14th December were 28,737 wholly unemployed (exclusive of those, numbering 895, who had been classified by interviewing panels as unsuitable for normal full-time employment), 875 temporarily stopped, and 159 unemployed casual workers. Of the 28,737 wholly unemployed, 925 had been classified as unable for good cause to transfer to another area. As compared with 16th November, the numbers wholly unemployed showed a decrease of 2,774, those temporarily stopped showed an increase of 194, and unemployed casual workers showed an increase of 11.

The number of applicants for unemployment benefit or allowances included in the foregoing totals for 14th December was 61,362, as compared with 64,739 at 16th November, and 103,621 at 8th December, 1941.

The numbers registered as unemployed\* at 14th December, 1942, are analysed below:—

	Wholly Unemployed.	Temporarily Stopped.	Unemployed Casual Workers.
Great Britain.			
Men .. .. .	46,078	1,147	2,695
Boys .. .. .	7,128	1	4
Women .. .. .	22,337	817	159
Girls .. .. .	6,400	58	—
Total .. .. .	81,943	2,023	2,858
Increase (+) or Decrease (—) as compared with:			
16th November, 1942 ..	— 8,719	— 17	+ 118
8th December, 1941 ..	—52,891	—11,238	— 7,011
Great Britain and Northern Ireland.			
Men .. .. .	57,453	1,389	4,057
Boys .. .. .	7,987	8	4
Women .. .. .	27,072	2,162	184
Girls .. .. .	6,880	78	—
Total .. .. .	99,392	3,637	4,245
Increase (+) or Decrease (—) as compared with:			
16th November, 1942 ..	— 7,020	— 161	+ 208
8th December, 1941 ..	—59,238	—12,868	— 6,748

The numbers of unemployed persons\* on the registers at 14th December, 1942, in each administrative region are shown below:—

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 .. .. .	10,042	1,430	5,363	1,154	17,989
Eastern .. .. .	1,243	235	1,734	213	3,425
Southern .. .. .	986	204	959	285	2,434
South-Western .. .. .	1,342	208	764	195	2,509
Midlands .. .. .	847	272	361	221	1,701
North-Midlands .. .. .	994	151	1,250	115	2,510
North-Eastern .. .. .	2,829	388	769	343	4,329
North-Western .. .. .	6,145	1,110	2,014	690	9,959
Northern .. .. .	4,121	860	2,130	1,064	8,175
Scotland .. .. .	10,663	1,386	5,601	1,057	18,707
Wales .. .. .	6,866	884	1,392	1,063	10,205
Great Britain .. .. .	46,078	7,128	22,337	6,400	81,943
Northern Ireland .. .. .	11,375	859	4,735	480	17,449
Great Britain and Northern Ireland	57,453	7,987	27,072	6,880	99,392
Temporarily Stopped and Unemployed Casual Workers.					
London and South- Eastern .. .. .	891	—	312	3	1,206
Eastern .. .. .	73	—	42	2	117
Southern .. .. .	24	—	20	—	44
South-Western .. .. .	233	—	22	3	258
Midlands .. .. .	81	—	21	—	102
North-Midlands .. .. .	163	—	56	3	222
North-Eastern .. .. .	376	—	104	4	484
North-Western .. .. .	463	2	43	4	512
Northern .. .. .	479	1	146	15	641
Scotland .. .. .	373	1	181	6	561
Wales .. .. .	686	1	29	18	734
Great Britain .. .. .	3,842	5	976	58	4,881
Northern Ireland .. .. .	1,604	7	1,370	20	3,001
Great Britain and Northern Ireland	5,446	12	2,346	78	7,882

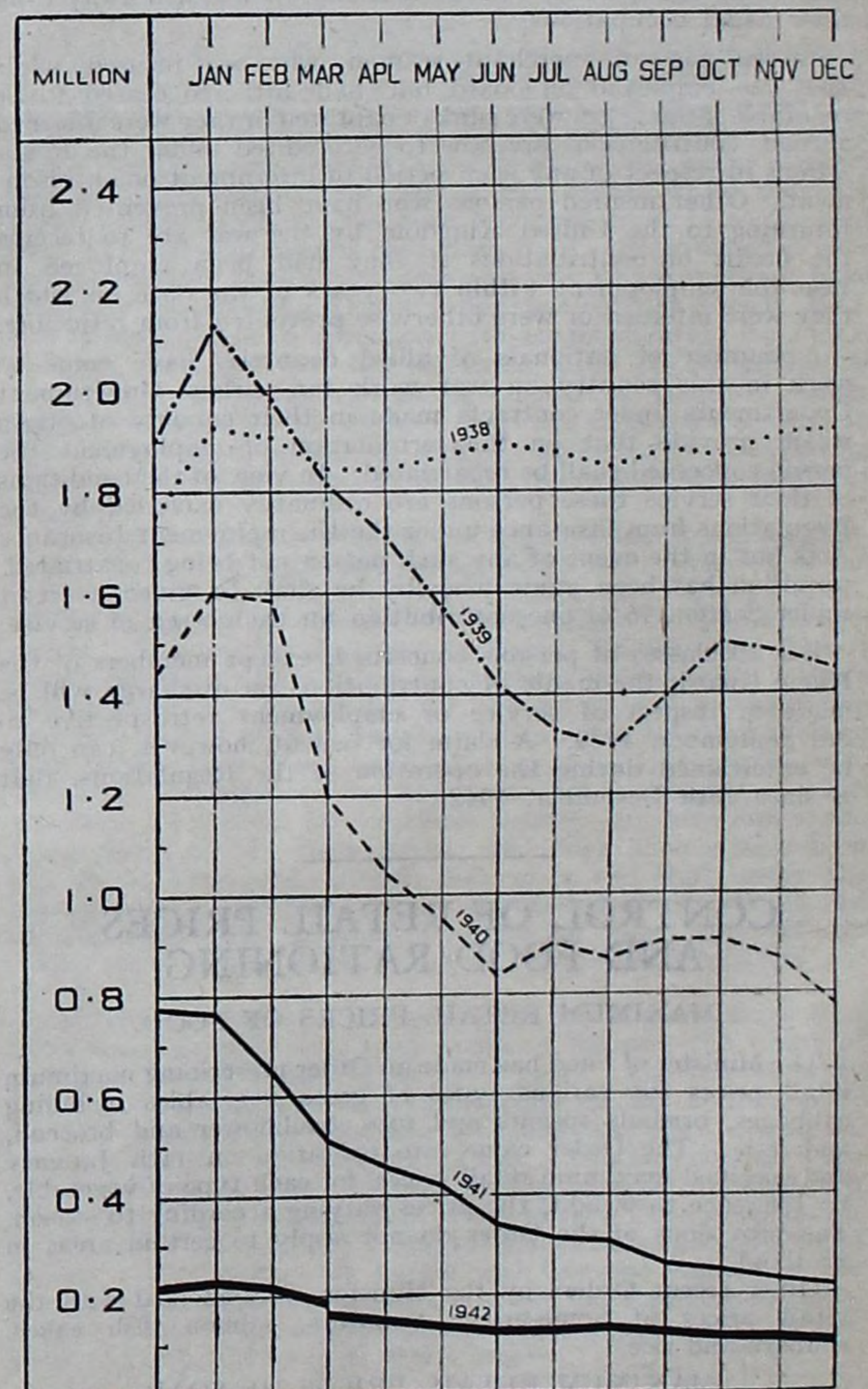
\* The figures are exclusive of 22,592 men classified as unsuitable for ordinary industrial employment and 895 women unsuitable for normal full-time employment.

The following Table shows the numbers on the registers at one date in each month since December, 1941:—

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.						
1941.						
8 December ..	84,235	8,108	62,058	10,823	165,224	189,020
1942.						
12 January ..	87,943	12,272	56,101	14,546	170,862	195,558
16 February ..	89,443	10,485	50,728	11,519	162,175	184,370
16 March* (a) ..	84,326	9,084	45,863	10,055	149,328	169,569
16 March* (b) ..	58,353		44,154		121,646	141,887
13 April ..	55,365	14,178	34,509	12,996	117,048	133,475
11 May ..	55,060	10,711	32,902	10,290	108,963	124,265
15 June ..	54,097	8,669	28,758	7,716	99,240	113,679
13 July ..	55,953	10,163	26,767	8,553	101,436	115,820
17 August ..	55,693	15,615	23,793	12,433	107,534	122,850
14 September ..	51,546	12,157	23,996	10,963	98,662	113,523
12 October ..	50,661	10,108	25,273	9,975	96,017	110,712
16 November ..	50,803	8,348	23,488	8,023	90,662	106,412
14 December ..	46,078	7,128	22,337	6,400	81,943	99,392
Temporarily Stopped and Unemployed Casual Workers.						
1941.						
8 December ..	13,862	87	8,303	878	23,130	27,498
1942.						
12 January ..	16,160	79	7,346	401	23,986	29,172
16 February ..	19,080	247	6,566	349	26,242	30,801
16 March ..	9,731	63	4,179	143	14,116	18,675
13 April ..	6,942	64	3,245	200	10,451	15,230
11 May ..	5,524	26	3,365	106	9,021	12,655
15 June ..	4,840	23	1,970	97	6,930	10,534
13 July ..	3,883	25	1,555	106	5,569	8,708
17 August ..	4,285	29	1,880	97	6,291	9,344
14 September ..	4,115	14	1,278	39	5,446	8,604
12 October ..	4,097	6	926	34	5,063	8,090
16 November ..	3,935	16	799	30	4,780	7,835
14 December ..	3,842	5	976	58	4,881	7,882

## UNEMPLOYMENT CHART.

NUMBERS ON THE REGISTERS IN GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.



Note.—From March, 1942, persons classified as unsuitable for ordinary employment have been excluded from the statistics relating to the numbers unemployed. The effect of the change is shown by the two points, on the chart, for that month.

\* The figures on line (a) include, while those on line (b) exclude, men classified by interviewing panels as unsuitable for ordinary industrial employment and women classified as unsuitable for normal full-time employment. The figures given in the Table for dates prior to March include, while those for later dates exclude persons in these categories.



COMPOSITION OF UNEMPLOYMENT  
STATISTICS: GREAT BRITAIN.

ANALYSIS FOR 14TH DECEMBER, 1942.

	Men 18 years and over.	Boys under 18 years.	Women 18 years and over.	Girls under 18 years.	Total.
<b>Insured on Register:—</b>					
1. Claimants to Benefit and applicants for Unemployment Allowances* .. .. { (a)	42,799	1,334	14,964	891	59,988
.. .. { (b)	18,680	—	451	—	19,131
2. Non-claimants* .. .. { (a)	4,487	4,761	6,250	4,259	19,757
.. .. { (b)	1,965	—	160	—	2,125
<b>Others on Register:—</b>					
3. Applicants for Unemployment Allowances* .. .. { (a)	892	3	466†	13	1,374
.. .. { (b)	887	—	207†	—	1,094
4. Persons without applications* .. .. { (a)	1,742	1,035	1,633	1,295	5,705
.. .. { (b)	1,060	—	77	—	1,137
<b>Total on Register*</b> .. .. { (a)	49,920	7,133	23,313	6,458	86,824
.. .. { (b)	22,592	—	895	—	23,487
<b>Insured Unemployed:—</b>					
5. Number on Register* (items 1 and 2) .. .. { (a)	47,286	6,095	21,214	5,150	79,745
.. .. { (b)	20,645	—	611	—	21,256
6. Two months' file† .. ..	15,666	3,131	26,041	3,516	48,354
7. Special Schemes—Claim- ants to Benefit .. ..	120	7	128	4	259
<b>Total*</b> .. .. { (a)	63,072	9,233§	47,383	8,670	128,358
.. .. { (b)	20,645	—	611	—	21,256

## UNEMPLOYMENT FUND.

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

	Thirteen weeks ended 26th December, 1942.	Thirteen weeks ended 26th September, 1942.	Thirteen weeks ended 27th December, 1941.
<b>(1) GENERAL ACCOUNT</b>	£	£	£
Contributions received from:—			
Employers .. ..	6,255,000	6,371,000	6,322,000
Employed persons ..	6,255,000	6,371,000	6,322,000
Exchequer .. ..	6,256,000	6,365,000	6,311,000
Miscellaneous Receipts	97,000	1,184,000	91,000
<b>Total Income ..</b>	<b>18,863,000</b>	<b>20,291,000</b>	<b>19,046,000</b>
Benefit .. ..	787,000	853,000	1,073,000
Cost of Administration	687,000	668,000	191,000
Miscellaneous Payments	76,000	60,000	86,000
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>1,550,000</b>	<b>1,581,000</b>	<b>1,350,000</b>
<b>(2) AGRICULTURAL ACCOUNT</b>			
Contributions received from:—			
Employers .. ..	110,000	162,000	48,000
Employed persons ..	110,000	162,000	48,000
Exchequer .. ..	110,000	161,000	48,000
Miscellaneous Receipts	4,000	59,000	7,000
<b>Total Income ..</b>	<b>334,000</b>	<b>544,000</b>	<b>151,000</b>
Benefit .. ..	10,000	10,000	13,000
Cost of Administration	41,000	60,000	17,000
Miscellaneous Payments	1,000	1,000	1,000
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>52,000</b>	<b>71,000</b>	<b>31,000</b>

## UNEMPLOYMENT ALLOWANCES.

For the period of thirteen weeks ended 26th December, 1942, expenditure on unemployment allowances (excluding the cost of administration) amounted to approximately £545,000, compared with £516,000 during the thirteen weeks ended 26th September, 1942, and £809,000 during the thirteen weeks ended 27th December, 1941.

Comparison of the figures for the December quarter of 1942, with those for earlier periods is affected by the increases, as from 17th August, 1942, in the rates of unemployment allowances, provided for by the Unemployment Assistance (Determination of Need and Assessment of Needs) (Amendment) Regulations, 1942 (see the issue of this GAZETTE for August, 1942, page 146).

\* The figures on line (a) exclude men classified as unsuitable for ordinary industrial employment and women classified as unsuitable for normal full-time employment; the figures on line (b) show the numbers of men and women in these categories.

† Including a small number of women who had ceased to be insurable under the Unemployment Insurance Acts 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.

‡ The two months' file of lodged books consists of books of persons who had registered as unemployed at some date within the previous two months and were not known to have found work, but were not maintaining registration for employment.

§ Including 4,188 boys aged 14 and 15.

|| Including 4,000 girls aged 14 and 15.

¶ A detailed account of the Fund is presented to Parliament annually (see H.C.35 of 1942 for the period ended 31st March, 1941).

## FATAL INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS.

The number of workpeople, other than seamen,\* whose deaths from accidents in the course of their employment occurred or were reported in Great Britain and Northern Ireland in December† was 225, as compared with 204‡ in the previous month and with 327§ in December, 1941. Details for separate industries are given below:—

MINES AND QUARRIES.	FACTORIES—continued.
Under Coal Mines Acts:	Paper, Printing, etc. .. 6
Underground .. .. 67	Gas Works .. .. 5
Surface .. .. 7	Electrical Stations .. 1
Metalliferous Mines .. 4	Other Industries .. .. 2
Quarries .. .. 3	
<b>TOTAL,</b>	<b>WORKS AND PLACES UNDER</b>
<b>MINES AND QUARRIES.. 81</b>	<b>SS. 105, 107, 108, FACTORIES</b>
	<b>ACT, 1937.</b>
	Docks, Wharves, Quays
	and Ships .. .. 15
	Building Operations .. 14
	Works of Construction.. 1
	<b>TOTAL, FACTORIES ACT 115</b>
<b>FACTORIES.</b>	<b>RAILWAY SERVICE.</b>
Clay, Stone, Cement, Pot- tery and Glass .. .. 5	Brakesmen, Goods Guards 4
Chemicals, Oils, Soap, etc. 4	Engine Drivers, Motor- men .. .. 3
Metal Extracting and Refining .. .. 4	Firemen .. .. 1
Metal Conversion and Founding (including Rolling Mills and Tube Making) .. .. 6	Guards (Passenger).. ..
Engineering, Locomotive Building, Boilermaking, etc. .. .. 18	Labourers .. ..
Railway and Tramway Carriages, Motor and other Vehicles and Air- craft Manufacture .. 5	Mechanics .. .. 3
Shipbuilding .. .. 11	Permanent Way Men .. 7
Other Metal Trades .. 4	Porters .. .. 2
Cotton, Wool, Worsted.. ..	Shunters .. .. 3
Other Textile Manu- facture .. .. 4	Other Grades .. .. 4
Tanning, Currying, etc. .. 1	Contractors' Servants .. 1
Food and Drink .. .. 5	<b>TOTAL, RAILWAY SERVICE 28</b>
General Woodwork and Furniture .. .. 4	Construction or Repair of Railway .. .. 1
	<b>Total (excluding Seamen) 225</b>

## INDUSTRIAL DISEASES.

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

I. Cases.	I. Cases—continued.
<b>LEAD POISONING.</b>	<b>EPITHELIOMATOUS ULCERATION</b>
Among Operatives engaged in:	(SKIN CANCER).
Smelting of Metals .. ..	Pitch .. .. 3
Plumbing and Soldering ..	Tar .. .. 3
Shipbreaking .. ..	<b>TOTAL .. .. 6</b>
Printing .. ..	
Other Contact with Molten Lead .. ..	<b>CHROME ULCERATION.</b>
White and Red Lead Works .. ..	Manufacture of Bichrom- ates .. .. 1
Pottery .. ..	Dyeing and Finishing .. 1
Vitreous Enamelling .. ..	Chrome Tanning .. .. 1
Electric Accumulator Works .. ..	Chromium Plating .. .. 3
Paint and Colour Works ..	Other Industries .. .. 10
Coach and Car Painting ..	<b>TOTAL .. .. 16</b>
Shipbuilding .. ..	<b>Total, Cases ... 36</b>
Paint used in Other Industries.. ..	
Other Industries .. .. 3	<b>II. Deaths.</b>
Painting of Buildings.. ..	<b>LEAD POISONING.</b>
<b>TOTAL .. .. 3</b>	Other Industries .. .. 1
<b>OTHER POISONING.</b>	
Aniline .. .. 2	<b>OTHER POISONING.</b>
Toxic Jaundice .. .. 3	Toxic Jaundice .. .. 1
Toxic Anaemia .. .. 4	Toxic Anæmia .. .. 1
<b>TOTAL .. .. 9</b>	<b>TOTAL .. .. 2</b>
<b>ANTHRAX.</b>	<b>Total, Deaths ... 3</b>
Wool .. .. 1	
Handling and Sorting of Hides and Skins .. .. 1	
<b>TOTAL .. .. 2</b>	

\* Statistics of fatal accidents to seamen are not available.

† For mines and quarries, weekly returns are furnished and the figures cover the 5 weeks ended 2nd January, 1943, in comparison with the 4 weeks ended 28th November, 1942, and the 5 weeks ended 3rd January, 1942.

‡ Revised figure. The total of 327 for December, 1941, included 57 deaths due to a colliery explosion and 48 deaths due to a fire at a factory.

§ 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 RATES OF WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR IN DECEMBER.

## Rates of Wages.

In the industries covered by the Department's statistics,\* the changes in rates of wages reported to have come into operation in Great Britain and Northern Ireland during December resulted in an aggregate increase estimated at about £250,000 in the weekly full-time wages of nearly 1,240,000 workpeople. No reductions in wages were reported during the month.

The principal groups of workpeople whose wage rates were increased included women and girls employed in the engineering industry, and workers employed in the railway service, the heavy chemical and allied industries, sugar confectionery and food preserving, and the furniture industry.

In the engineering industry, the national bonus for women 18 years and over on time-work and piece-work was increased by 4s. a week to 22s. a week, with increases of 1s. to 3s. a week for girls, and, in addition, a special bonus of 3s. a week was granted to women of 21 years and over engaged on plain time-work, with smaller amounts for younger workers. For railway workers in the traffic grades, the war advances previously granted were increased by 5s. a week for men, by 3s. 9d. a week for women, and by smaller amounts for junior male and female workers. These increases absorbed certain war advances granted since January, 1941. In the heavy chemical industry there was an increase for male and female workers of all ages of 1d. an hour. An increase of the same amount was granted to workpeople engaged in the manufacture of chemical fertilisers and glue and gelatine and in the chemical manufacturing side of the plastics industry. In the sugar confectionery, cocoa and chocolate and food preserving industry, the minimum time rates

fixed under the Trade Boards Acts were raised by  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. an hour for adult workers and  $\frac{1}{4}$ d. an hour for juvenile workers, and piece-work basis time rates were raised by  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. or  $\frac{3}{4}$ d. an hour. In the furniture manufacturing industry, a revision in the cost-of-living sliding-scale arrangements resulted in the Trade Board minimum rates being raised by 1d. an hour for men and women and by  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. an hour for younger workers. Other groups of workpeople whose wage rates were increased included employees engaged in the manufacture of tin boxes and other metal containers, and in the manufacture of linen and cotton handkerchiefs and household goods and linen piece goods in Great Britain, women and girls employed by retail distributive co-operative societies, and male and female mental nurses employed at mental hospitals and institutions.

Of the total increase of £250,000, approximately £97,000 was due to arrangements made by joint standing bodies of employers and workers, and nearly all the remainder was the result of direct negotiations between employers and workpeople or their representatives.

[Output Bonus in Coal Mining.—The amount of increase in rates of wages quoted above, and the details in the Table below, do not include the bonuses on output in the coal mining industry referred to on page 13.]

## Hours of Labour.

No important changes were reported during December.

## Changes in Wages and Hours in 1942.

A special article dealing with these changes appears on pages 2 to 4.

## PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING DECEMBER.

Industry.	District.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change.
Mining and Quarrying.	Nottinghamshire, Leicestershire and adjoining parts of Lincolnshire, Northamptonshire and Banbury.	1st pay week in Sept.†	Ironstone miners and quarrymen and limestone quarrymen:— Men .. .. . Youths and boys .. .. .	Cost-of-living sliding scale revised, resulting in the flat-rate addition (previously granted) being increased by 1s. a day or shift (1s. 6-4d. to 2s. 6-4d.), and an increase of 1s. a day or shift granted in addition.† Cost-of-living sliding scale revised, resulting in the flat-rate addition (previously granted) being increased by 1s. 1-6d. a day or shift (9-2d. to 1s. 10-8d.) for youths 18 and under 21 years and by 6d. (9-2d. to 1s. 3-2d.) for those under 18, and increases of 9d. and 6d. a day or shift, respectively, granted in addition.†
Chemical Manufacture.	Great Britain (certain firms).‡	21 Dec.	Workpeople employed in the heavy chemical and allied industries (except engineering tradesmen and apprentices).	Weekly war additions (previously granted) of 13s. for males 18 years and over, 9s. for females 18 years and over, and 6s. 6d. for males and females under 18 years converted into hourly war supplements of 3½d., 2½d., and 1½d., respectively, and increased by 1d. an hour. Rates after change include: adult male day labourers 1s. 3½d. plus war supplement of 4½d., adult female day workers 9½d. plus 3½d.
	England and Wales (certain firms).§	Beginning of 1st pay week in Dec.	Men, youths, boys, women and girls employed in the manufacture of heavy chemicals (except those whose wages are regulated by movements in other industries).	Increase of 1d. an hour. Rates after change include: men—day labourers 1s. 7½d., shiftworkers, 3-shift system 1s. 9½d., 2-shift system (day shifts) 1s. 8½d., nightworkers (continuous) 1s. 9½d.; women—on women's work (21 years and over) 11½d., on men's work, for 1st month 1s. 0½d. and thereafter 1s. 2½d. or, if able to carry out a man's work without assistance or supervision, the full man's rate.
Chemical Fertilizer Manufacture.	Great Britain (certain firms).	Beginning of 1st pay week in Dec.	Men, youths, boys, women and girls	Increase of 1d. an hour. Rates after change include: men—day labourers 1s. 7½d., 1s. 6½d., 1s. 5½d. (according to class of firm), shiftworkers, 3-shift system 1s. 9½d., 1s. 8½d., 1s. 7½d., 2-shift system (day shifts) 1s. 8½d., 1s. 7½d., 1s. 6½d.; women—on women's work (21 years and over) 11½d., 11½d., 11d., on men's work, for 1st month 1s. 0½d., 11½d., 11d. and thereafter 1s. 2½d., 1s. 1½d., 1s. 1d., or, if able to carry out a man's work without assistance or supervision, the full man's rate.
Glue and Gelatine Manufacture.	Great Britain (certain firms).	Beginning of 1st pay week in Dec.	Men, youths, boys, women and girls	Increase of 1d. an hour. Rates after change include: men—day labourers 1s. 6½d., shiftworkers, 3-shift system 1s. 7½d., 2-shift system (day shifts) 1s. 7½d., women—on women's work (21 years and over) 11d., on men's work, for 1st month 1s. and thereafter 1s. 2d. or, if able to carry out a man's work without assistance or supervision, the full man's rate.
Plastics Manufacture.	Great Britain (certain firms).	Beginning of 1st pay week in Dec.	Men, youths, boys, women and girls employed in the chemical manufacturing side of the plastics industry.	Increase of 1d. an hour. Rates after change include: men—day labourers 1s. 7½d., shiftworkers, 3-shift system 1s. 9½d., 2-shift system (day shifts) 1s. 8½d.; women—on women's work (21 years and over) 11½d., on men's work, for 1st month 1s. 0½d. and thereafter 1s. 2½d. or, if able to carry out a man's work without assistance or supervision, the full man's rate.
Tin Box Manufacture.	Great Britain	23 Dec.	Men, youths, boys, women (18 years and over) and girls employed in the manufacture of tin boxes and other metal containers.	Increases of 1½d. an hour in general minimum time rates for men and women, and of ½d., ¾d., or 1d., according to age, for younger workers. (Piecework basis time rates continue to be 15 per cent above the appropriate minimum time rate.)
Keg and Drum Manufacture.	Great Britain	30 Dec.	Men, youths, boys, women (18 years and over) and girls.	Increases of 1d. an hour in general minimum time rates and piecework basis time rates for men and women, of ¾d. to ½d. for youths and boys and of ¾d. to ½d. for girls.
Engineering	Great Britain and Northern Ireland.	Pay period starting in week beginning 21 Dec.	Women and girls, employed in the engineering and allied industries, who are paid on the women's schedule of rates (but excluding those whose rates are related to the rates of male workers).	National bonus for timeworkers and pieceworkers increased by 1s. to 4s. a week, according to age. Rates of bonus after change: 7s. at 14 years increasing to 22s. at 18 years and over. Special timeworker's bonus (additional to national bonus) of 1s. at 14 years and under 18 increasing to 3s. at 21 and over granted to workers engaged on plain timework.

\* The particulars of numbers affected and amount of change in the weekly wages and hours of labour exclude changes affecting Government employees, agricultural workers, shop assistants and clerks, for which classes the information available is not sufficient to form a basis for statistics. Where information is available, however details of changes in the wages and hours of these classes are shown in the list of principal changes recorded. The estimates of the effects of the changes on weekly wages are based on normal conditions of employment and do not take into account the effect of overtime working, etc.

† The increases for men were the result of an arbitration award dated 26th December, 1942, and were made retrospective to the date shown above. The increases for youths and boys were fixed by agreement between the employers and workpeople.

‡ These increases applied to workers employed by firms (other than the metal group) which are constituent firms of Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd., including time workers at Buxton and Colwyn Bay.

§ These increases were agreed upon by the Joint Industrial Council for the industry, and did not apply to workpeople employed by constituent firms of Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd.

|| These increases took effect under Orders issued under the Trade Boards Acts. Details of the minimum rates are contained in the Confirming Orders of the Minister of Labour and National Service, obtainable from H.M. Stationery Office. (For workers employed in tin box manufacture, corresponding increases had already been put into operation voluntarily as from the first full pay period following 1st November, 1942, in anticipation of the Trade Board Order).



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

Industry.	District.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change.
Linen and Cotton Handkerchief and Household Goods and Linen Piece Goods Manufacture.	Great Britain ..	21 Dec.	Men, youths, boys, women and girls	Increase of 10 per cent. in general minimum time rates and piecework basis time rates.*
Boot and Shoe Repairing.	Great Britain .. ..	28 Dec.	Men and women who enter the trade for the first time at or over 21 years and on or after 28 December, 1942:— Employed in benching and finishing operations (hand or machine). Employed in occupations for which special minimum rates are not fixed. Male and female learners to bespoke handsewn making. Apprentices employed under written contract of apprenticeship entered into on or after 28 December, 1942.	General minimum time rates fixed of 49s. a week in 1st 13 weeks' employment increasing to 70s. in 53rd to 65th week (inclusive), the full minimum rate being applicable thereafter.* General minimum time rates fixed of 49s. a week for men and 35s. 6d. a week for women in 1st 13 weeks' employment, increasing to 70s. and 51s. 6d. in 53rd to 65th week (inclusive), the full minimum rates being applicable thereafter.* General minimum time rates applicable to learners entering the trade at 15 years and over raised to the scale applied to those who enter at under 15 years, resulting in increases of various amounts for those entering the trade at 15 and under 18 years.* General minimum time rates fixed of 15s. a week at under 15 years increasing to 46s. at under 21.*
Sugar Confectionery, Cocoa and Chocolate Manufacture and Food Preserving.	Great Britain ..	30 Dec.	Men, youths, boys, women and girls	Increases of ½d. an hour in general minimum time rates for workers 21 years and over and of ¼d. for younger workers, and increases of ¼d. an hour in piecework basis time rates for male workers and certain classes of female workers, and of ½d. for other female workers.*
Bacon Curing.	Londonderry ..	Beginning of 1st full pay period following 18 Dec.	Men, youths and boys .. ..	Increases of 2s. 6d. a week for those 21 years and over and of 1s. 3d. for those under 21 years. Rates after change: labourers 58s. 6d., rollers and boners 64s. 6d., cutters and curers 66s. 6d., youths and boys 18s. 3d. at under 15 years increasing to 33s. 3d. at 20 and under 21 years.
Furniture Manufacture.	Great Britain ..	23 Dec.	Men, youths, boys, women (19 years and over) and girls.	Cost-of-living sliding-scale arrangements revised resulting in increases of 1d. an hour in general minimum time rates for men and women and of ½d. for younger male and female workers. (Piecework basis time rates continue to be 15 per cent. above the appropriate minimum time rate).*
Plywood Manufacture.	High Wycombe and district.	23 Dec.	Do. .. ..	Increases of 1d. an hour for men and women and of ½d. for younger male workers (including apprentices) and female workers.
Crate Manufacture.	North Staffordshire ..	1st pay week in Dec.	Men .. ..	Extra war bonus granted of 1d. an hour for men and women and of ½d. for younger workers.
Railway Service	Great Britain ..	24 June†	Workers engaged in the manipulation of traffic. Railway-owned dock staff (adult males, 20 years and over). Junior male staff (except engine cleaners) engaged in the manipulation of traffic. Salaried staff and staff paid on salary equivalent rates.	Flat-rate addition to earnings of 2d. an hour.† War advances increased by 5s. a week (11s. to 16s.) for adult males (20 years and over) other than railway-owned dock staff, by 2s. 6d. (5s. 6d. to 8s.) for junior males, by 3s. 9d. (8s. 3d. to 12s.) for adult females (20 years and over) and by 1s. 9d. (4s. 3d. to 6s.) for junior females.‡ Increase of 5s. a week in composite war wage.‡ Standard rates of pay increased by 1s. 6d. a week at 15 years and under, by 2s. 6d. at 16 and 17 years, and by 1s. 6d. at 18 and under 19 years. Composite war wages after change (inclusive of war advance shown above), 25s. 6d. at 15 years and under increasing to 48s. at 19 and under 20 years.‡ War advances increased by £13 12s. a year (from £28 to £41 12s.) for adult males (18 years and over), by £6 16s. (£14 to £20 16s.) for junior males, by 3s. 9d. a week (8s. 3d. to 12s.) for adult females (18 years and over) and by 1s. 9d. (4s. 3d. to 6s.) for junior females.‡ War bonus increased by 6d. a week (7s. 6d. to 8s. for males and 6s. 6d. to 7s. for females).§ Increase of ¼d. an hour.
Mental Hospitals and Institutions. Local Authorities (Non-trading services).	Various districts in England and Wales. Middlesbrough and Darlington.	1 Dec. 1st pay period following 4 Dec.	Male and female mental nurses .. Manual workers (except those whose wages are regulated by movements in other industries).	
Roller Leather Manufacture.	England and Wales ..	1st pay day in Dec.	Men, youths and boys .. ..	Increases of 1½d. an hour for men and of ¾d. for youths and boys on timework and a further 5 per cent. (20 to 25 per cent.) on pre-war rates for pieceworkers. Rates after change: men, skilled (all districts) 1s. 8½d., semi-skilled—Lancashire, Cheshire and Wrexham—wet workers 1s. 6½d., dry workers 1s. 5½d.; other districts—wet workers 1s. 4½d., dry workers 1s. 4d. Youths and boys (all districts) 6½d. at under 16 years increasing to 1s. 1½d. at 20.
Brush and Broom Manufacture.	Northern Ireland ..	7 Dec.	Women and girls .. .. Workpeople paid at piece rates ..	Increase of ¾d. an hour. Rates after change: 5½d. at under 16 years increasing to 1s. 0½d. at 21 and over. Cost-of-living sliding-scale arrangements revised resulting in increases of 1½d. an hour in piecework basis time-rates for males and ¾d. for females, and of approximately 8 per cent. in general minimum piece-rates.*
Retail Distribution	Great Britain ..	1st pay day in Dec.	Women and girls employed by retail co-operative societies.	War advances increased by 3s. a week (10s. to 13s.) for those 21 years and over, by 1s. 6d. (7s. to 8s. 6d.) for those 18 and under 21 and by 6d. (5s. 6d. to 6s.) for those under 18.

\* These changes took effect under Orders issued under the Trade Boards Acts. Details of the minimum rates are contained in the Confirming Orders of the Minister of Labour, obtainable from H.M. Stationery Office. (In the case of the furniture industry, increases of corresponding amounts had been granted voluntarily earlier in the year in a number of districts.)

† Earnings are determined by selling prices and output, the workers obtaining a fixed proportion (8s. 4d. in the £1, plus a bonus of 20 per cent.) of the value of the crates made.

‡ These increases were awarded by the Railway Staff National Tribunal on 9th December, with effect from 24th June, 1942. The increases absorb all war advances granted since 6th January, 1941, except (i) the increase of 4s. 6d. a week for certain grades of the traffic staff awarded by the Tribunal with effect from March, 1942, or the increases resulting from consequential adjustments, and (ii) any increases in standard rates of salary scales. The increases thus absorbed consisted of (a) increases of 4s. a week for engine drivers, motormen and firemen, which took effect in March, 1942, (b) increases for junior traffic staff of 2s. a week for males and 1s. 6d. for females, which took effect in May, 1942, and (c) increases for salaried staff of £10 a year for adult males, £5 a year for junior males, 3s. a week for adult females, and 1s. 6d. a week for junior females, which took effect in June, 1942.

§ This increase was the result of an arbitration award. In the case of resident staff, the amounts of bonus are half those quoted.

|| This increase took effect as the result of an Industrial Court Award, by which a special temporary bonus of ¼d. an hour, which had been withdrawn in July, 1941, was restored as from the date stated.

## OUTPUT BONUS IN THE COAL MINING INDUSTRY.

Under the scheme providing for the payment of a bonus to workers in the coal mining industry for output in excess of a specified tonnage (see the issue of this GAZETTE for November, 1942, page 191), the calculation for the four weeks ended 26th December showed that the workers in twelve districts were entitled to receive a bonus. For adult workers the amounts of bonus were as follows:—Somerset 1s. 9d. a shift, South Derbyshire 1s. 6d., Leicestershire 1s. 3d., Shropshire 1s. 0d., Nottinghamshire, Fife and Clackmannan and Lothians 9d., Lancashire and Cheshire and North Staffordshire 6d., Northumberland, Durham and North Derbyshire 3d. These bonuses are payable for a period of four weeks, the first payment being made on the pay-day in the week ended 16th January.



## TRADE DISPUTES IN DECEMBER.\*

**Number and Magnitude.**—The number of disputes involving stoppages of work, reported to the Department as beginning in Great Britain and Northern Ireland during December, was 87, as compared with 130 in the previous month and 76 in December, 1941. In these 87 new disputes about 23,000 workpeople were directly involved, and 2,000 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 300 workpeople were involved, either directly or indirectly, in 7 disputes which began before December and were still in progress at the beginning of that month. The number of disputes in progress in December was thus 94, involving about 25,300 workpeople, and resulting in a loss, during December, estimated at about 90,000 working days.

**Duration.**—Of 87 disputes ending in December, 19, directly involving 5,500 workpeople, lasted not more than one day; 30, directly involving 5,700 workpeople, lasted two days; 13, directly involving 3,000 workpeople, lasted three days; 18, directly involving 5,200 workpeople, lasted four to six days, and 7, directly involving 2,400 workpeople, lasted over six days.

**Causes.**—Of the 87 disputes beginning in December, 25, directly involving 6,900 workpeople, arose out of demands for advances in wages, 7, directly involving 2,600 workpeople, out of proposed reductions in wages, and 24, directly involving 7,200 workpeople, on other wage questions; 11, directly involving 3,200 workpeople, on questions respecting the employment of particular classes or persons; and 18, directly involving 3,000 workpeople, on other questions respecting working arrangements. Two stoppages, directly involving 100 workpeople, were in support of workers involved in another dispute.

**Results.**—Final settlements of disputes which terminated during December have been effected in the case of 70 disputes, directly involving 16,000 workpeople. Of these disputes, 14, directly involving 3,500 workpeople, were settled in favour of the workpeople; 35, directly involving 7,000 workpeople, were

settled in favour of the employers; and 21, directly involving 5,500 workpeople, resulted in a compromise. In the case of 17 other disputes, directly involving 5,800 workpeople, work was resumed pending negotiations.

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

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..	..	17	17	4,900	48,000
Chemical, etc. ..	..	3	3	1,000	2,000
Metal, Engineering and Shipbuilding ..	5	52	57	13,300	30,000
Textile ..	1	3	4	2,200	3,000
Transport ..	1	2	3	3,000	5,000
Other Industries ..	..	10	10	900	2,000
Total, December, 1942	7	87	94	25,300	90,000
Total, November, 1942	7	130	137	40,300	93,000
Total, December, 1941 ..	3	76	79	22,400	37,000

## STATISTICS FOR 1942.

The total number of disputes involving stoppages of work reported as having begun in 1942 was 1,281. The total number of workpeople involved in all disputes in progress during the year (including disputes which began in 1941 and extended into 1942) was about 455,000. The aggregate duration in 1942 of all disputes in progress during the year was over 1,500,000 working days.

A summary of the statistics of disputes in 1942, with comparative statistics for 1941, and, in less detail, for earlier years, is given in the annual review on pages 5 and 6 of this issue.

## PRINCIPAL DISPUTES INVOLVING STOPPAGES OF WORK DURING DECEMBER.

Occupations† and Locality.	Approximate Number of Workpeople involved.		Date when Stoppage.		Cause or Object.	Result.
	Directly.	In-directly†	Began	Ended.		
COAL MINING :— Underground and surface workers— Yorkshire (one colliery)	1,257	268	1 Dec.	30 Dec.‡	Dissatisfaction with an Arbitration Award, providing for the operation, as from 4th December, 1942, of a new price list which involved a reduction in the wages of fillers, and the proposed operation of which had caused a stoppage of work at the colliery in May, 1942.	New price list accepted.
ENGINEERING :— Engineering operatives—near Coventry (one firm).	1,967§	..	10 Dec.§	12 Dec.	Dispute respecting piece-work rates.	Work resumed on advice of trade union official and dispute referred to a Works Conference.
Machinists, turners, fitters, etc.— Glasgow (one firm).	1,100	..	11 Dec.	17 Dec.	Against management's action in withdrawing, without prior notice, the merit allowances of a number of female machinists.	Settlement effected providing for restoration of the allowances pending investigation and review of each individual case, and for due notice of similar action in future.
Boilermakers, fitters, turners and other engineering operatives— Derbyshire (one firm).	910	..	16 Dec.	21 Dec.	Alleged dictatorial attitude of works manager, workpeople demanding his removal, and dissatisfaction with working conditions.	Work resumed pending negotiations.
Engineering operatives—Birming- ham (one firm).	1,100	..	28–31 Dec.¶	2 Jan.	Against proposed reduction in piece-work rates and in time allowed for certain operations, following rearrangement of production methods.	Work resumed pending negotiations.
SHIPBUILDING :— Shipbuilding operatives—Clydeside (two firms).	1,170	..	17 Dec.	17 Dec.	Objection to employers' decision to make up wages to Monday night, 28th December, and pay at noon on Thursday, 31st December, in view of New Year Holidays—wages being normally made up to Tuesday night and paid on following Friday night.	Work resumed.
TUBE MANUFACTURE :— Workpeople employed in iron and steel tube manufacture—Glasgow (one firm).	766**	..	15 Dec.**	18 Dec.	Against management's action in applying for permission to discharge 10 male examiners for the purpose of a re-organisation scheme involving their replacement by females.	Work resumed pending decision of National Service Officer.
COTTON WEAVING :— Weavers and other operatives —Blackburn.	687	110	1 Dec.††	9 Dec.††	For an increase in amount of bonus payment.	Work resumed pending the outcome of general negotiations respecting wages in the cotton industry.
TRANSPORT :— Railway goods and parcels staff— Manchester.	3,000	..	9 Dec.	10 Dec.	Dissatisfaction with alleged delay in announcing decision of Railway Staff National Tribunal in respect of a claim for increased wages, and demand that any increase awarded should be paid before Christmas.	Work resumed following notification that an award had been issued, and that a lump sum token payment would be made before Christmas.

\* Disputes involving less than 10 workpeople, and those which lasted less than one day, have, as usual, been omitted from the statistics, except when the aggregate duration (*i.e.*, number of workpeople multiplied by number of working days, allowing for workpeople replaced, etc.), exceeded 100 days.

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

‡ Work was resumed on 4th January, 1943.

§ Only about 250 workpeople were affected during the afternoon of 10th and morning of 11th December.

|| Only a few workpeople were idle on 16th December. There was a general stoppage on 17th December, but work was resumed that evening; a further stoppage, however, occurred during the afternoon of 21st December.

¶ Several stoppages, involving varying numbers of workpeople, occurred between these dates.

\*\* Approximately 200 workpeople ceased work on 15th December. Work was resumed on 16th December, but there was a general stoppage of work as from the night shift of 16th/17th December.

†† Five mills were affected for varying periods between 1st and 9th December.



## CHANGES IN RETAIL PRICES AND COST OF LIVING.

## Summary of Index Figures for 1st January, 1943.

	Food	All Items
Increase since July, 1914.. ..	64%	99%
Change since 1st Index Points ..	nil	—1
December, 1942 Per cent. ..	nil	— $\frac{1}{2}$ *

## FOOD.

At 1st January, 1943, there was very little change, as compared with 1st December, 1942, in the average level of the retail prices of any of the articles of food included within the scope of these statistics.

The following Table compares the average retail prices in the United Kingdom at 1st January, 1943, with the corresponding prices at 1st December, 1942, and 1st September, 1939 :—

Article.	Average Price (per lb. unless otherwise indicated) to the nearest $\frac{1}{4}$ d., at—			Percentage Increase or Decrease (—) at 1st Jan., 1943, compared with	
	1st Jan., 1943.	1st Dec., 1942.	1st Sept., 1939.	1st Dec., 1942.	1st Sept., 1939.
Beef, British—	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Ribs .. ..	1 3 $\frac{1}{4}$	1 3 $\frac{1}{4}$	1 2 $\frac{1}{4}$	..	11
Thin Flank ..	0 9 $\frac{1}{4}$	0 9 $\frac{1}{4}$	0 7 $\frac{1}{4}$	..	27
Beef, Chilled or Frozen					
Ribs .. ..	1 1	1 1	0 9 $\frac{1}{4}$	1	35
Thin Flank ..	0 6	0 6	0 4 $\frac{1}{4}$	..	22
Mutton, British—					
Legs .. ..	1 5 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 5 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 3 $\frac{1}{4}$	..	13
Breast .. ..	0 8	0 8	0 7 $\frac{1}{4}$	..	8
Mutton, Frozen—					
Legs .. ..	1 0	1 0	0 10 $\frac{1}{4}$	..	16
Breast .. ..	0 4	0 4	0 4	..	..
Bacon† .. ..	1 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 3	..	50
Fish .. ..	..	..	..	..	32
Flour .. per 7 lb.	1 5	1 5	1 1 $\frac{1}{4}$	..	26
Bread .. per 4 lb.	0 9	0 9	0 8 $\frac{1}{4}$	..	9
Tea .. ..	2 6	2 6	2 4	..	7
Sugar (granulated) ..	0 3	0 3	0 3	..	—1
Milk .. per quart	0 9	0 9	0 6 $\frac{1}{4}$	..	33
Butter—					
Fresh .. ..	1 8	1 8	1 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	..	21
Salt .. ..	..	..	1 3 $\frac{1}{4}$	..	31
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	0 2	..	..	1
Potatoes per 7 lb.	0 6 $\frac{1}{4}$	0 6 $\frac{1}{4}$	0 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	..	6

The following Table shows the average percentage changes in prices at 1st September, 1939, 1st December, 1942, and 1st January, 1943, respectively, as compared with July, 1914 :—

Article.	Average Percentage Increase or Decrease (—) since July, 1914, at—		
	1st Sept., 1939.	1st Dec., 1942.	1st Jan., 1943.
Beef, British—	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Ribs .. ..	44	59	59
Thin Flank .. ..	15	46	46
Beef, Chilled or Frozen—			
Ribs .. ..	32	78	79
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	102	102
Fish .. ..	116	184	185
Flour .. ..	26	59	59
Bread .. ..	42	55	55
Tea .. ..	52	63	63
Sugar (granulated) ..	46	45	45
Milk .. ..	92	156	156
Butter—			
Fresh .. ..	13	37	37
Salt .. ..	7	41	41
Cheese .. ..	16	51	51
Margarine† .. ..	—8	3	3
Eggs (fresh)§ .. ..	58	59	59
Potatoes .. ..	33	41	40
All above articles (Weighted Average on July, 1914, basis)	38	64	64

On the basis of the figures given in the foregoing Tables the average level of retail food prices at 1st January, 1943, was about the same as at 1st December, 1942, about 19 per cent. higher than at the beginning of September, 1939, and about 64 per cent. higher than in July, 1914.

\* A fall of 1 point on a total for "all items" of 200 (the figure for July, 1914, being 100), is equivalent to one-half of 1 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.

‡ On 1st December, 1942, and 1st January, 1943, 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 December, 1942, and 1st January, 1943, 2d. was for large eggs (in Ministry of Food category I) and 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. for small eggs (in category II). At 1st September, 1939, the average price for eggs, as shown by the returns received, was between 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. and 2d.

## ITEMS OTHER THAN FOOD.

The average level of working-class *rents* (including rates) at 1st January showed no appreciable change as compared with 1st December, 1942, 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 January the retail prices of clothing of the kinds generally bought by working-class families averaged about 2 per cent. below the level of a month earlier, and about 78 per cent. higher than at 1st September, 1939. The average decrease in prices since 1st December, 1942, was about 2 per cent. for men's suits and overcoats and for woollen materials, underclothing and hosiery; and about 1 per cent. for cotton materials and hosiery and for boots and shoes. The decline in the average level of clothing prices during December was the result of the larger proportions of utility cloth and apparel on sale at prices below those of non-utility goods of corresponding quality. 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 such information as is available indicates that at 1st January the average rise over the level of July, 1914, was about 270 per cent.

In the *fuel and light* group, the average level of prices of coal at 1st January was about 2 per cent. above the level of 1st December, 1942, as a result of a general increase of 1s. per ton and  $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per cwt. which took effect on 1st January. There was little change in the prices of gas. Prices of coal averaged about 30 per cent. higher than at 1st September, 1939, and about 153 per cent. above the level of July, 1914: prices of gas averaged about 30 per cent. higher than at 1st September, 1939, and about 100 per cent. higher than in July, 1914. There was little change during the month in the prices of lamp oil, candles and matches. In the fuel and light group as a whole the average level of prices at 1st January was about 1 per cent. higher than at 1st December, about 34 per cent. higher than at 1st September, 1939, and about 144 per cent. higher than in July, 1914.

As regards *other items*\* included in these statistics, there were relatively few changes in prices during December. In the group as a whole the average level of prices at 1st January was about the same as at 1st December, about 50 per cent. higher than at 1st September, 1939, and about 168 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 January, 1943, is approximately **99 per cent. over the level of July, 1914**, as compared with 100 per cent. at 1st December, 1942, and 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 percentage 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 4 points represent the effect of the increases, since that date, in the taxes on sugar, tobacco and cigarettes, and matches; and between 3 and 3 $\frac{1}{4}$  points are due to increases resulting from the Purchase Tax.

## SUMMARY TABLE : ALL ITEMS.

Average Percentage Increases as compared with July, 1914.

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	100	101	101
1942 ..	100	100	100	99	100	99	100	101	100	100	100	100
1943 ..	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 the addresses shown on page 18 of this GAZETTE.

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



## RETAIL PRICES OVERSEAS.

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

### UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

At the middle of September, 1942, the official cost-of-living index figure was 0.3 per cent. higher than the figure for the previous month and 19.5 per cent. above that for June, 1939. For food alone the official index figure showed increases of 0.4 and 35.4 per cent. over the figures for the previous month and for August, 1939, respectively.

### CANADA.

At 1st October, 1942, the official cost-of-living index figure showed a rise of 0.3 per cent. over the figure for 1st September, 1942, and of 16.9 per cent. over that for 1st September, 1939. For food alone the index figure at 1st October, 1942, showed increases of 1.0 and 30.6 per cent. as compared with the figures for 1st September, 1942, and 1st September, 1939.

### INDIA.

In September, 1942, the official cost-of-living index figure for the working classes in Bombay showed a rise of 1.2 per cent. over the figure for August, 1942, which showed no change as compared with that for July, 1942. As compared with the figure for August, 1939, the figures for September and August, 1942, showed increases of 61.9 and 60.0 per cent. respectively. For food alone the figure for September, 1942, was 1.0 and 77.7 per cent. higher than those for August, 1942, and August, 1939, respectively, and that for August, 1942, was 1.5 per cent. below the figure for July, 1942, but 75.9 per cent. above the figure for August, 1939.

### UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.

In September, 1942, the official cost-of-living index figure showed increases of 0.6 and 19.2 per cent. over the figures for August, 1942, and August, 1939, respectively. For food alone the corresponding percentage increases were 0.4 and 23.6 respectively.

### SOUTHERN RHODESIA.

In October, 1942, the official cost-of-living index figure showed a rise of 0.4 per cent. over the figure for September, 1942, and of 13.5 per cent. over the figure for August, 1939. For food alone the index figure for October, 1942, was 0.8 per cent. below that for September, 1942, but 13.3 per cent. above the figure for August, 1939.

### PORTUGAL.

In August, 1942, the official (weighted) index figure of the cost of food, fuel and light, and certain other household articles in Lisbon was 1.7 per cent. above the figure for July, 1942, and 43.0 per cent. higher than that for August, 1939. The figure for 15th August, 1942, in the separate official series of (un-weighted) index figures relating to the whole of Portugal showed increases of 0.8 and 47.2 per cent. respectively over the figures for July, 1942, and August, 1939.

## EMPLOYMENT OVERSEAS.

### UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Returns received by the Bureau of Labour Statistics from employers covering over 55 per cent. of the aggregate number of workpeople employed in manufacturing industries showed that the numbers employed in those industries in September were 1.6 per cent. higher than in August, 1942, 9.6 per cent. higher than in September, 1941, and 48.2 per cent. above the average for the years 1923-25.

### CANADA.

According to returns received by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics from about 13,140 firms employing at least fifteen persons, the total number of workpeople employed at 1st September was 0.8 per cent. higher than at 1st August, 1942, and 10.2 per cent. higher than at 1st September, 1941; it was 79.3 per cent. above the average number for the year 1926.

Returns rendered by trade unions with a total membership of approximately 376,000 showed that the percentage rate of unemployment among their members at the beginning of September was 0.9. The corresponding figures for the beginning of August, 1942, and the beginning of September, 1941, were 1.8 and 2.4 respectively.

### UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.

Returns received by the Office of Census and Statistics from selected industrial establishments, together with information relating to mining and transport undertakings, showed that employment in August, 1942, was 0.8 per cent. lower than in July, but 3.2 per cent. higher than in August, 1941. In arriving at these figures no allowance has been made for the expansion of industry due to the opening up of new industrial establishments.

### ÉIRE.

The number of persons on the live registers of the Employment Exchanges at 26th December was 83,963, compared with 81,830 at 28th November, 1942, and 96,486 at 27th December, 1941.

## LEGAL CASES AFFECTING LABOUR.

ESSENTIAL WORK (GENERAL PROVISIONS) ORDER, 1941—  
CANCELLATION OF PERMISSION TO DISMISS EMPLOYEE—  
CLAIM FOR WAGES FOR INTERIM PERIOD TO CANCELLATION  
OF PERMISSION.

In *Docker v. Standard Telephones and Cables Ltd.* the facts were:—On 13th November, 1941, the appellants, whose undertaking was scheduled under the Order, applied to the National Service Officer for permission to discharge the respondent who was employed by them as a nurse in their works. The National Service Officer granted permission on 22nd November, 1941, whereupon the appellants gave the respondent a week's notice pursuant to the Order and she was paid wages down to 29th November. On 24th November the respondent appealed to the Local Appeal Board and her appeal was granted on 12th December. On 15th December the National Service Officer issued a notice cancelling the permission previously given to discharge the respondent. The respondent claimed wages for the period between the date when she left the employment on 29th November and the date when she resumed her employment by virtue of the notice of cancellation. The County Court Judge had decided in her favour on the ground that the word "cancel" in the Order caused the employment to continue until the time allowed for appeal had expired, or until such date as the National Service Officer had intimated whether or not he would cancel his permission. The Court of Appeal, in allowing the appeal, found that on the true construction of Clause 5 (3) of the Order the effect of the word "cancel" was not to keep the contract of employment alive until the time for appealing had expired or, where an appeal was lodged, until the officer had given his decision. Once permission had been given to terminate employment, it could be terminated on the expiration of the proper period of notice; therefore the respondent was not entitled to the wages claimed.—*Court of Appeal*, 2nd, 3rd and 19th November, 1942.

## UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE.

### DECISIONS GIVEN BY THE UMPIRE.

The Umpire is a judicial authority independent of the Ministry of Labour and National Service, 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.

Synopses of two recent decisions of general interest are given below.

#### Case No. 428/1942 (3rd December, 1942).

SECTION 37 OF UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACT, 1935: UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE (EMERGENCY POWERS) REGULATIONS, 1939 (S.R. & O. 1939, No. 1148): CLAIM BY WIDOW FOR DEPENDANT'S BENEFIT FOR DAUGHTER AGED 14: HELD THAT PROOF OF MAINTENANCE IS NOT REQUIRED IF CHILD RESIDES WITH CLAIMANT AND RECEIVES FULL TIME INSTRUCTION AT A DAY SCHOOL.

Claimant, a widow, claimed increase of benefit in respect of her daughter, aged 14, for whom she received an educational allowance of £20 a year and a maintenance allowance of £16 a year from the Admiralty. The claim was disallowed on the ground that the claimant was not wholly or mainly maintaining the child. The Umpire held that as the child resided with the claimant and was under full time instruction at a day school (*see* paragraph (b) (i) of Section 37 (2) of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1935), it was not necessary for the claimant to prove maintenance, by virtue of the provisions of paragraph (1) and (4b) of Regulation 9 of the Unemployment Insurance (Emergency Powers) Regulations, 1939.

The claim was accordingly allowed.

#### Case No. 432/1942 (8th December, 1942).

SECTIONS 23 AND 35 (6) OF UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACT, 1935: ESSENTIAL WORK (COALMINING INDUSTRY) (No. 3) ORDER, 1941 (S.R. & O. 1941, No. 2096): HELD THAT CLAIMANT, AVAILABLE FOR WORK BUT FOR WHOM NO WORK IS AVAILABLE, AND NOT IN RECEIPT OF WAGES, IS UNEMPLOYED ALTHOUGH HIS CONTRACT OF EMPLOYMENT MAY BE SUBSISTING.

Claimant, a repairer, at a colliery which was a scheduled undertaking, was unemployed and in receipt of full compensation under the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1925, from 19th November, 1941 to 14th August, 1942. On 15th August (Saturday) he was certified fit for light work, but when he applied at the colliery he was informed that no work would be available for him until the following Saturday. His claim to benefit for the period from 15th to 22nd August was disallowed and the Court of Referees, in dismissing the claimant's appeal, held that he was not unemployed on the grounds that he was available for some form of work at the colliery, that permission had never been sought or obtained for his release from the employer at the colliery, and that he appeared to be entitled to the guaranteed wage for the period in question.

\* 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 back page of this GAZETTE.



under the provisions of the Essential Work (Coalmining Industry) (No. 3) Order, 1941.

The Umpire, in allowing the appeals of the Association and the Chief Insurance Officer, held that, following the principles set out in Decisions 1068/41 (not reported) and 1194/41\*, the claimant, whether or not he was entitled to the guaranteed wage under the Order, was in the same position as any employee whose contract of employment is subsisting but who is not afforded employment and is not in receipt of wages during the period for which he is claiming benefit.

## CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT AND NATIONAL ARBITRATION ORDERS, 1940-1942.

### NATIONAL ARBITRATION TRIBUNAL AWARDS.

During December, 1942, the National Arbitration Tribunal issued twelve awards, Nos. 280 to 291. In five cases the awards relate to the whole or a substantial part of an industry in a particular area or are otherwise of special interest, and the following is a summary of these awards. The other seven awards relate to cases affecting individual firms.

*Award No. 280 (2nd December).—Parties:* Members of the Aberdeen Ship Painters and Boiler Scalers Masters' Association and members of the National Union of General and Municipal Workers employed by them. *Claim:* For the application to ship painters and boiler scalers of an 8s. per week allowance granted to maintenance men in the engineering trade. *Award:* The Tribunal found against the claim.

*Award No. 281 (3rd December).—Parties:* Members of the constituent associations of the National Federation of Hosiery Manufacturers' Associations and members of the Trade Unions affiliated to the National Hosiery Federation in the employment of such employers. *Claim:* For fourteen days holiday with pay each year with certain specified rates of payment. *Award:* The Tribunal awarded that a scheme of holidays with pay should be established to operate at the holiday period in 1943 and thereafter, providing an annual holiday of six working days with payment of sums in respect thereof of £3 15s. in the case of adult males, £2 10s. in the case of adult females and appropriate amounts in the case of juveniles. The Tribunal left the details of the scheme on this general basis to be settled between the parties.

*Award No. 282 (4th December).—Parties:* Parsons Marine Steam Turbine Co. Ltd. and William Doxford & Sons Ltd. on the one hand and members of the Ship Constructors' and Shipwrights' Association employed by them. *Claim:* For the payment to time-served drillers in the engine, boiler shop and fitting-out departments of the basic rate applicable to skilled fitters in the engineering industry. *Award:* The Tribunal found that the claim had not been established.

*Award No. 287 (16th December).—Parties:* Chamber Colliery Company Ltd., Lancashire, and members of the Lancashire and Cheshire Colliery Tradesmen and Kindred Workers employed by them. *Claim:* For the payment to motor lorry drivers of wages in accordance with the terms of the joint agreement between the Union and the Lancashire and Cheshire Coal Association and of the flat rate addition to wages recommended by the Lord Greene Board of Investigation.† *Award:* The Tribunal found in favour of the claim, with effect as from the first full pay period following the date of the award.

*Award No. 291 (28th December).—Parties:* The Bognor Regis Urban District Council and members of the National Association of Local Government Officers employed by them. *Claim:* For the application by the District Council of the cost-of-living increases as recommended from time to time by the National Joint Council for Local Authorities' Administrative, Technical and Clerical Services. *Award:* The Tribunal found against the claim as stated and awarded certain cost-of-living increases (particulars of which are set out in full in the award) to have effect as from 1st December, 1942, in place of the cost-of-living increases at present paid by the Council.

Copies of all awards may be obtained price 1d. net each from H.M. Stationery Office at any of the addresses shown on the back page of this GAZETTE.

### NATIONAL ARBITRATION TRIBUNAL (NORTHERN IRELAND) AWARDS.

During December, 1942, the National Arbitration Tribunal (Northern Ireland) issued nine awards, Nos. 159-167. Three of the awards relate to the whole of the occupations concerned in Larne, Londonderry and Coleraine respectively and these awards are summarised below. The other six awards relate only to individual undertakings or establishments.

*Award No. 161 (8th December, 1942).—Parties:* The Larne Coal Importers' Association and certain employees of the member firms. *Claim:* An increase of 10s. a week on the present rates of wages for lorrymen, storemen and carters. *Award:* An increase of 5s. a week on the current rates of wages of lorrymen, storemen and carters.

*Award No. 164 (18th December, 1942).—Parties:* The members of the Londonderry Employers' Federation, Ltd. (Pork Section),

and certain employees of the member firms. *Claim:* An increase of 6s. a week on present rates of wages to men 21 years of age and over and of 4s. a week to those under 21 years of age. *Award:* An increase of 2s. 6d. a week on the current rates of wages of all cutters, curers, rollers, boners and labourers of 21 years and over, and of 1s. 3d. to those under 21 years.

*Award No. 167 (22nd December, 1942).—Parties:* The members of the Coleraine Importers' and Exporters' Association (Coal Section) and certain employees of the member firms. *Claim:* An increase in the rate of wages of up-town trimmers to 1s. 5½d. per ton. *Award:* An increase in the rate of wages of up-town trimmers to 1s. 3½d. per ton.

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

### INDUSTRIAL COURT AWARDS.

During December, 1942, the Industrial Court issued six awards, Nos. 1885-1890, one of which is summarised below. The remaining awards relate only to single undertakings.

*Award No. 1890 (22nd December).—Parties:* The National Union of Distributive and Allied Workers and the Society of Goldsmiths, Jewellers and Kindred Trades. *Claim:* That the members of the Dental Laboratories Section of the Surgical Instrument Manufacturers' Association (Incorporated) shall observe in respect of dental mechanics the terms and conditions of employment as set out in an agreement dated 29th May, 1942, between the Trade Unions and the British Dental Association, the Incorporated Dental Society and the Public Dental Service Association. *Award:* The Court awarded in favour of this claim as from the beginning of the first pay week in January, 1943, and against a counter-offer submitted by the employers.

### SINGLE ARBITRATORS AND AD HOC BOARDS OF ARBITRATION.

During December, 1942, five awards, one of which is summarised below, were issued by Single Arbitrators appointed under the Industrial Court Act, 1919. The remaining four awards related to individual undertakings.

*Parties:* National Union of General and Municipal Workers, National Union of Blastfurnacemen, Ore Miners, Coke Workers and Kindred Trades on the one hand, and the Northamptonshire and District Mine Owners' Association and the Nottingham and District Conciliation Board on the other hand. *Claim:* For an increase in wages. *Award:* The Arbitrator awarded certain increases in wages for adults covered by the application and it was agreed at the hearing that these should operate from the beginning of the first pay week in September, 1942.

## TRADE BOARDS ACTS.

### NOTICES OF PROPOSAL.

During December, 1942, proposals to vary minimum rates of wages were issued as shown below. Further information may be obtained, by persons engaged in the respective trades, on application to the Secretary of the Board concerned at Sunnyside Mansions Hotel, Knowsley Road, Southport, Lancashire, in the case of Boards in Great Britain, or at 31, Eglantine Avenue, Belfast, in the case of Boards in Northern Ireland:—

*Rope, Twine and Net Trade Board (Great Britain).—Proposal R. (72), dated 1st December, 1942, to vary minimum rates of wages for male and female workers.*

*Boot and Floor Polish Trade Board (Great Britain).—Proposal B.P. (18), dated 4th December, 1942, to vary minimum rates of wages for male and female workers.*

*Milk Distributive Trade Board (England and Wales).—Proposal M.D. (35), dated 30th December, 1942, to vary minimum rates of wages for certain female workers and the regrading of areas.*

*Laundry Trade Board (Northern Ireland).—Proposal N.I.L. (N.19), dated 4th December, 1942, to vary minimum rates of wages for male and female workers.*

*Rope, Twine and Net Trade Board (Northern Ireland).—Proposal N.I.R. (N.39), dated 28th December, 1942, to vary minimum rates of wages for male and female workers.*

### CONFIRMING ORDERS.

During December, 1942, the Minister of Labour and National Service in Great Britain and the Ministry of Labour in Northern Ireland, made Orders, in pursuance of the powers conferred by the Trade Boards Acts, 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:—

*Boot and Shoe Repairing Trade Board (Great Britain).—Order D. (72), dated 7th December, 1942, confirming a variation of minimum rates of wages for apprentices, learners and late entrants to the trade and specifying 28th December, 1942, 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. (24), dated 9th December, 1942, confirming a variation of*

\* U.I. Code 8B, page 32, of 1941 Volume of Umpire's Decisions.

† See the issue of this GAZETTE for July, 1942, page 134.



minimum rates of wages and specifying 21st December, 1942 as the date from which such rates became effective.

*Tin Box Trade Board (Great Britain).*—Order X. (22), dated 12th December, 1942, confirming a variation of minimum rates of wages and specifying 23rd December, 1942, as the date from which such rates became effective.

*Furniture Manufacturing Trade Board (Great Britain).*—Order F.M. (14), dated 12th December, 1942, confirming a variation of minimum rates of wages and specifying 23rd December, 1942, as the date from which such rates became effective.

*Sugar Confectionery and Food Preserving Trade Board (Great Britain).*—Order F. (31), dated 17th December, 1942, confirming a variation of minimum rates of wages and specifying 30th December, 1942, as the date from which such rates became effective.

*Keg and Drum Trade Board (Great Britain).*—Order K.D. (23), dated 17th December, 1942, confirming a variation of minimum rates of wages and specifying 30th December, 1942, as the date from which such rates became effective.

*Flax and Hemp Trade Board (Great Britain).*—Order F.H. (48), dated 19th December, 1942, confirming a variation of minimum rates of wages and specifying 4th January, 1943, as the date from which such rates became effective.

*Brush and Broom Trade Board (Northern Ireland).*—Order N.I.B.B. (49), dated 25th November, 1942, confirming the variation of general minimum time rates, piece work basis time rates, general minimum piece rates and general overtime rates for male and female workers and specifying 7th December, 1942, as the date from which these rates became effective.

*Baking Trade Board (Northern Ireland).*—Order N.I.Bk. (14), dated 21st December, 1942, confirming the variation of minimum rates of wages for certain male workers employed in establishments other than Home Bakeries, and specifying 1st January, 1943, as the date from which these rates became effective.

## ELECTRICITY SUPPLY ACTS. 1882-1936.

### REPRESENTATIVE OF WORKERS ON JOINT AUTHORITY (NORTH-WEST MIDLANDS DISTRICT)

The Minister of Labour and National Service has given notice that, as soon as may be after the 15th day of February, 1943, he will designate to the North West Midlands Joint Electricity Authority, in accordance with Section 2 (10) of Part I of the First Annex to the Schedule to the North West Midlands Electricity District Order, 1928, the employees' organisations having members in the employment of authorised undertakers in the district, in order that the organisations so designated may choose a representative of persons employed in connection with the supply of electricity in the district to be a member of the Joint Authority.

Any employees' organisation which is desirous of being considered by the Minister for designation under the said Section 2 (10) should make application in writing to the Minister not later than the 8th day of February, 1943, on the form provided for the purpose, of which copies may be obtained from the Secretary, Ministry of Labour and National Service, 8, St. James's Square, London, S.W.1.

## FACTORIES (MEDICAL AND WELFARE SERVICES) (NORTHERN IRELAND) ORDER, 1942.

An Order under the above title was made on 2nd December, 1942, by the Ministry of Labour for Northern Ireland under Regulation 60 of the Defence (General) Regulations, 1939. The Order prescribes that the occupier of any factory in which is carried on the manufacture or repair of any munitions of war or of any materials, parts or tools required for such manufacture or repair, or of any work on behalf of the Crown shall, if so directed by the Chief Inspector of Factories or by any other Inspector of Factories expressly authorised, make arrangements by way of the whole or part-time employment of such numbers of medical practitioners, nurses and supervisory officers as may be specified for one or more of the following services, namely:—(a) medical supervision of persons employed in the factory in the aforesaid manufacture, repair or work; (b) nursing and first-aid services; (c) supervision of the welfare of such persons.

Copies of the Order, S.R. & O. of Northern Ireland, 1942, No. 188, may be obtained through any bookseller or direct from H.M. Stationery Office, 80, Chichester Street, Belfast.

## STATUTORY RULES AND ORDERS.

Particulars are given below of Orders made by the Minister of Labour and National Service which have been published in the series of *Statutory Rules and Orders* since the last issue of this GAZETTE was prepared, as well as of other Orders, so published, relating to matters with which the Ministry is concerned, either directly or indirectly.

Copies of *Statutory Rules and Orders* may be purchased directly from H.M. Stationery Office at the addresses shown at the foot of this page. The prices quoted are all net, those in brackets including postage at Inland Postal rates.  
S.R.&O.

1942, No.	Title and Price.
2561	<i>Order in Council amending Regulations 6A, 45A, 56AB, 60AC, 62 and 70 of, and adding Regulations 47D, 60DAA and 104A to, the Defence (General) Regulations, 1939.</i> 2d. (3d.).—[This Order, made on 16th December, 1942, provides, <i>inter alia</i> , for the addition to the Defence (General) Regulations, 1939, of a new Regulation, 60DAA, the effect of which is to provide that, for the purposes of the right of reinstatement in civil employment conferred by the National Service Acts, whole-time services which persons are required to perform after the termination of the original service for which they were called up are, subject to specified conditions, to be deemed to be in continuation of such service.]
2638	<i>The National Fire Service (General) (No. 6) Regulations, 1942, dated December 17, 1942, made by the Secretary of State.</i> 1d. (2d.).—[These Regulations provide, <i>inter alia</i> , for certain amendments of the rates of pay of whole-time male firemen which are set out in the Third Schedule to the National Fire Service (General) Regulations, 1941, (as amended).]
2661	<i>The National Service (Prevention of Evasion) (Amendment) Regulations, 1942, dated December 18, 1942, made by the Minister of Labour and National Service under the National Service Acts, 1939 to 1942.</i> 1d. (2d.).—[The effect of these Regulations is to extend the provisions of the principal Regulations relating to the prevention of termination of employment in the case of persons who are liable to be called up ( <i>see</i> the issue of this GAZETTE for July, 1941, page 150) to persons who, although for the time being they are not liable to be called up under the National Service Acts, are required to be registered in accordance with the National Service Act, 1942. ( <i>see</i> page 6).]
2665	<i>The National Service (Miscellaneous) (Amendment) Regulations, 1942, dated December 18, 1942, made by the Minister of Labour and National Service under the National Service Acts, 1939 to 1942.</i> 1d. (2d.).—[These Regulations make provision for the amendment of specified provisions (relating to registration, postponement certificates and conscientious objectors) of the National Service (Miscellaneous) Regulations, 1939 to 1941, ( <i>see</i> the issues of this GAZETTE for October, 1939, April and August, 1940, July and August, 1941, and January, 1942.) so as to extend the application of those provisions to persons who are required to register in accordance with the National Service Act, 1942 ( <i>see</i> page 6), but for the time being are not liable to be called up.]
2669	<i>The Unemployment Insurance (Emergency Powers) (Amendment) (No. 5) Regulations, 1942, dated December 15, 1942, made by the Minister of Labour and National Service under the Unemployment Insurance (Emergency Powers) Act, 1939 (2 and 3 Geo. 6. c. 92).</i> 2d. (3d.).—[ <i>See</i> summary on page 9.]
2673	<i>The Conditions of Employment and National Arbitration (Amendment) (No. 2) Order, 1942, dated December 24, 1942, made by the Minister of Labour and National Service under Regulations 58AA and 98 of the Defence (General) Regulations, 1939.</i> 1d. (2d.).—[This Order amends the Schedule to the principal Order (as amended) so as to remove the limitation imposed by the Conditions of Employment and National Arbitration (Amendment) Order, 1941, ( <i>see</i> the issue of this GAZETTE for December, 1941, page 248), whereby the panel from which appointed members are to be selected to sit on the National Arbitration Tribunal may not consist of more than five persons.]

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