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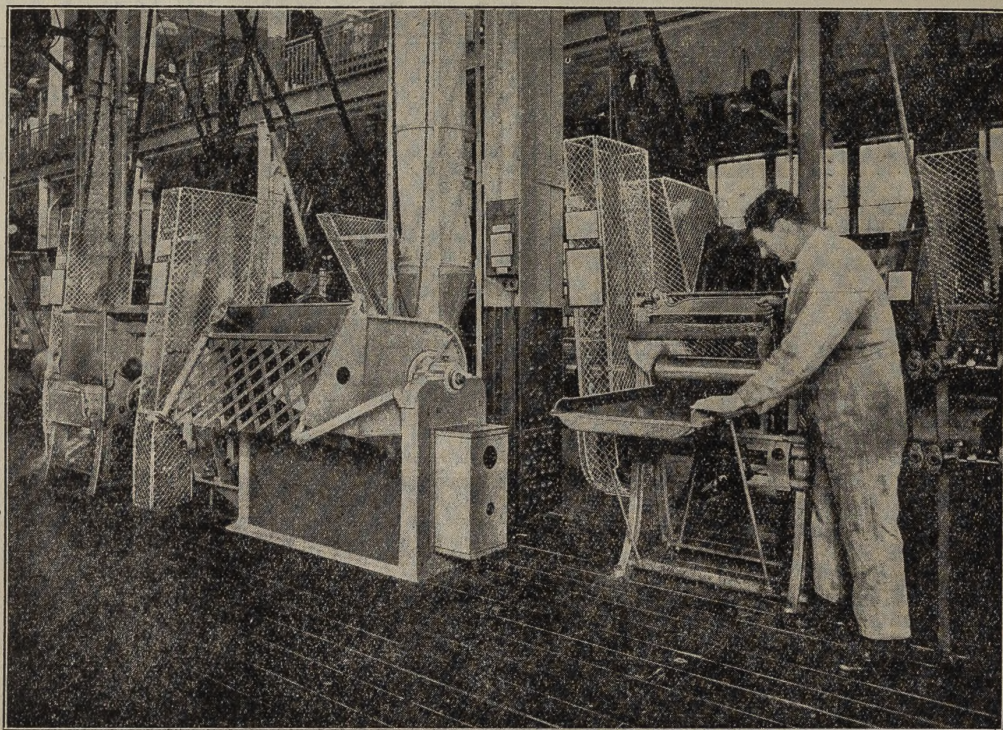
THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE

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THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE

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

EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT.

EMPLOYMENT showed a further substantial improvement in March, extending to the great majority of the principal industries.

Among workpeople, aged 16-64, insured against unemployment in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the percentage unemployed was 14.4 at 23rd March, 1936, as compared with 15.4 at 24th February, 1936, and 16.4 at 25th March, 1935. For males alone the percentage at 23rd March, 1936, was 16.2, and for females 9.6. At 24th February, 1936, the corresponding percentages were 17.3 and 10.3, and at 25th March, 1935, they were 18.6 and 10.7.

Insured Persons in work in Great Britain.—It is estimated that at 23rd March, 1936, there were approximately 10,630,000 insured persons, aged 16-64, in employment in Great Britain. This was 155,000 more than at 24th February, 1936, and 411,000 more than at 25th March, 1935.

Numbers Unemployed (excluding Persons normally in Casual Employment).—At 23rd March, 1936, there were 1,560,574 persons on the registers of Employment Exchanges in Great Britain who were out of a situation. This was 116,503 less than at 24th February, 1936, and 185,703 less than at 25th March, 1935. The total at 23rd March, 1936, included 1,235,320 men, 51,157 boys, 224,639 women, and 49,428 girls. It was made up of 575,509 insured persons with claims for insurance benefit, 672,949 applicants for unemployment allowances, 183,905 other insured persons (including 20,149 insured juveniles under 16 years of age) not in receipt of benefit or unemployment allowances, and 128,211 uninsured persons.

Numbers Temporarily Stopped.—At 23rd March, 1936, there were registered as unemployed in Great Britain 163,473 men, 4,475 boys, 63,482 women, and 3,850 girls who were on short time or otherwise suspended from work on the understanding that they were shortly to return to their former employment. The total of 235,280 was 24,012 less than at 24th February, 1936, and 82,630 less than at 25th March, 1935. It included 210,510 persons with claims for insurance benefit, 10,083 applicants for unemployment allowances, and 14,687 persons not in receipt of benefit or unemployment allowances.

Numbers Unemployed normally in Casual Employment.—At 23rd March, 1936, there were on the registers in Great Britain 83,649 men, 168 boys, 1,835 women, and 25 girls who normally seek a livelihood by means of jobs of short duration; these are largely employed in dock and harbour service. The total of 85,677 was 2,975 less than at 24th February, 1936, and 4,006 less than at 25th March, 1935. It included 66,561 persons with claims for insurance benefit, 18,405 applicants for unemployment allowances, and 711 persons not in receipt of benefit or unemployment allowances.

Industries in which the Principal Variations occurred.—The most marked improvement, between 24th February

and 23rd March, occurred in the building industry; but there were also substantial reductions in the numbers unemployed in public works contracting, stone quarrying, brick and tile making, the iron and steel, engineering, and motor vehicle industries, miscellaneous metal goods manufacture, the clothing trades, the woollen and worsted and cotton industries, furniture making, etc., pottery and earthenware manufacture, printing, the food industries, the transport and distributive trades, and hotel and boarding house service. On the other hand there was a further increase in the numbers temporarily stopped in the coal mining industry.

WAGES.

In the industries for which statistics are regularly compiled by the Department, the changes in rates of wages reported to have come into operation in March resulted in an increase of nearly £9,000 in the weekly full-time wages of 101,000 workpeople, and a decrease of £25 in those of 750 workpeople.

The principal groups of workers affected by the increases were coal miners in the Cannock Chase district, North Staffordshire, South Derbyshire and Warwickshire, and light castings makers in England and Scotland.

The changes so far reported in the three completed months of 1936 are estimated to have resulted in a net increase of nearly £242,000 per week in the full-time rates of wages of about 1,785,000 workpeople, and in a net decrease of £460 in those of 11,500 workpeople.

COST OF LIVING.

At 1st April the average level of retail prices of the commodities taken into account in the statistics compiled by the Ministry of Labour (including food, rent, clothing, fuel and light, and miscellaneous items) was approximately 44 per cent. above the level of July, 1914, as compared with 46 per cent. at 29th February, 1936, and 39 per cent. at 1st April, 1935. For food alone the corresponding percentages at these three dates were 26, 29 and 19, respectively.

These statistics are designed to indicate the average increase in the cost of maintaining unchanged the pre-war standard of living of working-class families. Accordingly, the changes in the prices of the various articles included are combined proportionately to the relative importance of those items in pre-war working-class family expenditure, no allowance being made for any changes in the standard of living.

TRADE DISPUTES.

The number of trade disputes involving stoppages of work reported to the Department as beginning in March was 64. In addition 15 disputes which began before March were still in progress at the beginning of the month. The number of workpeople involved in the above disputes (including workpeople thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred) was about 33,000, and the aggregate duration in March of the disputes was 195,000 working days.

EXTENSION OF UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE TO WORKERS IN AGRICULTURE.

THE UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE (AGRICULTURE) ACT, 1936.

The Unemployment Insurance (Agriculture) Act, 1936, which received the Royal Assent on 9th April, extends the unemployment insurance scheme to agriculture (including horticulture and forestry), subject to certain modifications to suit the special needs of the agricultural industry. It is estimated that the extension will bring approximately 750,000 persons within the scheme of unemployment insurance, of whom about 700,000 will be males and about 50,000 females.

A summary of the Bill which has now become an Act appeared in the issue of this GAZETTE for January, 1936 (page 8). The only important changes made in the Bill during its passage through Parliament were the following:—

(i) The provision of the Bill that the rates of increase of benefit in respect of dependent children were to be 3s. for the first dependent child and 2s. 6d. for each other child does not appear in the Act. The effect of this change is to make the rate which obtains under the general scheme of unemployment insurance, namely, 3s. for each child, applicable to the agricultural scheme.

(ii) The mention, in the Bill as introduced, of "employment in the harvesting or gathering of flowers, fruit, peas or potatoes, or in the tying, training or picking of hops, or in the peeling of onions" among the excepted employments, does not appear in the Act, it having been decided to deal with these employments by means of regulations under the principal Act.

(iii) "Employment as a private gardener" still appears in the list of excepted employments; but this does not apply to gardeners employed in a business (such as a market garden) or by a Local Authority, society, club, or similar body, for example, in a park, or on a bowling green or golf course. Gardeners so employed will be insurable. Moreover, a new section (section 13) provides that, as soon as may be after the passing of the Act, the Minister shall refer to the Unemployment Insurance Statutory Committee the question whether it is desirable and practicable to include employment as a private gardener among the insurable employments. The Committee is to report upon the subject, and the Minister, after considering the report, may lay before Parliament the draft of an Order amending the Act with a view to making any class of employment as a private gardener insurable under the agricultural scheme.

There are also a number of additions to the fifth schedule, which contains minor and consequential amendments of the principal Act. The most important of these prescribe rules for determining under which scheme a person is insurable in cases of mixed employment, make provision for the exclusion from insurance of certain persons who are ordinarily dependent for their livelihood on occupations in agriculture which are not insurable employment, and modify the conditions under which associations of employed persons may undertake the payment of agricultural benefit to their members.

The scheme comes into operation, for purposes of contributions, on 4th May next, and benefit under the Act will be payable as from 5th November next. For men of 21 or over the rate of contribution (from the employer, the worker, and the Exchequer) will be 4d. a week, and for women 4d.; and the rates of benefit will be 14s. for men and 12s. 6d. for women, with lower rates of contribution and of benefit for younger workers. Dependants' benefit in respect of adult dependants will be 7s. a week. The maximum rate of benefit (including dependants' benefit) to an agricultural contributor will be 30s. a week. In order to qualify for benefit, 20 contributions must have been paid in the last two years. Once this condition is satisfied, the length of time for which a claimant may draw benefit will be proportionate to the number of agricultural contributions standing to his credit.

The scheme does not apply to persons not under a contract of service, e.g., to persons working on their own account. Near relations of the employer (husband or wife, son or daughter, mother or father, son-in-law or daughter-in-law, etc.) will not be insurable. Private domestic service is not covered: this applies to ordinary household servants, game keepers, private grooms, hunt servants and the like. Persons not domiciled in the United Kingdom who are ordinarily resident outside the United Kingdom are excluded from the scheme; but their employers must pay the employer's contribution.

Workers covered by the scheme should make application for unemployment books as soon as possible at the nearest local office of the Ministry of Labour (the address of which can be obtained from the local post office), where an explanatory leaflet, giving particulars as to the rates of contribution and of benefit and other information regarding the scheme, can be obtained. The Ministry of Labour are making special arrangements for getting the scheme started. They are sending out letters to all employers of persons coming under the scheme who are known to them, enclosing a leaflet outlining the provisions of the scheme, and explaining the procedure for obtaining unemployment books. Special temporary offices are being opened, where necessary, during the next few weeks; and the Ministry are prepared, when distance from a local office makes personal attendance unreasonable, to make special arrangements for visiting farms for the purpose of issuing books, or for issuing them by post.

REMUNERATION LIMIT FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE OF NON-MANUAL WORKERS.

REPORT OF THE UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE STATUTORY COMMITTEE.

The question of raising the remuneration limit for unemployment insurance in the case of non-manual workers was referred to the Unemployment Insurance Statutory Committee by the Minister of Labour on 27th February, 1935, in pursuance of an undertaking given when the Unemployment Bill of 1934 was under discussion in the House of Commons. The Committee's Report has now been published.*

At present employment otherwise than by way of manual labour at a rate of remuneration exceeding in value £250 a year is excepted from the scheme of unemployment insurance, and the question whether this remuneration limit should be raised has been under consideration at various times during the past five or six years.

The Committee point out that until about 1929 there was general acceptance of the existing exception, but that in the past five years the attitude of many employees has changed, no doubt as a direct consequence of trade depression. Insecurity of tenure has spread into sections of the population who had felt themselves immune from unemployment, and a persistent demand began to be made by various associations of professional and clerical workers in favour of raising the remuneration limit. The Royal Commission on Unemployment Insurance considered the question in 1932, and came to the conclusion that it was desirable on general grounds to raise the limit from £250 to £350 a year; but they felt it desirable for administrative reasons to maintain the same limit for the several branches of social insurance, and expressed the opinion that the limit for unemployment insurance should not be raised unless and until the limit for health insurance was raised.

Since the date of the Royal Commission's Report the demand for the extension of unemployment insurance has strengthened. With very few exceptions the evidence tendered to the Statutory Committee from the side of employees was in favour of raising the limit. On the side of the employers, however, there is still, in the main, opposition to any change in the limit, largely on the ground that the fall in the cost of living has resulted in materially extending the effective operation of the limit; further, that it would be a disadvantage to have different limits for the various branches of social insurance, and that if the limit were raised for unemployment insurance the issue would arise of making a similar increase in the limit for the other services; that industry is already required to bear heavy burdens in respect of these services; and finally that there is no evidence tending to show that the amount of unemployment amongst non-manual workers above the present limit would justify their inclusion within the scheme of compulsory unemployment insurance, or that there is any substantial or well-founded demand for the change. Some organisations of employers took the view that if there were general agreement in favour of an extension they would not oppose it so far as their own industries were concerned.

Persons employed by way of manual labour remain insured irrespective of their rate of remuneration. The Statutory Committee point out that the application of the limit for non-manual workers involves two assumptions: first, that a satisfactory practical distinction can be drawn between manual labour and other work; second, that those excluded by the limit are not liable to a risk of unemployment comparable to the risk of those not excluded, or such as they cannot meet by private saving. The Committee found that both these assumptions fail to stand the test of examination.

The distinction between those employed by way of manual labour and those not so employed is in many cases so fine as to be unreal. In many occupations the duty of supervising others, which is not manual labour, is combined in varying degrees with the duty of sharing in manual labour oneself. There is a constant movement into and out of insurance as employees pass between non-manual and manual work. Another difficulty is that the distinction between the "manual" work of using a hand guided by the brain and the "non-manual" work of using a hand as the instrument of the brain is by now unreal. In innumerable occupations nearly everything in the nature of hard physical labour is performed by machines, and the skilled manual labourer of the past has become to a very large extent the supervisor of a machine or machines, as the "non-manual" foreman is a supervisor of men.

A fresh set of difficulties arises in the interpretation of the remuneration limit. In practice the limit is not, and cannot be, interpreted with reference to annual earnings. The exception applies whenever the rate of remuneration exceeds £250 a year, however short the period of employment, and in consequence the limit excludes from insurance many people whose work is irregular, so that they are paid at relatively high rates by the week or the hour, but who never expect to earn £250 a year or anything near it; they may have lower incomes and more unemployment than many of those covered by insurance. The working of the limit gives rise to anomalies in many occupations, and the Report illustrates this point by reference to the case of actors, musicians, variety artists and others. In cases such as that of the correctors of the press the regular employees, with relatively little risk of unemployment, are insured, while casual employees, by receiving a higher hourly rate of pay, are excluded from insurance, although they have a high risk of unemployment. These difficulties arise from the fact that the limit is, and must be, a remuneration limit and not an income or salary limit.

* Report of the Unemployment Insurance Statutory Committee on the Remuneration Limit for Insurance of Non-Manual Workers. H.M. Stationery Office; price 6d. net (7d. post free).

THE COST-OF-LIVING INDEX NUMBER: REVISION OF BASIS.

In answer to a question in the House of Commons on 7th April, asking the Minister of Labour whether he proposes to revise the basis of the cost-of-living index number, the Minister said:—

"Yes, Sir, I have recently given further consideration to this matter, and have decided that a revision of the basis of the cost-of-living index number should now be undertaken. For this purpose it will be necessary to collect data with regard to the distribution of the main items of expenditure of working-class households at the present time. An enquiry of this character, on a scale sufficiently comprehensive to provide representative information covering different seasons of the year, cannot be completed before the end of next year. In the meantime the cost-of-living index number will continue to be calculated on the existing basis, and I anticipate that the new index number can be so linked on to the previous numbers as to continue the series without a break. I should add that, as regards the methods to be adopted in the conduct of the enquiry, I hope to have the assistance of a small advisory committee, which will include representatives of employers and trade unions."

The Minister also stated the terms of reference of the Advisory Committee, which are as follow:—

"To advise the Minister of Labour as to the methods to be adopted in the collection of information, by means of family budgets, showing the approximate average weekly expenditure of working-class families on the items which should be taken into account in the construction of index numbers, designed to measure the percentage changes, from month to month, in the cost of maintaining a present-day standard of living."

ESTIMATED NUMBER OF INSURED PERSONS IN EMPLOYMENT.

In the issue of this GAZETTE for January, 1936 (page 7), a statement was published giving for the period from January, 1933, to December, 1935, estimates of the numbers of insured persons, aged 16-64, in employment in Great Britain. In the following Table the series is continued to March, 1936. The figures in column 6 have been obtained by deducting from the total estimated numbers insured the average numbers recorded as unemployed and the numbers directly involved in trade disputes, together with an allowance of 3½ per cent. of the numbers insured in respect of absences from work through sickness and other forms of unrecorded non-employment other than "recognised" holidays.

	Estimated Total Insured, Aged 16-64.	Number Unemployed.	Number not Recorded as Unemployed.	Estimated Number in Employment after Allowance for Sickness, etc.: (A) Including Persons directly involved in Trade Disputes; (B) Excluding such Persons.	
				A. (5)	B. (6)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
1933.	Thousands.	Thousands.	Thousands.	Thousands.	Thousands.
Jan.-March ...	12,595	2,819	9,776	9,355	9,332
Apr.-June ...	12,613	2,548	10,065	9,624	9,621
July-Sept. ...	12,631	2,380	10,251	9,809	9,807
Oct.-Dec. ...	12,648	2,338	10,410	9,967	9,966
1934.	Thousands.	Thousands.	Thousands.	Thousands.	Thousands.
Jan.-March ...	12,663	2,257	10,406	9,963	9,961
Apr.-June ...	12,682	2,063	10,619	10,175	10,170
July-Sept. ...	12,702	2,064	10,638	10,193	10,191
Oct.-Dec. ...	12,724	2,045	10,679	10,234	10,231
1935.	Thousands.	Thousands.	Thousands.	Thousands.	Thousands.
Jan.-March ...	12,745	2,165	10,580	10,134	10,128
Apr.-June ...	12,766	1,951	10,815	10,368	10,364
July-Sept. ...	12,795	1,891	10,904	10,457	10,451
Oct.-Dec. ...	12,838	1,826	11,012	10,563	10,543
1936.	Thousands.	Thousands.	Thousands.	Thousands.	Thousands.
Jan.-March ...	12,883	1,942	10,941	10,490	10,485
January ...	12,865	2,063	10,802	10,352	10,349
February ...	12,885	1,949	10,936	10,485	10,475
March ...	12,900	1,814	11,086	10,634	10,630

Index Numbers. Average 1924 = 100.

1933.					
Jan.-March ...	113.7	250.6	98.3	97.7	98.0
Apr.-June ...	113.9	226.4	101.2	100.7	101.0
July-Sept. ...	114.1	211.5	103.0	102.6	102.9
Oct.-Dec. ...	114.2	199.0	104.7	104.3	104.6
1934.					
Jan.-March ...	114.4	200.6	104.6	104.2	104.6
Apr.-June ...	114.5	183.4	106.8	106.4	106.8
July-Sept. ...	114.7	183.5	106.9	106.6	107.0
Oct.-Dec. ...	114.9	181.7	107.3	107.1	107.4
1935.					
Jan.-March ...	115.1	192.5	106.3	106.0	106.3
Apr.-June ...	115.3	173.5	108.7	108.4	108.8
July-Sept. ...	115.6	168.1	109.6	109.4	109.7
Oct.-Dec. ...	115.9	162.3	110.7	110.5	110.7
1936.					
Jan.-March ...	116.4	172.6	110.0	109.7	110.1
January ...	116.2	183.4	108.6	108.3	108.6
February ...	116.4	173.2	109.9	109.7	110.0
March ...	116.5	161.2	111.4	111.2	111.6

The estimated numbers insured, and numbers in employment from August, 1935 onwards are provisional, and subject to revision when information as to the numbers of insured persons becomes available from the annual exchange of books in July, 1936.

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR IN 1935.

In the issue of this GAZETTE for January last, a summary was published giving preliminary statistics as to the changes in rates of wages and hours of labour in Great Britain and Northern Ireland during 1935.

Changes in rates of wages and hours of labour come to the notice of the Department from a variety of sources, including (a) arbitration or conciliation proceedings under the Industrial Courts Act, 1919, or the Conciliation Act, 1896;

It should be noted that as the Department has no compulsory powers in regard to the collection of the information, it is dependent on the voluntary co-operation of the employers, employers' associations, and trade unions concerned for the supply of the particulars required.

RATES OF WAGES.

The general level of wage-rates, which had shown a slight upward tendency in 1934, continued to rise during 1935. In those industries and services for which statistics are regularly compiled,* the changes in rates of wages reported to the Department as taking effect in 1935 resulted in an aggregate net increase estimated at about £197,000 in the weekly full-time rates of wages of 2,355,000 workpeople, and in a net decrease of nearly £7,000 in those of about 50,000 workpeople.

MONTHLY CHANGES IN 1935.

The following Table shows the approximate numbers of workpeople, in the industries covered by the statistics, who were affected by changes in rates of wages reported to the Department as taking effect in each month of 1935, and the estimated amount of the change in their weekly wages.

Table with columns: Month, Approximate Number of Workpeople whose Rates of Wages were, Estimated Weekly Amount of Change in Rates of Wages (Increased, Decreased).

* The statistics are exclusive of changes affecting agricultural labourers, Government employees, domestic servants, shop assistants and clerks.

In each month of 1935 the increases in rates of wages were considerably in excess of the decreases; and the great majority of those who sustained reductions at some time during the year obtained increases, of at least equivalent amounts, at some other period of the year.

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES IN INDUSTRY-GROUPS.

The following Table shows the approximate numbers of workpeople affected by net increases and decreases in rates of wages, and the estimated net amounts of increase or decrease, in each of the groups of industries covered.

Table with columns: Industry-Group, Approximate Number of separate individuals reported as affected by, Estimated Net Weekly Amount of Change in Rates of Wages (Increases, Decreases), Estimated Net Weekly Increase in Rates of Wages of all Workpeople affected.

In addition to the numbers shown in the above Table, about 110,000 workpeople received increases and sustained decreases of equal amounts during the year.

It will be seen that in each industry group the numbers of workpeople who obtained increases in rates of wages during 1935 were greatly in excess of the numbers who sustained reductions.

Principal Changes in Rates of Wages.—Of the total of nearly 2,355,000 workpeople, in the industries and services covered by the statistics, whose rates of wages were increased in 1935, 1,545,000, or over 65 per cent., were accounted for by the engineering, building, and transport groups of industries.

In the engineering and certain other metal trades, adult male workpeople received an increase of 1s. a week in May and a further increase of similar amount in July.

In the building industry there was a general increase, in nearly all districts of Great Britain, of 1d. an hour for craftsmen and 1d. or 1/2d. an hour for labourers as from July (in England and Wales) or August (in Scotland); earlier in the year the workers in this industry in a number of towns, mainly in the south and east of England, had received increases owing to the reclassification of these towns under the grading scheme of the industry.

In the transport industry group the great majority of workpeople whose rates of wages were increased consisted of railway servants. For workpeople in the employment of the main line companies in Great Britain a further portion of the percentage deductions from earnings that had operated since March, 1931, was discontinued in January, 1935, a first instalment of the deductions having previously been discontinued in 1934.

* Changes affecting workpeople employed in railway engineering workshops are included under "Engineering" and not under "Transport." † These figures are exclusive of the effect (other than in the London area) of increases in the rates of wages of drivers and assistants in the road motor transport (goods) industry resulting from the Conciliation Board Agreements for England and Wales and Scotland made in 1935, as to which statistics are not yet available.

the purpose of these statistics in the engineering group, the deduction from all earnings was reduced from 3 1/4 to 2 1/2 per cent. For railway employees of the London Passenger Transport Board the balance of the percentage deductions was totally discontinued during 1935, a first instalment having been restored in 1934.

In the brick, pottery, etc., industry group there was an increase in the wages of about 30,000 adult male workers engaged in brick, tile, etc., making, amounting in the case of time workers to 2s. a week; while nearly 50,000 pottery workers received increases of amounts varying according to class of work.

In the iron and steel industry, there were increases in the wage rates of the majority of workers, including those engaged in pig-iron manufacture in Cleveland, Cumberland, North Lincolnshire, Northamptonshire, and South Staffordshire (lower-paid workers), in iron puddling and iron and steel rolling in the Midlands, and in steel melting and rolling in various districts in Great Britain.

In the textile group, nearly 70,000 workers in the bleaching, dyeing, printing and finishing trades in various parts of Yorkshire, Lancashire, Cheshire, Derbyshire, and Scotland received increases in their basic rates amounting to 1s. 6d., 1s. 9d. or 2s. a week for adult workers, and also, after fluctuations during the year, in the cost-of-living wage that is paid in addition to these rates.

In the gas, water and electricity supply group the increases mainly affected men in electricity supply undertakings, for whom there was a general increase of 1/2d. an hour.

In the public administrative services those affected included manual workers employed in the non-trading departments of a number of individual local authorities, including some who regulate the wages of their employees in accordance with movements in the wages in the building trade.

Among industries not specified above, rates of wages were increased during 1935 for workpeople engaged in coal mining in North Staffordshire and for lower-paid men and boys in South Derbyshire; iron mining in Cumberland, Cleveland, Northamptonshire and North Lincolnshire; shale mining in Scotland; quarrying in certain areas; cement manufacture; flint glass making; tinsplate manufacture in South Wales and Monmouthshire; brass manufacture in Birmingham and Yorkshire; electrical cable manufacture; electrical contracting; steel and metal pen, etc., making in Birmingham and district; the retail bespoke tailoring trade in London; brewing at Burton-on-Trent; seed crushing and compound cake manufacture; and furniture making in various districts.

Industries in which Wages remained unchanged.—The industries in which wages generally remained unchanged in 1935 included coal mining in all districts except North Staffordshire and South Derbyshire; chemicals and explosives manufacture; iron and steel manufacture in South Wales and Monmouthshire; shipbuilding and ship repairing; and light castings manufacture and various other metal industries. In the textile industries there was no change in cotton spinning; woollen and worsted (except at Leicester); lace making (except the plain net branch); and carpet manufacture.

There were also about 110,000 workpeople for whom there were two or more movements in wages during the year which left the general level of wages the same at the end of the year as at the beginning. Of these the principal classes were coal miners in Warwickshire and Cannock Chase districts; the higher-paid men employed in steel sheet rolling mills and in galvanising processes; iron puddlers and millmen in the West of Scotland and in the North-East Coast area; bobbin makers; hosiery workers in the Midlands; and felt hat makers.

Agricultural Labourers and Government Industrial Employees and other classes of employees excluded from the statistics.—The foregoing statistics, as already explained, exclude (among other classes) agricultural labourers and Government employees. As regards agricultural labourers, increases took place during 1935 in the minimum rates fixed under the Agricultural Wages (Regulation) Act, 1924,

for adult male labourers in 34 counties in England and Wales. It is estimated by the Ministry of Agriculture that the average of the minimum rates of wages for ordinary labourers in England and Wales at December, 1935, was 31s. 10 1/2d. per week, compared with 31s. 1d. at December, 1934. In Scotland, which is not covered by the above Act, the available information indicates that there were increases in rates of wages in some districts, with the result that there was a slight rise in the average level of agricultural wages generally.

METHODS BY WHICH CHANGES IN WAGES WERE ARRANGED.

In the case of those workpeople who received increases at certain dates and sustained reductions at other dates in 1935, the figures in the Table on page 122 relate to the net amount of the change in the year. The gross total of all the increases granted was £210,700, and that of all the decreases was £21,000 per week, the net effect being an increase, as shown, of £189,700 per week.

Table with columns: Method, Aggregate Weekly Amount of Change in Rates of Wages effected by the Methods shown in the first column (Increases, Decreases), Amount, Percentage of Total.

It will be seen that of the total amount of the increases, over half was the result of direct negotiations and over one-quarter was effected by conciliation boards. Of the total amount of decreases over two-thirds was due to the operation of sliding-scale arrangements, mostly those under which wages in a number of industries are regulated in accordance with movements of the cost-of-living index number.

COMPARISON WITH PREVIOUS YEARS.

In the following Table the number of workpeople recorded as affected by changes in rates of wages, and the net amount of increase or decrease in 1935, in the industries for which statistics are available,† are shown in comparison with similar figures for previous years. The figures quoted in the Table must be regarded in the light of certain qualifications. In the first place, it should be noted that the changes in wage rates reported to the Department are in the main those arranged between organised groups of employers and workpeople, and that many changes among unorganised workers, especially those affecting only employees of single firms, are not reported.

* Changes taking effect under sliding scales arranged by Conciliation Boards, Joint Industrial Councils, or Trade Boards are included under "sliding scales." † The statistics are exclusive of changes affecting agricultural labourers, Government employees, domestic servants, shop assistants and clerks.

rates of wages of female workers are generally smaller than those agreed upon for males in the same industry, the aggregate amount of the changes in those years was lower than it would have been if the pre-war proportions of male and female employees had been maintained. The relative levels of wages at the end of 1914 and 1935, therefore, cannot be accurately ascertained by deducting the aggregate amount of the reductions from the aggregate amount of increases recorded. The figures, however, afford an indication of the general trend of money rates of wages during the period covered.

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 all Workpeople affected.
	Net Increases.	Net Decreases.	Increases. Decreases.		
			£	£	
1915	4,305,000	...	867,100	...	+ 867,100
1916	4,848,000	250	885,250	50	+ 885,200
1917	6,362,000	75	2,986,200	5	+ 2,985,195
1918	6,924,000	...	3,434,500	...	+ 3,434,500
1919	6,240,000	100	2,547,200	...	+ 2,547,100
1920	7,867,000	500	4,793,200	180	+ 4,793,020
1921	78,000	7,244,000	13,600	6,074,600	+ 6,061,000
1922	73,700	7,633,000	11,450	4,221,500	+ 4,210,050
1923	1,202,000	3,079,000	169,000	486,000	+ 317,000
1924	3,019,000	481,500	616,000	62,100	+ 553,900
1925	873,000	851,000	89,900	159,000	+ 78,100
1926	420,000	740,000	133,000	83,700	+ 49,300
1927	282,000	1,855,000	30,700	388,500	+ 357,800
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	3,016,000	5,150	406,500	+ 401,350
1932	35,500	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	2,354,500	49,600	196,500	6,800	+ 189,700

It will be seen that the numbers of workpeople affected by increases in wage rates, and the aggregate net weekly increase in rates of wages were greater in 1935, than in any year since 1924.

HOURS OF LABOUR.

In the industries for which statistics are available† the number of workpeople whose normal weekly hours of labour were reported as having been changed in 1935 was approximately 46,000. Of these nearly 44,000 had their working time reduced by an average of about 3½ hours a week, and nearly 2,500 had their hours increased by an average of about 1½ hours a week. The principal classes of workpeople whose hours were reduced were shift-workers in the heavy chemical industry, and workpeople in the heating, ventilating and domestic engineering industry. There were also reductions in the weekly working time of some of the workers in the road haulage (goods) industry, as the result of the adoption, in 1935, of agreements by the National and Area Joint Conciliation Boards which have been established in this industry: but statistics are not yet available as to the numbers of workpeople affected by these reductions.

The following Table shows the number of workpeople whose hours of labour were reported as changed in each of the years 1915 to 1935 in the industries for which statistics are available†, with the aggregate net amount of the change in weekly hours:—

Year.	Approximate Number of Workpeople whose Hours of Labour were		Aggregate Net Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Weekly Hours.
	Increased.	Reduced.	
1915	620	20,500	- 63,000
1916	1,300	22,000	- 100,000
1917	2,400	32,000	- 120,000
1918	1,750	143,000	- 148,000
1919	1,150	6,305,000	- 40,650,000
1920	2,000	570,000	- 2,114,000
1921	31,500	12,900	+ 14,500
1922	16,000	302,700	+ 93,000
1923	325,000	9,600	+ 108,750
1924	13,150	16,150	+ 12,500
1925	1,300	3,925	+ 11,750
1926	934,200	340	+ 3,984,850
1927	18,700	1,700	+ 59,000
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

Since the widespread reductions in hours of labour in the years 1919 and 1920 there has been comparatively little movement in working hours, apart from those of building trade operatives and coal miners. The former constituted the great majority of those for whom changes were recorded in the years 1922 and 1923, while coal miners formed the majority of the totals shown for the years 1926, 1930 and 1931.

* In addition to the workpeople for whom figures are given in the above Table, there have been in each year since 1920 (except 1922) certain workpeople whose wages were increased and decreased by equal amounts during the year. The numbers of such workpeople are as follows: 1921, 110,000; 1923, 404,000; 1924, 372,000; 1925, 532,000; 1926, 447,000; 1927, 62,000; 1928, 187,000; 1929, 295,000; 1930, 85,000; 1931, 7,000; 1932, 16,000; 1933, 114,000; 1934, 122,000; 1935, 110,000.

† The statistics are exclusive of changes affecting agricultural labourers, seamen, Government employees, domestic servants, shop assistants and clerks. They are also exclusive of any changes in the hours of road haulage workers resulting from the adoption of agreements by the Joint Conciliation Boards, as to which figures are not yet available.

NORTHERN IRELAND ROAD TRANSPORT BOARD.

CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT.

UNDER the Road and Railway Transport Act (Northern Ireland), 1935*, a public authority, the Northern Ireland Road Transport Board, was set up for the purpose of acquiring and operating road goods and passenger services. The Board is empowered to take over all road motor undertakings operated for hire or reward in Northern Ireland, whether belonging to railway companies or to private operators, with certain exceptions. The exceptions include the local transport of goods in Belfast and Londonderry, the tramway and omnibus undertakings of the Belfast Corporation, the passenger and freight road transport services of the Londonderry and Lough Swilly Railway Company, passenger vehicles licensed to carry not more than six persons in addition to the driver, furniture removing, milk distribution, the carriage of goods made or sold by the owner of a vehicle, and farmers' vehicles carrying the goods of other farmers residing within one mile from the owner of the vehicle. Undertakings acquired are to be paid for up to £5,000 in cash, and any excess in stock issued by the Board. Existing employees of the acquired undertakings, if not taken over by the Board, are to receive compensation, provided they satisfy certain conditions.

The Act contains a clause to the effect that the wages and conditions of the Board's employees shall not be less favourable than the wages which would be payable and the conditions that would have to be observed under a contract complying with the requirement of any resolution of the House of Commons of the United Kingdom or the House of Commons of Northern Ireland for the time being in force and applicable to contracts with departments of the Government of Northern Ireland; these provisions are also applied to employees of the local carriers in Belfast and Londonderry. The Act specifies the procedure to be followed in the event of disputes arising in respect of rates of pay, hours of labour, or other conditions of employment.

The Board has now arrived at agreements with the Railway Clerks' Association, the Amalgamated Transport and General Workers' Union, and the National Union of Railwaymen as to the rates of wages and working conditions of (a) clerical staff; (b) drivers and conductors and the garage staff engaged on passenger services; and (c) drivers, assistants, storemen and loaders engaged on goods services.

The rates of wages agreed upon for classes (b) and (c) are summarised on page 146 of this issue of the GAZETTE. The working conditions regulated by the agreements include hours of labour, the rates of payment for overtime, Sunday work, night-work and work on statutory holidays, annual holidays with pay, lodging allowances, supply of uniforms, and disciplinary procedure.

UNEMPLOYMENT (NORTHERN IRELAND AGREEMENT) ACT, 1936.

THE Unemployment (Northern Ireland Agreement) Act, 1936, received the Royal Assent on 19th March, 1936.†

The Act gives effect to an Agreement made on 29th July, 1935, between the Treasury and the Ministry of Finance for Northern Ireland, superseding earlier agreements made in 1926 and 1928 and embodied in the Unemployment Insurance (Northern Ireland Agreement) Acts of 1926 and 1929.‡ The purpose of those agreements was to assimilate the burdens falling upon the two Exchequers in connection with unemployment insurance, by providing means of keeping the Unemployment Funds of the two countries in a state of parity. Three-quarters of the sum required to equalise, per head of total population, the payments out of the two Exchequers to their respective Unemployment Funds were to be paid by the Exchequer of the United Kingdom to the Exchequer of Northern Ireland or vice versa, as the case might be.

The new agreement covers unemployment assistance (under Part II of the Unemployment Act, 1934) as well as unemployment insurance. Contributions are payable from one Exchequer to the other, as before; but for the purposes of unemployment insurance, the proportions in the two countries insured against unemployment (excluding persons insured under the Special Schemes for the banking and for the insurance industries) are to be taken into account, instead of the respective total populations; while, for unemployment assistance, the numbers coming within the Contributory Pensions Acts (excluding voluntary contributors and persons over 65 years of age) are used, as approximately equivalent to the numbers coming within the schemes for unemployment assistance.

On this basis the Northern Ireland proportion would be approximately 2.1 per cent. for both unemployment insurance and unemployment assistance, as against not quite 2.75 per cent. on the population basis.

Under the previous agreements the contribution payable from one Exchequer to the other was, as stated above, 75 per cent. of the sum required to equalise the Exchequer payments into the Unemployment Funds. Under the new agreement any contribution payable to Northern Ireland will be subject to a progressive reduction if the percentage of unemployment in Northern Ireland falls to 19 per cent. or below, and no contribution at all will be payable in any year when the unemployment percentage in Northern Ireland falls below 8 per cent.

* 25 and 26 Geo. 5, ch. 15. H.M. Stationery Office; price 1s.0d. net. (1s. 1d. post free).

† 26 Geo. 5 and 1 Edw. 8, ch. 10. H.M. Stationery Office; price 1d. net. (1½d. post-free).

‡ See the issues of this GAZETTE for April, 1926 (page 143), and for April, 1929 (page 121).

PAYMENT OF WAGES FOR HOLIDAYS.

IN the issue of this GAZETTE for July, 1934, particulars were given of the provisions regarding payment for holidays contained in a number of collective agreements, between organisations of employers and workpeople, which were then in operation. Since that date, a few further agreements on this subject have been adopted, while some agreements then existing have been modified or have lapsed. The Table below contains a revised list of the industries or occupations in which general or district agreements are known to be at present in operation dealing with this subject, together with particulars of the number of holidays per annum for which wages are paid, and the length of the qualifying service required. Except where otherwise stated the holidays shown are exclusive of the usual public holidays, which are also granted and paid for unless the contrary is indicated.

The majority of the agreements provide that payment shall be made for public holidays and for a certain additional period, varying in different cases, usually from three to twelve days in each year. Payment for this period is usually conditional on the employee having had six or twelve months' service, either at the date of the holiday or at dates specified in the agreements; while in a number of cases the extent of the holiday is directly governed by the length of service. The service qualification is occasionally linked with a stipulation regarding good time-keeping, absence without sufficient cause for more than a specified number of days during the qualifying period resulting in loss of payment for the holiday. Instances also occur of payment for holidays being made conditional on good conduct and the rendering of satisfactory service.

Industries or Occupations.	Holidays paid for per annum, apart from Public Holidays.*	Qualifying Service in Months.
A.—GENERAL AGREEMENTS.		
Heavy Chemical Manufacture (except London)	1 week 12s	12
Explosives Trade	{ 3 days 6 1 week 12	6
Paint, Colour and Varnish Manufacture	{ 3 days 6 5 days 9 6 days 12	6
Soap and Candle Manufacture	1 week 12	6
Cement Manufacture	1 week 12†	12
Match Manufacture	1 week 6	6
Printing Ink Manufacture	1 week 12	6
Drug and Fine Chemical Manufacture	6 days§ 12s	12
Asbestos Manufacture	† 1 week 6 ‡ 1 week 12	6
Lead Manufacture	† 1 week 12	6
Lithographic Printers employed by Tin Box Makers	1 week 12	6
Foot and Shoe Manufacture	† 1 week 6	6
Flour Milling	1 week 6	6
Cocoa and Chocolate, Sugar Confectionery and Fruit Preserving Trades	{ 3 days 6 6 days 12	6
Printing, Bookbinding etc. (except Newspapers, London)	1 week 12	6
Process Engraving	2 weeks§ 12s	12
Press Telegraphists	2 weeks 12	12
Railway Companies: conciliation grades	1 week† 12	12
Railway Police Staff:	6 days† 12	12
Uniform Constables	9 days† 12	12
Uniform Sergeants, Detectives and Detective Sergeants	9 days† 12	12
Shiftworkers at Railway Companies' Electricity Generating Stations and Sub-Stations	7 or 14 days† 12	12
Road Motor Transport (Goods) Workers (England and Wales)	1 week 12	12
Road Transport (Goods)—employees of Northern Ireland Road Transport Board§§	1 week 12	12
Road Transport (Passenger)—employees of Northern Ireland Road Transport Board§§	6 days 12	12
Tramway Undertakings (Provinces)	8 days† 12	12
Municipal Motor Omnibus Undertakings	{ 3 days†† 6 † 1 week†† 12	6
Gas Undertakings	6 to 14 days 12	12
Government Departments—Industrial Staffs.	12 days¶ 12	12
Local Authorities—Non-Trading Services (certain districts)**	12 days¶ 12	12
B.—DISTRICT AGREEMENTS.		
<i>Mining and Quarrying:—</i>		
Coal Mining Deputies (Northumberland)	1 week 6	6
" " (Lancashire and Cheshire)	1 week 12	12
" " and Firemen (Cannock Chase)	1 week 12	12
" " Examiners and Firemen (Leicestershire)	7 days 12	12
" " Firemen (North Staffordshire)	1 week 12	12
" " (South Wales and Monmouthshire)	12 days 12	12
" " Shotsmen (South Wales and Monmouthshire)	7 days 12	12
" " Overmen (Cannock Chase)	10 days 12	12
" " Foremen and Weighers (Lancashire and Cheshire)	14 days¶ 12	12
" " Balliffs, Examiners and Firemen (Somerset)	1 week 12	12
" " Examiners (Forest of Dean)	1 week 12	12
" " Winding Enginememen (Cannock Chase)	1 week 12	12
" " Winding Enginememen (Kent)	1 week 12	12
Gypsum Mining (Gotham, Cropwell Bishop and Newark-on-Trent)	1 week 12	12
Chalk Quarry Workers (Thames and Medway)	1 week 12††	12
<i>Metal Industries:—</i>		
Military Musical Instrument Making (London)	1 week 12	12
Penmaking (Birmingham)	1 week 6	6
Gold, Silver, etc. Trades (London)	{ 2 days 4 6 days 12	4
C.—DISTRICT AGREEMENTS—continued.		
<i>Textile and Clothing Industries:—</i>		
Textile Making-up and Picking (Manchester)	12 days¶	12
Lambwool and Worsted Yarn Spinning (Leicester)	†	†
Boot, Shoe and Slipper Manufacture (Rossendale Valley)	†	†
Boot and Shoe Repairers employed by Co-operative Societies:—		
Northumberland, Durham, Cumberland, Westmorland and North Riding of Yorkshire	6 days 6	6
Lancashire, Cheshire, North Wales and parts of Derbyshire and Staffordshire	1 week 12	12
Yorkshire (except North Riding) and parts of Lincolnshire and Derbyshire	6 days 12	12
Scotland (certain districts)	6 days 12	12
Clothworkers (London)	{ 1 week 12 3 days 6	6
Retail Dressmaking—Female Workers (London)	{ 1 week 6 2 weeks 12	6
Retail Bespoke Tailoring—Ladies' Trade (London)	1 week 6	6
Laundry Workers employed by Co-operative Societies in various districts in England...	6 days 6	6
<i>Food and Drink Industries:—</i>		
Brewing (Barton)	{ 6 days 12 3 days 6	6
(Yorkshire)	1 week 12	12
Baking (Northumberland and Durham) (Bolton)	1 week¶ 12	12
(Preston)	7 days¶ 12	12
(Chester)	9 days¶ 12	12
(Nottingham and District)	6 days 12	12
(Chatham)	6 days 12	12
(Aberdeen) {Regular men 1 week 6 Casual men 80 days 80	9 days 12	12
(Bellshill, Falkirk and Hamilton)	10 days¶ 12	12
(Brechin)	9 days 12	12
(Carnoustie)	10 days¶ 12	12
(Dumfries and Paisley)	11 days¶ 12	12
(Dumfries)	8 days¶ 12	12
(Dumfries and Leith)	6 days 12	12
(Greenock)	6 days 12	12
(Perth)	9 days¶ 12	12
(Co-operative Societies in Northumberland and Durham)	6 days 12	12
(Co-operative Societies in Yorkshire)	6 days 6	6
(Co-operative Societies in Bristol and Somerset)	{ 3 days 6 6 days 12	12
(Co-operative Societies in Ayrshire)	6 days§ 12s	12
(Co-operative Societies in Fifeshire and Kinross-shire)	6 days 12	12
(Co-operative Societies in Greenock and District)	3 days 12	12
(Co-operative Societies in Lanarkshire)	9 days 12	12
(Co-operative Societies in the Lothians)	12 days¶ 6	6
<i>Transport:—</i>		
Omnibus and Tramway Workers—Drivers and Conductors (London)	12 days† 12	12
Omnibus and Tramway Workers—Garage and Depot Inside Staffs (London)	12 days† 12	12
Omnibus Workers (certain companies operating in Essex)	6 days† 8	8
Omnibus Workers (certain companies operating in Cumberland, Northumberland, Durham, North Lancashire, Northamptonshire, Oxfordshire, Surrey, Hertfordshire and Sussex)	6 days† 12	12
Omnibus Workers (certain companies operating in East Midlands and Yorkshire, South Lancashire, Cheshire and Kent)	1 week† 12	12
Omnibus Workers (certain companies operating in Nottinghamshire, Birmingham and Midlands)	7 days† 12	12
Omnibus Workers (certain companies operating in Yorkshire, Lancashire, the Midlands, South Wales and Scotland)	8 days† 12	12
Omnibus Workers (company operating in Lancashire)	9 days† 12	12
Omnibus Workers (company operating in North Wales, etc.)	8 or 12 days† 12	12
<i>Public Utility Services:—</i>		
<i>Local Authorities—Non-Trading Services:—</i>		
Northern, West Riding of Yorkshire, Southern Home Counties, and South-Western	12 days¶ 12	12
Northumberland and Durham	{ 3 days 6 12 days¶ 12	12
Lancashire and Cheshire	1 week 12	12
East Midlands	12 days¶ 12	12
West Midlands	8 to 12 days¶ 12 to 48	12
South Midlands	14 days 12	12
Middlesex and London	6 to 12 days 12	12 to 84
North Wales	6 to 12 days¶ 12 to 36	12
<i>Waterworks Undertakings:—</i>		
Northern Counties	6 days§ 12	12
Yorkshire, Lancashire and Cheshire, Midlands and Home Counties	12 days¶ 12	12
South Midlands	14 days¶ 12	12
London	12 12	12
South Wales and Mon.	{ 3 days 6 4 days 8 5 days 10 6 days 12	12
<i>Electricity Supply Undertakings:—</i>		
London	Shift Day Workers 14† 7	7
N.E. Coast	10 or 14† 7 12	12
Yorkshire	12 or 14† 12¶ 12	12
N.W. Area	7 or 14† 7	7
West Midlands	6 to 14† 6 to 12s	12 to 84s
East Midlands	14† 12s	12s

For footnotes see page 126.

For footnotes see page 126.

Industries or Occupations.	Holidays paid for per annum, apart from Public Holidays.*	Qualifying Service in Months.
B.—DISTRICT AGREEMENTS—continued.		
Public Utility Services—continued.		
Electricity Supply Undertakings—continued.		
East Coast	14 [†]	12 [‡]
Home Counties	14 [†]	7 ^{††}
South Coast	14 [†]	12 [‡]
West of England	7 or 14 [†]	7 ^{††}
Devon and Cornwall	10 [†]	10 ^{††}
South Wales and Mon.	14 [†]	12 [‡]
Scotland	7 or 14 [†]	7 ^{††}
Other Industries:—		
Chemical Workers (London)	3 days	6
Sawmilling (North-East Coast and Humber)	1 week	12
Sawmilling (Liverpool)	1 week [‡]	12 [‡]
Brewery Coopers (Burton and Nottingham)	1 week	...
Brewery Coopers (Birmingham and Wolverhampton)	1 week	12
Electrotypers and Stereotypers on "trade" work (Manchester, Liverpool, Leeds and Newcastle)	1 week	...
Electrotypers and Stereotypers on "trade" work (London)	2 weeks	12
Workpeople employed in Newspaper Printing Offices (London)	2 weeks	6
Pattern Card Makers (Manchester) ...	2 weeks [†]	12
Funeral Workers (London and Liverpool) ...	1 week	12
Cemetery Workers (London)	6 days	12
Window Cleaning (Edinburgh and Leith) ...	1 week	...
" (Bristol)	1 week	...
Retail Drapery Shops (certain large firms in London):—		
Transport Workers	1 week	12
Packers, Porters and Assistants	6 days	6
" " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	12 days	12
Carters employed by ale and porter and mineral water bottlers (Liverpool) ...	1 week	12
Meat Distribution (wholesale—London) ...	1 week	12
Export Packing (London)	1 week	12
Tanning (Lancashire and Cheshire)	1 week	12
" and Currying (London)	1 week [†]	12
Cinema Employees (London)	1 week	12
Cinema Operators (Scotland—Clyde area) ...	3 days	24
Butchers (Bath)	6 days	...
" (Wellingborough)	6 days	...
" employed by Co-operative Societies (Bolton, Manchester, Runcorn, Widnes, Crewe, Burslem and Stockport)	6 days	6
" employed by Co-operative Societies (N.E. Lanes)	1 week	12
" employed by Co-operative Societies (Oldham)	4 days	6
" employed by Co-operative Societies (Swindon)	10 days	12
Employees of Retail Distributive Co-operative Societies:—		
London	6 days	12
" " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	9 days	24
" " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	12 days	36
Northern Counties	10 days	6
N.E. Area	6 days	under 6
N.W. Area	8 days	6 or over
N.E. Area	6 days	under 6
" " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	10 days	6 or over
Midlands	6 days	12
" " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	12 days	24
Gloucester, Hereford, Bristol and Somerset	3 days	6
" " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	6 days	12
" " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	9 days	24
" " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	6 days	12
" " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	6 days	12
" " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	7 days	24
" " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	9 days	36
" " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	6 days	12
" " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	8 days	24
" " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	8 days	24
" " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	9 days	36
" " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	6 days	12
" " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	8 days	24
" " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	8 days	24
" " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	6 days	12
" " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	8 days	24
" " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	8 days	24
" " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	6 days	12
" " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	8 days	24
" " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	8 days	24
" " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	6 days	12
" " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	12 days	24
" " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	12 days	24

In addition to the general and district agreements of which details are given in the Table, it is known that others are in existence covering employees of individual firms. Moreover, provision for holiday payments is recognised by some employers' associations although not actually embodied in agreements effected with the workpeople's organisations. It has been recommended by the Wholesale Clothing Manufacturers' Federation of Great Britain and the Shirt, Collar and Tie Manufacturers' Federation that holiday payments should be made to employees with six months' continuous service prior to 1st August. The British Tin Box Manufacturers' Federation has also recommended that certain holidays should be granted with pay. The Wholesale Dressmaking and Women's

* Unless otherwise stated, the usual public holidays, or days in lieu, are granted and paid for in addition to the periods specified.
† In these cases, either the whole or a proportion of the employees are required to work on public holidays. In some cases work on such holidays is paid for at ordinary rates, and in others at higher rates.
‡ Payment is made by contributions from both employers and workpeople.
§ A *pro rata* holiday is allowed to workers with service of less than the amount specified.
¶ No payment is made in respect of public holidays to those not called upon to work.
†† Public holidays are included in the period specified.
‡‡ The provision for holidays in this case is contained in a recommendation of the National Joint Industrial Council, which left the period of qualifying service to be determined locally. In a few cases somewhat different arrangements (see below) have been made by the District Joint Industrial Councils: e.g., in London it was agreed to grant one day's holiday (apart from public holidays) for every two months' service up to 6 days, with an additional day for every year of service beyond two up to a maximum of twelve consecutive days.
††† Those with between 6 and 12 months' service are allowed a week's holiday with a proportionate payment.
†††† In certain districts provision has been made for payment for additional days.
§§ See article on page 124.

Light Clothing Section of the London Employers' Association has recommended that workers who are in the employ of the firms concerned at the holiday period be allowed six days' holiday with pay after twelve months' continuous service. It has also been recommended by the Trade Boards for the brush and broom trade and for the dressmaking and women's light clothing trade that employers in those trades should grant one week's holiday with pay to employees with twelve months' service; and a similar provision has been recommended by the Joint Industrial Council for the Cooperage Industry.

Payment to time workers is generally made at the full weekly time rates of wages, and in some instances provision is made for payment to pieceworkers on the same basis. In the printing trade in the provinces pieceworkers receive an amount equivalent to the average of their weekly earnings during the preceding six months; but compositors employed by London newspapers receive payment at the rate of their average earnings, less overtime payments, as shown on their income tax returns for the preceding year. In the paint, colour and varnish trades the pieceworkers' holiday pay is based on their average weekly earnings during the month preceding the holiday. In the match manufacturing industry the holiday payment is calculated on the average weekly number of hours worked by the factory during the twelve months prior to the holiday. The payment to employees of more than twelve months' service in the leather tanning industry in Lancashire and Cheshire and to pieceworkers in the gold, silver and allied trades in London is based on their average earnings during the preceding twelve months, with the provision, in the latter case, that the basis of payment shall in no case be less than forty-seven hours at the minimum day work rate. In a number of agreements it is provided that employees shall not receive pay in lieu of the holidays to which they are entitled.

Many of the agreements specify that the holidays for which payment is made shall consist of a certain number of consecutive days, and in many cases also it is provided that the holiday period shall fall between definite dates in the summer months. In the military musical instrument trade in London the agreement allows the employer to close his works entirely for a week, on giving two months' notice, or to allow his individual workers to take their holidays at agreed dates. The agreement for London omnibus workers provides, in the case of drivers and conductors, that two-thirds of the holidays shall be appointed between October and March and the remainder between April and September, and in the case of the garage inside staff that half the staff shall be away during each period. In the case of the omnibus workers employed by an undertaking operating in North Wales, etc., the agreement provides that the drivers and conductors shall have 12 days' holiday, paid for as 96 hours, 6 days taken in summer and 6 in winter.

In some of the agreements provision is made for allowances to employees who leave their employment before they have taken their holiday, although, in a few instances, such allowance is specifically debarred. In the printing trades and in printing ink manufacture an employee who leaves without having had his holiday receives an allowance on the basis of one day for each completed two months' service subsequent to the preceding 30th June; and he is entitled to a similar *pro rata* allowance from his new employer from the date he takes up his appointment up to the following 30th June. Newspaper printers in London who leave their employment between the end of the holiday period and the following 31st March receive one-twelfth of two weeks' wages for each completed month's service. In drug and fine chemical manufacture employees leaving before their holidays are due, for any reason other than misconduct or resignation, receive payment on the basis of one half-day for each completed month's service up to a maximum of six days; and in the process engraving trade the allowance is one day's holiday or pay for each completed month. In the electricity supply industry in certain areas, an employee who may leave the undertaking, other than for misconduct, is entitled to a *pro rata* holiday, or pay in lieu.

A few of the agreements provide for a contribution from the workpeople, in one form or another, towards the payment for holidays. In the boot and shoe industry equal contributions are made to a holiday fund by employers and workpeople, the amount being 1s. 2d. per week in the case of adult men, with smaller amounts for women, youths and girls; withdrawals of small fixed amounts are made for the Easter and Whitsun holidays, and larger amounts for the longer holidays taken in August and at Christmas. In the lambs-wool and worsted yarn spinning industry at Leicester equal contributions are paid by employers and workpeople for 48 weeks in the year, the amount of contribution being 6d. in the case of males over 18, with smaller amounts in respect of women and boys and girls; payment from the fund is made not later than the day following resumption of work after August bank holiday. In the tanning and currying trade in London a voluntary contributory scheme provides for 50 equal contributions each year from employers and workpeople, the amount in the case of men being 1s. 3d., with smaller contributions in respect of women, boys and girls; withdrawals of fixed amounts are made at Christmas, Easter, Whitsun and August bank holiday, and for a holiday week; one-half of each contribution is considered as earmarked for the full holiday week, the other half being available for payments at bank holidays. In the baking trade in a number of districts in Scotland payment for holidays is made in lieu of payment for Sunday sparging.

The particulars given above relate to manual wage earners. It is estimated that approximately 1½ millions of such workpeople are at present covered by the general or district agreements referred to in the foregoing Table. In addition, large numbers of salaried clerks and shop assistants, and other salaried employees, are regularly granted holidays with pay, as well as many workers on "standing" wages, and wage earners employed by some individual firms who are not parties to collective agreements arranged by employers' associations and trade unions.

REGULATION OF INDUSTRIAL EMPLOYMENT IN THE IRISH FREE STATE.

By the Conditions of Employment Act, dated 14th February, 1936, fundamental provisions have been laid down for the regulation of industrial employment in the Irish Free State. To the extent that these provisions revise and supersede earlier provisions contained in the Factory and Workshop Acts, 1901 and 1907, the Employment of Children Act, 1903, and the Employment of Women, Young Persons and Children Act, 1920, these latter Acts are repealed. Responsibility for the administration of the present Act is vested in the Minister for Industry and Commerce, who is to determine the date from which it will come into operation. According to a statement by the Minister, the Act forms part of a projected comprehensive legislative programme whereby all matters, including health and safety, relating to both industrial and commercial employment are eventually to be regulated. The Act lays down specific provisions with regard to the conditions of employment in industry generally, and, at the same time, empowers the Minister for Industry and Commerce to issue regulations prescribing special conditions or establishing minimum standards of employment in individual branches of industrial employment. In general, before issuing such regulations, the Minister is required to consult the representatives of interested employers and workers, and in all cases he must submit the proposed regulations to both Houses of the Legislature for approval. The following is a summary of the principal provisions of the Act:—

Scope.—The Act applies only to "industrial work"; this term does not include work in agriculture, commerce, domestic service, mining, and transport.

Age and Sex Limitations on Employment.—Except in cases where some other age-limit is fixed by the competent Minister for specified forms of industrial work, children under 14 years of age are prohibited from following industrial employment; and young persons, defined as those aged between 14 and 18 years of age, may be engaged for such employment only after satisfactory evidence of age has been produced to the employer. Furthermore, the Minister is empowered to make regulations either prohibiting or numerically restricting the employment of young persons, other than those serving regular apprenticeships, in particular forms of industrial work. Similar regulations may also be issued as regards female workers.

Working Hours.—The provisions respecting working hours fix at 48 hours for adults (i.e., persons aged not less than 18 years), and 40 hours for young persons, the duration of the normal working week, which must include one "short day" on which work is to cease not later than 1 p.m. The normal duration of the "ordinary" or full working day may not exceed 9 hours for adults and 8 hours for young persons, the work terminating on ordinary working days not later than 8 p.m., and, in the case of women and young persons, commencing not earlier than 8 a.m. on any day.

Special provisions regulate shift-working; these provide that, except in the case of industrial work done in or about the printing or publishing of newspapers, shift-work may not be performed unless (a) the work normally requires to be carried on continuously, or for at least 15 hours at a time without intermission, or (b) a licence to employ workers on shift-work is granted by the Minister upon application by the employer. Both shift-work on continuous processes and licensed shift-work are subject to certain conditions which, *inter alia*, prohibit the employment of a worker on two consecutive shifts, and limit the duration of the shift to a maximum of 9 hours. In the case of shift-work on continuous processes, no worker may work for more than 56 hours in any week; while, in the case of licensed shift-work, the weekly working time, on an average over a period of 3 weeks, may not exceed 48 hours.

At the discretion of the employer, "uncontrolled" overtime may be worked by adults up to the limits of 2 hours a day, 12 hours a week, 35 hours in any period of four consecutive weeks, and 240 hours in any year. For young persons the limits are 2 hours on any "ordinary day" or 1 hour on any "short day," 10 hours a week, 30 hours in any four consecutive weeks, and 200 hours in any year. The Minister may, however, issue regulations restricting the working of "uncontrolled" overtime in the case of particular forms of industrial work. On the other hand, upon application by the employer, the Minister may, for a specified period and subject to specified conditions, authorise the working of "permitted" overtime, i.e., overtime in excess of the limits for "uncontrolled" overtime. For all overtime work payment must be made at rates not less than 25 per cent. in excess of the normal rates.

Other provisions respecting working hours regulate Sunday work, the intervals and rest-periods between work, and also prohibit, in principle, the employment of women on night-work between the hours of 10 p.m. and 8 a.m. of the following day, and of young persons between the hours of 8 p.m. and 8 a.m. of the following day.

From the application of all or any of the provisions regulating working hours, the Minister is empowered, in consultation with the representatives of interested employers and workers, to exclude by regulations specified forms of industrial work. The Minister may also issue to individual employers exclusion permits valid for not more than two weeks in cases where the amount of work is abnormally increased in the undertaking.

Regulation of Wages.—The Act institutes no direct regulation of wages, but provides that wages agreements concluded between employers and workers who are substantially representative of the employers and workers in a particular branch of industrial work, in the whole or any particular part of the Irish Free State, may,

upon application by one or more of the parties to the agreement, be compulsorily extended by the Minister to all employers and workers engaged in the kind of industrial work in the area to which the agreement relates, the wages fixed by such agreements then constituting minimum standards, which may be exceeded. The extension of agreements is to be effected by their registration in a "Wages Agreements Register" to be established and maintained by the Minister. Applications for registration must be made within six months after the commencement of the Act in the case of agreements already current at that date, and within six months after the date of the agreement in other cases. The conditions of registration also require that the agreements shall be "in all respects suitable for registration," and, if concluded after the commencement of the Act, they must be operative for at least one year. Notification of the registration of agreements is to be made in the official Gazette, and within one month after the date of such notification application for the annulment of the registration may be made by any person to the High Court. The court may approve the application, and order the annulment of the registration, if the employer and worker signatories to the agreement are not, in either case, representative to the prescribed extent.

Other provisions respecting wages prescribe that piece-work wages must be fixed in such a way as to enable the workers to check the reckoning, and that the rates fixed must be communicated to the workers by written notice, in advance, and also by the posting of placards in the workplaces. The Act also provides that existing rates of wages may not be reduced by reason of the fact that working hours are reduced either directly by the Act or by regulations that may be issued thereunder, and also that, in the case of piece-work wages and wages calculated by direct reference to the number of hours worked, the rates shall be so adjusted that the average weekly earnings shall remain unchanged.

Holidays.—The provisions of the Act respecting holidays require the employer to grant the worker, in addition to the specified public holidays, a period of not less than six consecutive days of annual leave with pay in every complete employment year of the worker during which he has been continuously in the employment and has worked in such employment for not less than eighteen hundred hours.

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION.

RATIFICATION OF TWO DRAFT CONVENTIONS BY H.M. GOVERNMENT.

The *London Gazette* for 31st March, 1936, contains the text of three notices relating to the proceedings of the Privy Council on 24th March, 1936. The Privy Council on that date ordered two draft Conventions adopted by the International Labour Conference in 1934 to be confirmed and approved, *viz.*, the draft Convention ensuring Benefits or Allowances to the Involuntarily Unemployed, and the draft Convention concerning Workmen's Compensation for Occupational Diseases (as revised in 1934). They also ordered the Draft Convention concerning Workmen's Compensation for Occupational Diseases, adopted by the International Labour Conference in 1925, to be denounced. (This Convention has been superseded by the revised Convention of 1934, which adds silicosis and certain other diseases to those previously scheduled.)

PROPOSED ACTION BY H.M. GOVERNMENT REGARDING CERTAIN DRAFT CONVENTIONS AND A RECOMMENDATION.

A Command Paper has been issued* setting forth the proposed action by H.M. Government regarding six Draft Conventions and a Recommendation adopted by the International Labour Conference at its seventeenth session in 1933, and regarding two Draft Conventions adopted by the Conference at its nineteenth session in 1935.†

H.M. Government propose to ratify six Draft Conventions adopted by the 1933 Conference regarding compulsory old age, invalidity, and widows' and orphans' insurance. They are not prepared, however, at the present time, to accept the Recommendation adopted by that Conference concerning the general principles of such insurance, as it would require changes in the contributory pensions scheme involving heavy expenditure.

H.M. Government do not propose to ratify the Draft Convention adopted by the 1935 Conference concerning the establishment of an international scheme for the maintenance of the rights of immigrant workers under invalidity, old age, and widows' and orphans' insurance. It is pointed out in the Command Paper that, under the scheme of pensions insurance in the United Kingdom, immigrant workers into this country already become entitled, equally with British workers, to the full pension after a short waiting period of insurable employment; and the provisions of the Convention could not be applied to the scheme of insurance in this country without fundamental alterations of the scheme and of its methods of administration.

H.M. Government propose to ratify the Draft Convention adopted by the 1935 Conference concerning the employment of women on underground work in mines. Such work is already prohibited under the existing law in this country.

* Cmd. 5141. H.M. Stationery Office; price 1d. net (1½d. post free).
† The texts of the Conventions and Recommendations adopted at these sessions of the Conference have been published as follows:—*Seventeenth Session:* Cmd. 4429. H.M. Stationery Office; price 2s. 6d. (2s. 8d. post free).
Nineteenth Session: Cmd. 5033. H.M. Stationery Office; price 1s. 3d. (1s. 4d. post free). An account of the proceedings at these sessions of the Conference was given in the Issues of this GAZETTE for July, 1933 (page 244), and for July, 1935 (pages 255-6).

EMPLOYMENT IN MARCH: GENERAL SUMMARY.

EMPLOYMENT showed a further substantial improvement in March, extending to the great majority of the principal industries. The most marked improvement, between 24th February and 23rd March, occurred in the building industry; but there were also substantial reductions in the numbers unemployed in public works contracting, stone quarrying, brick and tile making, the iron and steel, engineering, and motor vehicle industries, miscellaneous metal goods manufacture, the clothing trades, the woollen and worsted and cotton industries, furniture making, etc., pottery and earthenware manufacture, printing, the food industries, the transport and distributive trades, and hotel and boarding house service. On the other hand, there was a further increase in the numbers temporarily stopped in the coal mining industry.

The improvement affected all administrative Divisions except Wales, where there was a slight decline.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS.

The estimated number of insured persons, aged 16-64, in employment in Great Britain at 23rd March, 1936, was 10,630,000. This was 155,000 more than at 24th February, 1936, and 411,000 more than at 25th March, 1935.

Among workpeople, aged 16-64, insured against unemployment in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the percentage unemployed at 23rd March, 1936 (including those temporarily stopped as well as those wholly unemployed), was 14.4, as compared with 15.4 at 24th February, 1936, and with 16.4 at 25th March, 1935. In Great Britain the percentage at 23rd March was 14.2, compared with 15.3 at 24th February, and with 16.2 at 25th March, 1935.

At 23rd March, 1936, the numbers of persons on the Registers of Employment Exchanges in Great Britain were 1,560,574 wholly unemployed, 235,280 temporarily stopped, and 85,677 normally in casual employment, making a total of 1,881,531. This was 143,490 less than a month before and 272,339 less than a year before. The total included 1,482,442 men, 55,800 boys, 289,986 women, and 53,303 girls. The persons on the Registers included 852,580 persons with claims for insurance benefit (see page 141); 701,437 insured persons with applications for unemployment allowances; 199,303 insured persons (including 20,149 insured juveniles under 16 years of age) not in receipt of insurance benefit or unemployment allowances, and 128,211 uninsured persons.

In Great Britain and Northern Ireland the total number of persons on the Registers of Employment Exchanges at 23rd March, 1936, was 1,947,998.

EMPLOYMENT IN THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES.

Mining and Quarrying.—In the coal mining industry employment showed a further decline. There was a considerable increase, between 24th February and 23rd March, in the number of persons temporarily stopped, especially in Yorkshire and in South Wales and Monmouthshire. The total number of wage-earners on the colliery books at 21st March, 1936, showed an increase of 0.2 per cent. as compared with 22nd February, 1936, but a decrease of 0.8 per cent. as compared with 23rd March, 1935. The average number of days worked per week in the fortnight ended 21st March, 1936, was 5.09, a decrease of 0.22 of a day as compared with the fortnight ended 22nd February, 1936, but an increase of 0.05 of a day as compared with the fortnight ended 23rd March, 1935.

In the iron mining industry employment showed an improvement, and was moderate on the whole. In limestone quarries in the Buxton area it remained good, while in the Cleveland area it was fair. At tin mines employment was slack. At the West Lothian shale mines it continued fair. Employment improved in slate quarries in North Wales, and was good. At china clay quarries employment was fairly good; at chalk quarries it was very slack. Employment in the East of Scotland whinstone quarries remained slack.

Pig Iron, Iron and Steel and Tinplate.—Employment in the pig iron industry showed a further improvement. The number of furnaces in blast at the end of March, 1936, was 109, the same as at the end of February, 1936, compared with 98 at the end of March, 1935.

In iron and steel manufacture employment showed a slight improvement between 24th February and 23rd March.

In the tinplate industry employment showed a decline and was very bad. It declined also in steel sheet manufacture.

Engineering, Shipbuilding and Other Metal Industries.—In the engineering industry employment showed a further improvement, and was fair on the whole. It was good in electrical engineering, fair to good in motor vehicle manufacture, and fair to moderate in general engineering; in marine, textile, and constructional engineering it remained slack.

In the shipbuilding and ship-repairing industry the improvement recorded in recent months continued during March, but employment was still very bad.

In the other metal trades employment improved, and was fair generally. It was good in the brasswork trade; fairly good in the sheet metal, hollow-ware, jewellery and plated ware, and nut, bolt, nail, rivet, etc. trades; fair in the edge tool, file, ironfounding (other than engineers' ironfounding), chain and anchor, and needle and fishing tackle trades; moderate in the wire manufacturing trade, and slack in the tube trade.

Textile Industries.—In the cotton industry employment showed a further slight improvement, between 24th February and 23rd March, in both the preparing, spinning, etc., and the manufacturing departments.

In the wool textile industry employment showed a slight improvement, principally in the woollen section, and was good in most districts and departments. A shortage of skilled operatives was reported in many districts. In the carpet section employment declined slightly, but remained good or fair in the principal districts.

Employment in the hosiery trade showed little change and was fairly good on the whole. In the lace trade there was a further improvement, and employment was fairly good. A slight decline took place in the silk manufacturing industry and employment was fair; it continued good in artificial silk yarn manufacture, in which little change was reported. In the linen trade employment showed little change and remained slack; while in the jute trade it declined and continued bad. In the textile bleaching, printing, dyeing, etc. trades there was little change, and employment continued very slack, with much short-time working.

Clothing Trades.—Employment in the retail bespoke and in the ready-made and wholesale bespoke branches of the tailoring trades continued to improve and was fair on the whole. The dressmaking and millinery trades showed a further improvement, and employment was fairly good generally. Employment in the shirt and collar trade showed little change and was fair. In the glove and corset trades there was some improvement, and employment at most centres was good in the former and fairly good in the latter. Employment in the hat trade showed a further improvement, and was fair to good.

In the boot and shoe industry employment showed a further slight improvement and was fairly good on the whole.

Leather Trades.—Employment in the tanning, currying and leather-dressing sections of the leather trades showed an improvement, and was fair to moderate on the whole. The improvement in other sections continued, and employment was fair.

Building, Woodworking, etc.—In the building industry employment was fairly good on the whole during March, and showed a considerable improvement, affecting every occupation and every administrative division, as compared with the previous month; a shortage was reported, in some areas, of skilled bricklayers, carpenters and plasterers. In brick manufacture employment showed a further improvement.

Employment in the furnishing trades and with coachbuilders showed an improvement and was fair; with mill-sawyers also it improved, and was moderate generally.

Paper Manufacture, Printing and Bookbinding.—Employment in the paper-making industry showed an improvement and was good. In the printing industry it also improved and continued fairly good on the whole. With bookbinders, however, employment showed a decline, but was still fairly good generally.

Pottery and Glass.—In the pottery industry employment in North Staffordshire showed a further slight improvement, but was still slack generally; at Bristol and Worcester employment continued good, and at Derby it remained fair. Employment in the glass trades also showed an improvement; it was still very slack in the bottle-making section, but in other sections it was fair.

Fishing.—With fishermen employment declined during March and was very bad.

Dock Labourers and Seamen.—With dock labourers employment showed a slight improvement, but remained slack generally. Among seamen it remained slack on the whole.

UNEMPLOYMENT SUMMARY BY DISTRICTS.

The following Table shows, for the main areas into which the country is divided for the purposes of the administration of the Unemployment Insurance Act, the proportions unemployed among insured workpeople, aged 16-64, and the number of unemployed persons (insured and uninsured), aged 14 years and over, on the registers of Employment Exchanges, etc., at 23rd March, 1936:—

Division.	Percentages unemployed amongst Insured Workpeople, aged 16-64, at 23rd March, 1936.			Unemployed Persons on Registers of Employment Exchanges at 23rd March, 1936.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Numbers	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with
					a month before.	a year before.
London ...	9.1	5.9	8.1	194,444	-24,690	-26,414
South-Eastern ...	8.9	6.8	8.4	95,435	-17,105	-6,557
South-Western ...	11.7	7.1	10.7	105,528	-14,867	-20,873
Midlands ...	10.5	7.8	9.7	186,744	-19,626	-40,932
North-Eastern ...	19.9	8.7	17.5	383,964	-30,013	-93,216
North-Western ...	20.2	13.8	18.1	399,886	-22,231	-54,127
Scotland ...	23.0	13.3	20.3	300,387	-16,409	-30,204
Wales ...	34.5	17.0	32.6	215,143	+1,451	-16
Northern Ireland	25.5	20.1	23.4	66,467	-2,412	-4,382
Special Schemes	2.7	0.5	2.0	—	—	—
Total ...	16.2	9.6	14.4	1,947,998	-145,902	-276,721

UNEMPLOYMENT DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS.

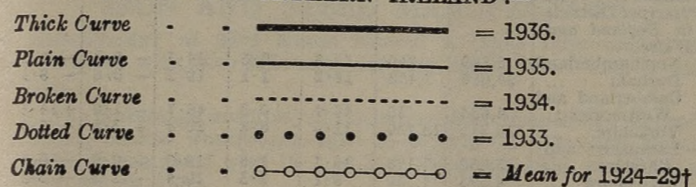
The following Table shows, month by month from March, 1935, the percentages unemployed among insured persons aged 16-64, and the number of unemployed persons aged 14 years and upwards on

the registers of Employment Exchanges, etc., in Great Britain and Great Britain and Northern Ireland:—

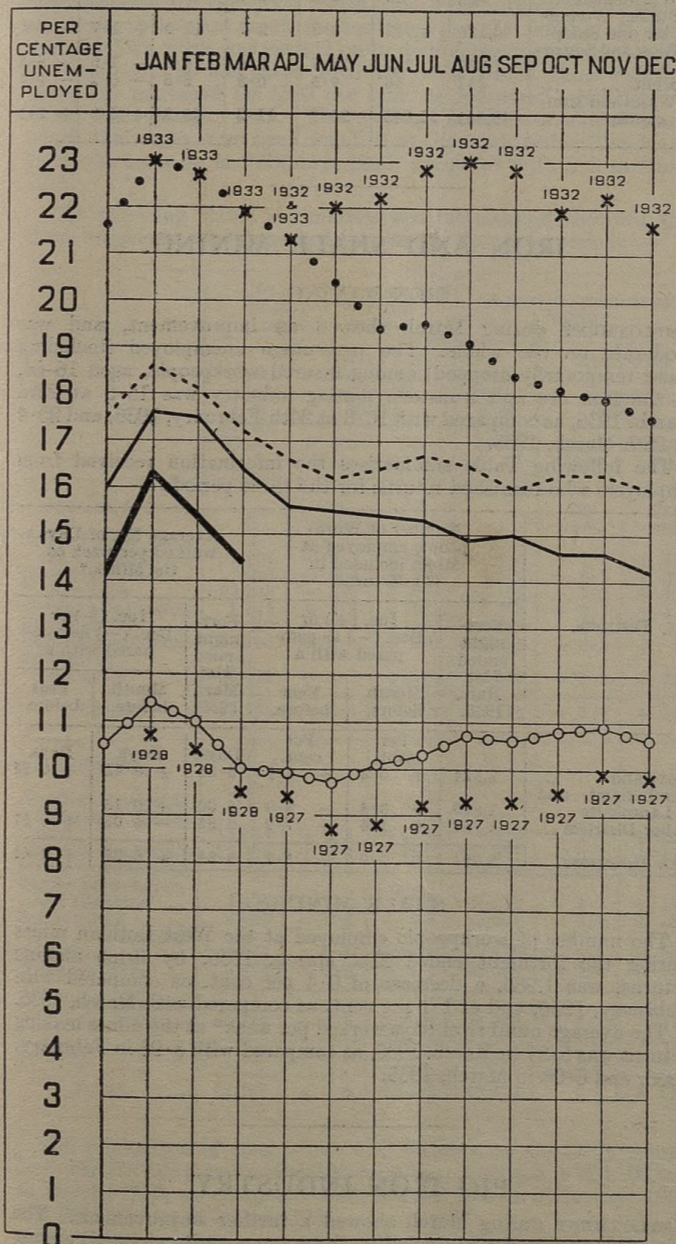
Date.	Males and Females.		Wholly Unemployed and Casuals.	Temporarily stopped.	Total.	Number of Unemployed Persons (Insured and Uninsured) registered at Employment Exchanges, etc.	
	Males.	Females.				Great Britain and N. Ireland.	Great Britain.
1935.							
25 March ...	18.6	10.7	14.0	2.4	16.4	2,224,719	2,153,870
15 April ...	17.8	9.7	13.4	2.2	15.6	2,113,851	2,044,460
20 May ...	17.8	9.5	13.1	2.4	15.5	2,113,996	2,044,752
24 June ...	17.6	9.2	12.5	2.9	15.4	2,068,152	2,000,110
22 July ...	17.4	9.5	12.2	3.1	15.3	2,045,383	1,972,941
26 August ...	16.9	9.6	12.3	2.6	14.9	2,022,450	1,947,964
23 September ...	17.0	9.5	12.6	2.4	15.0	2,032,221	1,958,810
21 October ...	16.6	9.0	12.7	1.9	14.6	1,982,302	1,916,390
25 November ...	16.6	9.3	12.9	1.7	14.6	1,982,713	1,918,562
16 December ...	16.3	8.7	12.6	1.6	14.2	1,932,839	1,868,565
1936.							
24 January ...	18.5	10.5	13.6	2.7	16.3	2,229,961	2,159,722
24 February ...	17.3	10.3	13.4	2.0	15.4	2,093,900	2,025,021
23 March ...	16.2	9.6	12.5	1.9	14.4	1,947,998	1,881,531

UNEMPLOYMENT CHART.

PERCENTAGES UNEMPLOYED* AMONG PERSONS, AGED 16-64, INSURED AGAINST UNEMPLOYMENT IN GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND:—



* The crosses indicate the minimum and maximum monthly percentages unemployed during the years 1924-1935.



COMPOSITION OF UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS: GREAT BRITAIN.

ON page 136 an explanation is given of the unemployment statistics published in the Press, and in this GAZETTE. The following Table gives an analysis relating to the 23rd March, 1936, of the composition of these statistics. Items 1 to 4 make up the number of persons on the register; while items 1, 2, 3 (a), 5 (a) and 6 make up the number of insured persons aged, 16-64, recorded as unemployed.

	Men. (18 years and over.)	Boys. (Under 18 years)	Women. (18 years and over.)	Girls. (Under 18 years)	Total.
1. Claims admitted ...	1,264,193	16,528	221,603	10,804	1,513,128
2. Claims under consideration ...	29,091	1,719	7,846	1,022	39,678
3. Insured persons not entitled to benefit or unemployment allowances:—					
(a) Aged 16-64 ...	134,214	5,947	35,024	5,180	180,365
(b) " 14 and 15 ...	—	9,890	—	10,259	20,149
4. Uninsured persons on register ...	54,944	21,716	25,513	26,038	128,211
5. Two months' file:—					
(a) persons aged 16-64 ...	39,529	2,589	32,331	3,312	77,761
(b) persons aged 14 and 15 ...	—	3,260	—	4,749	8,009
6. Unemployed—Special Schemes ...	2,775	5	244	3	3,027
Persons on Register (items 1-4) ...	1,482,442	55,800	289,986	53,303	1,881,531
Insured persons aged 16-64 recorded as unemployed (items 1-3(a), 5 (a) and 6) ...	1,469,802	26,788	297,048	20,321	1,813,959

NUMBERS ON THE REGISTERS OF EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES.*

ANALYSIS OF FIGURES FOR 23RD MARCH, 1936, AND 24TH FEBRUARY, 1936.

	23rd March, 1936.			24th Feb., 1936.	
	Persons normally in Regular Employment.	Persons normally in Casual Employment.	Total.	Persons normally in Regular Employment.	Total.
	Wholly Unemployed.	Temporarily Stopped.			
Great Britain.					
Men ...	1,235,320	163,473	83,649	1,482,442	1,589,316
Boys ...	51,157	4,475	168	55,800	65,564
Women ...	224,669	63,482	1,835	289,986	308,357
Girls ...	49,428	3,850	25	53,303	61,784
Total ...	1,560,574	235,280	85,677	1,881,531	2,025,021

	Great Britain and Northern Ireland.			
	Persons normally in Regular Employment.	Persons normally in Casual Employment.	Total.	Total.
Men ...	1,275,583	164,815	86,055	1,526,453
Boys ...	52,949	4,497	168	57,614
Women ...	240,726	66,895	1,872	309,494
Girls ...	50,458	3,954	25	54,437
Total ...	1,619,716	240,162	88,120	1,947,998

VACANCIES NOTIFIED TO, AND FILLED BY, EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES.*

(GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.)

	Four weeks ended 23rd Mar., 1936.		Period 26th March, 1935, to 23rd March, 1936.			
	Vacancies Notified.	Vacancies Filled.†	Vacancies Notified.		Vacancies Filled.†	
			Number.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a year before.	Number.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a year before.
Men ...	130,886	121,584	1,646,146	+ 178,330	1,534,213	+ 153,068
Boys ...	27,205	20,454	344,991	+ 51,209	271,806	+ 34,032
Women ...	52,128	39,491	710,770	+ 19,274	549,532	+ 209
Girls ...	22,164	16,881	311,336	+ 30,244	245,823	+ 19,239
Total	232,383	198,410	3,013,243	+ 279,057	2,601,434	+ 206,548

* The term "Employment Exchange," as used in this connection includes Ministry of Labour Employment Exchanges and Branch Employment Offices, and also Juvenile Employment Bureaux under the control of Local Education Authorities, which are exercising powers under Sec. 107 of the Education Act, 1921, and Sec. 5 of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1923, both now embodied in Sec. 81 of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1935. † "Vacancies Filled" include certain types of cases (described as Class B engagements) in which the work of the Exchanges was limited; for instance, obtaining for an employer former employees or placing the same men in relief work in alternate weeks. During the four weeks ended 23rd March 1936, the average number of such placings of men and women was 9,723 per week.

* Up to and including June, 1935, these percentages are revised figures calculated on the basis of the estimated numbers insured at the dates referred to; those for later months are based on the estimated numbers insured at July 1935, and are subject to slight revision when information becomes available as to the number of unemployment books exchanged at July, 1936. † Excluding the period April, 1926, to March, 1927.

DETAILED REPORTS ON EMPLOYMENT IN SOME OF THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES.

NOTE.—The numbers of workpeople employed given in the following Tables represent the numbers covered by the returns received and not the total numbers employed in the various industries.

COAL MINING.

EMPLOYMENT showed a further decline. There was a considerable increase, between 24th February and 23rd March, in the number of persons temporarily stopped, especially in Yorkshire and in South Wales and Monmouthshire.

The percentage unemployed (including those temporarily stopped) among insured workpeople, aged 16-64, was 21.7 at 23rd March, 1936, as compared with 20.2 at 24th February, 1936, and 24.8 at 25th March, 1935.

The total number of wage earners on the colliery books at 21st March, 1936, showed an increase of 0.2 per cent., as compared with 22nd February, 1936, but a decrease of 0.8 per cent. as compared with 23rd March, 1935.

The average number of days worked per week* in the fortnight ended 21st March, 1936, was 5.09, a decrease of 0.22 of a day as compared with the fortnight ended 22nd February, 1936, but an increase of 0.05 of a day as compared with the fortnight ended 23rd March, 1935.

The following Table shows, for the principal coal mining districts, the total number of wage earners on the colliery books at 21st March, 1936, and the average number of days worked per week* during the preceding fortnight, as shown by returns obtained by the Mines Department. Small numbers of workpeople employed at coal mines in raising or handling minerals other than coal are included in the totals.

Table showing Total Number of Wage Earners on Colliery Books and Average Number of Days worked per week* at the Mines for various districts including ENGLAND AND WALES, SCOTLAND, and GREAT BRITAIN.

The average number of coal-winding days lost in Great Britain during the fortnight ended 21st March, 1936, was 0.70 of a day per week, of which 0.63 of a day was due to want of trade.

The output of coal in Great Britain for the four weeks ended 21st March, 1936, as reported to the Mines Department, was 19,196,200 tons, as compared with 19,739,200 tons in the four weeks ended 22nd February, 1936, and 18,616,400 tons in the four weeks ended 23rd March, 1935.

The numbers and percentages unemployed among insured workpeople, aged 16-64, in the respective areas at 23rd March, 1936, and the increases or decreases as compared with 24th February, 1936, and 25th March, 1935, are shown in the following Table:—

* The figures in this and the following article show the number of days (allowance being made in all the calculations for short time) on which coal, iron, etc., were got from the mines included in the returns.

† Including Cannock Chase.

Table showing Insured Persons aged 16-64 recorded as Unemployed at 23rd Mar., 1936, categorized by Area and Percentages.

IRON AND SHALE MINING.

IRON MINING.

EMPLOYMENT during March showed an improvement, and was moderate on the whole. The percentage unemployed (including those temporarily stopped) among insured workpeople, aged 16-64, in the iron ore and ironstone mining industry was 15.5 at 23rd March, 1936, as compared with 16.8 at 24th February, 1936, and 23.4 at 25th March, 1935.

The following Table summarises the information received from employers who furnished returns for the three periods:—

Table showing Number of Workpeople employed at Mines included in the Returns and Average No. of Days worked per week at the Mines* for various districts including ENGLAND AND WALES, SCOTLAND, and GREAT BRITAIN.

SHALE MINING.

The number of workpeople employed at the West Lothian mines during the fortnight ended 21st March, 1936, by firms making returns, was 1,986, a decrease of 0.4 per cent. as compared with February, 1936, and of 1.1 per cent. as compared with March, 1935.

The average number of days worked per week* at the mines making returns was 5.97 in March, 1936, as compared with 5.96 in February, 1936, and 6.04 in March, 1935.

PIG IRON INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT during March showed a further improvement. The percentage unemployed (including those temporarily stopped) among insured workpeople, aged 16-64, was 15.9 at 23rd March, 1936, as compared with 17.1 at 24th February, 1936, and 22.5 at 25th March, 1935.

* See footnote * in previous column.

showed an increase of 0.2 per cent. in the numbers employed compared with February, 1936, and of 7.8 per cent. compared with March, 1935.

The number of furnaces in operation at the end of March, 1936, was 109, the same as at the end of February, 1936, compared with 98 at the end of March, 1935. The figures are analysed below:—

Table showing Total number of Furnaces in Blast and Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month or Year before for various districts including Durham and Cleveland, Northumberland, etc.

The production of pig iron in March, 1936, amounted to 633,600 tons, compared with 584,700 tons in February, 1936, and 554,200 tons in March, 1935.

IRON AND STEEL MANUFACTURE.

EMPLOYMENT at 23rd March showed a slight improvement as compared with 24th February, and was much better than a year ago.

The percentage unemployed (including those temporarily stopped) among insured workpeople, aged 16-64, was 18.3 at 23rd March, 1936, as compared with 19.2 at 24th February, 1936, and 23.1 at 25th March, 1935.

At certain firms employing 67,791 workpeople, from which returns were received for the week ended 21st March, 1936, the volume of employment in that week (as indicated by the number of shifts* during which work was carried on in each department) decreased by 0.4 per cent. as compared with the week ended 22nd February, 1936, but increased by 13.0 per cent. as compared with the week ended 23rd March, 1935.

The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished returns for the three periods:—

Table showing No. of Workpeople employed by Firms making returns and Aggregate number of Shifts* for various departments including Open Hearth Melting, Puddling Forges, etc., and districts including Northumberland, Durham, etc.

The production of steel ingots and castings, as shown in returns from the British Iron and Steel Federation, amounted to 980,100 tons in March, 1936, as compared with 938,500 tons in February, 1936, and 841,900 tons in March, 1935.

* The figures relate to the number of shifts during which the works were in operation, taken in conjunction with the number of men employed. No account is taken of time lost by individuals owing to absenteeism, etc., and it is not intended to imply that the number of shifts shown were actually worked by all the men employed.

TINPLATE AND STEEL SHEET INDUSTRIES.

In the tinplate industry employment showed a decline and was very bad. The percentage unemployed (including those temporarily stopped) among insured workpeople, aged 16-64, was 34.5 at 23rd March, 1936, as compared with 30.5 at 24th February, 1936, and 38.5 at 25th March, 1935.

The following Table shows the number of mills in operation at those works in respect of which returns were received for the week ended 21st March, 1936, as compared with a month before and a year before:—

Table showing Number of Works Open and Number of Mills in Operation for Tinplate and Steel Sheet industries.

ENGINEERING.

EMPLOYMENT during March showed a further general improvement, and was fair on the whole. It was good in electrical engineering, fair to good in motor vehicle manufacture, and fair to moderate in general engineering; in marine, textile and constructional engineering, however, it remained slack.

Compared with a year ago employment was better in all the principal sections of the industry and in all administrative divisions.

The following Table shows the numbers and percentages unemployed (including those temporarily stopped) at 23rd March, 1936, among insured workpeople, aged 16-64, and the increase or decrease as compared with a month before and a year before:—

Table showing Numbers of Insured Workpeople aged 16-64 Unemployed at 23rd March, 1936, categorized by Divisions and Percentages.

Table showing Percentages unemployed at 23rd March, 1936, categorized by Divisions and Percentages.

Table showing Percentages unemployed at 23rd March, 1936, categorized by Divisions and Percentages (continued).

Table showing Percentages unemployed at 23rd March, 1936, categorized by Divisions and Percentages (continued).

On the North-East Coast employment continued to improve in marine engineering and in general engineering; it was still bad, however, in the former and slack in the latter section. In Yorkshire and Lincolnshire employment was better in general engineering, but continued slack. In Lancashire and Cheshire employment improved in general engineering, but was still slack in that section, and in textile engineering; it also improved in motor vehicle manufacture, and was fair. In Birmingham, Wolverhampton and Coventry employment improved generally; in motor vehicle manufacture it was fairly good; in general engineering and in electrical engineering it was good, and in constructional engineering it was fair.

In Scotland there was a slight decline in employment in marine engineering, but an improvement was shown in general engineering; in both sections, however, employment was slack. Employment improved generally in Wales and in Northern Ireland, but it continued bad in the former division and slack in the latter.

SHIPBUILDING AND SHIP-REPAIRING.

THE improvement recorded in recent months continued during March, but employment was still very bad. There was a slight decline in some districts, but this was more than offset by improvement elsewhere, especially in North-Eastern England. As compared with a year ago there was a slight decline in London, but a considerable improvement in most other areas.

The following Table shows the numbers and percentages unemployed (including those temporarily stopped) at 23rd March, 1936, among insured workpeople, aged 16-64, and the increase or decrease compared with 24th February, 1936, and 25th March, 1935:—

Division.	Insured Workpeople aged 16-64 Unemployed at 23rd Mar., 1936.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Numbers Unemployed as compared with a		Percentage Unemployed at 23rd Mar., 1936.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Percentage Unemployed as compared with a	
		Month before.	Year before.		Month before.	Year before.
London ...	1,790	+ 71	- 183	23.3	+ 0.9	- 1.3
South-Eastern ...	769	+ 16	- 147	12.1	+ 0.3	- 2.6
South-Western ...	3,762	+ 325	- 1,384	15.9	+ 1.4	- 6.3
Midlands ...	65	- 11	- 2	36.1	- 6.1	+ 2.6
North-Eastern ...	17,553	- 1,540	- 8,577	44.2	- 3.9	- 17.6
North-Western ...	8,961	- 214	- 687	36.8	- 0.9	- 4.3
Scotland ...	17,180	+ 28	- 4,212	41.9	- 0.1	- 9.0
Wales ...	2,675	+ 89	- 802	53.1	+ 1.8	- 13.0
Northern Ireland ...	1,993	+ 13	- 1,481	21.6	+ 0.2	- 21.1
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND ...	54,748	- 1,279	- 17,475	34.8	- 0.8	- 10.7

Statistics of shipbuilding in the quarter ended 31st March, 1936, are given on page 151.

COTTON INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT at 23rd March showed a further slight improvement, and was better than a year ago.

The percentage unemployed (including those temporarily stopped) among insured workpeople, aged 16-64, in the industry as a whole was 16.7 at 23rd March, 1936, as compared with 17.0 at 24th February, 1936, and with 21.8 at 25th March, 1935. In the preparing and spinning departments the corresponding percentages were 16.1, 16.5 and 21.7, and in the manufacturing department 17.2, 17.5, and 22.0.

The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished returns for the three periods:—

DEPARTMENTS.	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 21st March, 1936.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 21st March, 1936.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month before.	Year before.		Month before.	Year before.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Preparing ...	11,098	- 1.2	+ 5.0	17,545	- 0.6	+ 8.8
Spinning ...	22,696	- 1.1	+ 4.2	34,294	- 0.8	+ 6.1
Weaving ...	19,376	+ 1.0	+ 1.5	31,426	+ 2.1	+ 3.0
Other ...	6,323	- 1.9	+ 4.0	13,451	- 2.6	+ 4.6
Total ...	59,493	- 0.5	+ 3.4	96,716	- 0.1	+ 5.3
DISTRICTS.						
Ashton ...	4,317	- 6.8	- 15.5	6,787	- 6.0	- 8.7
Stockport, Glossop and Hyde ...	6,287	+ 1.0	+ 1.5	9,895	+ 1.6	+ 3.3
Oldham ...	10,169	- 0.3	+ 15.1	17,825	+ 0.9	+ 19.5
Bolton and Leigh ...	9,550	- 1.4	- 0.6	15,073	- 1.8	- 2.4
Bury, Rochdale, Heywood and Todmorden ...	5,649	+ 1.2	+ 7.9	9,669	+ 2.5	+ 8.9
Manchester ...	2,865	- 5.0	+ 20.1	4,493	- 4.4	+ 23.3
Preston and Chorley ...	3,831	+ 3.7	+ 5.4	6,004	+ 2.6	+ 4.6
Blackburn, Accrington and Darwen ...	3,842	- 0.5	- 3.5	6,127	- 0.4	- 5.7
Burnley and Padiham ...	2,881	+ 5.9	+ 4.3	5,245	+ 2.1	+ 8.2
Colne and Nelson ...	2,376	+ 0.4	+ 5.3	4,768	+ 1.7	+ 2.6
Other Lancashire Towns ...	2,965	- 0.5	+ 3.9	3,724	+ 0.2	+ 7.2
Yorkshire Towns ...	2,050	- 3.5	+ 0.4	3,174	- 3.1	- 0.4
Other Districts ...	2,711	- 0.5	+ 3.7	3,932	+ 1.2	+ 6.4
Total ...	59,493	- 0.5	+ 3.4	96,716	- 0.1	+ 5.3

Returns from firms employing about 59,100 workpeople in the week ended 21st March showed that 5½ per cent. of these workpeople were on short time in that week, losing 12½ hours each on the average. These figures do not take account of other forms of under-employment, e.g., reductions in the number of looms worked by individual operatives.

At Ashton-under-Lyne there was a slight decline in the spinning department. At Stockport there was a further slight improvement. Employment improved at Hyde also. At Glossop full-time was worked both in the spinning and in the weaving departments.

In the Oldham district there was little change in the spinning department: employment was still reported as bad, though considerably better than a year ago; for those still working in the industry, employment represented about 70 per cent. of full employment. In the manufacturing department there was much under-employment in the section producing velvets, fustians and sheetings.

At Bolton employment with spinners and cardroom workers remained bad; employment with weavers, winders and wipers was

described as good. At Leigh there was a marked improvement in the spinning department, as compared both with the preceding month and with last year; with weavers there was a slight improvement. At Bury there continued to be steady improvement. At Rochdale there was a slight decline in the spinning department; employment in the weaving department remained good.

At Preston employment showed a further slight improvement, At Blackburn there was a slight decline as compared with February, but employment was better than a year ago. At Accrington there was a slight decline in the weaving department. At Darwen there was little change as compared with February, but a considerable improvement as compared with a year ago. At Great Harwood there was a slight improvement with weavers. At Burnley the improvement previously reported was maintained; many weavers who had been unemployed were working with their full complement of looms. At Nelson there was a slight decline. In the Rossendale Valley employment continued moderate, and was better than a year ago.

In Yorkshire employment remained bad with spinners and cardroom workers, but showed some further improvement with doublers. At Todmorden full time continued in the spinning department, and the improvement in the weaving department was maintained.

The following Table shows the number of men and of women (other than casuals) on the registers of 56 Employment Exchanges in the principal cotton trade centres in Lancashire and Cheshire at 23rd March, 1936:—

Department.	Numbers (excluding Casuals) on the Registers at 23rd March, 1936.					Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a month before.
	Wholly Unemployed.		Temporarily Stopped.		Total.	
	Men.	Women.	Men.	Women.		
Card and Blowing Room ...	1,466	3,180	432	2,239	7,317	- 86
Spinning ...	8,998	2,623	3,527	2,098	17,246	- 394
Beaming, Winding and Warping ...	1,448	4,510	805	4,177	10,940	- 197
Weaving ...	5,752	13,065	873	2,405	22,095	- 102
Other Processes ...	962	279	167	114	1,522	- 17
Total ...	18,626	23,657	5,804	11,033	59,120	- 796

WOOL TEXTILE INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT showed a slight improvement, principally in the woollen section, and was good in most districts and departments. A shortage of skilled operatives was reported in many districts.

The percentage unemployed (including those temporarily stopped) among insured workpeople, aged 16-64, in the woollen and worsted industry was 8.6 at 23rd March, 1936, as compared with 9.7 at 24th February, 1936, and with 16.1 at 25th March, 1935. In the carpet section the corresponding percentages were 7.0, 6.1, and 6.0.

Worsted Section.—Employment showed little change as compared with February, and was fairly good for the time of year.

At Bradford and Shipley employment continued good, and was rather better than in February in the wool-combing department at Shipley. At Huddersfield employment with a number of firms in the fine worsted (men's wear) trade was still moderate to poor. At Halifax employment remained good, but showed a slight decline in the spinning department. In the spinning and weaving departments at Keighley employment showed some seasonal slackness but remained very good, and was much better than a year ago.

Employment in the wool-sorting department was good. In the wool-combing department employment showed a slight improvement in the crossbred (carding and preparing) sections, but a decline in the merino section; in the trade as a whole it remained fairly good.

In the worsted spinning department employment remained good. In the worsted weaving department employment continued to be fairly good at most centres, and better than a year ago.

Returns from employers for the week ended 21st March showed that, in the worsted section as a whole, 12 per cent. of the workpeople covered by the returns were on short time* in that week, losing 10 hours each on the average; while 21 per cent. worked overtime, averaging 6 hours each. In the *sorting, combing and preparing departments* 15½ per cent. were on short time, losing on the average 12 hours, and 20 per cent. were on overtime, averaging 7½ hours each. In the *spinning department* 7½ per cent. worked short time, with an average loss of 10 hours each, and 26 per cent. were on overtime, averaging 5½ hours each. In the *weaving department* the corresponding figures were: short time,* 13½ per cent. and 9 hours; overtime, 12 per cent. and 5 hours.

Woollen Section.—Employment showed a slight improvement in most of the principal districts, and was good on the whole.

In the Huddersfield district employment remained good, though some firms making woollen dress and mantle cloths reported a decline towards the end of the month. Employment in the Heavy Woollen District showed a further slight improvement, and was fair to good. Employment in the rag and shoddy trade was described as better than it had been for some years. At Leeds there was little

* The figures given in this article as to short time do not take into account in the case of the weaving departments, other forms of under-employment, such as "playing for warps," or tending one loom instead of two.

change, but employment was much better than a year ago. At Morley there was a slight further improvement. At Otley and Guiseley employment continued to be good.

Employment in the blanket trade in Yorkshire remained fair for the time of year; at Witney it remained good. At Rochdale and in the Stockport area employment remained moderate to fair. Mills in the West of England remained generally busy. In the South of Scotland there was an improvement with some firms, several mills having resumed full-time working. The Harris tweed industry at Stornoway was again reported to be very busy.

Employers' returns for the week ended 21st March showed that 13 per cent. of the workpeople in the section as a whole were on short time* in that week, losing 10 hours each on the average, while 22 per cent. were on overtime, averaging 7 hours each. The short time working was mostly in the Heavy Woollen District and in Scotland. In the *spinning department* 11 per cent. were on short time, losing 9 hours each on the average, and 32 per cent. were on overtime, averaging nearly 8 hours each. In the *weaving department* the corresponding figures were: short time,* 15 per cent. and 9 hours; overtime, 18 per cent. and 5 hours.

Carpet Section.—Employment declined slightly, but remained good or fair in the principal districts.

The following Table summarises the information received from employers:—

Departments:	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 21st March, 1936.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a month before.		Week ended 21st March, 1936.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a month before.	
		Per cent.	Index Figure. (Jan., 1926 = 100.)		Per cent.	Index Figure. (Jan., 1926 = 100.)
WORSTED SECTION:						
Wool Sorting and Combing ...	10,559	+ 2.4	87.5	24,161	+ 1.8	80.3
Spinning ...	37,197	- 0.5	91.7	54,272	+ 0.3	84.7
Weaving ...	15,748	+ 0.1	84.6	29,701	+ 2.0	78.2
Other Depts. ...	9,269	- 1.3	98.1	20,405	- 0.8	80.8
Not specified ...	1,283	+ 0.7	89.4	2,336	+ 7.5	67.4
Total—Worsted	74,056	- 0.1	91.1	130,875	+ 0.9	81.6
WOOLLEN SECTION:						
Wool Sorting ...	1,002	+ 3.5	77.6	2,162	+ 2.9	80.9
Spinning ...	12,638	+ 1.0	91.8	26,429	+ 1.9	98.1
Weaving ...	21,854	+ 1.8	97.0	38,933	+ 3.5	98.9
Other Depts. ...	15,480	+ 0.4	91.3	33,504	+ 1.2	91.6
Not specified ...	2,257	+ 2.4	84.1	4,432	+ 4.4	85.0
Total—Woollen	53,231	+ 1.2	93.2	105,460	+ 2.4	95.1
CARPET SECTION ...	11,141	- 0.0	137.4	21,204	- 0.8	140.0
Total—Wool Textile Industry ...	138,428	+ 0.4	94.4	257,539	+ 1.4	90.2
DISTRICTS:						
WORSTED SECTION:						
Bradford ...	32,060	- 0.0	91.1	58,959	+ 1.0	77.0
Huddersfield ...	7,442	+ 0.7	87.3	13,942	+ 1.9	75.5
Halifax ...	8,443	- 0.3	81.8	13,716	- 1.5	74.2
Leeds ...	7,977	+ 0.8	95.9	13,804	+ 2.3	92.7
Keighley ...	7,020	- 0.7	91.0	11,854	+ 0.2	90.0
Heavy Woollen (Dewsbury, Batley, etc.) ...	3,498	- 6.2	106.2	4,874	- 7.8	97.0
Total—West Riding ...	66,440	- 0.3	90.4	117,149	+ 0.5	80.0
West of England and Midlands ...	4,909	+ 1.0	91.7	9,018	+ 0.7	86.8
Lancashire ...	366	+ 1.9	127.2	603	+ 16.0	115.6
Scotland ...	2,341	+ 4.0	108.2	4,105	+ 12.2	150.5
Total—Worsted	74,056	- 0.1	91.1	130,875	+ 0.9	81.6
WOOLLEN SECTION:						
Huddersfield ...	13,390	+ 1.2	100.4	29,498	+ 2.9	97.7
Heavy Woollen (Dewsbury, Batley, etc.) ...	9,582	+ 2.7	83.5	17,570	+ 1.5	87.3
Leeds ...	8,232	- 0.0	106.2	17,452	+ 0.2	112.9
Halifax and Calder Vale ...	2,512	- 0.3	97.3	5,461	+ 0.7	88.9
Bradford ...	1,211	- 2.4	95.8	2,452	- 4.0	81.7
Total—West Riding ...	34,927	+ 1.1	97.0	72,433	+ 1.5	99.3
Lancashire ...	3,172	- 0.8	90.4	6,398	- 1.4	90.2
West of England, Midlands and Wales ...	3,422	+ 0.3	84.6	6,478	+ 0.6	100.1
Scotland ...	11,710	+ 2.5	87.5	20,151	+ 7.7	84.2
Total—Woollen	53,231	+ 1.2	93.2	105,460	+ 2.4	95.1
CARPET SECTION ...	11,141	- 0.0	137.4	21,204	- 0.8	140.0
Total—Wool Textile Industry ...	138,428	+ 0.4	94.4	257,539	+ 1.4	90.2

* See * note in second column on page 132.

† Comparison of earnings is affected by reductions in rates of wages which have been made by certain firms at various dates since February, 1929.

‡ Most of the districts are indicated by the names of their principal towns, but neighbouring towns and areas are included in each case.

The following Tables show, by districts and by departments, the percentage increases and decreases in the numbers employed in the week ended 21st March, 1936, by those firms who supplied returns for the purpose of the foregoing Table (excluding the carpet section), as compared with the week ended 22nd February, 1936:—

	Percentage Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in numbers employed as compared with previous month. (-, without a figure, signifies "few or no workpeople returned.")				
	Wool Sorting and Combing.	Spinning.	Weaving.	Other Depts.	All Depts. (Including not specified).
WORSTED SECTION:					
Bradford ...	+ 2.5	- 0.9	+ 0.1	- 4.6	- 0.0
Rest of W. Riding ...	+ 0.1	- 0.9	+ 0.4	- 1.2	- 0.6
Rest of Gt. Britain ...	+ 7.1	+ 2.9	- 1.3	+ 0.9	+ 2.0
TOTAL ...	+ 2.4	- 0.5	+ 0.1	- 1.3	- 0.1
WOOLLEN SECTION:					
Huddersfield ...	-	+ 1.2	+ 1.4	+ 0.7	+ 1.2
Heavy Woollen (Dewsbury, Batley, etc.) ...	-	+ 2.3	+ 2.6	+ 3.0	+ 2.7
Leeds ...	-	+ 0.7	+ 0.1	+ 0.3	- 0.0
Rest of W. Riding ...	-	- 0.9	- 1.7	- 0.6	- 1.0
Rest of Gt. Britain ...	-	+ 1.4	+ 3.4	- 1.1	+ 2.6
TOTAL ...	-	+ 1.0	+ 1.8	+ 0.4	+ 1.2

The following Table shows the number of men and of women (other than casuals) on the registers of 17 Employment Exchanges in the principal wool textile trade centres at 23rd March, 1936:—

Department.	Numbers (excluding Casuals) on the Registers at 23rd March, 1936.					Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a month before.
	Wholly Unemployed.		Temporarily Stopped.		Total.	
	Men.	Women.	Men.	Women.		
Wool Sorting ...	80	2	55	5	142	-

Returns from firms employing about 58,400 workpeople in the week ended 21st March, 1936, showed that 23 per cent. were on short time in that week, losing 7 hours each on the average, while 16 per cent. were on overtime, to the extent of nearly 4 hours each on the average. The short time was fairly general, though most marked at Northampton, in the Northamptonshire country district (except the Higham and Rushden district), and in the Bristol and Kingswood district; the overtime was most considerable at Norwich, in the Higham and Rushden district, and in the Stafford district.

Employment in North London improved, and was good; there was an unsatisfied demand for skilled workers. In East London employment was fair.

At Leicester employment improved, and was fairly good; in the Leicestershire country district it improved generally, and was good at most centres, and much better than last year.

Employment at Northampton was fairly good, though short time continued to be largely worked.

In the Higham and Rushden district employment remained good; at Kettering it remained moderate. In the other principal country districts of Northamptonshire employment remained fair or fairly good generally, and considerably better than last year.

At Stafford employment was fairly good on the whole; it remained fair at Norwich, though some firms were much busier than others.

In the Bristol and Kingswood district short time continued to be largely worked; employment, however, was better than a year ago. At Leeds employment was fairly good.

In the Lancashire slipper trade employment remained fairly good with most firms, and was much better than a year ago.

Employment was moderate at Glasgow; it remained good at Kilmarnock; it was slack at Maybole and at Edinburgh.

The following Table shows the number of men and of women (other than casuals) on the registers of 53 Employment Exchanges in the principal centres of the boot and shoe industry at 23rd March, 1936:—

Department.	Numbers (excluding Casuals) on the Registers at 23rd March, 1936.					Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a month before.
	Wholly Unemployed.		Temporarily Stopped.		Total.	
	Men.	Women.	Men.	Women.		
Boot and Shoe M'f're:—						
Preparing Dept. ...	200	23	105	23	351	- 31
Rough Stuff Dept. ...	374	9	154	5	542	- 62
Clicking Dept. ...	704	4	729	8	1,445	+ 138
Closing Dept. ...	24	440	19	623	1,106	+ 41
Making Dept. ...	2,052	52	1,179	26	3,289	+ 9
Finishing Dept. ...	1,332	306	574	151	2,345	- 315
Slipper Making ...	298	156	517	517	1,438	- 165
Clog Making ...	18	1	2	1	22	- 44
Repairing and Hand Sewn Work ...	789	—	41	—	830	- 4
TOTAL ...	5,791	971	3,320	1,334	11,416	- 430

POTTERY INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT in North Staffordshire showed a further slight improvement, but was still slack generally. At Bristol and at Worcester employment continued good, and at Derby it remained fair.

The percentage unemployed (including those temporarily stopped) among insured workpeople, aged 16-64, was 19.5 at 23rd March, 1936, as compared with 21.9 at 24th February, 1936, and 19.8 at 25th March, 1935.

The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished returns:—

Branches.	Number of Workpeople.			Total wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 21st March, 1936.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 21st March, 1936.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month before.	Year before.		Month before.	Year before.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
China ...	2,116	+ 1.5	+ 11.8	3,796	- 0.2	+ 13.8
Earthenware ...	6,550	+ 0.8	- 0.2	12,023	+ 2.4	- 2.0
Other Branches ...	1,997	- 1.2	+ 0.8	3,657	+ 0.4	+ 2.2
TOTAL ...	10,663	- 0.4	+ 2.2	19,476	+ 1.5	+ 1.5
DISTRICTS.						
North Staffordshire ...	8,738	- 0.0	+ 3.8	14,663	+ 2.4	+ 4.7
Other districts ...	1,925	- 2.1	- 4.8	4,813	- 1.2	- 6.9
TOTAL ...	10,663	- 0.4	+ 2.2	19,476	+ 1.5	+ 1.5

Returns from employers relative to short-time working showed that of 10,517 workpeople employed by firms making returns, 2,137, or nearly 20 per cent., were working on an average nearly 13 hours less than full time in the week ended 21st March, 1936; on the other hand, 542, or about 5 per cent., were working overtime to the extent of nearly 6 hours each on the average.

* Comparison of earnings is affected by changes in rates of wages.

BRICK INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT showed a further improvement during March.

The percentage unemployed (including those temporarily stopped) among insured workpeople, aged 16-64, was 11.4 at 23rd March, 1936, as compared with 13.6 at 24th February, 1936, and 12.6 at 25th March, 1935.

The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished returns:—

Districts.	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 21st March, 1936.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 21st March, 1936.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month before.	Year before.		Month before.	Year before.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Northern Counties, Yorkshire, Lancashire and Cheshire	1,628	- 0.4	+ 3.2	4,225	+ 2.8	+ 2.1
Midlands and Eastern Counties ...	8,392	+ 1.9	+ 8.6	23,491	+ 5.3	+ 8.3
South and South-West Counties and Wales ...	1,823	+ 2.1	+ 2.4	4,778	+ 8.0	+ 5.9
Scotland ...	230	+ 2.7	...	601	+ 5.8	+ 8.9
Total ...	12,073	+ 1.6	+ 6.7	33,095	+ 5.4	+ 7.1

Returns from employers relative to short-time working, exclusive of time lost on account of bad weather, showed that, of 12,073 workpeople employed by firms furnishing information, about 2 per cent. were working on an average about 8½ hours less than full time in the week ended 21st March, 1936. On the other hand, nearly 5 per cent. were working overtime, to the extent of nearly 6 hours each on the average.

BUILDING.

EMPLOYMENT on the whole was fairly good during March, and showed a considerable improvement compared with the previous month. Compared both with February and with a year ago there was an improvement in every occupation and in every administrative division.

As regards individual occupations, employment was very good with bricklayers, and good with carpenters and plasterers; in some areas a shortage of skilled men was reported. With masons and plumbers employment was fair, and with painters there was a marked seasonal improvement. With labourers, etc., employment showed some improvement, but was still slack or bad.

The following Table shows the numbers and percentages unemployed (including those temporarily stopped) at 23rd March, 1936, among insured workpeople, aged 16-64, together with the increase or decrease in the percentages unemployed as compared with the previous month and with March, 1935:—

Occupations.	Estimated Numbers aged 16-64 Insured at July, 1935.	Numbers aged 16-64 Unemployed at 23rd March, 1936.	Numbers included in previous column who were Temporarily Stopped.	Percentage Unemployed.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Percentage as compared with a	
					Month before.	Year before.
OCCUPATIONS.						
Carpenters ...	139,970	11,854	616	8.5	- 4.2	- 2.1
Bricklayers ...	88,910	4,081	218	4.6	- 3.5	- 0.7
Masons ...	23,830	2,233	163	9.4	- 6.4	- 5.3
Slaters and Tilers ...	8,870	1,040	116	12.0	- 6.8	- 5.5
Plasterers ...	31,590	2,533	259	8.0	- 4.3	- 3.4
Painters ...	129,740	17,460	382	13.5	- 16.3	- 1.0
Plumbers ...	39,280	3,751	184	9.5	- 1.3	- 4.1
Labourers to above and Builders' Labourers ...	271,080	39,257	1,330	14.5	- 3.6	- 3.9
Navvies, etc., and General Labourers ...	96,130	30,858	553	32.1	- 5.6	- 2.9
All other occupations ...	147,590	31,956	1,076	21.7	- 2.4	- 1.2
Total ...	976,790	145,023	4,897	14.8	- 5.5	- 2.5
DIVISIONS.						
London ...	199,120	25,616	214	12.9	- 5.3	- 2.5
South-Eastern ...	156,340	11,817	147	7.6	- 4.3	- 0.5
South-Western ...	114,550	12,106	293	10.6	- 4.5	- 2.9
Midlands ...	117,270	14,188	739	12.1	- 4.1	- 1.9
North-Eastern ...	121,040	23,110	1,573	19.1	- 7.7	- 3.3
North-Western ...	123,970	24,072	878	19.4	- 5.3	- 2.9
Scotland ...	92,690	18,206	848	19.6	- 7.8	- 2.8
Wales ...	33,000	10,365	199	31.4	- 5.2	- 3.5
Northern Ireland ...	18,810	5,543	6	29.5	- 3.9	- 7.8
Great Britain and Northern Ireland ...	976,790	145,023	4,897	14.8	- 5.5	- 2.5

BUILDING PLANS APPROVED.

Returns as to the estimated cost of buildings for which plans were approved during March have been received from 139 Local Authorities (representing towns with a total population of 16,897,000 in 1931). These returns show that in March, 1936, plans were passed for buildings with an estimated cost of £8,828,700 as compared with £9,626,200 in March, 1935.

An analysis of these figures, by districts and by classes of buildings, is given on page 151 of the present issue.

* Comparison of earnings is affected by changes in rates of wages.

PAPER MANUFACTURE, PRINTING, AND BOOKBINDING.

EMPLOYMENT in the paper-making industry showed an improvement during March, and was good on the whole; it was better than in March, 1935.

Employment in the letterpress printing industry showed an improvement as compared with the previous month, and was good on the whole; it was better than a year ago. In some centres, however, including Bradford, Cardiff, Plymouth, and Edinburgh (machine branch) it was described as slack; while at Leeds, Newcastle, Liverpool, Birmingham and Bristol it was described as moderate. Employment with electrotypers and stereotypers remained good generally.

Employment in the lithographic printing industry continued fairly good, and was better than a year ago. Reports from Bradford and Manchester, however, again described employment as bad; whilst at London, Bristol and Belfast it was described as fair. With lithographic artists it was fair.

In the bookbinding industry employment showed a decline but was still fairly good on the whole; it was better, than in March, 1935.

The percentage unemployed (including those temporarily stopped) among insured workpeople, aged 16-64, in the paper and paper-board industries was 6.1 at 23rd March, 1936, as compared with 6.9 at 24th February, 1936, and 6.9 at 25th March, 1935. The corresponding percentages unemployed in the printing and book-binding industries were 8.6, 9.2 and 9.1, and in the cardboard box, paper-bag and stationery industries, 6.9, 7.3 and 7.2.

The following Table summarises the returns from various trade unions which furnished information as to the extent of unemployment amongst their members:—

Unions.	No. of Members of Unions at end of March, 1936.	Percentage Unemployed at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) on a	
		March, 1936.	Feb., 1936.	March, 1935.	Month before.	Year before.
Letterpress Printing:—						
London ...	33,465	4.5	4.8	4.9	- 0.3	- 0.4
Northern Counties, Yorkshire, Lancashire and Cheshire	14,242	6.9	7.5	7.7	- 0.6	- 0.8
Midland and Eastern Counties ...	7,585	3.4	3.8	4.5	- 0.4	- 1.1
Scotland ...	5,357	7.2	8.5	8.6	- 1.3	- 1.4
Other Districts ...	9,915	4.3	4.6	5.1	- 0.3	- 0.8
Total ...	70,564	5.1	5.5	5.7	- 0.4	- 0.6
Lithographic Printing	11,735	6.0	6.5	6.3	- 0.5	- 0.3
Bookbinding ...	8,044	8.5	7.9	9.9	+ 0.6	- 1.4
Printing and Bookbinding (branches not distinguished) ...	27,262	2.2	2.5	3.2	- 0.3	- 1.0

DOCK AND RIVERSIDE LABOUR.

EMPLOYMENT during March showed a slight improvement, but remained slack generally. Among insured workpeople, aged 16-64, in the dock, harbour, river and canal service, 32.1 per cent. were unemployed at 23rd March, 1936, as compared with 33.2 per cent. at 24th February, 1936, and with 32.7 per cent. at 25th March, 1935. In harbour, river and canal service, the percentage unemployed among insured workpeople, aged 16-64, at 23rd March, 1936, was 15.4, the same percentage as at 24th February, 1936; in dock, wharf and lighterage (port transport) service, the corresponding percentages were 35.0 and 36.3. Corresponding figures for a year ago are not available.

London.—Employment remained slack. The following Table shows the average daily number of dock labourers employed at docks and wharves in respect of which returns were received; the figures exclude stevedores, lightermen, etc., and do not purport to indicate the total number of dock labourers employed in the port:—

Period.	Average Daily Number of Labourers employed in Docks and at Principal Wharves in London.				
	In Docks.			At Wharves making Returns.	Total, Docks and Principal Wharves.
	By the Port of London Authority or through Contractors.	By Ship-owners, etc.	Total.		
Week ended—					
7th March, 1936 ...	3,111	2,164	5,275	6,014	11,289
14th " " ...	3,775	2,185	5,960	6,128	12,088
21st " " ...	3,851	1,584	5,435	5,918	11,353
28th " " ...	3,167	1,791	4,958	5,942	10,900
Average for 4 weeks ended 28th March, 1936 ...	3,476	1,931	5,407	6,000	11,407
Average for Feb., 1936 ...	3,399	1,913	5,312	6,368	11,680
Average for Mar., 1935 ...	3,658	1,663	5,321	6,161	11,482

Tilbury.—The average daily number of dock labourers employed during March was 800, compared with 829 in February, and with 830 in March, 1935.

East Coast.—Employment continued slack on the whole at most of the North-East Coast ports. At North Shields it was moderate; at the Hartlepoons it remained fair. At Middlesbrough it improved somewhat. At Hull it remained bad with coal workers, but it improved with dock workers. Employment at Grimsby remained slack. At Ipswich it was fair.

Mersey.—Employment at Liverpool remained moderate. At Garston it was slack; at Salford it was moderate to fair.

The average weekly number of dock labourers registered at the clearing houses under the Liverpool Docks Scheme as employed in the four weeks ended 27th March, 1936, was 11,143, compared with 11,518 in February, 1936, and with 11,273 in March, 1935. The average weekly amount of wages paid to these men through the clearing houses was £27,358 in the four weeks ended 27th March, 1936, compared with £29,261 in February, 1936, and with £26,885 in March, 1935.

Other Ports in England and Wales.—Employment at Cardiff was moderate; at Penarth it continued slack. At Swansea it improved and was moderate with dock workers, and fair with coal trimmers. Employment at Bristol and Avonmouth was fairly good; at Southampton and at Plymouth it was fair.

Scottish and Irish Ports.—Employment at Glasgow remained fair. At Dundee it declined slightly but was still fair. At Greenock and at Grangemouth it was fair; at Leith it continued moderate. Employment at Belfast remained good.

SEAMEN.

DURING March employment among seamen remained slack on the whole. Among insured workpeople, aged 16-64, in the shipping service the percentage unemployed (including those temporarily stopped) at 23rd March, 1936, was 28.2, compared with 29.5 at 24th February, 1936, and 30.8 at 25th March, 1935.

The demand for men on the Thames was quiet, especially in the second week. On the Tyne, Wear and Tees the demand was poor generally; at the Hartlepoons it declined from fair to very poor in the first three weeks but improved thereafter and was good. At Hull there was a fairly good demand except in the third week, when it was poor; there was an adequate supply, except for British carpenters and ordinary seamen and good class boys. The demand at Southampton was generally quiet. At Bristol demand was very slack, with periods of slightly greater activity at the beginning and end of the month; at Avonmouth it was moderate to fair. The demand at Cardiff was moderate, with a better tendency about the middle of March; a scarcity was reported of white British carpenters and efficient ordinary seamen. At Newport the demand was fairly good except in the middle of the month, when it was poor; white British ratings were in short supply. At Swansea the demand declined from good to slack in the first fortnight, but gradually improved thereafter and, at the end of March, was very good. At Manchester the demand was fair on the whole; on the Mersey it gradually declined from moderate to very slack. On the Clyde it fluctuated between poor and fairly good; there was some difficulty in obtaining engine-room ratings with experience of pumping in tankers. The demand at Leith varied from very slack to fairly good. At Belfast, apart from a period in the third week when it was fair, the demand for men was very dull.

The following Table shows the number of seamen* shipped in British registered foreign-going vessels at the undermentioned ports of Great Britain and Northern Ireland during March:—

Principal Ports.	Number of Seamen* shipped in				
	Mar., 1936.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Three Months ended	
		Month before.	Year before.	Mar., 1936.	Mar., 1935.
ENGLAND AND WALES:					
Liverpool† ...	6,224	- 79	- 634	21,892	22,461
Manchester ...	451	+ 50	- 98	1,442	1,610
London ...	6,984	- 689	+ 450	23,233	22,851
Southampton...	2,486	- 1,890	- 3,518	13,108	17,718
Tyne Ports ...	1,495	+ 7	+ 69	4,904	3,697
Sunderland ...	114	- 11	- 36	384	461
Middlesbrough ...	161	- 60	- 92	766	749
Hull ...	725	+ 86	+ 36	2,136	2,048
Bristol† ...	580	- 82	- 76	1,805	2,009
Newport, Mon. ...	303	+ 34	+ 40	1,176	996
Cardiff† ...	1,695	+ 64	+ 244	5,515	5,108
Swansea ...	785	+ 578	+ 224	1,608	1,677
SCOTLAND:					
Leith ...	222	+ 81	+ 60	617	

UNEMPLOYMENT IN INSURED INDUSTRIES.

The statistics here presented show, industry by industry, the estimated number of persons, aged 16-64, insured against unemployment, at July, 1935, the total number and percentage of such persons unemployed on 23rd March, 1936, together with separate figures for those wholly unemployed (i.e., out of a situation) and those temporarily stopped (i.e., suspended from work on the understanding that they were shortly to return to their former employment).

The Unemployment Insurance Act, 1935,* provides, subject to certain exceptions, for the compulsory insurance against unemployment of substantially all employed persons. The principal classes excepted are persons aged 65 and over, persons employed otherwise than by way of manual labour at a rate of remuneration exceeding in value £250 per annum, persons employed in agriculture* and private domestic service, and outworkers. Persons employed by local public authorities, railways and certain other public utility undertakings, members of the police forces, and persons with rights under a statutory superannuation scheme may, in certain circumstances, also be excepted.

An unemployment book, on which is recorded the industry in which he is employed, is issued to every insured person, and this book must be lodged at an Employment Exchange whenever the insured person makes a claim for unemployment benefit, or, without claiming benefit, ceases to be employed in an insured trade. The book must be removed and deposited with the employer for stamping when employment in an insured trade is resumed.

The files of "lodged" books at the Employment Exchanges thus furnish for each industrial group a record of the unemployment of insured persons. In arriving at this figure the books of those persons who are known to be working in an uninsured trade, or to

be sick or deceased, or to have gone abroad, are excluded. Where information on these points is lacking the books remain in the "lodged" files, and are included in the statistics of unemployment, for a period of two months from the date on which the insured person was last in touch with the Exchange.

The numbers unemployed given in the following Table relate only to persons, aged 16-64, insured against unemployment. They include insured persons of those ages maintaining registration at Employment Exchanges, together with those whose unemployment books remain lodged in the "two months" file referred to above. The figures given on page 129 relating to persons registered at Employment Exchanges include uninsured as well as insured persons who are maintaining registration for employment, but not insured persons whose books are in the two months file. A Table showing the composition of the two series of figures is given on page 129.

Insured persons who are disqualified for the receipt of unemployment benefit under the trade dispute disqualification are not included in the numbers unemployed, unless they are definitely maintaining registration for other employment.

The estimated numbers of insured persons in each industry are computed once a year, in November, on the basis of information obtained at the annual exchange of unemployment books. The figures relate to the beginning of July, and similar statistics are not available for other dates in the year. In considering the comparative percentage figures for individual industries† given in the following Table, and in the articles on specific industries on earlier pages of this Gazette, it should be borne in mind that the percentage rates of unemployment at February and March, 1936, have been calculated on the basis of the estimated numbers of insured persons at the beginning of July, 1935; while the figures for March, 1935, and 1934, are calculated on the basis of the estimated numbers insured at July, 1934, and 1933, respectively. In an industry in which a relatively large change occurs during one or more years in the estimated number of insured workpeople, this change may have an important effect on the relative percentage rates of unemployment.

INSURED PERSONS, AGED 16-64, RECORDED AS UNEMPLOYED AT 23rd MARCH, 1936.

Table with columns: INDUSTRY, WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED (including Casuals), TEMPORARY STOPPAGES, TOTAL. Sub-headers for Males, Females, Total. Includes industries like Fishing, Mining, Brick, Tile, Pipe, etc., Pottery, Earthenware, etc., Glass, Chemicals, etc., Metal Manufacture, Engineering, etc., Construction and Repair of Vehicles, Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing.

* The Unemployment Insurance (Agriculture) Act, 1936, which extends the unemployment insurance scheme to agriculture, comes into operation for purposes of contributions on 4th May, 1936 (see page 120). † See, however, footnote † on page 139 as to the general percentage for all industries combined.

Table with columns: INDUSTRY, WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED (including Casuals), TEMPORARY STOPPAGES, TOTAL. Sub-headers for Males, Females, Total. Includes industries like Other Metal Industries, Textiles, Leather and Leather Goods, Clothing, Food Drink and Tobacco, Woodworking, etc., Paper, Printing, etc., Building and Contracting, Other Manufacturing Industries, Gas, Water and Electricity Supply, Transport and Communication, Distributive Trades, Commerce, Banking, Insurance and Finance, Miscellaneous Trades and Services.

* Including 83,113 casuals (males, 86,218; females, 1,895).

Table with columns: INDUSTRY, ESTIMATED NUMBER OF INSURED PERSONS, AGED 16-64, AT JULY, 1935, PERCENTAGES AT 23RD MARCH, 1936, INCREASE (+) OR DECREASE (-) IN TOTAL PERCENTAGES AS COMPARED WITH 24TH FEB., 1936, 25TH MAR., 1935, 19TH MAR., 1934, GREAT BRITAIN ONLY, TOTAL PERCENTAGES AT 23RD MAR., 1936.

See last paragraph of text on page 136.

Table with columns: INDUSTRY, ESTIMATED NUMBER OF INSURED PERSONS, AGED 16-64, AT JULY, 1935, PERCENTAGES AT 23RD MARCH, 1936, WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED (including Casuals), TEMPORARY STOPPAGES, TOTAL, INCREASE (+) OR DECREASE (-) IN TOTAL PERCENTAGES AS COMPARED WITH 24TH FEB., 1936, 25TH MAR., 1935, 19TH MAR., 1934, GREAT BRITAIN ONLY, TOTAL PERCENTAGES AT 23RD MAR., 1936.

See last paragraph of text on page 136.

For 25th March, 1935, and 19th March, 1934, separate figures are not available.

The percentages for all industries and services combined for March, 1935, and March, 1934, used for these comparisons are the revised figures based on the estimated numbers insured at those dates—see the issue of this Gazette for November, 1935, page 414. The percentages for February and March, 1936, are based on the numbers insured at July, 1935.

INSURED PERSONS UNEMPLOYED AT 23rd MARCH, 1936. PROPORTIONS IN VARIOUS INDUSTRY GROUPS.

Table with columns: Industry Groups, Males, aged 16-64, Females, aged 16-64, Number Wholly Unemployed, Percentage of Total, Number Temporarily Unemployed, Percentage of Total, Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in numbers recorded as Unemployed at 23rd March, 1936, as compared with 24th February, 1936.

PRINCIPAL VARIATIONS IN NUMBERS UNEMPLOYED.

The Table below indicates for Great Britain and Northern Ireland the industries in which the numbers of insured persons aged 16-64 recorded as unemployed at 23rd March, 1936, differed from the figures for 24th February, 1936, to the extent of 1,500 or more—

Table with columns: Industries, Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in numbers recorded as Unemployed at 23rd March, 1936, as compared with 24th February, 1936, Males, Females, Total.

NUMBERS ON THE REGISTERS IN THE PRINCIPAL TOWNS.

The Table below shows for each of the Employment Exchange administrative areas in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and for the principal towns therein, the number of unemployed persons registered at Employment Exchanges on 23rd March, 1936.

Table with columns: Area, Number of Persons on Register at 23rd March, 1936 (Men, Women, Juveniles, Total), Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in totals as compared with 24th Feb. 1936, 25th Mar. 1936. Lists areas like London, South-Eastern, South-Western, Midlands, North-Eastern, North-Western, Scotland, Wales, Great Britain, and various towns.

[Percentage rates of unemployment for each of 754 towns in Great Britain are given in the monthly "Local Unemployment Index."]

JUVENILE UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS.

NUMBERS OF JUVENILES, AGED 14 AND UNDER 18, ON THE REGISTERS OF EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES AND JUVENILE EMPLOYMENT BUREAUX AT 23RD MARCH, 1936.

Table with columns: Division, Boys (Aged 14 and under 16, Aged 16 and under 18, Total), Girls (Aged 14 and under 16, Aged 16 and under 18, Total). Lists divisions like London, South-Eastern, etc.

Note.—These figures include considerable numbers of boys and girls who, though registered at Employment Exchanges and Juvenile Employment Bureaux as applicants for employment, are remaining whole time at school until employment is obtained.

JUVENILES UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE PLACED IN EMPLOYMENT. FIVE WEEKS ENDED 23RD MARCH, 1936.

Table with columns: Division, Number of Vacancies Filled (Boys, Girls, Total), Juveniles placed in first situation since leaving School (Boys, Girls, Total). Lists divisions like South-Eastern, South-Western, etc.

Note.—The figures in this Table relating to the South-Eastern Division include particulars of vacancies filled in the London Area.

PERCENTAGE RATES OF UNEMPLOYMENT* AMONG INSURED JUVENILES AGED 16 AND 17.

Table with columns: Division, Estimated numbers insured at July, 1935, Percentage unemployed at 23rd March, 1936 (Boys, Girls). Lists divisions like London, South-Eastern, etc.

JUVENILES AGED 14-17 YEARS IN ATTENDANCE AT AUTHORISED COURSES OF INSTRUCTION.

Table with columns: Divisions, Week ended 25th March, 1936, Month ended 25th March, 1936, Total number of individuals who have attended since 1st April, 1935. Lists divisions like London, S.-Eastern, etc.

* Based on the numbers of juvenile unemployment books lodged at local offices, which exceed the numbers of insured juveniles on the Register.

UNEMPLOYMENT AMONG BOYS AND GIRLS, UNDER 16 YEARS OF AGE, IN INSURED INDUSTRIES.

In the issue of this GAZETTE for November, 1935 (pages 430 and 431), statistics were given of the estimated numbers of boys and girls, under 16 years of age, insured against unemployment in July, 1935, in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the numbers recorded as unemployed in each month from July to October, 1935, classified by industries.

INSURED UNEMPLOYED. POSITION UNDER PROVISIONS AS TO INSURANCE BENEFIT AND UNEMPLOYMENT ALLOWANCES.

The following Table gives an analysis of the numbers of insured persons aged 16-64 on the registers of Employment Exchanges in Great Britain at 23rd March, 1936, relative to their position with regard to unemployment benefit and unemployment allowances:—

Table with columns: Industry Group, 20th Jan. 1936, 24th Feb. 1936, 23rd Mar. 1936 (Boys, Girls). Lists industry groups like Coal Mining, Iron Foundry, etc.

JUVENILES (AGED 16 AND 17 YEARS).†

Table with columns: Section of Register, Boys, Girls. Lists sections like Claims for Insurance Benefit, Applications for Unemployment Allowances, etc.

NEW ENTRANTS INTO UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE.

MARCH, 1936.

Table with columns: Area, Men aged 18-64, Boys (Aged 16 & 17, Aged 14 & 15), Women aged 18-64, Girls (Aged 16 & 17, Aged 14 & 15), Total. Lists areas like London, South-Eastern, etc.

* "Insured non-claimants" include all those adults on the register with claims disallowed on the ground that they were not normally insurable and would not normally seek to obtain a livelihood by means of insurable employment, together with those who had not made claims for insurance benefit or unemployment allowances.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE: ADJUDICATIONS BY THE STATUTORY AUTHORITIES.

The Table below analyses for Great Britain for the period 2nd to 31st March, 1936, inclusive, the decisions of Insurance Officers, of Courts of Referees and of the Empire on doubtful claims for insurance benefit and unemployment allowances:—

A.—DECISIONS OF INSURANCE OFFICERS.*

	Men.	Women.	Juveniles.	Total.
Claims allowed:—				
Grounds on which Insurance Officers have power to disallow ...	5,026	1,274	201	6,501
Grounds on which Insurance Officers have not power to disallow ...	10,596	13,467	1,640	25,703
Claims disallowed:—				
Contributions conditions† ...	221	63	196	480
Not unemployed ...	2,349	816	198	3,363
Other grounds on which Insurance Officers have power to disallow ...	2,668	969	199	3,836
Total Claims disallowed ...	5,238	1,848	593	7,679

B.—DECISIONS OF COURTS OF REFEREES.*

(1) Appeals against Disallowances by Insurance Officers.

	Men.	Women.	Juveniles.	Total.
Claims allowed ...	150	21	5	176
Claims disallowed:—				
Contributions conditions† ...	32	3	5	40
Not unemployed ...	220	49	4	273
Other grounds ...	571	101	17	689
Total Claims disallowed ...	823	153	26	1,002

(2) Other Cases.

	Men.	Women.	Juveniles.	Total.
Claims allowed ...	4,442	4,544	807	9,793
Claims disallowed:—				
Contributions conditions† ...	33	6	3	42
Not normally insurable and/or will not normally seek to obtain livelihood by means of insurable employment ...	1,591	426	—	2,017
Anomalies Regulations:—				
Class (b)—seasonal workers... ..	91	124	—	215
Class (c)—normal employment not more than 2 days a week ...	39	95	3	137
Class (d)—married women ...	—	4,225	—	4,225
Employment left voluntarily without just cause ...	4,313	3,175	1,670	9,158
Employment lost through misconduct	3,054	1,056	979	5,089
Failure or refusal to apply for or accept suitable employment, or failure to carry out written directions ...	761	1,991	383	3,135
Not unemployed ...	301	76	14	391
Not capable of work, or not available for work ...	486	1,219	137	1,842
Other grounds ...	277	81	619	977
Total Claims disallowed ...	10,946	12,474	3,808	27,228

C.—TRADE DISPUTE CASES.†

	Claims Allowed.	Claims Disallowed.	Total.
Cases dealt with by Insurance Officers ...	722	1,016	1,738
Appeals against disallowances by Insurance Officers dealt with by Courts of Referees... ..	7	29	36
Men ...	—	—	—
Women ...	—	31	31
Juveniles ...	—	—	—
Total Appeals ...	7	60	67

D.—DEPENDANTS BENEFIT CASES.

	Men.	Women.	Juveniles.	Total.
Cases dealt with by Insurance Officers ...	10,128	3,598	—	13,726
Cases dealt with by Courts of Referees—				
(1) Appeals against disallowances by Insurance Officers ...	160	561	—	721
(2) Other cases ...	131	240	—	371

E.—DECISIONS BY UMPIRE.†

	Men.	Women.	Juveniles.	Total.
Appeals by the Chief Insurance Officer—				
(1) Against allowances... ..	27	148	—	175
(2) Against disallowances ...	120	84	—	204
Appeals by Associations ...	47	90	—	137
Appeals by Claimants ...	80	149	—	229
Total ...	274	471	—	745

* Except "Trade Dispute" and "Dependants Benefit" cases (see Parts C and D).
† For juveniles the condition was the full first statutory condition, viz., payment of 30 contributions in the preceding two years. For adults the figures relate mainly to applications referred on the ground that less than 8 contributions had been paid in the past two years and less than 30 at any time.
‡ The figures may include test cases, and the total number of individuals concerned may be considerably in excess of the figures shown in the table.

PERIODS OF REGISTERED UNEMPLOYMENT.

ANALYSIS IN RESPECT OF PERSONS APPLYING FOR INSURANCE BENEFIT OR UNEMPLOYMENT ALLOWANCES.

The following Table gives an analysis, according to the length of their last spell of registered unemployment, of persons aged 16-64 applying for insurance benefit or unemployment allowances (including those applicants whose benefit position, under the First Statutory Condition, had not been determined), who were on the registers of Employment Exchanges in Great Britain at 23rd March, 1936. Corresponding particulars are not available in respect of persons, registered as unemployed, who were not applicants for insurance benefit or unemployment allowances.

	Applicants, aged 16-64, who had been on Register					
	Less than 3 months.	3 months but less than 6 months.	6 months but less than 9 months.	9 months but less than 12 months.	12 months or more.	Totals.
	NUMBERS.					
Men, 18-64	644,336	172,222	102,418	59,918	346,182	1,325,076
Boys, 16-17	15,664	2,455	318	1	—	18,438
Women, 18-64	162,684	34,615	15,114	5,729	20,093	238,235
Girls, 16-17	10,566	1,238	142	—	—	11,946
Total ...	833,250	210,530	117,992	65,648	366,275	1,593,695

	PERCENTAGES.					
	Less than 3 months.	3 months but less than 6 months.	6 months but less than 9 months.	9 months but less than 12 months.	12 months or more.	Totals.
	PERCENTAGES.					
Men, 18-64	48.7	13.0	7.7	4.5	26.1	100.0
Boys, 16-17	85.0	13.3	1.7	0.0	—	100.0
Women, 18-64	68.3	14.5	6.4	2.4	8.4	100.0
Girls, 16-17	88.4	10.4	1.2	—	—	100.0
Total ...	52.3	13.2	7.4	4.1	23.0	100.0

Of the 833,250 applicants who had been on the Register for less than three months, approximately 603,000, or 37.9 per cent. of the total number of applicants, had been on the Register for less than six weeks. Of the 366,275 applicants who had been on the Register for 12 months or more, 142,655 had been on the Register for less than 2 years, 73,459 for 2 years but less than 3 years, 54,426 for 3 years but less than 4 years, 46,290 for 4 years but less than 5 years, and 49,445 for 5 years or more.

Of the persons who had been on the register for extended periods a proportion, which will increase as the period on the register increases, will have had one or more short spells of employment, lasting not more than three days each, during such periods.

UNEMPLOYMENT FUND.

GREAT BRITAIN.

The following Table shows, approximately, the income and expenditure of the Fund* for the periods of four weeks ended 28th March, 1936, five weeks ended 29th February, 1936, and five weeks ended 30th March, 1935:—

	Four weeks ended 28th Mar., 1936.	Five weeks ended 29th Feb., 1936.	Five weeks ended 30th Mar., 1935.
	£	£	£
I. Insurance Account.			
Contributions received from:—			
Employers ...	1,778,000	2,277,000	2,151,000
Employed persons ...	1,730,000	2,117,000	2,023,000
Exchequer ("Equal thirds") ...	1,753,000	2,190,000	2,084,000
Miscellaneous Receipts ...	14,000	23,000	8,000
Total Income ...	5,275,000	6,607,000	6,266,000
Insurance Benefit ...	3,381,000	4,638,000	4,789,000
Cost of Administration ...	390,000	440,000	381,000
Accrued Charges for Debt Service†	385,000	481,000	481,000
Miscellaneous Payments ...	75,000	25,000	105,000
Total Expenditure ...	4,231,000	5,584,000	5,756,000
Debt Outstanding † ...	105,510,000	105,510,000	105,660,000
II. Transitional Payments Account.			
Transitional Payments (and Unemployment Allowances) and Cost of Administration‡ ...	3,290,000	4,335,000	4,561,000

* A detailed account of the Fund is presented to Parliament annually. (See House of Commons Paper, No. 34 of 1936, for the period ended 31st March, 1935.)
† Provision is made in the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1935, for the repayment (including interest) of the debt outstanding on 1st July, 1934 (amounting to £105,780,000), by half-yearly payments of £2,500,000. The first of these payments was made on 30th September, 1934, under the authority of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1934.
‡ The cost is borne in full by the Exchequer. The figures do not include the cost of administration borne on the separate Vote of the Unemployment Assistance Board. As from 7th January, 1935, the Transitional Payments Scheme was replaced by the provisions of the Unemployment Assistance Act, 1934 (see page 12 of the January, 1935, issue of this GAZETTE).

EMPLOYMENT OVERSEAS.

[N.B.—The following paragraphs include an abstract of such official information as is available with regard to the state of employment abroad, in order to indicate, as far as possible, the fluctuations in employment in each country from period to period. The bases of the official statistics published in the various countries are, however, not the same as those of the statistics relating to this country: and therefore the figures quoted below cannot properly be used with those on pp. 128-129 to compare the actual level of employment in Great Britain and Northern Ireland with that in other countries.]

GERMANY.§

A SUBSTANTIAL decrease in unemployment was recorded in March. The total number of persons reported by the Employment Exchanges as unemployed at 31st March, 1936, was 1,937,000,* as compared with 2,514,894† at the end of February, 1936, and 2,401,889‡ at the end of March, 1935.

At 31st March, 1936, 406,000* persons were in receipt of standard unemployment benefit and 727,000* in receipt of emergency benefit, giving a total of 1,133,000* as compared with 1,552,482† at the end of February, 1936, and 1,273,431‡ at the end of March, 1935.

The total number of unemployed given above includes 305,000* able-bodied persons who were in receipt of poor relief at 31st March, 1936, as compared with 367,892† at the end of February, 1936, and 567,192‡ at the end of March, 1935.

FRANCE.||

Unemployment decreased during March. The total number of persons remaining on the registers of the Employment Exchanges at the end of the month was 508,921, as compared with 528,624 at the end of February, 1936, and 526,501 at the end of March, 1935.

At the beginning of March, 1936, the number of persons employed in mining, industrial, transport and commercial undertakings covered by the official monthly investigation showed an increase of 0.61 per cent. as compared with March, 1935. The percentage of workpeople in these undertakings on short time to such an extent as to bring their weekly hours below 48 was 37.15, as compared with 47.82 at the beginning of March, 1935. At 1st March, 1936, 22.00 per cent. were working more than 40 and less than 48 hours, and 15.15 per cent. 40 hours or less a week.

BELGIUM.¶

There was a slightly upward tendency in unemployment during January. Returns received by the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare from approved unemployment insurance funds with a total membership of 898,412 showed that 18.5 per cent. of these were totally unemployed at the end of January, 1936, as compared with 18.1 per cent. at the end of December, and 23.6 per cent. at the end of January, 1935. In addition, 11.1 per cent. were employed intermittently during the month, as compared with 11.3 per cent. during December, and 16.7 per cent. during January, 1935.

HOLLAND.**

Unemployment decreased during February. Figures compiled by the State Department of Unemployment Insurance and Employment Exchanges show that, of 537,158 members of subsidised unemployment funds making returns for the week ended 29th February, 1936, 30.9* per cent. were unemployed during the whole week and 7.3* per cent. for less than 6 days. In the corresponding week of the preceding month the percentages were 35.4† and 7.8‡ and in the last week of February, 1935, 29.9† and 8.1‡. At the end of February, 1936, 483,866 applicants for work were registered at public Employment Exchanges, of whom 465,463 were unemployed; at the end of the previous month the corresponding totals were 494,521 and 475,890, and at the end of February, 1935, 435,042 and 417,593.

SWITZERLAND.††

A seasonal decline in unemployment occurred during February. At the end of that month, 119,795 applications for employment (83.4 per thousand of the employed population according to the census of 1930) were registered at Employment Exchanges, as compared with 124,008 (86.4 per thousand) at the end of January, 1936, and 102,910 (71.9 per thousand) at the end of February, 1935. Offers of situations at the dates mentioned above numbered 1,593, 1,160 and 2,110, respectively.

AUSTRIA.‡‡

There was a slight increase in unemployment during February. The total number of persons in receipt of benefit at the end of the month was 321,529 (124,205 in Vienna), an increase of 1.4 per cent. as compared with the previous month, but a decrease of 3.9 per cent. as compared with February, 1935.

HUNGARY.§§

Unemployment increased sharply during January. The number of applications for work registered at Employment Exchanges at the end of the month was 57,916, as compared with 52,225 at the end of December, and 54,368 at the end of January, 1935.

* Provisional figure. † Revised figure. ‡ Unrevised figure.
§ Deutscher Reichsanzeiger und Preussischer Staatsanzeiger, 14th April, 1936, Berlin.
|| Bulletin du Marché du Travail, 3rd April, 1936, Paris.
¶ Le Peuple 26th March, 1936, Brussels.
** Maandschrift van het Centraal Bureau voor de Statistiek, 31st March, 1936, The Hague.
†† La Vie Economique, March, 1936, Berne.
‡‡ Statistische Nachrichten, 27th March, 1936, Vienna.
§§ Magyar Statisztikai Szemle, February, 1936, Budapest.

POLAND.§

A further heavy increase in unemployment was recorded during January. The number of applicants remaining on the registers of the Employment Exchanges at the end of the month was 472,004, as compared with 402,814 at the end of December, and 498,806 at the end of January, 1935.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA.||

Unemployment showed a marked seasonal decline during March. The total number of applicants remaining on the registers of the Employment Exchanges at the end of the month was 795,550,* as compared with 860,239† at the end of February, 1936, and 804,794‡ at the end of March, 1935.

SCANDINAVIAN COUNTRIES.

Unemployment declined in Denmark during March, and in Sweden during February; it increased slightly in Norway during January.

Denmark.¶—According to returns received by the Danish Statistical Department from approved unemployment funds with a total membership of approximately 394,000, 27.0* per cent. of this membership were unemployed at the end of March, 1936, as compared with 30.0† per cent. at the end of February, 1936, and 22.3 per cent. at the end of March, 1935.

Norway.**—Of 28,831 members of trade unions making returns, 20.7 per cent. were unemployed at the end of January, 1936, as compared with 20.3 per cent. at the end of December, and 28.8 per cent. at the end of January, 1935.

Sweden.††—Of a total of approximately 485,000 members covered by the returns of the reporting trade unions, 17.7* per cent. were unemployed at the end of February, 1936, as compared with 18.5‡ per cent. at the end of the previous month, and 20.1 per cent. at the end of February, 1935.

UNITED STATES.†††

A seasonal decline in employment was recorded during January. According to returns received by the Bureau of Labour Statistics from a large number of representative establishments in 90 of the principal manufacturing industries, covering over 50 per cent. of the aggregate number of wage-earners employed in all manufacturing industries, the total number of workpeople on their books at the middle of January, 1936, showed a decline of approximately 1.8 per cent. as compared with the month before. Aggregate weekly earnings in these establishments decreased during the same period by 5.7 per cent. If the average monthly index of employment in manufacturing industries for the three years 1923-1925 be taken as 100, the corresponding index for January, 1936, was 83.1* as compared with 84.6 for the previous month and 78.8 for January, 1935.

Reports received by the American Federation of Labour from affiliated trade unions in 24 cities showed that, in February, 1936, 22* per cent. of the membership of these unions covered by the returns were unemployed, as compared with 22† per cent. also in the previous month, and 24 per cent. in February, 1935.

IRISH FREE STATE.§§

The number of persons on the live registers of the Employment Exchanges fell from 141,858 at 24th February, 1936, to 123,336 at 30th March. This decrease is stated to have been due, in the main, to the operation of an Order issued under the Unemployment Assistance Act, 1933, the effect of which is temporarily to restrict the eligibility for unemployment assistance of a certain class of persons living in rural areas.¶¶ At the end of March, 1935, when no such Order was in force, the total number of persons on the live register was 137,870.

CANADA.¶¶¶

Employment at the beginning of March showed a tendency to improve. The total number of workpeople employed at 1st March, 1936, by 9,411 firms from which returns were received by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics was 931,959, as compared with 926,888 at the beginning of February, 1936. If the average number of workpeople employed by the reporting firms in the year 1926 be represented by 100, the index of employment for 1st March, 1936, was 98.9, as compared with 98.4 at 1st February, 1936, and 96.4 at 1st March, 1935.

NEW ZEALAND.***

Unemployment continued to decline in January. The total number of unemployed males remaining on the registers of the Government Employment Bureaux at 18th January, 1936, was 34,777, as compared with 35,653 at 21st December, 1935, and 36,191 at 19th January, 1935. Owing to the exclusion from these statistics of men, originally dependent on relief payments, who have been re-established in full-time industrial employment with the assistance of the Unemployment Fund, the foregoing figures cannot be compared with those published in this GAZETTE prior to February, 1936, which included such men as unemployed.

* Provisional figure. † Revised figure. ‡ Unrevised figure.
§ Wiadomości Statystyczne, 15th March, 1936, Warsaw.
|| Prager Tagblatt, 5th April 1936, Prague.
¶ Statistiske Efterretninger, 6th April, 1936, Copenhagen.
** Information supplied by the Central Bureau of Statistics, Oslo.
†† Information supplied by the Ministry of Social Affairs, Stockholm.
‡‡ Survey of Current Business, March, 1936, and American Federationist, March, 1936, Washington.
§§ Information supplied by the Department of Industry and Commerce, Dublin.
¶¶ The period during which the Order is in force began on 4th March and ends on 27th October, 1936.

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

Rates of Wages.

In the industries covered by the Department's statistics* the changes in rates of wages reported to have come into operation in March in Great Britain and Northern Ireland resulted in an aggregate increase of about £8,950 in the weekly full-time wages of 101,000 workpeople and in a decrease of £25 in those of 750 workpeople. The particulars are analysed by industry groups below:—

Table with columns: Industry Group, Approximate Number of Workpeople affected by (Increases, Decreases), Estimated Amount of Change in Weekly Wages (£, £).

The principal increases in the mining and quarrying group affected coal miners in Cannock Chase, North Staffordshire, South Derbyshire and Warwickshire, where the percentage additions to basis rates were increased as a result of the district ascertainment. Other increases in this group affected ironstone miners and quarrymen in North Lincolnshire, limestone quarrymen employed by certain firms in the Buxton district, and sandstone quarrymen in the Morley district of Yorkshire.

In the metal group the principal increases affected blastfurnacemen in North Lincolnshire, iron puddlers and millmen and sheet millmen in the West of Scotland, farriers in Yorkshire, adult male timeworkers engaged in the electrical cable-making industry, whose wages were increased by 1s. 11½d. or 2s. per week according to district, and workpeople engaged in the light castings industry, who received increases of various amounts in their bonus, which effected a restoration of reductions made in September, 1928. The decreases in this group affected iron puddlers and millmen in the North-East Coast area, and shuttle-makers in Lancashire.

The principal increases in the other industry groups affected workpeople employed by public works contractors in London, the majority of whom received an increase of ½d. per hour; women in the tanning and currying industry; workpeople engaged in furniture manufacture in a number of towns; and machinists and sawyers employed in sawmills at Sheffield and Rotherham.

Of the estimated total increase of £8,950, about £4,850 took effect under sliding scales based upon the proceeds of the industry (coal

mining); about £1,650 was the result of arrangements made by standing joint bodies; nearly £50 was due to the operation of selling-price sliding scales, and the remaining £2,400 was the result of direct negotiations between employers and workpeople.

The whole of the total decrease of £25 was due to the operation of sliding scales based on selling prices or on the cost of living.

SUMMARY OF CHANGES REPORTED IN JANUARY-MARCH, 1936.

The following Table shows the number of workpeople in Great Britain and Northern Ireland affected by changes in rates of wages reported to the Department during the three completed months of 1936, and the net aggregate amounts of such changes.

Table with columns: Industry Group, Approximate Number of Workpeople affected by net (Increases, Decreases), Estimated Net Amount of Change in Weekly Wages (£, £).

In the corresponding three months of 1935, there were net increases of £24,100 in the weekly full-time wages of 704,300 workpeople, and net decreases of £350 in those of 7,000 workpeople.

Hours of Labour.

No important changes were reported in March.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING MARCH, 1936.

Table with columns: Industry, District, Date from which Change took effect, Classes of Workpeople, Particulars of Change.

* The particulars of numbers affected and amount of change in weekly wages exclude changes affecting Government employees, agricultural labourers, shop assistants and clerks, for which classes the information available is not sufficient to form a basis for statistics. Where information is available, however, details of changes in the current rates of wages 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 short-time working, etc.

† Adult able-bodied day-wage men whose basis wages plus the percentage addition amount to less than 8s. 9d. per shift are paid, as previously, a subsistence allowance sufficient to make their wages up to that amount, subject to a maximum allowance of 6d. per shift. Flat-rate additions are also paid of 1s. per day to workers 21 years of age and over and of 6d. per day to other workers.

‡ Flat-rate additions are also paid of 1s. per day to workers 21 years of age and over and of 6d. per day to other workers.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING MARCH, 1936—continued.

Table with columns: Industry, District, Date from which Change took effect, Classes of Workpeople, Particulars of Change.

* Flat-rate additions are also paid to underground workers of 1s. per shift for those 21 years of age and over and of 6d. per shift for others, and to surface workers of 6d. per shift for those 21 years of age and over and of 3d. per shift for others.

† At three collieries a lower percentage is payable; the percentage was increased by 2 per cent. to 45 per cent. at one colliery and remained unaltered at 35 and 37 per cent. at the other two collieries respectively. The subsistence wage for adult able-bodied underground workers at the majority of the collieries remained unchanged at 8s. 3d. per shift. Flat-rate additions are also paid of 1s. per day to workers 21 years of age and over and of 6d. per day to other workers.

‡ Under selling-price sliding-scale arrangements. § The percentage of 22½ (which is higher than that warranted by the selling-price sliding scale) is to remain in operation until 28th February, 1937, with a proviso that if the sliding scale warrants a higher percentage than 22½ such higher percentage shall apply.

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

‡ These increases affected mainly workers employed by firms affiliated to the National Light Castings Ironfounders' Federation and The Greensand Pipe Founders' Association of Scotland, and constitute a restoration of reductions of similar amounts made in September, 1928.

** This increase affected mainly the employees of firms affiliated to the National Master Farriers and Blacksmiths' Association (Yorkshire District), and the rates quoted are to remain in operation until 31st March, 1937. The towns covered by the Association include Barnsley, Bradford, Dewsbury, Halifax, Huddersfield, Kelghey, Leeds, Rotherham, Sheffield and Todmorden.

†† Including individual co-operative societies situated at Birmingham, Bolton, Bradford, Brighton, Burnley, Leeds, Leicester and London, and federated laundry societies operating in Hyde and district, certain districts in Yorkshire and the Midlands, Manchester, Rochdale and district, and North-East Lancashire.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING MARCH, 1936—continued.

Industry.	District.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change.
Lithographic Printing.	Great Britain*	1 Mar.	Lithographic printers employed on photo-litho processes and on the multi-transferring press.	Minimum rates adopted for photo-litho processes of 15s. per week above the rate for direct flat-bed machines for workers operating step and repeat camera and printing-down machines, 12s. 6d. per week above the direct flat-bed rate for those operating printing-down frames, and 10s. per week above the direct flat-bed rate for those employed wholly or partly on the actual deep-etching of plates; and 17s. 6d. per week above the direct flat-bed rate for those employed on the multi-transferring press.*
Public Works Contracting.	London (Metropolitan Police Area).†	Pay period after last pay day in Mar.	Watchmen Other workers	Increase of 1d. per hour in the Boroughs of Beckenham and Brentford and Chiswick and in the Urban District of Penge (resulting from the upgrading of these areas to the intermediate grade), and of ½d. per hour in other areas. Rates after change for labourers: City and County of London, 1s. 2½d. per hour; Acton, Barking, Beckenham, Brentford and Chiswick, Croydon, East and West Ham, Ilford, Leyton, Walthamstow, Willesden, Wimbledon, Dagenham, Edmonton, Mitcham, Merton and Morden, Penge, Tottenham, Wanstead and Woodford, 1s. 2d.; rest of area, 1s. 1½d.
Shipping	Great Britain and Northern Ireland	23 Mar.	Navigating and engineer officers (steam) on monthly articles on cargo liners, general trading vessels and oil tank vessels, engineer officers on monthly articles on refrigerator vessels, and navigating and engineer officers on weekly articles on passenger and general trading vessels. Engineer officers on monthly articles on motor vessels (cargo liners, general traders and oil tankers). Electrical engineers Sea-going boiler-makers	Revised rates of pay adopted resulting in increase of various amounts over the rates of pay in operation immediately prior to January, 1932, when a 10 per cent. reduction took effect. Revised rates of pay adopted resulting in increase of various amounts according to rank, and tonnage of vessel. Increases of from 21s. 6d. to 32s. per month. Monthly rates after change (varying according to complement of electrical engineers carried) include (with food found in addition), 1st engineers, £15 5s. to £18 5s.; 2nd engineers, £13 5s. and £13 15s.; 3rd engineers, £11 15s.; 4th engineers, £11 5s. Increases of from 18s. to 24s. per month. Minimum monthly rates after change (varying according to length of service and with food found in addition), £12 to £16.
Road Transport	Northern Ireland ...	1st full pay period in Feb.	Drivers, conductors and maintenance staff employed by Northern Ireland Road Transport Board on carriage of passengers. Drivers, assistants, storemen and loaders employed by Northern Ireland Road Transport Board on carriage of goods.‡	Standard hourly rates of wages adopted as follows:—drivers, 1s. 4d., new entrants, 1s. 2½d. for 1st six months; conductors, 1s. 1½d., new entrants, 1s. 0½d. for 1st six months; cleaners, greasers and oilers, (day) 1s., (night) 1s. 1d. Standard weekly rates of wages adopted as follows:—BELFAST AND DERRY AREAS: Motor lorry drivers—over 2 tons carrying capacity—66s. per week; under 2 tons, 58s.; assistants, 57s.; storemen and loaders, 60s. OTHER AREAS: Motor lorry drivers—over 2 tons carrying capacity, 58s.; under 2 tons, 52s.; assistants, 45s.; drivers of lorries and trailers, and drivers of six- and eight-wheeled heavy vehicles, 6s. above the rates quoted; youths engaged as assistants, 12s. 6d. at 14 years of age, rising by 2s. 6d. per week to 20s. at 17 years, and by 5s. per week to 30s. at 19 years, 40s. at 20 years and 45s. at 21 years.
Tanning and Currying.	Great Britain ...	1 Mar.	Female workers 20 years of age and over.	Increase of 1d. per hour. Hourly rates after change: London, 8½d.; Midlands and Yorkshire, 8d.; Lancashire, 7½d.

* These minimum rates took effect under agreements made between the British Federation of Master Printers, the Scottish Alliance of Employers in the Printing and Kindred Trades, and the Amalgamated Society of Lithographic Printers. It is provided that for those employed on camera and printing-down machines and on the multi-transferring press there shall be a probationary period of three months at the direct flat-bed rate and a further period of six months at 10s. per week above that rate. The direct flat-bed rate in England and Wales is 82s. 6d. per week in the London Area (Grade 1A), 77s. 6d. per week in Grade 1 towns, 75s. in Grade 2 towns, and 72s. 6d. in Grade 3 towns.

† These increases took effect under an arrangement made by the Public Works Conciliation Board for the London Area.

‡ These increases took effect as a result of decisions arrived at by the National Maritime Board.

§ For a description of the services operated by the Board see the article on page 124.

RATES OF WAGES IN THE BUILDING INDUSTRY.

A list of the towns in England and Wales included in the grading scheme of the National Joint Council for the Building Industry, and the grade to which each town was allocated, was given on page 317 of the issue of this GAZETTE for August, 1935. Since that date, certain towns in the Yorkshire, Midland and Eastern Regions have been re-classified with effect from 1st February, 1936, and a large number of towns in the Eastern and South-Western Regions have been placed in grades for the first time.

The following is a list of the towns that have been re-classified or graded for the first time; and this list, in conjunction with the list on page 317 of the GAZETTE for August, 1935, represents the grading now in operation:—

YORKSHIRE REGION.—Goole A.

MIDLAND REGION.—Redditch (Northern) A2, Redditch (Southern) A3.

EASTERN REGION.—Abbotts Langley A1, Acle B1, Ashby B, Ashwell (Herts) B1, Aylmerton B2, Bacton B2, Beck Row B2, Benfleet A2, Bircham Newton Aerodrome B3,* Blofield B3, Boxford B3, Boreham B2, Botesdale B3, Boxmoor A2, Brampton (Hunts) B2, Brightlingsea B, Burnwell B3, Burwell B, Caister B, Cantley B, Catfield B3, Cherry Hinton A1, Chorley Wood A1, Clonhill B1, Coggeshall B1, Corton B, Costessey A1, Cranfield Aerodrome B3,* Cranham A1, Croxted A1, Drayton (Norfolk) A1, East Harling B3, Epping A1, Essendon A2, Essex (Belt A) A†, Essex (Belt B) B1, Exning B, Felstead B2, Feltwell Aerodrome B3,* Fenstanton B3, Fordham (Cambs.) B1, Forton B3, Fulbourn A3, Gaywood B1, Gillingham (Norfolk) B3, Gorleston B, Great Horkesey A3, Great Plumstead A1, Hadleigh (Essex) A2, Hatfield Peverel B2, Heacham B3, Hertfordshire (Belt A) A†, Hertfordshire (Belt B) A3‡, Holywell Row B2, Hopton B, Horning B1, Hornchurch A, Horsham St. Faith A1, Ingatstone B, Kelling B2, Kessingland B2, Little Holland B, Ludham B3, Martlesham Aerodrome A3, Marham Aerodrome B3*, Melton B2, Melton B3, New Buckenham B3, Newport (Essex) B3, North Mimms A, North Runceton B1, North Weald A2, North Wootton B1, Ockendon A, Old Buckenham B3, Old Fletton A1, Ongar B, Orsett A, Oulton Broad B, Overstrand B2, Pakefield B, Peterborough, Soke of (portion within 4 miles of Stamford) A3, Potter Heigham B3, Purfleet A, Ramsey (Hunts) B3, Rayleigh A2, Redbourne A3, Reydon B3, Rochford A1, Roughton B2, St. Osyth B, Saddlebow B1, Salhouse B1, Sandringham B1, Santly B1, Scole B3, Scratchy B, Shelford A3, Sheffeld A1, Shotley Point B, South Repps B2, Stansted (Essex) B3, Stewartby A3, Stradbury (Beds) B, Stradishall Aerodrome B3,* Tewin A2, Thames Haven Aerodrome B3, Thrimmingham B2, Trunch B2, Upminster A, Walberswick B3, Wallington A3, Warley A1, Watton-at-Stone A3, Weeley B2, West A2, Thorpe-le-Soken B2, Trimmingham B2, Trunch B2, Upminster A, Walberswick B3, Wallington A3, Warley A1, Watton-at-Stone A3, Weeley B2, West Row B2, West Runton B2, West Winch B1, Weybourne B2, Wingham B3, Wickham Market B3, Wicklewood B3, Wiggenhall St. German B1, Wivenhoe A2, Worlington B2, Wormley A, Wrabness Naval Station B. All territory not otherwise graded is classed as a "General-graded district" at Grade C.

SOUTH WESTERN REGION.—Bagborough B, Bampton (Devon) B1, Berkeley B2, Biddestons B1, Bishop's Lydeard B, Blandford B1, Bourton-on-the-Water B, Bradninch A3, Braintree B, Breamhill B1, Bridport B1, Castle Combe B1, Chedworth B, Chipping Campden B, Christian Malford B1, Clyst St. Mary A3, Combe Martin B, Corfe (Somerset) B, Corfe Castle B1, Creech St. Michael B, Cricklade B1, Culmington B1, Curry Rivel B, Dauntsey B1, Derry Hill B1, Draycott B1, Dursley A3, East Budleigh B, Exminster A3, Great Somerford B1, Grittleton B1, Hardenhuish B1, Hatch Beauchamp B, Highworth A3, Holt (Wilts) B2, Hullavington A3, Kellaways B1, Kingsbridge A2, Kingskerswell A1, Kingsteignton A1, Kington Langley B1, Kington St. Michael B1, Laocok B1, Langley Burrell B1, Leigh De-la-Mare B1, Leonminster B, Little Somerford B1, Lyme Regis B1, Lympstone B, Lyng B, Lynton B, Lynton B, Maiden Newton B1, Milverton B, Moreton-in-the-Marsh B, Morthoe B, Nether Stowey B, North Cerney B, Northleach B, North Petherton B, Norton Fitzwarren B, Otterton B, Pewsham B1, Pitminster B, Purton A3, Salcombe A2, Seagry B1, Shaftesbury B1, Sherborne (Dorset) B, Silvertown B1, South Cerney B, South Molton B, Stanton B, Quintin B1, Stogumber B, Stoke St. Gregory B, Stoke St. Mary B, Stratton St. Margaret A3, Sturminster Newton B1, Sutton Benger B1, Tetbury B, Thurloxton B, Trull B, Uffculme B1, Wareham B1, West Down B, West Hatch B, West Monkton B, Winchcomb B, Withington (Glos.) B, Wiveliscombe B, Woodbury B, Wool B1, Woolacombe B, Wootton Bassett A3, Wotton-under-Edge B2, Wroughton A3, Yatton Keynell B1.

* A "exceptional margin" of 2d. per hour above Grade B3 for craftsmen, with appropriate rate for labourers, applies for six months, in respect of the sites of Bircham Newton Aerodrome from 1st January, 1936, Cranfield Aerodrome from 8th January, 1936, Stradishall Aerodrome from 29th January, 1936, Feltwell and Marham Aerodromes from 3rd December, 1935.

† The Essex and Hertfordshire Belts A comprise the territory in those counties between 15 and 17 miles from Charing Cross excluding territory within the London Outer Zone.

‡ The Essex Belt B comprises the territory between 17 and 25 miles from Charing Cross, excluding districts separately graded.

§ The Hertfordshire Belt B comprises the territory between 17 and 25 miles from Charing Cross, excluding districts separately graded and excluding also portions of Watford which is in the London Outer Zone.

TRADE DISPUTES IN MARCH.*

Number, Magnitude and Duration.—The number of disputes involving stoppages of work reported to the Department as beginning in March in Great Britain and Northern Ireland was 64, as compared with 54 in the previous month, and 54 in March, 1935. In these 64 new disputes about 22,700 workpeople were directly involved, and 1,500 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 8,900 workpeople were involved, either directly or indirectly, in 15 disputes which began before March and were still in progress at the beginning of that month. The number of new and old disputes was thus 79, involving 33,100 workpeople, and resulting in a loss, during March, estimated at 195,000 working days.

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

Industry Group.	Number of Disputes in progress in month.			Number of Workpeople involved in all Disputes in progress in month.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress in month.
	Started before beginning of month.	Started in month.	Total.		
Mining and Quarrying...	3	21	24	14,600	81,000
Metal, Engineering and Shipbuilding ...	2	14	16	5,000	21,000
Textile ...	2	8	10	1,600	6,000
Clothing ...	2	4	6	9,200	79,000
Transport ...	1	3	4	1,400	3,000
Other ...	5	14	19	1,500	5,000
Total, March, 1936 ...	15	64	79	33,100	195,000
Total, February, 1936 ...	8	54	62	34,500	212,000
Total, March, 1935 ...	14	54	68	27,100	177,000

Causes.—Of the 64 disputes beginning in March, 13, directly involving 2,900 workpeople, arose out of demands for advances in wages, 3, directly involving 200 workpeople, out of proposed wage reductions, and 18, directly involving 5,400 workpeople, on other wage questions; 2, directly involving 300 workpeople, on questions respecting working hours; 12, directly involving 6,300 workpeople, on questions respecting the employment of particular classes or persons;

PRINCIPAL DISPUTES INVOLVING STOPPAGES OF WORK DURING MARCH.

Occupations‡ and Locality.	Approximate Number of Workpeople Involved.		Date when Dispute		Cause or Object.	Result.
	Directly.	In-directly.‡	Began.	Ended.		
COAL MINING:— Colliery workpeople—Blantyre (one firm).	800	...	3 Mar.	11 Mar.	For seniority rule to be observed in re-engagement of workpeople, and in retention of workpeople when dismissals are made—with particular reference to the recent dismissal of eight employees by a contractor.	Agreement reached providing that if workpeople are otherwise equally suitable length of service shall be the deciding factor as regards employment; eight employees in question to be given first vacancies occurring in their grade or class of work. No settlement reported.
Underground and surface workpeople—near Pontefract (one firm).	1,200	200	11 Mar.	...	Against the engagement of five contractors from other pits, workpeople claiming that the vacancies should be filled by the promotion of hauliers already employed.	No settlement reported.
Colliery workpeople—near Gateshead (one firm).	1,029	66	20 Mar.	21 Mar.	Dispute respecting payment of the minimum wage.	Work resumed; dispute to be settled by constitutional methods.
SLATE QUARRYING:— Slate quarrymen, labourers, etc.—Blaenau Ffestiniog.	2,000	...	16 Mar.	...	For an advance in wages of 2d. per day to quarrymen and 1d. per day to labourers, such amounts being the unrestituted balances of reductions made in 1932.	No settlement reported.
IRON AND STEEL:— Steel smelters and rolling mill operatives—Risca, Mon. (one firm).	400	...	10 Mar.	11 Mar.	Dispute arising out of deductions from pay for bad time-keeping.	Five minutes grace to be granted to late-comers.
ENGINEERING:— Fitters, machinemen and toolroom operatives engaged in aircraft manufacture—Stockport (one firm).	571	...	5 Mar.	14 Mar.	Objection to the employment of Government trainees.	Work resumed on advice of employees' trade unions to permit of the discussion of the question at issue by constitutional methods.
All classes of workpeople engaged in aircraft manufacture—Hayes, Middlesex (same firm as above).	1,090	...	9 Mar.	14 Mar.	In sympathy with the workpeople involved in the above dispute.	
COTTON SPINNING:— Doffers and card, ring and winding room operatives—Rochdale (one firm).	60	440	26 Mar.	28 Mar.	Dissatisfaction with wages.	Increase of 2s. per week granted.
CLOTHING:— Fitters and other workpeople—Leeds (one firm).	8,110	...	20 Feb.‡	13 Mar.‡	For an increase in the piece rate of wages of fitters, as determined by an agreement with the management recognised by the trade union of the workpeople concerned.	Work resumed, pending investigation of the fitters' claim by the trade union.
Workpeople engaged in clothing manufacture—Leeds (five firms).	2,000	...	12 Mar.	12 or 13 Mar.	In sympathy with the workpeople involved in the above dispute.	Work resumed.
TRANSPORT:— Tram drivers and conductors—London, S.W.	1,014	...	10 Mar.	10 Mar.	Dissatisfaction with meal reliefs.	Work resumed on advice of employees' trade union.
Tram drivers and conductors—London, N.	307	...	11 Mar.	11 Mar.	Demonstration against conditions.	Work resumed on advice of employees' trade union.

* 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 by others, etc.) exceeded 100 days.

† In making up these totals the figures have been amended in accordance with the most recent information. Workpeople involved in more than one dispute are counted more than once in the totals: the amount of such duplication, however, is slight.

‡ The occupations printed in italics are those of workpeople indirectly involved, i.e., thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, but not themselves parties to the disputes. The statements of cause and result do not apply to these workpeople.

§ The fitters ceased work on 20th February, and the other workpeople on the following day. Work was generally resumed on 17th March.

9, directly involving 4,100 workpeople, on other questions respecting working arrangements; and 4, directly involving 400 workpeople, on questions of trade union principle. Three disputes, directly involving 3,100 workpeople, were due to sympathetic action.

Results.—Final settlements of disputes which terminated during March have been effected in the case of 41 new disputes, directly involving 16,700 workpeople, and 10 old disputes, directly involving 9,500 workpeople. Of these new and old disputes, 10, directly involving 3,400 workpeople, were settled in favour of the workpeople; 29, directly involving 20,400 workpeople, were settled in favour of the employers; and 12, directly involving 2,400 workpeople, resulted in a compromise. In the case of 6 other disputes, directly involving 900 workpeople, work was resumed pending negotiations.

TOTALS FOR THE FIRST THREE MONTHS OF 1936 AND 1935.†

Industry Group.	January to March, 1936.			January to March, 1935.		
	No. of Disputes beginning in period.	Number of Workpeople involved in all Disputes in progress.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress.	No. of Disputes beginning in period.	Number of Workpeople involved in all Disputes in progress.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress.
Mining and Quarrying ...	59	39,500	210,000	53	42,700	185,000
Engineering ...	7	3,200	18,000	9	2,100	23,000
Shipbuilding ...	6	700	3,000	2	100	3,000
Other Metal ...	12	2,700	14,000	13	2,200	21,000
Textile ...	20	4,900	27,000	17	3,100	24,000
Clothing ...	7	10,500	144,000	9	1,500	24,000
Woodworking, Furniture, etc. ...	12	300	2,000	9	300	6,000
Building, etc. ...	11	1,100	5,000	14	2,200	13,000
Transport ...	10	2,500	10,000	6	1,600	6,000
Commerce, Distribution and Finance ...	4	8,500	68,000
Other ...	13	1,600	9,000	7	3,600	51,000
Total ...	161	75,300	510,000	139	59,400	356,000

CHANGES IN COST OF LIVING: STATISTICS FOR 1st APRIL.

Summary: Average Increases since July, 1914.

All Items included	44%
Food only	26%

FOOD.

At 1st April the general level of the retail prices of food in Great Britain and Northern Ireland was somewhat lower than at 29th February. This movement was almost wholly the result of reductions in the prices of eggs and of butter; relatively little change was recorded in the prices of the remaining items of food.

As a net result of all the changes recorded, the average increase over the level of July, 1914, in the retail prices of the articles of food included in these statistics was 26 per cent. at 1st April, 1936, as compared with 29 per cent. at 29th February, 1936, and 19 per cent. at 1st April, 1935.

In the following Table is given a comparison of retail prices in July, 1914, and at 29th February, 1936, and 1st April, 1936:—

Article.	Average Price (per lb. unless otherwise indicated—to the nearest 1d.)			Average Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) at 1st April, 1936, as compared with	
	July, 1914.	29th Feb., 1936.	1st April, 1936.	July, 1914.	29th Feb., 1936.
Beef, British—	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	d.	d.
Ribs	0 10	1 1½	1 1½	+ 3½	...
Thin Flank	0 6½	0 7	0 7	+ 0½	...
Beef, Chilled or Frozen—					
Ribs	0 7½	0 8½	0 8½	+ 1½	...
Thin Flank	0 4½	0 4½	0 4½	— 0½	...
Mutton, British—					
Legs	0 10½	1 3	1 3	+ 4½	...
Breast	0 6½	0 7½	0 7½	+ 0½	...
Mutton, Frozen—					
Legs	0 6½	0 9½	0 9½	+ 2½	...
Breast	0 4	0 3½	0 3½	— 0½	...
Bacon (streaky)*	0 11½	1 2	1 2	+ 2½	...
Flour ... per 7 lb.	0 10½	1 1½	1 1½	+ 2½	...
Bread ... per 4 lb.	0 5½	0 8½	0 8½	+ 2½	...
Tea ...	1 6½	1 11½	1 11½	+ 5½	...
Sugar (granulated) ...	0 2	0 2½	0 2½	+ 0½	...
Milk ... per quart	0 3½	0 6½	0 6½	+ 3	...
Butter—					
Fresh	1 2	1 3½	1 2½	— 0½	...
Salt	1 2	1 1½	1 1	— 1½	...
Cheese†	0 8½	0 8½	0 8½	— 0	...
Margarine	0 7	0 5½	0 5½	— 1½	...
Eggs (fresh) ... each	0 1½	0 1½	0 1½	— 0	...
Potatoes ... per 7 lb.	0 4½	0 8	0 8	+ 3½	...

The following Table gives a percentage comparison of the level of retail prices at the same dates:—

Article.	Average Percentage Increase or Decrease (-) at 1st April, 1936, as compared with July, 1914.			Corresponding General Average for 29th Feb., 1936.
	Large Towns (Populations over 50,000).	Small Towns and Villages.	General Average.	
Beef, British—	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Ribs	33	35	34	34
Thin Flank	5	9	7	7
Beef, Chilled or Frozen—				
Ribs	15	22	18	19
Thin Flank	-14	-5	-9	-9
Mutton, British—				
Legs	42	45	44	44
Breast	12	13	12	13
Mutton, Frozen—				
Legs	44	37	41	40
Breast	-10	-3	-6	-6
Bacon (streaky)*	26	25	25	25
Fish	109	86	98	101
Flour ...	24	26	25	25
Bread ...	42	41	42	41
Tea ...	23	33	28	28
Sugar (granulated) ...	15	9	12	12
Milk ...	84	91	87	90
Butter—				
Fresh	-4	4	...	5
Salt	-10	-7	-8	-3
Cheese†	-1	3	1	2
Margarine	-15	-19	-17	-17
Eggs (fresh) ...	-2	-11	-6	32
Potatoes ...	78	50	64	64
All above articles of Food (Weighted Percentage Increase)	26	26	26	29

* If this kind is seldom dealt with in a locality, the returns quote the prices of another kind locally representative.
† The description of cheese for which prices are quoted is in most cases Canadian or New Zealand, but in some districts the returns quote the prices of another kind locally representative.

RENT, CLOTHING, FUEL AND LIGHT.

As regards rents, inquiries which have been made into the changes which have taken effect under the Rent and Mortgage Interest Restrictions Acts indicate that the average increase in the controlled rents (including rates) of working-class dwellings between July, 1914, and 1st April, 1936, was approximately 50 per cent. When decontrolled rents are also included, the combined average increase, as compared with July, 1914, in controlled and decontrolled working-class rents (including rates) is approximately 58 per cent. This latter figure has been utilised in calculating the final percentage increase shown below for "all items."

As regards clothing, owing to the wide range of quotations, both now and before the war, to changes in qualities and in stocks held by retailers, and to variations in the extent to which different articles and qualities have been affected by price changes, it is impossible to make an exact calculation of the increase in prices; but information as to the movements of prices of men's suits and overcoats, woollen and cotton materials, underclothing and hosiery, boots and shoes, received from retailers in the principal towns, indicates that at 1st April the level of retail prices of articles in this group, taking goods of the kinds purchased by the working classes, and so far as possible the same qualities of goods at each date, was between 85 and 90 per cent. higher than in July, 1914.

In the fuel and light group the prices of coal were on the average about 90 per cent. above the level of July, 1914. The average price of gas was between 45 and 50 per cent. above the pre-war level. For the fuel and light group as a whole (including coal, gas, oil, candles and matches) the average increase at 1st April as compared with July, 1914, was between 75 and 80 per cent.

ALL ITEMS.

If the average increases in the cost of all the foregoing items are combined in accordance with their relative importance in pre-war working-class family expenditure, allowance being also made for the increase in the prices of soap, soda, domestic ironmongery, brushware and pottery, tobacco, fares and newspapers (averaging about 70 per cent.), the resultant general average increase for 1st April, 1936, is approximately 44 per cent. over the level of July, 1914, as compared with 46 per cent. at 29th February, 1936, and 39 per cent. at 1st April, 1935.

The result of this calculation (in which the same quantities and as far as possible, the same qualities of each item are taken now as in 1914) is to show the average increase in the cost of maintaining unchanged the pre-war standard of living of working-class families (i.e., the standard actually prevailing in working-class families before the war, irrespective of whether such standard was adequate or not). In view of the variations in the amounts of increase in the prices of different commodities it is probable that economies or readjustments in expenditure have been effected in many families, especially in those cases where incomes have not increased so much as prices. On the other hand, the standard of living has doubtless risen in many cases in which wages have been increased in greater proportion than prices. No allowance is made in the figures for any such alterations in the standard of living, as to which trustworthy statistics are not available.

SUMMARY TABLE: 1920 to 1936.

The following Table shows the average percentage increase, as compared with July, 1914, for all the items included in the statistics, at the beginning of each month, 1920 to 1936:—
Average Percentage Increase since July, 1914—All Items.
(Food, rent, clothing, fuel and light, etc.)

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	77	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	65	62	61	60	61	63	64	65	67	67
1930	65	64	61	57	55	54	55	57	57	56	57	55
1931	53	52	50	47	47	45	47	45	45	45	45	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								

NOTE.

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 (3½d. post free), from H.M. Stationery Office, at any of the addresses shown on the cover of this GAZETTE.

The Minister of Labour announced, on 7th April, that a revision of the basis of the cost-of-living index-number is to be undertaken. The terms of the announcement are given on page 121.

RETAIL PRICES OVERSEAS.

N.B.—While the percentages given in the following Summary Tables are derived from the most authoritative sources of statistical information, certain differences in the nature and scope of the data used, in the methods of combining such data and in the periods for which the rise is measured, suggest the need for caution in drawing conclusions from a comparison between the figures for any two countries or cities. In every case the percentage calculation is based on the cost of a fixed list of commodities taken in identical quantities.

I.—FOOD.

PERCENTAGE INCREASE IN RETAIL FOOD PRICES IN THE VARIOUS COUNTRIES AS COMPARED WITH JULY, 1914.*

Country.	Percentage Increase as compared with July, 1914.*					Latest figures available.
	July, 1932.	July, 1933.	July, 1934.	July, 1935.	Per cent.	
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND ...	Per cent. 25	Per cent. 18	Per cent. 22	Per cent. 26	Per cent. 26	1936. 1 Apr.
FOREIGN COUNTRIES.						
Austria (Vienna) ...	10	4	0	2	-1**	Mar.
Czechoslovakia (Prague) ...	567	562	553	585	577	Feb.
Egypt (Cairo)† ...	8	1	18	19	15	Sept., '35
Finland ...	756	777	726	779	783	Feb.
France (Paris) ...	449	408	391	325	350	Mar.
(other towns) ...	431†	392†	370†	305†	322	Feb.
Germany ...	16	14	20	23	22	Mar.
Holland (Amsterdam) ...	19†	17†	23†	18†	19	Dec., '35
Italy ...	318	293	264	282	290	Sept., '35
Norway ...	34	32	33	40	42	Jan.
Spain (Madrid)† ...	79	79	81	76	79	Sept., '35
(Barcelona)† ...	71	65	68	72	77	Sept., '35
Sweden† ...	28	23	25	32	33	Jan.
Switzerland ...	24	16	15	15	18	Feb.
United States†† ...	7‡	3‡	16‡	27	30	Dec., '35
BRITISH DOMINIONS, &c.						
Australia ...	23	16	19	25	25	Feb.
Canada ...	-8**	-5**	1	3	10	Feb.
India (Bombay):						
Native families ...	2	-5**	-13**	-7**	-6**	Mar.
Irish Free State ...	34†	29†	34†	40†	50	Nov., '35
New Zealand ...	8	4	11	18	18	Feb.
South Africa ...	-6**	-2**	3	2	2	Feb.

II.—ALL ITEMS.

PERCENTAGE INCREASE IN THE VARIOUS COUNTRIES IN THE COST OF FOOD, TOGETHER WITH (SO FAR AS POSSIBLE) HOUSE-RENT, CLOTHING, FUEL AND LIGHT, AND OTHER HOUSEHOLD REQUIREMENTS, AS COMPARED WITH JULY, 1914.*

Country.	Items on which Computation is based.‡	Percentage Increase as compared with July, 1914.*				Latest figures available.	
		July, 1932.	July, 1933.	July, 1934.	July, 1935.		
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND ...	A,B,C,D,E	Per cent. 43	Per cent. 38	Per cent. 41	Per cent. 43	Per cent. 44	1936. 1 Apr.
FOREIGN COUNTRIES.							
Austria (Vienna) ...	A,B,C,D,E	8	5	4	5	4	Mar.
Belgium ...	A,C,D,E	608	595	554	554	583	Feb.
Czechoslovakia (Prague) ...	A,B,C,D,E	597	596	593	610	608	Feb.
Denmark ...	A,B,C,D,E	54	60	66	73	73	Jan.
Egypt (Cairo) ...	A,B,C,E	28	24	27	30	31	Jan.
Finland ...	A,B,C,D,E	894	883	850	878	882	Feb.
France (Paris) ...	A,B,C,D,E	417†	416†	411†	369†	378	4th Qr., '35
Germany ...	A,B,C,D,E	21	18	22	24	24	Mar.
Holland (Amsterdam) ...	A,B,C,D,E	41†	37†	40†	36†	37	Dec., '35
Italy ...	A,B,C,D,E	265††	250††	229††	...	235	Jan., '35
(Milan) ...	A,B,C,D,E	365	347	320	330	334	Sept., '35
(Rome) ...	A,B,C,D,E	336	314	283	300	296	Sept., '35
Norway ...	A,B,C,D,E	49	48	48	51	53	Jan.
Sweden ...	A,B,C,D,E	56	53	55	56	58	Jan.
Switzerland ...	A,B,C,D	38	31	29	28	30	Feb.
United States†† ...	A,B,C,D,E	39‡	30‡	37‡	40	41	Oct., '35
BRITISH DOMINIONS, &c.							
Australia ...	A,B,C,D,E	20‡	18‡	19‡	22‡	22	4th Qr., '35
Canada ...	A,B,C,D,E	25	20	22	23	26	Feb.
India (Bombay):							
Native families ...	A,B,C,D	9	3	-3**	1	2	Mar.
Irish Free State ...	A,B,C,D,E	53†	49†	52†	56†	59	Feb.
New Zealand ...	A,B,C,D,E	31†	27	29	33	34	Feb.
South Africa ...	A,B,C,D,E	17	14	16	16	16	Feb.

* Exceptions to this are: Egypt, January, 1913, to July, 1914; Italy (all items), Milan and Rome, January to June, 1914; Switzerland, June, 1914; Spain, South Africa, 1914; Germany, average, 1913-1914; Amsterdam, 1911-1913; Belgium, April, 1914; Italy (food), United States, Canada, 1913; Australia (all items), November, 1914. The Australian percentages for all items are weighted averages for the six capital cities. The percentages are calculated, in Austria, on prices converted at the rate of 1.44 Schilling equals one pre-war Krone, and, in the other countries, on prices in the ordinary currency.
† Fuel and light are also included in these figures.
‡ Figure for June.
§ A = Food; B = House-Rent; C = Clothing; D = Fuel and Light; E = Other or Miscellaneous Items.
¶ Figure for 3rd Quarter. ¶ Figure for August. ** Decrease.
†† Figure for July to December. ††† Revised series.

FATAL INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS.

THE number of workpeople, other than seamen, in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, whose deaths from accidents in the course of their employment occurred or were reported in March was 165, as compared with 162* in the previous month, and with 1

POOR RELIEF IN THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 1935.

ENGLAND AND WALES.

ACCORDING to a statement* issued by the Ministry of Health, the total number of persons† in receipt of poor relief (domiciliary and institutional) in England and Wales at the end of December, 1935, was 1,348,808. This compares with 1,280,942 at the end of September, 1935, and with 1,432,582 at the end of December, 1934.

It is stated in the Return that the increases which occurred in the later weeks of the quarter were attributable to severe weather conditions preventing work in the building trade and in other outdoor occupations, and to industrial disputes in certain areas.

As compared with December, 1934, there were marked reductions at Sheffield (13,316, or 26 per cent.), Manchester (10,048, or 17 per cent.), Cardiff (7,717, or 36 per cent.), and in the administrative county of the West Riding of Yorkshire (8,389, or 13 per cent.); in London, the reduction was 12,970, or 9 per cent. Some districts showed increases, but these were mostly small.

The totals given above include large numbers returned as persons who would ordinarily be employed. Nearly all the relief given to these persons is domiciliary (i.e., given to them while resident in their own homes). The following Table gives figures for persons in receipt of outdoor (domiciliary) relief in England and Wales in December, 1935, with comparative totals for September, 1935, and for December, 1934; these figures represent averages of the numbers in receipt of relief on each Saturday of the respective months :-

Table showing the number of persons in receipt of outdoor relief in England and Wales for December 1935, compared with September 1935 and December 1934. Includes categories like Unemployed persons insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts, etc.

SCOTLAND.

The following Table shows the number of persons§ in receipt of outdoor relief in Scotland, on the 15th of each month, in the fourth quarter of 1935. The corresponding total figures for each month in the third quarter of 1935 and the fourth quarter of 1934 are also given :-

Table showing the number of persons in receipt of outdoor relief in Scotland for the fourth quarter of 1935, compared with the third quarter of 1935 and the fourth quarter of 1934. Includes categories like Unemployed persons insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts, etc.

* Statement showing the Number of Persons in receipt of Poor Relief in England and Wales in the Quarter ending in December, 1935. H.M. Stationery Office; price 6d. net (1d. post free).

† Excluding persons in receipt of outdoor medical relief only, and casuals, who numbered 19,746 and 10,419, respectively, at the end of December, 1935. Rate-aided patients in mental hospitals are also excluded.

‡ Excluding persons in receipt of outdoor medical relief only.

§ Excluding lunatics, mental defectives, persons in receipt of outdoor medical relief only, and casuals.

POOR RELIEF IN MARCH.

(Data supplied by the Ministry of Health in England and Wales and the Department of Health in Scotland.)

The number of persons* relieved on one day† in March, in the forty-seven selected areas named below, was 832,087, or 1.9 per cent. less than in the previous month, and 4.6 per cent. less than in March, 1935. The numbers relieved at these three dates were equivalent, respectively, to rates of 503, 512 and 524 per 10,000 of the estimated population.

In the forty-three selected areas in England and Wales the number of persons relieved in March was 633,511, a decrease of 2.2 per cent. as compared with a month earlier, and a decrease of 3.7 per cent. as compared with March, 1935. In the four areas in Scotland the number relieved was 198,576, or 0.8 per cent. less than in the previous month, and 7.2 per cent. less than in March, 1935.

Recipients of indoor relief in the forty-seven areas in March numbered 80,646, or 1.7 per cent. less than in the previous month, and 9.0 per cent. less than a year ago. Recipients of outdoor relief numbered 751,441, or 1.9 per cent. less than in the previous month, and 4.1 per cent. less than in March, 1935.

Of the forty-seven areas, forty-three showed decreases in the number per 10,000 relieved in March as compared with February; three showed increases; while in one area there was no change. Compared with March, 1935, thirty-one areas showed decreases, of which the largest was at Glasgow (156 per 10,000); thirteen showed increases, the most marked being at Cardiff (62 per 10,000); the other three areas showed no change.

Table showing the number of persons in receipt of Poor Relief on one day in March, 1935, for England and Wales, categorized by indoor and outdoor relief, and compared with the previous month and year.

Table showing the number of persons in receipt of outdoor relief in England and Wales by county for March 1935, compared with the previous month and year.

Table showing the number of persons in receipt of outdoor relief in Scotland by burgh for March 1935, compared with the previous month and year.

* The figures include dependants, but exclude persons in receipt of outdoor medical relief only, and casuals. In England and Wales, rate-aided patients in mental hospitals, and, in Scotland, lunatics and mental defectives, are also excluded.

† 28th March in England and Wales, and 15th March in Scotland.

BUILDING PLANS APPROVED.

MARCH, 1936.

RETURNS as to the estimated cost of buildings for which plans were approved during March have been received from 139* of the 146 Local Authorities which supply such information to the Department.

The returns received from these 139 Authorities (representing towns with a total population of 16,897,000 in 1931) are summarised in the following Table, in which are also given comparisons with March, 1935, in respect of the same 139 Authorities :-

Table showing the estimated cost of buildings approved in March 1936, compared with March 1935, categorized by district and type of building (Dwelling Houses, Factories and Workshops, etc.).

FEBRUARY, 1936.

In last month's issue of this GAZETTE figures were given for 142 Local Authorities in respect of plans approved during February, 1936. Returns for the latter month are now available for all of the 146 Local Authorities covered by the Department's enquiries (representing towns with a total population of 17,803,000 in 1931). The estimated cost of the buildings covered by the returns was £10,103,200, compared with £9,267,000 in January, 1936, and £9,055,500 in February, 1935.

SHIPBUILDING IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1936.

ACCORDING to Lloyd's Register Quarterly Shipbuilding Returns the gross tonnage of merchant vessels under construction in Great Britain and Ireland at the end of March, 1936, amounted to 842,361 tons. This was 99,275 tons more than at the end of December, 1935, and 286,546 tons more than at the end of March, 1935.

The tonnage commenced during the quarter was 232,523 tons, showing a decrease of 78,577 tons compared with the corresponding total for the December quarter.

The tonnage launched during the quarter under review amounted to 194,275 tons, an increase of 62,136 tons as compared with the previous three months.

The total horse-power of marine engines under construction or being installed on board vessels in Great Britain and Ireland at the end of March, 1936, amounted to 763,000 h.p., as compared with 606,260 h.p. in the previous quarter.

The above figures are exclusive of warships and of merchant vessels under 100 tons.

SPECIAL AREAS (DEVELOPMENT AND IMPROVEMENT) ACT, 1934.

ACQUISITION OF LAND UNDER COMPULSORY PURCHASE ORDERS (ENGLAND AND WALES.)

THE Minister of Labour, in exercise of the powers conferred on him by the Special Areas (Development and Improvement) Act, 1934, has issued directions‡ as to the form of Compulsory Purchase Order to be made under the Act, and as to the forms of notice, etc., to be given in connection with such orders.

* The outstanding returns were distributed as follows :- Lancs. and Cheshire (one); North and West Midland Counties (two); South Midland and Eastern Counties (one); Outer London (two); and South-Eastern Counties (one).

† Particulars are not available for the London County Council area.

‡ Special Areas (Development and Improvement) Acquisition of Land (England and Wales). Statutory Rules and Orders, 1935, No. 265. H.M. Stationery Office; price 2d. net (2½d., post-free).

LEGAL CASES AFFECTING LABOUR.

Workmen's Compensation Act, 1925.

ILLNESS SUPERVENING AFTER AND INDEPENDENT OF ACCIDENT—RIGHT TO COMPENSATION.

This was an appeal to the House of Lords against a decision of the Court of Session. The appellant, Margaret McCann, when working at a steam presser in December, 1930, injured her finger and thumb. Before the accident her average weekly earnings were 28s. From the date of the accident to February, 1932, 19s. 5d. a week was paid to her on the footing of total incapacity as agreed compensation. From February, 1932, the company gave her light work of a special nature, at her previous wage of 28s. a week, until November, 1932, when, contracting appendicitis and entering hospital, she was unfit for work until May, 1933.

This attack of appendicitis prevented the appellant from performing the light work which would have been available for her between November, 1932, and May, 1933; but during this period the partial incapacity due to the accident still remained.

The arbitrator found her entitled to compensation for partial incapacity at 9s. 6d. per week for the period November, 1932, to May, 1933. The decision of the arbitrator having been reversed by the Court of Session, she appealed.

Lord Thankerton, in giving judgment, found that the appellant's right to compensation in respect of her partial incapacity continued from November, 1932, to May, 1933. It was clear that the supervening indisposition which prevented her working at all could not in itself disentitle her to compensation. He considered that, where a failure to take work offered was the fault of a workman, he might be precluded from recovery of compensation; but where the acceptance of an offer of work was prevented by old age or illness unconnected with the accident, it would be cutting down a workman's right of compensation, instead of measuring its amount, to hold that his claim for compensation was in any degree satisfied. To offer work which, to the knowledge of the employer, a workman was obviously unable to accept, was tantamount to making no offer.

On the authority of various cases, including that of Stowell v. Ellerman Lines, His Lordship upheld the decision of the arbitrator and allowed the appeal. The other Lords of Appeal concurred. McCann v. The Scottish Co-operative Laundry Association, Ltd. House of Lords. 3rd March, 1936.

Factory and Workshop Acts.

DIES OF POWER PRESS NOT SECURELY FENCED.

This case was heard at Brentford Police Court on 5th April, 1935, and was taken under sections 10 and 136 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, in respect of a power press, following an accident to a woman operator who had received injuries to the index finger of her right hand. Evidence was given that, while feeding the press, using a pair of tweezers, the tweezers slipped, the operator lost her balance, and pressed the pedal operating the plunger. The dies in the press were not guarded, and if an efficient guard had been fitted the accident could not have occurred.

The defence relied upon sub-section (1) (d) of section 10 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, that is—“All fencing must be constantly maintained in an efficient state while the parts required to be fenced are in motion or use, except where they are under repair or under examination in connection with repair. . . .” It was contended that the prosecution had not shown that the machine was in motion or use, and the Bench dismissed the case, on the grounds that the evidence was insufficient to justify conviction. Notice of appeal was lodged.

The High Court on 10th December, 1935, allowed the appeal, and remitted the case to the magistrates with a direction to convict. In the judgment the Lord Chief Justice said that in his opinion the section equally contemplates that danger may arise where the machine, although not at the moment in motion, is in use, and that this was such a case. “Clearly the press was in use. What happened? The tweezers slipped, she lost her balance, her foot hit the pedal, and then at once the press and tool were in motion. Having been in use, it then came to be in motion.”

The case was re-heard at Brentford Police Court on 28th February, 1936, when a fine of £5, with 10s. 6d. costs, was imposed.—Gourley v. Trico Folberth, Ltd. King's Bench Division (Divisional Court). 10th December, 1935.

Trade Boards Acts, 1909-1918.

MILK DISTRIBUTIVE TRADE (ENGLAND AND WALES).

A company and their agent, each charged with underpaying eight male workers, were fined £2 on each charge, viz. £32 in all. The agent was also fined £2 in respect of a charge of producing a false wages record. Five guineas costs were awarded.—Rex v. Dorset Dairies Direct Milk Supply Company, Limited, and Percy Cave Tory, as agent. Poole Police Court. 20th February, 5th March, and 11th March, 1936.

An employer and his agent, prosecuted for underpaying two male workers and on two charges of failing to keep adequate records, pleaded guilty, and were each fined £2 on each underpayment charge, and £1 on each records charge, viz., £12 fines in all.—Rex v. Tom Percy Flower and John Thomas Flower. Leicester Police Court. 25th March, 1936.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE.

REDUCTION IN RATES OF CONTRIBUTION.

The issue of this GAZETTE for March, 1936 (pages 84-5) contained a summary of the Report of the Unemployment Insurance Statutory Committee on the financial condition of the Unemployment Fund at 31st December, 1935. The majority of the Committee recommended in that Report a reduction in the weekly rates of unemployment insurance contribution, for men and women aged 18 and upwards, by one penny for each party: employer, employed person, and the State.

The Minister of Labour accepted this recommendation of the Committee, and submitted to both Houses of Parliament a draft Order, embodying the Committee's recommendation. The draft Order was approved by the House of Lords on 2nd April, and by the House of Commons on 8th April. The Order* has now been made by the Minister, and is to come into force on 6th July, 1936.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE STATUTORY COMMITTEE.

REPORT ON DRAFT REGULATIONS.

TEN sets of draft Regulations were, as stated in the February issue of this GAZETTE (page 75), referred to the Unemployment Insurance Statutory Committee under section 104 of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1935. These draft Regulations were:—

The Unemployment Insurance (Contributions) Regulations, 1936.

The Unemployment Insurance (Employment outside the United Kingdom) Regulations, 1936.

The Unemployment Insurance (Mercantile Marine Exclusion) Regulations, 1936.

The Unemployment Insurance (Employment under Public or Local Authorities and Temporary Police Employment) (Exclusion) Regulations, 1936.

The Unemployment Insurance (Benefit) Regulations, 1936.

The Unemployment Insurance (Special Arrangements) Regulations, 1936.

The Unemployment Insurance (Courts of Referees) Regulations, 1936.

The Unemployment Insurance (Determination of Questions) Regulations, 1936.

The Unemployment Insurance (Payment of Travelling Expenses) Regulations, 1936.

The Unemployment Insurance (Education Authorities Administrative and Choice of Employment Expenses) Regulations, 1936.

The Report of the Statutory Committee on these draft Regulations has now been published.†

The main purpose of the Regulations is to consolidate Regulations relating to unemployment insurance made under enactments which have been superseded by the consolidation Act, namely, the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1935. The Committee point out that most of the Regulations now in force under that Act were made under earlier Acts, and with reference to the provisions of those Acts, and that the existence of a large number of Regulations made under legislation which has been superseded leads to confusion, and causes inconvenience when amending Regulations require to be drafted. Accordingly the draft Regulations consolidate all the important Regulations relating to unemployment insurance, and the result will be to replace thirty-seven sets of Regulations by ten sets. The opportunity has been taken to make a few minor changes in the Regulations, and a number of drafting amendments have been introduced for the purpose of clarifying their purport. The material changes introduced by the draft Regulations are set forth in the Report.

The Statutory Committee are of opinion that the Regulations should be made in the form in which they have been submitted to them, subject to two amendments of a drafting character.

All the Regulations set out above, with the exception of the Determination of Questions Regulations, have now been made in the form recommended by the Statutory Committee, and with effect from 9th April, 1936. In connection therewith the Minister has also made, under section 118 of the Education Act, 1921, the Local Education Authorities (Choice of Employment Grant Revocation) Regulations, 1936, with effect from the same date.

DECISIONS GIVEN BY THE UMPIRE.

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

The following recent decision is of general interest:—

* *The Unemployment Insurance (Reduction in Weekly Rates of Contributions) Order, 1936.* H.M. Stationery Office: price 1d. net (1d. post free).

† H.M. Stationery Office: price 2d. net (2d. post free).

‡ Selected decisions of the Umpire are published: (i) in monthly pamphlets—U.I. Code 8b. (The latest pamphlet is that for February, 1936, price 2d. net; the pamphlets are also obtainable by annual subscription of 2s. 6d. net); (ii) in annual volumes (the latest volume is that for 1934, price 3s. net); (iii) in the following special volumes:—(a) U.I. Code 8, containing specially selected decisions prior to 19th April, 1928 (price 15s. net); (b) U.I. Code 8a, 1930 (price 8s. net); and (c) U.I. Code 8c, containing selected decisions from 13th March, 1930, to 31st December, 1934.

An analytical guide to Umpire's decisions (U.I. Code 7) has also been published, but this guide is under revision. Part IV (Anomalies Regulations) of the revised guide was issued in July, 1935 (price 6d. net), and Amendment No. 1 in October, 1935 (price 3d. net).

Case No. 1586/36. (6.3.36).

SECTION 35 (5) OF THE UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACT, 1935.—WHETHER UNEMPLOYED—ADDITIONAL OCCUPATION—CLAIMANT EMPLOYED AS CLERK IN H.M. FORCES AND REGISTERED AS CLERK ON LEAVING THE ARMY—SUBSEQUENTLY HAD TWELVE MONTHS' EMPLOYMENT AS LABOUR MASTER, WHICH WAS UNDERTAKEN ONLY AS A "STOP-GAP."—"USUAL EMPLOYMENT" HELD TO BE THAT OF CLERK.

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

Decision.—"On the facts before me my decision is that the claimant may be deemed to be unemployed (when not employed otherwise than as a part-time telephonist) in any week in which the daily average of the remuneration which he receives from such employment does not exceed 3s. 4d.

"The claimant, who is 39 years of age, served for 18 years in the Army at what is described as 'headquarters' record.' For the last eleven years of his service he was employed as a clerk. He is registered at the Employment Exchange for the occupation of a clerk.

"On his discharge from the Army (I am not told how soon thereafter), he obtained employment as a labour master under a County Council, which he retained for the space of a year. On losing that employment he became a part-time telephonist; the engagement and duties of which are described in Decision 16722/31*.

"The question which has arisen is whether the claimant, when not employed otherwise than as a part-time telephonist, can, by virtue of section 35(5) of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1935, be deemed to be unemployed.

"It is not disputed that, if the claimant's 'usual employment, must be held to be that of a labour master, the occupation of a part-time telephonist could not ordinarily have been followed by him in addition to his usual employment and outside the ordinary working hours of that employment.

"The occupation of a part-time telephonist could ordinarily have been followed in addition to, and outside the ordinary working hours of, a clerk in civilian employment.

"The fact that the claimant is registered at the Employment Exchange for employment as a clerk does not of itself render employment as such the claimant's usual employment (Decision 6865/30†).

"The Court of Referees, applying Decision 12026/32,‡ has found that the claimant's usual employment must be held to be that of a labour master; and so the claimant is not entitled to receive benefit while he is following the occupation of a part-time telephonist.

"It appears from the grounds on which the chairman of the Court of Referees gave the claimant leave to appeal that the Court would not have found as it did had it not felt constrained to do so on the authority of Decision 12026/32.

"There is a later case (9268/34), of which neither the Insurance Officer who disallowed the claim in the first instance, nor the Court of Referees who disallowed it subsequently, would be aware, as it has not been reported.

"The claimant in that case, before joining the Army, had been employed as a grocer's assistant, and subsequently he had followed the occupation of a farmer in Australia. He then joined the Army, in which he served for seven years, during which time he was employed as a general clerk. On re-entering civil life he registered at the Employment Exchange for employment as a clerk, but he had never been so employed except when he was in the Army. The question which arose in that case was whether the claimant could be said to have any 'usual employment' to which evening employment as a cinematograph theatre attendant could be said to be additional, and it was held that his 'usual employment' was that of a clerk.

"In the decision in that case it is said 'Decision 12026/32, which no doubt raised the doubt in the mind of the Insurance Officer, applies to members of H.M. Forces who served in the combatant ranks or were employed in the Army in a military occupation which has not its counterpart in civil employment. Where, as in this case, the claimant was employed when in the Army in clerical work, which I assume was of a similar nature to the work performed by clerks in civil employment, and leaving the Army he registers for employment as a clerk, his 'usual employment' for the purposes of applying the provisions of section 7(2) (a) of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920, is, in my view, that of a clerk. The hours during which the claimant was employed as a clerk in the Army appear to start and finish each day rather earlier than they do in similar employment in civil life. Whether employed as a clerk either in a civil or a military capacity the hours of the claimant's employment would not clash with his hours of attendance at the theatre.

"That case differs from the present case, as the claimant, whose appeal is under consideration, has been employed since his discharge from the Army in employment other than clerical for a substantial period. He says that his employment as a labour master was purely 'stop-gap' employment until he could obtain something better; and the fact that he is registered for employment as a clerk tends to bear this out.

"A claimant's last employment is not necessarily his 'usual employment' (see Decisions 6397§ and 7502/30), and the circumstances in which employment has been undertaken are material matters for consideration on the question of 'usual employment' (Decision 5599/29).¶

"Having regard to all the facts of this case, and applying the principle of Decision 9268/34, the claimant's usual employment may be said to be that of a clerk, as I am inclined to think that his statement with regard to his employment as a labour master being 'stop-

* See Vol. X. Umpire's Selected Decisions, p. 168 (Pamphlet No. 8/1931).

† Not reported.

‡ See Vol. XI. Umpire's Selected Decisions, p. 83 (Pamphlet No. 5/1932).

§ See Vol. III. Umpire's Selected Decisions (Pamphlet No. 33).

¶ See Vol. IX. Umpire's Selected Decisions p. 93 (Pamphlet No. 7/1930).

¶ See Vol. VIII. Umpire's Selected Decisions p. 207 (Pamphlet No. 8/1929).

gap' employment is accurate, and that he intended to follow in civil life the occupation which he had followed when in the Army, and for which he possessed qualifications.

"As the occupation of a part-time telephonist could ordinarily have been followed by the claimant in addition to, and outside the ordinary working hours of, his employment as a clerk, he may be deemed to be unemployed (when not employed otherwise than as a part-time telephonist) in any week in which his remuneration does not exceed 3s. 4d. on the daily average; such daily average to be computed in the manner stated in Decision 16722/31."

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

Recent Proceedings.

INDUSTRIAL COURT DECISIONS.

RAILWAY SHOPMEN—JOINERS, SCAFFOLDERS, PLUMBERS AND LABOURERS: LONDON, MIDLAND AND SCOTTISH RAILWAY.—The National Union of Railwaymen asked the Court to decide, as a matter of interpretation of Award No. 728, whether certain joiners, scaffolders, plumbers and labourers employed on Crewe station roof, during the period 12th February to 19th May, 1934, were entitled to an allowance, under condition 11 of schedule F to Award No. 728, in respect of the dirty nature of their work. The Court decided that no extra payment falls to be made.—*Award No. 1643; dated 2nd March, 1936.*

RAILWAY SHOPMEN—CASEHARDENERS: LONDON, MIDLAND AND SCOTTISH RAILWAY, DERBY.—The National Union of Railwaymen asked the Court to decide, as a matter of interpretation of Award No. 728, the rate of pay proper to be paid for hours worked in excess of the standard week of 47 hours by casehardeners employed in the chief mechanical engineer's department of the London, Midland and Scottish Railway Company at Derby. The men concerned are employed on a three-shift system, and work in any one week either for six shifts of eight hours each, making a total of 48 hours, or for seven shifts of eight hours each, making a total of 56 hours. The difference between the parties concerned the payment for the seven-shift week, which occurs three weeks out of five. The Court ruled that the rates of payment for the hours worked over and above the standard week of 47 hours provided for in condition 1 of schedule F to Award No. 728, depends upon whether they are hours worked on Sundays or on week-days. In the present case eight of the nine hours worked in excess of the 47 hours standard week were worked on Sunday, and fall to be paid for at the Sunday rate, the remaining hour having been worked on week-days falls to be paid for at the appropriate overtime rate.—*Award No. 1644; dated 4th March, 1936.*

ASSISTANT SURVEYORS (QUANTITY): H.M. OFFICE OF WORKS.—The Association of Ex-Service Civil Servants claimed that the salary scale of assistant surveyors (quantity) employed in H.M. Office of Works should be increased from £337 rising by £18 to £575, to £635 rising by £25 to £847. The Court decided against the claim.—*Award No. 1645; dated 27th March, 1936.*

ASSISTANT INSPECTORS: MINISTRY OF HEALTH.—The staff side of the Ministry of Health Departmental Whitley Council claimed that the salary scale of assistant inspectors on the outdoor staff of the Ministry of Health should be increased from £152 rising by £12 to £188 rising by £18 to £515, to £180 rising by £15 to £210 rising by £20 to £575. A proportionate increase was claimed in the women's scale. The Court decided against the claim.—*Award No. 1646; dated 31st March, 1936.*

DEPARTMENTAL THIRD CLASS OFFICERS: MINISTRY OF LABOUR.—The staff side of the Ministry of Labour Departmental Whitley Council claimed that the salary scale of departmental third class officers should be increased from £277 16s. rising by £18 to £515 18s., to £397 rising by £18 to £635, for officers entering the grade otherwise than by open competition, and from £215 3s. on appointment, and after two years £277 16s. rising by £18 to £515 18s., to £250 rising by £18 to £635, for officers entering the grade by open competition. A proportionate increase was claimed in the women's scale. The Court awarded that the scale of pay of third class officers entering the grade otherwise than by open competition should be £282 rising by £18 to £552, and for entrants to the grade by open competition £220, on appointment, rising after two years to the scale £282 rising by £18 to £552; the scale for women to be adjusted accordingly.—*Award No. 1647; dated 31st March, 1936.*

CONCILIATORS, SINGLE ARBITRATORS AND
AD HOC BOARDS OF ARBITRATION
APPOINTED BY THE MINISTER OF LABOUR.

CUMBERLAND COKE TRADE.—The Cumberland Coke Trade Conciliation Board having failed to reach agreement upon an application by the workmen's side of the Board that the employees at the coke and by-product plants in the Cumberland district should be granted the increases recently paid locally to colliery workers, the matter was referred to arbitration in accordance with the rules of the Board, and Mr. W. H. Stoker, K.C., was appointed under the Industrial Courts Act, 1919, to act as arbitrator. The application was based on the national settlement of certain differences between the Mine-workers' Federation and the Coal Owners' Association which resulted in agreement being reached on 23rd January, 1936, for a general advance in wages to workers employed in the coal mining industry, varying in districts according to the owners' offers in such districts. The 1910 rules of the Conciliation Board provided that

the flat rates for the coke workers as well as the percentages paid on the standard wages should follow those paid to the coal miners. In 1918 the Conciliation Board approved and adopted a rule which provided that general advances and reductions in the percentages paid on the standard wages of coke workmen were to be of the same amounts, and to come into operation on the same dates, as those affecting the wages of miners; but questions of a general adjustment of standard wages or conditions of employment were to be dealt with by the Conciliation Board. The Award states that since 1918 various applications, in some cases successful, have been made by the coke workers to the coke owners for increases in basic wages on the grounds of increased prosperity or ability of the coke owners to pay higher wages to the coke workers. Parity with the colliery workers has therefore been disturbed at the instance of the coke workers themselves, and the present position is that, while the coke workers' percentages follow the miners' percentages, their basic wages are as agreed or determined from time to time by the Coke Conciliation Board or by arbitration under its rules. After examination of the considerations underlying the national settlement for the coal mines and the present position of the coke trade in Cumberland, Mr. Stoker determined that the claim as made had not been established.

TRADE BOARDS ACTS.

Orders, Notices, etc., Recently Issued.

NOTICE OF PROPOSAL.

Laundry Trade Board (Great Britain).

PROPOSAL W (22), dated 18th March, 1936, to vary certain overtime rates of wages for male and female workers.
Objection period expires 10th May, 1936.

OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

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

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONFERENCE.—*Proposed action by His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland regarding various Draft Conventions and Recommendations.* [Cmd. 5141; price 1d.] See page 127 of this GAZETTE.

JUVENILE EMPLOYMENT.—*First Annual Report, 1935, of the London Regional Advisory Council.* Ministry of Labour. [S.O. publication; price 3d.]

MINING.—(i) *Coal mining industry. Statistical summary of output, and of the cost of production, proceeds and profits of the coal mining industry for the quarter ended 31st December, 1935.* Mines Department. [Cmd. 5138; price 1d.] (ii) *Coal mining industry. Annual statistical summary for the year ended 31st December, 1935.* Mines Department. [Cmd. 5142; price 1d.]

POOR RELIEF.—*Statement showing the number of persons in receipt of poor relief in England and Wales in the quarter ending in December, 1935, with some particulars as to the number of "unemployed" persons in receipt of such relief.* Ministry of Health. [S.O. publication; price 6d.] See page 150 of this GAZETTE.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE.—*Unemployment Insurance Act, 1935.* (i) *Draft Unemployment Insurance (Reduction in weekly rates of contributions) Order, 1936, to be made by the Minister of Labour under Section 59 of the Act.* Ministry of Labour. [H.C. 67; price 1d.] See page 152 of this GAZETTE. (ii) *Report of the Unemployment Insurance Statutory Committee, in accordance with Section 57 (1) of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1935, on remuneration limit for insurance of non-manual workers.* Ministry of Labour. [S.O. publication; price 6d.] See page 120 of this GAZETTE. (iii) *Report of the Unemployment Insurance Statutory Committee, in accordance with Section 104 (5) of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1935, on certain Draft Regulations.* Ministry of Labour. [S.O. publication; price 2d.] See page 152 of this GAZETTE. (iv) *Selected decisions given by the Umpire on claims for benefit during the month of February, 1936.* U.I. Code 8b. Pamphlet No. 1, 1936. Ministry of Labour. [S.O. publication; price 2d.]

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS.

LIST OF NEW CONTRACTS, MARCH, 1936.

ADMIRALTY.

Air Compressing Equipment: Peter Brotherhood, Ltd., Peterborough
Sub-Contractors for Electrical Equipment: W. H. Allen Sons & Co., Ltd., Bedford.—**Alternators, Motor Generator, etc.,** Small Electric Motors, Ltd., Beckenham.—**Amplifiers, thread recorders, etc.:** Aeronautical & General Instruments, Ltd., Croydon.—**Apparatus for Testing Circuits:** Gambrells Rowse & Snoaden, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Asbestos Cement Sheets:** Atlas Stone Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Barges, Motor:** British Power Boat Co., Hythe, Southampton.—**Bells, Buzzers, etc.:** Bonnell Bros., Ltd., London, W.C.; Chadburns Ship Telegraph Co., Ltd., Bootle, Lancashire; A. Graham & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; Wm. McGeoch & Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Engineering & Lighting Equipment Co., Ltd., St. Albans.—**Belting, Leather:** George Angus & Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne; James Lee & Sons (Hipperholme), Ltd., Hipperholme; S. E. Norris & Co., Ltd., Dagenham; W. & J. Richardson, Derby.—**Blocks, Oak Dock:** H. Longley & Sons, Ltd., East Grinstead; A. Turner & Son, Ltd., Lewes; Darby Bros., Beccles; F. Davis & Co., Ashford, Kent; J. Stenning &

Sons, Ltd., East Grinstead.—**Blue Cloth** : H. Booth & Sons, Ltd., Gildersome; A. W. Hainsworth & Sons, Ltd., Farsley; J. Hainsworth & Sons, Farsley; J. Hoyle & Son, Ltd., Longwood; W. & T. Huggan, Ltd., Bramley; W. Lupton & Co., Ltd., Pudsey & Leeds.—**Bolts, N.B., Nuts and Studs** : Thos. Eaves, Ltd., Birmingham; I.C.I. Metals, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Boats' Pumps** : Sir J. Laing & Sons, Ltd., Sunderland.—**Boxes, Float** : Brownlee & Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—**Boxes, Junction, Switches, etc.** : Laurence Scott & Electromotors, Ltd., Norwich; L. Weekes (Luton), Ltd., Luton; Whipp & Bourne, Ltd., Castleton; Engineering & Lighting Equipment Co., Ltd., St. Albans; General Electric Co., Ltd., Salford; Wm. McGeoch & Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Branch Breakers** : Whipp & Bourne, Ltd., Castleton.—**Bricks** : Colthurst, Symons & Co., Ltd., Bridgwater.—**Bunting** : Wm. Bancroft & Sons of Halifax, Ltd., Halifax; A. J. Holcroft & Son, Ltd., Halifax.—**Buoys, Light** : Gas Accumulator Co. (United Kingdom), Ltd., Brentford.—**Buoys, Life** : Speedings, Ltd., Sunderland; J. C. F. Milree & Co., Glasgow; Adam & Lane & Neeve, London, E.—**Cable, Electric** : Anchor Cable Co., Ltd., Leigh, Lancashire; British Insulated Cables, Ltd., Helsby; Connollys (Blackley), Ltd., Manchester; Edison Swan Cables, Ltd., Lydbrook; Enfield Cable Works, Ltd., Brimsdown; General Electric Co., Ltd., Southampton; Henleys Telegraph Works, Co., Ltd., London, E.; Hoopers Telegraph & India Rubber Works, Ltd., London, E.; Johnson & Phillips, Ltd., London, S.E.; Macintosh Cable Co., Ltd., Derby; Pirelli General Cable Works, Ltd., Southampton; Siemens Electric Lamps & Supplies, Ltd., London, S.E.; St. Helens Cable & Rubber Co., Ltd., Slough; Standard Telephones & Cables, Ltd., London, E.—**Candles** : Price's Patent Candle Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Cap Covers, Marcelline** : Hobson & Sons (London), Ltd., London, S.E.—**Cases, Suit, Canvas** : French, Ltd., London, E.; W. Wood & Son, Ltd., London, W.—**Castings, Iron (throat clamps and thimbles)** : Bradley Turton & Co., Ltd., Kidderminster; Babcock & Wilcox, Ltd., Renfrew; John Varley, Ltd., St. Helens, Lancs.—**Chain Cable & Gear, Admiralty Quality** : Brown, Lenox & Co., Ltd., Pontypriid; Fellows Bros., Ltd., Cradley Heath; Laird & Son, Ltd., Irvine; H. Wood & Co., Ltd., Saltney; Woodhouse Bros., Cradley Heath.—**Chain Cable, Merchant Quality** : N. Bloomer & Sons, Ltd., Brierley Hill; N. Hingley & Sons, Ltd., Netherpton; Woodhouse Bros., Cradley Heath; J. Wright & Co., Ltd., Tipton.—**Chain Cable and Gear, Forged Steel** : Samuel Taylor & Sons (Brierley Hill), Ltd., Brierley Hill.—**Clocks** : Smith's English Clocks, Ltd., London, N.W.; Stockall, Marples & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Cocks, Gunmetal, Steam** : W. N. Baines & Co., Ltd., Rotherham; J. Blakeborough & Sons, Ltd., Brighouse; Peter Brotherhood, Ltd., Peterborough; Hayward-Tyler & Co., Ltd., Luton; Sir J. Laing & Sons, Ltd., Sunderland; Shiphart & Co., Ltd., Hull; M. W. Swinburne & Sons, Ltd., Walsend; T. Wilson & Sons (Swalwell), Ltd., Swalwell; L. Herve, Ltd., London, E.C.; British Oxygen Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Coffee** : Appleton, Machin & Smiles, Ltd., London, E.C.; Lambert & Son, London, E.—**Collars, Soft and Stiff** : E. W. Seward & Co., Ltd., Gloucester.—**Compensating Gear, Spring Loaded** : Clarke Chapman & Co., Ltd., Gateshead.—**Compressors, H.P. Air** : G. & J. Weir, Ltd., Glasgow. Sub-Contractors for Motors. Laurence Scott & Electromotors, Ltd., Norwich. Sub-Contractors for Pumps. Drysdale & Co., Ltd., Glasgow. Sub-Contractors for Cooling Tower. Visco Engineering Co., Ltd., Croydon.—**Reavell & Co., Ltd., Ipswich.**—**Condensers W/T** : Dubilier Condenser Co. (1925), Ltd., London, W.—**Cooking Apparatus** : Henry Wilson & Co., Ltd., Liverpool.—**Copper Brass and Bronze—Sheets, Bars, etc.** : Aston Chain & Hook Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Thos. Bolton & Sons, Ltd., Froghall and Oakmoor; Jas. Booth & Co. (1915), Ltd., Birmingham; Broughton Copper Co., Ltd., Birmingham; C. Clifford & Son, Ltd., Birmingham; I.C.I. Metals, Ltd., Birmingham; Manganese Bronze & Brass Co., Ltd., Ipswich; P. H. Muntz & Co., Ltd., West Bromwich; Vickers-Armstrongs, Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne; J. Wilkes Sons & Mapplebeck, Ltd., Birmingham; Delta Metal Co., Ltd., Birmingham and London, S.E. Enfield Rolling Mills, Ltd., Brimsdown.—**Counterpanes & Coverlets**, Barlow & Jones, Ltd., Bolton; Quilt Manufacturers, Ltd., Bolton.—**Cranes, Steam Travelling** : Cowans Sheldon & Co., Ltd., Carlisle. Sub-Contractors for Boilers. Clayton, Son & Co., Ltd., Hunslet.—**Cutlery (ordinary)** : John Clarke & Son, Ltd., Sheffield; Elkington & Co., Ltd., Birmingham; H. Gill & Co., Sheffield; Ralph Hawley & Sons, Sheffield; Harrison Bros. & Howson, Sheffield; W. R. Humphreys & Co., Ltd., Sheffield; Mappin & Webb, Ltd., Sheffield; Needham Veall & Tyzack, Ltd., Sheffield; J. H. Potter & Sons, Ltd., Sheffield; Sheffield Steel Products, Ltd., Sheffield; Walker & Hall, Ltd., Sheffield.—**Cylinders, Acetylene Gas** : British Oxygen Co., Ltd., London, N.W.—**Dials, Slow Motion** : Aeronautical & General Instruments, Ltd., Croydon.—**Disinfectors, Steam** : Aveling-Barford, Ltd., Grantham.—**Distilling Machinery** : Buckley & Taylor, Ltd., Oldham; Caird & Rayner, Ltd., London, E.—**Drawers, Wool and Cotton** : Nottingham Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Loughborough.—**Drill, Satin** : Howe & Coates, Ltd., Manchester; Ashton Bros. & Co., Ltd., Hyde, Cheshire; Joshua Hoyle & Sons, Ltd., Summarseat.—**Drilling Plant** : Ingersoll-Rand Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Drums, Steel** : Baldwins, Ltd., London, W.C.; F. Francis & Sons, Ltd., London, S.E.; Reads, Ltd., Liverpool; Drums, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Fenders, Hazel Rod** : T. Black & Sons (Greenock), Ltd., Greenock; T. Benjamin & Co., Liverpool; R. Charnley & Son, Ulverton.—**Fire Extinguishers** : Pyrene Company, Ltd., Brentford.—**Firehearth Gear** : Carron Company, Falkirk; Wm. Green & Co. (Ecclesfield), Ltd., Ecclesfield; Moorwoods, Ltd., Sheffield; H. Wilson & Co., Ltd., Liverpool; Smith & Wellstood, Ltd., Bonnybridge.—**Firehearth, Oil Fired** : Henry Wilson & Co., Ltd., Liverpool.—**Fittings, Electric Light** : Engineering & Lighting Equipment Co., Ltd., St. Albans; Fairless Engineering Supplies, Ltd., Stockton-on-Tees; Gabriel & Co., Ltd., Birmingham; General Electric Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Wm. McGeoch & Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Player, Mitchell & Breeden, Ltd., Birmingham; Rainsford & Lynes, Ltd., Birmingham; Revo Electric Co., Ltd., Tipton; Sperry & Co., Birmingham; Telford, Grier, Mackay & Co., Ltd., Glasgow;

Veritys, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Fittings, Aerial** : Lightalloys, Ltd., London, N.W.; J. Stone & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Flags** : Adam & Lane & Neeve, Ltd., London, E.; J. W. Plant & Co., Ltd., Leeds; E. Riley & Co., Ltd., Leeds; Walter Cockshaw, Ltd., Leeds; Speedings, Ltd., Sunderland; Livett Frank & Son, Ltd., London, E.—**Frocks, Woollen** : S. D. Stretton & Sons, Ltd., Leicester.—**Fuseboards, etc., W/T** : Small Electric Motors, Ltd., Beckenham.—**Fuses, Electrical** : Engineering & Lighting Equipment Co., Ltd., St. Albans; Reliable Engineering Co., Birmingham.—**Fuseholders, Fuse elements, etc.** : L. Weekes (Luton), Ltd., Luton; Wm. McGeoch & Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Parmiter Hope & Sugden, Ltd., Manchester; Engineering & Lighting Equipment Co., Ltd., St. Albans; Dorman & Smith, Ltd., Salford; Bertram Thomas, Manchester.—**Generators, Motor** : Newton Bros. (Derby), Ltd., Derby.—**Gloves, Leather** : E. & W. C. French, Ltd., Taunton; G. Waddington & Son, Ltd., Hull; Chas. Ockwell & Co., Cricklade; A. Bailey & Co., Ltd., Glastonbury; North of England Chamois Co., Ltd., Barnard Castle; J. S. Deed & Sons, Ltd., Mitham.—**Grinding Machine, Motor-driven Universal** : Churchill Machine Tool Co., Ltd., Manchester. Sub-Contractors for Motor. Metropolitan Vickers Electrical Co., Ltd., Manchester. Sub-Contractors for Control Gear. Brookhirst Switchgear, Ltd., Chester.—**Grinding Machine, Surface** : Snow & Co., Ltd., Sheffield.—**Gromets, etc.** : Bodill Parker (1922), Ltd., Birmingham; H. Hipkiss & Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Ross Courtney & Co., London, N.—**Gymnastic Apparatus, etc.** : Frank Bryan, Ltd., London, S.E.; Wilkinson Sword Co., Ltd., London, S.W.; Stuart Surridge & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; Geo. MacLellan & Co., Ltd., Glasgow; T. Smith, London, W.C.; Spencer, Heath & George, Ltd., Ponders End; Blackman Leather Goods Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; W. M. Maddox & Co., London, S.E.—**Hacksaw Blades, Hand** : A. Balfour & Co. (Sheffield), Sheffield; Hacksaws, Ltd., Sheffield; James Neill & Co. (Sheffield), Ltd., Sheffield.—**Handkerchiefs, White Cotton** : J. H. Greenhow & Co., Ltd., Manchester; Rylands & Sons, Ltd., Heapey.—**Heating Equipment, Steam** : Sturtevant Engineering Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Helmets, Wolsley Pattern** : J. Compton Sons & Webb, Ltd., London, E.—**Herrings, Tinned** : C. & E. Morton, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Hides and Leather** : Fleming Birkby & Goodall, Ltd., Halifax; Barrow Hepburn & Gale, Ltd., London, S.E.; Barrowhead Leather Co., Ltd., Glasgow; Highfield Tanning Co., Ltd., Cheshire; S. E. Norris & Co., Ltd., Dagenham; W. & A. J. Turner, Ltd., Ipswich; W. Walker & Sons, Ltd., Bolton; Bryant & Co., London, S.E.; George Angus & Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne.—**Hides, Upholstery** : Connolly Bros. (Curriers), Ltd., London, S.W. and N.; John T. Hart & Sons, Walsall.—**Hose Fittings** : Dodd & Oulton, Ltd., Liverpool; Highton & Sons, Ltd., London, E.; A. Kenrick & Sons, Ltd., West Bromwich; Nunan & Stove, Ltd., Manchester; J. Stone, & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; T. Wilson & Son (Swalwell), Ltd., Swalwell.—**Ingots, Virgin Aluminium** : British Aluminium Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Ingot, Tin, Copper Cathodes** : H. Gardner & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; Vivian Younger & Bond, Ltd., Liverpool.—**Installations, Electrical** : G. E. Taylor & Co., London, E.C.—**Insulators, Glass** : James A. Jobling & Co., Ltd., Sunderland.—**Iron Plate Workers' Wares** : W. B. Bawn & Co., Ltd., London, E.; S. W. Bullas & Sons, Ltd., Cradley Heath; Evenson Bros. (1928), Ltd., Lye; S. J. & E. Fellows, Ltd., Wolverhampton; Froggatt & Tyler, Ltd., Bilston; T. Marshall & Son, Ltd., Leeds; Mechans, Ltd., Glasgow; National Galvanisers, Ltd., Sunderland; Pratt Bros., Ltd., Birmingham; Suttons Holloware Co., Ltd., Stourbridge; Sargeant Turner & Sons, Ltd., Lye.—**Iron, Pig** : Sir W. G. Armstrong Whitworth (Ironfounders), Ltd., Gateshead; W. Baird & Co., Ltd., Glasgow; W. Jacks & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; Stanton Ironworks Co., Ltd., Nottingham; Staveley Coal and Iron Co., Ltd., Chesterfield.—**Jams** : Crosbie's Pure Food Co., Ltd., Southall; J. Keiller & Sons, Ltd., London, W.; C. & E. Morton, Ltd., London, E.C.; St. Martin's Preserving Co., Slough.—**Jerseys, Woollen, Navy Blue** : D. Payne & Sons, Ltd., Leicester.—**Kites** : W. Brooke & Co., London, W.—**Knives, Clasp** : Joseph Allen & Sons, Sheffield.—**Lace, Gold** : Stephen Simpson, Preston, Lancs.—**Lamps, Electric Incandescent** : General Electric Co., Ltd., London, W. Wembley, Lemington and Chesterfield.—**Lamps, Searchlight** : Clarke, Chapman & Co., Ltd., Gateshead.—**Lampholders, etc.** : General Electric Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Sperry & Co., Birmingham; Samuel Heath & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham; Wm. McGeoch & Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Player, Mitchell & Breeden, Birmingham; Kersons Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Revo Electric Co., Ltd., Tipton.—**Lanterns** : Engineering & Lighting Equipment Co., Ltd., St. Albans; Player, Mitchell & Breeden, Birmingham; Telford, Grier Mackay & Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—**Lead Sheet and Pipe** : Locke, Lancaster & W. W. & R. Johnson & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.; British Lead Mills, Ltd., Welwyn Garden City.—**Leather Cloth, White** : J. Williamson & Son, Ltd., Lancaster.—**Lathes, Motor-driven, Surfacing and Boring** : John Lang & Sons, Ltd., Johnstone. Sub-Contractors for Motors. Lancashire Dynamo & Crypto, Ltd., Manchester. Sub-Contractors for Control Gear. Allen West & Co., Ltd., Brighton.—**Lathe** : Ward Haggas & Smith, Keighley.—**Lift, Electric** : Wm. Wadsworth & Sons, Ltd., Bolton, Lancs.—**Lime Juice** : L. Rose & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Linoleum** : Barry, Ostlere & Shepherd, Ltd., Kirkcaldy; Michael Nairn & Co., Ltd., Kirkcaldy; Linoleum Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Staines.—**Locks and Lock Furniture** : Banks & Rushton, Willenhall; J. & E. Bates & Sons, Ltd., Wolverhampton; J. Parkes & Sons, Ltd., Willenhall; W. M. Pinson & Son, Willenhall; Walsall Locks & Cart Gear, Ltd., Walsall.—**Machining Propeller Shaft** : Vickers-Armstrong, Ltd., Barrow.—**Measuring Gear, Taut Wire** : Telegraph Construction & Maintenance Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Milk, Unsweetened Condensed** : Nestle's Milk Products, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Milling Machines** : Alfred Herbert, Ltd., Coventry; J. Parkinson & Son, Shipley, Yorks. Sub-Contractors for Motors. English Electric Co., Ltd., Bradford. Sub-Contractors for Control Gear. Electrical Apparatus Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Milling Machine, Double Spindle Profile** : Greenwood & Batley, Ltd., Leeds. Sub-Contractors for Control Gear. Allen West & Co., Ltd., Brighton.—**Motors, Electric** : General Electric

Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Laurence Scott & Co., Ltd., Norwich; Small Electric Motors, Ltd., Beckenham.—**Oil Fuel Tanks, Supply and Erection of** : Sir Wm. Arrol & Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—**Oil Paste, Oxide of Iron** : Golden Valley Ochre & Oxide Co., Ltd., Wick, Bristol; J. Kirkaldy & Son, Ltd., London, E.—**Oil Paste, White Oxide of Zinc** : Burrell & Co., Ltd., London, E.; Camrex Paint Products, Co., Sunderland; Dixon's White, Ltd., London, E.; J. Kirkaldy & Son, Ltd., London, E.—**Oil Paste, White Lead** : Librex Lead Co., Ltd., Bootle & Mersey White Lead Co., Ltd., Warrington.—**Paper Targets** : J. McQueen & Son, Ltd., Galashiels.—**Picket Boat, Motor** : Vosper & Co., Ltd., Portsmouth.—**Pinnacles, Motor and Pulling** : Sittingbourne Shipbuilding Co., Ltd., Sittingbourne; Taylor & Bates, Ltd., Chertsey.—**Pipes, Steel** : Stewarts & Lloyds, Ltd., Glasgow; Talbot-Stead Tube Co., Ltd., Walsall.—**Pipes, Charging** : Power Flexible Tubing Co., Ltd., London, N.—**Pipes for Air Mains** : Staveley Coal and Iron Co., Ltd., Chesterfield.—**Pipes & Fittings for converting Boilers** : Cochran & Co., Annan, Ltd., Annan.—**Projectors, Signalling** : Metropolitan Vickers Electric Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Projectors, Signalling, Lamps and Shutters** : Sperry Gyroscope Co., Ltd., Brentford.—**Pumps, Sewage** : Blackstone & Co., Ltd., Stamford.—**Railway Material** : Cargo Fleet Iron Co., Ltd., Middlesbrough; R. Hudson, Ltd., Leeds.—**Razors (Hollow Ground)** : Needham Veall & Tyzack, Ltd., Sheffield.—**Rectifier Units, etc.** : Small Electric Motors, Ltd., Beckenham.—**Refrigerators, Domestic Automatic** : J. & E. Hall, Ltd., Dartford.—**Resistances, Welding** : General Electric Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Allen West & Co., Ltd., Brighton.—**Rolling Platform, Motor-driven** : Greenwood & Batley, Ltd., Leeds. Sub-Contractors for Control Gear. Allen West & Co., Ltd., Brighton.—**Sailcloth, Canvas** : Anderson & Chalmers, Arbroath; Baxter Bros. & Co., Ltd., Dundee; Boase Spinning Co. (1920), Ltd., Dundee; British Ropes, Ltd., Leith; Gourcock Ropework Co., Ltd., Port Glasgow; Port Glasgow & Newark Sailcloth Co., Ltd., Port Glasgow; Richards, Ltd., Aberdeen; M. C. Thomson & Co., Ltd., Arbroath; F. Webster & Sons, Ltd., Arbroath.—**Screws, Iron and Steel** : Butler Spragg & Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Thos. Eaves, Ltd., Birmingham; Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham; Charles Richards & Sons, Ltd., Darlaston.—**Screws, Phosphor Bronze** : Thos. Haddon & Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Thos. Eaves, Ltd., Birmingham; Davis & Timmins, Ltd., London, N.; Butler Spragg & Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Sheets, Aluminium** : British Aluminium Co., Ltd., Milton, Staffs or Warrington.—**Sheets, Zinc** : W. Barns & Son, London, N.; Lock Lancaster & W. W. & R. Johnson & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.; London Zinc Mills (1935), Ltd., London, N.—**Shirting, Cotton** : Wm. Cox & Sons, Colne, Lancs.; Dacca Mills Co., Swinton.—**Shirts, Soft, White** : Henry Bannerman & Sons, Ltd., Hale; Holloway Brothers, Ltd., Stroud; McIntyre Hogg Marsh & Co., Ltd., Londonderry.—**Shoes, Canvas, Rubber Sole, White** : North British Rubber Co., Ltd., Edinburgh.—**Skins, Chamois Leather** : Edward Cope & Son, Nuneaton; Chuter & Son, Ltd., London, S.W.; Charles F. Stead & Co., Ltd., Leeds; William J. Turney & Co., Ltd., Stourbridge.—**Soap, Soft** : Hull Oil Manufacturing Co., Hull; Peter Lunt & Co., Ltd., Aintree.—**Socks and Stockings** : M. C. Foister Clay & Ward, Ltd., Manfield and Derby; Towles (1928), Ltd., Sibley; J. Glazebrook & Co., Ltd., Countesthorpe; Hall & Son, Stoke Golding; S. D. Stretton & Sons, Leicester; Alfred Yates & Co., Sibley and Leicester.—**Solder, Silver** : F. Claudet, Ltd., London E.C.; Oakes Turner & Co., Ltd., Sheffield; G. W. Neale, Ltd., London, S.E.; Locke Lancaster & W. W. & R. Johnson & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.; C. Carr, Ltd., Birmingham; Sheldon Bush & Patent Shot Co., Bristol; T. Bolton & Sons, Ltd., Oakmoor.—**Spare Parts for Searchlight Lamps, etc.** : Chadburn's (Ship) Telegraph Co., Ltd., Liverpool; Clarke, Chapman & Co., Ltd., Gateshead.—**Sponge Cloths** : Wild & Co., Heywood; Wm. McCoard & Son, Glasgow.—**Staves and Heads for Barrels and Casks** : W. Ryan & Co., London, E.; J. Waters & Sons, London, E.—**Steel, Bar** : Appleby Frodingham Iron & Steel Co., Ltd., Scunthorpe; Cargo Fleet Iron Co., Ltd., Middlesbrough; Colvilles, Ltd., Glasgow; Steel Co. of Scotland, Ltd., Glasgow; Scottish Iron & Steel Co., Ltd., Glasgow; Consett Iron Co., Ltd., Consett.—**Steel Plates, Chequered** : Guest Keen Baldwins Iron & Steel Co., Ltd., Port Talbot; Consett Iron Co., Ltd., Consett; South Durham Steel & Iron Co., Ltd., Middlesbrough.—**Steel Sections, Rolled** : Appleby Frodingham Iron & Steel Co., Ltd., Scunthorpe; Cargo Fleet Iron Co., Ltd., Middlesbrough; Colvilles, Ltd., Glasgow; Consett Iron Co., Ltd., Consett; Dorman Long & Co., Ltd., Middlesbrough; Earl of Dudley's Round Oak Works, Brierley Hill; Guest Keen Baldwins Iron & Steel Co., Ltd., Port Talbot; Lanarkshire Steel Co., Ltd., Motherwell; Skinningrove Iron Co., Ltd., Saltburn-by-the-Sea; Steel Co. of Scotland, Ltd., Glasgow.—**Steel Ship Plates** : Appleby Frodingham Iron & Steel Co., Ltd., Scunthorpe; Colvilles, Ltd., Glasgow; Consett Iron Co., Ltd., Consett; Dorman Long & Co., Ltd., Middlesbrough; Guest Keen Baldwins Iron & Steel Co., Ltd., Port Talbot; Steel Co. of Scotland, Ltd., Glasgow; Park Gate Iron & Steel Co., Ltd., Rotherham; South Durham Iron & Steel Co., Ltd., Middlesbrough.—**Steering Gear** : Donkin & Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne.—**Sterilisers** : C. H. Blackburn & Co., London, W.C.—**Swimming Bath, Construction of** : Rogers Bros., Ltd., Felixstowe.—**Switches, etc.** : Wm. McGeoch & Co., Ltd., Birmingham; J. A. Crabtree & Co., Ltd., Walsall; Engineering & Lighting Equipment Co., Ltd., St. Albans; General Electric Co., Ltd., Wembley; Player, Mitchell & Breeden, Birmingham.—**Switches, Fuse Release** : General Electric Co., Ltd., Salford; Bertram Thomas, Manchester; Whipp & Bourne, Ltd., Castleton.—**Tallow** : Joseph Crosfield & Sons, Ltd., Warrington.—**Tea, Blended** : J. & I. Batten & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; Brooke Bond & Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Tiles, White, Unglazed** : Campbell Tile Co., Ltd., Stoke-on-Trent; Minton Hollins & Co., Ltd., Stoke-on-Trent; Gibbons Hinton & Co., Ltd., Brierley Hill; Mansfield Bros., Ltd., Church Gresley.—**Timber** : Burt, Boulton & Hayward, Ltd., Totton.—**Timber, English** : East & Son, Ltd., Berkhamsted; E. C. White & Son, Ltd., Basingstoke; G. F. Griffiths,

Totnes; J. Stenning & Son (London), Ltd., London, E.C.; C. R. Claridge & Sons, Ltd., Exeter.—**Tins for Liquid Metal Polish** : Reckitt & Sons, Ltd., Hull.—**Tools, Lancashire** : John Berry, Widnes; H. Brindley, Birmingham; Moore & Wright (Sheffield), Ltd., Sheffield; Thomas Newey & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham; G. Plumpton & Co., Birmingham; Peter Stubs, Ltd., Warrington; J. O. Shacklady, Rainhill; Sheffield Steel Products, Ltd., Sheffield; Wynn, Timmins & Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Tools & Instruments (Highgate), Ltd., Birmingham.—**Towels** : Barlow & Jones, Ltd., Bolton; Quilt Manufacturers, Ltd., Bolton and Radcliffe; Stott & Smith, Ltd., Congleton.—**Towelling, Terry** : Wm. R. Lee, Ltd., Heywood; Stott & Smith, Ltd., Congleton.—**Travellers, Overhead Electric** : J. Admason & Co., Hyde, Cheshire. Sub-Contractors for Motors. Laurence Scott & Electromotors, Ltd., Norwich. Sub-Contractors for Control Gear. Allen West & Co., Ltd., Brighton.—**Tubes, Brass and Copper** : Birmingham Battery & Metal Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Thos. Bolton & Sons, Ltd., Froghall and Oakmoor; J. Booth & Co. (1915), Ltd., Birmingham; Broughton Copper Co., Ltd., Manchester; C. Clifford & Son, Ltd., Birmingham; Earle Bourne & Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Hudson & Wright, Ltd., Birmingham; I.C.I. Metals, Ltd., Birmingham; Lawton Tube Co., Ltd., Coventry; The Mint (Birmingham), Ltd., Birmingham; P. H. Muntz & Co., Ltd., Birmingham; J. Wilkes Sons & Mapplebeck, Ltd., Birmingham; Yorkshire Copper Works, Ltd., Leeds.—**Tubes, Deck and Bulkhead Glands** : Fairless Engineering Supplies Co., Ltd., Stockton-on-Tees.—**Tubing, Flexible Metallic** : Interlock Metal Hose Co., Ltd., Bedford; Power Flexible Tubing Co., Ltd., London, N.; Midland Flexible Metallic Tubing Co., Ltd., Long Eaton; United Flexible Metallic Tubing Co., Ltd., Ponders End.—**Turbine Gearing** : Fairfield Shipbuilding & Engineering Co., Ltd., Govan.—**Twines** : Port Glasgow & Newark Sailcloth Co., Ltd., Port Glasgow; British Ropes, Ltd., Leith; Belfast Ropework Co., Ltd., Belfast; F. Webster & Sons, Ltd., Arbroath; J. Fergus & Co., Ltd., Leslie; Pymore Mill Co., Ltd., Bridport; Baxter Bros. & Co., Ltd., Dundee.—**Varnishes, Polishes, etc.** : Blundell, Spence & Co., Ltd., Hull; J. S. Craig & Co., Ltd., Glasgow; Gross, Sherwood & Heald, Ltd., London, E.; Jensen & Nicholson, Ltd., London, E.; Nobel Chemical Finishes, Ltd., Slough; Nobles & Hoare, Ltd., London, S.E.—**Vests, Wool and Cotton** : I. & R. Morley, Ltd., Heanor; Salmon & Welch (Leicester), Ltd., Leicester.—**Vinegar** : W. C. Spitty & Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Waistbelts, Web** : French, Ltd., London, E.—**Water Bottles, Glass, and Tumblers** : Stevens & Williams, Ltd., Stourbridge.—**Wedges, Cast Iron** : Stanton Ironworks Co., Ltd., Nottingham.—**Winches, Electric** : Sunderland Forge & Engineering Co., Ltd., Sunderland.—**Winches** : Clarke, Chapman Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne.—**Winch, Sounding** : Napier Bros., Ltd., Glasgow.—**Wire, Bronze** : British Ropes, Ltd., Dagenham.—**Wire Work** : Aston Chain & Hook Co., Ltd., Birmingham; G. Christie, Ltd., Glasgow; Duke Waring Crisp & Co., London, S.E.; N. Greening & Sons, Ltd., Warrington; G. A. Harvey & Co. (London), Ltd., London, S.W.; Heaton & Dugard, Ltd., Birmingham; C. M. Metherell, Plymouth; J. Nichols & Son, Ltd., Birmingham; Patent Process Wire Weaving Co., Edinburgh; F. W. Potter & Soar, Ltd., London, E.C.; C. Topham & Co., Ltd., London, S.W.; **Woollen Cloth** : Jas. Harper & Sons, Eccleshill.—**X-Ray Apparatus** : Philips Lamp, Ltd., London, W.C.

WAR OFFICE.

Air Cleaners : C. G. Vokes, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Air Compressors** : Reavell & Co., Ltd., Ipswich.—**Barrels** : Oldham Bros., Burton-on-Trent.—**"Barrow" Motors** : Vickers-Armstrongs, Elswick.—**Batteries, Secondary, Portable** : Pritchett & Gold & E.P.S. Co., Ltd., Dagenham.—**Bedsprads** : Hoskins & Son, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Binoculars** : Ross, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Blankets** : W. Crabtree & Sons, Ltd., Batley; Rawden, Briggs & Co., Ltd., Dewsbury; Wormalds & Walkers, Ltd., Dewsbury.—**Bodies for Chassis** : Morris Commercial Cars, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Bodies, Load Carrying** : C. Roberts & Co., Ltd., Wakefield.—**Bodies, Searchlight** : Caffyns, Ltd., Eastbourne.—**Boiler** : J. Thompson Water Tube Boilers, Ltd., Wolverhampton.—**Boiler, Enamel** : Houseman & Thompson, Ltd., Manchester.—**Boring Bar Equipment** : Newton Bros., Ardworth, Yorks.—**Boxes, Wooden** : Watt Torrance (W'ch), Ltd., London, S.E.; Brownlee & Co., Ltd., Glasgow; Vickers-Armstrongs, Dartford.—**Boxes, Wooden, Diaphragms "A"** : Holmes Bros. (London), Ltd., London.—**Bridges, S.B.G. Woodwork Sets** : Cleveland Bdge. & Engineering Co., Ltd., Darlington.—**Bridge Steelwork Sets** : Horsley Bridge & Thomas Piggott, Ltd., Tipton.—**Bronze Rod** : Vickers-Armstrongs, Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne.—**Buckles** : Newey Bros., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Bulbs, Electric** : General Electric Co., Ltd., London, W.—**Cable, Electric** : Callenders Cable & Construction Co., Ltd., Leigh, Lancs.; W. T. Henley's Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; W. T. Glover & Co., Ltd., Manchester; Liverpool Electric Cable Co., Ltd., Liverpool; British Insulated Cables, Ltd., Prescott.—**Canvas, W.P.** : J. Bright & Bros., Ltd., Rochdale; J. Stott, Ltd., Oldham; Holdsworth & Gibb, Ltd., Swinton; Sir E. Armitage, Salford; Dunlop Cotton Mills, Ltd., Rochdale.—**Cases, W.P.** : W. Bridgwater & Son, Birmingham; R. Durrell & Co., Ltd., London, E.; T. E. Dingwall, Ltd., London, E.C.; A. G. Paterson, Aberdeen; A. H. Tytherleigh, London, S.E.; S. Osborne & Son, Ltd., London, S.E.; R. J. Latten, Ltd., Lowestoft.—**Castings, Die** : Metal Castings, Ltd., Worcester; Fry's Diecastings, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Chassis, 6-wheeled** : Morris Commercial Cars, Ltd., Birmingham; Rootes, Ltd., Luton.—**Clothing, Hospital** : Rogo Clothiers, Ltd., London, E.—**Duck, Cotton** : Kiernan, Son, & Co., Ltd., Manchester; W. Lumsden & Son, Freuchie and Kirkcaldy; Sir E. Armitage & Sons, Ltd., Manchester; Oswald & Duncan, Ltd., Rochdale; J. Bright & Bros., Ltd., Rochdale; J. Broadbent & Sons, Ltd., Droydsden; J. Hoyle & Son, Ltd., Summarseat; Holdsworth & Gibb, Ltd., Swinton; Pothergill & Harvey, Ltd., Littleborough.—**Emerald Cloth** : J. Oakey & Sons, Ltd., London, S.E.—**Engines** : Morris Commercial Cars, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Generating Sets** : R. A. Lister & Co., Ltd., Dursley;

Ruston & Hornsby, Ltd., Lincoln.—Goggles : W. Stephens & Sons Ltd., London, E.C.—Grease, Lubricating : Dussek Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—Helmet Bodies, Khaki : Helmets, Ltd., Wheat-hampstead.—Kerosene : Anglo-American Oil Co., Ltd., London, W.C.—Lathes : Graham & Normanton, Halifax.—Line, Hemp : Porter Bros., Ltd., Liverpool.—Machine, Tool, Multi-Purpose : Kitchen & Wade, Ltd., Halifax.—Magnets : Simms Motor Units, Ltd., London, W.—Metal Rod : Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London S.E., and Birmingham; I.C.I. Metals, Ltd., Birmingham.—Motor Cars : Austin Motor Car Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—Motor Vans : Ford Motor Co., Ltd., Dagenham.—Oils, Fuel and Gas : Southern Capital Oil Co., Ltd., Haulbowline; Scottish Oils & Shell-Mex, Ltd., Glasgow; Shell-Mex & B.P., Ltd., London, W.C.; How Frank & Co., London, E.; Anglo-American Oil Co., Ltd., London, W.C.; McMullen Bros., Ltd., Belfast; Silvertown Lubricants, Ltd., London, E.; Redline Glico, Ltd., London, S.W.—Petrol-Benzol Mixture : National Benzol Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—Pickets, Angle : Bayliss, Jones & Bayliss, Ltd., Wolverhampton.—Plywood : L. Bamberger & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.—Portland Cement : S. Wales Portland Cement & Lime Co., Ltd., Penarth; G. & T. Earle, Ltd., Wilmington; Cement Marketing Co., London, S.W.; Gardner & Greenhields, Ltd., Glasgow; T. Beynon & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; Eastwoods, Ltd., London, S.E.; Warren Cement Works, Ltd., Hartlepool.—Press, Horizontal : Taylor & Challen, Ltd., Birmingham.—Pumping Sets : Coventry Victor Motor Co., Ltd., Coventry.—Roofing and Composition : F. McNeill & Co., Ltd., Manchester and Kirkintilloch.—Rope, Galvanised, Steel Wire : W. J. Glover & Co., Ltd., St. Helens.—Rugs, Horse : E.H.P. (Hadleigh), Ltd., Hadleigh.—Sheets, Cotton : J. H. Greenhow & Co., Ltd., Manchester; Stott & Smith, Ltd., Manchester.—Shirts, Tropical : W. Hollins & Co., Ltd., Nottingham; H. Bannerman & Sons, Ltd., Manchester; A. G. Bateman, Congleton.—Soldier : R. Jones & Co. (1928), Ltd., Birmingham.—Spares for 6-wheeled Chassis : Morris Commercial Cars, Ltd., Birmingham.—Stampings, Steel, Nickel Chrome : Smith Clayton Forge, Ltd., Lincoln; Beans Industries, Smethwick.—Steel Bars : W. Jessop & Sons, Ltd., Sheffield.—Steel Billets : W. Jessop & Sons, Ltd., Sheffield; T. Firth & J. Brown, Ltd., Sheffield.—Steel Forgings : Vickers-Armstrongs, Ltd., Sheffield; English Steel Corporation, Ltd., Sheffield.—Steel, Round : T. Firth & J. Brown, Ltd., Sheffield; S. Fox & Co., Ltd., Sheffield; Colville's, Ltd., Motherwell; United Steel Co.'s, Ltd. (Steel Peach and Tozer), Sheffield; Cargo Fleet Iron Co., Ltd., Middlesbrough.—Steel, Troughing : Dorman Long & Co., Ltd., Middlesbrough.—Tents and Parts : Gowen & Co., W. Mersea; Alan & Lane & Nøve, Ltd., London, E.—Theodolites : Cooke, Troughton & Simms, Ltd., York.—Timber (Douglas Fir Plank) : Denny, Mott & Dickson, Ltd., London, E.C.—Tin, Ingot : British Metal Corporation, Ltd., London, E.C.—Towing, Ropes, Steel : Martin Black & Co. (Wire Ropes), Ltd., Coatbridge; R. Hood Haggie & Son, Ltd., Willington Quay; Glaholm & Robson, Ltd., Sunderland; W. T. Bowie & Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—Trailers : Taskers of Andover, Ltd., Andover.—Tubes, Axle Cross : Aecles & Pollock, Ltd., Birmingham.—X-Ray Films : Ilford, Ltd., Ilford; Kodak, Ltd., Wealdstone.—Zinc Ingot : British Metal Corporation, Ltd., London, E.C.—Building Works and Services, etc. : Catterick Camp, Two Double Storey Barrack Blocks and a Dining Hall and Cookhouse Block : G. Dougill & Sons, Darlington. Plymouth, Royal Citadel Extra Garage Accommodation : A. N. Coles (Contractors) Ltd., Plymouth. Catterick and Waitwith Camps, Periodical Painting : A. Sharrocks, Rochdale. Dover Married Soldiers' Quarters, Alterations and Additions : H. Goodsell, Maidstone. R. Arsenal, R. Dockyard, etc., Woolwich, Periodical Painting : Fields, Ltd., Reading. Artificers Work, Portsmouth : G. V. Northcott, Alverstoke, Hants. Shrapnel Barracks, Woolwich, Improvements to Dining Room and Cookhouse and erection of Raikes Miniature Range : A. King & Co. (Brixton), Ltd., London, S.E. Blackdown, Deepout, Pirbright and Woking, Periodical Services : A. Sharrocks, Rochdale. R.S.A.F. Enfield Lock, Reinforced, Constructional Work at New Main View Room : Hodges and Hodges (London), Ltd., London, N. Windsor, Term Contract for Artificers Work : E. P. Gilkes & Sons, Aylesbury.

AIR MINISTRY.

Aero Engines and Repairs : De Havilland Aircraft Co., Ltd., Hatfield.—Aero Engines Tests, etc. : Armstrong Siddeley Motors, Ltd., Coventry.—Aero Engines Tests, Repairs, etc. : Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Bristol; Rolls-Royce, Ltd., Derby.—Aero Engines Repairs, Spares, etc. : D. Napier & Sons, Ltd., London, W.—Aeroplane Shed : Head, Wrightson & Co., Ltd., Thornaby-on-Tees.—Aircraft : Aero Research, Ltd., Duxford.—Aircraft Spares : Vickers (Aviation) Ltd., Weybridge; Short Bros., Ltd., Rochester; Supermarine Aviation Works (Vickers), Ltd., Southampton; Hawker Aircraft, Ltd., Kingston-on-Thames; Blackburn Aeroplane & Motor Co., Ltd., Brough; Fairey Aviation Co., Ltd., Hayes, Middlesex; Handley Page, Ltd., London, N.W.; Westland Aircraft, Ltd., Yeovil.—Aircraft Modifications : Westland Aircraft, Ltd., Yeovil; Saunders-Roe, Ltd., Cowes; Vickers (Aviation), Ltd., Weybridge.—Aircraft Conversion Sets : Fairey Aviation Co., Ltd., Hayes, Middlesex; Vickers (Aviation) Ltd., Weybridge; Short Bros., Ltd., Rochester.—Aircraft Installation Work : Hawker Aircraft, Ltd., Kingston-on-Thames.—Aircraft Overhauls : Saunders-Roe, Ltd., Cowes.—Aircraft Experimental Work : A. V. Roe & Co., Ltd., Manchester.—Aircraft Flight Tests : Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Bristol.—Aircraft Ancillary Equipment : Fairey Aviation Co., Ltd., Hayes, Middlesex.—Aircraft Floats : Hawker Aircraft, Ltd., Kingston-on-Thames.—Aircraft Metal Wing Tests, etc. : Hawker Aircraft, Ltd., Kingston-on-Thames.—Airframe High Altitude : Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Bristol.—Aircraft General Spares : Anal, Ltd., Birmingham; Rotherham & Sons, Ltd., Coventry; Brown Bros., Ltd., London, E.C.—Air Intakes : Hawker Aircraft, Ltd., Kingston-on-Thames.—Airscrews : Airscrew Co., Ltd., Weybridge; Fairey Aviation Co., Ltd., Hayes, Middlesex.—

Altimeters : Short & Mason, Ltd., London, E.—Ammonium Sulphate : W. Lillico & Son, Croydon.—Amplifiers : A. C. Cossor, Ltd., London, N.—Auto-Controls : R. B. Pullin & Co., Ltd., Brentford; H. Hughes & Son, Ltd., Barkingside; Barr & Stroud, Ltd., Glasgow; Reid & Sigrist, Ltd., New Malden.—Balustrading : Hill & Smith, Ltd., Brierley Hill.—Batteries : Ever Ready Co. (G.B.), Ltd., London, N.—Batteries, Inert : Siemens Bros. & Co. (G.B.), Ltd., London, S.E.—Boxes, Anchorage : G. A. Harvey & Co. (London), Ltd., London, S.E.—Buildings and Works Services : Bircham Newton, Clothing of Sheds, etc : Ashford Builders Co., Ltd., London, W.C.; Dhibban, Heating : Brightside Foundry & Engineering Co., Ltd., Birmingham. Dishforth and Leonfield, Huttid Camps : Boulton & Paul, Norwich. Driffield, Dishforth and Leonfield, Annexes, etc : S. Easton, Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne. Finningley : H. Arnold & Son, Ltd., Doncaster. Hemsell and Scampton, Annexes, etc. : Dredging and Construction Co., Ltd., London, S.W. Lympe, Drainage, Elsan Manufacturing Co., London, S.W. Lympe, External Services : G. Lewis & Sons (Dover), Ltd., Dover. Theddlethorpe : McDonald Gibbs & Co., Ltd., London, E.C. Upwood, External Services : J. Cawley, Nottingham. Warsash, Reconstruction of Pier : Dredging & Construction Co., Ltd., London, S.W. Wittering, Hangar Foundations : F. Perks & Son, Ltd., Long Eaton. Worthy Down, Artificers' Works : H. G. Ross & Son, Ltd., Netley Abbey. Wyton and Upwood : T. Lowe & Sons, London, W. Montrose, Artificers' Works : R. Pert & Sons, Ltd., Montrose.—Cable, Electric, and Boxes : Connolly's (Blackley), Ltd., Manchester.—Cases, Transit : Houghton Butcher Manufacturing Co., Ltd., London, E.—Chassis : John I. Thornycroft & Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—Chemical Closets : Elsan Manufacturing Co., London, S.W.—Coal : Peake, Oliver & Peake, Ltd., London, E.C.—Coal and Coke : P. Hawksfield & Sons, Ltd., Dover.—Coke : Dinham Fawcus & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—Compressors : British Thomson-Houston Co., Ltd., Coventry.—Containers : Arrow Aircraft, Ltd., Yeaton.—Cooperation Flying : Short Bros., Ltd., Rochester; British Continental Airways, Croydon; Surrey Flying Services, Croydon; Air Dispatch, Croydon.—Cylinders, Acetylene : British Oxygen Co., Ltd., London, N.W.—Cylinders, C.O. : W. Kidde Co., Ltd., London, W.—Directional Gyro : Sperry Gyroscope Co., Brentford.—Drilling Machines : De Soutter Bros., Ltd., London, N.W.—Drills, Twist : S. Osborn & Co., Ltd., Sheffield.—Fertiliser : W. Lillico & Son, Croydon.—Film, Instructional : Gee Films, Ltd., London, W.—Fire Alarm Apparatus : W. Geipel, Ltd., London, S.E.—Flexible Shafting : M.R.C., Ltd., London, W.—Gauges, Oil Pressure : J. Tomey & Son, Birmingham; Negretti & Zambra, London, N.—Generators : Newton Bros. (Derby), Ltd., Derby.—Generators, Smoke : Imperial Chemical Industries, Ltd., London, S.E.—Grass Seed : E. Webb & Sons, Stourbridge.—Grease : Anglo-American Oil Co., Ltd., London, W.C.—Hammers : J. H. Smith & Son, Oldbury.—Hangar Covers : J. Smith & Co. (London, E.), Ltd., London, E.C.—Indicators : S. Smith & Sons (M.A.), Ltd., London, N.W.—Lamps, Filament : General Electric Co., Ltd., London, W.C.; Ceag, Ltd., Barnsley.—Lamps, Landing : Arrow Aircraft, Ltd., Yeaton.—Loudspeaker Equipment : Tannoy Products, Ltd., London, S.E.—Magnets : British Thomson-Houston Co., Ltd., Coventry.—Microphones, Mask : Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—Nippers : Wynn, Timmins & Co., Ltd., Birmingham; H. Brindley, Birmingham.—Plant, Painting : Kurt Erlach, London.—Plates, Photographic : Ilford, Ltd., Ilford.—Pliers : Wynn, Timmins & Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—Plug, Sparking : K.L.G. Sparking Plugs, Ltd., London, S.W.—Plugs and Fuzes : Plessey Co., Ltd., Ilford.—Plugs and Sockets : General Electric Co., Ltd., Salford.—Power Boat Spares : British Power Boat Co., Ltd., Southampton.—Power Unit Spares : A.B.C. Motors, Ltd., Walton-on-Thames.—Pumps, Tyre : Bristol Pneumatic Tools, Ltd., Bristol.—Rags, Cotton : F. R. Young & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—Regulators, Oxygen : Siebe, Gorman & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; S. Smith & Sons (M.A.), Ltd., London, N.W.—Reservoirs, Oil : Siebe, Gorman & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—S.C. Unit : Ricardo & Co., Engineers (27), Ltd., London, S.W.—Sanitary Fittings : Southhook Potteries, Ltd., Kilmarnock.—Sea Markers : Y.S. Co., Ltd., London, W.C.—Sound Film : Gee Films, Ltd., London, W.C.—Sparkling Plugs, Dummy : Cox & Co., London, S.W.—Stacks, Drill : J. A. Chapman, Ltd., Sheffield.—Suits, Combination : J. Hammond & Co. (22), Ltd., Newcastle, Staffs.—Switches, Dimmer : D. H. Bonnell, London, N.W.—Switches, Multiple : Oliver Pell Control, Ltd., London, S.E.—Targets : A. W. Hamilton & Co., Belfast.—Telephone Cable and Boxes : British Insulated Cables, Ltd., Prescot.—Telephone Exchange, Auto : Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—Test Equipment : H. Heath & Co., London, S.E.—Throttles, Air Intake : A.B.C. Motors, Ltd., Walton-on-Thames.—Timmer : M. L. Meyer, Ltd., London, W.C.—Tractors and Trailers : W. J. Reynolds (Motors), Ltd., London, N.; Tractors (London), Ltd., London, N.—Units, Smoothing : Oliver Pell Control, Ltd., London, S.E.—Vans, Singer : Singer & Co., Ltd., Coventry.—Vices : Wynn, Timmins & Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—Voltmeters and Ammeters : Metropolitan Vickers Electric Co., Ltd., Manchester.—Water Softening Plant : Kennicott Water Softener Co., Ltd., Wolverhampton.—Wheels, Aero : Goodyear Tyre & Rubber Co. (G.B.), Ltd., London, S.W.—W/T. Transmitters : Standard Telephones & Cables, Ltd., London, W.C.

POST OFFICE.

Apparatus, Cinematograph : Kodak, Ltd., Harrow.—Apparatus, Telegraph : Power Equipment Co., Ltd., London, N.W.—Apparatus, Telephonic : Automatic Electric Co., Ltd., Liverpool; Ericsson Telephones, Ltd., Beeston, Notts; General Electric Co., Ltd., Coventry; Hall Telephone Accessories (1928), Ltd., London, N.W.; Plessey Co., Ltd., Ilford; Telephone Manufacturing Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—Apparatus, Testing & Protective : Chamberlain & Hookham, Ltd., Birmingham; Everett, Edgumbe & Co., Ltd., London, N.W.; General Electric Co., Ltd., Manchester; Phoenix Telephone &

Electric Works, Ltd., London, N.W.; Power Equipment Co., Ltd., London, N.W.; Standard Fuse Co., Ponders End.—Bodies, Motor : John Chalmers & Sons, Ltd., Redhill; Thos. Harrington, Ltd., Hove; Medley, Brooker & Smith, London, W.; Nicholls & Sons, Ltd., Bedford.—Bolts, Arm : Thomas Wm. Lench, Ltd., Birmingham; Charles Richards & Sons, Ltd., Darlaston.—Boxes, Glass : Pilkington Bros., Ltd., St. Helens.—Brackets, M.S. : David Willetts, Ltd., Cradley Heath.—Cable : British Insulated Cables, Ltd., Prescot; Connollys (Blackley), Ltd., Manchester; General Electric Co., Ltd., Coventry; Hackbridge Cable Co., Ltd., Hackbridge; W. T. Henley's Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.; Standard Telephones & Cables, Ltd., London, E.—Cells, Leclanche : Ferguson Battery Co., Ltd., Slough.—Cells, Secondary : Accumulators of Woking (1928), Ltd., Woking; Britannia Batteries, Ltd., Redditch; Tungstone Accumulator Co., Ltd., Market Harborough.—Clothing, Uniform : L. Silberston & Sons, London, E.—Containers, Mail Bag : Thomas Haywood & Sons, Coudson.—Cords, Telephone : British Insulated Cables, Ltd., Warrington; General Electric Co., Ltd., Coventry; London Electric Wire Co. & Smiths, Ltd., London, E.; L.P.S. Electrical Co., Ltd., Wembley; Phoenix Telephone & Electric Works, Ltd., London, N.W.; Reliance Electrical Wire Co., Ltd., London, E.; Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; Standard Telephones & Cables, Ltd., London, E.—Ducts : Albion Clay Co., Ltd., Burton-on-Trent; Donington Sanitary Pipe & Fire Brick Co., Ltd., Burton-on-Trent; Doulton & Co., Ltd., Dudley; H. R. Mansfield, Ltd., Burton-on-Trent; James Oakes & Co. (Riddings Collieries), Ltd., Jacksdale; Oates & Green, Ltd., Halifax; Joseph Place & Sons, Ltd., Darwen; Standard (Buckley), Ltd., Chester; Stanley Bros., Ltd., Nuneaton; Sutton & Co. 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STATISTICS FORMING THE BASIS OF THE CHARTS ILLUSTRATING THE COURSE OF TRADE, OUTPUT, PRICES, WAGES, FINANCE & EMPLOYMENT.

Table with 11 columns (1927-1936) and multiple rows of data. Includes sections for Wholesale Prices, Cost of Living, Export Values of British Manufactures, Value at 1930 Prices, Index Number of Average Values, Shipping Freight Rates, Index Number of Rates of Wages, Estimated Total Numbers aged 16-64, Registered Unemployed in Great Britain, Industrial Production, Railway Traffic Receipts, Postal Receipts, British Exports, Net Imports, and Bank Rate.

Published by courtesy of the Chamber of Shipping of the United Kingdom and of the "Statist" Company, Limited. For the purpose of the chart the approximate course of the figures has been estimated. The series of index numbers compiled by the Board of Trade for the period 1927-34, with 1924 as the standard year, has been discontinued, and starting with 1934, new index numbers have been compiled, with a revised and extended basis, taking 1930 as the standard year. Two curves are shown for 1934 in the chart, based on the averages of 1924 and 1930 respectively. The above figures for 1934 are based on 1930; corresponding figures with 1924 as base year were:—1st quarter, 110.3; 2nd quarter, 110.3; 3rd quarter, 106.0; 4th quarter, 116.9.

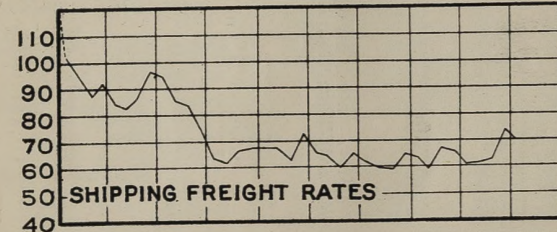
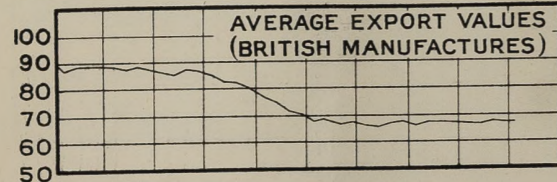
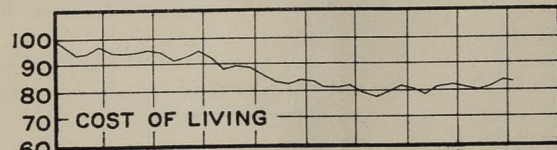
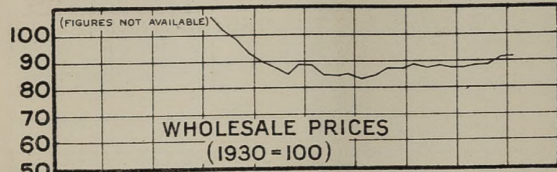
		1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.
Discount Rate. Three Months Bank Bills. Quarterly Average, per cent.	1st Qr.	4 $\frac{1}{8}$	4 $\frac{1}{8}$	5	3 $\frac{1}{8}$	2 $\frac{1}{8}$	4 $\frac{1}{8}$	5	1	5 $\frac{1}{8}$	5 $\frac{1}{8}$
	2nd "	4 $\frac{1}{8}$	3 $\frac{1}{8}$	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 $\frac{1}{8}$	2 $\frac{1}{4}$	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	1 $\frac{1}{8}$	1 $\frac{1}{8}$	5 $\frac{1}{8}$	5 $\frac{1}{8}$
	3rd "	4 $\frac{1}{8}$	4 $\frac{1}{8}$	5 $\frac{1}{8}$	2 $\frac{1}{8}$	3 $\frac{1}{4}$	3 $\frac{1}{4}$	5 $\frac{1}{8}$	1	5 $\frac{1}{8}$	5 $\frac{1}{8}$
	4th "	4 $\frac{1}{8}$	4 $\frac{1}{8}$	5 $\frac{1}{8}$	2 $\frac{1}{8}$	5 $\frac{1}{4}$	5 $\frac{1}{4}$	1	1	5 $\frac{1}{8}$	5 $\frac{1}{8}$
Bank Clearings (Metropolitan, Country Cheque and Provincial (England and Wales)). Average amount daily, Million £	1st Qr.	21.0	21.6	22.0	21.2	19.3	18.8	18.6	20.2	20.8	22.4
	2nd "	21.2	21.7	21.4	20.4	18.4	17.6	18.2	19.5	20.8	
	3rd "	20.1	20.5	20.5	18.8	17.3	17.1	18.0	18.6	20.2	
	4th "	21.7	21.8	21.6	19.4	18.3	18.2	19.3	20.4	21.8	
Percentage of 1924 average	1st Qr.	101.4	104.3	106.3	102.4	93.2	90.8	89.9	97.6	100.5	108.2
	2nd "	102.4	104.8	103.4	98.6	88.9	85.0	87.9	94.2	100.5	
	3rd "	97.1	99.0	99.0	90.8	83.6	82.6	87.0	89.9	97.6	
	4th "	104.8	105.3	104.3	93.7	88.4	87.9	93.2	98.6	105.3	
Coal Mining—Coal Raised. Average quantity of saleable coal raised monthly, Million tons.	1st Qr.	22.0	21.4	22.0	22.6	19.2	18.7	18.7	19.9	19.4	20.4
	2nd "	20.2	18.9	20.5	19.3	17.9	17.4	16.0	17.5	17.7	
	3rd "	20.3	18.4	20.8	18.8	17.1	15.5	15.7	17.0	17.4	
	4th "	20.9	20.4	22.2	20.5	19.3	18.2	18.6	19.2	19.9	
Percentage of 1924 average	1st Qr.	98.8	96.3	98.9	101.7	86.1	83.8	84.1	89.4	87.0	91.6
	2nd "	92.3	85.1	92.0	86.8	80.4	78.1	72.0	78.5	79.4	
	3rd "	91.4	82.9	93.6	84.4	76.6	69.5	70.5	76.6	78.0	
	4th "	93.7	91.8	99.8	92.1	86.6	81.9	83.3	86.5	89.5	
Coal Mining—Coal Exported.* Average quantity of coal exported monthly, Million tons.	1st Qr.	4.4	4.0	4.4	5.0	3.5	3.2	3.1	3.1	3.1	2.7
	2nd "	4.4	4.2	5.0	4.5	3.6	3.5	3.2	3.4	3.2	
	3rd "	4.2	4.1	5.3	4.4	3.4	3.1	3.3	3.4	3.4	
	4th "	4.1	4.3	5.4	4.4	3.7	3.2	3.4	3.3	3.2	
Percentage of 1924 average	1st Qr.	84.9	78.0	85.2	97.4	67.6	61.4	61.2	60.4	61.0	51.9
	2nd "	85.8	81.5	87.1	87.8	70.5	67.2	67.2	65.7	62.3	
	3rd "	82.2	80.7	104.0	85.8	67.1	60.6	64.2	66.1	65.3	
	4th "	78.9	84.6	104.7	85.1	72.2	63.2	66.3	65.0	62.6	
Coal Mining—Unemployment. Average percentage of insured workers unemployed in Great Britain.	1st Qr.	16.4	17.9	15.9	13.5	23.1	27.6	29.4	25.7	24.4	20.5
	2nd "	18.0	21.6	17.6	20.8	29.8	35.3	36.1	30.6	27.4	
	3rd "	20.3	26.1	16.7	24.9	33.0	40.6	36.7	30.5	28.2	
	4th "	18.2	23.2	14.8	22.4	26.9	32.5	29.4	25.8	21.0	
Iron and Steel—Crude Steel Output. Average quantity monthly, Thousand tons.	1st Qr.	835.7	728.0	799.8	793.5	462.9	457.7	501.6	751.0	789.7	943.4
	2nd "	827.3	701.9	827.8	665.0	420.5	436.5	559.3	751.4	810.7	
	3rd "	702.4	677.9	802.0	553.4	395.5	410.1	595.9	706.6	806.4	
	4th "	667.5	733.9	788.7	430.1	447.3	448.0	677.4	744.2	874.0	
Percentage of 1924 average	1st Qr.	122.3	106.5	117.0	116.1	67.7	67.0	75.4	109.9	115.6	138.0
	2nd "	121.1	102.7	121.1	97.3	61.5	63.9	81.8	109.9	118.6	
	3rd "	102.8	99.2	117.4	81.0	57.9	60.0	87.2	103.4	118.0	
	4th "	97.7	107.4	115.4	62.9	65.5	65.6	99.1	108.9	127.9	
Iron and Steel—Pig Iron Output. Average quantity monthly, Thousand tons.	1st Qr.	559.2	568.0	558.0	640.6	337.5	329.7	296.5	453.1	519.5	604.6
	2nd "	683.8	572.8	641.3	598.7	331.2	314.5	336.7	513.0	538.2	
	3rd "	611.1	603.9	672.8	442.2	280.3	270.8	355.4	510.6	540.1	
	4th "	577.1	642.8	654.4	382.6	303.7	275.9	385.8	516.1	544.4	
Percentage of 1924 average	1st Qr.	91.8	93.3	91.6	105.2	55.4	54.1	48.7	74.4	85.3	99.3
	2nd "	112.3	94.1	105.3	98.3	54.4	51.7	55.3	84.2	88.4	
	3rd "	100.3	85.4	110.5	72.6	46.0	44.5	58.4	83.9	88.7	
	4th "	94.8	89.1	107.5	62.8	49.9	45.3	63.3	84.7	89.4	
Iron and Steel—Unemployment. Average percentage of insured workers unemployed in Great Britain.	1st Qr.	17.5	19.5	18.8	22.9	44.1	46.5	43.9	28.7	23.8	18.8
	2nd "	16.5	20.0	17.8	29.1	45.0	48.2	40.9	25.5	23.1	
	3rd "	17.6	23.2	18.6	35.5	47.2	48.2	35.9	25.3	21.2	
	4th "	20.7	21.2	20.5	44.4	44.7	46.5	31.5	23.5	18.8	
General Engineering—Unemployment. Average percentage of insured workers employed in Great Britain.	1st Qr.	12.7	9.7	10.0	12.7	25.8	27.8	29.4	19.2	14.3	10.7
	2nd "	9.9	9.6	9.1	15.1	27.4	28.3	26.3	16.0	15.2	
	3rd "	9.4	10.0	9.5	18.4	29.4	30.3	23.4	14.4	12.1	
	4th "	9.7	9.9	10.1	22.8	27.7	29.8	20.9	13.9	11.1	
Electrical Engineering. Average of Index of Activity ex- pressed as percentage of 1924 average.†	1st Qr.	113.6	92.5	104.1	116.4	84.1	59.9	64.1	62.0	119.9	121.6
	2nd "	124.8	84.4	105.4	109.0	82.0	62.8	65.2	69.0	121.6	
	3rd "	131.1	84.1	107.6	109.4	75.7	56.8	64.8	92.2	105.5	
	4th "	109.0	98.1	111.1	97.5	65.2	58.9	64.1	112.5	105.5	
Electrical Engineering—Unemploy- ment. Average percentage of insured workers unemployed in Great Britain.	1st Qr.	6.5	4.7	5.1	5.7	14.5	17.2	18.9	11.3	7.7	5.6
	2nd "	5.2	4.8	4.6	7.2	14.6	16.3	16.7	8.8	6.9	
	3rd "	4.7	5.1	4.0	9.1	14.6	16.0	13.7	7.1	6.0	
	4th "	4.4	5.0	4.2	10.9	15.0	16.2	11.4	6.9	5.4	
Shipbuilding—Merchant Vessels under construction at end of Quarter. Million gross tons.	1st Qr.	1.22	1.44	1.36	1.61	0.69	0.37	0.25	0.48	0.56	0.84
	2nd "	1.39	1.20	1.45	1.39	0.56	0.28	0.29	0.59	0.56	
	3rd "	1.54	1.09	1.45	1.12	0.42	0.24	0.30	0.60	0.53	
	4th "	1.58	1.24	1.56	0.91	0.40	0.23	0.33	0.60	0.74	
Percentage of 1924 average	1st Qr.	84.6	100.1	94.3	112.2	48.2	25.9	17.5	33.4	38.6	58.5
	2nd "	96.6	83.6	101.0	96.7	38.6	19.5	20.0	40.8	38.9	
	3rd "	106.8	75.7	100.7	77.6	29.0	16.6	21.1	42.0	36.9	
	4th "	109.8	86.4	108.4	63.2	27.8	15.7	23.0	41.5	51.6	
Shipbuilding—Merchant Vessels com- menced during Quarter. Thousand gross tons.	1st Qr.	579.8	341.8	362.4	426.6	32.7	25.7	77.3	203.0	144.4	232.5
	2nd "	437.1	279.0	428.4	230.5	23.4	28.0	50.1	146.7	108.1	
	3rd "	370.1	244.6	360.1	160.7	38.7	10.8	39.7	76.9	119.0	
	4th "	377.5	431.8	499.0	132.0	104.8	7.4	74.7	93.4	311.1	
Percentage of 1924 average	1st Qr.	220.8	130.2	138.0	162.5	12.4	9.8	29.4	77.3	55.0	88.6
	2nd "	166.5	106.2	163.1	87.8	8.9	10.6	19.1	55.8	41.2	
	3rd "	140.9	93.1	137.1	61.2	14.7	4.1	15.1	29.3	45.3	
	4th "	143.8	164.4	190.0	50.3	39.9	2.8	28.4	35.6	118.5	
Shipbuilding, Ship Repairing and Marine Engineering—Unemployment. Average percentage of insured workers unemployed in Great Britain.	1st Qr.	30.1	18.4	23.5	22.4	46.8	57.2	59.6	50.1	42.1	32.8
	2nd "	22.0	21.5	20.1	26.1	52.0	58.0	56.6	45.1	40.0	
	3rd "	20.1	24.1	20.5	31.9	55.8	60.9	55.0	43.1	38.8	
	4th "	19.0	28.8	21.0	40.2	57.7	60.4	51.8	42.9	36.1	
Cotton—Raw Cotton delivered to Mills. Average quantity monthly, Million lbs.	1st Qr.	160.2	137.7	134.6	118.7	85.1	117.1	112.9	120.1	113.1	123.0
	2nd "	134.5	124.6	129.7	90.8	85.4	108.6	104.5	113.1	105.3	
	3rd "	121.8	105.6	98.3	65.1	85.5	83.0	106.1	93.5	99.1	
	4th "	124.9	133.4	135.5	90.8	122.1	106.2	118.2	107.1	120.3	
Percentage of 1924 average	1st Qr.	136	117	114	101	72	99	96	102	96	104
	2nd "	114	105	110	77	72	92	89	96	89	
	3rd "	103	89	83	55	72	70	90	79	84	
	4th "	106	113	113	77	103	90	100	91	102	
Cotton Industry—Unemployment. Average percentage of insured workers unemployed in Great Britain.	1st Qr.	8.6	9.2	11.6	23.8	40.6	25.9	24.8	21.6	22.1	17.1
	2nd "	6.9	10.9	13.8	37.3	38.8	30.2	26.5	22.1	21.5	
	3rd "	9.6	15.4	14.0	45.5	44.0	34.5	24.9	25.3	22.3	
	4th "	11.1	12.3	13.3	43.0	30.4	24.4	20.6	21.9	17.8	
Wool Textile Industry—Total Wages paid. Index of total wages paid expressed as percentage of 1924 average.	1st Qr.	91.6	96.2	88.8	83.9	70.6	77.1	69.1	79.7	74.5	82.1
	2nd "	95.6	95.0	93.3	73.8	72.0	70.5	75.1	74.7	75.6	
	3rd "	94.9	88.0	88.5	75.7	62.8	67.9	77.8	70.0	78.2	
	4th "	96.7	91.6	90.6	76.7	78.6	73.8	82.7	77.8	85.8	
Wool Textile Industry—Unemploy- ment. Average percentage of insured workers unemployed in Great Britain.	1st Qr.	10.6</									

CHARTS ILLUSTRATING THE COURSE OF TRADE OUTPUT, PRICES, WAGES, FINANCE AND EMPLOYMENT.

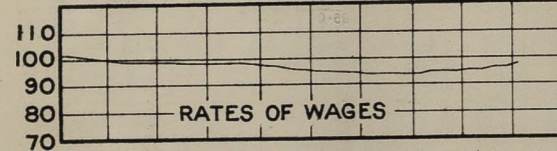
(EXCEPT WHERE OTHERWISE INDICATED THE AVERAGE FOR 1924 IS TAKEN AS = 100.)

1927 1928 1929 1930 1931 1932 1933 1934 1935 1936

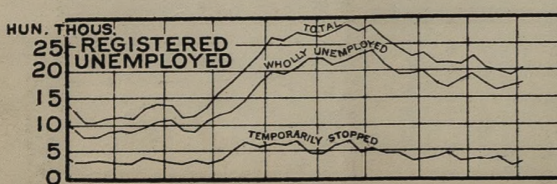
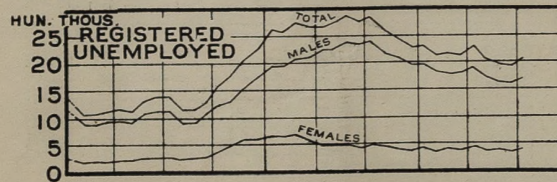
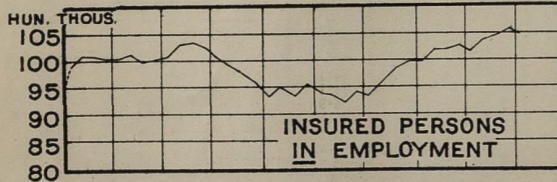
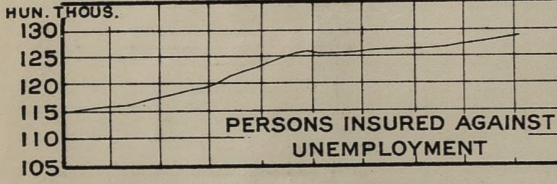
PRICES



WAGES



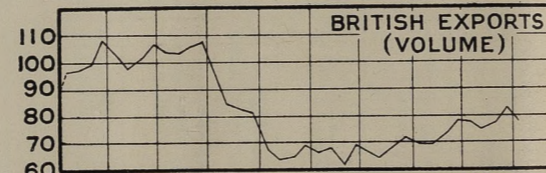
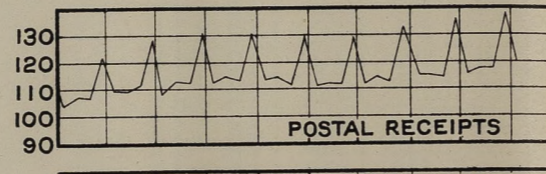
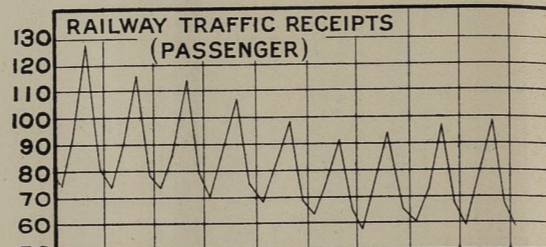
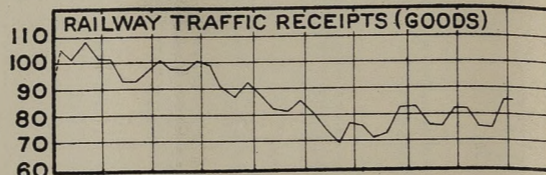
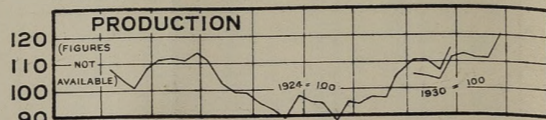
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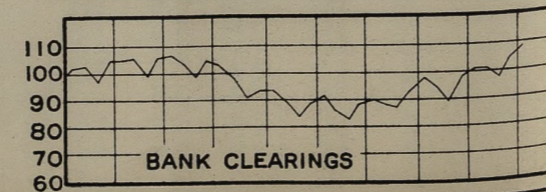
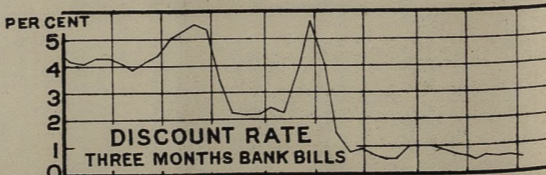
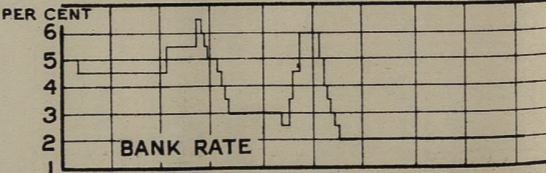
1927 1928 1929 1930 1931 1932 1933 1934 1935 1936

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PRODUCTION AND TRADE



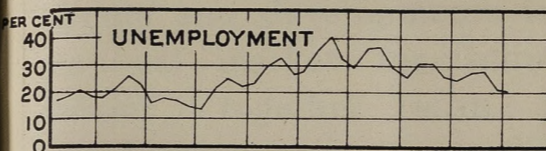
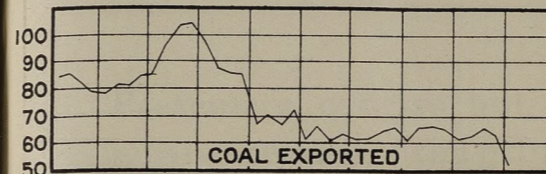
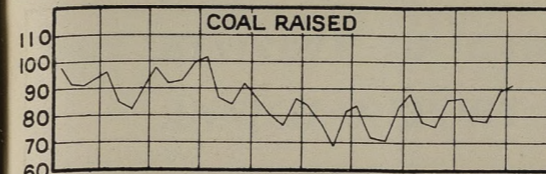
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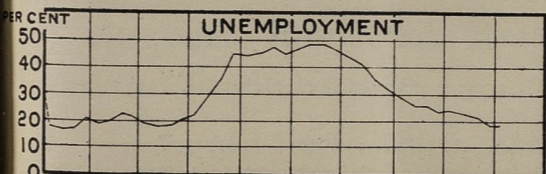
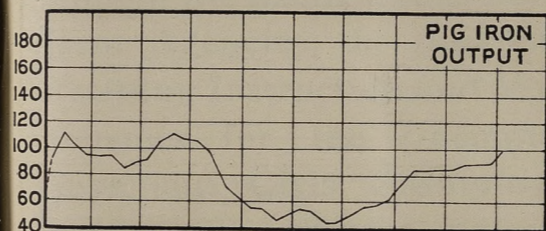
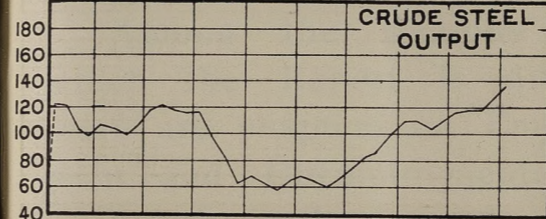
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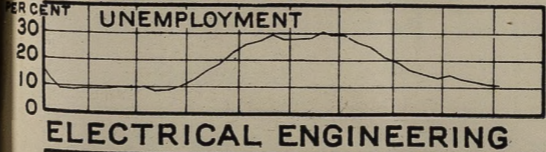
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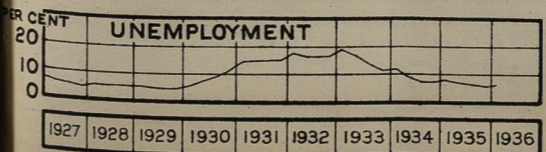
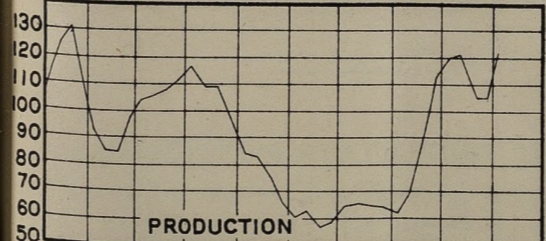
IRON AND STEEL



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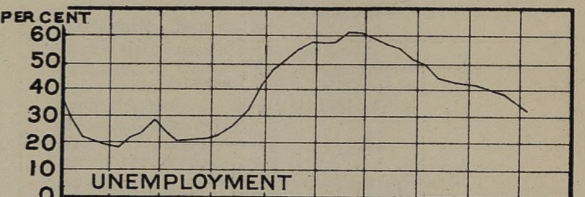
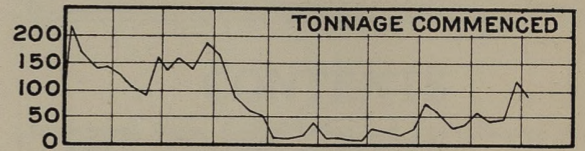
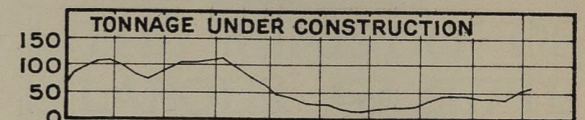
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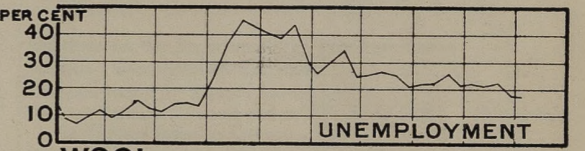
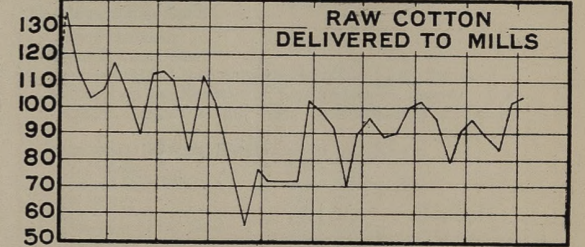
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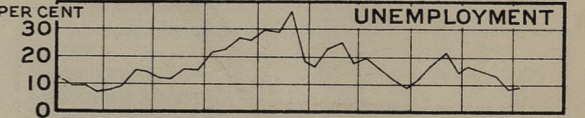
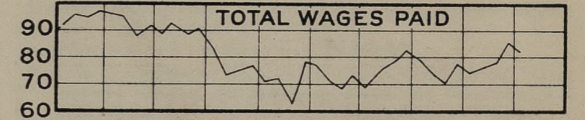
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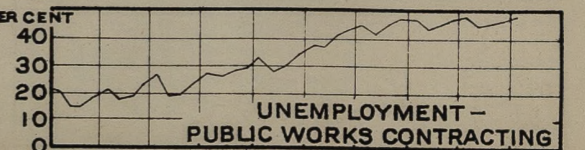
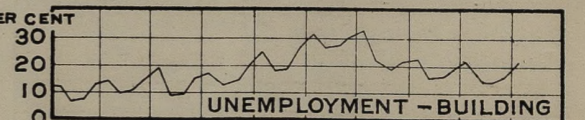
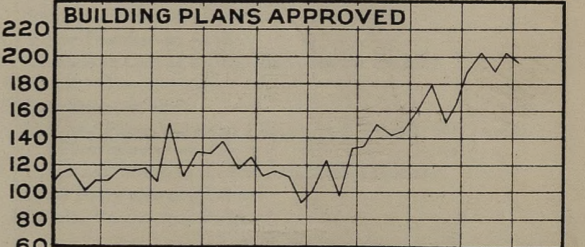
COTTON



WOOL



BUILDING



1927 1928 1929 1930 1931 1932 1933 1934 1935 1936