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

EMPLOYMENT.

EMPLOYMENT showed little general change during the first three weeks of December. After Christmas, however, there was a seasonal decline, and in many cases the usual holiday stoppages were extended.

Among the 11,500,000 workpeople insured against unemployment under the Unemployment Insurance Acts in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the percentage unemployed at 22nd December, 1924, was 10.9, compared with 11.0 at 24th November, and with 10.7 at 21st December, 1923. Among the members of those Trade Unions from which returns were received the percentage unemployed was 9.2 at the end of December, 1924, compared with 8.6 at the end of November, 1924. The total number of persons registered at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland as unemployed at 29th December, 1924, was approximately 1,319,000, of whom 1,003,000, were men and 250,000 were women, the remainder being boys and girls; at 22nd December it was 1,213,000 and at 1st December, 1924, it he total was 1,233,000, of whom 942,000 were men and 231,000 were women; at 31st December, 1923, it was 1,327,000.

Employment was good, on the whole, in the brick and jute trades, in some branches of the cotton trade, and with mill sawyers and most of the skilled operatives in the building trades; it was fairly good in the carpet, silk and furniture trades, with printers and bookbinders, with coopers, and in certain branches of the metal trades. In coal mining, and in the wool textile industry, it was slack on the whole; at blastfurnaces, at iron and steel works, and in the engineering and shipbuilding trades it continued bad. There was a further improvement in the cotton trade, but a decline in the tinplate and pottery industries.

WAGES.

The gradual increase in rates of wages continued in December. In the industries for which statistics are available the changes in rates of wages reported resulted in an aggregate increase of £29,000 in the weekly fulltime wages of 500,000 workpeople, and in an aggregate reduction of £300 in the weekly wages of nearly 9,000 workpeople.

The principal groups of workpeople whose rates of wages were increased were coal miners in the Yorkshire and East Midland Area, who obtained an advance equivalent to about $1\frac{2}{3}$ per cent. on current rates, and hosiery workers in the Midlands, whose wages (including bonus) were raised by 5 per cent. Other bodies of workpeople whose wages were increased included coal miners in the Radstock district, steel sheet millmen and galvanisers, penmakers at Birmingham, hosiery bleachers, dyers, etc., in the Midlands, dyers and dry cleaners, men employed at electricity supply undertakings in the West Midlands, and workpeople in the non-trading services of local authorities in the East Midlands. The principal reduction in rates of wages affected iron puddlers and millmen in the North of England, whose wages were reduced by about $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

The changes in wages reported to the Department during 1924 resulted in net increases equivalent to over £600,000 in the weekly full-time wages of nearly 3,000,000 workpeople, and in net reductions of over £60,000 in those of nearly 500,000 workpeople. During 1923 there were net reductions of £490,000 in the weekly full-time wages of over 3,000,000 workpeople and net increases of £170,000 in the weekly wages of 1,200,000 workpeople.

COST OF LIVING.

The increase in working-class cost of living, which had been in progress since June last, was checked in December, the average increase over the level of July, 1914, in the 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) being approximately 80 per cent. at 1st January, 1925, as compared with 81 per cent. a month earlier and with 69 per cent. at the end of May, 1924. At 1st January, 1924, the corresponding percentage was 77. For food alone the average increase over the pre-war level was 78 per cent. at 1st January, as compared with 80 per cent. a month ago, 60 per cent. at the end of May, 1924, and 75 per cent. a year ago. The decline in the percentage between 1st December and 1st January was due to reductions in the prices of eggs and sugar.

The statistics are designed to indicate the average increase in the cost of maintaining unchanged the prewar standard of living of working-class families. Accordingly, in making the calculations, the changes in the prices of the various items included are combined in proportions corresponding with the relative importance of these 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 December was 41. In addition, 24 disputes which began before December were still in progress at the beginning of the month. The number of workpeople involved in all disputes in December (including workpeople thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, but not themselves parties to the disputes) was approximately 16,000; the estimated aggregate duration of all disputes during December was about 92,000 working days.

The estimated aggregate duration of all disputes reported as in progress during 1924 was about 8,312,000 working days. The total number of workpeople involved in these disputes was 613,000. In the previous year 407,000 workpeople were involved in disputes having an aggregate duration of 10,672,000 working days.

EMPLOYMENT, WAGES, COST OF LIVING, AND TRADE DISPUTES IN 1924.

EMPLOYMENT.

EMPLOYMENT. EMPLOYMENT in 1924, though still bad on the whole, was better than in 1923, and considerably better than in 1922 or 1921, the average monthly percentage unemployed in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, among the 11½ million workpeople covered by the Unemployment Insurance Acts, being 10.5 in 1924, as compared with 11.6 in 1923, 14.0 in 1922, and over 16 in 1921. The gradual improvement which had been in progress since the early part of 1922, though temporarily checked towards the end of January, 1924, owing to the effects of a dispute causing a partial stop-page of work on the railways, continued without further interruption until the end of June, when the proportion of insured workpeople unemployed had fallen to 9.4 per cent, as compared with 11.3 per cent. at the corresponding date of 1923 and with 10.7 per cent. at 21st December, 1923. In the third quarter of 1924, however, there was a marked decline in employment in some important industries, including coal and iron mining, iron and steel manufacture, the wool textile and hosiery industries, and the clothing trades; and the percentage of insured workers unemployed rose to 10.8 by the end of September and to 11.1 by the end of October. After a sight improvement prior to Christmas, the proportion of neuron the marked decline in employment in some important industries, including coal and iron mining, iron and steel manufacture, the wool textile and hosiery industries, and the clothing trades; and the percentage of insured workers unemployed rose to 10.8 by the end of September and to 11.1 by the end of October. After a sight improvement prior to Christmas, the proportion of insured when the percentage of a partial to 10.9 per cent. a slight improvement prior to Christmas, the proportion of insured workers unemployed at 22nd of December was 10.9 per cent.

For reasons connected with the administration of unemployment insurance, the recorded figures, if used in comparison with those for previous years, somewhat under-emphasise the improvement in employment during the first half of the year and over-emphasise employment during the first half of the year and over-emphasise the decline in the latter half. Administrative changes made in February and, even more markedly, legislative changes made by the Act of 1st August, brought on to the records unemployed persons who previously, not being entitled to benefit, would not have registered themselves. The precise numerical effect of these changes cannot be stated, but from certain inquiries which were made it is probable that something like one-half of the increase in the percentage of unemployment from 9.4 to 10.8 between the end of June and the end of September was due to this cause. It is of June and the end of September was due to this cause. It is noteworthy, in this connexion, that the proportion unemployed among certain Trade Unions (mainly of skilled workers) which pay among certain Trade Chichs (mainly of skindt works) which pay out-of-work benefit to their members and supply regular information to the Department showed a slight reduction during the year, being 9.2 per cent. at the end of December, 1924, compared with 9.7 per cent. at the end of December, 1923.

9.7 per cent. at the end of December, 1923. The following Table shows for the end of each month since December, 1923, (a) the percentages unemployed among workpeople covered by the Unemployment Insurance Acts in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, (b) the percentages unemployed among members of those Trade Unions from which returns are obtained, and (c) the approximate total number of persons (whether insured against unemployment or not) registered at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland. The figures as regards insured workers and as regards the total number of persons registered at workers and as regards the total number of persons registered at Employment Exchanges are subject to the qualifications referred to in the preceding paragraph. It should also be noted, as regards the total numbers registered at Exchanges, that some unemployed persons (e.g., some of those who are not insured against unemployment, or who have not valid claims to unemployment benefit) do not register.

source - Children -	Percer	Number			
Date. (End of Month.)	Insur	ed Workpe	Trade Unions	Registered at Exchanges (Insured and	
	Males.	Females.	Total.	making Returns.	[Ininsured)
1923. December*	11.2	9.1	10.7	9.7	1,327,000
1924. January February March April June July July September November	$12 \cdot 5^{\dagger}_{11 \cdot 1}$ $10 \cdot 3$ $10 \cdot 2$ $9 \cdot 9$ $10 \cdot 0$ $10 \cdot 5$ $11 \cdot 3$ $11 \cdot 5$ $11 \cdot 9$ $11 \cdot 8$ $11 \cdot 7$	10.2 9.5 8.8 8.4 8.1 7.8 8.1 7.8 8.1 8.8 8.8 9.0 8.9 1 9.0	$ \begin{array}{r} 11 \cdot 9^{\dagger} \\ 10 \cdot 7 \\ 9 \cdot 9 \\ 9 \cdot 7 \\ 9 \cdot 5 \\ 9 \cdot 4 \\ 9 \cdot 9 \\ 10 \cdot 6 \\ 10 \cdot 8 \\ 11 \cdot 1 \\ 11 \cdot 0 \\ 10 \cdot 9 \\ \end{array} $	8.9 8.1 7.8 7.5 7.0 7.2 7.4 7.9 8.6 8.7 8.6 9.2	$\begin{array}{c} 1,359,000 \\ 1,192,000 \\ 1,095,000 \\ 1,087,000 \\ 1,057,000 \\ 1,049,000 \\ 1,049,000 \\ 1,191,000 \\ 1,243,000 \\ 1,247,000 \\ 1,235,000 \\ 1,319,000 \end{array}$

In 1921 and 1922, the proportions of insured workers unem-ployed in December, in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, were 17.4 per cent. and 12.6 per cent. respectively. As the Unemploy-ment Insurance Acts, prior to the end of 1920, applied to a much smaller number of industries than at present, the total number of insured persons being about 4 millions in 1920, compared with 114 millions at the present time, comparable figures cannot be given insured persons being about 4 minimums in 1920, compared with $11\frac{1}{2}$ millions at the present time, comparable figures cannot be given for earlier years. The following Table, however, gives comparative figures for the period 1900–1924 of the percentage of members unemployed in Trade Unions making returns to the Department,

* In the case of insured workers, the percentages for December relate to 21st December, 1923, and 22nd December, 1924. † This figure relates to 28th January, which was the last full day of a partial stoppage of work on the railways, due to a dispute. ‡ Revised figure.

showing separately (a) the mean of the twelve monthly percentages for each year, and (b) the percentage for the end of December in each year. The aggregate membership of the Trade Unions concerned at the end of 1924 was about 960,000 (see Table on page 10).

Perce	entage Unemployed.		Percentage	Unemployed
		Year.	Mean of Year.	End of December
	2.5 3.5	1913	2.1	2.6
	3·3 4·2 4·0 5·0	1914 1915	3.3	2·5 0·6
	4.7 6.3	1916	0.4	0.3
	5·0 7·1	1917	0.7	1.4
	5.0 4.5	1918	0.8	1.2
1906 3	3·6 <u>4·4</u> 3·7 5·6	1919	2.4	3.2
		1920	2.4	6.0
	7.8 9.1	1921	15.3	16.5
	7.7 6.6	1922	15.4	14.0
	4.7 5.0	1923	11.5	9·7 9·2
1911 3 1912 3	$\begin{array}{c c} 3 \cdot 0 & & 3 \cdot 1 \\ \hline 3 \cdot 2 & & 2 \cdot 3 \end{array}$	1924	8.1	9.2
	3.2 2.3			

At the end of 1924 employment was good, on the whole, in the At the end of 1924 employment was good, on the whole, in the brick and jute industries, in some branches of the cotton trade and with millsawyers, and with most classes of skilled men in the building trades; and it was fairly good in the carpet and silk trades, with printers and bookbinders, with coopers and in certain branches of the metal trades. In coal-mining, and in the wool textile industry, it was slack on the whole; in the iron and steel, engineering, and shipbuilding industries it was bad. As compared with the end of 1923, there was an improvement in the cotton, silk, linen and brick industries, but a decline in the coal-mining, iron and steel, and timplate industries.

coal-mining, iron and steel, and tinplate industries.

A summary of the state of employment in some of the principal industries in 1924 is given below :---

Mining.—In the coal-mining industry employment was good during the earlier months of the year, but a decline began in June and continued until October, when employment was slack in nearly all districts. There was some improvement in November and December, but at the end of the year it was still slack in most districts. The number of wage-earners on the colliery books at districts. The number of wage-earners on the control by books at 20th December, 1924, showed a decrease of about 4 per cent. as compared with the corresponding date of 1923, and the average number of days worked by the pits in the fortnight ended 20th December was less by 0.32 of a day than in the corresponding fortnight of 1923. At shale mines employment was fair throughout the year. At iron mines it was slack generally in Cumberland and Lancashire, and bad in the Cleveland district, though some slight improvement was reported towards the end of the year; in other districts it was moderate to fair.

Metal Trades.—In the pig-iron industry employment was moderate at the beginning of the year, but declined in March, and employment was slack throughout the remainder of the year. Of a total of 487 furnaces, only 167 were in blast at the end of December, as compared with 204 at the end of December, 1923. At iron and steel works with 204 at the end of December, 1925. At from and see, works employment was moderate at the beginning of the year, but declined in March and continued slack in subsequent months, though there was a tendency towards improvement in the last quarter of the year. During the week ending 20th December the number of workpeople employed by firms from which returns were received showed a decrease of 7.6 per cent., and the number of shifts worked of 8.2 per cent. cent. as compared with the corresponding week of the previous year. In the tinplate industry employment was good throughout the greater part of the year, but a marked decline was reported in November and December.

November and December. Employment in the engineering industry was somewhat better than in 1923. It was fairly good in the motor, railway, and electrical sections, but was bad in other branches; in the textile machinery branch it was very bad. In the shipbuilding and ship-repairing trades employment continued bad; there was a ten-dency towards improvement during the first half of the year, but there was a further decline in the autumn. In the other metal trades employment was moderate on the whole and better than during the preceding year; with brassworkers and sheet metal workers, and in the hollow-ware and stove and grate trades, it was fair to fairly good fair to fairly good.

Textile Trades .- Employment in the cotton trade, though showing an improvement in September and subsequent months, continued depressed except in the Egyptian spinning section, where employment was good throughout the year. In the section spinning American cotton much short time was worked, the Employers' Federation cotton much short time was worked, the Employers' Federation recommending the restriction of the working week to 26‡ hours as from 25th February. Towards the end of the year there was an improvement, and the restriction was relaxed to permit a 32-hour week to be worked as from 3rd November, and a 39‡-hour week as from 1st December. In the manufacturing section employment was slack generally, but it improved during the last quarter of the year, and in December was good on the whole

In the woollen and worsted industry employment improved during the early part of the year, and in April and May was fairly good; it then declined and became slack. In the hosiery trade employment was slack at the beginning of the year; it improved in March, but again declined in July and was slack during the remaining months. In the jute and carpet trades employment was generally good; in the lace trade it was bad. In the silk trade employment was moderate in January, but improved and was fairly good in the latter half of the year; in the textile bleaching, printing, dyeing, etc. trades it was slack on the whole.

January, 1925.

Clothing Trades.—At the beginning of the year employment in the tailoring trades was generally slack in the retail bespoke branch, and fair in the wholesale bespoke and ready-made branches; in March it improved and was fair or fairly good in both branches until October, when a decline set in and employment became slack during the last quarter. In the boot and shoe trades employ-ment was moderate throughout the year. Building and Woodworking.—In the building trades employment improved in the early months of the year and, though affected by a dispute between the Trade Unions and federated employers in July and August, was otherwise generally good with skilled workers (other than painters) and slack with unskilled workers. In the brick trade employment was fair in January and February: in March it

trade employment was fair in January and February; in March it improved to fairly good, and following a further improvement in May, was good throughout the remainder of the year. In the furnishing trades employment was quiet in January and February, but improved during succeeding months, and was fair or fairly good towards the end of the year. With coach builders employment was good from January to June, but declined somewhat in later

months; with millsawyers it was generally fairly good. *Paper, Printing, etc., Trades.*—Employment in paper manufacture was moderate throughout 1924. In the printing trade employment was slack in January and February, but subsequently improved and towards the end of the year it was fairly good; with book-binders it was moderate from January to August, but improved in Santamber and most fair during the ameinful of the year in September and was fair during the remainder of the year.

Pottery and Glass.—In the pottery trade employment varied in different sections, but was slack on the whole in the early part of the year. In later months it improved, until the second week of December, when there was a seasonal decline. In the glass trade employment was moderate.

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES.*

The decline in the general level of rates of wages, which had continued since the early months of 1921, was arrested towards the end of 1923, and the changes effected in 1924 were mainly in an upward direction.

In the industries and services for which statistics are available In the industries and services for which statistics are available† the changes reported during the year resulted in an aggregate net increase of about £610,000 in the weekly full-time wages of nearly 3,000,000 workpeople, and in a net decrease of about £60,000 in those of nearly 500,000 workpeople. In 1923 over 3,000,000 workpeople sustained a net decrease of £490,000 a week and 1,200,000 received a net increase of £170,000 a week. The following Table shows the numbers of workpeople affected by the changes in rates of wages reported to the Department in 1923 and 1924, and the net amount of the change in their weekly rates of wages, in each of the principal groups of industries for which statistics are available† :—

Industry	Approx people of sus respect	Total N of Increas Decreas weekly those			
Group.	19	23.	19		
a greft dentis Fa el hacteren	In- creases.	De- creases.	In- creases.	De- creases.	1923.
Survey States and Sales	-				£
Mining and					
Quarrying	955,000	18,000	866,000	357,000	+121,70
Brick, Pottery,		Starting Co			
Glass, Chemical,	1,500	128,000	222,000	150	- 21,90
Iron and Steel	190,000	3,500	165,000	47,000	+ 31,80
Engineering and	150,000	5,500	105,000	+1,000	+ 51,00
Shipbuilding	5,500	156,000	149.000	8,000	- 27,50
Other Metal	31,000	115,500	87,000	44,000	- 16,10
Textile	1,500	194,000	182,000	500	- 12,70
Clothing		422,000	28,000	12,500	- 73,50
Food, Drink and	Charles and the second	1	0123-5134		1 Margaret
Tobacco	500	205,000	78 000	1,500	- 27,50
Woodworking, etc.	100	38,500	54,000	100	- 9,60
Paper, Printing,					
etc	400	112,500	3,000	1,000	- 12,90
Building and Al-	0 500	400.000	477.000	050	00.40
lied Trades	8,500	428,000	473,000	250	- 68,40
Transport	3,000	755,000	331,000	5,500	-123,70
Public Utility Services	5,000	345,000	256,000	9,000	- 56.40
	100	158,000	98,000	500	- 19,90
Other	100	100,000		000	10,50
Total	1.202.100	3,079,000	2,992,000	487.000	- 316,60
AND SAL PROPERTY.	Mark Carlo	The second second	1000	A Shared and	

In comparing the figures for the different groups of industries shown it should be observed that, as the changes in the wages of adult men have usually been greater than those affecting women, boys and girls, comparisons of the average amount of change per head, to be deduced from the figures, are affected by the varying proportions of men, women and young persons employed in different industries. It should also be noted that the changes reported consist mainly of those arranged between organised groups of

• The figures given throughout are preliminary and subject to revision. Those for 1923 and earlier years have been revised in accordance with the latest information available. • The statistics are exclusive of changes affecting agricultural labourers, police, Government employees, domestic servants, shop assistants and clerks. They relate to rates of wages for a full week, assuming full employ-ment, and do not take account of reductions in actual earnings resulting from under-employment. In many cases, changes arranged by individual employers, and affecting unorganised workers, are not reported to the Department.

Net Amount tease (+) or se (-) in the y Wages of e affected. 1924. £ - 125,200 34,700 17,100 46,700 11,900 13,700 2,100 14,300 9,700 300 $\begin{array}{c} 00 + 104,500 \\ 00 + 119,700 \end{array}$ 00 + 549,500

workpeople and employers, and that many changes among unorganised workers, especially those affecting only employees of single firms, are not reported.

The industries mainly responsible for the net increase in wages in 1924, shown in the Table, were coal mining, brick, pottery, glass, chemical, etc., shipbuilding, the building and transport trades, and the public utility services. Nearly one-third of the workers and the public utility services. Nearly one-third of the workers who received a net increase in wages during the year were employed in the coal mining industry. In all the coalfields advances were granted as the result of the adoption of a revised National Agreement which came into operation in May, though in the Bristol, Forest of Dean and Kent districts there was some delay in giving effect to the increases. In some districts wages were raised from the minimum determined under the provisions of the former agreement to that provided under the new one and remained at that level till the end of the year. In others, wages were above the minimum in May, but in year. In others, wages were above the minimum in May, but in most cases there was a gradual decline and in December the minimum had been reached in all districts except Yorkshire and the East Midlands and Radstock. In all the coalfields, except Northumberland, Durham and Scotland, however, the percentage on basis rates was higher at the end of the year than in December, 1923. Brick, pottery, and chemical workers received increases in the principal districts. The wages of operatives engaged in the smelting, rolling, etc., of iron and steel, which fluctuate in correspondence with variations in the selling prices of pig iron or of manufactured iron and steel, were in most cases increased and reduced at different dates, but on balance those of workers in the steel smelting shops, rolling mills, etc. (except in South Wales), showed a net increase. The majority of the workers in federated shipyards received increases in their bonus varying up to a maximum of 7s. a week, and there were also increases in the wages of ship-repairers in the principal centres. In the group of miscellaneous metal trades the principal bodies of workgroup of miscellaneous metal trades the principal bodies of work-people affected by increases were brass workers and electric cable makers. Workpeople in the textile bleaching, dyeing, printing, and finishing trades in Yorkshire, Lancashire and Scotland received a small net increase under cost-of-living sliding scales and a further special advance, except in Scotland, as a result of an arbitration award. Other textile workers whose wages were increased included hosiery workers in the Midlands, carpet makers, and silk workers at Macclesfield. Flour mill workers generally had their rates of wages increased, and there were also a number of increases, unde wages increased, and there were also a number of increases, unde local arrangements, in those of bakers. In the building industry rates of wages generally were increased in February, under a cost-of-living sliding scale, by $\frac{1}{2}$ d. or $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour, and again, by a further $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour, in August, while in London and certain provincial towns special additional advances were granted. The transport workers who received advances mainly consisted of dock labourers, whose wages were raised by 2s. a day, and seamen, who received increases in most cases of 20s. a month, or 6s. 6d. a week. In the public utility services the principal bodies of workers affected were those employed in the electricity and gas supply undertakings and on tramways, all of whom received increases under national arrangements; and workers employed in the non-trading services of Local Authorities, who received increases in a large number of towns. towns.

The largest bodies of workpeople whose wages were reduced during the year were coal miners in Northumberland, Durham and Scotland, workers at blastfurnaces in the principal districts, and tinplate workers in South Wales and Monmouthshire.

About 370,000 workers received increases and decreases of equal amounts during the year. These were mainly railway servants, who received an increase of 1s. a week in January, followed by a reduction of the same amount in July.

In a number of important industries rates of wages remained unchanged throughout the year. These included engineering, the cotton, lace, linen and jute textile industries, the wool textile industry in Yorkshire and Scotland, printing and bookbinding, the tailoring trade and civil engineering construction.

When allowance is made for the relative importance of the different industries, it appears, on the basis of the available information, that the net increase in wages in 1924 was equivalent to between 2 and 3 per cent. of the rates generally prevailing at the beginning of the year, and that at the end of 1924 weekly full-time enter of many approximation of the year. rates of wages averaged about 70 to 75 per cent. above the pre-war level. These figures relate to rates of wages for a full normal week, and take no account of changes in earnings resulting from alterations in the state of employment, the effect of which varied considerably in different industries.

METHODS BY WHICH CHANGES IN WAGES WERE ARRANGED.

As indicated above, some workpeople obtained increases in wages during 1924, others sustained reductions, and in a considerable during 1924, others sustained reductions, and in a considerable number of cases the same workpeople obtained increases and sustained reductions at different dates in the year. The total of all the increases reported to the Department was equivalent to about £880,000 a week, and the total of all the reductions to £330,500 a week, the net effect being an increase of £549,500 a week

a week. Of the total increase of £880,000 weekly, over £400,000 was accounted for by the operation of sliding scales dependent on selling prices, or (in the coal mining industry) on the proceeds of the in dustry; £115,500 resulted from the operation of cost-of-living sliding scales, including £9,500 under scales embodied in Trade Board Orders ; and £154,000 was the result of agreements arrived at by Joint

in the opposite direction in the prices of potatoes. Of other changes in food prices during 1924 the most important were reductions, averaging over the year $2\frac{3}{4}$ d. per lb., in the prices of granulated sugar (partly attributable to the reduction in import duty), and increases in the prices of flour and bread, averaging over the year $3\frac{3}{4}$ d. per 7 lbs. of flour and $1\frac{3}{4}$ d. per 4 lbs. of bread. The price of tea was also reduced by an average of $3\frac{3}{4}$ d. per lb. in April and May, following a reduction in the import duty, but subsequent increases in prices raised the average price at the end of the year to only 1d. below the price prior to the reduction in duty. *Rents.*—The rents (including rates) of working-class dwellings ' (the great majority of which, of course, were controlled by the provisions of the Rent and Mortgage Interest Restrictions Acts) remained unchanged, on average, at about 47 per cent. above the pre-war level, throughout 1924, increases in local rates in some towns being counter-balanced by decreases in others. Industrial Councils and other standing joint bodies of employers and workpeople, nearly £62,000 of this amount taking effect under cost-of-living sliding scales agreed upon by such bodies. Increases amounting to £132,000 were the result of arbitration or mediation, nearly 58 per cent. of this amount being conceded after disputes nearly 58 per cent. of this amount being conceded after disputes causing stoppage of work, and the remaining increases (nearly $\pounds140,000$) were mainly arranged by direct negotiation between employers and workpeople, preceded, in the case of increases amounting to over $\pounds52,000$ by stoppages of work. Of the total decrease of $\pounds330,500, \pounds256,000$ resulted from variations in the pro-ceeds of the coal mining industry in certain districts, over $\pounds50,000$ from the operation of cost-of-living sliding scales, and nearly $\pounds16,000$ from the operation of sliding scales based on selling prices.

being counter-balanced by decreases in others.

being counter-balanced by decreases in others. Clothing.—Retail prices of clothing showed little change generally during 1924. On balance, the changes which were recorded were in an upward direction, and at the end of the year the average increase in the prices of clothing and clothing materials, of the kinds purchased by the working-classes, was approximately 125 to 130 per cent. above the pre-war level, as compared with 120 to 125 per cent. at the beginning of the year. *Fuel and Light* In this group the average increase in retail

Fuel and Light.—In this group, the average increase in retail prices, as compared with July, 1914, was approximately 85 per cent. both at the beginning and at the end of the year, but was slightly higher in the early spring and slightly lower in the summer, in correspondence, mainly, with changes in the price of coal. The price of gas was reduced in some towns during the year, but candles price of the decret in December them in Lemmar. were one-third dearer in December than in January. Lamp oil and matches showed little change in price during the year.

Other Items.—In this group of articles (comprising soap and soda, ironmongery, brushes and pottery, newspapers, tobacco and fares) there were no considerable changes in prices during 1924, and the average percentage increase, as compared with July, 1914, remained at about 80 per cent. throughout the year 1924.

TRADE DISPUTES.

The number of trade disputes causing a stoppage of work, reported to the Department as beginning in 1924, in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, was 692.* In these disputes about 556,CCO workpeople were directly involved and 54,000 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 3,000 workpeople were involved in 12 disputes which began in 1923 and continued into the following year. The total number of workpeople involved in all disputes in progress in which began in 1925 and continued into the following year. The total number of workpeople involved in all disputes in progress in 1924 was thus about 613,000. The aggregate number of working days lost by these workpeople in the disputes was approximately 8,312,000; this total is the lowest recorded for any year since 1918. In 1923 the number of disputes reported as having begun in the year in Great Britain and Northern Ireland was 628; the number

year in Great Britain and Northern Ireland was 628; the number of workpeople involved in all disputes in progress was about 407,000; and the total loss of time in these disputes was about 10,672,000 working days (more than half of which was due to a prolonged dispute in the shipbuilding industry). The following Table summarises by industries the number of disputes reported as *beginning* in 1923 and 1924 in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the number of workpeople involved in all *disputes in progress* in each of these years, and the aggregate duration of all disputes in 1923 and 1924 respectively :--

- 2 State Marine - have a room and		- Carl Charles - Carl Charles	Martin Contraction of the second	and the second second	and the second of the second	77 20 6 37 9 6 1	
	0	1923.	aller som set	1924.†			
Groups of Industries.	No. of Dis- putes begin- ning in 1923.	Number of Work- people involved in all Dis- putes in progress.	Aggregate Duration in Work- ing Days of all Dis- putes in progress.	No. of Dis- putes begin- ning in 1924.	Number of Work- people involved in all Dis- putes in progress.	Aggregate Duration in Work- ing Days of all Dis- putes in progress.	
Mining	186	188,000	1,183,000	179	132,000	1,447,000	
er Mining and uarrying	10_	1,000	16,000	14	4,000	65,000	
k, Pottery, lass, etc	12	1,000	59,000	23	4,000	92,000	
mical	14	2,000	27,000	11	1,000	23,000	
ineering	20 32	2,000 47,000	25,000 5,873,000	33 40	12,000 34,000	109,000	
building er Metal	50	12,000	97,000	61	25,000	597,000 691,000	
tile	35	37,000	1,229,000	50	11,000	201,000	
hing	24	4,000	28,000	32	5,000	45,000	
d, Drink and obacco odworking and	20	8,000	147,000	24	11,000	84,000	
urnishing	19	2,000	42,000	26	3,000	93,000	
er, Printing, etc. ding, Decora-	15	6,000	171,000	12	3,000	17,000	
ng, Contract- g, etc	54	20,000	386,000	53	113,000	3,127,000	
nsport	58	58,000	1,031,000	80	245,000	1,540,000	
er	79	19,000	358,000‡	54	10,000	181,000	
Total	628	407,000§	10,672,000	692	613,000§	8,312,000	

* Disputes involving less than ten workpeople and those which lasted less than one day are omitted from the statistics, except when the aggregate dura-tion (*i.e.*, number of workpeople multiplied by number of working days, allowing for workpeople replaced by others, etc.), exceeded 100 days. † The figures for 1924 are preliminary and subject to correction. ‡ Including 263,000 in Agriculture. § Of the total number shown, approximately 62,000 in 1923 and 54,000 in 1924 were indirectly involved—*i.e.*, thrown out of work in consequence of the disputes at the establishments where the disputes occurred, though not actually on strike or locked out.

January, 1925.

Causes or Objects.—More than one-half of the disputes beginning in 1924 arose out of questions as to wages, among which demands for advances in wages were the most frequently occurring causes of disputes. Of the remaining disputes, the causes most frequently occurring were questions respecting the employment of particular

Principal Disputes.—The principal dispute of 1924 occurred in the building industry. Negotiations were in progress for a general advance in wages and other alterations in working conditions when a stoppage of work occurred at Liverpool, where certain building operatives who had previously received, under a local agreement, exceptionally high rates of wages, refused to accept the lower rates fixed for that district by the National Wages and Conditions Council. No settlement having been effected at Liverpool, national negotia-tions were interrupted and a stoppage involving about 100,000 building operatives began on 7th July and lasted until 22nd August, when an agreement was effected providing. *inter alia*, that Liverpool when an agreement was effected providing, *inter alia*, that Liverpool should retain a local agreement until, at least, December, 1925, and that no change in wages should become operative there until February, 1926.

About 70,000 railway employees—mainly engine-drivers, firemen and cleaners—were involved in a stoppage which was in progress from 21st to 29th January, arising out of the refusal of the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen to accept decisions of the National Wages Board involving alterations in the conditions of overtime pay and in the maximum rate of wages of drivers on shunting, etc., duties. Large numbers of workpeople in coal mining and in various other industries were rendered idle owing to shortage of transport facilities during this stoppage. The decisions of the of transport facilities during this stoppage. The decisions of the National Wages Board were ultimately accepted, subject to certain concessions.

A general strike of dock workers, involving about 110,000 work-people, for an advance in wages and a guaranteed working week, lasted from 18th to 25th February. The advance was granted in two instalments, and a Committee was established to consider the question of a guaranteed working week.

About 40,000 London tramway and omnibus employees ceased work from 22nd to 31st March to secure an advance in wages for the tramway employees. Following the introduction by the Government of the London Traffic Bill (to provide for control of traffic and thus, *inter alia*, to relieve the financial difficulties of the tramway undertakings), a modified advance in wages was granted.

The principal dispute occurring in other industries in 1924 was a lock-out of about 20,000 shipyard workers in Federated districts (Clyde, East of Scotland, North-East Coast, Hull, Barrow, Birken-head, etc.), which was imposed from 12th to 23rd April in order to enforce a resumption of work at Southampton, where about 7,000 workpeople had been on strike since February to secure an advance in wages. After resumption of work at Southampton, the lock-out was withdrawn.

Comparative figures for 1910–1924.—The following Table shows the total number of disputes (involving a stoppage of work) reported to the Department as beginning in Great Britain and Northern Ireland in each of the years 1910–1924, together with the number of workpeople involved in these disputes, and the aggregate number of working days lost in all disputes in progress during the year (irrespective of the date of commencement) at the establishments (irrespective of the date of commencement) at the establishments where the disputes occurred. It should be observed, in comparing the figures in this Table with those given in the foregoing Table, relating to 1923 and 1924, that in the following Table the particulars of numbers involved relate to those involved in disputes beginning in each year, whilst in the previous Table they relate to the total numbers involved in all disputes in progress :—

Number of Disputes Year. beginning in		volved in Disp	Number of Workpeople in- volved in Disputes beginning in Year.*			
	Year.	Directly.	Indirectly.	putes in progress during Year.		
1910 1911 1912 1913 1914 1915 1916 1917 1918 1920 1921 1922 1923 1924	521 872 834 1,459 972 672 532 730 1,165 1,352 1,607 763 576 628 692†	$\begin{array}{r} 384,000\\824,000\\1,232,000\\498,000\\326,000\\401,000\\235,000\\575,000\\923,000\\2,400,000\\1,779,000\\1,779,000\\1,779,000\\512,000\\343,000\\556,000 \\ \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} 130,000\\ 128,000\\ 230,000\\ 166,000\\ 121,000\\ 47,000\\ 47,000\\ 93,000\\ 193,000\\ 193,000\\ 193,000\\ 193,000\\ 31,000\\ 40,000\\ 62,000\\ 54,000\dagger \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} 9,867,000\\ 10,155,000\\ 40,890,000\\ 9,804,000\\ 9,878,000\\ 2,953,000\\ 2,953,000\\ 2,446,000\\ 5,647,000\\ 5,875,000\\ 34,969,000\\ 26,567,000\\ 85,872,000\\ 19,850,000\\ 10,672,000\\ 8,312,000\dagger \end{array}$		

The total number of disputes recorded in 1924 and of workpeople involved in such disputes was larger than in either of the two previous years, but was still much below the figures for 1917–1921. The total time lost owing to disputes in 1924 was less than in any other year included in the Table except 1915-1918.

• Workpeople involved in more than one dispute during the year are counted more than once in the totals for the year. The extent of such duplication is not very considerable except in the coal mining group in 1921, 1920, 1919 and 1912, in which about 100,000 workpeople in 1921, 300,000 workpeople in 1920, 150,000 workpeople in 1919, and 106,000 workpeople in 1912 were involved in more than one dispute. (See also footnote * in second column on page 4.) † The figures for 1924 are preliminary and subject to correction. * These rates are applicable only while the index number remains over 70. If, after the rates shown in col. (3) have come into operation as a result of a fall in the index number, a rise in wages subsequently becomes due owing to an increase in the index number to over 70, the rates payable to males in the heel-building and stock and shoe rooms will then be the same as those shown in col. (4), and not those shown in col. (2).

6,038,000 4,221,000 485,600 61,800

CHANGES IN HOURS OF LABOUR.

There were no outstanding changes in recognised hours of labour in 1924.

2,456,000 4,760,000 13,500 11,500

169,000 611,300

CHANGES IN WAGES IN THE YEARS 1919-1924.

The following Table shows the number of workpeople, in the industries and services for which statistics are available,[†] whose rates of wages were increased or reduced (so far as reported) in each

of the years 1919-1924, and the net amount of increase or decrease

 Total Net Amount of
 Net Increases (+) or Decrease (-) in the rates of Wages of those affected.

+ 2,456,000 + 4,760,000 - 6,024,500

-+

316,600 549,500

Brie

Che Eng Shij Oth Tex Clot Foo

Woo F Pap Buil

Tran

in their weekly rates of wages :-

6,174,000 7,796,000 78,000 74,000

1,202,000 2,992,000

Approximate Number of Workpeople whose rates of Wages were

Increased. Reduced.

7 166 000

487,000

CHANGES IN COST OF LIVING.

Ar the beginning of 1924 the cost of maintaining unchanged the pre-war standard of living of working-class families, as shown by the index numbers compiled by the Department, averaged approximately 77 per cent. above the level of July, 1914, as compared with 78 per cent. at the beginning of the previous year. After a slight rise in January there was a continuous decline from February until the end of May, when the index number had fallen to 69 per cent. above the level of July, 1914, the same as at the end of 69 per cent. above the level of July, 1914, the same as at the end of May, 1923. There was a gradual upward movement, however, in June, July, and August, followed by a sharp rise in the next two months, and although there was little change in November and December, the index number for 1st January, 1925, was slightly higher than at the beginning of 1924, and 80 per cent. above the level of July, 1914.

The following Table shows, month by month during 1924, the average percentage increase over the level of July, 1914, in the retail prices of each of the five main groups of items (food, rent, clothing, prices of each of the five main groups of items (rood, reft, ciothing, fuel and light, and miscellaneous other items) included in the Ministry of Labour index numbers. The particulars given relate to the changes in the prices of those articles, and those descriptions of each article, most generally bought by working-class families. In computing the final percentages for "All Items," those given for the various groups are combined in the following proportions: the various groups are combined in the following proportions: food $7\frac{1}{2}$, rent 2, clothing $1\frac{1}{2}$, fuel and light 1, other items included $\frac{1}{2}$. Details of the separate articles included within these groups, and of the methods adopted in compiling these index numbers, were published in the issues of this GAZETTE for February, 1921, and July, 1923.

Average Percentage Increase in Retail Prices, Rents, etc., as compared with the level of July, 1914.

Date.	Food.	Rent (including Rates).	Clothing.	Fuel and Light.	Other Items included.	All Items included.
1924 : January 1st February 1st March 1st May 1st May 31st July 1st August 1st September 1st October 1st November 1st	75 77 63 60 62 64 66 72 79 80	47 47 47 47 47 47 47 47 47 47 47 47	$\begin{array}{c} 120-125\\ 120-125\\ 125\\ 125\\ 125\\ 125\\ 125\\ 125\\ 125\\ $	85 85-90 90 85 85 85 80-85 85 85 85 85 85 85	80 80 80 80 80 80 80 80 80 80 80 80 80	77 79 78 73 71 69 70 71 71 72 76 80 81
1925: January 1st	78	47	125-130	85	80	80

It will be seen from this Table that the changes during 1924

in the general index numbers for all items combined were mainly due to changes in the prices of food. *Food.*—There was a decline in the average level of food prices during the first five months of 1924, and an advance during the last seven months of the year, due largely to seasonal movements in the prices of eggs, butter and milk, partly offset, however, by movements

+ See note (†) on page 3.

Year.

1923

January, 1925.

THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE.

WAGES IN THE BOOT AND SHOE INDUSTRY.

A NEW Agreement arrived at by a National Conference of Repre-sentatives of the Employers' Federation and of the Trade Union, dealing with wages and various other conditions of employment in the Boot and Shoe Manufacturing Industry, came into operation on the first pay day in December. The Agreement is to remain in force until October, 1926, or until a subsequent agreement shall have been writind ratified

ratified. The Agreement fixes minimum day-wage rates, for male and female workers of various ages, which are subject to variation in corre-spondence with fluctuations in the Ministry of Labour cost-of-living index number, any necessary changes taking effect in June or November, based on the index figures published in April and September. The rates payable (a) when the index number is over 70, and (b) when the index figure falls to 70 or below but is above 50, are shown in the following Table. When the index figure falls to 50 or less the rates are subject to further reductions of 2s, and 1s, in the case of adult males and adult females respectively, and of 6d. to 1s. 6d. in the case of juveniles. If the index number falls to 30, further reductions become due of 4s. for adult males, 2s. for adult females, and of 1s, to 4s. for juveniles. females, and of 1s. to 4s. for juveniles.

Age.	heel-buil	ployed in ding and shoe rooms.	Males em other dep		the closing building d and in the	mployed in g and heel- epartments stock and rooms.
(1)	Index No. over 70.* (2)	Index No. 51 to 70. (3)	Index No. over 70. (4)	Index No. 51 to 70. (5)	Index No. over 70. (6)	Index No. 51 to 70. (7)
15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	s. d. 13 0 17 0 21 0 25 6 31 0 36 0 	s. d. 12 0 16 0 20 0 24 3 29 6 34 0

The rates quoted above do not apply to clerks, engineers, mechanics, electricians, stokers, porters, sweepers-up, lift and hoist men, care-takers and timekeepers, nor to labourers and odd-job men not engaged in actual manufacturing. Persons under 18 are not eligible for the rates specified until they have had 12 months' experience in the trade, but during the period of probation they are to receive an advance in wages at the end of six months and the full minimum rate after 12 months' experience.

advance in wages at the end of six months and the full minimum rate after 12 months' service. As regards piece-workers, provision is made for percentage addi-tions to, or deductions from, total earnings corresponding with the variations, under the sliding scale, in the minimum day rates, the amounts differing on the various Piece Price Statements in opera-tion. These Statements are required to yield to the average worker not less than 25 per cent. above the minimum wage, and where necessary they are to be revised on this basis. Where general or shop Statements do not exist, the Local Arbitration Boards are to prepare piece-work Statements for their respective districts. All manufacturers and operatives are to accept such Statements as a basis of payment, but the system is to be termed a day-work system and the wages of the operatives are to be regulated and adjusted basis of payment, but the system is to be termed a day-work system and the wages of the operatives are to be regulated and adjusted weekly according to the amount of work done at the prices fixed, provided that no adult operative shall be engaged at less than the minimum wage rate without the permit of the Union or the Local Arbitration Board in cases where the minimum wage is applicable, and provided also that, when operatives have been supplied with a full quantity of work and reasonable facilities for the proper per-formance of their work and do not earn the minimum wage rate, they shall be paid only for the actual work done. The hours of labour are defined in the Agreement as 48 per week, and overtime is to be paid for at the rate of time and a quarter (or

The hours of labour are defined in the Agreement as 48 per week, and overtime is to be paid for at the rate of time and a quarter (or 25 per cent. above the piece-work prices) except on Saturday, when time and a half (or piece-work prices plus 50 per cent.) is to be paid. Overtime is only paid for after a full normal week of 48 hours has been worked, unless there has been an interruption for which the employer is responsible, or time has been lost through sickness certified to the satisfaction of the employer. On the subject of boy labour the Agreement provides that in the clicking, press, lasting and finishing departments the propor-tion borne by the aggregate number of boys under 19 years of age to the aggregate number of men shall not exceed one boy to every four men, and that in none of these departments shall the pro-portion exceed one boy to three men. The heel-building and preparing or fitting-up departments and the stock and shoe rooms, are exempt from these restrictions. The Agreement expresses the opinion that it is undesirable that females should be employed amongst male operatives in the clicking, press, lasting and finishing departments, and the Conference recom-mended that where females are now so employed such conditions should gradually cease, subject to the condition that employers should be free to employ females in the clicking and press departments under separate working conditions. The Agreement re-affirms the provisions of previous agreements in regard to the machinery for the avoidance of disputes, through the operation of Local Arbitration Boards. and overtime is to be paid for at the rate of time and a quarter (or

OUTPUT, COSTS OF PRODUCTION AND PROCEEDS OF THE COAL MINING INDUSTRY.

A STATISTICAL summary* of the output and of the costs of production, proceeds and profits of the coal mining industry for the quarter ended 30th September, 1924, prepared by the Mines Department, shows that at undertakings which produced about 92 per cent. of the total quantity of saleable coal raised in the quarter, 59,163,976 raised, of which 54,136,824 tons were disposable commercially.

The net costs, after deducting the proceeds of miners' coal, amounted to $\pm 51,786,715$, equivalent to 19s. $\pm 58d$. per ton, and the proceeds of commercial disposals to $\pm 51,851,407$, equivalent to 19s. $\pm 87d$. per ton. There was thus a credit balance of $\pm 64,692$, or 0.29d, per ton. An analysis by districts shows that in Durham, Yorkshire and the East Midlands, the Forest of Dean and Somerset, FORSHIP and the East Midlands, the Forest of Deah and Somerset, there were credit balances ranging from 7.51d. per ton to 1s. 1.81d. per ton, and in other districts there were debit balances ranging from 0.61d. per ton in South Staffs and Salop to 2s. 11.35d. in Cumberland, 3s. 0.80d. in Bristol, and 6s. 9.12d. per ton in Kent. The number of workpeople employed was 1,083,702, the number of man-shifts worked was 68,261,155, and the number of man-shifts bet the per ton an ended man context and the number of man-shifts

lost that could have been worked was 6,046,371. The average output per man-shift worked, based on the tonnage of saleable coal raised, was 17.33 cwts., the average for the districts ranging from 11.24 cwts. in the Bristol coalfield and 13.07 cwts. in Somerset to 19.91 cwts. in Yorkshire and the East Midlands. The average earnings per man-shift worked were 10s. 10.22d.

It is pointed out in the return that the figures relating to Bristol

and Kent are abnormal owing to stoppages of work. The following Table compares some of the more important figures in the return with those given in the returns for the previous quarters of 1922, 1923, and 1924. The figures given relate to under-takings producing 92 to 95 per cent. of the total quantity of sale-able coal raised. able coal raised.

Quarter ended	Amount of saleable coal raised.	Credit (+) or Debit (-) balance per ton.†	No. of workpeople employed.	Output per man- shift worked.	Earnings per man- shift worked.
31st March, 1922 30th June, 1922 31st Dec., 1922 31st Dec., 1922 30th June, 1923 30th Sept., 1923 31st Dec., 1923 31st Dec., 1923 31st March, 1924 30th June, 1924	Tons. 57,633,631 55,261,024 58,517,767 64,538,199 67,077,543 65,527,464 61,599,982 67,838,789 67,047,657 61,552,868 59,163,976	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	$\begin{array}{c} 1,020,207\\ 1,025,592\\ 1,027,853\\ 1,068,594\\ 1,087,733\\ 1,102,380\\ 1,108,259\\ 1,120,204\\ 1,111,280\\ 1,107,457\\ 1,083,702 \end{array}$	Cwts. 18:23 17:80 17:94 18:10 18:25 17:90 17:42 17:76 17:79 17:48 17:33	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$

TRADE BOARDS ACTS.

STATEMENT OF GOVERNMENT POLICY.

minimum rates in operation are concerned, that many of the principal changes advocated by the Cave Committee can be, and in some cases have been, adopted without legislation. As regards the question of the formation of district machinery, regards the question of the formation of district machinery, this matter is one which must be approached with caution, and is at the moment being carefully considered. It is not a matter which in the main would require new legislation to carry out the Cave Committee's conclusion. So far as the application of the Acts to new trades are concerned, the Government will adopt the principles which were recommended strongly by the Cave Committee in that

(a) they will only extend the Acts to new trades where it has been clearly ascertained by systematic investigation that sweating conditions prevail in any trade, and

" (b) then only after a public inquiry to examine the facts and to hear objections in any case of doubt."

EMPLOYMENT OF EX-SERVICE MEN INDUSTRIAL TRAINING.

At 30th December, 1924, the number of men in training was 6,810 and the number awaiting training 2,146. Since 1st August, 1919, 88,820 men have terminated training.

NATIONAL SCHEME (KING'S ROLL).

The latest returns show that there are approximately 28,500 firms on the King's National Roll. The number of disabled ex-Service men employed by these firms is approximately 350,000.

* Cmd, 2308. H.M. Stationery Office : Price 1d. net. † Calculated on the quantity of coal disposable commercially.

INDUSTRIAL RECONSTRUCTION COMMITTEES IN DECEMBER.

January, 1925.

DURING the four weeks ended 27th December, 1924, twelve meetings of Joint Industrial Councils and Interim Industrial Reconstruction Committees were reported to the Ministry of Labour. At the meeting of the Match Manufacturing Joint Industrial Council notice was given by the Workers' Side of their intention to make certain proposals regarding the application of the holiday privileges granted by the Council. At the meeting of the Joint Industrial Council for the Seed Crushing and Compound Cake Manufacturing Industry it was decided to continue for another three months the bonus which had been operative during the previous six months. Four wages agreements made by District Councils were confirmed by the Electricity (Supply) Joint Industrial Council. These agree-ments resulted from negotiations which were undertaken in the light of the recommendations made in the recent report of the Special Wages Tribunal for the industry and adopted by the National Council. National Council.

The Tramway Joint Industrial Council made arrangements for the purpose of giving certain undertakings the opportunity of submitting appeals arising out of the decisions and report of the Wages Tribunal, and a special Wages Committee was set up to

wages Tribunal, and a special wages committee was set up to consider such appeals. The *Furniture Warehousing and Removing* Interim Industrial Reconstruction Committee held two meetings in December. At the first meeting a resolution was passed to form the Committee into a first meeting a resolution was passed to form the committee into a Joint Industrial Council; and at the second it was agreed to adopt the constitution which had been framed for the Council. A claim by the Workers' Side for an increase in wages was considered and a sub-committee appointed to consider the matter. Notice was also given by the Trade Union Side of the British Coir Mat and Matting Joint Industrial Council in accordance with

Corr Mat and Mating Joint Industrial Council in accordance with paragraph 16 of Award 968 of the Industrial Court to terminate the existing scale of wages. The question of future wages was discussed at the meeting of the Optical Instruments Interim Industrial Reconstruction Committee. The Chalk Sectional Council for the Quarrying Joint Industrial Council considered the wages position in the industry.

OVERSEAS SETTLEMENT: CHILD MIGRATION TO CANADA.

THE Government of Canada invited H.M. Government last year to send a Delegation to that Dominion to obtain first-hand informa-tion with regard to the system of child migration and settlement in Canada, including the arrangements at the Receiving Homes to which the children proceed on arrival, the manner in which the children are placed out in Canadian households, the system of inspection of the households, both before and after placing, and the subsequent supervision of the children. A Delegation was appointed accordingly by the Secretary of State for the Colonies in the last Government, and this Delegation has now presented its Report.* Report.*

Report.* The members of the Delegation consider that, on the whole, the present system works satisfactorily, and that the prospects for the boys and girls in Canada are better than they would have been had they remained in the United Kingdom. They suggest improve-ments, however, in the method of selection of the children, in the inspection of the homes proposed for the children, and in the regular supervision of the children after they are placed. They recommend the simplification of the present system of Receiving Homes, and co-operation among the various philanthropic societies in this country engaged in sending out parties of children, in the work of inspection, and in the fixing of standard rates of wages.

CHANGES IN WAGES IN DENMARK: FIRST QUARTER OF 1924.

A RECENT issue of the journal of the Danish Statistical Depart-ment⁺ contains statistics of wages for the first quarter of 1924, compiled from returns furnished by the Danish Employers' Associa-tion. The particulars relate to a number of trades which, it is stated, are sufficient to be regarded as representative of manufactures and handicrafts generally. (Corresponding figures for the fourth quarter of 1923 were given in the issue of this GAZETTE for September, 1924, and for the first quarter of 1923 in the issue for October, 1923.) The number of workpeople covered by the latest returns is approximately 98,000, and the industries most strongly represented are metal and engineering (26,000), building (9,800), food prepara-tion (8,600), textiles (8,000), printing and paper (6,400), and pottery, glass and stone (6,000). A RECENT issue of the journal of the Danish Statistical Depart

The general result of the computation shows that, if the country

the general result of the computation shows that, if the country be taken as a whole, the average hourly earnings amounted to 1.37 kroner (as compared with 1.39 and 1.37 kroner respectively in the fourth and third quarters of 1923), and that they were 173 per cent. above the level of 1914. For skilled workmen the average hourly earnings decreased from 1.71 kroner in the fourth quarter

* Cmd. 2285. H.M. Stationery Office; price 6d. net. + Statistiske Efterretninger, 17 December, 1924. Copenhagen

of 1923 to 1.70 in the first quarter of 1924; while those for unskilled men remained at 1.36 kroner. The average hourly earnings of female workers rose from 0.87 krone to 0.89 krone.

As regards later movements of wages, the Danish official journal states that since the first quarter of 1924 wages have increased, and that at the present time, if the country be taken as a whole, the average hourly earnings of skilled men may be taken to range from 1.77 to 1.78 kroner and for unskilled men from 1.41 to 1.42 kroner while the average earnings of women size about 0.91 kroner. The right to exemption is to be carefully supervised by the Sickness Insurance Offices. kroner; while the average earnings of women are about 0.91 krone

WAGES OF ROTTERDAM DOCK WORKERS.

A DESPATCH received from H.M. Commercial Secretary at The Hague furnishes details extracted from the Nieuwe Rotterdamsche Courant concerning wages of dock labourers in Rotterdam. The wage rates for permanent and "reserve" dock workers are given separately. (The system of dealing with dock labour at Rotterdam is described in this GAZETTE for June, 1923, page 200.)

An enquiry undertaken by the Federal Bureau of Labour Statistics, As enquiry undertaken by the Federal Bureau of Labour Statistics, Washington, into wages and hours of labour in the men's clothing industry of the United States has been recently completed. It covered 27,681 wage earners employed, in the year 1924, in 152 establishments situated in New York City, Chicago, Rochester, Baltimore, Philadelphia, Cincinnati, Boston and other towns. The workpeople reported upon represent, according to the 1921 United States Census of Manufactures, one-sixth of the wage earners in the industry in the United States, and rather more than one fourth of all wage earners in the industry in the cities indicated Permanent Workers .- The average number of permanent workers employed during 1924 was 4,233. The nominal minimum wages was 48s. 5d. for enginemen and 44s. 1d. for ordinary dock workers. was 408. 56. for enginemen and 448. 1d. for ordinary dock workers. In practice minimum wages were really higher. For the first three quarters of 1924, dock workers' wages averaged 60s. 2d. a week. Returns made by five large firms employing together nearly 2,000 workers show that the weekly wages of enginemen ranged from 74s. 1d. to 80s. 6d., and those of ordinary dock workers from 56s. 8d. to 62s. 3d., the largest firm, which employed over 1,000 one-fourth of all wage earners in the industry in the cities indicated. Data were extracted from pay rolls for periods in June, July and August, the greater proportion being in respect of the last two workers, paying the highest rates. months.

For piece workers, returns from 13 firms employing 1,592 workers show that the average weekly earnings for ordinary dock workers ranged from 55s. 4d. to 69s. 11d.

The information given in the following Table shows for 1913 and 1924 the average full-time hours worked per week and the average earnings per hour and per week in occupations in which more than 500 persons were usually employed. Figures are added showing These two sets of returns, for workers on weekly rates and for piece workers, cover 3,531 out of the average permanent labour force of 4,233 men. the percentage increase or decrease in hours and earnings between the years mentioned.

"Reserve" Workers .-- Workers to the number of about 3,500 "Reserve" Workers.—Workers to the number of about 3,500 form the regular "dock reserve." In addition to these, since the revival in shipping at the end of 1923, a considerable number have been employed who may be regarded as a "reserve" for 1924 only. The "dock reserve" workers received a daily rate of 9s. 8d., making a weekly wage of 52s. 6d., a decrease in weekly rates of about 4 per cent. as compared with 1922, but an increase of about 11 per cent. as compared with 1923. The following table shows the numbers employed at various rates in 1924, with comparative figures for 1922 and 1923. Daily rates were lower in 1924 than in either 1922 or 1923, but weekly earnings were higher than in 1923 and only slightly lower than in 1922.

W LL P	Numbers employed.			
Weekly Earnings.	1924.	1923.	1922.	
Under 43s. 3d. 43s. 3d48s. 5d. 43s. 5d52s. 0d. 52s. 0d57s. 1d. 57s. 1d62s. 3d. Over 62s. 3d.	165 513 681 1,423 471 162	842 970 605 697 265 51	172 519 614 1,007 594 409	
Total	3,415	3,430	3,315	

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE IN GERMANY.

EXCLUSION OF CERTAIN CLASSES.†

By Administrative Regulations of 14th November last, issued under the Unemployment Relief Order of 16th February, 1924 (see this GAZETTE for March, 1924, page 82), the following classes of workers are declared exempt from compulsory contributions to Federal unemployment relief :--

(1) Persons employed in agriculture or forestry and inland or coastal fishing, if, at the same time, they own or rent plots of land sufficient to be the main support of themselves and their families.

and their families.
(2) Wives or dependants of persons named in (1), whether they are occasionally employed as workers or not.
(3) Workers in agriculture or forestry who (a) are employed on contract for at least one year, (b) are employed on contract for an unspecified period and may not be dismissed, unless for serious reasons, without three months' notice, (c) live in the household of the employer.
(4) Indoor domestic workers.
(5) Persons employed in inlend or constal fishing who are

(5) Persons employed in inland or coastal fishing who are entitled to a share in the catch.

* Dutch currency has been converted at the average rate of exchange for the first 9 months of 1924, viz., 11.564 guilders to the £1. † *Reichsarbeitsblatt*, 24th November, 1924. Berlin.

(6) Apprentices employed under written indentures for an apprenticeship of at least two years. Exemption from compulsory contribution ceases six months before the end of the apprenticeship.

This Order, which came into force on 1st December, 1924, repealed two earlier Orders of 13th March and 24th May, 1924. The repealed Orders had already exempted all the above classes except (3) (c), (4) and (6), so that the additional categories relieved from liability for compulsory insurance contributions are agricultural workers living in the household of their employers, indoor domestic servants and apprentices.

WAGES AND HOURS IN THE UNITED STATES.

MEN'S CLOTHING INDUSTRY, 1913 TO 1924.*

The averages in the Table are compiled from full-time hours per week and from the hours actually worked and the earnings actually earned by each worker. "Full-time hours per week" is defined as being the number of hours that are accepted by employers and workpeople as constituting a regular full working week, beyond which any work done is to be considered as overtime.

	Time	erage 1 Hours Week.	per	Avera ings p			Time	age Ful Earning Week.	
Occupation and Sex.	1913.	1924.	Decrease in 1924.	1913.	1924.	Increase in 1924.	1913.	1924.	Increase in 1924.
a his	Trank .		Per	Dol-	Dol-	Per	Dol-	Dol-	Per
MALES.	Care Hill	200	cent.	lars.	lars.	cent	lars.	lars.	cent
Basters, coat	52.5	44.4	15		0.889	233	14.00	39.47	182
Bushelers and tailors	52.2	44.1	16	0.273	0.879	222	14.23	38.76	172
Cutters, cloth, hand			1 1 1 1	the second	1		Shines !!		-
and machine	49.0	44.2	10		1.111	157	21.16	49.11	132
Machine sewers, coat	52.5	44.1	16	0.305	1.033	239	15.93	45.56	186
Machine sewers,	C. R.S. C.	and the state	A Designed			and and and	1777 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1		
trousers	52.6	44.2	16	0.313	0.965	208	16.40	42.65	160
Pressers, coat	52.3	44.2	15	0.291	0.934		15.19	41.28	172
Pressers, trousers	52.3	44.4	15	0.309	0.890	188	16.14	39.52	145
FEMALES.			1				ALL PROPERTY.		
Basters, coat	52.4	43.2	18	0.186	0.592	218	9.73	25.57	163
Hand sewers, coat	52.1	44.1	15	0.179	0.555		9.33	24.48	162
Hand sewers, trousers	52.2	44.3	15	0.163	0.447		8.51	19.80	133
Hand sewers, vest	52.3	44.0	16	0.188	0.569		9.81	25.04	155
Machine sewers, coat	52.1	43.6	16	0.199	0.614		10.34	26.77	159
Machine sewers,			ALC: NO			1000		Contraction of the	
trousers	52.3	44.7	15	0.199	0.556	179	10.37	24.85	140
Machine sewers, vest	52.4		16	0.226	0.600		11.82	26.28	122
	-	1000	-	-					
All occupations† and both sexes	52·0‡	44.1	15	0.264	0.760	196	13·63‡	33.52	154

From the above Table it will be observed that between the years 1913 and 1924 average earnings per hour increased 196 per cent., while the full-time hours per week, on the other hand, were reduced by 15 per cent. The net result of these two factors was that full-time weekly earnings in 1924 were 154 per cent. above those of 1913.

NOTE.

The February issue of this GAZETTE will include a special free supplement containing a series of charts, diagrams, etc., illustrating the principal official statistics relating to labour conditions (employment, cost of living, wages, industrial disputes, etc.) in recent years.

* Monthly Labor Review. November, 1924. Published by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Washington (D.C.). † Including occupations not shown in the Table. ‡ The 1913 average is based upon the principal occupations only.

January, 1925.

January, 1925.

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

Summary : A	verage Incr	eases sin	nce Ju	ıly, 1914.
All Items	included			80%

78% Food only

FOOD.

At 1st January the average level of retail prices of food was slightly lower than at 1st December, owing to reductions in the prices of eggs and sugar. There was relatively little change in the prices of the remaining articles of food included in the statistics, except fish,

the remaining articles of food included in the statistics, except fish, which was dearer at 1st January than a month earlier. As a net result of all the changes recorded, the average increase over the level of July, 1914, in the retail prices (in Great Britain and Northern Ireland) of the articles of food included in these statistics fell to about 78 per cent. at 1st January, as compared with approximately 80 per cent. at 1st December. In the following Table is given a comparison of retail prices of these articles of food in July, 1914, and at 1st December, 1924 and let January 1925

1st January, 1925 :-

Article.	other	Price (per wise indica he nearest	Average Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) at 1st Jan., 1925, as compared with			
	July, 1914.	1st Dec., 1924.	lst Jan. 1925.	July, 1914.	1st Dec., 1924.	
Beef, British— Ribs Thin Flank	s. d. $0 \ 10$ $0 \ 6\frac{1}{2}$	s. d. 1 6 0 10	s. d. 1 6 0 10	$ \begin{array}{cccc} $	s. d. 	
Beef, Chilled or Frozen— Ribs Thin Flank Mutton, British—	0 7 1 0 4 <u>4</u>	$\begin{array}{c} 0 & 10\frac{1}{5}\\ 0 & 5\frac{1}{2} \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} 0 & 10\frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & 5\frac{3}{2} \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} + & 0 & 3\frac{1}{4} \\ + & 0 & 1 \end{array}$		
Legs Breast Mutton, Frozen—	0 101 0 61	1 8 1 0 11 1	$ \begin{array}{c} 1 & 8 \\ 1 & 1 \\ $	$+ 0 9\frac{3}{4}$ + 0 4 $\frac{3}{4}$		
Legs Breast Bacon (streaky)*	$\begin{array}{ccc} 0 & 6\frac{3}{4} \\ 0 & 4 \\ 0 & 11\frac{1}{4} \end{array}$	1 03 0 5 1 5 1	1 03 0 51 1 53	$\begin{array}{c} + 0 & 6 \\ + 0 & 1\frac{1}{2} \\ + 0 & 6\frac{1}{2} \end{array}$	 	
Flour per 7 lb. Bread per 4 lb. Tea Sugar (granulated) Milk per quart Butter—	$\begin{array}{c} 0 & 10\frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & 5\frac{1}{2} \\ 1 & 6\frac{1}{4} \\ 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 3\frac{1}{2} \end{array}$	1 61 0 101 2 51 0 41 0 61	$ \begin{array}{c} 1 & 6\frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & 10\frac{1}{4} \\ 2 & 5\frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & 4 \\ 0 & 6\frac{3}{4} \end{array} $	$\begin{array}{c} + 0 & 8 \\ + 0 & 4\frac{1}{2} \\ + 0 & 11\frac{1}{4} \\ + 0 & 2 \\ + 0 & 3\frac{1}{4} \end{array}$	+ 0 01 + 0 01 + 0 01 + 0 01 + 0 01 + 0 01 + 0 01 + 0 01 + 0 01 + 0 + 0	
Fresh Salt Cheese† Margarine Eggs (fresh) each Potatoes per 7 lb.	$ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	$ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	$ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	$\begin{array}{c} + 1 & 0^{\frac{34}{4}} \\ + 0 & 1^{\frac{14}{4}} \\ + 0 & 5^{\frac{14}{4}} \\ + 0 & 1^{\frac{14}{4}} \\ + 0 & 5^{\frac{14}{4}} \\ + 0 & 5^{\frac{14}{4}} \end{array}$	···· - 0 01	

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

		1st Jan	Percentage I ., 1925, as co ith July, 191	mpared	Corre- sponding	
Article.		Large Towns (Popula- tions over 50,000).	Small Towns and Villages.	General Average.	figure for lst Dec., 1924.	
Beef, British— Ribs	r hanne	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	
Thin Flank		49	52	50	51	
Beef, Chilled or Frozen			The second second	ber lana	Canagoo M	
Ribs		. 50	43	47	46	
Thin Flank	•••	16	19	17	17	
Mutton, British— Legs		93	93	93	93	
Breast		75	71	73	72	
Mutton, Frozen-		自然而空影	Constant of the		ALC CO. Buch	
Legs	1000000	92	82	87	86	
Breast	•••	39 60	35 59	37 60	36 58	
Bacon (streaky)*		156	125	141	124	
Fish	•••	100	100	-11		
Flour		72	76	74	72	
Bread		78	74	76	76	
Tea		59 100	64 92	61 96	60 103	
Sugar (granulated)		90	97	94	94	
Butter—	•••	50	91	31		
Fresh		83	93	88	88	
Salt		81	84	82	82	
Cheese†		62	62	62	62	
Margarine		-2^{+}_{156}	- 7‡	-5^{+}_{151}	- 4‡ 194	
Eggs (fresh) Potatoes	•••	132	96	1114	194	
rotatoes		104				
All above articles of (Weighted Perce Increase).	Food antage	80	77	78	80	

If this kind is seldom dealt with in a locality, the returns quote the price nother kind locally representative. The description of cheese specified for quotation is Canadian or American, where such cheese is seldom sold in a locality the returns quote the price nother 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 rents of working-class dwellings between July, 1914, and 1st January, 1925, was approximately 47 per cent. Of the total increase, about two-fifths is accounted for by increases on account of rates and water charges and about two-fifths is on account of the landlord's responsibility for repairs, increases on account of the higher level of mortgage interest permitted by the Acts falling within the remaining one-fifth.

of the higher level of mortgage interest permitted by the Acts falling within the remaining one-fifth. 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, underclothing and hosiery, textile materials and hosts received from retailers in the principal prices of men's suits and overcoats, underclothing and hostery, textile materials and boots, received from retailers in the principal towns, indicates that at 1st January 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, averaged about 125 to 130 per cent. higher than in July, 1914.

In the *fuel and light* group the average retail price of coal was about the same as a month earlier, and **approximately** 100 per cent. above the level of July, 1914. The average price of gas remained between 45 and 50 per cent. above the pre-war level, and the prices of lamp oil, candles and matches also showed no appreciable change during the month. Taking the fuel and light group as a whole, the average increase at 1st January, as compared with July, 1914, was about 85 per cent.

ALL ITEMS.

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 iron-mongery, brushware and pottery, tobacco, fares and newspapers (averaging about 80 per cent.), the resultant general average increase for 1st January is approximately 80 per cent.⁴ over the pre-war level, as compared with 81 per cent. a month earlier. The result of this calculation (in which the same quantities and, as far as possible, the same qualities of each item are taken in 1924–5 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 before the war, irrespective of whether such standard was adequate or not). Owing to the variations in the amounts of increase in the prices of different commodities it

such standard was adequate or not). Owing to the variations in the amounts of increase in the prices of different commodities it is probable that economies or re-adjustments 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, it is probable that the standard of living has been raised in some families 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.

On page 4, a summary is given of the changes in working-class cost of living in 1924.

SUMMARY TABLE: 1915 TO 1925.

The following Table shows the average percentage increase, as compared with July, 1914, for all items included in the statistics, at the beginning of each month since January, 1915 :---

Average Percentage Increase since July, 1914-All Items.

	(Food, fent, clothing, fuer and fight, cut.)												
Month (beginning of)	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925		
January February March April May June			70-75	90 90–95 95–100	120 120 115 110 105 105	125 130 130 132 141 150	165 151 141 133 128 119	92 88 86 82 81 80	78 77 76 74 70 69	77 79 78 73 71 69	80 		
July August September October November December	25 25 30 30–35 35		80 80-85 75-80	110		$152 \\ 155 \\ 161 \\ 164 \\ 176 \\ 169$	119 122 120 110 103 99	84 81 79 78 80 80	69 71 73 75 75 77	70 71 72 76 80 81	···· ···· ···		

NOTE.

A brief Statement of the method of compiling these statistics was given on page 236 of the July, 1923, issue of this GAZETTE. A more detailed account was given in the issue of February, 1921.

* If allowance is made for the changes in taxation on commodities since July, 1914, the average increase is about 2 per cent. less.

EMPLOYMENT IN DECEMBER.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

EMPLOYMENT showed little general change during the first three weeks of December. Employment was good, on the whole, in the brick and jute trades, in some branches of the cotton trade, and with millsawyers and most of the skilled operatives in the building with miliawyers and most of the skilled operatives in the building trades; it was fairly good in the carpet, silk and furniture trades, with printers and bookbinders and coopers, and in certain branches of the metal trades. In coal mining and in the wool textile industry it was slack on the whole; at blastfurnaces, at iron and steel works, and in the engineering and shipbuilding trades it continued bad. There was a further improvement in the cotton trade, but a decline in the tinplate and pottery industries.

After Christmas there was a seasonal decline in employment, and the usual holiday stoppages were extended in many cases

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS.

Among workpeople covered by the Unemployment Insurance Acts, numbering approximately 11,500,000, and working in prac-tically every industry except agriculture and private domestic service, the percentage unemployed at 22nd December, 1924, was 10.9, as compared with 11.0 at 24th November, and 10.7 at December, 1923. For males alone the percentage at 22nd December was 11.7, as compared with 11.8 at 24th November, 1924; for females the figure was 9.0 at 22nd December as compared with 8.0° at 24th November. Among members of Trade University for 8.9* at 24th November. Among members of Trade Unions from which returns were received the percentage of unemployed was 9.2, at the end of December, 1924, compared with 8.6 at the end of November and with 9.7 at the end of December, 1923.

The number of persons (insured and uninsured) registered† at The number of persons (insured and uninsured) registered[†] at Employment Exchanges as unemployed at 22nd December was approximately 1,213,000, of whom men numbered 930,000, and women 226,000, as compared with 1,233,000 at 1st December, 1924 (men 942,000 and women 231,000), and with 1,214,000 at 17th December, 1923 (men 911,000 and women 240,000). By 29th December, 1924 the total had risen to 1,319,000 (men 1,003,000 and women 250,000), and by 5th January, 1925, it had risen further to 1,353,000 as compared with 1,308,000 at 7th January, 1924.

EMPLOYMENT IN THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES.

Mining and Quarrying.—Employment at coal mines showed a further slight improvement in December. It was fairly good in Cumberland and Westmorland, South Yorkshire and Mid and East Lothians, and slack in most other districts. The total number of wage-earners on the colliery books at 20th December, 1924, was 1,140,062, a decrease of $3 \cdot 8$ per cent. as compared with December, 1923. The average number of days worked per week by the pits in the fortnight ended 20th December, 1924, was $5 \cdot 36$, as compared with $5 \cdot 26$ in November, 1924, and $5 \cdot 68$ in December, 1923.

At iron mines employment was again very bad in the Cleveland At iron mines employment was again very bad in the Cleveland district, fair in the Cumberland and Lancashire district, and moderate in other districts. At the mines covered by the returns received there was an increase of 0.8 per cent. in the numbers employed, compared with the previous month, and of $1 \cdot 1$ per cent. compared with December, 1923. The average number of days worked by the mines that were working was 5.56, compared with 5.28 in November, 1924, and 5.62 in December, 1923. At shale mines employment remained fair. At limestone quarries it was again moderate in the Clitheroe and Weardale districts, and fair at Buxton. At slate quarries in North Wales employment was good. At whinstone quarries in the East of Scotland an improve-Paper Manufacture, Printing and Bookbinding.—Employment in the paper trade continued moderate generally. With letterpress printers employment continued fairly good on the whole; some decline was reported in London, Leeds and Bristol, while at Manchester was reported in London, Leeds and Bristol, while at Manchester and Glasgow there was an improvement; with electrotypers and stereotypers employment was generally good, and was better than during the previous month in London and Manchester. In the lithographic printing trade employment continued fairly good; with lithographic artists in London and Manchester it was fair. With bookbinders employment was fairly good on the whole, otherwas and an encounted of the other. at buxton. At state quarries in North Wales employment was good. At whinstone quarries in the East of Scotland an improve-ment was reported and employment was fair. At chalk quarries it was slack. At china clay quarries there was a slight decline in employment which, however, remained fairly good. At tin mines although some decline was reported in London it was again described as good.

Manufacture of Pig Iron, Iron and Steel, and Tinplate.—In the pig-iron industry employment continued bad. Of a total of 482 furnaces, the number in blast at the end of December was 167, compared with 173 in November, and with 204 in December, 1923. At iron and steel works employment continued bad on the whole. Employment in the tinplate and steel-sheet trades showed a further decline; many works were closed for extended Christmas holidays, and others were only working short time. The number of mills in operation at the end of December was 445, as compared with 513 at the end of November and with 537 at the end of with 513 at the end of November, and with 537 at the end of December, 1923.

Engineering, Shipbuilding, and Other Metal Trades .- In the engineering trades employment continued fairly good in the electrical section, and fair in the motor section. In the railway engineering section employment improved, and a return to full time working was reported at several centres. In the textile Dock Labour and Seamen.—Employment with dock labourers and seamen continued slack on the whole. machinery and marine engineering sections employment was very

Revised figure. It should be noted that some unemployed persons, e.g., some of those have not valid claims to unemployment benefit, or who are not insured er the Unemployment Insurance Acts, do not register at the Employment

depressed. Employment in the shipbuilding and ship-repairing trades continued very bad and showed no general change as com-pared with the previous month. Employment in the other metal trades remained moderate on the whole. It was fairly good in the brasswork and hollow-ware trades; fair in the metallic bedstead, put and holt withere and file store and grate tube models fabing nut and bolt, cutlery and file, stove and grate, tube, needle, fishing tackle, and sheet metal trades; moderate in the wire, lock and latch, saddlery and harness furniture, jewellery and plated ware, and nail trades; and slack or bad in the chain and anchor, and anvil and vice trades.

Textile Trades.-In the cotton trade employment showed a Texnie Traces.—In the cotton trace employment showed a further improvement; in the Egyptian spinning section full time continued to be generally worked; in the American spinning section a working week of 394 hours was generally observed as compared with 32 hours in November; in the weaving section employment was good on the whole. In the woollen and worsted industry employment was sleek employment was slack.

Employment was match. Employment in the hosiery trade continued slack, and much short time was worked; in the lace trade it continued bad. In the silk trade employment was fairly good on the whole; in the carpet trade it showed a slight decline but was also fairly good on the whole; in the jute trade it was good. In the textile bleaching, printing, dyeing, etc., trades employment continued slack on the whole; with silk dyers at Macclesfield, Leek, and Congleton it was fairly good was fairly good.

Clothing Trades.—Employment in the tailoring trade continued generally slack, but a slight improvement was reported in some districts, particularly in the wholesale branch of the trade. In the dressmaking and millinery trade employment was slack on the whole and showed a further seasonal decline. In the corset tradé it also continued slack on the whole; in the shirt and collar trade employment showed a slight improvement in some districts, and was moderate to fair. In the felt hat trade employment was slack and much short time was worked. In the boot and shoe trades employment was still moderate on the whole, and many factories were closed for extended holidays after Christmas. were closed for extended holidays after Christmas.

Leather Trades.-Employment in the tanning and currying section was fair; in the portmanteau, trunk, and fancy leather section it showed a seasonal decline during the latter half of the month; with saddlery and harness makers it continued generally slack.

Building, Woodworking, etc.-Employment in the building trade showed a slight seasonal decline but continued good, on the whole, showed a sight seasonal decline but continued good, of the whole, with skilled operatives (except painters) and generally slack with unskilled workers. It was very good generally with bricklayers and plasterers; good in most districts with carpenters and joiners; fairly good with masons, slaters and plumbers; bad at most centres with painters; and slack, on the whole, with builders' labourers. In the brick trade employment continued good generally.

In the furnishing trades employment was fairly good; at Birmingham and High Wycombe it was fairly good, and with coach-builders it was fair. With packing case makers a slight improve-ment was reported, but employment was still bad.

Pottery and Glass.-There was a seasonal decline after the first *Pottery and Glass.*—There was a seasonal decline after the first week in December in the pottery trade in North Staffordshire owing to the completion of Christmas trade work. Some workpeople were suspended or placed on short time some days before Christmas, and at many works the holiday stoppage was extended until the end of the year, or longer. In the glass trade employment remained moderate on the whole.

Agriculture and Fishing.—In agriculture the supply of labour was generally sufficient for requirements, but a shortage of skilled men and young farm hands was reported in some districts. There was some increase in unemployment among unskilled temporary workers due mainly to unfavourable weather conditions. In the fishing industry employment, though hindered by bad weather at some centres, continued fairly good.

On page 2 an article appears giving a general review of the course of employment in 1924, with a summary of the monthly statistics (a) of unemployment among workpeople covered by the Unemployment Insurance Acts, and among members of certain Trade Unions which make returns to the Department ; and (b) of the numbers of workpeople registered at Employment Exchanges.

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THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE.

January, 1925.

TRADE UNION PERCENTAGES OF UNEMPLOYED.

TRADE Unions with a net membership of 963,960 in branches covered by the returns received reported 88,420 (or 9.2 per cent.) of their members as unemployed at the end of December, 1924, compared with 8.6 per cent. at the end of November, 1924.

Trade.	Member- ship of Unions reporting	Unemp at en Decer 1924	d of nber	Inc. (+) or Dec. (- in percentage Unemployed as compared with a			
	at end of December, 1924.	Num- ber,	Per- cent- age.	Month ago.	Year ago.		
Coal Mining	145,066	18,616	12.8	+ 1.4	+12.3		
Engineering and Ship- building	337,851	48,675	14.4	+ 0.5	4.3		
Miscellaneous Metal	47,916	3,102	6.5	+ 0 5	- 3.9		
Textiles :	,	-,	1		F SALES		
Cotton	59,106	3,437	5.87		- 1.7		
Woollen and Worsted	12,099	216	1.8	+ 0.3	- 0.4		
Other	57,661	1,294	2.2	+ 0.1	-1.5		
Printing, Bookbinding and	00 710	TCAF	3.7	105	0.0		
Paper	99,310 27,593	3,645	4.0	+ 0.5 + 0.3	- 0.6 - 2.4		
II's a demonstration of	40,209	1,093 1,600	4.0	-0.11	- 0.8		
Diothing :	40,200	1,000	TU	+	- 0 0		
Boot and Shoe	78,045	4,551	5.8	+ 1.4	+ 0.3		
Other Clothing	47,415	912	1.9		- 3.8		
Leather	5,834	422	7.2	+ 0.6	- 1.9		
Hass	1,185	35	3.0	+ 0.2	+ 0.9		
Fobacco§	4,670	822	17.6	+10.6	+ 0.9		
Total	963,960	88,420	9.2	+ 0.6	- 0.5		

UNEMPLOYMENT IN INSURED TRADES.

THE percentage unemployed among workpeople insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts in Great Britain and Northern Ireland was 10.9 per cent. (males 11.7 per cent., females 9.0 per cent.) at 22nd December, 1924, as compared with 11.0 per cent. (males 11.8 per cent., females 8.9¶ per cent.) at 24th November, 1924, and 10.7 per cent. (males 11.2 per cent., females 9.1 per cent.) at 21st December, 1923. Tables showing the numbers un-certed in the principal inducting a parent 9 percent 9.8 and 10. employed in the principal industries appear on pages 18 and 19.

SUMMARY OF EMPLOYERS' RETURNS. INFORMATION as to the state of employment in certain industries in December, derived from returns furnished by employers and employers' associations, is summarised below. Further details are given on pages 11 to 16.

(a) Ci	ERTAI	N MINING	AND ME	TAL TE	RADES.		
alalarati er b		Workpeople included in the			Inc. (+) of as compar		
Trade.		Returns for December 1924.		December, 1924.		Year ago.	
Coal Mining Iron " Shale "		1,140,062 8,737 4,078	Days W per w by M 5.3 5.4 5.5	veek ines. 36 56	Days. + 0.10 + 0.28 - 0.02	Days. - 0·32 - 0·06 	
Pig Iron Tinplate and Steel Sheet on and Steel		 74,249	Bla 16 Mills W 44 Shifts V (one w	Furnaces in Blast 167 Mills Working 445 Shifts Worked (one week). 398,305		Number. - 37 - 92 Per cent. - 8.2	
Patrician and the second s		(b) OTHER	TRADES		al Wages P	aid to all	
in all water of the	Nun	Employed.		100	Workpeo		
Trade.	Weel	d Dec. (-) on a ended		d Dec. $(-)$ on a		
	20th Dec. 1924	, Month	Year ago.	20th Dec. 1924.	Month	Year ago.**	
Textiles : Cotton Woollen Boot and Shoe Pottery	79,69 15,02 30,01 51,10 12,20	$\begin{array}{c ccccc} 27 & + & 0 \cdot 3 \\ 19 & - & 0 \cdot 3 \\ 60 & + & 0 \cdot 0 \\ 04 & - & 0 \cdot 5 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} \text{Per} \\ \text{cent.} \\ + 6.2 \\ + 3.9 \\ + 0.6 \\ + 2.6 \\ + 4.7 \\ + 15.6 \end{array}$	£ 149,55 30,69 56,92 119,24 23,11 20,78	$ \begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	+ 7.4 + 0.9 + 2.6 + 7.1	
Brick Total	8,24 196,34		+15.6 + 4.5	400,31		-	

* Short time and broken time are not reflected in the figures. In the mining and textile industries a contraction in the demand for labour is generally met by short-time working. Persons on strike or locked out are also excluded. † In addition to those shown, who were totally unemployed, a large number of the members of the unions reporting were "paid off part of each week, or alternate weeks or fortnights" or on "temporary stoppage benefit." ‡ The figure for November has been revised. § The returns for the tobacco trade are supplied by unions whose members are mainly cigar makers. If The figures for December and November, 1924, exclude building and pottery trade operatives, who were included in December, 1923. The per-centage for December, 1923, and December, 1924, would be 9.9, and the decrease between December, 1923, and December, 1924, would be 0.7. ¶ Revised figure. ** Comparison of earnings is affected by changes in rates of wages.

EMPLOYMENT CHART.

(1) PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED AT THE END OF EACH MONTH AMONG MEMBERS OF TRADE UNIONS MAKING RETURNS:----

Thick Curve	= 1924.	
Thin Curve ———	= 1923.	•

Chain Curve $-\mathbf{o}-\mathbf{o}-\mathbf{o} = Mean \text{ of } 1919-23.$

 \times The crosses indicate the maximum and minimum percentages of Trade Union members unemployed, in the months named, during the years 1894-1923.

PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED AMONG WORK-PEOPLE INSURED AGAINST UNEMPLOYMENT UNDER THE UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACT :----(2)

Thin Dotted Curve ----- = 1923.

				1 Alexandress								1
PER CENTAGE UNEM- PLOYED	إل	In FE	B M	ar ai I	pl ma	UL YI	ne ju	ly au	JG SE	P OC	T no	V DEC
23						1921 ;	2		1921 1921			
22					1921 >						A.R. S.P.	_
21			tur en					12-01 12-01	and and a second			_
20		1600 1. E.	<u>teani</u> ai			internet Landa	60 M				<u>entre</u> Mainte	-
19		(0.03) (0		in and		and and a						-
18	0.0			1921	x							-
17	1982	La Maria			1997 (P) - 1997 (P) - 19	1000 1000	1921 3	No. 1 Charles			0000	.1921 X
16	and the second	1922)	K 1922	*				19213	•	(92)	19213	
15		12.5							1921	×		
14	~				and and a second		-					
13							190 20				107.00 (3.00) (3.00)	
15		11		1					••••••			
11	A. 4. 4.	in the	10.			-0-0	2			RERE	NA AN	and the
10			100100	0	C. C.	-	0,01	00		0.00	-0-0	- or
9		0-0-	0-0-	ŕ	100	-			20	-		
8	F			-				a second	and a			1
7												
8												
5												
4	CX.	100 m	100	1.7.5	3 30		111					
3		Page 1			1.11	173.			1		12 1	
2			10	and the	in the	and the second	1000	a gan		1000	1.12	
	1917	* 1917	* 1917	* 1917	* 1917	דופו ד	×1916	× 1916	× 1916	× 1916	× 1916	× 1916X
					Law to the	DTE.						Barrowski
						Carlos Participation						

The figures relate to Great Britain and Northern Ireland. The Trade Union Returns are furnished by various Trade Unions which pay unemployment benefit to their members. Persons on strike or locked out, sick or superannuated, are excluded from the figures. Detailed figures are given in the previous column.

The figures for insured workpeople are briefly explained, and are analysed in detail on pages 18 and 19.

January, 1925. THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE.

DETAILED REPORTS ON EMPLOYMENT IN SOME OF THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES.

NOTE.—The numbers of workpeople given in the following Tables represent the numbers covered by the Returns received and (except as regards coal mining) not the total numbers employed in the various industries. The comparisons of numbers employed and wages paid at different dates relate to the same firms at each date, and cover all the wage-earners, irrespective of age, sex, or occupation, employed by these firms. In comparing the earnings in different industries, it should be remembered that any averages calculated from these figures will be affected not only by the variations in the state of employment and in rates of wages, but also by differences in the proportions of males to females, of adults to juveniles, and of skilled to unskilled workers in the respective industries.

COAL MINING.

The average number of days worked per week for the fortnight ended 20th December was 5.36, an increase of 0.10 of a day as compared with the fortnight ended 29th November, but a decrease of 0.32 of a day as compared with the fortnight ended 22nd December, 1923.

The percentage of workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 7.9 at 22nd December, as compared with 9.0 at 24th November, and 2.4 at 21st December, 1923.

The following Table shows, for the principal coal-mining districts, the total number of wage-earners on the colliery books and the average number of days worked per week* during the fortnight ended 20th December, 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 totale totals.

Civil - alforda - anglos	Wage Ea	Number ners on Books at	Colliery	Aver Days v by	
Districts.	20th Dec.	(-) as c	or Dec. ompared h a	Fort- night ended	
	1924.	Month ago.	Year ago.	20th Dec. 1924.	
ENGLAND AND WALES: Northumberland Durham Cumberland and West-	58,244 157,292	$\begin{array}{c} \text{Per} \\ \text{cent.} \\ - 0.2 \\ - 1.0 \end{array}$	Per cent. - 9·2 - 9·7	Days. 5·33 5·13	
morland South Yorkshire West Yorkshire Lancs and Cheshire Derbyshire Notts and Leicester Warwick	10,838 117,599 70,214 104,789 66,451 67,222 21,000	$ \begin{array}{r} + 0.8 \\ + 0.8 \\ + 0.1 \\ - 0.3 \\ - 0.0 \\ + 0.2 \\ - 0.7 \\ \end{array} $	$ \begin{array}{r} -9.0 \\ +3.5 \\ +0.8 \\ -0.5 \\ +1.1 \\ +1.7 \\ -4.2 \end{array} $	$5 \cdot 56$ $5 \cdot 52$ $5 \cdot 34$ $5 \cdot 07$ $5 \cdot 26$ $5 \cdot 01$ $5 \cdot 39$	
North Staffordshire South Staffs,† Worcs and Salop Glos and Somerset Kent North Wales South Wales and Mon.	35,898 36,250 14,719 1,097 18,539 223,997	$ \begin{array}{r} + \ 0.5 \\ + \ 0.4 \\ + \ 0.6 \\ + \\ + \ 0.2 \\ + \ 1.7 \end{array} $	$ \begin{array}{r} + 2 \cdot 9 \\ + 0 \cdot 6 \\ - 2 \cdot 1 \\ - 41 \cdot 2 \\ + 1 \cdot 1 \\ - 8 \cdot 5 \end{array} $	$5 \cdot 30$ $5 \cdot 64$ $5 \cdot 51$ $3 \cdot 83$ $5 \cdot 04$ $5 \cdot 77$	
England and Wales	1,004,149	+ 0.3	- 3.8	5.38	
SCOTLAND : Mid & East Lothians Fife and Clackmannan Rest of Scotland	15,826 31,046 89,041	+ 0.9 + 0.6 - 0.4	-0.4 +0.3 -5.5	5·49 5·20 5·25	
Scotland	135,913	- 0.0	- 3.6	5.27	
GREAT BRITAIN	1,140,062	+ 0.3	- 3.8	5.36	

The average number of coal-winding days lost in Great Britain during the fortnight ended 20th December, 1924, was 0.40 of a day per week, of which 0.37 was due to want of trade and transport difficulties. The figures for the fortnight ended 29th November were 0.50 of a day lost, of which 0.46 was lost through want of trade and transport difficulties; for the fortnight ended 22nd December, 1923, the average time lost was 0.09 of a day, of which 0.05 was due to want of trade and transport difficulties. The average non-winding time for each of the three periods under review was about one-quarter of a day per week. of a day per week.

The output of coal for Great Britain for the four weeks ended 27th December, 1924 (which included the Christmas holidays), was returned to the Mines Department at 19,742,900 tons, as compared with 20,980,900 tons in the four weeks ended 29th November, and with 23,290,000 tons in the four weeks ended 22nd December, 1923.

The *exports of coal*, including coal shipped for the use of steamers engaged in foreign trade, and the coal equivalent of coke and manu-factured fuel, amounted to 7,109,323 tons in December, compared with 6,508,196 tons in November.

* 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. It is not neces-sarily implied that all the *persons* worked every day the mines were open. Mines not working are omitted in computing the average number of days worked The production of pig iron in December amounted to 580,300 tons as compared with 583,500 tons in November, and 626,900 tons in December, 1923.

† Including Cannock Chase.
 ‡ A dispute involving a stoppage of work was in progress in November.

IRON AND SHALE MINING.

11

ge Number of orked per Week the Mines.*										
Inc.(+) (-) as co wit	ompared									
Month ago.	Year ago.									
Days. +0·11 +0·11	Days. - 0.01 - 0.31									
$ \begin{array}{r} - \\ + 0 \cdot 02 \\ + 0 \cdot 11 \\ + 0 \cdot 20 \\ + 0 \cdot 02 \\ + 0 \cdot 17 \\ + 0 \cdot 02 \\ + 0 \cdot 01 \\ \end{array} $	$\begin{array}{r} - \ 0 \cdot 13 \\ - \ 0 \cdot 03 \\ - \ 0 \cdot 32 \\ - \ 0 \cdot 82 \\ - \ 0 \cdot 54 \\ - \ 0 \cdot 56 \\ - \ 0 \cdot 58 \\ - \ 0 \cdot 52 \end{array}$									
$+0.03 \\ -0.03 \\ \ddagger \\ -0.03 \\ +0.12$	$ \begin{array}{r} - & 0 \cdot 34 \\ - & 0 \cdot 37 \\ - & 1 \cdot 87 \\ - & 0 \cdot 90 \\ - & 0 \cdot 09 \end{array} $									
+0.11	- 0.32									
+0.09 + 0.08 + 0.07	$ \begin{array}{r} - & 0 \cdot 07 \\ - & 0 \cdot 30 \\ - & 0 \cdot 36 \\ \end{array} $									
+0.08	- 0.31									
+0.10	-0.32									

COAL MINING.Iron Mining.EMPLOYMENT in the coal-mining industry during December showed
a further slight improvement. In Cumberland and Westmorland,
South Yorkshire, and Mid and East Lothians employment was
fairly good, but in most other districts it was slack.Iron Mining.ALTHOUGH a slight improvement was
fairly good, but in most other districts it was slack.The total number of wage earners on the colliery books at 20th
December showed an increase of 0.3 per cent. as compared with that
of 20th November, but a decrease of 3.8 per cent. as compared withThe percentage of insured workpeople unemployed
in iron ore
Insured workpeople unemployed in iron ore

previous month. In other districts it was again moderate. The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed in iron ore and ironstone mining and quarrying, as indicated by the unemploy-ment books lodged at the Employment Exchanges, was 18.6 at 22nd December, 1924, the same as at 24th November, 1924, compared with 19.4 on 21st December, 1923. The following Table summarizes the information received from these employment who furnished ratures to

those employees who furnished returns :----

	peop Mir	mber of W ole employ hes include the Return	ed at d in	Average No. of Days worked per week by the Mines.*			
Districts.	Fort- night ended 20th	Inc. (Dec. (-) pared	+) or as com- with a	Fort- night ended 20th	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as com- pared with a		
	Dec., 1924.	Month ago.	Year ago.	Dec., 1924.	Month ago.	Year ago.	
		Per cent.	Per cent.	Days.	Days.	Days.	
Cleveland	3,803	+ 0.3	+ 4.2	5.33	+ 0.09	- 0.12	
Cumberland and Lancashire	3,489	+ 0.2	+ 0.1	5.81	+ 0.73	+ 0.01	
Other Districts	1,445	+ 3.3	- 4.3	5.58	- 0.29	- 0.02	
ALL DISTRICTS	8,737	+ 0.8	+ 1.1	5.56	+ 0.28	- 0.06	

Shale Mining.

Shale Mining. At shale mines employment was again fair. At mines employing 4,078 workpeople during the fortnight ended 20th December, 1924, practically no change was shown in the numbers employed compared with the previous month, but there was a decrease of $4 \cdot 0$ per cent. compared with December, 1923. The average number of days* worked per week by the mines was $5 \cdot 97$ in December, 1924, compared with $5 \cdot 99$ in November, 1924, and $5 \cdot 97$ in December, 1923.

PIG IRON INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT during December continued bad and showed a EMPLOYMENT during December continued bad and showed a decline. The percentage of workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 18.0 on 22nd December, 1924, compared with 17.4 on 24th November, and with 11.4 on 21st December, 1923. Returns received by the National Federation of Iron and Steel Manufacturers from 83 firms, employing 20,318 workpeople, at the end of December, showed a decrease of 1.3 per cent. in the number employed, compared with November, and of 4.7 per cent. compared with December, 1923.

with December, 1923. The total number of furnaces in blast at the end of December, as shown by the returns collected by the Federation, was 167, compared with 173 in November.

District.	Total Number of		er of Fur ast at en		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Dec., on a			
and a superior of the second second	Furnaces.	Dec., 1924.	Nov., 1924.	Dec., 1923.	Month ago.	Year ago.		
ENGLAND AND WALES.					1			
Durham and Cleveland Cumberland and W.	111	41	40	47	+ 1	- 6		
Lancs Other parts of Lancs and Yorks (including	47	14	13	12	+ 1	+ 2		
Sheffield)	35	13	17	17	- 4	- 4		
and Northants	73	41	42	39	- 1	+ 2		
Lincolnshire Staffs, Shropshire, Worcester and War-	23	10	iō	19		- 9 - 9		
wick	60	10	11	16	- 1	- 6		
South Wales	32	6	8	10	- 2	- 4		
Total, England and Wales	381	135	141	. 160 🐐	- 6	- 25		
SCOTLAND	101	32	32	44		- 12		
Total	482	167	173	204	- 6	- 37		

* See note * in previous column.

EMPLOYMENT at iron and steel works continued bad in December. Many firms were reported to have been closed for extended Christmas holidays. An improvement, however, was reported on Tees-side, and also in South Wales except in the section manufacturing steel bars for tinplates, which showed a marked decline.

The percentage of workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the number of unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 27.6 on 22nd December as compared with 23.4 on 24th Novem-ber and 17.1 on 21st December 1923.

According to returns received from firms employing 74,249 workpeople, the volume of employment during the week ended 20th December (as indicated by the number of workpeople employed combined with the number of shifts during which work was carried combined with the humber of shifts during which work was carried on in each department) increased by 0.8 per cent. as compared with the previous month, but showed a decrease of 8.2 per cent. as com-pared with a year ago. The average number of shifts during which the works were open was 5.4 during the week ended 20th December, as compared with 5.3 in November and 5.4 a year ago. The following Table summarises the information received from

those employers who furnished returns :---

e an in Proge not de	No. o empl mal	oyed		firm	ıs		Aggre	gate Shii	nun its.*	aber	of	
	Week ended 20th	I	inc. (Dec. (comp wit	(-)	as	er 2	veek nded oth		Inc. (Dec. (comj wit	(-)	as	
	Dec., 1924.	Month ago.		Year ago.		Dec., 1924.		Month ago.			Year ago.	
DEPARTMENTS.			er nt.		Per ent.				Per ent.		er nt.	
Open Hearth Melting Furnaces Puddling Forges Rolling Mills Forging and Pressing Founding Other Departments Mechanics, Labourers	7,886 3,687 27,318 3,035 8,189 7,549 16,585	++++	6.9 0.8 2.9 0.7 1.6 3	111	$ \begin{array}{c} 14 \cdot 7 \\ 17 \cdot 4 \\ 8 \cdot 3 \\ 11 \cdot 1 \\ 0 \cdot 9 \\ 5 \cdot 9 \\ 4 \cdot 1 \end{array} $	16 137 15 47 41	,263 ,174 ,822 ,669 ,259 ,604 ,514	11+++++	$6 \cdot 6 \\ 4 \cdot 8 \\ 4 \cdot 1 \\ 1 \cdot 4 \\ 2 \cdot 7 \\ 0 \cdot 1 \\ 0 \cdot 2$		4 · 8 25 · 6 10 · 4 1 · 6 6 · 7 5 · 8 4 · 7	
TOTAL	74,249	+	0.5	-	7.6	398	,305	+	0.8	-	8.2	
DISTRICTS.											. W.	
Northumberland, Dur- ham and Cleveland Sheffield and Rother-	14,491	+	2.9	-	10.6	80),673	+	4 · 4	-	8.8	
ham Leeds, Bradford, etc Cumberland, Lancs. and	18,982 1,830	+	$\begin{array}{c} 1\cdot 3\\ 2\cdot 2\end{array}$	Top.	$2 \cdot 2$ $20 \cdot 5$),960),464	+-	$1 \cdot 4$ $2 \cdot 3$		1.6 25.8	
Cheshire Staffordshire Other Midland Counties Wales and Monmouth	7,555 8,183 3,903 8,721	+	$0 \cdot 0 \\ 2 \cdot 1 \\ 1 \cdot 2 \\ 2 \cdot 0$	-	12.5 4.1 2.9 5.9	42	9,423 2,650 1,106 3,379	1+++	$0.9 \\ 1.6 \\ 0.7 \\ 1.8$	FI	16·3 6·6 3·1 5·9	
Total, England and Wales Scotland	63,665 10,584	+	1.6 5.5		6·9 11·5		2,655	+	1 · 7 4 · 8	11	7 · 3 13 · 2	
TOTAL	74,249	+	0.5	-	7.6	398	3,305	+	0 · 8	-	8 . 2	

The production of steel ingots and castings, as returned by the National Federation of Iron and Steel Manufacturers, amount to 551,000 tons in December, as compared with 672,800 tons in November and 653,300 tons in December, 1923.

TINPLATE AND STEEL SHEET TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT in these trades showed a further decline. Many works were closed for extended Christmas holidays and others

At the end of December, 445 mills were reported to be in opera-tion, as compared with 513 at the end of November and with 537 a vear ago.

The following Table shows the number of mills in operation at the works covered by the returns received :--

Works.	Numb	er of Work	s Open	Number of Mills in Operation					
	At end of	Inc. (Dec. (-		At end of	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a				
	Dec., 1924.	Month ago.	Year ago.	Dec., 1924.	Month ago.	Year ago.			
Tinplate Steel Sheet	65 11	- 6 - 3	-14 - 4	332 113	- 55 - 13	- 78 - 14			
TOTAL	76	- 9	-18	445 ···	- 68	- 92			

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed on 22nd December, 1924, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 45.0, as compared with 16.6 on

* The figures relate to the number of shifts during which the works were in operation, allowance being made for the numbers of men employed. No account is taken of the 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.

ENGINEERING.

EMPLOYMENT in this industry remained bad in December but con-tinued to show an upward tendency as compared with the previous month, and a substantial recovery as compared with a year ago: Improvements were noted in the motor section in which employment Improvements were noted in the motor section in which employment was fair, and in the railway engineering section in which a return to full time working was made at several centres. The textile machinery section, though still very depressed, showed a further improvement, but in the marine engineering section little change was observed, employment remaining very bad. In the electrical engineering section employment was still fairly good and showed a elicit improvement. slight improvement

The following Table shows the numbers and percentages of insured workpeople unemployed at 22nd December, 1924, and the increase or decrease as compared with a month earlier and with a year ago :--

and the second	1.12 m	Numb	er of Inat	nsured 22nd I	Workp	eople Un er, 1924.	lemploye	d	
Divisions.	General Engineering, etc.	Electrical Engineering.	Marine neering, etc.	Marine ngineering, etc. Constructional Engineering.	, Cycles, ircraft.	TOTAL.	Increase (+ or Decrease (- as compared with		
	Ger Engin	Teneral Enctrical Electrical Engineering, Engineering, et Constructiona Engineering, and Aircraft,		Motors and A		A Month ago.	A Year ago.		
London South Eastern Midlands North Eastern North Western Scotland Wales NorthernIreland	8,013 3,845 2,238 9,738 17,852 25,112 16,630 1,006 1,654	319 279 60 1,212 441 991 252 26 6	98 92 386 37 6,571 290 2,635 57 1,144	110 66 57 676 1,024 199 1,114 51 14	2,356 1,019 859 6,766 867 2,247 863 135 207	10,896 5,301 3,600 18,429 26,755 28,839 21,494 1,275 3,025	$\begin{array}{r} -1,006\\ + 359\\ - 172\\ -2,664\\ -1,443\\ -3,248\\ -1,024\\ + 183\\ + 88\end{array}$	$ \begin{array}{r} - & 3,739 \\ - & 2,074 \\ - & 1,230 \\ - & 8,157 \\ - & 14,575 \\ - & 10,659 \\ - & 5,178 \\ + & 383 \\ + & 407 \\ \end{array} $	
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND	86,088	3,586	11,310	3,311	15,319	119,614	- 8,927	- 44,822	
· · ·	Pe	rcenta	ge Une	mploy	ed at 2	2nd Dec	ember, 1	924.	
London South Eastern South Western Midlands North Eastern North Western Scotland Wales NorthernIreland	9.1 9.1 6.5 10.9 13.8 17.6 19.5 12.5 21.0	$ \begin{array}{c} 3 \cdot 6 \\ 3 \cdot 3 \\ 2 \cdot 0 \\ 5 \cdot 2 \\ 6 \cdot 2 \\ 5 \cdot 8 \\ 7 \cdot 4 \\ 7 \cdot 4 \\ 5 \cdot 0 \end{array} $	$ \begin{array}{c} 14 \cdot 4 \\ 2 \cdot 9 \\ 5 \cdot 9 \\ 2 \cdot 4 \\ 25 \cdot 3 \\ 15 \cdot 3 \\ 12 \cdot 9 \\ 31 \cdot 7 \\ 20 \cdot 1 \end{array} $	$5 \cdot 3$ $12 \cdot 5$ $9 \cdot 3$ $11 \cdot 2$ $15 \cdot 1$ $11 \cdot 1$ $19 \cdot 8$ $9 \cdot 6$ $70 \cdot 0$	7.1 4.5 4.5 8.0 8.4 11.1 8.8 7.3 13.4	$ \begin{array}{r} 8 \cdot 2 \\ 6 \cdot 9 \\ 5 \cdot 7 \\ 9 \cdot 0 \\ 14 \cdot 9 \\ 15 \cdot 7 \\ 17 \cdot 3 \\ 11 \cdot 7 \\ 19 \cdot 8 \end{array} $	$ \begin{array}{r} - & 0.7 \\ + & 0.5 \\ - & 0.2 \\ - & 1.3 \\ - & 1.8 \\ - & 1.8 \\ - & 1.8 \\ + & 1.7 \\ + & 0.5 \end{array} $	$ \begin{array}{c} & 2 \cdot 5 \\ & 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \\ & 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \\ & 1 - 1 \\ & - 1 - 1 \\ & - 1 + 1 \\ & + + \\ & + + \\ \end{array} $	

On the North-east Coast employment continued very bad in marine engineering but showed a further improvement in general engineering. The improvement was still mainly confined to the Newcastle district, conditions on the Tees and Wear remaining unchanged. In Yorkshire conditions on the Tees and Wear remaining unchanged. In Yorkshire and Lincolnshire employment continued to show an improvement, and was moderate on the whole. At Peterborough it was still good. In Lancashire and Cheshire, in the textile machinery section, em-ployment continued bad, but there was a further approach to normal number of hours worked per week, though extended holidays were observed at many works. In the railway engineering section full time was resumed during the month at several centres where elect time had been in operation

 $13 \cdot 7$ 5 · 0 17 · 1 13 · 8 7 · 5 12 · 1 - 0 · 9 - 4 · 0

GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND ...

full time was resumed during the month at several centres where short time had been in operation. In the Birmingham, Wolverhampton and Coventry district there was a further improvement, especially in the motor and machine tool sections. In the motor section employment was good for skilled men, though many unskilled workers were still unemployed. In the electrical section, also, employment was good. At Nottingham less short time and more overtime were reported; with motor and cycle makers and hosiery machine builders employment was good. At Derby the motor section remained busy and the railway engineering section returned to full time working. At Leicester employment was fairly good generally. In the Eastern Counties employment remained fair on the whole, though still slack at Colchester; in some cases, however, extended

In the Eastern Counties employment remained fair on the whole, though still slack at Colchester; in some cases, however, extended holidays were observed. In the London district employment remained moderate on the whole and good in the electrical section, especially on wireless work. In the Southern Counties it remained moderate in general engineering, fair in marine engineering, and good in motor, electrical, and railway engineering. In South Wales it showed a decline and was bad on the whole.

In Scotland employment was still very bad, but showed signs of improvement; at sewing machine works it was fairly good. At Belfast it remained very bad generally.

January, 1925. THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE.

SHIPBUILDING AND SHIP-REPAIRING.

EMPLOYMENT in the shipbuilding and ship-repairing industries continued very bad during December, and showed no general improvement compared with the previous month. On the North-East Coast employment continued very bad in most branches, though with joiners on the Tyne it was still fair. On the East Coast it continued fair. On the Thames it was still had but argin showed a slight improvement On the fair. On the East coast it continued fair, on the finances it was still bad, but again showed a slight improvement. On the South Coast it was fair on the whole, and better than in the previous month. At the Bristol Channel Ports employment on repair work fluctuated considerably, and was worse at the end of the month than at the end of November. On the Mersey and at

and month than at the end of November. On the Mersey and at Barrow employment was still bad. In Scotland employment continued bad, and showed a slight decline on the whole; it was, however, much better than at the end of December, 1923. At Dundee it was fair, though not so good as in the previous month. At Belfast employment remained bad.

The following Table shows the numbers and percentages of insured workpeople unemployed at 22nd December, 1924, and the increase or decrease as compared with 24th November, 1924, and with a vear ago :--

Divisions.	Number of Workpeople phoyed at Dec., 1924.	Decreas	e(+) or e(-) as red with	Percentage nemployed at nd Dec., 1924.
A ADALA AND THE T	Total I Insured Unem 22nd I	A Month ago.	A Year ago.	Percent Unemploy 22nd Dec.,
London South Eastern South Western Midlands North Eastern North Western Scotland Wales Northern Ireland	3,222 1,112 3,708 105 30,493 10,810 19,973 4,271 7,559	$\begin{array}{r} - & 327 \\ - & 60 \\ - & 1,130 \\ + & 5 \\ + & 2,328 \\ - & 1,124 \\ + & 646 \\ + & 501 \\ - & 110 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} - & 782 \\ - & 155 \\ - & 2,478 \\ - & 11 \\ - & 747 \\ - & 744 \\ - & 8,586 \\ + & 463 \\ + & 1,216 \end{array}$	$22 \cdot 511 \cdot 713 \cdot 220 \cdot 643 \cdot 431 \cdot 830 \cdot 537 \cdot 835 \cdot 2$
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTH- ERN IRELAND.	81,253	+ 729	- 11,824	31.9

SHIPBUILDING IN THE QUARTER ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1924.

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 December, 1924, amounted to 1,296,971 tons, as compared with 1,468,408 tons at the end of September, 1924, and 1,395,181 tons at the end of December, 1923. September, 1924, and 1,395,181 tons at the end of December, 1923. It should, however, be observed that the tonnage on which work was suspended amounted only to 60,000 tons at the end of 1924, as compared with 164,000 tons at the end of 1923. The average tonnage building during the twelve months immediately preceding the war was 1,890,000 tons. A considerable decrease is shown in the tonnage commenced during the quarter, viz., 194,594 tons, as compared with 252,745 tons during the previous guarter

during the previous quarter, 154, 554 tons, as compared with 252, 145 tons during the previous quarter. The tonnage launched during the quarter, 352,629 tons, is only 7,590 tons lower than that for the September quarter. The above figures are exclusive of warships and of merchant vessels under 100 tons gross.

WOOLLEN AND WORSTED TRADES.

DURING December employment in these trades was slack on the

whole. The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 9.2 on the 22nd December, 1924, as compared with 8.7 on the 24th November, 1924, and 9.9 on the 21st December, 1923. Employment with wool-combers continued bad, with much short time: with wool-sorters employment showed little change.

In both woollen and worsted there was a slight falling off in the

In both woolen and worsted there was a slight tailing off in the spinning of yarns for weaving, but with firms spinning mainly for hosiery purposes employment was maintained. In the manu-facturing sections employment in the Bradford and district stuff trade remained bad; employment was also bad, but rather better than a month earlier, in the worsted coating trade of the Bradford district, and in the fine cloth trades of Huddersfield, Halifax and district, and in the line cloth trades of Huddersheld, Halifax and Leeds. Employment with woollen manufacturers, which has been steadily getting worse for the last three months, showed a further decline, with the exception of manufacturers of women's costume wear in Yeadon, Guiseley and Huddersfield.

In the blanket trade employment was bad; in the rug section it was fairly good. In the heavy woollen district of Dewsbury and Batley employment was poor, and worse than a month earlier. In the flannel trade employment was not so good as in December; it was reported as poor at Stockport, and as moderate to fair in the Rochdale and Milnrow districts.

At Aberystwyth all the factories were stated to be at a standstill owing to wool shortage and the small demand for goods; while at Newtown and Llanidloes work was very irregular.

Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in percentage as compared with									
A Month ago.	A Year ago.								
$ \begin{array}{r} - 2 \cdot 3 \\ - 0 \cdot 6 \\ + 1 \cdot 0 \\ + 3 \cdot 3 \\ - 3 \cdot 3 \\ + 4 \cdot 4 \\ + 0 \\ \end{array} $	$ \begin{array}{r} - 5 \cdot 8 \\ - 1 \cdot 7 \\ - 6 \cdot 7 \\ - 2 \cdot 6 \\ + 0 \cdot 3 \\ - 0 \cdot 4 \\ - 9 \cdot 3 \\ + 7 \cdot 9 \\ + 9 \cdot 2 \end{array} $								
+ 0.3	- 2.3								

In Scotland employment in the tweed trade continued good. At Galashiels employment generally was good, but there was some unevenness as between different departments. At Hawick employment was described as fair. Wool spinners in Stirling and Ayr were reported to be well employed. The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished returns as to the numbers of workpeople employed and the total amount of wages paid in the three periods under review :—

The second second		Number of orkpeople		Total	Wages pa Workpeop	id to le.				
	Week ended	Inc. (- Dec. (-		Week ended 20th	Inc. (- Dec. (-					
	Dec., 1924.	20th Dec., Month 1924. ago.		Dec., 1924.	Month ago.	Year ago.*				
Woollen Industry.										
Departments. Wool sorting Spinning Weaving Other Departments Not Specified	501 3,665 5,471 4,312 1,078	$\begin{array}{c} \text{Per} \\ \text{cent.} \\ + & 0.6 \\ - & 1.0 \\ + & 0.9 \\ + & 0.7 \\ - & 0.4 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} \text{Per} \\ \text{cent.} \\ + 5 \cdot 3 \\ + 5 \cdot 7 \\ + 2 \cdot 6 \\ + 5 \cdot 0 \\ - 0 \cdot 3 \end{array}$	£ 989 7,236 10,230 9,803 2,437	$\begin{array}{c} \text{Per} \\ \text{cent.} \\ - 2 \cdot 2 \\ + 0 \cdot 2 \\ + 0 \cdot 3 \\ - 0 \cdot 2 \\ - 1 \cdot 6 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} \text{Per} \\ \text{cent.} \\ - & 0 \cdot 1 \\ + & 7 \cdot 7 \\ + & 6 \cdot 6 \\ + & 9 \cdot 2 \\ + & 5 \cdot 7 \end{array}$				
TOTAL	15,027	+ 0.3	+ 3.9	30,695	- 0.1	+ 7.4				
Districts. Huddersfield District Leeds District Dewsbury and Bat- ley District	1,545 1,594 1,316	$\begin{array}{c} \text{Per}\\ \text{cent.}\\ - & 0.4\\ + & 1.5\\ + & 1.9 \end{array}$	$ \begin{array}{r} \text{Per} \\ \text{cent.} \\ + 4.3 \\ + 9.9 \\ + 3.7 \end{array} $	£ 3,974 3,785 2,611	$\begin{array}{c} \text{Per} \\ \text{cent.} \\ + 1.5 \\ + 0.4 \\ - 2.7 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} \text{Per} \\ \text{cent.} \\ + 12 \cdot 7 \\ + 17 \cdot 3 \\ - 6 \cdot 4 \end{array}$				
Other Parts of West Riding	1,610	+ 0.1-	- 0.6	3,501	- 2.1	+ 1.4				
Total, West Riding Scotland Other Districts	6,065 3,779 5,183	+ 0.7 - 0.4 + 0.2	$+ 4 \cdot 2 + 7 \cdot 9 + 0 \cdot 9$	13,871 7,422 9,402	- 0.5 - 1.6 + 1.7	+ 6.8 + 15.7 + 2.5				
TOTAL	15,027	+ 0.3	+ 3.9	30,695	- 0.1	+ 7.4				
ana rapin'i dittir fi si	Wo	ORSTED I	NDUSTRY	¥.	et ile a					
Departments.		Per	Per		Per	Per				
Wool sorting and combing Spinning Weaving Other Departments Not specified	4,382 15,399 5,321 3,023 1,894	$\begin{array}{c} \text{cent.} \\ + 1 \cdot 0 \\ - 0 \cdot 4 \\ - 0 \cdot 7 \\ - 0 \cdot 4 \\ - 0 \cdot 4 \\ - 0 \cdot 4 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} \text{cent.} \\ + 1.7 \\ - 0.1 \\ + 3.3 \\ - 1.4 \\ + 0.6 \end{array}$	£ 10,900 24,052 11,001 7,743 3,226	$\begin{array}{c} \text{cent.} \\ + 5 \cdot 9 \\ + 1 \cdot 3 \\ - 1 \cdot 8 \\ + 0 \cdot 5 \\ - 1 \cdot 2 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} \text{cent.} \\ + 1.0 \\ - 0.3 \\ + 3.7 \\ + 0.9 \\ + 0.8 \end{array}$				
TOTAL	30,019	- 0.3	+ 0.6	56,922	+ 1.3	+ 0.9				
Districts. Bradford District Keighley District Halifax District HuddersfieldDistrict Other Parts of West Riding	14,768 4,996 2,601 2,857 3,306	$ \begin{array}{c} \text{Per} \\ \text{cent.} \\ - & 0.2 \\ - & 0.5 \\ - & 0.7 \\ + & 0.4 \\ - & 0.6 \end{array} $	$\begin{array}{c} \text{Per} \\ \text{cent.} \\ - \ 0.8 \\ + \ 1.6 \\ + \ 2.8 \\ + \ 7.6 \\ - \ 1.2 \end{array}$	£ 29,337 9,391 4,408 5,610 5,703	$\begin{array}{c} \text{Per} \\ \text{cent.} \\ + \ 0.5 \\ + \ 3.0 \\ + \ 1.1 \\ + \ 3.3 \\ + \ 2.5 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} \text{Per} \\ \text{cent.} \\ - 2 \cdot 8 \\ + 1 \cdot 9 \\ + 5 \cdot 3 \\ + 23 \cdot 6 \\ + 0 \cdot 1 \end{array}$				
Total West Riding Other Districts	28,528 1,491	- 0.3 + 0.7	$\begin{array}{c} + & 0.7 \\ + & 0.4 \end{array}$	54,449 2,473	$\begin{array}{c} + 1 \cdot 4 \\ - 2 \cdot 1 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} + 1 \cdot 1 \\ - 3 \cdot 8 \end{array}$				

Returns from firms in the *woollen* section, employing 13,820 workpeople, showed that about 22 per cent. of these workpeople were on short time in the week ended 20th December to the extent, on the average, of 8 hours. In the *worsted* section returns from firms employing 28,577 workpeople in the same week showed that about 22 per cent. of these workpeople were on short time, to the extent of about 9 hours on the average.

TOTAL ... 30,019 - 0.3 + 0.6 56,922 + 1.3 + 0.9

to the extent of about 9 hours on the average. The following Table shows the number of men and women registered as applicants for employment at Employment Exchanges at 1st December, 1924, in the principal centres, at which approximately 70 per cent. of the total number of applicants for employment in the woollen and worsted industries were provide a statement in the second seco registered :-

Departments.	for H	er of App Employme December,	nt at	Increase(+) or Decrease(-) as compared with 3rd November 1924.			
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
Wool sorting	197	3	200	- 234		- 234	
Wool washing and preparing	770	128	898	- 47	- 5	- 52	
Wool combing	997	710	1,707	- 6	-120	- 126	
Wool carding	1,149	148	1,297	+ 88	- 1	+ 87	
Woollen spinning	478	222	700	+ 58	+ 48	+ 106	
Worsted drawing and			0.1-1	1	CONTRACTOR OF		
spinning:	265	1,889	2,154	+ 46	+ 116	+ 162	
Wool winding and	146	142	288	+ 21	+ 63	+ 84	
warping	140	142	400	+ 21	7 03	7 07	
Worsted winding and warping	30	456	486	- 6	+ 78	+ 72	
Woollen weaving	178	1,944	2,122	+ 40	+ 399	+ 439	
Worsted weaving	85	628	713	+ 7	+ 61	+ 68	
Other processes	1,230	145	1,375	+ 67	+ 3	+ 70	
		0.435	11.040	1 74	1 040	1 070	
TOTAL	5,525	6,415	11,940	+ 34	+ 642	+ 676	

son of earnings is affected by changes in rates of wages in some

The *imports* (less re-exports) of raw wool (sheep's or lamb's) were 38,985,000 lb. in December, 1924, compared with 18,360,800 lb. in November, 1924, and with 27,081,600 lb. in December, 1923. The *exports* of woollen and worsted yarns were 4,955,800 lb., compared with 4,698,500 lb. in November, 1924, and with 3,246,600 lb.

in December, 1924. The exports of woollen and worsted tissues were 19,726,600 square

yards, compared with 17,881,800 square yards in November, 1924, and with 19,134,300 square yards in December, 1923. The *exports* of blankets were 160,280 pairs, 173,902 pairs, and 180,857 pairs in December, 1924, November, 1924, and December,

1923, respectively.

COTTON TRADE.

DURING December employment in the cotton trade showed a further improvement, and was considerably better than a year ago. In the American spinning section a working week of 394 hours

In the American spinning section a working week of 394 hours (instead of 32, as in November) was generally observed, in accordance with a recommendation issued by the Federation of Master Cotton Spinners' Associations; but the holidays at Christmas and the New Year were slightly extended by some firms. In the Egyptian spinning section full time continued to be generally worked. In the weaving department employment was described, with some exceptions, as good. A shortage of weavers, especially of those accustomed to weaving fine and fancy cloths, was again reported in exceptions.

several districts.

The percentage of workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 7.0 on the 22nd December, as compared with 8.6 on the 24th November and 12.0 on the 21st December, 1923.

In the Oldham, Ashton and Stockport districts employment continued to improve, but a large number of extended stoppages took place at Christmas and the New Year; the 394-hour week was generally observed in the American branch. In the manufacturing section in the Oldham district employment was described as slack, but there was an improvement in the velvet section. In the Bolton, Chorley and Leigh districts employment with spinners continued model in the Bolton district is approximated failur good with weavers good; in the Bolton district it continued fairly good with weavers, and very fair with card-room workers. At Bury employment in the spinning department was fair, and showed an improvement; in the Rochdale district a further improvement was reported, very few ners being unemployed.

In all the principal weaving districts employment was satisfactory. In the Burnley district the improvement previously reported was well maintained. At Blackburn it was reported that well over 85 per cent. of the looms in the borough were running in the middle of the month, and employment was much better than in December, 1923; some mills were still closed, but there was nevertheless a considerable demand for weavers. At Darwen employment was reported to be better than at any time since October, 1921. Four mills were still closed, and a considerable number of operatives were mills were still closed, and a considerable number of operatives were running two or three looms instead of the usual four; but this form of under-employment was lessening. At Preston employment was reported to be more regular than in any month during the last two or three years; weavers were working full time, and generally with their full complement of looms. The following Table summarises the information received from those amployees who furnished returns for the three periods under

those employers who furnished returns for the three periods under review :

		Number o Vorkpeop		Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.			
rendere in <u></u> interes in	Week ended	Inc. (Dec. (-		Week ended 20th	Inc. $(+)$ or Dec. $(-)$ on a		
	20th Dec., 1924.	Month ago.	Year ago.	Dec., 1924.	Month ago.	Year ago.	
DEPARTMENTS. Preparing Spinning Weaving Other Not Specified	10,882 20,816 32,809 6,609 8,579	$\begin{array}{c} \text{Per} \\ \text{cent.} \\ + \ 0.5 \\ + \ 0.2 \\ - \ 0.5 \\ - \ 0.7 \\ + \ 0.1 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} \text{Per} \\ \text{cent.} \\ + \ 7 \cdot 2 \\ + \ 7 \cdot 1 \\ + \ 6 \cdot 9 \\ + \ 1 \cdot 1 \\ + \ 4 \cdot 4 \end{array}$	£ 18,775 37,628 59,880 16,256 17,020	$\begin{array}{c} \text{Per} \\ \text{cent.} \\ + 1 \cdot 0 \\ + 1 \cdot 5 \\ + 0 \cdot 5 \\ - 0 \cdot 4 \\ + 2 \cdot 7 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} \text{Per} \\ \text{cent.} \\ + 11 \cdot 2 \\ + 12 \cdot 0 \\ + 11 \cdot 7 \\ + 5 \cdot 3 \\ + 5 \cdot 1 \end{array}$	
Total	79,695	- 0.2	$+ 6 \cdot 2$	149,559	+ 1.0	+ 10.2	
DISTRICTS. Ashton	4,320	+ 1.6	+ 0.9	7,729	- 1.1	- 1.0	
Stockport, Glossop and Hyde Oldham Bolton and Leigh Bury, Rochdale, Hey-	7,668 9,665 11,104	+ 0.3 + 0.0 + 0.2	+ 7.7 + 2.7 + 2.4	13,171 18,521 19,840	+ 1.9 + 4.1 + 0.7	+ 8.7 + 8.5 + 4.2	
wood, Walsden and Todmorden Manchester Preston and Chorley Blackburn, Accrington	8,306 5,058 3,815	+ 0.4 + 0.5 + 0.2	+ 5.6 + 1.1 + 5.9	14,778 8,700 6,942	+ 0.8 + 1.1 + 1.6	+ 18.4 + 5.4 + 11.8	
and Darwen Burnley, Padiham, Colne	9,068 10,606	- 4.5 + 0.2	+17.4 +4.6	18,111 23,785	-2.7 + 1.1	+ 21.9 + 6.2	
Other Lancashire Towns Yorkshire Towns Other Districts	3,723 3,684 2,678	+ 0.9 + 2.2 + 0.9	+31.0 + 0.3 + 6.6	6,408 7,009 4,565	+1.2 + 2.6 + 1.4	$+ 25 \cdot 3 + 7 \cdot 4 + 18 \cdot 8$	
Total	79,695	- 0.2	+ 6.2	149,559	+ 1.0	+ 10.2	

Returns from firms employing 72,345 workpeople showed that 13 per cent. of these workpeople were on short time, to the extent of 10 hours on the average, in the week ended 20th December,

The following Table shows the number of men and of women registered as applicants for employment at Employment Exchanges at 1st December, 1924, in the principal centres, at which approxi-mately 84 per cent. of the total number of applicants for employment in the cotton trade were registered :---

January, 1925.

Department.	for E	er of App mployme ecember,	ent at	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with 3rd November, 1924.			
the life of the sector	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
Card and Blowing Room Spinning Beaming, Warping and	997 4,669	4,816 4,877	5,813 9,546	- 258 - 1,283	- 1,628 - 775	- 1,886 - 2,058	
Winding Weaving Other Processes	1,201 1,511 642	6,514 4,428 450	7,715 5,939 1,092	- 282 - 745 - 131	- 644 - 1,495 - 128	- 926 - 2,240 - 259	
Total	9,020	21,085	30,105	- 2,699	- 4,670	- 7,369	

The imports (less re-exports) of raw cotton (including cotton linters) were 271,269,500 lb. in December, 1924, compared with 197,067,500 lb. in November, 1924, and with 234,889,000 lb. in December, 1923.

December, 1923. The exports of cotton yarn were 13,525,700 lb. in December, 1924, compared with 12,792,400 lb. in November, 1924, and with 11,136,500 lb. in December, 1923. The exports of cotton piece goods were 409,566,400 square yards, as compared with 329,455,300 square yards in the previous month and with 323,100,000 square yards in December, 1923.

BOOT AND SHOE INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT during the major part of December was still only moderate. In some centres employment was good immediately before Christmas, in consequence of pressure to complete orders; but many factories were closed for extended holidays after Christmas

The percentage of workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 11.8 on the 22nd December, as compared with 9.7 on the 24th November

and 9.8 on the 21st December, 1923. The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished returns for the three periods under review :-

	1				the little is the second			
	1	Workpeo	ple.		Earnings.			
er later en spele 19 la rese	Week ended	Inc. (Dec. (+) or -) on a	Week ended	Inc. $(+)$ or Dec. $(-)$ on a			
	20th Dec., 1924.	Month ago.	Year ago.	20th Dec., 1924.	Month ago.	Year ago.		
ngland and Wales : London Leicester Licester Country Dis- trict Northampton Northampton Country District Stafford and District Stafford and District Morwich and District Bristol and District Leeds and District Lancashire (mainly Rossendale Valley) Bimingham and Dis-	2,108 7,939 2,294 6,880 7,915 3,392 2,634 4,236 2,034 1,926 4,558	$\begin{array}{c} \text{Per} \\ \text{cent.} \\ + 0 \cdot 4 \\ + 1 \cdot 8 \\ - 1 \cdot 4 \\ - 0 \cdot 2 \\ + 0 \cdot 9 \\ - 0 \cdot 3 \\ - 2 \cdot 4 \\ + 0 \cdot 7 \\ - 0 \cdot 3 \\ - 0 \cdot 3 \\ - 0 \cdot 3 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} \text{Per} \\ \text{cent.} \\ + 7 \cdot 7 \\ - 2 \cdot 1 \\ \\ - 1 \cdot 8 \\ + 2 \cdot 2 \\ + 2 \cdot 3 \\ + 4 \cdot 4 \\ + 2 \cdot 7 \\ + 15 \cdot 8 \\ - 5 \cdot 4 \\ + 2 \cdot 9 \\ + 5 \cdot 5 \\ + 6 \cdot 0 \end{array}$	£ 4,887 21,316 5,483 16,745 18,693 8,969 6,196 8,963 4,029 4,203 9,332 1,976	$\begin{array}{c} \text{Per} \\ \text{cent.} \\ + 2 \cdot 6 \\ + 9 \cdot 8 \\ + 2 \cdot 2 \\ + 1 \cdot 8 \\ + 3 \cdot 3 \\ + 6 \cdot 6 \\ + 26 \cdot 4 \\ + 2 \cdot 7 \\ + 1 \cdot 9 \\ + 0 \cdot 8 \\ - 2 \cdot 4 \\ - 2 \cdot 9 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} \text{Per} \\ \text{cent.} \\ + 6.5 \\ + 0.8 \\ - 0.4 \\ + 4.9 \\ - 1.9 \\ + 10.3 \\ + 10.3 \\ + 18.7 \\ - 16.8 \\ + 0.1 \\ + 15.3 \\ - 7.8 \end{array}$		
trict Other parts of England and Wales	1,075 1,624	-0.3 + 0.1	+ 3.8	3,175	-2.9 -2.5	$-1 \cdot \epsilon$		
England and Wales.	48,615	+ 0.1	+ 2.9	113,957	+ 4.5	+ 3.0		
otland	2,545	-0.2	-2.3	5,286	-1.5	- 5.0		
Great Britain	51,160	+ 0.0	+ 2.6	119,243	+ 4.2	+ 2.6		

Returns from firms employing 38,500 workpeople in the week ended 20th December, 1924, showed that about 25 per cent. of these work-people worked short time in that week, to the extent of about 11½ hours each, on an average. Employment at Leicester again showed a slight improvement, and was moderate. At Northampton conditions were fair on the whole. Employment was fair at Wellingborough before Christmas but extended holidays were given by nearly all firms. There was some pressure on the factories at Kettering, before Christmas, to complete orders, and more than half the factories were then reported to be working full time: but a number of firms closed down for an to be working full time; but a number of firms closed down for an extended holiday after Christmas. Employment was fair at Hinckley, but in the Higham and Rushden district it was poor on the whole

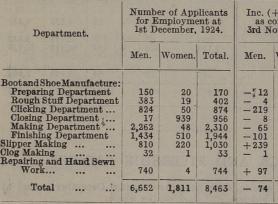
At Stafford an improvement was reported, less short time being worked; but there was still much slackness. Conditions at Norwich were described as fair for the time of year; employment was much better than in December, 1923. Employment declined further at Bristol and Kingswood, and was worse than in December, 1923;

January, 1925.

there was much short time, and the factories generally closed for extended holidays. At Street, employment remained fair. The heavy boot industry was again extremely depressed at Leeds, and general short time prevailed in this section; at factories pro-ducing light footwear, work was fairly plentiful. The seasonal depression in the Rossendale Valley continued, and employment showed a slight further decline, but it must be the the seasonal showed a slight further decline; but it was better than in December, 1923

At Kilmarnock employment was again fairly good, but there was a further slight decline at most of the remaining Scottish centres; short time working was fairly general, and employment was generally reported as quiet or bad; it was worse than in December, 1923.

The following Table shows the number of men and of women registered as applicants for employment at Employment Exchanges at 1st December, 1924, in the principal centres, at which approximately 75 per cent. of the total number of appli-cants for employment in the boot and shoe industry were registered :-



The exports of boots and shoes in December, 1924, amounted to 92,433 dozen pairs, or 43,889 dozen pairs less than in November, 1924, and 7,330 dozen pairs less than in December, 1923.

PAPER MANUFACTURE, PRINTING, AND BOOKBINDING.

EMPLOYMENT in the *paper trade* during December, although showing a slight improvement in some districts, continued moderate generally. With *letterpress printers* employment, on the whole, continued fairly good; it was, however, reported to have declined in London, also at Leeds and Bristol, while at Manchester and Glasgow there with determent of the start and th also at Leeds and Bristol, while at Manchester and Glasgow there was an improvement. With electrotypers and stereotypers employ-ment was generally good, and was better than in November in London and Manchester. In the *lithographic printing trade* employment remained fairly good, and it was fair with lithographic artists in London and Manchester.

With bookbinders, employment, on the whole, was fairly good, With bookbinders, employment, on the whole, was fairly good, although there was some decline on the previous month in London. The percentage of unemployed among workpeople covered by the Unemployment Insurance Acts in the printing and bookbinding trades was $5 \cdot 0$ at 22nd December, compared with $5 \cdot 2$ at 24th November and $5 \cdot 1$ at 21st December, 1923. In the paper and paper-board making industry the percentage was $7 \cdot 7$ at 22nd De-cember, compared with $7 \cdot 3$ at 24th November and $8 \cdot 6$ at 21st December, 1923. In the cardboard box, paper bag, and stationery trades the percentage was $6 \cdot 4$ at 22nd December, 1923. The following Table summarises the returns received from Trade

The following Table summarises the returns received from Trade Unions :-

ind ratio it.	No. of Members of Unions at end of December, 1924.		e end of	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) on a		
ila an Sala n union 11 de Johnstadet en 1907 de Johnstadet en		Dec., 1924.	Nov., 1924.	Dec., 1923.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Letterpress Printing :		Contractor Autoritation	12253		ibec	
London	34,786	4.0	2.9	4.3	$ + 1 \cdot 1$	- 0.3
Northern Counties, Yorkshire, Lanca- shire and Cheshire.	13,481	3.1	3.7	4 · 4	- 0.6	- 1.3
Midlands and Eastern Counties.	7,591	2.5	2.4	2.9	+ 0.1	- ´0 · 4
Scotland	5,736	2.9	3.2	3.7	- 0.3	- 0.8
Other Districts	6,433	3.0	2.8	2.9	+ 0.2	+ 0.1
Total	68,027	3.5	3.0	4.0	+ 0.5	- 0.5
Lithographic Printing	9,640	2.8	2.8	3.9	1	- 1.1
Bookbinding	15,024	2.6	2.6	3.5		- 0.9

It will be seen that there was a decline in employment in the letterpress printing trade in London, but a slight improvement in the North of England and in Scotland, as compared with the previous month. In the lithographic printing and book-binding trade the figures show little change as compared with

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) or Dec. (-) mpared with vember, 1924.								
Women.	Total.							
$ \begin{array}{r} - & 3 \\ - & 18 \\ - & 296 \\ - & 13 \\ + & 14 \\ + & 86 \\ \cdots \\ + & 2 \end{array} $	$ \begin{array}{r} - 15 \\ - 5 \\ - 267 \\ - 304 \\ - 78 \\ - 87 \\ + 325 \\ - 1 \\ + 99 \end{array} $							
-259	- 333							

BUILDING TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT in the building trade showed a slight seasonal decline during December, but it continued good, on the whole, with skilled operatives (except painters) and generally slack with unskilled workers; it was better than in December, 1923, in most districts. Some short-time working was occasioned on outside work owing to bad weather conditions, and, in a few districts, a little overtime was worked by certain classes of skilled operatives.

As regards individual occupations, employment continued very good generally with bricklayers and plasterers, and good in most districts with carpenters and joiners; in a considerable number of districts a shortage of one or more of the foregoing classes of skilled districts a shortage of one or more of the foregoing classes of skilled operatives, especially of bricklayers and plasterers, was again reported. There was a slight decline, on the whole, with masons and slaters, but employment with these classes, and with plumbers, was fairly good in most districts. With painters there was a further seasonal decline and employment was bad at most centres; it continued slack, on the whole, with builders' labourers. The following Table shows the numbers and approximate per-centages* of workpeople insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts who were unemployed at 22nd December, and the increase or decrease in the percentages as compared with November, 1924, and December, 1923. The figures are analysed according to the principal occupations and also by districts :—

Occupations.		Total Number of Insured Workpeople Unemployed at	Approxi- mate Per- centage*	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in per- centage as compared with			
	a. 1	22nd Dec., 1924.	Unem- ployed.	A Month ago.	A Year ago.		
Carpenters Bricklayers Masons Slaters Plasterers Painters Plumbers All other occupations	····	3,294 1,031 818 248 305 25,409 1,638 28,173 25,109	$ \begin{array}{c} 2 \cdot 6 \\ 1 \cdot 8 \\ 3 \cdot 7 \\ 4 \cdot 8 \\ 1 \cdot 9 \\ 2 3 \cdot 7 \\ 4 \cdot 8 \\ 11 \cdot 1 \\ 2 5 \cdot 3 \\ \end{array} $	+ 0.3 + 0.4 + 0.8 + 0.8 + 0.2 + 2.9 + 0.3 + 0.6 - 1.0	$ \begin{array}{c} - 1.5 \\ - 0.2 \\ + 0.2 \\ - 2.0 \\ - 3.0 \\ - 1.2 \\ - 2.5 \\ \dots \end{array} $		
Total		86,025	11.9	+ 0.6	- 1.7		
DIVISIONS. London South-Eastern Midlands North-Eastern North-Western Scotland Wales Northern Ireland		22,653 9,523 8,472 8,653 10,038 11,945 7,887 3,403 3,451	14.6 8.6 9.5 10.9 11.4 12.9 11.8 13.2 27.1	$ \begin{array}{r} & & & & & \\ & + & 0 \cdot 5 \\ & + & 0 \cdot 7 \\ & + & 1 \cdot 0 \\ & + & 1 \cdot 0 \\ & + & 0 \cdot 5 \\ & + & 1 \cdot 0 \\ & + & 1 \cdot 1 \\ & + & 2 \cdot 1 \end{array} $	$\begin{array}{r} - & 0 \cdot 4 \\ - & 1 \cdot 9 \\ - & 1 \cdot 6 \\ - & 2 \cdot 9 \\ - & 2 \cdot 9 \\ - & 2 \cdot 3 \\ - & 2 \cdot 7 \\ + & 2 \cdot 3 \\ + & 6 \cdot 1 \end{array}$		
Great Britain and Northern Ireland		86,025	11.9	+ 0.6	- 1.7		

BUILDING PLANS APPROVED.

Returns from local authorities in 148 of the principal urban areas in Great Britain (except the London County Council area), with a total population of 16,476,000, show that in December, 1924, plans were passed for buildings of an estimated cost of £4,680,000, as compared with £4,308,600 in November, 1924, and £4,727,800 in compared with £4,508,600 m November, 1924, and £4,727,800 in December, 1923. Of the total for December, 1924, dwelling-houses accounted for £2,964,000; factories and workshops for £431,600; shops, offices, warehouses and other business premises for £250,200; and other buildings, and additions and alterations to existing buildings, for £1,034,200.

(For figures for the quarter ended December, 1924, in comparison with the corresponding quarter of 1923, see page 26.)

BRICK TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT in the brick trade during December was good generally and showed little change as compared with the previous month. In some districts, however, it was adversely affected by bad weather,

In some districts, however, it was adversely anected by bad weather, Employment was better than a year ago. The percentage of workpeople unemployed in the brick, pipe, tile, etc., trades, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges at 22nd December, 1924, was 7.8, as compared with 8.0 at 24th November and with 8.4 at 21st December, 1923.

The following Table summarises the information received as to the number of workpeople employed and the amount of wages paid by those employers who furnished returns for the three periods under consideration.

* Figures are not available as to the exact numbers of insured workpeople in each of the occupations shown in the first column of the Table in the building industry. For the purpose of computing the percentages given in the third column, the total numbers insured, in each occupation, have been roughly estimated by applying ratios derived from the exchange of unemployment books which took place in 1922 to the total number of insured workers engaged in the building industry as shown by the 1924 exchange of books. In view of the probability that changes have taken place, since 1922, in the ratios referred to, the percentages of unemployed, as given in the third column, should not be regarded as more than approximate indications of the actual proportions unemployed in the different occupations.

THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE.

		Number o orkpeopl		Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
Districts.	Week ended			Week ended	Inc. $(+)$ or Dec. $(-)$ on a	
	20th Dec., 1924.	Month ago.	Year ago.	20th Dec., 1924.	Month ago.*	Year ago.*
Northern Counties, York- shire, Lancashire, and Cheshire.	1,862	$\begin{array}{c} \operatorname{Per} \\ \operatorname{cent.} \\ + 2 \cdot 5 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} \operatorname{Per} \\ \operatorname{cent.} \\ +15 \cdot 2 \end{array}$	£ 4,672	$\begin{array}{c} \operatorname{Per} \\ \operatorname{cent.} \\ + 4 \cdot 3 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} \operatorname{Per} \\ \operatorname{cent.} \\ + 19.8 \end{array}$
Midlands and Eastern	4,672	+ 0.5	+ 17.8	11,688	- 3.9	+ 29.2
Counties. South and South-West	1,533	- 0.8	+12.1	3,951	+ 1.4	+ 24 . 9
Counties and Wales. Scotland	175	-	- 4.4	469	+ 0.4	- 0.8
TOTAL	8,242	+ 0.7	+15.6	20,780	-1.1	+ 25.3

POTTERY TRADES.

THERE was a seasonal decline in employment in the pottery trades in North Staffordshire after the first week in December, owing to the completion of Christmas trade work. Some workpeople were suspended, or placed on short time, some days before Christmas, and at many works the holiday stoppage was extended until the end of the month or longer. At Worcester and Derby employment was good; at Bristol it was fair. In the stoneware section in Scotland employment was reported as slack.

Socilard employment was reported as slack. The percentage of workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 19.4 at 22nd December, 1924, as compared with 11.1 at 24th November, 1924, and 14.6 at 21st December, 1923. The following Table summarises the information received from employers who furnished returns for the three periods under

		Number of Vorkpeop		Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.				
1. V = <u>- ()</u> = <u>-</u> [] = []	Week ended	Inc. (Dec. (-		Week ended	Inc. $(+)$ or Dec. $(-)$ on a			
	20th Dec., 1924.	Month ago.	Year ago.	20th Dec., 1924.	Month ago.	Year ago.*		
BRANCHES. China Manufacture Earthenware Manufacture Other Branches (including unspecified)	1,449 8,922 1,833	$ \begin{array}{c} \text{Per} \\ \text{cent.} \\ - 3.5 \\ - 0.1 \\ - 0.3 \end{array} $	$\begin{array}{c} \text{Per}\\ \text{cent.}\\ - 0 \cdot 1\\ + 6 \cdot 6\\ - 0 \cdot 4 \end{array}$	£ 2,763 16,721 3,629	$\begin{array}{c} \text{Per}\\ \text{cent.}\\ -3.6\\ +0.8\\ +2.2 \end{array}$	$ \begin{array}{c} \text{Per} \\ \text{cent.} \\ -14.7 \\ +12.1 \\ +5.8 \end{array} $		
TOTAL	12,204	- 0.5	+ 4.7	23,113	+ 0.5	$+ 7 \cdot 1$		
DISTRICTS. North Staffordshire Other Districts TOTAL	9,141 3,063 12,204	$ \begin{array}{r} - 0.9 \\ + 0.6 \\ \hline - 0.5 \end{array} $	+ 2.6 + 11.5 + 4.7	16,058 7,055 23,113	$ \begin{array}{r} - & 0 \cdot 4 \\ + & 2 \cdot 4 \\ + & 0 \cdot 5 \end{array} $	$+ \frac{2 \cdot 9}{+ 18 \cdot 0}$ $+ 7 \cdot 1$		

Returns from employers relative to short-time working showed that of 10,011 workpeople employed by firms furnishing information, 1,837, or 18 per cent., were working on an average 13 hours less than full time in the week ended 20th December, 1924.

SEAMEN.

EMPLOYMENT with seamen during December remained slack on the EMPLOYMENT with seamen during December remained slack on the whole. Among insured workpeople in the shipping service the percentage unemployed at 22nd December was 23·1, compared with 22·0 at 24th November, and 21·1 on 21st December, 1923. On the Thames the demand for men was moderate, and showed a substantial improvement following the Christmas holidays. On the

substantial improvement following the Christmas holidays. On the Tyne it was generally fair. Employment on the Wear was quiet, except for an improvement in the middle of the month. It was moderate to quiet on the Tees, and fell off during the last week of December. The demand was fairly good at Hull, and continued quiet at Southampton. At Bristol it was quiet to moderate, and moderate on the whole at Avonmouth; it was fairly good at Swansea. At Newport it was good. The demand at Cardiff was fair on the whole until the end of the month, when a decline or in . In the foreign going trade on the Moreav and at Muncherter set in. In the foreign-going trade on the Mersey and at Manchester the demand was moderate.

the demand was moderate. Employment on the Clyde was generally quiet. At Leith it fluctuated from quiet to fair, and at Belfast it was moderate, showing a decline at the end of the month. 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 December. It will of Great Britain and Northern Ireland during December. It will be seen that the total number of engagements at these ports in December showed little difference as compared with November, but was considerably greater than in December, 1923. Among the individual ports there was a marked decline at Southampton as compared with a month earlier, but an increase as compared with December, 1923. There were also substantial increases, as com-pared with 1923, in London, on the Tyne, at Hull and at Glasgow.

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

	Number of Seamen* shipped in								
Principal Ports.	Dec.	Inc. (Dec. (-	+) or -) on a	Year	ended				
	1924.	Month ago.	Year ago.	Dec. 1924.	Dec. 1923.				
ENGLAND & WALES: Liverpool† Manchester Southampton Sunderland Middlesbrough Hull Bristol‡ Newport, Mon Cardif § Swansea	10,264 983 8,466 6,746 2,120 318 293 1,945 23 931 812 2,980 964	$\begin{array}{rrrrr} -&411\\ +&254\\ +&785\\ -&2,426\\ +&348\\ +&43\\ -&121\\ +&383\\ +&20\\ +&178\\ -&99\\ +&178\\ -&99\\ +&281\\ +&502\end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} + & 466 \\ + & 140 \\ + & 1,369 \\ + & 851 \\ + & 992 \\ + & 223 \\ + & 225 \\ + & 550 \\ - & 6 \\ - & 89 \\ + & 122 \\ + & 71 \\ + & 275 \end{array}$	141,480 10,007 100,569 104,531 23,247 2,873 5,135 19,553 19,553 19,553 19,57 11,305 9,776 35,170 9,061	143,638 8,881 89,255 110,634 14,534 1,828 4,633 17,832 239 12,156 11,082 33,256 9,703				
SCOTLAND: Leith Kirkcaldy, Methil and Grangemouth Glasgow	332 325 2,115	+ 95 + 63 - 520	- 51 + 176 + 753	4,337 3,487 38,572	4,337 2,632 33,735				
NORTHERN IRELAND: Belfast	184	+ 50	- 94	2,459	2,905				
TOTAL	39,801	- 575	+ 5,453	521,757	501.280				

January, 1925.

DOCK AND RIVERSIDE LABOUR.

EMPLOYMENT among dock labourers during December varied at different ports, but was still slack on the whole.

Among insured workpeople in the canal, river, harbour and dock service 25·1 per cent. were unemployed at 22nd December, compared with 26·7 per cent. at 24th November and 22·5 at 21st December, 1923

London.—The following Table shows the average daily number of dock labourers employed at docks and wharves in respect of which returns were received for each week of the month :—

	Average Da Docks an	aily Numb nd at Prin	bourers emp arves in Lo	ployed in ondon.	
	In	Docks.			1
Period.	By the Port of London Authority or through Contractors.		Total.	At Wharves making Returns,	Total Docks and Principal Wharves.
Week ended— 6th Dec., 1924 13th ", 20th ", 27th ",	5,936 5,480 5,757 4,451	2,246 2,065 2,474 1,825	8,182 7,545 8,231 6,276	8,564 8,184 8,982 8,008	16,746 15,729 17,213 14,284
Average for 4 weeks ended 27th Dec., 1924	} 5,493	2,182	7,675	8,473	16,148
Average for Nov., 1924	5,247	2,004	7,251	8,446	15,697
Average for Dec., 1923	5,249	2,121	7,370	8,208	15,578

Tilbury.-The mean daily number of dock labourers employed in December was 1,036, as compared with 971 in the previous month and with 1,022 in December, 1923.

East Coast.—Employment with coal trimmers on the Tyne and Wear and at Blyth was bad, and worse than in the previous month. It was slack with other classes of workers on the Wear and at Blyth, but on the Tyne it was generally fair. At Middlesbrough there was a further decline in employment, which was very slack. At Hull, however, employment improved and was brisk. At other East Coast ports employment was quiet.

Coast ports employment was quiet. Western and Southern Section.—At Liverpool employment was fair. The average weekly number of dock labourers registered at the clearing houses under the Liverpool Docks Scheme as employed in the five weeks ended 29th December was 15,534, compared with 15,917 in the four weeks ended 24th November and with 15,773 in the four weeks ended 24th December, 1923. The average weekly amount of wages paid to these men through the clearing houses was £42,687 in the five weeks ended 29th December, compared with £47,592 in the four weeks ended 24th November, and with £42,335 in the four weeks ended 24th December, 1923. At the South Wales ports employment continued sheet, while it

At the South Wales ports employment continued slack, while it remained good at Bristol and Avonmouth and fair at Southampton. At Plymouth and other South Western ports it was moderate.

Scottish and Irish Ports.—At Leith and Dundee employment was good, and better than in November. At Belfast it was good.

January, 1925.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE STATISTICS: GREAT BRITAIN.

CHANGES IN PERSONNEL OF UNEMPLOYED.

DURING the four weeks ended 29th December, 1924, 704,000 fresh claims were added to the register, while 620,000 claims were

claims were added to the register, while removed from the register. As the number include those of a number of claimants who after a short period of unemployment, it ca the change-over during the month is as great appear to show at first glance, but the figure:	of fresh cl make a fur nnot be assu as the statis	aims may ther claim amed that stics below	Area.	Unemplo	yed on 29	ons register th Decemb	ed as er, 1924.	Dec. (comp wi	
fluctuation in the personnel of the unemploye	d.	12) 15 4		Men.	Women.	Juveniles.	Total.	19	
Insurance Claims current at 1st December, 19 Fresh Claims made between 1st Dec. and 29th	24 Dec., 1924	1,129,040 704,428	London Division	132,904	36,094	8,639	177,637	+	726
Total		1,833,468	South Eastern Division Brighton Chatham	49,658 2,233 2,925	9,049 572 262	4,414 136 555	63,121 2,941 3,742	+	3,415 494 231
Insurance Claims current at 29th December,	1924	1,213,579	Ipswich Norwich Rest of South Eastern	2,238 3,193 39,069	363 742 7,110	208 153 3,362	2,809 4,088 49,541	+++	39 210 3,969
Amounts Paid in Unemploymen	T BENEFIT	in and	South Western Division Bristol	<i>59,588</i> 12,105	12,817 3,936	4,752 1,322	77, <i>157</i> 17,363	++++	6,715 2,988
The following Table shows approximately have been paid during the four weeks ended 2	y the amou		Plymouth Portsmouth Reading Southampton Swindon Rest of South Western	5,283 6,360 1,472 5,372 398 28,598	887 777 152 448 88 6,529	385 393 214 543 76 1,819	6,555 7,530 1,838 6,363 562 36,946	+++++	172 146 82 565 21 4,163
. This will have " the second of the lost of the second	mount paid		Midlands Division	<i>115,043</i> 22,316	45,758 9,454	8,720 3,307	<i>169,521</i> 35,077	ALC: NO	<i>21,144</i> 1,947
Week ending By Exchanges, etc.	Through Trade Unions.	Total.	Coventry Cradley Heath Derby Leicester	1,520 5,839 1,527 2,920	194 1,035 587 1,807	23 259 198 111	1,737 7,133 2,312 4,838	+ + + + +	587 2,127 285 89
5th December, 1924 £ 12th 859,000 19th 855,000 26th 854,000 26th	£ 51,000 52,000 52,000 61,000	£ 910,000 907,000 906,000 889,000	Northampton Nottingham Smethwick Stoke-on-Trent Walsall West Bromwich Wolverhampton	1,646 7,217 3,291 10,002 5,247 3,776 4,109	610 2,992 1,537 8,586 1,136 780 1,697	80 309 172 677 256 219 73	2,336 10,518 5,000 19,265 6,639 4,775 5,879	+ + + + + + + +	406 589 242 8,583 796 854 326
3,396,000	216,000	3,612,000	Rest of Midlands North Eastern Division	45,633 214,748	15,343 <i>33,366</i>	3,036 <i>13,028</i>	64,012 <i>261,142</i>	1 Phillips	6,665 22,011
CLAIMS TO EXTENDED BEN			Barnsley Bradford Darlington	1,235 6,467 2,487	172 3,168 181	43 282 102	1,450 9,917 2,770	-	95 917 425
Claims to extended benefit— <i>i.e.</i> , benefit the claimant is entitled in respect of contril	outions paid	l, are sub-	Dewsbury Doncaster Gateshead	1,390 314 8,456	801 151 917	105 103 799	2,296 568 10,172	+++11	489 88 537
mitted for decision to the Local Employm posed, in the main, of representatives of emp	lovers and v	vorkpeople.	Grimsby Halifax Hartlepools	2,876 2,052 6,610	234 1,475 200	371 142 400	3,481 3,669 7,210	++++	68 486 330
The following Table shows the number of these Committees in Great Britain during the to 8th December, 1924 :	period 11th	November	Huddersfield Hull Leeds	3,099 7,488 13,760	1,194 910 4,825	125 579 683	4,418 8,977 19,268	++++	644 15 1,777
Applications referred to Committees during p	eriod	. 293,986	Lincoln Middlesbrough Newcastle-on-Tyne	2,322 12,970 13,104	347 433	189 769 852	2,858 14,172 15,482	+++	34 2,373 304
Applications admitted by Committees during (a) For 12 weeks			Rotherham Sheffield South Shields	2,853 22,573 6,679	1,526 256 3,616 475	213 1,013 352	3,322 27,202 7,506	+++	1,114 1,726 23
(b) For less than 12 weeks Applications rejected during period		70.000	Stockton-on-Tees Sunderland York	6,782 15,215 1,916	187 878 355	891 601 236	7,860 16,694 2,507	+++++	1,818 821 356
			Rest of North Eastern North Western Division	74,100	11,065 <i>61,321</i>	4,178	89,343 251,531		9,041 7,882
MINISTRY OF LA	BOUR		Accrington Ashton-under-Lyne	1,327 3,172 4,885	349 1,298 413	62 177 154	1,738 4,647 5,452	+++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++	705
EMPLOYMENT EXCH		5.*	Birkenhead Blackburn	5,738 2,739 1,357	499 1,038 755	284 224 149	6,521 4,001	+++	816 119 347 754 593 603
THE number of persons registered at Emp Great Britain and Northern Ireland as unemplo	loyment Ex	changes in December		5,681 2,546 1,542	2,386 1,715 1,047 565	457 143 110	2,261 8,524 4,404 2,699	++++++	603 61
1924, was 1,319,271. Of this number, 1,003 boys, 249,518 women and 30,524 girls. Con	,224 were n npared with	nen, 36,005 24th Nov-	Burry Chorley Liverpool Manchester	1,138 42,785 22,291	565 7,817 9,981	73 3,743 1,515	1,776 54,345 33,787		61 235 21 3,812 2,158
ember, there was an increase of 86,603, wh follows	ich was dis niles, 5,746,	tributed as	Oldham	702	1 264	10 505	976	11+1+++1+	2,158 65 921
During the five weeks ended 29th Dece vacancies filled by Employment Exchanges 68,715 were for men, 25,879 for women, and	was 111,45	number of 8, of which	Preston Rochdale St. Helens Salford	3,227 3,744 1,975 7,411	4,131 947 3,306 364	126 421 158	15,427 4,300 7,471 2,497 12,701	+++-	65 921 594 1,313 196 259
	10,004 101	juvennes.	Stockport Warrington	3,001 3,701 3,814	4,657 1,143 526	633 112 172	4,256 4,399 6,590 62,759	+++	259 558 1,163 340
Week ended	Vacancies Filled.‡	Number of Workpeople Registered	Wigan Rest of NorthWestern Scotland Division	43,764	2,357 15,763	419 3,232	and Standy Collins	ALL STREET	5,299
During Week. Outstanding at end of Week.	Tuled.1	as Unem- ployed.	Aberdeen Clydebank	139,498 5,188 1,893	35,735 1,391 313	9,016 288 80	184,249 6,867 2,286 8,431	++++1	12,080 771 82
24th November, 1924 29,483 22,329	24,803	1,232,668	Dundee Edinburgh Glasgow	5,817 9,956 57,408	2,465 2,278 14,501	149 544 3,824 376	8,431 12,778 75,733	+++	344 416 1,946
1st December, 1924 28,970 22,238 8th " " 28,650 22,237 15th " " 28,101 21,053	24,768 24,794 25,362	1,232,550 1,224,722 1,201,001	Greenock Motherwell Paisley Rest of Scotland	6,706 3,857 4,287	1,049 247 1,251 12,240	251 225	12,778 75,733 8,131 4,355 5,763 59,905	+++++	82 344 416 1,946 1,034 1,072 403 6,844
22nd " " … 27,187 20,550	25,362 23,648 12,886†	1,201,001 1,212,662 1,319,271	Wales Division	44,386 <i>81,045</i>	4,486	3,279 <i>3,996</i>	59,905 89,527 7,698	Strange Par	6,844 9,320 1,305
29th ,, ,, 14,938† 20,896 Total (5 weeks) 127,846	111,458‡		Cardiff Llanelly Newport	6,748 4,711 7,487	615 356 553	335 249 394	7,698 5,316 8,434 6,479	++++1	1,305 3,562 5,315 952
* The figures relate to Great Britain and Nort	hern Ireland,	and refer to	Swansea Rest of Wales	5,667 56,432	357 2,605	455 2,563	61,600	Sec.	1,814
* The figures relate to Great Britain and Norf all workpeople on the "Live Registers" of Ex "suspended" or "stood off," and those who, alth of systematic short time, were not actually at wor For Great Britain alone, the corresponding figures, show that on 29th December, 1924, the numbers were 669,500 men, 238,500 women, and 64,700 j 947,000 men, 267,000 women, and 72,000 juveniles of the furner for the work conder 20th December	changes, inclu lough employe k on the date	ding persons ed on a basis in question.	Northern Ireland Belfast Londonderry	33,409 22 053 2,559	10,892 6,545 770	1,085 574 85	45,386 29,172 3,414	+	3,310 770 82
For Great Britain alone, the corresponding figures, show that on 29th December, 1924, the numbers were 969,500 men. 238,500 women. and 64,700 in	as published registered as iveniles, as co	in the Press, unemployed ompared with	Lurgan Lisburn Newry	327 686 1,063	407 528 148	21 83 13	755 1,297 1,224	+++	379 358 64
The lightes for the week ended 25th Decembra	er are in resp	ber 1923. pect of three	Rest of Northern Ire- land	6,721	2,494	309	9,524	Sector Sec	1,949
days only. ‡ This figure includes a weekly average of 600 jo as dock labourers and coal porters.	bs of a casual	nature, such	Great Britain and Northern Ireland	1,003,224	249,518	66,529	1,319,271	+	86,603
		North Cold	*		1	and the second second	100 - 1		

claims were added to the reg removed from the register. As include those of a number of cl after a short period of unemplo the change-over during the mont	the number of aimants who m yment, it canno	f fresh cl ake a fur ot be assu	aims may ther claim umed that	Area.	Numb Unemplo	er of Persoyed on 29	ons register th Decemb	red as er, 1924.	Inc. (+) Dec. (-) compar) as red
appear to show at first glance, b fluctuation in the personnel of th	ut the figures in	ndicate co	nsiderable	ast and states without	Men.	Women.	Juveniles.	Total.	with 24th No 1924.	0 v .
Insurance Claims current at 1st I Fresh Claims made between 1st I			1,129,040 704,428	London Division	132,904	36,094	8,639	177,637	+	726
Total			1,833,468	South Eastern Division Brighton Chatham	49,658 2,233 2,925	9,049 572 262	4,414 136 555	63,121 2,941 3,742	1 - 1 - 1 - C. C	415 494 231
Insurance Claims current at 29th	n December, 19		1,213,579	Ipswich Norwich Rest of South Eastern	2,238 3,193 39,069	363 742 7,110	208 153 3,362	2,809 4,088 49,541		39 210 969
Amounts Paid in U	TEMPI OYMENT	RENEET	- 200 E	South Western Division Bristol	<i>59,588</i> 12,105	12,817 3,936	4,752 1,322	77,157	+ 6, + 2,	715
The following Table shows a have been paid during the four w	pproximately t	the amou		Plymouth Portsmouth Reading Southampton Swindon Rest of South Western	5,283 6,360 1,472 5,372 398 28,598	887 777 152 448 88 6,529	385 393 214 543 76 1,819	6,555 7,530 1,838 6,363 562 36,946	++++++	172 146 82 565 21 163
Westernation	Amo	ount paid		Midlands Division Birmingham	115,043 22,316	45,758 9,454	8,720 3,307	169,521 35,077	+ 21.	, <i>144</i> ,947
Week ending	Exchanges,	Trade Unions.	Total.	Coventry Cradley Heath Derby Leicester	1,520. 5,839 1,527 2,920	194 1,035 587 1,807	23 259 198 111	1,737 7,133 2,312 4,838	A CONTRACTOR	587 127 285 89
5th December, 1924 12th , 19th , 26th ,	£ 859,000 855,000 854,000 828,000	£ 51,000 52,000 52,000 61,000	£ 910,000 907,000 906,000 889,000	Northampton Nottingham Smethwick Stoke-on-Trent Walsall West Bromwich	1,646 7,217 3,291 10,002 5,247 3,776	610 2,992 1,537 8,586 1,136 780	80 309 172 677 256 219	2,336 10,518 5,000 19,265 6,639 4,775		406 589 242 583 796 854
	3,396,000 2	216,000	3,612,000	Wolverhampton Rest of Midlands	4,109 45,633	1,697 15,343	73 3,036	5,879 64,012	+ 6,	326 ,665
CLAIMS TO EXT	ENDED BENEFI	IT.		North Eastern Division Barnsley Bradford Darlington	214,748 1,235 6,467 2,487	33,366 172 3,168 181	13,028 43 282 102	261,142 1,450 9,917 2,770	11 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1	, <i>011</i> 95 917 425
Claims to extended benefit- the claimant is entitled in respe	ct of contribut	ions paid	, are sub-	Dewsbury Doncaster Gateshead	1,390 314 8,456	801 151 917	105 103 799	2,296 568 10,172	+	489 88 537
mitted for decision to the Loca posed, in the main, of representa The following Table shows the	tives of employ	vers and w	orkpeople.	Grimsby Halifax Hartlepools	2,876 2,052 6,610	234 1,475 200	371 142 400	3,481 3,669 7,210	++++	68 486 330
these Committees in Great Britai to 8th December, 1924 :	n during the pe	riod 11th	November	Huddersfield Hull Leeds	3,099 7,488 13,760 2,322	1,194 910 4,825 347	125 579 683 189	4,418 8,977 19,268	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	644 15 ,777 34
Applications referred to Committ Applications admitted by Commi	ees during perio ttees during per	od	. 293,986	Lincoln Middlesbrough Newcastle-on-Tyne Rotherham	12,970 13,104 2,853	433 1,526 256	769 852 213	2,858 14,172 15,482 3,322	+ 2	,373 304 ,114
			. 128,805	Sheffield South Shields Stockton-on-Tees	22,573 6,679 6,782	3,616 475 187	1,013 352 891	27,202 7,506 7,860	+ 1 + 1 + 1	,726 23 .818
Applications rejected during peri	od		. 38,066	Sunderland York Rest of North Eastern	15,215 1,916 74,100	878 355 11,065	601 236 4,178	16,694 2,507 89,343	++	821 356 ,041
	OF LAD	0.1.ID		North Western Division Accrington Ashton-under-Lyne	177,331 1,327 3,172	<i>61,321</i> 349	12,879 62 177	251,531 1,738 4,647	State of the state	,882
MINISTRY EMPLOYMENT			5.*	Barrow Birkenhead Blackburn	4,885 5,738 2,739 1,357	1,298 413 499 1,038	154 284 224	5,452 6,521 4,001	++++	816 119 347 754 593 603
THE number of persons register Great Britain and Northern Irelan	red at Employ	ment Ex	changes in	Blackpool Bolton Burnley	5,681	755 2,386 1,715 1,047	149 457 143	2,261 8,524 4,404 2,699	+++1++1 +	593 603 61
1924, was 1,319,271. Of this nu hove, 249,518 women and 30,524	umber, 1,003,22 4 girls. Compa	24 were mared with	nen, 36,005 24th Nov-	Bury Chorley Liverpool Manchester	1,542 1,138 42,785 22,291	1,047 565 7,817 9,981	110 73 3,743 1,515	2,699 1,776 54,345 33,787	- 3	61 235 21 ,812 ,158
ember, there was an increase of follows	f 86,603, which 19.134: juvenile	was distes, 5,746.	tributed as	Nelson Oldham	702	264 4,131 947	1,515 10 505 126	976	+ 2	65 921
During the five weeks ender vacancies filled by Employment 68,715 were for men, 25,879 for	Exchanges wa	as 111.458	B. of which	Rochdale St. Helens Salford	3,227 3,744 1,975 7,411	3,306 364 4,657 1,143	421 158	15,427 4,300 7,471 2,497 12,701	-+++ 1 +++++	65 921 594 ,313 196 259
Applic	ations from		Number of	Stockport Warrington Wigan	3,001 3,701 3,814	1,143 526 2,357 15,763	633 112 172 419	4,256 4,399 6,590	- 1 -	,163 340
Week ended	Outstanding	Vacancies Filled.‡	Workpeople Registered as Unem-	Rest of NorthWestern Scotland Division Aberdeen	43,764 139,498 5,188	15,763 35,735 1,391	3,232 9,016 288	62,759 184,249	and the second	,080
Week.	at end of Week.		ployed.	Clydebank Dundee Edinburgh	1,893 5,817 9,956	313 2,465 2,278 14,501	80 149 544	6,867 2,286 8,431 12,778	+ 12 ++ ++ +-	771 82 344 416
24th November, 1924 29,483		24,803	1,232,668	Glasgow Greenock Motherwell	57,408 6,706 3,857	1,049	1 2 904	75,733	1 1	82 344 416 1,946 1,034 1,072
1st December, 1924 28,970 8th " " 28,650 15th " " 28,101 000-1 " " "	22,238 22,237 21,053	24,768 24,794 25,362 23,648	1,232,550 1,224,722 1,201,001 1,212,662	Paisley Rest of Scotland	4,287 44,386	1,251 12,240	225 3,279	4,355 5,763 59,905	+ 6	6,844
22nd ", ", 27,187 29th ", ", 14,938† Total (5 weeks) 127,846	20,550 20,896	12,886† 111,458‡	1,319,271	Wales DivisionCardiffLlanellyNewport	81,045 6,748 4,711 7,487	4,486 615 356	3,996 335 249	89,527 7,698 5,316	+ 91 ++ 35 ++ 1	, <i>320</i> 1,305 3,562
			and refer to	Swansea Rest of Wales	5,667 56,432	553 357 2,605	394 455 2,563	5,316 8,434 6,479 61,600	+ 5	3,562 5,315 952 1,814
* The figures relate to Great Bri all workpeople on the "Live Regi "suspended" or "stood off," and to of systematic short time, were not a For Great Britain alone, the correspo- show that on 29th December, 1924, were 969,500 men, 238,500 women, 947,000 men, 267,000 women, and 72	sters" of Exchances hose who, although ctually at work	nges, includ gh employe n the date	ding persons d on a basis in question.	Northern Ireland Belfast Londonderry	33,409 22 053 2,559	10,892 6,545 770	1,085 574 85	45,386 29,172 3,414	+ 3	3, 310 770 82
For Great Britain alone, the corresponsible show that on 29th December, 1924, were 969,500 men, 238,500 women,	nding figures, as the numbers reg and 64,700 juver	published gistered as niles, as co	in the Press, unemployed mpared with	Lurgan Lisburn Newry	327 686 1,063	407 528	21 83 13	755 1,297 1,224	+ 3	379 358 64
days only.	2501 December	are mics	pect of three	Rest of Northern Ire- land Great Britain and	6,721	2,494	309	9,524	+ 1	1,949
‡ This figure includes a weekly av as dock labourers and coal porters.	erage of 600 jobs	of a casual	nature, such	Great Britain and Northern Ireland	1,003,224	249,518	66,529	1,319,271	+ 86	6,603
			No. of Contraction	I see a second						

 293,986
 127,115
 128,805 38,066

THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE.

The following Table shows for each of the Employment Exchange administrative areas, and for the principal towns therein, the number of persons registered at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland as unemployed on 29th December, 1924. In certain cases—e.g., Bristol, Birmingham, Sheffield, Liverpool, Glasgow, etc.—the figures cover more than one Exchange area

^{*} It will be understood that the numbers given are the numbers of separate engagements, and not of separate individuals. † Including Birkenhead and Garston. ‡ Including Avomouth and Portishead. § Including Barry and Penarth.

UNEMPLOYMENT IN INSURED INDUSTRIES.

THE statistics here presented show, industry by industry, the number of persons insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts, and the number and percentage of such persons who were unemployed on 22nd December, 1924. "Unemployed" as used in these statistics does not necessarily mean that the person is definitely without a job. Persons who on 22nd December, 1924, were not at work because they were suspended, "stood off," "furloughed," or on short time, and whose unemployment books were lodged at Exchanges, are counted in the statistics as "unemployed." Under the Unemployment Insurance Acts, substantially all

Under the Unemployment Insurance Acts, substantially all employed persons, except outworkers and persons employed in agriculture and private domestic service, must be insured against unemployment. Every person so insured is given an Unemployment Book on which *inter alia* the industry of the employer has been recorded. Employees of local 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, be excepted. Persons employed otherwise than by way of manual labour at a rate of remuneration exceeding in value £250 per annum are excepted, as are also juveniles under sixteen years of age.

The number of persons insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts in Great Britain and Northern Ireland is estimated at approximately 11,514,000.* This figure is computed annually, and is estimated from a count of the unemployment books which are exchanged annually. This annual exchange commences in the first week of July, but it is not until the end of September that the exchange of books is sufficiently near completion to allow of a satisfactory estimate being made. In making this annual estimate consideration is given not only to the actual number of books exchanged, but also to the number likely to be exchanged in the course of the insurance year.

Every insured person claiming unemployment benefit must lodge his unemployment book at an Employment Exchange when making a claim. It is possible therefore to obtain from a count of the lodged books a record of unemployment in insured trades. The figures given of numbers unemployed are not, however, confined to persons in receipt of benefit. They include :---

(a) Insured persons, unemployed and in receipt of benefit;

(b) Insured persons not in receipt of benefit, but known to be unemployed by reason of their maintaining registration at an Employment Exchange or otherwise;

(c) Insured persons who are not in receipt of benefit and are not maintaining registration, but whose unemployment books remain lodged at Employment Exchanges. Provided there is no definite evidence of employment these are counted in the statistics for two months after the insured person's last attendance at an Exchange.

Insured persons who are disqualified for the receipt of benefit under the trade dispute disqualification are not included amongst the numbers unemployed.

In July, 1923, the classification of insured workpeople was revised so as to bring it, so far as practicable, into conformity with the industrial grouping adopted in connection with the 1921. census of population. At the same time the classification was put on a strictly industrial basis, all unemployment books being classified according to the industry of the employer, or, in the case of unemployed persons, of the last employer. Consequently the statistics of unemployment industry by industry subsequent to June, 1923, are not strictly comparable with those prior to that date.

NUMBERS AND PERCENTAGES UNEMPLOYED.

INDUSTRY.	ESTIMATED NUMBER OF INSURED PERSONS AT JULY, 1924. (GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.)			NUMBER OF UNEMPLOY- MENT BOOKS REMAINING LODGED AT 22ND DECEMBER, 1924. (GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHEEN IRELAND.)			PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED AT 22ND DECEMBER, 1924.				INOREASE (+) OR DECREASE (-) AS COMPARED WITH 24TH NOVEMBER, 1924. (GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.)		
					i anit	dilar tin tarreli d		at Britain thern Irel		Great Britain only.		Famalas	
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Totals.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Fishing	25,150	600	25,750	4,070	125	4,195	16.2	20.8	16.3	15.6	+ 5.3	+ 15.5	+ 5.5
Coal Mining Iron Ore and Ironstone Mining and	1,252,430	7,920	1,260,350	98,483	792	99,275	7.9	10.0	7.9	7.9	- 1.1	- 1.3	- 1.1
Quarrying Lead, Tin and Copper Mining Stone Quarrying and Mining Slate Quarrying and Mining Other Mining and Quarrying	$17,050 \\ 4,950 \\ 35,840 \\ 10,120 \\ 20,550$	40 50 300 10 1,610	$17,090 \\ 5,000 \\ 36,140 \\ 10,130 \\ 22,160$	3,178 889 2,252 116 1,574	4 4 19 2 163	3,182 893 2,271 118 1,737	18.6 18.0 6.3 1.1 7.7	$ \begin{array}{r} 10.0 \\ 8.0 \\ 6.3 \\ 20.0 \\ 10.1 \end{array} $	18.6 17.9 6.3 1.2 7.8	$ \begin{array}{r} 18.4 \\ 17.9 \\ 5.9 \\ 1.2 \\ 7.6 \end{array} $	+ 0.3 - 0.1 + 1.5	$\begin{array}{c} & & & & & \\ & - & 2 \cdot 0 \\ + & 1 \cdot 0 \\ & + & 1 \cdot 0 \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & + & 0 \cdot 7 \end{array}$	+ 0.3 + 0.1 + 0.1 + 1.3
Clay, Sand, Gravel and Chalk Pit	13,270	270	13,540	615	22	637	4.6	8.1	4.7	4.5	120	- 0.4	
Ven-Metalliferous Mining Products:- Coke Ovens and By-Product Works	13,230	260	13,490	1,767	28	1,795	13.4	10.8	13.3	13.3	+ 0.1	+ 0.8	+ 0.1
Artificial Stone and Concrete Manu- facture	11,110	690	11,800	2,270	77	2,347	20.4	11.2	19.9	19.9	+ 1.9	- 0.8	+ 1.7
Cement, Limekilns and Whiting Works	15,330 62,770 37,960	690 7,720 35,290	16,020 70,490 73,250	1,078 4,416 5,804	59 1,105 8,398	1,137 5,521 14,202	7-0 7-0 15-3	8.6 14.3 23.8	7·1 7·8 19·4	7·1 7·7 19·4	$+ 0.2 \\ - 0.2 \\ + 6.5$	$ \begin{array}{c} - & 0.4 \\ - & 0.7 \\ + & 10.1 \end{array} $	+ 0.2 - 0.2 + 8.3
Glass Trades :	21,750 16,260	5,230 1,780	26,980 18,040	2,830 3,144	474 189	3,304 3,333	13·0 19·3	9·1 10·6	12·2 18·5	12·2 18·4	- 0·3 - 4·0	+ 0.1 + 0.3	- 0.3 - 3.5
etc. : Chemicals Manufacture Explosives Manufacture	76,010 13,820	21,630 5,440	97,640 19,260	7,514 1,311	1,485 357	8,999 1,668	9·9 9·5	6·9 6·6	9·2 8·7	9·1 8·6	+	$+ 0.2 \\ - 1.5$	
Paint, Varnish, Japan, Red and White Lead Manufacture	12,910	3,530	16,440	533	249	782	4.1	7.1	4.8	4.7	- 0.8	+ 0.2	- 0.5
Oil, Grease, Glue, Soap, Ink, Match, etc., Manufacture	*58,070	*21,630	*79,700	3,669	1,615	5,284	6.3	7.5	6.6	6.6	- 1.1	- 0.3	- 0.9
cesses :— Pig Iron Manufacture (Blast Furnaces) Steel Melting and Iron Puddling Fur-	29,880	310	30,190	5,423	23	5,446	18-1	7.4	18.0	18.0	+ 0.6	- 0.7	+ 0.6
naces, Iron and Steel Rolling Mills and Forges	203,150	4,120	207,270	56,806	393	57,199	28.0	9.5	27.6	27.6	+ 4.3	+ 0.8	+ 4.2
Tin, Lead, etc Manufacture of Tin Plates Iron and Steel Tube Making	36,500 24,960 25,690	3,530 4,300 1,530	40,030 29,260 27,220	4,408 11,823 5,288	310 1,348 174	4,718 13,171 5,462	12·1 47·4 20·6	8.8 31.3 11.4	11.8 45.0 20.1	11.9 45.0 20.1	$\begin{array}{c c} + & 0.2 \\ + & 30.3 \\ + & 1.6 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} - & 0.2 \\ + & 17.2 \\ - & 1.1 \end{array}$	+ 0.2 + 28.4 + 1.4
Wire, Wire Netting, Wire Rope Manu- facture	20,480	4,010	24,490	2,488	437	2,925	12.1	10.9	11.9	11.9	- 0.3	- 0.9	- 0.4
Engineering, etc. : Engineering; Engineers' Iron and Steel Founding Electrical Engineering Marine Engineering, etc Constructional Engineering Donstruction and Repair of Vehicles :	588,500 58,080 64,860 23,120	38,880 13,450 1,250 890	627,380 71,530 66,110 24,010	83,884 2,870 11,278 3,264	2,204 716 32 47	86,088 3,586 11,310 3,311	14·3 4·9 17·4 14·1	5·7 5·3 2·6 5·3	13.7 5.0 17.1 13.8	13.6 5.0 16.8 13.7	-1.0 -0.5 -0.5	$\begin{array}{ccc} - & 0.4 \\ - & 0.6 \\ - & 1.3 \\ + & 0.9 \end{array}$	- 1.0 - 0.5 - 0.4
Construction and Repair of Motor Vehicles, Cycles and Aircraft	184,500	18,840	203,340	14,060	1,259	15,319	7.6	6.7	7.5	7.5	- 1.2	- 1.0	- 1.2
Construction and Repair of Carriages, Carts, etc	22,090	2,460	205,540	2,698	214	2,912	12.2	8.7	11.9	11.6	- 0.4	- 0.2	- 0.3
Railway Carriage, Wagon and Tram- car Building	51,000 251,610	1,180 3,480	52,180 255,090	4,053 81,038	40 215	4,093 81,253	7·9 32·2	3·4 6·2	7·8 31·9	7.8 31.5	- 0.5 + 0.3	- 0.4	5 + 0.3

• Revised figures;

Marie Internationals	
INDUS	
and a state of the	an man A., Shan an a Dinalgan
Metal Trades :	
Inon Formding	e, etc., and General and Contracting Wire and Electric
	Wire and Electric ture y, Saw, File Making
Bolts, Nuts, Screete, Manufactu	ews, Rivets, Naus,
tacture	Metal Wares Manu- tilating Apparatus
Watches, Clocks, etc., Manufactu Other Metal Indu	. Plate. Jewellery.
Cotton	
Woollen and Wor Silk Linen	sted
Hemp Spinning a	und Weaving, Rope,
Cord, Twine, et Hosiery	c., Making
Carpet Manufact Other Textile In	ure dustries
Textile, Bleaching etc Leather and Leather	g, Printing, Dyeing,
Tanning, Curryin	g and Leather Dress
Goods Manufac Clothing Trades :	s and other Leather
Tailoring Dress and Ma	ntle Making and
Manufacture	cluding Straw Plait
Plongog Shirts (Collars, Underclothing
Boot, Shoe, Slipp Food, Drink and To	ustries er and Clog Trades
Grain Milling	ake, etc., Making
Other Food Indu	e and Sugar Con-
Drink Industries	Cigarette and Snuf
Sawmilling, Furnitu	achined Woodwork
Wood Box and F Furniture Making Other Woodwork	Machined Woodwork Packing Case Making g, Upholstering, etc ing
Other Woodwork Printing and Paper Paper and Paper	Board Making
	s, Paper Bags and taking and Pape
Stationery and T	ypewriting Requisit
(not paper) Printing, Publish Building and Const	ing and Bookbindin ruction of Works :
Building Public Works Co	ontracting, etc.
Other Manufacturin Rubber Manufac Oilcloth, Linoleur	ture
Scientific and P	n Making
Musical Instrume Toys, Games, an	paratus Manufactur ent Making ad Sports Requisite
Manufacture Gas, Water, and Industries	Electricity Suppl
Transport and Com Railway Service	imunication :
Tramway and O Other Road Tra Shipping Service	nsport
Canal, River, I Service	Dock and Harbou
and Storage Distributive Trades	and Communicatio
Commercial, Bank Finance	ing, Insurance an es and Services :—
Miscellaneous Trad National Govern Local Governme	iment
Professional Serv	lices
Hotel, Boarding Laundries, Dyein Other Industries	and Sports House, Club Service and Dry Cleanin and Services
Total	and bervices

		5 000				NU	IBERS AND	PERCENT	AGES UNI	EMPLOYE	D.	
INSURI J (GREA	TED NUMI ED PERSO ULY, 1924 T BRITAIN IERN IREL	NS AT	NUMBER OF UNEMPLOY- MENT BOOKS REMAINING LODGED AT 22ND DECEMBER, 1924. (GEBAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.)				NTAGE UN ND DECEN		D AT	(-) AS 24TH N (GREA	E (+) OR DI COMPAREN IOVEMBER, T BRITAIN HERN IREI	WITH 1924. AND
1.01.3.1 6 1.0.1		13000 40	a F rai				t Britain thern Irela		Great	11 100		
fales.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.		Females.	Total.	Britain only. Totals.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1999-19 1999-19	Ref Log		1.1.1.1					al canada	and a second			
74,780	7,090	81,870	8,853	856	9,709	11-8	.12.1	11.9	11.7	- 0.1	+ 1.4	+ 0.1
11,970	880	12,850	841	27	868 4,745	7.0	3·1 6·3	6-8	6.7		+ 0.8	+ 0.2
48,700 23,540	26,240 8,140	31,680	3,096 2,892	1,649 916	3,808	6·4 12·3	11.3	6·3 12·0	6·3 12·0	- 0.1 - 3.4	- 0.3 + 0.4	$- 0.2 \\ - 2.5$
15,630 18,600	11,860 11,210	27,490 29,810	2,721 2,454	1,914 1,726	4,635 4,180	17·4 13·2	16·1 15·4	16·9 14·0	16·9 14·0	+ 2.1 - 1.0	- 0.3 + 0.5	+ 1.1 - 0.4
5,330 27,420	430 19,940	5,760 47,360	281 3,208	7	288 5,032	5·3 11·7	1.6 9.1	5·0 10·6	4·9 10·6	− 1·5	-1.2 + 0.9	— 1 ·5
12,180	63,370	175,550	11,134	8,389	19,523	9.9	13.2	10.0	11.1	+ 0.8 - 0.6	- 0.3	+ 0.8 - 0.5
01,450 10,650 15,880 25,620	360,940 150,240 25,840 57,510	562,390 260,890 41,720 83,130	11,849 10,780 968 3,266	27,551 13,156 2,019 5,887	39,400 23,936 2,987 9,153	5·9 9·7 6·1 12·7	7.6 8.8 7.8 10.2	7·0 9·2 7·2 11·0	7.0 9.1 7.2 10.3	$ \begin{array}{r} - 1.6 \\ + 0.6 \\ + 0.1 \\ + 0.8 \end{array} $	$ \begin{array}{r} - 1.6 \\ + 0.4 \\ + 0.3 \\ + 1.1 \\ + 0.1 \end{array} $	$\begin{array}{rrr} - & 1.6 \\ + & 0.5 \\ + & 0.3 \\ + & 1.0 \end{array}$
13,150 7,620	28,070 12,980	41,220	1,688 864	2,491	4,179 2,985	12·8 11·3	8·9 16·3	10·1 14·5	10·1 11·2	-1.1 - 0.7	+ 0.1 - 0.3	- 0.4 - 0.4
20,330 8,440 11,810 13,230	73,080 11,890 15,150 30,650	93,410 20,330 26,960 43,880	1,563 2,144 584 1,243	6,815 2,037 1,351 4,246	8,378 4,181 1,935 5,489	7-7 25-4 4-9 9-4	9.3 17.1 8.9 13.9	9.0 20.6 7.2 12.5	9.0 20.6 7.1 12.4	$ \begin{array}{r} + 1.2 \\ - 0.7 \\ - 0.6 \\ - 0.4 \end{array} $	$ \begin{array}{r} + 1.3 \\ + 1.4 \\ + 0.4 \\ + 0.6 \\ \end{array} $	+ 1.4 + 0.6 + 0.3
83,920	33,600	117,520	9,511	4,305	13,816	11.3	12.8	11.8	11.9	- 1.2	+ 0.9	- 0.6
34,020	8,580	42,600	2,864	1,114	3,978	8.4	13.0	9.3	9.3	- 0.4	+ 1.5	
15,020	12,760	27,780	1,642	1,168	2,810	10.9	.9.2	10.1	10.0	- 0.4	+ 1.1	+ 0.3
66,200 11,610	123,250 94,780	189,450 106,390	9,139 1,121	14,753 9,379	23,892 10,500	13·8 9·7	12·0 9·9	12·6 9·9	12·3 9·5	+ 0.6 + 1.2	- 1.2 + 0.6	- 0.6 + 0.6
14,190	19,440	33,630	1,699	2,491	4,190	12-0	12.8	12-5	12.5	- 1.5		- 2.3
7,340 10,790 92,220	64,740 18,920 50,270	72,080 29,710 142,490	417 • 986 12,099	6,211 2,647 4,689	6,628 3,633 16,788	5.7 9.1 13.1	9.6 14.0 9.3	9·2 12·2 11·8	9·0 12·2 11·7	$ \begin{array}{rrrr} - & 0.3 \\ - & 0.1 \\ + & 1.7 \end{array} $	$ \begin{array}{c ccc} - & 0.5 \\ + & 0.5 \\ + & 2.7 \end{array} $	$ \begin{array}{rrrr} - & 0.4 \\ + & 0.3 \\ + & 2.1 \end{array} $
94,580 28,010	49,960 3,520	144,540 31,530	9,365 1,332	4,421 242	13,786 1,574	9·9 4·8	8·9 6·9	9∙5 5•0	9·2 4·9	$- 0.8 \\ - 0.6$		$- 0.5 \\ - 0.6$
25,160 50,670 85,890	47,010 57,810 23,010	72,170 108,480 108,900	1,832 6,239 4,352	5,259 11,838 2,760	7,091 18,077 7,112	7.3 12.3 5.1	11·2 20·5 12·0	9·8 16·7 6·5	9.8 16.6 6.2	+ 0.2 + 1.7 - 0.4	+ 7.2	+ 1.4 + 4.6 - 0.7
13,760	30,090	43,850	818	2,103	2,921	5.9	7.0	6.7	5.8	- 0.7		- 0.2
54,690 10,700 79,410 20,070	2,990 1,840 17,350 6,430	57,680 12,540 96,760 26,500	5,410 1,385 4,711 1,944	233 291 1,209 741	5,643 1,676 5,920 2,685	9·9 12·9 5·9 9·7	7.8 15.8 7.0 11.5	9·8 13·4 6·1 10·1	$9.6 \\ 13.2 \\ 6.0 \\ 9.8$	$\begin{vmatrix} + & 0.3 \\ - & 0.4 \\ - & 0.2 \\ - & 0.5 \end{vmatrix}$	$+ 1.7 \\ - 0.1$	+ 0.3 - 0.2 - 0.4
39,920	14,690	54,610	3,110	1,112	4,222	7.8	7.6	7.7	7.7	+ 0.7	- 0.1	+ 0.4
19,360 4,100	35,490 1,380	54,850 5,480	980 125	2,531	3,511 165	5·1 3·0	7·1 2·9	6·4 3·0	6·3 3·0	- 0.8 + 0.1		+ 0.2
1,980	2,480	4,460	112	158	270	5.7	6.4	6.1	6.0	- 0.9	- 0.7	- 0.8
155,650 713,030	84,490 8,530	240,140 721,560	7,283	4,740	12,023 86,025	4·7 12·0		5·0 11·9	4·9 11·6	- 0.3 + 0.6	- 0.2	- 0.2 + 0.6
33,770 33,070 11,820	810 25,150 2,380	134,580 58,220 14,200	25,685 3,796 521	30 3,256 130	25,715 7,052 651	19·2 11·5 4·4	12·9 5·5	19·1 12·1 4·6	18.9 12.1 4.6	+ 0.3 + 0.2 - 0.3	+ 0.6 + 0.2	$\begin{array}{c ccc} + & 0.3 \\ + & 0.4 \\ - & 0.2 \end{array}$
5,450 12,700	4,360	9,810 19,700	662 586	475	1,137 920	12.1	4.8	11·6 4·7	11·6 4·7	+ 2.0 - 0.1	L - 0.6	+ 1.7 - 0.3
16,330 5,940	3,550	19,880 11,040	920	181	1,101 1,314	5.6		5·5 11·9	5.5	+ 0.2 - 1.0		+ 0.1 + 0.8
165,660	5,890	171,550	10,825	226	11,051	6.5	Contral E	6.4	6.3	- 0.2	The state of the	- 0.2
163,940 115,110 146,050 113,880	9,270 4,210 4,380 5,240	173,210 119,320 150,430 119,120	11,375 3,961 22,510 26,901	509 216 168 662	11,884 4,177 22,678 27,563	6·9 3·4 15·4 23·6	5·1 3·8	6·9 3·5 15·1 23·1	6.7 3.5 14.9 23.1	$ \begin{array}{c c} - & 0 \\ - & 0 \\ - & 0 \\ + & 1 \\ \end{array} $	$\begin{vmatrix} 3 \\ - \\ 0.2 \end{vmatrix} - 0.2$	$ \begin{array}{r} - & 0.1 \\ - & 0.3 \\ - & 0.1 \\ + & 1.1 \end{array} $
193,570	A Contraction	195,470	48,968	107	49,075	25.3		25.1	24.9	- 1.0	and a sub-	- 1.6
21,030 807,880		23,250 1,352,110	3,401 57,924	215 29,846	3,616 87,770	16·2 7·2		15·6 6·5	15.5 6.4	- 2.		$- 1.9 \\ - 0.4$
64,080	S. Sugar	100,740	4,674	1,214	5,888	7.3		5.8	5.8	- 0.	1 and the state	charles the
129,040 224,310 65,580 42,550 101,150 21,360 84,710	19,400 45,100 23,400 188,770 91,510	160,970 243,710 110,680 65,950 289,920 112,870 113,810	12,429 20,732 3,133 6,878 14,207 1,354 26,426	871 1,112 2,650 26,605 6,120	13,870 21,603 4,245 9,528 40,812 7,474 29,521	9-6 9-2 4-8 16-2 14-0 6-3 31-2	2 4·5 3 2·5 4 11·3 14·1 5 6·7	8.6 8.9 3.8 14.4 14.1 6.6 25.9	8.7 8.6 3.8 14.4 14.0 6.5 25.5		$ \begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	$ \begin{array}{rrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrr$
480,600	* 3,033,400	* 11,514,000	988,092	272,373	1,260,465	11-7	7 - 9.0	10.9	10.8	- 0-	1 + 0.1	2 2 2 2 2 2 2
- Starfield	a state to	297. 47 March	A That has	2135 A. 16 16 13	ALL LANDER	Participa Mara	A PR & DO	And the second	100 0150 3	("orgination	1 10 1 21 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	and the state of the

· Revised figures:

January, 1925.

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR.

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 December in Great Britain and Northern Ireland resulted in an aggregate increase of £29,000 in the weekly full-time wages of 500,000 workpeople and in a reduction of about £300 in the weekly wages of nearly 9,000 workpeople.

The groups of industries principally affected were as shown below :---

Group of Industries.	Number of	ximate Workpeople ed by	Amount of Changes in Weekly Wages.		
	Increases.	Decreases.	Increases.	Decreases.	
Mining and Quarrying Metal, Engineering and	366,000	4,000	£ 14,750	£ 70	
Shipbuilding, etc Textile Other	18,000 61,000 57,000	4,750	2,500 4,450 7,500	240 	
Total	502,000	8,750	29,200	310	

The principal change in the mining group was an increase, equivalent to about 1% per cent. on current rates, in the percentage addition to the basis rates of coal miners in the Yorkshire and East Midland area.

In the metal group there was an increase of over $4\frac{2}{3}$ per cent. on the current rates of steel sheet millmen and galvanisers. Penmakers in Birmingham received increases of 1s. or 1s. 4d. per week in the case of men, and 5d. per week in the case of women. There was a reduction of about $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. in the current rates of iron puddlers and millmen in the north of England,

In the textile group, hosiery workers in the Midlands had their bonus increased by 1d. on each shilling earned, and there were also increases in the wages of hosiery bleachers, dyers, etc., in the same increases in the wages of hosiery bleachers, dyers, etc., in the same district, amounting, in the case of timeworkers, to $\frac{1}{2}d$. or $\frac{3}{4}d$. per hour. In trades other than the above the principal bodies of workpeople whose wages were increased included dyers and dry cleaners, basket makers, men employed by electricity supply undertakings in the West Midlands, and those employed in the non-trading services of local authorities in the East Midlands. A new national agreement in the host end shoe inductry also resulted in a change in wages for in the boot and shoe industry also resulted in a change in wages for certain classes of junior workers; full particulars are given on

page 5. Of the increases taking effect in December, 7, amounting to £16,600 per week, took effect under sliding scales based on the selling prices of manufactured products, or on the proceeds of the industry; 52, amounting to over £8,400 per week, took effect under cost of living sliding scales; 12, amounting to over £1,600 per week, were arranged by joint standing bodies of employers and workpeople (including £770 under cost of living sliding scales, and also included there-under); 2, amounting to under £20 per week, were arranged by orbitation or mediation; and the remaining 31 cases, amounting to arbitration or mediation; and the remaining 31 cases, amounting to £3,350 per week, were arranged by direct negotiation between employers and workpeople or under Trade Board orders. In 4 cases, involving £130 per week, the increases were preceded by disputes causing a stoppage of work. There were only six decreases reported, which took effect in each case under sliding scales based on the solding prices of manufactured products the selling prices of manufactured products.

Hours of Labour. The principal change reported was a reduction of $2\frac{1}{2}$ hours per week in the winter hours of building trade operatives at Bristol.

Changes in Wages and Hours in 1924. A special article dealing with these changes appears on pages 3 and 4.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING DECEMBER, 1924.

4 6 9 9 9 8 2 1	change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)	
rkshire	29 Dec. {	AGRICULTURE.] Male workers	Rates fixed up to 30 September, 1925, for a week of 50 hours, at 29s. 2d. (or 7d. per hour) for those 21 years and over, and for those under 21 years, varying from 9s. at 14 and under 15 years to 27s. at 20 and under 21. [†]	Ti [Mar
	l	Female workers	Rate fixed up to 30 September, 1925, at 5d. per hour for all time worked for those 19 years and over. [†]	Mar
sex	29 Dec. {	Male workers	Rates fixed up to 29 March, 1925, for a week of 50 hours in summer and 48 hours in winter, at 30s. for those 21 years and over, and for those under 21, varying from 10s. at 14 and under 15 to 28s. at 20 and under 21 years. [†] Rates fixed up to 29 March, 1925, at 5d. per hour for those 21 years and for those under 21 years from 24d	Cutl
		Male workers	Rates fixed up to 10 October, 1925, for those 21 years and over at 29s, for a week of 50 hours in summer and at 28s, for a week	antis an antis a start A
orfolk	29 Dec. {	Female workers	to 27s. and 26s, respectively for those 20 and under 21; teamsmen, cowmen or shepherds to receive 5s. 6d. per week extra and sheep-tenders or bullock-tenders 4s. 6d. extra t	Farri Genera
glesey and Car- arvonshire.	29 Dec. {	Male workers 18 years and over wholly or mainly employed as horsemen, cowmen, shepherds or hwsmyn (bailiffs). Other male workers	Rates fixed up to 13 May, 1925, for a week of 58 hours, varying from 28s, at 18 and under 19 to 35s, at 21 years and over.	
		MINING AND QUARRYING.		and the second se
orkshire, Notting- amshire, Leicester- hire, Derbyshire, annock Chase and Varwickshire.	1 Dec.	Workpeople employed in or about coal mines, other than those whose wages are regulated by	Increase of 2.57 per cent. on the standard base rates of 1911, making wages 59.75‡ per cent. above the standard of 1911.§	-
udstock	27 Nov.	movements in other industries.	Increase of 6.61 per cent. on the standard base rates of 1918, making wages 52.66 per cent. above the standard of 1918.	Manufa Steel Pens
uth Yorkshire	lst full pay in December.	Cokemen and by-product workers	Decrease of 1 per cent. on standard base rates, leaving wages 43 per cent. above the standard. Rate after change for labourers, 5s. 6d. per shift, plus 43 per cent.	Smal
	ex rfolk glesey and Car- arvonshire. Car- arvonshire. Leicester- tire, Derbyshire, annock Chase and Varwickshire. dstock	ex 29 Dec. { rfolk 29 Dec. { glesey and Car- arvonshire. 29 Dec. { rkshire, Notting- amshire, Leicester- ire, Derbyshire, amoek Chase and Varwickshire. dstock 27 Nov. rham lst full pay in December.	ckshire 29 Dec. Male workers rex 29 Dec. Male workers rex 29 Dec. Male workers rex 29 Dec. Male workers rfolk 29 Dec. Male workers glesey and Car- arvonshire. 29 Dec. Male workers 18 years and over wholly or mainly employed as horsenen, cowmen, shepherds or hwsmyn (balliffs). other male workers rkshire, Notting- annock Chase and /arwickshire. 1 Dec, in Mining AND QUARRYING. Workpeople employed in or about coal mines, other than those whose wages are regulated by movements in other industries. rham 27 Nov. Cokemen and by-product workers	kshire

* The particulars of numbers affected and amount of change in weekly wages exclude changes affecting Government employees, police, agricultural labourers, domestic servants, shop assistants and clerks, for which classes the information available is not sufficient to provide a basis for statistics. Where information is available, however, details of changes in the current rates of wages of agricultural labourers, shop assistants and clerks, for which classes the information available is not sufficient to provide a basis for statistics. Where information is available, however, details of changes in the current rates of wages, and do not take into account the effect of short time working.

† The new rates referred to took effect under Orders issued by the Agricultural Wages Board, in accordance with the provisions of the Agricultural Wages (Regulation) Act, 1924. These are the first Orders to be issued under the Act.

‡ In the case of West Yorkshire the surface workers' percentage addition to the 1911 standard from 1 December was 58.09 for the Eastern Area and 54.75 for the Western Area.

§ In accordance with the terms of the National Agreement of June, 1924, the above change was subject to the condition that the wages of an adult day-wage workman should not fall below a sum represented by adding 40 per cent, to the standard wages of the lowest paid class of day-wage workmen in the district. In Warwickshire it was agreed that the wages of lower paid men are not to fall below a total minimum of 7s. 6d. per shift for surface workers and 8s. per shift for underground workers, whiles in South Derbyshire wages were not to fall below a total minimum of 7s. 5d. per day for adult able-bodied surface workers.

[] This change took effect under an arrangement whereby wages fluctuate in correspondence with selling prices.

January, 1925.

Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)
i nued).
Increase of 1d. per hour. Rates after change :quarrymen, 1s. 7 per hour; labourers, 1s. 1d. Increase† of ‡d. per hour. Minimum rate after change for labourers, 11½d. per hour.
&c., TRADES.
Scale of rates adopted for those commencing at 14 years, startli at 4 ¹ / ₄ d. per hour and increasing ¹ / ₄ d. per hour every six mont until the age of 21; boys commencing at 15 and 16 years start at 4 ¹ / ₄ d. per hour respectively, increasing by ¹ / ₄
per hour every two months until reaching the same rate as bo commencing at 14 years. Increase of 3s. per week for men (38s. to 41s.) and of 1s. 6d. p week for boys. Increase† of 2s. 3d. per week for men and of proportiona amounts for youths and female workers. Minimum rate aft
e. amounts for youths and female workers. Minimum rate att change for men, 48s.
N G INDUSTRIES.
Decrease [†] of 2 ¹ / ₂ per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 55 p cent. above the standard. Decrease [†] of 2 ¹ / ₂ per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 52 ¹ / ₂ p
cent. above the standard. Increase $\ddagger 07\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on standard rates, making wages $67\frac{1}{2}$ I
cent. above the standard of 1891. Decreaset of $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages $52\frac{1}{2}$ g cent. above the standard of 1919.
Increase of 1 ¹ / ₄ d. per hour (1s. 2 ³ / ₄ d. to 1s. 4d.).
Increase of 1 ¹ / ₄ d. per hour (1s. 0 ³ / ₄ d. to 1s. 2d.).
Increase of ¹ / ₄ d. per hour (11 ¹ / ₄ d. to 1s.).
Increase of ³ / ₄ , per hour (7 ⁴ / ₄ d. to 8 ¹ / ₄ d.). Increaset of 7 ⁴ / ₄ per cent. on standard rates, making wages 6 ⁷ / ₄ cent. above the standard.
Increase of 6d. per pot for pots with a single set of rolls and 9d. per pot for pots with two sets of rolls. Melingriffith pots increase of 1s. 3d. per pot for operators and of 9d. per pot sanders.**
Increase of 3d. per pot.**
Increase of 1d, per hour for timeworkers (1s. 4d. to 1s. 5d.), a of 10 per cent. on pre-war rates for pieceworkers (making wa 50 per cent. above pre-war piece rates).
Wages fixed at present list prices, plus 30 per cent., plus bonuses (of 20 or 40 per cent.) applicable for ordinary s scissors.
Increase f of 1d. per hour for timeworkers, and of 2s. per week pieceworkers. Time rates after change :firemen, 78s. 10 doormen, 75s. 10d. per week.
Increase † of 2s. per week. Rates after change :firemen, 74s. 6 doormen, 72s. 6d. per week. Increase † of ½d. per hour. Rates after change, firemen, 1s. per hour or 74s. 5d. per week; doormen, 1s. 6½d. per hour
72s. 5½d. per week. Increaset of ½d. per hour. Rates after change :—firemen, 1s. 6 per hour, or 72s. 5½d. per week; doormen, 1s. 6d. per hou 70s. 6d. per week. Increaset of ½d. per hour. Rates after change :—firemen, 68s.
per week; doormen, 65s. 7 ¹ / ₂ d. per week. Increase† of ¹ / ₂ d. per hour. Rates after change :—firemen, 1s. 6 per hour; doormen at Hull, 1s. 6 ¹ / ₂ d. : doormen at other tow
 Ber norm, doormen at run, s. ogur. doormen at order to be is of a second second
. Increase of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour (1s. 6d. to 1s. $6\frac{1}{2}$ d.).
. Increase of 1d. per hour (1s. 1 ¹ / ₂ d. to 1s. 2 ¹ / ₂ d.).
ge Increase [†] of 1s. 4d. per week for skilled men and charge has and of 1s. per week for others. Rates after change:—toolmal over 25 years of age, 80s. 8d. and 71s. 2d.; toolmakers 21 to years, 61s. 2d.; other classes (except charge hands), 50s. f Increases [†] of amounts, varying according to age, from 2d
 9d. per week. Increasest of amounts, varying according to age, from 2d. to per week. Rate after change for dayworkers, 18 years of and over, 25s. 1d. per week. Increaset of 5d. per week in the basic piecework rate (26s. 2d)
 26s. 7d.). Increase† of 5s. per week (70s. to 75s.) for journeymen an amounts varying, according to length of service, from 1s. to per week for learners.
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THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING DECEMBER, 1924 (continued).

THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED IN DECEMBER, 1924 (continued)

January, 1925.

January, 1925.

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Industry.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)	Industry.	Locality.
Pone Omine and	No.41. A. J. J.		TEXTILE TRADES.		in the set in every	
Net	Northern Ireland	1 Dec.	Male workers employed in the rope, twine, and net trade.	Piecework basis time rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts for Areas A and B* respectively as follows :—hand dressers (hemp), hand spinners and charge hands, ls., 11 ¹ / ₂ d.; piecers-out, rope makers (walk), 11 ¹ / ₂ d., 11d.; hemp cutters, 11d., 10 ¹ / ₂ d.; line and cord makers, 10 ¹ / ₂ d., 10 ¹ / ₂ d.; rope layers (house machines), 10 ¹ / ₂ d., 10d.; rope formers (house machines), 10d., 9 ¹ / ₂ d.; all other workers, 9 ¹ / ₂ d., 9d.	Brewing	Certain town North-East I shire.*
Hosiery Manufac- ture	Various towns in the Midland Counties.†	Pay day in week beginning 22 Dec.	All classes of workpeople employed in the manufacture of hosiery (ex- cept dyers, trimmers, finishers, etc.)	shilling.	Fishery Coopering	Aberdeen, Be Buckie, Fraser
Asbestos Manufac- ture	Great Britain	Day follow- ing 1st make up day in Dec.	Workpeople employed in the as- bestos trade.	Increase of 1d. per hour. Minimum rates after change : men, 1s. 1d.; women, 81d.		Buckle, Frasel Lerwick, Pete Stornoway and
1/2 2 8 - 1/2 (1/2 / 1/2 / 1/2 / 1/2 / 1/2 / 1/2 / 1/2 / 1/2 / 1/2 / 1/2 / 1/2 / 1/2 / 1/2 / 1/2 / 1/2 / 1/2 /			Workpeople employed in the hosiery bleaching, dyeing, and finishing trades :	The second se	Pork Curing	Londonderry
		anta -	Timeworkers	Increase [‡] of [‡] d. per hour for dyers, scourers and trimmers, ¹ d. per hour for menders and for male and female auxiliary workers 18 and over, and proportionate increases for auxiliary workers	Pork Curing	Londonderry
na da sentras princas en Isa intere anteri	Leicester, Lough- borough, Notting- ham, Derby and Hinckley.	Week ending 27 Dec.	and and a second s	18 and over, and proportionate increases for auxiliary workers under 18. Rates after change: dyers and scourers, 1s. 3 ¹ / ₄ d.; auxiliary workers: Leicester, Loughborough and Hinckley— men 18 to 21, 10 ¹ / ₄ d.; 21 and over, 1s. 2 ¹ / ₄ d.; women 18 and over, 9 ¹ / ₄ d.; qualified menders, 11 ¹ / ₄ d.	Vehicle Building Mill Sawing	Dumfries West Riding of
- Li s marge a spe	HINCKIEy.	7 841 6 28	Pieceworkers : Trimmers (other than web trimmers and jersey trim-	Bonus of 60 per cent. on list prices previously paid increased; to 70 per cent.	Decking Cose	shire.‡
Textile, Bleach- ing, Dyeing, { Finishing, etc.			mers). Web trimmers and jersey trimmers. Dyers, scourers, menders and other pieceworkers.	Bonus of 40 per cent. on list prices previously paid increased; to $47\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. Increase; of 1s. in the £.	Packing-Case Making,	Leicester
			Lace dyers	Increase; of ad. per hour (1s. 3d. to 1s. 3ad.).	And a state of the	Leeds, Bradford fax, Hudder Keighley, Brig Dewsbury and
	Nottingham	Pay day in week beginning 29 Dec.	Workpeople employed in the lace dressing and finishing trade.	Increase; for timeworkers of ½d. per hour for men and ½d. per hour for boys, women, and girls, and of 5 per cent. for piece- workers. Rates after change: men 21 years and over, 1s. 0½d.; women 18 years and over, 7½d.; women takers-off and takers-down, 8d.	Furniture Manufacture	Ripon Beith, Dundee, gow, Greenock caldy and Loo
a the grant was		20 Dec.	CARDY COLOR STREET AND ANY AND ANY	Increase; of 3s. per week. Minimum rate after change : 65s.		noch.
l		L L	labourers. CLOTHING TRADES.	Increaset of ad. per hour. Rates after change: dollymen, 1s. 4ad.; labourers, 1s. 3ad.	Sports Accessories Manufacture	London, Bolton bridge, Nottin Horbury and
s Transformer and and		land the second	Male operatives employed in de-	Minimum rate of 14s. 6d. per week adopted for those 15 and	-	Reat Crimsterd
Boot and Shoe	Great Britain	lst pay	partments other than heel build- ing departments, and stock or shoe rooms.	under 16 years, and minimum rate of 60s. per week previously paid at 23 years and over made payable at 22 years and over; the rates for other ages remaining unchanged.	Building	East Grinstead Bangor, Beau Carnarvon, head and Lis
Manufacture		day in Dec.	Male operatives employed in heel building departments or in stock or shoe rooms.	Minimum rate of 13s. 6d. per week adopted for those 15 and under 16 years, and minimum rate of 57s. per week previously paid at 23 years and over made payable at 22 years and over; the rates for other ages remaining unchanged.	and a stand	head and Lis fechan.
an a sector and a			Female operatives employed in the closing and heel building depart- ments or in stock or shoe rooms.	Minimum rate of 13s. per week adopted for those 15 and under 16 years; the rates for other ages remaining unchanged.	Railway Service	London and Eastern Ra
Dyeing and Dry Cleaning	England and Scotland	lst pay day in Dec.	Workpeople employed in the dyeing and dry cleaning trade.	Increase; of 2s. per week for men 21 years and over, and of 6d. to 1s. per week for youths under 21 and for women and girls. Rates after change: men, skilled dyers, 68s. or 73s.; dyers (one colour), 63s.; wet or dry cleaners, finishers, glazers and other skilled workers, 58s.; labourers, 53s.; boys, 11s. at 14 years increasing to 29s. at 18 and to 43s. at 20 years; girls and women, 11s. at 14 years, increasing to 22s. at 18 and to 29s. at 21 years.	Dock, etc., Labour Road Transport	System. Hull Liverpool, B head, Bootle Wallasey.
Tank the state	Various towns in	27 Dec	FOOD, DRINK AND TOBACCO TR	and the second	Other Transport	Edinburgh
in white way our of the	Yorkshire.§	27 Dec.	Adult male workers employed in the baking and confectionery trades by private traders.	Increase; of 1s. 6d. per week. Minimum rates after change : forehands, 71s. 6d.; doughmakers and ovenmen, 66s. 6d.; table-hands, 61s. 6d.		Various distric
	Chester	1 Dec.	Workpeople employed in the baking and confectionery trades.	Increase [‡] of 2s. 6d. per week for adult male workers, of 1s. 3d. per week for youths and women 18 years and over, and of proportionate amounts for boys and girls. Minimum rates after change : adult male workers—foremen, 76s. 6d. and 73s. 6d.; singlehands, machinemen, mixers, and ovenmen, 71s. 6d.; secondhands, 69s. 6d.; tablehands, 67s. 6d.	Gas Undertak-	Great Britain cluding Glasgo Liverpool).** Certain Underta
	Birmingham and Mid- land District.	27 Dec.	Workpeople employed in the baking and confectionery trade.	Increase; of 2s. 4d. per week for adult male workers and propor- tionate increases for juniors. Minimum rates after change for adult workers: daywork—foremen, 66s. or 71s.; doughmakers, singlehands and secondhands, 65s.; platers, 63s.; tablehands, 61s.; nightwork—1s. per night extra.	ings	in Somerset Devonshire.††
Baking and Confectionery	Bristol	6 Dec.	Bakers and confectioners	Increase [‡] of 1s. 3d. per week. Rate after change for tablehands, 63s. 6d.	Electricity Sup-	Certain Underta in West Midla
	Leicester	lst pay day after 22 Dec.	Bakers and confectioners : Adult workers Youths and deliverers 18 to 20 years.	Increase [‡] of 3s. per week. Rates after change: ordinary bakeries—forehands, 71s.; singlehands and secondhands, 69s.; tablehands, 67s.; factories—5s. per week more in each case. Increase [‡] of 1s. 9d. to 2s. 7d. per week.	ply Under- takings	m west Midia
Frank State Providence	Bath	6 Dec.	Bakers and confectioners	Increase [‡] of 1s. 3d. per week. Rate after change for tablehands, 62s. 9d.	* Accrington,) Blackburn, Burn took effect under
and production of a	Chatham, Rochester and Gillingham.	6 Dec.	Bakers and confectioners	Increase; of 2s. 6d. per week. Rates after change : forehands, 66s.; singlehands, secondhands and doughmakers, 62s.; table	‡ Including Ba above.	cook effect as the
artst in or i	Belfast	lst pay day after 20 Oct.	Storemen, bogey, inside labourers, and stablemen. Motor drivers, carters, loaders and assistants.	Minimum weekly rates adopted of 50s. for stablemen and of 42s. to 47s. for other classes; and increase of 2s. per week for those receiving more than these rates. Minimum weekly rates adopted for motor drivers of 58s. and 66s. for drivers of vehicles under 2 tons and over 2 tons res- pectively, and of 57s. for other classes.	s The Grange C It was agree cost of living sliding classes of employee ¶ The rate que of 2 tons and under ** The above	d that in cases w g scale at present s should be equal

* The first rate quoted in each instance applies to Area A (i.e., the area of the County Borough of the City of Belfast) and the second rate to Area B (i.e.,

The instrace diotect in each instance applies to Area A (i.e., the area of the County Dorough of the only of Delasty and the best in the area of the county Dorough of the only of Delasty and the best intervention of the county of Delasty and the best intervention of the county of Delasty and the best intervention of the county districts.
 † Viz., Leicester, Loughborough, Nottingham, Mansfield, Sutton-in-Ashfield, Ilkeston, Derby, Hinckley and Coventry districts.
 ‡ The change took effect under an arrangement whereby wages fluctuate in correspondence with the Ministry of Labour index number of retail prices.
 § Including Barnsley, Bradford, Bridlington, Doncaster, Halifax, Harrogate, Dewsbury, Huddersfield, Hull, Leeds, Sheffield, Wakefield and York.
 # Including Brierley Hill, Burton-on-Trent, Cannock, Coventry, Darlaston, Dudley, Leamington, Rugby, Smethwick, Walsall, Wednesbury, West Bromwich, Willenhall and Wolverhampton.

THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING DECEMBER, 1924 (continued). Date from which change took effect. Particulars of change. Classes of Workpeople. (Decreases in italics.) FO OD, DRINK AND TOBACCO TRADES (continued) Increase of 2s. per week for men 19 years and over, 1s. per week for women and 6d. to 1s. per week for youths. Rates after change: men 19 years and over, 58.; women, 39s.; youths, 18s. 6d. at 14 to 15 years, increasing to 30s. at 18 to 19.
Increase of 12s. 6d. or 15s. per week in minimum rates. Minimum rates after change: home fishing, 77s. 6d.; when sent from home and staying in bothles where fire, light and cook are supplied, 85s.; when sent from home and in lodgings, 95s.
New list of piece prices adopted, resulting in increases of from 14 to 42 per cent. on the rates previously paid; also time rates of 1s. 5d. and 1s. 7d. per hour adopted when on time work for a whole day and less than a day respectively.
New scale of minimum rates adopted, resulting in increases of from 2s. to 6s. per week. Minimum rates after change: 12s. during first year, increasing to 30s. during second six months of fourth year. 5 Dec. Brewery workers Working at fishing stations Barrel making 22 Dec. terhead, nd Wick. Apprentices ... { Increase† of 1s. per week (49s. to 50s.). Increase† of 1s. per week (50s. to 51s.). $\left\{ \begin{array}{c} 17 \text{ Oct.} \\ 18 \text{ Nov.} \end{array} \right\}$ Pork curers WOODWORKING AND FURNITUR E TRADES. Men employed in the vehicle building and wheelwright trades.
Woodcutting machinists and sawyersIncrease of $\frac{1}{2}d$. per hour. Minimum rate after change for skilled
men, 1s. $5\frac{1}{2}d$.Packing-case makers...... 1 Dec. of York-1 Dec. Pay day in week beginnin 1 Dec. Cabinet makers, chairmakers, carvers, machinists, upholsterers and french rd, Hali-ersfield, - 1 Dec. polishers. Female workers ... polishers. Female workers Increaset of ½d. per hour. Rate after change for skilled up-holstresses, 10½d. Increaset of ½d. per hour (1s. 6½d. to 1s. 7d.). Increaset of ½d. per hour for men, ½d. per hour for women, 5 per vers, french polishers, machinists, upholsterers. Increaset of ½d. per hour for men, ½d. per hour for women, 5 per cent. for pieceworkers and proportionate amounts for appren-tices. Minimum rates after change : Beith, Dundee, Kirk-caldy and Lochwinnoch-men, 1s. 5½d.; women, 8½d.; Glasgow -men, 1s. 6½d.; women, 9½d. nd York. 1 Dec. 1st full pay in Dec. ck,Kirk-Workpeople employed in the manufacture of accessories for sports and "Cost of living" wage increased from 65 per cent. to 75 per cent. on list prices. 1 Dec. ingham, d Leeds. games. BUILDING AND ALLIED TRA DES. Increase of ½d. per hour. Rates after change: craftsmen, 1s. 5d.; labourers 1s. 1d.§ Increase of ½d. per hour. 1s. 5d.; labourers, 1s. 1d.§ Building trade operatives 13 Nov. Building trade operatives ... 1 Dec. TRANSPORT TRADES.

 ning car (travelling) staff :- Scales of weekly rates adopted as follows, in respect of normal hours, which are not to exceed 120, spread over 14 days||:-

 Pantry and kitchen boys and
 Iss. in first year, increasing each year to 18s. in fourth year.

 Dining car (travelling) staff :--pages. Dining-car attendants ... Conductors 24s. in first year, increasing each year to 30s. in fourth year. 32s. in first year, increasing each year to 36s. in fifth year. 50s. in first year, increasing each year to 60s. in fifth year. 36s. 6d. in first year, increasing each year to 42s. 6d. in fifth year. North 1 Dec. Railway oks Assistant cooks ... 4 Oct. Riggers employed by fishing vessel Increase of 4s. 6d. per week (50s. 6d. to 55s.). owners. Drivers of motors of 1 ton and under (new employees). 1 Dec. Taxi drivers Minimum rate adopted of 45s. per week, or 7s. 6d. per day; 15 Dec PUBLIC UTILITY SERVICES. ain (ex-Rates of wages agreed at the standard rate for bricklayers in each district, in respect of a working week of 47 hours, an extra 1d. per hour to be paid for firebrick work on retorts, retort furnaces, oil gas generators, and boiler settings, and an extra 1d. to 3d. per hour for detached chimney work above 40 feet (varying according to height).** 1 Dec. Bricklayers and masons ... per hour for detached childrey work above 40 feet (varying according to height).**
Rates of wages revised in accordance with a new area grading scheme, which fixes the following rates :--Somerset : labourers-Grade A towns, 50s, 54d, per week; Grade B, 46s.; Grade C, 45s.; Grade D, 44s.; Grade B, 45s.; Grade D, 44s.; Grade B, 45s.; Grade A towns, 10s, 4d, per shift; Grade B, 9s, 6d.; Grade C, 8s, 6d.; Grade D, 8s, 2d.; Grade E, 8s. 1d. Devonshire : labourers-Grade A towns, 48s, per week; Grade B, 46s.; Grade C, 45s.; Grade D, 44s.; stokers-Grade A towns, 9s. 6d.; Grade C, 45s.; Grade B, 9s. 2d.; Grade C, 8s. 6d.; Grade D, 8s. 2d.; Grade C, 8s. 6d.; Grade D, 8s. 2d.†
Increase of 2s. 6d. per week. Scheduled minimum hourly rates after change :-Zone A: labourers, 13.78d.; stokers (other than leading), grade I, 17.81d., grade II, 16.81d.; fitters, 13.28d.; stokers, grade I, 17.31d.; grade II, 16.31d., fitters, 19.78d. Zone C: labourers, 12.78d.; stokers, grade I, 16.81d.; grade II, 16.81d.; grade II, 16.81d.; grade II, 16.81d.; fitters, 18.78d.; tokers, grade I, 17.81d.; grade II, 16.81d.; fitters, 18.78d.; tokers, grade I, 16. Adult male workers rtakings 7 Oct. and rtakings dlands.‡‡ lst pay following 1 Dec. Adult male workers

rnley, Brierfield, Barrow-in-Furness, Cloughfold, Haslingden, Waterfoot and Whittle Springs (certain firms). Ler an arrangement whereby wages fluctuate in correspondence with the Ministry of Labour index number of retail prices. ard, Dewsbury, Halifax, Huddersfield, Keighley and Leeds. At the smaller centres the rates are 2d. or 3d. less than those quoted

he result of a re-grading under the Grading Scheme of the National Wages and Conditions Council for the Building Industry. Is where the previous combined rate of wages and war wage exceeded the above rates, the excess was to be reducible under the ent applicable to the employees concerned, provided that any future modifications made in the war wage payable to other ually applicable to those covered by the above scales. Hy to men engaged on and after 1 December, 1924. The local agreement had previously fixed a rate of 65s. per week for drivers

ere embodied in an agreement arrived at between the Federation of Gas Employers and the Amalgamated Union of

Building Trade Workers. †† The above change is in accordance with an arbitration decision adopted by the South Western Regional Joint Industrial Council for the Gas Industry. Full information is not available as to the Undertakings which recognise the various grade rates. ‡† The undertakings affected are those which follow the wages agreements of the West Midlands Area Joint Industrial Council for the Electricity Supply Industry and include the following, which are shown in their respective zones :—Zone A : Birmingham; Coventry; Shropshire, Worcestershire and Stafford-shire Electric Power Co. (Smethwick); Zone B: Midland Electric Corporation for Power Distribution, Ltd.; Stoke-on-Trent; Walsall; Wolverhampton; West Bromwich; Shropshire, Worcestershire and Staffordshire Electric Power Co. (Dudley); Zone C: Leek; Nuneaton; Shrewsbury; Shropshire, Worcestershire and Staffordshire Electric Power Co. (Kidderminster); Stratford-on-Avon Electricity Co., Ltd.; Sutton Coldfield.

THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE. January, 1925.

January, 1925.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING DECEMBER, 1924 (continued).

takings. South Shields Week deams. Ba for conductors 21 years and over and for microrrise and deams. South Shields Week deams. Manual workers	Industry.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)
Promeway Under- lakings. Sunderland 10 Dec. Immediates, inclusion and of decays. Increase of Ls. per week for conductor number 31 years, and of behave. South Shields Works d'Dec. Manual workers	ply Under-		day following		Increase of 3s. per week in which is merged the increase of 1d. per hour granted at 20th August, 1924. Scheduled minimum hourly rates after change :— <i>labourers</i> : Group A; undertakings, 12.71d.; Group B, 12.43d.; Group C, 11.87d.; <i>stokers</i> : Group A,
Annual workers :		Sunderland	10 Dec.	handymen, trackmen and car	Increase of ls. per week for conductors under 21 years, and of 2s. for conductors 21 years and over and for motormen and other classes. Rates after change :motormen, 60s, to 63s, 6d.
Alea paid houry rates		South Shields	beginning		Increaset of 1s. per week. Rates after change : labourers, 50s. per week; scavengers and refuse collectors, 49s.
Bast Midlandst: in Dec. International programment of the soft of the s					after change for road and general labourers and scavengers, Grade A districts, 1s. 2d.; Grade B, 1s.; Grade C, 11d.; Grade
aket Making Certain Authorities in Janual workers				attendants, caretakers, porters,	Grade B areas, and of 1s. 6d. for Grade C areas. Scheduled minimum rates after change:-Grade A areas, 50s. 11d.;
Joan-Trading De- Joeal Author; Middlesexš. after 1 Dec. Middlesexš. after 1 Dec. Kensington 18 Dec. Manual workers Plymouth 5 Nov. Soverprise Fordam Stream Stre		de son speciality .			Increase† of 11d. per week for Grade A areas. Scheduled minimum rate after change for Grade A areas, 25s. 8d.
Kensington 18 Dec. Manual workers, Basis rates and bonues revised in accordance with the agreement made by the London Joint Industal Council in July, 1922, when 50 per cent, of the current cost of living bonus was and the change :road sweepers, 58, 104, per week; labourers, 62, 24, 24 per cent. Plymouth 5 Nov. 3 Nov. Boain particle collectors and sweepers, 58, 104, per week; labourers, 62, 24, 24 per cent. Aberdeen 1 Dec. House refuse collectors and and road labourers. Increase of 42 per cent. Aberdeen 1 Dec. Manual workers Addiery London (Metropolitan Police Area). Increase of 12 per week; satter changegeneral labourers, 55, 90. Saddiers and harness makers. Workpeople employed in roller Instances after change - general labourers, and of 40 per cent. Increase of 12 per week; satter change - general labourers, 55, 90. Saddiers and harness makers. North Wales. Workpeople employed in roller Instances after change - merestication of the satter change - merestication of the per cent. Workpeople employed in College C	partments of Local Authori-			Manual workers	after change for scavengers and labourers respectively :Zone I districts, 52s. 6d. and 55s. 6d.; Zone II, 51s. and 53s. 3d.;
Plymouth 3 Dec. House refuse collectors and sweepers. Further increase of 2½ per cent. making rate 54s. 8d. per week. Aberdeen 1 Dec. Road paviors, masons and general yard and road labourers. Further increase of 12, per week. Rates after change :paviors, its. 44d. per hour; masons, its. 6d.; labourers, its. 3d. addiery London (Metropolitan Police Areas, and North Wales. 1 Dec. Manual workers	ties	Kensington	18 Dec.	Manual workers,	made by the London Joint Industial Council in July, 1922, (when 50 per cent. of the current cost of living bonus was merged into wages) resulting in an increase in wages. Rates after change:—road sweepers, 58s. 10d. per week; labourers,
Plymouth 3 Dec. J sweepers. Aberdeen 3 Nov. Road paviors, masons and general vard and road labourers. Increase of 4.0 per hour for craftsmen and for for timevorkers, so the per exet. So per week; seavengers and refuse collectors, 5.3. addlery London Metropolitan Dec. Increase for 10.0 per cent. on Norkahile (5.1 or 71.0 per cent. 100 per cent. on Norkahile (5.1 or 71.0 per cent. 100 per cent. and 9.0 per cent. and		1 se at de ma ant	5 Nov.]	House refuse collectors and	Increase† of 2½ per cent.
3 Nov. Road paylors, masons and general yard and road labourers. Increases of 4d. per hour for craftsmen and of 4d. per hour; in abourers. Rates after change:paylors, is. 4d. per hour; masons, is. 8d.; labourers, is. 3d. addlery Dondon (Metropolitan Police Area). Manual workers addlery London (Metropolitan Police Area). Increaset of ls. per week; savengers and refue collectors, 53s. addlery MiscellANEOUS TRADES. MiscellANEOUS TRADES. addlery MiscellANEOUS TRADES. Increaset of ld. per hour (ls. 5d. to ls. 6d.) for timeworkers, sand of 7e per cent. in percentage payable on plece price lists. addlery Manual workers Addery Jabourers. addlery MiscellANE and the manufacture. Manufacture Morkpeople employed in coleration. Morkpeople employed on Government work. Basket Making Various Districts in Englandi and Sheffield). Increaset of 10 per cent. on Yorkshire list prices, making wages T8 per cent. ad 93 per cent. above the list for pleceworkers and timeworkers respectively. asket Making Midland Counties 1 Dec. Basket, skip and hamper makers mement Making </td <td>e a colona and</td> <td>Plymouth</td> <td>3 Dec. \int</td> <td></td> <td>Further increase† of 21 per cent. making rate 54s. 8d. per week.</td>	e a colona and	Plymouth	3 Dec. \int		Further increase† of 21 per cent. making rate 54s. 8d. per week.
ddlery London (Metropolitan Plantanian control of the control			3 Nov.		labourers. Rates after change :- paviors, ls. 4 ³ d. per hour;
addlery Iondon (Metropolitan 1 Dec. oller Leather London (Metropolitan 1 Dec. Manufacture Lancashire, Cheshire Ist pay Manufacture Manufacture Ist pay Manufacture Saddlers and harness makers Increaset of 1d. per hour (1s. 5d. to 1s. 6d.) for timeworkers, and of 7f per cent. In percentage payable on plece price lists. Mainade Counties Ibec. Ist pay Various Districts in Englandil and Soct-land. 1 Dec. Midland Counties Ibec. Midland Counties 1 Dec. Midland Counties 1 Dec. Midland Counties 1 Dec. Great Britain 1 Dec. Merement Making Creat Britain 5 Dec. emeteries London 5 Dec. Great Britain 5 Dec. Great Britain 5 Dec. Greateries 5 Dec. Grea	a as a dama la	Aberdeen	1 Dec.		
oller Leather Manufacture Lancashire, Cheshire and North Wales. Ist pay day in Dec. Ist pay day in Dec. Workpeople employed in roller leather manufacture. "Cost of living" wage increasedf from 75 per cent. to 80 per cent. on basic rates. Minimum rates after change : men- skilled, 9d. per hour; semi-skilled, 6d. to 7id.; women-5d.; plus, in each case, 80 per cent. asket Making I Dec. Basket makers employed on Govern- ment work. Basket, skip and hamper makers Hull and Sheffield). I Dec. Basket, skip and hamper makers Hull and Sheffield). Increaset of 10 per cent, on Yorkshire list prices, making wagee 75 per cent, and 93 per cent. asket Making Midland Counties 1 Dec. Workpeople employed in basket, hamper and cane and wicker Turniture making: Timeworkers Increaset of 10 per cent, on Yorkshire list prices, making wagee 76 per cent, and 93 per cent. erement Making Great Britain 5 Dec. Female workers employed in the coffin furniture and cerement- making trade (including folders, packers), Bonuses previously paid on list of October, 1916 (with amend- ments thereto), increased of 1d. per hour for those 15 years and over (the rates for those under 16 remaining unchanged). emeteries London 5 Dec. Gardeners, gravediggers, etc., em- ployed in certain non-municipal	addlery		1 Dec.		
Various Districts in England and Scot- land. 1 Dec. Basket makers employed on Govern- ment work. Bonus of 45 per cent. on revised London price list of 1919 previously paid increased† to 524 per cent. asket Making 1 Dec. Basket, skip and hamper makers Hull and Sheffield). Basket, skip and hamper makers I Dec. Basket, skip and hamper makers Basket, skip and hamper makers Basket, skip and hamper makers Basket, skip and hamper makers Increase† of 10 per cent. and 93 per cent. above the list for pleceworkers and timeworkers respectively. midland Counties 1 Dec. Workpeople employed in basket, hamper and cane and wicker furniture making Timeworkers Pieceworkers Bonuses previously paid on list of October, 1916 (with amend- ments thereto), increased† by 74 per cent. erement Making Great Britain 5 Dec. Female workers employed in the coeffin furniture and cerement- making trade (including folders), packers, warehouse workers and despatchers). New scale of minimum rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts resulting in an increase of 4d. per hour for those 16 years and cover (the rates for those 21 and over; pinkers and choppers to receive 1d. and 4d. per hour more respectively. (See p. 459 of December Gazette.) emeteries London 5 Dec. Gardeners, gravediggers, etc., em- ployed in certain non-municipal Ferseligens, 548, 641; assistant gravediggers, 548, 641; gassistant		Lancashire, Cheshire	day in		"Cost of living" wage increased† from 75 per cent, to 80 per cent, on basic rates. Minimum rates after change: men- skilled, 9d, per hour; semi-skilled, 6d, to 7‡d.; women-5d.;
Yorkshire (except Hull and Sheffield). 1 Dec. Basket, skip and hamper makers Increaset of 10 per cent. on Yorkshire list prices, making wages 78 per cent. and 93 per cent. above the list for pieceworkers and timeworkers respectively. Basket Making Midland Counties 1 Dec. Workpeople employed in basket, hamper and cane and wicker furniture making:— Timeworkers Increaset of 10 per cent. on Yorkshire list prices, making wages 78 per cent. and 93 per cent. above the list for pieceworkers and timeworkers respectively. Berement Making Great Britain 1 Dec. Workpeople employed in the cerement-making section of the coffin furniture and cerement- making trade (including folders, packers, warehouse workers and despatchers). Increaset of 1d. per hour (ls. 3 ¹ / ₂ d. to ls. 4 ¹ / ₂ d.). Bemeteries London 5 Dec. Female workers employed in the coffin furniture and cerement- making trade (including folders, packers, warehouse workers and despatchers). New scale of minimum rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts resulting in an increase of 1d. per hour for those 16 years and over (the rates for those under 16 remaining unchanged). Minimum time rates after change: 4d, at 16 and under 16 ¹ / ₄ years, increasing to 6d., 6d., 7d. or 7 ¹ / ₄ d. (according to ex- perience) to those 21 and over; pinkers and chopper to receive 1d. and ¹ / ₄ d. per hour more respectively. (See p. 459 of December Gazette.) Memeteries Increases of 2s. or 3s. per week. Rates after change: grave- diggers, 64s. 6d.; assistant gravediggers, 57s. 6d.; qualified	animitary 1684	England and Scot-	1 Dec.		Bonus of 45 per cent. on revised London price list of 1919
Midland Counties 1 Dec. Image: and cane and wicker furniture making: Timeworkers Increase of 1d. per hour (1s. 3 ¹ / ₄ d. to 1s. 4 ¹ / ₄ d.). Pieceworkers Pieceworkers Increase of 1d. per hour (1s. 3 ¹ / ₄ d. to 1s. 4 ¹ / ₄ d.). Bonuses previously paid on list of October, 1916 (with amendments thereto), increase of 1d. per hour for those 16 years and over (the rates for those under 16 remaining unchanged). Pieceworkers Female workers employed in the cerement-making section of the coffin furniture and cerement-making trade (including folders, packers, warehouse workers and despatchers). New scale of minimum rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts resulting in an increase of 1d. per hour for those 16 years and over (the rates for those under 16 remaining unchanged). Minimum time rates after change : 4d. at 16 and under 16 ¹ / ₄ years, increase of 21 and over; pinkers and choppers to receive 1d. and ¹ / ₄ d. per hour more respectively. (See p. 459 of December Gazette.) Permeteries London 5 Dec. Gardeners, gravediggers, etc., employed in certain non-municipal Increases of 2s. or 3s. per week. Rates after change : grave-diggers, 64s. 6d.; assistant gravediggers, 57s. 6d.; qualified	en an tin bladiai a	Yorkshire (except	1 Dec.	Basket, skip and hamper makers $$	78 per cent. and 93 per cent. above the list for pieceworkers
Midland Counties 1 Dec. { Timeworkers Increase† of 1d. per hour (1s. 3½d. to 1s. 4½d.). Derement Making Great Britain 5 Dec. Pieceworkers Bonuses previously paid on list of October, 1916 (with amendments thereto), increased† by 7½ per cent. Derement Making Great Britain 5 Dec. Female workers employed in the coffin furniture and cerementmaking section of the packers, warehouse workers and despatchers). Bonuses previously paid on list of October, 1916 (with amendments thereto), increased† by 7½ per cent. Demeteries 5 Dec. Female workers employed in the coffin furniture and cerementmaking trade (including folders, packers, warehouse workers and despatchers). New scale of minimum rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts resulting in an increase for those under 16 remaining unchanged). Demeteries London 5 Dec. Gardeners, gravediggers, etc., employed in certain non-municipal Demeteries 5 Dec. Gardeners, gravediggers, etc., employed in certain non-municipal Increases of 2s. or 3s. per week. Rates after change : grave-diggers, 64s. 6d.; assistant gravediggers, 57s. 6d.; qualified	asket Making	all and the second	ſ	hamper and cane and wicker	
Jerement Making Great Britain 5 Dec. Female workers employed in the cerement-making section of the coffin furniture and cerement-making trade (including folders, packers, warehouse workers and despatchers). ments thereto), increased the trade Boards Acts resulting in an increase of the coffin furniture and cerement-making trade (including folders, packers, warehouse workers and despatchers). Jemeteries London 5 Dec. Female workers employed in the coffin furniture and cerement-making trade (including folders, packers, warehouse workers and despatchers). ments thereto), increased the trade Boards Acts resulting in an increase of the coffin furniture and cerement-making trade (including folders, packers, warehouse workers and despatchers). Jemeteries London 5 Dec. Gardeners, gravediggers, etc., employed in certain non-municipal Increases of 2s. or 3s. per week. Rates after change : grave-diggers, 64s. 6d.; assistant gravediggers, 57s. 6d.; qualified	All a fin his	Midland Counties	1 Dec. {		Increase of 1d. per hour (1s. 31 d. to 1s. 41 d.).
packers, warehouse workers and despatchers). Jemeteries London 5 Dec. Gardeners, gravediggers, etc., em- ployed in certain non-municipal	erement Making	Great Britain	5 Dec.	Female workers employed in the cerement-making section of the coffin furniture and cerement-	ments thereto), increased by 71 per cent. New scale of minimum rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts resulting in an increase of 1d. per hour for those 16 years and over (the rates for those under 16 remaining unchanged).
Cemeteries London 5 Dec. Gardeners, gravediggers, etc., em- ployed in certain non-municipal Increases of 2s. or 3s. per week. Rates after change: grave- diggers, 64s. 6d.; assistant gravediggers, 57s. 6d.; qualified	. Tokona, 1979	<u>.</u>		packers, warehouse workers and	years, increasing to 6d., 6 ¹ / ₄ d., 7d. or 7 ¹ / ₄ d. (according to experience) for those 21 and over; pinkers and choppers to receive 1d. and ¹ / ₄ d. per hour more respectively. (See p. 459 of December <i>Gazette.</i>)
	emeteries	London	5 Dec.	ployed in certain non-municipal	Increases of 2s. or 3s. per week. Rates after change : grave- diggers, 64s. 6d.; assistant gravediggers, 57s. 6d.; qualified

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)			
Building	Bristol	8 Dec.	Building trade operatives	Decrease of 21 hours per week (44 to 411) during winter period (second Monday in November to third Friday in January).			

The above increase is part of an advance of 5s. per week granted by the Scottish District Joint Industrial Council for the Electricity Supply Industry at 26th December, 1924, to be made in instalments of 3s. per week from first pay day after 27th November (in which is merged the increase of 4d. per hour granted at 20th August, 1924,—see entry on p. 341 of September GAZETTE), and of 2s. per week from first pay day after 1st February, 1925.

 This change took effect under an angement whereby wages fluctuate in correspondence with the Ministry of Labour index number of retail prices.
 The Authorities affected are those which follow the recommendations of the East Midlands Joint Industrial Council for Local Authorities. Those recognising the minimum hourly rates stated are as follows:—Grade A: Derby, Grimsby, Leicester, Mansfield, Mansfield, Mansfield, Sutton-in-Ashfield, Swadlincote. Grade C: Ashby-de-la-Zouch (made change from 9 January), Ashby Woulds, Rothwell, Shepshed, Warsop, Wigston Magna. Grade D: Daventry, Derbyshire C.C. (made change from 12th January), Shardlow R.D.C.
 The Authorities affected are those which follow the wages agreements of the Provincial Joint Industrial Council for Local Authorities Non-Trading Services in Middlesex, and include :—Zone I: Brentford, Chiswick (pay higher rates), Edmonton (pay higher rates), Friern Barnet, Tottenham (pay higher rates).
 Including London, Yorkshire, Lancashire and Cheshire, and the Midland Counties.

CHANGES IN WAGES TAKING EFFECT IN JANUARY, 1925.

The following groups of workpeople are among those affected by changes in wages already reported as having been arranged to take effect in January :--Increases.--Coal miners in Yorkshire and the East Midland Area; drug and fine chemical workers; paper makers; house painters in Scotland; men employed by public works contractors in London; railway traffic workers; and employees of gas, water, and electricity supply undertakings in various districts. Decreases .-- Iron-ore miners in Cumberland; ironstone miners in Cleveland; and blastfurnace workers in Cumberland and Cleveland.

Disputes during December.

Number, Magnitude and Duration.-The number of trade disputes involving a stoppage of work, reported to the Department as beginning in December in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, was 41, as compared with 40 in the previous month and 12 in December, 41, as compared with 40 in the previous month and 12 in December, 1923. The total number of workpeople involved in these disputes, (including those thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, though not themselves parties to the disputes) was approximately 12,000. In addition about 4,000 workpeople were involved, either directly or indirectly, in 24 disputes which began before December and were still in progress at the beginning of that month. The number of new and old disputes was thus 65, involving about 16,000 workpeople, and resulting in a loss during December of about 92,000 working days.

The following Table analyses the disputes in progress in December in Great Britain and Northern Ireland by groups of industries, and indicates the number of workpeople involved at the establishments concerned and the approximate time lost during the month in all disputes in progress.

	Numb	er of Disp ess in Dece	Number of Work- people in-	Aggregate Duration inWorking Days of all Dis- putes in progress in Dec.	
Groups of Industries.	Started before 1st Dec.	before in Tota			
Mining and Quarrying Metal, Engineering and	6 6	11 11	17 17	10,000 2,000	41,000 24,000
Shipbuilding. Textile Other		6 13	6 25	1,000 3,000	11,000 16,000
Total, Dec., 1924	24	41	65	16,000	92,000
Total, Nov., 1924	32	40	. 72	15,000	134,000
Total, Dec., 1923	12	12	24	10,000	83,000

Further particulars with regard to disputes in 1924, with comparative statistics for previous years, are given in the special article Causes .- Of the 41 disputes beginning in December, 17, directly involving 3,000 workpeople, arose out of demands for advances in on pages 4 and 5.

PRINCIPAL TRADE DISPUTES IN PROGRESS DURING DECEMBER, 1924.

Occupatio	ns and Locality.†	N I
		Di
LINING AND QU	JARRYING :	
I - A - A	East Kent	1
Coal miners,		
etc.	Barnsley (near)	
	South Shields (near)	2
Seedar P	Newport, Mon. (near)	
BUILDING Steel rollers, ginemen, b	NEERING AND SHIP- INDUSTRIES:— forgers, drawers, en- boilermen. blacksmiths, nurers, etc.—Sheffield. employed in tank- galvanising, etc.—	A State of the sta
labourers —Chorley	vers, winders, over- isters, drawers, tapers, and warehouse workers	
OTHER INDUST Firebrick wo	PRIES :	
	peratives — Hackney,	

TRADE DISPUTES.*

wages or other wages questions; 12, directly involving 3,000 work-people, on questions respecting the employment of particular classes or persons; 6, directly involving 3,000 workpeople, on details of working arrangements; and 6, directly involving 2,000 workpeople, on other questions.

Results .--- Settlements were effected in the case of 26 new disputes, directly involving 9,000 workpeople, and 10 old disputes, directly involving 4,000 workpeople. Of these new and old disputes, 9, directly involving 3,000 workpeople, were settled in favour of the workpeople; 9, directly involving 3.000 workpeople, in favour of the employers; and 18, directly involving 7,000 workpeople, were compromised. In the case of 4 disputes, directly involving 1,000 workpeople, work was resumed pending negotiations.

Disputes in 1923 and 1924.

The number of trade disputes causing a stoppage of work, reported to the Department as beginning in 1924 in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, was 692. In these disputes about 556,000 workpeople were directly involved and 54,000 indirectly involved. In addition, about 3,000 workpeople were involved in 12 disputes which began in 1923 and continued into the following year. The total number of workpeople involved in all disputes in progress in 1924 was thus about 613,000. The aggregate number of working days lost by these workpeople in the disputes was approximately 8,312,000.

In 1923 the number of disputes reported as having begun in the year in Great Britain and Northern Ireland was 628; the number of workpeople involved in all disputes in progress was over 400,000 (including about 62,000 workpeople indirectly involved), and the total loss of time in these disputes was about 10,670,000 working days (more than half of which was due to a prolonged dispute in the shipbuilding industry).

The total number of disputes recorded in 1924 and of workpeople involved in such disputes was larger than in either of the two previous years, but was still much below the figures for 1917–1921. The total time lost owing to disputes in 1924 was less than in any vear since 1918.

Approximate Number of Work- people Involved.		Date when Dispute		Cause or Object.†	Result.†			
irectly.	Indi- rectly.†	Began.	Ended.	an si di Sana Anti In				
	a at so the last	1924.	1924.	-				
1,734	*	7 July	13 Dec.	Refusal of employers to pay per- centage advance in wages agreed upon nationally.	At one colliery the advance was granted in July. At the other colliery it was agreed in December to pay the percentage advance upon reduced piece-work rates, resulting in no change in aggre- gate wages.			
625	543	10 Sept.	12 Dec.	Against proposed reduction in wages.	Modified reduction accepted for a period of six months.			
2,143	119	1 Dec.	6 Dec.	Dispute in connection with the drawing of lots for working places.	Amicable settlement effected.			
1,	510	29 Dec.	29 Dec.	Objection to a newly installed screening and weighing machine, alleged to be inefficient and badly placed.	Machine placed in another position.			
340	100	24 Nov.	1925. 6 Jan.	Against proposed reduction in wages.	Work resumed pending arbitration.			
262	150	25 Nov.	13 Dec., 1924— 13 Jan., 1925.	For advance in wages of 10s. per week.	Modified advances granted.			
320	19	1 Dec.	1924. 10 Dec.	For compensation for alleged bad material,	Compensation paid.			
500		2 Dec.	2 Dec.	Non-payment of list prices for weaving certain cloth.	List prices to be paid as from 11th November 1924.			
450		26-28 July	4 Dec.	For advance in wages	Modified advance granted. (See also page 21.)			
800	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	9 Dec.	17 Dec.	Refusal to work with a non-unionist	Agreement effected as to the organ- isation in appropriate Trade Unions of productive workers and of other workers respectively. (See also page 30.)			

* 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. † 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 those persons.

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BUILDING PLANS APPROVED.

RETURNS have been received from 148 Local Authorities in Great Britain giving the estimated cost of buildings for which plans were passed during the last quarter of 1924. The summarised figures for the quarter are given in the Table below, together with similar figures as to plans passed by the same Local Authorities during the corresponding quarter of 1923 :-

1 0	The presented										
District and Array	Estimated Cost of Buildings for which plans were approved in 148 towns from which returns have been received.										
District and Aggre- gate Population (at Census of 1921) of Towns from which returns have been received.	Dwelling Houses.	Factories and Work- shops.	and houses, Work- and		Other Build- ings, and Addi- tions and Altera- tions.	TOTAL.					
and the second second	(a) For	URTH QUA	ARTER OF	1924.		-n 480.1					
ENGLAND AND WALES-	£	£	£	£	£	£					
Northern Counties (917,000)	271,400	11,700	55,300	10,700	64,200	413,300					
Yorkshire . (2,376,000) Lancashire and	1,044,100	112,300	91,100	112,400	336,200	1,696,100					
Cheshire (3,035,000) North and West-	1,452,200	184,000	545,100	60,800	242,400	2,484,500					
Midland Counties (2,910,000) South-Midland and	1,363,900	119,200	155,800	34,800	359,100	2,032,800					
Eastern Counties (641,000) Outer London*	641,700	9,800	89,700	122,100	83,700	947,000					
(2,142,000) South - Eastern	2,072,300	119,500	130,400	136,400	239,200	2,697,800					
Counties (1,041,000) South - Western	845,000	21,000	37,900	29,300	160,300	1,093,500					
Counties (433,000) Wales and Mon- mouthshire	163,900	2,900 *	5,400	6,500	60,600	239,300					
(834,000)	364,000	7,300	39,600	13,800	62,700	487,400					
SCOTLAND(2,147,000)	835,900	228,500	46,200	142,400	340,700	1,593,700					
Total (16,476,000)	9,054,400	816,200	1,196,500	669,200	1,949,100	13685400					
	(b) For	RTH QUA	RTER OF	1923.							
ENGLAND AND WALES-	£	£	£	£	£	£					
Northern Counties (917,000)	474,700	261,500	34,900	100,100	54,600	925,800					

(b) FOURTH QUARTER OF 1923.										
ENGLAND AND WALES-	£	£	£	£	£	£				
Northern Counties (917,000)	474,700	261,500	34,900	100,100	54,600	925,800				
Yorkshire (2,376,000) Lancashire and	1,269,000	47,400	86,000	58,000	224,700	1,685,100				
Cheshire (3,035,000) North and West-	2,001,100	159,800	169,400	124,000	189,600	2,643,900				
Midland Counties (2,910,000) South-Midland and	1,372,700	157,000	93,500	75,000	398,600	2,096,800				
Eastern Counties (641,000) Outer London*	629,900	57,700	78,100	36,000	91,800	893,500				
(2,142,000) South- Eastern	2,082,700	95,600 #	253,000	55,800	162,400	2,649,500				
Counties (1,041,000)	638,600	23,500	43,400	4,200	233,400	943,100				
South - Western Counties (433,000) Wales and Mon-	182,800	11,600	4,300	6,500	44,000	249,200				
mouthshire (834,000)	432,700	15,400	40,400	33,800	47,800	570,100				
SCOTLAND(2,147,000)	760,300	87,300	183,900	260,700	261,600	1,553,800				
Total (16,476,000)	9,844,500	916,800	986,900	754,100	1,708,500	14210800				

ASSISTED PASSAGES UNDER THE EMPIRE SETTLEMENT ACT, 1922.

THE number of assisted passages granted during December, 1924, in connection with agreed schemes under the Empire Settlement Act, and the total number of such passages granted from the inception of these schemes, together with the number of departures during the same periods, are shown in the following Table :

•	Assisted Passages Granted	Total A Passa Gran	ages	Depar- tures	To Depai	tal ctures.
Assisted Passage Schemes.	in Dec., 1924.	1922 and 1923.	Jan.– Dec., 1924.	in Dec., 1924.	1922 and 1923.	Jan.– Dec., 1924.
To Australia ,, New Zealand	1,768 840	32,912† 7,550	23,263† 9,027†	1,804 196	31,067 6,839	24,214 7,736
" Canada : Dominion of Canada… Province of Ontario … Minor Schemes	648 196	3,557 1,343 1,662	8,676† 24 1,659	95 160	3,519 1,312 1,624	8,104 44 1,481
Total	3,452	47,024†	42,649†	2,255	44,361	41,579

The figures given include both applicants and dependants of applicants to whom assisted passages have been granted.

* Particulars are not available for the London County Council Area. † Revised figures.

DISEASES OF OCCUPATIONS.*

THE total number of cases[†] of poisoning and of anthrax in Great Britain and Northern Ireland reported under the Factory and Workshop Act during December, 1924, was 60. Thirteen deaths[†] were reported during the month, nine due to epitheliomatous ulceration and four due to lead poisoning. In addition, 17 cases of lead poisoning (including four deaths) among house painters and plumbers came to the knowledge of the Home Office during December, but notification of these cases is not obligatory. IER FORMS OF

a) CASES OF LEAD POISONI	ING.	(b) CASES OF OTHER
mong Operatives enga	100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100	Poisoning.
in—	0	Mercury Poisoning
Smelting of Metals	4	Phosphorus Poisoning Arsenic Poisoning—
		Paints, Colours
Plumbing and Soldering		Extraction of Ars
Shipbreaking	11	Other Industries
Printing	1	Toxic Jaundice—
Tinning of Metals		Arseniuretted Hyd
	1.2	Gas
Other Contact with Molten Lead	3	Benzine, etc., deriva
	3	Epitheliomatous U
White and Red Lead		tion— Paraffin
Works	1	Parafin
Pottery		Pitch
Vitreous Enamelling		Tar Oil
Electric Accumulator		Chrome Ulceration—
Works	7	Manufacture of B
		mates
Paint and Colour Works	2	Dyeing and Finishir
Indiarubber Works		Chrome Tanning
Coach and Car Painting	2	Other Industries
Shipbuilding		TOTAL, OTHER FORM
Paint used in Other		POISONING
Industries	3	(c) CASES OF ANTURA
Industries		(c) Cases of Anthra Wool
Other Industries	5	Handling of Horseh
		Handling and S
OTAL OF ABOVE	39	of Hides and Skir
	-	Other Industries
OUSE PAINTING AND	1 Alter	
PLUMBING	17	TOTAL, ANTHRAX

FATAL INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS.

THE number of workpeople, other than seamen, reported as killed in the course of their employment in Great Britain and Northern Ireland during December, 1924, was 230, as compared with 182 in the previous month, and with 225 a year ago.

	0
RAILWAY SERVICE.	FACTORIES AND
kesmen and Goods	(continued) :
uards	Boiler Making
ine Drivers 1	structional En
emen 1	Locomotives, R.
rds (Passenger) 1	Tramway
manent Way Men 8	Motors, Aircra
ters	Other Metal Tra
nters 3	Shipbuilding
hanics	Wood
ourers * 1	Gas
cellaneous 3	Electric Generati
tractors' Servants 2	Clay, Stone, Glas
	Chemicals, etc.
OTAL, RAILWAY SERVICE 20	Food and Drink
	Paper, Printing,
MINES.	Tanning, Curryin
lerground 96	Rubber Trades
face 15	Other Non-Tex
	tries
TOTAL, MINES 111	
	PLACES UNDER
RRIES over 20 feet deep 12	FACTORY A
	Docks, Wharves,
	Buildings
CTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.	Warehouses and
ton 1	Sidings
ol, Worsted and Shoddy 1	The second second second
er Textiles 1	TOTAL, FACTO
tile Bleaching & Dyeing 1	WORKSHOPS,
al Extracting and Re-	Construction or
ning 3	Railways§
al Conversion, including	Tramways Use or Working
olling Mills and Tube	USE OF WORKINS
laking 3	ways
al Founding 4	T . 1 / 1
ineering and Machine	Total (exclu
laking 8	men)
T 1 T 1 T 17	0

* Based on Returns from the Home Office and from the Ministry of Labour

* Based on Returns from the Home Office and from the Ministry of Labour for Northern Ireland. † Cases include all attacks reported during the month and not previously reported, so far as is known, during the preceding 12 months. Deaths include all fatal cases reported during the month, whether included (as cases) in previous returns or not. ‡ Based on returns from the Home Office, the Mines Department, the Ministry of Transport, and the Ministry of Labour for Northern Ireland. § Accidents occurring in the use or working of railways are included under "Railway Service."

POOR LAW RELIEF IN GREAT BRITAIN.

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

THE number of persons* relieved on one day† in December, 1924, in the thirty-one selected areas named below, was 691,800, or 0.3 per cent. more than in the previous month, but 18.4 per cent. less than in December, 1923. The numbers relieved at these three dates were equivalent, respectively, to rates of 389, 387, and 479 per 10,000 of the estimated population.

In the twenty-five selected areas in England and Wales the number of persons relieved in December, 1924, was 575,571, or 366 per 10,000 of the estimated population. In the six areas in Scotland the number relieved was 116,229, or 560 per 10,000 of the estimated population.

Recipients of indoor relief in the thirty-one districts in December numbered 123,402, or 0.3 per cent. less than in the previous month, and 2.3 per cent. less than in December, 1923. Recipients of outdoor relief numbered 568,398, or 0.5 per cent. more than in the previous month, but 21.3 per cent. less than a year ago.

Sixteen districts showed small increases and fourteen districts showed small decreases in the number per 10,000 relieved in December, 1924, as compared with the previous month. Compared with December, 1923, all districts except Barnsley showed decreases, the most noteworthy being Stockton and Tees (299 per 10,000), Paisley and Greenock (285 per 10,000), Sheffield (280 per 10,000), and Glasgow (279 per 10,000).

In the 31 areas shown, the proportion of persons relieved ranged from 109 per 10,000 of the estimated population in the case of Halifax and Huddersfield District to 955 per 10,000 in the case of West Ham.

	Number of Persons* in receipt of Poor Law Relief on one day† in December, 1924.			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in rate per 10.000 of		Norway Sweden§ Switzerland United States		406 195 132 110 45	133 79 57 39	118 60 64 44	408 148 59 68 40	479 174 72 70 47	Dec. '24 Dec. '24 Dec. '24 Nov. '24 Nov. '24	
Selected Urban Areas.‡	Indoor.	Out- door.	Total.	Rate per 10,000 of Esti- mated	Popula	pared th a	BRITISH DOMINION Australia Canada India (Bombay) Irish Free State		61 48 74	48 38 60 85†	64 37 48 82	49† 34 51 85	47 42 56 100	Nov. '24 Dec. '24 Dec. '24 Oct. '24
			-	Popu- lation.	Month ago.	Year ago.	New Zealand South Africa		64 39	44 16	42 16	49 17	50 22	Dec. '24 Nov. '24
ENGLAND AND WALES. Metropolis. West District North District Central District East District South District	9,084 10,311 2,390 10,073 19,086	6,730 17,525 2,425 45,735 63,916	15,814 27,836 4,815 55,808 83,002	191 273 358 865 428	-1 -12 -13 +2 -7	- 27 - 53 - 53 - 105 - 87	* Exceptions to Hague, January t June, 1914; Am § Fuel and lightir	to July, sterdam, ng are al	1914; Mi South A	lan, Jan frica, av ed in the	uary to verage, 1 ese figure	June, 19 914. † es. Fig	14; Swi Figure	tzerland, for June.
TOTAL, Metropolis	50,944	136,331	187,275	410	- 6	- 70	PERCENTAGE IN					and the second second second		
West Ham	4,432	68,159	72,591	955	+ 32	- 74	OF FOOD, TO CLOTHING, F							
Other Districts. Newcastle District Stockton and Tees	2,574	22,697	25,271	506	+ 5	- 189	MENTS, AS CO	OMPARE	D WITH	JULY,	1914.†	· 12.54		
District Bolton, Oldham, etc. Wigan District	1,154 4,122 1,769	12,057 7,373 9,436	13,211 11,495 11,205	483 144 249	+ 10 + 2 + 5	-299 - 7 - 44	ALTING SHOULD	Items		Perce		crease as lly, 1914.		red
Manchester District Liverpool District Bradford District Halifax and Hudders-	8,648 9,461 1,751	23,186 43,956 3,557	31,834 53,417 5,308	306 435 142	+ 21 + 5	-67 -108 -31	Country.	which Compu- tion i based.	ta- s July		July, 1923.	July, 1924.	Latest avail	able.
field Leeds District Barnsley District Sheffield District Hull District North Staffordshire Nottingham District Leicester District WolverhamptonDis-	1,291 2,486 916 2,564 1,733 2,163 2,162 1,270	2,855 8,324 7,752 25,033 9,859 5,116 9,584 2,660	4,146 10,810 8,668 27,597 11,592 7,279 11,746 3,930	109 220 266 535 362 175 250 164	+ + + +	$\begin{array}{r} - 11 \\ - 38 \\ + 10 \\ - 280 \\ - 85 \\ - 8 \\ - 12 \\ - 5 \end{array}$	UNITED KINGDOM FOREIGN COUNTRIES.	A,B,C,D	Per cent	cent.	Per cent. 69	Per cent. 70	Rise. Per cent. 80	Date. Jan.'25
trict BirminghamDistrict Bristol District Cardiff and Swansea	3,244 7,000 2,345 2,486	14,968 23,258 12,202 12,693	18,212 30,258 14,547 15,179	248 319 352 319	$ \begin{array}{r} - 1 \\ - 1 \\ + 15 \\ + 18 \end{array} $	- 99 -184 - 44 - 4	Austria (Vienna) Belgium	A,B,C, A,C,D, A,B,C,D A,D A,B,C,D	E 279 ,E 137 93	266 99 72	1090200 329 104 52 990	1239000 393 114 48 1,032	$1364900 \\ 421 \\ 114 \\ 68 \\ 1,102$	Dec.'24 Dec.'24 July'24 Oct.'24 Nov.'24
TOTAL, "OtherDistricts"	59,139	256,566	315,705	304	+ 2	- 84		A,B,C,D A,B,C,	,E 195	189	231‡		267	3rd Qr. Nov.'24
TOTAL, Districts in Eng- land and Wales	114,515	461,056	575,571	366	+ 1	- 80	Greece (Athens)	A,B,C,D A,B,C,D	,E 3,661		933 225,167 387	1,225	1,230 1635684 473	Sep.'24
SCOTLAND. Glasgow District Paisley and Greenock	4,919	69,768	74,687	767		-279	Luxemburg Norway Poland(W'rsaw)	A,C,I A.B.C.D	E 284	§ 155§	1 20 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	381 151§ 27¶	430 169	Dec.'24 Dec.'24 Nov.'24
District Edinburgh Dundee and Dunferm-	827 1,511	11,518 14,809	12,345 16,320	640 384	$+ 29 \\ - 6$	-285 - 15	Spain (Madrid) ,, (Barcelona) Sweden	A,D A,D A,B,C,D	84	73 90	72 *65 74	82 72 71	75 70 78	Nov.'24 Nov.'24 Jan.'25
line Aberdeen Coatbridge and Airdrie	718 526 386	2,743 3,071 5,433	3,461 3,597 5,819	157 225 570	+ 4 + 11 + 7	-1 -113 -54	Switzerland United States BRITISH	A,D		59	66	69	70	Nov.'24 Sep.'24
TOTAL for the above Scottish Districts	8,887	107,342	116,229	560	+ 3	-172	DOMINIONS,&C. Australia Canada	A,B A,B,I) 46 52		561	48‡		3rd Qr. Dec.'24
TOTAL for above 31 Dis- tricts in Dec., 1924	123,402	568,398	691,800	389	+ 2	- 90	India (Bombay) Irish Free State South Africa	A,B,C, A,B,C,D A,B,D	D 77 9,E		53	56 83 32	60 93	Dec.'24 Oct.'24 Nov.'24
* Including dependen	ta mha	0			1.022.97			I. ers and	1		1.	A. Carl	a solution	And a long

Including dependants. The figures exclude casuals, lunatics in Asylums, Registered Hospitals and Licensed Houses, and persons receiving out-door medical relief only.
 The figures for England and Wales relate to 27th December, and those for Scotland to 15th December.
 These urban areas include in the case of England and Wales more than one Poor-law union, except in the Leicester, Birmingham, and West Ham districts; and more than one parish in the case of Scotland, except in the Aberdeen and Edinburgh districts.

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. It is also to be observed that in every case the percentage calculation is based on the assumption that the standard of living is identical at the various periods compared.]

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.*						
	July,	July, 1922,	July, 1923.	July, 1924.	Latest figures available.			
	1921,				Rise.	Date.		
alline and an in the	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	T 105		
UNITED KINGDOM	120	80	62	62	78	Jan. '25		
FOREIGN COUNTRIES.			and south					
Austria (Vienna)					1,624,700			
Czechoslovakia§	170	1,330	821	809	822	Nov. '24		
Denmark Finland	1 170	84 1,005	88 868	100 916	$100 \\ 1.027$	July '24 Nov. '24		
There are (Deale)	000	1,005	221	260	304	Nov. '24 Dec. '24		
(other terma)	2501					Aug. '24		
Holland (The Hague	113	80	60	62	73	Nov. '24		
(A makandama) 80	40	36	42	50	Oct. '24		
Italy (Milan)	406	392	396	408	479	Dec. '24		
Norway		133	118	148	174	Dec. '24		
Sweden§		79	60	59	72	Dec. '24		
Switzerland		57	64	68	70	Nov. '24		
United States	45	39	44	40	47	Nov. '24		
BRITISH DOMINIONS, &	T.	and the second			Section 1			
Australia	61	48	64	49†	47,	Nov. '24		
Canada	48	38	. 37	34	42	Dec. '24		
India (Bombay)	74	60	48	51	56	Dec. '24		
Irish Free State	-	85†		85	100	Oct. '24		
New Zealand	64	44	42	49	50	Dec. '24		
South Africa	39	16	16	17	22	Nov. '24		

* A = Food; B = House-Rent; C = Clothing; D = Fuel and Light; E = Other or Miscellaneous Items. † Exceptions to this are: France, Spain, Australia and South Africa, in which comparison is with the average for 1914; Belgium, April, 1914; Greece, March, 1914; Milan, January to June, 1914; Germany, Egypt, Hungary, average, 1913–1914; Switzerland and Luxemburg, June, 1914; United States, 1913; Poland, January, 1914. ‡ Figure for 3rd Quarter. § Figure for June, || Figure for May. ¶ Based on prices calculated on a gold standard.

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 fuctuations 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 United Kingdom statistics, and therefore the figures quoted below cannot properly be used with those on pp. 9–10 to compare the actual level of employment in the United Kingdom with that of other countries. For details as to the bases of the unemployment statistics of the various countries see Report issued in 1922 by the International Labour Office under the tille "Methods of Compiling Statistics of Unemployment." (Studies and Reports, Series C., No. 7.)]

FRANCE.*

Unemployment in December.-The total number of unemployed Unemployment in December.—The total number of unemployed persons remaining on the "live register" of Employment Exchanges on 27th December was 8,976 (6,356 men and 2,620 women). At the end of November the corresponding total was 11,863; in December, 1923, it was 6,883. The total number of vacancies remaining unfilled on the same date was 5,603 (2,942 for men and 2,661 for women), as compared with 7,295 at the end of November and 11,164 in December, 1923. During the last week of December the Exchanges succeeded in placing 24,421 persons in situations, including 10,819 dock workers at seaports, and in addition found employment for 2,574 foreign immigrants. 2,574 foreign immigrants.

The latest returns show that two departmental and nineteen The latest returns show that two departmental and nineteen-municipal unemployment funds were in operation throughout France on 2nd January, the number of persons in receipt of unem-ployment benefit through their agency being 509 (473 men and 36 women). The corresponding total for the preceding month was 479, and that for December, 1923, 464. It is to be noted that these figures do not fully represent the number of persons out of employ-ment, since some localities are without unemployment funds, and where they do exist their record of unemployed persons is not complete.

GERMANY.

Unemployment in November.—According to the issue of the Reichsarbeitsblatt for 1st January the proportion of trade union members reported as totally unemployed at the end of November was $7\cdot3$ per cent., as compared with $8\cdot4$ per cent. at the end of the preceding month, and $23\cdot4$ per cent. in November, 1923. The proportion of short-time workers amongst trade union members also be defined on the proportion of the proport ecreased, being 6.7 per cent., as against 12.2 per cent. in the preceding month.

BELGIUM +

Unemployment in November .-- The latest figures available relate to November, but are provisional only. Returns received by the Ministry of Industry and Labour from 1,431 approved unemployment insurance societies, with a total membership of 644,713, show that 24,428 of these were either totally or partially unemployed at the end of the month. The total days lost through unemployment in November numbered 268,457, or 1.73 per cent. of the aggregate possible working days; in the preceding month the percentage was 1.71, and in November, 1923, 1.05.

During November 14,716 applications for employment were received at Employment Exchanges, as compared with 15,771 in the preceding month Vacancies notified by employers in November numbered 7,999, as against 10,499 in October. There were thus on an average 184 applicants for each 100 situations registered as vacant, as compared with 150 in October.

SWITZERLAND.[‡]

Unemployment in November.—According to figures compiled by the Swiss Federal Labour Office, the number of applicants for work on the "live register" of Employment Exchanges at the end of November was 11,479, as compared with 9,451 at the end of the preceding month and 27,029 at the end of November, 1923. The 11,479 applicants for work included 1,806 normally engaged in the building trades, 1,331 in commercial undertakings, shops, etc., and 1,086 in the metal, engineering and electrical trades. The number of situations remaining unfilled at the same date was 1,934, as against 2,409 at the end of the preceding month and 1,811 at the end of November, 1923. On the last day of November, 1924, there were 1,085 applications for each 100 vacancies for men and 216 for each 100 for women. On 31st October the ratios were 716 and 147 respectively, and on 30th November, 1923, 2,957 and 326 respectively.

ITALY.

Unemployment in October.—According to a report issued by the Italian Unemployment Insurance Department,§ 117,051 workpeople were totally unemployed on 31st October, as compared with 115,590 at the end of September last and 199,694 on 31st October, 1923. In addition, 24,112 were partially unemployed at the latest date, 21,849 on 30th September and 67,805 on 31st October, 1923. On 31st October last the number of totally unemployed persons in receipt of benefit, under the statutory unemployment insurance scheme, was 17,668, as compared with 18,054 on 30th September and 35,805 on 31st October 1923 31st October, 1923.

- * Bulletin du Marché du Travail, 3rd January, 1924. Paris. † Revue du Travail, 31st December, 1924. Brussels. ‡ Der Schweizerische Arbeitsmarkt, 15th December, 1924. Berne. § La Disoccupazione in Italia al 31 ottobre, 1924. Rome.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA.

January, 1925.

Unemployment in November.—According to a report forwarded by the Commercial Secretary at Prague, the figures issued by the Czechoslovakian Ministry of Social Welfare show that a slight increase Czechoslovakian Ministry of Social Welfare show that a slight increase in unemployment took place in November. The number of persons in direct receipt of Government unemployment benefit was 8,950, as compared with 7,850 in October. Persons on short time in receipt of support from employers numbered 11,890. These figures are exclusive of the number of family dependants of the breadwinner in respect of whom relief is also granted.

DENMARK.

Unemployment in December.-H.M. Commercial Secretary at Commployment in December.—H.M. Commercial Secretary at Copenhagen, in a despatch to the Department of Overseas Trade, dated 31st December last, states that the latest returns of unem-ployment in Denmark show that 35,712 workpeople were unemployed on 27th December as against 31,057 at the end of the preceding week, and 41,800 on 28th December, 1923.

SWEDEN.*

Unemployment in October.—Trade unions with an aggregate membership of 205,605 reported 17,344, or 8.4 per cent., as out of work on the last day of October, as against 7.0 per cent. at the end of September and 8.2 per cent. at the end of October, 1923. The following Table gives particulars for the principal unions included in the returns: in the returns .-

and a second was set as	Membership	Percentage Unemployed.		
Unions.	reporting on 31st Oct. 1924.	31st Oct., 1924.	30th Sept., 1924.	31st Oct., 1923.
All Unions making Returns	205,605	8 · 4	7.0	8.2
PRINCIPAL UNIONS : Carpenters and joiners Iron and steel Foundry workers Engineering Textile Clothing Boot, shoe and leather Sawmilling Woodworking Municipal workers Commercial employees General and factory workers (trades not specified)	6,242 12,934 3,905 44,984 9,505 4,981 8,100 7,703 17,879 5,800 15,207 9,523 7,066 19,933	$12 \cdot 5 \\ 12 \cdot 7 \\ 11 \cdot 8 \\ 8 \cdot 2 \\ 2 \cdot 3 \\ 3 \cdot 9 \\ 4 \cdot 9 \\ 9 \cdot 3 \\ 19 \cdot 7 \\ 6 \cdot 2 \\ 2 \cdot 9 \\ 2 \cdot 4 \\ 5 \cdot 0 \\ 13 \cdot 5 $	$ \begin{array}{r} 6 \cdot 3 \\ 8 \cdot 9 \\ 9 \cdot 5 \\ 7 \cdot 3 \\ 2 \cdot 5 \\ 5 \cdot 9 \\ 5 \cdot 5 \\ 7 \cdot 2 \\ 15 \cdot 7 \\ 5 \cdot 2 \\ 1 \cdot 3 \\ 4 \cdot 2 \\ 14 \cdot 2 \end{array} $	$\begin{array}{c} & \ddots & \\ & 5 \cdot 0 \\ 12 \cdot 0 \\ 10 \cdot 7 \\ 1 \cdot 7 \\ 7 \cdot 1 \\ 3 \cdot 4 \\ 8 \cdot 3 \\ 15 \cdot 2 \\ 11 \cdot 9 \\ 2 \cdot 9 \\ 1 \cdot 8 \\ 6 \cdot 8 \\ 15 \cdot 2 \end{array}$

UNITED STATES.†

Employment in November.—Provisional figures, presented by the United States Department of Labour through the Bureau of Labour Statistics, based on reports from 8,557 establishments in 52 manufacturing industries covering 2,553,132 workpeople show that the general level of employment in manufacturing industries was practically unaltered from October to November, the actual was practically unaltered from October to Novemen, the actual percentage change being a decrease of only 0.1 per cent. The aggregate wages paid show for the same period a decrease of 1.3 per cent., and the average weekly earnings a decrease of 1.2 per cent. Regularly occurring seasonal decreases in various industries, cent. Regularly occurring seasonal decreases in various industries, such as men's and women's clothing, were responsible for the slight decrease in employment, while the larger falling off in earnings was due almost entirely to the holidays quite generally observed in many localities during the first half of November. Twenty-five of the 52 industries record increases in the number of workpeople employed in November; the increases were, for the most part, relatively small, the largest—which marks a return to more normal conditions after a depressed summer—being in the rubber boot and shoe industry (47 per cent.). Other large increases in numbers employed were shown in cigar and cigarettes (11.4 per cent.) and in the agricultural implement industry (6 per cent.). The greatest decreases shown were in sugar refining (10.7 per cent.), confectionery (10.2 per cent.), ice-cream (8.7 per cent.), women's

The greatest decreases shown were in sugar refining (10.7 per cent.), confectionery (10.2 per cent.), ice-cream (8.7 per cent.), women's clothing (7.8 per cent.) and in men's clothing (4.7 per cent.). As regards comparison between the month under review and the corresponding month of 1923, returns from 6,773 establishments in the 52 industries show a decrease of over 10 per cent. in the number of persons employed, a decrease of 13 per cent. in aggregate wages and a decrease of 3.5 per cent. in average weekly earnings.

CANADA.

CANADA. Employment in December.[‡]—For 1st December, 1924, returns were received by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics at Ottawa from 5,880 firms, with an aggregate of 749,841 upon their pay-rolls. On 1st November the same firms reported 768,678 employed, the total for 1st December thus showing a decrease of 18,837 persons. If the number 100 be assigned to the week ended 17th January, 1920, the index number of employment for 1st December, 1924, is 90.8, as compared with 93.0 at the beginning of the preceding month and 95.7 on 1st December, 1923.

as compared with 95.0 at the beginning of the preceding month and 95.7 on 1st December, 1923. *Trade Union Unemployment in November.*§—On 30th November 9.7 per cent. of the aggregate membership of trade unions making returns were unemployed, as compared with 6.8 per cent. at the end of October and $6 \cdot 2$ per cent. at the end of November, 1923.

* Sociala Meddelanden, No. 12, 1924. Stockholm. † Information supplied through the courtesy of the Federal Bureau of Labour Statistics, Washington. ‡ The December Employment Situation, 1924. Ottawa. § Information supplied through the courtesy of the Canadian Department of Labour, Ottawa.

January, 1925.

LEGAL CASES, OFFICIAL NOTICES, &c.

LEGAL CASES AFFECTING LABOUR. Master and Servant.

CONTRACT OF SERVICE-TWELVE MONTHS CERTAIN, "THEREAFTER UNTIL THE TERMINATION BY THREE MONTHS' NOTICE IN WRITING.

A service agreement, in writing, was executed to begin on 11th September, 1922, and to continue for twelve months certain and "thereafter until the determination by three months' notice in writing."

On 13th July, 1923, the master gave the servant, in writing, three months' notice to determine the agreement. The servant contended that no notice of determination could take effect until the expiration of fifteen months from the 11th September, 1922. It was held that, on a fair construction of the agreement, a notice, if duly given, could become effective at any time after the expiration of the first twelve months; and that, in this case, the agreement was duly determined at the expiration of three months from the date of the notice, that is, on the 13th October, 1923.—King's Bench Division.—Costigan v. Gray Bovier Engines, Ltd.—December 18th 1924

Workmen's Compensation Acts, 1906 & 1923.

WIDOW'S CLAIM TO COMPENSATION-BREAKS IN THE CHAIN OF CAUSATION.

arrived at by a some commute or improve representatives for the County. The Insurance Officer disagreed with the Court and referred the matter to the Umpire, who held an oral hearing of the case. A claim of an unusual character under the above Acts was decided by Sheriff-Substitute Broun in the Ayr Sheriff Court recently.

Decision.—" On the facts before me my decision is that the claims for benefit should be disallowed. "The dispute which led to the stoppage of work in these cases was with regard to the piece prices. These are fixed by agreement between the owners of each colliery and their employees. At one time there was in existence a Joint Committee for settling disputes, Mrs. McBride asked for an award of £558 for the death of her but it has been defunct for a considerable time.

Mrs. McBride asked for an award of £558 for the death of her husband, a miner. The miner, whilst employed at a pit, sustained injuries to his left eye and practically lost the sight of it. The defenders admitted liability and paid him compensation for total incapacity until April, 1924, when he was offered and accepted light work at the pit head. When injured, McBride was 51 years of age and weighed about 12 stone. During his total incapacity his weight increased by about 3 stone. Whilst at work at the pit head he had to push loaded hutches from the weighing machine to the cart scree, which he alleged was heavy work, and in his soft condition, caused by his enforced absence from work as the result of the accident, he perspired heavily. In May, 1924, when engaged in pushing loaded hutches and when in a heated condition, he caught a chill from which bronchitis developed, and on the 13th August he died. Sheriff Broun disallowed the claim. His Lordship stated that there were several breaks in the chain of causation by which it was attempted to connect, either directly or indirectly, the death "The employers, no doubt, are seeking to vary existing piece-price agreements, but those agreements are not National Agreements, nor are they agreements existing between a group of employers. They are only agreements between a single employer or firm of colliery owners and the employees at the colliery." Case No. 8561, Section 8 (2).-Employment left Voluntarily-Short-Time Worker gave up Spare-Time Occupation in order to Qualify for Benefit on Days of Unemployment-Not Just Cause. The applicant, a spinner, was employed on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday in each week under a system of short-time working. On was attempted to connect, either directly or indirectly, the death with the accident in 1922. He was not satisfied that McBride's and Friday in each week under a system of short-time working. On Saturdays he was employed during the evening as a pianist at a local hotel, and for this additional employment he received ten shillings. He had carried on the spare-time employment as a pianist for 25 years, but on the 8th March, 1924, he gave up this employment in increased weight could be ascribed to the accident. McBride had not suffered injury which necessitated a sedentary life and pre-vented him from taking exercise. His Lordship was of opinion that the cold contracted by McBride after three weeks' work had order to become eligible for unemployment benefit on the three days in each week, viz., Saturday, Monday and Tuesday, on which he was not been proved even indirectly to have resulted from the effects of the accident in 1922. Catching cold was incidental to all sorts and conditions of people and to all employments.—Ayr Sheriff Court.—McBride v. Ayrshire Collieries, Ltd.—December, 1924.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACTS, 1920-24.

DECISIONS GIVEN BY THE UMPIRE.

THE Umpire is a judicial authority, independent of the Ministry of Labour, appointed by the Crown under Section 12 of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920, for the purpose of determining disputed claims to benefit. His decisions* are final and conclusive. the matter to the Umpire. Appeals to the Umpire may be made by the Insurance Officer or by an Association of which the claimant is a member, or, with the Decision.-" On the facts before me my decision is that the claim for benefit should be disallowed. permission of the Court of Referees, by the claimant himself. The following are recent decisions of general interest :----

Case No. 8539, Section 8 (1) of Principal Act and 4 (1) of No. 2 Act, 1924.—Trade Dispute—Alleged Breach of Agreement made by Joint Committee—Committee since defunct and Present Practice for Individual Agreements to be made between Employers and Workmen—New Offer at one Firm not Breach of National Agreement or of Agreement between Group of Employers.

The applicants, who had been employed as shifters, checkweigh-men, putters, etc., at a colliery, were reported to have lost employ-ment owing to a trade dispute, and their claims for benefit were, accordingly, disallowed under Section 8 (1). It appeared that the colliery owners had informed the men that the colliery could not be carried on profitably at the existing wages

• Volumes containing the collected decisions of the Umpire are published by His Majesty's Stationery Office. Cases after No. 2,000 are not published in volume form, but summaries of the decisions are printed in pamphlets issued at approximately fortnightly intervals. The pamphlets will be supplied post free, as and when issued, for an annual subscription of 7s. 6d., payable in advance. All applications should be made to His Majesty's Stationery Office at any of the addresses shown on the front cover of this GAZETTE.

THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE.

and that the men must accept certain reductions in piece rates. After negotiations had been carried on unsuccessfully for some time, After negotiations had been carried on unsuccessfully for some time, the employers brought matters to a head by giving the men a fortnight's notice to terminate their contracts, and, accordingly, the applicants became unemployed on 14th August, 1924. The employers stated that they had hitherto paid wages in excess of the County rates and that the new rates offered to the men would still have enabled them to earn more than the County rates. If any man was unable to earn sufficient, his wages would be made up to the County rates.

The applicants were represented by their Trade Union Secretary, who submitted that the employers' offer constituted a breach of agreement. They stated that formerly the basic rates were fixed according to Awards given by a Joint Committee, but this Com-mittee had been defunct since 1922 and prices had remained fixed because there was nobody to settle rates either one way or the other. The men had endeavoured to obtain increased rates, but their demonstrates had been defunct since the other increased rates. demands had always met with refusal on the ground that the rates were fixed and could not be varied in the absence of the Joint Committee.

Recommended by the Court of Referees that the claims for benefit should be allowed under Section 4 (1) of No. 2 Act, 1924. The Court thought the stoppage of work was due to the employers acting in such a manner as to contravene the terms of an agreement arrived at by a Joint Committee of Employers' and Workmen's

in each week, viz., Saturday, Monday and Tuesday, on which he was not employed in his usual trade as a cotton spinner. Under the regulations governing the payment of benefit the applicant was not entitled to benefit in respect of Monday and Tuesday in each week, as he was "not unemployed" on Saturday. He gave as his reason for leaving the spare-time employment that he would have received more by way of unemployment benefit for the three days in question than he did by playing the piano, and that he wanted to qualify for benefit which would be set off against an overpayment of benefit recorded against him at the Employment Exchange.

Recommended by the Court of Referees that the claim for benefit should be allowed on the ground that the applicant was justified in leaving his spare-time employment, but the Insurance Officer declined to accept the recommendation of the Court of Referees and referred

"The applicant had two employments. Three days a week he was employed in his usual occupation of a cotton spinner, and on Saturdays he had a spare-time employment which he had followed for 25 years, in respect of which he received 10s, a day.

"The Insurance Officer claims that he voluntarily left this spare time employment without just cause and therefore is disqualified for benefit for 6 weeks. His only reason for leaving it was that, so long as he followed it, he was employed on four days in each week and therefore was not entitled to benefit in respect of the two days on which he was unemployed.

"It sometimes happens, no doubt, that a person would be better off when unemployed and in receipt of benefit than he is whilst employed, but in my opinion this is not in itself just cause for leaving employment, and in several cases it has been so held (see Cases Nos. 637, 1257, 1770).

Cases Nos. 637, 1257, 1770). "The Court of Referees appear to have been of the opinion that there should be no disqualification on the ground that Section 8 (2) of the Act of 1920 has no application to spare-time employment. I am not prepared to say that that Section is applicable to all kinds of occupations the following of which would disqualify for benefit under Section 7 (2) (a), but I see no reason for thinking that the spare-time employment followed by this applicant was not 'employment' within the meaning of that expression as used in Section 8 (2)."

Case No. 8676, Section 7 (1) (iv) (as amended).—Not Genuinely Seeking Work and Suitable Employment, not unable to obtain— Plea of Physical Disability not accepted as Sufficient Reason for Refusing Work for which Applicant had Specially Registered.

The applicant, whose usual occupation was that of a glass blower became unemployed on the 28th June, 1924, and on the 3rd September, 1924, he was offered local and permanent employment in his own trade at the district standard piece rate of wages.

The applicant was unwilling to accept the employment offered on of his health. He contended that owing to the effects of war service, employment as a glass blower was prejudicial to his health, as that kind of work affected his lungs; and in support of his contention he produced a medical certificate which showed that he suffered from neurasthenia and debility, and was unable to follow his usual employment, and that it was advisable that he should obtain a light kind of work.

Recommended by the Court of Referees that the claim for benefit should be allowed, as the Court were of opinion that the applicant had not refused an offer of suitable employment.

The Insurance Officer declined to accept the recommendation of the Court of Referees, and referred the matter to the Umpire.

Decision .--- " On the facts before me my decision is that the claim for benefit should be disallowed.

"The applicant was registered for employment as a glass blower and for that only. After being in receipt of benefit for a con-siderable time he was offered work as a glass blower, and then said that he could not do the work owing to his disability caused by the war.

"If he had been genuinely seeking work, he would have registered for work of a kind which he could do, and it is quite possible that work of some suitable kind would have been found for him.

"He does not satisfy me that he is genuinely seeking work but unable to find suitable employment."

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

Recent Proceedings.

(A.)-INDUSTRIAL COURT DECISIONS.

SPINNERS.—The Workers' Union v. The Chemical Employers' Federation (on behalf of the British Celanese Co., Ltd.). Difference.— Application for an increase in spinners' week-end overtime; the rate to be time and a half for all work done on Saturday between 2 and 10 p.m. Double time for all work done between 10 p.m. Saturday and 6 a.m. Monday. *Decision.*—The Court decide not to disturb the existing rate of payment of the men concerned for week-end work. Issued 3rd December, 1924. (999.)

CIVIL ENGINEERING CONSTRUCTION — CLASSIFICATION — BLACK-POOL—CONCILIATION BOARD WORKING RULE AGREEMENT— BOROUGH NOT INDUSTRIAL.—The National Union of General and Municipal Workers v. The Federation of Civil Engineering Con-Municipal Workers v. The Federation of Civil Engineering Con-tractors. Difference.—Claim that Blackpool should be classified as Class I. under the Working Rule Agreement of the Civil Engineering Construction Conciliation Board. Decision.—Blackpool shall be regarded for the time being as a case contemplated by Rule 1 (2) of the Working Rule Agreement, and therefore one which should be appealed working Rule Agreement, and therefore one which should be specially rated. The rate properly to be assigned to Blackpool is that payable in respect of Class II. (1s. $1\frac{1}{2}d$. per hour). Issued 4th December, 1924. (1000.)

CIVIL ENGINEERING CONSTRUCTION-CLASSIFICATION-EASINGTON RESERVOIR CONTRACT—CONCILIATION BOARD WORKING RULE AGREEMENT.—The Public Works and Constructional Operatives' Lucion v. Messrs. Brims and Co., Ltd. Difference.—Claim for a higher classification of the Easington Reservoir Contract than that at present in operation, viz. : Class III. Decision.—The Easington Reservoir Contract is properly placed in Class III. Issued 8th December, 1924. (1001.)

FARRIERS AND BLACKSMITHS-WAGES-EDINBURGH DISTRICT.-The Amalgamated Society of Farriers and Blacksmiths v. The National Master Farriers and Blacksmiths' Association (Edinburgh National Master Farriers and Blacksmith's Association (Edinburgh Branch). Difference.—Claim for increase in hourly rate. Decision.— The rates of firemen and drivers be advanced $\frac{1}{2}d$. per hour from ls. 6d. and ls. $5\frac{1}{2}d$. per hour to ls. $6\frac{1}{2}d$. and ls. 6d. per hour respectively. Effective as from the beginning of the first full pay period on or after 24th November, 1924. Issued 20th December, 1924. (1002.)

DESPATCH WORKERS-AGREEMENT-CONSTRUCTION OF NORMAL WORKING WEEK-SUNDAX WORK.—The Transport and General Workers' Union v. Messrs. J. Lyons and Co., Ltd. Difference.—The application of Clause 2 of the Agreement dated 30th June, 1924, to a certain section of the Employees, viz.: Despatch workers, covered by such Agreement. Decision.—The Firm are not acting contrary to the terms of the Agreement in re-arranging their staff. so that, in the case of despatch workers, being day workers, Sunday forms parts of the 48-hour working week. Issued 20th December, 1924. (1003)

January, 1925.

[There were no cases under this heading during December.]

(C.)—OTHER SETTLEMENTS.

CIVIL ENGINEERING AND PUBLIC WORKS CONSTRUCTION: SOUTH WALES.—The Workers' Union v. J. M. Broadfoot, Public Works Contractor, Newport. Difference: Claim for Grade I Civil Engineer-ing Rates. Agreement: Certain operatives given special rates, but no departure made in general from Grade II Rates. Signed 29th November, 1924.

SHOP ASSISTANTS, WAREHOUSEMEN, ETC.: LONDON.—The Transport and General Workers' Union and the Amalgamated Union of Shop Assistants, Warehousemen and Clerks v. Messrs. Pearks Dairies, Limited, Bethnal Green Road, Bethnal Green. Difference: Discharge of a shop steward. Agreement: Firm to endeavour to find suitable employment elsewhere for the man discharged. Directors to investigate any future proposal to reduce staff. Agreed: 3rd December, 1924.

CARTERS: LIMEHOUSE.—The Transport and General Workers' Union v. Mr. J. J. Prior, Cartage Contractor, Limehouse. Difference: Two men discharged as a consequence of a disagreement as to what constituted a fair day's work. Agreement: Joint conference set up to determine a fair day's work based on the load system. Signed 2nd December, 1924.

CARTERS: SILVERTOWN.—The Transport and General Workers' Union v. Messrs. Heaslip and Company, Cartage Contractors, Silvertown. Difference: Dispute in connection with the operation of the London Road Transport Agreement. Agreement: Firm to operate the Agreement in its entirety as from the first full pay day in October, 1924. Agreed: 8th December, 1924.

SHIPBUILDING AND SHIP REPAIRING: BRIGHTLINGSEA.—The Boilermakers and Iron and Steel Shipbuilders' Society, and the Ship Constructors' and Shipwrights' Society v. Messrs. Aldous, Ltd., Shipbuilders and Ship Repairers, Brightlingsea. Difference: Refusal of firm to operate an Industrial Court Award involving a wares increase. Agreement: Certain increases granted and firm wages increase. Agreement: Certain increases granted and firm agreed to discuss the remainder of the Union's claim at a later date. Signed 9th December, 1924.

TRANSPORT WORKERS: NEWBRIDGE, MON.—The Transport and General Workers' Union v. Messrs. Lewis and James, Western Valleys Garage and Engineering Company, Newbridge, Mon. Difference: Dispute in connection with the setting up of a new wages agreement, the Employers having given notice to terminate the old one. Agreement: New agreement drawn up and signed by both parties. Signed 9th December, 1924.

TAXI-DRIVERS : EDINBURGH .- The Scottish Horse and Motormen's Association v. The Taxi Employers' Association. Difference : Claim for an increase in wages and a reduction in hours. Agreement : Wages increased and agreement arrived at in respect of meal-times and overtime. Signed 16th December, 1924.

WHOLESALE CLOTHIERS : HACKNEY.—The Tailors' and Garment Workers' Union v. Messrs. Polikoff, Wholesale Clothiers, Hackney, London, E. Difference : Refusal of employees to work with a non-unionist. Agreement : All productive workers to be members of the Tailors and Garment Workers' Union. Workers on the Executive Staff already members of this Union to remain so, but membership not to be enforced on administrative and clerical staff, provided no objection is raised to their organisation in appropriate Trade Unions. Agreed : 16th December, 1924.

ENGINEERS : IRVINE, SCOTLAND.-The Amalgamated Engineering ENGINEERS: IRVINE, SCOTLAND.—The Amaigamated Engineering Union v. Messrs. Robert Kerr and Sons, Limited, Irvine. Difference: Claim for night shift conditions in accordance with the National Agreement in order to comply with the Fair Wages Clause. Agreement: Claim conceded. Agreed: 17th December, 1924.

TRADE BOARDS ACTS.

Orders, Notices, etc., Issued During December.

I.-CONFIRMING ORDERS.

(a) Fur Trade Board (Great Britain).

Order Z. (17) and (18), dated 18th December, 1924, confirming certain general minimum piece-rates and confirming the variation of general minimum time-rates, piece-work basis time-rates, general minimum piece-rates and overtime rates for male and female workers and specifying 3rd January, 1925, as the date from which such rates and variations should become effective.

(b) Boot and Shoe Repairing Trade Board (Great Britain).

Order D. (28), dated 29th December, 1924, confirming certain order D. (28), dated 29th December, 1924, confirming certain general minimum piece-rates and the variation of overtime rates for male and female workers employed on work preparatory to rounding and channelling machines, for periods dependent upon the "Cost of Living" index figure, and specifying 12th January, 1925, as the date from which such rates should first become effective.

(c) Shirtmaking Trade Board (Northern Ireland).

Order N.I.S. (16), dated 15th December, 1924, confirming general minimum time-rates, a piece-work basis time-rate and general over-time rates as fixed for certain male workers and specifying the 1st January, 1925, as the date from which these rates become

Copies of the above-mentioned Orders containing details of the minimum rates in operation may be obtained from H.M. Stationery Office, price 3d. each.

II.—NOTICES OF PROPOSAL.

Linen and Cotton Embroidery Trade Board (Northern Ireland). Proposal N.I.E. (N. 19), dated 4th December, 1924, to fix piecework basis time-rates for female workers and to vary general minimum piece-rates for female workers engaged in certain operations.

III.-CHANGES IN MINIMUM RATES OF WAGES DUE TO AN ALTERATION IN THE "COST OF LIVING" FIGURE.

Higher wage rates have become operative as from 1st January, 1925, in the under-mentioned trades. The minimum rates of wages now applicable are those appropriate to the "Cost of Living" figure of 81, and are set out in the Confirming Orders quoted below, which may be obtained from H.M. Stationery Office, pri Brush and Broom (Great Britain).-M. (35), (36), and (37), Col. 8.

Paper Bag (Great Britain).—P. (10), Col. 7. Paper Box (Great Britain).—B. (11), Col. 2.

Perambulator and Invalid Carriage (Great Britain).—1. (14) and (15), Col. IV.

IV.-NOTICE OF INTENTION TO MAKE A SPECIAL ORDER.

Paper Box Trade (Great Britain).

The Minister of Labour has issued a notice of his intention to make a Special Order altering the description of the Paper Box Trade contained in paragraph 2 of the Schedule to the Trade Boards Act,

Copies of the Notice and draft Special Order, which contains as an appendix the revised description of the trade, together with an instructional circular which gives information as to the Minister's understanding of the scope of the Draft Order in its present form, may be obtained on application to the Secretary, Ministry of Labour, Montagu House, Whitehall, S.W. 1.

RECONSTITUTION OF THE STAMPED OR PRESSED METAL WARES TRADE BOARD.

Following the Trade Boards (Stamped or Pressed Metal Wares) Order, 1924 (S.R. & O., 1924, No. 832), which amended the definition of the trade and the issue of fresh Regulations (S. R. & O., 1924, No. 1485), the Stamped or Pressed Metal Wares Trade Board has now been reconstituted. Professor F. Tillyard and Mr. A. E. Harris, the Chairman and

Deputy Chairman respectively of the previous Board, have been re-appointed in a similar capacity, and Mrs. M. H. Pritchard has been appointed to be the woman Appointed Member. The repre-sentative members of the Board have been selected in consultation with employers and workers in the trade, and include a number of representatives who were members of the previous Board.

OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED

CENSUS.—Census, 1921: (1) Jersey, Guernsey and adjacentislands; (2) Isle of Man. (S.O. publications; price 4s. and 2s. 6d., respectively.)

FOOD PRICES.—Minutes of evidence taken before the Royal Com-mission on food prices, first four days. (S.O. publications; price 1s. 6d. each.)

MINING.—Statistical summary of output, and of the costs of produc-tion, proceeds and profits of the coal mining industry for the quarter ended 30th September, 1924. Board of Trade, Mines Department. (Cmd. 2308; price 1d.) (See page 6.)

OVERSEA SETTLEMENT.—British Oversea Settlement Delegation to OVERSEA SETTLEMENT.—Druss Oversea Settlement Delegation to Canada, 1924. Report to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, President of the Oversea Settlement Committee, from the Delegation appointed to obtain information regarding the system of child migration and settlement in Canada. (Cmd. 2285; price 6d.) (See page 6.)

POLICE STRIKE, 1919.—Report of the Committee appointed to enquire into the claims of the men dismissed from the police and prison services on account of the strike of 1919. Home Office. (Cmd. 2297; price 9d.) VITAL STATISTICS.—Registrar-General's statistical review of England and Wales for the year 1923. Tables, Part II. Civil. (New annual series, No. 3.) (S.O. publication; price 5s.)

WORKERS' LEISURE.—Texts adopted by a provisional vote of the International Labour Conference at its sixth session, 16th June-5th July, 1924. (Utilisation of workers' spare time.) (Cmd. 2292; price 6d.)

THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE.

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS.

LIST OF NEW CONTRACTS, DECEMBER, 1924.

ADMIRALTY

(Civil Engineer-in-Chief's Department.)

Pembroke: Cil Fuel Steel Tanks: The Tees Side Bridge & Engi-neering Works, Ltd., Middlesbrough.—Portsmouth: Glazed Bricks and Tiles: Scourse & Kingston, Ltd., Bedminster, Bristol.

(Contract and Purchase Department.)

Bags, Kit, Seamen's : H. J. Barr, Wivenhoe; Cranfield & Carter, Burnham-on-Crouch; Gowen & Co., West Mersea; J. T. Inglis & Sons, Ltd., Dundee.—Battery Gear: Chloride Electrical Storage Co., Ltd., Manchester; D. P. Battery Co., Ltd., Bakewell.—Beech Wedges: G. Randle & Son, Ltd., Bridgwater; J. Jones & Sons, Ltd., Larbert; East & Son, Ltd., Berkhamsted; C. R. Claridge, Exeter; J. D. Foster, Emsworth, Hants.—Cameras, Wide Angle Thornton Picard Mfg. Co., Ltd., Altrincham.—Cases, Suit (Canvas): Frenchs, Ltd., London, E.C.—Casks, Trade: W. Ryan & Co., Frenchs, Ltd., London, E.C.—Casks, Trade : W. Ryan & Co., London, E.—Cells, Inert : Edison Swan Electric Co., Ltd., Ponder's End, Middlesex.—Cells, Secondary : London Battery & Cable Co., Ltd., London, E.—Cleats and Eyeplates, Stamped Steel : Carron Company, Falkirk; R. Heath & Low Moor, Ltd., Bradford; Vaughan Bros., Willenhall.—Compasses, Aircraft : Kelvin, Bottomley & Baird, Ltd., London, S.E.; Henry Hughes & Son, Ltd., London, E.C.; Dent & Co. & Johnson, Ltd., Paisley.—Condensers, Vane Units for : Sparklets, Ltd., London, N.—Cranes, Electric Travelling, Jib : Sir W. Arrol & Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—Flannel : John Sandiford & Sons, Rochdale.—Flour : Wingent & Kimmins, Ltd., Chatham; W. Vernon & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.; J. White & Sons (Glasgow), Ltd., Glasgow; Spillers & Bakers, Ltd., Bristol.—Fuses : Wholesale Electrical Co. (1922). Ltd., Weybridge.—Generating Set, Diesel. Electrical Co. (1922), Ltd., Weybridge.—Generating Set, Diesel, erection of : Vickers, Ltd., Barrow-in-Furness.—Hoists and Control erection of : Vickers, Ltd., Barrow-in-Furness.—Hoists and Control Valves; Hoists, Mast raising : MacTaggart, Scott & Co., Ltd., Edinburgh.—Lamps, Electric : General Electric Co., Ltd., London, W.; Edison Swan Electric Co., Ltd., Ponders End, Middlesex; Metro-Vick Supplies, Ltd., Brimsdown; Siemens & English Electric Lamp Co., Ltd., Preston; British Thomson-Houston Co., Ltd., Rugby.—Lockers : G. A. Harvey & Co., (London), Ltd., London, S.E.—Machines, Universal Milling : Cunlifie & Croom, Ltd., Man-chester.—Machines, Universal Grinding : Churchill Machine Tool Co., Ltd., Manchester.—Machines, Radial Drilling : W. Muir & Co., Ltd., Manchester.—Meat, etc., Rations : C. & T. Harris (Calne), Ltd., Wiltshire.—Motor Generators and Spares : Small Electric Motors, Ltd., Beckenham, Kent; Newton Bros. (Derby), Ltd., Derby.— Ltd., Beckenham, Kent; Newton Bros. (Derby), Ltd., Derby.-Motor Generator, Switchgear and Spares: W. Canning & Co Birmingham.—Motors, Regulators and Switches : Bulpitt & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham.—Motors, Control Gear and Spares : Veritys, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Oak Blocks**: C. R. Claridge, Exeter; J. S. Elliott & Sons, Cranleigh; H. Longley & Sons, East Grinstead; J. Stenning & Son, Ltd., East Grinstead; E. C. White & Son, Ltd., Basingstoke.—**Otters, Kite**: Vosper & Co., Ltd., Portsmouth. —**Pickles:** C. & E. Morton, Ltd., London, E.C.; J. Stephens, Son & Co., Ltd., Gloucester.—**Plant, Oxygen Producing**: G. & J. Son & Co., Ltd., Gloucester.—Plant, Doxygen Producing : G. & J. Weir, Ltd., Glasgow.—Strews and Slips : Douglass Bros., Ltd., Blaydon-on-Tyne; Ruston & Hornsby, Ltd., Grantham.—Strews, Mooring : Brown, Lenox & Co., Ltd., Pontypridd.—Serge, Blue : Henry Booth & Sons, Gildersome; The Co-operative Wholesale Society, Ltd., Buckfastleigh; Wm. Edleston, Ltd., Sowerby Bridge; J. W. Whitworth, Ltd., Luddenden Foot, Yorks.—Shafting, Rolled Steel : Talbot Stead Tube Co., Ltd., Walsall.—Socks, Thin : A. E. Hill (Wigston), Ltd., Leicester; F. Main, Leicester; I. & R. Morley, Leicester; S. D. Stretton & Sons, Ltd., Leicester.—Spoons, Nickel Silver : Cooper, Bros. & Sons, Ltd., Sheffield; Mappin & Webb, Ltd., Sheffield; T. Wilkinson & Sons, Birmingham.—Steel Plates : W. Beardmore & Co., Ltd., Rotherham; Port Talbot Steel Co., Ltd., Port Talbot; Steel Co. of Scotland, Ltd., Glasgow.—Steel, Tool, H.S. : Armstrong, Whitworth & Co., Ltd., Openshaw; T. Andrews Port Talbot; Steel Co. of Scotland, Ltd., Glasgow.—Steel, Tool, H.S.: Armstrong, Whitworth & Co., Ltd., Openshaw; T. Andrews & Co., Ltd., Sheffield; J. H. Andrew & Co., Ltd., Sheffield; T. Firth & Sons, Ltd., Sheffield; W. Oxley & Co., Ltd., Rother-ham; H. Russell & Co., Ltd., Sheffield.—Steel Wire Hawsers (fitted): Edwin Ellis & Co., Ltd., Sheffield.—Steel Wire Hawsers (fitted): Edwin Ellis & Co., Ltd., London, E.; Haggie Bros., Ltd., Gateshead-on-Tyne.—Steel Wire Line and Strand: Edwin Ellis & Co., Ltd., London, E.—Steel Wire Rope: Edwin Ellis & Co., Ltd., London, E.; Excelsior Wire Rope Co., Ltd., Cardiff; Bulli-vant & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; R. Hood, Haggie & Son, Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne; Whitecross Co., Ltd., Warrington.—Steckings, Thin: A. E. Hill (Wigston), Ltd., Leicester; W. & H. Howe, Leicester; Arthur Kemp, Leicester; I. & R. Morley, Leicester.— Theodolites: E. R. Watts & Son, Ltd., London, S.E.—Tin foil : G. Johnson & Co. (Birmingham), Ltd., Birmingham.—Transformer Theodolites: E. R. Watts & Son, Ltd., London, S.E.—Tin foil: G. Johnson & Co. (Birmingham), Ltd., Birmingham.—Transformer Plant: General Electric Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—Varnishes, etc.: Blundell, Spence & Co., Ltd., Hull; Colthurst & Harding, Ltd., Bristol; Gross, Sherwood & Heald, Ltd., Barking; W. S. Jenkins & Co., London, N.W.; Jenson & Nicholson (1924), Ltd., London, E.; C. Orme & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; Paripan, Ltd., London, W.; Sissons Bros. & Co., Ltd., Hull; John Smith & Sons (Halt-whistle), Ltd., Haltwhistle; C. W. Waters, Ltd., London, E.C.; L. G. Wilkinson, Ltd., London, E.C.; S. Wills & Co., Ltd., Bristol. —Vests, Summer: J. B. Lewis & Sons, Ltd., Nottingham; Voice Pipes and Fittings: Interlock Metal Hose Co., London, N.; Power Flexible Tubing Co., Ltd., London, N.; United Flexible Metallic Tubing Co., Ltd., Ponder's End, Middlesex.—W/T Amplifiers: H. W. Sullivan, Ltd., London, E.C.—W/T Apparatus: Marconi's W/T Co., Ltd., Chelmsford.—Zinc Slabs & Sheets : London Zinc Mills, Ltd., London, N.; G. A. Harvey & Co. (London), Ltd., London, S.E.

WAR OFFICE.

Alcohol: Hammersmith Distillery Co., Ltd., Hammersmith.— Aluminium Ingot: The British Aluminium Co., Ltd., Warrington.— Bedford Cord: J. Bower & Sons, Ltd., Holmfirth; Glendenning Bros., Ltd., Huddersfield; Taylor & Littlewood, Ltd., Hudders-field; Whiteley & Green, Ltd., Holmbridge.—Buckets, Latrine: Sargeant, Turner & Sons, Stourbridge.—Canvas, Packing: Craiks, Ltd., Forfar.—Caps, Service Dress: L. Silberston, London, E.C.— Gars, Touring: A. E. Gould, Ltd., London, W.—Chassis, Motor: Guy Motors Ltd. Walvarbamnton — Chassis 30 cmt : Karrier Motors Motors, Ltd., Wolverhampton.—Chassis, 30 cwt.: Karrier Motors, Ltd., Huddersfield; J. I. Thornycroft & Co., Ltd., Basingstoke.— Cloth, Blue: A. W. Hainsworth & Sons, Ltd., Farsley, Yorks; J. Hainsworth & Sons, Farsley, Yorks.—Collars, Breast: Barrow, Hepburn & Gale, Ltd., London, S.E.—Copper Sheet (various sizes): British Insulated & Helsby Cables, Ltd., Prescot.—Cotton, Brown, Mercerised: Central Agency, Ltd., Paisley.—Drawers, Cotton: G. Braund, Ltd., Loughborough; I. & R. Morley, Nottingham.— Drill, Brown: Fothergill & Harvey, Ltd., Littleborough, Lancs.--Drill, Drab: Ashton Bros. & Co., Ltd., Hyde, Cheshire; Fothergill Drad: Asnton Bros. & Co., Ltd., Hyde, Cheshne; Fothergin & Harvey, Ltd., Littleborough, Lancs.—Fearnought: L. Harwood & Co., Ltd., Luddenfoot, Yorks.—Generating Sets: W. H. Dorman & Co., Ltd., Stafford; Ruston & Hornsby, Ltd., Lincoln.—Generating Set, Turbine: Greenwood & Batley, Ltd., Leeds.—Hydrants, Fire: Ham, Baker & Co., Ltd., Langley Green.—Iron, Pig: Ebbw Vale Steel, Iron, & Coal Co. Ltd., Ebbw Vale.—Jackets, Orgins Drate, Airdola Chethergin Control and Control and P. Braver & Steel, S Service Dress: Airedale Clothing Co., Ltd., Leeds; R. B. Brown & Sons, Leeds; T. H. Crombie & Co., Glasgow; Dixon & Gaunt, Ltd., Leeds; L. Fox, Leeds; Jacques Bros., Ltd., Northampton; Limerick Clothing Factory, Ltd., Limerick; L. Silberston, London, L.C.; Stones, Clothiers, Manchester; Sim Rose & Son, Leeds.— Jackets and Trousers, Overall: D. Gurteen & Sons, Haverhill; E. Greenwood & Co., Hebden Bridge.—Metal Rod: Thomas Bolton & Sons, Ltd, Froghall.—Milliometers: Elliot Bros., Ltd., London.— Motor Cycles: Triumph Cycle Co., Ltd., Coventry.-Nickel: Hard Nickel Co., Ltd., South Wales.-Oil, Pan: Sternes, Ltd., London E.C.—Plates, Dinner, G.S.: Myott, Son & Co., Cobridge, Hanley, Staffs.—Pneumatic Covers and Inner Tubes: Dunlop Rubber Co., Kalway conversion Sets and Spares for 3-CWL vans: F. Ineakston, Ltd., London.—Roofing Composition: Industrial Engineering, Ltd., London.—Serge, Service Dress: H. Booth & Sons, Gildersome; A. W. Hainsworth & Son, Ltd., Farsley; J. Watkinson & Sons, Ltd., Holmfirth.—Shoes, Highland: W. Nichols & Son, Kettering.— Soft Soap: Peter Lunt & Co., Liverpool.—Steel Bars (Rounds, Squares and Flats): Park Gate Iron & Steel Co., Ltd., Rotherham.— Squares and Flats): Fark Gate Iron & Steel Co., Ltd., Rotherman.— Steel Guttering, Ridging, R.W. Piping and Fittings: G. A. Harvey, & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; Steel, Round: Cammell Laird & Co., Ltd., Sheffield; Vickers, Ltd., Sheffield.—Steel Castings: Edgar Allen & Co., Ltd., Sheffield.—Steel Sheets, Corrugated (Various): Allen & Co., Ltd., Sheffield.—Steel Sheets, Corrugated (Various): Burnell & Co., Ltd., Ellesmere Port.—Stoves, Oil: Rippingilles Albion Lamp Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—Strappings, Leather: H. Gibbs & Son, London, E.C.; R. & J. Pullman, Ltd., Godalming.— Tartan, Highland: D. Ballantyne Bros. & Co., Peebles.—Thread, Machine: H. Campbell & Co., Ltd., Belfast; Lindsay, Thompson & Co., Ltd., Belfast; W. Milner & Sons, Ltd., Leek; Hugh Sleigh & Co., Leek.—Tin Ingot: Williams, Harvey & Co., Ltd., Bootle.— Tarcane Econy wheel Drive: L. Thomyaroft & Co. Ltd. Basing. & Co., Leek.—Tin Ingot: Williams, Harvey & Co., Ltd., Bootle.— Tractors, Four-wheel Drive: J. I. Thornycroft & Co., Ltd., Basing-stoke.—Tweed, Blue: H. Booth & Sons, Gildersome, Yorks; Colbeck Bros., Ltd., Wakefield.—Wire, Bronze: Thomas Bolton & Sons, Ltd., Froghall.—Works Services: Building Works at: Dover— Barrack Blocks: The Ashford Builders Co., Ltd., London, W.C. Okehampton—Cookhouse: W. J. Avery, Okehampton. Dover— Connaught Barracks: T. T. Denne, Walmer, Kent. Woolwich: J. B. Edwards & Co., Whyteleafe, Surrey. Bedford Barracks, Construction of Recreation Ground: M. M. Hart, Glasgow. Stan-hope Lines—Buller Barracks, Bath and Boiler House: Geo. Kemp, Stroud & Co., Ltd., Aldershot. Lancaster—Bowerham Barracks. Stroud & Co., Ltd., Aldershot. Lancaster—Bowerham Barracks, alterations to Officers' Quarters: J. Parkinson & Sons, Lancaster. Chelsea Regimental Institute: Lole & Co., London, S.W., Deptford : John Marsland & Sons, Ltd., London, W. Grain Fort, Deptiord: John Marsland & Sons, Ltd., London, W. Grain Fort, Isle of Grain, Kent—Covering Roofs with Asphalt: Permanite, Ltd., London, E. Glasgow, Maryhill Barracks—Regrading and resurfacing Parade Ground: A. F. Reid & Co., Glasgow. Lich-field—Whittington Barracks, Repair to Roads: W. Sharp & Sons, Burton-on-Trent. Beverley—Depot Barracks, Erection of Dining Hall: J. Taylor & Co., Hull. Didcot: A. & S. Wheater (London), Ltd. London, W.C. Korsinger, Deverley, Guerrack, Guerrack, Guerrack, Guerrack, Co., Hull. Ltd., London, W.C. Kensington Barracks-Conversion of Cook-house: White & Johnson, London, S.W. Burscough Depot: J. Whittle, Ormskirk. Maintenance Works: Mill Hill Area: J. Whittle, Ormskirk. Maintenance Works: Mill Hill Area: W. Downs, Ltd., London, S.E. Didcot-Supplying and Fixing of Fittings: T. G. Fincher, Stratford-on-Avon. Omagh: Jas. McGrath, Omagh. Chester: J. Pennington & Co. and Inchley & Co., Bowdon, Cheshire.—Painting: Glencorse Barracks, A. Hutton & Son, Edinburgh.—Installations: Derby—Normanton Barracks, Electric Lighting: The Brightside Foundry Co., Ltd., London, S.E. Leicester—Glen Parva Barracks, Electric Lighting: John Collier & Co., Ltd., Manchester. Old Granby Barracks and Married Oracitan et Elbeinstena and Lambhar, Hill. W. L. Corse & Co. Quarters at Elphinstone and Lambhay Hill: W. J. Corse & Co., Plymouth. Lincoln—Depot Barracks, Electric Lighting: A. Higgin-botham & Sons, Bradford.

ATR MINISTRY.

Accumulators : Chloride Electrical Storage Co., Ltd., London, W.C.-Aircraft : Fairey Aviation Co., Ltd., Hayes, Middlesex; Armstrong Whitworth Aircraft, Ltd., Coventry; A. V. Roe & Co., Ltd., Manchester; Short Bros., Ltd., Rochester.-Aircraft, Master Tracings Manchester; Shört Bros, Ltd., Kochester.—Aircraft, Mäster Tracings of: Fairey Aviation Co., Ltd., Hayes, Middlesex.—Aircraft, Reconditioning of: A. V. Roe & Co., Ltd., Manchester; H. G. Hawker Engineering Co., Ltd., Kingston-on-Thames.—Aircraft Spares : Fairey Aviation Co., Ltd., Kingston-on-Thames.—Aircraft Works, Yeovil; Blackburn Aeroplane & Motor Co., Ltd., Leeds; H. G. Hawker Engineering Co., Ltd., Kingston-on-Thames; Vickers, Ltd., London, S.W.; De Havilland Aircraft Co., Ltd., Leeds; H. G. Hawker Engineering Co., Ltd., Kingston-on-Thames; Vickers, Ltd., London, S.W.; De Havilland Aircraft Co., Ltd., Leddyware, Middlesex.—Airscrews and Cases : D. M. Davies, London, N.—Birscrews, Blades and Hubs : Metal Airscrew Co., Ltd., London, W.C.—Buildings and Works Services : Bricks, Facing (Halton): L. B. Faulkner, Leighton Buzzard. Heating and Hot Water Supply (Farnborough): Heywood & Bryett, London, S.E. Lockers, Steel (Cranwell): G. A. Harvey & Co. (London), Ltd., London, S.E. Married Quarters (W. & B. Staff) (Upper Heyford): McCarthy E. Fitt., Reading. Re-roofing Shed (Henlow): Fredk. Braby & Co., Ltd., London, N.W. Reservoirs (Bircham Newton, Sealand, Harlescott and Netheravon): L. T. Speight, Ltd., London, W.C. Reservoirs (Worthy Down): Wilson, Lovatt & Sons, Ltd., Wolverhampton. Siek Quarters and Guard House (Catterick): J. Laing & Son, Ltd., London, W.C.—Carriers, Bomb : G. A. Harvey & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—Coal : Dinham, Fawcus & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—Containers, Baby Bornb : Trojan, Ltd., Croydon.—Crankcase, Repair of : Peter Hooker, Ltd., London, K..—Cylinders, Oxygen : Sir W. G. Armstrong, Whitworth & Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—Crankcase, Kepair of : Rolls Royce, Ltd., London, S.W.—Engines, Aircraft : Rolls Royce, Ltd., Derby; D. Napier & Son, Ltd., London, S.W.—Engines, Aircraft : Rolls Royce, Ltd., Derby, D. Napier & Son, Ltd., London, W.:—Engines, Aircraft ; McGruer Hollow Spar Co., London, K..—Heyses, Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—Engines, Aircraft ; McGruer Hollow Spar Co., London, K.:—Mestende of: Fairey Aviation Co., Ltd., Hayes, Middlesex.—Aircraft, Re-conditioning of: A. V. Roe & Co., Ltd., Manchester; H. G. Hawker canvas: The Wm. Rose Hose Co., Ltd., Manchester.—Plywood: Borst Bros., London, E.; Vickers, Ltd., London, S.W.—Rope, Steel Wire: Edwin Ellis & Co., Ltd., Millwall, E.; Wilkins Wire & Wire Ropes, Ltd., Eastwood, Nottingham.—Shields, Distributor: British Thom-son-Houston Co., Ltd., Coventry.—Sights, Gun: Mackie & Co., London.—Slips, Bomb : Monarch Engineering Co., London, S.E.— Slips, Release : W. W. Greener, Ltd., Birmingham.—Timber, Imported Swedish : Denny, Mott & Dickson, Ltd., London, E.C.— Tyres, Wheels, Shields, etc : Palmer Tyres, Ltd., Shaftesbury Avenue, W.C.—Valves, W/T : Mullard Radio Valve Co., Ltd., London, S.W.; General Electric Co., Ltd., London, W.C.—Varnish, Shellac : Naylor Bros. (London), Ltd., Slough.—Voltmeters : Ernest Turner, High Wycombe, Bucks.—Wheels, Shields, Tyres, etc.: Palmer Tyres, Ltd., London, W.C. Palmer Tyres, Ltd., London, W.C.

POST OFFICE.

POST OFFICE. Apparatus, Telephonic : Automatic Telephone Manufacturing Co., Itd., Liverpool; British L.M. Ericsson Mfg. Co., Itd., Beeston, Notts; General Electric Co., Itd., Coventry; Siemens Bros. & Co., Itd., London, S.E.; Sterling Telephone & Electric Co., Itd., Dagenham, Essex; Western Electric Co., Itd., London, E.— Apparatus, Testing: Power Equipment Co., Itd., London, N.W.; Siemens Bros. & Co., Itd., London, S.E.; H. W. Sullivan, Itd., London, E.C.; Walters Electrical Mfg. Co., Itd., London, W.; Western Electric Co., Itd., London, E.—Baskets : W. H. Sharp & Sons, Pudsey.—Blocks, Wood : A. Bailey, Stone, Staffs.—Cable, Various : Connollys (Blackley), Itd., Blackley; Enfield Cable Works, Itd., Brimsdown, Middlesex; W. T. Glover & Co., Itd., Trafford Park, Manchester; W. T. Henleys Telegraph Works Co., Itd., Gravesend; Union Cable Co., Itd., Dagenham, Essex; Western Electric Co., Itd., London, E.—Canvas, Brown : Baxter Bros. & Co., Itd., Dundee; Lamb & Scott, Itd., Brechin; Richards, Itd., Aberdeen.—Castings, Joint Box : Ladywood Iron Works, Itd., Aberdeen.—Castings, Joint Box : Ladywood Iron Works, Ltd., Lutterworth.—Coils, Loading : General Electric Co., Ltd., Salford; Western Electric Co., Ltd., London, E.—Combinations, Motor Cycle : B.S.A. Cycles, Ltd., Birmingham and Redditch.—Covers, Western Electric Co., Bdd., Birmingham and Redditch.—Covers, Motor Car & Motor Cycle : Dunlop Rubber Co., Ltd., Birmingham. —Handcarts : E. Benton & Co. (Nottingham), Ltd., Nottingham; W. Goodyear & Sons, Ltd., Dudley.—Insulators : Bullers, Ltd., Hanley and Milton; Doulton & Co., Ltd., Burslem.—Kiosks, Con-crete : D. G. Somerville & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—Lorry, Motor : Maudsley Motor Co., Ltd., Coventry.—Sleeves, Lead : Locke, Blackett & Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne.—Stayblocks : Burt, Boulton & Haywood, Ltd., Newport; Gabriel, Wade & English, Ltd., Staddlethorpe.—Troughing: Calders, Ltd., Rotherhithe.— Vans, Motor : W. H. Perry, London, N.—Wire, Bronze : T. Bolton & Sons, Ltd., Oakamoor; British Insulated & Helsby Cables, Ltd., Prescot; R. Johnson & Nephew, Ltd., Beswick; Shropshire Iron Co., Ltd., Hadley; F. Smith & Co., incorporated in the London Electric Wire Co. & Smiths, Ltd., Manchester.—Wire, Copper : T. Bolton & Sons, Ltd., Oakamoor; British Insulated & Helsby Cables, Ltd., Prescot; Elliotts Metal Co., Ltd., Selly Oak; Enfield Cables, Ltd., Prescot; Elliotts Metal Co., Ltd., Selly Oak; Enfield Cables Works, Ltd., Brimsdown; Richard Johnson & Nephew, Ltd., Beswick; Johnson, Clapham & Morris, Ltd., Manchester; Pirelli General Cable Works, Ltd., Eastleigh, Hants; Shropshire Iron Co., Ltd., Hadley; F. Smith & Co., incorporated in the London Electric Wire Co. & Smiths, Ltd., Manchester; John Wilkes, Sons, & Mapplebeck, Ltd., Birmingham.—Wire, Flameproof: Macintosh Cable Co. Ltd. Derby Cable Co., Ltd., Derby.

 LABOUR GAZETTE.
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 Id. Manchester.—Paper of Various Descriptions: J. Baldwin & Sons, Ltd., King's Norton; J. Brown & Co., Ltd., Peniouk; H. Bruce & Sons, Ltd., Currie; Caldwells Paper Mills Co., Ltd., Inversekithing; R. Craig & Sons, Ltd., Caldecruix; J. Cropper & Co., Ltd., Kendal; Culter Mills Paper Co., Ltd., Peteroulter; Ellams Duplicator Co., Ltd., Bushey; Ford Paper Works (1223), Ltd., Hyton; Golden Valley Paper Mills, Bitton; Hollingworth & Co., Maidstone; Inversek Paper Co., Ltd., Musselburgh; Jping Paper Mills, Ltd., Iping; Samuel Jones & Co., Ltd., London, S.E., W. Joynson & Son, St. Mary Cray; London Paper Mills Co., Ltd., Dartford; William Nash, Ltd., St. Pauls Cray; National Paper & Pulp Co., Ltd., High Wyconbe; Olive & Partington, Ltd., Manchester and Glossop; Portals, Ltd., Irybridge; Sanitas Co., Ltd., London, E., Star Paper Mill Co. (1220), Ltd., Feniscowles; Thomas & Green, Ltd., Wooburn Green; Ulverston Paper Co., Ltd., Ulverston.—Paste : J. Soott Mfg. Co., London, E., Penelis; British Pens, Ltd., Koswick; Royal Sovereign Penel Co., Ltd., Hondon, N.W.—Pins, Drawing : Setten & Durvard, Ltd., Hockley.—Portfolios; Drake, Driver & Leaver, Ltd., London, E.C.—Printing, Ruling and Binding, etc. : Contracts for:—Group 16 (1925), Northern Ireland—Bills, Acts and S.R.O's: R. Carswell & Son, Ltd., Belfats. Group 59 (1925), The Ministry of Labour Gazette: Eyre & Spottiswoode, Ltd., London, E.C. Group 16 (1925), Soard of Trade-Moires to Mariners: H.M. Stationery Office Press, London, E., Group 15 (1925), Northern Ireland-Miscellaneous Bookwork No. 3: McCaw, Stevenson & Orr, Ltd., Belfats. Group 59 (1925), The Ministry, Clyze and Grath. C., Vernon & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C. Bdg. 20000 Artillery Training, Vol. I. 1924; Bdg. 1,910 Telephone Directory, Vd. Kd., Beifats, Group 50 (1925), The Board of Trade Journal and Commercial, Gazette: Wyman & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C. Bdg. 20000 Post Office Guide, January, 1925: J. Adams, Marcel Cable Co., Ltd., Derby.
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