

THE CANE AND WICKER FURNITURE AND BASKETWARE TRADE

INTRODUCTORY

This trade comprises private firms that were engaged wholly or mainly in the manufacture of cane and wicker furniture and baskets. Philanthropic institutions that produced basketware were not required to make returns.

As quantitative particulars of output and oversea trade were not recorded, Table VI relating to average values is not included for this trade.

Table I A.—General summary

| Particulars | 1935 | 1930 | 1924 |
|--|-------|-------|-------|
| | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 |
| Value of products (Gross output) | 977 | 806 | 583 |
| Cost of materials, fuel and electricity used ... | 424 | 348 | 225 |
| Amount paid for work given out | 1 | 1 | — |
| Net output | 552 | 457 | 358 |
| | No. | No. | No. |
| Average number of persons employed (excluding outworkers) | 3,268 | 2,800 | 2,324 |
| | £ | £ | £ |
| Net output per person employed (excluding outworkers) | 169 | 163 | 154 |
| | No. | No. | No. |
| Number of returns | 63 | 59 | 68 |
| Number of establishments | 63 | 70 | * |

* Not available.

Table I B.—Firms employing not more than ten persons on the average

| Particulars | 1935 | 1930 | 1924 |
|---|-------|------|-------|
| | No. | No. | No. |
| Number of returns received | 331 | 230 | 306 |
| Average number of persons employed:— | | | |
| Males | 1,467 | 833 | 1,058 |
| Females | 125 | 67 | 109 |
| TOTAL | 1,592 | 900 | 1,167 |
| Number of firms not making returns | — | 13 | 180 |

In 1924 the value of the gross output of the small firms making returns was 30.3 per cent. of the total, the principal classes of goods affected being:—

| Output | Value | Proportion of total |
|--|-------|---------------------|
| | £'000 | Per cent. |
| Furniture of basketware and imitation basketware... .. | 37 | 11.7 |
| Baskets of all kinds | 177 | 33.0 |
| Cane parts for baskets, etc. | 2 | 12.5 |
| Other goods made | 3 | 13.6 |
| Repair work and work done for the trade | 34* | 52.3 |
| Total | 253 | 30.3 |

* Amount received.

Table II.—Size of establishments in 1935

| Size of establishment (average number employed) | Number of establishments | Gross output | Net output | Number of persons employed (excluding outworkers) | Net output per person employed |
|---|--------------------------|--------------|------------|---|--------------------------------|
| | No. | £'000 | £'000 | No. | £ |
| 11—24... .. | 28 | 103 | 58 | 471 | 124 |
| 25—49... .. | 19 | 161 | 95 | 625 | 152 |
| 50—99... .. | 12 | 227 | 124 | 898 | 138 |
| 100—999... .. | 4 | 486 | 275 | 1,274 | 216 |
| TOTAL | 63 | 977 | 552 | 3,268 | 169 |

Table III.—Particulars of output, etc., in each of the principal areas of the United Kingdom

| Area* | Number of establishments† | Gross output | Net output | Number of persons employed (excluding out-workers) | Net output per person employed | |
|-----------------|---------------------------|--------------|------------|--|--------------------------------|-----|
| | | | | | | No. |
| 1 ... | 1935 | 12 | 524 | 298 | 1,207 | 247 |
| | 1930 | 13 | 340 | 191 | 810 | 236 |
| 2 ... | 1935 | 12 | 86 | 46 | 427 | 108 |
| | 1930 | 7 | 66 | 38 | 298 | 127 |
| 6 and 7 ... | 1935 | 13 | 102 | 59 | 369 | 159 |
| 8 ... | 1935 | 5 | 40 | 24 | 189 | 127 |
| 9 ... | 1935 | 9 | 109 | 52 | 377 | 138 |
| 10 ... | 1935 | 5 | 40 | 25 | 256 | 99 |
| 6 to 10 ... | 1935 | 32 | 291 | 160 | 1,191 | 134 |
| | 1930 | 33 | 320 | 188 | 1,350 | 139 |
| Other areas ... | 1935 | 7 | 76 | 48 | 443 | 108 |
| | 1930 | 6 | 80 | 40 | 342 | 119 |
| TOTAL ... | 1935 | 63 | 977 | 552 | 3,268 | 169 |
| | 1930 | 59 | 806 | 457 | 2,800 | 163 |

* For particulars see page xviii.

† Number of returns for 1930.

Table IV.—No sub-divisions of this trade have been distinguished.

PRODUCTION

Table V.—Output of principal products

| Kind of output | 1935 | | 1930 |
|---|-------|---------|-------|
| | Value | Entries | Value |
| Furniture of basketware ... | £'000 | No. | £'000 |
| Furniture of imitation basketware ... | 62 | 27 | 438* |
| Baskets, manufactured wholly or partly of willow, cane or wicker (including hampers, skips, etc.):— | 434 | 19 | |
| Fitted, including cost of fittings ... | 97 | 29 | 308 |
| Not fitted ... | 104 | 27 | |
| Other descriptions of basketware (including punnets, etc.) ... | 189† | 27 | |
| Basket and wicker work, unclassified ... | — | — | 48† |
| Repairs to basketware, etc. ... | 10‡ | 13 | 11‡ |
| TOTAL—PRINCIPAL PRODUCTS ... | 896 | ... | 805 |

* Described as "Bamboo and wicker furniture."

† Including cane parts and prepared willows.

‡ Amount received.

The figures shown in the preceding table include the following output recorded by firms whose returns were made on schedules for other trades and are not, therefore, included in Table I A.

| Kind of output | 1935 | | 1930 |
|---|-------|---------|-------|
| | Value | Entries | Value |
| Furniture of basketware and imitation basketware | £'000 | No. | £'000 |
| Baskets, manufactured wholly or partly of willow, cane or wicker (including hampers, skips, etc.):— | — | — | 7 |
| Fitted, including cost of fittings ... | 3 | 3 | 48 |
| Not fitted ... | 47 | 4 | |
| Other descriptions of basketware (including punnets, etc.) ... | 42 | 8 | 4* |
| Repairs to basketware, etc. ... | 1* | 1 | |
| TOTAL ... | 93 | ... | 59 |

* Amount received.

Table VII.—Volume of Production, 1924-1935

| Output | 1924 | 1930 | 1935 |
|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Value of output as returned ... | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 |
| Estimated value at 1935 prices* ... | 683 | 805 | 896 |
| | 550 | 750 | 896 |
| Volume of production as a percentage of 1935 ... | Per cent. | Per cent. | Per cent. |
| | 61 | 84 | 100 |

* In the absence of particulars of quantities, these estimates are based on prices of materials used and other manufacturing costs.

Table VIII.—Exports and Imports

| Kind of goods | Exports (f.o.b.) | | Retained imports (c.i.f.) | |
|---|------------------|-------|---------------------------|-------|
| | 1935 | 1930 | 1935 | 1930 |
| Baskets and basketware:— | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 |
| Furniture ... | 6 | 7 | 5 | 15 |
| Baskets, manufactured wholly or in part of willow, cane or wicker ... | 5 | 13. | 184 | 400 |
| Other descriptions ... | 4 | | | |

Owing to the exclusion of philanthropic institutions, and of firms employing not more than ten persons on the average, the production figures are not sufficiently complete to justify comparison with those of oversea trade.

Table IX.—Other output of the Cane and Wicker Furniture and Basketware Trade

The value of the gross output of the firms whose returns were made on schedules for the Cane and Wicker Furniture, etc., Trade was £977,000 in 1935 and £806,000 in 1930, of which £803,000 in 1935 and £746,000 in 1930 consisted of products included in Table V. Particulars of the remaining items are shown below.

| Kind of output | 1935 | 1930 |
|-------------------------------|-------|-------|
| Furniture and cabinetware ... | £'000 | £'000 |
| Other goods ... | 146 | 54 |
| | 28 | 6 |
| TOTAL ... | 174 | 60 |

MATERIALS AND FUEL

Table X A.—Materials, fuel and electricity purchased and used

| Kind of materials, etc. | 1935 | | 1930 |
|---|--------------------------|-------|-------|
| | Quantity | Cost | Cost |
| | Th. tons | £'000 | £'000 |
| Fuel and electricity used for all purposes :— | | | |
| Coal | 1.5 | 2 | 34.8 |
| Coke | 0.3 | * | |
| Heavy fuel oil | 15 | * | |
| | Th. B.T.U. (Kw.-hrs.) | | |
| Purchased electricity† | 839 | 4 | |
| All purchased materials and other fuel | | 41.8 | |
| TOTAL | | 424 | 34.8 |

* Less than £500.

† Including electricity generated in other works under the same ownership.

Table X B.—Consumption of coal, coke and electricity

| Kind of fuel | 1935 | 1930 |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| | Th. tons | Th. tons |
| Coal | 1.5 | 1.2 |
| Coke | 0.3 | 0.2 |
| | Th. B.T.U. (Kw.-hrs.) | Th. B.T.U. (Kw.-hrs.) |
| Electricity :— | | |
| Generated in same works | 70 | 10 |
| Generated in other works under same ownership | 84 | — |
| Purchased | 755 | 405 |
| Total electricity consumed | 909 | 415 |

EMPLOYMENT

Table XI A.—Average numbers employed

| Persons employed | Males | | Females | | Total | |
|--|--|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| | Under 18 | All ages | Under 18 | All ages | Under 18 | All ages |
| | Operatives (average for the year) | 306 | 1,748 | 380 | 1,114 | 686 |
| Administrative, technical and clerical staff* | 225 | 1,497 | 401 | 1,016 | 626 | 2,513 |
| | 19 | 289 | 26 | 117 | 45 | 406 |
| | 8 | 192 | 11 | 95 | 19 | 287 |
| TOTAL | 325 | 2,037 | 406 | 1,231 | 731 | 3,268 |
| | 233 | 1,689 | 412 | 1,111 | 645 | 2,800 |
| Average number of outworkers | 14 | | 9 | | 23 | |
| | 18 | | 23 | | 41 | |

* As at 12th October, 1935, and 18th October, 1930.

Table XI B.—Operatives employed in one week in each month of 1930 and 1935 by firms furnishing returns in respect of the twelve months ended December

| Mid week of* | Operatives employed | | Monthly index† | |
|---|---------------------|-------|----------------|-------|
| | 1930 | 1935 | 1930 | 1935 |
| January | 1,629 | 1,987 | 81.4 | 102.7 |
| February | 1,678 | 1,967 | 83.8 | 101.7 |
| March | 1,695 | 1,848 | 84.7 | 95.5 |
| April | 1,763 | 1,934 | 88.1 | 99.9 |
| May | 1,832 | 1,995 | 91.5 | 103.1 |
| June | 1,855 | 1,912 | 92.6 | 98.8 |
| July | 1,825 | 1,935 | 91.1 | 100.0 |
| August | 1,772 | 1,891 | 88.5 | 97.7 |
| September | 1,751 | 1,860 | 87.5 | 96.6 |
| October | 1,751 | 1,926 | 87.5 | 99.5 |
| November | 1,754 | 1,955 | 87.6 | 101.0 |
| December | 1,790 | 2,003 | 89.4 | 103.5 |
| Average for the twelve months | 1,758 | 1,935 | 87.8 | 100.0 |
| Proportion of total operatives represented | 69.96 | 67.61 | ... | ... |

* For the ending date of each week see page xiv.

† Based on the estimated average for the year 1935.

Table XI C.—Average numbers employed, 1924-1935

| Year | Operatives | Administrative, technical and clerical staff | Total (excluding outworkers) |
|-------------|------------|--|------------------------------|
| 1924 | 2,091 | 233 | 2,324 |
| 1930 | 2,513 | 287 | 2,800 |
| 1935 | 2,862 | 406 | 3,268 |

WAGES

Table XII.—Wages paid by firms furnishing returns of wages

The aggregate amount of wages paid by firms furnishing returns of wages was £140,000 in 1935 representing 43.1 per cent. of the net output of these firms, the corresponding figures for 1930 being £147,000 and 49.1 per cent. The figures for these firms given below indicate the size of the sample and the extent to which it is representative.

| Firms furnishing returns of wages | 1935 | | 1930 | |
|---|-----------|---------------------|-----------|---------------------|
| | Aggregate | Proportion of trade | Aggregate | Proportion of trade |
| Gross output | £'000 | Per cent. | £'000 | Per cent. |
| Net output | 563 | 57.6 | 534 | 66.3 |
| | 325 | 58.9 | 300 | 65.5 |
| Operative staff employed :— | No. | | No. | |
| During mid-week of October :— | | | | |
| Males | 914 | 51.7 | * | * |
| Females | 512 | 45.5 | | |
| Total | 1,426 | 49.3 | 1,499 | 60.8 |
| Average for the year | 1,382 | 48.3 | 1,527 | 60.8 |
| Administrative, technical and clerical staff | 254 | 62.5 | * | * |
| Number of establishments | 18 | 28.0 | ... | ... |

* Not recorded separately.

COUNTRY TABLES (1935)

Note.—The figures given in the following tables relate only to firms whose returns were made on schedules for the Cane and Wicker Furniture and Basketware Trade.

Owing to the possible disclosure of information relating to individual firms, separate particulars for England and Wales and for Scotland cannot be published. No production was recorded for Northern Ireland.

Table I.—General summary (see page 152)

Table II.—Output

| Kind of output | Great Britain |
|---|---------------|
| | £'000 |
| Furniture of basketware | 62 |
| Furniture of imitation basketware | 434 |
| Baskets, manufactured wholly or partly of willow, cane, or wicker (including hampers, skips, etc.) :— | |
| Fitted, including cost of fittings | 94 |
| Not fitted | 57 |
| Other descriptions of basketware (including punnets, etc.) | 147* |
| Furniture and cabinetware | 146 |
| Other goods | 28 |
| Repairs to basketware, etc. | 9† |
| TOTAL—VALUE OF GOODS MADE AND WORK DONE | 977 |

* Including cane parts and prepared willows.
† Amount received.

Table III A.—Materials, fuel and electricity purchased and used (see page 155)

Table III B.—Consumption of electricity (see page 155)

Table IV A.—Numbers employed in week ended 12th October, 1935

| Persons employed (excluding outworkers) | Males | | Females | | Total | |
|--|------------|--------------|------------|--------------|------------|--------------|
| | Under 18 | All ages | Under 18 | All ages | Under 18 | All ages |
| | Operatives | 309 | 1,767 | 384 | 1,126 | 693 |
| Administrative, technical and clerical staff | 19 | 289 | 26 | 117 | 45 | 406 |
| TOTAL | 328 | 2,056 | 410 | 1,243 | 738 | 3,299 |

Table IV B.—Operatives employed in one week in each month of 1935

| Week ended | Males and females | Week ended | Males and females |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|--------------|-------------------|
| January 19 | 2,839 | July 13 | 2,841 |
| February 16 | 2,795 | August 17 | 2,828 |
| March 16 | 2,725 | September 14 | 2,834 |
| April 13 | 2,837 | October 12 | 2,893 |
| May 18 | 2,881 | November 16 | 3,038 |
| June 15 | 2,816 | December 14 | 3,021 |
| Average for the twelve months | | | 2,862 |

Table IV C.—Numbers of outworkers at two specified periods in 1935

| Country | January | | | July | | |
|-------------------|---------|---------|-------|-------|---------|-------|
| | Males | Females | Total | Males | Females | Total |
| England and Wales | 14 | 10 | 24 | 13 | 9 | 22 |

No outworkers were recorded for Scotland.

Table V.—Firms employing not more than ten persons on the average

| Particulars | England and Wales | Scotland | Great Britain |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------|-----------|---------------|
| Number of returns received | No. 325 | No. 6 | No. 331 |
| Average number of persons employed :— | | | |
| Males | 1,451 | 16 | 1,467 |
| Females | 124 | 1 | 125 |
| Total | 1,575 | 17 | 1,592 |