

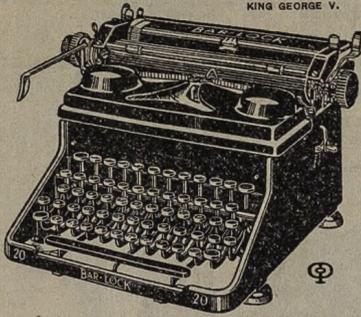
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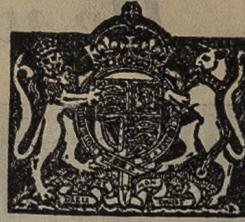
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October

1939



THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE

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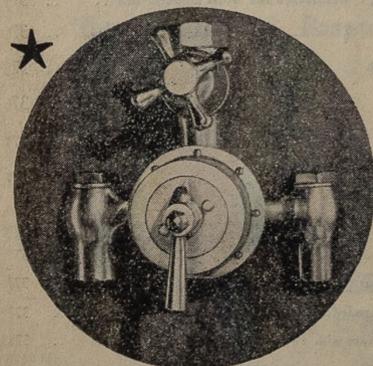
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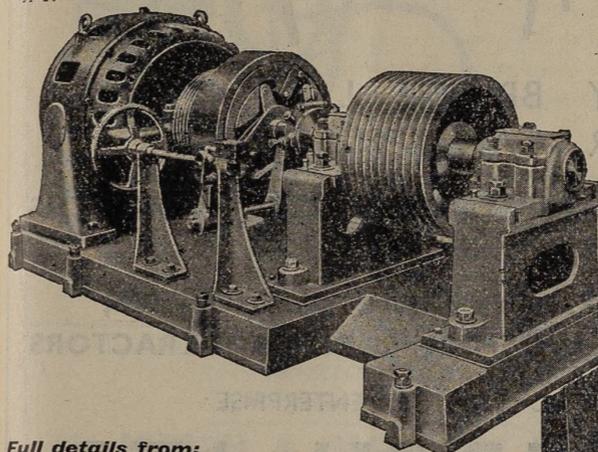
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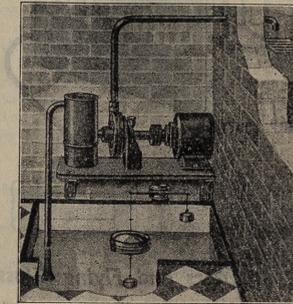
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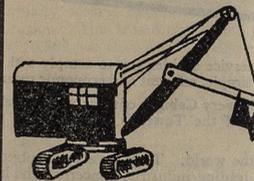
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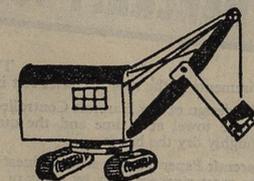
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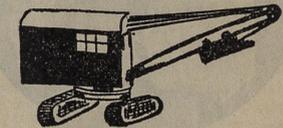
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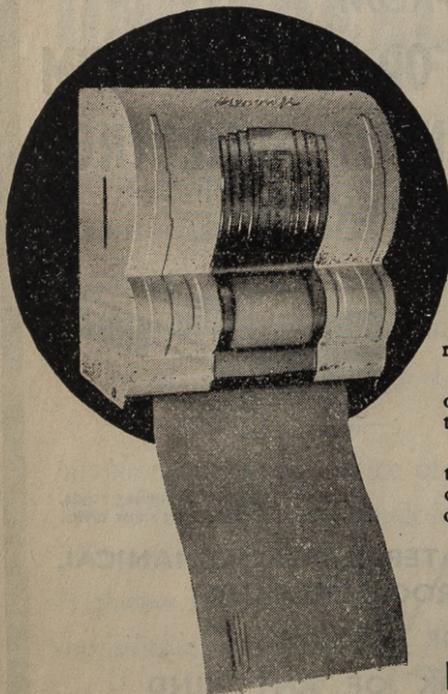
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THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE

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

EMPLOYMENT* AND UNEMPLOYMENT.

THE outbreak of the war created new demands for labour, but at the same time caused some dislocation affecting the employment of workpeople in many directions.

At 11th September, 1939, the total number of persons on the registers of Employment Exchanges in Great Britain showed an increase of 99,236 as compared with 14th August. The number of males on the register decreased by 75,745, while the number of females increased by 174,981. In London and the South-East of England there were increases among both males and females. An appreciable part of the increase among females, however, was accounted for by the registration of evacuated women and of others offering their services for work in connection with the war.

*Numbers Wholly Unemployed (excluding Persons normally in Casual Employment).—*At 11th September, 1939, there were 1,052,218 persons on the registers of Employment Exchanges in Great Britain who were out of a situation. This was 84,110 more than at 14th August, 1939, but 271,933 less than at 12th September, 1938.

*Numbers Temporarily Stopped.—*At 11th September, 1939, there were registered as unemployed in Great Britain 227,099 persons who were on short time or otherwise temporarily suspended from work. This was 15,121 more than at 14th August, 1939, but 185,395 less than at 12th September, 1938.

*Numbers unemployed normally in Casual Employment.—*At 11th September, 1939, there were on the registers in Great Britain 51,611 unemployed persons who normally seek a livelihood by means of jobs of short duration. This was 5 more than at 14th August, 1939, but 10,362 less than at 12th September, 1938.

*Applicants for Benefit or Allowances.—*The total of 1,330,928 persons on the registers at 11th September, 1939, included 1,144,404 applicants for benefit or allowances and 186,524 non-claimants. The latter figure showed an increase of 57,248 as compared with 14th August and this increase consisted mainly of women and girls registering as applicants for work.

*Percentages Unemployed.—*Among insured persons, aged 16-64, the percentage unemployed in Great Britain and Northern Ireland at 11th September, 1939, was 9.0 as compared with 8.6 at 14th August, 1939, and 12.4 at 12th September, 1938. For persons insured under the general scheme the corresponding percentages were 9.2 at 11th September, 1939, 8.8 at 14th August, 1939, and 12.8 at 12th September, 1938. For persons within the agricultural scheme the percentages were 3.4, 3.8 and 4.1 respectively.

* The information required for compiling monthly estimates of the numbers of insured persons in employment is no longer available and this series of figures is therefore discontinued for the present.

*Industries in which the Principal Variations occurred.—*There were decreases in the numbers unemployed in coal mining, building and public works contracting, engineering, ship building and repairing, the iron and steel industry, the pottery industry, boot and shoe manufacture and local government service. On the other hand, the numbers unemployed increased in hotel and boarding house service, entertainments and sport, the distributive trades, the fishing, clothing, furniture and printing industries, motor vehicle manufacture and the leather, cotton weaving, carpet and certain food manufacturing industries.

WAGES.

In the industries for which statistics are regularly compiled by the Department, the changes in rates of wages reported to have come into operation in September are estimated to have resulted in an increase of about £128,600 in the weekly full-time wages of 443,000 workpeople, and in a decrease of £9,700 in those of 178,000 workpeople.

The principal groups of workpeople whose wages were increased were shipbuilders and ship repairers, the crews of merchant vessels and steam trawlers, who were granted a war risk payment, and coal miners in Leicestershire, Somerset, Warwickshire, Cannock Chase and the Forest of Dean. The decreases mainly affected coal miners in Nottinghamshire and North Derbyshire.

The changes so far reported in the nine completed months in 1939 are estimated to have resulted in a net increase of about £235,750 a week in the full-time wages of 1,650,000 workpeople, and in a net decrease of £41,200 in those of 395,000 workpeople.

COST OF LIVING.

At 30th September the average level of retail prices of the commodities taken into account in the statistics compiled by the Ministry of Labour (including food, rent, clothing, fuel and light, and miscellaneous items) was approximately 65 per cent. above the level of July, 1914, as compared with 55 per cent. at 1st September, 1939, and 55 per cent. at 1st October, 1938.

The rise in the index figure during September was mainly due to increases in the prices of some of the principal articles of food, and to increases in the prices of clothing. For food only, the average increase as compared with July, 1914, rose from 38 per cent. at 1st September to 50 per cent. at 30th September.

Further particulars are given on page 375 of this GAZETTE.

TRADE DISPUTES.

The number of trade disputes involving stoppages of work reported to the Department as beginning in September was 72. In addition, 8 disputes which began before September were still in progress at the beginning of that month. The approximate number of workpeople involved in these 80 disputes, including workpeople thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, was 24,000, and the aggregate duration of the disputes in September was about 73,000 working days.

CONTROL OF EMPLOYMENT ACT, 1939.

THE above Act* received the Royal Assent on 21st September, 1939. It is designed to secure:

(1) That the Minister of Labour and National Service shall have the fullest information as to the movements of certain types of labour whose services are essential in war time industries, but whose numbers may be scarce in relation to the demand for them; and

(2) That, when it is urgently necessary, the Minister shall be able to exercise some influence on movements so that labour, particularly skilled labour, is, so far as possible, used to the best National advantage.

The main provision of the Act is that the Minister may make an Order under which it will be an offence for any employer of a specified class either to advertise for, or to engage or re-engage any employee of a class specified without the Minister's permission. The Act in itself does not affect the position of any employer or worker; it comes into operation only when specified employers and employees are covered by an Order made under the Act. No such Order has yet been made.

The Act lays down the manner in which Orders are to be made, and the limitations within which the powers given are to be exercised. There have been close consultations with representatives of both employers and workers regarding the principles of the Act; and the Act itself provides for continued co-operation with industry if and when Orders are made. Before any Order is made, the Minister must refer it to a Committee representing the workers and employers affected. The report of this Committee will be laid before Parliament with the Order. The views of interested parties will thus be fully ventilated.

If the Minister refuses consent to the engagement of a worker, he must notify to the worker an opportunity of some suitable alternative employment. If the worker does not consider the alternative suitable, he may appeal to a Court of Referees and, if his appeal is upheld, not only is the Minister's refusal of his original application set aside but the worker may be awarded a certain measure of compensation, to be determined by Regulations made under the Act, for loss suffered by reason of the refusal.

The Act also provides that, in certain circumstances, where engagements or re-engagements of workpeople are effected through approved arrangements between an employer, or organisations of employers, and Trade Unions, the Minister's consent to engagement or re-engagement will not be required. This will make for smooth working without interfering with the general purpose of the Act as the arrangements must conform to any directions given by the Minister.

TRANSFER OF DOCK LABOUR IN WAR-TIME.

An agreement has been concluded between the Minister of Labour and National Service (on behalf of H.M. Government), the National Council of Port Labour Employers, and the Transport and General Workers' Union (on its own behalf and on behalf of the Unions associated with it, namely, the National Union of General and Municipal Workers and the National Amalgamated Stevedores and Dockers), which has as its object provision for the temporary transfer, on a voluntary basis, of dock labour in war-time with a view to supplementing labour at ports where the supply of local registered dock workers is inadequate for the purpose of dealing with the additional traffic caused by the diversion of shipping.

The necessary arrangements for transferring men from port to port will normally be in the hands of the Local Port Labour Joint Committees in consultation with the Ministry of Labour and National Service, and the machinery of the Employment Exchanges is being placed at the disposal of the industry in order to facilitate the transfer of the men. For the purpose of the scheme the Transport and General Workers' Union will prepare a list at the Union's offices in the ports of those men who are willing to volunteer for transfer temporarily from their home ports when their services are required elsewhere. Men will not be transferred from a distance (i.e. from ports not within daily travelling distance) unless there is a reasonable prospect of their being required for at least six days.

The Government are assisting the scheme by providing each man so transferred with free travelling facilities to destination and back, together with an allowance of 6s. 6d. for the days on which the man travels, and by guaranteeing the minimum payment of 10s. a day (taking account of earnings) for a minimum period of six days. Each man required to remain in the port for longer than six days will continue to be guaranteed a minimum payment of 10s. (taking account of earnings) for each succeeding day until sent home, with the exception of Sundays when the guarantee will not apply unless the man is required to be in attendance. The employers on their part undertake to pay to each man transferred under the scheme a subsistence allowance of 5s. a day or the equivalent while he is at the port to which he has been transferred.

In the case of men transferred from ports within daily travelling distance free travelling facilities will be provided by the Government.

* *Control of Employment Act, 1939.* H.M. Stationery Office; price 2d. net (3d. post free).

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE AND ASSISTANCE.

EMERGENCY REGULATIONS.

IN the issue of this GAZETTE for September, 1939 (page 334) a summary was given of the Unemployment Insurance (Emergency Powers) Act, 1939, and the Unemployment Assistance (Emergency Powers) Act, 1939, under which the Minister of Labour was given power to make regulations for the purpose of adapting the schemes of unemployment insurance and unemployment assistance to war conditions. Regulations under both Acts have now been made, and are summarised below. They came into operation on 6th September, 1939.

*Unemployment Insurance (Emergency Powers) Regulations, 1939.**—Under these regulations certain provisions of the Unemployment Insurance Acts are suspended and others are amended. The provisions suspended are those relating to the following matters: the issue of new certificates of exception or exemption from unemployment insurance, the return of contributions erroneously paid, the crediting of contributions to persons continuing to receive whole-time education after reaching the school-leaving age, the obligation imposed upon education authorities to provide courses of instruction, the provisions regarding yearly and half-yearly hirings in relation to contributions under the agricultural scheme, and certain parts of the procedure prescribed by the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1935, in connection with the making of orders and regulations. Amendments are made in the provisions regarding the period for which benefit may be drawn, benefit in respect of dependent children, and the powers of insurance officers. Subject to the fulfilment of the statutory conditions and the absence of disqualification, insured contributors aged sixteen and over are now entitled to receive in a benefit year benefit for periods not exceeding in the aggregate 180 days in the case of the general scheme and 90 days in the case of the agricultural scheme. The requirement in the case of agricultural benefit that a claimant must have ten agricultural contributions standing to his credit before he can begin a benefit year is suspended. A person for whom a benefit year was already current may receive benefit in that benefit year for the number of days for which a certificate had been given under the old conditions, even though it may exceed the new maximum provided by the regulations. If, however, in a benefit year already current the period of benefit certified was less than 180 days (or 90 days in the case of an agricultural claimant) and has been exhausted, no further benefit can be paid in that benefit year.

As regards dependent children, it will not be necessary, as hitherto, for a claimant whose children live with him to prove in the ordinary way that he is mainly maintaining them.

The powers of insurance officers are extended to include the right to disallow any claim for benefit and to decide other questions which previously had to be referred to Courts of Referees.

The regulations provide for the relaxation of benefit conditions in favour of persons providing accommodation or rendering services to people removed from their homes under approved evacuation schemes. Such services are not to be regarded as rendering a claimant "not available for work" or "not unemployed," nor is the occupation to be regarded as an occupation ordinarily carried on for profit in connection with the determination of a claim for dependants' benefit.

Provision is also made in the regulations for certain other minor matters, mainly to provide for adjustments, where necessary, as between the unemployment insurance scheme, on the one hand, and the special schemes for the banking and insurance industries and the unemployment assistance scheme, respectively, on the other.

Unemployment Assistance (Prevention and Relief of Distress) Regulations, 1939.†—These regulations extend the class of persons to whom allowances may be paid under the Unemployment Assistance Act, 1934, to include, with certain minor exceptions, any person aged 16 years or over (although the qualifications set out in Section 36 (1) of the Act are not fulfilled in his case) who is in distress by reason of the fact that, owing to the action or threatened action of the enemy or to some other circumstance directly caused by the war, he has been moved from home under an official evacuation scheme, or he, or some person on whom he is normally dependent for support, has lost his employment or is unable to follow his normal occupation or has been otherwise deprived entirely or to a substantial extent of his normal means of livelihood. If an application for an allowance is made, under these provisions, by a woman who is temporarily separated from her husband, who, nevertheless, is not precluded from supporting her by circumstances caused by the war, she may, for the purpose of assessing her needs, be treated as if she continued to be a member of his household.

Unemployment Assistance (Issue of Allowances and Appeal Tribunals) Regulations, 1939.‡—Under these regulations, arrangements may be made between the Unemployment Assistance Board and a Local Authority for the issue of allowances by officers of the Local Authority.

The regulations also provide that the Chairman of an Appeal Tribunal may deal by himself with all appeals by applicants for allowances, including appeals as regards the amount of allowances.

* *Statutory Rules and Orders, 1939, No. 1148.* H.M. Stationery Office; price 2d. net (3d. post free).

† By Section 15 of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1939, these provisions are repealed as from 3rd July, 1940.

‡ *Statutory Rules and Orders, 1939, No. 1147.* H.M. Stationery Office; price 1d. net (1½d. post free).

§ *Statutory Rules and Orders, 1939, No. 1146.* H.M. Stationery Office; price 1d. net (1½d. post free).

SERVICE IN THE ARMED FORCES.

MEN BETWEEN THE AGES OF 20 AND 22.

ON 1st October, 1939, a Proclamation was made by His Majesty the King, under the provisions of the National Service (Armed Forces) Act, 1939, directing that, with certain exceptions (referred to below) all male British subjects who were within Great Britain on the 1st October and who at that date had attained the age of 20 but had not attained the age of 22 are liable to be called up for service in the armed forces of the Crown. British subjects who were outside Great Britain on 1st October, 1939, and who at that date had attained the age of 20 but had not attained the age of 22 are liable to be called up for service as soon as they return to Great Britain.

All men who are liable to be called up for service by virtue of the Proclamation are required, with certain exceptions (see below) to apply to be registered under the Act at a Local Office of the Ministry of Labour and National Service on Saturday, 21st October.

British subjects who were outside Great Britain on 1st October, 1939, and who at that date had attained the age of 20 but had not attained the age of 22 must apply for registration within seven days of their return to Great Britain at a Local Office of the Ministry of Labour and National Service.

Men who are already registered in the Military Training Register under the Military Training Act are not required to apply to be registered under the National Service (Armed Forces) Act. Their liability to be called up for military training is, however, superseded by a liability to be called up for service in the armed forces of the Crown.

Men registered as conscientious objectors under the Military Training Act who have already applied to, or whose cases have already been dealt with by, a local tribunal under that Act are not required to make fresh applications under the National Service (Armed Forces) Act, and any order of a tribunal made in the case of a conscientious objector under the Military Training Act has effect as if it had been made under the corresponding provisions of the National Service (Armed Forces) Act.

A man is not liable to be called up for service or to register under the Act notwithstanding the fact that he may have attained the age of 20 but had not attained the age of 22 on 1st October if he is:—

(a) a person not ordinarily resident in Great Britain who is under the provisions of any Act in force in any part of His Majesty's dominions outside Great Britain, a national or a citizen of that part within the meaning of that Act, or is a person born or domiciled in any such part of His Majesty's dominions or in a British protectorate, a mandated territory or any other country or territory being a country or territory under His Majesty's protection or suzerainty;

(b) a person employed in the service of the Government of a part of His Majesty's dominions outside Great Britain or in the service of the Government of a British protectorate, mandated territory or some other country or territory which is under His Majesty's protection or suzerainty, provided that his presence in Great Britain is due entirely to his employment in that service;

(c) a member of any of the armed forces of the Crown;

(d) undergoing training as a cadet at the Royal Military Academy, Royal Military College or the Royal Air Force College;

(e) a man in holy orders or a regular minister of any religious denomination;

(f) the subject of an Order or Inquisition under the Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts, 1890 to 1930, or is being detained in pursuance of Section 25 of the Lunacy Act 1890, or as a criminal lunatic or in pursuance of an Order made under the Criminal Lunatics Act, 1884, or is undergoing treatment as a temporary patient under Section 5 of the Mental Treatment Act, 1930, or is a person placed in an institution or a certified house or under guardianship under Section 3 of the Mental Deficiency Act, 1913, or is the subject of an Order under Section 6, 8 or 9 of that Act or is under supervision provided under paragraph (b) of Section 30 of that Act or is an inmate of a home approved under Section 50 of that Act, or the subject of a notification under subsection (2) of Section 51 of that Act;

(g) the subject of an Order or Warrant for his detention or custody under the Lunacy (Scotland) Acts, 1857 to 1919, or is being entertained and kept in an asylum in pursuance of Section 15 of the Lunacy (Scotland) Act, 1866, or is a person for whose safe custody during His Majesty's pleasure His Majesty is authorised to give order, or is a prisoner whom the Secretary of State or the Prisons Department for Scotland has, in pursuance of any Act, directed to be removed to a criminal lunatic asylum or to the criminal lunatic department of Perth prison or to an asylum, or is a person placed in an institution or a certified house or under guardianship under Section 4 of the Mental Deficiency and Lunacy (Scotland) Act, 1913, or is the subject of an Order under Section 7, 9 or 10 of that Act;

(h) certified by a local authority as defined by the Blind Persons Acts, 1920 and 1938, to be registered as a blind person under arrangements made by the authority under those Acts.

The arrangements for the registration of men on 21st October will be on similar lines to those of 3rd June last, when the registration of militiamen took place. Full information of these arrangements is being given by means of posters, notices in the Press and announcements by the B.B.C.

WAGES OF ROAD HAULAGE WORKERS.

UNDER the Road Haulage Wages Act, 1938,* a Central Wages Board was set up in February last, together with area boards for Scotland and for each of the other Traffic Areas formed under the Road and Rail Traffic Act, 1933. The Central Board has the duty (after consultation with the areas) of fixing minimum wages for road haulage workers which will, subject to confirmation by the Minister of Labour and National Service, have statutory force.

The Central Wages Board has now issued its proposals concerning the remuneration of road haulage workers employed in connection with goods vehicles authorised under A and B carriers' licences granted under the Road and Rail Traffic Act, 1933.

These proposals have been framed after consultation with the area boards, and copies have been sent to all holders of A or B carriers' licences who are employers of road haulage workers. The proposals are required to be posted up for the information of all concerned, and any employer who has not received a copy should apply immediately to the Secretary, The Road Haulage Central Wages Board, Metropole Buildings, Northumberland Avenue, W.C.2. The period allowed for objection is 21 days from 6th October.

The broad effect of the proposals, if they are confirmed, will be to give statutory effect for an initial period up to 5th May, 1940, to the rates agreed between the organisations of employers and workers represented upon the National Joint Conciliation Board for the Road Transport Industry (Goods), subject, however, to some adjustments in the grading of the rates applicable within certain of the Traffic Areas. The proposals also provide for holidays with pay.

Proposals for Scotland for the interim period are set out in a separate part of the Notice. The proposed rates for this period correspond roughly with grade 2 rates for England and Wales and apply to the whole country without distinction of grading. After 5th May, 1940, however, Scotland will be included in the general scheme with the grading as provided in the Notice.

After the initial period which will end on 5th May, 1940, whilst no changes are in general contemplated in wage levels, changes are proposed as regards overtime and certain other of the surrounding conditions, e.g. subsistence allowances and payment for night work.

NATIONAL YOUTH COMMITTEE.

THE Government has announced that on account of the suspension of the National Fitness Council, the Board of Education has made itself more directly responsible for the work of preserving and extending facilities for the proper development of the youth of today which was formerly done by the National Fitness Council. A special branch of the Board is being set up which will be responsible for any grants which may be made available.

The President of the Board of Education and the Secretary of State for Scotland have appointed a National Youth Committee which will advise them on all questions relating to youth welfare. The Committee will be under the Chairmanship of Mr. Kenneth Lindsay, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary to the Board of Education. Mr. H. E. Melvin of the Board of Education and Mr. J. E. Stark of the Scottish Office will act as Secretaries of the Committee.

RUBBER RECLAMATION TRADE BOARD.

ON 21st September, 1938, the Minister of Labour made a Special Order applying the Trade Boards Acts, 1909 and 1918, to the Rubber Manufacturing Trade (see page 410 of the issue of this GAZETTE for October, 1938).

In the course of the enquiries which preceded the application of the Trade Boards Acts to the trade it was found that, although rubber reclamation was undertaken to some extent by rubber manufacturing firms proper, the bulk of the business in this part of the trade was in the hands of a small group of specialist firms, and the Minister, after consultation with the interested parties, decided that in all the circumstances wages could best be regulated by a separate Trade Board.

Accordingly, the Minister, by Regulations dated 15th September, 1939, established a Trade Board for the rubber reclamation branch of the trade, under the title of The Rubber Reclamation Trade Board (Great Britain). The work covered by the Board is set out in a Schedule to the Regulations.†

UNEMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE: WINTER ALLOWANCES.

IN reply to a Question in the House of Commons on 5th October, the Minister of Labour stated that under the Unemployment Assistance (Winter Adjustments) Regulations, 1938, temporary additions to allowances in appropriate cases will begin to be made in respect of payweeks which end during the calendar week commencing 30th October, 1939. The administration will proceed on the same general lines as were followed in making the special adjustments last winter, and the necessary review of cases on this basis is proceeding.

* See the issue of this GAZETTE for August, 1938, page 299.
† *Statutory Rules and Orders, 1939, No. 1211.* H.M. Stationery Office; price 1d. net (1½d. post free).

MAXIMUM RETAIL PRICES OF FOOD.

RETAIL prices of a number of commodities have been limited by Orders issued during September and the early part of October by the Ministry of Food* under the Defence Regulations, 1939.

The *Sugar* (Provisional Prices) Order, dated 5th September, fixed maximum retail prices as follows: granulated in bulk 3d. per lb., granulated in cartons 3½d., afternoon tea cubes 4d., other lump 3½d., castor and yellow crystals 4d. The *Sugar* (Maximum Prices) Order, dated 9th September, substituted the following maxima: granulated 3½d. per lb., cubes (lump) and castor 4d., pieces and soft brown sugar 3d. A further Order, the *Sugar* (Maximum Prices) (No. 2) Order, dated 23rd September, fixed the maximum price of granulated at 3½d. per lb., cubes and castor 4d., and other kinds variously 3½d. to 4½d. The *Sugar* (Maximum Prices) (No. 3) Order, dated 27th September, raised these maxima by 1d. in consequence of the Budget.

The *Butter* (Provisional Maximum Prices) Order, dated 13th September, fixed maximum retail prices at 1s. 7d. and 1s. 5d. per lb. according to the variety of butter. The *Butter* (Maximum Prices) Order, dated 23rd September, fixed a single maximum retail price for butter, irrespective of variety, viz., 1s. 7d. per lb.

The *Eggs* (Maximum Prices) Order, dated 13th September, fixed maximum retail prices for eggs varying from 1s. 3d. to 2s. 6d. per dozen, according to category (e.g., country in which produced) and weight. The maximum of 2s. 6d. applies to eggs, of a minimum weight of 15 lbs. per 120 eggs, produced in Great Britain and Northern Ireland. The *Eggs* (Maximum Prices) (No. 2) Order, dated 22nd September, substituted 1s. 6d. for 1s. 3d. for certain classes of eggs, others remaining at 1s. 3d.

The *Potatoes* (Provisional Prices) Order, dated 9th September, fixed maximum retail prices as follows: in England and Wales and the counties of Dumfries and Kirkcubright, 1d. per lb., 7 lbs. for 6d., 14 lbs. for 1½d.; in the rest of Scotland 3½ lbs. for 3d., 7 lbs. for 5½d., 14 lbs. for 10d. These prices were revised by the *Potatoes* (Provisional Prices) (No. 2) Order, dated 15th September, which fixed maximum retail prices for potatoes, under two grades (classified by variety) in each of six "districts." The maximum prices thus fixed ranged from 1½d. per lb. for Grade A potatoes in the South of England, the Midlands and some other parts of England, and in Wales (except Merioneth) to 5½d. per 7 lbs. and 11d. per 14 lbs. for Grade B potatoes in the Northern half of Scotland.

The *Canned Salmon* (Provisional Maximum Prices) Order, dated 6th September, fixed maximum prices for canned salmon, varying according to description.

The *Condensed Milk* (Provisional Prices) Order, dated 18th September, fixed maximum prices for full cream sweetened, full cream unsweetened, and machine skimmed condensed milk. These maxima were raised by the *Condensed Milk* (Provisional Prices) (No. 2) Order, dated 3rd October.

Dried Fruits were originally subject to the *Dried Fruits* (Provisional Prices) Order, dated 7th September, which provided that prices should not exceed the "current prices" during a specified period preceding the Order. Subsequently the *Dried Fruits* (Maximum Prices) Order, dated 19th September, fixed maximum retail prices for dried fruits, i.e., currants, dates, dried apples, dried apricots, dried nectarines, dried peaches, dried pears, dried plums or prunes, fruit salad, raisins and sultanas.

The *Imported Lard* (Control) Order, dated 29th September, fixed the maximum retail price of imported refined animal lard in Great Britain at 6d. per lb.

Tea, meat, oilseeds, oils and fats, margarine and "cooking fats" are subject to Orders providing that prices shall not exceed the "current prices" (as defined in the Orders) during a specified period preceding the dates of the Orders.

RETAIL PRICES IN SEPTEMBER.

Statistics relating to the retail prices of food at 1st and 30th September, 1939, are given on page 375 of this issue.

REGULATION OF LABOUR IN FRANCE: RECENT CHANGES.

In order to maintain an adequate supply of munitions and, at the same time, to ensure that industrial output is kept at the level necessary for satisfying the requirements of the civil population, increases in working hours and other important changes in the legislation governing working conditions in France have been introduced by a Decree-Law dated 1st September, 1939, and certain amending and subsidiary Decrees and Orders, the chief provisions of which are summarised below.

Increased Weekly Working Hours.—All industrial, commercial, handicraft and co-operative undertakings and public hospitals and institutions are authorised to increase working hours to 60 a week, to be distributed in such a manner that the daily working time does not exceed 11 hours. For the purpose of making up time lost on account of collective interruptions of work and in certain other circumstances, the Inspector of Labour may authorise the

* By the Board of Trade in the case of Orders dated prior to 8th September.
† Subject to a permitted addition of ¼d. or ½d. per lb. in specified remote areas.
‡ Maximum prices were also fixed for retail sales by the cwt.

distribution of the working hours over a period other than a week, provided that the daily working time does not exceed 12 hours. On continuous processes, the weekly working time is limited to 56 hours on average over a period which, except as otherwise authorised by the Inspector of Labour, may not exceed 12 weeks. Where work on continuous processes is being carried out in the interests of national defence or for one of the public services, an extension of working time to 72 hours a week may be sanctioned. The application of the revised regulations may not result in the extension of the normal working hours of children and women beyond 10 a day or 60 a week, except with the authority of the Inspector of Labour. For specific localities or occupations, the limits of working hours set out in the present paragraph may be reduced by an Order to be issued by the Minister of Labour.

Extensions of Working Time.—In addition to the permanent extensions of working time authorised by previous legislation, temporary extensions, of unspecified amount, may now be sanctioned by the Inspector of Labour in the case of workers employed on preparatory or complementary work which must be carried on outside normal working hours and of workers whose employment is intermittent in character. Permanent extensions of this nature require the sanction of the Minister of Labour.

Overtime, etc.—Undertakings are to continue to enjoy the overtime facilities, during periods of pressure of work, granted under previous legislation. Where the work is of national importance, the duration of the overtime is to be fixed by agreement between the Inspector of Labour and the local representative of the Ministry concerned. The organisation of work on a system of relays or rotation is permissible under conditions of control which are to be prescribed by the Inspector of Labour; but the adoption of such a method of organisation may not, as a rule, reduce to less than 10 hours the period of rest between two days of work.

Adjustment of Wages and Contributions to National Solidarity Fund.—In order that production costs may not be unduly raised by the increase in working hours, it is provided that workers the duration of whose working week has been extended are to receive for 45 hours of such working week the remuneration which they formerly received for a week of 40 hours. The remuneration which would normally have been due for hours of work performed between 40 and 45 a week is to be retained by the employer and paid to the Treasury as a contribution to the National Solidarity Fund, which, by a Decree-Law dated 1st September, 1939, has been established in order to provide allowances for necessitous families of persons serving with the forces. For hours of work in excess of 45 a week, workers are to receive two-thirds of the normal hourly remuneration. The remaining third of the normal hourly remuneration is to be appropriated to the National Solidarity Fund. In addition, men between the ages of 18 and 49 who are not embodied in a military unit are required to make a contribution to the National Solidarity Fund, as from 1st October, 1939, of 15 per cent. of their earnings, unless they are in receipt of a military or civil war-disability pension. For all other workers, the special tax of 2 per cent. on wages, salaries and earnings instituted by the Decree-Law dated 12th November, 1938 (see this GAZETTE for December, 1938), is to be increased, as from 1st January, 1940, to 4 per cent.

Suspension of Conciliation and Arbitration Legislation.—The application of the existing legislation respecting conciliation and arbitration in labour disputes (see this GAZETTE for May and December, 1938) has been suspended, and the Minister of Labour has been empowered to institute a war-time system of conciliation and arbitration. The wage revision clauses of all collective agreements and labour contracts are also suspended.

Regulations applicable to Special Industries.—Special regulations have been issued regulating the working hours and wages of underground workers in mines. The normal working week of such workers has been extended from 38 hours 40 minutes to 52 hours 30 minutes, inclusive of rest periods of 25 minutes a day and of both winding times. The working week is to consist of six days of 8 hours 45 minutes each; but the weekly rest day need not be the same for all the workers employed in an undertaking. The working time may be further extended to 60 hours a week by an Order to be issued jointly by the Ministers of Public Works and Labour. Provision is made for temporary extensions of working hours in case of accidents, etc., and on preparatory and complementary work, and work in the interests of national defence and other specified circumstances.

Mine workers are required to make contributions to the National Solidarity Fund similar in character to those made by industrial and commercial workers generally.

Further special regulations applicable to railways and the mercantile marine are to be issued later.

Working Hours in Government Departments.—The duration and distribution of working time in the various Government Departments and State works and services are to be determined by Ministerial Decree, subject to a maximum of 60 working hours a week.

Weekly Rest.—The grant of a weekly rest may, so far as is necessary, be withheld in the case of workers employed in State undertakings, undertakings executing State contracts, and undertakings engaged on work for the national defence. In other industrial and commercial undertakings, the weekly rest may, for the time being, be granted in rotation. During the period of hostilities, the staffs of Government Departments may be allowed to take the Saturday half-holiday and Sunday rest in a similar manner.

EMPLOYMENT* AT 11th SEPTEMBER, 1939—GENERAL REVIEW.

THE outbreak of the war created new demands for labour, but at the same time caused some dislocation affecting the employment of workpeople in many directions. At 11th September, 1939, the total number of persons on the registers of Employment Exchanges in Great Britain showed an increase of 99,236 as compared with 14th August. The number of males fell by 75,745, but the number of females rose by 174,981.

The following Table gives an analysis of the numbers† of persons on the registers at 11th September, 1939, with comparative figures for 14th August, 1939, and 12th September, 1938:—

	Wholly Unemployed (including Casuals).	Temporarily Stopped.	Total.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with 14th Aug., 1939.
GREAT BRITAIN.				
Men	710,938	115,873	826,811	- 81,941
Boys	41,568	2,975	44,543	+ 6,196
Women	293,630	101,613	395,243	+ 150,034
Girls	57,693	6,638	64,331	+ 24,947
Total	1,103,829	227,099	1,330,928	+ 99,236
Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with 14th August, 1939 ...	+ 84,115	+ 15,121	+ 99,236	—
12th September, 1938 ...	- 282,295	- 185,395	- 467,690	—
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.				
Men	751,556	117,061	868,617	- 82,812
Boys	43,755	2,994	46,749	+ 6,322
Women	309,784	104,576	414,360	+ 152,033
Girls	59,009	6,815	65,824	+ 25,202
Total	1,164,104	231,446	1,395,550	+ 100,745
Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with 14th August, 1939 ...	+ 85,847	+ 14,898	+ 100,745	—
12th September, 1938 ...	- 295,649	- 189,376	- 485,025	—

An appreciable part of the increase in the number of females on the register was due to the registration of evacuated women and of others offering their services for work in connection with the war. The increase of 84,115 in the number wholly unemployed in Great Britain included 57,248 persons who were not applying for benefit or allowances, of whom 49,366 were women and girls. Two-thirds of this number had not previously been in insured employment.

Between 14th August and 11th September an increase in unemployment among women occurred in every Division, the increases being most marked in the London, North-Western and Scotland Divisions. In the case of men, there was a considerable increase in London, and minor increases in the South-East of England, but substantial decreases occurred elsewhere, particularly in the North Midlands, North-Eastern, North-Western, and Scotland Divisions.

These changes are reflected in the figures for particular industries. There were decreases in the numbers unemployed in coal mining, building and public works contracting, engineering, ship building and repairing, the iron and steel and pottery industries, boot and shoe manufacture and local government service. On the other hand the numbers unemployed increased in hotel and boarding house service, entertainments and sport, the distributive trades, the fishing, clothing, furniture and printing industries, motor vehicle manufacture, and the leather, cotton weaving, carpet and certain food manufacturing industries.

Among insured persons, aged 16-64, the percentage unemployed† in Great Britain and Northern Ireland at 11th September, 1939, was 9.0, as compared with 8.6 at 14th August, 1939, and 12.4 at 12th September, 1938. For persons insured under the general scheme the corresponding percentages were 9.2 at 11th September, 1939, 8.8 at 14th August, 1939, and 12.8 at 12th September, 1938. For persons within the agricultural scheme the percentages were 3.4, 3.8 and 4.1 respectively.

CHANGES IN THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES †

Mining and Quarrying.—In the coal mining industry there was an improvement in employment, between 14th August and 11th September, in nearly every district. The percentage unemployed (including those temporarily stopped) among insured workpeople, aged 16-64, was 8.9 at 11th September, 1939, as compared with 11.1 at 14th August, 1939, and 17.6 at 12th September, 1938.

In the iron mining industry also there was some improvement. The percentage unemployed (including those temporarily stopped) was 5.6 at 11th September, 1939, compared with 6.6 at 14th August, 1939, and with 29.2 at 12th September, 1938. In slate quarrying unemployment showed a marked increase, and there was

* The information required for compiling monthly estimates of the numbers of insured persons in employment is no longer available and this series of figures is therefore discontinued for the present.

† The numbers and percentages unemployed have probably been affected to some extent by the withdrawal of men from the industrial field owing to the recent expansion of H.M. Forces, but the information necessary for making an estimate of this effect is not available.

The percentages unemployed among insured workpeople at 11th September and 14th August, 1939, quoted in this issue have been computed on the basis of the numbers insured at July, 1938. Revised percentages for Great Britain and for Great Britain and Northern Ireland, based on the numbers insured at July, 1939, will be published in a later issue of this GAZETTE.

‡ For reasons of economy, the articles relating to "Employment in some of the Principal Industries" hitherto published in the monthly issues of this GAZETTE, have been suspended.

also some increase in stone quarrying. In the other mining and quarrying industries there was little change on the whole.

Pig Iron, Iron and Steel and Tinplate.—There was a further improvement in the pig iron industry. The percentage rate of unemployment was 6.8 at 11th September, 1939, as compared with 9.1 at 14th August, 1939, and 22.4 at 12th September, 1938.

Employment also improved in iron and steel manufacture; at 11th September the percentage unemployed among insured persons was 5.7, as compared with 9.0 at 14th August, 1939, and 27.4 at 12th September, 1938.

In the tinplate industry there was some increase in unemployment; the percentage rate of unemployment among insured persons was 8.6 at 11th September, 1939, as compared with 5.8 at 14th August, 1939, and 38.1 at 12th September, 1938.

Engineering, Shipbuilding and Other Metal Industries.—In the engineering industry the numbers unemployed showed a further fall. The improvement in employment occurred chiefly in general, marine and constructional engineering, and was most marked in the North of England and in Scotland. On the other hand employment showed a decline in motor vehicle manufacture. The percentage unemployed among insured persons in the engineering industries as a whole (excluding motor vehicle, cycle and aircraft manufacture) was 3.8 at 11th September, 1939, as compared with 4.6 at 14th August, 1939, and 8.0 at 12th September, 1938.

In the shipbuilding and ship-repairing industry there was a marked improvement in employment. The percentage unemployed among insured persons fell to 10.0 at 11th September, 1939, as compared with 17.1 at 14th August, and 21.1 at 12th September, 1938.

Employment improved in most of the other metal industries.

Textile Industries.—In the cotton industry there was a slight decrease in the numbers unemployed at 11th September in the preparing and spinning departments, but an increase in the manufacturing department. The percentage unemployed among insured persons in the cotton industry as a whole was 15.1 at 11th September, 1939, as compared with 11.8 at 14th August, 1939, and with 31.7 at 12th September, 1938. In the preparing and spinning departments the corresponding percentages were 10.5, 11.1, and 27.8, and in the manufacturing department they were 15.7, 12.4 and 35.7.

In the wool textile industry there was a fall in the numbers unemployed, the percentage unemployed being 5.7 at 11th September, 1939, compared with 6.8 at 14th August, 1939, and 18.8 at 12th September, 1938. In the carpet industry the percentage unemployed rose from 8.8 at 14th August to 21.5 at 11th September; the corresponding figure for 12th September, 1938, was 11.8.

There was an increase in the numbers unemployed in the silk and artificial silk manufacturing industry, but a decrease in artificial silk yarn manufacture. In the linen and jute and hosiery trades there was little change. The numbers unemployed increased in the lace trade, but decreased in textile bleaching, printing, dyeing, etc.

Clothing Trades.—In the tailoring, dressmaking and millinery trades there was a marked decline in employment, particularly in the London area and the North of England. There was also a considerable decline in the hat and cap trade, while slight increases in unemployment were recorded in the other dress industries. In the clothing industries as a whole (exclusive of the boot and shoe industry) the percentage rate of unemployment among insured persons at 11th September was 17.7, as compared with 9.7 at 14th August and 13.1 at 12th September, 1938.

In the boot and shoe industry the numbers unemployed showed a decrease, particularly in the Midlands and South-Western districts, but the figures for 14th August were affected by local holidays. At 11th September, 1939, the percentage unemployed in Great Britain and Northern Ireland was 7.5, as compared with 13.0 at 14th August, 1939, and with 11.2 at 12th September, 1938.

Leather Trades.—In the tanning, currying and leather dressing sections of the leather trades a marked increase in the numbers unemployed occurred in London between 14th August and 11th September, but there was a slight decrease in certain areas in the North of England. In other sections of the industry there was little change on the whole. For Great Britain and Northern Ireland the percentage rate of unemployment in the leather trades as a whole rose from 6.6 at 14th August to 9.1 at 11th September, 1939; at 12th September, 1938, the corresponding figure was 10.0.

Building, Woodworking, etc.—In the building industry the numbers unemployed showed a further decrease between 14th August and 11th September, especially in the North-Western Division. There was a fall in unemployment among carpenters, but an increase occurred among painters and plasterers; among other classes of skilled workers there was little change. In the building industry as a whole the percentage unemployed was 9.5 at 11th September, 1939, compared with 10.4 at 14th August, 1939, and with 14.1 at 12th September, 1938.

In brick manufacture the numbers unemployed increased in the Midlands, but elsewhere there was little change as compared with 14th August. For the country as a whole the percentage unemployed rose from 6.9 at 14th August, 1939, to 7.9 at 11th September, 1939; the figure for 12th September, 1938, was 9.8.

There was a marked increase of unemployment in the furniture trade, but employment improved in the sawmilling and machined woodwork industry.

Paper Manufacture, Printing and Bookbinding.—There was little change in the paper-making industry, but in the printing, publishing and bookbinding industries there was a marked decline in employment, especially in London; much short-time working occurred in the printing industry. The percentage unemployed in the paper and paper-board industries was 3.2 at 11th September, 1939, compared with 4.0 at 14th August, 1939, and with 11.2 at 12th

September, 1938. The corresponding figures for the printing and bookbinding industries were 8.6, 5.4 and 6.2; for the cardboard-box, paper-bag and stationery industries they were 4.7, 3.8 and 5.2.

Pottery and Glass.—In the pottery industry there was a marked decrease in the number of insured persons recorded as unemployed; the figures for 14th August were affected by local holidays. The percentage rate of unemployment was 20.1 at 11th September, 1939, compared with 31.1 at 14th August, 1939, and with 17.2 at 12th September, 1938.

Fishing.—There was a very marked increase in the number of fishermen unemployed. The percentage rate of unemployment in the fishing industry at 11th September was 48.4 as compared with 15.7 at 14th August, 1939, and 30.9 at 12th September, 1938.

Dock Labourers and Seamen.—Between 14th August and 11th September there was an increase in unemployment among dock labourers in the country as a whole. There was a marked increase in London, but this was largely offset by reductions at other ports.

UNEMPLOYMENT SUMMARY BY DISTRICTS.

The following Table shows the percentages* unemployed at 11th September, 1939, among insured persons, aged 16-64, in each of the areas† into which the United Kingdom is now divided for the purpose of the administration of the Labour Exchanges Act and the Unemployment Insurance Acts.

Table showing unemployment percentages by district for 1939, categorized by Division, General and Agricultural Schemes, and Total. Includes data for London, Eastern, Southern, etc.

Particulars of the changes between 14th August and 11th September, in the numbers of unemployed persons on the registers of Employment Exchanges in each of the above Divisional Areas are given on page 365.

UNEMPLOYMENT DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS.

(1) NUMBERS UNEMPLOYED ON REGISTERS.

The following Table shows the numbers of unemployed persons (insured and uninsured) on the registers of Employment Exchanges at one date in each month since September, 1938.—

Table showing the numbers of unemployed persons on registers from 12th September 1938 to 11th September 1939, categorized by Date, Men 18 and over, Boys 14-17, Women 18 and over, Girls 14-17, Total 14 and over, and Total 14 and over.

* The percentages are based on the estimated numbers insured at the beginning of July, 1938, and are subject to slight revision when information becomes available as to the number of insured persons at July, 1939. See also footnote † on page 363.

(2) PERCENTAGES UNEMPLOYED AMONG INSURED PERSONS.

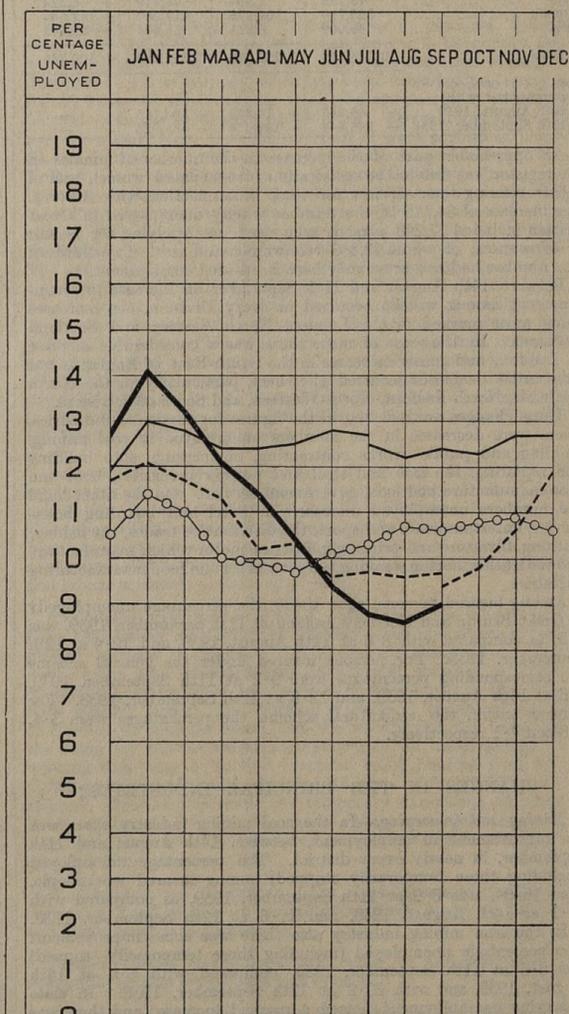
The following Table shows the percentages* unemployed among insured persons, aged 16-64, in Great Britain and Northern Ireland at one date in each month since September, 1938.—

Table showing unemployment percentages among insured persons from 12th September 1938 to 11th September 1939, categorized by Date, General and Agricultural Schemes, and Total.

UNEMPLOYMENT CHART.

PERCENTAGES UNEMPLOYED‡ AMONG INSURED PERSONS, AGED 16-64, IN GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.

1939. 1937.§ Mean for 1924-29.¶



* See footnote * in previous column. † Including the special schemes for the banking and insurance industries. ‡ From January, 1937, the percentages used for this chart relate to unemployment among all insured persons, aged 16-64, including those insured under the general and special schemes and the agricultural scheme.

COMPOSITION OF UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS: GREAT BRITAIN.

ANALYSIS FOR 11TH SEPTEMBER, 1939.

For reasons of economy certain detailed analyses of persons on the register and insured persons recorded as unemployed have been suspended.* It is not possible to compare the figures shown on the various lines in Section A of the Table below with figures published for earlier dates because (1) the analysis now given does not correspond strictly with earlier analyses, and (2) the provisions as to unemployment benefit and unemployment allowances have been changed by emergency legislation and regulations (see article on page 360 of this GAZETTE).

Table showing composition of unemployment statistics for Great Britain, categorized by A. Insured on Register, B. Non-claimants, C. Total on Register, and D. Insured Unemployed.

JUVENILE UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS.

JUVENILES, UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE, ON THE REGISTERS OF EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES AND JUVENILE EMPLOYMENT BUREAUX AT 11TH SEPTEMBER, 1939.

Table showing juvenile unemployment statistics, categorized by Division, Boys, and Girls, with sub-categories for Aged 14 and 15, and Aged 16 and 17.

INSURED JUVENILES, UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE, RECORDED AS UNEMPLOYED AT 11TH SEPTEMBER, 1939.

Table showing insured juveniles under 18 years of age, categorized by Division, Boys, and Girls, with sub-categories for Aged 14 and 15, and Aged 16 and 17.

* The statistics suspended include the analysis relating to duration of unemployment, hitherto published each month under the heading "Periods of Registered Unemployment." † See explanation on page 366.

NUMBERS ON THE REGISTERS IN THE PRINCIPAL TOWNS.

The Table below shows for each of the Employment Exchange administrative areas in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and for the principal towns therein, the number of unemployed persons registered at Employment Exchanges on 11th September, 1939.

Large table showing numbers on registers in principal towns, categorized by Divisions and Towns, with columns for Men, Women, Juveniles, Total, and Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Totals as compared with 14th Aug., 1939, and 12th Sept., 1938.

* The figures for Divisions relate to the areas constituted after the provincial reorganisation of the Ministry of Labour and National Service (see page 335 of the September issue of this GAZETTE). † The figures for Rutherglen are included.

UNEMPLOYMENT AMONG INSURED PERSONS AT 11th SEPTEMBER, 1939.

INDUSTRIAL ANALYSIS.

THE statistics here presented show, industry by industry, the estimated number of persons, aged 16-64, insured against unemployment at July, 1938, and the total number and percentage of such persons unemployed on 11th September, 1939,* distinguishing those wholly unemployed (i.e., out of a situation) from those temporarily stopped (i.e., suspended from work on the understanding that they were shortly to return to their former employment).

The Unemployment Insurance Acts provide, subject to certain exceptions, for the compulsory insurance against unemployment of substantially all employed persons. The principal classes of excepted employments are indoor private domestic service, employment otherwise than by way of manual labour at a rate of remuneration exceeding in value £250 a year, employment as female professional nurse, and, subject to certain qualifications, employment in the teaching profession and in the police forces. Employment under public or local authorities, railways and public utility companies may, in certain circumstances, also be excepted. Persons aged 65 and over, and certain other classes, are excluded from insurance. The Unemployment Insurance Acts do not apply to persons serving in an established capacity in the permanent service of the Crown. Prior to September, 1934, juveniles under 16 years of age were also excepted, and they are excluded from the statistics in these Tables; particulars of the numbers of these juveniles recorded as unemployed at 11th September, 1939, are, however, given on pages 367 and 370. As from 4th April, 1938, certain classes of domestic employments were brought within the General and Agricultural Schemes of unemployment insurance. These new classes are included in the Tables below.

An unemployment book, on which is recorded the industry in which he is employed, is issued to every insured person, and this book must be lodged at an Employment Exchange whenever the insured person makes a claim for unemployment benefit or for an unemployment allowance, or registers as unemployed without claiming benefit or an allowance.

The files of "lodged" books at the Employment Exchanges thus furnish for each industrial group a record of the unemployment of insured persons. In arriving at this figure the books of those persons who are known to be working in an uninsured trade, or to be sick or deceased, or to have gone abroad, are excluded. Where information on these points is lacking, the books remain in the "lodged" files, and are included in the statistics of unemployment, for a period of two months from the date on which the insured person was last in touch with the Exchange.

The numbers unemployed given in the following Tables relate only to persons, aged 16-64, insured against unemployment. They include insured persons of those ages maintaining registration at Employment Exchanges, together with those whose unemployment books remain lodged in the "two months" file referred to above. The figures given on pages 363, 364 and 365 relating to persons registered at Employment Exchanges include uninsured as well as insured persons who are maintaining registration for employment, but not insured persons whose books are in the two months file. A Table showing the composition of the two series of figures is given on page 365.

The estimated numbers of insured persons in each industry are computed once a year, in November, on the basis of information obtained at the annual exchange of unemployment books. The figures relate to the beginning of July, and similar statistics are not available for other dates in the year. In considering the figures on pages 368 and 369 it should be borne in mind that the percentage rates of unemployment at August and September, 1939, and those for September, 1938, used for the purpose of comparison, have been calculated on the basis of the estimated numbers of insured persons at July, 1938.

Revised percentages for August and September, 1939, based on the numbers insured at the beginning of July, 1939, will be published in a later issue of this GAZETTE.

INDUSTRY.	GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.									GREAT BRITAIN ONLY.		
	WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED (including Casuals).			TEMPORARY STOPPAGES.			TOTAL.			WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED, TEMPORARY STOPPAGES AND CASUALS.		
	Males.	Fe-males.	Total.	Males.	Fe-males.	Total.	Males.	Fe-males.	Total.	Males.	Fe-males.	Total.
Agricultural Scheme:—												
Farming, Forestry, etc.	13,852	1,927	15,779	256	240	496	14,108	2,167	16,275	10,429	1,931	12,360
Market Gardening, Horticulture, etc.	2,141	1,347	3,488	79	117	196	2,220	1,464	3,684	2,026	1,462	3,488
Private Gardening	2,455	31	2,486	172	5	177	2,627	36	2,663	2,403	36	2,439
Other Employments	1,495	63	1,558	53	5	58	1,546	68	1,614	1,494	68	1,562
TOTAL, AGRICULTURAL SCHEME ...	19,941	3,368	23,309	560	367	927	20,501	3,735	24,236	16,352	3,497	19,849
Fishing	15,537	246	15,783	519	14	533	16,056	260	16,316	16,010	260	16,270
Mining:—												
Coal Mining	52,637	297	52,934	23,629	25	23,654	76,286	322	76,588	76,246	321	76,567
Iron Ore and Ironstone Mining, etc.	595	—	595	40	1	41	635	1	636	631	1	632
Lead, Tin and Copper Mining ...	569	2	571	12	—	12	581	2	583	581	—	581
Stone Quarrying and Mining ...	3,932	8	3,940	1,516	1	1,517	5,448	9	5,457	4,930	1	4,931
Slate Quarrying and Mining ...	722	2	724	794	—	794	1,516	2	1,518	1,500	1	1,501
Other Mining and Quarrying ...	332	125	457	163	10	173	555	135	690	542	135	677
Clay, Sand, Gravel and Chalk Pits	857	15	872	92	1	93	949	16	965	815	46	861
Total, Mining	59,704	449	60,153	26,246	38	26,284	85,950	487	86,437	84,705	482	85,187
Non-Metallic Mining Products:—												
Coke Ovens and By-Product Works	916	7	923	157	4	161	1,073	11	1,084	1,070	11	1,081
Artificial Stone, Concrete, etc. ...	1,464	105	1,569	541	9	550	2,005	114	2,119	1,970	112	2,082
Cement, Limekilns and Whiting ...	521	17	538	41	5	46	562	22	584	500	22	522
Total, N.M. Mining Products	2,901	129	3,030	739	18	757	3,640	147	3,787	3,640	145	3,685
Brick, Tile, Pipe, etc., Making ...	4,872	759	5,631	2,520	390	2,910	7,392	1,149	8,541	7,184	1,147	8,331
Pottery, Earthenware, etc.	2,265	3,248	5,513	3,153	6,359	9,512	5,418	9,607	15,025	5,400	9,603	15,003
Glass:—												
Glass (excluding Bottles, Optical Glass, Lenses, Prisms, etc.) ...	1,571	371	1,942	605	199	804	2,176	570	2,746	2,152	570	2,722
Glass Bottles	1,293	165	1,458	473	21	494	1,766	186	1,952	1,760	186	1,946
Total, Glass	2,864	536	3,400	1,078	220	1,298	3,942	756	4,698	3,912	756	4,668
Chemicals, Paints, Oils, etc.:—												
Chemicals	3,180	1,245	4,425	133	113	246	3,313	1,358	4,671	3,167	1,353	4,520
Explosives	429	402	831	18	215	233	447	617	1,064	443	615	1,058
Paint, Varnish, Red Lead, etc. ...	570	246	816	22	37	59	592	283	875	579	282	861
Oil, Glue, Soap, Ink, Matches, etc. ...	2,144	944	3,088	202	79	281	2,346	1,023	3,369	2,317	1,008	3,325
Total, Chemicals, Paints, Oils, etc.	6,323	2,837	9,160	375	444	819	6,698	3,281	9,979	6,566	3,258	9,764
Metal Manufacture:—												
Pig Iron (Blast Furnaces)	859	17	876	289	1	290	1,148	18	1,166	1,136	18	1,154
Steel Melting and Iron Puddling, Iron and Steel Rolling, etc. ...	5,851	114	5,965	4,454	21	4,475	10,305	135	10,440	10,279	135	10,414
Brass, Copper, Zinc, Tin, Lead, etc.	1,094	151	1,245	379	16	395	1,473	167	1,640	1,432	167	1,599
Iron and Steel Tubes	554	104	658	1,572	116	1,688	2,126	220	2,346	2,125	220	2,345
Iron and Steel Castings	1,216	81	1,297	1,234	7	1,241	2,440	88	2,528	2,412	88	2,500
Wire, Wire Netting, Wire Ropes ...	636	153	789	338	24	362	1,024	177	1,201	1,006	176	1,182
Total, Metal Manufacture	10,270	620	10,890	8,246	185	8,431	15,516	805	16,321	15,388	804	16,192
Engineering, etc.:—												
General Engineering; Engineers' Iron and Steel Founding	17,116	2,482	19,598	4,105	832	4,937	21,221	3,314	24,535	20,448	3,301	23,749
Electrical Engineering	1,854	820	2,674	166	153	319	2,020	973	2,993	1,965	969	2,934
Marine Engineering, etc.	2,220	10	2,230	88	12	100	2,308	22	2,330	2,197	21	1,978
Constructional Engineering	2,518	42	2,560	273	6	279	2,591	48	2,639	2,536	48	2,584
Total, Engineering	23,508	3,354	26,862	4,632	1,003	5,635	28,140	4,357	32,497	26,906	4,339	31,245

* The numbers and percentages unemployed have probably been affected to some extent by the withdrawal of men from the industrial fields owing to the recent expansion of H.M. Forces, but the information necessary for making an estimate of this effect is not available.

INDUSTRY.	GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.									GREAT BRITAIN ONLY.		
	WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED (including Casuals).			TEMPORARY STOPPAGES.			TOTAL.			WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED, TEMPORARY STOPPAGES AND CASUALS.		
	Males.	Fe-males.	Total.	Males.	Fe-males.	Total.	Males.	Fe-males.	Total.	Males.	Fe-males.	Total.
Construction and Repair of Vehicles:—												
Motor Vehicles, Cycles and Aircraft Carriages, Carts, etc.	9,485	1,403	10,888	10,090	985	11,075	19,575	2,388	21,963	19,045	2,369	21,414
Railway Carriages and Wagons, etc.	837	103	940	87	24	111	924	127	1,051	871	126	997
Total, Vehicles	10,322	1,506	11,828	10,177	1,009	11,186	20,500	2,515	22,994	19,916	2,495	22,411
Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing ...	16,336	256	16,592	754	102	856	17,090	358	17,448	15,677	356	16,033
Other Metal Industries:—												
Stove, Grate, Pipe, etc., and General Iron Founding	3,147	388	3,535	3,427	272	3,699	6,574	660	7,234	6,494	659	7,153
Electrical Wiring and Contracting ...	2,696	81	2,777	124	6	130	2,820	87	2,907	2,630	86	2,716
Electric Cable, Apparatus, Lamps, etc.	2,959	4,040	6,999	243	543	786	3,202	4,583	7,785	3,138	4,573	7,711
Hand Tools, Cutlery, Saws, Files ...	880	608	1,488	643	196	839	1,523	704	2,227	1,511	803	2,314
Bolts, Nuts, Screws, Rivets, Nails, etc.	478	614	1,092	136	116	252	614	730	1,344	596	728	1,324
Brass and Allied Metal Wares	524	475	999	243	77	320	767	552	1,319	741	548	1,289
Heating and Ventilating Apparatus	650	29	679	36	27	63	686	56	742	624	56	680
Watches, Clocks, Plate, Jewellery, etc.	1,177	803	1,980	478	282	760	1,655	1,085	2,740	1,642	1,080	2,722
Metal Industries not separately specified	6,132	4,603	10,735	2,876	3,169	6,045	9,008	7,772	16,780	8,711	7,752	16,463
Total, Other Metals	18,643	11,641	30,284	8,206	4,688	12,894	26,849	16,329	43,178	26,087	16,283	42,370
Textiles:—												
Cotton Preparing, Spinning, etc. ...	4,394	8,185	12,579	2,749	5,864	8,613	7,133	14,049	21,182	7,128	14,044	21,172
Cotton Manufacturing (Weaving, etc.)	3,393	12,477	15,870	5,045	9,286	14,331	8,438	21,763	30,201	8,437	21,764	30,191
Total, Cotton	7,777	20,662	28,439	7,794	15,150	22,944	15,571	35,812	51,383	15,565	35,798	51,363
Woolen and Worsted	2,099	3,766	5,865	2,327	4,140	6,467	4,426	7,906	12,332	4,371	7,817	12,188
Silk Spinning and Manufacture and Artificial Silk Weaving, etc. ...	501	1,451	1,952	1,172	3,833	5,005	1,673	5,284	6,957	1,668	5,147	6,815
Artificial Silk Yarn Manufacture ...	358	491	849	322	340	662	680	831	1,511	678	828	1,506
Linen	3,589	8,352	11,941	340	1,045	1,385	3,929	9,397	13,326	201	1,321	1,322
Jute	936	2,711	3,647	25	182	207	961	3,654	4,615	960	2,892	

Table with columns: INDUSTRY, ESTIMATED NUMBER OF INSURED PERSONS, AGED 16-64, AT JULY, 1938, PERCENTAGES* AT 11TH SEPTEMBER, 1939, INCREASE (+) OR DECREASE (-) IN TOTAL PERCENTAGES* AS COMPARED WITH 14TH AUG. 1939, 12TH SEPT. 1938, GREAT BRITAIN ONLY, TOTAL PERCENTAGES* AT 11TH SEPT., 1939.

* The percentages for August and September, 1939, and those for September, 1938, used for purpose of comparison, have been calculated on the basis of the estimated numbers of insured persons at July, 1938. See also footnote * on page 366.

Table with columns: INDUSTRY, ESTIMATED NUMBER OF INSURED PERSONS, AGED 16-64, AT JULY, 1938, PERCENTAGES* AT 11TH SEPTEMBER, 1939, INCREASE (+) OR DECREASE (-) IN TOTAL PERCENTAGES* AS COMPARED WITH 14TH AUG. 1939, 12TH SEPT. 1938, GREAT BRITAIN ONLY, TOTAL PERCENTAGES* AT 11TH SEPT., 1939.

* See footnote * on the previous page. † Persons insured under the special schemes for the banking and insurance industries are included in these figures.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN NUMBERS UNEMPLOYED.

The following Table shows for Great Britain and Northern Ireland the variations for those industries in which the total numbers of insured persons recorded as unemployed at 11th September, 1939, differed from the figures for 14th August, 1939, to the extent of 1,200 or more.

Table with columns: Industries in which the numbers unemployed increased, Industries in which the numbers unemployed decreased, Industry, Males, Females, Total.

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

THE Table below shows for each industry group, and for the principal industries, the numbers of insured boys and girls under 16 years of age recorded as unemployed in Great Britain, and in Great Britain and Northern Ireland at 11th September, 1939. The figures include insured boys and girls previously in domestic employments which first became insurable on 4th April, 1938.

Industry.	Great Britain.		Great Britain and Northern Ireland.	
	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.
Agricultural Scheme:—				
Farming, Forestry, etc. ...	223	57	239	58
Market Gardening ...	89	107	105	111
Other Employments (including Private Gardening) ...	52	3	54	3
Total, Agricultural Scheme ...	364	167	398	172
Fishing ...	52	4	52	4
Mining:—				
Coal Mining ...	230	4	230	4
All other Mining, etc. ...	24	2	27	2
Total, Mining ...	254	6	257	6
Non-Metallic Mining Products:—				
Brick, Tile, Pipe, etc., Making ...	189	4	190	4
Pottery, Earthenware, etc. ...	62	81	62	81
Glass ...	52	51	55	51
Chemicals, Paints, Oils, etc. ...	86	308	87	310
Metal Manufacture ...	80	25	81	25
Engineering, etc.:—				
General Engineering; Engineers' Iron and Steel Founding ...	469	115	506	115
Other Engineering ...	141	65	143	65
Total, Engineering ...	610	180	649	180
Construction and Repair of Vehicles:—				
Motor Vehicles, Cycles and Aircraft	400	66	419	66
Other Vehicles ...	49	6	50	6
Total, Vehicles ...	449	72	469	72
Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing ...	119	—	120	—
Other Metal Industries:—				
Electric Cable, Apparatus, Lamps, etc.	204	229	206	230
All others ...	636	363	640	363
Total, Other Metal Industries ...	840	592	846	593
Textiles:—				
Cotton Preparing, Spinning, etc.	42	53	42	53
Cotton Manufacturing (Weaving, etc.)	37	54	37	54
Total, Cotton ...	79	107	79	107
Woolen and Worsted ...	37	101	37	102
Linen ...	5	31	44	131
Hosiery ...	13	204	14	205
All other Textiles ...	126	444	151	450
Total, Textiles ...	260	837	325	995
Leather and Leather Goods ...	80	138	81	138
Clothing:—				
Tailoring ...	111	576	114	596
Dressmaking and Millinery ...	60	1,136	60	1,137
Shirts, Collars, Underclothing, etc.	19	330	25	408
Boots, Shoes, Slippers and Clogs ...	108	106	110	106
Other Clothing ...	53	170	53	170
Total, Clothing ...	351	2,318	362	2,417
Food, Drink and Tobacco:—				
Bread, Biscuits, Cakes, etc. ...	129	482	135	483
Cocoa, Chocolate and Sugar Confectionery ...	39	479	39	485
Tobacco, Cigars, Cigarettes and Snuff	5	30	5	31
All other Food, and Drink ...	174	609	189	613
Total, Food, Drink, etc. ...	347	1,600	368	1,612
Woodworking, etc.:—				
Furniture Making, Upholstery, etc.	506	166	509	167
All other Woodworking ...	275	84	279	84
Total, Woodworking, etc. ...	781	250	788	251
Paper, Printing, etc.:—				
Cardboard Boxes, Paper Bags and Stationery ...	47	271	49	273
Printing, Publishing and Bookbinding	459	641	493	650
Other Paper, Printing, etc. ...	53	128	53	128
Total, Paper, Printing, etc. ...	559	1,040	595	1,051
Building and Contracting:—				
Building ...	692	29	710	29
Public Works Contracting, etc. ...	156	2	156	2
Total, Building and Contracting ...	848	31	866	31
Other Manufacturing Industries:—				
Rubber	44	87	44	87
Scientific and Photographic Instruments and Apparatus ...	65	42	67	42
Toys, Games and Sports Requisites	75	173	75	173
All Others ...	74	49	75	49
Total, Other Manufacturing ...	258	351	261	351
Gas, Water and Electricity Supply	21	11	21	12
Transport and Communication	409	51	414	51
Distributive Trades	4,264	4,616	4,476	4,667
Commerce and Finance	159	165	163	167
Miscellaneous Trades and Services:—				
Professional Services ...	133	391	135	394
Entertainments, Sport, etc. ...	356	690	366	690
Hotel, Public House, Restaurant, Boarding-House, Club, etc., Service	364	1,233	377	1,254
Laundry Service ...	123	506	124	516
Job Dyeing, Dry Cleaning, etc. ...	81	125	82	125
All other Industries and Services ...	357	516	362	519
Total, Miscellaneous ...	1,414	3,461	1,446	3,498
Total, General Scheme ...	12,616	16,248	13,097	16,573
Total, General and Agricultural Schemes ...	12,980	16,415	13,495	16,745

The figures above include those boys and girls whose unemployment books were in the "two-months' file" of lodged books, i.e. boys and girls who had registered as unemployed at some date within the previous two months and were not known to have found work, but were not maintaining registration as applicants for employment.

EMPLOYMENT OVERSEAS.

[N.B.—The following paragraphs include an abstract of such official and other information as is available with regard to the state of employment abroad, in order to indicate, as far as possible, the fluctuations in employment in each country from period to period. The bases of the statistics published in the various countries are, however, not the same as those of the statistics relating to this country; and therefore the figures quoted below cannot properly be used with those on pp. 363-364 to compare the actual level of employment in Great Britain and Northern Ireland with that in other countries.]

BELGIUM.*

There was a decline in unemployment during June. Returns received by the National Employment and Unemployment Office from approved unemployment insurance funds with a total membership of 1,013,389 showed that 14.2 per cent. of these were totally unemployed in June, 1939, as compared with 14.8 per cent. in May, 1939, and 12.3 per cent. in June, 1938. In addition, 14.5 per cent. were employed intermittently in June, 1939, as compared with 15.6 per cent. in May, 1939, and 16.8 per cent. in June, 1938. In June, 1939, 16.8 per cent. of the aggregate possible working days were lost through unemployment; in the preceding month the percentage was 17.9, and in June, 1938, 15.9.

NETHERLANDS.†

There was a further decline in unemployment during July. Figures compiled by the State Department of Unemployment Insurance and Employment Exchanges show that, of 511,637 members of subsidised unemployment funds making returns for the week ended 29th July, 1939, 16.9 per cent. were unemployed during the whole week and 2.4 per cent. for less than 6 days. In the corresponding week of the preceding month the percentages were 17.1 and 2.1, and in the last week of July, 1938, 21.4 and 3.1. At the end of July, 1939, 264,934 applicants for work were registered at public Employment Exchanges, of whom 192,344 were unemployed; at the end of the previous month the corresponding totals were 271,351 and 196,166, and at the end of July, 1938, 319,877 and 302,312.

SCANDINAVIAN COUNTRIES.

Unemployment increased in Denmark during September; it declined in both Norway and Sweden during July.

Sweden.‡—Of a total of approximately 679,000 members covered by the returns of the reporting trade unions, 4.7 per cent. were unemployed at the end of July, 1939, as compared with 5.6 per cent. at the end of the previous month, and 7.2 per cent. at the end of July, 1938.

Denmark.¶—According to returns received by the Danish Statistical Department from approved unemployment funds with a total membership of 484,100, approximately 12.6 per cent. of this membership were unemployed at the end of September, 1939, as compared with 9.5 per cent. at the end of August, 1939, and 16.8 per cent. at the end of September, 1938.

Norway.**—Returns furnished by ten trade unions with a total membership of 92,905 show that 11.8 per cent. of this membership were unemployed at the end of July, 1939, as compared with 13.1 per cent. at the end of June, 1939, and 16.9 per cent. at the end of July, 1938.

ÉIRE.††

Unemployment showed a further increase during September. The number of persons on the live registers of the Employment Exchanges increased from 70,961 at 28th August to 77,888 at 25th September, 1939. The figures for both these dates are affected by the operation of two Orders‡‡ issued under the Unemployment Assistance Act, 1933, the effect of which is to restrict the eligibility for unemployment assistance of certain classes of persons living in rural areas. At 26th September, 1938, when similar Orders were in force, the number of persons on the live register was 70,411.

UNITED STATES.§§

Employment in manufacturing industries declined slightly in July. According to returns received by the Bureau of Labour Statistics from employers, covering over one-half of the aggregate number of wage-earners in manufacturing industries, the number of workpeople employed at the middle of July, 1939, showed a decline of 0.1 per cent., as compared with the previous month. Aggregate weekly earnings in the establishments covered declined during the same period by 2.4 per cent. If the average monthly index of employment in manufacturing industries for the three years 1923-1925 be taken as 100, the corresponding index for July, 1939, was 90.5, as compared with 90.6 for the previous month, and 81.9 for July, 1938.

At the end of July, 1939, 6,100,925 applicants for work were registered at the Public Employment Exchanges comprised in, or affiliated to, the United States Employment Service, a decline of 2.9 per cent., as compared with the previous month, and of 24.6 per cent., as compared with July, 1938. The comparability of these figures is affected by the incentive to register provided by the initiation of unemployment compensation payments in an increasing number of States. As from 1st July, however, benefits became payable in all States. Included among the registered applicants are a large number of persons provided with employment on public relief work schemes.

* *Revue du Travail*, September, 1939. Brussels.

† *Maandochrift van het Centraal Bureau voor de Statistiek*, 31st August, 1939. The Hague.

‡ Information supplied by the Department for Social Affairs, Stockholm.

§ Provisional figure. ¶ Revised figure.

¶ *Statistiske Efterretninger*, 6th October, 1939. Copenhagen.

** Information supplied by the Central Bureau of Statistics, Oslo.

†† Information supplied by the Department of Industry and Commerce, Dublin.

‡‡ The Orders came into force on 8th March and 7th June, 1939, and are to expire simultaneously on 31st October, 1939.

§§ *Survey of Current Business*, September, 1939; information supplied by Department of Labour, Washington.

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

Rates of Wages.

In the industries covered by the Department's statistics* the changes in the rates of wages reported to have come into operation in September in Great Britain and Northern Ireland resulted in an increase estimated at about £128,600 in the weekly full-time wages of 443,000 workpeople and in a decrease of £9,700 in those of 178,000 workpeople.

The particulars are analysed by industry groups below:—

Industry Group.	Approximate Number of Workpeople affected by		Estimated Amount of Change in Weekly Wages	
	Increases.	Decreases.	Increases.	Decreases.
Mining and Quarrying ...	135,900	178,000	£ 870	£ 9,695
Transport ...	115,000	—	80,000	—
Other ...	192,300	150	41,730	5
TOTAL ...	443,200	178,150	128,600	9,700

In the mining and quarrying group there were increases in the percentage additions to basis rates for coal miners in Leicestershire, Somerset, Warwickshire, Cannock Chase and the Forest of Dean, and decreases in Scotland, Nottinghamshire and North Derbyshire, the changes being due to fluctuations in the proceeds of the industry as shown by the district ascertainment. In the case of Scotland the decrease was offset by increases in the flat-rate additions, making the latter 1s. per shift for male workers 18 years and over and 6d. per shift for other male workers. There was also a decrease for cokemakers and by-product workers in Durham.

In the transport industries the principal increase affected the crews of merchant vessels, for whom "war risk money" was granted, amounting to £3 a month or 14s. a week for ratings other than boys.

In the other industry groups the principal increase affected workers employed in the shipbuilding and ship-repairing industry in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, for whom there was an increase of 2s. per week in bonus for adult male timeworkers, of approximately 4 per cent. for pieceworkers, and of 6d. or 1s. per week for timeworkers under 21 years. Other workpeople whose wages were increased included flannel workers at Rochdale, heavy edge tool workers at Sheffield, and chain makers other than those whose wages are regulated by Orders under the Trade Boards Acts. There was also an increase for the crews of steam trawlers in the form of war risk money.

Of the estimated total increase of £128,600 per week, £830 was due to the operation of sliding scales based on the proceeds of the coal mining industry; £180 was due to the operation of sliding

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING SEPTEMBER.

Industry.	District.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change. (Decreases in italics.)
Agriculture	Gloucestershire ...	24 Sept.	Head carters, under carters, head shepherds, head stockmen, under shepherds and under stockmen.	Increase in minimum rates of 5d. to 1s. per week. Minimum weekly rates after change at 21 years and over, during summer and winter periods respectively: head carters, 40s. 6d., 42s.; under carters, 38s., 40s.; head shepherds or head stockmen, 42s., 42s.; under shepherds or under stockmen, 40s., 40s.‡
	Devonshire ...	24 Sept.	Other male workers ...	Increase in minimum rates of 3d. to 1s. per week. Minimum weekly rates after change: 10s. 5d. at 14 years and under, increasing to 35s. at 21 and over.§
Fishing	Great Britain ...	13 Sept.	Crews of steam trawlers:— Deck hands, engine room staff, deck learners and spare hands. Skippers and mates ...	New scale of minimum weekly rates fixed for a working week of 52 hours in summer and 50 hours in winter of 14s. 7d. at 14 and under 15 years increasing to 38s. 6d. at 21 years and over.§
	Nottinghamshire ...	1 Sept.	Workpeople employed in and about coal mines.	War risk pay granted of 20s. per week payable while vessel is at sea. Guaranteed minimum rates adopted of 20s. and 15s. per sea day for skippers and mates respectively.
Coal Mining	Derbyshire (except South Derbyshire) ...	1 Sept.	Workpeople employed in and about coal mines.	Decrease of 2.13 per cent. on basis rates, leaving wages 55.27 per cent. above the basis rates.¶
	Cannock Chase ...	1 Sept.	Workpeople employed in and about coal mines, other than engine-winders, deputies and firemen, examiners and shotlighters.	Decrease of 0.05 per cent. on basis rates, leaving wages 2.71 per cent. above the basis rates.¶
	Leicestershire ...	1 Sept.	Workpeople employed in and about coal mines.	Increase of 0.24 per cent. on basis rates, making wages 48.62 per cent. above the basis rates for shopmen, mechanics and surface workers not handling coal, and 46.62 per cent. for all other workers.¶
Warwickshire ...	Warwickshire ...	1 Sept.	Workpeople employed in and about coal mines.	Increase of 0.96 per cent. on basis rates, making wages 52.84 per cent. above the basis rates.¶
	Forest of Dean ...	1 Sept.	Workpeople employed in and about coal mines, other than master hauliers, underground linemen and engineers.	Increase of 2 per cent. on basis rates, making wages 88 per cent. above the basis rates at the majority of the collieries, also subsistence wage paid at the majority of the collieries to adult able-bodied surface workers increased by 1d. per shift (7s. 11d. to 8s.)**
				Increase of 1.04 per cent. on basis rates of 1919 (equivalent to 0.77 per cent. on standard rates of 1921), making the percentage 83.59 per cent. above the basis rates of 1919 (equivalent to 35.99 per cent. above the standard rates of 1921).¶

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

† In addition to the numbers quoted, wages stand at the same level as at the beginning of the year in the case of 143,000 workpeople whose wages have been increased and reduced by equal amounts during the year.

‡ Changes affecting workpeople employed in railway engineering workshops are included under "Engineering" and not under "Transport."

§ These changes took effect under Orders issued under the Agricultural Wages (Regulation) Act, 1924.

¶ Apart from the percentage additions to basis rates, certain flat-rate additions per day or per shift, granted in January, 1936, are paid.

** As well as "subsistence allowances" to adult day-wage workers for whom the basis rates plus the percentage additions do not yield certain specified amounts.

*** Flat-rate additions are also paid of 1s. per day to workers 21 years and over and of 6d. per day to other workers. The subsistence wage payable at the majority of the collieries to adult able-bodied underground workers remained unaltered at 8s. 6d. per shift. At three collieries a lower percentage is payable: the percentage addition is 83 at two collieries and 78 at another.

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

Industry.	District.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change. (Decreases in italics.)
Coal Mining (contd.)	Radstock district of Somerset.	1 Sept.	Workpeople employed in and about coal mines, other than bailiffs and examiners.	Increase of 3.52 per cent. on basis rates, making wages 42.02 per cent. above the basis rates.*
	Newbury district of Somerset.	17 Aug.	Workpeople employed in and about coal mines.	Increase of 5.50 per cent. on basis rates, making wages 38.50 per cent. above the basis rates.†
		1 Sept.		Increase of 3.52 per cent. on basis rates making wages 42.02 per cent. above the basis rates.*
	Scotland ...	1 Sept.	Workpeople employed in and about coal mines.	<i>Decrease of 6.11 per cent. on basis rates, leaving wages 111.09 per cent. above the basis rates and corresponding decreases for workpeople (e.g., enginemen, boys and girls) in receipt of consolidated rates.†</i>
Coke, etc. Manufacture.	Durham§ ...	1 Sept.	Cokemen and by-product workers	<i>Decrease of 1 per cent. on basis rates, leaving wages 41 per cent. above basis rates.</i>
Other Mining and Quarrying.	Thames and Medway districts.	Pay week following 27 Sept.	Chalk quarryworkers ...	Increase of 1d. per hour (1s. 2½d. to 1s. 2¾d.) in the basic rate for dayworkers and pieceworkers when on day work.¶
Glue and Artificial Manure Manufacture.	Bristol (certain firms)	1st week in Sept.	Workpeople employed in the manufacture of glue and chemical manures.	Increase** of 6d. per week for men and of proportional amounts for women and youths. Minimum weekly rate after change for men, 4s. 9d.
Steel Manufacture	South-West Wales	3 Sept.	Labourers and lower-paid men employed in Siemens steel manufacture.	Increase in ex-gratia bonus percentage varying inversely with the basis rates, from 10.83 per cent. for those workpeople with a base rate of 30s. per week or less, to 0.47 per cent. for those workpeople with a base rate of 53s. resulting in increases of amounts varying from 3s. 3d. to 3d. per week.
Shipbuilding and Ship-repairing.	All federated shipbuilding and ship-repairing centres in Great Britain and Northern Ireland.	Beginning of 1st full pay week in Sept.	Male workers employed in the shipbuilding and ship-repairing industry, with the exception of those whose wages fluctuate in accordance with wages in other industries.	Increase of 2s. per week bonus (8s. to 10s.) for adult timeworkers and 4 per cent. (16 to 20 per cent.) for pieceworkers (adults and apprentices) the increases for boys and youths to be 6d. per week for those under 18 years and 1s. per week for those 18 and under 21 years and for timeworking apprentices to be 1s. per week in the last 3 years of apprenticeship and 6d. per week in the previous years. National uniform rates after change (inclusive of bonus) for principal classes of time-workers engaged on new work: skilled men, 70s. per week; unskilled men, 51s. The rates in West of England districts and in Aberdeen are 1s. and 2s. per week less respectively in each case.††
	Hull‡‡ ...	Beginning of 1st full pay week in Sept.	Shipwrights, electricians, etc., employed on repairs of fishing vessels.	Increase of 2s. per week.
	Mersey district		Ship scrapers, scalers, trimmers, etc.	Increase of 2s. per week for adults, of 6d. per week for scaler boys and for those under 18, and of 1s. per week for those 18 and under 21 years.
Edge Tool Manufacture.	Sheffield ...	Pay period starting in the week beginning 5 June.	Workpeople employed in the heavy edge tool trade	War bonus increased by 2s. per week.§§
Chain Manufacture.	Cradley Heath and district, Chester, Stoke, Pontypridd, Birmingham, St. Helens and Shifnal.	1st full pay day in Sept.	Commercial end-welded dollied and tommied chain makers (except those whose wages are regulated by the Chain Trade Board).	Increase** of 5 per cent. on list prices, making wages 10 per cent. above the lists of September, 1937.
			Block chain makers... Large end-welded stud, open and short link, dollied and tommied chain makers.	Increase** of 5 per cent. on list prices, making wages 10 per cent. above the list prices of March, 1937.
			Admiralty end-welded chain makers and cable shackles makers.	Increase** of amounts varying according to size of chain of 2d. to 4½d. per cwt. on list prices of February, 1922.
			Side-welded stud link chain makers.	Increase** of 5d. per cwt.
			Anchor and grapple makers ... Admiralty rigging chain makers Admiralty block chain and steering gear chain makers.	Increase** of 5 per cent. on list prices, making wages 10 per cent. above the lists of January, 1938.
Wool Textile	Rochdale and district	Beginning of pay week following 1 Aug.	Workpeople employed in flannel manufacture.	Restoration of the remaining part of the reductions made in January and April, 1933, resulting in an increase of approximately 3 per cent. for timeworkers and 2.4 per cent. for pieceworkers.
Baking	England and Wales	4 Sept.	Bakers and confectioners:— Male workers ...	General minimum hourly rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts according to area. Rates for adult workers: foreman confectioners, 1s. 3½d. to 1s. 6½d.; foreman bakers, 1s. 3½d. to 1s. 6½d.; first hands, 1s. 2½d. to 1s. 5d.; single hands, 1s. 2½d. to 1s. 5d.; second hands and dough makers, 1s. 1½d. to 1s. 4½d.; ovenmen, 1s. 0½d. to 1s. 4½d.; mixers, 1s. 1½d. to 1s. 4½d.; confectioners and table hands, 11½d. to 1s. 3½d.; oven clearers, 11½d. to 1s. 3d.; other male workers 21 years of age and over, 11½d. to 1s. 2d.; jobbers to receive 2d. per hour extra and nightworkers ½th more than the above rates.¶¶
			Female workers ...	General minimum hourly rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts according to area. Rates for adult workers: forewomen, 10½d. to 1s. 0½d.; charge hands, 9½d. to 11½d.; single hands, 9½d. to 10½d.; confectioners, 21 years of age and over, 8½d. to 10½d.; other female workers 21 years of age and over, 7½d. to 8½d.; jobbers to receive 1½d. per hour extra and nightworkers ½th more than the above rates.¶¶

* Flat-rate additions are also paid to workers 21 years and over of 6d. per day for those receiving a basis wage of over 4s. 11½d. per day, and 8d. per day for those receiving a basis wage of 4s. 11½d. per day or less, the addition for those under 21 years being 3d. per day. A minimum wage is payable to adult able-bodied workers of 7s. 4-95d. per shift gross—i.e., 4s. 9d. per shift basis plus current percentage plus flat-rate addition.
 † Flat-rate additions are also paid to workers 21 years and over of 6d. per day for those receiving a basis wage of over 4s. 11½d. per day and 8d. per day for those receiving a basis wage of 4s. 11½d. per day or less, the addition for those under 21 years being 3d. per day. A minimum wage is payable to adult able-bodied workers of 7s. 2-95d. per shift gross—i.e., 4s. 9d. per shift basis plus current percentage plus flat-rate addition.
 ‡ Apart from the percentage additions to basis rates, certain flat-rate additions per day or per shift are paid.
 § Under selling-price sliding-scale arrangements.
 ¶ This increase is in accordance with a decision of the Chalk National Sectional Council of the National Joint Industrial Council of the Quarrying Industry.
 ** Under cost-of-living sliding-scale arrangements.
 †† These increases took place as the result of an agreement between the Shipbuilding Employers' Federation and the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions.
 †‡ This increase affected workpeople employed by members of the Hull Fishing Vessel Owners' Association.
 §§ This increase was the result of an Industrial Court Award dated 1st September, 1939, and was retrospective to the date shown.
 ¶¶ These increases were the result of an Industrial Court Award dated 29th September, 1939, and were retrospective to the date shown. The first part of the reduction was restored in January, 1937.
 ¶¶ Full details of the minimum rates are contained in the Confirming Order of the Minister of Labour, obtainable from H.M. Stationery Office.

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

Industry.	District.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change. (Decreases in italics.)
Bedding Manufacture.	Scotland ...	23 Sept.	Timeworkers ...	Increase of 1d. per hour for men (1s. 4d. to 1s. 5d.), of ½d. for women (8d. to 8½d.) and scales of rates adopted for apprentices.
			Pieceworkers ...	Increase of 6½ per cent. on piece prices.
Waterworks Undertakings.	Certain undertakings in the Midland Area.	1st full pay week in Sept.	Manual workers, except those whose wages are regulated by movements in other industries.	Increase* of 1d. per hour in the minimum rates. Minimum rates after change in Zone A include: trenchmen, turncocks, and stokers, 1s. 2½d.; lead pipe jointers, 1s. 5½d.; meter readers, 1s. 3½d.; labourers, 1s. 1½d. The rates in Zones B and C Areas are 1d. and 1½d. per hour respectively less than in Zone A.
Electricity Supply	Certain undertakings in Northern Ireland.†	1st full pay in Aug.	Employees under 21 years, probationers and apprentices.	Scale of rates of wages adopted as follows:—employees under 21 years, 25 per cent. of adult minimum rate at 14 years to 100 per cent. at 21; probationers, 25 per cent. for first six months to 100 per cent. in the sixth year provided that adult minimum rate shall not be reached earlier than 21 years; apprentices to be paid the standard district rates.
Merchant Navy	Great Britain ...	15 Sept.	Officers and men of the Merchant Navy.	Adoption of "Seafarers' War Risk Money," payable whilst working on articles, at the following rates. On monthly articles: navigating and engineer officers, £5 per month; ratings (other than boys) £3; boys, £1 10s. On weekly articles: navigating and engineer officers, 23s. 4d. per week; ratings (other than boys) 14s.; boys, 7s. Apprentices and cadets normally in receipt of wages, 50s. per month.‡
Local Authorities (Non-Trading Services).	Chester-le-Street ...	1st pay in Sept.	Manual workers employed by the Rural District Council.	Cost-of-living bonus increased§ from 53 to 55 per cent., making, with special 5 per cent. on basic rates, a total of 60 per cent. above basic rates. Weekly rate after change for scavengers, 65s. 3d. inclusive of bonus.
Skip and Basket Making.	Lancashire and Cheshire.	4 Sept.	Skip and basket makers ...	<i>Decrease of 1 per cent. on list prices, leaving wages 82½ and 72½ per cent. above the list for timeworkers and pieceworkers respectively.</i>
Retail Distribution.	Birmingham ...	1 Sept.	Workers employed in licensed houses	Scales of minimum rates of wages adopted for those living out. Minimum weekly rates include: bar potmen—under 21 years of age, 37s. 6d., 21 and over, 45s.; experienced barmen, 55s.; bar generals—under 21, 30s., 21 and over, 35s.; experienced barmaids, 40s.
	Edinburgh and Leith	4 Sept.	Workers employed in licensed houses	Scales of minimum weekly rates of wages adopted for workers 18 years of age and over, starting at 25s. at 1st year of experience increasing to 55s. per week at 7th year.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN HOURS OF LABOUR REPORTED DURING SEPTEMBER.

Industry.	District.	Date.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change.
Agriculture	Monmouthshire ...	16 Sept.	Male workers ...	Weekly number of hours beyond which overtime rates become payable fixed under the Agricultural Wages (Regulation) Act, 1924, at 52 in summer and 48 in winter in lieu of 54 in summer and 50 in winter as previously fixed.
Electrical Cable Making.	Great Britain ...	3 Sept.	Juvenile workers under 16 years of age.	Reduction in normal weekly hours of labour from 47 to 44 consequent upon the provisions of the Factories Act, 1937, whereby the total weekly hours of young persons under 16 years of age are not to exceed 44.
Flax Textile Manufacture.	Great Britain ...	3 Sept.	Juvenile workers under 16 years of age.	Reduction in normal weekly hours of labour consequent upon the provisions of the Factories Act, 1937, whereby the total weekly hours of young persons under 16 years of age are not to exceed 44 instead of (as previously) 48.
Rope, Twine and Net Manufacture.	Great Britain ...	3 Sept.	Juvenile workers under 16 years of age.	Reduction in normal weekly hours of labour consequent upon the provisions of the Factories Act, 1937, whereby the total weekly hours of young persons under 16 years of age are not to exceed 44 instead of (as previously) 48.

* This increase is in accordance with a recommendation by the Midland District Joint Industrial Council for the Waterworks Undertakings Industry made on 3rd October, 1939, with retrospective effect from the date shown.
 † The undertakings affected are those affiliated to the Northern Ireland District Joint Industrial Council for the Electricity Supply Industry.
 ‡ This increase is the result of an agreement arrived at by the Navigating Officers', Engineer Officers', Sailors' and Firemen's and Catering Department Panels of the National Maritime Board. The agreement applies to all vessels to which the National Maritime Board Rate of Pay agreements apply either as standard or minimum rates; it also applies to railway-owned vessels subject to the consent of the Government Department concerned. It is recommended that the payment of Seafarers' War Risk Money should apply to masters.
 § Under cost-of-living sliding-scale arrangements.

POOR RELIEF: SECOND QUARTER, 1939.

A STATEMENT* issued by the Ministry of Health shows that the total number of persons† in receipt of poor relief in England and Wales on the last Saturday in June, 1939, was 1,031,421, as compared with 1,073,975 at the end of March, 1939, and with 1,040,352 at the end of June, 1938.

The total for the end of June, 1939, viz., 1,031,421, was composed of 144,711 recipients of institutional relief, and 886,710 recipients of domiciliary relief ("outdoor" relief, i.e., relief in their own homes).
 With the exception of increases following the Easter and Whitsun holidays, there was a continuous decrease throughout the quarter in the number of persons in receipt of poor relief. The averages of the numbers in receipt of domiciliary relief on each Saturday in the months April, May and June, 1939, were 915,978, 900,741 and 890,589 respectively.

The total number of persons‡ receiving relief from Public Assistance Authorities in Scotland on 15th June, 1939, was 227,490, as compared with 235,737 on 15th May, 1939, 239,282 on 15th April, 1939, 242,745 on 15th March, 1939, and 226,714 on 15th June, 1938. The figure for 15th June, 1939, included 10,267 persons in receipt of indoor relief, 9,119 vagrants and persons in receipt of outdoor medical relief only, and 208,104 persons in receipt of other forms of outdoor relief.

* Persons in Receipt of Poor Relief (England and Wales): April-June, 1939. H.M. Stationery Office. Price 6d. net (7d. post free).
 † Excluding persons in receipt of domiciliary medical relief only (numbering 20,513), casuals (numbering 7,144), and rate-aided patients in mental hospitals.
 ‡ Excluding lunatics and mental defectives.

The Table below analyses the average number of persons in receipt of domiciliary relief in England and Wales in June, 1939, and the number of persons in receipt of outdoor relief in Scotland on 15th June, 1939.

	England and Wales.	Scotland.
A.—Persons ordinarily engaged in some regular occupation:—		
Relieved on account of unemployment:		
1. Unemployed persons insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts ...	2,852	799
Wives and dependent children of such persons ...	4,848	1,116
2. Unemployed persons not insured, but registered at an Employment Exchange ...	14,075	4,236
Wives and dependent children of such persons ...	17,326	4,387
3. Other persons ...	3,577	1,476
Wives and dependent children of such persons ...	1,475	1,475
Relieved for other causes:		
All persons ...	181,959	24,209
Wives and dependent children of such persons ...	44,851	44,851
Total of above classes ...	224,637	82,549
B.—Persons not ordinarily engaged in some regular occupation ...	665,952	125,555
Total ...	890,589	208,104

TRADE DISPUTES IN SEPTEMBER.*

Number, Magnitude and Duration.—The number of disputes involving stoppages of work, reported to the Department as beginning in September in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, was 72, as compared with 85 in the previous month and 59 in September, 1938. In these 72 new disputes about 16,300 workpeople were directly involved, and 6,100 workpeople indirectly involved (*i.e.*, thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, though not themselves parties to the disputes). In addition, about 1,300 workpeople were involved, either directly or indirectly, in 8 disputes which began before September and were still in progress at the beginning of that month. The number of new and old disputes was thus 80, involving 23,700 workpeople, and resulting in a loss, during September, estimated at 73,000 working days.

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

Industry Group.	Number of Disputes in progress in Month.			Number of Workpeople involved in all Disputes in progress in Month.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress in Month.
	Started before beginning of Month.	Started in Month.	Total.		
Mining and Quarrying ...	2	32	34	19,500	51,000
Metal, Engineering and Shipbuilding ...	2	11	13	900	5,000
Textile ...	1	10	11	1,200	10,000
Building, etc. ...	2	8	10	1,200	3,000
Other ...	1	11	12	800	4,000
Total, September, 1939	8	72	80	23,700	73,000
<i>Total, August, 1939</i> ...	<i>21</i>	<i>85</i>	<i>106</i>	<i>37,200</i>	<i>118,000</i>
<i>Total, September, 1938</i> ...	<i>14</i>	<i>59</i>	<i>73</i>	<i>26,500</i>	<i>90,000</i>

Causes.—Of the 72 disputes beginning in September, 29, directly involving 4,500 workpeople, arose out of demands for advances in wages, 5, directly involving 1,700 workpeople, out of proposed wage reductions, and 16, directly involving 2,700 workpeople, on other wage questions; 10, directly involving 2,900 workpeople, on questions respecting the employment of particular classes or persons; 10, directly involving 4,400 workpeople, on other questions respecting working arrangements; and 2, directly involving 100 workpeople, on questions of trade union principle.

PRINCIPAL DISPUTES INVOLVING STOPPAGES OF WORK DURING SEPTEMBER.

Occupations† and Locality.	Approximate Number of Workpeople Involved.		Date when Dispute		Cause or Object.	Result.
	Directly.	Indirectly.‡	Began.	Ended.		
COAL MINING:—						
Colliery workpeople—South Shields (one colliery).	750	60	31 Aug.	1 Sept.	For increased filling prices for conveyor fillers.	Increased filling prices granted.
Colliery workpeople—Stepps, Lanarkshire (one colliery).	1,060	...	6 Sept.	7 Sept.	For reinstatement of three workmen who had been suspended.	Workmen in question reinstated after being reprimanded.
Underground and surface workpeople—near Rotherham (one colliery).	700	128	7 Sept.	7 Sept.	Against proposed disciplinary action against a youth for refusing to carry out instructions.	Work resumed pending negotiations.
Colliery workpeople—near Barnsley (one colliery).	37	2,037	12 Sept.	14 Sept.	For extra payment for setting steel instead of wood bars.	Further increase in wages granted.
Colliery workpeople—Wrexham (one colliery).	250	1,000	20 Sept.	22 Sept.	Dissatisfaction with amount of increase in wages offered by employers.	Work resumed to permit the tendering of seven days' notice to cease work.
Colliery workpeople—Stepps, Lanarkshire (one colliery).	890	...	27 Sept.	2 Oct.	For increase in wages of 2s. per day.	Work resumed on advice of trade union officials.
WOOL TEXTILE INDUSTRY:—						
Workpeople employed in wool-combing—Bradford (one firm).	336	120	18 Sept.‡	25 Sept.	Dissatisfaction with amount of bonus payable under a bonus on production scheme.	Work resumed at wage rates in operation prior to stoppage.
BUILDING, ETC.:—						
Labourers—Buxton, Derbyshire (one firm).	250	...	12 Sept.	12 Sept.	For advance in wages.	All workpeople involved replaced by others.
Building trade operatives—Yeovil, Somerset (one firm).	391	...	13 Sept.	16 Sept.	Dispute arising out of transfer of four men to another job as a disciplinary measure.	Work resumed on terms in operation prior to stoppage.
Building trade operatives—near Blackpool (one firm).	200	...	30 Sept.	7 Oct.	For payment of 1s. 6d. per day expenses.	

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

† In making up these totals the figures have been amended in accordance with the most recent information. Workpeople involved in more than one dispute are counted more than once in the totals; the amount of such duplication, however, is slight, except in coal mining, in which the net number of workpeople involved was approximately 99,000 in 1939, and 101,000 in 1938. For all industries combined the net totals were approximately 201,000 in 1939, and 170,000 in 1938.

‡ 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.

§ Work was resumed on 19th September but ceased again on 21st September.

Results.—Final settlements of disputes which terminated during September have been effected in the case of 53 new disputes, directly involving 14,100 workpeople, and 4 old disputes, directly involving 900 workpeople. Of these new and old disputes, 13, directly involving 2,000 workpeople, were settled in favour of the workpeople; 35, directly involving 10,900 workpeople, were settled in favour of the employers; and 9, directly involving 2,100 workpeople, resulted in a compromise. In the case of 10 other disputes, directly involving 1,000 workpeople, work was resumed pending negotiations.

TOTALS FOR JANUARY–SEPTEMBER, 1939 AND 1938.†

Industry Group.	January to September, 1939.			January to September, 1938.†		
	No. of Disputes beginning in period.	Number of Workpeople involved in all Disputes in progress.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress.	No. of Disputes beginning in period.	Number of Workpeople involved in all Disputes in progress.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress.
Fishing and Agriculture ...	7	1,000	43,000
Coal Mining ...	266	136,000†	385,000	275	141,000†	609,000
Other Mining and Quarrying ...	9	1,300	45,000	9	700	4,000
Brick, Pottery, Glass, Chemical, etc. ...	7	900	8,000	18	2,500	19,000
Engineering ...	50	27,700	154,000	34	20,000	105,000
Shipbuilding ...	31	3,900	34,000	24	2,500	28,000
Other Metal ...	62	12,000	72,000	44	8,100	72,000
Textile ...	54	7,500	102,000	34	5,300	61,000
Clothing ...	20	4,000	10,000	30	6,100	28,000
Food, Drink and Tobacco ...	9	1,000	10,000	15	3,000	10,000
Woodworking, Furniture, etc. ...	17	2,600	23,000	22	1,500	28,000
Building, etc. ...	102	30,900	119,000	85	9,300	89,000
Transport ...	25	9,200	45,000	38	7,800	23,000
Commerce, Distribution and Finance ...	6	700	1,000	15	1,900	10,000
Other ...	22	2,200	13,000	26	3,100	36,000
Total ...	687	240,700†	1,064,000	669	212,800†	1,122,000

CHANGES IN COST OF LIVING: STATISTICS FOR 30th SEPTEMBER.

Summary: Average Increases since July, 1914.

All Items included ...	65%
Food only ...	50%

FOOD.

DURING September there were marked increases in the retail prices of sugar, fish, eggs, butter and bacon, and some increases in the prices of a number of other foods, including beef, mutton, flour, bread and cheese. As a result of these increases, the average level of retail prices of the articles of food of which account is taken in the statistics regularly compiled by the Department was approximately 9 per cent. higher at 30th September than at the beginning of the month. The average increase over the level of July, 1914, was 50 per cent. at 30th September, 1939, as compared with 38 per cent. at 1st September, 1939, and 39 per cent. at 1st October, 1938.

The following Table gives, for July, 1914, and for 1st and 30th September, 1939, a comparison of the average retail prices, in the United Kingdom generally, shown by the returns collected by the Department for the purpose of these statistics:—

Article.	Average Price (per lb. unless otherwise indicated— to the nearest ¼d.)			Average Inc. (+) or Dec. (–) at 30th September, 1939, as compared with	
	July, 1914.	1st Sept., 1939.	30th Sept., 1939.	July, 1914.	1st Sept., 1939.
Beef, British—	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	d.	d.
Ribs ...	0 10	1 2½	1 2½	+ 4½	+ 0½
Thin Flank ...	0 6½	0 7½	0 8	+ 1½	+ 0½
Beef, Chilled or Frozen—					
Ribs ...	0 7½	0 9½	0 10	+ 2½	+ 0½
Thin Flank ...	0 4½	0 4½	0 5½	+ 0½	+ 0½
Mutton, British—					
Legs ...	0 10½	1 3½	1 4	+ 5½	+ 0½
Breast ...	0 6½	0 7½	0 7½	+ 1½	+ 0½
Mutton, Frozen—					
Legs ...	0 6½	0 10½	0 10½	+ 4	+ 0½
Breast ...	0 4	0 4	0 4½	+ 0½	+ 0½
Bacon (streaky)* ...	0 11½	1 3	1 4½	+ 5½	+ 1½
Flour ... per 7 lb.	0 10½	1 1½	1 1½	+ 3½	+ 0½
Bread ... per 4 lb.	0 5½	0 8½	0 8½	+ 2½	+ 0½
Tea ...	1 6½	2 4	2 4	+ 9½	+ 0½
Sugar (granulated) ...	0 2	0 3	0 4½	+ 2½	+ 1½
Milk ... per quart	0 3½	0 6½	0 6½	+ 3½	...
Butter—					
Fresh ...	1 2½	1 4½	1 6½	+ 4	+ 2
Salt ...	1 2½	1 3½	1 6	+ 3½	+ 2½
Cheese† ...	0 8½	0 10	0 10½	+ 1½	+ 0½
Margarine ...	0 7	0 6½	0 6½	– 0½	...
Eggs (fresh) ... each	0 1½	0 2	0 2½	+ 1	+ 0½
Potatoes ... per 7 lb.	0 4½	0 6½	0 6½	+ 1½	...

Of the average rise of 1½d. per lb. in the price of sugar, 1d. per lb. was due to the increase in the duty provided for by the recent Budget. The rise in the prices of eggs was largely seasonal.

The following Table shows the average percentage changes as compared with 1st September, 1939, and with July, 1914:—

Article.	Average Percentage Increase at 30th September, as compared with 1st September, 1939.	Average Percentage Increase or Decrease (–) as compared with July, 1914, at:—	
		1st September, 1939.	30th September, 1939.
Beef, British—			
Ribs ...	3	44	48
Thin Flank ...	5	15	20
Beef, Chilled or Frozen—			
Ribs ...	4	32	38
Thin Flank ...	6	1	7
Mutton, British—			
Legs ...	4	48	53
Breast ...	5	14	20
Mutton, Frozen—			
Legs ...	3	51	56
Breast ...	7	–3	4
Bacon (streaky)* ...	10	35	47
Fish ...	29	116	178
Flour ...	3	26	30
Bread ...	2	42	45
Tea ...	1	52	53
Sugar (granulated) ...	47	46	115
Milk ...	1	92	94
Butter—			
Fresh ...	12	13	27
Salt ...	19	7	27
Cheese† ...	4	16	21
Margarine ...	1	–7	–7
Eggs (fresh) ...	19	58	88
Potatoes ...	1	33	35
All above articles of Food (Weighted Percentage Increase) ...	9½	38½	50½

* If this kind is seldom dealt with in a locality, the returns quote the prices of another kind locally representative.

† The description of cheese for which prices are quoted is in most cases Canadian or New Zealand, but in some districts the returns quote the prices of another kind locally representative.

‡ Taking July, 1914, as = 100, the figure for 1st Sept., 1939, is 138 and that for 30th Sept., is 150, an increase of 12 on 138, or 9 per cent.

ITEMS OTHER THAN FOOD.

For rents of working-class dwellings which are controlled by the Rent and Mortgage Interest Restrictions Acts (*see* page 334 of last month's issue of this GAZETTE) the maximum permissible rent is the rent at 2nd September, 1939, subject to increases for subsequent structural alterations and improvements, and, where the landlord pays the rates, to increases equivalent to any subsequent increases in rates. There was no change, during September, in the level of working-class rents (including rates) which remained at approximately 62 per cent. on average, above the level of July, 1914.

As regards clothing, information collected from representative retailers in a number of the principal towns indicates that the prices of clothing of the kinds generally bought by working-class families rose, on average, by about 7 per cent. during September. For men's suits and overcoats the average increase was about 4 per cent.; for woollen materials, underclothing and hosiery it was about 9 per cent.; for cotton materials, underclothing and hosiery about 10 per cent.; and for boots and shoes about 5 per cent. Owing to the wide range of quotations, to changes in qualities, and to the variations in the extent to which different articles have been affected by price changes, it is not possible to make an exact calculation of the average change in prices over a long period, but it is estimated that the average rise over the level of July, 1914, was about 120 to 125 per cent. at 30th September, as compared with 105 to 110 per cent. at 1st September.

In the fuel and light group, the retail prices of coal were increased in some districts during September, but the changes were generally slight, and the average level of prices at 30th September was not appreciably different from that at 1st September, being approximately 95 per cent. higher, at both dates, than in July, 1914. Prices of gas remained unchanged, at about 55 per cent. above the level of July, 1914. Candles were dearer at the end of the month than at the beginning, by 20 to 25 per cent., and in many cases matches were slightly dearer. Lamp oil showed very little change in price during the month. For the fuel and light group as a whole, the average level of prices at 30th September was about 1 per cent. higher than at 1st September and about 85 per cent. higher than at July, 1914.

As regards other items included in these statistics, there were increases in the prices of tobacco and cigarettes (1½d. per oz. of tobacco and ¼d. for 10 cigarettes), following the increase in duty provided for in the Budget. There were also increases in the prices of domestic ironmongery, brushware and pottery, which averaged about 6 per cent. dearer at the end of September than at the beginning of the month. The prices of soap, soda and newspapers remained generally unchanged. The combined effect of all the changes in prices in this "miscellaneous" group of items was to raise the average for the group by about 3 per cent., *i.e.* from about 80 to about 85 per cent. above the level of July, 1914.

ALL ITEMS.

If the average increases in the cost of all the foregoing items are combined in accordance with their relative importance in working-class family expenditure in 1914, the resultant general average increase for 30th September, 1939, is approximately 65 per cent. over the level of July, 1914, as compared with 55 per cent. at 1st September, 1939, and 55 per cent. at 1st October, 1938.

The result of this calculation (in which the same quantities and, as far as possible, the same qualities of each item are taken at each date) is to show the average increase in the cost of maintaining unchanged the standard of living prevailing in working-class families prior to August, 1914, no allowance being made for the effect of any changes in the standard of living that may have occurred since that date.

SUMMARY TABLE: ALL ITEMS.

The following Table shows the average percentage increase, as compared with July, 1914, for all the items included in the statistics, at the beginning of each month, 1920 to 1939:—

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

TRADE BOARDS ACTS AND HOLIDAYS WITH PAY ACT.

CONFIRMING ORDERS.

Flax and Hemp Trade Board (Great Britain).

Order F.H. (40), dated 3rd October, 1939, confirming a variation in the general minimum time rates, piece work basis time rates and overtime rates for male and female workers, and specifying 9th October, 1939, as the date from which the same shall become effective.

Brush and Broom Trade Board (Northern Ireland).

Order N.I.B.B. (45), dated 9th September, 1939, confirming a direction for holidays with pay under the Holidays with Pay Act (Northern Ireland), 1938, and specifying 18th September, 1939, as the date from which the same shall become effective.

REGULATIONS.

Rubber Reclamation Trade Board (Great Britain).

Regulations dated September 15, 1939 (S.R. & O. 1939, No. 1211) made by the Minister of Labour and National Service under Section 11 of the Trade Boards Act, 1909, with respect to the constitution and proceedings of the Rubber Reclamation Trade Board (Great Britain).

Aerated Waters Trade Board (Scotland).

Regulations dated October 4, 1939 (S.R. & O. 1939, No. 1367/S. 94) made by the Minister of Labour and National Service under Section 11 of the Trade Boards Act, 1909, with respect to the constitution and proceedings of the Aerated Waters Trade Board (Scotland).

NATIONAL SERVICE (ARMED FORCES) ACT, 1939.

MISCELLANEOUS REGULATIONS, 1939.

ON 4th September, 1939, the Minister of Labour, by virtue of the powers conferred on him by the National Service (Armed Forces) Act, 1939, made the National Service (Armed Forces) (Miscellaneous) Regulations, 1939,* the text of which is as follows:—

PART I.

GENERAL.

1.—(1) These Regulations may be cited as the National Service (Armed Forces) (Miscellaneous) Regulations, 1939, and shall come into force on the date hereof.

(2) The Interpretation Act, 1889, applies to the interpretation of these Regulations as it applies to the interpretation of an Act of Parliament.

(3) In these Regulations, unless the context otherwise requires, the following expressions have the meanings hereby assigned to them, that is to say:—

“the Act” means the National Service (Armed Forces) Act, 1939;

“the applicant” means the person who has made the particular application under consideration;

“a Committee” means a Military Service (Hardship) Committee;

“local office” means an employment exchange or other office appointed by the Minister for the purpose of the Act and of these Regulations;

“the Minister” means the Minister of Labour;

“the Umpire” includes any Deputy Umpire.

(4) Any reference in these Regulations to a form set out in the Schedule hereto shall include a reference to a form approved by the Minister substantially to the like effect.

PART II.

REGISTRATION.

2. Every person who becomes liable to be called up for service under the Act shall furnish at such place and time, in such manner and to such authority or person as may from time to time be notified by the Minister by public notice or otherwise such particulars about himself as the Minister may require.

3. Every person who becomes liable to be called up for service under the Act shall make an application to be registered under the Act, and for this purpose shall attend on such date, at such time and at such local office or other place as may be notified by the Minister by public notice or otherwise:

Provided that any such person who is more than six miles from the local office or other place so notified as aforesaid, or who is suffering from some permanent incapacity, may instead of so attending send by post to the said local office or other place on the day on which he is so required to attend as aforesaid, written application for registration in such form as the Minister may from time to time require.

4.—(1) A certificate of registration shall be in the form set out in Part I of the Schedule hereto.

* Statutory Rules and Orders, 1939, No. 1120. H.M. Stationery Office; price 4d. net (5d. post free).

(2) If while any person is liable under the Act to be called up for service, a certificate of registration issued to that person is lost, destroyed or defaced, that person shall forthwith report the fact to a local office, and in a case where the certificate is defaced, shall at the same time lodge the certificate at or send it to the local office, and the Minister, on being satisfied that the facts reported are correct and as to the identity of the person making the report, shall, where the certificate has been lost or destroyed or so far defaced as to make it desirable to do so, issue a fresh certificate of registration, and a certificate so issued may be marked in any manner that the Minister may consider suitable for the purpose of indicating that it has been issued under this sub-paragraph.

5. A notification by an applicant that he has a preference for naval or air force service shall, in the case of a person required to make an application to be registered under the Act, be made at the local office or other place at which he is so required to make application as aforesaid, or at such other local office or place as the Minister may in any particular case allow, and may be made either orally or in writing.

6. If at any time while a person registered under the Act is liable under the Act to be called up for service any change occurs in his name or address, he shall forthwith send by post to the address specified thereon the certificate of registration issued to him having first written on the back thereof the name and address which is for the time being his correct name and address.

PART III.

MEDICAL EXAMINATION.

7. The notice requiring a person to submit himself to medical examination by a medical board shall be in the form set out in Part II of the Schedule hereto.

8.—(1) A medical board shall consist of not more than five and not less than three duly qualified medical practitioners appointed for the purposes of the Act by the Minister.

(2) Where a medical board is unable to complete a medical examination on one occasion it may direct the person examined to submit himself to a further medical examination by a medical board at a specified time and place.

(3) A medical board may direct the person examined to submit himself to examination by a consultant examiner.

9.—(1) Every person examined by a medical board shall be placed by the medical board into one or other of the following categories, that is to say:—

Grade I.—Men who, subject only to such minor disabilities as can be remedied or adequately compensated by artificial means, attain the full normal standard of health and strength and are capable of enduring physical exertion suitable to their age.

Grade II.—Those who, while suffering from disabilities disqualifying them for Grade I, do not suffer from progressive organic disease, have fair hearing and vision, are of moderate muscular development and are able to undergo a considerable amount of physical exertion not involving severe strain. Where a man has been placed in this grade solely on account of either defects of visual acuity or of deformities of the lower extremities, or both, the letter (a) shall be inserted after the grade.

Grade III.—Those who present such marked physical disabilities or evidence of past disease that they are not fit for the amount of exertion required for Grade II.

Grade IV.—Those who suffer from progressive organic disease or are for other reasons permanently incapable of the kind or degree of exertion required for Grade III.

(2) The category into which the person examined has been placed shall be notified by the medical board to the person examined and to the Minister.

PART IV.

ENLISTMENT.

10. An enlistment notice shall be in the form set out in Part III of the Schedule hereto.

PART V.

CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTORS.

11.—(1) Every person making application to be registered in the register of conscientious objectors shall furnish such particulars about himself as the Minister may require with respect to all or any of the following matters:—

his name and home address;
his date and place of birth;
whether he is single or married;
the full name of his father and mother, including his mother's maiden surname;
the number of his unemployment book, if any;
particulars of his present (or if unemployed, his last) employment;
particulars of his usual occupation.

(2) A notification by a person conditionally registered in the register of conscientious objectors of any change in the particulars furnished by him in accordance with this Regulation shall be made in the form set out in Part IV of the Schedule hereto.

12. Every person applying to be registered in the register of conscientious objectors shall apply in the same manner as that prescribed by Regulation 3 hereof for persons making application to be registered under the Act.

13.—(1) An application to a local tribunal by a person who has been provisionally registered in the register of conscientious objectors shall be in writing in the form set out in Part V of the Schedule hereto, and shall be made within fourteen days of the date on which he was so provisionally registered, or within such further period as the Minister may in any particular case for special reasons allow.

(2) An appeal to the Appellate Tribunal by an applicant for registration as a conscientious objector who is aggrieved by an order of a local tribunal or by the Minister shall be made within twenty-one days of the date of such order, or within such further period as the Minister may in any particular case for special reasons allow; notice of any such appeal shall be in the form set out in Part VI of the Schedule hereto and shall be given to the Minister or the applicant as the case may be.

(3) An application to the Appellate Tribunal by a person who claims that an offence in respect of which he is undergoing imprisonment imposed on him by a court martial was committed by reason of his conscientiously objecting to performing military service or to obeying any order in respect of which the offence was committed shall be in writing in the form set out in Part VII of the Schedule hereto.

PART VI.

POSTPONEMENT OF LIABILITY TO SERVE IN THE FORCES.

14.—(1) An application for the grant or renewal of a postponement certificate shall be in writing in the form set out in Part VIII of the Schedule hereto.

(2) An appeal to the Umpire by an applicant who is aggrieved by a determination of a committee or by the Minister shall be made within twenty-one days of the date of such determination, or within such further period as the Minister may in any particular case for special reasons allow; notice of any such appeal shall be in the form set out in Part IX of the Schedule hereto and shall be given to the Minister or the applicant as the case may be.

(3) An application for the renewal of a postponement certificate shall be made not later than fourteen days before the expiration of the period for which that certificate was granted or last renewed.

PART VII.

PROCEDURE.

15. Reasonable notice of the time and place at which a Committee, the Umpire or any local or Appellate Tribunal will sit for the consideration of any case shall be sent to the applicant, addressed to him at his last known address, and where such notice has been given the Committee, Umpire or Tribunal (as the case may be) may proceed to adjudicate on the matter notwithstanding that the applicant is not present.

16.—(1) Any case before a Committee may with the consent of the applicant but not otherwise be proceeded with in the absence of any one member of the Committee other than the Chairman, and in any such case the Committee shall be deemed to be properly constituted and the Chairman shall, if the number of the members of the Committee is an even number, have a second or casting vote.

(2) No person shall act as a member of a Committee during the consideration of a case—

(a) in which he appears as the representative of the applicant; or

(b) by which he is or may be directly affected; or

(c) in which he has taken any part as an official of an Association or as an employer or as a witness or otherwise.

17. The quorum necessary to constitute a meeting of a local tribunal shall consist of the Chairman and two other members.

18. In cases before a Committee, the Umpire or a local or Appellate Tribunal, the applicant may appear in person or save as hereinafter provided may be represented by a representative of any trade union to which he belongs or by any person who satisfies the Committee, Umpire or Tribunal that he is a relative or personal friend of the party he proposes to represent. In cases before a Committee or the Umpire neither the applicant nor the Minister may be represented by Counsel or Solicitor. In cases before a local or Appellate Tribunal both the applicant and the Minister (if he thinks fit) may be represented by Counsel or Solicitor.

19.—(1) A Committee or the Umpire may allow any witness or any person appearing to them to be likely to be affected by their decision to be present during the consideration of any case, but save as aforesaid there shall not be admitted to the sitting of a Committee or the Umpire any member of the public or a representative of any newspaper.

(2) The hearing of cases before local and Appellate Tribunals shall be in public unless the Chairman in any particular case for special reasons directs that members of the public and representatives of any newspaper shall not be admitted to, or shall withdraw during the hearing of, that case or any part thereof.

(3) For the purpose of discussing their decisions a Committee, the Umpire or a local or Appellate Tribunal may order all persons not being members of the Committee or Tribunal to withdraw.

20. A local or Appellate Tribunal may require the applicant or any person desiring to give evidence to give that evidence on oath and for that purpose the Chairman of the Tribunal shall have power to administer an oath.

21. The Appellate Tribunal shall sit in two divisions, of which one shall sit in Scotland.

22. The decision of a majority of a Committee or local or Appellate Tribunal shall be the decision of that Committee or Tribunal as the case may be, but if in the case of a Committee or local Tribunal a decision is not unanimous a statement that one or more of the members dissented and the reasons given by the majority and minority respectively shall be recorded in the report of the proceedings of the Committee or Tribunal.

23. Save as otherwise expressly provided in these Regulations, the procedure of a Committee or a local or Appellate Tribunal or of a medical board shall be such as the Chairman thereof may determine and the procedure of the Umpire shall be such as he may determine.

The Schedule appended to the Regulations contains nine Parts, viz. :—

I. Form of certificate of registration (Regulation 4 above).

II. Form of notice requiring a person to submit himself to medical examination by a medical board (Regulation 7 above).

III. Form of enlistment notice (Regulation 10 above).

IV. Form of notification, by a person conditionally registered in the register of conscientious objectors, of any change in the particulars furnished by him (Regulation 11 above).

V. Form of application to a local tribunal by a person provisionally registered in the register of conscientious objectors (Regulation 13 (1) above).

VI. Form of appeal against decision of a local tribunal regarding a conscientious objector (Regulation 13 (2) above).

VII. Form of application to the Appellate Tribunal by a person undergoing punishment imposed by Court Martial, who has made application for registration as a conscientious objector (Regulation 13 (3) above).

VIII. Form of application for grant or renewal of postponement certificate (Regulation 14 (1) above).

IX. Form of appeal to the Umpire against decision of Military Service (Hardship) Committee (Regulation 14 (2) above).

PREVENTION OF EVASION REGULATIONS, 1939.

THE Minister of Labour, by virtue of the powers conferred on him by section 14 of the National Service (Armed Forces) Act, 1939, and of all other powers in that behalf, has made the National Service (Armed Forces) (Prevention of Evasion) Regulations, 1939,* dated 4th September. The Regulations contain the following provisions:—

1.—(1) These Regulations may be cited as the National Service (Armed Forces) (Prevention of Evasion) Regulations, 1939, and shall come into force on the date hereof.

(2) The Interpretation Act, 1889, applies to the interpretation of these Regulations as it applies to the interpretation of an Act of Parliament.

2.—(1) An employer shall not terminate the employment of any person employed by him—

(a) by reason of any duties or liabilities which that person is or may become liable to perform or discharge by virtue of the provisions of the Act, or

(b) in order to evade the obligations imposed by subsection (1) of section fourteen of the Act.

(2) An employer who commits an offence under these Regulations shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding fifty pounds.

3. In any proceedings for an offence under these Regulations, if the Court before whom the proceedings are taken is of opinion that there is reasonable cause to believe that the duties or liabilities aforesaid caused or contributed to the termination of the employment or that the employment was terminated in order to evade the obligations aforesaid, the employment shall be deemed to have been terminated by reason of such duties or liabilities or in order to evade such obligations unless the employer proves that the termination was for a reason unconnected therewith.

4. Where an employer is found guilty of an offence under these Regulations the Court may order him to pay to the person whose employment has been terminated a sum not exceeding an amount equal to twelve weeks' remuneration at the rate at which his remuneration was last payable to him by the employer.

5. These Regulations shall only apply to a case where the employment has been terminated before the date upon which the person employed was called up for service under the Act.

* Statutory Rules and Orders, 1939, No. 1099. H.M. Stationery Office; price 1d. net (1½d. post free).

MINISTER OF NATIONAL SERVICE ORDER, 1939.*

THE provisions of this Order, dated 8th September, 1939, were as set out below:

Whereas it is provided by subsection (1) of Section 1 of the Ministers of the Crown (Emergency Appointments) Act, 1939†, that His Majesty may by Order in Council direct that the said Act shall apply to any Minister of the Crown appointed for the purpose of exercising functions connected with the prosecution of any war in which His Majesty may be engaged:

And whereas it is further provided by Section 5 of the said Act that His Majesty may by Order in Council authorise any such Minister to exercise any such functions concurrently with any functions exercisable, whether under any enactment or otherwise, by any Government Department, and that any such Order may contain such incidental, consequential and supplemental provisions as may be necessary or expedient for the purpose of giving full effect to the Order:

And whereas the Minister of National Service is a Minister of the Crown appointed for the purpose of exercising functions connected with the prosecution of the war in which His Majesty is now engaged:

Now, therefore, His Majesty is pleased by and with the advice of His Privy Council to order, and it is hereby ordered, as follows:—

1. The Ministers of the Crown (Emergency Appointments) Act, 1939, shall apply to the Minister of National Service.
2. The Minister of National Service may exercise his functions as Minister of National Service concurrently with any functions exercisable, whether under any enactment or otherwise, by the Minister of Labour and may describe himself as the Minister of Labour and National Service.
3. In any Act of Parliament, Order in Council, Order, Rule, Regulation, Byelaw, scheme, deed, contract or other document passed or made before the date of this Order, any reference to the Minister of Labour shall, so far only as may be necessary for the purpose of such concurrent exercise, be construed as a reference to the Minister of Labour and National Service, and any reference to the Ministry of Labour shall be construed accordingly.
4. Anything which has been commenced by or under the authority of the Minister of Labour before the date of this Order may be carried on and completed by or under the authority of the Minister of Labour and National Service.
5. Where at the date of this Order any legal proceeding is pending to which the Minister of Labour is a party, the Minister of Labour and National Service may be substituted in that proceeding for the Minister of Labour, and such proceeding shall not abate by reason of the substitution.
6. This Order may be cited as the Minister of National Service Order, 1939.

* Statutory Rules and Orders, 1939, No. 1118. H.M. Stationery Office; price 1d. net (1½d. post free).
† 2 & 3 Geo. 6. c. 77.

OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

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AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS.—*Acreage and production of crops, number of live stock and of agricultural workers, and output and prices of agricultural produce in England and Wales. Agricultural Statistics, 1938. Vol. LXXIII. Part I.* Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. [S.O. publication; price 1s. 6d.]

CHOICE OF CAREERS.—*Careers for secondary school girls* (revised July, 1939.) Ministry of Labour. [S.O. publication; price 6d.]

COAL-MINING INDUSTRY.—*Safety provisions for underground work in coal mines. Report to the Preparatory Technical Conference, October, 1939. Vol. I. National Legislation. Vol. II. Draft Recommendations.* International Labour Office. [Geneva, 1939; price 8s. and gratis respectively.]

LABOUR STATISTICS.—*Year-book of Labour Statistics, 1939.* International Labour Office. [Geneva, 1939; price 8s.]

POOR RELIEF.—*Persons in receipt of poor relief (England and Wales, April-June, 1939).* Ministry of Health. [S.O. publication; price 6d.]

RIGHTS OF PERFORMERS.—*International Labour Conference, twenty-sixth session, Geneva, 1940. Rights of performers in broadcasting, television and the mechanical reproduction of sounds.* Report A. International Labour Office. [Geneva, 1939; price 2s. 6d.]

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE.—(i) *Selected decisions given by the Umpire on claims for benefit during the month of July, 1939.* U.I. Code 8 B. Pamphlet No. 7/1939. Ministry of Labour. [S.O. publication; price 2d.] (ii) *Analytical Guide to decisions by the Umpire respecting claims for benefit.* U.I. Code 7. Amendment No. 8. Ministry of Labour. [S.O. publication; price 3d.]

WEEKLY REST.—*International Labour Conference, twenty-sixth session, Geneva, 1940. Weekly rest in commerce and offices.* Report A. International Labour Office. [Geneva, 1939; price 5s.]

WOMEN'S WORK.—*The Law and Women's Work. Studies and Reports Series I (Employment of Women and Children) No. 4.* [Published in London for the International Labour Office by P. S. King and Son, Ltd.; price 12s. 6d.]

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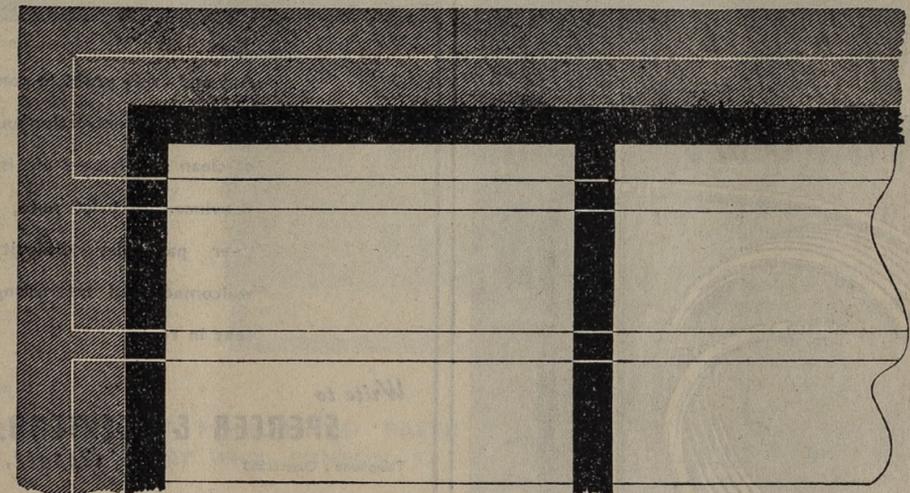
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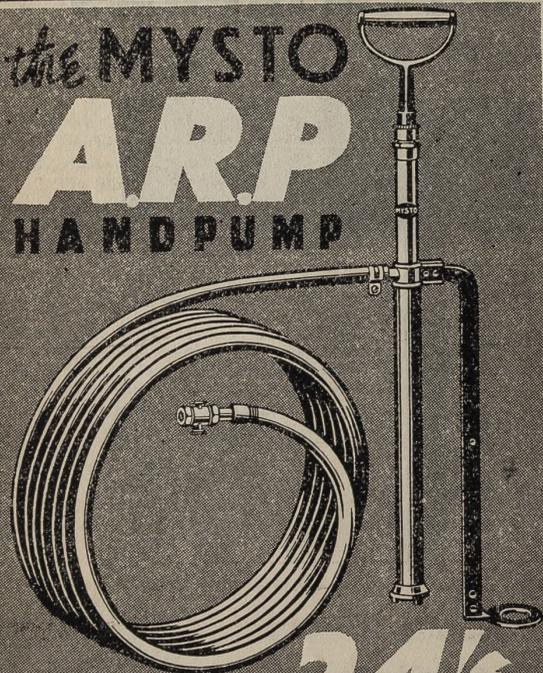
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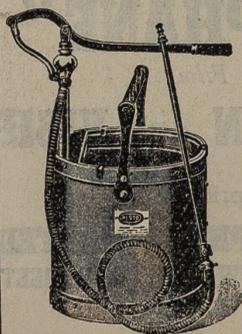
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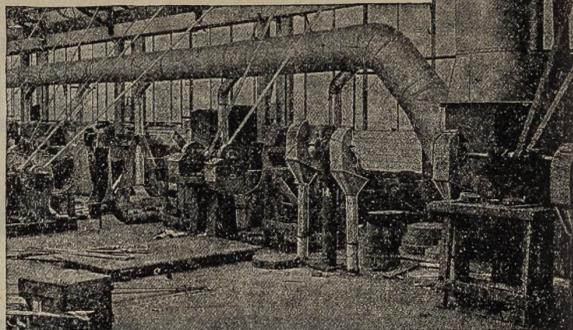
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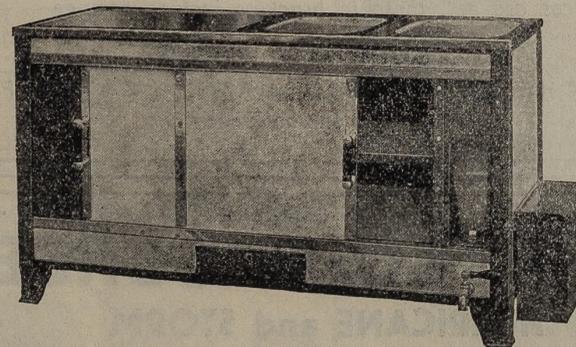
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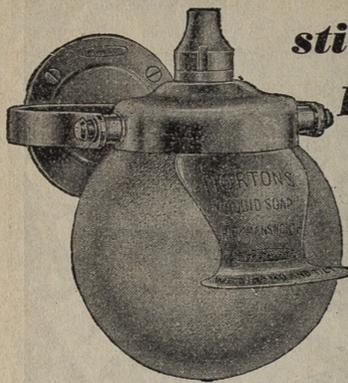
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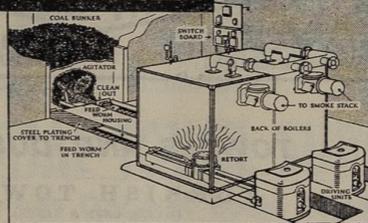
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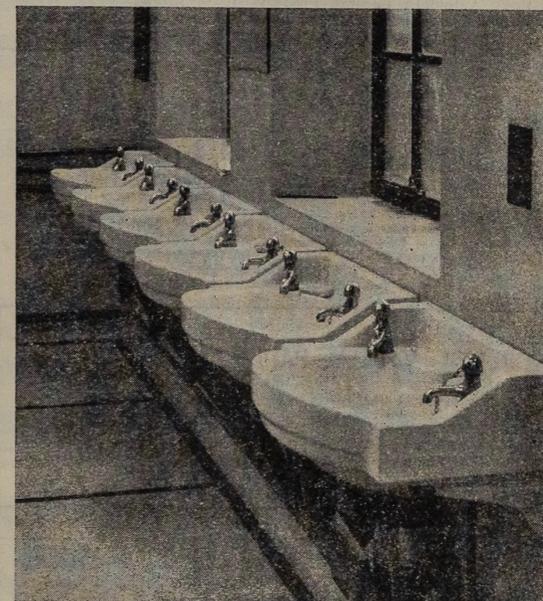
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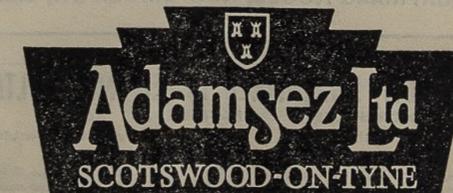
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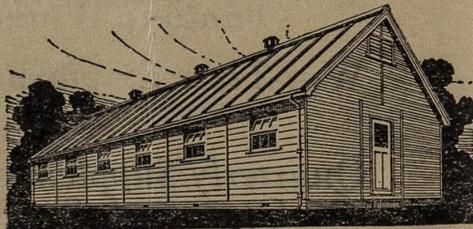
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