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

EMPLOYMENT.

EMPLOYMENT showed little change, on the whole, during April. Among the 11,500,000 workpeople insured against unemployment under the Unemployment Insurance Acts in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the percentage unemployed at 27th April, 1925, was 11·2, compared with 11·4 at 23rd March, 1925, and 9·7 at 28th April, 1924. Among the members of those Trade Unions from which returns were received the percentage unemployed was 9·4 at the end of April, 1925, compared with 9·0 at the end of March, 1925, and with 7·5 at the end of April, 1924. The total number of persons registered at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland as unemployed at 27th April, 1925, was approximately 1,251,000, of whom 948,000 were men and 231,000 were women, the remainder being boys and girls; at 30th March, 1925, it was 1,249,000, of whom 959,000 were men and 228,000 were women; at 28th April, 1924, it was 1,087,000, of whom men numbered 809,000, and women 208,000.

Employment was good, on the whole, with coach-builders and brickmakers, with most of the skilled operatives in the building trades, in the jute trade, and in some branches of the cotton trade; it was fairly good with millsawyers and brushmakers, in the furnishing and carpet trades, and in some sections of the metal trades. In the wool textile industry, in coal mining, in the iron and steel industry, in tinplate and steel sheet manufacture, in the marine and heavy engineering trades, and in the shipbuilding industry employment was bad.

WAGES.

There was little net change in rates of wages during April. In the industries for which statistics are regularly compiled by the Department, the changes reported resulted in an aggregate increase of £10,400 in the weekly full-time wages of 410,000 workpeople, and in an aggregate reduction of £9,000 in the weekly wages of nearly 180,000 workpeople.

The principal group of workpeople whose wages were increased consisted of coal miners in Yorkshire and the East Midlands, where the percentage addition to basis rates was slightly raised (by the equivalent of less than 0·1 per cent. on current rates) and special "subsistence" allowances, ranging up to 6d. per day, were granted to the lower-paid men. There was also a small increase in the wages of coal miners in the Radstock district. Other workpeople who received increases included cement workers, and compositors employed in provincial daily newspaper offices in England and Wales.

Among the workpeople whose rates of wages were reduced were iron puddlers and millmen in the Midlands, who sustained reductions equivalent to about $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on current rates; and workpeople employed in the textile bleaching, dyeing, etc., industry, who had

their wages reduced by about $2\frac{1}{3}$ per cent. on current rates in Yorkshire, and by 1s. 3d. or 1s. 4d. and 10d. per week in the case of men and of women, respectively, in Lancashire and Scotland. Other groups of workpeople whose wages were reduced included ironstone miners in Cleveland, steel sheet millmen and galvanisers, iron and steel workers in South Wales and Monmouthshire, blastfurnace workers in several districts, woollen and worsted operatives at Leicester, felt hat makers, and workpeople employed in the seed-crushing and oil-milling industry.

During the first four months of 1925 the changes

During the first four months of 1925 the changes reported to the Department, in the industries for which statistics are compiled, have resulted in net increases amounting to £72,000 in the weekly full-time wages of 735,000 workpeople, and in net reductions of £29,500 in those of 650,000 workpeople. In the corresponding period of 1924 there were net increases of over £230,000 in the weekly full-time wages of 1,800,000 workpeople, and net reductions of £37,500 in the weekly wages of nearly 680,000 workpeople.

COST OF LIVING.

At 1st May the average level of retail prices of all the commodities taken into account in the statistics compiled by the Ministry of Labour (including food, rent, clothing, fuel, light, and miscellaneous items) was approximately 73 per cent. above that of July, 1914, as compared with 75 per cent. at 1st April. For food alone the corresponding percentages were 67 and 70 respectively. The fall in the percentages is mainly due to reductions in the prices of butter, milk, flour and bread

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

TRADE DISPUTES.

The number of trade disputes involving stoppages of work reported to the Department as beginning in April was 44. In addition, 26 disputes which began before April were still in progress at the beginning of the month. The number of workpeople involved in all disputes in April (including workpeople thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, but not themselves parties to the disputes) was about 25,000; the estimated aggregate duration of all disputes during April was about 122,000 working days. These figures compare with totals of approximately 44,000 workpeople involved and 161,000 days lost in the previous month.

The aggregate duration of all disputes in progress in the first four months of 1925 was about 444,000 working days, and the total number of workpeople involved in these disputes was 80,000. The figures for the corresponding period of 1924 were 2,551,000 days and 326,000 workpeople respectively.

WIDOWS', ORPHANS', AND OLD AGE CONTRIBUTORY PENSIONS BILL.

THE Minister of Health introduced in the House of Commons, on 29th April, a Bill "to make provision for pensions for widows, orphans, and persons between the ages of 65 and 70, and for the payment of contributions in respect thereof; and to amend the enactments relating to health and unemployment insurance and

In an explanatory Memorandum† prepared by the Ministry of Health it is stated that the object of the Bill is to extend the social services provided for the working population by adding to the existing schemes of health insurance, unemployment insurance, and workmen's compensation, a scheme of :-

(a) pensions for widows and dependent children, and
(b) old age pensions commencing at the age of 65 instead of 70, and passing, on the attainment of the age of 70, into pensions under the Old Age Pensions Acts, freed from the restrictions and disqualifications at present applied to such pensions.

The Bill, which extends to Great Britain, provides for the establishment of the new scheme on a contributory and compulsory basis, interlocked with the present scheme of health insurance. The beneficiaries are the survivors of members of the working population insured under the scheme in Great Britain, who now number approximately 15,000,000 persons. A person who hereafter ceases to be compulsorily insurable on leaving employment, or who has already ceased to be insured before the inception of the new scheme, may continue in or may resume insurance as a voluntary contributor at the full rate of contribution ordinarily payable by employer and employee jointly. Thus all members of the community who at some time in their lives pass through a substantial period of insurable employment (not less than two years) will have an opportunity of taking advantage of the scheme. The voluntary contributor, like the employed contributor, must be insured both for health insurance

Certain classes of persons (persons in "excepted" employment, such as school teachers, employees of local authorities, the salaried staffs of railway companies, and others) will continue to be excepted from health insurance, but will, if the rate of their remuneration does not exceed £250 a year, be required to be insured for widows' orphans', and old age pensions, except so far as it is proved that the terms of their employment provide for them and their dependants benefits corresponding to the pensions provided.

BENEFITS.

The Bill provides that pensions shall be payable to the following classes of persons at the following rates:—

(a) Widows' Pensions.—10s. a week for the widow of an insured man who dies after the date of the commencement of the scheme and was under 70 years of age at that date, with an additional allowance for children up to the age of 14, at the rates of 5s. a week for the eldest child and 3s. a week for each of the other children. The pension to the widow is payable until she attains the age of 70 or remarries. Her remarriage will not affect the children's allowance, which will continue to be payable on the terms stated above. If the widow dies leaving a child or children under the age of 14, such children will, until they reach the age of 14, receive an orphan's pension at the rates shown in (b) below.

In all cases where there is more than one child, the eldest

under 14 succeeds to the 5s. allowance

If the widow is over 70 at the death of her husband and is not already in receipt of an old age pension, the Bill provides that she shall on his death become entitled to an old age pension under the Old Age Pensions Acts, 1908 to 1924, without the application of the tests as to means, residence and nationality required by those Acts.

(b) Orphans' Pensions.—7s. 6d. a week for the eldest child, and 6s. a week for each of the younger children (up to the age of 14 in each case), of an insured man, being a married man or a widower, or of an insured widow.

(c) Old Age Pensions.—10s. a week to insured men and insured women between the ages of 65 and 70, and 10s. a week to the wives between the ages of 65 and 70 of insured men who are themselves entitled to pensions. If the wife is over 70 when her husband becomes entitled to an old age pension under the scheme it is provided that she shall receive an old age pension under the Old Age Pensions Acts, 1908 to 1924, without the application of the means, residence and

Special provisions are made, under various Clauses, for the dependants of persons who died before the commencement of the scheme, and for persons who cannot qualify for old age pensions under the scheme because they have attained the age of 70 before 2nd January, 1928.

DATES OF COMMENCEMENT.

The provisions as to pensions to widows and orphans will commence from 4th January, 1926. The provisions as to unrestricted

old age pensions (i.e., pensions freed from the restrictions and disqualifications existing under the present Old Age Pensions Acts), awarded to or in respect of persons over 70 on the 2nd July, 1926, or who attain the age of 70 between 2nd July, 1926, and 2nd January, 1928, will commence from 2nd July, 1926. The provisions as to other old age pensions will commence from 2nd January, 1928.

CONTRIBUTIONS.

The ordinary rates of contribution, commencing from the 4th January, 1926, will be 9d. for a man (of which $4\frac{1}{2}$ d. will be payable by the employer and $4\frac{1}{2}$ d. by the employee) and $4\frac{1}{2}$ d. for a woman (of which $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. will be payable by the employer and 2d. by the employee). As a result, however, of the reduction of the health insurance age from 70 to 65, the health insurance contribution health insurance age from 70 to 65, the health insurance contribution is being reduced by 1d. a week in the case of men and ½d. a week in the case of women, so that the net *increase* consequent on the scheme in the weekly contributions payable in respect of employed persons is 8d. for a man and 4d. for a woman, divided equally between employer and employee. Lower rates of contribution are applicable to exempt persons and, in certain circumstances, to exempt persons

The contributions in respect of an insured person under the scheme and under the National Health Insurance Act will be payable as one contribution, and all the arrangements under the latter Act for the payment and collection of contributions will apply automatically to the contributions under the scheme.

AMENDMENTS OF HEALTH AND UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACTS.

The Bill amends the National Health Insurance Act in various particulars. The principal amendments of the Unemployment Insurance Acts consequent on the scheme are:—

(i) Contributions and benefits will cease to be payable by

and to an insured person at the age of 65.

(ii) No contribution will be payable by an employed person of the age of 65 and upwards, but the employer's share of the weekly contribution will continue to be payable in respect of him.

The amendments under this heading take effect from 2nd January, 1928.

A Schedule appended to the Memorandum shows, in summarised form, the provision made by the Bill for insured persons, for the wives, widows, and children of insured men, and for the children of insured widows.

GOVERNMENT ACTUARY'S REPORT.

In a Report‡ by the Government Actuary on the Financial Provisions of the Bill it is stated that the estimated numbers of employed persons under the age of 65 coming into insurance at the beginning of the scheme are 10,170,000 men and 4,595,000 women. These numbers will increase until about the year 1960, when the estimated numbers are 11,671,000 men and 4,842,000 women. From that time onwards some reduction in the insured population between the ages of 16 and 65 is indicated by the Actuary's calculations. calculations.

In addition it is estimated that there will be 275,000 men and 50,000 women employed contributors between the ages of 65 and 70 in January, 1926, in respect of whom contributions will be payable during the years 1926 and 1927, so long as they are in insurable employment and still under 70. This makes a total of 15,090,000 employed persons (10,445,000 men and 4,645,000 women) brought in as contributors at the outset.

The estimated numbers of beneficiaries under the Acts, at various

dates, are shown in a Table in the Report, of which the following is an abridged summary :-

_	1925-6.	1928-9.	1935–6.	1945-6.	1965-6.
Non-contributory cases§ :—	(000'8)	(000'8)	(000's)	(000'8)	(000's)
Widows	196	142	32		
Children	386	248	33		
Contributory cases :-					
Widows	10	177	575	980	1,305
Children	8	129	360	464	406
Men aged 65-70		332	428	507	529
Women aged 65-70		160	241	301	297
Total	600	1,188	1,669	2,252	2,537

Another Table in the Report shows the estimated expenditure and the estimated contributions under the Bill. The following is an abridged summary of this Table :-

		Total Expenditure (including Administration, but excluding Pensions to Persons over 70).	Contributions.
1925-6 1928-9 (1935-6 1945-6 1955-6 1965-6	first complete year)	Million £. 2·7 25·6 38·4 52·3 57·7 60·8	Million £. 4·5 22·9 25·5 32·0 38·4 42·7

† Cmd. 2406. H.M. Stationery Office; price 9d. net. § These are existing widows or children, whose husbands or fathers were

STEEL HOUSES: REPORT OF COURT OF INOUIRY.

A COURT of Inquiry, consisting of Lord Bradbury (Chairman). Mr. C. T. Cramp, and Mr. D. Milne Watson, was appointed by the Minister of Labour on the 14th March last to inquire into and report upon the causes and circumstances of threatened disputes in connecting the course of the course of the causes and circumstances of threatened disputes in connecting the course of the cours tion with the erection of houses of a type faced externally with steel

The Report explains the development and details of the scheme of Messrs. Weir, recites the circumstances of the threatened disputes at Leeds, Sheffield and Glasgow in regard to the proposed erection of Weir houses, and summarises the contentions of the parties. at Leeds, Sheffield and Glasgow in regard to the proposed erection of Weir houses, and summarises the contentions of the parties. Messrs. Weir informed the Court that the essence of the scheme is that it is the application of engineering methods to the production of houses by manufacturing them in a factory and is not building trade work in the generally accepted sense, the scheme having been so designed as to avoid impinging on the building industry. They claim that all the processes both in the manufacture in the factory and on the assembly on the site have been so simplified that they can be carried out by men possessing no special skill, and that the methods adopted mark a departure from those in general operation in the building industry. Accordingly, building trade rates of wages are not applicable to the men employed, to whom it is fair and reasonable to pay the rates of their own trade. In the opinion of Messrs. Weir the methods and operations lend themselves admirably to a system of payment by results, by means of which the earnings of the men employed will be considerably enhanced and the output of houses increased. They hold that by observing engineering rates and conditions they are conforming to the requirement of the Fair Wages Clause that in the absence of recognised rates of wages and hours of labour those which in practice prevail among good employers shall be observed. They further contend that their scheme is a definite contribution towards helping to reduce the numbers of unemployed, as their labour is recruited wholly from the numbers of unemployed, as their labour is recruited wholly from the numbers of unemployed, as their labour is recruited wholly from the unemployed and in particular from amongst the unemployed craftsmen in the trades hardest hit by the present industrial depression namely, the engineering, shipbuilding and iron and steel trades.

on the other hand, the main contention of both the employers and operatives in the building industry is that rates of wages and conditions of employment in that industry are determined by a national agreement of May 1920, that any firm coming into the industry must conform to those agreed rates and conditions, and that means exist within the rules governing the building industry for determining the rates of wages for new operations introduced into the industry and for adapting existing conditions to changes into the industry and for adapting existing conditions to changes in the industry. The employers and operatives are in agreement that the methods and operations of Messrs. Weir do not represent a departure from the recognised practice in the building industry. Both employers and operatives contend that the building industry is making a great effort to meet the housing needs of the nation with the result that arrears are being overtaken and a greater number of houses will be built this year than in any previous year; also the building industry is enlarging its ranks very considerably by means of an extended system of apprenticeship agreed by the Building Industry Committee which is composed of representatives of employers and operatives in the industry. The operatives regard the Weir scheme as an attempt to undermine the Fair Wages Resolution of the House of Commons and to break down trade union rates and conditions which are at present safeguarded by the Fair Wages Resolution. Any system of payment by results or piecework is opposed by the operatives, as in their view it is not appropriate to the building industry. On the other hand the employers in the main favour a system of bonus on output.

Other evidence was given by the General Secretary of the Federation of Engineering and Skiphvilding Trady

Other evidence was given by the General Secretary of the Federation of Engineering and Shipbuilding Trades, who explained that in general an engineering craftsman claims to follow the trade to which he has been apprenticed wherever it takes him. If, owing to slackness of trade in the engineering industry, such a man is unable to obtain employment as an engineer, the man's union would raise no objection to his accepting some other job which is not engineering, but the union would be concerned in the rate of wages which is offered to him. The General Manager of Messrs. Braithwaite and Company informed the Court that in the construction of the Telford all-steel house the Court that in the construction of the Telford all-steel house the manufacture of the carcase of the house is done under engineering trade conditions, whilst for the erection work constructional engineering rates are paid. When the carcase has been erected the other crafts complete the work, building trade

eing paid. In their considerations and conclusions the Court state that the dispute is not a labour dispute in the ordinary sense of a difference between an employer and his own workmen as to rates of wages or conditions of employment. So far as Messrs. Weir and those whom conditions of employment. So far as Messrs. Weir and those whom they are employing or proposing to employ are concerned, no trouble has arisen or is apprehended. The real cause of the threatened stoppage of work is the employment by Messrs. Weir, on the manufacture and assembly of their houses, of men at rates of wages and conditions of employment not in conformity with those obtaining in the building trade. The stoppage of work, had it taken place, would have applied to all building work in the districts of Leeds and Sheffield, and a position would have arisen in which all housing and other building work carried on in those districts by building trades employers would have been stopped whereas the building trades employers would have been stopped, whereas the work on the Weir houses would have continued, injury thus being inflicted on the employers in the building industry in spite of the fact that they entirely agreed with the operatives' point of view. The Report proceeds :-

"This action appears to us to be entirely inappropriate and illogical. It was submitted to us that, before such an extraordinary position could come about, the conciliation machinery of the building industry would have come into operation, and we were assured that every effort would be made by those in the industry to prevent a stoppage of work and that the conciliation machinery would be used to the full. This assurance is valuable, and we are confident that the good sense of employers and operatives would have endeavoured to avoid such a position as that indicated above."

The Court state that all contracts entered into by Messrs. Weir with local authorities for the erection of houses will be subject to the standing orders of the Corporations, and will consequently contain in practically all cases a Fair Wages Clause. The question contain in practically all cases a Fair Wages Clause. The question whether in connection with any particular contract Messrs. Weir are carrying out their obligations under the Fair Wages Clause depends upon the terms of the particular clause and the facts relating to the particular case, and is a matter to be determined on this basis by the local authority concerned. The Court then state

".... there appears to us to be no reason why the Local Authorities should not proceed at once with their arrangements for the erection of the demonstration Weir houses. It is very desirable in the interests of the community that the recom-mendations of the Moir Committee for the erection of houses of a type faced externally with steel sheeting in sufficient numbers to enable the system to be properly tested, should be carried out at the earliest moment.

carried out at the earliest moment.

The question of the rates of pay which should be assigned to the different classes of workmen engaged in the various operations in the housing factory and upon the sites and the conditions of their employment is, in our judgment, a matter which ought to be, and can be, settled by agreement between Messrs. Weir and the trade unions representing the men employed on the work; rates and conditions thus determined would appear to us to meet the obligations imposed in connection with the observance of the Fair Wages Clause. It is not, in our view, a case for the automatic and rigid application of rates and conditions which have been established in respect of the ordinary methods of the building trade."

methods of the building trade."

The Court proceed to examine separately the stages of the manufacture of the houses within the factory and the erection on the site, and state that within the factory Messrs. Weir have evolved a highly standardized and sectionalized system of manufacture, and have developed the processes on such lines that there are practically no skilled operations to be performed, and in accord ance with the principles of mass production the men in the factory are in general called upon to do one job only. A comparison of a typical factory in the building trade and Messrs. Weir's factory leads the Court to the conclusion that Messrs. Weir's methods of manufacture are essentially different from the traditional methods of the building trade. With regard to the stage of erection on the site, the process of erecting an ordinary the stage of erection on the site, the process of erecting an ordinary house is compared with the process of erecting a Weir house and the conclusion is reached that, just as in the development of many forms of mechanical engineering, the standardization of house-parts by Messrs. Weir has reached a stage at which all that is required for the erection of the house is the assembly of standardized parts prepared by mass production methods in the factory of a character so simplified that there is no longer need to call for the skill of the

With regard to payment by results the Court state that—

"There can be no doubt that payment by results—a recognised feature in the engineering industry—is peculiarly appropriate to the methods both of manufacture and assembly followed by Messrs. Weir in house construction, and we are convinced that such a system, worked out in conjunction with the men's trade unions, will, if put into operation by Messrs. Weir, result in advantage both to the firm and to the men employed." employed.'

Finally, the Report proceeds—

"Messrs. Weir have, in fact, devised a way of supplementing the supply of houses by utilising the methods of the engineering trade, just as that trade in the production of motor vehicles or of steel bridges supplemented the supply of vehicles and bridges formerly produced by skilled wheelwrights and masons respectively. The firm have definitely and purposely avoided the use of building trade labour for their special purposes, one of their objects being to avoid taking men from an industry the use of building trade labour for their special purposes, one of their objects being to avoid taking men from an industry which is admittedly overburdened at the present time. As we have indicated above, it seems to us clear that their system of mass production of houses by the application of engineering methods, both on the manufacture and on the erection of the houses, involves substantial departures from the traditional methods of the building industry.

Regard being had to these departures from traditional building trade methods it appears to us that both extends the state of the second control of the

building trade methods, it appears to us that both rates of pay and conditions of labour must be adjusted to the new pay and conditions of labour must be adjusted to the new conditions by the procedure we have suggested above. The position of the workmen employed can, in our opinion, be fully safeguarded by their own trade unions, in consultation, on matters in which the interests of the building trade proper appear to be affected, with the building trade unions.

It is proper to take into account the wide social aspects of the question. The two greatest domestic problems before the nation are unemployment and housing, and Messrs. Weir's scheme has the merit of assisting towards a lessening of the former difficulty whilst making a material contribution towards

^{*} H.C. Bill 164. H.M. Stationery Office; price 9d. net. † Cmd. 2405; price 3d. net.

May, 1925.

the solution of the latter. We see no reason why the Weir scheme, which, in our judgment, is a serious attempt, conceived on scientific lines, to organise productive power to meet the present urgent need for houses, should not be fully developed as an auxiliary and emergency scheme side by side with the present development of the building industry. The requirements of the country in the matter of housing are so great that, even with the maximum development of such auxiliary schemes, with the maximum development of such auximary schemes, they cannot be overtaken except over a period of many years. Any fear, therefore, that the adoption of such schemes will compete unduly with the recognised building industry appears to us to be groundless. Anyone having a knowledge of the facts must appreciate the joint efforts which are being made by the building industry in the face of considerable difficulties to meet these requirements, and the endeavour which is being made to overcome the present shortage of skilled which is being made to overcome the present shortage of skilled craftsmen, particularly bricklayers and plasterers, by the scheme for the extended system of apprenticeship. It is essential in the interests of the building industry itself and of the community that these joint efforts should continue, but in the meantime it must be recognised that the present urgent demand for houses cannot be met by the building industry in its present state, and any scheme which will alleviate to some extent the existing hardships of overcrowding must be realconed by all these who have the welfare of the community welcomed by all those who have the welfare of the community

PROPOSED EXTENSION OF THE TRADE BOARDS (ROPE, TWINE AND NET) ORDER, 1919.

REPORT OF INQUIRY.

A REPORT* has been made by Mr. C. E. Dyer, K.C., on the public inquiry held by him on the 7th March, 1925, at Great Yarmouth with regard to a proposed amendment of the Trade Boards (Rope, Twine and Net) Order, 1919.

The inquiry was held on the direction of the Minister of Labour as a result of objections received by him to his Notice of Intention dated the 8th October, 1924, to make a Special Order amending the 1919 Order so as to extend its scope to include the mending, refitting and reconditioning of drift, seine or similar nets wherever carried on. Under the Order as it stands at present, such work is included only when it is carried on in a factory or workshop in which rope, twine or net are made or remade.

The Report states that a preliminary objection was taken by the National Herring Fisheries Protection Association on the ground that the mending and reconditioning of nets, so far as the work is carried out by persons in the employ of the boat-owners on nets which have been used on the boat-owners' own vessels, was not a trade within the meaning of the Trade Boards Acts and could not

therefore be included within the scope of any Trade Boards Order.

The Commissioner records his opinion that it is not open to him to consider whether the making of the proposed Order is intra or ultra vires, and this objection is accordingly not dealt with in the

The main conclusions to be drawn from the inquiry are outlined in the report as follows:-

(1) The workpeople whom it is proposed to bring under the Acts by the Special Order are principally women and girls (beatsters) employed by the boat-owners on mending drift nets used on their boats in the herring fishery. They are employed chiefly at Great Yarmouth (about 500 beatsters) and at Lowestoft (from 700 to 800 beatsters). Apart from the beatsters there are a small number of men (ransackers or net riggers) who perform the heavier work connected with mending drift nets and come within the purview of the Special Order.

the Special Order.

(2) The evidence submitted in respect to wages broadly confirmed the results of an investigation made by the Ministry of Labour in July, 1924, when it was found that the earnings of beatsters ranged in Great Yarmouth from about 5.3d. to about 6.4d. per hour, and in Lowestoft from 4.6d. to 5.2d. per hour, the working week ranging from 44 to 46 hours. An increase in the net bonus made in Great Yarmouth at the beginning of the recent autumn fishing season would yield at the current rate approximately an additional 1d. per hour on the above rates for Great Yarmouth. For similar work under the Rope, Twine and Net Trade Board the general minimum time rate is 6½d. per hour and the piece-work basis time rate 6¾d.

per hour.

(3) The boat-owners are organised in their respective associations. The workpeople are in the main unorganised, and no adequate machinery exists for the effective regulation of wages of the work-

people concerned.

(4) The only opposition to the Special Order came from the boatowners. On the other hand, the Order was supported by the beatsters in so far as they were represented at the Inquiry, and by both sides of the Rope, Twine and Net Trade Board. The objections of the boat-owners, apart from the preliminary objection mentioned above, were mainly based upon (a) their anticipation that they would be outvoted by the manufacturers on the existing Trade Board, and (b) their fear that an increase of wages would seriously hamper the herring fishery industry, which was already labouring under great difficulties from foreign competition and other causes.

* H.M. Stationery Office; price 6d. net.

On the first point the Commissioner's view is that the issue of the Special Order does not necessarily mean that the boat-owners will be brought within the scope of the existing Trade Board, but that by administrative action the Minister may establish a separate Board for the mending branch of the trade as carried on by the

THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE.

As regards the second, having regard to the wages at present paid by the leading firms of boat-owners at Great Yarmouth as compared with the rates fixed by the Rope, Twine and Net Board, it is considered that the fears of the objectors to the Special Order

were probably exaggerated.

It is also suggested that the question of wages in relation to the commercial position of the trade is a matter which affects not so much the merits of the Special Order as the deliberations of a Trade Board if, and when, constituted.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE FOR AGRICULTURAL WORKERS:

APPOINTMENT OF DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE.

THE Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries and the Secretary for Scotland have appointed a Committee to consider and report whether it is desirable that workers in Agriculture should be compulsorily insured against the risk of unemployment, and, if so, on what terms and conditions and in what manner the insurance of agricultural workers can be most effectively provided either by the inclusion of Agriculture within the scope of existing legislation or by means of new legislation. Sir R. Henry Rew, K.C.B., has been appointed Chairman of the Committee, and Mr. R. E. Stanley, of the Chairman of the Committee, and Mr. R. E. Stanley, of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, and Mr. F. W. Charlton, of the Ministry of Labour, Joint Secretaries.

PROCEEDINGS OF JOINT INDUS-TRIAL COUNCILS AND INTERIM INDUSTRIAL RECONSTRUCTION COMMITTEES DURING APRIL.

DURING the four weeks ended 25th April, 1925, ten meetings of Joint Industrial Councils and Interim Industrial Reconstruction Committees were reported to the Ministry of Labour.

At the meeting of the National Joint Industrial Council for Local Authorities Non-Trading Services (Manual Workers) the recommendations of the National Council as to holidays and sick pay on holidays were amended so as to cover the case of a man incapacitated on a holiday through accident arising from no fault of his own.

A special meeting of the Joint Industrial Council for the Lock, Latch and Key Industry was held to discuss the position arising from the refusal of a federated firm to put into operation the proper grading rates as agreed by the Joint Industrial Council. A satisfactory settlement was subsequently obtained.

Discussion took place at the meeting of the Hosiery Trade Joint Industrial Council on a report of the interview between the Minister of Labour and a recent deputation from the Association of Joint Industrial Councils and Interim Industrial Reconstruction Committees with reference to the Industrial Councils Bill.

The scheme for the education of silk workers was further discussed by the Joint Industrial Council for the Silk Industry. The scheme stands referred to the Education Committee of the Council, which

At the meeting of the National Council of the Pottery Industry an open Pottery Scholarship to the value of £50 per annum and tenable for three years was renewed. The question of removal and prevention of dust was dealt with in the minutes of the Research, Inventions and Designs Committee. A Sub-Committee was appointed to deal with the specific question of dust arising from casting and scraps, and the Secretary to the British Pottery Manufacturers' Federation has been requested to issue a questionnaire to manufacturers on the subject.

Other matters dealt with at the meeting were the sweeping and Other matters dealt with at the meeting were the sweeping and cleaning of potter's shops, the provision of protective clothing for young persons, and the question of the transport facilities to and from the Pottery Districts. It was also decided to recommence quarterly conferences of representatives of Works Committees, to which representatives from all works where Committees have not been formed or where they have ceased to function should be invited. At the conclusion of the meeting the Council heard an Address by Colonel J. A. Saner, M.I.C.E., on the Value of Waterways to the

The Joint Industrial Council for the Boot and Shoe Industry discussed means for perfecting the organisation of both sides, and passed a resolution re-affirming its request for the passing of the Industrial Councils Bill. The resolution also provided for consultation between both sides as regards means to be taken to secure conformity to trade agreements; and a Sub-Committee was appointed

ROYAL COMMISSION ON FOOD PRICES.

THE Royal Commission on Food Prices was appointed on 29th November, 1924, to "enquire into the conditions prevailing in the wholesale and retail trades in articles of food of general consumption so far as they affect prices, particularly having regard to the difference between the prices received by producers and the prices paid by consumers, and to report what action, if any, can usefully be taken."

The Commission have examined 90 witnesses and have also collected a large amount of information from other sources by correspondence and interviews; and their First Report has now been presented.*

The Commission decided to deal first with certain general con-The Commission decided to deal first with certain general considerations of an economic and statistical character affecting the problem as a whole; secondly with the bread, flour and wheat trades; and thirdly with the meat trade. In their present Report they give a general explanation of the causes of the present level of food prices, and consider the statistical evidence bearing on the margin between wholesale and retail prices; they review the bread, flour, wheat and meat trades, and discuss the general position of State trading in food.

As a result of their investigations, the Commission state that they have been forced to the conclusion that at least some purchasers of bread and meat have to pay an unfairly high price for the loaves and joints which they actually receive. The Commission remark, however, that in saying this they do not bring any general accusation of dishonest trading or of profiteering against dealers in wheat, flour, bread or meat, but that they have discovered practices which are unfair and contrary to the public interest.

The most general conclusion of the Commission is that there should in future be an organ of the State, with statutory powers, permanently in being, to watch over the supply of wheat, flour, bread and meat. This organisation the Commission refers to as a Food Council, and in their Report they sketch its proposed constitution, duties and powers. The establishment of this Food Council is the principal recommendation of the Commission and dominates most of their other recommendations. As to the functions of the Council the Commission say :-

"We do not contemplate a new Department of State with a considerable staff. We have in view the formation of a body which, by combining representation of economic, financial, administrative, and consuming interests, would gain the confidence of the public and the respect of the business world. . . . It will act as a mediator between producer, trader, and consumer, in reconciling for a common end interests which we do not regard as necessarily conflicting."

"The primary duty of the Food Council would be to study the situation in regard to bread and meat supplies, and to keep the public fully informed by periodical reports as to the working of these essential trades. The Food Council's reports should be not merely statistical compilations, but should provide a commentary on the trend of events and so far as a possible cardiac the on the trend of events, and so far as possible explain the causes which lead to important movements in prices. For this purpose the Council would need to collect information relating to production, import, consumption, and stocks, together with more precise information than is at present available with regard to wholesale and retail prices."

"It would be one of the Council's chief duties to consider, either a the basis of the statistics collected by it or as a result of particular investigations, whether the public were obtaining their supplies of the staple foodstuffs in the most economic manner, and at the lowest reasonable price. The Council would have power to investigate specific complaints. In its periodical reports it would draw attention to localities where prices were shown to be exceptionally irregular or unduly high, and, where cases of profiteering were discovered, it would use the power of publicity and, if necessary, give directions."

The Commission further recommend that, in addition to its special powers and duties, the Food Council should investigate apparent overlapping in the bread trade, consider differentiation between charges for bread sold over the counter and bread delivered, and watch the fixing of prices by associations in the baking and milling trades, intervening if necessary.

Other recommendations of the Commission are that port authorities should consider port charges on wheat, with a view, if possible, to early reduction in rates; that any local authority which proposes to issue a list of fair retail prices should consult the Food Council; that retail butchers should be compulsorily registered; that cold storage proprietors should be required to furnish statistics of stocks of meat in cold store; that the Food Council should watch of stocks of meat in cold store; that the Food Council should watch future developments in the Argentine meat trade, in view of its possible domination by adverse trading combinations; that the Government should discuss with Dominion Governments the encouragement of Empire sources of food supply; and that the Government should exercise their influence to ensure that it shall be the duty of the Economic Section of the League of Nations to make a continuous study of international food problems, and to prepare periodical reports for submission to the Council of the League reports for submission to the Council of the League

The Majority Report of the Commission is signed, subject to notes, reservations and recommendations in certain cases, by all except two of the members, Mr. T. H. Ryland and Mr. W. R. Smith, each of whom submits a Minority Report.

OVERSEA SETTLEMENT COMMITTEE. REPORT FOR YEAR 1924.

THE Oversea Settlement Committee have issued their Report* for the year ended 31st December, 1924.

the year ended 31st December, 1924.

Classes of Migrants.—The numbers of migrants who were assisted to proceed overseas during the year amounted to 15,120 men, 11,581 women, and 14,350 children. The corresponding figures for 1923 were: 16,957 men, 9,713 women, and 9,286 children.

In the opinion of the Committee, family migration is the ideal form of settlement, but it also presents the greatest difficulties both in this country and overseas. There are also great opportunities overseas for children and juveniles who go out under the care of philanthropic societies or are for other reasons unaccompanied by their parents.

their parents.

The Committee are increasingly convinced of the value of the settlement overseas of public school boys, and regard with satisfaction the schemes which have been developed during the year in New Zealand and in Alberta. It is understood that a very good type of applicant has been secured, and that the placings of the boys on farms in New Zealand have been most satisfactory.

The Committee have always laid great stress on the desirability of increasing the proportion of processing the processing th

of increasing the proportion of women and girls proceeding overseas; and it is interesting to note that for every 100 men assisted to migrate 57.28 women and 54.76 children received assistance in the year 1923, and 76.59 women and 94.90 children in the year 1924. It will be seen from the figures given above that, whereas the number of men assisted in 1924 showed a decrease of 1,837 as compared with the number assisted in 1923, the numbers of women and of children assisted showed increases of 1,868 and 5,064, respectively.

Migration and Unemployment.—The Committee again controvert the idea that the object of Empire settlement is the relief of unem-ployment in this country. "The departure of settlers from this ployment in this country. "The departure of settlers from this country," they say, "undoubtedly has a certain limited effect in reducing unemployment but this result is incidental to, and not the object of, Empire-directed settlement. Its true object . . . is the distribution of the white population the best advantage of the Empire as a whole tage of the Empire as a whole . . . It is plain that, as the Dominions become increasingly conscious of their individual nationhood, they will rightly continue to insist that the one test of all persons who desire to be admitted within their borders shall be their suitability."

The Committee consider that the outflow of migration is unlikely to approach its former levels until further progress is made towards the restoration of trade. They note with satisfaction that confidence seems to be reviving. "Australia and New Zealand," they fidence seems to be reviving. "Australia and New Zealand," they add, "are benefiting from the strength of the world's demand for wool, and it would seem reasonable to anticipate that agricultural interests in the Dominions will derive advantage from the recent rise in prices of wheat and other produce.'

The Committee suggest that the increasing urbanisation of our population makes it more difficult for settlers from this country to adapt themselves to the conditions which must be faced by workers upon the land in the Dominions. They therefore again urge the need for making special arrangements for the reception, distribution, initial supervision and welfare of British settlers, and add that the importance of this aspect of the problem is increasingly recognised.

New Agreements, etc.—Important negotiations were begun in pril, 1924, between the Minister of Migration for the Commonwealth of Australia and the then Chairman of the Oversea Settlement Committee, with a view to closer and more extensive co-operation between the Governments of the Commonwealth and of this country in the development of migration. The two Governments propose to make available to the Australian State Governments, on specially make available to the Australian State Governments, on specially favourable terms, an additional sum of £20,000,000 for approved works of development directly connected with migration, over and above the sum of £14,000,000 provided for the schemes already arranged for Western Australia, Victoria, and New South Wales. It is hoped that an agreement will be concluded at an early date.

Two new schemes were arranged during the year with the Government of Canada. Under one of these H.M. Government agree to contribute towards the erection of wooden shacks in Canada, for the temporary accommodation of British families while they are quali-

temporary accommodation of British families while they are qualifying for settlement upon farms of their own. Under the other scheme H.M. Government and the Canadian Government have agreed to advance funds sufficient for the settlement of 3,000 British. families upon farms of their own in Canada. The Dominion Government will provide farms in settled and established districts, within reasonable distance of a railway. Houses and buildings will be available on all the farms, and a sufficient part of the land will be available for immediate cultivation; and loans may be granted, at the discretion of the Dominion Government, for the purchase of live stock and equipment. The cost of the farms and the amount of any loans will be repayable by the settler over a period of 25 years, with interest at 5 per cent. per annum. The annual repayments will not exceed 360 dollars, or about £6 a month.

Several statistical and other Appendices are added to the Report, including (i) a statement of the assisted passage rates available for settlers going to Canada, Australia, and New Zealand; (ii) a Table showing the British migration movement for the years 1913, 1923, and 1924; (iii) statistics of British migrants under the Empire Settlement Act, 1922; and (iv) a chart showing the excess of outward over inward movement of British passengers between the United Kingdom and non-European countries during the period 1873–1923. For particulars of British migrants under the Empire Settlement Act, see page 177 of this GAZETTE.

* Cmd. 2383. H.M. Stationery Office; price 9d. net.

^{*} Vol. I. Cmd. 2390. H.M. Stationery Office; price 3s. 6d. net. The Minutes of Evidence are published separately, at 20s. net.

FATAL ACCIDENTS AT MINES AND OUARRIES IN 1924.

THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE.

THE Mines Department have issued a preliminary statement of the number of deaths caused by accidents in and about the mines and quarries of Great Britain, together with the Isle of Man, during the year 1924.* The principal statistics are given in the following Table:—

toni all'a nolonian visuat a	separat	ber of te Fatal ents in	caused	of Deaths by Fatal ents in
	1924.†	1923.	1924.†	1923.
Mines under the Coal Mines Act, 1911	1,127	1,151	1,192	1,297
Mines under the Metalliferous Mines Regulation Act, 1872 Quarries under the Quarries Act, 1894	15 76	11 76	17 78	11 79
Total	1,218	1,238	1,287	1,387

Among the most serious accidents during the year was one due to explosion of firedamp (9 deaths), one to the explosion of gelignite at the surface (7 deaths), one to a shaft accident (6 deaths), one to an outburst of gas (5 deaths), and one to an inrush of water

one to an outburst of gas (3 deaths), and the control of deaths).

The reduction in the number of deaths reported at mines under the Coal Mines Act occurred chiefly in Scotland (30), the Midland and Southern Division (27), Cardiff and Newport (21), Yorkshire (18), and the North Midland Division (12). Two other divisions showed small reductions, of 4 and of 2, respectively; and in one division (Lancashire and North Wales) there was a small increase (9). Of the total of 1,192 deaths from fatal accidents at mines under the Coal Mines Act. 598 were due to falls of ground (including 391). the total of 1,192 deaths from fatal accidents at mines under the the Coal Mines Act, 598 were due to falls of ground (including 391 at the working face, 206 on underground roads, and one in shafts); and 259 were due to haulage accidents (including 218 caused by persons being run over or crushed by trams or tubs while working underground). Of the remaining 335 deaths from fatal accidents under the Coal Mines Act, 35 were due to explosions of firedamp or coal dust, 60 to shaft accidents, 49 to accidents on railways, sidings or tramways on the surface, and 191 (125 underground and 66 on surface) to miscellaneous causes. surface) to miscellaneous causes.

Falls of ground were also the principal cause of deaths from fatal accidents at mines under the Metalliferous Mines Regulation Act, and at quarries (7 out of 17, and 30 out of 78, respectively).

JUVENILE UNEMPLOYMENT CENTRES.

THE Minister of Labour gave the following information in reply to a question in the House of Commons as to Juvenile Unemployment Cen tres in England and Wales on the 6th May:-

In England and Wales there are 83 centres open in the areas of 33 local education authorities. Four centres in the areas of three authorities have been approved, but are not yet open. Further, nine authorities are believed to have proposals for new or additional centres in contemplation.

The average number of boys and girls who attended centres in England and Wales during the week which ended on 24th April was 3,535 boys and 2,237 girls, a total of 5,772. The number of individual juveniles who attended during the same week was 6,710. The number of individual juveniles who attended centres at any time during the year which ended on 31st March, 1925, was 58,906. The average period of continuous attendance is not definitely known, but inquiries made last October indicate that it is about three to six weeks.

Local education authorities are given the widest discretion in the choice of subjects of instruction. The subjects most commonly taught are these:

Bous.

Physical training, including gymnastics and organised games.

English, composition and letter-writing.

Wood or metal work.

Drawing, practical and technical.

Physical training, drill, dancing and organised games.

Domestic subjects, including cookery, needlework and laundry.

Hygiene and baby welfare.
Arithmetic, related particularly to household accounts.
English, composition and letter-writing.

In addition, the curriculum, both for boys and girls, includes lectures on general subjects, on local history, travel, citizenship, etc., and for those seeking commercial employment instruction in shorthand, typewriting, and bookkeeping is available. Debates are also a feature at many centres.

* H.M. Stationery Office; price 4d. net.
† The figures for 1924 are subject to minor corrections on the receipt of
the final returns for the Annual Report.

The average daily hours of attendance are three hours on five days

A substantial proportion of the teachers in the centres are certificated. Service in the centres in England and Wales is not at present recognised for superannuation purposes, but the President of the Board of Education is proposing such provision as is necessary in the Teachers' Superannuation Bill now before Parliament. In the meantime local education authorities have been informed that, subject to certain conditions, teachers who are seconded for fultime service in a centre may be offered, while so serving, the salary which would have been payable to them under the recognised local scale for assistant teachers in elementary schools increased by 10 per cent.

10 per cent.

The scales of salary paid to teachers vary from area to area and are those which the authorities concerned consider are appropriate. In a number of cases the teachers are paid in accordance with the recognised local scale for assistant teachers in elementary schools. It is not possible to say how many of those who attend the centres obtain permanent employment, but special arrangements are in force to ensure that boys and girls attending the centres are put in touch with employers notifying vacancies to the Employment Exchange or Juvenile Employment Bureau. A high proportion of the juveniles attending the centres secure employment in this way. There is normally no need for the juveniles concerned to apply for work at the exchange or bureau on the days on which they are work at the exchange or bureau on the days on which th attending the centres, as under the arrangements mentioned officers from the exchanges or bureaux visit the centres daily, or vacancies notified to the exchanges or bureaux are communicated to the centres by telephone.

In reply to another question, asking for similar statistics for Scotland, it was stated that 43 Juvenile Unemployment Centres were open in Scotland, in the areas of five local education authorities; the proposals of one authority were under consideration. The average attendances at 41 of these centres during the week ended the 24th April were 2,106 (1,219 boys and 887 girls). The remaining two centres, which had an average attendance of about 50, did not re-open after the Easter holidays until the 27th April. 14,400 boys and girls passed through the Scottish centres during the year ended the 31st March last. the 31st March last.

RETAIL PRICES OF CLOTHING, 1914-25.

THE statistics which are published each month in this GAZETTE as to changes in the cost of living of working-class families include particulars relating to the retail prices of clothing.

At the end of each month forms of inquiry are posted from the Ministry of Labour to a large number of representative outfitters, drapers and boot retailers in the principal towns. The retail prices quested by each retailer of the principal towns. quoted by each retailer at the previous inquiry are entered on the forms before despatch and the retailer is asked to quote the current retail prices for the same articles and qualities as before, or for the

nost nearly corresponding articles and qualities.

The descriptions of goods which are taken into account in the The descriptions of goods which are taken into account in the compilation of the statistics are those most generally purchased by the working classes. The method of compilation adopted is to compute separately the percentage change for each quotation supplied by each retailer, to tabulate these percentages, and to combine them for each article by taking the simple arithmetical average of the percentages. The resultant average changes for the several articles are then collected into six groups, as follows: (1) men's suits and overcoats, (2) woollen material for women's outer garments, (3) woollen material for women's outer garments, (3) woollen underclothing and hosiery, (4) cotton material for women's outer garments, (5) cotton underclothing material and hosiery, (6) boots. The percentage change for each such group is arrived at by taking the average of the percentage changes for the constituent articles, allowance being made in group (1) for the difference in the relative importance of ready-made and bespoke clothing and of suits and overcosts.

It will be observed that some of the information collected relates to the prices of material for clothing, instead of some of the articles of clothing themselves, partly because for the former comparative prices could be obtained over a long period with a greater measure of accuracy and partly because many families buy materials and either arrange for making-up or make them up at home. In utilising the prices of materials to obtain an estimate of the amount of the increase in the price of garments, allowance is made for the fact increase in the price of garments, allowance is made for the fact that the charges for making-up have not changed similarly. In computing the final percentage, representing the general increase in clothing prices, the figures for the several groups are averaged, the relatively greater importance of group (1) and the smaller importance of group (4) being recognised by giving a "weight" of 1½ to group (1) and ½ to group (4), compared with 1 to each of the other four groups. Before this is done, the percentages shown by groups (2) and (4) are combined with that relating to the charges for matring up materials giving in each area a "weight" of 3 to groups (2) and (4) are combined with that relating to the charges for making up materials, giving in each case a "weight" of 3 to the material compared with 1 to the cost of making up; in arriving at these "weights" allowance has been made for the fact that in some cases the garments are made up at home, and where this is so the increase in the cost of material, of course, closely represents the

increase in the cost of the garment.

Before referring to the results of the calculations it should be observed that, owing to the wide range of quotations, both now and before the war, to changes in qualities and in stocks held by retailers, and to the variations in the extent to which different

articles and qualities have been affected by price changes in recent years, it is not possible to make an exact calculation of the average percentage increase in clothing prices generally; and any single percentage arrived at by the ordinary methods of averaging can only, at best, be regarded as affording an approximate indication of the general change in prices. The number of returns obtained, however, is very considerable and precautions are taken with a view to ensuring, as far as possible, the comparability of the prices quoted for different dates. Subject, therefore, to the general qualification referred to above, the results of the investigations may be taken to be broadly representative of the general course of prices taken to be broadly representative of the general course of prices of the cheaper grades of clothing.

May, 1925.

The statistics show that there was a steady rise in the retail prices of clothing from the beginning of the war until the summer of 1917, followed by a more rapid rise until about the date of the Armistice. Thereafter prices remained stationary, on the whole, until the autumn of 1919, but subsequently rose again until the summer of 1920, when the maximum increase of about 330 per cent. above the pre-war level was recorded. In October, 1920, a decline set in, and during the twelve months, 1st October, 1920, to 1st October 1921, the increase was reduced by one-half, the average percentage increase over the pre-war level at 1st October, 1921, being about 165 per cent. From that date until the late autumn of 1923 the general average percentage continued to fall slowly—very slowly in 1923—and at 1st December, 1923, the average percentage increase, as compared with July, 1914, was about 120 per cent. During 1924 there was a succession of small rises in the average level, but during the present year it has remained stationary, at about 130 per cent.

For the main six groups into which the articles included in the statistics are classified the average percentage increases at 1st May, 1925, as compared with July, 1914, were as under:—

	P	ercentage
Group.		Increase.
(1) Men's Suits and Overcoats		90
(2) Woollen Material for Women's Outer Garments		170
(3) Woollen Underclothing and Hosiery		150
(4) Cotton Material for Women's Outer Garments		220
(5) Cotton Underclothing Material and Hosiery		160
(6) Boots		100

As has been pointed out above, where materials for garments are made up at home the increase in the cost of material closely represents the increase in the cost of the garment. Where the materials are given out to be made up by dressmakers, etc., the charges to working-class customers average nearly one-and-a-half times

to working-class customers average nearly one-and-a-half times the corresponding pre-war charges.

Although the method of calculation is that of combining the percentage changes in the prices quoted by retailers from month to month and not that of averaging the prices quoted (the range of prices being so wide that the utilisation of average prices in this connection would be unsuitable for the purpose), it may be of interest to give an indication of the general ranges of prices which are included in the returns on which the percentages are based. Accordingly to give an indication of the general ranges of prices which are included in the returns on which the percentages are based. Accordingly, the following Table has been prepared to show the general range of the price-quotations used for the purpose of the index number. The quotations for materials are "per yard," for footwear "per pair," and for other articles "each." It should be observed that while the figures given include the majority of the quotations, other quotations were also important in particular cases.

Article	Predominant Ranges of Retail Prices of Grades Purchased by Working- Class Families.				
	July, 1914.	1st May, 1925.			
Men's Suits and Overcoats:	box biller to mich	ev dot bolikyoni e			
Ready-made Suits	21s.—30s.	35s.—55s.			
Orromonata	21s.—30s.	35s.—55s.			
Bespoke Suits	30s.—42s.	50s.—80s.			
Overcoats		50s.—80s.			
Woollen Material for Women's	A Thirteen House and a second				
Outer Garments:	1a 6d 7a	70 114 70 114			
	7 0	3s. 11d.—7s. 11d. 1s. 11d.—4s. 11d.			
Serge	7 0	2s. 6d.—4s. 11d.			
Frieze	1s. 6d.—3s.	3s. 11d.—5s. 11d.			
Cashmere	7- 07 0-	3s. 11d.—4s. 11d.			
Woollen Underclothing and Hosiery	is out tensdeen town at				
Men's Vests and Pants		4s. 11d.—7s. 11d.			
", Merino Socks		ls.—ls. 11d.			
Women's Vests		ls. 11d.—3s. 11d.			
Woollen Stockings		1s. 11d.—2s. 6d.			
Flannel Cotton Material for Women's	8\d.—1s. 0\d.	1s. 9d.—2s. 9d.			
Outer Garments: .	to Intelligence to	the state of the land of the			
Print	31d.—41d.	10½d.—1s. 4½d.			
Zephyr	3 d 4 d.	ls.—ls. 4½d.			
Sateen	797 497	1s.—1s. 4id.			
Drill	4 d6 d.	ls.—ls. 9d.			
Galatea	4åd.—6åd.	ls.—ls. 63d.			
Cotton Underclothing Material and	THE TOTAL PRINCE OF				
Hosiery:		011 1 71			
Men's Cotton Socks	4½d.—7½d.	9½d.—1s. 3d.			
Women's Cotton Stockings	42d.—1s. 02d.	8½d.—1s. 6½d.			
Calico, White Longcloth	2 ² d.—4 ² d. 3 ² d.—4 ² d.	6 ½ d.—1s. 0 ½ d. 8 ½ d.—1s. 0 ½ d.			
Chinting	734 434	10 d.—1s. 4 d.			
Flannelette	37d.—47d.	8½d.—1s. 0½d			
Boots:	ogu.	251 014			
Men's Heavy Boots	5s. 11d.—8s. 11d.	12s. 6d.—16s. 11d.			
Men's Light Boots	6s. 11d.—10s. 6d.	12s. 6d.—16s. 11d.			
Women's Boots	4s. 11d.—8s. 11d.	10s. 6d.—15s. 6d.			
Boys' Boots	3s. 11d.—5s. 11d.	7s. 11d.—11s. 6d.			
Girls' Boots	3s. 6d.—5s. 11d.	7s. 6d.—10s. 6d.			

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

A STATISTICAL summary* of the output and of the costs of production, proceeds and profits of the coal mining industry for the quarter ended 31st December, 1924, prepared by the Mines Department, shows that at undertakings which produced 62,428,185 tons of saleable coal or about 94 per cent. of the total quantity raised in the quarter, 56,962,315 tons were disposable commercially.

The net costs, after deducting the proceeds of miners' coal, amounted to £52,283,898, equivalent to 18s. 4 '29d. per ton, and the proceeds of commercial disposals to £54,089,440, equivalent to 18s. 11 '90d. per ton. There was thus a credit balance of £1,805,542, or 7 '61d. per ton. An analysis by districts shows that in Scotland.

or 7.61d. per ton. There was thus a credit balance of £1,805,542, or 7.61d. per ton. An analysis by districts shows that in Scotland, Durham, Yorkshire and the East Midlands, Lancashire, North Staffordshire and Cheshire, South Staffordshire and Salop, Forest of Dean and Somerset, there were credit balances ranging from 0.17d. to 2s. 4.88d. per ton, and in other districts there were debit balances ranging from 3.78d. per ton in Northumberland to 2s. 4.09d. in Kent.

The number of workpeople employed was 1,079,107, the number of man-shifts worked was 70,363,899, and the number of man-shifts lost that could have been worked was 5,801,458. The average output per man-shift worked, based on the tonnage of saleable coal raised, was 17.74 cwt., the average for the districts ranging from 12.34 cwt. in the Bristol coalfield to 20.04 cwt. in Yorkshire and the East Midlands. The average earnings per man-shift worked were 10s. 7.04d.

The following Table compares some of the more important figures in the return with those given in the returns for the previous

Quarter ended	Amount of saleable coal raised.	Credit (+) or Debit (-) balance per ton.†		No. of workpeople employed.	Output per man- shift worked.	Earnings per man- shift worked.	
31st March, 1922	Tons. 57,633,631	s. +1	d. 1.62	1,020,207	Cwts. 18·25	8. 11	d. 0·18
30th June, 1922	53,261,024	-0	0.17	1,025,592	17.80	10	2.51
30th Sept., 1922	58,717,767	+1	1.00	1,027,853	17.94	9	3.9
31st Dec., 1922	64,538,199	+1	6.39	1,068,594	18.10	9	5.2
31st March, 1923	67,077,543	+2	5.32	1,087,733	18 · 25	9	7.7
30th June, 1923	65,527,464	+3	2.64	1,102,380	17.90	9	9.7
30th Sept., 1923	61,999,982	+1	0.22	1,108,259	17.42	10	7.20
31st Dec., 1923	67,838,789	+1	11.53	1,120,204	17·76 17·79	10	3.3
31st March, 1924 30th June, 1924	67,047,657 61,552,868	+2+1	9.63	1,111,280 1,107,457	17.48	10	2 · 8
30th Sept., 1924	59,163,976	+0	0.29	1,083,702	17.33	10	10.2
31st Dec., 1924	62,428,185	+0	7.61	1,079,107	17.74		7.0

UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS. 1924-1925.

On 10th March, 1924, a revision was made in the method of pre-On 10th March, 1924, a revision was made in the method of presentation of the unemployment returns published weekly by the Ministry of Labour. From that date a single composite figure was published which included not only those who were totally unemployed but also persons suspended or stood off, and persons working systematic short time and drawing benefit for intervals of unemployment, provided they were unemployed at the date of the count. In the October issue of the Labour Gazette (see page 353) a comparative statement was published, giving the weekly figures for Great Britain on the new basis for the period 7th January, 1921, to 6th October, 1924. In the Table below the series is continued on the same basis up to the latest available date.

Numbers of Persons Registered as Unemployed at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain.

Date.			Number.	I	Number.		
1924.	W. C. S. C.	CHARL	100	1925.	A AL		ALTERNATION OF THE PARTY OF THE
Oct. 13			1,210,201	Jan. 19			1,269,733
,, 20			1,204,078	,, 26			1,240,922
,, 27			1,203,229	Feb. 2			1,238,287
Nov. 3			1,228,023	,, 9			1,242,959
,, 10			1,218,392	,, 16			1,239,796
17	ESTOLES !	30 312	1,208,999	,, 23	7 009019	C 32 19 10	1,236,065
24			1,190,592	Mar. 2			1,235,618
Dec. 1		90000	1,190,254	q		5.170	1,220,733
Q	50 to	100000	1,182,188	" 16	TENSON.	35.0	1,219,206
15			1,158,475	1 " 07	***	•••	
	•••	•••		,, 23	***	•••	1,201,315
,, 22	•••	***	1,169,227	,, 30		***	1,194,313
,, 29	•••	•••	1,273,885	Apr. 6	•••	•••	1,166,353
		7111		,, 13			1,204,770
1925.				,, 20			1,202,671
Jan. 5			1,307,140	. 27			1,187,068
,, 12			1,279,854	May 4	23.00	TOTAL S	1,180,479

In comparing these figures with those relating to the early part of 1924, or previous dates, it should be noted that administrative changes made in February, 1924, and legislative changes made by the Unemployment Insurance Act of August, 1924, brought on to the records certain classes of unemployed persons who previously, not being entitled to benefit, would not have registered. The precise numerical effect of these changes cannot be stated, The precise numerical effect of these changes cannot be stated, but it is estimated that the Act of August, 1924, was responsible for an addition of about 70,000 to the total number registered.

* Cmd. 2398. H.M. Stationery Office; price 1d. net.

† Calculated on the quantity of coal disposable commercially.

EMPLOYMENT OF EX-SERVICE MEN.

158

NATIONAL SCHEME (KING'S ROLL).

The latest returns show that there are approximately 28,000 firms on the King's National Roll. The number of disabled ex-Service men employed by these firms is approximately 360,000.

INDUSTRIAL TRAINING.

At 28th April, 1925, the number of men in training was 5,504, and the number awaiting training, 1,438. Since 1st August, 1919, 91,522 men have terminated training.

INTERRUPTED APPRENTICESHIPS.

Up to 30th April, 1925, 44,719 apprentices have been accepted for training with 17,870 employers, as compared with 44,718 apprentices with 17,869 employers on 31st December, 1924.

The apprentices rejected to 30th April, 1925, numbered 2,179, this being the same as on 31st December, 1924. Of those accepted,

43,817 had terminated their training and 902 were still in training. The corresponding numbers on 31st December, 1924, were 43,792

The number of men who have received Institutional Training up to 30th April, 1925, is 2,313, this being the same as on 31st December, 1924.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE **BENEFIT: PROSECUTIONS FOR** WRONGFUL CLAIMS.

In reply to a question in the House of Commons on the 7th May, asking as to the recent prosecutions of people fraudulently drawing, or attempting to draw, unemployment benefit, the Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Labour stated that the average number of prosecutions during the last seven months had been at the rate of about 160 a month, or a little under 2,000 a year. On the hypothesis that about 3,500,000 persons claim unemployment benefit at one time or another during the year, this is a percentage of 0.055. From this it will be seen that, while the actual number of wrongful claims must in itself be considerable, yet it is a comparatively s percentage of the total of those who at one time or another claim benefit. The prevention of the improper receipt of benefit is be stated, a matter to which the closest attention is given, and all practical steps are taken to safeguard the Unemployment Fund from

REPORT ON AN INVESTIGATION INTO CLAIMS TO UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFIT.

THE Ministry of Labour have prepared a Report, which is now in the hands of the printer and will shortly be published by H.M. Stationery Office, on an investigation into the personal circumstances and industrial history of nearly 11,000 claimants to unemployment and industrial history of nearly 11,000 claimants to unemployment benefit during the week ended November 29th, 1924. The Report, which is on a basis of 1 per cent of the total number of claimants at the date of the investigation, is on the same lines as that published in March, 1924, and the principal subjects which are dealt with are as follows:—Classification by degree of employability of the claimants; age; marital state; nationality; physique, health and physical defects; age of leaving school and starting work; type of school attended; apprenticeship and training; casual or non-casual worker; number of dependants; ex-servicemen, disabled ex-servicemen, and non-ex-servicemen; standard and extended benefit; Poor Law Relief; and average number of contributions paid and amount of benefit drawn per claimant.

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION: FORTHCOMING SEVENTH GENERAL CONFERENCE.

THE seventh General Conference of the International Labour Organisation created by the Treaty of Versailles will meet at Geneva on the 19th May, when the following subjects will be discussed:—

Workmen's compensation for accidents;

Equality of treatment for national and foreign workers as regards workmen's compensation for accidents;
Weekly suspension of work for twenty-four hours in glass

manufacturing processes where tank furnaces are used; Night work in bakeries.

The Government have appointed Mr. H. B. Betterton, C.B.E., M.P., Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Labour, and Mr. R. R. Bannatyne, C.B., Assistant Secretary, Home Office, as Mr. R. Bannatyne, C.B., Assistant Secretary, Home Office, as Government delegates; and, in agreement with the National Confederation of Employers' Organisations and the General Council of the Trades Union Congress, have nominated Mr. James Lithgow (Ex-President of the Shipbuilding Employers' Federation and of the National Confederation of Employers' Organisations) and Mr. E. L. Poulton, O.B.E., J.P. (Secretary of the National Union of Boot and Shoe Operatives and member of the General Council of the Trades Union Congress), as employers' and workpeople's delegates, respectively. Each delegate will be accompanied by advisers.

PRODUCTIVE UNEMPLOYMENT RELIEF IN GERMANY.

By an Order of 30th April last* the German Government has codified with some amendments the various Orders on productive unemployment relief. The more important provisions are as follows:—

A. General Principles.—The main condition to be fulfilled by relief works receiving support from productive unemployment relief funds is that they should have a community value. Further, they must be works which (a) are calculated to increase the quantity of foodstuffs, raw materials and industrial materials and appliances for home use; (b) employ a large number of workers and involve small money expenditure; (c) will result in a better distribution of labour and create new opportunities for work; and (d)—the condition on which most stress is laid—result in the transfer of workers from large centres to work in the country or small towns.

In general, relief works are to be entrusted to public bodies; and to bodies of a semi-public nature and private undertakings only if the work is not carried on for profit or if the resulting profits are used for the benefit of the community. Public bodies are not as a rule to undertake relief works themselves, but are to give them out to contractors, taking care that the contractor's profit is limited out to contractors, taking care that the contractor's profit is limited to the necessary minimum. Relief works are to be subject to a formal contract between the public body and the contractor. Support must not be given from unemployment relief funds to works which could be carried out without such assistance. The period for which assistance to relief works is given is not in general to exceed six

Workers employed on relief works supported out of unemployment relief funds must be engaged through the public employment exchanges, and before engagement must have been in receipt of unemployment relief for at least a fortnight. Preference is to be given ployment relief for at least a fortnight. Preference is to be given to workers who have already been unemployed for a considerable time. Married men are to be placed so far as possible on relief works in their own locality; young and unmarried workers, on works in another district. Unemployed persons may not be employed on relief works for more than three months, and they cannot be retained. relief works for more than three months, and they cannot be retained if recalled by the exchange to take up ordinary work. This period of three months may be reduced by the authorities, or, in special cases, prolonged for a period not exceeding three months. No unemployed person may be employed on relief works for a period exceeding six months in one year.

Employment on relief works is a form of unemployment relief, but counts as employment in return for remuneration for the purposes of Federal social insurance and for income tax purposes. But workers on relief works, instead of the unemployment "benefit," are to receive remuneration proportionate to their output, based either on piece rates or on an output-bonus system. Where this is not possible, a definite output for the working day is to be fixed. Subject to these safeguards, the remuneration of the relief worker is to be in these safeguards, the remuneration of the felici worker is to be in accordance with the collective agreement rates, or if no collective agreement exists, with the current local rates for similar work. If, in special cases, this method of payment would either deter the workers from taking up ordinary employment, or attract employed workers to relief works, the administrative committee of the State Central Employment Office may fix another form of remuneration. This is to be done, if possible, before the relief work is put in hand.

Every unemployed person in receipt of relief is obliged to accept employment on relief works, if it is suited to his physical capacity, even if it is outside his trade and locality. An unemployed person engaged for relief works in another locality may receive travelling expenses out of unemployment relief funds. His dependants may receive, in whole or in part, the family allowances granted as part of unemployment relief for the period during which he is employed away from home. In cases of necessity, tools and equipment may be provided for workers on relief works out of unemployment relief funds.

B. Assistance to Relief Works.—Assistance to relief work is divided in the new Order into two classes: (1) basic assistance, and (2) increased assistance, the first being given mainly to small local relief works and the second solely to large relief works.

(1) Basic Assistance.—The Chairman of the public employment exchange (or group of exchanges), with the approval of his administrative committee, is competent to approve assistance of this kind in his own district. In certain cases, the approval of the Supreme State Authority is required. Assistance may be granted either in the form of loans or subsidies. A subsidy must not be granted if a loan would be sufficient. The rate of interest, method of repayment and security required are regulated by the Chairman of the exchange and security required are regulated by the Chairman of the exchange in conjunction with the administrative committee. Assistance in the form of subsidies or loans must not, as a rule, exceed the saving the form of subsidies or loans must not, as a rule, exceed the saving in unemployment relief. In exceptional cases, particularly in order to cover increased costs due to engaging unemployed persons from other localities, the assistance may be increased to $1\frac{1}{2}$ times the saving in the case of subsidies and to $2\frac{1}{2}$ times in the case of loans. Subsidies and loans are to be taken from the relief fund made up of the contributions of employers, workers and the commune or group of communes, with further assistance, where necessary, from State and Federal funds. They may be calculated on a flat rate representing the relief that would be paid to a man over 21 with two children, or on some other form of average.

* Deutscher Reichsanzeiger, 1st May, 1925,

The Chairman of the employment exchange must notify the Supreme State Authority immediately of all assistance to relief works granted by him. This authority must enter an objection against the carrying out of the relief work if there is good reason to suppose (a) that the above general principles have not been followed; (b) that no adequate output will be demanded from the workers; or (c) that workers have been dismissed from employment in order that they may be re-engaged as relief workers.

May, 1925.

(2) Increased Assistance.—In special cases, relief works may receive urther assistance from Federal or State funds, either in the form of loans or by the Government standing security. This increased assistance must bear a due relationship to the saving in unemployment relief effected by the relief works.

Increased assistance from State or Federal funds may be granted only for relief works which are urgently necessary, the carrying out of which would be impossible without such assistance, and which fulfil the following conditions:—

(1) The work must provide employment for the unemployed to the extent of over 2,000 man-days.

(2) Unemployed persons to be employed on them must have been for at least a fortnight in receipt of relief from a commune in which the number of unemployed in receipt of relief is equal to at least one per cent. of the population.

In certain cases the Supreme State Authority, with the consent of the Federal Labour Administration Department, may grant exemption from one or both of these conditions.

Loans must be systematically repaid, and so far as possible overed by securities. The period allowed for repayment is in general to be five years and must not exceed ten years. In general, the interest charged is to be equal to the Reichsbank's rate of discount. If relief works, assisted in this way, make profits, the Reich and the State must be guaranteed a suitable proportion of the profits.

In the case of relief works on a considerable scale and of more than local importance, especially if they are to employ workers from several employment exchange districts, the basic form of assistance may be wholly or partly dispensed with and the works be financed from Federal and State funds. If, in such cases, an unprofitable expenditure is incurred, especially if this is due to the employment of unemployed persons, subsidies may in addition be granted from Federal and State funds equal to the amount saved in unemployment "benefit" (in exceptional cases, one and a half times the saving). times the saving).

Increased assistance requires the sanction of the Federal Labour Administration Department—

(a) When the assistance exceeds the sum of 200,000 Reichs-

(b) When the period for which assistance is to be granted exceeds 6 months;

(c) When the body to be assisted is a private undertaking or a body of a semi-public nature;

(d) When the measure covers several States:

(e) When the Reich or a State is itself the body responsible

In other cases the Supreme State Authority is competent to grant The new Order came into force on 1st May, and the Orders of 17th November, 1923, and of 18th January, 1925, are thereby

NATIONAL LABOUR SUPPLY

COUNCIL IN FRANCE.

A NATIONAL Labour Supply Council was constituted within the French Ministry of Labour by a Decree dated 3rd February, 1920. It was composed of 10 members representing the employers, 10 representing the workers and 12 representing Government Departments. Its functions were to advise the Government on questions connected with the recruiting and placing of French and foreign labour. A new Decree has now been issued, dated 7th April, 1925,* which repeals the Decree of 3rd February, 1920. Under this Decree, a new National Labour Supply Council is to be set up and attached to the Prime Minister's Office. It is to be composed of 2 senators, 4 deputies, 6 employers' representatives, 6 workers' 2 senators, 4 deputies, 6 employers' representatives, 6 workers' representatives and 6 representatives of Government Departments. Its functions are to advise on measures calculated:—

(1) To ensure, by the co-ordination of the operations of the employment exchange service, the utilisation and distribution of the labour available in the labour market, taking into particular consideration the needs of agriculture, industry and commerce in the different districts;

(2) To regularise and control the recruitment, the introduction and the conditions of employment of colonial and foreign

The Council is presided over by the Prime Minister or, in his absence, by the Minister of Labour. It is to meet when convened by the President and at least once every three months.

* Journal Officiel, 10th April, 1925. Paris.

THE EIGHT-HOUR DAY IN THE FRENCH MERCANTILE MARINE: NEW DECREE.

THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE.

THE Journal Official for 1st April, 1925, contains the text of a Decree dated 31st March, 1925, which introduces important modifications in the regulations affecting hours of labour in the French mercantile marine. Earlier regulations* based on the Act of 2nd August, 1919, gave shipowners the option of either an eight-hour day or a 48-hour week (with certain provisions as to overtime on various classes of vessel). Subsequently, however, by a Decree dated 5th September, 1922,† a distinction was drawn between hours of attendance (heures de présence) and hours of active service (heures de service effectif). In an explanatory report annexed to the present Decree, the Minister of Public Works states that, in application, the Decree of 5th September, 1922, has led to an extension of the hours of active service on board ship beyond the limits prescribed by the Act of 2nd August, 1919, and that the guiding principle behind the new regulations has been to limit such extensions of hours to exceptional cases and emergencies.

Generally, owners of vessels engaged in the foreign or coasting trade, pilotage, fishing or pleasure voyages, must select one of the following methods of arranging the working hours of all persons employed on board :-

(1) Limitation of actual work to eight hours per working

day.

(2) Unequal distribution of hours of actual work on the basis of 48 hours per week, not including the weekly rest-day.

(3) Unequal distribution of the hours of actual work over a period of a month (or such other period as may be agreed upon the period of a month (or such other period as may be agreed upon the period of a month (or such other period as may be agreed upon the period of a month (or such other period as may be agreed upon the period of a month (or such other period as may be agreed upon the period of a month (or such other period as may be agreed upon the period of a month (or such other period as may be agreed upon the period of a month (or such other period as may be agreed upon the period of a month (or such other period as may be agreed upon the period of a month (or such other period as may be agreed upon the period of a month (or such other period as may be agreed upon the period of a month (or such other period as may be agreed upon the period of a month (or such other period as may be agreed upon the period of a month (or such other period as may be agreed upon the period of a month (or such other period as may be agreed upon the period of a month (or such other period as may be agreed upon the period of a month (or such other period as may be agreed upon the period of a month (or such other period as may be agreed upon the period of a month (or such other period as may be agreed upon the period of a month (or such other period of a month of the period of the p between the parties concerned and approved by the Mercantile Marine Inspector) on the average basis of eight hours a day.

Hours of actual work are defined as those during which members of the crew, in consequence of an order given, are at the disposition of the captain outside their quarters. Hours of rest are those during which members of the crew are at liberty to remain in their quarters. When the vessel is in a regular port of call, all hours of attendance at the disposition of the captain are regarded as hours of active

at the disposition of the captain are regarded as hours of active service. A distinction is drawn between sea and port service.

The new Decree contains detailed provisions for adapting these principles to the peculiar conditions of work on board ship and to the present needs of the French mercantile marine in all classes of Exceptions are numerous, and provision is made for overtime and for marine emergencies. Generally, compensation for hours worked in excess of those laid down must be made either by time off or by a money payment.

COMPULSORY ARBITRATION IN THE UNITED STATES: RECENT DECISION OF SUPREME COURT.I

In June, 1923, the Supreme Court of the United States declared the action of the Kansas Court of Industrial Relations in regulating the action of the Kansas Court of Industrial Relations in regulating wages and hours of labour in a certain case to be unconstitutional. (See this GAZETTE for October, 1923, page 365.) The question of regulating working hours arose again, and the same Company appealed again to the Supreme Court. By a unanimous decision given on 13th April last, the Supreme Court affirmed its previous award, and, to all intents and purposes, declared any compulsory arbitration of industrial disputes to be unconstitutional. The Court said: "The system of compulsory arbitration which the Act establishes is intended to compel, and if sustained will compel, the owner and employees to continue the business. will compel, the owner and employees to continue the business on terms which are not of their making . . . Such a system infringes the liberty of contract and rights of property guaranteed by the due process of law clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.

The powers of the Kansas Court of Industrial Relations were recently taken over by a new State Public Service Commission (in which is merged the Court) and the Public Utilities and Tax Com-

EXTENSION OF WORKING HOURS IN SWISS FACTORIES.§

An Order of the Swiss Federal Department of Public Economy, dated 23rd March, 1925, authorises an extension of hours to 52 a week in (1) sawmills and woodworking factories, (2) in the brick, tile and cement-stone making trades, and (3) on the process of impregnating wood with blue vitriol. The Order remains in force until the middle of October, 1925, in the first two cases, and until the end

^{*} See this GAZETTE for April, 1920, page 174.
† See this GAZETTE for September, 1922, page 366.
‡ Based on reports in various American papers and a despatch from H.M. umbassador at Washington, dated 16th April, 1925.
§ Despatch from H.M. Minister at Berne.

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

Summary: Average Increases since July, 1914. All Items included ... 67% Food only

FOOD.

During April there was a further downward movement in the average level of retail prices of food. This was mainly due to a further seasonal decline in the prices of butter and milk, and to small reductions in the average prices of flour and bread. The remaining articles included in the statistics showed on the average little change in price.

As a net result of all the changes recorded, the average increase over the level of July, 1914, in the retail prices (in Great Britain and Northern Ireland) of the articles of food included in these statistics was about 67 per cent. at 1st May, as compared with about 70 per cent. at 1st April.

In the following Table is given a comparison of retail prices of these articles of food in July, 1914, and at 1st April and 1st May,

Article.	other	Price (per wise indica he nearest	Average Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) at 1st May, 1925, as compared with			
e starns foith hoins n troppin par it sas	July, 1914.	1st April, 1925.	1st May, 1925.	July, 1914.	1st April, 1925.	
Beef, British— Ribs Thin Flank Beef, Chilled or Frozen—	s. d. 0 10 0 61	s. d. 1 6 0 10	s. d. 1 6 0 10	8. d. + 0 8 + 0 3½	s. d.	
Ribs Thin Flank Mutton, British—	0 7½ 0 4½	0 103 0 53	0 103 0 53	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$:::	
Legs Breast Mutton, Frozen— Legs	0 10½ 0 6½ 0 6½	1 8½ 0 11½ 1 0¾	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	+ 0 10 + 0 5 + 0 6		
Breast Bacon (streaky)*	0 4 0 111	0 5 1 6	0 54	+ 0 13 + 0 63		
Flour per 7 lb. Bread per 4 lb. Tea Sugar (granulated) Milk per quart	0 10½ 0 5½ 1 6½ 0 2 0 3½	1 8 0 103 2 51 0 33 0 61	1 71 0 101 2 51 0 32 0 53	+ 0 8\\ + 0 4\\\ + 0 11\\\ + 0 1\\\\ + 0 2\\\\ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \	- 0 0½ - 0 0½ - 0 0½	
Butter— Fresh Salt Cheese† Margarine	1 2½ 1 2½ 0 8½ 0 7	2 1½ 2 0 1 2½ 0 7½	2 0 1 10½ 1 2 0 7½	+ 0 9½ + 0 8½ + 0 5½ + 0 0½	$\begin{array}{cccc} - & 0 & 1\frac{1}{2} \\ - & 0 & 1\frac{1}{2} \\ - & 0 & 0\frac{1}{2} \\ & & & & & & & & & & & & & & & & & & $	
Eggs (fresh) each per 7 lb.	0 11 0 41	0 10	0 101	+ 0 01 + 0 51	+ 0 01	

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

posterne odl' (del oper	Average 1 1st May	Corre-		
Article.	Large Towns (Popula- tions over 50,000).	Small Towns and Villages.	General Average.	figure for 1st April, 1925.
Beef, British—	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Ribs	83 50	77 51	80 50	80 51
Beef, Chilled or Frozen—	nivition 3	or front in	dra roceia	ni vanoles
Ribs	48	45	46	46
Thin Flank	17	19	18	19
Mutton, British—	100	97	98	97
Legs	83	74	79	78
futton, Frozen—				
Legs	94	81	88	88
Breast	38	36	37	40
Bacon (streaky)*	64 122	101	62 112	62
Fish	122	101	112	111
Flour	79	85	82	88
Bread	84	81	83	88
rea	58	63	60	61
Sugar (granulated)	92 61	83 72	88 67	89 76
Butter—	01	64	0,	10
Fresh	61	69	65	74
Salt	57	59	58	68
Oheese†	63	64	63	65
Margarine	7	1	27	4
Eggs (fresh) Potatoes	33 131	22 96	113	28
Potatoes	131	30	413	111
All above articles of Food (Weighted Percentage Increase)	69	66	67	70

kind is seldom dealt with in a locality, the returns quote the price kind locally representative

cally representative.

n of cheese specified for quotation is Canadian or American,
eese is seldom sold in a locality the returns quote the price

RENT, CLOTHING, FUEL AND LIGHT.

As regards rents, inquiries which have been made into the langes which have taken effect under the Rent and Mortgage As regards rents, inquiries which have been made into the changes which have taken effect under the Rent and Mortgage Interest Restriction Acts indicate that the average increase in the rents of working-class dwellings between July, 1914, and 1st May, 1925, was approximately 47 per cent. Of the total increase, about two-fifths is accounted for by increases on account of rates and water charges and about two-fifths is on account of the landlord's responsibility for repairs, increases on account of the higher level of mortgage interest permitted by the Acts falling within the remaining one-fifth.

As regards clothing, owing to the wide range of quotations, both now and before the war, to changes in qualities and in stocks held by retailers, and to variations in the extent to which different articles and qualities have been affected by price changes, it is

by retailers, and to variations in the extent to which different articles and qualities have been affected by price changes, it is impossible to make an exact calculation of the increase in prices; but information as to the movements of prices of men's suits and overcoats, underclothing and hosiery, textile materials and boots, received from retailers in the principal towns, indicates that at 1st May the level of retail prices of articles in this group, taking goods of the kinds purchased by the working classes and so far as possible the same qualities of goods at each date, averaged about 130 per cent. higher than in July, 1914. Details with regard to the increases in the prices of clothing since 1914 are given on pages 156–7.

In the fuel and light group the average retail price of coal at 1st May was slightly lower than a month earlier and about 95 per cent. higher than in July, 1914. The price of gas remained about 50 per cent. above the pre-war level, and the prices of lamp oil, candles and matches also showed no appreciable change during the month. Taking the fuel and light group as a whole, the average increase at 1st May, as compared with July, 1914, was about 85 per cent.

ALL ITEMS.

ALL ITEMS.

If the average increases in the cost of all the foregoing items are combined in accordance with their relative importance in perwar working-class family expenditure, allowance being also made for the increase in the prices of soap, soda, domestic ironmongery, brushware and pottery, tobacco, fares and newspapers (averaging about 80 per cent.), the resultant general average increase for 1st May is, approximately, 73 per cent.* over the level of July, 1914, as compared with 75 per cent. at 1st April.

The result of this calculation (in which the same quantities and, as far as possible, the same qualities of each item are taken in 1925 as in 1914) is to show the average increase in the cost of maintaining unchanged the pre-war standard of living of working-class families (i.e., the standard actually prevailing in working-class families before the war, irrespective of whether such standard was adequate or not). Owing to the variations in the amounts of increase in the prices of different commodities it is probable that economies or re-adjustments different commodities it is probable that economies or re-adjustments in expenditure have been effected in many families, especially in m expenditure nave been effected in many families, especially in those cases where incomes have not increased so much as prices. On the other hand, it is probable that the standard of living has been raised in some families in which wages have been increased in greater proportion than prices. No allowance is made in the figures for any such alterations in the standard of living, as to which trustworthy statistics are not available.

SUMMARY TABLE: 1915 TO 1925.

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

Average Percentage Increase since July, 1914-All Items.

Month (beginning of)	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925
	10-15		65	85-90	120	125	165	92	78	77	80
February March	15 20	35 35–40	65–70 70	90 90	120 115	130	151	88	77	79 78	79
March April			70-75		110	132	133	82	74	73	75
May		40-45	75	95-100	105	141	128	81	70	71	73
June	25	45	75-80	100	105	150	119	80	69	69	
July	25	45-50	80	100-105	105-110	152	119	84	69	70	
August	25	45-50		110	115	155	122	81	71	71	
September	25	50	80-85		115	161	120	79	73	72	
October	30	50-55		115-120		164	110	78	75	76	
November	30-35			120-125	125	176	103	80	75	80	
December	35	65	85	120	125	169	99	80	77	81	•••

NOTE.

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

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

EMPLOYMENT IN APRIL.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

May, 1925.

EMPLOYMENT showed little change, on the whole, during April; it was good, on the whole, with coachbuilders and brickmakers, with most of the skilled operatives in the building trades, in the jute trade, and in some branches of the cotton trade; it was fairly good with millsawyers and brushmakers, in the furnishing and carpet trades, and in some sections of the metal trades. In the wool textile industry, in coal mining, in the iron and steel industry, in tinplate and steel sheet manufacture, in the marine and heavy engineering and steel sheet manufacture, in the marine and heavy engineering trades, and in the shipbuilding industry, employment was bad.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS

Among workpeople covered by the Unemployment Insurance Acts, numbering approximately 11,500,000, and working in practically every industry except agriculture and private domestic service, the percentage unemployed at 27th April, 1925, was 11·2, compared with 11·4 at 23rd March, 1925, and 9·7 at 28th April, 1924. For males alone the percentage at 27th April was 12·0, as compared with 12·1 at 23rd March; for females the figure at 27th April was 9·1, as compared with 9·2 at 23rd March. Among members of Trade Unions from which returns were received the percentage of unemployed was 9·4 at the end of April, 1925, compared with 9·0 at the end of March, and with 7·5 at the end of April, 1924. The total number of persons (insured and uninsured) registered* at Employnumber of persons (insured and uninsured) registered* at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland as unemployed at 27th April, 1925, was approximately 1,251,000, of whom 948,000 were men and 231,000 were women, the remainder being boys and girls; at 30th March, 1925, it was 1,249,000, of whom 959,000 were men and 228,000 were women; and at 28th April, 1924, it was 1,087,000, of whom men numbered 809,000, and

EMPLOYMENT IN THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES.

Mining and Quarrying.—Employment at coal mines continued slack in most districts. The total number of wage-earners on the colliery books at 25th April, 1925, was 1,107,823, a decrease of 1.7 per cent. as compared with March, 1925, and of 7 per cent. as compared with April, 1924. The average number of days worked by the pits in the week ended 25th April, 1925, was 5.28, as compared with 5.20 in March, 1925, and 5.71 in April, 1924.

At iron mines employment was bad in the Cleveland district and moderate in other districts. At the mines covered by the returns there was a decrease of 5.0 per cent, in the numbers employed compared with the previous month, but an increase of 0.4 per cent, compared with April, 1924. The average number of dars worked per real by the prince that were working was 5.49 0.4 per cent. compared with April, 1924. The average number of days worked per week by the mines that were working was 5.49, compared with 5.56 in March, 1925, and 5.73 in April, 1924. At shale mines employment continued fair. At limestone quarries in the Buxton district it remained fairly good, and in the Clitheroe district fair; in the Weardale district it was reported as moderate. At slate quarries in North Wales employment was fairly good. A slight improvement was reported from the whinstone quarries in the East of Scotland, but employment continued slack. Employment was again fairly good at china clay quarries, and good at tin mines.

Manufacture of Pig Iron, Iron and Steel, and Tinplate.- In the pig iron industry employment showed a decline and was bad; of a total of 482 furnaces, the number in blast at the end of April was 158, compared with 169 in March and with 194 in April, 1924. iron and steel works employment showed a further decline and was bad. Employment in the tinplate and steel sheet trades continued bad; the number of mills in operation at the end of the month was 466, as compared with 453 at the end of March, and with 546 at the end of April, 1924.

Engineering, Shipbuilding, and other Metal Trades.—In the engineering trades employment remained bad on the whole, and very bad in the marine engineering section. In the electrical, and motor and cycle sections it continued fairly good; in the railway engineering section it was fair; at textile machinery works it continued bad, but showed a further improvement. In the heavy engineering section it continued bad. In the shipbuilding and ship-repairing trades employment showed a slight improvement ship-repairing trades employment showed a slight improvement, but was still very bad. Employment in the other metal trades remained moderate on the whole. It was fairly good in the hollowware and stove and grate trades; fair in the brasswork, sheet metal, metallic bedstead, needle and fishing tackle, nut and bolt, saddle and harness furniture, cutlery and file trades; and slack or bad in the tube, wire, jewellery and plated ware, copper, chain and anchor, and anvil and vice trades.

Textile Trades.—Employment in the cotton trade showed little Textue Trades.—Employment in the cotton trade showed little change as compared with the previous month. In the American spinning section the short working week of 35 hours continued; in the Egyptian spinning section employment was fairly good. In the manufacturing section; though many weavers were only partially employed the number totally unemployed was small, and in some districts a shortage of weavers was reported. In the woollen and worsted trades employment showed a further decline and was had

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

In the hosiery and lace trades employment continued bad on the whole. In the silk trade employment continued good in the Eastern Counties; in the Macclesfield, Leeds and Congleton district it showed a decline and was only moderate; in the carpet trades it was fairly good. Employment in the jute trade continued good; in the linen trade a further decline was reported. In the textile bleaching, printing, dyeing, etc. trades employment continued slack on the whole; with silk dyers at Macclesfield and Congleton it continued fair. continued fair.

Clothing Trades.—Employment in the tailoring trade showed a further seasonal improvement in most districts; it was fair on the whole, but short-time working was again reported at some centres in the ready-made and wholesale bespoke branch of the trade. In the dressmaking and millinery trades there was a slight improvement and employment continued fair generally; it was also fair on the whole in the correct and shirt and collar trades an improve on the whole, in the corset, and shirt and collar trades, an improve ment being reported at some centres in each trade; in the felt hat trade it remained slack. In the boot and shoe trades employment was moderate and showed a decline in most districts.

Leather Trades.—In the leather trades employment showed some decline; it was moderate in the tanning and currying, and in the portmanteau, trunk and fancy leather sections, and bad in the saddlery and harness sections.

Building, Woodworking, etc.—Employment in the building trades showed a further improvement, mainly owing to increased seasonal activity in the painting and decorating section; it was good in most districts with skilled operatives, but slack, on the whole, with unskilled workers. It continued very good with bricklayers and plasterers; good with carpenters, joiners and masons; and fairly good with slaters. With painters it showed a marked improvement

good with slaters. With painters it showed a marked improvement and was fairly good in most districts; with plumbers it continued moderate; with builders' labourers it remained slack on the whole. In the brick trade employment continued good.

In the furnishing trades employment improved slightly and was fairly good; with upholsterers it was good. With coachbuilders it showed an improvement and was good on the whole. Employment with millsawyers and brushmakers continued fairly good; with coopers and basket makers it was fair; with packing-case makers it remained slack

Paper Manufacture, Printing and Bookbinding.—Employment in the paper trade continued fair on the whole. With letterpress printers it was fairly good, but showed a slight decline with electrotypers and stereotypers employment continued good. With lithographic printers employment was fair on the whole; at Manchester, however, it was reported as bad. With lithographic artists it was fair in London, and slack in Manchester. With bookbinders employment showed an improvement, but was still only moderate.

Pottery and Glass.—Employment in the pottery trades showed a slight decline, and there was much unemployment and short-time working. In certain sections, however, employment was good. In the glass trade employment continued moderate on the whole.

Agriculture and Fishing.—In England and Wales the supply of agricultural labour was sufficient for requirements, but there was practically no unemployment among agricultural workers. In the fishing industry employment continued fairly good.

Dock Labour and Seamen —With seamen employment continued slack; with dock labourers it was slack or bad at most ports.

The following Table shows month by month since April, 1924 (a) the percentages unemployed among members of those Trade Unions from which returns are obtained, (b) the percentages unemployed among workpeople covered by the Unemployment Insurance Acts in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and (c) the approximate number (to the nearest 1,000) registered as unemployed at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

	Percen	tage Une	employed a	mong	Number of
Date. (End of Month.)	Trade Unions	Insu	red Workpe	ople.*	Unem- ployed Registered
	making Returns.	Males.	Females.	Total.	at Ex- changes.*†
1924. April May June July August September October November December;	7·5 7·0 7·2 7·4 7·9 8·6 8·7 8·6 9·2	10·2 9·9 10·0 10·5 11·3 11·5 11·9 11·8 11·7	8·4 8·1 7·8 8·1 8·8 8·8 9·0 8·9 9·0	9·7 9·5 9·4 9·9 10·6 10·8 11·1 11·0 10·9	1,087,000 1,057,000 1,049,000 1,089,000 1,191,000 1,243,000 1,247,000 1,233,000 1,319,000
January February March	9·0 9·4 9·0 9·4	12·1 12·3 12·1 12·0	9.6 9.5 9.2 9.1	11.5 11.6 11.4 11.2	1,287,000 1,287,000 1,249,000 1,251,000

Owing to legislative changes and to changes in the administration of unemployment insurance, these figures somewhat under-emphasize the improvement in employment during the first half of 1924 and over-emphasize the decline in the latter half of the year.

† See note * to previous column.

‡ In the cases of insured workers the percentages for December, 1924, relate to 22nd December.

PER

TRADE UNION PERCENTAGES OF UNEMPLOYED.

162

TRADE Unions with a net membership of 980,695 in branches covered by the returns received reported 92,465 (or 9.4 per cent.) of their members as unemployed at the end of April, 1925, compared with 9.0 per cent. at the end of March, 1925, and 7.5 per cent. at the end of April, 1924.

Trade.	Member-ship of Unions Trade. Member-at Unions A 1:				Inc.(+) or Dec.(- in percentage Unemployed as compared with a		
de de la companya de	at end of April, 1925.	Num- ber.	Percentage.	Month ago.	Year ago.		
Joal Mining	144,632	27,487	19.0	+ 4.3	+18.1		
Engineering and Ship-	717.010			0.7	0.0		
building	347,610	45,176	13.0	- 0.7	- 2·6 - 1·1		
Miscellaneous Metal	48,143	2,936	6.1	- 0.4	- 1.1		
Cextiles:	50 011	0.0004	4.9	+ 0.2	- 1.1		
Cotton	58,811	2,906†	5.9	+ 1.4	+ 4.9		
Woollen and Worsted	12,089		3.3	+ 0.3	+ 0.9		
Other	56,468	1,861	2.2	+ 0.2	4 0.3		
rinting, Bookbinding and	100 041	3,039	3.0	+ 0.3	- 0.8		
Paper	102,041 29,970	1,191	4.0	- 0.7	- 1.1		
urnishing	41,782	1,552	3.7	+ 0.1	+ 0.5		
Voodworking	41,104	1,002	0.1	7 0.1	103		
lothing:—	79,637	3,461	4.3	+ 0.6	- 1.0		
Boot and Shoe	47,543	412	0.9	- 0.3	+ 0.1		
Other Clothing	6,068	644	10.6	+ 1.8	+ 2.9		
The state of the s	1,205	27	2.2	- 0.1	- 0.8		
	4,696	1,058	22.5	- 2.5	-10.0		
obaccot	4,000	2,000					
Total	980,695§	92,465	9 - 48	+ 0.48	+ 1.99		

UNEMPLOYMENT IN INSURED TRADES.

The percentage unemployed among workpeople insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts in Great Britain and Northern Ireland was 11·2 per cent. (males 12·0 per cent., females 9·1 per cent.) at 27th April, 1925, as compared with 11·4 per cent. (males 12·1 per cent., females 9·2 per cent.) at 23rd March, 1925, and 9·7 per cent. (males 10·2 per cent., females 8·4 per cent.) at 28th April, 1924. Tables showing the numbers unemployed in the principal industries appear on pages 170 and 171.

SUMMARY OF EMPLOYERS' RETURNS.

INFORMATION as to the state of employment in certain industries in April, derived from returns furnished by employers and employers' associations, is summarised below. Further details are given on pages 163 to 168.

Andrew State of the Control of the C	Workpeople included		Inc. (+) or as compar	
Trade.	in the Returns for April, 1925.	April, 1925.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Coal Mining Iron , Shale ,,	1,107,823 8,161 4,084	Days Worked per week by Mines. 5·28 5·49 5·85	Days. + 0.08 - 0.07 - 0.03	Days. - 0.43 - 0.24 - 0.11
Pig Iron Tinplate and Steel Sheet Iron and Steel	70,660	Furnaces in Blast 158 Mills Working 466 Shifts Worked (one week). 370,625	Number 11 + 13 Per cent 1·3	Number. — 36 — 80 Per cent. — 11·3

		180000	10000	11300
(b)	On	HER	TR	DES

Se vadate V			of Work		Total Wages Paid to all Workpeople.			
Trade.		Week	Inc. (- Dec. (-		Week	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		
Maria 100 o		27th April, 1925.	Month ago.	Year ago.	27th April, 1925.	Month ago.	Year ago.	
Textiles:— Cotton Woollen Worsted Boot and Shoe Pottery Brick		90,962 15,279 28,209 51,201 12,223 8,624	Per cent. + 0.0 - 0.3 - 0.9 + 0.1 + 0.8 + 2.3	Per cent. + 3.9 - 0.3 - 6.4 + 1.3 + 4.2 + 15.4	£ 171,238 30,278 50,662 116,787 22,545 23,457	Per cent. + 1·1 - 3·3 + 1·3 - 2·4 - 1·3 + 4·0	Per cent. +12·3 - 6·2 -13·6 - 0·5 + 3·9 +26·3	
Total		206,498	+ 0.0	+ 1.8	414,967	- 0·2	+ 3.5	

* Short time and broken time are not reflected in the figures. In the mining and textile industries a contraction in the demand for labour is generally met by short-time working. Persons on strike or locked out are also excluded.
† In addition to those shown, who were totally unemployed, a large number of the members of the unions reporting were "paid off part of each week, or alternate weeks or fortnights" or on "temporary stoppage benefit."

‡ The returns for the tobacco trade are supplied by unions whose members are mainly cigar makers.
§ The figures for April and March, 1925, exclude building and pottery trade operatives, which were included in April, 1924. The percentage for April, 1924, excluding these returns, would be 8.0, showing an increase of 1.4.

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

EMPLOYMENT CHART.

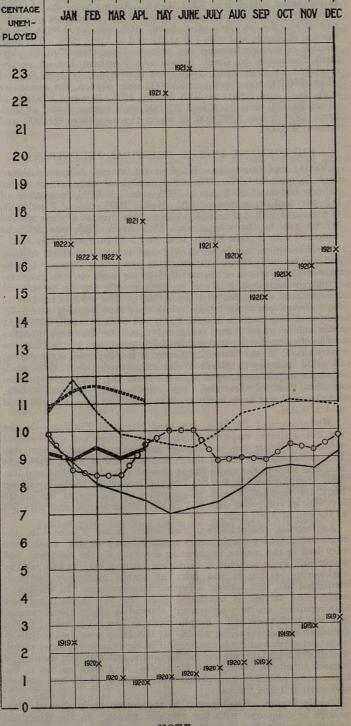
(1) PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED AT THE END OF EACH MONTH AMONG MEMBERS OF TRADE UNIONS

Thick Curve	4=	1925.
Thin Curve ——	-	1924.
Chain Curve —o o o o	-	Mean of 1919-24.

The crosses indicate the maximum and minimum percentages of Trade ion members unemployed, in the months named, during the years

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

> Thick Dotted Curve ---- = 1925. Thin Dotted Curve ----- = 1924.



NOTE

The figures relate to Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

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

The figures for insured workpeople are briefly explained, and are analysed in detail on pages 170 and 171.

DETAILED REPORTS ON EMPLOYMENT IN SOME OF THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES.

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

May, 1925.

EMPLOYMENT during April continued slack in most districts and showed little change on the whole from the previous month.

The total number of wage-earners on the colliery books at 25th April showed a decrease of 1.7 per cent. as compared with that at 21st March, and of 7.0 per cent. as compared with that at 12th

The average number of days worked in the week ended 25th April was 5·28, an increase of 0·08 of a day as compared with the fortnight ended 21st March, but a decrease of 0·43 of a day as compared with the fortnight ended 12th April, 1924.

The percentage of workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 11.6 at 27th April, 1925, as compared with 11.8 at 23rd March, 1925, and 2.0 at 28th April, 1924.

The following Table shows, for the principal coal-mining districts, the total number of wage-earners on the colliery books and the average number of days worked* during the week ended 25th April, 1925, as shown by returns obtained by the Mines Department. Small numbers of workpeople employed at coal mines in raising or handling minerals other than coal are included in the totals:—

	Wage Ea	Numberners on Books at	Colliery	Average Number of Days worked per Week by the Mines *			
Districts.	25th April,		or Dec ompared th a	Week ended 25th	Inc (+ (-)as co wit	or Dec ompared h a	
	1925.	Month ago.	Year ago.	April, 1925.	Month ago.	Year ago.	
England and Wales: Northumberland Durham Cumberland and Westmorland South Yorkshire West Yorkshire Lancs and Cheshire Derbyshire Notts and Leicester Warwick North Staffordshire South Staffs,† Worcs. and Salop Glos and Somerset Kent North Wales South Wales and Mon. England and Wales	50,348 151,815 10,873 119,972 69,023 102,601 65,724 67,785 20,565 35,753 35,753 35,746 14,438 1,522 18,186 215,610	Per cent 7·1 - 1·0 + 0·2 - 0·1 - 1·5 - 1·2 - 0·8 + 0·3 - 1·7 + 0·9 + 0·1 - 2·4 - 1·4	Per cents21.8 -21.8 -13.9 -9.6 +5.0 -1.6 -3.2 -0.6 +1.7 -5.1 +0.9 -2.3 -3.0 -19.9 -11.9 -11.9 -6.6	Days. 5·11 4·87 5·13 5·43 5·34 4·98 5·64 5·68 5·64 5·02 5·57 5·32	Days. +0·37 +0·14 -0·10 +0·12 +0·01 -0·11 -0·11 -0·02 +0·03 -0·01 +0·03 -0·04 +0·04 +0·06 +0·29 +0·10	Days 0.38 - 0.66 - 0.20 - 0.40 - 0.98 - 0.43 - 0.737 - 0.32 - 0.31 - 0.25 - 0.47 - 0.13 - 0.42	
SCOTLAND: Mid & East Lothians Fife and Clackmannan Rest of Scotland	15,232 28,123 84,507	- 2·8 - 3·5 - 3·6	- 4·1 - 9·5 -10·5	4·79 4·91 4·98	$ \begin{array}{r} -0.57 \\ +0.11 \\ -0.18 \end{array} $	- 0·75 - 0·61 - 0·48	
Scotland GREAT BRITAIN	127,862	-3.4 -1.7	- 9·6 - 7·0	4·94 5·28	-0.17 + 0.08	- 0·54 - 0·43	

The average number of coal-winding days lost in Great Britain during the week ended 25th April, 1925, was 0·48 of a day per week, of which 0·43 was due to want of trade and transport difficulties. The figures for the fortnight ended 21st March, 1925, were 0·57 of a day, of which 0·53 was lost through want of trade and transport difficulties; for the fortnight ended 12th April, 1924, the average time lost was 0·05 of a day, of which 0·015 was due to want of trade and transport difficulties. The average non-winding time for each of the three periods under review was about one quarter of a day per week.

The output of coal for Great Britain for the four weeks ended 25th April, 1925, was returned to the Mines Department at 18,328,300 tons, as compared with 20,965,100 tons in the four weeks ended 21st March and with 20,839,700 tons in the four weeks ended 26th April, 1924. The output for the periods ended 25th April, 1925, and 26th April, 1924, was affected by the Easter holidays.

The exports of coal, including coal shipped for the use of steamers engaged in foreign trade, and the coal-equivalent of coke and manufactured fuel, amounted to 5,948,825 tons in April, compared with 6,119,167 tons in March.

IRON AND SHALE MINING.

Iron Mining.

EMPLOYMENT in the Cleveland district remained bad, and many mines were idle. In other districts it was moderate.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed in iron ore and ironstone mining and quarrying, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 17.7 at 27th April, 1925, compared with 17.8 at 23rd March, 1925, and 19.0 at

28th April, 1924.

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

	peoj Mi	mber of W ple employ nes include the Return	ed at d in		Average No. of Days worked per week by the Mines.*			
Districts,	Week ended 25th	Inc. (Dec. (-) pared	+) or) as com- with a	Week ended 25th	Inc. (Dec. (-) pared	as com-		
	April, 1925.	Month ago.	Year ago.	April, 1925.	Month ago.	Year ago.		
Cleveland Cumberland and	3,902	Per cent. + 3.5	Per cent.	Days. 5·21	Days 0.60	Days 0.49		
Lancashire	2,602	-17.4	+ 3.0	5.95	+ 0.26	+ 0.23		
Other Districts	1,657	- 0.7	- 0.1	5.44	+ 0.02	- 0.39		
ALL DISTRICTS	8,161	- 5.0	+ 0.4	5.49	- 0.07	- 0.24		

Shale Mining.

At shale mines employment continued fair. At mines employing 4,084 workpeople during the fortnight ended 25th April, 1925, there was a decrease of 0.6 per cent. in the number employed compared with the previous month, and of 2.7 per cent. compared with April, 1924. The average number of days* worked per week by the mines was 5.85 in April, 1925, compared with 5.88 in March, 1925, and 5.96 in April, 1924.

PIG IRON INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT during April continued bad, and showed a decline as EMPLOYMENT during April continued bad, and showed a decline as compared with March. The percentage of workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 20·4 on 27th April, 1925, compared with 18·1 on 23rd March, 1925, and with 11·3 on 28th April, 1924.

Returns received by the National Federation of Iron and Steel Manufacturers from 83 firms, employing 20,043 workpeople, at the end of April showed a decrease of 3·4 per cent. compared with March, and of 10·9 per cent. compared with April, 1924.

The total number of furnaces in blast at the end of April as shown by the returns collected by the Federation was 158, a decrease of 11 compared with March, and of 36 compared with the number in blast at the end of April 1924. Details are given in the following Table:—

Districts.	Total Number of		r of Furast at en	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in April, on a		
T TRADES.	Furnaces.	April, 1925.	Mar., 1925.	April, 1924.	Month ago.	Year ago.
ENGLAND AND WALES.		Estroid Section			N. Trees	1/0.197
Durham and Cleveland Cumberland and W.	111	38	44	44	- 6	- 6
Lancs Other parts of Lancs and Yorks (including	47	13	13	10		+ 3
Sheffield) Derby, Leicester, Notts	35	18	18	17		+ 1
and Northants	73	38	40	42	- 2	- 4
Lincolnshire Staffs, Shropshire, Worcester and War-	23	10	11	19	-1	- 9
wick	60	11	13	17	- 2	- 6
South Wales	32	9	9	11		- 2
Total, England and Wales	381	137	148	160	- 11	- 23
SCOTLAND	101	21	21	34		- 13
Total	482	158	169	194	- 11	- 36

production of pig iron in April amounted to 569,800 tons pared with 607,900 tons in March, and 618,400 tons in

^{*} The figures in this and the following article show the number of days (allowance being made in all the calculations for short time) on which coal, iron, etc., were got from the mines included in the returns. It is not necessarily implied that all the persons worked every day the mines were open. Mines not working are omitted in computing the average number of days worked.

† Including Cannock Chase.

^{*} See note * in previous column.

IRON AND STEEL TRADES.

164

EMPLOYMENT continued bad during April, and on the whole was worse than during the previous month. Short time was reported to have been worked in many districts, and some firms closed down for an extended period at Easter. An improvement was reported in some areas, viz., Staffordshire, Cumberland, Lancashire and Cheshire, and in Northumberland, Durham and Cleveland; but other districts showed a decline, the most marked again being in Scotland.

The percentage of workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the number of unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 26.7 on 27th April, 1925, as compared with 23.9 on 23rd March, 1925, and 18.6 on 28th April, 1924.

According to returns received from firms employing 70,660 work According to returns received from firms employing 70,660 work-people, the volume of employment during the week ended 25th April, 1925 (as indicated by the number of workpeople employed combined with the number of shifts during which work was carried on in each department), decreased by 1·3 per cent. as compared with the previous month and by 11·3 per cent. as compared with a year ago. The average number of shifts during which the works were open was 5·2 during the week ended 25th April, 1925, as compared with 5·4 during March, 1925, and 5·3 during April 1924.

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

And to (+) on the control of control of control of control of the	empl	of Workp oyed by king retu	firms	Aggreg	gate Num Shifts.*	ber of
Nest Steel	Week ended 25th	Dec. (com)	(+) or (-) as pared ch a	Week ended 25th	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a	
10 28 E 18 E 18 E 18	April, 1925.	Month ago.	Year ago.	April, 1925.	Month ago.	Year ago.
DEPARTMENTS.		Per cent.	Per cent.	300,2	Per cent.	Per cent.
Open Hearth Melting Furnaces Puddling Forges Rolling Mills Forging and Pressing Founding Other Departments Mechanics, Labourers	7,528 3,348 26,325 3,237 7,875 7,384 14,963	- 9·2 +26·8 + 4·5 - 2·2 - 4·5 + 3·1 - 2·2	$ \begin{array}{r} -14 \cdot 9 \\ -25 \cdot 4 \\ -8 \cdot 4 \\ +0 \cdot 1 \\ -3 \cdot 8 \\ -6 \cdot 0 \\ -11 \cdot 4 \end{array} $	42,548 14,046 127,473 16,896 44,660 40,907 84,095	$\begin{array}{c} -9.8 \\ +28.9 \\ +1.1 \\ -1.0 \\ -6.2 \\ +2.6 \\ -3.2 \end{array}$	$ \begin{array}{r} -14.7 \\ -28.8 \\ -11.7 \\ -1.1 \\ -4.6 \\ -5.8 \\ -12.9 \end{array} $
TOTAL	70,660	+ 0.7	- 9.7	370,625	- 1.3	-11.3
DISTRICTS.						
Northumberland, Dur- ham and Cleveland Sheffield and Rother-	14,322	+ 4.3	-11.1	78,535	+ 3.0	-10.2
ham Leeds, Bradford, etc	18,026 2,009	-1.7 + 2.0	$-8.3 \\ -21.1$	92,055	$\begin{array}{c c} - & 4 \cdot 8 \\ - & 2 \cdot 0 \end{array}$	$-11.8 \\ -19.5$
Cumberland, Lancs and Cheshire	7,922 6,257 3,643 7,689	+ 9·0 + 7·9 - 3·4 - 4·2	$ \begin{array}{r} + 7 \cdot 2 \\ -20 \cdot 8 \\ - 7 \cdot 3 \\ - 8 \cdot 3 \end{array} $	40,964 33,512 19,570 42,239	+ 7·8 + 9·2 - 2·1 - 4·8	+ 7·9 -19·6 - 7·4 - 9·2
Total, England and Wales Scotland	59,868 10,792	+ 1.5	- 9·2 -12·4	317,755 52,870	+ 0.2	- 9·9 -19·2
TOTAL	70,660	+ 0.7	- 9.7	370,625	- 1.3	-11.3

The production of steel ingots and castings, as returned by the National Federation of Iron and Steel Manufacturers, amounted to 597,600 tons in April, 1925, as compared with 684,700 tons in March, 1925, and 711,500 tons in April, 1924.

TINPLATE AND STEEL SHEET TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT during April continued bad; there was an increase in the number of mills in operation, but many of the mills were working less than the full number of shifts per week. At the end of the month, 466 tinplate and steel sheet mills were reported to be in operation at the works for which information is available, as compared with 453 at the end of March and with 546 a year ago.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed on 27th April, 1925, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 36.8, as compared with 37.9 on 23rd March, 1925, and with 3.0 on 28th April, 1924. These percentages include persons working part time and not actually employed on the dates

The following Table shows the number of mills in operation at the end of April, 1925, at the works covered by the returns received, together with the increase or decrease compared with March, 1925, and with April, 1924.

PLOYM	Numbe	er of Work	s Open	Number of Mills in Operation				
Works: At end of April, 1925.		Inc. (Dec. (-	+) or -) on a	At end of	Inc. (Dec. (-	Year		
	April,	Month ago.	Year ago.	April, 1925.	Month ago.	Year ago.		
Tinplate Steel Sheet	70 11	+ 1 + 2	- 8 - 3	357 109	+ 2 + 11	- 63 - 17		
TOTAL	81	+ 3	-11	466	+ 13	- 80		

The export of tinned and galvanized plates and sheets in April, 1925, amounted to 98,587 tons, or 12,062 tons less than in March, 1925, and 9,975 tons less than in April, 1924.

ENGINEERING.

EMPLOYMENT during April remained bad on the whole, and very bad in the marine engineering section. It showed little general change compared with the previous month. In the electrical and motor and cycle sections conditions were still fairly good. In the railway engineering section employment was fair, but short time was introduced at several works at the end of the month. At textile machinery works employment continued bad, but showed a further improvement. In the heavy engineering section it con-

Compared with a year ago, there was a slight improvement in nearly all the principal districts, and a considerable improvement in the North-Western district.

The following Table shows the numbers and percentages of insured workpeople unemployed at 27th April, 1925, and the increase or decrease as compared with March and with a year ago :-

		Numb			April,	1925.	employed	
Divisions.	Engineering, ngineers' Iron and Steel Founding.	Electrical Engineering.	Marine neering, etc.	Constructional Engineering.	Construction and Repair of Motor Vehicles, Cycles, and Aircraft.	TOTAL.	or Decr	ase (+) ease (-) mpared th a
Annual State of the State of th	Engineeri Engineers' and Stee Foundin	Elec	Marine Engineering,	Constr Engir	Construction Repair of Mo Vehicles, Cy and Aircra		Month ago.	Year ago.
London London Louth-Eastern Midlands North-Eastern North-Western Localization Wales NorthernIreland	8,083 2,910 2,024 8,534 19,509 22,367 15,582 1,086 1,807	419 413 60 1,092 492 1,216 256 29 11	143 67 367 36 7,122 299 2,933 32 1,110	107 54 64 737 1,159 141 1,012 46 14	2,074 848 907 5,305 751 1,767 819 151 196	10,826 4,292 3,422 15,704 29,033 25,790 20,602 1,344 3,138	+ 222	- 1,861 - 1,414 - 500 - 3,670 - 2,610 - 11,085 - 2,226 + 503 - 290
FREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND	81,902	3,988	12,109	3,334	12,818	114,151	+ 200	_ 23,153
		Percer	ntages 1	Unemp	oloyed at	t 27th Ap	pril, 192	5.
London South-Eastern South-Western Midlands North-Eastern North-Western Scotland Wales NorthernIreland	9·1 6·9 5·9 9·6 15·1 15·7 18·3 13·5 23·0	4·8 4·8 2·0 4·7 6·9 7·2 7·6 8·3 9·2	21·0 2·1 5·6 2·3 27·4 15·8 14·4 17·8 19·5	5·2 10·2 10·5 12·2 17·0 7·8 18·0 8·7 70·0	6·3 3·7 4·8 6·3 7·3 8·7 8·3 8·1 12·6	8·1 5·6 5·4 7·7 16·2 14·1 16·6 12·3 20·6	- 0·4 - 0·4 + 0·4 - 0·2 + 0·8 - 0·3 + 2·0 + 0·2	- 1·2 - 1·8 - 1·1 - 1·7 - 0·1 - 5·0 - 1·3 + 4·3 - 1·3
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND	13.1	5.6	18.3	13.9	6.3	11.5	354 332	- 1.9

On the North-East Coast employment remained bad on the whole, and very bad in marine engineering. A slight improvement was reported at Newcastle, but there was a further decline on the Tees and Wear. In Yorkshire, employment was very moderate and showed a decline. At several railway engineering centres in Yorkshire and on the North-East Coast, short time was instituted at the end of the month, the works being idle on Saturdays. At Lincoln employment declined, short time being worked and holidays extended

In Lancashire and Cheshire there was little change on the whole. In the textile machinery section there was a slight improvement at several centres, but short time was still extensively worked. In the electrical engineering and locomotive sections employment remained fairly good, but short time was introduced at one railway centre. There was a slight improvement in the motor vehicle

section.

In the Birmingham, Wolverhampton and Coventry district employment was fairly good in the motor and cycle, machine tool and electrical sections, especially at Coventry, although less overtime was reported. On heavy engineering employment remained depressed. Employment was still quiet on the whole at Nottingham (though fairly good on hosiery machine building), good at Derby (especially on locomotive work), and fair at Leicester.

In the Eastern Counties employment remained fair generally and continued to show a slight improvement, while conditions in the motor and electrical sections remained good. In the London district employment was still moderate on the whole; it remained good in the electrical section and showed increasing activity in the

motor section. In the Southern Counties employment continued fair on the whole, and good in the motor, locomotive and electrical sections, although showing a slight decline. In South Wales employment declined and was bad.

May, 1925.

In Scotland employment was still very bad on the whole; at sewing machine works, however, it was good. At Belfast it remained very bad and showed little change.

SHIPBUILDING AND SHIP-REPAIRING.

EMPLOYMENT remained very bad during April, but showed a slight improvement on the whole compared with the previous month. Compared with a year ago there was a decline in the largest shipbuilding districts, but a slight improvement on ship-repairing work.

On the North-East Coast employment was still very bad in most branches, and showed a further decline on the Tees and Wear; on the Tyne there was considerable improvement at repairing yards. On the East Coast employment was moderate generally, showing a decline at Hull and an improvement at Grimsby. On the Thames and the South Coast it continued slack, but showed, on the whole, a slight improvement. At the Bristol Channel ports it continued bad, except at Swansea, where it was fair, and considerably better than in March. On the Mersey it was still slack, but showed a slight improvement. At Barrow a demand for joiners was reported.

In Scotland employment was still bad and showed a slight decline, particularly at Dundee; with shipwrights, however, it was fair, and with joiners on the Clyde it continued good. At Belfast employment remained had.

The following Table shows the numbers and percentages of insured workpeople unemployed at 27th April, 1925, and the increase or decrease as compared with 23rd March, 1925, and with a year

Divisions.	al Number of ed Workpeople employed at April, 1925.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a		Percentage Inemployed at th April, 1925.		
Month, Fest	Total Insured Unen 27th A	Month ago.	Year ago.	Per Unem 27th A	Month ago.	Year ago.
London South-Eastern South-Western Midlands North-Eastern North-Western Scotland Wales Northern Ireland	3,886 712 4,742 85 29,121 9,945 20,689 3,374 7,671	+ 310 - 105 - 609 - 1,758 - 1,360 + 144 - 926 - 168	- 497 - 347 - 926 - 46 + 3,064 - 862 + 1,879 - 900 - 1,762	27·2 7·5 16·8 16·7 41·5 29·3 31·5 29·9 35·7	+ 2·2 - 1·1 - 2·2 - 2·5 - 4·0 + 0·2 - 8·2 - 0·8	- 3.7 - 3.7 - 1.4 - 9.5 + 5.5 - 0.8 + 5.3 - 2.9
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTH- ERN IRELAND.	80,225	- 4,472	- 397	31.4	- 1.8	+ 1.8

WOOLLEN AND WORSTED TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT was again bad, and showed a further decline during April, particularly in the woollen industry. It was considerably worse than a year ago.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 16.6 on 27th April, 1925, as compared with 14.0 on 23rd March, 1925, and 4.7 on 28th April, 1924.

Employment with wool-sorters and wool-combers was bad; nearly half the wool-combing machinery in Bradford was reported to be idle, and 50 per cent. of the Trade Union wool-sorters were still on short time.

In worsted spinning employment was bad, and rather worse than in March, although some firms were still fully employed and working overtime to deliver contracts to time. Employment was also bad in the weaving departments, particularly in the dress goods trade of Bradford, Keighley, Silsden and the Calder Vale. There was, on the other hand, some slight improvement in the Bradford coating trade and in the fine men's wear trade of Huddersfield and Leeds

Manufacturers of heavy woollen cloths, rugs and velours in the Dewsbury area reported increasing scarcity of orders, and the position with blanket manufacturers was said to be worse than at any time during the past forty years. In the woollen sections generally there was no improvement, and employment was stated to be much worse than a year ago. worse than a year ago.

In the flannel trade of Rochdale and Saddleworth employment was bad, but slightly better than a month earlier; in the Stockport district the operatives were reported to be working about half-time.

Employment in the Welsh woollen trade continued bad. In Scotland the depression was pronounced, short time being reported at Ayr and Kilmarnock, and among spinners at Galashiels.

The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished returns as to the numbers of work-people employed and the total amount of wages paid in the three periods under review.

		Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.			
3 · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Week ended 25th	Inc. (- Dec. (-		Week ended D		c. (+) or (-) on a		
	April, 1925.	Month ago.	Year ago.	25th April, 1925.	Month ago.*	Year ago.*		

WOOLLEN INDUSTRY.

Departments. Wool sorting Spinning Weaving Other Departments Not Specified	461 3,773 5,591 4,419 1,035	Per cent 4.0 - 0.2 - 1.2 + 1.4 - 1.1	Per cent 8·2 + 2·1 - 2·5 + 2·0 - 2·5	£ 964 7,142 10,188 9,776 2,208	Per cent 1.8 - 4.6 - 4.4 - 2.1 + 1.2	Per cent 9·2 - 8·4 - 7·3 - 2·7 - 6·3
TOTAL	15,279	- 0.3	-0.3	30,278	- 3.3	- 6.2
Districts. HuddersfieldDistrict Leeds District Dewsbury and Bat- ley District Other Parts of West Riding	1,744 1,476 1,272 2,111	Per cent 2.7 - 0.9 + 0.1	Per cent 1.7 - 0.4 - 3.6 - 2.4	£ 3,935 3,364 2,500 4,635	Per cent 6·1 - 2·1 - 2·9 - 5·7	Per cent11.9 - 2.8 -16.9 - 7.3
Total, West Riding Scotland Other Districts	6,603 3,786 4,890	- 0·8 + 1·4 - 0·9	- 2·0 + 1·7 + 0·5	14,434 7,326 8,518	- 4·5 + 2·8 - 6·0	- 9·4 - 1·5 + 4·2
TOTAL	15,279	- 0.3	- 0.3	30,278	- 3.3	- 6.2

WORSTED INDUSTRY.

Departments. Wool sorting and combing Spinning Weaving Other Departments Not specified	4,055. 14,651 4,428 3,477 1,598	Per cent 4.5 - 0.7 + 0.7 + 1.4 - 2.7	Per cent11·2 - 7·5 - 0·9 - 1·1 - 8·9	£ 9,105 21,212 9,177 8,320 2,848	Per cent 4·3 + 2·2 - 0·1 + 5·9 + 5·2	Per cent26·2 -15·2 -2·7 -4·0 -10·9
TOTAL	28,209	- 0.9	- 6.4	50,662	+ 1.3	-13.6
Districts. Bradford District Keighley District Halifax District Huddersfield District Other Parts of West Riding	13,050 4,516 2,465 2,718 3,238	Per cent 1.4 - 0.9 - 3.2 - 0.1 + 1.2	Per cent 8·3 - 3·1 - 7·2 - 4·6 - 6·7	£ 24,727 7,894 3,958 5,274 5,012	Per cent 1.0 + 4.2 + 1.1 + 3.1	Per cent16·5 -11·7 -12·9 - 1·1
Total West Riding Other Districts	25,987 2,222	- 1·1 + 0·6	- 6·7 - 2·4	46,865 3,797	+ 0·6 +10·2	-14·0 - 8·8
TOTAL	28,209	- 0.9	- 6.4	50,662	+ 1.3	-13.6

Returns from firms in the woollen section, employing 14,910 workpeople, showed that about 40 per cent. of these workpeople were on short time in the week ended 25th April, to the extent on the average of 10 hours. In the worsted section returns from firms employing 24,718 workpeople in the same week showed that about 48 per cent. of these workpeople were on short time, to the extent of about 10 hours on the average.

The following Table shows the number of men and of women registered as applicants for employment at Employment Exchanges at 6th April, 1925, in the principal centres, at which approximately 66 per cent. of the total number of applicants for employment in the woollen and worsted industries were

Departments.	for	ber of App Employment h April, 19	nt at	as c	(+) or Decompared of March, 19	ecrease (-) i with 1925.			
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.			
	641	2	643	+ 187	- 1.	+ 186			
preparing	942 1,248	368 1,181	1,310 2,429	+ 91 - 11	+ 187 + 79	+ 278 + 68			
Woollen spinning .	1,250	158 229	1,408	- 76 - 71	- 26 + 30	- 102 - 41			
Worsted drawing an spinning Wool winding an	393	2,829	3,222	- 62	+ 150	+ 88			
warping Worsted winding an	180	160	340	- 31	+ 15	- 16			
warping Woollen weaving	91 265	741 2,051	832 2,316	+ "13	+ 98 + 66	+ 98 + 79			
041	1,461	1,155 230	1,280	- 21 - 151	+ 74	+ 53 - 219			
TOTAL	7,148	9,104	16,252	- 132	+ 604	+ 472			

The imports (less re-exports) of raw wool (sheep's or lambs') were 51,197,500 lb. in April, 1905, compared with 55,951,300 lb. in March, 1925, and with 40,409,500 lb. in April, 1924.

The exports of woollen and worsted yarns were 3,226,500 lb., compared with 3,766,200 lb. in March, 1925, and with 4,876,600 lb. in April, 1924.

Comparison of earnings is affected by changes in rates of wages in some districts.

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

The exports of woollen and worsted tissues were 12,099,800 square yards, compared with 14,809,200 square yards in March, 1925, and with 11,838,500 square yards in April, 1924.

The exports of blankets were 120,309 pairs, 109,422 pairs and 144,907 pairs in April, 1925, March, 1925, and April, 1924.

166

COTTON TRADE.

There was little change in employment in April as compared with the previous month; but as compared with April of last year there was an improvement in all departments and in nearly all districts.

No alteration was made in the working week of 35 hours recommended by the Employers' Federation in the American spinning section. In the Egyptian spinning section employment continued fairly good. In the weaving section also there was little change; though many weavers were only partially employed, the number of weavers totally unemployed was small, and there was an unsatisfied demand for weavers in some districts.

The percentage of workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 7·1 on the 27th April, 1925, as compared with 7·2 on the 23rd March, 1925, and with 14·8 on the 28th April, 1924.

In the Oldham, Ashton, and Stockport districts employment in the spinning section continued slack, though much better than a year ago; short time was still being worked in the section spinning American cotton. In the Stalybridge district employment in the Egyptian spinning section improved, and was fairly good. In the manufacturing section of the trade in the Oldham district employment continued slack, and was slightly worse than in March. In ment continued slack, and was slightly worse than in March. In the Bolton district employment was still good in the spinning section, but showed a slight decline; with cardroom workers it was worse than at any time during the last three years; it remained fairly good with weavers. At Bury there was a decline in the spinning section, but the improvement in the weaving section was maintained. At Rochdale employment continued slack.

In the principal weaving districts employment showed little change as compared with the previous month, but was considerably better than a year ago. At Preston employment was better than in March. At Blackburn there was much under-employment, and no improvement was shown. At Accrington full time was maintained during the month. There was a decline at Darwen; some weavers were unemployed, and others were running two or three looms instead of the normal four. At Burnley there was practically no change as compared with March, but employment was better than in April of last year. At Nelson employment was good. A considerable improvement was shown at Great Harwood. Employment with fustian workers in the Hebden Bridge district was had

The following Table summarises the information received from

med could no los		Number of orkpeop		Total all V	Wages pa	aid to	
edi il jo <u>mil</u> suda so	Week ended	Inc. (Dec. (-		Week		(+) or -) on a	
	25th April, 1925.	Month ago.	Year ago.	25th April, 1925.	Month ago.	Year ago.	
DEPARTMENTS.	Last to the	Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.	
Preparing	12,773	$+\ 0.1 \\ -\ 0.2$	+ 7.6 + 4.0	21,786 41,388	+ 0.5	+ 17.4 + 9.8	
Spinning Weaving	23,232 37,950	- 0.2	+ 3.7	70,002	+ 1.5	+ 11.9	
Weaving Other	8,473	+ 0.3	+ 0.9	20,818	+ 3.1	+ 8.8	
Not Specified	8,534	+ 0.4	+ 2.0	17,244	+ 1.1	+ 18.6	
Total	90,962	+ 0.0	+ 3.9	171,238	+ 1.1	+ 12.3	
DISTRICTS.	4 675	- 0.4	+ 2.1	8,419	+ 2.9	+ 13.3	
Ashton Glossop and	4,675	- 04	T 7.1	0,413	T 23	7 10 0	
Stockport, Glossop and Hyde	9.185	+ 1.5	+ 7.1	16,574	+ 2.2	+ 19.0	
Oldham	10,958	- 0.6	+ 4.7	21,851	+ 4.5	+ 24.2	
Bolton and Leigh	14,744	+ 0.9	+ 2.9	26,391	+ 0.8	+ 6.3	
Bury, Rochdale, Hey- wood Walsden and							
wood, Walsden and Todmorden	8,714	+ 1.5	+ 6.2	15,970	+ 2.5	+ 41.0	
Manchester	4,577	- 8-2	- 3.7	8,103	- 3.3	+ 9.6	
Preston and Chorley	6,003	+ 1.4	- 1.0	10,564	+ 3.9	+ 0.3	
Blackburn, Accrington	10,475	+ 0.4	+12.5	21,532	+ 0.4	+ 15.0	
and Darwen Burnley, Padiham, Colne	10,413	T 0.4	7 12 0	21,002		1000000	
and Nelson	11,905	- 0.2	+ 2.2	25,523	- 0.5	+ 4.7	
Other Lancashire Towns	3,896		+ 5.4	6,407	- 3.2	+ 5.1	
Yorkshire Towns	4,451	+ 0.7	+ 0.5	7,853 2,051	- 1·4 + 2·2	- 2·6 - 7·5	
Other Districts	1,379	- 2.1	- 0.3	2,001	T 4.7	1.5	
Total	90,962	+ 0.0	+ 3.9	171,238	1 1.1	+ 12.3	

Returns from firms employing about 82,300 workpeople showed that about 19 per cent, of these workpeople were on short time to the extent of about 11 hours on the average, in the week ended

registered as applicants for employment at Employment Exchanges at 6th April, 1925, in the principal centres, at which approximately 83 per cent. of the total number of applicants for employment in the cotton trade were registered. The following Table shows the number of men and of women

Department.	Number of Applicants for Employment at 6th April, 1925.			as (Inc. (+) or De as compared 2nd March, 1			
to religion act to promote a religion of	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.		
Card and Blowing Room Spinning	754 3,699	4,260 4,394	5,014 8,093	- 29 - 284	+ 124 + 555	+ 95 + 271		
Beaming, Warping and Winding Weaving Other Processes	897 884 501	6,580 2,463 448	7,477 3,347 949	- 145 - 160 + 8	+ 458 + 55 + 63	+ 313 - 105 + 71		
Total	6,735	18,145	24,880	- 610	+ 1,255	+ 645		

The *imports* (less re-exports) of raw cotton (including cotton linters) were 133,856,300 lb. in April, 1925, compared with 155,507,100 lb. in March, 1925, and with 33,319,500 lb. in April,

The exports of cotton yarn were 16,583,300 lb. in April, 1925, compared with 17,853,400 lb. in March, 1925, and with 16,082,100 lb. in April, 1924.

The exports of cotton piece goods were 333,428,800 square yards, as compared with 416,619,800 square yards in the previous month and with 377,718,400 square yards in April, 1924.

BOOT AND SHOE INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT showed a decline in most districts compared with the previous month. Much short time was worked throughout the industry, and in most districts the factories were closed for extended holidays at Easter.

extended hondays at Easter.

The percentage of workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 10·2 on the 27th April, 1925, as compared with 9·2 on the 23rd March, 1925, and 10·2 on the 28th April, 1924.

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

to encourage and the	7	Vorkpeor	ple.	1	Earnings.		
	Week	Inc. (Dec. (-	+) or -) on a	Week	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		
	25th April, 1925.	Month ago.	Year ago.	25th April, 1925.	Month ago.	Year ago.	
England and Wales: London Leicester	2,195 8,466	Per cent 0.6 + 0.8	Per cent. + 1.5 + 1.3	£ 4,986 21,998	Per cent 1·1 - 3·9	Per cent 0.9 + 0.7	
Leicester Country Dis- trict Northampton Northampton Country	2,306 6,916	- 0·9 + 0·7	+ 0.5	4,925 16,476	- 8·5 - 1·9	- 9·	
District Kettering Stafford and District Norwich and District	8,029 3,169 2,590 4,019	+ 0.6 + 0.1 - 2.6 + 0.1	+ 3·7 + 0·9 - 0·8 + 0·5	18,019 8,029 6,171 8,404	$ \begin{array}{r} -2 \cdot 2 \\ -3 \cdot 0 \\ +1 \cdot 5 \\ -5 \cdot 0 \end{array} $	+ 2 - 0· + 8· - 5·	
Bristol, Kingswood and District Leeds and District Lancashire (mainly	2,019 1,563	- 4·6 - 0·5	+ 0.7	3,401 3,235	-13·5 -5·3	+ 2:	
Rossendale Valley) Birmingham and District	4,668 1,077	+1.5	+ 3.4 + 7.1	10,358 2,135	+ 2.4 + 6.5	+ 3.	
Other parts of England and Wales	1,620	+ 0.9	+ 3.1	3,020	- 1.5	- 4.	
England and Wales.	2,564	+ 0.1	+ 1·4 - 3·9	111,157 5,630	$\frac{-2\cdot7}{+4\cdot3}$	- 0·	
Great Britain	51,201	+ 0.1	+ 1.1	116,787	- 2.4	- 0.	

Returns from firms employing over 37,500 operatives in the week ended 25th April, 1925, showed that about 31 per cent. of these operatives worked short time in that week, to the extent of about

ended 25th April, 1925, showed that about 31 per cent. of these operatives worked short time in that week, to the extent of about 11½ hours each, on an average.

Employment remained generally moderate in London. It was quiet, and not so good as in March, at Leicester; a good deal of short time was worked, and the Easter holiday was extended by most firms. At Northampton there was much short time, and most firms closed for periods varying from five to ten days at Easter; but employment, taken as a whole, remained fair. It was poor, and worse than in the previous month, at Hinckley, and the great majority of workpeople were reported to be on short time. Employment varied from poor to fair in the Higham and Rushden district; it was generally not quite so good as in March. At Wellingborough employment showed a decline, and was very slack; short time was worked in practically all the factories. A decline was also reported at Kettering, where employment was generally slack; not more than three-quarter time was worked on the average.

At Leeds employment again declined and was bad in the heavy boot section, and most factories closed for ten days at Easter. Factories in Leeds producing light footwear continued busy. At Stafford most of the factories were reported to be working full time but employment in general was still slack. There was a decline at Norwich, largely in the turnshoe section of the trade, and employment was only fair on the average; much short time was worked. In the Bristol and Kingswood district employment was again slack, and slightly worse than in March; extended holidays at Easter were general, and, when the factories re-opened, irregular short time working was common. There was an increase in short-time working at Street, and employment on the whole declined; the factories closed for ten days at Easter. No marked change was reported in the slipper trade of the Rossendale Valley.

Employment was fairly good at Kilmarnock, and fair, and better than in March, at Edinburgh. At Glasgow it was moderate, and not so good as previously. Elsewhere in Scotland it was generally bad, with the majority of workpeople on short time.

May, 1925.

The following Table shows the number of men and of women registered as applicants for employment at Employment Exchanges at 6th April, 1925, in the principal centres, at which approximately 72 per cent. of the total number of applicants for employment in the boot and shoe industry were registered.

Department.	for H	er of App imployment April, 19	ent at	as	(+) or D compared d March,	with			
iniot 31	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.			
Bootand Shoe Manufacture: Preparing Department Rough Stuff Department Clicking Department Closing Department Making Department Finishing Department Slipper Making Clog Making Repairing and Hand Sewn	133 442 991 17 2,546 1,268 529 33	55 21 23 1,063 50 285 294 2	188 463 1,014 1,080 2,596 1,553 823 35	- 3 - 15 - 13	4 ÷ 3 2 + 42 9 - 2 5 - 44 9 - 22 1	- 5 + 71 + 237 + 40 - 41 - 199 - 161 + 1			
Work	775	8	783		_ 3	- 3			
Total	6,734	1,801	8,535	- 3	3 - 27	- 60			

The exports of boots and shoes in April, 1925, amounted to 110,272 dozen pairs, or 20,687 dozen pairs less than in March, 1925, but 18,471 dozen pairs more than in April, 1924.

PAPER MANUFACTURE, PRINTING, AND BOOKBINDING.

EMPLOYMENT in the paper trade remained fair on the whole. Although in some districts employment was good, in others, a good deal of short time was reported, and, in the brown paper section employment was slack generally, as also in the hand-made trade in Kent.

in Kent.

With letterpress printers employment was fairly good generally, but showed a slight decline on the previous month in most districts; at Edinburgh and Glasgow, however, an improvement was reported; at Birmingham employment was reported as slack.

With electrotypers and stereotypers employment continued good. In the lithographic printing trade employment continued fair on the whole; it was, however, reported as bad at Manchester.

With lithographic artists employment was reported as fair in London and slack at Manchester, and worse than in March in both cases.

With bookbinders employment was again moderate on the whole; short time was prevalent in London, but an improvement on the previous month was reported.

The percentage of unemployed among workpeople covered by the Unemployment Insurance Acts in the printing and bookbinding trades was 5.4 at 27th April, compared with 6.1 at 23rd March and 5.7 at 28th April, 1924. In the paper and paper-board industry the percentage was 7.0 at 27th April, compared with 7.8 at 23rd March and 8.5 at 28th April, 1924. In the cardboard box, paper bag and stationery trades the percentage was 7.0 at 27th April, compared with 7.1 at 23rd March and 7.5 at 28th April, 1924.

The following Table summarises the returns received from Trade

ni Sepanterii teem	No. of Members of Unions		Percentag ployed at		Decrea	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) on a	
the meet ment of the but of the b	at end of April, 1925.	April, 1925.	March, 1925.	April, 1924.	Month ago.	Year ago.	
Letterpress Printing: London Northern Counties,	34,834 13,710	2·6 3·2	2.1	3·0 3·6	+ 0·5 + 0·6	- 0·4 - 0·4	
Yorkshire, Lanca- shire and Cheshire. Midlands and Eastern Counties.	8,345	2.0	1.3	2.5	+ 0.7	- 0.5	
Scotland Other Districts	4,939 6,619	2.3	3.1	3·3 2·7	- 0·8 + 0·5	- 1·0	
Total	68,447	2.6	2.2	3.1	+ 0.4	- 0.5	
Lithographic Printing Bookbinding	10,231 15,238	2·8 3·5	2·8 3·8	2·8 5·0	- 0.3	- ï·5	
			The state of the s		SECTION SECTION		

BUILDING TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT during April was slightly better than in the previous month, the improvement being mainly attributable, however, to the increased seasonal activity in the painting and decorating section; it was good in most districts with skilled operatives, but slack, on the whole, with unskilled workers. A little overtime was worked in several districts by certain classes of skilled operatives.

As regards individual occupations, employment remained very good generally with bricklayers and plasterers, and good with carpenters and joiners; it was also good, at most centres, with masons, and continued fairly good with slaters. In a considerable number of districts a shortage of one or more of the foregoing classes of skilled operatives (chiefly bricklayers and plasterers) was again reported. Employment with painters again showed a marked

improvement and was fairly good with skilled men in many districts; it remained moderate with plumbers and was still slack, on the whole, with builders' labourers.

The following Table shows the numbers and approximate percentages* of workpeople insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts who were unemployed at 27th April, and the increase or decrease in the percentages as compared with March, 1925, and April, 1924.

Total Number of Insured Workpeople Unemployed at	Approximate Percentage*	centage as	-) in per- compared
27th April Unem-		Month ago.	Year ago.
 2,716 845 665 229 241 6,522 1,959 24,671 22,070	2·2 1·5 3·0 4·4 1·5 6·1 5·7 9·7 22·3	$ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	- 0.5 + 0.3 + 0.8 - 1.7 - 0.4 - 0.3 - 1.0 - 1.4 - 0.9
14,039 5,109 5,582 6,610 7,821 9,139 5,633 2,808 3,177	9·0 4·6 6·2 8·4 8·9 9·9 8·4 10·9 24·9	- 2·2 - 1·0 - 1·2 - 0·5 - 0·8 - 1·1 - 1·4 - 0·6 - 0·9	- 1·3 - 1·5 - 1·3 - 1·2 + 0·5 - 0·7 - 0·2 + 2·7 + 3·0
	of Insured Workpeople Unemployed at 27th April, 1925. 2,716 845 665 229 241 6,522 1,959 24,671 22,070 59,918 14,039 5,109 5,582 6,610 7,821 9,139 5,633 2,808 3,177	of Insured Workpeople Unemployed at 27th April, 1925. 2,716 845 1.5 665 3.0 229 4.4 241 6,522 6.1 1,959 5.7 24,671 22,070 22.3 59,918 8.3 14,039 5,09 4.6 6,522 6,610 7,821 8.9 9,139 9,9 7,821 8.9 9,139 9,9 1,5633 8.4 2,808 10.9 3,177 24.9	Decrease (

BUILDING PLANS APPROVED.

Returns from Local Authorities in 141 of the principal urban areas in Great Britain (except the London County Council area), with a total population of 15,216,000, show that in April, 1925, plans were passed for buildings of an estimated cost of £5,372,600, as compared with £5,495,300 in March, 1925, and £4,698,000 in April, 1924. Of the total for April, 1925, dwelling-houses accounted for £3,473,300; factories and workshops for £332,800; shops, offices, warehouses, and other business premises for £337,500; and other buildings, and additions and alterations to existing buildings for £1 229 000 buildings, for £1,229,000.

BRICK TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT during April continued good on the whole and showed little change as compared with the previous month, In Suffolk and Essex there was a demand for workpeople at several yards.

The percentage of workpeople unemployed in the brick, pipe, tile, etc., trades, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges at 27th April, 1925, was 7·1, as compared with 7·0 at 23rd March, 1925, and with 6·5 at 28th April, 1924.

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

the undergravious!		Number of			Wages paid to Workpeople.			
Districts.	Week	Inc. (Dec. (-	+) or -) on a	Week	Inc. (Dec. (-	+) or -) on a		
- Particular Anna -	25th April 1925,	Month ago.	Year ago.	25th April 1925.	Month ago.	Year ago.†		
Northern Counties, York- shire, Lancashire and	1,923	Per cent. + 2·4	Per cent. + 12 · 2	£ 4,896	Per cent. + 2·0	Per cent. + 16·1		
Cheshire. Midlands and Eastern Counties.	5,014	+ 2.4	+18.7	13,942	+ 4.7	+ 32 · 1		
South and South-West Counties and Wales.	1,592	+1.8	+11.8	4,337	+ 4.1	+ 22-4		
Scotland	95	- 1.0	-11.2	282	+ 2.5	+ 7.6		
TOTAL	8,624	+2.3	+15.4	23,457	+4.0	+ 26.3		

POTTERY TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT in North Staffordshire showed a slight decline, and there was much unemployment and short-time working. In the sanitary, tile and fireclay sections, however, it was reported to be good; and in the first-class chinaware trade at Stoke-on-Trent, it was reported as very good.

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

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

In the stoneware section in Scotland employment continued fair: at Worcester and Bristol it was good.

168

The percentage of workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 15·2 at 27th April, 1925, as compared with 13·6 at 23rd March, 1925, and 11·8 at 28th April, 1924.

The following Table summarises the information received from employers, who furnished returns for the three position.

employers who furnished returns for the three periods under

		Number Workpeo			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.			
TANK BURNE S	Week Inc. (+) or ended Dec. (-) on a		Week		(+) or -) on a			
	25th April, 1925.	Month ago.	Year ago.	25th April, 1925.	Month ago.	Year ago.		
Physical		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.		
BRANCHES. China Manufacture Earthenware Manufacture Other Branches (including	1,452 8,912	-0.5 + 0.9	- 3·3 + 5·4	2,904 16,288	+0.9	- 9·8 + 5·3		
unspecified)	1,859	+1.4	+ 5.1	3,353	-7.1	+ 11.7		
TOTAL	12,223	+ 0.8	+ 4.2	22,545	- 1.3	+ 3.9		
DISTRICTS. North Staffordshire Other Districts	9,259 2,964	+ 1·5 - 1·6	+ 4·4 + 3·7	15,935 6,610	- 1·5 - 0·7	+ 1·5 + 10·4		
TOTAL	12,223	+ 0.8	+ 4.2	22,545	-1.3	+ 3.9		

Returns from employers relative to short-time working showed that of 11,620 workpeople employed by firms furnishing information, 3,335, or 29 per cent., were working on an average 17 hours less than full time in the week ended 25th April, 1925.

SEAMEN.

EMPLOYMENT during April continued slack, but there was, on the

EMPLOYMENT during April continued slack, but there was, on the whole, a slight improvement as compared with the previous month. Among insured workpeople in the shipping service the percentage unemployed at 27th April, 1925, was 21·0, compared with 20·4 at 23rd March, 1925, and 17·4 at 28th April, 1924.

On the Thames the demand for men improved during April, except in the third week, and was described as good at the end of the month. On the Tyne the demand declined until the latter part of the month, when an improvement occurred. Employment on the Wear and on the Tees was quiet. At Hull it was quiet, except in the third week of April, when an improvement took place. The demand at Southampton was generally moderate, but better The demand at Southampton was generally moderate, but better than in March. At Bristol it varied from very quiet to moderate. At Avonmouth the demand fluctuated, and was reported to be brisk at the end of the month. Employment at Swansea was moderate on the whole, apart from a decline in the third week of the month. Except for a falling off in the second week, employment at Newport improved, being described as fair at the end of the month. At Cardiff it was fair on the whole. In the foreign-going trade on the Mersey the demand improved, and was reported to be fair at the end of April. At Manchester it was quiet in the first half of the month and fair subsequently.

month and fair subsequently.

Employment on the Clyde was generally moderate; at Leith it was quiet at the beginning of the month and somewhat brisker afterwards. At Belfast the demand was quiet to moderate.

The following Table shows the number of seamen shipped in

British registered foreign-going vessels at the undermentioned ports of Great Britain and Northern Ireland during April:—

	- 1	Number of S	Seamen* ship	pped in	G.			
Principal Ports.	April,	Inc. (Dec. (-		Months				
101 191 3000 3000 3 1 di + 0 2 + 002,8	1925.	Month ago.	Year ago.	April, 1925.	April, 1924. 41,504 3,087 29,263 26,410 6,410 5885 1,488 5,995 67 3,318 3,514 11,415			
ENGLAND & WALES: Liverpool† Manchester London Southampton Tyne Ports Sunderland Middlesbrough Hull Grimsby Bristol‡ Newport, Mon. Cardiff§ Swansea	11,653 848 7,704 9,775 1,712 201 392 1,378 17 1,149 702 2,440 584	+ 1,018 - 153 - 784 + 2,994 - 532 - 131 + 19 + 90 + 17 + 148 + 81 + 321 - 157	- 1,660 + 67 - 52 + 1,247 - 254 - 101 + 60 + 38 - 26 + 60 - 27 - 692 + 20	45,012 3,622 31,928 30,858 7,601 1,021 1,544 6,258 17 3,833 3,256 9,424 2,582	3,087 29,263 26,410 6,410 585 1,488 5,995 67 3,318 3,514			
SCOTLAND: Leith Kirkcaldy, Methil and Grangemouth Glasgow	333 2,607	+ 176 + 46 - 9	+ 146 + 183 - 320	1,318 1,278 10,330	1,310 759 9,506			
NORTHERN IRELAND:	184	+ 51	- 19	788	733			
- TOTAL	42,106	+ 3,195	- 1,330	160,670	148,382			

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

DOCK AND RIVERSIDE LABOUR.

EMPLOYMENT during April was again slack or bad at most ports and not much different, in the aggregate, from the previous month. Among insured workpeople in the canal, river, harbour and dock service 31·1 per cent. were unemployed at 27th April, 1925, and at 23rd March, 1925, as compared with 24·9 at 28th April, 1924.

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

(-) FOU 20 (-) COL	Average Da Docks at	aily Numb	per of La cipal Wh	bourers em narves in L	ployed in ondon.
	In	Docks.			
Period.	By the Port of London Authority or through Contractors.	By Ship- owners, etc.	Total.	At Wharves making Returns.	Total Docks and Principal Wharves.
Week ended— 4th April, 1925 11th 18th , 25th ,	3,998 3,914 4,226 4,218	2,190 2,745 2,117 2,580	6,188 6,659 6,343 6,798	7,754 8,053 8,214 8,113	13,942 14,712 14,557 14,911
Average for 4 weeks ended 25th April, 1925	} 4,091	2,406	6,497	8,025	14,522
Average for Mar., 1925	4,125	2,326	6,451	8 093	14,544
Average for April, 1924	4,351	2,108	6,459	8,092	14,551

Tilbury.—The mean daily number of dock labourers employed in April was 1,038, as compared with 794 in the previous month, and with 1,151 in April, 1924.

East Coast.—On the Tyne employment was very slack and worse than in March. It continued bad at Blyth, but on the Wear there was a slight improvement with some classes of workers. It remained bad at Hull, and was very slack and worse than in March at Middlesbrough. At other East Coast ports it varied from fair to slack, improvement over the previous month being reported from Ipswich and Yarmouth. Ipswich and Yarmouth.

Western and Southern Ports.—At Liverpool employment remained Western and Southern Ports.—At Liverpool employment remained fair on the average. The average weekly number of dock labourers registered at the clearing houses under the Liverpool Docks Scheme as employed in the four weeks ended 27th April was 16,084, compared with 16,224 in the five weeks ended 30th March, and with 15,316 in the four weeks ended 28th April, 1924. The average weekly amount of wages paid to these men through the clearing houses was £40,260 in the four weeks ended 27th April, compared with £44,915 in the five weeks ended 30th March, and with £38,296 in the four weeks ended 28th April, 1924. At Manchester employment declined. Employment continued slack at the South Wales ports, although it was active at Swansea before Easter. At Southampton it was bad.

Employment continued slack at the South Wales ports, although it was active at Swansea before Easter. At Southampton it was bad. It was slack at Plymouth, and slack to fair at other South-Western ports. At Bristol there was a slight improvement.

Scottish and Irish Ports.—Employment was fair at Glasgow. At Leith it improved and was fairly good. It continued slack at Dundee, where the jute season had terminated. At Aberdeen it was reported to be very good. At Belfast it remained moderate.

MINISTRY OF LABOUR **EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES.***

THE number of persons registered at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland as unemployed on 27th April, 1925, was 1,250,852. Of this number, 947,778 were men, 37,594 boys, 231,456 women and 34,024 girls. Compared with 30th March, there was an increase of 1,599. In the men's department, there was a decrease of 11,242, while in the case of women and of juveniles there were increases of 3,469 and 9,372 respectively.

During the four weeks ended 27th April the number of vacancies filled by Employment Exchanges was 102,686, of which 58,327 were for men, 25,170 for women, and 19,189 for juveniles.

014 2 8 5 - 1 6		tions from bloyers.		Number of Workpeople	
Week ended	During Week.	Outstanding at end of Week.	Vacancies Filled.†	Registered as Unem- ployed.	
30th March, 1925	 32,422	25,269	27,023	1,249,253	
6th April, 1925 13th " " 20th " " 27th " "	 34,067 18,877 32,165 32,519	25,600 23,815 25,053 23,909	28,732 17,733† 27,037 29,184	1,217,154 1,258,323 1,254,874 1,250,852	
Total (4 weeks)	 117,628		102,686‡	2002.007 4	

• The figures relate to Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and refer to all workpeople on the "registers" of Exchanges, including persons "suspended" or "stood off," and those who, although employed on a basis of systematic short time, were not actually at work on the date in question. For Great Britain alone, the corresponding figures, as published in the Press, show that on 27th April, 1925, the numbers registered as unemployed were 910,400 men, 208,200 women, and 64,400 juveniles, as compared with 970,000 men, 239,000 women, and 65,000 juveniles at 29th December, 1924.

† Employment Exchanges generally were closed two days at Easter.

† This figure includes a weekly average of about 750 placings of casual workers, such as dock labourers and coal porters.

The following Table shows for each of the Employment Exchange administrative areas, and for the principal towns therein, the number of persons registered at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland as unemployed on 27th April, 1925. In certain cases—e.g., Bristol, Birmingham, Sheffield, Liverpool, Glasgow, etc.—the figures cover more than one Exchange

May, 1925.

Area.		tered as ril, 1925	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared		
eword and thered	Men.	Women.	Juveniles	Total.	with 30th Mar., 1925.
London Division	120,344	33,755	11,756	165,855	- 4,953
South-Eastern Division Brighton	36,636		4,136	47,298	- 3,923
Chatham	1,712 2,541	428 282	187 585	2,327 3,408	- 312 - 2
Norwich Rest of South Eastern	2,060 2,680	371 490	211 102	2,642 3,272	- 50 + 41
South-Western Division	27,643	4,955 8,696	3,051 4,315	35,649 63,649	- 3,600 - 1,875
Bristol Plymouth	50,638 12,069 4,869	2,451 546	872 560	15,392 5,975	+ 830 - 64
Portsmouth Reading	4,979 1,474	698 176	440 293	6,117 1,943	- 532 + 139
Southampton Swindon	5,301	369	518 130	6,188	- 1,261 - 172
Rest of South Western	21,674	4,398	1,502	27,574	- 815
Midlands Division Birmingham	98,927 19,030	35,974 7,499	5,443 443	140,344 26,972	+ 3,178 + 707
Coventry Cradley Heath	1,156 4,308	236 562	33 93	1,425	+ 133 + 23
Derby Leicester	987 2.379	347 1,809	263 40	1,597 4,228	+ 78 + 368
Northampton Nottingham	1,440 8,863	548 2,772	83 654	2,071 12,289	+ 216 + 1,225
Smethwick Stoke-on-Trent	2,825 7,874	1,520 5,573	113 502	4,458 13,949	+ 29 + 908
Walsall West Bromwich	4,924 2,841	993 564	301 149	6,218 3,554 4,969	+ 94 - 250
Wolverhampton Rest of Midlands	3,490 38,810	1,320 12,231	159 2,610	4,969 53,651	- 250 - 278 - 75
North-Eastern Division	221,320	36,919	15,456	273,695	- 4,818
Barnsley Bradford	1,773 8,237	98 4,849	32 397	1,903 13,483	+ 368 + 1,264
Darlington Dewsbury	1,917 1,487	1,263	96 134	2,153 2,884	- 181 + 284
Doncaster Gateshead	316 8,818	673	264 926	10,417	+ 80
Grimsby Halifax	8,818 2,205 2,145	1,884	260 170	2,629 4,199	- 417 + 786
Hartlepools Huddersfield Hull	7,196	186 1,541 944	363 150	7,745 4,411 11,797	- 373 + 36
Leeds	10,046	3,993 231	807 328	15,512	+ 260 - 214
Middlesbrough Newcastle-on-Tyne	2,413 10,146 14,266	462	167 847 1,157	2,811	+ 53 - 73
Rotherham	2,490 20,011	1,554 222 3,223	228 1,122	16,977 2,940 24,356	+ 45 + 623 + 227
South Shields Stockton-on-Tees	5,481	470 213	594 398	6,545 8,172	+ 227 - 769 + 843
Sunderland York	7,561 17,172 1,738	809 712	1,171	19,152 2,813	+ 1,885 + 102
Rest of North Eastern	81,991	13,039	5,482	100,512	- 9,583
North-Western Division Accrington	154,267 625	49,993 181	12,583 23	216,843 829	+ 1,292 - 88
Ashton-under-Lyne Barrow	2,175 3,522 4,712	1,365	149 188	3,689 4,016	+ 87 - 242
Birkenhead Blackburn	2,052	1,009	373 114	5,515 3,175	- 560 - 45
Blackpool Bolton	1,179	2,553	96 393	1,816 7,526	- 45 - 101 - 225 - 191 - 54
Bury	1,622 1,176	720 501	102	2,444 1,723	- 191 - 54
Chorley Liverpool	44,208	7,348	96 4,431	55,987	+ 356 - 1,262
Nelson	543	8,015 361	1,259	29,625	- 1,262 + 803 + 105 - 1,083 - 1,108
Oldham Preston	7,887 2,920	2,764	322 173	10,973 3,946 3,955	- 1,083 - 1,108
St. Helens	2,920 2,709 1,999 6,318	1,160	86 161	2,448	+ 124 + 72
Salford Stockport	2,669	3,596 1,301	792 270	10,706	+ 30 + 22
Warrington Wigan Rest of NorthWestern	2,590 5,269 33,678	351 2,366 13,523	144 377 2,983	3,085 8,012	+ 64 + 2,729
Scotland Division	144,909	32,557	9,712	50,184 187,178	+ 1,859 + 1,520
Aberdeen Clydebank	4,609 2,223	1,241	253 113	6,103	- 229 + 174
Dundee Edinburgh	6,437 9,690	2,768	150 613	9,355 12,605 71,603 7,726 3,755	+ 268 + 96
Glasgow	54,124 6,040	2,302 13,766 1,207	3,713 479	71,603	- + 771 + 758
Motherwell Paisley	3,416 4,073	217 1,012	122 208	3,755 5,293	+ 819 + 77
Rest of Scotland	54,297	9,796	4,061	68,154	+ 328
Cardiff	83,327 6,159	3,876 650	5,003 602	92,206 7,411	+ 2,334 + 459
Llanelly Newport	4,854 3,752	264 182	286 513	5,404 4,447	+ 1,208 + 355
Swansea Rest of Wales	5,822 62,740	353 2,427	3,153	6,624 68,320	- + 582
	37,410 24,397	23,160	3,214	63,784	+ 8,844
Londonderry	2,427	23,160 14,745 721	2,080	63,784 41,222 3,275	+ 4,922 + 53
Lurgan	1,311	1,188	175 57	1,132	+ 1,572 + 485
Rest of Northern Ire-	1,021	420	34	1,475	+ 48
land	7,738	5,527	741	14,006	+ 1,764
Great Britain and Northern Ireland	947,778	231,456	71,618	1,250,852	+ 1,599

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE STATISTICS: GREAT BRITAIN.

NUMBER OF CLAIMS TO BENEFIT.

During the four weeks ended 27th April, 1925, 719,803 fresh claims were added to the register, while 736,890 claims were removed from the register. As the number of fresh claims may include those of a number of claimants who make a further claim after a short period of employment, it cannot be assumed that the change-over during the month is as great as the statistics below appear to show at first glance; but the figures indicate a substantial fluctuation in the personnel of the unemployed.

Insurance Claims current a Fresh Claims made between						
Claims removed from the r 27th April, 1925	250 (1) (2) (1) (3)		n 30th	Marcl	and	1,851,335
Insurance Claims current a	 it 27th	 April,	1925		redisc	736,890

CLAIMS TO EXTENDED BENEFIT.

Claims to "extended" benefit—i.e., benefit beyond that to which the claimant is entitled in respect of contributions paid—are submitted for decision to the Local Employment Committees, composed, in the main, of representatives of employers and workpeople. The following Table shows the number of claims dealt with by these Committees in Great Britain during the period 10th March to 13th April, 1925:—

Applications referred to Commit Applications admitted by Comm	ittees du	uring poduring	eriod period	:	322,143
(a) For 12 weeks					107,472
(b) For less than 12 weeks					168,711
Applications rejected during per	riod				45,636

Of the total number of applications rejected during the period, 4,436 were rejected as not normally insurable and not seeking to obtain a livelihood by means of insurable employment, 2,298 were rejected on the ground that insurable employment was not likely to be available, 12,130 were rejected as not having served a reasonable period of insurable employment during the preceding two years, and 14,175 were rejected as not making every reasonable effort to obtain suitable employment, or not willing to accept suitable employment. suitable employment, or not willing to accept suitable employment.

EXPENDITURE ON UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFIT.

The following Table shows approximately the amounts which have been paid during the four weeks ended 24th April, 1925, by Employment Exchanges and through Trade Unions and other Associations having arrangements under Section 17 of the Act:—

	Amount paid in benefit								
Week ending	By Exchanges, etc.	Through Trade Unions.	Total.						
1925. April 3rd , 10th , 17th , 24th	\$27,000 818,000 793,000 857,000	£ 49,000 72,000 18,000 50,000	£ 876,000 890,000 811,000 907,000						
	3,295,000	189,000	3,484,000						

CONTRIBUTIONS AND EXPENDITURE, 1924-25.

The Minister of Labour gave the following information in reply The Minister of Labour gave the following information in reply to a question in the House of Commons on the 29th April, asking for certain particulars with regard to the finances of the unemployment insurance schemes:—"During the last financial year, the contributions to the Unemployment Fund were approximately—Exchequer, £13,474,000; employers, £19,224,000; workpeople, £17,301,000. The total amount of unemployment benefit paid was about £40,962,000; and the estimated total cost of administration under all heads was £4,328,000, or about 8.7 per cent. of the

INDEBTEDNESS OF THE UNEMPLOYMENT FUND.

In reply to further questions on 6th and 13th May, the Minister stated that the total indebtedness of the unemployment insurance fund to the Exchequer was £4,770,000 on 15th August, 1924, £7,650,000 on 30th April, 1925, and £7,620,000 on 9th May, 1925.

May, 1925.

UNEMPLOYMENT IN INSURED INDUSTRIES.

The statistics here presented show, industry by industry, the number of persons insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts, and the number and percentage of such persons who were unemployed on 27th April, 1925. "Unemployed" as used in these statistics does not necessarily mean that the person is definitely without a job. Persons who on 27th April, 1925, were not at work because they were suspended, "stood off," "furloughed," or on short time, and whose unemployment books were lodged at Exchanges, are counted in the statistics as "unemployed."

Under the Unemployment Insurance Acts, substantially all

Under the Unemployment Insurance Acts, substantially all employed persons, except outworkers and persons employed in agriculture and private domestic service, must be insured against unemployment. Every person so insured is given an Unemployment Book on which inter alia the industry of the employer has been recorded. Employees of local authorities, railways and certain other public utility undertakings, members of the police forces, and persons with rights under a statutory superannuation scheme, may, in certain circumstances, be excepted. Persons employed otherwise than by way of manual labour at a rate of remuneration exceeding in value £250 per annum are excepted, as

remuneration exceeding in value £250 per annum are excepted, as are also juveniles under sixteen years of age.

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

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

- (a) Insured persons, unemployed and in receipt of benefit;
- (b) Insured persons not in receipt of benefit, but known to be unemployed by reason of their maintaining registration at an Employment Exchange or otherwise;
- (c) Insured persons who are not in receipt of benefit and are not maintaining registration, but whose unemployment books remain lodged at Employment Exchanges. Provided there is no definite evidence of employment these are counted in the statistics for two months after the insured person's last attendance at an Exchange.

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

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

exchanged in the course of the mis-					1 60 E	NUM	IBERS AN	D PERCEN	TAGES U	NEMPLOY	ED.					
TADUSTRY	NORTHERN IRELAND.) 27TH APRIL 1925. (GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.)				PERCE	ENTAGE UI 27TH AP		ED AT	(GREA!	T BI	ORDI PAREI ROH, RITAIN IREI	IAN	ID		
INDUSTRY.	official de	rallens	a labe	602 CX				at Britain thern Irel		Great Britain						
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	only. Totals.	M	ales.	Fen	nales.	Total.	tal.
	25 150	600	25,750	3,448	43	3,491	13.7	7.2	13-6	13.4	-	0.9	_	1.3		0.9
Fishing	25,150 1,252,430	7,920	1,260,350	144,859	1,274	146,133	11.6	16-1	11.6	11.6	1	0.2	+	2-3	-	0.2
Coal Mining Iron Ore and Ironstone Mining and Quarrying Lead, Tin and Copper Mining	17,050 4,950	40 50	17,090 5,000	3,024 776	3 4 9	3,027 780 2,009	17·7 15·7 5·6	7·5 8·0 3·0	17·7 15·6 5·6	17.5 15.6 5.2	-	0·1 2·6 0·5	+	2·0 4·0	i EL	0·1 2·6 0·5
Stone Quarrying and Mining	35,840 10,120 20,550	300 10 1,610	36,140 10,130 22,160	2 000 406 1,490	188	406 1,678	4·0 7·3	11.7	4·0 7·6	4·0 7·3	++	2·3 0·1	+	0.1	++	2·3 0·1
Other Mining and Quarrying Clay, Sand, Gravel and Chalk Pit Digging	13,270	270	13,540	459	9	468	3.5	3.3	3.5	3.4	-	0.3	-	2.3	-	0.3
Non-Metalliferous Mining Products:— Coke Ovens and By-Product Works	13,230	260	13,490	1,801	28	1,829	13.6	10-8	13.6	13.6	+	2.0	-	12-3	+	1.8
facture	11,110	690	11,800	1,836	83	1,919	16.5	12.0	16.3	16.2	-	0.3	+	0.8	1	0.1
Cement Limekilns and Whiting Works Brick, Tile, etc., Making	62 770			849 3,920		889 4,982	5·5 6·2	5·8 13·8	5·5 7·1	5·4 6·9		0.4	+	1·6 0·5	+	0·5 0·1
Pottery, Earthenware, etc	77.000	35,290	73,250	4,522	6,643	11,165	11.9	18-8	15.2	15.2	+	0.9	+	2.3	+	1.6
Glass Trades:— Glass (excluding Bottles, Optical and	8		38			7.400	377	9.9	13-0	12.9		0.6	-	0.2	9.5	0.5
Scientific Glass) Manufacture Glass Bottle Making	16 260			2,979 3,514		3,498 3,714	13·7 21·6		20-6	20.5			-		ia gr	0.9
Ammunition, Explosives, Chemicals, etc. :			44.90	District.		0.677	0.5	6-8	8-9	8-8	1	0.7		0.1	+	0.5
Chemicals Manufacture	13,820			7,200 1,058	1,473 382	8,673 1,440	9·5 7·7		7.5	7.5		0.2	+	1.1	+	0.5
Paint, Varnish, Japan, Red and White Lead Manufacture	14,510	3,530	16,440	559	234	793	4.3		4-8	4.8					10	0.2
Oil, Grease, Glue, Soap, Ink, Match, etc., Manufacture Metal Manufacture and Secondary Pro-	58,070	21,630	79,700	4,870	1,692	6,562	8-4	7.8	8-2	8.2	+	0.4		0.6	+	0.1
cesses: Pig Iron Manufacture (Blast Furnaces Steel Melting and Iron Puddling Fur-	29,880	310	30,190	6,137	34	6,171	20-5	11.0	20-4	20.4	+	2.3		. 15	+	2.3
naces, Iron and Steel Rolling Mills and Forges Manufacture of Brass, Copper, Zinc,	007.750	4,120	207,270	55,033	337	55,370	27-1		26.7	26.7			3	1.7	+	-
Manufacture of Tin Plates	24,960 25,690	4,300	29,260	9,708	1,053			24.5	12-5 36-8 18-8	36.8	-	- 1.0	-			0·8 1·1 1·1
Wire, Wire Netting, Wire Rope Manu facture	- 00 490		Total Control	3,291	418	3,709	16.1	10.4	15.1	15.1	1 +	- 2.0) -	0.2	+	1.6
Engineering etc.: Engineering: Engineers' Iron and Steel Founding Electrical Engineering	588,500 58,080 64,860	13,450	71,530	3,081	907	3,988 12,109	5·3 18·6	6.7	13·1 5·6 18·3 13·9	18.2	3 -	- 0.2	2	0.1	++1	0·2 0·1 0·2
Constructional Engineering	23,120	890	24,010	3,294	4 40	3,334				1 2120					100	
Construction and Repair of Motor Vehicles, Cycles and Aircraft Construction and Repair of Carriages	. 184,500	No. of the last	Branch of	Torres of		-		1930	6.3	1 24 C						0.3
Carts, etc Railway Carriage, Wagon and Tram	22,090		G GOLL O	美国美国	0 7 1 00		45 070	e en	10-8			- 0.]	10	4555345	40	
car Building	. 51,000 251,610		52,180									- 1.8	8 +	- 0.5	-	

						Nu	MBERS AL	ND PERCEN	TAGES U	NEMPLOY	ED.		
INDUSTRY.	INSUR: J (GREA	TED NUM ED PERSO ULY, 1924 T BRITAIN HERN TREI	NS AT	MENT BO 27TH (GREAT	OF UNE	1925.	PERCE	ENTAGE UI 27TH API		ED AT	(-) AS 23RD (GREA	E(+)ORD COMPARE MARCH, T BRITALL HERN IRE	D WITH 1925. N AND
astropia bio bia mai signed aser astropia bio biga yan oeens 13 In koovat nr bottles ones almost	000 E		on visco	los Garage Los Filos		1912 689 10 75458		at Britain thern Irela		Great Britain	desar l		tion https://
The season of th	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	only. Totals.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Metal Trades:— Stove, Grate, Pipe, etc., and General	74 790	7,000	93.970	0.005	F70	0.004	10.0	704	70.0	70.0	0.7		A TOPA
Electrical Wiring and Contracting Electrical Cable, Wire and Electric Lamp Manufacture	74,780 11,970	7,090 880	81,870 12,850	8,085 964	739	8,824 997	10·8 8·1	10·4 3·8	10·8 7·8	10.6	+ 0·3 - 2·1	- 0·9 + 0·2	+ 0·2 - 1·9
Hand Tool, Cutlery, Saw, File Making Bolts, Nuts, Screws, Rivets, Nails	48,700 23,540	26,240 8,140	74,940 31,680	3,789 3,002	2,553 998	6,342 4,000	7·8 12·8	9·7 12·3	8·5 12·6	8·5 12·6	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	+ 0·8 - 1·6	+ 0·4 - 1·2
etc., Manufacture Brass and Allied Metal Wares Manu-	15,630 18,600	11,860	27,490 29,810	2,290 2,468	1,732	4,022 3,974	14.7	14.6	14.6	14.6	- 2.0	+ 0.3	- 1.1
Heating and Ventilating Apparatus Watches, Clocks, Plate, Jewellery,	5,330	430	5,760	532	7	539	13·3 10·0	1.6	9-4	13·3 9·3	+ 0.3 + 0.3	- 1.7	- 0·3 + 0·2
etc., Manufacture Other Metal Industries Textile Trades:—	27,420 112,180	19,940 63,370	47,360 175,550	3,418 11,515	2,167 7,814	5,585 19,329	12·5 10·3	10.9	11.8	11·8 10·9	+ 0·2 + 0·2	- 0·5 - 0·3	- 0.2
Cotton	201,450 110,650 15,880 25,620	360,940 150,240 25,840 57,510	562,390 260,890 41,720 83,130	11,903 17,312 1,240 8,469	28,255 25,888 2,559 20,657	40,158 43,200 3,799 29,126	5·9 15·6 7·8 33·1	7·8 17·2 9·9 35·9	7·1 16·6 9·1 35·0	7·1 16·5 9·1 14·9	$\begin{array}{ccccc} - & 0.8 \\ + & 1.8 \\ + & 0.9 \\ + & 10.2 \\ + & 1.3 \end{array}$	+ 0·3 + 3·1 + 1·3 + 12·5 + 1·4	- 0·1 + 2·6 + 1·2 + 11·7 + 1·4
Hemp Spinning and Weaving, Rope, Cord, Twine, etc., Making	13,150 7,620	28,070 12,980	41,220 20,600	1,941	3,252 2,166	5,193	14.8	11.6	12·6 14·8	12.6	- 0.4	_ 1.9	- 1.3
Hosiery	20,330 8,440 11,810	73,080 11,890 15,150	93,410 20,330 26,960	1,426 2,057 784	7,369 1,523 1,488	8,795 3,580 2,272	7·0 24·4 6·6	10·1 12·8 9·8	9·4 17·6 8·4	9·2 17·6 8·4	+ 0·3 + 1·5 + 1·4	+ 0.4	+ 0.7 + 0.8 + 0.9
Other Textile Industries Textile Bleaching, Printing, Dyeing,	13,230	30,650	43,880	1,192	4,161	-5,353	9.0	13.6	12-2	11.7	- 1.3		- 0.6
etc Leather and Leather Goods :— Tanning, Currying and Leather Dress-	83,920	33,600	117,520	10,683	4,554	-15,237	12-7	13.6	13.0	12.7	+ 0.4	+ 0.7	+ 0.5
Saddlery, Harness and other Leather Goods Manufacture	34,020	8,580	42,600	3,887	1,329	5,216	11.4	15.5	12.2	12.2	+ 1.3	- in the sale	+ 1.5
Clething Trades:— Tailoring	15,020	12,760	27,780 189,450	1,668 5,164	1,363 6,253	3,031	11·1 7·8	10.7	10.9	10.8	$\begin{vmatrix} - & 0.3 \\ - & 3.0 \end{vmatrix}$		- 0·3 - 2·7
Dress and Mantle Making and Millinery Hat and Cap (including Straw Plait)	11,610	94,780	106,390	920	5,900	6,820	7-9	6-2	6.4	5.9	- 0.5	- 1.5	- 1.4
Manufacture Blouses, Shirts, Collars, Undercloth-	14,190	19,440	33,630	1,151	1,439	2,590	8-1	7.4	7.7	7.7	- 1.7	- 0.1	- 0.8
ing, etc., Making Other Dress Industries Boot, Shoe, Slipper and Clog Trades	7,340 10,790 92,220	64,740 18,920 50,270	72,080 29,710 142,490	523 1,036 11,068	4,842 1,744 3,400	5,365 2,780 14,468	7·1 9·6 12·0	7·5 9·2 6·8	7·4 9·4 10·2	6·8 9·3 10·0	+ 0.8 - 0.4 + 1.1	- 1.5	+ 0·2 - 1·1 + 1·0
Bread, Biscuit, Cake, etc., Making Grain Milling	94,580 28,010	49,960 3,520	144,540 31,530	9,634 1,340	4,382 248	14,016 1,588	10-2 4-8	8·8 7·0	9·7 5·0	9·4 4·9	- 0·7 - 0·1		- 0·7 - 0·2
Cocoa, Chocolate and Sugar Confectionery	25,160 50,670 85,890	47,010 57,810 23,010	72,170 108,480 108,900	2,107 4,796 4,857	5,942 7,890 2,769	8,049 12,686 7,626	8·4 9·5 5·7	12·6 13·6 12·0	11·2 11·7 7·0	11·1 11·6 6·6	+ 0.8 + 0.4		+ 0·1 - 0·7 - 0·3
Tobacco, Cigar, Cigarette and Snuff Manufacture Sawmilling, Furniture and Woodwork :—	13,760	30,090	43,850	966	3,386	4,352	7.0	11.3	9-9	9.3	- 0.1	+ 1.2	+ 0.7
Sawmilling and Machined Woodwork Wood Box and Packing Case Making Furniture Making, Upholstering, etc. Other Woodworking	54,690 10,700 79,410 20,070	2,990 1,840 17,350 6,430	57,680 12,540 96,760 26,500	5,524 1,700 4,735 2,083	249 376 1,261 755	5,773 2,076 -5,996 -2,838	10·1 15·9 6·0 10·4	8·3 20·4 7·3 11·7	10·0 16·6 6·2 10·7	9·8 16·5 6·1 10·1	- 0.5 - 0.1 - 0.5 + 0.2	+ 0.5	$ \begin{array}{rrrr} - & 0.5 \\ + & 0.1 \\ - & 0.6 \\ + & 0.2 \end{array} $
Printing and Paper Trades: Paper and Paper Board Making Cardboard Boxes, Paper Bags and	39,920	14,690	54,610	2,801	999	3,800	7.0	6.8	7.0	6.9	- 0.7	- 1.4	- 0.8
Stationery Wall Paper Making and Paper	19,360 4,100	35,490 1,380	54,850 5,480	1,114	2,705	3,819	5.8	7.6	7.0	6.9	- 0.3	a travers	- 0.1
Statining Stationery and Typewriting Requisites (not paper) Printing, Publishing and Bookbinding	1,980	2,480	4,460	137	115	328	3·6 6·9	8.3	4·8	4.8	- 2·5 - 0·2	+ 0.4	- 2·7 + 0·2
Building and Construction of Works: Building works Contracting, etc	713,030 133,770	84,490 8,530 810	721,560 134,580	7,529 59,688 23,231	5,409 230 28	12,938 59,918 23,259	8·4 17·4	2·7 3·5	8·3 17·3	5·3 8·0 17·0	- 0·5 - 1·2 - 0·9	2 - 0.3	
Other Manufacturing Industries: Rubber Manufacture Oilcloth, Linoleum, etc., Manufacture	33,070 11,820	25,150 2,380	58,220 14,200	3,108 589	2,605 132	5,713 721	9·4 5·0	10·4 5·5	9·8 5·1	9·8 5·1	- 0·2 + 0·7	2 + 0·5 7 - 2·4	+ 0·1 + 0·2
Brush and Broom Making Scientific and Photographic Instru- ment and Apparatus Manufacture	5,450 12,700	7,000	9,810	632	331	1,032	11.6	4.7	10.5	10.3	- 0.9		- 0.6
Musical Instrument Making Toys, Games, and Sports Requisites Manufacture	16,330 5,940	3,550 5,100	19,880	1,166	252 592	1,418	7.1	7.1	7.1	7.1	- 0·7 + 0·8	ties, and	100
Gas, Water and Electricity Supply Industries	165,660		171,550	10,763	270	11,033	6-5		6-4	6.2		O MATERIA	1 310120
Transport and Communication: Railway Service	163,940	9.270	173,210	10,393	312	10,705	6-3		6.2	6.0	arab and	monesta.	out the
Tramway and Omnibus Service Other Road Transport Shipping Service Canal, River, Dock and Harbour	115,110 146,050 113,880	4,210 4,380	119,320 150,430 119,120	3,906 21,903 24,654	212 196 395	4,118 22,099 25,049	3·4 15·0 21·6	5·0 4·5	3.5 14.7 21.0	3·4 14·4	- 0·3 - 0·5	$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	- 0·2 - 0·4
Other Transport and Communication	193,570		195,470	60,694	125	60,819	31.4		31.1				
and Storage Distributive Trades	807,880	The state of the state of	23,250	Total Control	332	3,942	7.9		7-2		MILE. I	es sylvino	
Commercial, Banking, Insurance and Finance	64,080	10 DOI:10	100,740	115	1,166	5,921	7.4		5.9		- paides		A CONTRACTOR
Miscellaneous Trades and Services: National Government Local Government	129,040 224,310	19,400	160,970 243,710		1,311 624	13,316 21,140	9.3		8.3		- 0.		
Professional Services Entertainments and Sports Hotel Boarding House, Club Services Laundries, Dyeing and Dry Cleaning	65,580 42,550 101,150 21,360	45,100 23,400 188,770 91,510	110,680 65,950 289,920 112,870	3,112 5,666 13,257 1,245	1,132 2,380 19,789 5,782	4,244 8,046 33,046 7,027	4·7 13·3 13·1 5·8	2.5 10.2 10.5 6.3	3·8 12·2 11·4 6·2	3·8 12·1 11·3 6·1	- 0· - 1· - 1· - 0·	1 9 - 1.0 7 - 1.8 6 - 0.5	$ \begin{array}{c cccc} & - & 0.1 \\ & - & 1.6 \\ & - & 1.8 \\ & - & 0.5 \end{array} $
Other Industries and Services TOTAL	The second second	29,100	113,810		N. OF THE OWNER, WHEN	29,205 1,292,131	12-0	and the second	25.7	or want of	THE PERSON	and Large and	- 1·0 - 0·2
The second secon	· CONTRACT	WELL CONT	CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY OF THE	0 2 7 12/24	N. C. St. L. St. L. St. L. St.	1	Control of the		1	1	1	- USA - SEE	160,000000

TRADE DISPUTES.*

involving a stoppage of work, reported to the Department as beginning in April in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, was 44, as compared with 55 in the previous month and 46 in April, 1924. The total number of workpeople involved in these disputes (including those thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, though not themselves parties to the disputes) was approximately 12,000. In addition, about 13,000 workpeople were involved, either directly or indirectly, in 26 disputes which began before April and were still in progress at the beginning of that month. The number of new and old disputes was thus 70, involving about 25,000 workpeople, and resulting in a loss during April of about 122,000 working days.

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

		er of Disp gress in A	Number of Work- people in-	Aggregate Duration in Working		
Groups of Industries.	Started before 1st April.	Started in April.	Total.	volved in all Dis- putes in progress in April.	Days of all Dis- putes in progress in April.	
Mining and Quarrying Metal, Engineering and Shipbuilding.	6 5	10 4	16 9	8,000 2,000	62,000 9,000	
Textile Food, Drink and To-	4	9 3	13 3	1,000 2,000	7,000 8,000	
Other	11	18	29	12,000	36,000	
Total, April, 1925	26	44	70	25,000	122,000	
Total, March, 1925	25	55	80	44,000	161,000	
Total, April, 1924	21	46	67	51,000†	471,000†	

Causes.—Of the 44 disputes beginning in April, 17, directly involving 3,000 workpeople, arose out of demands for advances in wages; 15, directly involving 5,000 workpeople, on other wages questions; 3, directly involving 1,000 workpeople, on details of working arrangements; 4, directly involving 2,000 workpeople, on

Number, Magnitude and Duration.—The number of trade disputes | questions of Trade Union principle; and 5, directly involving 200 workpeople, on other questions.

Results.—Settlements were effected in the case of 23 new disputes, directly involving 5,000 workpeople, and 11 old disputes, directly involving 2,000 workpeople. Of these new and old disputes, 7, directly involving 2,000 workpeople, were settled in favour of the workpeople; 15, directly involving 2,000 workpeople, in favour of the employers; and 12, directly involving 3,000 workpeople, were compromised. In the case of 4 disputes, directly involving about 10,000 workpeople work was resumed pending pending pending. about 10,000 workpeople, work was resumed pending negotiations.

TOTALS FOR FIRST FOUR MONTHS OF 1924 AND 1925.1

The following Table summarises the figures for Great Britain and Northern Ireland for the first four months of 1925, as compared with the corresponding period of 1924:--

	Jan	uary to Ap	ril, 1924.	Janu	ary to Ap	ril, 1925.
Groups of Industries.	No. of Disputes.	Number of Work- people involved in all Disputes in pro- gress.	Aggregate Duration in Work- ing Days of all Disputes in pro- gress.	No. of Disputes.	Number of Work- people involved in all Disputes in pro- gress.	Aggregate Duration in Work- ing Days of all Disputes in pro- gress.
Mining and Quarry-	68	42,000	432,000	45	26,000	160,000
Engineering	10	2,400	19,000	6	5,000	27,000
Shipbuilding	19	29,000	491,000	10	2,000	15,000
Other Metal	13	3,000	31,000	15	2,500	18,000
Textile	10	2,000	27,000	25	2,000	31,000
Clothing	14	2,000	10,000	10	500	6,000
Food, Drink, and Tobacco.	2	3,000	11,000	9	3,000	11,000
Woodworking and Furnishing.	5	500	1,000	7	2,000	25,000
Paper, Printing, etc.	1	100	4,000	4	16,000	55,000
Building, Decorating, Contracting, etc.	18	6,000	40,000	17	1,000	16,000
Transport	27	230,000	1,385,000	13	6,000	11,000
Public Adminis- tion Services.	8	4,000	68,000	ii	2,000	10,000
Other	19	2,000	32,000	21	12,000	59,000
Total	214	326,000	2,551,000	193	80,000	444,000

PRINCIPAL TRADE DISPUTES IN PROGRESS DURING APRIL, 1925.

Occupations and Locality.§		ximate of Work- nvolved.	Date whe	en Dispute	Cause or Object,§	Result.§
	Directly.	Indi- rectly.§	Began.	Ended.	Charles of Objects	Account.
MINING AND QUARRYING:— Coal miners, etc. South Shields (near)		,746 ,389	1925. 14 April 24 April	1925. 5 May	Refusal to work with non-unionists Against proposed reduction in	Some of the non-unionists joined the Trade Union. No settlement reported.
METAL, ENGINEERING AND SHIP- BUILDING INDUSTRIES:— Locomotive boilermakers, fitters, boilermakers' apprentices, helpers, etc.—Horwich.	303	581	30 Mar.	4 April	piece-work rates, and concessions as to payment of minimum wage. For transfer to rivetting work of an acetylene burner who was alleged to have violated Trade Union rules.	Man in question transferred to acetylene burning in another shop.
Cranemen and other workpeople (shipyard and engine works)— Belfast.	135	500	28 April	6 May	For advance in wages of 10s. per week.	Work resumed pending negotiations.
FOOD, DRINK AND TOBACCO INDUSTRIES:— Flour and provender mill workers, etc.—Cardiff and Barry. Milk roundsmen—London and suburbs.	1,100		3–14 April	15 April	Dispute arising out of workpeople's objection to the standing off of two men at one mill owing to alterations to plant. For a minimum wage of £4 per week, a six-day working week,	Amicable settlement effected. Some of the strikers replaced others resumed work on em-
OTHER INDUSTRIES:— Locomotive and crane drivers, etc. and labourers (dock construction)—Glasgow. Dock workers—London and Til-	60	250	30 Mar.	2 April 3–6 April	and other concessions. For advance in wages and alteration in conditions as to payment of overtime rates. Dissatisfaction with piece-work	ployers' terms. Advance in wages granted and agreement reached respecting overtime conditions.
bury. Tram and bus drivers, conductors, etc.—Motherwell, Hamilton, Wishaw, etc.	598		9 April	9 April	rates of wages on case goods. Against proposed reduction in wages.	equal instalments, one immediately and the other at the end of two months: a joint confer-
Members of the National Union of Distributive and Allied Workers employed by retail Co-operative Societies—Lancashire, Cheshire, and adjoining counties.	10,000	517	28 Mar.	2 April	Strike at Preston and lock-out at other centres following failure of negotiations on Trade Union claim for adoption of new wages and conditions programme.	ence to review the position in six months' time. Agreement effected providing for resumption of negotiations, and defining terms of reference, etc., for arbitration in the event of continued failure to agree. (See also page 117 of GAZETTE for
Telegraph Company delivery messengers—London.	200	-	14 April	21 April	Dissatisfaction with rates of wages and prospects of promotion.	April). Work resumed, those over the age of 17 years not being re-instated.

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

† A dispute involving about 27,000 shipyard workers in the Federated Districts of Great Britain accounted for more than half of the time lost in April, 1924.

‡ In making up the totals for the several months of the year 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 is, however, very slight.

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

| Number of workpeople indirectly involved at the beginning of the dispute, subsequently increased to approximately 2,000 at the end.

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR.

THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE.

Rates of Wages.

May, 1925.

In the industries covered by the Department's statistics* the changes in rates of wages reported to have come into operation in April, in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, resulted in an aggregate increase of £10,400 in the weekly full-time wages of 410,000 workpeople, and in a reduction of £9,000 in the weekly wages of nearly 180,000

The groups of industries principally affected were as shown

Group of Industries.	Number of	ximate Workpeople ed by	Amount of in Weekl	
	Increases.	Decreases.	Increases.	Decreases.
Mining and Quarrying Metal Textile Other	372,000 5,000 33,000	8,000 70,000 83,000 18,000	£ 7,550 200 2,650	£ 250 3,600 3,900 1,250
Total	410,000	179,000	10,400	9,000

In the mining group there was a small increase (under 0.1 per cent. on current rates) in the percentage addition to the basis rates of coal miners in Yorkshire and the East Midlands, and in the same district subsistence allowances, ranging up to 6d. per day, were granted to the lower-paid men, with retrospective effect from March. There was also a small increase in the wages of coal miners in the Radstock district. The wages of ironstone miners were reduced by about 1 per cent. on current rates in Cleveland, and by $2\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. on current rates in Northamptonshire.

The principal bodies of workpeople affected by reductions in the metal group included iron puddlers and iron and steel millmen in the Midlands, who sustained a decrease amounting to about $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on current rates, steel sheet millmen and galvanizers, whose current rates were reduced by about 3 per cent., and blastfurnacemen and iron and steel millmen in South Wales and Monmouthshire, whose wages were reduced by rather less than 1 per cent. There were also reductions in the wages of blastfurnace workers in North and South Staffordshire and Northamptonshire, varying in amount from under 0.2 per cent. to about $2\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. on current

In the textile group there were decreases in the cost-of-living wage of textile bleaching, dyeing, etc., operatives, amounting to about $2\frac{1}{3}$ per cent. on current rates in Yorkshire, and to 1s. 3d. or 1s. 4d. per week and 10d. per week in the case of men and of women respectively in Lancashire and Scotland. Engravers employed in calico printing and engraving works had their cost-of-living wage reduced by 1s. 6d. per week. Woollen and worsted operatives at Leicester had a bonus of 4½d. on each shilling earned reduced to 4d.

In the other industrial groups the principal changes included increases varying from 2s. to 4s. per week in the wages of compositors, etc., in provincial daily newspaper offices in England and Wales; and increases in the wages of workpeople employed in the cement industry, amounting to 2s. per week in the case of men and 1s. per week in the case of women and boys. There were reductions of 1s

and 6d. per week in the wages of men and of women respectively employed in the seed-crushing and oil-milling industry; and felt-hat makers had their cost-of-living bonus reduced by 5 per cent. on basis rates. Men employed in the furniture manufacturing industry sustained a reduction of 1d. per hour at Birmingham and High

Of the total increase of £10,400 in April, £7,000 took effect as a result of arbitration proceedings; £1,700 took effect under arrangements made by joint standing bodies of employers and workpeople, including £550 under cost-of-living sliding scales; £500 took effect under diding scales has depth as a standard scale of the including £550 under cost-of-living sliding scales; £500 took effect under diding scales as a scale of the increase of th under sliding scales based on the proceeds of the industry; and the remaining £1,200 as a result of direct negotiation between employers and workpeople. Of the decreases, £5,150 took effect under cost-of-living sliding scales; £3,700 took effect under sliding scales based on selling prices; £120 resulted from arrangements made by joint standing bodies (the whole under cost-of-living sliding scales and repeated in that total); and the remaining £150 took effect under direct arrangements made between the parties. Changes preceded by disputes causing stoppage of work amounted to less than £50

SUMMARY OF CHANGES REPORTED IN JANUARY-APRIL, 1925.

The following Table shows the number of workpeople in Great Britain and Northern Ireland affected by changes in rates of wages reported to the Department* during the four completed months of 1925, and the net aggregate amounts of such changes:-

Group of Industries.	Approxima of Work affected		Net Amount of Change in Weekly Wages.		
	Increases.	Decreases.	Increases.	Decreases	
Politica Providentificació			£	£ 11,350	
Mining and Quarrying Brick, Pottery, Glass,	80,000	313,000	5,800	11,350	
Chemical, etc	20,000	150	2,600	5	
Iron and Steel	14,000	171,000	1,300	11,000	
Engineering and Ship- building	4,500	600	650	50	
Other Metal	27,000	28,500	3,500	1,450	
Textile	27,000	133,000	1,800	4,800	
Clothing	3,000	250	500	15	
Food, Drink and Tobacco Woodworking, etc	18,500 29,000	2,500 3,000	2,150 3,550	300 280	
Paper, Printing, etc	7,000	0,000	900	200	
Building and Allied		1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1			
Trades	49,000		5,400		
Fransport Public Utility Services	223,000 206,000	1,500	21,500 20,200	100	
Other	27,000	500	2,150	50	
TOTAL	735,000	654,000	72,000	29,400	

In the corresponding four months of 1924 there were net increases of over £230,000 in the weekly wages of 1,800,000 workpeople, and net reductions of £37,500 in the weekly wages of nearly 680,000 workpeople.

Hours of Labour.

No important changes during April were reported.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING APRIL, 1925.

Industry.	Industry. Locality.		Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)
	-		AGRICULTURE.	
Agriculture	Holland District Kesteven and Lindsey Districts. Berkshire Somerset Wiltshire Radnorshire and Brecknockshire.	5 April { 27 April 27 April 27 April 27 April 27 April 3 April	Male workers	(according to age) more than the minimum rates. Rates fixed up to 30 September, varying from 3d. per hour a 14 and under 16 years to 4½d. per hour at 18. Rates fixed up to 29 September at 6d. per hour for those 21 yea and over, with lower rates for those under 21.

* The particulars of numbers affected and amount of change in weekly wages exclude changes affecting Government employees, police, agricultural labourers, domestic servants, shop assistants and clerks, for which classes the information available is not sufficient to provide a basis for statistics. Where information is available, however, details of changes in the current rates of wages of agricultural labourers, shop assistants and clerks are included in the list of principal changes reported. The statistics relate to full-time rates of wages and do not take into account the effect of short-time working. † In addition to the numbers quoted, wages stand at the same level as at the beginning of the year in the case of 65,060 workpeople, whose wages have been increased and reduced by equal amounts during the year.

‡ For particulars of the actual rates, see the issues of this GAZETTE for March and April, 1925.

§ The rates of wages referred to took effect under Orders of the Agricultural Wages Board, in accordance with the provisions of the Agricultural Wages (Regulation) Act, 1924.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING APRIL, 1925 (continued).

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)
Ash ist is any	Cantain to Marshar for	(application	MINING AND QUARRYING	Charles in Pression Park and America hallows as a service hallow to
Coal Mining	Yorkshire, Notting- hamshire, Leices- tershire, Derby- shire, Cannock Chase and War- wickshire.	1 April 17 Mar.	Workpeople, employed in and about coal mines, other than those whose wages are regulated by movements in other industries. Lower-paid men at coal mines. **The coal mines of the coal mines of	making wages 57.58* per cent. above the standard of 1911†.
alquestant be	Radstock District	26 Mar.	Workpeople, employed in and about coal mines, other than those whose wages are regulated by move-	8s. 9d. per shift.‡
Coke and By-Products	South Yorkshire	1 April	ments in other industries. Cokemen and by-product workers	Increase of 0·11 per cent. on standard base rates, making wages 57·58 per cent. above the standard. Rate after change for labourers, 5s. 4d. per shift, plus 57·58 per cent.
Iron Mining	Cleveland	27 April	Ironstone miners	Decrease of 1·80 per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 68·20 per cent. above the standard. Rates after change for labourers: underground, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 8d. per shift; surface, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d.; plus in each case 68·20 per cent.
	Northamptonshire South and West Dur-	21 April 27 April	Ironstone miners and quarrymen Limestone quarrymen	Decrease§ of 4½ per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 49½ per cent. above the standard of 1920. Decrease of 1.80 per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 68.20
	ham. Northamptonshire	21 April	Limestone quarrymen	per cent. above the standard. Decreases of 41 per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 491
Quarrying {	Certain districts in North Wales.¶	1 April¶	Labourers employed in granite quarries.	per cent. above the standard of 1920. Increase of ½d. per hour or 4d. per day. Rate after change, 1s. per hour or 8s. per day.
	in m to address of	BRIC	K, POTTERY, GLASS, CHEMICAL,	ETC., TRADES.
Cement	Great Britain**	Expiration of last pay week	Workpeople employed in the cement manufacturing industry (except bricklayers, joiners, and other	Increases of 2s. per week (of 48 hours) for men 21 years and over and of 1s. per week for boys and youths under 21, and for women.
Glass	Glasgow and District	in April. 8 April	skilled tradesmen). Glass stainers, embossers and fret lead glaziers.	Increase of 1d. per hour in standard rate (1s. 10d. to 1s. 11d.).
	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	IRON	AND STEEL SMELTING AND M	ANUFACTURE.
	North Staffordshire	lst making up day in April.	Blastfurnacemen	Decreases of 1 per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 65½ per cent. above the standard. Rates after change: yard labourers, 3s. 8d. per shift, plus 65½ per cent.; by-turn labourers, 3s. 8d.
Pig Iron	South Staffordshire	1st full pay after 13 April.	Blastfurnacemen	per shift, plus, 65½ per cent., plus 6d. per shift. Decrease§ of 2 per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 19 per cent. above the standard of 1922. Rates after change: general labourers, 5s. 1d. per shift, plus 19 per cent.; by-turn labourers,
THE RESERVE AND ADDRESS OF	Northamptonshire	21 April	Blastfurnacemen	5s. 3d. per shift, plus 19 per cent. Decreases of 41 per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 491 per cent. above the standard of 1920.
00.4	South Wales and Monmouthshire.	1 April	Blastfurnacemen	Decreases of 1½ per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 54½ per cent. above the standard. Minimum rate for labourers, 4s. 5½d. per shift, plus 54½ per cent.
unt l	England and Wales	6 April	Steel sheet millmen	Decrease§ of 5 per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 57½ per cent. above the standard of 1891.
Iron and Steel	Midlands and part of South Yorkshire and South Lanca- shire.	6 April	Iron puddlers and iron and steel millmen. Non-scale workers employed in iron and steel works.	Decreases of 2½ per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 65 per cent. above the standard. War bonus reduceds by 6d. per week for men, 3d. per week for youths 18 to 21 years of age, and 1½d. per week for boys under
	South Wales and Monmouthshire.	1 April	Men employed in steel melting shops and in iron and steel rolling mills.	18 years. Decreases of 1½ per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 54½ per cent. above the standard. Minimum rate for labourers, 4s. 5½d. per shift, plus 54½ per cent.
	The stand west to spin	entract pel	OTHER METAL TRADES.	
Galvanizing	England and Wales††	6 April	Workpeople employed in galvanizing departments (excluding process of annealing).	Decreases of 5 per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 57½ per cent. above the standard.
	England and Scot-	C A1	Day moulder apprentices	New basis rates adopted as follows:—first year, 10s. per week; second year, 12s.; third year, 15s.; fourth year, 19s.; fifth year, 24s.; plus a bonus varying from 5s. 10d. per week for those under 18 years of age, to 21s. 6d. for those 21 years
Light Castings	land.‡‡	6 April	Improvers	and over.‡‡ New basis rates adopted of 30s. per week for first six months, and of 38s. for second six months, plus in each case a bonus of 21s, 6d, on attaining the age of 21.‡‡
.71	Glasgow, Falkirk and Middlesbrough Dis- tricts.§§	2 Mar.	Greensand pipe moulders (piece-workers).	Increase in basis rates of from ½d. to 2d. per pipe for S. and F. pipes, with corresponding increases for flange pipes, of from ½d. to 1d. per pipe for hot water pipes, and of from 1d. to 2d. per pipe for drain pipes. §§
Sheet Metal	Sheffield	4 Feb.	Sheet-metal workers	Increase to the minimum rate paid to engineering fitters, viz., 59s. per week.
Spring	Sheffield	1st full pay after 18 April.	Laminated spring fitters and vice- men, smiths and strikers.	Decrease of 1s. per week in flat rate bonus (9s. to 8s.).
			TEXTILE TRADES.	
Cotton	Lancashire, Cheshire, Derbyshire, and West Riding of Yorkshire.	Pay day in week ending 25 April.	Weavers employed in the cotton industry.	Additions made to standard prices for weaving plain dhootie borders varying according to width of border from 2½ per cent. to 7½ per cent.

* In the case of West Yorkshire the surface workers percentage addition to the 1911 standard from 1 April was 55.92 for the Eastern Area and 52.58 for the Western Area (subject to the conditions described in footnote † below).

† In accordance with the terms of the National Agreement of June, 1924, the above change was subject to the condition that the wages of an adult daywage workman should not fall below a sum represented by adding 40 per cent. to the standard wages of the lowest-paid class of day-wage workmen in the

† The subsistence allowance quoted took effect under an Arbitration Award dated 17 March, and applied generally to men 21 years of age and over, except in West Yorkshire, where the allowance was paid to underground men, 21 years and over, and to surfacemen, 22 years and over. In Warwickshire it had been previously agreed that the wages of lower paid men should not fall below a total minimum of 7s. 6d. per shift for surface workers, and 8s. per shift for

underground workers.

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

§ The reduction due, under the sliding scale, amounted to 12½ per cent., but it was agreed between the employers and workpeople that the reduction should be made in three instalments of 4½ per cent. each, to operate in April, July and October respectively.

¶ The districts concerned included Penmaenmawr, Llanfairfechan, Trevor, and Conway. The increase took effect from 1 April in all cases except Conway,

where it took effect from 14 April.

** The increase took effect under an arrangement made by the National Joint Industrial Council for the Cement Industry.

†† Certain firms—members of the Galvanizing Conciliation Board.

†† The new rates took effect under an arrangement made between the National Light Castings Ironfounders' Federation and the trade unions concerned.

§§ These increases, which restored decreases of similar amounts sustained in December, 1922, were the result of an arrangement made between the Greensand Pipe Founders' Association, the National Light Castings Ironfounders' Federation and the trade unions concerned.

[11] This change took effect under an arrangement whereby wages flustuated in personnel with the Ministry of Labour cost of Living in Joyn Castings Ironfounders' Rederation and the Ministry of Labour cost of Living in Joyn Castings Ironfounders' and Indicate the Ministry of Labour cost of Living in Joyn Castings Ironfounders' and Indicate the Ministry of Labour cost of Living in Joyn Castings Ironfounders' and Indicate the Ministry of Labour cost of Living in Joyn Castings Ironfounders' and Ironfounders' Indicate the Ministry of Labour cost of Living in Joyn Castings Ironfounders' and Ironfounders' Ironfounders' Ironfounders' Rederation and the trade unions concerned. || This change took effect under an arrangement whereby wages fluctuate in correspondence with the Ministry of Labour cost-of-living index number.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING APRIL, 1925 (continued).

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)
			TEXTILE TRADES (continued).	account to the first the later than the same of the sa
Woollen and Worsted	Leicester	lst pay day in April.	Workpeople employed in lambs' wool and worsted yarn-spinning industry.*	Bonus reduced† from 4\(\frac{1}{2}\)d. to 4d. in the shilling on earning Minimum rates after change: timeworkers—men, 42s. 6d., \(\tau\)d. in the shilling; women, 25s. 6d., \(\text{plus}\) 4d. in the shilling pieceworkers, 25 per cent. above time rates.
Elastic Web	Leicester	1st pay day after	Elastic web weavers (male workers)	Bonus reduced't from 16s. to 15s. in the pound.
	Yorkshire (majority of firms) and certain firms in	17 April. 1st pay day in May.§	Workpeople employed in the dyeing and finishing trades.	Cost-of-living wage reduced† from 83½ per cent. to 79 per c for timeworkers, from 66½ per cent. to 63½ per cent. for pi workers (except pressers), and from 50 per cent. to 47½ per c for pressers.
	Lancashire.‡ Lancashire, Cheshire and Derbyshire (majority of firms) and certain firms in Yorkshire, also Scotland.	lst pay day in May.§	Workpeople employed in the bleaching, dyeing, calico printing and finishing trades (except waste bleachers, machine calico printers and mechanics, etc., in certain districts, employed on repair and maintenance of plant).	Males: Cost-of-living wage reduced† from 25s. 2d. to 23s. per week in Lancashire, Cheshire and Derbyshire, and f 25s. 2d. to 23s. 11d. per week in Scotland for workers 21 y and over, and by smaller amounts for those under 21. Fema Cost-of-living wage reduced† from 15s. to 14s. 2d. per week workers 18 years and over in Lancashire, Cheshire and Deshire, and for workers 21 years and over in Scotland, and smaller amounts for workers under these age limits in respective districts.
Textile	Middleton	1st pay day in May.§	Workpeople employed in the bleaching, dyeing, etc., trade.	Cost-of-living wage reduced from 25s. 4d. per week to for males 21 and over and from 15s. 7d. per week to 14s. for women 18 and over, with corresponding reductions for juworkers; percentage on basis rates for reelers and win reduced from 70 to 65.
Bleaching, Printing, Dyeing, etc.	West Riding of York- shire.	1st pay day in	Mechanics employed in dyeworks	Decrease of 1s. 4d. per week. Rates after change: Brady Leeds, and Shipley, 66s. 1d.; other towns, 65s. 1d.
, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	Bolton and Bury Dis- tricts.	May.§ 1st pay day in	Mechanics employed in textile dyeing, bleaching, etc., industry.	Cost-of-living wage reduced† from 25s. 2d. to 23s. 10d. per u Total rate after change, 63s. 10d.
	Various towns in Lancashire.¶	May.§ 1st pay day in	Mechanics employed in calico print works.	Cost-of-living wage reduced from 25s. 2d. to 23s. 10d. per i Total rate after change, 63s. 10d.
	Lancashire, Cheshire, Derbyshire, and	May.§ 1st pay day in	Engravers, etc., employed in calico print works.	Cost-of-living wage reduced from 34s. to 32s. 6d. per week engravers, and from 25s. 2d. to 23s. 10d. per week for turn
	Scotland. Lancashire, Cheshire, Derbyshire, Scotland, and Belfast.	May.§ 1st pay day in May.§	Engravers employed in engraving works.	polishers, and varnishers. Cost-of-living wage reduced† from 31s. to 29s. 6d. per week men, from 18s. 1d. to 17s. 4d. per week for women, from 19s. to 18s. 11d. per week for youths 18 to 21 years, and from 14s to 13s. 5d. per week for youths 16 to 18 years.
			CLOTHING TRADES	
Felt Hat {	Denton, Stockport, Hyde, Bury, Fails- worth, and Romiley Districts; also Carlisle.	lst pay day in April.	Timeworkers Pieceworkers	Bonus reduced† from 55 per cent. to 50 per cent. Minimum after change, 10\fmathbb{\chi}d., plus 50 per cent.** Bonus reduced† from 60 per cent. to 55 per cent.
	Atherstone and Bedworth.	20 April	Male pieceworkers	Bonus of 35 per cent. on piecework lists previously paid reducto 32½ per cent.
			FOOD, DRINK, AND TOBACCO	TRADES
	Various towns in Yorkshire.††	Pay day in week ending 25 April.	Adult male workers employed in the baking and confectionery trades by private traders.	Decrease† of 1s. 6d. per week. Minimum rates after cha forehands, 68s. 6d., doughmakers and ovensmen, 63s. tablehands, 58s. 6d.
Baking and Confectionery	Pontypridd and Rhondda Valley.	25 April	Workpeople employed in the bread baking and confectionery trades.	Decrease of 2s. 6d. per week for adult male workers, and proportionate amounts for improvers and female workers. after change: daywork—foremen, 70s. 6d., 1st hands, 68s. 2nd hands and doughmakers, 63s. 6d., and 65s. 6d.; tableho 62s. 6d.; nightwork—5s. per week more in each case. Increase of 1s. per week for men 21 and over, and of 6d week for youths and women. Minimum rates after challenges of the control
ed Crushing and Oil Milling	•	1st full pay in April.	Workpeople employed in the seed crushing and oil milling industry (except those whose wages are regulated by movements in the engineering and other trades).	Increase; of 1s. per week for men 21 and over, and of 6d week for youths and women. Minimum rates after cha Liverpool—men, Grade I, 60s. 6d., Grade II, 58s., Grade 53s. 6d.; women, 20 years and over, 37s. 6d. Hull—labou Decrease; of 1s. per week (51s. to 50s.).
Pork Curing	Londonderry	April	WOODWORKING AND FURNITUR	
	Hull	13 Mar. {	Cabinet makers, chairmakers, up- holsterers, french polishers, machinists and lino. layers (whole- sale and retail trade).	Increase of ½d. per hour. Minimum rates after change: layers, 1s. 6½d.; other classes, 1s. 7½d.
The Section 1		S SHEET S	Upholstresses (fully qualified)	Minimum rates adopted of 9d. per hour for those 21 years over and of 8½d. per hour for those under 21.
Holy Control	The Town of Land	Pay	Timeworkers—cabinet makers, chairmakers, woodcutting	Decrease of \$\frac{1}{2}d\$. per hour for adult workers and of proportion amounts for boys and youths. Standard rate after changes skilled adults, \$1s\$. 6\frac{1}{2}d\$.
Furniture Manufacture	Birmingham, West Bromwich and Wolverhampton.	preceding lst pay day in May.	machinists, upholsterers, and french polishers. Female french polishers and upholstresses. Pieceworkers	Decrease of \{\frac{1}{2}d.\) per hour for adult workers and of proportion amounts for girls. Standard rate after change for adults, 9: Percentage addition to pre-war piecework prices reduced \(\)
	Section of the section	1	Journeymen	Decrease; of ½d. per hour. Rates after change: those engage skilled processes, 1s. 6d.; Windsor, cane and cheap rushb
erango access	High Wycombe	Pay day in week ending 25 April.	Caners	chairmakers, packers, markers-out and benders, 1s. 5½d. Decrease† of ½d. per chair (9d. to 8½d.) on bedroom chairs 21 and 23, and of ½d. per hour (9d. to 8½d.) on Manc. rockers, odd chairs, and all other cane work. Decrease† of ½d. per chair (9½d. to 9d.) on ordinary chairs a proportionate amounts on children's and kindergarten chairs.

* Excluding workpeople, such as engineers, belonging to unions other than the Workers' Union.

† The change took effect under an arrangement whereby wages fluctuate in correspondence with the Ministry of Labour cost-of-living index number.

† The change applied to workers employed by firms who are members of the British Cotton and Wool Dyers' Association, Ltd. (Slubbing Section), the teeds Dyers' and Finishers' Federation, the Yorkshire Indigo, Scarlet, and Colour Dyers', Ltd.; the Leeds and District Worsted Dyers' and Finishers' Association, Ltd.; the Huddersfield and District Master Dyers' Association; the Yorkshire Dyers' Federation; the West Riding of Yorkshire Master Slubbing Dyers' Association; The Bradford Dyers' Association, Ltd.; and the Employers' Federation of Cotton Yarn Bleachers, Dyers and Sizers (certain firms)

§ In respect of the preceding pay period.

§ In the preceding

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING APRIL, 1925 (continued).

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)
	Commence of the Commence of th			
		P	APER, PRINTING, AND ALLIED	TRADES.
The state of the s	Principal towns in England and Wales (except London).*	Pay day in week ending 11 April,	Compositors, composing machine operators and rotary machine minders employed in morning and evening newspaper offices.	Increase of 4s. per week in Grade I towns, 3s. per week in Grade II towns and 2s. per week in Grade III, IV, V and VI towns.* Minimum rates after change: compositors—evening newspapers: Grade I towns, 84s.; Grade II, 80s.; Grade III, 76s.; Grade IV, 73s.; Grade V, 70s.; Grade VI, 67s.; morning newspapers, 9s. 6d. per week more in each case; linotype operators and rotary minders—evening newspapers: Grade I towns, 92s. 6d.; Grade II, 88s.; Grade III, 83s. 6d.; Grade V, 80s.; Grade V, 76s. 6d.; Grade VI, 73s.; morning newspapers, 10s. 6d. per week more in each case.
Printing and Bookbinding	Edinburgh and District.	Pay day in week beginning 6 April.	Compositors, machinemen, and linotype and monotype operators (jobbing and weekly newspaper).	sponding increase for women. Minimum rates for heli and corresponding increase for women. Minimum rates after change: men—compositors, 77s. 6d.; monotype operators, 82s. 6d.; linotype operators, 85s.; women—compositors, 54s. 3d.; monotype operators, 57s. 9d.
	Belfast	11 April	Compositors and linotype operators employed in morning and evening newspaper offices.	Increase of 3s. per week. Minimum rates after change: compositors—evening newspapers, 80s.; morning newspapers, 89s. 6d.; linotype operators—evening newspapers, 88s.; morning newspapers, 98s. 6d.
and the street well and the	Principal towns in England and Wales.	Pay day in week ending 4 April.	Bookbinders and machine rulers	Schedule of excess rates above the minimum rates fixed for workpeople engaged in operating special power machines, the new rates involving increases for the workers engaged on such machines, varying from 2s. 6d. to 20s. per week.
Same, of constants	Testing trees live year		BUILDING AND ALLIED T	RADES.
(Dumfries and	1 April	Masons, joiners, slaters, plumbers,	Increase of ½d. per hour. Rates after change: craftsmen, ls. 7d.;
Building	Maxwelltown. Galashiels, Hawick, Jedburgh, Kelso, and Selkirk.	1 April	plasterers, painters and labourers. Bricklayers, masons, joiners, wood- cutting machinists, slaters, plumbers, and labourers.	labourers, 1s. 2½d. Increase of ½d. per hour. Rates after change: craftsmen, 1s. 7d.; labourers, 1s. 2½d.
A Deve use 307 SEC	a to are and excellent		TRANSPORT TRADES.	Charles To Annual Control of the Con
Road Transport	Nottingham	1st pay day after 27 April.	Road transport workers	Decrease of 1s. per week for those 18 years of age and over, and 6d. per week for those under 18 years. Rates after change for men 21 years of age and over: one-horse drivers, 53s. per week; two-horse drivers, 58s.; petrol wagon drivers—2 tons and over, 63s.; 15 cuts. to 2 tons, 58s.; under 15 cuts., 53s.
Dock, Wharf, Riverside, etc.	Hull	17 April	Ship riggers (other than those employed by fishing vessel owners).	Increase of 6d. in the day rate (11s. to 11s. 6d.) and of 6d. in the tide rates.
			PUBLIC UTILITY SERVICE	
Gas	Belfast {	1 Jan.;	Manual workers (excluding those whose wages are regulated by movements in other trades).	Increase of 4d. per shift for stokers and of 3s. per week for other male workers and a revised cost-of-living sliding scale adopted, Rates after change: stokers, 1ls. 1od. per shift; labourers. ls. 1½d. per hour. Increase of ls. per week. Rates after change: labourers (indoor), 1s. 1¼d. per hour; labourers (outdoor), 1s. 1½d.
Tramways	Hull	2 April	Drivers and conductors	(indoor), 1s. 1½d. per hour; labourers (outdoor), 1s. 1½d. Increase of 6d. per week for conductors and of 3s. 6d. per week in the minimum rate for drivers. Rates after change: conductors, 56s. 6d. to 59s. 6d. per week; drivers, 60s. 6d. to 64s.
	Birkenhead {	5 Feb. 1 Mar.	Manual workers (excluding those whose wages are regulated by movements in other trades).	Increases of amounts varying up to 6s. 11d. per week. Increases† varying from 1s. 4d. to 1s. 7d. per week.§ Rates after change: road sweepers, 49s. 5d., refuse collectors and general
To best pricing	Certain Authorities in the East Midland Area.	23 April	Men employed in tar macadam mixing, tar spraying and spreading.	A rate of 1d. per hour in excess of the labourers' rate to be paid to men when employed as described.
Non-Trading	West Ham	1st full pay in April.	Manual workers	Decrease† of 1s. per week. Minimum weekly rate after change for adult males, 67s. Decrease† of 1s. per week. Rates after change: general labourers,
Departments of Local Authorities	Swindon	22 April	Manual workers Manual workers employed by	sweepers, etc., 52s. 11d. per week; refuse collectors (horse drivers), 53s. 11d., (others), 52s. 11d. Decrease† of 1s. 4½d. per week. Rate after change for fillers,
. Missis, - 151	Glamorganshire	1 April	County Council. Manual workers in non-trading and	sweepers and roadmen, 53s. 51d. Increase of 1s. 6d. per week. Rates after change: general and
	Aberdeen Londonderry	1 April	water departments (excluding carters, paviors, etc.).	waterworks labourers, 51s. 6d.; scavengers and refuse collectors, 54s. 6d. per week. Increase of 2s. per week. Rate after change for labourers, 45s.
onil : sanada pi	Londonderry	Apin	Manual workers	per week.

* The towns included in the various Grades are as follows:—

Grade I.—Liverpool, Manchester.

Grade II.—Barry, Birmingham, Bradford, Bristol, Cardiff, Leeds, Llanelly, Newcastle, Oldbury, Rotherham, Sheffield, Smethwick, Swansea, West Bromwich.

Grade III.—Barry, Birmingham, Bradford, Bristol, Cardiff, Leeds, Llanelly, Newcastle, Oldbury, Rotherham, Sheffield, Smethwick, Swansea, West Bromwich.

Grade III.—Barry, Birmingham, Bradford, Bristol, Cardiff, Leeds, Lanelly, Newcastle, Oldbury, Bacup, Bargoed, Barrow-in-Furness, Bishop Auckland, Blackburn, Bloxwich, Bolton, Burnley, Bury, Caerphilly, Castleford, Cleckheaton, Clitheroe, Coventry, Darlington, Darwen, Dalton-in-Furness, Derby, Dudley and District, Durham, Ebbw Vale, Hartlepool, Hebburn, Honghton-le-Spring, Hull, Hyde, Idle, Jarrow, Leicester, Leigh, Lichfield, Merthyr Derby, Dudley and District, Durham, Ebbw Vale, Hartlepool, Hebburn, Honghton-le-Spring, Hull, Hyde, Idle, Jarrow, Leicester, Leigh, Lichfield, Merthyr Derby, Dudley, and District, Durham, Ebbw Vale, Hartley, Newton-le-Willows, North Shields, Nottingham, Oldham, Otley, Pontypool, Pontypridd, Preston, Prescot, Pudsey, Rawtenstall, Rochdale, Rossendale, Rhymney, Rhondda Valley, Runcorn, Seaham Harbour, Shipley, South Shields, Stanningley, Stockport, St. Helens, Sunderland, Tredegar, Ulverston, Walsall, Warrington, Wednesbury, Winner, Willows, Wolverhampton, Wolverton, York, Ystalyfera, Grade IV.—Aldershot, Barnsley, Bath, Blackpool, Buxton, Cannock, Carlisle, Chester, Chesterfield, Chorley, Grewe, Dewsbury, Doncaster, Dorking, Dunstable, Glossop Dale, Goole, Gravesend, Grimsby, Halfax, Harrogate, Hemel Hempstead, Hertford, Hitchinh, Huddersfield, Keighley, Kendal, Lancaster, Leamington, Letchworth, Loughborough, Macclesfield, Mansfield, Mirfield, Morecambe, Northampton, Oxford, Plymouth, Potteries, Reading, Redhill, Shrewsbury, St. Albans, Southport, Stafford, Stourbridge, Tonbridge, Warniek, Wakfieleld, Wafford, Wellington (Salop), and Woking.

Grade V.—Alfreton, Ashford, Aylesbury, Banbury,

Sherborne, Skipton, Southend-on-Sea, Stamford, Stratford-on-Avon, Tewkesbury, Torquay, Totnes, Truro, Usk, Welshpool, Weymouth, Whitchurch, Winchester, Wisbech, Yarmouth, Yeovil.

† The change took effect under an arrangement whereby wages fluctuate in correspondence with the Ministry of Labour cost-of-living index number.

† This change was arranged in March to take effect from the date shown.

§ These increases were a result of the adoption by the Corporation of the scheduled rates recommended by the Lancashire and Cheshire Joint Industrial Council for Local Authorities' Non-Trading Services.

| The arrangement referred to is in accordance with a recommendation made by the East Midlands Joint Industrial Council for Local Authorities' Non-trading Services. Non-trading Services.

CHANGES IN WAGES TAKING EFFECT IN MAY, 1925.

The following groups of workpeople are among those affected by changes in wages already reported as having been arranged to take effect in May:—Increases.—Coal miners in Radstock; heating and domestic engineers in England and Wales; ironstone miners (lower-paid men) in Cleveland; workpeople employed in the brush and broom trade (under Trade Board Order). Decreases.—Coal miners in Yorkshire and the East Midland Area; steel smelters in England and Scotland; Siemens steel workers in South-West Wales; tinplate workers in South Wales and Monmouthshire; blast furnace men in Cumberland; hosiery workers at Hawick; coopers; workpeople employed in the coffin furniture and cerement-making trade (under Trade Board Order); furniture trade operatives in London and Manchester; road transport workers in Scotland; leather belt makers; basket makers in London and Lancashire.

PRICES AND WAGES IN THE IRON AND STEEL TRADE.

In certain sections of the iron and steel industry rates of wages are adjusted from time to time under "sliding scale" agreements under which the rates of wages of different classes of workpeople are varied in accordance with changes in the selling prices of specified iron and steel products, as indicated by the results of periodical "ascertainments." The results of recent ascertainments of selling prices of pig iron, manufactured iron, and steel in certain districts are given in the following Table

	Price accord Audi		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) of last Audit* on				
Product and District.	Period covered by last Audit.	Average selling price per ton.	Previous Audit.	A year ago.			
Pig Iron: Cleveland (No. 3) Clumberland (Hematite mixed numbers). North Staffordshire Nottinghamshire Lincolnshire Northamptonshire West of Scotland Manufactured Iron: North of England (Bars and angles). West of Scotland (Rounds, flats, tees, angles, hoops, and rods).	1924-5. JanMar. JanFeb. Jan. JanMar. JanMar. OctDec. JanMar. JanMar. JanFeb. JanFeb.	s. d. 78 61 88 2½ 88 61 87 102 84 57 79 8 79 2 72 9 91 7 252 1½ 246 81	s, d, (-) 1 5 (-) 2 8 (-) 1 1½ (-) 0 8 (-) 0 1¾ (-) 2 9¾ (-) 6 5¼ (-) 2 5¼ (-) 4 1 4 (+) 6 2½ (+) 0 11¼	s. d. (-) 17 2 (-) 13 3; (-) 12 7 (-) 13 11; (-) 12 5; (-) 11 3 (-) 11 1 (-) 14 8; (-) 10 3 (+) 9 0 (+) 2 2			
Steel: South-West Wales (Steel tin bars). South Wales and Mon-	OctDec.	165 23	(-) 2 9}	†			
mouthshire (Steel rails and steel tin bars).	DecFeb.	149 31	(-) 2 61	(-) 12 1			

The pig iron ascertainments have resulted in the following reducrates in March; blastfurnacemen in North Lincolnshire, \$21 per cent. on standard rates; blastfurnacemen in North Lincolnshire, 81 per cent. on standard rates in February, and blastfurnacemen in West of Scotland, 1 per cent. on standard rates (taking effect generally from 3rd May). The Northamptonshire ascertainments for the quarter January-March and the previous quarter warranted a reduction of 123 per cent. in the wages of ironstone miners and blastfurnacemen in that county, but it was agreed to apply the reduction in three instalments of $4\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. each in April, July and October. In the case of iron ore miners in the Furness District, ironstone quarrymen in Leicestershire and adjoining parts of Lincolnshire, and blastfurnacemen in Nottinghamshire and parts of Dorbyshire, there was no change in wages although the exercising Derbyshire, there was no change in wages, although the ascertainments justified a reduction. Cleveland blastfurnacemen also had no change in wages as a result of the ascertainment shown above. The ascertainments for manufactured iron resulted in an increase of 2½ per cent. on standard rates for iron puddlers and millmen in North of England, while in West of Scotland the ascertainment resulted in no change in wages. The steel ascertainments resulted in decreases of 11 per cent. on standard rates in February for Siemens steel workers in South-West Wales and of 11 per cent. on standard rates for workpeople in steel smelting shops and iron and steel rolling mills in South Wales and Monmouthshire.

ASSISTED PASSAGES UNDER THE EMPIRE SETTLEMENT ACT, 1922.

THE number of assisted passages granted during April, 1925, in connection with agreed schemes under the Empire Settlement Act, and the total number of such passages granted from the inception of these schemes, together with the number of departures during the same periods, are shown in the following Table:—

And A Down Shares	Assisted Passages Granted	Total Assisted Passages Granted		Depar- tures	Total Departures.	
Assisted Passage Schemes.	in April, 1925.	1922 to 1924.	Jan April, 1925.	in April, 1925.	1922 to 1924.	Jan April, 1925.
To Australia , New Zealand , Canada:	1,870 588	56,082‡ 16,499‡	7,377‡ 2,343‡	1,855 572	55,281 14,575	8,042 3,095
Dominion of Canada Province of Ontario Minor Schemes	1,380 ₅₃	12,169 1 367 3 308	4,554‡ 382‡	1,405	11,623 1,356 3,105	3,855 318‡
Total	3,891	89,425‡	14,656‡	3,868	85,940	15310‡

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

* Stated to the nearest farthing. ‡ Revised figures.

† No figures available.

DISEASES OF OCCUPATIONS.*

THE total number of cases of poisoning, anthrax and epitheliomatous and chrome ulceration in Great Britain and Northern Ireland reported under the Factory and Workshop Act during April, 1925, was 49. Thirteen deaths were reported during the month, eight due to epitheliomatous ulceration, four due to anthrax, and one due to lead poisoning. In addition, seven cases of lead poisoning (including one death) among house painters and plumbers came to the know-ledge of the Home Office during April, but notification of these cases is not obligatory. (a) Cases of Lead Poisoning. (b)—cont.

Among Operatives engaged	Aniline Poisoning 3
in—	Chronic Benzene Poison-
Smelting of Metals 3	ing‡
Plumbing and Soldering	Toxic Jaundice
Shipbreaking 3	TOTAL, OTHER FORMS OF -
Printing	POISONING 4
Tinning of Metals	
Other Contact with	(c) Cases of Anthrax.
Molten Lead 1	Wool 3
White and Red Lead	Handling of Horsehair
	Handling and Sorting of
	Hides and Skins 2
Pottery† 3 Vitreous Enamelling	Other Industries
Electric Accumulator Works 7	TOTAL, ANTHRAX 5
11 02220	COLUMN TEN SERVICE CONTRACTOR
Paint and Colour Works	(d) Cases of Epitheliomatous
Indiarubber Works 1	ULCERATION.
Coach and Car Painting 2	Pitch 1
Shipbuilding 1 Paint used in Other	Tar
Paint used in Other	Paraffin
Industries	Oil 9
Other Industries 3	TOTAL, EPITHELIOMATOUS —
	ULCERATION 10
TOTAL OF ABOVE 24	OLCERATION TO
—	(e) CASES OF CHROME
HOUSE PAINTING AND	ULCERATION.
PLUMBING 7	Manufacture of Bichro-
(A) Chara on Omnen Forms on	
(b) Cases of Other Forms of Poisoning.	mates
	Dyeing and Finishing 2
Phosphorus Poisoning	Chrome Tanning 4 Other Industries
Mercurial Poisoning 1	Other Industries
Arsenical Poisoning	
Carbon Bisulphide	TOTAL, CHROME ULCERATION 6
Poisoning‡	The second secon

FATAL INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS.§

THE number of workpeople, other than seamen, reported as killed in the course of their employment in Great Britain and Northern Ireland during April, 1925, was 188, as compared with 241|| in

the previous month and with 203	a year ago.
RAILWAY SERVICE.	FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS
Brakesmen and Goods	(continued):
Guards 3	Boiler Making and Con-
Engine Drivers 3	structional Engineering
Firemen 1	Locomotives, Railway and
Guards (Passenger)	Tramway Carriages,
Permanent Way Men 9	Motors, Aircraft 4
Porters 1	Other Metal Trades 1
Shunters 1	Shipbuilding 10
Mechanics	Wood 3
Labourers	Wood 3 Gas 3 Electric Generating Stations 2 Clay, Stone, Glass, etc. 5
Miscellaneous 3	Electric Generating Stations 2
Contractors' Servants 2	
	Chemicals, etc 2
TOTAL, RAILWAY SERVICE 23	Food and Drink 4
	Paper, Printing, etc 1
MINES.	Tanning, Currying, etc
Underground 75	Rubber Trades
Surface 9	Other Non-Textile Indus-
	tries 5
TOTAL, MINES 84	
	PLACES UNDER SS. 104-106,
QUARRIES over 20 feet deep 5	FACTORY ACT, 1901.
——————————————————————————————————————	Thoront hor, 1001.
FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.	Docks, Wharves, etc 10
Cotton 3	Buildings 8
Wool, Worsted and Shoddy	Warehouses and Railway
Other Textiles 1	Sidings
Textile Bleaching and	-
Dyeing 3	
Metal Extracting and Re-	TOTAL, FACTORIES AND
fining 1	WORKSHOPS, AND PLACES
Metal Conversion, including	UNDER SS. 104–106 76
Rolling Mills and Tube	The state of the s
Making 7 Metal Founding 2	T-1-1 (1-1: C-
Metal Founding 2	Total (excluding Sea-
Engineering and Machine Making 1	men) 188
	Office and from the Ministers of Value
* Based on Returns from the Home for Northern Ireland.	Office and from the Ministry of Labour

for Northern Ireland.

† The persons affected in the Pottery industry were males.

‡ These forms of poisoning became notifiable in Great Britain as from 1st February, 1925, and in Northern Ireland as from 1st April, 1925.

§ Based on returns from the Home Office, the Mines Department, the Ministry of Transport, and the Ministry of Labour for Northern Ireland.

|| The figures for March published in the April GAZETTE have been revised to include 38 persons entombed in the Montagu View Colliery on 30th March.

POOR LAW RELIEF IN GREAT BRITAIN.

THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE.

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

The number of persons* relieved on one day† in April, 1925, in the thirty-one selected areas named below, was 713,688, or 0.7 per cent. more than in the previous month, but 12.1 per cent. less than in April, 1924. The numbers relieved at these three dates were equivalent, respectively, to rates of 401, 398, and 459 per 10,000 of the estimated population.

In the 25 selected areas in England and Wales the number of persons relieved in April, 1925, was 597,013, or 380 per 10,000 of the estimated population. In the six areas in Scotland the number relieved was 116,675, or 563 per 10,000 of the estimated population.

Recipients of indoor relief in the 31 districts in April numbered 124,613, or 1·8 per cent. less than in the previous month, and 0·1 per cent. less than in April, 1924. Recipients of outdoor relief numbered 589,075, or 1·2 per cent. more than in the previous month, but 14·3 per cent. less than a year ago.

Eighteen districts showed small increases, and 12 districts showed small decreases in the number per 10,000 relieved in April, 1925, as compared with the previous month. Compared with April, 1924, 23 districts showed decreases, the most noteworthy being Glasgow (203 per 10,000), Stockton and Tees (181 per 10,000), Sheffield (174 per 10,000), and Birmingham (152 per 10,000); and eight districts showed small increases.

North Motor Walls		r of Pers r Law Re in Apri	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in rate per 10,000 of			
Selected Urban Areas.‡	Indoor.	Out-	Total.	Rate per 10,000 of Esti-	Popula	tion as
an Plansbing	escata constitu		100000	Population.	Month ago.	Year ago.
ENGLAND AND WALES.						
Metropolis. West District North District Central District East District South District	9,086 10,385 2,335 10,039 19,441	6,650 18,351 2,719 50,960 68,326	15,736 28,736 5,054 60,999 87,767	190 281 376 946 452	- 6 - 6 + 28 - 3	- 11 - 31 - 37 - 63 - 62
TOTAL, Metropolis	51,286	147,006	198,292	434		- 45
West Ham	4,435	64,980	69,415	913	- 16	- 99
Other Districts. Newcastle District	2,643	24,016	26,659	534	+ 27	- 72
Stockton and Tees District Bolton, Oldham, etc. Wigan District Manchester District Liverpool District Bradford District	1,207 4,035 1,758 8,698 9,819 1,758	13,558 7,827 10,224 25,460 44,862 4,606	14,765 11,862 11,982 34,158 54,681 6,364	540 149 267 328 445 171	+ 23 + 1 + 9 + 4 + 3 + 18	$ \begin{array}{rrr} -181 \\ - & 3 \\ - & 19 \\ - & 20 \\ -110 \\ + & 27 \end{array} $
Halifax and Hudders- field Leeds§ Barnsley District Sheffield Hull District North Staffordshire Nottingham District Leicester	1,307 2,445§ 896 2,598 1,749 2,197 2,135 1,184	3,027 8,572§ 7,946 25,541 11,462 5,662 11,279 2,650	4,334 11,017§ 8,842 28,139 13,211 7,859 13,414 3,834	114 233§ 271 546 412 189 286 160	+ 1 + 4§ + 7 + 19 - 1 + 21 - 3	$ \begin{array}{r} + & 6 \\ - & 2\S \\ + & 10 \\ - & 174 \\ - & 46 \\ + & 4 \\ + & 38 \\ + & 10 \end{array} $
Wolverhampton District Birmingham Bristol District Cardiff and Swansea	3,285 7,053 2,458 2,397	16,859 20,199 11,839 14,095	20,144 27,252 14,297 16,492	274 288 346 347	+ 15 - 5 + 9 + 13	- 50 -152 - 37 + 2
TOTAL, "Other Districts"	59,622	269,684	329,306	317	+ 7	- 49
Total, Districts in England and Wales	115,343	481,670	597,013	380	+ 4	- 50
SCOTLAND. Glasgow District Paieley and Greenock	5,090	70,888	75,978	780	- 15	-203
Paisley and Greenock District Edinburgh	805 1,707	10,532 14,410	11,337 16,117	588 379	- 1 - 2	-127 - 11
Dundee and Dunferm- line Aberdeen Coatbridge and Airdrie	710 541 417	3,099 2,887 5,589	3,809 3,428 6,006	173 215 589	$\begin{array}{c c} + & 3 \\ - & 7 \\ + & 10 \end{array}$	- 3 - 49 + 3
TOTAL for the above Scottish Districts	9,270	107,405	116,675	563	- 6	-113
TOTAL for above 31 Districts in April, 1925	124,613	589,075	713,688	401	+ 3	- 58

Including dependants. The figures exclude casuals, lunatics in Asylums, gistered Hospitals and Licensed Houses, and persons receiving out-door

* Including dependants. The figures exclude casuals, lunatics in Asylums, Registered Hospitals and Licensed Houses, and persons receiving out-door medical relief only.

† The figures for England and Wales relate to 25th April, and those for Scotland to 15th April.

† These urban areas include in the case of England and Wales more than one Poor-law union, except in the Birmingham, Leeds, Leicester, Sheffield and West Ham districts; and more than one parish in the case of Scotland, except in the Aberdeen and Edinburgh districts.

§ The figures of the numbers in receipt of relief at Leeds relate to the Leeds Union as constituted on 1st April, 1925, after alteration of area. The figures relating to the rate per 10,000 and comparisons with previous months are approximate only.

RETAIL PRICES OVERSEAS.

[N.B.—While the percentages given in the following Summary Tables are derived from the most authoritative sources of statistical information, certain differences in the nature and scope of the data used, in the methods of combining such data and in the periods for which the rise is measured, suggest the need for caution in drawing conclusions from a comparison between the figures for any two countries. It is also to be observed that in every case the percentage calculation is based on the assumption that the standard of living is identical at the various periods compared.]

I.-FOOD.

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

	Percentage Increase as compared with July, 1914.*							
Country.	July,	July,	July,	July,	Latest figures available.			
	1921. 1922.		1923.	1924.	Rise.	Date		
	Per	Per	Per	Per	Per	1005		
UNITED KINGDOM	cent. 120	cent.	cent.	cent.	cent.	1925. May.		
FOREIGN COUNTRIES.								
Austria (Vienna)	9,700+	328,600	1,291,000	1436100	1,582,900	Apr.		
Czechoslovakia	170	***84	88	100	811	Feb.		
Denmark	136	1,005	868	916	1,019	Mar.		
Finland France (Paris)†	1,178	1,005	221	260	309	Apr.		
(other towns)‡	2508	2128				Feb.		
Holland (The Hague)	113	80	60	62	75	Jan.		
(Amsterdam)	80	40	36	38	55	Feb.		
Italy (Milan)	406	392	396	408	524	Mar.		
Norway	195	133	118	148	176	Apr.		
Swedent	132	79	60	59	70	Apr.		
Switzerland	110	57	64	68	68	Mar.		
United States	45	39	44	40	48	Mar.		
BRITISH DOMINIONS,&C.	-	40		404	-			
Australia	61	48 38	64	49†	51 42	Mar.		
Canada	74	60	48	51	53	Apr.		
India (Bombay) Irish Free State	14	85†		85	103	Jan.		
M //	64	44	42	48	50	Apr.		
South Africa	39	16	16	17	21	Mar.		

II.—ALL ITEMS.

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

Country.	Items on		Percen		rease as ly, 1914.	compare ¶	destrain
	which Computa- tion is	July,	July,	July,	July,	Latest avail	
	based.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	Rise.	Date.
Santages frances		Per	Per	Per	Per	Per	1005
INITED KINGDOM OREIGN COUNTRIES.	A,B,C,D,E	cent. 119	cent. 84	cent. 69	cent. 70	cent. 73	1925. May.
Austria (Vienna)	A,B,C,D A,C,D,E	9,872	263600 266	1090200	1239000	1342200	Apr.
Belgium Chile	A,C,D,E	415	200	323	90	91	Jan.
Denmark	A,C,D,E A,B,C,D,E	137	99	104	114	121	Jan.
Egypt (Cairo)	A,D	93	72	52	48	80	Feb.
Finland	A,B,C,D,E	1,039	1,018	990	1,032	1,091	Mar.
France (Paris)	A,B,C,D,E	195**	189**	231**	267**	286 37§§	1st Qr
Germany¶¶	A,B,C,D,E		516	933	1.225	1,349	Apr. Mar.
Greece (Athens) Hungary	A,B,C,D,E A,B,C,D,E	3,661	15,579	225,167	1635900	1658900	Feb.
Italy (Milan)	A,B,C,D,E	394	388	387	412	502	Mar.
Luxemburg	A,C,D	284	259	340	381	409	Apr.
Norway	A,B,C,D,E	202††	155††	139††	151++	171	Mar.
Poland(W'rsaw)	A,B,C,D,E	****	79	72	27§§ 82	51§§ 90	Apr. Mar.
Spain (Madrid)	A,D A,D	78	73	65	72	74	Mar.
,, (Barcelona) Sweden	A,B,C,D,E	136	90	74	71	77	Apr.
Switzerland	A,C,D	110	63	67	70	70	Mar.
United States	A,B,C,D,E	80‡‡	67††	70††	69††	73	Dec.'2
RITISH AC				2			
Dominions, &c.	A.B	46**	43**	56**	48**	48	4th Q
Canada	A,B,D	52	46	46	44	47	Apr.
India (Bombay)	A.B.C.D	77	65	53	57	58	Apr.
Irish Free State	A,B,C,D,E		85**		83	95	Jan.
South Africa	A,B,D,E		35	30	32	33	Mar.

* Exceptions to this are: France (other towns), 3rd quarter of 1914; The Hague, January to July, 1914; Milan, January to June, 1914; Switzerland June, 1914; Amsterdam, South Africa, average, 1914. † Figure for June. ‡ Fuel and lighting are also included in these figures. § Figure for August. | A = Food; B = House-Rent; C = Clothing; D = Fuel and Light; E = Other or Miscellaneous Items. ¶ Exceptions to this are: France, Spain, Australia and South Africa, in which comparison is with the average for 1914; Belgium, April, 1914; Greece, March, 1914; Milan, January to June, 1914; Germany, Egypt, Hungary, average, 1913–1914; Switzerland and Luxemburg, June, 1914; United States and Chile, 1913; Poland, January, 1914. ** Figure for 3rd Quarter. †† Figure for June. ‡‡ Figure for May. §§ Based on prices calculated on a gold standard. ¶¶ See article on p. 81 of March, 1925, GAZETTE as to change in the basis of the index number.

EMPLOYMENT OVERSEAS.

May, 1925.

[N.B.—The following paragraphs include an abstract of such official information as is available with regard to the state of employment abroad, in order to indicate, as far as possible, the fluctuations in employment in each country from period to period. The bases of the official statistics published in the various countries are, however, not the same as those of the United Kingdom statistics, and therefore the figures quoted below cannot properly be used with those on pp. 161–162 to compare the actual level of employment in the United Kingdom with that of other countries. For details as to the bases of the unemployment statistics of the various countries see Report issued by the International Labour Office under the title "Methods of Statistics of Unemployment." (Studies and Reports, Series N (Statistics) No. 7.).]

FRANCE.*

Unemployment in April.—The total number of unemployed persons remaining on the "live register" of Employment Exchanges on 25th April was 12,188 (8,274 men and 3,914 women). At the end of March the corresponding total was 13,838, and in April, 1924, 8,921. The total number of vacancies remaining unfilled on the same date was 8,863 (4,411 for men and 4,452 for women), as compared with 8,254 at the end of March and 13,066 in April, 1924. During the last week of April the Exchanges succeeded in placing 25 185 the last week of April the Exchanges succeeded in placing 25,185 persons in situations, including 8,118 dock workers at seaports, and in addition found employment for 2,441 foreign immigrants.

GERMANY.†

Employment in March.—Conditions in the labour market continued Employment in March.—Conditions in the labour market continued on the whole at a satisfactory level throughout the month. Agriculture, the building trades, transport, general labour, that is to say, outdoor work as a whole, continued to improve. Some slight weakness was observable in the food, tobacco, etc., preparation, the clothing, the metal and engineering and the textile trades; but this was not sufficiently decided in character to constitute a positive decline.

The membership of the health insurance societies again increased The membership of the health insurance societies again increased during the month under review, which appears to point to an improvement in employment. ("Members" of these societies are persons under obligation to insure: during unemployment this obligation lapses, hence paying "members" are assumed to be in work.) On 1st March the 5,544 societies reporting had a total membership of 12,805,046; on 1st April, 12,965,312—an increase of 1·3 per cent. During February the corresponding increase arounted to 1·1 per cent.

of 1·3 per cent. During February the corresponding increase amounted to 1·1 per cent.

Returns from employment exchanges showed an increase in the number of vacancies offered by employers—from 533,477 in February to 624,669 in March, or by 17·1 per cent. In the same period the applications for employment fell from 1,463,192 to 1,445,441, or by 1·2 per cent. The net result was that the number of applications per 100 situations offered fell from 274 in February to 231 in March.

Unemployment among trade unionists showed a further decline. Out of a total membership of 3,639,000 in the 40 unions making returns, 5·8 per cent. were out of work at the end of the month, as against 7·3 per cent. in February and 16·6 per cent. in March, 1924.

Statistics as to the prevalence of short time showed only a slight change from the preceding month. The 35 unions reporting on this point had 5·1 per cent. of their members affected, as against 5·3 per cent. in February.

point had 5.1 per cent. of their members affected, as against 5.3 per cent. in February.

At the latest date for which figures are available (15th April) 394,292 persons were in receipt of unemployment benefit throughout Germany, as against 514,576 on 15th March and 465,761 on 1st April. These figures do not profess to show the total number of unemployed in the country, but only the number of those who have fulfilled the conditions entitling them to benefit from public unemployment finds. unemployment funds.

SWEDEN.‡

Unemployment in February.—Trade unions with an aggregate membership of 204,410 reported 27,934, or 13.7 per cent., as out of work on the last day of February, as against 14.8 per cent. at the end of January and 13.4 per cent. at the end of February, 1924. The following Table gives particulars for the principal unions included in the returns:—

Unions.		Membership of Unions reporting on 28th Feb., 1925.	Percentage Unemployed.		
			28th Feb., 1925.	31st Jan., 1925.	29th Feb., 1924.
All Unions making Returns		204,410	13.7	14.8	13-4
PRINCIPAL UNIONS:— Carpenters and joiners Iron and steel Foundry workers Engineering Engineering Boot, shoe and leather Food preparation Brewery workers Sawmilling Woodworking Paper and pulp Municipal workers Commercial employees General and factory work (trades not specified)	ers	5,825 13,268 3,548 45,666 9,486 7,852 6,170 3,314 19,106 6,046 17,926 9,653 7,726	35·4 12·1 8·7 10·1 4·4 5·3 12·7 2.8 25·9 11·8 6·2 6·0 8·2	35·5 13·2 12·2 11·0 4·1 5·0 13·7 2.8 35·9 13·1 6·3 6·8 7·0 28·5	32·5 6·3 15·4 10·1 1·7 6·8 8·4 2·6 21·2 10·4 6·3 3·9 6·2

* Bulletin du Marché du Travail, 1st May, 1925. Paris. † Reichsarbeitsblatt, 1st May, 1925. Berlin. ‡ Sociala Meddelanden, No. 4, 1925. Stockholm.

NORWAY.

Unemployment in March.—According to information supplied through the courtesy of the Norwegian Central Bureau of Statistics the percentage of members unemployed at the end of March in certain trade unions making returns to the Bureau was 7·4, as compared with 8·1 on 28th February, and 7·8 on 31st March,

HOLLAND.

HOLLAND.

Unemployment in March.—The issue of Maandschrift van het Centraal Bureau voor de Statistiek (the journal of the Dutch Central Statistical Office) for 30th April, publishes preliminary figures compiled by the State Department of Unemployment Insurance and Employment Exchanges, which show that out of 267,233 members of unemployment funds making returns for the week ended 28th March, 18,364 (6.9 per cent.) were unemployed during the whole week and 5,876 (2.2 per cent.) for less than six days. In the corresponding week of the preceding month (ended 28th February), the percentages were respectively 9.1 and 2.7, and in the week ended 29th March, 1924, 8.3 and 2.0.

Unemployment in February.—According to a report issued by the Italian Unemployment Insurance Department,* 156,659 workpeople were totally unemployed on 28th February, as compared with 156,382 at the end of January and 259,360 at the end of February, 1924. In addition, 11,702 were partially unemployed at the latest date, 10,067 on 31st January and 19,328 on 29th February, 1924. On 28th February last the number of totally unemployed persons in receipt of benefit, under the statutory unemployment insurance scheme, was 23,445, as compared with 22,432 on 31st January.

AUSTRIA.

Unemployment in March.—According to the issue of Statistische Nachrichten (the journal of the Austrian Department of Statistics) for 25th April, the number of persons in receipt of unemployment benefit in Austria was 176,441 at the end of March, as compared with 188,919 at the end of the preceding month and 106,908 at the end of March, 1924. In Vienna alone there were 85,697 persons in receipt of benefit at the middle of April and 88,295 at the end of March.

UNITED STATES.+

Employment in March.—Figures relating to the volume of employment in March, based on returns from 8,972 establishments in 52 manufacturing industries, covering 2,808,019 workpeople, are published by the Federal Bureau of Labour Statistics. These establishments in February reported 2,780,616 persons employed, and the March figures consequently indicate a net increase of 1 per cent. The aggregate wages paid show for March an increase of 1.18 per cent and the average weekly earnings an increase of 0.9 cent. The aggregate wages paid show for March an increase of 1·8 per cent., and the average weekly earnings an increase of 0·9 per cent. Thirty-two of the 52 industries record increases in the number of workpeople employed in March, the largest for the most part being purely seasonal, such as fertilisers (40 per cent.), brick, tile, etc. (9 per cent.), and in the automobile (7·2 per cent.), and carriage industries (7·2 per cent.).

As regards comparison between the month under review and the corresponding month of 1924, returns from 7,506 establishments in 52 industries show a net decrease of 4·0 per cent, in the number of

corresponding month of 1924, returns from 7,506 establishments in 52 industries show a net decrease of 4·0 per cent. in the number of persons employed, and a decrease of 3·1 per cent. in aggregate wages, and an increase of 1 per cent. in average weekly earnings. Twelve of the 52 industries show increases in the number of persons employed (automobile tyres 15·4 per cent., dyeing and finishing textiles 8·6 per cent., and silk goods (6 per cent.), and 40 show decreases, the decrease exceeding 10 per cent. in five cases.

Index Number of Employment in March.—If the monthly average index of employment in manufacturing industries in 1923 be taken as 100, the corresponding index number for March, 1925, is 92·3, as compared wth 91·6 in the preceding month, and 96·4 in March, 1924.

CANADA.

CANADA.

Employment in April.‡—For 1st April, 1925, returns were received by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics from 5,830 firms, with an aggregate of 718,524 upon their pay rolls. On 1st March, the same firms reported 718,162, and the total for 1st April thus shows a slight increase amounting to 362 persons. If employment in the week ended 17th January, 1920, be represented by 100, the index number of employment for 1st April, 1925, is 87·2, as compared with 87·0 in the preceding month, and 89·3 on 1st April, 1924.

Trade Union Unemployment in March.§—On 31st March, 8·5 per cent. of the aggregate membership of trade unions making returns were unemployed, as compared with 9·5 per cent. at the end of February, and 6·7 per cent. in March, 1924.

AUSTRALIA.||

Unemployment in First Quarter, 1925.—The proportion of members of trade unions unemployed in the first quarter of 1925 amounted to 9.3 per cent., as compared with 10.3 per cent. in the preceding quarter and 7.6 per cent. in the first quarter of 1924.

* La Disoccupazione in Italia al 28 febbraio, 1925. Rome.
† Employment in Selected Industries in March, 1925. U.S. Bureau of Labour
Statistics, Washington.
† The April Employment Situation, 1925. Ottawa.
§ Information supplied through the courtesy of the Canadian Department
of Labour, Ottawa.

|| Information supplied through the courtesy of the Commonwealth High
Commissioner in London.

LEGAL CASES; UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACTS; CONCILIATION AND ARBITRATION CASES; TRADE BOARDS ACTS, Etc.

LEGAL CASES AFFECTING LABOUR.

180

Workmen's Compensation Acts, 1906 to 1923.

COMPENSATION IN CASE OF DEATH; DEATH OF DEPENDANT; REPAYMENT CLAIM BY EMPLOYERS.

Under the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1906, the right to compensation vested in the dependant immediately upon the death of the workman. This right was not contingent upon a claim having previously been made; but upon the death of the dependant, either with or without a claim having been made by that dependant, it passed to his executor or administrator. The amending Act of 1923, Section 24 (1), takes away this right in the following terms:—
"Where a dependant dies before a claim under the principal Act is made, or, if a claim has been made, before an agreement or award has been arrived at or made, the legal personal representatives of

has been arrived at or made, the legal personal representatives of the dependant shall have no right to payment of compensation, and the amount of compensation shall be calculated and apportioned as if that dependant had died before the workman,"

A case dependent upon the construction of Section 24 (1) of the 1923 Act arose out of the death of a bricklayer's labourer, who met with an accident while working with a contracting Company on 19th February last, and died the same day. In this case the contracting Company claimed £300, which had been paid as to the of the workman in ignorance of her death.

On behalf of the applicant it was explained that the Company consented to the payment of £600 as compensation; £300 for the widow and £300 to be divided amongst four children. On the widow and £300 to be divided amongst four children. On the 7th April the Company paid £600 into Court; but subsequently it was ascertained that the widow died on the 5th April, leaving four children who were entitled to the apportioned £300. It was contended that Section 24 (1) of the Compensation Act of 1923 completely altered the position which existed under the Act of 1906. The new Act stipulated that if a dependant died before the award or agreement was made, the dependant had not the right which existed under the 1906 Act. It was further argued that, although the money had been paid into Court, an award, as required by the Act, had not been made. The money could not be taken out of Court until the Registrar had satisfied himself as to the adequacy of the amount. The letters between the parties constituted an offer and an acceptance, but they did not, it was contended, constitute an agreement. For the dependants it was argued that the section of the new Act was in favour of the dependants. The offer of £600, the acceptance of this amount by the agents of the dependants, and the payment of this sum into Court, all constituted a clear agreement. The part played by the Registrar was merely an administrative procedure provided for by the Act.

The Deputy County Court Judge said he was asked to decide the construction to be placed upon Section 24 of the Act of 1923.

The words relied upon were contained in the phrase "agreement or award has been arrived at or made." The section, he thought, meant "agreement has been arrived at or an award made." In his opinion a definite agreement had been reached, and that being so the appli cation for the repayment of the £300 failed. He therefore dismissed the application with costs.—Russell Building and Contracting Co., Ltd. v. Jennings.—Manchester County Court.—6th May, 1925.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACTS, 1920-24.

DECISIONS GIVEN BY THE UMPIRE.

The Umpire is a judicial authority, independent of the Ministry of Labour, appointed by the Crown under Section 12 of the Unemployment Insurance Act. 1920, for the purpose of determining disputed claims to benefit. His decisions* are final and conclusive.

Appeals to the Umpire may be made by the Insurance Officer or by an Association of which the claimant is a member, or, with the

permission of the Court of Referees, by the claimant himself.

The following are recent decisions of general interest:—

Case No. 8533, Section 7 (1) (ii).—Not Unemployed—Dye Workers normally employed each week on 4 Shifts of 12 hours each—Agreement limited normal Working Week to 48 hours—Not unemployed on days in such week when no work is done.

The applicant, who had been employed by a firm engaged in the dye industry, lodged a claim for benefit on the 2nd February, 1924.

* Volumes containing the collected decisions of the Umpire are published by His Majesty's Stationery Office.

Decisions given after March, 1922, are not published in volume form, but summaries of the cases are printed in pamphlets issued at approximately fortnightly intervals. The pamphlets will be supplied post free, as and when issued, on payment of an annual subscription. All applications should be made to His Majesty's Stationery Office at any of the addresses shown on the front cover of this GAZETTE.

It appeared that he had been working under a system whereby the normal working hours of the factory were from 6 a.m. on Month normal working hours of the factory were from 6 a.m. on Monday to mid-day Saturday of each week. The processes of dyeing, however, terminated at 6 a.m. on Saturday at the end of 5 day and 5 night shifts, and the period from 6 a.m. to mid-day on Saturday was occupied in non-productive work such as cleaning machinery, etc. The workmen, who were engaged on piece-work rates, worked 12-hour shifts, and previous to 1919 had worked 60 hours per week.

12-hour shifts, and previous to 1919 had worked 60 hours per week. In March, 1919, an agreement was made between the Yorkshire Master Dyers' Committee, which included the applicant's firm, and the Workmen's Societies, by which it was laid down that where the existing normal week exceeded 48 hours per week, it should be reduced to 48 hours. The effect of this agreement was to increase the hourly rate for work done by 12½ per cent., that is, 48 hours per week were to be paid as equal to 54 hours, and piece-work rates were to be increased in the same proportion. A later agreement, dated 5th July, 1920, specified, in addition to the reduction in the number of hours constituting a normal week, certain provisions regarding overtime rates, whereby all hours in excess of 48 hours per week were to be paid for at increased rates. The question therefore arose as to whether, in any week when 48 hours were worked, an applicant should be regarded as unemployed on any day in that week in which no work whatever was done.

The applicant's claim for benefit was taken as a test case, and at

The applicant's claim for benefit was taken as a test case, and at the hearing before the Court of Referees his Association representa-tive stated that there had been slackness of work for four years at the firm in question, and the employers rarely had sufficient work to enable all workmen to work 48 hours per week. Although there was an agreement that 48 hours should constitute a normal week was an agreement that 48 hours should constitute a normal week for wages purposes, the 48 hours system had never been in operation with the firm, and a short-time arrangement had in fact been

The Association submitted-

(a) That the average work done by the workmen amounted

to only $2\frac{1}{2}$ shifts per week;
(b) That in cases where there were four shifts per week, only
11 hours were worked per shift, as one hour was allowed for meals, and that there was no instance of a man working four

days of 12 hours a day.
(c) That the applicant's case was governed by the decision given on Case No. 7670, inasmuch as the eight-hour day was

On the other hand, information was obtained to the effect that the employers did not start the short-time system until November, 1920, and January, 1921, whereas the limitation of work to 48 hours 1920, and January, 1921, whereas the limitation of work to 40 hours per normal week was accomplished by the agreement of March, 1919. It was also ascertained that employees engaged on Mondays in the Making-up Department worked only the maximum of 48 hours, although work at the factory continued after they had completed

Recommended by the Court of Referees that 48 hours should be deemed to constitute a normal working week, these hours being divided into four shifts of 12 hours each. They were, therefore, unanimously of the opinion that the applicant was not unemployed

on any day in such a week in which no work was done.

The Insurance Officer formally disagreed with the Court's recommendation in order to obtain the Umpire's decision.

Decision.—"On the facts before me my decision is that if the above-named employed person had made a claim for unemployment benefit, the claim would have been disallowed.

"I agree with the recommendation of the Court of Referees.

"The agreement of the 3rd of March seems to have been superseded by a later agreement of 5th July, 1920, which was not before the Court of Referees; but the later agreement shows as clearly as the earlier agreement did that 48 hours is the normal working week.

"The principle of Decision 5990 covers this case."

Case No. 130/25, Section 7 (1) (ii).—Not Unemployed—Short Time Worker—Dye Worker Employed for less than the Normal Number of Four Shifts per Week—Question arising out of the Decision given on No. 8533 as to the Number of Days per Week Applicant is Unemployed.

As a result of the decision given in Case No. 8533 the question As a result of the decision given in Case No. 8533 the question arose as to the number of days on which employees working on the system therein referred to, were entitled to be regarded as unemployed when working on short time and doing only one, two, or three shifts instead of four in any one week. In this connection the claim of an applicant who had been working short time was considered by the Court of Referees. The applicant's Association representative attended the hearing of the case and stated that the employers in question, owing to the depression in trade, had rarely worked a 48-hour week. The working days varied, but only 11 hours per shift were worked, and the Association contended 11 hours per shift were worked, and the Association contended that in order to ascertain the number of days of unemployment in any one week, the total hours worked should be divided by 11 or 12, whichever was the normal day's work.

Recommended by the Court of Referees that the number of hours worked in any one week divided by 8 should be the number of days of employment in that week. The Court were of the opinion that the Association's contention that the number of hours should be divisible by 11 or 12 was illogical in view of the former decision that 48 hours constituted a normal working

May, 1925.

The Insurance Officer formally disagreed with the Court's recommendation and the question was submitted to the Umpire for decision.

Decision.—"On the question submitted to me my decision is as follows:—In the decision in Case No. 8533 I agreed with the recommendation of the Court of Referees that employees whose normal full week's work is constituted of four shifts of 12 hours each shift are not unemployed on any days in any week in which they have worked 48 hours. Benefit is payable in respect of each week of unemployment and a person is not unemployed in any part of a week in which he has done a full week's work.

"The question now arises as to the number of days on which employees working on this system are entitled to be regarded as unemployed when they are working on short time and doing only one, two or three shifts instead of four in any week.

"The applicant in whose name the question is raised is not, apparently, an employee whose normal full week's work is one of 48 hours in 4 shifts, and I give no decision as to his claim, but treat the appeal as a question referred by the Insurance Officer under Section 11 (4) of the Act of 1920.

"My answer to the question so far as it relates to employees to whom the decision in Case No. 8533 applies is as follows:—

"If such an employee works one shift only in any week he is to be treated as unemployed on five days. If in any week he works two shifts only he is to be treated as unemployed on three days in that week. If in any week he works three shifts only he is to be treated as unemployed on two days.'

Case No. 423/25, Section 7 (1) (iii) and (iv) (as Amended).—Not Capable of and not Genuinely Seeking Work—Grinder refused Offer of Employment in Usual Occupation—Alleged Medically Unfit for such Work—Should not have Registered for Work Unable to Perform—Made no Serious Effort to Obtain other Work

The applicant lodged a claim for benefit on the 10th September 1924 and on the 27th November, 1924, refused an offer of employment in his usual occupation of external grinder. The work was expected to last indefinitely and the wages offered were at the standard rate for the district. His claim for benefit was disallowed under the provisions of Section 7 (1) (iii) and (iv) (as amended).

He stated that he left his last employment owing to sickness caused through following his employment as a grinder, and he produced medical evidence to the effect that he was suffering from cardiac debility which caused him to give up work in that employment. He said he was not fit for heavy grinding work, but could do light work. He accordingly refused the offer of work as a grinder. He was not registered at the Employment Exchange for any alternative occupation, and had not informed the Exchange of his unfitness for the work of grinder for which he was registered. He had unsuccessfully applied at four different firms for work within the course of eleven weeks.

Recommended by the Court of Referees that the claim for benefit should be allowed. In view of the medical evidence produced, the Court were of the opinion that the work offered was unsuitable, but they considered that the applicant was capable of lighter work.

The Insurance Officer declined to agree with the recommendation of the Court of Referees. He pointed out that the applicant had registered at the Employment Exchange for employment which he now claimed to be not capable of performing, and, owing to this action on his part, the Exchange was unable to offer him suitable employment. He could not, therefore be regarded as genuinely seeking work.

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

"In this case the applicant made a claim on the 10th of September and registered for work as an external grinder, and for

"On the 27th November a vacancy as an external grinder was found for him, but he declined to submit himself for it, and said that employment as an external grinder was not suitable for him as he was suffering from cardiac affection.

'I agree with the Court of Referees that in view of the medical evidence, employment as an external grinder is not suitable for the applicant. I am bound to hold, however, as I have held in a great many cases lately, that an applicant who registers for work of a kind which he cannot do (unless possibly he gives it only as an alternative occupation) fails to show that he is genuinely seeking

"Registering at an Employment Exchange is one of the most effective ways of getting work, and it is futile to register for work which a man cannot do and does not want. If the applicant had registered in September for light work of a kind for which he was fitted, it is quite possible that work of that kind would have been found for him long ago. But if a man registers as an external

grinder the clerks at the Exchange naturally do not attempt to place him in work of a different kind.

"Careful inquiry has been made in this case, and I am satisfied that it was not through any default on the part of the clerks at the Exchange that the applicant was registered only as an external grinder. There was no reason why they should suppose from the information he gave when making his claim that he would be unable to resume what had up till June last been his usual occupation.

"I might, however, be satisfied that the applicant was genuinely reserving work, in spite of his having failed to register for work he could do, if he could show that he had made really serious efforts on his own behalf to get work. He seems to have applied for work at four places in the course of eleven weeks, and that is all he has

"In my opinion he does not show that on the 27th November he was genuinely seeking work.'

Case No. 581/25, Section 7 (1) (ii).—Not Unemployed—Customary Holidays—Boot and Shoe Workers Alleged Customary Christmas Holidays lasted Three Days only—No Agreed Practice in District but Period varied with Position of Trade—Substantial Number of Employers in District Closed Works for Three Days.

The applicants were employed as bootmakers with a firm in the Kingswood district, near Bristol, and their claims for payment in lieu of benefit from their Association, lodged on the 24th December, 1924, were disallowed for six days on the ground that a customary holiday of six days' duration existed at Christmas in that district.

Evidence was obtained from the principal employers in the district regarding their past practice of customary holidays at Christmas, and it was ascertained that the length of the stoppage at that period was mostly determined by the trade situation. Some firms had closed for three days, and others extended the period to six days or more on account of bad trade or for stocktaking purposes. The two most important firms in the district stated that the normal holidays were six days and three or four days, respectively.

On the other hand, a memorandum dated July, 1921, issued by the National Joint Industrial Council for the Boot and Shoe Manufacturing Trade, which set out the provisions for a holiday fund, implied that the usual holiday at Christmas in the industry was one

Representatives of the applicants' Association attended the hearing of the case before the Court of Referees. They stated that there was no generally recognised period for the Christmas holidays, but if trade was good no firm at Kingswood would close for more than three days. If a firm closed for more than three days, it was because trade was slack, or for the purpose of stocktaking, etc. In the abnormally busy period immediately following the late war, employers had only closed down at Christmas for three days. It was the custom, however, in the country districts to close down at was the custom, however, in the country districts to close down at Christmas for one week.

The Chairman, sitting alone, interviewed several of the applicants, whose periods of service in the industry extended over 20 years, and from the evidence obtained he was satisfied that the only Christmas holiday recognised in the district was three days, viz., Christmas Day, Boxing Day and a third day, which was either Christmas Eve or the day following Boxing Day.

Recommended by the Court of Referees that three days should be deemed to be the recognised Christmas holiday, two of these days being Christmas Day and Boxing Day and the third day either being Christmas Day and Boxing Day and the third day either Christmas Eve or the day following Boxing Day. The Court were of the opinion that any extension of the closing period beyond three days at Christmas, 1924, was to meet the employers' convenience, and that during such extended period the applicants were not employed within the meaning of the Act.

The Insurance Officer did not agree with the Court's recommendation. He considered that it appeared clear from the memorandum setting out the holiday provision scheme, that the usual holiday period in the industry at Christmas was six days, and that the evidence tended to show that during the last few years the holidays were in excess of six days.

Decision.—"On the facts before me my decision is that if the above-named employed persons had made a claim for unemployment benefit the claim would have been allowed except in respect of three

"I agree with the recommendation of the Court of Referees, that three days is the recognised holiday period at Christmas in the Kingswood boot-making industry. Further information obtained from several firms in Kingswood as to their practice in the comparatively busy years immediately following the war rather tends to confirm the view that a holiday of three days at Christmas is generally recognised in the boot trade in that district, though some firms have habitually closed for six days or more. "I agree with the recommendation of the Court of Referees, that

"Where a particular firm has a clearly-defined holiday period, it "Where a particular firm has a clearly-defined holiday period, it has been usual to take cognizance of that period rather than of the periods applying in any other establishments in the district; but where there is a well-known period of holiday locally recognised by employers in the district in an industry which is well represented in the district, it may be presumed in the absence of definite evidence to the contrary that that is the period of holiday for any particular employer in the district, and that any extension of the period of closing by a particular employer is due to business exigencies and is not an extension of the holiday.

"In the case of the Kingswood bootmaking industry, it happens that Christmas-time normally coincides with a slack season and, in addition, trade has been generally bad for a number of years. It is not surprising, therefore, that the period of closing at Christmas varies considerably as between different firms in one year, and for the same firm in different years. The state of trade is evidently the predominant factor in determining the period of closing for each factory.

"A substantial number of firms state, however, that the real holiday is one of three days, and that that would have been the holiday if trade had been good.

"In these circumstances, I agree with the Court of Referees that it is not shown that the recognised holiday period, apart from slackness of trade, exceeds three days."

Case No. 595/25, Section 7 (1) (iv) (as Amended).—Genuinely Seeking Work and Suitable Employment, Unable to Obtain—Fitter's Boy Refused Offer as Apprentice Plater or Driller—Father Refused to Sign Articles of Indenture—Alleged Conditions of Apprenticeship Unfavourable but Employers Agreed to Accept Applicant Irrespective of Parent's Signature.

The applicant, aged 17, whose usual occupation was stated to be that of a fitter's boy, lodged a claim for benefit on the 3rd November, 1924, and on the 5th February, 1925, refused an offer November, 1924, and on the 5th February, 1925, refused an older of work as apprentice plater or apprentice driller with a ship-building company near his home. The wages offered were at piece rates, and it was stated that the applicant would have earned a minimum of about £1 per week during the first year of his employment, which would have been somewhat more than the wage payable for work at time rates, and a yearly increase of wages was payable until the apprenticeship was completed.

The applicant stated that his father refused to sign the Articles of Indenture, on the ground that the terms were unfavourable. There was, therefore, no alternative but to refuse the offer of

A representative of the Juvenile Advisory Committee attended the hearing of the case before the Court of Referees. He stated that the boy's father, a plater's helper, refused to sign the indenture as he could not afford to keep his son on the low wages offered during the apprenticeship. There were six children, of whom three were at school, and of the remainder only one girl was employed, her earnings being 18s. per week. A plater's helper's wage for a full week was 49s. 6d.

Recommended by the Court of Referees that the claim for benefit should be allowed. The Court were of the opinion that in view of the applicant's domestic circumstances, he had satisfactory reasons for refusing the offer of employment as indentured

The Insurance Officer disagreed with the Court's recommendation. He could see no reason why the applicant should not have accepted the offer of work as an apprentice.

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

"The applicant was offered employment as an apprentice plater or apprentice driller with a good firm of shipbuilders. The proposed articles were in a form adopted by a good many shipbuilding firms, and they provide employment as an apprentice on very favourable terms. The wages would at first have been less than the applicant had earned in his previous employment, but a lad of his age can seldom be considered to have 'habitually obtained' any rate of wages in any 'usual employment,' and in the case of this applicant there was certainly no evidence of any 'usual

"The applicant states that he could not obtain the employment as his father refused to sign the articles. If it were clearly established that the father refused to sign in spite of the boy's wish to take the employment and that the prospective employers refused to accept him without his father's signature, there would be a difficulty in saying that the applicant could have obtained the employment (see Case No. 5630). But that is not the case. I am informed that the employers would have accepted the applicant as an apprentice without his father's signature to the applicant as an apprentice without his lather's signature to the articles, and it was certainly incumbent on the applicant to enquire of the prospective employers whether they would accept the signature of some other person, or dispense altogether with the signature of a parent or guardian. An apprenticeship without any such signature is perfectly good and sufficient if the employer does not require it. does not require it.

"The Court of Referees, however, recommended allowance in view of the applicant's domestic circumstances. I can see nothing in these circumstances to justify the applicant in refusing an exceptionally favourable offer of apprenticeship by which he would have been taught a well-paid trade and have earned substantial wages whilst learning it.

"The domestic circumstances of a parent must be quite exceptionally difficult to justify a lad who has no definite prospect of other employment in refusing an offer of this kind.

"In the decison on Case No. 7034, the domestic circumstances made it unusually difficult for a lad to work as an apprentice, and the wages offered in that case were substantially less than those which an apprentice driller can earn on piece work."

BANKING INDUSTRY SPECIAL SCHEME (AMENDMENT) ORDER, 1925.

The Unemployment Insurance (Banking Industry Special Scheme) (Amendment) Order, 1925, dated April 1, 1925, made by the Minister of Labour under the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920 (10 & 11 Geo. 5, c. 30).

WHEREAS by the Unemployment Insurance (Banking Industry Special Scheme) Order, 1924, the Special Scheme for the Banking Industry (hereinafter referred to as "the Scheme") was approved by the Minister of Labour (hereinafter referred to as "the Minister"); and the Joint Board of Management (Unemployment Insurance for the Banking Industry is the body charged with the administration

And whereas it is provided by subsection (2) of section eight of the Unemployment Insurance (No. 2) Act, 1924, that for the purpose of securing in the case of a special scheme that like rates of benefit shall be payable to the persons to whom the Scheme applies as are payable under that Act and that the benefits under the Scheme payable under that Act and that the benefits under the Scheme shall otherwise be not less favourable than those provided by the general provisions of the Unemployment Insurance Acts, 1920 to 1924 (but for no other purpose) the Minister may after consultation with the body charged with the administration of the Scheme notwithstanding anything in section eighteen of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920, by order vary or amend the provisions of the Scheme and that any such order may provide for consequential amendments as to the rates of contribution and otherwise.

amendments as to the rates of contribution and otherwise.

And whereas it is provided by subsection (4) of the said section eight, that the power of the Minister under subsection (9) of section eighteen of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920, to vary or amend the provisions of a scheme made under that section may, except in the case of provisions relating to rates of contribution, rates or duration of benefit, or the constitution of the body charged with the administration of the Scheme, be exercised by order instead of by special earlier.

with the administration of the Scheme, be exercised by order instead of by special order.

And whereas application has been made to the Minister for the variation and amendment of the provisions of the Scheme.

Now, therefore, the Minister, after consultation with the Joint Board of Management (Unemployment Insurance) for the Banking Industry, by virtue of the powers conferred on him by the sections aforesaid and all other powers enabling him in that behalf hereby makes the following Order:—

1. The variations and amendments of the provisions of the Scheme contained in the Schedule hereto shall have effect and

Scheme contained in the Schedule hereto shall have effect and shall be deemed to have had effect as from the first day of August, 1924, save where some other date is expressly mentioned as the date from which any provision is to have effect.

2. This Order may be cited as the Unemployment Insurance (Banking Industry Special Scheme) (Amendment) Order, 1925, and this Order and the Unemployment Insurance (Banking Industry Special Scheme) Order, 1924, may be cited together as the Unemployment Insurance (Banking Industry Special as the Unemployment Insurance (Banking Industry Special Scheme) Orders, 1924 and 1925, and shall be construed as one.

Signed by Order of the Minister of Labour this first day of April, 1925.

H. J. WILSON, Secretary of the Ministry of Labour.

SCHEDULE.

1. Clause (1) of Part II of the Scheme shall have effect as though for the words "The Joint Board of Management (Unemployment Insurance) for the Banking Industry" there were substituted the words "The Banking Unemployment Insurance Board."

2. Clause (1) of Part IV of the Scheme shall have effect as though after the figure (1) there were inserted the figure (i) and as though the following sub-clauses were added at the end:—

(ii) Subject as hereinafter provided no person shall be entitled (ii) Subject as hereinafter provided no person shall be entitled to receive unemployment benefit if the number of the contributions paid in respect of him, whether such contributions were paid under the general provisions of the Act or under this or any other special scheme since the beginning of the insurance year next before the beginning of the benefit year in which the application for unemployment benefit is made, is less than 20.

For the purpose of calculating under this sub-clause the number of contributions paid under this or any other special scheme a contribution shall be deemed to have been paid in respect of each week or part of a week of employment notwithstanding that contributions were payable at quarterly or some other intervals.

(iii) If an applicant for unemployment benefit in whose case the requirements of sub-clause (i) of this clause are fulfilled is not entitled thereto under the provisions of the last preceding sub-clause or clauses (2) or (3) of the Second Schedule to this Scheme by reason either that the number of contributions paid in respect of him within the period mentioned in sub-clause (ii) hereof is less than 20, or that sufficient contributions are not standing to his credit or that he has already received benefit for periods amounting in the aggregate to 26 weeks in the benefit year in which the application is made he shall nevertheless be entitled to received unemployment benefit if in addition to satisfying the requirements aforesaid he also proves—

(a) that he is normally employed in insurable employment and will normally seek to obtain his livelihood by means of insurable employment;

(b) that in normal times insurable employment suited to his capacities would be likely to be available for him;

(c) that he has, during the two years immediately preceding the date of the application for benefit, been employed in an insurable employment to such an extent as was reasonable, having regard to all the circumstances of the case and in particular to the opportunities for obtaining insurable employment during that period;

(d) that he is making every reasonable effort to obtain employment suited to his capacities and is willing to accept

For the purposes of paragraph (c) of this provision: (i) in the case of a seaman, marine, soldier or airman in respect of whom a payment is to be made or has been made under section forty-one of the Act, service as seaman, marine, soldier or airman; and

(ii) in the case of any person formerly engaged in war service, the undergoing of training for an insurable occupation, where the cost of the training is defrayed out of funds provided by the Minister or by the Minister of Pensions:

shall be treated as employment in insurable employment.

(iv) If a question arises whether a person satisfies the additional conditions required to be satisfied by a person applying for benefit under sub-clause (iii) hereof, that question shall be decided by the Board, whose decision shall be final, provided that in any case (a) the Board may refer such question to a committee constituted in accordance with rules made under this Scheme for their report and recommandation, or (b) the Board may refer such question to the Minister, or the Minister may require such question to be referred to him whether such question has been decided by the Board or not, and in either case the decision of the Minister

3. Clause (2) of Part IV of the Scheme shall have effect as though-(a) the following sub-clauses were substituted respectively for sub-clauses (i), (iii) and (iv):—

(i) That he proves-

(a) that at least 30 contributions have been paid in respect of him whether such contributions were paid under the general provisions of the Acts or of this or any other special scheme since the beginning of the first of the two insurance years next beginning of the beginning of the benefit year in which the application for unemployment benefit is made; and

(b) that he was employed in the Banking Industry on the 14th July, 1924, or entered such employment subsequently, and has been employed at any time for 12 weeks or more in the Banking Industry.

For the purpose of this sub-clause in the case of contributions paid under this or any other special scheme a contribution shall be deemed to have been paid in represent of each week or part of a week of employment. respect of each week or part of a week of employment notwithstanding that contributions were payable at quarterly or some other intervals.

(iii) That he is capable of and available for work:

(iv) That he is genuinely seeking work but unable to obtain suitable employment;

(b) after the words "capable of and available for work" in the second proviso to the said clause there were inserted the words "and is genuinely seeking work"; and (c) there were inserted at the end of the said clause the following words:—

Until the first day of October 1995

following words:—
Until the first day of October, 1925, a person shall be entitled to receive unemployment benefit, notwithstanding that the condition in sub-clause (i) (a) hereof may not have been fulfilled in his case, if the Board thinks fit so to direct, or if the Minister requires the Board so to direct.

4. Clause (3) of Part IV of the Scheme shall have effect as though-

(a) after the words "the remuneration" wherever they occur in sub-clause (a) there were inserted the words "or profit" and after the words "is payable" there were inserted the words

(b) for the words "less than three" in sub-clause (b) there were substituted the words "not more than six".

(c) the following sub-clause were inserted at the end thereof: (c) Notwithstanding that the employment of an insured person has terminated, he shall not be deemed to be unemployed during a period in respect of which he continues to receive wages or receives any payment by way of compensa-tion for the loss of and substantially equivalent to the remuneration which he would have received if the employment had not terminated.

5. Clause (4) of Part IV of the Scheme shall have effect as though-(a) there were inserted at the end of sub-clause (a) the ollowing words "Provided nevertheless that this provision shall not apply in any case in which the insured person proves that he is not participating in or financing or directly interested in the trade dispute which caused the stoppage of work, and that he does not belong to a grade or class of workers members of which are participating in or financing or directly interested in the trade dispute, or that the stoppage is due to an employer acting in a manner so as to contravene the terms or provisions

of any agreement existing between a group of employers where the stoppage takes place, or of a national agreement to either of which the employers and employees are contracting parties "
(b) the words "not being less than one week" in sub-clause (b)

(c) the words from the beginning of sub-clause (d) to "this Scheme, and" were omitted
(d) for the words "National Health Insurance Acts, 1911 to 1922" there were substituted the words "National Health Insurance Acts, 1911 to 1922. 1922" there were substituted the words "National Health Insurance Act, 1924".

6. Clause (6) (b) of Part IV of the Scheme shall have effect as though for the expression "clauses 2 and 3" where that expression first occurs, there were substituted the expression "clauses (2), (3) and (4)," and the words "and calling attention to the provisions of clauses 2 and 3 of this part of this Scheme" were omitted.

7. Clause (9) of Part IV of the Scheme shall be omitted.

8. Clause 1 of Part V of the Scheme shall have effect as if the words "Except as provided in sub-clause (iv) of clause (1) of Part IV of this Scheme" were inserted at the beginning.

9. Clause (1) (f) of Part VIII. of the Scheme shall have effect as though after the words "within the meaning of this Scheme or not" there were inserted the words "or as to who is or was the employer there were inserted the words "or as to who is or was the employer of an employed person", and as though in each place where the word "Board" occurs in that sub-clause the word "Minister" were substituted therefor, and as though for the words "the provisions of this scheme" there were substituted the words "the provisions of the Acts and this Scheme".

10. The following clause shall be added to Part IX of the

(7) Where, by any order or special order varying or amending the provisions of this Scheme, any clauses, sub-clauses, paragraphs or words are directed to be added to, or omitted from this Scheme, or to be substituted for any other clauses, sub-clauses, paragraphs or words therein, then copies of this Scheme clauses, paragraphs or words therein, then copies of this Scheme printed under the authority of His Majesty's Stationery Office, after such directions take effect, shall be printed with the clauses, sub-clauses, paragraphs or words so added, omitted of substituted, and the clauses, sub-clauses and paragraphs thereor numbered in accordance with such direction, and this Scheme shall be construed as if it had at the time at which such direction takes effect or such other time as may be directed by the order or special order, been made with such addition, omission or substitution.

11. Clause (1) of the Second Schedule to the Scheme shall have effect and shall be deemed to have had effect from the 14th August,

(a) the following paragraph were substituted for the second paragraph of such clause:—

Where a person entitled to unemployment benefit—

(1) is a married man whose wife is living with him or is being maintained wholly or mainly by him; or (2) is a widower, widow or unmarried person who has residing with him or her any female person for the

purpose of having the care of his or her dependent children, and is maintaining that person; or (3) is a widower or unmarried man and has and has had living with him as his wife any female person; or (4) is a married woman who has a husband dependent

(5) is an unmarried person (not being a person entitled to an increase under this clause otherwise than in respect of his or her dependent children) who has living with him or her and is wholly or mainly main-

living with him or her and is wholly or mainly maintaining his or her widowed mother the weekly rate of unemployment benefit hereinbefore authorised shall be increased by a sum of five shillings and where the person so entitled has dependent children the weekly rate of unemployment benefit shall be increased by two shillings in respect of each such child. Provided that the additional sum of five shillings shall not be payable in respect of a wife or female person who is in receipt of in respect of a wife or female person who is in receipt of unemployment benefit under the Acts or under this or any other special scheme, or who is in regular wage-earning employment otherwise than as having the care of the dependent children of the person entitled to unemployment benefit or is engaged in any occupation ordinarily

(b) the words "or any husband, mother or child" were substituted for the words "or any husband or any child" in the third paragraph of such clause.

12. Clause (4) of the Second Schedule to the Scheme shall have effect as though after the word "disqualified" there were inserted the words "otherwise than by reason of being in receipt of sickness or disablement benefit or disablement allowance under the National Health Insurance Act 1924", and as though the word "continuous" were inserted before the word "periods".

13. The Third Schedule to the Scheme shall be deleted and the following substituted therefor:-

(Name in full) (postal address in full) hereby apply for unemployment benefit.

I declare that :-The undermentioned particulars are correct— (i) Date of birth. Day......Month.....Year..... (ii) Name and Address of last employer...... (v) (a) Name of National Health Insurance Approved

THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE.

2. I am unemployed and am genuinely seeking work, but am unable to obtain suitable employment.

- 3. I am capable of and available for work, and I am not in receipt of any sickness or disablement benefit or disablement allowance under the National Health Insurance Act, 1924.
- 4. I am not in receipt of an Old Age Pension under the Old Age Pensions Acts, 1908 to 1924, or benefit under the general provisions of the Unemployment Insurance Acts, 1920 to 1924, or any other special scheme.
- 5. I left my employment for the following reason...... Sign here.....Date of application.....19....

If you have been employed at any time since 14th July, 1924, by a Bank other than the Bank referred to in the above Certificate give particulars here :-

Name of Bank

Period of Employment. From..... to.....

Do you wish to make a claim for dependants' benefit, that is, in respect of your wife, husband, housekeeper, children, or widowed mother? If so, you should also sign below, and the necessary form will be sent you.

14. This Schedule shall be construed as one with the Scheme.

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

Recent Proceedings.

(A.)—INDUSTRIAL COURT DECISIONS.

WAR DEPARTMENT POWER STATION, ALDERSHOT .- The Trade Union Side of the Miscellaneous Trades Joint Council for Government Departments v. The Official Side. Difference.—Claim for increase in wages to certain grades. Decision.—The question of the basic rates should be reviewed by the parties, regard being had to the rates paid in other sections of the Aldershot establishment where the nature of the duties of the workpeople are similar to those of the employees concerned in the Electric Supply Station, to the rates paid in similar establishments under the War Department elsewhere, and also to the rates decided ways by the Juit Industrial Council and also to the rates decided upon by the Joint Industrial Council for employees in Electric Supply Undertakings, and any other relevant considerations, and that in the event of the parties being unable to arrive at a settlement, the question should be again referred to the Court for determination. Issued 9th April, 1925. (1057.)

PORTER-PACKERS—SUPPLIES DIVISION STORES OF THE OFFICE OF WORKS.—The Trade Union Side of the Miscellaneous Trades Joint Council for Government Departments v. The Official Side. Difference.—Claim for increase of wages. Decision.—Under the correct interpretation of the Agreement of January, 1922, the rate of pay of the men concerned is 9s. per week above that for furniture porters as fixed by the I.I.R.C. for the Furniture Warehousing and Removing Industry. A case has not been made out by the porterpackers for a variation of the Agreement. Issued 9th April, 1925. (1058.)

ELECTRICAL CONTRACTING INDUSTRY.—The Employers' Side, National Joint Industrial Council for the Electrical Contracting Industry v. The Workpeople's Side. Difference.—Crewe—Grading under National Standardised Wages Agreement. Decision.—Crewe is by the terms of the Agreement of 7th August, 1920, grouped as a town in Cheshire under Grade C. Issued, 27th April, 1925.

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

PIANO WORKERS: LONDON.—Allied Pianoforte Industries Committee v. Piano Workers' Industrial Management Committee Difference.—As to whether, or not, the incidents at Messrs. Shenstone of Grange Road, Leyton, which occurred on the 3rd and 4th March, 1925, constituted a breach of the Agreement dated 1st October, 1924, between the A.P.I.C. and the P.W.I.M.C. Board of Arbitration consisting of Mr. A. M. Langdon, K.C. (Chairman), Mr. Owen Parker, C.B.E. (Employers' Representative), and Mr. Ernest Bevin (Workpeople's Representative), appointed under Section 2 (2) (c) of the Industrial Courts Act, 1919. Award.—It was held that the incidents referred to did contribute a breach of the said Agreement. Issued 23rd April, 1925.

(C.)—OTHER SETTLEMENTS.

DAIRYMEN: LONDON.—Transport and General Workers' Union v. Messrs. E. Pring, Devonshire Dairies, Upton Lane, London, E. Difference.—Claim for improved working conditions. Agreement.— Four of five points of claim conceded. Agreed 2nd April, 1925.

WEB MANUFACTURERS: CREWKERNE, SOMERSET.-Workers' Union v. Messrs. A. Hart and Son, Crewkerne. Difference.—Claim for increased rates of pay. Agreement.—Certain piece-work rates

BOOT AND SHOE OPERATIVES: NORWICH .- National Union of Boot and Shoe Operatives v. The Vauxhall Shoe Company, Norwich.

Difference.—Non-observance by firm of holiday fund arrangement provided by National Agreement. Agreement.—Firm agreed to operate holiday fund scheme. Agreed 15th April, 1925.

LOCK, LATCH AND KEY INDUSTRY: MIDLANDS.-Lock Makers' and Metal Workers' Trade Society v. Messrs. Beddow and Sturmey, Limited, Willenhall. Difference.—Claim for grading of certain men in order that appropriate Joint Industrial Council rates might be paid. Agreement.—Claim conceded.

TEXTILE WORKERS: GLASGOW.—Workers' Union v. Clyde Cotton Spinning Company, Limited, Bridgeton. Difference.—Allegation that change from spinning American to Egyptian Cotton had decreased earnings of piece-workers. Agreement.—Interim wage agreed upon pending decision of a joint committee set up to deal with the matter. Agreed, 23rd April, 1925.

Textle Workers: Glasgow.—Workers' Union v. Glasgow Cotton Spinning Company, Limited, Bridgeton. Difference.—Allegation that piece rate for new method of weaving had decreased operatives' earnings. Agreement.—New method to be demonstrated by e pert operative to determine whether revised calculation is equitable. Endeavour to be made to ensure that efficient women suffer no reduction. Agreed, 23rd April, 1925.

BAKERS: DUNDEE.—Dundee Master Bakers v. Scottish Union of Bakers and Confectioners (Dundee Branch). Difference.—As to the terms of proposed Working Agreement for 1925–26. Agreement.—Expiring Agreement renewed without change. Signed, 30th April,

TRADE BOARDS ACTS.

Orders, Notices, etc., Recently Issued.

I.—CONFIRMING ORDERS.

(a) Brush and Broom Trade Board (Great Britain).

Orders M. (39), (40) and (41) dated 27th April, 1925, confirming an additional general minimum piece rate and confirming the variation of minimum rates of wages for male and female workers, and specifying 1st May, 1925, as the date from which such rates as fixed and as varied should become effective. These rates fluctuate with changes in the "Cost of Living" Index Figure and represent a general increase of 5 per cent. on the basic rates previously in operation.

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

Order D. (29), dated 6th May, 1925, confirming the variation of minimum rates of wages for male indentured apprentices for periods dependent upon the "Cost of Living" Index Figure, and specifying 11th May, 1925, as the date from which the rates as varied should become effective.

Copies of the above-mentioned Confirming Orders may be obtained from H.M. Stationery Office, price 3d. each.

II.—NOTICES OF PROPOSAL.

(a) Button-making Trade Board (Great Britain).

Proposal V. (15) dated 18th April, 1925, to vary minimum rates of wages for male workers in the Erinoid Button Section of the Trade. The proposal is mainly concerned in providing a learnership scheme for male juvenile workers, and takes the place of the Proposal V. (14) dated 3rd December, 1924, which has been

(b) Paper Bag Trade Board (Great Britain).

Proposal P. (11) dated 22nd April, 1925, to vary minimum rates of wages for male workers by an alteration in the definition of certain of the classes of workers to whom existing minimum rates apply. Machine Tacklers and Learners are the classes

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

Coffin Furniture and Cerement Making Trade Board (Great Britain).

Lower wage rates have become operative in this trade as from 1st May, 1925. The minimum rates now applicable are those appropriate to the "Cost of Living" Figure of 75 and are set out in confirming Order U. (13).

IV.—TRADE BOARDS (ROPE, TWINE AND NET) ORDER, 1919.

May, 1925.

Report of Inquiry regarding Proposal to vary the Order.

On page 154 of this issue of the MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE will be found a review of a Report made by Mr. C. E. Dyer, K.C., on a public inquiry made by him on 7th March, 1925, with regard to a proposed amendment of the above Order so as to extend its scope to include the mending, refitting, and reconditioning of drift, seine or similar nets wherever carried on.

MINISTRY OF LABOUR: OVERSEA EMPLOYMENT BRANCH.

The Oversea Employment Branch of the Ministry of Labour has been transferred from 2, Clement's Inn, Strand, to Caxton House (West Block), Tothill Street, Westminster, S.W. 1. (Telephone No.:

FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT, 1901.

WOOLLEN AND WORSTED TEXTILES (LIFTING OF HEAVY WEIGHTS) DRAFT REGULATIONS.

The Home Secretary has issued a notice, dated 8th May, 1925, that he proposes to make Regulations for the lifting by hand of heavy weights (materials, tools, or appliances) in the manufacture, dyeing, or finishing of woollen or worsted textiles, or in any process ancillary or incidental thereto, including the loading or unloading of any cart, barrow, or bogie. It is stated in the notice that the recommendations of the Sub-Committee of the National Wool (and Allied) Textile Industrial Council, which are embodied in these Draft Regulations, have been approved by the Joint Industrial Council and accepted also by the Yorkshire Master Dyers' Federation.

Copies of the Draft Regulations may be obtained on application to the Factory Department, Home Office, London, S.W. 1; and any objection with respect to them, by or on behalf of any person affected hereby, must be sent to the Secretary of State within 30 days of the date of the notice.

OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

Food Prices.—(1) First Report of the Royal Commission on Food Prices, with minutes of evidence and appendices. Volume I. First Report. (Cmd. 2390; price 3s. 6d.) Volume II. Minutes of evidence. (S.O. publication; price 20s.) (See page 155.) (2) Minutes of evidence taken before the Royal Commission on Food Prices, 19th May. (S.O. publication; price 1s. 6d.)

LABOUR STATISTICS.—(1) Methods of compiling cost-of-living index numbers. (2) Methods of statistics of Unemployment. Reports prepared for the Second International Conference of Labour Statisticians (April, 1925). Studies and Reports, Series N. (Statistics), Nos. 6 and 7. (Geneva, 1925; price 1s. 3d. each.)

LACE AND EMBROIDERY INDUSTRIES.—Safeguarding of Industries.

Report of Lace and Embroidery Committee. Board of Trade.
(Cmd. 2403; price 4d.)

Mining.—Statistical summary of output, and of the costs of production, proceeds, and profits of the coal mining industry for the quarter ended 31st December, 1924. Board of Trade, Mines Department. (Cmd. 2398; price 1d.) (See page 157.)

OVERSEA SETTLEMENT.—Report of the Oversea Settlement Committee for the year ended 31st December, 1924. Colonial Office, (Cmd. 2383; price 9d.) (See page 155.)

Pensions.—Widows', Orphans' and Old Age Contributory Pensions Bill: (a) Memorandum explanatory of the Bill. (Cmd. 2405; price 3d.) (b) Report by the Government Actuary on the financial provisions of the Bill. Ministry of Health. (Cmd. 2406; price 9d.) (See page 152.) STEEL Houses.—Report by a Court of Inquiry concerning steel houses. Ministry of Labour. (Cmd. 2392; price 4d.) (See page 153.)

TRADE BOARDS.—Report on an Inquiry into a proposal to vary the Trade Boards (Rope, Twine and Net) Order, 1919. Ministry of Labour. (S.O. publication; price 6d.) (See page 154.)

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS.

LIST OF NEW CONTRACTS, APRIL, 1925.

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

Devonport: Steelwork: J. Tildesley, Ltd., Darlaston, Staffs.—
Portland Stone: F. J. Barnes, Ltd., Portland, Dorset.—Pembroke:
Road Roller: Aveling & Porter, Ltd., Rochester.—Limestone
Rubble: T. W. Colley & Sons, Pembroke.—Portsmouth District:
Gement: The Cement Marketing Co., Ltd., London.

(Contract and Purchase Department.)

(Contract and Purchase Department.)

Alternators, Motor: W. Mackie & Co., London, S.E.; Newton Bros. (Derby), Ltd., Derby.—Aluminium Ingots: British Aluminium Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—Angles, Naval, Brass: Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—Barrels, Elm: Tyson & Co. (Millwall), Ltd., London, E.—Boats, Motor, 45 ft.: R. J. Perkins & Sons, Whitstable; Vosper & Co., Portsmouth; T. C. Letcher, Cowes; Short Bros. (Rochester & Bedford), Ltd., Rochester; Aldous, Ltd., Brightlingsea; J. W. Brooke & Co., Ltd., Lowestoft.—Boats, Motor, 45 ft., Machinery for: Dixon Bros. & Hutchinson, Southampton; Gleniffer Motors, Ltd., Glasgow; Parsons Motor Co., Ltd., Southampton; J. W. Brooke & Co., Ltd., Lowestoft.—Boilers, Cylindrical: Wm. Beardmore & Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—Boots, Water, Walter Lawrence, Ltd., Raunds.—Brushes, Painters': Hamilton & Co. (London), Ltd., London, E.C.; W. H. Vowles & Sons, Ltd., Stonehouse; A. Reid & Sons, Ltd., London, S.E.; E. A. & W. Greenslade, Ltd., Bristol.—Brushes: I.S. Varian & Co., Dublin; Vale & Bradnack, Walsall; W. R. Speer & Son, London, E.; C. H. Leng & Sons, Birmingham; Brushes, Ltd., St. Albans.—Gabinet Work: J. Elliott & Sons, High Wycombe; J. W. Thompson, Ltd., Sheffield; J. Broadwood & Sons, Ltd., London, W.; T. Glenister, Ltd., High Wycombe; B. North & Sons, West Wycombe; Exors. of late S. Snowdon, Plymouth; C. Gibbons, High Wycombe.—Calico: Thomas Barnes & Co., Ltd., Manchester; Ectherrill & Harvey, Ltd., Manchester: J. H. Greenhow & Co. West Wycombe; Exors. of late S. Snowdon, Plymouth; C. Gibbons, High Wycombe.—Calico: Thomas Barnes & Co., Ltd., Manchester; Fothergill & Harvey, Ltd., Manchester; J. H. Greenhow & Co., Ltd., Manchester; Hugh Spencer & Co., Manchester; Stewart Thompson & Co., Ltd., Manchester; G. I. Sidebottom & Co., Manchester.—Candles: Palmer & Co., Ltd., Stratford; Price's Patent Candle Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—Canvas Hose Tubing: Geo. Angus & Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne; Richards, Ltd., Aberdeen; F. Reddaway & Co., Ltd., Manchester.—Canvas Suit Cases: David Stocks, Edinburgh.—Carpenters' and Joiners' Work: J. Gerrard & Sons, Ltd., Swinton, near Manchester; Hoskins & Son, Ltd., Birmingham; East & Son, Ltd., Berkhamsted, Herts; Lawson & Co., Glasgow: Brown & Backhouse, Liverpool.— Son, Ltd., Birmingham; East & Son, Ltd., Berkhamsted, Herts; Lawson & Co., Glasgow; Brown & Backhouse, Liverpool.—
Cocks, Asbestos Packed: Hayward, Tyler & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; W. N. Baines & Co., Ltd., Rotherham.—Cocks, Gunmetal and Plated: J. Blakeborough & Sons, Ltd., Brighouse, Yorks; Hayward, Tyler & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; Hyde & Sons, Wolverhampton; Sir J. Laing & Sons, Ltd., Sunderland; Player & Mitchell, Birmingham; Shipham & Co., Ltd., Hull.—Condensers

(electrical): Telegraph Condenser Co., Ltd., Richmond, Surrey; British Insulated & Helsby Cables Co., Ltd., Helsby, Lancs.—Crane, Steam, Travelling: Cowans, Sheldon & Co., Ltd., Carlisle.—Cutlery, Electro-plated, metal-handles: Walker & Hall, Ltd., Sheffield.—Deck Fittings, Gunmetal: Carron Co., Falkirk; The Dennystown Brass Works, Ltd., Dumbarton; Sir J. Laing & Sons, Ltd., Sunderland; John Roby, Ltd., Rainhill; J. & J. Woods, Ltd., Rainhill.—Drawers, Brown Cotton: I. & R. Morley, London, E.C.—Drums and Various Cans: P. D. Mitchell, Ltd., Dundee. Drums, Storage: P. D. Mitchell, Ltd., Dundee.—Electric Battery Fittings: Tudor Accumulator Co., Ltd., Dukinfield.—Electric Generator: Mather & Platt, Ltd., Manchester.—Fenders, Hazel Rod: T. Black & Co. (Greenock), Ltd., Greenock.—Firehearths and Fittings: Carron Co., Falkirk; Darwin, Yeardley & Co., Ltd., Sheffield; W. Green & Co. (Ecclesfield), Ltd., Ecclesfield; Moorwoods, Ltd., Sheffield; C. Portway & Son, Halstead, Essex; Smith & Wellstood, Ltd., Bonnybridge.—Flannelette: John Wilkinson (Manchester & Nelson), Ltd., Manchester.—Flour: W. Vernon & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.; J. Wilson & Co., Ltd., Leith; Wingent & Kimmins, Ltd., Chatham; Spillers & Bakers, Ltd., Bristol.—Gears, Spiral: D. Brown & Sons (Huddersfield), Ltd., Huddersfield.—Glass Shades, etc.: Butterworth Bros., Ltd., Manchester; Joseph Fleming & Co., Stourbridge; J. Lane & Sons, Ltd., Dudley; Molineaux, Webb & Co., Ltd., Manchester; New English Glass Manufacturers, Ltd., Tipton; Joseph Price & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham; John Walsh Walsh, Ltd., Birmingham.—Glycerine: Lever Bros., Ltd., Port Sunlight.—Grindery: City Leather Co., Derby; J. Cooper & Co., London, N.; Guest, Keen Ltd., Birmingham; John Walsh Walsh, Ltd., Birmingham.—
Glycerine: Lever Bros., Ltd., Port Sunlight.—Grindery: City
Leather Co., Derby; J. Cooper & Co., London, N.; Guest, Keen
& Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham; Hall & Rice, Ltd., West Bromwich; E. Penton & Son, London, W.; Pocock Bros., London,
S.E.; J. Taylor & Sons, Ltd., London, W.; Ullathorne & Co.,
Ltd., London, W.C.; Lindsay, Thompson & Co., Ltd., Belfast;
T. Webster & Co., Liverpool.—Hammer, Pneumatic Power: B. &
S. Massey, Ltd., Manchester.—Handkerchiefs, Black Silk: J. &
T. Brocklehurst & Sons, Ltd., Macclesfield.—Heating Installation,
Steam: Sturtevant Engineering Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—Hollow
Ware: T. & C. Clark & Co., Ltd., Wolverhampton; A. Kenrick
& Sons, Ltd., West Bromwich: J. & J. Siddons, Ltd., West Ware: T. & C. Clark & Co., Ltd., Wolverhampton; A. Kenrick & Sons, Ltd., West Bromwich; J. & J. Siddons, Ltd., West Bromwich.—Ice-making Machines: Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., Reading.—Jute Goods: Baxter Bros. & Co., Ltd., Dundee; Craiks, Ltd., Forfar.—Lamp Fittings: Oliver-Bell Control, Ltd., London, S.E.—Lamps, Incandescent: General Electric Co., Ltd., London, W.C.; Edison Swan Electric Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—Leather for Boots, Shoes and Leggings: W. Walker & Sons, Ltd., Bolton; Western Tanning Co., Bristol; J. & A. Hillman, Ltd., Dudley; J. S. Deed & Sons, Ltd., London, W.C.; R. Coggings & Sons, Ltd., Wellingborough; John Siderfin & Co., Minehead; Harold Nickols, Ltd., Joppa, Leeds.—Link Plates: Laird & Son, Ltd., Irvine, Scotland.—Mackintoshes: Chas. Macintosh & Co., Ltd., Manchester.—Milk, Condensed: Wilts United Dairies, Ltd., Trowbridge; Nestlé & Anglo-Swiss Condensed Milk Co., London, E.C.—Morse Keys: Baird & Tatlock, Ltd., London, E.C.—Motor Generators: Newton Bros. (Derby), Ltd., Derby.—Muslin: Ashton

E.C.—Nails, Steel Wire: Hall & Rice, Ltd., West Bromwich; The Whitecross Co., Ltd., Warrington.—Oil, Machinery, Light and Heavy: Anglo-American Oil Co., Ltd., London, S.W.; J. D. Hamilton, Ltd. Glasgow;—Overhead Rails and Purchases: H. Wharton, Ltd., Reddish, Stockport.—Packings, Engine: J. W. Roberts, Ltd., Armley, Leeds.—Paint, Black: Colthurst & Harding, Ltd., Bristol.—Paint, Oxide of Iron: Golden Valley Ochre & Oxide Co., Ltd., Wick, Glos.—Pepper: E. & T. Pink, Ltd., London, S.E.—Porcelain China: R. H. & S. L. Plant, Ltd., Longton.—Razors: Joseph Allen & Sons, Ltd., Sheffield; J. & W. Ragg, Ltd., Sheffield.

—Reamers: E. H. Pickford & Co., Ltd., Sheffield.—Receivers,

Air: Alley & MacLellan, Ltd., Glasgow.—Rolls, Plate Bending, Motor Driven: Hugh Smith & Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—Steel Blooms: Steel Co. of Scotland, Ltd., Glasgow; Lanarkshire Steel Co., Ltd., Motherwell; W. Jessop & Sons, Ltd., Sheffield; Industrial Steels, Ltd., Sheffield.—Steel Boiler Plates: Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Cardiff.—Steel Sections (Angles, etc.): Dorman, Long & Co., Ltd., Middlesbrough; Bolckow, Vaughan & Co., Ltd., Middlesbrough; Frodingham Iron & Steel Co., Ltd., Scunthorpe; Steel Co. of Scotland, Ltd., Glasgow.—Steel Wire Rope: Whitecross Co., Ltd., Warrington; Edwin Ellis & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—Switches, etc.: Hawkers, Ltd., Birmingham; Drake & Gorham, Ltd., London, W.C.; Edison Swan Electric Co., Ltd., Ponders End, Middlesex; Player & Mitchell, Birmingham; Wm. McGeoch & Co., Ltd., Birmingham; L. Weekes, Ltd., Luton; Wandsworth Elec trical Co., Ltd., Birmingham. - Tallow: Donald Campbell & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—Tiles: Gibbons, Hinton & Co., Ltd., Brierley Hill, Staffs: Campbell Tile Co., Stoke-on-Trent: May & Co., Ltd., Ironbridge, Shropshire.—Timber (for packing): A. & G. Paterson Ltd., Aberdeen.—Torpoyl, Heavy: Anglo-American Oil Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—Torpoyl, Light: Vacuum Oil Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—Trucks, Railway: C. Roberts & Co., Ltd., Horbury Junction, near Wakefield.—Tubes, Brass and Copper: Yorkshire Copper Works, Ltd., Leeds; C. Clifford & Son, Ltd., Birmingham; J. Wilkes, Sons & Mapplebeck, Ltd., Birmingham; Birmingham; Battery & Metal Co. Ltd., Pirmingham; Parktery & Metal Co. Battery & Metal Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Broughton Copper Co., Ltd., Manchester; Allen Everitt & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham; H. H. Vivian & Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Muntz's Metal Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Grice-Grice & Son, Ltd., Birmingham.—Tubes, Brass Condenser: Allen Everitt & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham.—Twines: The Boase Spinning Co. (1920), Ltd., Levan; Thos. Gill & Sons, Ltd., Summerbridge; John Holmes & Son, East Ardsley; Port Glasgow and Newark Sailcloth Co., Port Glasgow; Pymore Mill Bridport; Webster Bros. & Co., Arbroath; J. Ltd., Birmingham.—Vinegar: Grimble & Co., London, N.W.—Voice Piping and Fittings: Interlock Metal Hose Co., London, N.; Power Flexible Tubing Co., Ltd., London, N.—Winches: P. Brotherhood, Ltd, Peterborough.

WAR OFFICE.

Accumulators: J. Lucas, Ltd., Birmingham.—Barrows, Stable: C. R. Claridge, Exeter; East & Son, Ltd., Berkhamsted.—Baths, Slipper: Wilmer & Sons, Ltd., London, E.—Bedsteads, Folding: Thos. Adshead & Sons, Ltd., Dudley; Hill & Smith, Ltd., Brierley Hill, Staffs.—Belting, Leather: Bell Rock Belting Co., Ltd., Salford; S. E. Norris & Co., London, E.—Boots: Northants Productive Society, Ltd., Wollaston.—Boxes, Coal, Steel: Davies Bros & Co. Ltd. Wollyerhampton.—Rusches Flue: W. Francis Bros. & Co., Ltd., Wolverhampton.—Brushes, Flue: W. Francis & Sons, London, S.E.—Brushes, Paint, Sash Tool and Whitewash: J. T. Millwood & Sons, London, S.E.—Brushes, Whitewash: Webb & Foulger (Brush Mfgs.), Ltd., London, S.E.—Brushes, Sweeping: Crowden & Keeves, Ltd., London, E.; Moss & Paddock, Bolton; Phænix Brush Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; W. H. Vowles & Sons, Ltd., Stonehouse, Glos.—Cable, Electric: The India-Rubber Gutta-Percha Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; W. T. Henley's Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—Canvas: Anderson Chalmers, Arbroath.—Canvas, Flax: W. Ewart & Sons, Ltd. Belfast.—Canvas, Packing: Low & Bonar, Ltd., Dundee.—Canvas Shoes: Adams Bros., Ltd., Raunds; R. Coggins & Son, Ltd., Raunds; Mansfield Shoe Co., Mansfield.—Cases, Mattress, Single: Thos. Briggs (London), Ltd., London, N.—Cases, Packing: T. E. Dingwall, Ltd., London, E.C.; J. F. Farwig & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; Lawson & Co., Glasgow; S. Smith, Bury.—Casks, Vat: Wm. Ryan & Co., London, E.—Cleaning of Reflectors: C. A. Parsons & Co., Ltd., Newcastle.—Cooking Apparatus: Adams & Sons, London, S.W.; The Richmond Gas Stove & Meter Co., Ltd., Warrington.—Cotton Waste: W. C. Jones, Ltd., Manchester; L. C. Lev & Sons, Ltd. Nottingham.—Covers and Tubes Various: J. C. Ley & Sons, Ltd., Nottingham.—Covers and Tubes, Various:

Avon India Rubber Co., Ltd., Wilts.—Govers, Tubes and Solid
Tyres, Various: Dunlop Rubber Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—Dowlas, Tan: A. Blyth & Co., Kirkcaldy.—Felt Sheet: R. Ashworth, Waterfoot, near Manchester.—Glasses, Various: Stevens & Williams, Waterfoot, near Manchester.—Glasses, Various: Stevens & Williams, Ltd., Stourbridge; Stuart & Sons, Ltd., Stourbridge.—Helmet Bodies: J. Compton, Sons & Webb, Ltd., London, E., and Swindon; Helmets, Ltd., St. Albans.—Jackets, Service Dress: Stones Clothiers, Manchester.—Lathes and Cases: Drummond Bros., Ltd., Guildford.—Lead: Oidas Metals Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—Linoleum: Barry Ostlere & Shepherd, Ltd., Kirkcaldy.—Lorry, Motors and Generators, Electric: The Rees Roturbo Mfg. Co., Ltd., Wolverhampton.—Manhole Covers, etc.: United Steel Co., Ltd., Thomas Butlin & Co. Branch, Wellingborough.—Pannels, Numnah: Barrow Hepburn & Gale, Ltd., London, S.E.—Pipes and Connections, Cast Iron Soil Ventilating: Smith & Wellstood, Ltd., Bonnybridge, Scotland.—Pipes, Hose Canvas: Richards, Ltd., London, E.C.— Scotland.—Pipes, Hose Canvas: Richards, Ltd., London, E.C.—Puttees: Astrachans, Ltd., Bradford; Fox Bros. & Co., Wellington, Somerset.—Putty: Naylor Bros. (Ldn.), Ltd., Slough, Bucks.—Retort Bench: South Metropolitan Gas Co., Ltd., London, S.W.

Ltd., Staffs.—Rugs, Axminster: T. Tapling & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—Saddles and Trestles, Pontoon: Otto Anderson & Co. (Ldn.) Ltd., Wivenhoe.—Serge, Blue: The Greengates Worsted Co., Apperley Bridge, Yorks.—Serge, S.D.: The Convoy Woollen Co., Ltd., Convoy, Co. Donegal.—Silk Cloth: Ireland & Wishart, Kirkcaldy; Sellers & Sons, Thongsbridge; Wilman & Co., Hadfield. aldy; Sellers & Sons, Thongsbridge; Wilman & Co., Hadfield.

—Socks, Worsted: S. Resdaile & Co. (Hosiery Mfgs.), Ltd., London, .- Spares, Lorry: J. I. Thornycroft & Co., Ltd., Basingstoke. —Spares, Tractor: J. I. Thornycroft & Co., Ltd., Basingstoke.—Steel, Mild: The Midland Steel Co., Ltd., Wolverhampton; The Port Talbot Steel Co., Ltd., Port Talbot.—Steel Bars: Parkgate Iron & Steel Co., Ltd., Rotherham.—Steel, Flat, Various: The Whitehead Iron & Steel Co., Ltd., Tredegar.—Steel, Round: Partington Steel & Iron Co., Ltd., Manchester.—Stockinette: N. Corah & Sons, Ltd., Leicester.—Surgical Appliances: A. Berton, Ltd., London, E.C.; General Surgical Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; S. Maw, Son & Sons, Ltd., London and New Barnet; Robinson & Sons, Ltd., Chesterfield; T. J. Smith & Nephew, Ltd., Hull.—Switches Ltd., Chesterfield; T. J. Smith & Nephew, Ltd., Hull.—Switches and Grossings: The Isca Foundry Co., Ltd., Newport.—Tinplates: Wilbraham & Smith, London, E.C.—Towels, Hand, Turkish: Barlow & Jones, Ltd., Bolton.—Trailer Assemblies: Halley's Industrial Motors, Ltd., London, S.W.—Tyres, Bicycle Covers: Dunlop Rubber Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—Valves, W.T.: The British Thomson-Houston Co., Ltd., Coventry; A. C. Cossor, Ltd., London, N.; Edison & Swan Electric Co., Ltd., London, N.; The Mullard Radio Valve Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—Works Services: Maintenance Works: Woolwich Mfg. Districts: Arthur Cole, Ltd., Luton. Woolwich Area: Arthur Cole, Ltd., Luton, Beds. Watchet Camp: F. C. Spear, Lyngford, Taunton, Exeter: F. J. Stan-F. C. Spear, Lyngford, Taunton. Exeter: F. J. Standymouth. Building Works and Services: Smallshot (near bury, Plymouth. Frimley, Surrey)—formation of site, etc.: Franks, Harris Bros., Ltd., Guildford. Sandhurst—provision of false roof and Md. Quarters Bungalows: J. R. McLean, Keil. Watchet: F. C. Spear, Lyngford, Taunton. *Painting*: Canterbury: C. J. Else & Co., Derby. Shorncliffe: S. Lupton & Sons, Bradford, Yorks.

AIR MINISTRY.

Aircraft: Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Bristol; Gloucestershire Aircraft Co., Ltd., Cheltenham.—Aircraft Metal Spares: Steel Wing Co., London, S.E.—Aircraft Spares: Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Bristol; Fairey Aviation Co., Ltd., Hayes; S. E. Saunders, Ltd., Cowes, Isle of Wight; Vickers, Ltd., Weybridge; Westland Aircraft Works, Yeovil.—Alternators and Transformers: Newton Bros., Derby.—Bins, Ash: Baldwins, Ltd., London, E.—Boxes, Voltage Control: Pyne Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Tendon, E.—Buks, Voltage Control: Pyne Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Teddington.—
Brushes, Sweeping, Long: F. Smith & Co., London, S.E.; Newton & Cook, London, S.W.—Building and Works Services: Aeroplane Weighing Machines: S. Denison & Sons, Ltd., Leeds. Artificers Works (Harlescott): (Sealand and Altrincham): J. Enock, Sheffield. Barbed Wire (Middle East): Wm. Bain & Co., Ltd., Coathwides. Extraories to School (Halten): Leekis & Co., Ltd., London. bridge. Extensions to School (Halton): Leslie & Co., Ltd., London, W. External Services (Biggin Hill): Pearce Bros., Bromley. External Services (Henlow): M. & F. O. Foster & Co., Ltd., Hitchin, Fuel Oil Storage (Cardington, Egypt, etc.): Zwicky, Ltd., Slough. Gas and Water Mains, etc. (Cardington): W. Laughton, Bedford. Heating and Hot Water Supply (Wittering): Brightside Foundry and Engineering Co., Ltd., Birmingham. Hydrogen Gas Plant (Egypt): S. Cutler & Sons, Ltd., London, S.W. Illuminated Wind Indicator (Littlestons). The Cost Accomplete Co. (Ltd.) Indicator (Littlestone): The Gas Accumulator Co. (U.K.), Ltd., Brentford. Masthead Structures (Cardington and Egypt): Babcock & Wilcox, Ltd., London, E.C. Protected Metal Sheets (Middle East): Wolverhampton Corrugated Iron Co., Ltd., Birkenhead. Underground Cables (Worthy Down): Pirelli General Cable Works, Ltd., Southampton.—Garburettors and Spares: H. M. Hobson, Ltd., London, S.W. Coal, Midland, Steam (Kidbrooke): Albert Usher & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—Coal, Small Steam (R.A.E.): Cleeves Western Valleys Anthracite Collieries, Ltd. London, E.C.—Coal, Steam: (Henlow): Peake, Oliver & Peake, Ltd., London, E.C.—Coal, Steam: (Henlow): Peake, Oliver & Peake, Ltd., London, E.C.—Coal, Steam: (Henlow): Peake, Oliver & Peake, Ltd., London, E.C.—Coal, Steam: (Henlow): Peake, Oliver & Peake, Ltd., London, E.C.—Coal, Steam: (Henlow): Peake, Oliver & Peake, Ltd., London, E.C.—Coal, Steam: (Henlow): Peake, Oliver & Peake, Ltd., London, E.C.—Coal, Steam: (Henlow): Peake, Oliver & Peake, Ltd., London, E.C.—Coal, Steam: (Henlow): Peake, Oliver & Peake, Ltd., London, E.C.—Coal, Steam: (Henlow): Peake, Oliver & Peake, Ltd., London, E.C.—Coal, Steam: (Henlow): Peake, Oliver & Peake, Ltd., London, E.C.—Coal, Steam: (Henlow): Peake, Oliver & Peake, Ltd., London, E.C.—Coal, Steam: (Henlow): Peake, Oliver & Peake, Ltd., London, E.C.—Coal, Steam: (Henlow): Peake, Oliver & Peake, Ltd., London, E.C.—Coal, Steam: (Henlow): Peake, Oliver & Peake, Ltd., London, E.C.—Coal, Steam: (Henlow): Peake, Oliver & Peake, Ltd., London, E.C.—Coal, Steam: (Henlow): Peake, Oliver & Peake, Ltd., London, E.C.—Coal, Steam: (Henlow): Peake, Oliver & Peake, Ltd., London, E.C.—Coal, Steam: (Henlow): Peake, Oliver & Peake, Ltd., London, E.C.—Coal, Steam: (Henlow): Peake, Oliver & Peake, Ltd., London, E.C.—Coal, Steam: (Henlow): Peake, Oliver & Peake, Oliv Coal, Steam: (Henlow): Peake, Oliver & Peake, Ltd., London, E.C. (Manston): Dinham, Fawcus & Co., Ltd., London, E.C. Coal, Welsh, Steam: (Ickenham, Kidbrooke): Dinham, Fawcus & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—Coke, Foundry: (Cardington): Peake, Oliver & Peake, Ltd., London, E.C.—Coke, Gas: (Calshot): A. G. Dawbarn, London, E.C. (Cardington): Thos. McLeod & Partners, Ltd., London, E.C. (Harlescott): Peake, Oliver & Peake, Ltd., London, E.C. (Hawkinge): Folkestone Gas and Coke Co., Folkestone. (Henlow): Thos. McLeod & Partners, Ltd., London, E.C. (Manston): P. Hawksfield & Son, Ltd., London, E.C. (Mitton); (Upavon and Netheravon): Peake, Oliver & Peake, Ltd., London, E.C.—Colours, Identification, Nitro: Cellon (Richmond, Ltd., Richmond.—Crossley Spares: Crossley Motors, Ltd., Manchester.—Disinfectant Fluid: Sanitas Co., Ltd., London, E.—Dope, Cellulose, Acetate: British Celanese, Ltd., London, S.W.—Dope, Covering, Acetate: British Celanese, Ltd., London, S.W.—Dope, Covering, Nitro: Cellon (Richmond), Ltd., Richmond.—Engines, Aircraft: Nitro: Cellon (Richmond), Ltd., Richmond.—Engines, Aircraft: Armstrong Siddeley Motors, Ltd., Coventry; Rolls Royce, Ltd., Derby.—Engines, Aircraft, Spares: Rolls Royce, Ltd., Derby.—Extinguishers, Fire: Pyrene Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—Flood Light: Chance Bros. & Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—Ford Spares: A. E. Gould, Ltd., London, W.—Hose, Canvas: Wm. Rose Hose Co., Ltd., Salford.—Linen, Old, Rags: A. Jacob & Co., London, S.E.; Northern Waste Co., Salford.—Oil, Fuel, Diesel: British Petroleum Co., London, E.C.—Oil, Fuel, Furnace: Anglo-Persian Oil Co., London, E.C.—Paint, Blue Grey: Dixon's White, Ltd., London, E.—Paraffin: (Iraq): Anglo-Persian Oil Co., London, E.C.—Plugs, Sparking, and Accessories, Ignition: Robinhood Engineering Works, Ltd., London, S.W.—Pumps. Air. for Oleo Undercarriages: Vickers. Ltd., London, S.W.—Pumps, Air, for Oleo Undercarriages: Vickers, Ltd., London, S.W.—Rolls Royce Spares: Rolls Royce, Ltd., Derby.—Sheets, Cotton: Rylands & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.—Solvent: Cellon (Richmond), Ltd., Richmond.—Starters, Impulse: S. Smith &

Sons (M.A.), Ltd., London, N.W.—Timber, Imported, Swedish: Denny, Mott & Dickson, Ltd., London, E.C.—Transmitters: Gambrell Bros., London, S.W.

THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE.

POST OFFICE.

Apparatus, Telephonic: Automatic Telephone Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Liverpool; British L. M. Ericsson Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Beeston; General Electric Co., Ltd., London, W.C.; Siemens Brothers & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; Sterling Telephone & Electric Co., Ltd., Dagenham; Telegraph Condenser Co., Ltd., Kew Gardens, Surrey; Western Electric Co., Ltd., London, E. or New Southgate.

—Apparatus, Fire Alarm: A. C. Brown, London, E.C.—Apparatus, Testing and Protective: T. O. Blake, London, E.C.; Phoenix Telephone & Electric Works, Ltd., London, N.W.; M. W. Woods, Colchester.—Apparatus, Wireless: Western Electric Co., Ltd., New Southgate.—Beeswax: Chas. Ferris, London, E.C.—Belts, Safety: Barrow, Hepburn and Gale, Ltd., London, S.E.—Blocks for Covers, Jointing Pit: A. Bailey, Stone, Staffs.—Boxes, Packing: Calders, Ltd., London, S.E.; Henry Smith & Lloyd, Ltd., London, E.—Brackets: D. Willetts, Ltd., Cradley Heath.—Cable, Various: British Insulated and Helsby Cables, Ltd., Prescot; Callenders Cable & Construction Co., Ltd., Belvedere; Connolly's (Blackley), Ltd., Blackley; Enfield Cable Works, Ltd., Brimsdown; W. T. Glover & Co., Ltd., Trafford Park; Hackbridge Cable Co., Ltd., Hackbridge; W. T. Henley's Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., Gravers Cable, Works Apparatus, Telephonic: Automatic Telephone Manufacturing Co., Hackbridge; W. T. Henley's Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., Gravesend; Macintosh Cable Co., Ltd., Derby; Pirelli General Cable Works, Ltd., Southampton; Siemens Brothers & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—Galico: Woods, Sons & Co., London, E.C.—Ganvas, Flax: Baxter, Brothers & Co., Ltd., Dundee.—Ganvas, Hessian: Craiks, Ltd., Forfar—Galle Day: Even Bandy Co. (Crost Britain) Brothers & Co., Ltd., Dundee.—Canvas, Hessian: Craiks, Ltd., Forfar.—Cells, Dry: Ever Ready Co. (Great Britain), Ltd., London, N.; General Electric Co., Ltd., Witton; Siemens, Brothers & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—Cells, Secondary, parts for: D.P. Battery Co., Ltd., Bakewell.—Clothing, Uniform: H. Lotery & Co., Ltd., London, E.—Clothing, Waterproof: Broadhurst & Co., Ltd., Manchester; Campbell, Achnach & Co., Ltd., Glasgow; Chas. Macintosh & Co., Ltd., Manchester; G. MacLellan & Co., Ltd., Clasgow; Colleges, Colle Glasgow.—Coils, Loading: Western Electric Co., Ltd., London, E.
—Ducts: Doulton & Co., Ltd., Dudley; Ensor & Co., Ltd., Woodville; Hepworth Iron Co., Ltd., Hazlehead; H. R. Mansfield,
Ltd., Church Gresley; Mountford Phillips & Co. (1920), Ltd.,
Llantrisant; Jas. Oakes & Co. (Riddings Collieries), Ltd., Jacksdale; Oates & Green, Ltd., Halifax; Robinson & Dowler, Ltd., Overseal; Sutton & Co. (Overseal), Ltd., Overseal; John H. Turner & Lisney, Ltd., Overseal; Jas. Woodward, Ltd., Swad-Turner & Lisney, Ltd., Overseal; Jas. Woodward, Ltd., Swad-lincote.—Fittings, Electric Light: Edison Swan Electric Co., Ltd., Ponders End, Middlesex.—Huts, Battery, Portable: Boulton and Paul, Ltd., Norwich.—Laundry Work: Rogers & Cook, Ltd., London, S.W.; Wm. Whiteley, Ltd., London, W.—Lead, Sheet and Strip: Locke, Blackett & Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne.—Rags: W. C. Jones, Ltd., Collyhurst.—Sleeves, Lead: G. Farmiloe & Sons, Ltd., London, E.—Solder: Tyne Solder Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne—Snirit Mator: Flight Petroleum Co., Ltd., London, N. on Tyne.—Spirit, Motor: Flight Petroleum Co., Ltd., London, N.
—Stayblocks: Burt, Boulton and Haywood, Ltd., Newport and Eling; Wm. Christie & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—Steps, Pole: Bullers, Ltd., Tipton.—Tents, Jointers', repair of: John Smith & Co. (London, E.), Ltd., Goodmayes, Essex.—Trolley Baskets: W. H. Sharp & Sons, Pudsey.—Vans, Ford, complete: W. H. Perry, London, N.—Vans, Ford, bodies for: Bonallack & Sons, London, E.—Vans, Ford, chassis for: F. G. Bradbury, London, N.W.; A. E. Gould, London, W.; W. H. Perry, London, N.—Wire, Copper, Enamelled: Concordia Electric Wire Co., Ltd., New Sawley, Derbyshire.—Conveyance of Mails: G. H. Frecknall, Derngate,

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H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE.

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