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

### EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT.

EMPLOYMENT during March showed a further improvement, which extended to nearly all industries. It was much better than in March of last year.

Among workpeople insured against unemployment in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the percentage unemployed was 17·3 at 19th March, 1934, as compared with 18·2 at 19th February, 1934, and 21·9 at 20th March, 1933. For males alone the percentage at 19th March, 1934, was 20·1, and for females 9·8. At 19th February, 1934, the corresponding percentages were 21·0 and 10·7, and at 20th March, 1933, they were 25·1 and 13·7.

*Insured Persons in work in Great Britain.*—It is estimated that at 19th March, 1934, there were approximately 10,058,000 insured persons aged 16-64 in employment in Great Britain. This was 117,000 more than a month before, and 644,000 more than a year before.

*Numbers Unemployed (excluding Persons normally in Casual Employment).*—At 19th March, 1934, there were 1,796,787 persons on the registers of Employment Exchanges in Great Britain who were out of a situation. This was 84,745 less than a month before, and 373,465 less than a year before. The total on 19th March, 1934, included 1,495,144 men, 44,933 boys, 220,260 women and 36,450 girls. It was made up of 534,357 insured persons with claims for insurance benefit, 927,167 applicants for transitional payments, 204,558 other insured persons not in receipt of benefit or transitional payments, and 130,705 uninsured persons.

*Numbers Temporarily Stopped.*—At 19th March, 1934, there were registered as unemployed in Great Britain 222,747 men, 4,193 boys, 82,592 women and 3,090 girls who were on short time or otherwise suspended from work on the understanding that they were shortly to return to their former employment. The total of 312,622 was 28,275 less than a month before, and 190,755 less than a year before. It included 270,517 insured persons with claims for insurance benefit, 22,510 applicants for transitional payments, and 19,595 persons not in receipt of benefit or transitional payments.

*Numbers Unemployed normally in Casual Employment.*—At 19th March, 1934, there were on the registers in Great Britain 90,399 men, 86 boys, 1,671 women and 12 girls who normally seek a livelihood by means of jobs of short duration; these are largely employed in dock and harbour service. The total of 92,168 was 3,312 less than a month before, and 10,387 less than a year before. It included 64,987 insured persons with claims for insurance benefit, 26,380 applicants for transitional payments, and 801 persons not in receipt of benefit or transitional payments.

*Industries in which Principal Variations occurred.*—The industries in which the improvement during the month was most marked were the building, public works contracting, and allied trades, the clothing trades, iron and steel, tinplate and metal goods manu-

facture, engineering and ironfounding, vehicle building, shipbuilding and ship-repairing, most of the textile industries, printing and bookbinding, furniture manufacture, the distributive trades, the hotel, boarding-house and transport services, and laundries, dyeing and dry-cleaning. There was a slight decline in employment in the wool textile and hosiery industries, textile bleaching and dyeing, leather tanning, and wallpaper manufacture.

### WAGES.

In the industries for which statistics are regularly compiled by the Department, the changes in rates of wages reported to have come into operation in March resulted in a decrease of about £6,420 in the weekly full-time wages of 64,600 workpeople, and in an increase of £25 in those of 650 workpeople.

Of those affected by decreases in wages, the great majority were workpeople engaged in hosiery manufacture in the Midlands, whose cost-of-living bonus was reduced under the operation of a sliding scale agreement. Other groups who sustained decreases included workpeople in the aerated waters trade in Scotland, hosiery finishers at Nottingham, and certain classes of male workers in the ready-made and wholesale bespoke tailoring trade in London. The principal group of workpeople whose wages were increased were the lower-paid workers at ironstone mines in Cleveland.

During the first three months of 1934, the changes recorded have resulted in a net increase of nearly £8,800 in the weekly full-time wages of about 181,000 workpeople, and in a net decrease of nearly £8,700 in those of about 91,000 workpeople.

### COST OF LIVING.

At 31st March the average level of retail prices of the commodities taken into account in the statistics compiled by the Ministry of Labour (including food, rent, clothing, fuel and light, and miscellaneous items) was approximately 39 per cent. above the level of July, 1914, as compared with 40 per cent. at 1st March, 1934, and with 37 per cent. at 1st April, 1933. For food alone the corresponding percentages at these three dates were 18, 20 and 15, respectively.

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

### TRADE DISPUTES.

The number of trade disputes involving stoppages of work reported to the Department as beginning in March was 45. In addition, 11 disputes which began before March were still in progress at the beginning of the month. The number of workpeople involved in all disputes in March (including workpeople thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, though not themselves parties to the disputes) was about 15,000, and the aggregate duration of all disputes in March was about 106,000 working days.



## CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR IN 1933.

In the issue of this GAZETTE for January last, a brief summary was published giving preliminary statistics as to the changes in rates of wages and hours of labour in Great Britain and Northern Ireland during 1933. In the following article revised figures are given, in greater detail, together with comparative statistics for previous years.

Changes in rates of wages and hours of labour come to the notice of the Department from a variety of sources, including (a) arbitration or conciliation proceedings under the Industrial Courts Act, 1919, or the Conciliation Act, 1896; (b) Orders issued under the Trade Boards Act; (c) returns and reports regularly supplied by many employers, employers' associations, and trade unions; (d) reports from the local officers of the Ministry and local correspondents in the principal industrial centres; (e) reports in the press. On the receipt of a notification as to a change, enquiry forms are sent by the Department to the employers or their associations, and to the trade unions concerned, asking for particulars; and at the end of each month a summary of the information obtained is circulated to employers' associations and trade unions for verification. The particulars thus collected are published each month in this GAZETTE (see, for example, pages 142 and 143 of the present issue), with a summary showing the approximate numbers of workpeople affected and the total amount of increase or decrease in their weekly wages or hours of labour.

For the purpose of these statistics a change in a rate of wages is defined as a change in the rate of remuneration of a particular class of workpeople, apart from any change in the nature of the work performed. This definition excludes (a) changes in average earnings due to changes in the proportions of higher and lower paid workpeople, (b) changes in the rates of pay of individuals due to promotions or to progressive increments within the limits of fixed scales of wages, (c) changes in the terms of employment providing merely for compensation for extra work, (d) changes in earnings arising out of variations in the amount of work done or in the amount of employment available, and (e) changes in earnings arising from alterations in the system of payment (time-work, piece-work, etc.).

It should be noted that as the Department has no compulsory powers in regard to the collection of the information, it is dependent on the voluntary co-operation of the employers, employers' associations, and trade unions concerned for the supply of the particulars required. While this voluntary co-operation is very freely accorded, and the statistics, therefore, cover a very wide field, some changes in wages and hours of labour, especially among those affecting unorganised groups of workpeople and those arranged by individual firms, do not come to the notice of the Department, and are consequently not included in the figures. Moreover, the statistics exclude changes in the wages and hours of agricultural labourers, Government employees, domestic servants, shop assistants, and clerks.

## RATES OF WAGES.

For the great majority of workpeople, rates of wages remained unchanged throughout 1933; but among the small proportion whose wage rates were altered, those who sustained decreases considerably outnumbered those who obtained increases, and the net result was a reduction, during the year, of about one-half of 1 per cent. in the average level of weekly full-time rates of wages.

In all the industries and services for which statistics are regularly compiled,\* the changes in rates of wages reported to the Department as taking effect in 1933 resulted in an aggregate net decrease estimated at rather more than £82,000 in the weekly full-time rates of wages of 894,000 workpeople, and in a net increase of a little over £17,000 in those of nearly 180,000 workpeople. The net effect of all the changes reported was, therefore, a decrease of about £65,000 in the weekly full-time wages of the workpeople in the industries covered by the statistics.

## MONTHLY CHANGES IN 1933.

The following Table shows the numbers of workpeople, in the industries covered by the statistics, who were affected by changes in rates of wages reported to the Department as taking effect in each month of 1933, and the amount of the change in their weekly wages. It should be noted that a considerable number of workpeople had their wages changed more than once during the year; in such cases the same workers appear among the total number affected in two or more months.

Month.	Approximate Number of Workpeople whose Rates of Wages were		Estimated Weekly Amount of Change in Rates of Wages.	
	Increased.	Decreased.	£	£
January ... ..	5,000	140,000	400	8,750
February ... ..	4,500	557,000	500	46,700
March ... ..	19,000	32,000	950	10,050
April ... ..	40,000	157,000	3,750	11,650
May ... ..	89,500	105,000	12,300	8,500
June ... ..	2,500	69,000	350	5,700
July ... ..	89,500	6,500	1,450	600
August ... ..	108,500	10,500	4,850	800
September ... ..	67,000	3,250	6,750	225
October ... ..	97,500	1,650	4,000	225
November ... ..	24,250	69,500	2,950	6,150
December ... ..	26,000	35,250	1,750	5,900

The reductions in the first six months of the year, and the increases in the following four months, were largely due to the effects of the

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

fluctuations in the cost of living on wages in certain industries in which wage rates are regularly adjusted, under sliding-scale agreements, in correspondence with the movements of the official cost-of-living index number. During the first half of the year there were reductions in rates of wages, under the operation of such arrangements, in a number of industries, including textile bleaching, dyeing and finishing (in January and April), building (in February), hosiery manufacture (in March), some sections of the railway service (in April), electrical wiring and contracting (in April), electrical cable manufacture (in May), and paper manufacture (in June). During the next four months the rise in the cost-of-living index figure resulted in increases, under sliding-scale arrangements, in rates of wages in various industries, including textile bleaching, dyeing, etc. (in July and October), electrical cable manufacture (in August), and hosiery manufacture (in September). Fluctuations in selling prices were responsible for increases in May and August, and for reductions in June and November, in the wages of important groups of workpeople in the iron and steel industry whose wage rates are regularly adjusted in correspondence with changes in the selling prices of the products of that industry. In industries other than those in which wages are automatically adjusted in accordance with changes in cost of living or in selling prices there were few changes in the general level of rates of wages during 1933.

## CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES IN INDUSTRY-GROUPS.

The following Table shows the numbers of workpeople affected by net increases and decreases in rates of wages, and the net amounts of increase or decrease, in each of the groups of industries covered. It should be observed that, as the changes in the wages of adult men are usually greater than those affecting women, boys and girls, comparisons of the average amount of change per head to be deduced from the figures are affected by the varying proportions of men, women and young persons employed in the different groups of industries.

Industry-Group.	Approximate Number of separate individuals reported as affected by		Estimated Net Weekly Amount of Change in Rates of Wages.		Estimated Net Weekly Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Rates of Wages of all Workpeople affected.
	Net Increases.	Net Decreases.	Increases. Decreases.		
			£	£	
Coal Mining ... ..	100	13,200	15	440	425
Other Mining and Quarrying ... ..	2,400	10,300	335	1,410	1,075
Brick, Pottery, Glass, Chemical, etc. ... ..	21,700	8,200	2,750	700	+ 2,050
Iron and Steel ... ..	100,250	4,500	8,925	200	+ 8,725
Engineering ... ..	1,100	5,200	330	1,650	+ 1,320
Shipbuilding ... ..	...	2,000	...	680	...
Other Metal ... ..	600	12,600	100	1,000	900
Textile ... ..	20,500	162,000	2,000	9,650	7,650
Clothing ... ..	350	32,800	25	5,600	5,575
Food, Drink and Tobacco ... ..	...	2,300	...	200	200
Woodworking, Furniture, etc. ... ..	250	9,550	50	900	850
Paper, Printing, etc. ... ..	...	16,800	...	2,475	2,475
Building, Public Works Contracting, etc. ... ..	...	533,000	...	48,250	48,250
Gas, Water and Electricity Supply ... ..	1,300	2,300	250	275	25
Transport ... ..	24,000	40,000	1,750	5,200	3,450
Public Administration Services ... ..	6,550	15,000	620	1,220	600
Other ... ..	400	24,250	100	2,650	2,550
Total ... ..	179,500	894,000	17,250	82,500	65,250

In addition to the numbers shown in the above Table, about 114,000 workpeople received increases and sustained decreases of equal amounts during the year.

**Principal Increases in Rates of Wages.**—Of the 180,000 workpeople in the industries and services covered by the statistics whose rates of wages were increased in 1933, approximately 100,000 were accounted for by the iron and steel industry, in which wage rates fluctuate, under sliding-scale arrangements, in accordance with selling prices. The principal group of workpeople so affected were those engaged in steel smelting shops and rolling mills in various districts of England and in the West of Scotland, whose rates of wages, after some fluctuation, showed net increases at the end of the year ranging from about 2 per cent. in the case of the lower-paid workers up to over 5 per cent. in the case of some of the higher paid men. There were also net increases, during the year, of 2½ per cent. in the rates of wages of blastfurnacemen in Cleveland, and of approximately 2 per cent. in those of the higher paid workpeople employed at iron puddling furnaces and iron and steel rolling mills and forges in the Midlands. Other workpeople in this industry who received net increases during the year included the higher-paid workers at steel sheet rolling mills in various districts.

In the chemical, &c., industries, the wages of over 20,000 workpeople employed by certain firms engaged in the manufacture of heavy chemicals and explosives and allied trades were increased as a result of the restoration of a general reduction of ½d. per hour for men and ¼d. for women and young persons on time-work, and of 5 per cent. for piece-workers, which had been made in June, 1931. In the textile industries the principal increase affected about 20,000 big, or side, piecers employed in the cotton spinning industry in Lancashire, Cheshire, and Yorkshire, whose wages were raised by 2s. per week. In the transport group the largest group of workpeople affected were the employees of

tramway undertakings in the Metropolitan area, who received an increase of ½d. per hour or 1s. per week. Other classes of workpeople whose wages were increased during 1933 included limestone quarry workers employed by certain firms in the Buxton district, ironstone miners and quarrymen in North Lincolnshire, stock brick makers in Kent and Essex, and manual workers employed in the non-trading departments of several local authorities.

**Principal Reductions in Rates of Wages.**—Of the total of nearly 900,000 workpeople in the industries and services covered by the statistics, whose wages were reduced in 1933, by far the largest group of workpeople were *building trade operatives* in all the principal districts of Great Britain, numbering nearly half-a-million. The great majority had their wages reduced by ½d. per hour in the case of craftsmen and by ¼d. or ½d. per hour in the case of labourers, under the operation of a sliding scale based on the cost of living. In certain cases, however, the amount of the change was different. For example, painters in Scotland sustained a reduction of 1d. per hour; while in the case of plasterers in London there were successive reductions amounting to 1½d. or 2d. per hour so as to bring them into line with other craftsmen. The wages of qualified men employed by electrical contractors in England and Wales and in certain towns in Northern Ireland were also reduced under a cost-of-living sliding scale, the reductions being ¼d., ½d., or 1d. per hour.

The principal body of workpeople in the *textile* group whose wages were reduced during 1933 consisted of nearly 80,000 bleaching, dyeing, printing and finishing operatives in various parts of Yorkshire, Lancashire, Cheshire, Derbyshire, and Scotland, whose wages fluctuated in accordance with a sliding scale based on the cost of living, and at the end of the year had been reduced by about 1½ per cent. in Yorkshire, and by 7d. a week for men and 4d. a week for women in the other districts. Other classes of textile workers whose wages were reduced included woollen trade operatives in Scotland and workpeople engaged in flannel manufacture at Rochdale. There were also reductions, affecting over 60,000 workers, in the minimum rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts for jute and flax preparing, spinning and weaving, rope, twine and net making, and sack and bag making.

In the *transport* group rather less than 20,000 of the lower-rated railway employees, and railway police, in Great Britain, sustained reductions, under the operation of a cost-of-living sliding scale, which ranged up to 1s. per week. There was also a reduction in the wage rates of most of the railway workers in Northern Ireland. For about 6,000 coal trimmers at the principal coal exporting centres in Great Britain there was a reduction of 5 per cent. on general list rates, equivalent to about 8 per cent. on current wages; there were also alterations in certain items of the wages list which resulted in further reductions in earnings. For road transport workers at Liverpool, Birkenhead, Bootle and Wallasey there was a reduction of 3s. per week for adult workers.

In the *clothing* group reductions of ½d. or 1d. per hour were made in the minimum rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts for about 27,000 male workers engaged in the ready-made and wholesale bespoke tailoring trade. There were also reductions in the piece-work basis time rate fixed under the Trade Boards Acts for female piece workers employed in the dressmaking and women's light clothing trade in Scotland (except the retail branch of the trade), and in the minimum time rates of male workers in all branches of the trade; also in the minimum rates for male workers in the shirt-making trade in Great Britain.

Among other industries in which reductions in wages occurred in 1933 were coal mining in Warwickshire, slate quarrying in parts of the North Wales district, freestone quarrying in Yorkshire and other districts, granite quarrying in Cornwall, glass working at Liverpool, iron puddling and rolling in the North-East Coast area, pig-iron manufacture (the higher-paid workers) in West Cumberland and North Lancashire and in the West of Scotland, engineering at Belfast, bobbin making in various districts in England and Wales, shuttle making in Yorkshire and Lancashire, ferrying in various towns in Lancashire and Cheshire, sawmilling in some districts, packing case making in certain towns in Lancashire, furniture manufacture at Edinburgh, Liverpool, Manchester and in some other districts, paper making (majority of workers), cotton waste and general waste materials reclamation, and basket making in various districts. Reductions also occurred in the wages of workpeople employed in the non-trading departments of a number of local authorities.

**Industries in which Wages remained unchanged.**—Among the industries in which wages generally remained unchanged in 1933 were the following: coal mining in all districts except Warwickshire, pottery, soap and candle making, drug and fine chemical manufacture, glass bottle making, pig-iron manufacture in North Lincolnshire, Staffordshire, Nottinghamshire and Northamptonshire, iron and steel manufacture in South Wales and Monmouthshire, steel making at Sheffield, engineering, shipbuilding and ship repairing, railway engineering workshops, tinplate manufacture, light castings, constructional engineering, cutlery and various other metal industries, cotton spinning and weaving (except big piecers), the wool textile industry in Yorkshire, silk, lace, linen in Northern Ireland, boot and shoe manufacture, glove making, flour milling, cocoa and chocolate and sugar confectionery manufacture and food preserving, seed crushing, oil milling, printing and bookbinding, road vehicle building, coopering, civil engineering construction, dock labour, shipping, and gas, water and electricity supply. The statutory minimum rates fixed by most of the Trade Boards remained unchanged in 1933, including those in the following industries: aerated waters; corset; fur; hat, cap and millinery; hollow-ware; laundry; made-up textiles; milk distribution; paper bag; retail bespoke tailoring (except for a reduction in one area); stamped or pressed metal wares; sugar confectionery and food preserving; tin box making; tobacco; and wholesale mantle and costume.

There were also about 114,000 workpeople for whom there were two or more movements in wages during the year which left the general level of wages the same at the end as at the beginning. Of these, the principal classes were hosiery workers in the Midlands, flint glass makers and cutters, electrical cable makers, chain makers, felt hat makers, and brush and broom makers.

**Changes in Wages in Industries outside the scope of these Statistics.**—The foregoing statistics are exclusive of changes in the rates of wages of Government employees, agricultural labourers, shop assistants, clerks, and domestic servants. Among Government employees, no important changes in rates of wages were reported in 1933. As regards agricultural labourers, the minimum rates fixed under the Agricultural Wages (Regulation) Act, 1924, for adult male labourers, were reduced, during 1933, in the following counties in England and Wales: Cumberland, Westmorland, Durham, Northumberland, the North and West Ridings of Yorkshire, Lancashire, Leicestershire and Rutland, Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, Devonshire, Anglesey, Caernarvon, Denbigh, Flint, Merioneth and Montgomery. In Glamorgan, and in Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly, the statutory minimum rates were increased. In Scotland, which is not covered by the Act, the available information indicates that there were fairly widespread reductions in the cash rates of farm servants during 1933. In the case of shop assistants and clerks there were reductions in certain areas during 1933 in the scales of pay of such workers employed by co-operative societies. As regards other scales of pay agreed upon for these workers, so far as known to the Department, there were no important changes during the year. It should be observed, however, that the wages of the great majority of shop assistants and clerks and also of domestic servants are not regulated by collective agreements between organisations of employers and workpeople; and some changes in rates of wages in these groups, therefore, do not come to the notice of the Department.

## METHODS BY WHICH CHANGES IN WAGES WERE ARRANGED.

In the case of those workpeople who received increases at certain dates and sustained reductions at other dates in 1933, the figures in the Table on page 116 relate to the *net* amount of the change in the year. The *gross* total of all the increases granted was £40,000, and that of all the decreases was £105,250 per week, the net effect being a decrease, as shown, of £65,250 per week. The following Table gives the aggregate amounts of the total increase and total decrease which were effected by various methods during 1933, together with percentages which show to what extent each method contributed to the total. The figures in italics represent the changes which followed disputes causing stoppage of work.

Method.	Aggregate Weekly Amount of Change in Rates of Wages effected by the Methods shown in the first column.			
	Increases.		Decreases.	
	Amount.	Percentage of Total.	Amount.	Percentage of Total.
Under sliding scales* based on Cost of living ... ..	£ 14,800	37.0	£ 68,000	64.6
Selling prices, proceeds of industry, etc. ... ..	13,400	33.5	8,000	7.6
Conciliation (including Conciliation Boards*) ... ..	2,850	7.1	1,350	1.3
Arbitration ... ..	400	1.0	850	0.8
By other methods:—	(5)	(0.0)	(50)	(0.1)
Direct Negotiation, etc. ... ..	7,200	18.0	15,150	14.4
Joint Industrial Councils* ... ..	(395)	(1.0)	(2,450)	(2.3)
Trade Boards* ... ..	1,225	3.1	100	0.1
Trade Boards* ... ..	125	0.3	11,800	11.2
Total ... ..	40,000	100.0	105,250	100.0
	(400)	(1.0)	(2,500)	(2.4)

It will be seen that nearly three-quarters of the total amounts both of increases and decreases were effected by some form of sliding scale.

## COMPARISON WITH PREVIOUS YEARS.

In the Table below the number of workpeople recorded as affected by changes in rates of wages, and the net amount of increase or decrease in 1933, in the industries for which statistics are available,† are shown in comparison with similar figures for previous years. The figures quoted in the Table must be regarded in the light of certain qualifications. In the first place, it should be noted that the changes in wage rates reported to the Department are in the main those arranged between organised groups of employers and workpeople, and that many changes among unorganised workers, especially those affecting only employees of single firms, are not reported. Moreover, as already stated, certain large groups of workpeople are definitely excluded from the scope of the statistics. In consequence of these limitations the figures should not be regarded as affording more than a general indication of the direction of the movement of wages in any year, and a very rough measure of the extent of such movement in comparison with that of other years; and significance should not be attached to small differences in the amount of change between one year and another.

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



Year.	Approximate Number of separate Individuals* reported as affected by		Estimated Net Weekly Amount of Change in Rates of Wages.		Estimated Net Weekly Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Rates of Wages of all Workpeople affected.
	Net Increases.	Net Decreases.	Increases.	Decreases.	
1915	4,305,000	...	867,100	...	+ 867,100
1916	4,848,000	250	885,250	...	+ 885,250
1917	6,362,000	75	2,986,200	...	+ 2,986,195
1918	6,924,000	...	3,434,500	...	+ 3,434,500
1919	6,240,000	100	2,547,200	60	+ 2,547,140
1920	7,867,000	500	4,793,200	180	+ 4,793,020
1921	78,000	7,244,000	13,600	6,074,600	+ 6,061,000
1922	73,700	7,633,000	11,450	4,221,500	+ 4,210,050
1923	1,202,000	3,079,000	169,000	486,000	+ 317,000
1924	873,000	481,500	616,000	62,100	+ 553,900
1925	420,000	740,000	80,900	159,000	+ 78,100
1926	282,000	1,855,000	30,700	388,500	+ 357,800
1927	217,000	1,615,000	21,800	163,800	+ 142,000
1928	142,000	917,000	12,900	91,700	+ 78,800
1929	768,000	1,100,000	59,500	116,100	+ 56,600
1930	47,000	3,010,000	5,150	406,300	+ 401,150
1931	33,500	1,949,000	2,600	251,800	+ 249,200
1932	179,500	894,000	17,250	82,500	+ 65,250

The relative levels of wages at the end of 1914 and 1933, cannot be accurately ascertained by deducting the aggregate amount of the reduction shown in the years 1921-1933 from the aggregate amount of increase recorded in 1915-1920. The figures, however, illustrate the general trend of the movements in money rates of wages over the whole period. A small amount of change in any year indicates little more than the fact that wages were almost stationary; in 1925, for example, the inclusion of agricultural labourers would have converted the small reduction in wages shown in the Table into a slight increase. Further, the fact that the changes reported relate mainly to organised workers results in the figures being influenced, over a series of years, by fluctuations in the strength of the workers' organisations. This is particularly the case during the period since 1914, in which such fluctuations have been very considerable. The movement towards the negotiation of wage changes on a national basis since the war period has also tended to make the figures more comprehensive, for such changes do not escape notice, whereas, when separate arrangements are made in each locality, it is possible that some of the changes, especially among those affecting only the smaller districts, may not be reported. It should also be observed that, during the war period, the number of female workers in industry was above the normal and the number of male workers considerably below normal; and as the amounts of increases or decreases in the rates of wages of female workers are generally smaller than those agreed upon for males in the same industry, the aggregate amount of the changes in those years was lower than it would have been if the pre-war proportions of male and female employees had been maintained.

HOURS OF LABOUR.

The total number of workpeople whose normal hours of labour were reported as having been changed in 1933 was 15,000. Of these 2,500 had their hours increased by an average of about 1½ hours per week, and 12,500 had their working time reduced by slightly more than 3 hours per week. The following Table shows the number of workpeople whose hours of labour were reported as changed in each of the years 1915 to 1933, in the industries for which statistics are available,† with the aggregate net amount of the change in weekly hours:—

Year.	Approximate Number of Workpeople whose Hours of Labour were		Aggregate Net Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Weekly Hours.
	Increased.	Reduced.	
1915	620	20,500	- 63,000
1916	1,300	22,000	- 100,000
1917	2,400	32,000	- 120,000
1918	1,750	148,000	- 568,000
1919	1,150	6,305,000	- 40,651,000
1920	2,000	570,000	- 2,114,000
1921	31,500	12,900	+ 14,500
1922	16,000	302,700	+ 93,000
1923	325,000	9,600	+ 108,750
1924	13,150	16,150	+ 12,500
1925	1,300	3,925	+ 3,984,650
1926	18,700	1,700	+ 59,000
1927	934,200	340	+ 200
1928	1,400	1,050	+ 8,750
1929	4,050	349,225	+ 873,500
1930	13,175	111,000	+ 142,000
1931	294,000	5,750	+ 7,000
1932	6,000	12,500	- 36,000
1933	2,500	...	...

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

In addition to the workpeople for whom figures are given in the above Table, there have been in each year since 1920 (except 1922) certain workpeople whose wages were increased and decreased by equal amounts during the year. The numbers of such workpeople are as follows: 1921, 110,000; 1922, 404,000; 1924, 372,000; 1925, 332,000; 1926, 447,000; 1927, 62,000; 1928, 187,000; 1929, 295,000; 1930, 85,000; 1931, 7,000; 1932, 16,000; 1933, 114,000.

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

WAGE AGREEMENTS IN COTTON MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY.

In answer to a question in the House of Commons on 29th March, asking as to the present position in the manufacturing section of the cotton industry in reference to the legalisation of agreed rates of wages, the Minister of Labour made the following statement:—

"I propose to have a further meeting at once with the employers' and operatives' organisations, and, subject to the result of that discussion, I propose to introduce legislation. It will be understood that any such legislation would be limited to the manufacturing section of the cotton industry, and would be regarded as an experiment."

In accordance with this statement, the Minister of Labour met representatives of the employers' and operatives' organisations in the cotton manufacturing industry on 10th April. He indicated in general outline proposals whereby agreed rates of wages might be made legally enforceable in the industry, and replied to various questions put to him by the representatives.

After the Minister had retired a Resolution was passed unanimously "that the employers' and operatives' representatives jointly accept and approve of the proposals as outlined by the Minister of Labour to-day, and they endorse such proposals."

ESTIMATED NUMBER OF INSURED PERSONS IN EMPLOYMENT.

In the issue of this GAZETTE for January, 1934 (page 8), a statement was published giving for the period January, 1931, to December, 1933, estimates of the numbers of insured persons in employment in Great Britain. In the following Table the series is continued to March, 1934. The figures in column 6 have been obtained by deducting, from the total estimated numbers insured, the average numbers recorded as unemployed and the numbers directly involved in trade disputes, together with an allowance of 3½ per cent. of the numbers insured in respect of absences from work through sickness and other forms of unrecorded non-employment other than "recognised" holidays.

Date.	Estimated Total Insured, Aged 16-64.	Number Unemployed.	Number not Recorded as Unemployed.	Estimated Number in Employment after Allowance for Sickness, etc.:	
				(A) Including Persons directly Involved in Trade Disputes;	(B) Excluding such Persons.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	A (5)	B (6)
1931.					
Jan.-March	12,380	2,583	9,797	9,364	9,320
Apr.-June	12,467	2,538	9,929	9,492	9,487
July-Sept.	12,550	2,746	9,804	9,365	9,353
Oct.-Dec.	12,620	2,652	9,968	9,526	9,525
1932.					
Jan.-March	12,572	2,707	9,865	9,425	9,421
Apr.-June	12,545	2,728	9,817	9,377	9,375
July-Sept.	12,555	2,851	9,705	9,266	9,200
Oct.-Dec.	12,576	2,737	9,839	9,399	9,396
1933.					
Jan.-March	12,595	2,819	9,776	9,335	9,332
Apr.-June	12,613	2,548	10,065	9,624	9,621
July-Sept.	12,630	2,380	10,250	9,808	9,806
Oct.-Dec.	12,645	2,238	10,407	9,964	9,963
1934.					
Jan.-March	12,660	2,257	10,403	9,960	9,958
Jan.-March	12,655	2,337	10,318	9,875	9,874
February	12,660	2,275	10,385	9,942	9,941
March	12,665	2,160	10,505	10,062	10,058

Index Numbers. Average 1924 = 100.

1931.					
Jan.-March	111.8	229.6	98.5	97.9	97.8
Apr.-June	112.6	225.6	99.8	99.3	99.6
July-Sept.	113.3	244.1	98.6	98.0	98.2
Oct.-Dec.	114.0	235.7	100.2	99.6	100.0
1932.					
Jan.-March	113.5	240.6	99.2	98.6	98.9
Apr.-June	113.3	242.5	98.7	98.1	98.4
July-Sept.	113.4	253.4	97.6	96.9	96.6
Oct.-Dec.	113.6	243.3	98.9	98.3	98.6
1933.					
Jan.-March	113.7	250.6	98.3	97.6	98.0
Apr.-June	113.9	226.5	101.2	100.7	101.0
July-Sept.	114.1	211.6	103.0	102.6	102.9
Oct.-Dec.	114.2	198.9	104.6	104.2	104.6
1934.					
Jan.-March	114.3	200.6	104.6	104.2	104.5
January	114.3	207.7	103.7	103.3	103.7
February	114.3	202.2	104.4	104.0	104.4
March	114.4	192.0	105.6	105.3	105.6

The estimated numbers insured from July, 1933, onwards are provisional, and subject to revision when information becomes available as to the numbers of unemployment books exchanged at the annual exchange of books beginning in July, 1934.

REPORT OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR FOR THE YEAR 1933.

THE Tenth Annual Report of the Ministry of Labour, which has recently been published, deals with the work of that Department during the year 1933.

**Employment.**—In an introductory chapter, reviewing the general state of employment during the year, it is noted that 1933 was the first year, since the onset of the general depression in the closing months of 1929, in which there was a definite improvement in employment. The year opened with the live register showing a total of 2,903,065 unemployed in Great Britain at the end of January—the highest ever recorded; but from that date there began an improvement which continued, almost without interruption, throughout the year. The forces making for the increase in employment were sufficient to outweigh the opposing seasonal influences in the latter part of the year, for, contrary to the normal movement, the improvement persisted throughout the autumn and early winter. By December the number of persons on the live register in Great Britain had fallen to 2,224,079—a decrease of 499,208 compared with a year earlier; while the estimated number of insured persons in employment had risen to 10,008,000, or 568,000 higher than a year previously. Statistics are given in the Report, analysing the industrial and geographical distribution of unemployment in December, 1932, and December, 1933, and illustrating the changes which occurred, between 1923 and 1933, in the numbers in employment in the principal groups of industries.

**The Work of the Employment Exchanges as Placing Agencies.**—During the year 1933, the Employment Exchanges and branch employment offices recorded a further increase in the measure of service rendered to employers and workpeople in connection with the employment of labour and staff. The total number of vacancies filled during the year was 2,201,023, as compared with 1,855,841 in 1932, and with 893,713 in 1923. It is pointed out, however, that, satisfactory as the record of progress during the past ten years has been, only about 24 per cent. of the total engagements of insured workpeople in 1933 were effected through the Exchanges, so that ample scope still exists for the Exchanges to extend their sphere of usefulness in the labour market.

The Report gives particulars of the special arrangements made to meet the requirements of employers for seasonal staffs at holiday resorts and in agriculture, at fruit canning factories, etc.; the arrangements for transferring unemployed workpeople from the depressed areas; the work of Local Employment Committees, and of the Standing Advisory Committee for the Port Transport Industry; the work of the King's Roll National Council; the administration of grants for the relief of unemployment; and the numbers and occupations of foreign workers admitted for employment in this country.

**Training or Instruction for Unemployed Workers.**—The Government training centres (as distinguished from the instructional centres, mentioned below) continued to work below their full capacity, as the number of places provided at these centres is related as closely as possible to the prospects of employment. In view of the uncertainty regarding the resumption of training for agricultural work overseas, the Government training centre at Claydon was closed, together with the instructional centre at that place. The number of men admitted to the training centres during the year was 5,298; and the total number who have been admitted since the centres were first started was 43,195, of whom 28,441 are known to have passed into employment.

The instructional centres, on the other hand, in accordance with a recommendation of the Royal Commission on Unemployment Insurance, were developed considerably during the year. Five camps were set up during the summer as annexes to instructional centres already in existence, as a result of which it became possible to give over 2,000 additional men a twelve weeks' course of work similar to that at instructional centres. Arrangements were also made to set up further instructional centres on or adjacent to land owned by the Forestry Commission: two of these centres were opened in August, and preparations for opening two of the others were far advanced by the end of the year. On the other hand, two centres were closed during the year.

A new type of instructional centre was opened in September, 1933, at Bilston, in Staffordshire; and arrangements were made for opening another similar centre at Rheola, in South Wales. Hitherto instructional centres had been set up in districts remote from the depressed areas; but the Bilston centre was opened in close proximity to an area of heavy unemployment, and the men recruited for the centre came from the immediate neighbourhood and continued to reside at home. Men, either single or married, between the ages of 18 and 50 were eligible for the course, provided that they had been unemployed for at least twelve months, were regarded as normally in insurable employment but had little prospect of early employment, and were capable of the work to be performed—at Bilston, the levelling of slag heaps belonging to the local authority—and were likely to profit by the course.

The Ministry have also continued, and developed, the experiment in physical training centres, several of which have since been taken over by voluntary organisations. The original scheme was introduced in 1932, and was confined to four demonstration centres, conducted for six-monthly periods in selected areas of heavy unemployment. Attendance was entirely voluntary, but enough suitable applicants were always forthcoming; and the experiment was so successful that it was decided, in April, 1933, to double the number which could be in operation at any one time. Five centres were in operation at the close of the year, and preparations were

almost completed for opening two others.

The training of unemployed women, mainly for domestic employment, is carried out, on behalf of the Ministry, by the Central Committee on Women's Training and Employment. A large and increasing proportion of the trainees are girls under 18 years of age, including (at four of the centres) some girls of 15. A special enquiry was made during the year to ascertain the number of trainees who had definitely adopted domestic employment as their occupation. Questionnaires were sent to 1,000 girls, half of whom had left the centres roughly six months before, and half six months earlier still; and it was found that 65 per cent. of those who replied, in both groups, were still in domestic employment. A large proportion of the remaining 35 per cent. had withdrawn owing to ill health, or because they were required at home.

**Boys and Girls.**—There was a marked reduction in unemployment among boys and girls during the year, partly owing to the general improvement in the state of employment, and partly owing to the low birth-rate in the years 1915-1919, which reduced the number of boys and girls available for employment in 1933 to its lowest point. There was, indeed, an actual shortage of boy and girl labour during the year in many districts; in London, for example, the number of boys and girls registered for employment dropped, at the end of the year, to the lowest level on record, while more than 4,000 juvenile vacancies remained unfilled. In most of the depressed areas, on the other hand, unemployment among juveniles remained severe.

In connection with arrangements for giving advice regarding employment to boys and girls, and for placing them in employment, there were, at the end of the year, 192 juvenile advisory committees appointed by the Minister, and 106 Local Education Authorities exercising powers under section 107 of the Education Act, 1921. The proportion of boys and girls who, on leaving school, sought the advice of the local offices and juvenile employment bureaux in districts where committees operate, was estimated at approximately 65 per cent. The number of such boys and girls placed in first situations during 1933 was 122,465; in addition, many thousands of juveniles sought the advice of the exchanges and bureaux on choice of employment, but were able to obtain their first situations without further assistance.

In London and in certain broad provincial regions, special employment committees, established by the Ministry in conjunction with the Incorporated Associations of Head Masters and Head Mistresses, continued with increasing success to advise and place in employment boys and girls from public and secondary schools.

The facilities for the transference of unemployed boys and girls from the depressed areas continued during 1933 on the same lines as before. The total number of boys and girls transferred during 1933 was 4,072.

With a view to the provision of approved courses of instruction for unemployed boys and girls the Department continued to keep in touch with Local Education Authorities, and the scheme adopted in 1930 remained in operation during the year. At the end of the year 120 centres and 18 classes were open in 93 towns, and the aggregate number of individuals who attended centres and classes during the year was about 101,600.

**Unemployment Insurance and Transitional Payments.**—Early in the year it became evident that legislation to amend the Unemployment Insurance Acts in order to place the Unemployment Insurance scheme on a sound financial basis would necessarily be of a far-reaching character, and would have to be combined with legislation on other important changes in the scheme. Hence it became necessary to pass the Unemployment Insurance (Expiring Enactments) Act, which received the Royal Assent on 28th June, 1933. This Act continues in force until 30th June, 1934, certain enactments relating to unemployment insurance and transitional payments which would otherwise have expired on 30th June, 1933.

The Unemployment Bill, which is now before the House of Commons, was introduced in November, 1933. It is in three parts, and in its broad principles is based on the recommendations of the Royal Commission on Unemployment Insurance. Part I of the Bill deals with the provisions of the existing Unemployment Insurance Acts; Part II deals with the provision, outside unemployment insurance, for training, assisting, and promoting the welfare of persons who are capable of and available for work, but have no work or only part-time or intermittent work; while Part III contains various transitory provisions. A detailed summary of the Bill is given in the Report.

The Report gives an account of the general administration of the Unemployment Insurance scheme during the year, under the headings of contributions; scope of the general scheme; benefit; special schemes (for the banking and for the insurance industries); finance; and cost of administration. A separate section deals with the administration of the Transitional Payments scheme.

**Industrial Relations.**—There were few claims of major importance during 1933 for a change in working conditions. Such differences as occurred were in general concerned with conditions in individual establishments rather than with wider issues. The position is reflected in the statistics relating to trade disputes, which show that the number of working days lost on this account was the lowest during the period of forty years for which statistics are available. Hence the assistance of the Department was required more in the form of advice and help in connection with the adjustment of difficulties brought about by normal day-to-day changes in circumstances and machinery, rather than in the settlement of actual disputes. The number of cases, under the Conciliation Act, 1896 and the Industrial Courts Act, 1919, settled with the assistance of

\* Cmd. 4543. H.M. Stationery Office; price 2s. net (2s. 2d., post-free).



the Ministry, was 52, compared with 77 in 1932; of these, 22 were settled by conciliation, 26 by the arbitration of the Industrial Court, 3 by awards of single arbitrators, and one by an award of an *ad hoc* board of arbitration.

With one or two exceptions the joint machinery of various types established in different industries continued to work satisfactorily. The tendency, however, for individual firms and workers to abandon the conditions of collective agreements became more marked in certain industries. In the cotton industry in particular, although there was no stoppage of work on a large scale, the difficulties of the industry, both economic and industrial, were a source of constant friction, and revealed themselves in a number of small disputes. The new conciliation machinery set up under the agreements of 1932 was brought into operation on three occasions in the spinning section of the industry, and the questions in dispute were settled. The question of the compulsory enforcement of collective agreements was raised as a practical issue in the manufacturing section of the industry, and was under consideration by the employers' and by the workpeople's organisations.\* In the wool textile industry also, the question of the application of the Trade Boards Act, failing a resumption of collective agreements, was raised by the trade unions: after consultation with both sides, the Department suggested that, before other action was considered, they should endeavour to deal with the matter by a full resumption of collective arrangements.

The fair wages provisions of the Road Traffic Act, 1930, were extended by the Road and Rail Traffic Act, 1933,† to drivers and attendants of vehicles engaged in the road haulage industry. Steps were taken by the Ministry during the year to assist those engaged in the industry to establish suitable joint machinery for the voluntary settlement of wages and conditions.‡

**Trade Boards.**—Two new Boards were established, under the Trade Boards Acts, during 1933, one for the fustian cutting trade and the other for the cutlery trade, raising the total number of Trade Boards to 47. The Report gives a summary of the proceedings of the 26 Boards which held meetings, and particulars of the changes in rates of wages made by some of these Boards. Details of the general minimum time rates of wages in force in each trade at the end of 1932 and of 1933 are contained in an appendix to the Report. An account is also given of the work undertaken by the Ministry in connection with the administration and enforcement of the Trade Boards Acts during the year.

**Labour Statistics.**—An account is given of the work of the Ministry during 1933 in regard to the collection and publication of labour statistics. Summaries of the principal statistics relating to 1933 are given in a series of appendices to the Report.

**International Labour Organisation.**—The Report gives an account of the proceedings at the four meetings of the Governing Body of the International Labour Office held during the year, and at the seventeenth session of the International Labour Conference, also of the Tripartite Preparatory Technical Conference held in January, 1933, to consider the question of the reduction of hours of work as a means of diminishing unemployment. The Conference adopted a report which contained the following statement as to the attitude of H.M. Government:—"The British Government delegate stated that his Government considered that the question of the compulsory limitation of hours of work to 40 a week had not yet been sufficiently examined to warrant a definite conclusion being reached, and that therefore his Government were opposed to proceeding at the present time with the project of a draft Convention. He pressed for a comprehensive enquiry into the whole question before any action is taken." The proposal came before the International Labour Conference later in the year, by whom it was decided to send out a questionnaire to the various Governments.

An appendix to the Report contains a list of the Conventions, now 40 in number, which have been adopted by the International Labour Conference at its various sessions. Seventeen of these have been ratified by H.M. Government unconditionally, and one conditionally on its ratification by six other Governments; while in another case H.M. Government have signified their readiness to consider ratification after the Convention has been ratified by at least six of the principal maritime powers. Nine Conventions have not been ratified: the reasons for non-ratification are stated in each case in the appendix. One Convention has been revised; and this, together with eleven other Conventions, are under consideration by H.M. Government.

## KING'S ROLL NATIONAL COUNCIL.

A MEETING of the King's Roll National Council, under the chairmanship of Lord Allenby, was held at the House of Commons on 21st March, 1934.

It was reported that the number of employers on the King's Roll in March of this year was 24,383, and that they employed 328,809 disabled ex-Service men. It was also reported that the number of unemployed disabled ex-Service men registered at Employment Exchanges at approximately the same date was 36,200. This represents 9 per cent. of the estimated number of men in receipt of disability pensions and allowances, as compared with 21.7 per cent. of unemployment among insured men generally.

The Council considered the position of disabled ex-Service men under the Unemployment Bill now before Parliament, and also reports from each of the Committees concerned with the local administration of the King's Roll scheme.

It was reported that the number of local authorities which give preference to enrolled firms when allocating contracts was 730.

\* See page 118 of this issue as to the present position.  
† 24 Geo. 5, ch. 53. A summary of the Act appeared in the issue of this GAZETTE for December, 1933, page 439.  
‡ A Joint Board for England and Wales has been recently constituted: see last month's issue of this GAZETTE, page 85.

## EMPLOYMENT IN THE BEET SUGAR INDUSTRY, 1933.

### THE WORK OF THE EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES.

The development of the beet sugar industry in Great Britain during recent years was described briefly in the issue of this GAZETTE for June, 1933, in which an account was also given of the steps taken by the Employment Exchanges to supply the additional workpeople required for tending and harvesting the crop and by the factories.

There was further development in the industry last year. The total acreage of sugar beet grown during 1933 was 366,000 acres, an increase of 110,500 acres, or 43.2 per cent., over that grown in 1932. The cultivation of the crop was confined in the main to areas in the Midlands and the South-East and North-East of England.

In addition to the general arrangements made to meet the labour requirements in all branches of agriculture (which were described in last month's issue of this GAZETTE, page 83), special steps were taken by the Employment Exchanges in connection with the sugar beet crop, on which the various operations must be performed as the crop reaches the right stage of growth, to ensure that adequate supplies of suitable workpeople were available in all districts concerned.

### EMPLOYMENT ON FIELD WORK.

**Availability of Workpeople.**—Early in the season, the registers of unemployed workers at Exchanges were examined, and special records were kept of available workpeople with experience of field work on sugar beet and of workpeople who, though they had not previously been employed on the work, were, on account of their general agricultural experience, suitable for it. Largely owing to the steps taken in previous years to supply workers for field work, it was found that the number of workpeople available was likely to be more than sufficient to meet employers' requirements, and to contain a larger proportion of fully experienced workers than in previous years.

**Co-operation with Factories and Growers.**—The steps taken in previous years to secure the co-operation with growers needing workpeople were extended. By the display of special posters, the circulation of leaflets, etc. to growers, and the publication of articles describing the work of the Exchanges both in the general press and in agricultural journals, efforts were made to encourage still wider use of the facilities provided by the Exchanges for the assistance of growers in the engagement of workpeople. During the hoeing and singling and the lifting and topping seasons, an extensive programme of visits to sugar-beet growers was arranged in order to ascertain, and to assist the growers in meeting, their labour requirements. To meet the needs of certain areas, mobile officers were specially appointed to keep in touch with the growers, and to control the labour supply arrangements of a number of adjoining districts. Close contact was maintained with fieldmen employed by the factories, who were kept informed of the numbers of workpeople available for employment in each district, and who frequently co-operated with local officers of the Department by providing advance information of the probable labour requirements of districts or individual growers.

**Numbers of Workpeople engaged through Exchanges.**—The following Table shows the number of adult workpeople engaged through the Exchanges for field work and for the factories during each of the last three years:—

Year.	Acreage under cultivation.	Number of Applicants placed (Men and Women).				
		Field Work.			Factories.	All operations.
		Hoeing and Singling.	Lifting and Topping.	Total.		
1931 ...	230,000	2,093	1,384	3,407	5,709	9,116
1932 ...	255,500	1,522	1,845	3,367	7,001	10,368
1933 ...	366,000	3,600	1,869	5,469	8,277	13,746
Increase in 1933 compared with 1932 ...	+ 110,500	+ 2,078	+ 24	+ 2,102	+ 1,276	+ 3,378

The total number of workpeople engaged through the Exchanges for field work in 1933 was 5,469, compared with 3,367 in 1932, an increase of 2,102. The increase was almost entirely in the number placed in hoeing and singling, for which work some 2,078 more workpeople were placed than in 1932.

The considerable increase in the number of engagements made through the Exchanges was due in some measure to the increased demand for labour resulting from the greatly increased acreage of sugar beet which was grown, but there was evidence that many additional growers found it convenient to use the Exchange service. Though a greater acreage of sugar beet was cultivated, it was reported that a number of factors counterbalanced the increase in opportunities of seasonal employment on sugar beet. The application of mechanised cultivation was still further developed in some districts, and a certain amount of hand labour was displaced by mechanical cross-hoeing. The exceptionally fine weather experienced during the seasons enabled growers to carry out the hoeing and singling operations and to lift the beet with a minimum of labour, and in many cases to employ their regular hands on the work. Further, it was evident that considerable numbers of workpeople were engaged direct by the growers. Many of these workers were engaged in former years through

## MINING INDUSTRY (WELFARE FUND) ACT, 1934.

THE Mining Industry (Welfare Fund) Act, 1934, received the Royal Assent on 28th March, 1934.\*

Under section 20 of the Mining Industry Act, 1920, a fund was constituted, known as the Miners' Welfare Fund, and administered by the Miners' Welfare Committee, from which allocations are made for miners' institutes, recreation grounds, convalescent homes, pithead baths, mining education and research, etc.† The Fund was to be derived from a levy of one penny a ton on all coal raised. The levy was originally imposed for five years; but this period was twice extended, for further periods of five years each, in 1925 and in 1931.

Section 1 of the present Act extends the period for a further sixteen years, that is to say, up to a total of thirty-one years in all. Section 2 of the Act reduces the levy from a penny to a halfpenny a ton, commencing with the levy in respect of the output of the year 1932.

In addition to the levy on output, imposed by the Act of 1920, there is also a levy on royalties, imposed by section 17 of the Mining Industry Act, 1926, the proceeds of which are devoted to the provision of pithead baths, including accommodation for drying the men's working clothes. Section 3, subsection (1), of the new Act provides that the purposes for which the proceeds of the royalties welfare levy are to be appropriated shall include the provision of such accommodation and facilities for workers in or about coal mines as the Miners' Welfare Committee think can be conveniently and properly combined with accommodation and facilities for taking baths and drying clothes.

Subsection (2) of the same section requires the Miners' Welfare Committee, until the Board of Trade otherwise direct, to appropriate (in priority to any other payments), out of the proceeds of the output levy during any calendar year, commencing with the year 1934: (a) for the purposes for which the proceeds of the royalties welfare levy are required to be appropriated, such sum as will, together with the proceeds of the said levy for the financial year ending next after the end of the calendar year, amount to £375,000; and (b) for the purpose of promoting research into methods of improving the health and safety of workers in or about coal mines, the sum of £20,000.‡ No part of the sums so allocated are required to be allocated for the benefit of any particular district.

Subsection (4) of the same section declares that the classes of persons who may benefit, as "workers in or about coal mines," from the Miners' Welfare Fund include persons who have ceased to be employed in or about coal mines by reason of age or disability, or who, having ceased to be so employed for any reason, have not subsequently changed their occupation, and the dependants of such workers and of such persons.

## SAFETY IN MINES RESEARCH BOARD.

The Safety in Mines Research Board have recently issued two publications, one dealing with accidents from falls of ground, the other with firedamp explosions.

The first of these publications§ points out that more than half the deaths underground at coal mines in this country in 1932, and over 45,000 injuries in respect of which compensation was paid, resulted from falls of ground. The present paper is the first dealing with the comparatively recent development of the Board's work undertaken with a view to decreasing the accidents from this cause.

Many of the accidents result from natural faults or other weaknesses in, or induced fractures of, the coal measure strata; and an account is given of the conditions under which the coal seams are formed, and the reasons for fractures in the roof from which accidents arise. A description is given of some of the precautions which should be taken to avoid danger to life and limb. A chapter at the end of the book points out that many of the minor injuries to heads, eyes, hands and feet could be avoided by the wearing of protective equipment in the form of hard hats, goggles, gloves, and safety boots.

This Report forms one of a series of papers issued by the Safety in Mines Research Board under the general title of "What Every Mining Man should Know." The other papers|| in the series are:—No. 1.—*Safety in Coal Mines: Some Problems of Research*, a general description of the various problems which arise in coal mining, and of the efforts which are being made to solve them; No. 2.—*Gas and Flame*; No. 3.—*How some Firedamp Explosions are Prevented*; No. 4.—*The Safe Use of Explosives in Coal Mines*; No. 5.—*Explosion-proof Electrical Switch Gear*.

The other recently issued publication¶ is a concise presentation of the result of many years' study of the way in which explosions

\* 24 Geo. 5, ch. 9. H.M. Stationery Office; price 1d. net. (1ld. post free).  
† See the *Twelfth Annual Report of the Miners' Welfare Committee*: H.M. Stationery Office; price 1s. 6d. net. (1s. 10d. post free). A notice of this Report appeared in last month's issue of this GAZETTE, page 85.

‡ The Miners' Welfare Committee have, in fact, appropriated large sums to these purposes: see the *Twelfth Annual Report of the Committee*, quoted in the previous footnote. But the appropriation now becomes mandatory, to the extent laid down in the new Act.

§ *The Problem of Accidents from Falls of Ground*. Safety in Mines Research Board. H.M. Stationery Office; price 3d. net, or £1 per 100 copies.

|| H.M. Stationery Office; price 3d. net each (except "Safety in Coal Mines: Some Problems of Research," price 6d. net).

¶ *The Movement of Flame in Firedamp Explosions*. Safety in Mines Research Board, Paper No. 82. H.M. Stationery Office; price 1s. 6d. net. (1s. 8d. post free).

the Exchanges; but as the industry has become established in particular districts, growers no longer experience the difficulties of former years in obtaining suitable workpeople. Local supplies of labour were reported to be more than adequate in nearly all districts in 1933, and direct applications to employers to be more numerous than in previous seasons.

Owing to the numbers of workpeople available locally, it was not necessary to use the labour clearing arrangements to any appreciable extent; and of 5,469 applicants placed on field work, only 325 were brought from other districts. The number of vacancies known to have been filled through the Exchanges by persons from urban districts was 109 in 1933, compared with 152 in 1932.

**Irish Labour.**—In all possible ways the efforts of the Exchanges to encourage the employment of local, in preference to migrant, labour were continued. It was reported that the number of Irish labourers who came to England of their own accord last year seeking agricultural work was smaller than in previous seasons, and there were fewer instances of the direct importation of Irish workers for employment on field work. Many farmers who had in former years employed Irish labour were known to have engaged local workpeople in 1933.

### EMPLOYMENT IN THE FACTORIES.

The number of workpeople engaged through the Exchanges for employment in beet-sugar factories during 1933 was 8,277, compared with 7,001 in 1932, an increase of 1,276. There were 17 beet-sugar factories in operation in England and one in Scotland. Several of the factories, in addition to manufacturing beet sugar, were engaged in refining imported sugar.

At some factories in South-Eastern England, there was a reduced number of placings, owing mainly to special pooling arrangements made by the factories. Under these arrangements, farmers delivery quotas were extended, and any factory which received a supply of beet in excess of requirements was able to direct it to other factories working at less than full output. These arrangements resulted in a much larger tonnage of beet being handled during the year, and in more regular employment at the factories.

## TRAINING AND INSTRUCTIONAL CENTRES.

In answer to a question in the House of Commons on 19th March, asking as to the number of men who have passed through training centres during the last twelve months, and the number of those who were placed in employment after passing through their training, the Minister of Labour made the following statement:—

"The Department has two types of centre, first the training centre proper, at which a six months' course is given in certain trades, and secondly the instructional centre, where a three months' course is provided, with the primary object of re-conditioning. 5,303 men passed through the former centres during the twelve months ended 26th February, 1934; and of those who completed their training 3,944, or 88.8 per cent., obtained employment. 10,893 men passed through the instructional centres during the period, and of those who completed their training, 1,594, or 16.3 per cent., obtained employment. Attendance at the instructional centres is not limited to the numbers for which employment is likely to be available at the end of the course; and those who volunteer for the course do so primarily for the benefit they will derive in increased employability."

## UNEMPLOYMENT FUND. CONTRIBUTIONS AND PAYMENTS, 1931-2 TO 1933-4.

In answer to a question in the House of Commons on 9th April, asking as to the annual amount of contributions to the Unemployment Insurance Fund during the last three years, and the annual sums paid in benefit therefrom, the Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Labour gave the following statistics:—

	Financial Years.		
	1931-2.	1932-3.	1933-4. (provisional figures).
Unemployment Benefit ...	£ 80,168,975	£ 54,171,487	£ 40,290,000
Contributions of:—			
Employers* ...	17,109,429	19,049,157	19,650,000
Employed persons* ...	16,140,414	19,049,157	19,650,000
Service Departments, in respect of men discharged from H.M. Forces ...	417,317	357,505	370,000
	33,667,160	38,455,819	39,670,000
Contributions by Exchequer:—			
Ordinary contribution ...	16,793,385	19,182,223	19,800,000
Deficiency grant ...	444,577	6,363,377	—
	17,237,962	25,545,600	19,800,000

In addition, during the three years in question the Exchequer paid £32,374,570; £53,785,682; and £52,250,000 (provisional) in respect of Transitional Benefit and Transitional Payments, and their administration.

\* These figures are approximate apportionments; accounts are not kept separately of the contributions paid by employers and by employed persons.



develop in mixtures of firedamp and air. It deals with the conditions of flame propagation, and gives an account of the studies which have been made of the use of wire gauzes, narrow tubes, and perforated plates as a means for ensuring the safety of safety lamps and other mining appliances.

### INSTRUCTION COURSES IN SAFETY PRINCIPLES FOR PIT BOYS.

In the year 1931 a scheme, known as the "Yorkshire Safety Badge Scheme," was started for training boys employed in mines in safety principles. Evening classes were started in 46 centres in Yorkshire, and by the end of the year 1,256 boys had been enrolled. The teachers were experienced mining officials, such as under-managers; and the syllabus covered all the operations, on the surface and underground, that a boy might be called upon to perform. Miners' lamps, lockers, models of tubs, and so forth, were shown and explained in the classrooms. Successful candidates received a "Yorkshire Miners' Safety Badge."

In answer to a question in the House of Commons on 7th February, the Secretary for Mines gave some further particulars of these courses of training. He said:—

"The lines which are being followed in the organisation of courses of instruction for the collective training of pit boys in matters of safety are explained in the Annual Report of the Secretary for Mines for 1932.\* The movement was started in Yorkshire, and has spread to Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire, Durham, and Northumberland, and to parts of Lancashire, Staffordshire, and South Wales. The courses now in progress cover between 5,000 and 6,000 boys, and further developments are being planned in several districts. The length of the courses varies from 10 to 25 weeks. Good progress is being made, and I shall continue to give all possible help to promote the further development of this most useful work and its extension to all the coalfields."

### OUTPUT, COSTS AND PROCEEDS OF THE COAL-MINING INDUSTRY.

FOURTH QUARTER OF 1933.

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, 1933,† prepared by the Mines Department and based partly upon returns made for the purpose of wages ascertainment for certain districts and partly upon other returns supplied by individual colliery owners, shows that at undertakings which produced 54,170,916 tons of saleable coal, or about 97 per cent. of the total quantity raised in the quarter, 50,171,178 tons were disposable commercially.

The net costs, after deducting the proceeds of miners' coal, amounted to £32,132,021, equivalent to 12s. 9-71d. per ton, of which 8s. 6-80d. per ton represented wages costs. The proceeds of commercial disposals amounted to £33,995,510, equivalent to 13s. 16-62d. per ton. There was thus a credit balance of £1,863,489 or 8-91d. per ton.

The number of workpeople employed was 734,406, and the number of man-shifts worked was 47,113,019. The average output per man-shift worked was 23-00 cwt., and the average earnings per man-shift worked were 9s. 1-48d.

Information as to the value of allowances in kind is also given in the return. The value of these allowances ranged from 0-42d. to 4-55d. per shift, except in Northumberland and Durham, in which it was 11-38d. and 1s. 1-42d. respectively. For Great Britain as a whole the average value of such allowances was 4-61d. per shift.

The following Table compares some of the more important figures with those in previous returns:—

Quarter ended	Proportion of Industry covered.	Amount of Saleable Coal raised.	Credit (+) or Debit (-) balance per ton.‡	No. of Work-people employed.	Output per man-shift worked.	Earnings per man-shift worked.‡
1930.	Per cent.	Tons.	s. d.		Cwts.	s. d.
31st Mar.	97	64,749,447	+1 1-37	911,218	21-94	9 3-25
30th June	96	55,850,573	-0 1-94	886,229	21-32	9 3-26
30th Sept.	96	54,249,688	-0 2-40	853,477	21-34	9 3-85
31st Dec.	96	57,061,222	+0 6-20	849,344	21-84	9 3-79
1931.						
31st Mar.	96	56,723,277	+0 9-04	838,696	21-78	9 2-45
30th June	96	51,595,921	-0 1-34	818,718	21-44	9 2-18
30th Sept.	96	49,189,334	-0 2-05	787,749	21-35	9 2-43
31st Dec.	96	55,190,862	+0 7-06	799,374	21-86	9 2-22
1932.						
31st Mar.	96	53,916,267	+0 6-46	800,921	21-98	9 2-13
30th June	97	50,090,452	-0 1-91	781,704	21-78	9 1-92
30th Sept.	96	44,480,618	-0 7-55	745,201	21-50	9 1-87
31st Dec.	96	52,985,962	+0 8-87	744,425	22-62	9 2-26
1933.						
31st Mar.	97	54,021,254	+0 9-69	755,964	22-67	9 1-83
30th June	96	46,452,845	-0 4-60	739,940	22-07	9 1-67
30th Sept.	96	45,518,209	-0 5-01	718,995	22-05	9 1-15
31st Dec.	97	54,170,916	+0 8-91	734,406	23-00	9 1-48

\* H.M. Stationery Office; price 3s. 6d. net (3s. 10d., post free).

† Cmd. 4544. H.M. Stationery Office; price 1d. net (1½d. post free).

‡ In the case of South Wales and Monmouthshire the period covered is the quarter ended 31st Jan., 1934.

§ Calculated on the quantity of coal disposable commercially.

|| Excluding the value of allowances in kind.

### UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE AND RELIEF MEASURES OVERSEAS.

FRANCE.

By Decrees dated 16th January, 4th August and 15th August, 1933, affecting respectively the textile, metallurgical and metal working, and hides and skins industries, the Minister of Labour, as reported in the issues of this GAZETTE for February, 1933, page 50, and September, 1933, page 324, was empowered, when there is exceptional and prolonged unemployment in these industries, to issue (at the request of a workers' or employers' organisation concerned and after consultation with all interested organisations) Orders suspending, either wholly or in part, for one or more localities, the provisions of the legislation applying the Eight-Hour Day Act to the industries in question whereby extension of the hours of actual work may be authorised. Orders issued by the Minister under these powers cease to be operative not later than two months after their entry into operation unless confirmed by Governmental Decree; the application of the Orders or confirmatory Decrees may also be suspended by the competent labour inspector in the case of exceptional increases of work which cannot be met by the engagement of unemployed workers. So far the following Orders have been issued by the Minister of Labour under the above-mentioned Decrees:—

(i) *Textile Industry*: By thirteen Orders, twelve of which were promulgated on 29th December, 1933, and one on 22nd March, 1934, the above-mentioned provisions were totally suspended for specified branches of the textile industry in specified localities during a period of six months commencing eight days after the date of promulgation of the Orders. The twelve Orders promulgated on 29th December, 1933, have been confirmed by Decrees dated 27th February, 1934, which fix 31st July, 1934, as the date up to which the suspension is to be operative.

(ii) *Metallurgical and Metal Working Industries*: By fifteen Orders promulgated on 10th March, 1934, the above-mentioned provisions were totally suspended for a period of six months (commencing eight days after the date of promulgation of the Orders) for various specified branches of the metallurgical and metal working industries in specified localities.

The powers of the Minister of Labour to order the suspension or restriction of extensions of working hours have also been extended by Decrees dated 24th December, 1933, 4th January and 28th February, 1934, to employment in private offices, administrative services and agencies, the pottery industries, and constructional industries and public works contracting.

SWITZERLAND.

An Order reducing the amount of unemployment insurance benefit payable by recognised Unemployment Insurance Funds was issued by the Federal Council on 27th February, 1934.

Benefit is not to exceed 50 per cent. of the loss of normal earnings in the case of persons without dependants, or 60 per cent. in the case of persons with dependants. No benefit is payable on any loss of earnings in excess of 16 francs a day, i.e., the maximum rate of benefit is 60 per cent. of 16 francs, or 9-60 francs a day. The maximum rates of benefit for different classes of persons are as follows:—

(a) persons aged less than 22 years without dependants: 50 per cent. of any loss of normal earnings up to 8 francs a day, plus 30 per cent. of any amount up to 8 francs by which the loss of normal earnings exceeds 8 francs a day;

(b) persons aged 22 years and over without dependants: 50 per cent. of any loss of normal earnings up to 10 francs a day, plus 30 per cent. of any amount up to 6 francs by which the loss of normal earnings exceeds 10 francs a day;

(c) persons with one dependant: 60 per cent. of any loss of normal earnings up to 12 francs a day, plus 30 per cent. of any amount up to 4 francs by which the loss of normal earnings exceeds 12 francs a day;

(d) persons with more than one dependant: 60 per cent. of any loss of normal earnings not exceeding 16 francs a day.

In the case of married women upon whom the family household is not dependent and whose husbands are in receipt of benefit or in employment, the loss of normal earnings that may be taken into account for the computation of benefit may not exceed 8 francs a day.

The Unemployment Insurance Funds are authorised to suspend during 1934 and 1935 the application of the above maximum rates to persons who have been members of the Funds for at least three years, and who, before becoming unemployed, had not received 90 days' benefit during their period of membership.

The provisions of the Order came into force on 1st April, 1934, with the exception of those relating to the computation of benefit, which will be effective as from 1st May, 1934.

IRISH FREE STATE.

The Minister for Industry and Commerce has fixed 1st March, 1934, as the date from which application may be made for qualification certificates under the Unemployment Assistance Act, which was summarised in this GAZETTE for February, 1934, page 49. It has also been announced that payment of benefit will begin on 18th April.

AUSTRALIA (QUEENSLAND).

The Unemployed Workers' Insurance Acts, 1922 to 1930,\* were amended by an Act which received assent on 7th December, 1933. The new Act provides that no person may receive benefit whose earnings during the 12 months preceding his application exceeded £300; the previous limit was £220. It also provides for the reduction of the normal waiting period of 14 days to 7, when a claimant has been unemployed for more than 3 months during the 6 months preceding his application; and for no waiting period to be enforced where, having regard to his contributions, he will not be entitled to more than 3 weeks' benefit. A further clause provides that workers, whether unmarried, widowers or widows, whose mothers are totally

\* See this GAZETTE for April, 1928, page 127, and April, 1931, page 136.

dependent on and are maintained by them, may, at the discretion of the Minister charged with the administration of the Acts, receive benefit at the rate normally prescribed for married workers. The Act also makes certain minor amendments to the previous Acts.

NEW ZEALAND.

An Act, passed on 22nd December, 1933, to amend the Small Farms (Relief of Unemployment) Act,\* empowers any local authority to enter into an agreement with the Minister charged with the administration of the Small Farms Act to make land vested in the local authority as an endowment available for land settlement purposes under the Act for a specified period. The agreement may also provide for works to be undertaken to improve the land, for rent to be paid by the Crown for the land to be let to persons qualified under the Small Farms Act, for the reimbursement by the local authority, at the expiration of the lease, of the cost of improvements effected by the Crown, or, where this has been repaid to the Crown either by the local authority or by the lessee, for a new lease to be made between the local authority and the lessee.

Several other minor additions and amendments are made to the principal Act. The Board responsible for assisting in the administration of the Act is empowered to make advances to settlers for the erection of buildings or for improving or stocking the land; and the competent Minister is given wider powers as regards the carrying on of operations or transactions designed to promote the expenditure on materials for stocking land used for settlement and on its general development, cultivation, use, etc.

### WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR IN NEW ZEALAND.

The *New Zealand Official Year Book* for 1934, compiled in the New Zealand Census and Statistics Office, contains particulars of the wages paid in a number of occupations at 31st March, 1933, with comparable statistics for the four previous years and for 1914. The wages quoted are the simple (unweighted) averages of the minimum adult award rates of the Arbitration Court for the four principal districts, viz., the Northern, Wellington, Canterbury, and Otago and Southland districts. In cases where awards have been allowed to lapse under the provisions of the Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Amendment Act, 1932, the ruling rates of wages have been used.

The following Table gives the average weekly hours at 31st March, 1932, and the average minimum weekly wage rates for adult workers in a number of occupations at 31st March, 1933, and at corresponding dates for the two preceding years and for 1914. The information regarding hours of labour is taken from the New Zealand Statistical Report published in 1933.

Industry and occupation.	Average weekly hours at 31st March, 1932.	Average adult minimum weekly rates as fixed by Arbitration Award at 31st March,			
		1933.	1932.	1931.	1914.
		s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
<i>Building</i> —					
Bricklayers ...	44	93 1	94 1	104 6	68 5½
Carpenters ...	44	88 0	91 7	101 9	64 3½
Plasterers ...	44	92 7	93 8	104 1	67 9½
Builders' labourers ...	44	74 3	74 3	82 6	52 2½
<i>Sawmilling</i> —					
Sawyers ...	46½	84 11	93 0	103 4	53 0½
General hands ...	46½	70 6	78 1	86 9	51 0
<i>Metal and engineering</i> —					
Moulders, iron and brass ...	44	89 1	89 1	99 0	64 7½
Boltermakers, journeymen ...	44	87 10	89 1	99 0	62 8
Blacksmiths ...	45	89 1	89 1	99 0	61 7
Tinsmiths, journeymen ...	44½	89 1	89 1	99 0	62 8
Fitters ...	44	82 6	89 1	99 0	64 7½
Electrical workers ...	44	85 2	89 1	99 0	61 10½
<i>Textiles: Wool</i> —					
Spinners (male) ...	45	84 5	84 5	93 9	51 0
General hands (male) ...	45	74 3	74 3	82 6	46 6
Females, all adults ...	45	40 6	40 6	45 0	26 3
<i>Clothing</i> —					
Tailors, journeymen ...	44	86 0	85 6	95 0	53 9
Factory hands (male) ...	44	78 9	78 9	87 6	56 0
Tailoresses, journeymen ...	44	40 6	40 6	45 0	27 6
<i>Boot and Shoe</i> —					
Males ...	45	79 9	80 0	88 11	52 6
Females, journeymen ...	45	44 0	45 0	50 0	27 6
<i>Coal Mining</i> —					
Underground workers:					
Miners ...	43½	90 8	95 2	106 10	63 3
Truckers ...	43½	81 6	84 2	93 6	55 11
Surface workers:					
Tipplers ...	44	74 6	78 10	87 7	53 7½
Labourers ...	44	75 6	78 10	87 7	54 3½

From the above Table, it appears that the decline in wage rates, which amounted to about 10 per cent. in all cases during the year ended 31st March, 1932, was continued during the following year, but was neither uniform nor general. Among occupations not mentioned in the Table, the most important reductions took place in the rates of agricultural and pastoral workers (between 5 and 15 per cent.), slaughtermen (about 17 per cent. reduction in piece rates), railway workers (about 10 per cent.), seamen (about 9 per cent.), and hotel workers (between 6 and 8 per cent.).

A previous article on this subject appeared in this GAZETTE for September, 1933, page 325.

\* See this GAZETTE for June, 1933, page 206.

### HOURS OF LABOUR IN GERMANY IN JANUARY, 1934.

THE results of the first of a series of monthly inquiries into the hours actually worked by members of the Federation of German Workers in the German Labour Front are summarised in the official journal of the German Federal Statistical Office, *Wirtschaft und Statistik*, for 29th March, 1934. The data, which cover 4,024,664 workers and relate to the last week of January, 1934, have been analysed in 8-hour groups. The members of the Agricultural, Home Workers' and Domestic Servants' Unions were not covered by the inquiry, since the hours worked by these workers cannot be exactly determined; while in the case of the Woodworkers' Union, information was not available. The following Table summarises the results of the inquiry:—

Industry.	Numbers of workers whose hours of actual work were						Total.
	over 56.	48 and under 56.	40 and under 48.	32 and under 40.	24 and under 32.	Under 24.	
Building ...	255	48,180	173,422	13,990	1,309	27,792	264,948
Mining ...	930	60,942	144,770	50,548	8,842	1,580	267,612
Printing ...	37	76,323	60,133	16,671	8,069	2,068	163,501
Metal and engineering ...	17,264	271,899	138,989	41,431	17,301	4,987	491,871
Textile ...	4,089	188,222	264,120	95,936	48,556	20,713	621,636
Tobacco ...	264	48,726	49,521	15,338	6,589	1,926	122,364
Stone quarrying and working ...	30	4,663	31,800	4,731	1,499	1,814	44,537
Public undertakings ...	49,265	648,011	245,062	25,058	11,891	10,841	990,128
Leather ...	104	23,944	70,002	31,659	13,043	2,042	140,794
Food ...	27,900	290,745	87,218	13,302	3,074	1,888	424,127
Factory workers ...	2,048	13,182	349,616	103,300	16,464	8,736	493,346
Total ...	102,186	1,674,837	1,614,653	411,964	136,637	84,387	4,024,664
Percentage distribution	2-6	41-6	40-1	10-2	3-4	2-1	100-0

An examination by industrial groups shows that a working week of less than 48 hours was most prevalent among factory workers (of whom 96-9 per cent. worked less than 48 hours), followed by workers in stone quarrying and working (89-5 per cent.), building workers (81-7 per cent.), and mining workers (76-9 per cent.). The shorter working week in the stone quarrying and working and building industries was due to some extent, it is stated, to unfavourable seasonal conditions, while it is normal for the majority of mining workers to be employed less than 48 hours a week. Of the workers in food industries, public undertakings, and the metal and engineering industry, 75-2, 70-4 and 58-8 per cent., respectively, worked a week of 48 hours or more.

### WAGES AND HOURS MOVEMENTS OVERSEAS.

BELGIUM.

*Coal Mining*.—At the meeting of the National Joint Commission for the Mining Industry, held on 17th March, it was agreed to postpone until 22nd April the reduction of 5 per cent. in miners' wages proposed by the owners. (See this GAZETTE for March, 1934, page 86.)

*Textiles*.—A threatened dispute affecting over 10,000 workpeople in the flax and jute spinning mills in Ghent over the proposals of the employers to reduce wages by 15 per cent. has been settled by negotiation. The workpeople have agreed to accept a reduction of 3 per cent. as from 17th March and a further reduction of 3 per cent. as from 7th April.

No settlement has yet been reached of the dispute in the wool mills at Verviers reported in this GAZETTE for March, 1934, page 86.

DENMARK.

*Various Industries*.—The State Conciliator, who, as reported in this GAZETTE for March, 1934, page 86, intervened in the large scale wage dispute in progress in Denmark, submitted a draft settlement to the parties to the dispute on 14th March, 1934. His main proposals were as follows:—(i) the existing collective agreements already denounced should be prolonged unamended for a year; (ii) a Board should be set up, on request, for each trade to inquire into the question of unfair competition on the part of unorganised employers who pay lower wage rates; and (iii) trade union members should bind themselves not to accept work from unorganised employers for wages lower than the agreement rates. A ballot was taken on the proposed settlement among all the employers and workers concerned, and on 26th March, 1934, it was announced that both sides had accepted it.

SWITZERLAND.

*Engineering Industry*.—As reported in this GAZETTE for February, 1934, page 49, the dispute in the engineering industry was referred to the Inter-cantonal Conciliation Office. The conciliation proposals for each of the 18 undertakings concerned have now been issued; these provide for reductions in both time and piece rates varying from 4 to 9 per cent. in the several undertakings concerned. In 17 of the undertakings, a settlement has been reached on the basis of the proposals, while in the remaining case special terms have been agreed in conciliation proceedings following a stoppage of work.



EMPLOYMENT IN MARCH.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

EMPLOYMENT during March showed a further improvement, which extended to nearly all industries. The industries in which the improvement was most marked were the building, public works contracting, and allied trades, the clothing trades, iron and steel, tinplate and metal goods manufacture, engineering and ironfounding, vehicle building, ship-building and ship-repairing, most of the textile industries, printing and bookbinding, furniture manufacture, the distributive trades, the hotel, boarding-house and transport services, and laundries, dyeing and dry cleaning. There was a slight decline in employment in the wool textile and hosiery industries, textile bleaching and dyeing, leather tanning, and wallpaper manufacture.

The improvement extended to all the Administrative Divisions. In the London and South-Eastern Divisions employment was fair. In the South-West and Midlands it was moderate. In the North of England, in Scotland, and in Northern Ireland it was bad, while in Wales it was very bad.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS.

Among the workpeople, numbering approximately 12,883,000, insured against unemployment in Great Britain and Northern Ireland and working in practically every industry except agriculture and private domestic service, the percentage unemployed at 19th March, 1934 (including those temporarily stopped as well as those wholly unemployed), was 17.3, as compared with 18.2 at 19th February, 1934, and with 21.9 at 20th March, 1933. The percentage wholly unemployed at 19th March, 1934, was 14.8, as compared with 15.5 at 19th February, 1934; while the percentage temporarily stopped was 2.5, as compared with 2.7. For males alone, the percentage at 19th March, 1934, was 20.1 and for females, 9.8; at 19th February, 1934, the corresponding percentages were 21.0 and 10.7.

At 19th March, 1934, the number of persons on the Registers of Employment Exchanges in Great Britain was 1,796,787 wholly unemployed, 312,622 temporarily stopped, and 92,168 normally in casual employment, making a total of 2,201,577. This was 116,332 less than a month before, and 574,607 less than a year before. The total included 1,808,290 men, 49,212 boys, 304,523 women and 39,552 girls.

The persons on the Registers included 869,861 insured persons with claims for insurance benefit (consisting of those who (a) had paid at least 30 contributions during the preceding two years; (b) had received less than 156 days' benefit in their current benefit years; and (c) if 156 days' benefit had become payable in a previous benefit year ending on or after 12th November, 1931, had paid at least 10 contributions since the 156th day of benefit); 976,057 insured persons with applications for transitional payments; 224,954 insured persons not in receipt of insurance benefit or transitional payments, and 130,705 uninsured persons.

In Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the total number of persons on the Registers of Employment Exchanges at 19th March, 1934, was 2,263,807.

**Mining and Quarrying.**—In the coal mining industry employment remained bad on the whole. It showed an improvement in some districts, but a decline in others. The total number of wage earners on the colliery books at 24th March, 1934, showed a decrease of 0.1 per cent. as compared with 24th February, 1934, and of 0.6 per cent. as compared with 25th March, 1933. The average number of days worked per week in the fortnight ended 24th March, 1934, was 5.02, a decrease of 0.02 of a day as compared with the fortnight ended 24th February, 1934, but an increase of 0.33 of a day as compared with the fortnight ended 25th March, 1933.

In the iron mining industry employment remained bad. In the West Lothian shale mines it continued fair. In the limestone quarries in the Cleveland and Clitheroe areas employment showed little change and was still slack; in the Buxton area it remained fair. In the slate quarries in North Wales employment continued fairly good. At china clay quarries it continued fair, and at tin mines it remained bad. At the East of Scotland whinstone quarries employment was still very bad.

**Pig Iron, Iron and Steel, and Tinplate.**—In the pig-iron industry employment continued to improve, but was still bad. The number of furnaces in blast at the end of March was 95, compared with 90 at the end of February, and 70 at the end of March, 1933.

In the iron and steel industry employment continued to improve, but was still bad. The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed was 27.0 at 19th March, 1934, compared with 29.0 at 19th February, 1934, and 43.2 at 20th March, 1933.

In the tinplate industry employment showed an improvement, but was still very bad. In steel sheet manufacture it continued to decline and was very bad.

**Engineering, Shipbuilding and Metal Industries.**—In the engineering industry employment showed a further general improvement, but was still slack on the whole. In general engineering and in textile engineering employment was again very slack, and in marine and constructional engineering it continued very bad. It remained fair in the electrical and motor vehicle sections, and good or fairly good in cycle and aircraft manufacture.

In shipbuilding and ship-repairing employment at 19th March was still very bad, but showed an improvement on the whole, which was most pronounced in the Northern Counties of England and in Northern Ireland.

In the other metal trades employment showed a fairly general improvement and was fair on the whole. It was fairly good in the brasswork, and wire manufacturing trades; fair in the sheet metal, tube, ironfounding (other than engineers' ironfounding), hollow-ware, cutlery, jewellery and plated ware, needle and fishing tackle, and nut, bolt, nail, rivet, etc. trades; and slack in the chain and anchor, and edge tool trades.

**Textile Industries.**—In the cotton industry employment remained bad, both in the spinning and in the manufacturing sections. The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed was 21.1 at the 19th March, 1934, compared with 21.9 at 19th February, 1934, and 26.0 at 20th March, 1933.

In the wool textile industry employment showed a slight decline in the worsted section and little change in the woollen section. The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed was 11.3 at 19th March, 1934, compared with 10.9 at 19th February, 1934, and 18.7 at 20th March, 1933. In the carpet section employment continued good.

Employment in the hosiery trade showed a slight decline, but was fair on the whole. In the lace trade it showed an improvement and was fairly good. Employment in the silk industry showed an improvement and was moderate; there was some improvement also in the artificial silk industry, and employment was fair. In the linen industry employment showed an improvement, but was still slack. There was an improvement also in the jute industry, but employment continued bad. In the textile bleaching, printing, dyeing etc. trades, employment showed a slight decline and continued very slack, with much short time working.

**Clothing Industries.**—Employment in the retail bespoke and ready-made and wholesale bespoke branches of the tailoring trade showed an improvement and was moderate to fair on the whole. In the dressmaking and millinery trades there was an improvement and employment generally was fairly good. There was an improvement also in the shirt and collar trade, where employment was fair. In the corset trade, employment continued fairly good. It was also fairly good in the glove trade. In the felt hat trade, employment continued to improve and was fair to good, though short-time working was still prevalent at some centres.

In the boot and shoe industry, employment showed little general change; it was moderate or slack generally with male workers, but fairly good with female workers and with boys and girls in some districts. Short time continued to be largely worked. The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed was 16.7 at 19th March, 1934, compared with 16.9 at 19th February, 1934, and 18.4 at 20th March, 1933.

**Leather Trades.**—Employment in the tanning, currying and leather dressing sections of the leather trades showed a slight decline; it remained slack on the whole. In other sections there was an improvement, and employment was fair to moderate.

**Building, Woodworking, Etc.**—In the building industry employment showed an improvement on the whole, but continued slack. As regards individual occupations, employment was fair with bricklayers, moderate with plasterers, slack with carpenters and plumbers, and bad with all other classes; there was a slight decline with slaters and tilers and with plasterers, but with other classes of operatives there was an improvement, which was most marked with painters. In brick manufacture, employment continued moderate on the whole, but showed a further slight improvement.

Employment in the furnishing trades and with coachbuilders continued to improve and was moderate; with millawyers it showed a further slight improvement, but continued slack generally.

**Paper Manufacture, Printing and Bookbinding.**—Employment in the paper-making industry continued good generally. With letterpress printers it continued to improve and was fair on the whole. With electrotypers and stereotypers employment continued good. With lithographic printers it showed a further improvement and was moderate. With lithographic artists it continued fair to moderate. With bookbinders it showed some improvement, and was fair generally.

**Pottery and Glass.**—In the pottery industry employment in North Staffordshire showed a slight improvement in all sections, but was still slack on the whole. At Bristol employment continued good, and it was also good at Worcester; at Derby employment improved and was fair.

In the glass trades employment showed a slight improvement; it was slack in the bottle-making section and moderate in other sections.

**Fishing.**—Employment with fishermen showed little change and was bad on the whole.

**Dock Labourers and Seamen.**—Employment with dock labourers was still generally slack, though slightly better than in February. With seamen it was very slack on the whole.

SUMMARY OF EMPLOYERS' RETURNS.

In Tables which appear on subsequent pages of this GAZETTE detailed statistics bearing on the state of employment during March are given, based on information obtained from employers or employers' associations in certain industries. In the following Tables some of the principal features of these statistics are briefly summarised (a) for certain mining and metal industries, and (b) for

various other industries:—

(a) CERTAIN MINING AND METAL INDUSTRIES.

Industry	Workpeople included in the Returns for March, 1934.	March, 1934.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a	
		Month before.	Year before.	Month before.	Year before.
Coal Mining ... ..	789,133	Days Worked per week by Mines.	Days.	Days.	
Iron .. ..	5,966	5.02	- 0.02	+ 0.33	
Shale .. ..	2,063	5.41	- 0.22	+ 0.82	
		5.92	...	- 0.08	
Pig Iron ... ..	—	Furnaces in Blast.	Number.	Number.	
Tinplate and Steel Sheet	—	95	+ 5	+ 25	
		Mills working.	+ 20	+ 12	
Iron and Steel ... ..	58,837	Shifts Worked (one week).	Per cent.	Per cent.	
		325,496	+ 4.0	+ 28.3	

(b) OTHER INDUSTRIES.

Industry.	Number of Workpeople Employed.			Total Wages Paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 24th March, 1934.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month before.	Year before.	Week ended 24th March, 1934.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month before.	Year before.
Textiles:—		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Cotton ... ..	62,316	- 1.7	- 1.2	98,899	- 2.5	+ 0.4
Woolen ... ..	51,694	+ 0.6	+ 11.0	100,690	+ 0.6	+ 17.9
Worsted ... ..	75,572	+ 1.3	+ 1.0	128,837	- 2.1	+ 4.0
Carpet ... ..	10,540	+ 0.5	+ 9.4	20,468	+ 3.2	+ 17.1
Boot and Shoe ... ..	58,418	+ 0.1	+ 3.7	120,140	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Pottery ... ..	10,137	+ 1.6	+ 10.0	18,129	+ 3.7	+ 18.3
Brick ... ..	10,711	+ 0.9	+ 16.5	28,384	+ 1.9	+ 24.5*

UNEMPLOYMENT SUMMARY BY DISTRICTS.

The following Table shows for each of the main areas into which the country is divided for the purposes of the administration of the Unemployment Insurance Acts, the proportions unemployed among insured workpeople and the number of unemployed persons (insured and uninsured) on the registers of Employment Exchanges, etc.:—

Divisions.	Percentages unemployed amongst Insured Workpeople at 19th March, 1934.			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Total Percentages as compared with a month before.	Unemployed Persons on Registers of Employment Exchanges at 19th March, 1934.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with	
	Males.	Females.	Total.			a month before.	a year before.
London ... ..	12.1	5.5	10.0	- 0.9	231,332	- 23,201	- 90,067
South-Eastern ... ..	10.9	5.9	9.7	- 1.2	104,369	- 12,595	- 43,433
South-Western ... ..	16.1	7.3	14.1	- 1.1	135,060	- 10,639	- 27,601
Midlands ... ..	14.9	7.4	12.7	- 1.2	233,122	- 19,281	- 130,282
North-Eastern ... ..	25.2	9.4	21.7	- 0.8	468,054	- 17,762	- 138,307
North-Western ... ..	23.6	11.5	20.9	- 0.9	461,555	- 18,917	- 96,329
Scotland ... ..	28.7	13.6	24.6	- 0.7	343,565	- 10,374	- 36,447
Wales ... ..	35.4	15.4	33.3	- 0.5	212,540	- 5,563	- 12,141
Northern Ireland ... ..	29.4	16.5	24.5	- 1.5	62,230	- 3,524	- 12,489
Special Schemes ... ..	3.7	0.7	2.8	+ 0.1	—	—	—
Total ... ..	20.1	9.8	17.3	- 0.9	2,263,807	- 119,856	- 587,096

UNEMPLOYMENT DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS.

The following Table shows, month by month from March, 1933, the percentages unemployed among insured workpeople, and the number of unemployed persons on the registers of Employment Exchanges, etc., in Great Britain and Northern Ireland:—

Date.	Percentages Unemployed† among Insured Workpeople.				Total.	Number of Unemployed Persons (Insured and Uninsured) registered at Employment Exchanges, etc.
	Males.	Females.	Wholly Unemployed and Casuals.	Temporarily stopped.		
1933.						
20 March ... ..	25.1	13.7	18.0	3.9	21.9	2,850,903
24 April ... ..	24.3	13.2	17.1	4.2	21.3	2,770,980
22 May ... ..	23.6	12.0	16.5	3.9	20.4	2,653,852
22 June ... ..	22.7	10.8	15.8	3.6	19.4	2,503,898
24 July ... ..	22.7	10.9	15.5	4.0	19.5	2,507,215
21 August ... ..	22.4	10.5	15.3	3.8	19.1	2,474,062
25 September ... ..	21.6	10.0	15.3	3.1	18.4	2,398,718
23 October ... ..	21.4	9.5	15.3	2.8	18.1	2,359,763
20 November ... ..	21.1	9.4	15.3	2.6	17.9	2,341,693
18 December ... ..	20.8	9.0	15.1	2.5	17.6	2,287,466
1934.						
22 January ... ..	21.6	11.0	15.9	2.8	18.7	2,457,207
19 February ... ..	21.0	10.7	15.5	2.7	18.2	2,383,663
19 March ... ..	20.1	9.8	14.8	2.5	17.3	2,263,807

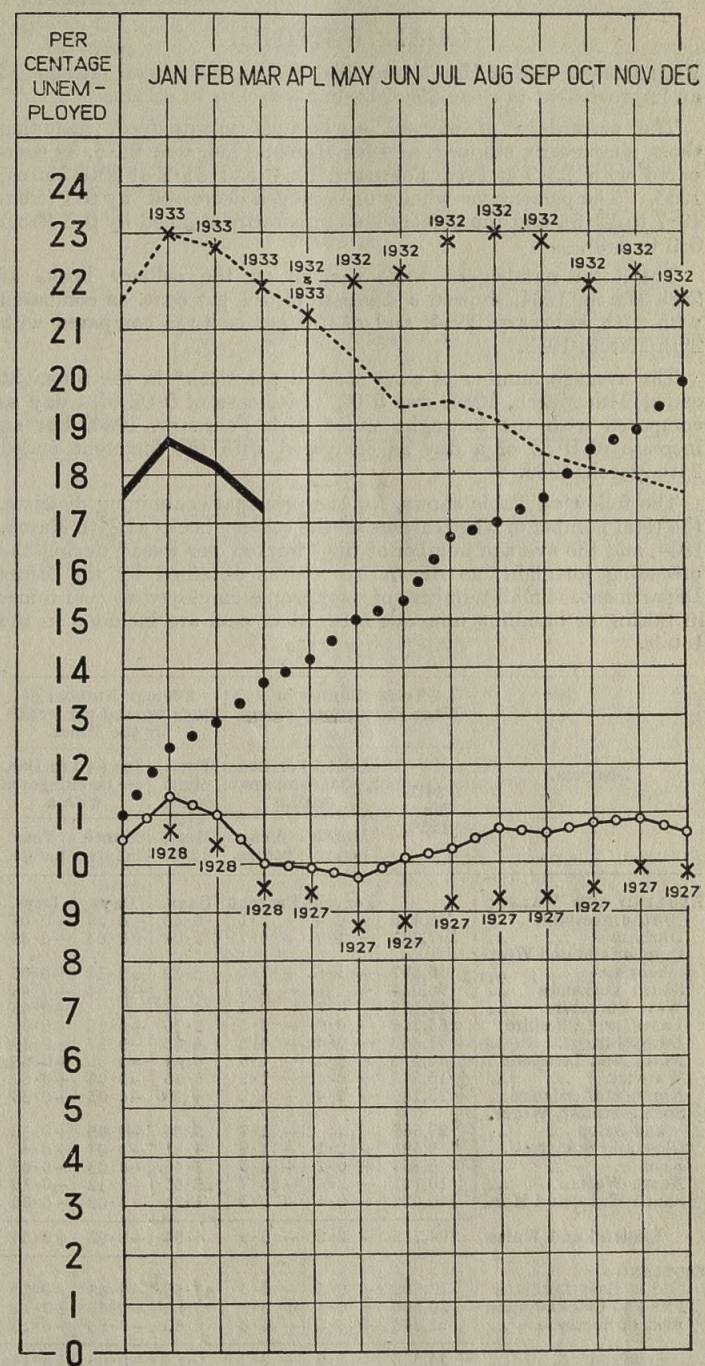
\* Comparison of earnings is affected by changes in rates of wages.  
† Up to and including June, 1933, these percentages, and those used for the purpose of the Chart in the next column, are revised figures calculated on the basis of the estimated numbers insured at the dates referred to; those for later months are based on the estimated numbers insured at July, 1933, and are subject to slight revision when information becomes available as to the changes in the insured population since that date.

UNEMPLOYMENT CHART.\*

PERCENTAGES UNEMPLOYED AMONG WORKPEOPLE INSURED AGAINST UNEMPLOYMENT IN GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND:—

Plain Curve - - - - - = 1934.  
Broken Curve - - - - - = 1933.  
Dotted Curve - - - - - = 1930.  
Chain Curve - - - - - = Mean for 1924-29†.

\* The crosses indicate the minimum and maximum monthly percentages unemployed during the years 1924-1933†.



NEW ENTRANTS INTO UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE.‡ MARCH, 1934.

Area.	Men.	Boys.	Women.	Girls.	Total.	
					Numbers.	Percentage of numbers insured at July, 1933.
London ... ..	2,127	3,662	2,309	3,612	11,710	0.49
South-Eastern ... ..	1,386	1,716	874	1,425	5,401	0.53
South-Western ... ..	851	1,505	652	1,138	4,146	0.45
Midlands ... ..	916	2,796	845	2,630	7,187	0.38
North-Eastern ... ..	1,069	3,469	926	2,291	7,755	0.37
North-Western ... ..	1,020	2,805	775	2,724	7,324	0.33
Scotland ... ..	852	2,182	504	1,843	5,361	0.40
Wales ... ..	456	1,177	301	405	2,339	0.38
GREAT BRITAIN ... ..	8,677	19,312	7,186	16,068	51,243	0.41

\* See footnote † in previous column.  
† Excluding the period April, 1926, to March, 1927.  
‡ The figures now include men to whom unemployment books have been issued on discharge from H.M. Forces, who were excluded from the figures published for dates prior to January, 1934.



DETAILED REPORTS ON EMPLOYMENT IN SOME OF THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES.

NOTE.—The numbers of workpeople employed given in the following Tables represent the numbers covered by the returns received and not the total numbers employed in the various industries. In the comparisons of numbers employed and wages paid at different dates the figures 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 average 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. In connection with the comparative percentage rates of unemployment among insured persons given in the following articles, attention is drawn to the last paragraph of the text at the head of the Table on page 134 giving the numbers unemployed in insured industries.

COAL MINING.

EMPLOYMENT during March remained bad on the whole. It showed an improvement in some districts, but a decline in others.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, at 19th March, 1934, was 25.5, as compared with 25.9 at 19th February, 1934, and 31.2 at 20th March, 1933. The percentage wholly unemployed decreased by 0.1 (from 19.7 to 19.6), and the percentage temporarily stopped by 0.3 (from 6.2 to 5.9).

The total number of wage earners on the colliery books at 24th March, 1934, showed a decrease of 0.1 per cent. as compared with 24th February, 1934, and of 0.6 per cent. as compared with 25th March, 1933.

The average number of days worked per week\* in the fortnight ended 24th March, 1934, was 5.02, a decrease of 0.02 of a day as compared with the fortnight ended 24th February, 1934, but an increase of 0.33 of a day as compared with the fortnight ended 25th March, 1933.

The following Table shows, for the principal coalmining districts, the total number of wage earners on the colliery books at 24th March, 1934, and the average number of days worked per week\* during the preceding fortnight, as shown by returns obtained by the Mines Department. Small numbers of workpeople employed at coal mines in raising or handling minerals other than coal are included in the totals.

Districts.	Total Number of Wage Earners on Colliery Books.		Average Number of Days worked per week* by the Mines.			
	24th Mar., 1934.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a Month before.	Year before.	Fortnight ended 24th Mar., 1934.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a Month before.	Year before.
ENGLAND AND WALES:						
Northumberland ...	42,479	+ 0.4	+ 2.1	5.50	+0.08	+0.07
Durham ...	107,222	+ 1.7	+ 4.7	5.07	+0.03	+0.39
Cumberland and Westmorland ...	6,897	+ 1.5	+ 7.0	5.39	-0.11	+0.03
South Yorkshire ...	98,034	+ 0.4	- 3.0	4.75	-0.04	+0.46
West Yorkshire ...	45,136	+ 0.1	- 2.3	4.37	...	+0.45
Lancs. and Cheshire ...	63,266	- 0.9	- 3.6	5.10	+0.15	+0.60
Derbyshire ...	47,656	- 0.4	- 4.3	4.05	-0.17	+0.39
Notts. and Leicestershire ...	56,171	+ 0.3	- 4.3	4.44	-0.05	+0.63
Warwickshire ...	16,946	+ 0.1	- 1.9	5.63	-0.04	+0.67
North Staffordshire ...	23,169	+ 0.4	+ 1.2	4.99	-0.05	+0.35
Staffs., Worcs., and Salop ...	29,669	...	- 1.7	5.04	+0.05	+0.56
Glos. and Somerset ...	9,595	+ 0.1	+ 1.9	4.81	-0.07	+0.47
Kent ...	6,833	+ 0.2	+ 6.3	5.46	+0.03	-0.09
North Wales ...	10,781	+ 2.6	+ 13.7	5.53	-0.12	-0.19
South Wales and Mon. ...	140,926	+ 0.4	+ 0.3	5.23	-0.09	-0.06
England and Wales	704,785	+ 0.2	- 0.9	4.94	-0.02	+0.34
SCOTLAND:						
Mid & East Lothians ...	12,502	+ 0.3	- 1.0	5.56	-0.06	+0.23
Fife and Clackmannan ...	20,500	+ 0.4	+ 5.2	5.62	-0.06	+0.11
Rest of Scotland ...	51,346	+ 0.6	+ 1.8	5.69	-0.03	+0.15
Scotland ...	84,348	+ 0.5	+ 2.2	5.65	-0.05	+0.14
GREAT BRITAIN ...	789,133	- 0.1	- 0.6	5.02	-0.02	+0.33

The average number of coal-winding days lost in Great Britain during the fortnight ended 24th March, 1934, was 0.78 of a day per week, of which 0.71 of a day was due to want of trade. The figure for the fortnight ended 24th February, 1934, was 0.75 of a day per week, of which 0.71 of a day was due to want of trade; the corresponding figures for the fortnight ended 25th March, 1933, were 1.10 and 1.05 days per week, respectively. The average non-winding time, for each of the three periods under review, was about one-fifth of a day per week.

The output of coal in Great Britain for the four weeks ended 24th March, 1934, was reported to the Mines Department as 19,199,200 tons, as compared with 19,104,300 tons in the four weeks ended 24th February, 1934, and 17,800,000 tons in the four weeks ended 25th March, 1933.

The numbers and percentages unemployed among insured workpeople in the respective areas at 19th March, 1934, and the increases or decreases as compared with 19th February, 1934, and 20th March, 1933, are shown in the following Table:—

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

Area.	Insured Persons Recorded as Unemployed at 19th March, 1934.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Total Percentages as compared with a				
	Numbers.	Percentages.	Month before.	Year before.			
Great Britain ...	200,760	60,299	19.6	5.9	25.5	- 0.4	- 5.7
England and Wales ...	174,399	58,194	19.2	6.5	25.7	- 0.4	- 6.0
Scotland ...	26,361	2,105	22.5	1.8	24.3	...	- 2.5
Principal Districts in England and Wales:—							
Northumberland ...	8,945	515	17.5	1.0	18.5	+ 0.1	- 3.0
Durham ...	36,016	3,564	25.0	2.4	27.4	...	- 8.9
Cumberland and Westmorland ...	3,634	350	33.0	3.2	36.2	+ 0.9	- 6.2
Yorkshire ...	25,380	15,658	14.7	9.0	23.7	- 2.5	- 13.3
Lancashire and Cheshire ...	15,382	5,997	18.2	7.0	25.2	+ 0.9	- 4.0
Derbyshire ...	6,986	3,205	10.9	5.0	15.9	- 0.7	- 3.9
Notts. and Leicestershire ...	8,972	3,592	14.1	5.7	19.8	- 1.6	- 6.4
Warwickshire	978	22	7.5	0.2	7.7	- 1.3	- 2.2
Staffs., Worcs. and Salop ...	7,871	1,986	11.5	2.9	14.4	- 0.8	- 8.6
Glos. and Somerset ...	1,226	1,781	10.9	15.9	26.8	- 1.7	- 7.3
Kent ...	532	77	4.8	1.1	5.9	- 1.1	- 2.0
Wales and Monmouth ...	57,463	21,439	26.9	10.0	36.9	+ 0.6	+ 0.4

The exports of coal, including that shipped for the use of steamers engaged in the foreign trade and the coal equivalent of coke and manufactured fuel, amounted to 4,264,000 tons in March, 1934, as compared with 4,790,400 tons in February, 1934, and 4,734,400 tons in March, 1933.

IRON AND SHALE MINING.

IRON MINING.

EMPLOYMENT during March remained bad. The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, in the iron ore and ironstone mining industry was 28.3 at 19th March, 1934, as compared with 29.3 at 19th February, 1934, and 49.6 at 20th March, 1933.

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

Districts.	Number of Workpeople employed at Mines included in the Returns.		Average No. of Days worked per week by the Mines.*			
	Fortnight ended 24th Mar., 1934.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a Month before.	Year before.	Fortnight ended 24th Mar., 1934.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a Month before.	Year before.
Cleveland ...	2,506	+ 0.2	+ 57.3	5.03	- 0.59	+ 1.65
Cumberland and Lancashire ...	1,794	+ 6.2	+ 17.9	5.75	- 0.01	+ 0.15
Other Districts ...	1,666	+ 3.0	+ 11.7	5.63	+ 0.12	+ 0.78
ALL DISTRICTS	5,966	+ 2.7	+ 29.5	5.41	- 0.22	+ 0.82

SHALE MINING.

The number of workpeople employed at the West Lothian mines during the fortnight ended 24th March, 1934, by firms making returns, was 2,063, an increase of 0.4 per cent. as compared with February, 1934, and March, 1933. The average number of days worked per week\* by the mines making returns was 5.92 in March, 1934, the same as in February, 1934, as compared with 6.00 in March, 1933.

PIG IRON INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT during March continued to improve, but was still bad. The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, was 28.2 at 19th March, 1934, compared with 29.6 at 19th February, 1934, and 40.9 at 20th March, 1933.

\* See footnote \* in previous column.

According to information received from the National Federation of Iron and Steel Manufacturers, 95 furnaces were in operation at the end of March, 1934, compared with 90 at the end of February, 1934, and 70 at the end of March, 1933.

In the case of 69 firms, employing 12,483 workpeople at the end of March, 1934, there was an increase of 2.3 per cent. in the numbers employed compared with February, 1934, and an increase of 28.3 per cent. compared with March, 1933.

The following Table shows the number of furnaces in operation at the end of March, 1934, February, 1934, and March, 1933:—

Districts.	Total Number of Furnaces.	Number of Furnaces in Blast.			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Mar., 1934.	Feb., 1934.	Mar., 1933.	Month before.	Year before.
ENGLAND AND WALES.						
Durham and Cleveland	87	28	24	18	+ 4	+ 10
Cumberland and W.Lancs	36	7	6	5	+ 1	+ 2
Parts of Lancs. and Yorks. (including Sheffield) and North Wales ...	24	9	9	8	...	+ 1
Derby, Leicester, Notts. and Northants ...	42	17	17	15	...	+ 2
Lincolnshire ...	23	11	11	7	...	+ 4
Staffs., Shropshire, Worcs. and Warwick	35	5	6	8	- 1	- 3
South Wales and Mon...	20	4	4	4	...	...
England and Wales	267	81	77	65	+ 4	+ 16
SCOTLAND ...	77	14	13	5	+ 1	+ 9
GREAT BRITAIN ...	344	95	90	70	+ 5	+ 25

The production of pig iron in March, 1934, amounted to 503,600 tons, compared with 414,400 tons in February, 1934, and 332,200 tons in March, 1933.

IRON AND STEEL MANUFACTURE.

EMPLOYMENT during March continued to improve, but still remained bad. It was much better than a year ago. The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, was 27.0 at 19th March, 1934, as compared with 29.0 at 19th February, 1934, and 43.2 at 20th March, 1933.

At certain firms, employing 58,837 workpeople, from which returns were received for the week ended 24th March, 1934, the volume of employment in that week (as indicated by the number of shifts\* during which work was carried on in each department) increased by 4.0 per cent. as compared with the week ended 24th February, 1934, and by 28.3 per cent. as compared with the week ended 25th March, 1933. The average number of shifts during which the works were open was 5.5 in the week ended 24th March, 1934, the same as in February, 1934, compared with 5.2 in March, 1933. The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished returns for the three periods:—

DEPARTMENTS.	Number of Workpeople employed by Firms making returns.		Aggregate number of Shifts.*			
	Week ended 24th Mar., 1934.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a Month before.	Year before.	Week ended 24th Mar., 1934.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a Month before.	Year before.
Open Hearth Melting Furnaces ...	6,282	- 0.3	+ 34.1	37,098	- 0.3	+ 36.3
Puddling Forges ...	1,287	+ 60.3	+ 60.9	5,439	+ 48.6	+ 124.1
Rolling Mills ...	21,245	+ 2.5	+ 16.2	113,591	+ 4.8	+ 32.6
Forging & Pressing ...	1,257	+ 9.3	+ 22.8	6,698	+ 9.7	+ 27.4
Founding ...	6,188	+ 1.4	+ 17.7	34,248	+ 2.6	+ 17.7
Other Departments (Mechanics, Labourers ...)	10,493	+ 3.0	+ 21.4	59,111	+ 4.4	+ 24.1
TOTAL ...	58,837	+ 3.2	+ 20.4	325,496	+ 4.0	+ 28.3

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

The production of steel ingots and castings, as shown in returns from the National Federation of Iron and Steel Manufacturers, amounted to 829,700 tons in March, 1934, as compared with 707,500 tons in February, 1934, and 577,700 tons in March, 1933.

TINPLATE AND STEEL SHEET INDUSTRIES.

In the tinplate industry employment showed an improvement, but was still very bad. The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, was 35.2 at 19th March, 1934, as compared with 40.3 at 19th February, 1934, and 34.0 at 20th March, 1933. In the week ended 24th March, 1934, 319 mills were in operation at works for which information was available, as compared with 294 in the week ended 24th February, 1934, and 304 in the week ended 25th March, 1933.

In steel sheet manufacture employment continued to decline, and was very bad. In the week ended 24th March, 1934, 79 mills were in operation at works for which information was available, as compared with 84 in the week ended 24th February, 1934, and 82 in the week ended 25th March, 1933.

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

Works.	Number of Works Open.		Number of Mills in Operation.			
	Week ended 24th Mar., 1934.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month before.	Year before.	Week ended 24th Mar., 1934.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month before.	Year before.
Tinplate ...	56	+ 2	+ 2	319	+ 25	+ 15
Steel Sheet	8	+ 1	...	79	- 5	- 3
TOTAL ...	64	+ 3	+ 2	398	+ 20	+ 12

The exports of tinned and galvanised plates and sheets in March, 1934, amounted to 49,947 tons, or 7,867 tons more than in February, 1934, but 15,861 tons less than in March, 1933.

ENGINEERING.

EMPLOYMENT during March showed a further general improvement, but was still slack on the whole. In general engineering and in textile engineering, employment was again very slack, and it continued generally very bad in marine engineering and in constructional engineering; it remained fair in electrical engineering and in motor vehicle manufacture, and good or fairly good in cycle and aircraft manufacture.

Compared with a year ago employment showed a substantial improvement in all sections of the industry, particularly in marine and constructional engineering.

The following Table shows the numbers and percentages of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, at 19th March, 1934, and the increase or decrease as compared with a month before and a year before:—

Divisions.	Numbers of Insured Workpeople Unemployed at 19th March, 1934.					Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a		
	General Engineering, Inv. Machinery, Iron and Steel Founding.	Electrical Engineering.	Marine Engineering, etc.	Constructional Engineering.	Motor Vehicles, Cycles, and Aircraft.	TOTAL.	Month before.	Year before.
London ...	6,784	1,203	199	539	3,199	11,924	- 1,134	- 8,308
South-Eastern ...	3,573	659	243	215	1,720	6,410	- 487	- 5,978
South-Western ...	2,958	240	625	208	2,266	6,197	- 570	- 4,773
Midlands ...	8,839	2,043	62	1,317	9,227	21,488	- 2,199	- 24,872
North-Eastern ...	23,836	1,460	7,703	1,982	1,931	35,912	- 2,103	- 22,085
North-Western ...	29,701	3,239	353	753	3,626	37,672	- 1,920	- 19,601
Scotland ...	17,518	526	6,157	2,077	1,903	28,181	- 1,276	- 14,388
Wales ...	1,537	94	103	214	631	2,579	- 116	- 580
Northern Ireland ...	1,470	129	1,809	190	405	4,003	- 242	- 1,895
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND	96,216	9,593	17,154	7,495	24,908	155,366	- 10,047	- 102,481

Percentages Unemployed at 19th March, 1934.

London ...	8.6	7.6	41.5	14.8	6.7	8.1	- 0.8	- 5.9
South-Eastern ...	8.4	7.6	12.9	28.7	5.7	7.7	- 0.5	- 7.1
South-Western ...	8.7	8.8	8.7	27.7	8.0	8.6	- 0.8	- 6.2
Midlands ...	11.2	7.5	4.6	18.3	8.9	9.8	- 1.0	- 11.2
North-Eastern ...	23.4	13.5	46.4	26.7	12.6	24.3	- 1.4	- 12.8
North-Western ...	2							



engineering. In the Birmingham, Wolverhampton and Coventry district employment continued fair in general engineering and in motor vehicle manufacture; it remained generally good in the cycle section, and fair in electrical engineering. In the Nottingham, Derby and Leicester district employment was fair to moderate on the whole. There was a further slight improvement in London and the Southern Counties, employment continuing fair to fairly good; it continued good at the principal centres of aircraft manufacture.

In Scotland employment in general and marine engineering improved a little but was still very bad; it was again very bad in Wales and in Northern Ireland.

SHIPBUILDING AND SHIP-REPAIRING.

EMPLOYMENT at 19th March was still very bad but showed an improvement, on the whole, as compared with the previous month; the improvement was most considerable in the Northern Counties of England, and in Northern Ireland.

The following Table shows the numbers and percentages of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, at 19th March, 1934, and the increase or decrease as compared with 19th February, 1934, and 20th March, 1933.

In considering the comparisons with a year ago, given in the Table, it is necessary to bear in mind that there was a substantial decline between 1932 and 1933 in the total number of insured workpeople in the shipbuilding and ship-repairing classification; the decline affected all areas except South-West England. When this is taken into account the figures indicate that between March, 1933, and March, 1934, there was a slight decline in employment in London and in Wales, but that in other areas there was an improvement, which was most pronounced in South-West England, the North of England, Scotland and Northern Ireland.

Division.	Total Numbers of Insured Workpeople at 19th Mar., 1934.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Numbers Unemployed as compared with a		Percentage Unemployed at 19th March, 1934.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Percentage Unemployed as compared with a	
		Month before.	Year before.		Month before.	Year before.
London ...	2,589	- 135	- 232	30.3	- 1.6	- 1.4
South-Eastern...	1,075	+ 69	- 273	15.8	+ 1.0	- 5.6
South-Western...	5,479	- 63	+ 315	23.4	- 0.3	- 0.7
Midlands ...	111	- 18	- 76	34.7	- 5.0	-36.8
North-Eastern...	31,863	- 795	- 6,390	67.9	- 1.7	- 6.4
North-Western...	10,921	- 564	- 3,864	45.6	- 2.4	-11.5
Scotland ...	29,117	+ 524	- 7,083	64.7	+ 1.2	- 7.7
Wales ...	3,734	- 106	- 604	63.8	- 1.8	- 1.9
Northern Ireland	4,841	- 629	- 3,463	56.8	- 7.3	-22.4
<b>GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND ...</b>	<b>89,730</b>	<b>- 1,715</b>	<b>- 21,669</b>	<b>53.0</b>	<b>- 1.0</b>	<b>- 8.2</b>

SHIPBUILDING IN THE QUARTER ENDED 31st MARCH, 1934.

According to Lloyd's Register Quarterly Shipbuilding Returns, the gross tonnage of merchant vessels under construction in Great Britain and Ireland at the end of March, 1934, amounted to 481,440 tons. This was 149,899 tons more than at the end of December, 1933, and 229,039 tons more than at the end of March, 1933. The figure for the present quarter includes 144,972 tons on which work was suspended. This figure includes a 73,000 ton steamer on which work has since been resumed.

The tonnage commenced during the quarter was 203,012 tons, showing an increase of 128,311 tons over the corresponding total for the December quarter. The tonnage launched during the quarter under review amounted to 34,839 tons, showing a decrease of 30,435 tons as compared with the previous three months.

The total horse-power of marine engines under construction at the works or being installed on board vessels in Great Britain and Ireland at the end of March, 1934, amounted to 560,725 h.p., as compared with 438,479 h.p. in the previous quarter.

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

COTTON INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT during March remained bad both in the spinning and in the manufacturing sections. At 19th March it showed some improvement as compared with a month earlier; but there was a week's stoppage in some districts, with a view to reducing accumulated stocks of yarn in the week ended 10th March, affecting certain branches of the American spinning section.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed in the industry as a whole, including those temporarily stopped, was 21.1 at 19th March, 1934, as compared with 21.9 at 19th February, 1934, and with 26.0 at 20th March, 1933. The corresponding percentages in the preparing and spinning sections were 20.5, 21.4, and 26.5; and in the manufacturing section 21.7, 22.3, and 25.5.

At Ashton-under-Lyne employment was slack in the American spinning section, but fairly regular in the fine spinning mills; in the doubling mills and with weavers there was some improvement. At Stockport a considerable amount of short time was reported, both in the spinning and in the doubling sections. At Glossop employment declined, and was depressed.

At Oldham employment was again described as very bad, and worse than a year ago, in the spinning section; the volume of employment was little more than 60 per cent. of the total possible volume. In the weaving section employment remained bad generally, and was worse than a year ago; it continued to be particularly bad with operatives engaged on velvets, fustians, and sheetings. At Middleton intermittent short time continued in the American spinning section, while full time was again worked in the Egyptian spinning mills. At Royton there was a further slight decline. At Shaw there was a slight decline in the mule spinning department, but employment in the ring spinning department and in mills spinning Egyptian cotton was well maintained.

At Bolton employment with spinners showed a slight decline and was bad; it continued to be moderate with cardroom workers and slack with weavers. At Leigh there was a decline in the manufacturing department. At Bury and at Rochdale several spinning mills closed for a week during March in accordance with a recommendation of the American Spinners' Committee; apart from this, there was a slight increase at Rochdale in the number of workpeople temporarily stopped. At Heywood there was little change, and employment was poor.

At Preston employment showed a further improvement, especially in the weaving section. At Chorley employment remained good in those sheds where fine and fancy fabrics are produced, but in those engaged in plain coarse weaving there was no improvement. At Blackburn employment remained bad; a number of mills closed for varying periods, or were working irregular short time. At Accrington there was little change; while at Great Harwood there was a slight decline in the weaving department. At Darwen employment in the preparatory departments remained very poor, and short time and under-employment were very prevalent in the weaving department. At Burnley employment continued bad, and was reported to be gradually growing worse. At Colne a slight decline was reported. At Nelson no complete stoppages were reported in the weaving department, but some workers were running less than their full complement of looms. In the Rossendale Valley employment continued to be bad.

In Yorkshire employment, with few exceptions, continued very slack in the spinning departments. At Huddersfield, however, normal time was worked in the doubling mills; while at Todmorden the majority of weaving firms worked full time.

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

DEPARTMENTS.	Number of Workpeople.				Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.			
	Week ended 24th Mar. 1934.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month before.		Week ended 24th Mar. 1934.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month before.	
	Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.		
Preparing ...	10,379	- 3.1	+ 0.0	15,969	- 3.5	+ 2.3		
Spinning ...	22,852	- 1.4	+ 3.3	33,293	- 2.3	+ 4.4		
Weaving ...	22,227	- 1.8	- 7.1	34,981	- 2.9	- 4.5		
Other ...	6,858	+ 0.3	+ 2.8	14,656	- 1.1	+ 1.6		
<b>TOTAL ...</b>	<b>62,316</b>	<b>- 1.7</b>	<b>- 1.2</b>	<b>98,899</b>	<b>- 2.5</b>	<b>+ 0.4</b>		
<b>DISTRICTS.</b>								
Ashton ...	4,592	- 1.9	- 4.3	6,910	- 0.5	- 6.5		
Stockport, Glossop and Hyde ...	5,107	- 1.0	- 2.8	7,490	- 1.7	- 4.7		
Oldham ...	7,849	- 7.0	+ 3.0	13,579	- 6.8	+ 7.2		
Bolton and Leigh ...	12,340	+ 0.5	+ 0.3	19,415	+ 0.2	+ 3.8		
Bury, Rochdale, Heywood, and Todmorden	6,830	- 0.4	+ 2.2	11,043	- 3.2	- 0.8		
Manchester ...	3,089	-11.7	-22.5	4,598	-14.5	-19.5		
Preston and Chorley ...	4,673	+ 1.0	- 0.3	7,268	- 0.7	+ 2.7		
Blackburn, Accrington and Darwen ...	4,119	+ 0.4	- 7.7	6,738	+ 1.0	- 6.7		
Burnley and Padiham ...	3,066	+ 6.9	+ 3.5	5,176	- 0.1	+ 1.2		
Colne and Nelson ...	2,662	+ 1.6	+ 2.9	5,599	+ 1.5	+ 6.9		
Other Lancashire Towns	2,922	- 0.2	- 0.8	3,517	+ 1.6	+ 4.1		
Yorkshire Towns ...	2,015	- 9.1	- 0.2	2,913	- 1.1	- 2.0		
Other Districts ...	3,052	- 1.3	+ 9.0	4,553	- 2.3	+ 11.0		
<b>TOTAL ...</b>	<b>62,316</b>	<b>- 1.7</b>	<b>- 1.2</b>	<b>98,899</b>	<b>- 2.5</b>	<b>+ 0.4</b>		

Returns from firms employing 60,250 workpeople in the week ended 24th March showed that about 8 per cent. were on short time in that week, losing 13½ hours each on the average.

The following Table shows the number of men and of women (other than casuals) on the registers of 56 Employment Exchanges in the principal cotton trade centres in Lancashire and Cheshire at 19th March, 1934:—

Department.	Numbers (excluding casuals) on the Registers at 19th March, 1934.						Total.
	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.			
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
Card and Blowing Room ...	1,831	4,411	6,242	866	4,482	5,348	11,590
Spinning ...	10,405	3,086	13,491	6,567	3,452	10,019	23,510
Beaming, Winding and Warping ...	1,674	5,224	6,898	1,417	6,847	8,264	15,162
Weaving ...	7,619	18,265	25,884	2,092	6,786	8,878	34,762
Other Processes ...	1,030	224	1,254	229	126	355	1,609
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>22,559</b>	<b>31,210</b>	<b>53,769</b>	<b>11,171</b>	<b>21,693</b>	<b>32,864</b>	<b>86,633</b>

The following Table shows the increases and decreases as compared with 19th February, 1934:—

Department.	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.			Total.
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
Card and Blowing Room ...	- 23	+ 110	+ 87	+ 6	- 291	- 285	- 198
Spinning ...	- 298	- 96	- 394	- 136	- 476	- 612	- 1,006
Beaming, Winding and Warping ...	+ 2	+ 115	+ 117	- 18	- 315	- 333	- 216
Weaving ...	- 120	+ 162	+ 42	+ 47	- 102	- 55	- 13
Other Processes ...	- 164	+ 6	- 158	- 32	- 65	- 97	- 255
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>- 603</b>	<b>+ 297</b>	<b>- 306</b>	<b>- 133</b>	<b>- 1,249</b>	<b>- 1,382</b>	<b>- 1,688</b>

The imports (less re-exports) of raw cotton (including cotton linters) were 113,418,100 lbs. in March, 1934, compared with 131,116,800 lbs. in February, 1934, and with 103,806,100 lbs. in March, 1933.

The exports of cotton yarn were 11,910,000 lbs. in March, 1934, compared with 11,315,500 lbs. in February, 1934, and with 12,773,200 lbs. in March, 1933.

The exports of cotton piece-goods in March, 1934, were 170,027,000 square yards, compared with 168,187,000 square yards in the previous month, and 209,852,000 square yards in March, 1933.

WOOL TEXTILE INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT showed a slight decline in the worsted section, and little change in the woollen section; compared with a year ago there was a slight improvement in the worsted section, and a great improvement in the woollen section. In the carpet section employment continued good.

The percentage of insured workpeople recorded as unemployed in the woollen and worsted industries (including those temporarily stopped) was 11.3 at 19th March, 1934, as compared with 10.9 at 19th February, 1934, and with 18.7 at 20th March, 1933. In the carpet section the percentages unemployed were 5.5 at 19th March, 1934, 6.3 at 19th February, 1934, and 11.6 at 20th March, 1933.

Worsted Section.—Employment showed a slight decline, chiefly in the wool combing and spinning departments.

At Bradford there was a decline with wool combers and with spinners, but manufacturers continued busy, and skilled weavers, burlers and menders were still in demand, although not to such an extent as previously. At Shipley there was a further decline in the wool combing section. In the Keighley, Haworth and Silsden district employment declined but was still fairly good. At Huddersfield there was no improvement in the fine worsted section; operatives in the other sections were in a rather better position, but only one or two mills were fully employed. At Halifax an increase in short time working was reported.

Returns from employers for the week ended 24th March showed that, in the worsted section as a whole, 21½ per cent. of the workpeople covered by the returns were on short-time\* in that week, losing 10 hours each on the average; while nearly 18 per cent. were on overtime, to the extent of 6 hours each on the average.

With woollers employment was fair, but not so good as in the previous month; it was about the same as a year ago. With woolcombers there was a slight improvement in the preparing section, but less activity in the merino and in the carding crossbred sections; on the whole there was a slight decline. In the sorting, combing, and preparing departments, taken as a whole, returns from employers for the week ended 24th March showed that 27½ per cent. were on short time, losing 13 hours each on the average; while 9 per cent. were on overtime, to the extent of 9 hours each on the average.

In the worsted spinning department employment showed a further slight decline, but was still good on the whole. Employers' returns for the week ended 24th March showed that 21 per cent. of the operatives covered by the returns were on short time, losing 9½ hours each on the average; while 20 per cent. were on overtime, to the extent of 6 hours each on the average.

In the worsted weaving department employment continued good, except in the fine worsted trade at Huddersfield. Sixteen per cent. of the operatives covered by the employers' returns were on short time,\* losing 10 hours each on the average; while 21½ per cent. were on overtime, to the extent of 6 hours each on the average.

Woollen Section.—In this section employment showed little general change. Employers' returns for the week ended 24th March showed that 18 per cent. of the workpeople in the spinning department, and 25 per cent. of those in the weaving department, were on short time during that week, losing 7½ and 8½ hours each, respectively, on the average. The corresponding overtime figures were 30 per cent. and 8 hours (spinning), and 21½ per cent. and 5½ hours (weaving). In the woollen section, taken as a whole, short time was worked by over 20 per cent. of the operatives, who lost about 8 hours each on the average; while overtime was worked by more than 22 per cent., to the extent of 7 hours each, on the average.

At Huddersfield and in the Colne Valley employment continued good; overtime was worked, and mills were reported to be working night and day. There continued to be a shortage of juvenile labour and of skilled women workers.

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

In the Heavy Woollen District (Dewsbury, Batley, etc.) employment continued good; unemployment at Batley fell to a lower level than for some years, and there was an acute shortage of cloth weavers at Dewsbury. Increased activity was reported in the rag and shoddy trade. At Leeds, Morley, and Guiseley employment continued good.

In the blanket and rug trade employment generally was still described as bad in Yorkshire; full time was worked at Hebden Bridge, but employment at Dewsbury was still quiet. At Witney full time working was reported.

At Stockport and at Rochdale employment with woollen workers was moderate or fair, and about the same as a month earlier. At Saddleworth the mills continued to be fairly busy.

In the West of England employment continued good.

In Scotland employment showed, on the whole, a further slight improvement, but continued to be bad generally in the tweed trade; tweed workers at Dumfries, however, continued to be busy. There was a further improvement at Alloa.

Carpet Section.—Employment continued good; it was slightly better than in February, and much better than a year ago. At Kidderminster all firms were reported to be on full time, and overtime was worked in many departments. In Yorkshire also there was an improvement; here and in Scotland employment was good.

Returns from employers for the week ended 24th March showed about 10 per cent. of the operatives covered by the returns were on short time, losing 8 hours each on the average; while 7 per cent. were on overtime, to the extent of 9½ hours each on the average.

The following Table summarises the returns received from employers:—

Departments:	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 24th March, 1934.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a month before.	Index figure. (Jan., 1928 = 100.)	Week ended 24th March, 1934.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a month before.	Index figure. (Jan., 1928 = 100.)
<b>WORSTED SECTION:</b>						
Wool Sorting and Combing ...	10,001	- 1.3	92.5	21,587	- 4.5	72.3
Spinning ...	37,144	- 1.6	90.9	51,632	- 2.7	80.0
Weaving ...	17,376	- 0.9	85.8	32,442	- 0.5	78.4
Other Depts. ...	9,423	- 0.1	95.2	20,393	+ 0.3	77.4
Not specified ...	1,628	- 3.1	92.2	2,783	- 6.3	61.0
<b>Total—Worsted</b>	<b>75,572</b>	<b>- 1.3</b>	<b>90.0</b>	<b>128,837</b>	<b>- 2.1</b>	<b>77.7</b>
<b>WOOLLEN SECTION:</b>						
Wool Sorting ...	871	+ 0.9	69.7	1,837	- 1.8	69.1
Spinning ...	12,572	+ 0.5	93.3	25,773	- 0.8	97.5
Weaving ...	21,838	+ 1.4	98.4	37,871	+ 1.9	97.5
Other Depts. ...	14,508	- 0.3	90.5	31,290	+ 0.5	90.4
Not specified ...	1,905	- 1.1	81.7	3,919	+ 0.8	84.9
<b>Total—Woollen</b>	<b>51,694</b>	<b>+ 0.6</b>	<b>93.5</b>	<b>100,690</b>	<b>+ 0.6</b>	<b>93.7</b>
<b>CARPET SECTION...</b>	<b>10,540</b>	<b>+ 0.5</b>	<b>123.2</b>	<b>20,468</b>	<b>+ 3.2</b>	<b>128.6</b>
<b>Total—Wool Textile Industry ...</b>	<b>137,806</b>	<b>- 0.4</b>	<b>93.1</b>	<b>249,995</b>	<b>- 0.6</b>	<b>86.8</b>
<b>Districts:†</b>						
<b>WORSTED SECTION:</b>						
Bradford ...	33,281	- 1.9	90.3	59,036	- 3.5	73.4
Huddersfield ...	7,677	- 0.9	91.5	13,780	- 1.9	75.5
Halifax ...	8,027	- 1.0	79.9	12,267	+ 0.0	68.0
Leeds ...	8,214	- 1.5	92.5	14,070	+ 0.1	89.2
Keighley ...	7,777	- 0.7	92.4	13,021	- 3.0	89.6
Heavy Woollen (Dewsbury, Batley, etc.) ...	3,343	+ 1.3	101.5	4,454	- 1.0	88.9
<b>Total—Worsted</b>	<b>68,319</b>	<b>- 1.3</b>	<b>89.8</b>	<b>116,628</b>	<b>- 2.3</b>	<b>76.7</b>
<b>WOOLLEN SECTION:</b>						
West of England and Midlands ...	4,876	- 0.3	91.0	8,414	+ 0.9	81.1
Lancashire ...	458	- 5.6	157.1	778	- 4.0	135.9
Scotland ...	1,919	+ 0.4	86.8	3,017	+ 1.5	109.9
<b>Total—Woollen</b>	<b>75,572</b>	<b>- 1.3</b>	<b>90.0</b>	<b>128,837</b>	<b>- 2.1</b>	<b>77.7</b>
<b>CARPET SECTION:</b>						
Huddersfield ...	11,071	- 0.0	96.6	23,905	- 2.8	91.0
Heavy Woollen (Dew						



The following Tables show, by districts and by departments, the percentage increases and decreases in the numbers employed in the week ended 24th March, 1934, by those firms who supplied returns for the purpose of the foregoing Table (excluding the carpet section), as compared with the week ended 24th February, 1934:—

Department.	Percentage Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in numbers employed as compared with previous month. (... signifies "no change"; -without a figure, signifies "few or no workpeople returned.")				
	Wool Sorting and Combing.	Spinning.	Weaving.	Other Depts.	All Depts. (including not specified).
<b>WORSTED SECTION:</b>					
Bradford ...	- 2.0	+ 2.4	- 0.7	- 0.4	- 1.9
Huddersfield ...	+ 1.0	+ 0.2	- 2.2	- 0.6	- 0.9
Halifax ...	- 4.5	+ 1.2	+ 2.6	- 0.5	- 1.0
Leeds ...	-	- 3.1	- 1.0	+ 0.5	- 1.5
Kelghley ...	+ 1.5	- 1.0	- 1.0	- 0.4	- 0.7
Heavy Woollen (Dewsbury, Batley, etc.) ...	-	+ 1.6	-	-	+ 1.3
Total, West Riding ...	- 1.7	- 1.6	- 0.9	- 0.3	- 1.3
<b>West of England and Midlands</b>					
Lancashire ...	- 1.6	- 1.2	-	+ 0.8	- 0.3
Scotland ...	+ 14.2	- 0.8	-	+ 0.4	+ 0.4
<b>TOTAL ...</b>	<b>- 1.3</b>	<b>- 1.6</b>	<b>- 0.9</b>	<b>- 0.1</b>	<b>- 1.3</b>

Department.	Percentage Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in numbers employed as compared with previous month. (... signifies "no change.")				
	Spinning.	Weaving.	Other Depts.	All Depts. (including not specified).	
<b>WOOLEN SECTION:</b>					
Huddersfield ...	- 0.2	- 0.1	+ 0.2	- 0.0	
Heavy Woollen (Dewsbury, Batley, etc.) ...	+ 3.4	+ 3.5	- 0.6	+ 1.9	
Leeds ...	- 2.5	- 1.4	- 0.5	- 1.4	
Halifax and Calder Vale ...	+ 1.7	+ 1.8	- 4.1	+ 0.4	
Bradford ...	- 1.8	+ 0.7	- 1.1	-	
Total, West Riding ...	+ 0.4	+ 0.7	- 0.6	+ 0.2	
Lancashire ...	+ 2.1	+ 0.1	+ 3.5	+ 1.9	
West of England, Midlands and Wales ...	- 4.6	- 0.4	+ 0.2	- 2.0	
Scotland ...	+ 2.7	+ 5.3	- 1.2	+ 2.1	
<b>TOTAL ...</b>	<b>+ 0.5</b>	<b>+ 1.4</b>	<b>- 0.3</b>	<b>+ 0.6</b>	

The following Table shows the number of men and of women (other than casuals) on the registers of 17 Employment Exchanges in the principal wool textile trade centres at 19th March, 1934:—

Department.	Numbers (excluding Casuals) on the Registers at 19th March, 1934.						Total.
	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.			
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
Wool Sorting ...	48	3	51	339	3	342	393
Wool Washing and Preparing ...	477	118	595	307	111	418	1,013
Wool Combing ...	323	178	501	730	406	1,136	1,637
Wool Carding ...	484	50	534	371	39	410	944
Woolen Spinning ...	279	34	313	206	85	291	604
Worsted Drawing and Spinning ...	418	575	993	314	1,812	2,126	3,119
Woolen Winding and Winding ...	67	11	78	218	64	282	360
Worsted Winding and Winding ...	55	105	160	205	654	859	1,019
Woolen Weaving ...	93	169	262	199	1,018	1,217	1,479
Worsted Weaving ...	85	52	137	95	771	866	1,003
Other Processes ...	979	43	1,022	576	92	668	1,690
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>3,308</b>	<b>1,338</b>	<b>4,646</b>	<b>3,560</b>	<b>5,055</b>	<b>8,615</b>	<b>13,261</b>

The following Table shows the increases and decreases as compared with 19th February, 1934:—

Department.	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.			Total.
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
Wool Sorting ...	- 3	+ 2	- 1	+ 299	-	+ 299	+ 298
Wool Washing and Preparing ...	- 18	- 16	- 34	+ 44	+ 27	+ 71	+ 37
Wool Combing ...	+ 25	- 7	+ 18	+ 84	+ 61	+ 145	+ 163
Wool Carding ...	+ 136	+ 4	+ 140	+ 99	+ 3	+ 102	+ 236
Woolen Spinning ...	+ 69	+ 10	+ 79	+ 9	+ 8	+ 17	+ 96
Worsted Drawing and Spinning ...	+ 19	+ 69	+ 88	+ 56	+ 308	+ 396	+ 396
Woolen Winding and Winding ...	- 21	+ 4	- 17	- 22	- 8	- 30	- 47
Worsted Winding and Winding ...	+ 9	+ 13	+ 22	+ 40	+ 90	+ 130	+ 152
Woolen Weaving ...	+ 18	+ 4	+ 22	- 74	- 52	- 126	- 104
Worsted Weaving ...	- 11	- 4	- 15	+ 21	+ 43	+ 64	+ 49
Other Processes ...	- 24	+ 12	- 12	- 113	- 11	- 124	- 136
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>+ 199</b>	<b>+ 91</b>	<b>+ 290</b>	<b>+ 443</b>	<b>+ 407</b>	<b>+ 850</b>	<b>+ 1,140</b>

The imports (less re-exports) of raw wool (sheep's or lambs') were 61,043,000 lbs. in March, 1934, compared with 83,021,000 lbs. in the previous month and 105,699,000 lbs. in March, 1933.

The exports of wool tops in March, 1934, were 4,565,000 lbs., compared with 3,880,000 lbs. in February, 1934, and with 4,253,000 lbs. in March, 1933.

The exports of woollen and worsted yarns in March, 1934, were 3,651,300 lbs., compared with 3,098,100 lbs. in February, 1934, and with 3,109,000 lbs. in March, 1933.

The exports of woollen and worsted tissues in March, 1934, were 8,782,000 square yards, compared with 9,516,000 square yards in the previous month, and with 7,878,000 square yards in March, 1933.

The exports of blankets were 2,445 cwts., 2,574 cwts., and 2,017 cwts., in March, 1934, February, 1934, and March, 1933, respectively.

**BOOT AND SHOE INDUSTRY.**

EMPLOYMENT showed little general change during March; it was moderate or slack generally with male workers, but fairly good with female workers and with boys and girls in some districts. Some firms were busy at the end of the month on orders required before the holidays.

The percentage of insured workpeople recorded as unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, was 16.7 at 19th March, 1934, as compared with 16.9 at 19th February, 1934, and with 18.4 at 20th March, 1933.

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

Districts.	Number of Workpeople.		Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.	
	Week ended 24th Mar., 1934.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month before.	Week ended 24th Mar., 1934.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month before.
<b>England and Wales:—</b>				
London ...	1,822	+ 0.9	3,856	+ 2.0
Leicester ...	10,156	+ 0.9	22,562	+ 2.1
Leicester Country District ...	3,764	- 0.4	8,162	- 0.3
Northampton ...	5,679	- 0.8	12,791	- 0.7
Higham, Rushden and District ...	5,837	- 0.3	12,443	+ 0.6
Kettering and District ...	4,475	- 0.0	9,737	+ 1.6
Rest of Northants ...	1,138	- 1.9	2,167	- 8.1
Stafford and District ...	2,641	+ 3.6	4,888	+ 4.7
Norwich and District ...	6,263	+ 1.0	12,683	+ 1.8
Bristol, Kingswood and District ...	1,441	+ 1.6	2,267	- 1.8
Leeds and District ...	1,619	- 3.4	3,169	- 4.8
Lancashire (mainly Rossendale Valley) ...	6,522	- 1.2	11,396	- 4.6
Birmingham and District ...	697	- 1.1	1,247	- 1.0
Other parts of England and Wales ...	4,344	+ 0.0	8,424	+ 3.6
<b>England and Wales ...</b>	<b>56,398</b>	<b>+ 0.1</b>	<b>115,792</b>	<b>+ 0.0</b>
Scotland ...	2,020	+ 0.1	4,348	+ 2.4
<b>Great Britain ...</b>	<b>58,418</b>	<b>+ 0.1</b>	<b>120,140</b>	<b>+ 0.1</b>

Returns from firms employing about 57,000 workpeople in the week ended 24th March indicated that 36½ per cent. of these workpeople were on short time in that week, losing about 9½ hours each on the average; while about 14½ per cent. were on overtime, to the extent of 4½ hours each on the average.

Employment in London showed a further improvement; in North London there continued to be a demand for machinists. At Leicester there was a further slight improvement; employment was good with women workers, but only moderate with male workers; about 44 per cent. of the workpeople covered by the employers' returns for the week ended 24th March were on short time, losing about 8 hours each on the average. There was little change in the Leicester country district; employment was generally only moderate, but a fair amount of overtime was worked by some firms.

At Northampton employment showed little change, and employment was moderate; the improvement reported last month was maintained, and there continued to be a demand for boys and girls leaving school. More than 47 per cent. of the workpeople covered by the employers' returns for the week ended 24th March were on short time, losing about 10 hours each on the average. Employment in the Higham and Rushden, Kettering and Wellingborough districts continued to be slack; there was some decline at Rushden and a sharp decline at Wellingborough; more than 37 per cent. of the workpeople covered by the employers' returns for the week ended 24th March were on short time in the Higham and Rushden district, and more than 47 per cent. in the Kettering district. Employment at most of the other Northamptonshire centres remained slack, with much short time.

Employment at Stafford was fairly good at the beginning of the month, but declined in the second half and became slack with most firms; employers' returns for the week ended 24th March showed that over 64 per cent. of the workpeople were on short time, losing 6 hours each on the average. Employment at Norwich continued to improve and was good, with much more overtime than short time working. There was still a shortage of female labour, and a number of unskilled girls were placed as trainees with certain firms under the training scheme agreed upon by the Norwich Shoe Trade Arbitration Board.

Employment in the Bristol and Kingswood district and at Leeds remained bad generally; short time was very prevalent. Women workers, however, were fairly well employed at some establishments in Bristol.

In the Lancashire slipper industry employment declined and was slack; short time was largely worked.

Employment showed little general change in Scotland. It was very good at Kilmarnock, where overtime was worked on orders required for the Easter trade; but it was moderate at Glasgow, and very bad at Maybole.

The following Table shows the number of men and of women (other than casuals) on the registers of 53 Employment Exchanges in the principal centres of the boot and shoe industry at 19th March, 1934:—

Department.	Numbers (excluding Casuals) on the Registers at 19th March, 1934.					
	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.		
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.
<b>Boot and Shoe Manufacture:</b>						
Preparing Department ...	240	32	272	112	41	153
Rough Stuff Department ...	549	20	569	396	16	412
Clicking Department ...	833	7	840	1,014	4	1,018
Closing Department ...	24	622	646	30	1,342	1,372
Making Department ...	2,768	43	2,811	2,327	52	2,379
Finishing Department ...	1,960	284	2,244	1,355	196	1,551
Slipper Making ...	323	153	476	854	705	1,559
Clog Making ...	26	1	27	5	-	5
Repairing and Hand Sewn Work ...	936	1	937	56	-	56
<b>TOTAL ...</b>	<b>7,659</b>	<b>1,163</b>	<b>8,822</b>	<b>6,149</b>	<b>2,356</b>	<b>8,505</b>

The following Table shows the increases and decreases as compared with 19th February, 1934:—

Department.	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.			Total.
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
<b>Boot and Shoe Manufacture:</b>							
Preparing Department ...	+ 46	+ 4	+ 50	- 5	+ 8	+ 3	+ 53
Rough Stuff Department ...	- 2	- 6	- 8	+ 34	+ 10	+ 44	+ 36
Closing Department ...	- 55	- 3	- 58	+ 46	+ 3	+ 49	- 9
Making Department ...	- 15	- 72	- 87	+ 317	+ 317	+ 634	+ 230
Finishing Department ...	+ 6	+ 1	+ 7	+ 87	+ 3	+ 90	+ 67
Slipper Making ...	+ 202	- 91	+ 111	+ 53	- 41	+ 42	+ 153
Clog Making ...	- 3	+ 22	+ 19	- 49	- 25	- 74	- 55
Repairing and Hand Sewn Work ...	- 8	-	- 8	-	- 1	- 1	- 9
<b>TOTAL ...</b>	<b>+ 227</b>	<b>- 145</b>	<b>+ 82</b>	<b>+ 144</b>	<b>+ 274</b>	<b>+ 418</b>	<b>+ 500</b>

The exports of boots, shoes and slippers (not rubber) in March, 1934, amounted to 54,353 dozen pairs, as compared with 43,340 dozen pairs in February, 1934, and with 59,281 dozen pairs in March, 1933.

**POTTERY INDUSTRY.**

EMPLOYMENT in North Staffordshire showed a slight improvement in all sections of the industry, but was still slack on the whole. At Bristol employment continued good; it was also good at Worcester; at Derby employment improved and was fair.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, was 20.5 at 19th March, 1934, as compared with 21.3 at 19th February, 1934, and 32.2 at 20th March, 1933.

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

BRANCHES.	Number of Workpeople.		Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.	
	Week ended 24th Mar., 1934.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month before.	Week ended 24th Mar., 1934.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month before.
China Manufacture ...	1,790	+ 0.6	3,033	+ 1.1
Earthenware Manufacture ...	6,495	+ 2.3	11,686	+ 5.1
Other Branches (including unspecified) ...	1,852	+ 0.3	3,410	+ 1.4
<b>TOTAL ...</b>	<b>10,137</b>	<b>+ 1.6</b>	<b>18,129</b>	<b>+ 3.7</b>
<b>DISTRICTS.</b>				
North Staffordshire ...	7,855	+ 1.5	12,798	+ 3.7
Other Districts ...	2,282	+ 2.1	5,331	+ 3.7
<b>TOTAL ...</b>	<b>10,137</b>	<b>+ 1.6</b>	<b>18,129</b>	<b>+ 3.7</b>

Returns from employers relative to short-time working showed that of 10,067 workpeople employed by firms making returns, 2,415, or 24 per cent., were working on an average 10½ hours less than full time in the week ended 24th March, 1934; on the other hand, 495, or nearly 5 per cent., were working overtime to the extent of about 6½ hours each on the average.

**BRICK INDUSTRY.**

EMPLOYMENT during March continued moderate on the whole, and showed a further slight improvement. In the Peterborough district it continued very good.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, was 14.3 at 19th March, 1934, as compared with 15.0 at 19th February, 1934, and 23.9 at 20th March, 1933.

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

Districts.	Number of Workpeople.		Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.	
	Week ended 24th Mar., 1934.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month before.	Week ended 24th Mar., 1934.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month before.
<b>Northern Counties, Yorkshire, Lancashire and Cheshire ...</b>	<b>1,564</b>	<b>+ 1.9</b>	<b>4,014</b>	<b>+ 4.0</b>
<b>Midlands and Eastern Counties ...</b>	<b>7,451</b>	<b>+ 0.9</b>	<b>20,307</b>	<b>+ 1.7</b>
<b>South and South-West Counties and Wales ...</b>	<b>1,514</b>	<b>+ 0.5</b>	<b>3,619</b>	<b>+ 1.5</b>
<b>Scotland ...</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>- 2.2</b>	<b>444</b>	<b>- 2.0</b>
<b>TOTAL ...</b>	<b>10,711</b>	<b>+ 0.9</b>	<b>28,384</b>	<b>+ 1.9</b>

Returns from employers relative to short-time working, exclusive of time lost on account of bad weather, showed that, of 10,711 workpeople employed by firms furnishing information, 5 per cent. were working on an average about 12½ hours less than full time in the week ended 24th March, 1934. On the other hand 5 per cent. were working overtime to the extent of nearly 4½ hours each on the average.

**BUILDING.**

EMPLOYMENT remained slack during March, but on the whole showed an improvement compared with the previous month. At some centres it was reported as good or fairly good. Compared with a year ago there was an improvement in nearly all districts.

As regards individual occupations employment was fair with bricklayers, moderate with plasterers; slack with carpenters and plumbers, and bad in other branches of the industry. During the month there was a slight decline with slaters and tilers and with plasterers, but with all other classes of operatives there was an improvement, which was most marked with painters, though the number recorded as unemployed was still considerable. Compared with March, 1933, there was a general improvement, slight however, with slaters and tilers, but considerable with carpenters, bricklayers and plasterers.

The following Table shows the numbers and percentages of workpeople insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts who were recorded as unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, at 19th March, 1934, together with the increase or decrease in the percentages unemployed as compared with the previous month and with March, 1933:—

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PAPER MANUFACTURE, PRINTING, AND BOOKBINDING.

EMPLOYMENT in the paper-making industry during March continued good generally, and was much better than during March, 1933.

Employment in the letterpress printing industry was fair on the whole and continued to improve during the month; it was better than in March, 1933. Employment was, however, still reported as slack in London and at Glasgow; it was fair to moderate at Birmingham, Leeds and Liverpool; whilst at Reading, St. Albans and Watford and some of the smaller towns it was described as good. With electrotypers and stereotypers employment continued good generally.

In the lithographic printing industry the improvement noted during February was more than maintained during March, though employment on the whole remained moderate. In London and at Birmingham, Liverpool and Manchester it was again reported as bad; on the other hand, it was described as fair at Bristol and Glasgow, and at a number of the smaller centres. With lithographic artists employment continued fair to moderate.

Employment in the bookbinding industry showed some improvement and was fair generally; it was considerably better than during March, 1933.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, in the paper and paper-board industries was 7.4 at 19th March, 1934, the same as at 19th February, 1934, compared with 12.2 at 20th March, 1933. The corresponding percentages unemployed in the printing and bookbinding industries were 9.1, 9.9 and 11.1; and in the cardboard box, paper bag and stationery industries 7.0, 7.4 and 10.6.

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

	No. of Members of Unions at end of March, 1934.	Percentage Unemployed at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) on a	
		Mar., 1934.	Feb., 1934.	Mar., 1933.	Month before.	Year before.
<b>Letterpress Printing:</b>						
London ... ..	33,462	6.9	8.0	9.4	-1.1	-2.5
Northern Counties, Yorkshire, Lancashire and Cheshire	13,993	9.0	9.3	9.4	-0.3	-0.4
Midlands and Eastern Counties ... ..	7,663	5.7	5.6	7.1	+0.1	-1.4
Scotland ... ..	5,509	11.2	12.0	13.2	-0.8	-2.0
Other Districts ...	9,066	5.1	6.0	7.4	-0.9	-2.3
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>69,693</b>	<b>7.3</b>	<b>8.1</b>	<b>9.2</b>	<b>-0.8</b>	<b>-1.9</b>
<b>Lithographic Printing</b>						
Bookbinding ... ..	11,684	10.1	10.7	11.6	-0.6	-1.5
Printing and Bookbinding (branches not distinguished) ...	8,194	9.3	9.9	13.3	-0.6	-4.0
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>25,282</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>5.7</b>	<b>-0.3</b>	<b>-2.1</b>

DOCK AND RIVERSIDE LABOUR.

EMPLOYMENT at 19th March was still generally slack, but slightly better than a month earlier.

Among insured workpeople in the dock, harbour, river and canal service, 33.7 per cent. were unemployed at 19th March, 1934, as compared with 35.0 per cent. at 19th February, 1934, and with 37.8 per cent. at 20th March, 1933. The estimated total of 160,260 insured workpeople in this classification in Great Britain at July, 1933, included 23,090 in river, canal, conservancy and lighthouse service, and 137,170 in the dock, wharf and lighterage section. In river, canal, etc., service the percentage unemployed among insured workpeople at 19th March, 1934, was 15.7, as compared with 15.0 at 19th February, 1934. In docks, wharves, and lighterage, the corresponding figures were 36.9 at 19th March, 1934, and 38.3 at 19th February, 1934.

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

Period.	Average Daily Number of Labourers employed in Docks and at Principal Wharves in London.				
	In Docks.		At Wharves making Returns.	Total.	Total Docks and Principal Wharves.
	By the Port of London Authority or through Contractors.	By Ship-owners, etc.			
<b>Week ended—</b>					
3rd Mar., 1934 ...	3,323	1,737	5,060	6,407	11,467
10th " " " ...	3,579	1,499	5,078	6,579	11,657
17th " " " ...	3,456	1,165	4,621	6,885	11,506
24th " " " ...	3,287	1,896	5,183	6,570	11,753
31st " " " ...	3,973	1,385	5,358	6,328	11,686
<b>Average for 5 weeks ended 31st Mar., 1934 ... ..</b>	<b>3,508</b>	<b>1,542</b>	<b>5,050</b>	<b>6,561</b>	<b>11,611</b>
<b>Average for Feb., 1934 ... ..</b>	<b>3,729</b>	<b>1,615</b>	<b>5,344</b>	<b>6,628</b>	<b>11,972</b>
<b>Average for Mar., 1933 ... ..</b>	<b>3,068</b>	<b>1,523</b>	<b>4,591</b>	<b>6,345</b>	<b>10,936</b>

Tilbury.—The average number of dock labourers employed during March was 726, compared with 715 in February, and with 646 in March, 1933.

East Coast.—Employment at Middlesbrough dock was bad, but at wharves on the river Tees it was good. It remained bad at the Hartlepoons, and slack generally at the other North-East Coast ports. Conditions at North Shields improved slightly at the close of the month. At Goole the improved conditions reported last month were maintained. Employment remained slack at Grimsby and generally good at Ipswich.

Mersey.—Employment at Liverpool was moderate and not so good as in February. At Garston it improved slightly. At Manchester and Salford it declined and was fair.

The average weekly number of dock labourers registered at the clearing houses under the Liverpool Docks Scheme as employed in the five weeks ended 30th March, 1934, was 10,870, compared with 11,337 in February, 1934, and with 9,918 in March, 1933. The average weekly amount of wages paid to these men through the clearing houses was £22,353 in the five weeks ended 30th March, 1934, compared with £24,932 in February, 1934, and with £20,237 in March, 1933.

Other Ports in England and Wales.—Employment at Swansea was good with dock labourers, and continued fair with coal trimmers. There was an improvement at Penarth. Employment at Avonmouth was fair. Employment at Plymouth remained fair; at Southampton it showed a slight improvement and was moderate. It remained good at Falmouth.

Scottish and Irish Ports.—Employment at Glasgow was moderate. At Dundee there was a slight improvement during the latter half of the month. At Greenock and Grangemouth employment was good and moderate respectively. It continued fair at Leith, Burntisland and Belfast.

SEAMEN.

DURING March employment among seamen remained very slack on the whole. There was little change in the demand for men, which was generally very dull; the supply of all classes was in excess of requirements at all ports.

Among insured workpeople in the shipping service the percentage unemployed at 19th March, 1934, was 30.9, compared with 32.1 at 19th February, 1934, and 34.6 at 20th March, 1933.

The demand for men on the Thames was moderate at the beginning of the month and slack thereafter. On the Tyne there was a poor demand throughout the month; on the Wear the demand was very poor. The demand on the Tees was slack throughout the month; at the Hartlepoons it was very poor, except in the middle week of the month, when it was fair. At Hull the demand was very quiet at the beginning of March, improving to moderate in the second week, after which it declined and at the end of the month was very slack. At Southampton the demand for men was slack, more particularly about the middle and at the end of the month. The demand for men at Bristol was very poor throughout the month; at Avonmouth it varied from very quiet to fair. At Cardiff there was a moderate demand for men; at Newport, apart from an extremely quiet period in the middle of the month, demand was moderate to fair; at Swansea the demand was good except in the middle weeks of the month, when it was fair. The demand at Manchester was fair on the whole; on the Mersey demand was moderate at the beginning of the month, but declined thereafter until the last week, when it improved again and was fair. On the Clyde the demand was very slack, with some improvement about the middle of the month; at Leith the demand was slack throughout the month. At Belfast the demand was very slack, more particularly in the latter part of March.

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

Principal Ports.	Number of Seamen* shipped in			
	Mar., 1934.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month before.	Year before.	Three Months ended Mar., 1934.
<b>ENGLAND AND WALES:</b>				
Liverpool ... ..	10,002	+ 3,212	+ 2,552	24,853
Manchester ... ..	605	- 188	+ 146	2,271
London ... ..	6,542	- 1,084	+ 36	22,940
Southampton ... ..	4,882	- 71	+ 233	17,138
Tyne Ports ... ..	1,843	+ 104	+ 469	5,445
Sunderland ... ..	105	- 64	- 68	541
Middlesbrough ... ..	196	+ 17	- 16	658
Hull ... ..	825	+ 251	+ 56	2,150
Bristol ... ..	929	+ 168	+ 182	2,638
Newport, Mon. ... ..	320	+ 116	+ 50	766
Cardiff ... ..	1,441	+ 69	+ 18	5,075
Swansea ... ..	848	+ 1	- 147	2,635
<b>SCOTLAND:</b>				
Leith ... ..	179	+ 36	+ 50	542
Kirkcaldy, Methil and Grangemouth ... ..	179	- 132	+ 10	634
Glasgow ... ..	1,770	- 268	+ 173	5,302
<b>NORTHERN IRELAND:</b>				
Belfast ... ..	247	+ 65	+ 107	659
<b>TOTAL for above Ports</b>	<b>30,913</b>	<b>+ 2,232</b>	<b>+ 3,385</b>	<b>94,147</b>

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

COMPOSITION OF UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS: GREAT BRITAIN.

On page 134 an explanation is given of the unemployment statistics published in the Press, and in this GAZETTE. The following Table gives an analysis relating to the 19th March, 1934, of the composition of these statistics. Lines 1 to 4 make up the number of persons on the register; while, by omitting the uninsured persons (line 4) and including lines 5 and 6, the number of books lodged, or, in other words, the number of insured persons recorded as unemployed, is obtained:—

	Men.	Boys.	Women.	Girls.	Total.
1. Claims admitted ...	1,525,602	12,002	217,908	7,316	1,762,828
2. Claims under consideration ...	38,738	1,142	10,630	666	51,176
3. Insured persons not entitled to benefit or transitional payments ...	191,035	9,246	49,863	6,724	256,868
4. Uninsured persons on Register ...	52,915	26,822	26,122	24,845	130,705
5. Two months' file ...	47,297	2,625	32,483	3,024	85,429
6. Unemployed—Special Schemes ...	3,728	19	289	21	4,057
<b>Persons on Register (lines 1-4) ...</b>	<b>1,808,290</b>	<b>49,212</b>	<b>304,523</b>	<b>39,552</b>	<b>2,201,577</b>
<b>Books Lodged (lines 1-3, 5 and 6) ...</b>	<b>1,806,400</b>	<b>25,034</b>	<b>311,173</b>	<b>17,751</b>	<b>2,160,358</b>

NUMBERS ON THE REGISTERS OF EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES.\*

ANALYSIS OF FIGURES FOR 19TH MARCH, 1934, AND 19TH FEBRUARY, 1934.

	19th March, 1934.			19th Feb., 1934.	
	Persons normally in Regular Employment.		Persons normally in Casual Employment.	Total.	Total.
	Wholly Unemployed.	Temporarily Stopped.			
<b>Great Britain.</b>					
Men ...	1,495,144	222,747	90,399	1,808,290	1,883,782
Boys ...	44,933	4,133	86	49,212	58,368
Women ...	220,260	82,592	1,671	304,523	328,146
Girls ...	36,450	3,090	12	39,552	47,613
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>1,796,787</b>	<b>312,622</b>	<b>92,168</b>	<b>2,201,577</b>	<b>2,317,909</b>
<b>Great Britain and Northern Ireland.</b>					
Men ...	1,537,043	224,403	92,379	1,853,825	1,931,855
Boys ...	45,934	4,220	86	50,240	59,465
Women ...	232,713	85,258	1,702	319,673	344,129
Girls ...	36,915	3,142	12	40,069	48,214
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>1,852,605</b>	<b>317,023</b>	<b>94,179</b>	<b>2,263,807</b>	<b>2,383,663</b>

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

(GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.)

	Four weeks ended 19th Mar., 1934.		Period 21st March, 1933, to 19th March, 1934.			
	Vacancies Notified.	Vacancies Filled.†	Vacancies Notified.		Vacancies Filled.†	
			Number.	Inc. (+) Dec. (-) as compared with year before.	Number.	Inc. (+) Dec. (-) as compared with year before.
<b>Men ...</b>	<b>113,961</b>	<b>106,954</b>	<b>1,356,258</b>	<b>+ 125,374</b>	<b>1,296,522</b>	<b>+ 107,198</b>
<b>Boys ...</b>	<b>20,893</b>	<b>16,146</b>	<b>248,222</b>	<b>+ 66,055</b>	<b>206,522</b>	<b>+ 44,701</b>
<b>Women ...</b>	<b>48,831</b>	<b>37,049</b>	<b>637,207</b>	<b>+ 90,167</b>	<b>526,326</b>	<b>+ 56,306</b>
<b>Girls ...</b>	<b>18,763</b>	<b>13,979</b>	<b>241,130</b>	<b>+ 46,070</b>	<b>194,328</b>	<b>+ 27,220</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>202,448</b>	<b>174,128</b>	<b>2,482,817</b>	<b>+ 327,666</b>	<b>2,223,758</b>	<b>+ 235,425</b>

\* The term "Employment Exchange," as used in this connection, includes Ministry of Labour Employment Exchanges and Branch Employment Offices, and also Juvenile Employment Bureaux under the control of Local Education Authorities which are exercising powers under Sec. 107 of the Education Act, 1921, and Sec. 6 of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1923.  
 † Vacancies Filled include certain types of cases (described as Class B placements) in which the work of the Exchanges was limited; for instance, obtaining for an employer former employees, or placing the same men in relief work in alternate weeks. During the four weeks ended 19th March, 1934, the average number of such placings of men and women was 10,877 per week.

NUMBERS ON THE REGISTERS IN THE PRINCIPAL TOWNS.

The following Table shows for each of the Employment Exchange administrative areas in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and for the principal towns therein, the number of unemployed persons registered at Employment Exchanges on 19th March, 1934. In certain cases (e.g., Bristol, Birmingham, Sheffield, Liverpool, Glasgow, etc.) the figures cover more than one Exchange area.

Area.	Number of Persons on Register at 19th March, 1934.			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in totals as compared with 19th Feb., 1934.	20th Mar., 1933.
	Men.	Women.	Juveniles.		
<b>London Division</b> ...	<b>187,602</b>	<b>37,064</b>	<b>6,606</b>	<b>231,332</b>	<b>- 23,201</b>
<b>South-Eastern Division</b> ...	<b>85,930</b>	<b>13,413</b>	<b>5,026</b>	<b>104,369</b>	<b>- 12,695</b>
Brighton ...	3,511	1,056	191	4,758	809
Chatham ...	3,940	545	469	4,954	157
Ipswich ...	3,192	276	99	3,567	214
Norwich ...	5,023	395	78	5,496	504
Rest of Division ...	70,264	11,141	4,189	85,594	- 10,911
<b>South-Western Division</b> ...	<b>113,889</b>	<b>14,474</b>	<b>6,697</b>	<b>135,060</b>	<b>- 10,639</b>
Bristol ...	18,901	3,032	1,927	23,860	- 1,773
Plymouth ...	8,219	1,206	438	9,863	645
Portsmouth ...	7,611	1,046	674	9,331	853
Reading ...	2,955	276	177	3,408	216
Southampton ...	10,537	985	764	12,286	13
Swindon ...	2,079	227	149	2,455	- 332
Rest of Division ...	63,587	7,702	2,568	73,857	6,907
<b>Midlands Division</b> ...	<b>197,799</b>	<b>36,212</b>	<b>5,111</b>	<b>239,122</b>	<b>- 19,281</b>
Birmingham ...	25,841	4,938	346	31,125	- 3,292
Coventry ...	3,436	649	38	4,123	481
Cradley Heath ...	3,535	345	19	3,899	628
Derby ...	3,882	426	146	4,454	556
Leicester ...	7,224	3,143	57	10,424	1,343
Northampton ...	4,269	707	93	5,069	222
Nottingham ...	13,735	1,459	115	15,309	784
Smethwick ...	2,930	547	33	3,510	307
Stoke-on-Trent ...	15,706	6,251	359	22,586	976
Walsall ...	6,048	805	90	6,943	609
West Bromwich ...	2,618	296	48	3,262	195
Wolverhampton ...	7,678	1,498	318	9,494	1,436
Rest of Division ...	100,897	14,878	3,449	119,224	8,442
<b>North-Eastern Division</b> ...	<b>406,971</b>	<b>41,408</b>	<b>19,675</b>	<b>468,054</b>	<b>- 17,762</b>
Barnsley ...	8,133	420	426	8,979	36
Bradford ...	12,032	2,948	155	15,135	841
Darlington ...	4,658	369	451	5,478	321
Dewsbury ...	2,525	681	137	3,343	197
Doncaster ...	6,206	482	578	7,266	2,911
Gateshead ...	4,760				



UNEMPLOYMENT IN INSURED INDUSTRIES.

THE statistics here presented show, industry by industry, the estimated number of persons insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts, the number and percentage of such persons who were unemployed on 19th March, 1934, and the increase or decrease at that date in the total percentages unemployed compared with a month earlier, a year before, and two years before, respectively.

The Unemployment Insurance Acts provide, subject to certain exceptions, for the compulsory insurance against unemployment of substantially all employed persons. The principal classes of persons who are excepted from such compulsory insurance are juveniles under 16 years of age and (since 2nd January, 1928) persons aged 65 and over, persons employed otherwise than by way of manual labour at a rate of remuneration exceeding in value £250 per annum, persons employed in agriculture and private domestic service, and outworkers. Persons employed by local public authorities, railways and certain other public utility undertakings, members of the police forces, and persons with rights under a statutory superannuation scheme may, in certain circumstances, also be excepted.

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

The files of "lodged" books at the Employment Exchanges thus furnish for each industrial group a record of the unemployment of insured persons. In arriving at this figure the books of those persons who are known to be working in an uninsured trade, or to be sick or deceased, or who are known to have emigrated or gone abroad, are of course excluded. In cases where information on these points is lacking the books remain in the "lodged" files, and

are included in the statistics of unemployment, for a period of two months from the date on which the insured person was last in touch with the Employment Exchange.

The numbers unemployed given in the following Table relate only to persons insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts. They include insured persons who are maintaining registration at Employment Exchanges, together with those whose unemployment books remain lodged in the "two months" file referred to above. The figures given on page 137 relating to persons registered at Employment Exchanges include uninsured as well as insured persons who are maintaining registration for employment, but not insured persons whose books are in the two months file.

A Table showing the composition of the two series of figures is given on page 133.

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

The estimated numbers of insured persons in each industry are computed once a year, in November, on the basis of information obtained at the annual exchange of unemployment books. The figures relate to the beginning of July, and similar statistics are not available for other dates in the year. In considering the comparative percentage figures for individual industries\* given in the following Table, and in the articles on specific industries on earlier pages of this GAZETTE, it should be borne in mind that the percentage rates of unemployment at each date in 1934 have been calculated on the basis of the estimated numbers of insured persons at the beginning of July, 1933; while the figures for March, 1933, and 1932, are calculated on the basis of the estimated numbers insured at July, 1932, and 1931, respectively. In an industry in which a relatively large change occurs during one or more years in the estimated number of insured workpeople, this change may have an important effect on the relative percentage rates of unemployment.

NUMBER OF INSURED PERSONS RECORDED AS UNEMPLOYED AT 19th MARCH, 1934.

INDUSTRY.	GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.									GREAT BRITAIN ONLY.		
	WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED (including Casuals).			TEMPORARY STOPPAGES.			TOTAL.			WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED, TEMPORARY STOPPAGES, AND CASUALS.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Fishing ... ..	7,804	185	7,989	86	3	89	7,890	188	8,078	7,847	188	8,035
Mining:—												
Coal Mining ... ..	200,297	495	200,792	60,232	67	60,299	260,529	562	261,091	260,497	562	261,059
Iron Ore and Ironstone Mining, etc.	2,874	4	2,878	293	—	293	3,167	4	3,171	3,146	4	3,150
Lead, Tin and Copper Mining ...	1,134	2	1,136	46	—	46	1,180	2	1,182	1,179	2	1,181
Stone Quarrying and Mining ...	9,454	18	9,472	2,782	—	2,782	12,236	18	12,254	11,346	15	11,361
Slate Quarrying and Mining ...	869	—	869	41	—	41	910	—	910	907	—	907
Mining and Quarrying not separately specified ... ..	1,860	141	2,001	1,177	25	1,202	3,037	166	3,203	2,977	166	3,143
Clay, Sand, Gravel and Chalk Pits	2,576	12	2,588	534	8	542	3,110	20	3,130	3,033	20	3,053
Non-Metallic Mining Products:—												
Coke Ovens and By-Product Works	2,431	10	2,441	236	3	239	2,677	13	2,690	2,667	13	2,680
Artificial Stone and Concrete ...	3,762	84	3,846	944	30	974	4,706	114	4,820	4,660	114	4,774
Cement, Limekilns and Whiting ...	1,970	53	2,023	348	7	355	2,318	60	2,378	2,258	56	2,314
Brick, Tile, Pipe, etc., Making ...	9,827	539	10,366	2,251	27	2,278	12,078	766	12,844	11,855	766	12,621
Pottery, Earthenware, etc. ... ..	4,661	2,652	7,313	3,580	4,630	8,210	8,241	7,282	15,523	8,217	7,277	15,494
Glass Trades:—												
Glass (excluding Bottles and Scientific Glass) ... ..	3,040	342	3,382	732	51	783	3,772	393	4,165	3,758	393	4,151
Glass Bottles ... ..	2,919	171	3,090	959	39	998	3,878	210	4,088	3,878	210	4,088
Chemicals, etc.:—												
Chemicals ... ..	9,723	1,058	10,781	677	159	836	10,400	1,217	11,617	10,323	1,215	11,538
Explosives ... ..	688	343	1,031	43	52	95	731	395	1,126	731	395	1,126
Paint, Varnish, Red and White Leads ... ..	1,321	219	1,540	62	9	71	1,383	228	1,611	1,383	228	1,611
Oil, Glue, Soap, Ink, Matches, etc. ... ..	5,970	1,071	7,041	1,604	132	1,736	7,574	1,203	8,777	7,537	1,185	8,722
Metal Manufacture:—												
Pig Iron (Blast Furnaces) ... ..	3,918	12	3,930	638	6	644	4,556	18	4,574	4,553	18	4,571
Steel Melting and Iron Puddling, Iron and Steel Rolling and Forging ... ..	27,778	205	27,983	16,436	68	16,504	44,214	273	44,487	44,212	273	44,485
Brass, Copper, Zinc, Tin, Lead, etc.	4,143	150	4,293	1,303	24	1,327	5,446	174	5,620	5,421	174	5,595
Tin Plates ... ..	4,522	320	4,842	5,369	374	5,743	9,591	694	10,285	9,891	694	10,585
Iron and Steel Tubes ... ..	4,231	53	4,284	2,423	6	2,429	6,654	59	6,713	6,654	59	6,713
Wire, Wire Netting, Wire Ropes ...	2,110	208	2,318	909	47	956	3,019	255	3,274	3,019	255	3,274
Engineering, etc.:—												
General Engineering; Engineers' Iron and Steel Founding ... ..	79,027	1,888	80,915	14,645	656	15,301	93,672	2,544	96,216	92,209	2,537	94,746
Electrical Engineering ... ..	7,517	762	8,279	1,177	137	1,314	8,694	899	9,593	8,570	894	9,464
Marine Engineering, etc. ... ..	16,033	41	16,074	1,075	5	1,080	17,108	46	17,154	15,299	46	15,345
Constructional Engineering ... ..	6,226	38	6,264	1,229	2	1,231	7,455	40	7,495	7,265	40	7,305
Construction and Repair of Vehicles:—												
Motor Vehicles, Cycles and Aircraft Carriages, Carts, etc. ... ..	20,945	822	21,767	2,938	203	3,141	23,883	1,025	24,908	23,485	1,018	24,503
Railway Carriages, Wagons and Tramcars ... ..	2,235	201	2,436	208	29	237	2,443	230	2,673	2,360	230	2,590
Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing ...	5,072	41	5,113	894	1	895	5,966	42	6,008	5,963	42	6,005
Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing ...	86,307	213	86,520	3,185	25	3,210	89,492	238	89,730	84,656	233	84,889

\* See, however, footnote † on page 137, as to the general percentages for all industries combined.

INDUSTRY.	GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.												GREAT BRITAIN ONLY.				
	WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED (including Casuals).			TEMPORARY STOPPAGES.			TOTAL.			WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED, TEMPORARY STOPPAGES, AND CASUALS.							
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.					
Metal Trades:—																	
Stove, Grate, Pipe, etc., and General Iron Founding ... ..	10,037	344	10,381	3,231	179	3,410	13,268	523	13,791	13,215	523	13,738					
Electrical Wiring and Contracting ...	3,957	76	4,033	389	6	395	4,346	82	4,428	4,228	81	4,309					
Electric Cable, Apparatus, Lamps, etc.	7,614	4,729	12,343	1,328	1,500	2,828	8,942	6,229	15,171	8,930	6,229	15,159					
Hand Tools, Cutlery, Saws, Files, etc.	4,434	915	5,349	1,744	411	2,155	6,178	1,326	7,504	6,165	1,323	7,488					
Bolts, Nuts, Screws, Rivets, Nails, etc.	1,775	477	2,252	624	109	733	2,399	586	2,985	2,399	585	2,984					
Brass and Allied Metal Wares ...	1,646	413	2,059	338	129	467	1,984	542	2,526	1,984	542	2,526					
Heating and Ventilating Apparatus	1,168	14	1,182	143	3	146	1,311	17	1,328	1,303	17	1,320					
Watches, Clocks, Plate, Jewellery, etc.	2,267	1,010	3,277	897	493	1,390	3,164	1,503	4,667	3,142	1,501	4,643					
Metal Industries not separately specified ... ..	15,654	3,832	19,486	3,959	1,157	5,116	19,613	4,989	24,602	19,371	4,976	24,347					
Textile Trades:—																	
Cotton Preparing, Spinning, etc. ...	16,185	11,585	27,770	9,495	12,803	22,298	25,680	24,388	50,068	25,680	24,388	50,068					
Cotton Manufacturing (Weaving, etc.)	12,609	26,661	39,270	4,275	12,050	16,325	16,884	38,711	55,595	16,870	38,710	55,580					
Total Cotton ... ..	28,794	38,246	67,040	13,770	24,853	38,623	42,564	63,099	106,663	42,550	63,098	106,648					
Woolen and Worsted ... ..	6,977	3,650	10,627	6,711	8,804	15,515	13,688	12,544	26,142	13,602	12,422	26,024					
Silk Manufacture and Artificial Silk Weaving ... ..	1,510	1,066	2,576	1,035	3,299	2,543	3,330	5,875	2,543	3,305	5,848						
Artificial Silk Yarn ... ..	1,225	548	1,773	434	262	696	1,639	810	2,449	1,659	810	2,469					
Linen ... ..	4,390	5,952	10,342	782	879	1,661	5,172	6,831	12,003	887	1,241	10,128					
Jute ... ..	3,307	4,813	8,120	460	1,254	1,714	3,767	6,067	9,834	3,767	6,067	9,834					
Hemp, Rope, Cord, Twine, etc. ...	1,117	1,208	2,325	262	522	784	1,379	1,730	3,109	1,210	1,412	2,622					
Hosiery ... ..	1,390	3,223	4,613	1,555	5,985	7,540	2,945	9,208	12,153	2,914	9,068	11,982					
Lace ... ..	456	339	795	419	332	751	875	671	1,546	875	671	1,546					
Carpets ... ..	447	480	927	292	309	601	789	1,528	739	788	1,527	739					
Textiles not separately specified ...	1,539	2,246	3,785	395	1,166	1,561	1,934	3,412	5,346	1,734	2,595	4,329					
Textile Bleaching, Printing, Dyeing, etc.	8,516	2,842	11,358	10,370	3,434	13,804	18,886	6,276	25,162	17,760	4,932	22,692					
Leather and Leather Goods:—																	
Tanning, Currying and Dressing ...	3,815	1,012	4,827	1,132	288	1,420	4,947	1,300	6,247	4,943	1,300	6,243					
Leather Goods ... ..	1,440	892	2,332	274	309	583	1,714	1,201	2,915	1,696	1,195	2,891					
Clothing Trades:—																	
Tailoring ... ..	9,529	6,251	15,780	1,204	3,714	4,918	10,733	9,965	20,698	10,209	9,706	19,915					
Dress Making and Millinery ... ..	333	3,735	4,068	65	1,053	1,118	998	4,788	5,786	994	4,392	5,376					
Hats and Caps (including Straw Plait)	1,115	780	1,895	526	610	1,136	1,641	1,390	3,031	1,641	1,390	3,031					
Shirts, Collars, Underclothing, etc.	867	4,729	5,596	48	1,629	1,677	915	6,358	7,273	686	2,415	3,101					
Dress Industries not separately specified ... ..	809	608	1,417	188	404	592	997	1,012	2,009	990	1,002	1,992					
Boots, Shoes, Slippers and Clogs ...	11,124	2,088	13,212	7,452	2,973	10,425	18,576	5,061	23,637	18,373	5,031	23,404					
Food, Drink and Tobacco:—																	



Table with columns: INDUSTRY, ESTIMATED NUMBER OF INSURED PERSONS AT JULY, 1933, PERCENTAGES UNEMPLOYED AT 19TH MARCH, 1934, INCREASE (+) OR DECREASE (-) IN TOTAL PERCENTAGES\* AS COMPARED WITH 19TH FEB., 1933, 20TH MAR., 1933, 21ST MAR., 1933, GREAT BRITAIN ONLY. TOTAL PERCENTAGES AT 19TH MAR., 1934.

For notes see page 137.

Table with columns: INDUSTRY, ESTIMATED NUMBER OF INSURED PERSONS AT JULY, 1933, PERCENTAGES UNEMPLOYED AT 19TH MARCH, 1934, INCREASE (+) OR DECREASE (-) IN TOTAL PERCENTAGES\* AS COMPARED WITH 19TH FEB., 1933, 20TH MAR., 1933, 21ST MAR., 1933, GREAT BRITAIN ONLY. TOTAL PERCENTAGES AT 19TH MAR., 1934.

\* See last paragraph of text on page 134. † For 21st March 1933, separate figures for each of the two sections are not available. ‡ The percentages for all industries and services combined for March, 1933, and March, 1932, used for these comparisons, are the revised figures based on the estimated numbers insured at those dates. (See the issue of this GAZETTE for November, 1933, page 400.) The percentages given for February and March, 1934, are based on the numbers insured at July, 1933.

NUMBERS OF INSURED WORKPEOPLE UNEMPLOYED.

PROPORTIONS IN VARIOUS INDUSTRY GROUPS.

Table with columns: Industry Group, Males (Number Wholly Unemployed, Percentage of Total, Number Temporarily Stopped, Percentage of Total), Females (Number Wholly Unemployed, Percentage of Total, Number Temporarily Stopped, Percentage of Total), Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Numbers recorded as Unemployed at 19th March, 1934, as compared with 19th February, 1934.

PRINCIPAL VARIATIONS IN NUMBERS UNEMPLOYED.

The following Table indicates for Great Britain and Northern Ireland the industries in which the numbers of insured persons recorded as unemployed at 19th March, 1934, differed from the figures for 19th February, 1934, to the extent of 1,000 or more—

Table with columns: Industry, Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Numbers recorded as Unemployed at 19th March, 1934, as compared with 19th February, 1934.



JUVENILE UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS.

NUMBERS OF JUVENILES AGED 14 AND UNDER 18 ON THE REGISTERS OF EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES AND JUVENILE EMPLOYMENT BUREAUX AT 19TH MARCH, 1934.

Division.	Boys.			Girls.		
	Insured 16 and under 18.	Uninsured 14 and under 18.	Total.	Insured 16 and under 18.	Uninsured 14 and under 18.	Total.
London ...	1,839	1,877	3,716	1,233	1,657	2,890
South-Eastern ...	1,186	1,227	2,413	1,091	1,522	2,613
South-Western ...	1,462	2,037	3,499	1,027	2,171	3,198
Midlands ...	1,543	1,150	2,693	1,194	1,224	2,418
North-Eastern ...	4,600	6,200	10,800	2,719	6,156	8,875
North-Western ...	4,804	4,345	9,149	3,506	4,031	7,537
Scotland ...	4,337	6,848	11,185	3,183	5,691	8,874
Wales ...	2,619	3,138	5,757	947	2,394	3,341
Great Britain ...	22,390	26,822	49,212	14,706	24,846	39,552

JUVENILES PLACED IN EMPLOYMENT. FOUR WEEKS ENDED 19TH MARCH, 1934.

Division.	Number of Vacancies Filled.			Juvenciles placed in first situation since leaving School.		
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
South-Eastern ...	6,511	5,015	11,526	1,121	861	1,982
South-Western ...	1,171	1,091	2,262	304	319	623
Midlands ...	1,746	1,438	3,184	425	495	920
North-Eastern ...	2,352	1,924	4,276	581	503	1,084
North-Western ...	2,729	2,659	5,388	825	711	1,536
Scotland ...	1,215	1,474	2,689	497	497	994
Wales ...	390	337	727	137	189	326
Great Britain ...	16,114	13,938	30,052	3,891	3,485	7,376

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

Division.	Estimated numbers insured at July, 1933.		Percentages Unemployed at 19th March, 1934.					
	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.			Girls.		
			Wholly unemployed.	Temporarily stopped.	Total.	Wholly unemployed.	Temporarily stopped.	Total.
London ...	100,390	91,550	2.4	0.0	2.4	1.9	0.1	2.0
South-Eastern ...	46,130	32,090	2.9	0.1	3.0	3.9	0.2	4.1
South-Western ...	38,560	26,210	3.8	0.4	4.2	4.1	0.6	4.7
Midlands ...	79,090	66,350	1.4	0.7	2.1	1.2	0.9	2.1
North-Eastern ...	85,550	54,010	4.7	1.1	5.8	5.0	1.1	6.1
North-Western ...	74,889	67,840	6.0	1.1	7.1	4.3	1.4	5.7
Scotland ...	52,230	43,100	8.6	0.6	9.2	7.3	1.2	8.5
Wales ...	28,170	8,850	5.7	4.2	9.9	11.6	1.4	13.0
Special Schemes ...	2,400	2,300	0.8	—	0.8	0.9	—	0.9
Great Britain ...	507,400	392,300	4.1	0.8	4.9	3.7	0.8	4.5

JUVENILES IN ATTENDANCE AT APPROVED COURSES OF INSTRUCTION

Division.	Average Daily Attendance.						Total No. of Separate Individuals who have attended since April 1st, 1933.	J.I. Centres and Classes.	Other Educational Institutions (Claimants).	J.I. Centres and Classes.	Other Educational Institutions.
	Week ended 21.3.34.										
	Monthended 21.3.34.										
	Junior Instruction Centres and Classes.										
London ...	Claimants.		Non-Claimants.		Total.		Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	
	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.					
London ...	260	137	1	—	261	137	—	—	8,993	—	
South-Eastern ...	328	146	17	24	345	170	195	182	4,897	2,167	
South-Western ...	261	125	30	26	291	151	93	81	3,811	1,012	
Midlands ...	228	143	57	8	285	151	144	87	7,183	1,595	
North-Eastern ...	1,186	443	2,015	173	3,201	616	210	220	23,879	1,537	
North-Western ...	1,518	693	414	237	1,932	930	129	111	26,827	845	
Scotland ...	1,240	797	1,383	295	2,623	1,092	177	163	19,213	1,624	
Wales ...	746	98	1,549	321	2,295	419	62	93	12,342	576	
Great Britain ...	5,767	2,582	5,466	1,084	11,233	3,666	1,010	937	106,945	9,356	

There were 74 Junior Instruction Centres for boys, 28 for girls, and 25 mixed Centres open in Great Britain during the week. In addition, there were 13 Junior Instruction Classes for boys, 3 for girls, and 3 mixed. The number of other Institutions to which unemployed juveniles were admitted was 139 for boys, 89 for girls, and 188 mixed. The attendances at these Institutions are mainly in the evening.

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

PERIODS OF REGISTERED UNEMPLOYMENT.

ANALYSIS IN RESPECT OF PERSONS APPLYING FOR INSURANCE BENEFIT OR TRANSITIONAL PAYMENTS.

The following Table gives an analysis, according to the length of their last spell of registered unemployment, of persons applying for insurance benefit or transitional payments who were on the registers of Employment Exchanges in Great Britain at 19th March, 1934. While the figures give an indication of the extent to which these persons have had recent employment, they do not purport to show in every case the extent to which they have experienced unemployment over an extended period. Of the persons who had been on the register for extended periods, a proportion, which will increase as the period on the register increases, will have had one or more short spells of employment, lasting not more than three days each. The persons who had been on the register for less than three months included 312,622 temporarily stopped, 92,168 normally in casual employment, and 584,153 wholly unemployed. Of the wholly unemployed claimants who had been on the register for less than three months, 247,674 (or 13.8 per cent. of all the wholly unemployed on the register) had been on the register less than four weeks, 157,500 (or 8.8 per cent.) four weeks but less than eight weeks, and 178,979 (or 10.0 per cent.) eight weeks but less than thirteen weeks.

Persons who had been on the Register	NUMBERS.					
	Less than 3 months.	3 months but less than 6 months.	6 months but less than 9 months.	9 months but less than 12 months.	12 months or more.	Total.
Men ...	794,966	212,190	124,882	83,839	416,115	1,631,992
Boys ...	11,392	1,660	187	19	8	13,266
Women ...	175,310	32,705	11,771	5,305	18,691	243,782
Girls ...	7,275	695	80	2	2	8,054
Total ...	988,943	247,250	136,920	89,165	434,816	1,897,094

Persons who had been on the Register	PERCENTAGES.					
	Less than 3 months.	3 months but less than 6 months.	6 months but less than 9 months.	9 months but less than 12 months.	12 months or more.	Total.
Men ...	48.7	13.0	7.7	5.1	25.5	100.0
Boys ...	85.9	12.5	1.4	0.1	0.1	100.0
Women ...	71.9	13.4	4.8	2.2	7.7	100.0
Girls ...	90.4	8.6	1.0	0.0	0.0	100.0
Total ...	52.1	13.1	7.2	4.7	22.9	100.0

INSURED UNEMPLOYED. POSITION UNDER PROVISIONS AS TO INSURANCE BENEFIT AND TRANSITIONAL PAYMENTS.

The following Table gives an analysis of the numbers of insured persons on the registers of Employment Exchanges in Great Britain at 19th March, 1934, relative to their title to insurance benefit and the provisions of the Unemployment Insurance (National Economy) (No. 2) Order, 1931, which deals with transitional payments.

The First Statutory Condition requires the payment of not less than 30 contributions in the preceding two years. In cases where this condition is satisfied, insured persons may receive insurance benefit, subject to the fulfilment of the statutory conditions, for not more than 156 days in a benefit year; but in cases where benefit has been drawn for 156 days in a benefit year ending on or after the 12th November, 1931, insurance benefit does not become payable until 10 contributions have been paid after the 156th day of benefit. In cases where benefit has been received for 156 days in a benefit year, or where the 10 contributions rule is not satisfied, and in all cases in which the First Statutory Condition is not fulfilled, adults, but not boys and girls, may make application for transitional payments; and if the special transitional conditions are fulfilled, all such applications are referred to Public Assistance Authorities, or to Commissioners in certain areas, for determination of the amount of payment to be made having regard to the needs of the applicant. In item 4 in the Table relating to adults, the term "insured non-claimants" includes all those adults on the register whose claims had been disallowed on the ground that they were not normally insurable and would not normally seek to obtain a livelihood by means of insurable employment, together with those who had not made claims for insurance benefit or transitional payments.

The Table shows that of the 1,442,229 wholly unemployed insured men on the register at 19th March, 1934, there were 420,591 with claims to insurance benefit, and 874,605 with applications for transitional payments; while 147,033 were either not entitled to benefit or payments, or had claims under consideration. The corresponding figures for the 222,747 men temporarily stopped were 188,990, 19,444 and 14,313 respectively.

Among the 194,138 wholly unemployed insured women, 100,849 had claims for insurance benefit, 52,562 were applicants for transitional payments, and 40,727 either were not entitled to benefit or payments or had claims under consideration. The corresponding figures for the 82,592 women temporarily stopped were 75,028, 3,066 and 4,498 respectively.

ADJUDICATIONS UNDER STATUTORY CONDITIONS FOR INSURANCE BENEFIT AND TRANSITIONAL PAYMENTS.

PERIOD 1ST TO 31ST MARCH, 1934. GREAT BRITAIN.

The following Table gives, for the period from 1st to 31st March, 1934, inclusive, an analysis of the decisions of Courts of Referees and of the Umpire on claims for insurance benefit and transitional payments, the number of cases disallowed by Insurance Officers under the trade dispute disqualification, and the number of appeals against such disallowances dealt with by Courts of Referees:—

A.—Decisions of Courts of Referees.

Ground on which referred.	Claims Allowed.	Claims Disallowed.	Total.
Contributions conditions* ...	127	254	381
Not normally insurable and/or will not normally seek to obtain livelihood by means of insurable employment	6,653	7,585	14,238
Anomalies Regulations†:—			
Class (b) ...	58	151	209
Class (c) ...	35	38	73
Class (d) ...	1,095	2,580	3,675
Employment left voluntarily without just cause ...	1,444	2,437	3,881
Employment lost through misconduct ...	1,305	2,073	3,378
Failure or refusal to apply for or accept suitable employment, or failure to carry out written directions ...	216	492	708
Not unemployed ...	350	1,826	2,176
Not capable of work, or not available for work ...	174	518	692
Other grounds ...	180	1,392	1,572
Total ...	10,542	16,766	27,308
Grand Total ...	15,590	30,581	46,171

B.—Trade Dispute Cases.‡

	Claims Allowed.	Claims Disallowed.	Total.
Cases dealt with by Insurance Officers ...	313	399	712
Appeals against disallowances by Insurance Officers dealt with by Courts of Referees ...	7	28	35
Total Appeals ...	7	29	36

C.—Decisions by Umpire.‡

	Claims Allowed.	Claims Disallowed.	Total.
Appeals by Insurance Officers ...	200	283	483
Appeals by Associations ...	61	156	217
Appeals by Claimants ...	143	321	464
Total ...	404	760	1,164

\* In the case of juveniles the condition in question was the full first statutory condition, viz., the payment of 30 contributions in the preceding two years. For men and women the figures relate mainly to applications for transitional payments, referred on the ground that less than 8 contributions had been paid in the past two years and less than 30 at any time. † See note \* in first column on page 140. There were no cases under Class (a). ‡ See note † in first column on page 140.

ADULTS (AGES 18 TO 64, INCLUSIVE).

	Section of Register.	Men.	Women.
1. Claims for Insurance Benefit	Wholly Unemployed	420,591	100,849
	Temporarily Stopped	188,990	75,028
	Casuals ...	63,469	1,422
	Total ...	673,050	177,299
2. Applications for Transitional Payments.	Wholly Unemployed	874,605	52,562
	Temporarily Stopped	19,444	3,066
	Casuals ...	26,155	225
	Total ...	920,204	55,853
3. Total applications for Transitional Payments:—		860,907	44,507
(a) Authorised for payment		59,297	11,346
(b) Needs of applicant held by Local Authorities not to justify payment...		920,204	55,853
4. Insured Non-claimants ...	Wholly Unemployed	123,383	34,619
5. Position under First Statutory Condition not determined.	Wholly Unemployed	23,650	6,108
	Temporarily Stopped	14,313	4,498
	Casuals ...	775	24
	Total ...	38,738	10,630
6. Total Insured Adults on Register.	Wholly Unemployed	1,442,229	194,138
	Temporarily Stopped	222,747	82,592
	Casuals ...	90,399	1,671
	Total ...	1,755,375	278,401

JUVENILES (AGES 16 AND 17 YEARS).

	Section of Register.	Boys.	Girls.
1. Claims for Insurance Benefit	Wholly Unemployed	8,319	4,598
	Temporarily Stopped	3,721	2,778
	Casuals ...	84	12
	Total ...	12,124	7,388
2. Not entitled to Insurance Benefit:—		8,469	6,453
(a) First Statutory Condition not satisfied ...		655	199
(b) First Statutory Condition satisfied ...		9,124	6,652
3. Position under First Statutory Condition not determined.	Wholly Unemployed	668	354
	Temporarily Stopped	472	312
	Casuals ...	2	—
	Total ...	1,142	666
4. Total Insured Juveniles on Register.	Wholly Unemployed	18,111	11,604
	Temporarily Stopped	4,193	3,090
	Casuals ...	86	12
	Total ...	22,390	14,706

APPLICATIONS FOR TRANSITIONAL PAYMENTS.

DETERMINATIONS OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE AUTHORITIES.

The following Table gives the number of determinations made by Public Assistance Authorities (and, in the case of Rotherham County Borough and the Administrative County of Durham, the Commissioners appointed by the Minister of Labour) on applications for transitional payments submitted to them during the period 5th February, 1934, to 3rd March, 1934, analysed so as to show separately the determinations given on initial applications on the one hand and renewed and revised determinations on the other:—

Nature of Determination.	Men.		Women.		Total.	
	Initial Applications.	Re-newals and Re-visions.	Initial Applications.	Re-newals and Re-visions.	Initial Applications.	Re-newals and Re-visions.
Transitional payment allowed at—						
Maximum benefit rates ...	23,202	287,882	2,526	13,255	25,728	301,137
Lower rates ...	15,803	180,006	1,928	9,700	17,731	189,706
Needs of applicants held not to justify payment ...	6,438	12,384	1,671	1,798	8,109	14,182
Total ...	45,443	480,272	6,125	24,753	51,568	505,025



CUMULATIVE FIGURES: 1ST APRIL, 1933, TO 31ST MARCH, 1934.

	Claims Allowed.	Claims Dis-allowed.	Total.
<b>Decisions of Courts of Referees.</b>			
Contributions conditions ...	1,784	7,494	9,278
Not normally insurable and/or will not normally seek to obtain livelihood by means of insurable employment ...	85,655	104,340	189,995
Anomalies Regulations* ...	Class (a) 5,782 Class (b) 19,407 Class (c) 824 Class (d) 15,588	25,189 2,495 37,467	53,055
Employment left voluntarily without just cause ...	33,284	65,155	98,439
Employment lost through misconduct ...	23,744	39,592	63,336
Failure or refusal to apply for or accept suitable employment, or failure to carry out written directions ...	8,990	29,736	38,726
Not unemployed ...	5,581	35,470	41,051
Not capable of work, or not available for work ...	4,990	20,128	25,118
Other grounds ...	7,543	49,197	56,740
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>193,765</b>	<b>409,657</b>	<b>603,422</b>
<b>Trade Dispute Cases.†</b>			
Cases dealt with by Insurance Officers ...	2,283	3,450	5,733
Appeals against disallowances by Insurance Officers dealt with by Courts of Referees...	579	935	1,514
<b>Decisions by Umpire.†</b>			
Appeals by Insurance Officers ...	2,825	3,601	6,426
Appeals by Associations ...	959	2,031	2,990
Appeals by Claimants ...	1,323	3,998	5,321
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>5,107</b>	<b>9,630</b>	<b>14,737</b>

UNEMPLOYMENT FUND.  
GREAT BRITAIN.

The following Table shows, approximately, the income and expenditure of the Fund for the periods of five weeks ended 31st March, 1934, four weeks ended 24th February, 1934, and four weeks ended 25th March, 1933† :-

	Five weeks ended 31st March, 1934.	Four weeks ended 24th February, 1934.	Four weeks ended 25th March, 1933.
<b>I. Insurance Account.</b>			
Contributions received from :-	£	£	£
Employers ...	1,806,000	1,644,000	1,382,000
Employed persons ...	1,753,000	1,600,000	1,339,000
Exchequer ("Equal thirds") ...	1,780,000	1,619,000	1,361,000
Miscellaneous Receipts ...	15,000	2,000	2,000
<b>Total Income ...</b>	<b>5,354,000</b>	<b>4,865,000</b>	<b>4,084,000</b>
Deficiency Grant payable by Exchequer‡ ...	—	—	508,000
<b>Total Income ...</b>	<b>5,354,000</b>	<b>4,865,000</b>	<b>4,592,000</b>
Insurance Benefit ...	3,661,000	3,135,000	3,867,000
Cost of Administration ...	424,000	287,000	304,000
Interest accrued on Treasury Advances ...	479,000	387,000	414,000
Miscellaneous Payments ...	69,000	12,000	7,000
<b>Total Expenditure ...</b>	<b>4,633,000</b>	<b>3,821,000</b>	<b>4,592,000</b>
Treasury Advances Outstanding	106,690,000	108,420,000	115,000,000
<b>II. Transitional Payments Account.</b>			
Transitional Payments and Cost of Administration thereof¶	4,705,000	3,840,000	4,495,000

\* Class (a). Persons who habitually work for less than a full week, and by the practice of the trade in which they are employed nevertheless receive earnings or similar payments of an amount greater than the normal earnings for a full week of persons following the same occupation in the same district. There were no cases under class (a).  
 † Class (b). Persons whose normal employment is employment for portions of the year only in occupations which are of a seasonal nature.  
 ‡ Class (c). Persons whose normal employment is employment in an occupation in which their services are not normally required for more than two days in the week or who owing to personal circumstances are not normally employed for more than two days in the week.  
 § Class (d). Married women who, since marriage or in any prescribed period subsequent to marriage, have had less than the prescribed number of contributions paid in respect of them. This class does not include married women whose husbands are incapacitated from work or are unemployed and not in receipt of benefit.  
 ¶ The figures may include a number of test cases, and the total number of individuals affected by such decisions may be considerably in excess of the figures shown in the Table.  
 †† A detailed account of the Fund is presented to Parliament annually. (See House of Commons Paper No. 13 of 1934 for the period ended 31st March, 1933.)  
 ‡‡ The payment of Deficiency Grant by the Exchequer commenced in March, 1932, on the exhaustion of the statutory borrowing powers of the Fund; prior to this the deficiency of the Fund was met by Treasury advances.  
 §§ Since 1st November, 1933, out of the surplus accrued on insurance account during the current financial year, repayment of debt has been effected as the various items of the debt fall due for repayment.  
 ¶¶ The cost of transitional payments (including their administration) is repaid in full to the Fund by the Exchequer.

POOR RELIEF IN MARCH.

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

THE number of persons\* relieved on one day† in March, in the forty-seven selected areas named below, was 897,548, or 4.5 per cent. more than in the previous month and 8.4 per cent. more than in March, 1933. The numbers relieved at these three dates were equivalent, respectively, to rates of 539, 516 and 496 per 10,000 of the estimated population.

In the forty-three selected areas in England and Wales the number of persons relieved in March was 683,866, a decrease of 0.5 per cent. as compared with a month earlier, but an increase of 2.1 per cent. as compared with March, 1933. In the four areas in Scotland the number relieved was 213,682, or 24.5 per cent. more than in the previous month, and 35.1 per cent. more than in March, 1933.

Recipients of indoor relief in the forty-seven areas in March numbered 92,857, or 1.5 per cent. less than in the previous month, and 4.7 per cent. less than a year ago. Recipients of outdoor relief numbered 804,691, or 5.2 per cent. more than in the previous month, and 10.2 per cent. more than in March, 1933.

Of the forty-seven areas twenty-six showed decreases in the number per 10,000 relieved in March, as compared with February; eighteen showed increases, including Glasgow (377 per 10,000); while in three areas there was no change. Compared with March, 1933, thirty-three areas showed increases, including Glasgow (531 per 10,000), Oldham (119 per 10,000), Gateshead (113 per 10,000), and Liverpool (113 per 10,000); thirteen showed decreases, including Edinburgh (126 per 10,000) and Derby (125 per 10,000); while in one area there was no change.

	Number of persons* in receipt of Poor Relief on one day† in March, 1934.			Rate per 10,000 of estimated Population.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in rate per 10,000 of Population as compared with a	
	Indoor.	Outdoor.	Total.		Month ago.	Year ago.
<b>ENGLAND AND WALES.</b>						
County of London	32,126	95,804	127,930	294	- 1	- 33
Birkenhead ...	895	7,724	8,619	584	- 4	+ 90
Birmingham ...	4,629	17,795	22,424	222	+ 1	- 7
Blackburn ...	779	5,337	6,116	500	- 14	+ 43
Bolton ...	850	4,138	4,988	281	+ 2	+ 27
Bradford ...	1,156	10,076	11,232	379	- 3	+ 21
Brighton ...	1,037	2,502	3,539	243	- 1	+ 12
Bristol ...	2,125	12,313	14,438	357	- 2	- 31
Burnley ...	412	3,327	3,739	385	+ 5	+ 75
Cardiff ...	1,356	23,184	24,540	1,102	- 27	+ 82
Coventry ...	444	1,868	2,312	129	+ 3	- 1
Croydon ...	777	4,338	5,115	216	- 3	- 13
Derby ...	586	5,722	6,308	443	- 18	- 125
East Ham ...	640	4,364	5,004	354	- 1	+ 33
Gateshead ...	680	9,900	10,580	864	+ 19	- 113
Huddersfield ...	649	2,058	2,707	229	...	- 5
Kingston-upon-Hull	1,686	19,308	20,994	660	- 6	+ 7
Leeds ...	2,980	19,736	22,716	468	+ 4	+ 60
Leicester ...	881	5,045	5,926	246	+ 1	...
Liverpool ...	6,081	79,649	85,730	997	+ 15	+ 113
Manchester ...	3,535	56,476	60,011	787	- 11	+ 49
Middlesbrough ...	427	5,318	5,745	410	- 2	+ 62
Newcastle-on-Tyne	907	21,759	22,666	795	- 5	+ 57
Norwich ...	838	10,902	11,740	927	- 12	+ 56
Nottingham ...	1,968	13,338	15,306	565	- 2	+ 48
Oldham ...	972	4,457	5,429	391	+ 16	+ 119
Plymouth ...	513	6,727	7,240	347	- 13	+ 30
Portsmouth ...	1,270	3,231	4,501	178	- 5	+ 1
Salisbury ...	546	1,792	2,338	197	...	+ 39
St. Helens ...	464	5,543	6,007	558	- 13	+ 16
Salford ...	1,545	9,095	10,640	483	+ 16	+ 91
Sheffield ...	1,724	57,260	58,984	1,150	- 36	- 38
Southampton ...	1,318	4,459	5,777	325	- 1	+ 36
Southend-on-Sea ...	285	3,028	3,313	275	- 43	- 15
South Shields ...	777	3,735	4,512	396	+ 12	+ 46
Stockport ...	562	1,907	2,469	195	- 6	- 1
Stoke-on-Trent ...	1,802	8,968	10,770	390	- 4	+ 10
Sunderland ...	876	12,656	13,532	719	+ 11	+ 99
Swansea ...	551	7,129	7,680	466	+ 8	+ 51
Wallasey ...	276	1,739	2,015	208	+ 20	+ 51
Walsall ...	548	3,830	4,378	418	+ 7	- 26
West Ham ...	2,417	18,340	20,757	717	...	+ 19
Wolverhampton ...	550	2,649	3,199	240	- 9	+ 17
<b>Total for the above County Boroughs ...</b>	<b>53,214</b>	<b>502,722</b>	<b>555,936</b>	<b>534</b>	<b>- 3</b>	<b>+ 29</b>
<b>Total, County of London and 42 Selected County Boroughs ...</b>	<b>85,340</b>	<b>598,526</b>	<b>683,866</b>	<b>463</b>	<b>- 3</b>	<b>+ 11</b>
<b>SCOTLAND.</b>						
Glasgow ...	5,500	171,129	176,629	1,596	+ 377	+ 531
Edinburgh ...	809	20,288	21,097	474	+ 8	- 126
Dundee ...	761	7,006	7,767	438	- 11	+ 58
Aberdeen ...	447	7,742	8,189	486	+ 5	+ 80
<b>Total for the above Scottish Burghs ...</b>	<b>7,517</b>	<b>206,165</b>	<b>213,682</b>	<b>1,126</b>	<b>+ 221</b>	<b>+ 292</b>
<b>Total for above 47 areas ...</b>	<b>92,857</b>	<b>804,691</b>	<b>897,548</b>	<b>539</b>	<b>+ 23</b>	<b>+ 43</b>

\* The figures include dependants, but exclude persons in receipt of outdoor relief only, and casuals. In England and Wales, rate-aided patients in mental hospitals, and in Scotland, lunatics and mental defectives, are also excluded.  
 † 15th March in London, 31st March in the rest of England and Wales and 15th March in Scotland.

EMPLOYMENT OVERSEAS.

[N.B.—The following paragraphs include an abstract of such official information as is available with regard to the state of employment abroad, in order to indicate, as far as possible, the fluctuations in employment in each country from period to period. The bases of the official statistics published in the various countries are, however, not the same as those of the statistics relating to this country: and therefore the figures quoted below cannot properly be used with those on pp. 124-125 to compare the actual level of employment in Great Britain and Northern Ireland with that of other countries.]

GERMANY.\*

UNEMPLOYMENT showed a further large decrease during March. The total number of persons reported by the Employment Exchanges as unemployed at 31st March, 1934, was 2,798,892 (provisional figure), as compared with 3,372,611 reported for the end of February, 1934. The total for the end of March, 1933, was 5,598,855, but this is not strictly comparable with the foregoing totals.

At 31st March, 1934, 249,480 persons were in receipt of standard unemployment benefit and 910,845 in receipt of emergency benefit, giving a total of 1,160,325, as compared with 1,501,877 at the end of February, 1934, and 2,165,891 at the end of March, 1933.

The total number of unemployed given above includes 984,474 able-bodied persons (provisional figure) who were in receipt of poor relief at 31st March, 1934, as compared with 1,192,297 at the end of the previous month and 2,299,151 at the end of March, 1933.

Of 6,656,406 members of the German Labour Front covered by returns, 20.1 per cent. were recorded as unemployed at the end of February, 1934. At the end of the previous month the corresponding percentage, based on a reporting membership of 5,255,184, was 25.4.

FRANCE.†

Unemployment decreased during March. The total number of persons on the registers of Employment Exchanges at the end of the month was 379,288 (300,700 men and 78,588 women). At the end of February the corresponding total was 382,878 (revised figure) and at the end of March, 1933, 350,246.

At the beginning of March, 1934, the number of persons employed in mining, industrial, transport and commercial undertakings covered by the special official monthly investigation showed a decline of 1.70 per cent. as compared with March, 1933. The percentage of workpeople in these undertakings on short time to such an extent as to bring their weekly hours below 48 was 40.81, as compared with 40.18 at the beginning of March, 1933. At 1st March, 1934, 21.88 per cent. were working more than 40 and less than 48 hours and 18.93 per cent. 40 hours or less a week.

BELGIUM.‡

Unemployment increased during December. Returns received by the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare from approved unemployment insurance funds with a total membership of 980,406, show that 19.9 per cent. of these were totally unemployed at the end of the month, as compared with 15.8 per cent. at the end of November and 18.6 per cent. at the end of December, 1932. In addition, 16.6 per cent. were employed intermittently during the month, as compared with 14.8 per cent. (amended figure) in November and 16.9 per cent. in December, 1932. In December, 1933, 23.4 per cent. of the aggregate possible working days were lost through unemployment; in the preceding month the percentage was 18.8 and in December, 1932, 22.4.

HOLLAND.§

Unemployment declined during January, 1934. According to figures compiled by the State Department of Unemployment Insurance and Employment Exchanges, out of 595,535 members of subsidised unemployment funds making returns for the week ended 27th January, 1934, 31.5 per cent. were unemployed during the whole week and 8.0 per cent. for less than six days. In the corresponding week of the preceding month the percentages were 35.7 and 5.2 respectively, and in the last week of January, 1933, 37.6 and 6.4. At the end of January, 1934, 411,186 applicants for employment were registered at public Employment Exchanges, of whom 387,230 were unemployed.

SWITZERLAND.||

Unemployment decreased during February. At the end of the month 91,223 applications for employment were registered at Employment Exchanges, as compared with 99,147 at the end of January, 1934, and 96,275 at the end of February, 1933. Offers of situations at the dates mentioned above numbered 2,600, 1,821 and 2,107 respectively.

ITALY.¶

Unemployment declined during February. According to statistics furnished to the Ministry of Corporations by Employment Exchanges, 1,103,550 workpeople were registered as out of work at the end of the month, as compared with 1,153,418 at the end of January. The total for the end of February, 1933, was 1,229,387, but this is not strictly comparable with the foregoing totals.

\* Statistical Supplement to the Reichsarbeitsblatt, 5th April, 1934, and Arbeit und Arbeitslosigkeit, 10th April, 1934. Berlin.  
 † Bulletin du Marché du Travail, 30th March and 7th April, 1934. Paris.  
 ‡ Revue du Travail, March, 1934. Brussels.  
 § Maandschrift van het Centraal Bureau voor de Statistiek, 28th February, 1934. The Hague.  
 ¶ La Vie Economique, March, 1934. Berne.  
 || Bollettino Mensile di Statistica, March, 1934. Rome.

AUSTRIA.\*

Unemployment showed a decrease during February. The total number of persons in receipt of benefit at the end of the month was 352,451 (139,183 in Vienna), a decrease of 1.4 per cent. as compared with January, 1934, and of 12.2 per cent. as compared with February, 1933.

POLAND.†

Unemployment continued to increase during January, 1934. The number of applicants registered at Employment Exchanges at the end of the month was 399,660, as compared with 342,622 at the end of December, 1933, and 266,601 at the end of January, 1933.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA.‡

Unemployment decreased during March, partly owing to seasonal causes. The total number of persons remaining on the registers of the Employment Exchanges at the end of the month was 785,000 (preliminary figure), as compared with 847,994 at the end of February, 1934, and 877,955 at the end of March, 1933.

SCANDINAVIAN COUNTRIES.

Unemployment decreased in Denmark but showed little change in Sweden during February.

Denmark.—Particulars supplied to the Danish Statistical Department by unemployment insurance societies show that, out of 358,533 organised workpeople covered by the returns, 31.3 per cent. were unemployed at the end of February, 1934, as compared with 34.4 per cent. at the end of January, and 42.9 per cent. at the end of February, 1933.

Sweden.—The percentage of members of trade unions making returns who were unemployed at the end of February, 1934, was 24.1, as compared with 24.3 at the end of January, 1934, and 27.7 at the end of February, 1933.

UNITED STATES. ¶

According to returns received by the Federal Bureau of Labour Statistics from 18,101 representative establishments in 89 of the principal manufacturing industries, covering about 50 per cent. of the total wage-earners employed in all manufacturing industries, 3,273,694 workpeople were on their pay-rolls at or near 15th February, 1934, an increase of 6.1 per cent. as compared with the previous month. Aggregate earnings in these establishments during the same period showed an increase of 12.6 per cent. If the average monthly index of employment in manufacturing industries in 1926 be taken as 100, the corresponding figure for February, 1934, was 73.5, as compared with 69.3 a month before and 57.5 in February, 1933. It is officially estimated that, in 89 manufacturing industries, and in 16 important non-manufacturing industries (for each of which separate indexes of employment are compiled) about 345,000 more persons were at work at the middle of February, 1934, than at the middle of the previous month.

Reports received by the American Federation of Labour from affiliated trade unions in 24 cities show that, in February, 1934, 26 per cent. (preliminary figure) of the membership of these unions covered by the returns were unemployed, as compared with 28 per cent. in the previous month and 34 per cent. a year before.

IRISH FREE STATE.\*\*

Unemployment increased during February. The total number of unemployed persons registered at Employment Exchanges was 98,642 at the end of February, 1934, as compared with 94,266 at the end of January and 83,747 at the end of February, 1933.

CANADA.††

There was a further improvement in employment at the beginning of March. Returns received by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics from 8,499 leading employers gave an aggregate of 861,044 workpeople on their pay-rolls at 1st March, 1934, as compared with 849,056 at 1st February. If the average employment of the reporting firms in the year 1926 be represented by 100, the index of employment for 1st March, 1934, was 92.7, as compared with 91.4 at the beginning of February and 76.9 at the beginning of March, 1933.

At the end of February, 1934, 20.0 per cent. of the aggregate membership of trade unions making returns were unemployed, as compared with 21.2 per cent. in January, 1934, and 24.3 per cent. in February, 1933.



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

Rates of Wages.

In the industries covered by the Department's statistics\* the changes in rates of wages reported to have come into operation in March in Great Britain and Northern Ireland resulted in an aggregate decrease of about £6,420 in the weekly full-time wages of 64,600 workpeople, and in an increase of £25 in those of 650 workpeople.

The great majority of the workpeople whose wages were reduced consisted of those engaged in hosiery manufacture in the Midlands, whose cost-of-living bonus was reduced by 1d. on each shilling earned. Other workpeople affected by decreases in wages included those employed in the aerated waters trade in Scotland, for whom the minimum time rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts were reduced by 1d. per hour for men and ½d. per hour for women, hosiery finishers at Nottingham, and female elastic web workers at Leicester and Loughborough. There was also a reduction in the Trade Board minimum rates for cutters, trimmers and similar workers engaged in the ready-made and wholesale bespoke tailoring trade in London.

The workpeople whose wages were increased consisted mainly of the lower-paid workers at ironstone mines in Cleveland, for whom revised basis shift rates were introduced, into which were merged certain flat-rate bonuses that had previously been paid.

Of the estimated total decrease of £6,420 per week, about £6,250 took effect under cost-of-living sliding scales, and the remainder under Trade Board Orders; while the whole of the estimated total increase of £25 per week was the result of direct negotiations between the parties.

SUMMARY OF CHANGES REPORTED IN JANUARY-MARCH, 1934.

The following Table shows the number of workpeople in Great Britain and Northern Ireland affected by changes in rates of wages reported to the Department during the three completed months of 1934, and the net aggregate amounts of such changes.

Industry Group.	Approximate Number of Workpeople affected by Net		Estimated Net Amount of Change in Weekly Wages.	
	Increases.	Decreases.	Increases.	Decreases.
Coal Mining ... ..	...	100	£	£ 20
Other Mining and Quarrying ... ..	3,800	...	185	...
Brick, Pottery, Glass, Chemical, etc. ...	5,000	100	250	5
Iron and Steel ... ..	10,300	13,700	390	720
Engineering ... ..	6,000	...	1,000	...
Other Metal ... ..	900	200	70	30
Textile ... ..	84,300	67,750	960	6,950
Clothing ... ..	...	900	...	105
Food, Drink, and Tobacco	...	1,700	...	205
Woodworking, Furniture, etc. ... ..	1,200	...	180	...
Building, Public Works Contracting, etc. ...	34,100	400	3,060	35
Gas, Water, and Electricity Supply ... ..	920	...	100	...
Transport ... ..	23,250	750	1,800	40
Public Administration Services ... ..	6,430	100	520	5
Other ... ..	4,900	5,200	250	555
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>181,100</b>	<b>90,900</b>	<b>8,765</b>	<b>8,670</b>

In the corresponding three months of 1933, there were net increases of £500 in the weekly full-time wages of 10,800 workpeople, and net decreases of £61,900 in those of 745,500 workpeople.

Hours of Labour.

The principal changes in hours of labour consisted of reductions in the weekly number of hours beyond which statutory overtime rates become payable for agricultural workers in Essex, Northamptonshire, and Worcestershire.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING MARCH, 1934.

Industry.	District.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change. (Decreases in italics.)
Agriculture	Suffolk ... ..	4 Mar.	Male workers ... ..	Increases in the minimum rates fixed under the Agricultural Wages (Regulation) Act, 1924, of 4d. to 1s. per week. Minimum rates after change: 9s. 8d. at 14, increasing each year to 29s. at 21 and over.
	Kent ... ..	4 Mar.	Female workers ... ..	Increase in the minimum rates fixed under the Agricultural Wages (Regulation) Act, 1924, of ½d. per hour. Minimum rates after change: under 16, 3½d.; 16 and under 18, 4½d.; 18 and over, 6d.
	Devonshire ... ..	25 Mar.	Female workers ... ..	Increases in the minimum rates fixed under the Agricultural Wages (Regulation) Act, 1924, of from ½d. to 1d. per hour. Minimum rates after change: 2½d. at 14, increasing each year to 6d. at 21 and over.
	Glamorganshire ... ..	2 Mar.	Male workers ... ..	Increase in the minimum rates fixed under the Agricultural Wages (Regulation) Act, 1924, of 1s. per week. Minimum rates after change: stockmen, cattlemen, cowmen, horsemen, shepherds and bailiffs—18s. at 14, increasing each year to 37s. at 21 and over; other workers—15s. at 14, increasing each year to 35s. 6d. at 21 and over.
Ironstone Mining	Cleveland ... ..	5 Mar.	Lower paid men previously in receipt of basis rates of 3s. 4d. to 4s. per shift.	Revised basis rates adopted (into which are merged the flat-rate bonuses of 5d. to 1d. per shift previously paid on basis rates of 3s. 4d. to 3s. 8d. per shift) resulting in increases of 1d. to 3d. per shift. Basis rates after change: 3s. 10d. to 4s. 1d. per shift.†
			Horse drivers under 21 years of age employed underground.	Increase in basis rates of 1d. per shift. Basis rates after change: 2s. 1d. per shift at 16 increasing each year to 3s. 3d. at 20.†
Chemical, etc., Manufacture.	Bristol (certain firms)	1st week in Mar.	Workpeople employed in the manufacture of glue and chemical manures.	Decrease† of 6d. per week for men and of proportionate amounts for women and youths. Minimum rate after change for men, 38s. 3d.
Typefoundry	London ... ..	23 Mar.	Workpeople employed in type foundries.	Decrease† (for workers on full time only) of 1s. per week for male workers and of 6d. per week for female workers. Rates after change: mould makers, 79s. per week; engineers and justifiers, 71s.; rubbers, 54s.; other male workers, 59s.; female workers, 29s. 6d.
Hosiery Manufacture.	Various districts in the Midland Counties.‡	Week beginning 26 Mar.	All classes of workpeople (except dyers, trimmers, etc.).	Bonus of 5d. in the shilling on earnings reduced† to 4d. in the shilling.
			Female workers ... ..	Decrease† of 1s. per week for those 18 and over, and of from 4½d. to 3½d. per week for those under 18. Minimum rate after change for women 20 and over, 27s.
Elastic Web Manufacture.	Leicester and Loughborough (certain firms).	21 or 23 Mar.	Trimmers:— Timeworkers ... ..	Decrease† of 1d. per hour (1s. 5d. to 1s. 4d.). Bonus on list prices reduced† from 20 per cent. to 15 per cent. for web and jersey trimmers and from 35 per cent. to 27½ per cent. for other trimmers.
			Pieceworkers ... ..	Decrease† of ½d. per hour for those 21 and over and 17 and under 18, the rates for those of other ages remaining unchanged. Rates after change: 2½d. at 14, increasing each year to 7d. at 21 and over.
			Female auxiliary workers ... ..	Decrease† of from ½d. to 1d. per hour (except for those under 15, for whom there was no change). Rates after change: 2½d. at 14, increasing each year to 11½d. at 21 and over.
			Male auxiliary workers ... ..	Decrease† of 1d. per hour (except for those under 15, for whom there was no change). Rates after change: 3½d. at 14, increasing each year to 9d. at 21 and over.
Hosiery Finishing.	Nottingham ... ..	22 Mar.	Menders ... ..	Decrease† of 5 per cent. on piece rates (i.e., list prices doubled), making total deductions from piece rates of 20 per cent. for tackers, and 30 per cent. for sorters.
			Tackers and sorters ... ..	...

\* The particulars of numbers affected and amount of change in weekly wages exclude changes affecting Government employees, agricultural labourers, shop assistants and clerks, for which classes the information available is not sufficient to form a basis for statistics. Where information is available, however, details of changes in the current rates of wages of these classes are shown in the list of principal changes recorded. The estimates of the effects of the changes on weekly wages are based on normal conditions of employment, and do not take into account the effect of short-time working, etc.  
† These basis rates are subject to the addition, under a selling-price sliding-scale arrangement, of 50-5 per cent.  
‡ Under cost-of-living sliding-scale arrangements.  
§ Including Leicester, Loughborough, Nottingham, Mansfield, Sutton-in-Ashfield, Ilkeston, Derby, Hinckley and Coventry districts.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING MARCH, 1934 (continued).

Industry.	District.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change. (Decreases in italics.)
Ready-made and Wholesale Bespoke Tailoring.	London district (City and Metropolitan Police Areas).	1 Mar.	Measure cutters, cutters and trimmers, knife cutters and knifemen.	Decrease in the minimum rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts of ½d. per hour. Minimum time and piecework basis time rates respectively after change: measure cutters with not less than 5 years' employment after 19, 1s. 6½d., 1s. 8½d.; other workers with not less than 4 years' employment after 19, 1s. 4½d., 1s. 6½d.
Fur	Great Britain ... ..	23 Mar.	Piece workers ... ..	General minimum piece rates previously fixed under the Trade Boards Acts for hand fleshing and machine fleshing of lamb skins varied by way of a reduction of 33½ per cent. (See Notice of Order on page 146.)
			Male workers ... ..	Decreases in the minimum rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts of 1d. per hour for those 21 and over, and ½d. per hour for those 18 and under 21, the rates for those under 18 remaining unchanged. Minimum rates after change: 3½d. at under 16, increasing each year to 6d. at 18, and to 11½d. at 21 and over.* (See Notice of Order on page 111 of March GAZETTE.)
Aerated Waters Manufacture.	Scotland ... ..	5 Mar.	Female workers ... ..	Decrease in the minimum rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts of ½d. per hour for those 18 and over, the rates for those under 18 remaining unchanged. Minimum rates after change: 3½d. at under 16, increasing each year to 6d. at 18 and over.* (See Notice of Order on page 111 of March GAZETTE.)
			Manual workers employed by Rural District Council.	Cost-of-living bonus reduced † from 43 per cent. to 41 per cent., leaving, with special 5 per cent. on basic rates, a total of 46 per cent. above basic rates. Rate after change for scavengers, 55s. 1d. per week (inclusive of bonus).
Local Government (Non-trading Services).	Chester-le-Street ... ..	1st pay in March.	Manual workers (except road paviers and masons).	Increase of ½d. per hour. Rates after change: general yard labourers and road scavengers or sweepers, 11d.; road labourers, 11d. or 1s. per hour; refuse collectors, 55s. 1d. per week.
	Ripley (Derbyshire) ... ..	†	Manual workers (except road paviers and masons).	Decrease† of 1 per cent. on list prices, leaving wages 68½ per cent. and 58½ per cent. above the list for timeworkers and pieceworkers respectively.
Skip and Basket Making.	Lancashire and Cheshire.	5 Mar.	Skip and basket makers ... ..	Decrease† of 1 per cent. on list prices, leaving wages 68½ per cent. and 58½ per cent. above the list for timeworkers and pieceworkers respectively.

CHANGES IN HOURS OF LABOUR REPORTED DURING MARCH, 1934.

Industry.	District.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change. (Decreases in italics.)
Agriculture	Northamptonshire and Soke of Peterborough.	5 Mar.	Agricultural workers ... ..	Weekly number of hours beyond which overtime rates become payable under the Agricultural Wages (Regulation) Act, 1924, fixed at 50 (as compared with 52 in force from March to October, 1933).
	Worcestershire ... ..	4 Mar.	Male agricultural workers ... ..	Weekly number of hours beyond which overtime rates become payable under the Agricultural Wages (Regulation) Act, 1924, reduced from 54 to 53½ in summer, the winter hours (48) remaining unchanged.
	Essex ... ..	25 Mar.	Agricultural workers ... ..	Weekly number of hours beyond which overtime rates become payable under the Agricultural Wages (Regulation) Act, 1924, reduced from 52 to 50 in summer, the winter hours (48) remaining unchanged.

\* In the Orkney and Shetland Islands the rates are 1d. per hour less in each case.  
† Under cost-of-living sliding-scale arrangements.  
‡ This increase was put into operation in the week ending 14th March, 1934, with retrospective effect from 9th November, 1933.

FATAL INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS.

The number of workpeople, other than seamen, in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, whose deaths from accidents in the course of their employment occurred or were reported in March was 170. The corresponding total for seamen was 23.

RAILWAY SERVICE.	Factories and Workshops (continued).
Brakemen, Goods Guards ... ..	Shipbuilding ... .. 2
Engine Drivers, Motormen ... ..	Other Metal Trades ... .. 6
Firemen ... .. 2	Cotton ... .. 1
Guards (Passenger) ... .. 5	Wool, Worsted, Shoddy ... .. 1
Permanent Way Men ... .. 5	Other Textile Manufacture ... ..
Porters ... ..	Textile Printing, Bleaching and Dyeing ... .. 1
Shunters ... ..	Tanning, Currying, etc. ... ..
Mechanics ... ..	Food and Drink ... .. 5
Labourers ... .. 1	General Woodwork and Furniture ... .. 3
Other Grades ... .. 7	Paper, Printing, etc. ... .. 1
Contractors' Servants ... ..	Rubber Trades ... ..
<b>TOTAL, RAILWAY SERVICE</b> ... .. 17	Gas Works ... .. 2
	Electric Generating Stations ... .. 1
<b>MINES.</b>	Other Industries ... .. 2
Underground ... .. 77	<b>PLACES UNDER SS. 104-106, FACTORY ACT, 1901.</b>
Surface ... .. 7	Docks, Wharves, etc. ... .. 6
<b>TOTAL, MINES</b> ... .. 84	Buildings ... .. 10
	Warehouses and Railway Sidings ... ..
<b>QUARRIES over 20 feet deep</b> ... .. 5	<b>TOTAL, FACTORY ACTS</b> ... .. 62
	<b>CONSTRUCTION OR REPAIR OF RAILWAY* ... .. 2</b>
<b>Factories and Workshops.</b>	<b>Total (excluding Seamen)</b> ... .. 170
Clay, Stone, Cement, Pottery and Glass ... .. 7	<b>SEAMEN.</b>
Chemicals, Oils, Soap, etc. ... .. 4	Trading Vessels, Steam and Motor ... .. 19
Metal Extracting and Refining ... .. 3	Fishing Vessels, Sailing ... ..
Metal Conversion and Founding (including Rolling Mills and Tube Making) ... .. 4	" " Steam and Motor ... .. 4
Engineering, Locomotive Building, Boilermaking, etc. ... .. 2	<b>TOTAL, SEAMEN</b> ... .. 23
Railway and Tramway Carriages, Motor and other Vehicles, and Aircraft Manufacture ... .. 1	<b>Total (including Seamen)</b> ... .. 193

\* See also "Railway Service".

INDUSTRIAL DISEASES.

The total number of cases\* of poisoning, anthrax, and epitheliomatous and chrome ulceration in Great Britain and Northern Ireland reported during March under the Factory and Workshop Act, or under the Lead Paint (Protection against Poisoning) Act, was 37†; the total number of deaths\* reported was 9.

I. Cases.	I. Cases (continued).
(a) LEAD POISONING.	(d) EPITHELIOMATOUS ULCERATION (SKIN CANCER).
Among Operatives engaged in—	Pitch ... .. 6
Smelting of Metals ... .. 1	Tar ... .. 2
Plumbing and Soldering ... .. 1	Oil ... .. 6
Shipbreaking ... ..	<b>TOTAL</b> ... .. 14
Printing ... ..	
Tinning of Metals ... ..	(e) CHROME ULCERATION.
Other Contact with Molten Lead ... ..	Manufacture of Bichromates ... .. 1
White and Red Lead Works ... ..	Chrome Tanning ... .. 1
Pottery ... .. 2	Chromium Plating ... .. 2
Vitreous Enamelling ... .. 2	Other Industries ... ..
Electric Accumulator Works ... .. 4	<b>TOTAL</b> ... .. 4
Paint and Colour Works ... .. 1	<b>Total, Cases</b> ... .. 37
Indiarubber Works ... ..	
Coach and Car Painting ... .. 1	<b>II. Deaths.</b>
Ship Building ... ..	LEAD POISONING.
Paint used in Other Industries ... ..	Pottery ... .. 2
Painting of Buildings ... .. 3	Painting of Buildings ... .. 2
<b>TOTAL</b> ... .. 18	<b>TOTAL</b> ... .. 4
(b) OTHER POISONING ... ..	
Wool ... .. 1	EPITHELIOMATOUS ULCERATION (SKIN CANCER).
<b>TOTAL, Deaths</b> ... .. 9	Pitch ... .. 1
	Oil ... .. 4
	<b>TOTAL</b> ... .. 5
(c) ANTHRAX.†	
Wool ... .. 1	
<b>TOTAL, Deaths</b> ... .. 9	

\* Cases include all attacks reported during the month, and not previously reported, so far as is known, during the preceding 12 months. Deaths include all fatal cases reported during the month, whether included (as cases) in previous returns or not.  
† In addition one case of anthrax among dock labourers was reported.



TRADE DISPUTES IN MARCH.\*

**Number, Magnitude and Duration.**—The number of disputes involving stoppages of work reported to the Department as beginning in March in Great Britain and Northern Ireland was 45, as compared with 45 in the previous month, and 36 in March, 1933. In these new disputes about 12,400 workpeople were directly involved and 1,700 workpeople indirectly involved (i.e., thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, though not themselves parties to the disputes). In addition, about 900 workpeople were involved, either directly or indirectly, in 11 disputes which began before March and were still in progress at the beginning of that month. The number of new and old disputes was thus 56, involving about 15,000 workpeople, and resulting in a loss, during March, estimated at about 106,000 working days.

In the following Table is given an analysis of the disputes in progress in March, showing by groups of industries the number of workpeople involved at the establishments concerned, and the approximate time lost during the month; corresponding totals for a month earlier and for March, 1933, are shown for comparison:—

Industry Group.	Number of Disputes in progress in Month.			Number of Workpeople Involved in all Disputes in progress in Month.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress in Month.
	Started before beginning of Month.	Started in Month.	Total.		
Mining and Quarrying ...	1	16	17	7,600	27,000
Metal, Engineering and Shipbuilding ...	3	7	10	1,500	3,000
Textile ...	1	8	9	2,500	19,000
Building, Public Works Contracting, etc. ...	1	5	6	2,400	51,000
Transport ...	...	3	3	500	2,000
Other ...	5	6	11	500	4,000
<b>Total, March, 1934 ...</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>15,000</b>	<b>106,000</b>
<b>Total, February, 1934 ...</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>9,000</b>	<b>44,000</b>
<b>Total, March, 1933 ...</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>17,900</b>	<b>146,000</b>

**Causes.**—Of the 45 disputes beginning in March, 6, directly involving 2,700 workpeople, arose out of demands for advances in wages; 4, directly involving 400 workpeople, out of proposed wage reductions; 10, directly involving 2,600 workpeople, on other wage questions; 15, directly involving 3,700 workpeople, on questions respecting the employment of particular classes or persons; 8,

directly involving 2,900 workpeople, on other questions as to working arrangements; and 2, directly involving 100 workpeople, on other questions.

**Results.**—Settlements were effected in the case of 31 new disputes, directly involving 8,000 workpeople, and 9 old disputes, directly involving 500 workpeople. Of these new and old disputes, 10, directly involving 3,400 workpeople, were settled in favour of the workpeople; 16, directly involving 3,600 workpeople, were settled in favour of the employers; and 14, directly involving 1,500 workpeople, were compromised. In the case of 6 disputes, directly involving 1,500 workpeople, work was resumed pending negotiations.

TOTALS FOR THE FIRST THREE MONTHS OF 1934 AND 1933.†

The following Table summarises the figures for Great Britain and Northern Ireland for the first three months of 1934, as compared with the corresponding period of 1933:—

Industry Group.	January to March, 1934.			January to March, 1933.		
	No. of Disputes beginning in period.	No. of Workpeople involved in all Disputes in progress.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress.	No. of Disputes beginning in period.	No. of Workpeople involved in all Disputes in progress.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress.
Mining and Quarrying ...	38	16,200	54,000	33	14,700	92,000
Brick, Pottery, Glass, etc. ...	2	400	8,000	2	100	1,000
Metal, Engineering and Shipbuilding ...	24	2,500	7,000	21	9,500	23,000
Textile ...	21	6,200	48,000	10	1,700	25,000
Clothing ...	3	100	3,000	5	800	1,000
Woodworking, Furniture Manufacture, etc. ...	11	400	4,000	3	200	1,000
Building, Public Works Contracting, etc. ...	13	2,600	52,000	9	300	6,000
Transport ...	9	1,700	7,000	9	17,600	217,000
Other ...	6	700	8,000	3	100	5,000
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>30,800</b>	<b>191,000</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>45,000</b>	<b>371,000</b>

PRINCIPAL DISPUTES INVOLVING STOPPAGES OF WORK DURING MARCH.

Occupations and Locality.	Approximate Number of Workpeople Involved.		Date when Dispute		Cause or Object.	Result.
	Directly.	Indirectly.‡	Began.	Ended.		
COAL MINING:— Colliery workpeople—near Neath (one firm).	1,000	...	8 Mar.	10 Mar.	For reinstatement of two dismissed workpeople.	Dismissed workpeople reinstated.
Miners and other underground and surface workers—Shotts, Lanarkshire (one firm).	860	...	10 Mar.	13 Mar.	Alleged contravention of priority rule in re-engagement of certain employees.	Work resumed, conditions unaltered.
Colliery workpeople—near Pontardawe (one firm).	1,800	...	17 Mar.	27 Mar.	Dispute as to rate of wages payable to certain men working hard rock.	Amicable settlement effected.
TINPLATE INDUSTRY:— Tinplate workers—Llanely (one firm).	770	...	30 Mar.	§	For reinstatement of a dismissed workman.	See note §.
TEXTILE INDUSTRIES:— Workpeople employed in linen thread manufacture—Johnstone (one firm).	227	204	27 Feb.	7 Mar.	Reorganisation of work in spinning department.	Work resumed pending negotiations; terms of settlement subsequently arranged by mutual agreement.
Cotton doublers, weavers, winders, ring spinners, etc.—Rochdale (one firm).	350	250	9 Mar.¶	10 Mar.	Dispute respecting ventilation and other working conditions in doubling room.	Amicable settlement effected.
Spinners, twisters and winders and other workpeople (jute industry)—Dundee (one firm).	124	482	12 Mar.	3 April	For increased rates of wages and alterations in working conditions, following introduction of new machinery.	Work resumed on same conditions as obtained prior to stoppage.
BUILDING, PUBLIC WORKS CONTRACTING, etc.:— Plasterers and labourers—principal towns in Scotland.	2,000	...	1 Mar.	...	For an increase of 1d. per hour in wages.	No settlement reported.
Bricklayers, labourers, etc.—Hammersmith (one firm).	200	20	13 Mar.	26 Mar.¶	For reinstatement of two dismissed bricklayers, workpeople alleging victimisation.	Work resumed.

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

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

§ It is reported that this strike was called off on 12th April, following instructions by the workpeople's trade union, which had not given sanction for the stoppage.

¶ The stoppage began with the night shift of the previous day.

¶ This stoppage did not obtain the recognition of the workpeople's trade union. Following instructions by the latter for a return to work, some workpeople resumed work on 19th March and others later, but the unofficial Strike Committee did not call off the strike until 26th March.

CHANGES IN COST OF LIVING: STATISTICS FOR 31st MARCH.\*

Summary: Average Increases since July, 1914.

All Items included ... 39%  
Food only ... 18%

FOOD.

During March there was a further decline in the average level of retail prices of food in Great Britain and Northern Ireland. This was due to a further fall in the prices of eggs, together with small reductions in the average prices of several other articles.

As a net result of all the changes recorded, the average increase over the level of July, 1914, in the retail prices of the articles of food included in these statistics was 18 per cent. at 31st March, 1934, as compared with 20 per cent. at 1st March, 1934, and 15 per cent. at 1st April, 1933.

In the following Table is given a comparison of retail prices in July, 1914, and at 1st March, 1934, and 31st March, 1934:—

Article.	Average Price (per lb. unless otherwise indicated—to the nearest 1d.)			Average Inc. (+) or Dec. (−) at 31st Mar., 1934, as compared with	
	July, 1914.	1st Mar., 1934.	31st Mar., 1934.	July, 1914.	1st Mar., 1934.
Beef, British—	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	d.	d.
Ribs ...	0 10	1 2	1 2	+ 4	...
Thin Flank ...	0 6½	0 7½	0 7½	+ 1	...
Beef, Chilled or Frozen—					
Ribs ...	0 7½	0 9	0 9	+ 1½	...
Thin Flank ...	0 4½	0 4½	0 4½	...	...
Mutton, British—					
Legs ...	0 10½	1 2½	1 2½	+ 4½	...
Breast ...	0 6½	0 7½	0 7½	+ 1	+ 0½
Mutton, Frozen—					
Legs ...	0 6½	0 9½	0 9½	+ 2½	...
Breast ...	0 4	0 3½	0 3½	− 0½	...
Bacon (streaky)†	0 11½	1 2	1 1½	+ 2½	− 0½
Flour ... per 7 lb.	0 10½	1 0	1 0	+ 1½	...
Bread ... per 4 lb.	0 5½	0 7½	0 7½	+ 1½	...
Tea ...	1 6½	1 10½	1 10½	+ 4½	...
Sugar (granulated) ...	0 2	0 2½	0 2½	+ 0½	...
Milk ... per quart	0 3½	0 6½	0 6½	+ 2½	...
Butter—					
Fresh ...	1 2½	1 1½	1 1	− 1½	− 0½
Salt ...	1 2½	0 11½	0 11	− 3½	− 0½
Cheese† ...	0 8½	0 9	0 8½	...	− 0½
Margarine ...	0 7	0 5½	0 5½	− 1½	...
Eggs (fresh) ... each	0 1½	0 1½	0 1	− 0½	− 0½
Potatoes ... per 7 lb.	0 4½	0 5½	0 5	+ 0½	− 0½

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

Article.	Average Percentage Increase or Decrease (−) at 31st March, 1934, as compared with July, 1914.			Corresponding General Average for 1st Mar., 1934.
	Large Towns (Populations over 50,000).	Small Towns and Villages.	General Average.	
Beef, British—	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Ribs ...	40	40	40	40
Thin Flank ...	11	12	12	12
Beef, Chilled or Frozen—				
Ribs ...	22	24	23	24
Thin Flank ...	− 8	− 1	− 4	− 4
Mutton, British—				
Legs ...	41	42	41	40
Breast ...	15	12	14	13
Mutton, Frozen—				
Legs ...	42	36	39	39
Breast ...	− 7	− 1	− 4	− 4
Bacon (streaky)†	23	24	23	25
Fish ...	117	90	104	107
Flour ...	12	14	13	13
Bread ...	28	28	28	28
Tea ...	19	28	24	23
Sugar (granulated) ...	18	12	15	14
Milk ...	70	83	76	80
Butter—				
Fresh ...	− 15	− 5	− 10	− 9
Salt ...	− 24	− 21	− 22	− 21
Cheese† ...	1	2	2	3
Margarine ...	− 21	− 19	− 20	− 19
Eggs (fresh) ...	− 10	− 18	− 14	13
Potatoes ...	16	− 6	5	6
All above articles of Food (Weighted Percentage Increase) ...	18	18	18	20

\* As 1st April fell on a Sunday the statistics relate to the day previous, in accordance with the usual practice.

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

‡ The description of cheese specified for quotation is Canadian or American, but where such cheese is seldom sold in a locality, the returns quote the price of another kind locally representative.

RENT, CLOTHING, FUEL AND LIGHT.

As regards rents, inquiries which have been made into the changes which have taken effect under the Rent and Mortgage Interest Restrictions Acts indicate that the average increase in the controlled rents (including rates) of working-class dwellings between July, 1914, and 31st March, 1934, was approximately 49 per cent. When decontrolled rents are also included, the combined average increase, as compared with July, 1914, in controlled and decontrolled working-class rents (including rates) is approximately 56 per cent. This latter figure has been utilised in calculating the final percentage increase shown below for "all items."

As regards clothing, owing to the wide range of quotations, both now and before the war, to changes in qualities and in stocks held by retailers, and to variations in the extent to which different articles and qualities have been affected by price changes, it is impossible to make an exact calculation of the increase in prices; but information as to the movements of prices of men's suits and overcoats, woollen and cotton materials, underclothing and hosiery, boots and shoes, received from retailers in the principal towns, indicates that at 31st March, the level of retail prices of articles in this group, taking goods of the kinds purchased by the working classes, and so far as possible the same qualities of goods at each date, was about 85 per cent. higher than in July, 1914.

In the fuel and light group the prices of coal at 31st March were on the average over 80 per cent. above the level of July, 1914. The average price of gas remained between 45 and 50 per cent. above the pre-war level. For the fuel and light group as a whole (including coal, gas, oil, candles and matches) the average increase at 31st March, as compared with July, 1914, was between 70 and 75 per cent.

ALL ITEMS.

If the average increases in the cost of all the foregoing items are combined in accordance with their relative importance in pre-war working-class family expenditure, allowance being also made for the increase in the prices of soap, soda, domestic ironmongery, brushware and pottery, tobacco, fares and newspapers (averaging between 70 and 75 per cent.), the resultant general average increase for 31st March, 1934, is approximately 39 per cent. over the level of July, 1914, as compared with 40 per cent. at 1st March, 1934, and 37 per cent. at 1st April, 1933.

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

SUMMARY TABLE: 1920 to 1934.

The following Table shows the average percentage increase, as compared with July, 1914, for all the items included in the statistics, at the beginning of each month, 1920 to 1934:—

Year.	Average Percentage Increase since July, 1914—All Items. (Food, rent, clothing, fuel and light, etc.)											
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1920	125	130	130	132	141	150	152	155	161	164	176	169
1921	165	151	141	133	128	119	119	122	120	110	103	99
1922	92	88	86	82	81	80	84	81	79	78	80	80
1923	78	77	76	74	70	69	69	71	73	75	75	77
1924	77	79	78	73	71	69	70	71	72	76	80	81
1925	80	79	79	75	73	72	73	73	74	76	76	77
1926	75	73	72	68	67	68	70	70	72	74	79	79
1927	75	72	71	65	64	63	66	64	65	67	69	69
1928	68	66	64	64	64	65	65	65	65	66	67	68
1929	67	65	66	62	61	60	61	63	64	65	67	67
1930	66	64	61	57	55	54	55	57	57	56	57	58
1931	53	52	50	47	47	45	47	45	47	45	45	46
1932	47	47	46	44	43	42	43	41	41	43	43	43
1933	42	41	39	37	36	36	38	39	41	41	43	43
1934	42	41	40	39	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

NOTE.

A detailed account of the method of compilation of these statistics, "The Cost of Living Index Number: Method of Compilation," has been published, and may be purchased, price 3d. net (3½d. post free), from H.M. Stationery Office, at any of the addresses shown on the cover of this GAZETTE.



RETAIL PRICES OVERSEAS.

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

I.—FOOD.

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

Country.	Percentage Increase as compared with July, 1914.*				Latest figures available.	
	July, 1930.	July, 1931.	July, 1932.	July, 1933.	Rise.	Date.
<b>GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND ...</b>	Per cent. 41	Per cent. 30	Per cent. 25	Per cent. 18	Per cent. 18	1934. 31 Mar.
<b>FOREIGN COUNTRIES.</b>						
Austria (Vienna) ...	19	10	10	4	1	Mar.
Czechoslovakia ...	32	18	9	6	0	Nov., '33
Egypt (Cairo)† ...	837	718	756	777	—3††	Nov., '33
Finland ...	506	525	449	408	719	Feb.
France (Paris) ...	518**	508**	431**	392**	393	Mar.
(other towns) ...	46	30	14	11	14	Feb.
Germany ...	52§	41§	19§	17§	28	Dec., '33
Holland (Amsterdam) ...	407	342	318	293	292	Feb.
Italy ...	51	40	34	32	28	Mar.
Norway ...	80	93	79	80	85	Oct., '33
Spain (Madrid)† ...	72	77	71	65	65	May, '33
(Barcelona)† ...	40	30	28	23	22	Jan.
Sweden† ...	52	40	24	16	16	Feb.
Switzerland ...	44	19	1	5	8	27 Feb.
United States ...						
<b>BRITISH DOMINIONS, &amp;C.</b>						
Australia ...	47	25	23	18**	18	Jan.
Canada ...	49	10	—8††	—5††	9	Mar.
India (Bombay):						
Native families ...	36	0	2	—5††	—16††	Mar.
Irish Free State ...	56	43**	34**	29**	33	Feb.
New Zealand ...	43	18†	8	4	9	Feb.
South Africa ...	9	4	—6††	—2††	4	Feb.

II.—ALL ITEMS.

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

Country.	Items on which computation is based.†	Percentage Increase as compared with July, 1914.*				Latest figures available.	
		July, 1930.	July, 1931.	July, 1932.	July, 1933.	Rise.	Date.
<b>GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND ...</b>	A,B,C,D,E	Per cent. 55	Per cent. 47	Per cent. 43	Per cent. 38	Per cent. 39	1934. 31 Mar.
<b>FOREIGN COUNTRIES.</b>							
Austria (Vienna) ...	A,B,C,D,E	12	7	8	5	5	Mar.
Belgium ...	A,C,D,E	769	689	608	595	577	Mar.
Czechoslovakia (Prague) ...	A,B,C,D,E	12	7	2	2	0	Jan.
Denmark ...	A,B,C,D,E	65	54	54	60	62	Jan.
Egypt (Cairo) ...	A,B,C,D,E	48	34	28	24	23	Jan.
Finland ...	A,B,C,D,E	1,008	904	894	883	853	Feb.
France (Paris) ...	A,B,C,D,E	492†	465†	417†	416†	426	4th Qr., '33
Germany ...	A,B,C,D,E	49	37	22	19	21	Feb.
Holland (Amsterdam) ...	A,B,C,D,E	62§	54§	41§	37§	43	Dec., '33.
Italy ...	A,B,C,D,E	...	...	...	...	250	July—Dec., '33.
(Milan) ...	A,B,C,D,E	431	386	365	347	357	Jan.
(Rome) ...	A,B,C,D,E	400	352	336	314	305	Nov., '33.
Norway ...	A,B,C,D,E	61	52	49	48	45	Mar.
Sweden ...	A,B,C,D,E	64	58	56	53	53	Jan.
Switzerland ...	A,B,C,D	69	50	38	31	31	Feb.
United States ...	A,B,C,D,E	67§	50§	36§	28§	35	Dec., '33.
<b>BRITISH DOMINIONS, &amp;C.</b>							
Australia ...	A,B,C,D,E	41†	25†	20†	18†	17	4th Qr., '33
Canada ...	A,B,C,D,E	56	37	25	20	26	Mar.
India (Bombay):							
Native families ...	A,B,C,D	39	8	9	3	—6††	Mar.
Irish Free State ...	A,B,C,D,E	68	57**	53**	49**	52	Feb.
New Zealand ...	A,B,C,D,E	58	45†	31**	27	28	Feb.
South Africa ...	A,B,C,D,E	28	22	17	14	16	Feb.

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

LEGAL CASES AFFECTING LABOUR.

Trade Boards Acts, 1909-1918.

MILK DISTRIBUTIVE TRADE (ENGLAND AND WALES).

By section 6 (1) of the Trade Boards Act, 1909, as amended by section 5 (4) of the Trade Boards Act, 1918, it is an offence to pay wages at less than the minimum rate clear of all deductions with the exception of those specified in the latter Act.

A company engaged in the milk distributive trade were prosecuted on three summonses relating to the underpayment of workers; there were also summonses, on three similar charges, against the agent of the company, under the provisions of section 5(1) of the Trade Boards Act, 1918.

It was given in evidence that certain workers were compelled to "stand their own credits," and were made responsible for bad debts. As a consequence, it frequently happened that a roundsman did not receive any money on a pay day, the amount of his wages being set off against his trade account. The defendants were each fined the maximum amount of £20 on each summons, and in addition both defendants were ordered to pay five guineas costs.—*Re v. The Lincoln and Suffolk Dairies, Ltd., and R. D. Steele. Stratford Police Court. 21st March, 1934.*

A partner in a firm was charged with underpaying two male workers, and with failing to keep adequate records. He was fined £5 on each of the underpayment charges, and £1 on that relating to records; a total of £11. Arrears of £155 were ordered to be paid, and £2 lls. costs.—*Re v. Ernest John Rose, a partner in Edwards & Company. Clerkenwell Police Court. 14th March, 1934.*

BOOT AND SHOE REPAIRING TRADE (GREAT BRITAIN).

An employer was charged with underpaying seven male workers, employed at four of his branch establishments. The managers of each of these branches, as the employer's agents, were also charged with underpaying the workers. The employer was fined £105 in respect of all the charges. The managers of three of the branches were also fined; the total fines amounted to £4. The manager of one of the branches was also charged with producing a false record of wages, and was fined £10. The charge against him in respect of underpayment was dismissed under the Probation of Offenders Act. The employer was ordered to pay costs amounting to £7 lls., and arrears of wages amounting to £50 lls. 2d.—*Re v. W. J. Smart and W. E. Rooke, J. L. Whitmore, F. J. Jacobs and H. Leek. Smethwick, Dudley, West Bromwich, and Walsall Police Courts. 22nd, 23rd, 26th and 28th March, 1934.*

READY-MADE AND WHOLESALE BESPOKE TAILORING TRADE (GREAT BRITAIN).

The secretary of a limited company was prosecuted on two charges of producing a false record and two charges of furnishing false information. He was convicted and fined £2, or 14 days imprisonment in default, on each of the two charges of producing a false record, the remaining two charges being dismissed under the Probation of Offenders Act. Five guineas costs were awarded.—*Re v. Thomas Alfred Tucker, secretary of Lewis & Company (Clothiers), Ltd. Leeds City Police Court. 28th February, 1934.*

TRADE BOARDS ACTS.

Orders, Notices, etc., Recently Issued.

CONFIRMING ORDERS.

Fur Trade Board (Great Britain).

Order Z. (29) dated 13th March, 1934, confirming the variation of overtime rates for certain classes of male and female workers and of certain general minimum piece-rates, and specifying 23rd March, 1934, as the date from which such rates should become effective.

Hollow-Ware Trade Board (Great Britain).

Order H. (24) dated 29th March, 1934, confirming the variation of general minimum time-rates, piece-work basis time-rates and overtime rates for male and female workers, and specifying 9th April, 1934, as the date from which such rates should become effective.

NOTICES OF PROPOSAL.

Cutlery Trade Board (Great Britain).

Proposal C.T. (2) dated 27th March, 1934, to fix general minimum time-rates for certain classes of male workers, and overtime rates for male and female workers. Objection period expires 23rd May, 1934.

Tobacco Trade Board (Northern Ireland).

Proposal N. I. T. (N.5) dated 22nd March, 1934, to vary general minimum time-rates and general overtime rates for male and female workers. Objection period expired 5th April, 1934.

REGULATIONS.

Jute Trade Board (Great Britain).

Regulations (S.R. & O. 1934, No. 302) dated 24th March, 1934, made by the Minister of Labour under Section 11 of the Trade Boards Act, 1909, with respect to the constitution and proceedings of the Jute Trade Board (Great Britain).

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACTS

1920-33.

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.

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 claimant may also appeal if the decision of the Court was not unanimous.

The following decisions are of general interest:—

Case No. 2735/34. (2.3.34.)

SECTIONS 8 (1) OF THE PRINCIPAL ACT AND 4 (1) OF THE 1924 (NO. 2) ACT (AS AMENDED)—TRADE DISPUTE—CLAIMANT ON PARTIAL COMPENSATION—EMPLOYED AS A SURFACE LABOURER AT COLLIERY—DISPUTE AROSE THROUGH ALL EMPLOYEES NOT BEING MEMBERS OF A PARTICULAR UNION—CLAIMANT ALTHOUGH NOT A MEMBER OF UNION HELD TO BE DIRECTLY INTERESTED IN DISPUTE—CONSIDERATIONS REGARDING GRADE OR CLASS.

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

Decision.—"On the facts before me my decision is that the claim for benefit should be disallowed from 5rd to 7th October, 1933, inclusive.

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

"The claimant met with an accident in 1924 at a place not specified. He was in receipt of compensation under the provisions of the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1925, on the basis of total incapacity, to December, 1932, when his compensation was reduced on the ground that he was fit for some employment. Thereafter he was employed at the Graigola Merthyr Colliery as a surface labourer, receiving wages and compensation on the basis of partial incapacity.

"When the claimant met with his accident he was employed as a fitter's labourer.

"On 3rd October, 1933, the claimant lost employment at the colliery by reason of a stoppage of work due to a trade dispute thereat.

"The stoppage of work is said to have been brought about by the members of the South Wales Miners' Federation employed at the colliery ceasing work in order to compel all the employees at the colliery to become members of that Federation.

"The Court of Referees, to whom this claim was referred, has decided that the claimant has not proved that he is relieved from the disqualification imposed by section 8 (1) of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920.

"The claimant's Association has appealed against the decision of the Court on the ground that the claimant, being in receipt of workmen's compensation and performing light work in a temporary capacity, is not of the grade of those labourers who were affected by the trade dispute.

"In my opinion, it is only necessary to consider the question of grade or class in cases in which the claimant is not himself participating in, financing, or directly interested in, the trade dispute, though this view may be said not to coincide with that of my predecessor expressed in Decision 1884/26† with which I am unable to agree, and which was applied in Decision 264/28.‡

"The claimant is not a member of the South Wales Miners' Federation, and as the dispute was whether all the employees at the colliery should be members of that Federation, the claimant was directly interested in it; therefore he cannot be allowed benefit during the stoppage of work under the provisions of section 4 (1) of the Unemployment Insurance (No. 2) Act, 1924, as amended.

"In Decision 1224/34§ the disqualification for receiving benefit incurred by the loss of employment resulting from the stoppage of work due to this dispute was removed as from and including 8th October, 1933, and there is nothing to suggest that it should be otherwise in this case."

Case No. 3167/34. (12.3.34.)

SECTION 7 (1) (ii) OF THE PRINCIPAL ACT—NOT UNEMPLOYED—FIVE-SHIFT WORKER UNDER SHORT-TIME ARRANGEMENT DID NOT WORK NORMAL NUMBER OF HOURS—FIFTH SHIFT REDUCED BY ONE HOUR OWING TO SHORTAGE OF IRON (WITH CORRESPONDING LOSS OF WAGES)—HELD NOT A "MATERIAL" SHORTENING OF SHIFT.

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

Decision.—"On the facts before me my decision is that the claim for benefit should be disallowed in respect of the 27th November, 1933. The claimant is a boiler fireman employed at some steel works in three rotating shifts.

\* Volumes containing selected decisions of the Umpire are published annually by H.M. Stationery Office, the latest being a volume of selected decisions given during the year 1932 (price 7s. 6d. net). A volume containing a special selection of important decisions given by the Umpire prior to 19th April, 1928 (price 15s. net), and a volume containing selected decisions given from 19th April, 1928, to 12th March, 1930 (price 6s. net), have also been issued; also an analytical guide to decisions given before 13th March, 1930 (price 2s. 6d. net) and Supplement No. 1 thereto (price 1s. net). Selected decisions are also issued monthly in pamphlet form, and may be obtained, as and when issued, on payment of an annual subscription, the latest pamphlet being that for January, 1934.

† See U.I. Code 8, Umpire's Selected Decisions, page 796.

‡ See Vol. VII, Umpire's Selected Decisions, page 23 (Pamphlet No. 2/1928).

§ Not published.

"When on the night shift, the claimant commences the week's work at 11 p.m. on the Monday night, and the shift ends at 7 a.m. the next day. The same arrangement applies to Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday nights. On Friday night, the shift begins at 11 p.m. and ends on the Saturday at 6 a.m. That is the normal course of working and its effect is (under the Night Work Regulations) that the Monday is the non-working day of the week, and when the claimant has worked the full number of normal shifts he is not entitled to benefit in respect of the Monday (Decision 5990/20)."

"In the week in question, commencing Monday, the 27th November, 1933, the claimant worked all five shifts, but the fifth shift was cut short by one hour, owing to circumstances beyond the claimant's control, and ended at 5 a.m. instead of 6 a.m. on the Saturday, whereby the claimant lost 1s. in wages.

"The question which has arisen for determination is whether, by reason of the loss of one hour of the last shift, the claimant is entitled to say that he has not worked a full normal week, and is thereby taken out of the operation of the principle of Decision 5990/20.

"There have been several cases which have laid down the principle that where a single shift in the week has been 'materially' or 'substantially' shortened by causes beyond the control of the worker, he should not be regarded as having worked a full normal week. That principle is accepted in Decision 10305/30, printed on page 133 of the Selected Umpire's Decisions in 1930. In that case the loss of working time amounted to more than half a shift.

"Decision 7103/33,† to which the Court of Referees referred, also accepted and applied this principle. The decision related to a four-shift worker in the dyeing industry, and after a consideration of all the circumstances, the view was expressed that, for the purpose of applying the decision, a shift should not be regarded as a 'broken shift' unless the worker had lost more than one hour of it. It was not, however, intended that the same view should be adopted in all other cases, regardless of circumstances.

"When considering a normal working week regard must be had to the ordinary incidents of employment. In most industries, and in some more than in others, there are temporary stoppages of actual work beyond the control of the worker, such as may arise from a shortage of material or plant, or from a check to the flow of work passing from hand to hand in a factory, or from a breakdown of machinery or motive power. These are some of the considerations to be taken into account in determining whether, in any given instance, the reduction of the hours of the working shift has been so material as to take the shift worker out of the operation of Decision 5990/20.

"In the present instance the reduction of the last shift by one hour was due to a shortage of iron, and after considering all the circumstances, I do not think there was such a material reduction of the normal working shift as to bring the case within the principle of Decision 10305/30."

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

Recent Proceedings. INDUSTRIAL COURT DECISIONS.

CHARGEMEN: H.M. DOCKYARDS AND NAVAL ESTABLISHMENTS.—A claim was made by the trade union side of the Shipbuilding Trade Joint Council for Government Departments that the present scale of supervisory allowances payable to all chargemen of trades and of minor and titular grades, and all chargemen of skilled labourers and of labourers who are on the permanent list, employed in Admiralty establishments, be abolished, and a new and increased scale of allowances be instituted. In support of their claim they submitted evidence as to the responsibility of the duties of the men concerned, and as to the conditions which obtained in private shipyards which, it was stated, were more favourable than those obtaining in the Royal dockyards. In opposing the claim the official side contended that the rates of payment and conditions of employment in the Royal dockyards were, in general, not less favourable than those obtaining in outside industry, and they pointed out that the present rates for the men concerned had been fixed by the Court in 1929 and 1930, and that no changes had taken place since then which would justify the present claim. The Court decided against the claim. Award No. 1581; dated 13th March, 1934.

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

CONSTRUCTIONAL ENGINEERING.—A difference having arisen between Messrs. W. H. Blake and Co., Ltd., of Sheffield and the Constructional Engineering Union in connection with the payment of allowances for travelling expenses to certain of the men employed upon the erection of bunkers at Deptford, it was agreed to refer the matter to arbitration, and a Board of Arbitration consisting of Sir Richard A. S. Redmayne, K.C.B. (Chairman), Mr. W. E. Watson (employers' representative), and Mr. R. Dennison (employees' representative) was accordingly appointed under the Industrial Courts Act, 1919, to decide the claim of the Trade Union that the men engaged locally by the firm on the contract be paid local travelling expenses.

After hearing the parties, the Board found that the work in question came within the scope of work contemplated by an agreement determining rates of wages and working conditions for qualified

\* See U.I. Code 8, Umpire's Selected Decisions, page 391.

† See Pamphlet No. 5/1933, Umpire's Selected Decisions, page 46.



steel work erectors in the district, which, having regard to the representative nature of the parties to the Agreement, should be accepted as fair and reasonable and as binding upon the outside steel erecting industry generally.

The Board unanimously awarded that those men who had been employed as steel work erectors in the construction of bunkers at Deptford are entitled to back pay at the rate of 1s. 6d. a day as from the date of their employment thereon.

## RAILWAYS ACT, 1921. NATIONAL WAGES BOARD.

The National Wages Board, presided over by Sir Harold Morris, K.C., issued findings on 9th March, 1934, in the following cases:—

REFERRED BY THE ASSOCIATED SOCIETY OF LOCOMOTIVE ENGINEERS AND FIREMEN.

*Clause 6 of Railway Executive Committee Circular Letter No. 1786 of 3rd April, 1919.—Interpretation.*—The Society asked the Board for an interpretation of the first sentence of the above clause, namely, "It has been agreed that the roster shall provide for a period of twelve hours' rest being shown in the case of all regular duties for men when at their home station." The question in issue between the parties was whether in the case of trainmen it was the true construction of the clause that, as regards all regular duties for men when at their home station, the period of rest of twelve hours should be effective in all cases.

The Board, by a majority, were of the opinion that the true construction of the clause in question did not require that the rostered period of rest of twelve hours on regular duties for men when at their home station should be effective in all cases; but they took the view that a minimum interval of rest for trainmen was advisable, and they suggested that the parties should meet with a view to agreeing such an interval.

REFERRED BY THE NATIONAL UNION OF RAILWAYMEN.

*Footplate Staff, Tweedmouth, London and North Eastern Railway.—Application for additional payment for men having to stable their engines after working mileage.*—The Union submitted a claim on behalf of four drivers and two firemen who, after working a mileage turn of duty, were required to perform shunting duties at their destination, and were then called upon to stable their own engines. They were paid for the shunting duties but not for the time occupied in disposing of their engines. The agreements relating to mileage payment to drivers and firemen provide that all work in connection with trains on the mileage basis is included in the time paid on the mileage basis, and that such payment covers all duties actually connected with the preparation and disposal of the man's own engine and train.

The Union contended that, as in this case the mileage turn was interfered with owing to the shunting performed, the men should receive additional payment for the time occupied in disposing of their engines. The Company submitted that the agreements definitely provide that the time paid for on the mileage basis covers all duties actually connected with the preparation and disposal of the man's own engine and train, and that there is no provision in any agreement for additional payment to be made for disposal duties as such, where men working on the mileage basis are required to dispose of their engines.

The Board, by a majority, found against the claim.

*Engine Cleaner W. Whitmore, Tonbridge, Southern Railway.—Claim for 1s. per day expenses.*—During the week beginning 11th December, 1932, Whitmore was rostered as an engine cleaner from 4 a.m. to 1 p.m., with a booked time for a meal from 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. On 13th December he began work as a cleaner at the normal time, but at 7.45 a.m. he was required to take duty as a fireman, and was so employed until 1 p.m. The Union claimed that under the national agreement he should be paid 1s. per day for expenses, as he was away from his home station during his booked meal time, viz., 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. The Company opposed the claim, and contended that as Whitmore was paid as a fireman for the whole of the day in question and given credit for the duty as a firing turn, he falls to be treated as a fireman, and therefore comes within the trainmen's group so far as expenses are concerned; and they pointed out that, for the purpose of the expenses, etc., allowances, the employees are divided into two categories, viz., trainmen and non-trainmen, and that no provision is made in the case of trainmen for the 1s. per day allowance.

The Board, by a majority, found against the claim.

*Goods Staff, Grimsby, London and North Eastern Railway.—Claim for payment as for continuous duty in respect of 28th May, 1932.*—During the week ended 28th May, 1932, twelve goods workers at Grimsby were rostered for duty on Monday to Friday from 7.30 a.m. to 5 p.m., with a meal interval from 12 noon to 1 p.m., and on Saturday from 7.30 a.m. to 1 p.m., without a meal interval. On Saturday, 28th May, 1932, when it was found that it would be necessary to work overtime, the men were instructed to cease at 1 p.m., take a meal interval, and resume work at 2 p.m. They worked until 5.30 p.m., and were paid for 3½ hours at the appropriate overtime rate. The Union claimed that they should be paid as for continuous duty in respect of this day, and relied on National Wages Board Decision No. 33 (relating to signalmen, but subsequently made applicable to all conciliation grades other than trainmen), which provides that, if a man is required to return to duty within a period not exceeding two hours of the completion of his rostered turn, the additional duty shall be treated as continuous with the rostered turn. The Company submitted that it would be unreasonable

to require them to pay for an interval granted at the end of a rostered turn for the purpose of obtaining a meal before working overtime, and urged that an interval granted for that purpose should not be included in the time for which payment is to be made.

The Board, by a majority, found that the men in question should be paid as for continuous duty in respect of the day in question.

*Carriage Cleaner R. Allison, King's Cross Station, London and North Eastern Railway.—Rate of payment for fogging duties, 20th and 21st January, 1932.*—During the week ended 23rd January, 1932, Allison's roster was from 6 a.m. to 3 p.m., with one hour meal interval daily. On 20th January, 1932, he worked his normal turn, and at 10 p.m. was called out for fogging duty. He remained at his fogging post until 9.45 a.m. on 21st January, when he was booked off until 6 a.m. on 22nd January. For the fogging turn of duty he was paid for eight hours (from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m.) at time-and-a-half rate, and for 3½ hours (from 6 a.m. to 9.45 a.m.) at ordinary rate. The Union claimed that he should have been paid the time-and-a-half rate for the whole period of 11½ hours, viz., from 10 p.m. to 9.45 a.m. They pointed out that Allison had completed eight hours duty (fogging) by 6 a.m., the time at which he would normally have commenced his turn as a carriage cleaner; and they claimed that under certain clauses of Railway Executive Committee Circular Letter No. 1786 of 3rd April, 1919, Allison was entitled to payment at an enhanced rate for the time worked in excess of the eight hours which were regarded by the Company as constituting one of his standard turns of duty to make up his guaranteed week. The Company contended that the clauses referred to had no bearing on the point in issue, and submitted that an agreement made on 19th October, 1928, is the only agreement governing the basis of payment to Allison in respect of the fogging duty in question, and that he had been properly paid in accordance with the terms of that agreement.

The Board, by a majority, decided against the claim.

## WELFARE OF WORKERS.

### Proposed Home Office Order for Waste Paper and Rag Sorting Workers.

The question of the need for some special provision for this work was raised by the General Waste Materials Reclamation Trade Board (Great Britain) in 1930. Having considered a report made by one of H.M. Medical Inspectors of Factories, the Trade Board recommended, under section 10 of the Trade Boards Acts, 1918, that, having regard to the dusty nature of the work, the Home Secretary should consider the introduction of a Welfare Order making compulsory the provision by employers in the trade of suitable protective clothing and, where practicable, reasonable washing accommodation.

In accordance with this recommendation, the Home Secretary has now issued a draft Welfare Order which he proposes to make under section 7 (1) of the Police, Factories, etc. (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1916, for factories and workshops in which is carried on the sorting and packing of waste paper, etc., rags, and other textile waste material. The proposed Order requires, subject to exemption in special cases by the Chief Inspector, protective clothing for persons employed in "treading" or other processes involving special exposure to dust, and washing facilities for all persons employed.

Copies of the draft Order and of the notice announcing the Home Secretary's intention to make the Order may be obtained from H.M. Stationery Office at any of the addresses stated on the cover of this GAZETTE; price 1d. net (1½d., post free).

Any objection to the proposed Order must be sent to the Secretary of State at the Home Office, Whitehall, London, S.W.1. The objection must be in writing, and must state (a) the requirements in the draft Order objected to; (b) the specific grounds of objection; and (c) the modifications asked for.

## COAL MINES ACT, 1911.

### REGULATIONS AND ORDERS RELATING TO SAFETY AND HEALTH.

The Mines Department have issued the 1934 edition of the volume of Orders and Regulations relating to matters of safety and health in the working of mines under the Coal Mines Act, 1911.\* All amendments have been incorporated in the text of the Orders, so that they can be read continuously in the form in which they have effect.

After the main code of General Regulations, all the remaining Regulations and Orders are printed, grouped under subjects, as follows:—Horses; explosives; safety lamp mines; managers' and under-managers' certificates; surveyors' certificates; firemen's, examiners', and deputies' certificates; ganister mines; and miscellaneous. A list of certified types of electrical signalling apparatus and telephones is included in this part of the volume.

There are also three appendices. Two of these are in the form of memoranda, dealing respectively with the storage of explosives at mines, and with firemen's, examiners', and deputies' certificates. The third appendix is a list of Regulations, Orders, and other official publications relating to coal mines.

\* Coal Mines Act, 1911: Regulations and Orders relating to Safety and Health, 1934 Edition. H.M. Stationery Office; price 1s. 6d. net (1s. 9d., post-free).

## FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACTS, 1901 TO 1929.

### Docks Regulations, 1934: Loading or Unloading of Ships.

The Home Secretary, on 5th March, 1934, made Regulations,\* under section 79 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, amending the Docks Regulations, 1925, in respect of the processes of loading, unloading, moving and handling goods in, on, or at any dock, wharf, or quay, and the processes of loading, unloading, and coaling any ship in any dock, harbour, or canal.

The Regulations, which are substantially in accordance with the amended draft issued on 1st December, 1933,† may be cited as the Docks Regulations, 1934, and will come into force on 1st June, 1934.

## OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

[NOTE.—The prices are net, and, except where otherwise stated, do not include postage.]

CENSUS.—*Census of England and Wales, 1931. County of Surrey (Part II).* [S.O. publication; price 1s. 3d.]

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES.—*Friendly societies, orders and branches. Statistical summaries showing the operations of friendly societies in the years 1910 and 1923-32, and of orders and branches in the years 1910, 1918, 1920, 1922, 1924, 1926, and 1928-32.* [S.O. publication; price 2d.]

INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS.—*Factory and Workshop Acts. Industrial accidents. Descriptions of certain accidents notified to H.M. Inspectors of Factories. Quarterly. Vol. IV. April 1, 1934. Home Office.* [S.O. publication; price 3d.]

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONFERENCE.—*International Labour Conference, eighteenth session, Geneva, 1934. Methods of providing rest and alternation of shifts in automatic sheet-glass works. Third item on the agenda. Report III. International Labour Office.* [Geneva, 1934; price 2s.]

INVALIDITY, OLD AGE, AND WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS' INSURANCE.—*International Labour Conference, eighteenth session, Geneva, 1934. Maintenance of the rights in course of acquisition and the acquired rights of migrant workers under invalidity, old-age, and widows' and orphans' insurance. Report IV. First discussion. Fourth item on the agenda. International Labour Office.* [Geneva, 1934; price 5s.]

JUNIOR INSTRUCTION CENTRES.—*Provision of courses of instruction for unemployed boys and girls. March 12, 1934. Circular A.C.1, dated February 26, 1934. E.T.J. 269/1934. Ministry of Labour.* [S.O. publication; price 1d.]

JUVENILE EMPLOYMENT.—*London Advisory Council for Juvenile Employment. Report for the years 1932 and 1933. Ministry of Labour.* [S.O. publication; price 3d.]

MERCHANT SHIPPING.—*List of the principal Acts of Parliament, regulations, orders, instructions, notices, etc., relating to merchant shipping issued prior to the 1st January, 1934. Board of Trade.* [S.O. publication; price 6d.]

MINING.—(i) *Coal mining industry. Statistical summary of output, and of the costs of production, proceeds and profits of the coal mining industry for the quarter ended 31st December, 1933. Mines Department.* [Cmd. 4544; price 1d.]; see page 122 of this GAZETTE. (ii) *Regulations and orders relating to safety and health. 1934 edition. (Revised to 1st January, 1934.) Mines Department.* [S.O. publication; price 1s. 6d.]; see page 148 of this GAZETTE.

MINISTRY OF LABOUR.—*Ministry of Labour Report for the year 1933.* [Cmd. 4543; price 2s.]; see pages 119 and 120 of this GAZETTE.

SAFETY.—*The use of derrick cranes. Safety Pamphlet No. 15. Home Office.* [S.O. publication; price 6d.]

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE.—*Unemployment Insurance Acts, 1920 to 1933. Index to Unemployment decisions given during the year 1933 and selected for publication in the U.I. Code 8B series of pamphlets Nos. 1/33 to 12/33. Ministry of Labour.* [S.O. publication; price 9d.]

## GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS.

### LIST OF NEW CONTRACTS, MARCH, 1934.

#### ADMIRALTY.

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

*Chatham: Broken Granite: Natter River Quarries, Ltd., Land-rake.—Devonport: Conversion of Offices into Residences: A. N. Coles (Contractors), Ltd., Plymouth.—Rosyth: Dredging Beacon: Whessoe Foundry & Engineering Co., Ltd., Darlington.—H.M. Naval Establishments Abroad: Steel Sashes: Crittal Manufacturing Co., Ltd., London, W.C.*

##### (Contract and Purchase Department.)

*Anchors, Admiralty Plan: Brown Lenox & Co., Ltd., Pontypridd; Steel Company of Scotland, Ltd., Glasgow.—Boat Disengaging Gear, Robinson's: L. H. Robinson & Co., Ltd., Brentford.—Boots, Half: J. Horrell & Sons, Ltd., Raunds; Tebbutt & Hall Bros., Ltd., Raunds.—Boxes, Ammunition: Watt Torrance, Ltd., Glasgow.—*

\* *Statutory Rules and Orders, 1934, No. 279. H.M. Stationery Office; price 4d. net (5d. post free).*  
† See the issue of this GAZETTE for December, 1933, page 468.

*Brooms and Brushes: E. A. & W. Greenslade, Ltd., Bristol; Yates & Co. (Halifax), Ltd., Halifax; C. H. Leng & Sons, Birmingham; W. H. Vowles & Sons, Ltd., Stonehouse, Glos.; Beechwood, Ltd., Chesham; A. Reid & Sons, Ltd., London, S.E.; James Root & Son, Bletchley; Davis Burrow & Sons, Ltd., Leeds; G. B. Kent & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.; H. Dixon & Sons, London, E.C.—Brushes, Painters: W. H. Vowles & Sons, Ltd., Stonehouse, Glos.; Webb & Foulger (Brush Manufacturers), Ltd., London, E.; W. Morier & Co., Ltd., Glasgow; C. H. Leng & Sons, Birmingham; Bradnack & Son, Walsall; Davis Burrow & Sons, Ltd., Leeds; Beechwood, Ltd., Chesham.—Buttons: Buttons, Ltd., Birmingham; Carr Bros., Ltd., Leicester; James Grove & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham; Smith & Wright, Ltd., Birmingham.—Cabinet Work: H. Binns & Co., Ltd., South Shields; J. Elliott & Son, High Wycombe; G. E. Gray, Ltd., Ilford; T. Glenister, Ltd., High Wycombe; Hoskins & Son, Ltd., Birmingham; Peter Jones, London, S.W.; B. North & Sons, West Wycombe.—Cabinets, Ice: Hoskins & Son, Ltd., Birmingham; W. Rainforth & Sons, Lincoln.—Cable, Rubber Insulated: Enfield Cable Works, Ltd., Brimsdown; W. T. Glover & Co., Ltd., Trafford Park; Hoopers Telegraph & India Rubber Works, London, E.; Siemens Electric Lamps & Supplies, Ltd., London, S.E.—Canvas, Cotton for Kit Bags: John Broadbent & Sons, Ltd., Droylsden; Preston Tyre Fabric Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Preston.—Caps, Forage, Royal Marines: J. Compton Sons & Webb, Ltd., London, E.; Hobson & Sons (London), Ltd., London, S.E.—Cases, Suit: Frenchs, Ltd., London, E.C.—Chain Cable, Admiralty Quality, and Gear: Brown Lenox & Co., Ltd., Pontypridd; Laird & Son, Ltd., Irvine; H. Wood & Co., Ltd., Saltney; Woodhouse Bros., Cradley Heath.—Chain Cable, Mild Steel and Gear: S. Taylor & Sons (Brierley Hill), Ltd., Brierley Hill.—Chemicals: F. Allen & Sons (Poplar), Ltd., London, E.; A. Boake, Roberts & Co., Ltd., London, E.; Imperial Chemical Industries, Ltd., Winnington, Fleetwood and Widnes; Thew Arnott & Co., Ltd., Wallington.—Cloth, Woolen: James Harper & Sons, Calverley.—Cloth, White Leather: Leather Cloth Co., Ltd., London, E.; Collars, White, Soft and Stiff: A. Rice & Co., Ltd., Exeter; R. H. & S. Rogers, Ltd., London, S.E. or Coleraine.—Cotton Waste: Porter Bros., Ltd., Liverpool; W. C. Jones, Ltd., Manchester; E. Butterworth & Co., Ltd., Manchester; H. Yates & Sons, Ltd., Darwen; Redmayne & Isherwood, Ltd., Kirkham.—Cooking Apparatus: Henry Wilson & Co., Ltd., Liverpool.—Counterpanes, Coverlets, etc.: Barlow & Jones, Ltd., Bolton; James Kippax & Son, Ltd., Bolton.—Dinghies, Motor: British Power Boat Co., Hythe; J. S. White & Co., Ltd., Cowes.—Dock Blocks, Oak: Dartington Hall, Ltd., Totnes; H. Longley & Sons, Ltd., East Grinstead; A. Turner & Son, Ltd., Lewes; E. C. White & Son, Ltd., Basingstoke; J. Sadd & Sons, Ltd., Maldon.—Drawers, Knitted, Long and Short: I. & R. Morley, Ltd., Heanor.—Dressings, Surgical: Arthur Berton, Ltd., London, E.C.; Vernon & Co., Ltd., Preston; T. J. Smith & Nephew, Ltd., Hull; W. G. Taylor, Birmingham; R. Bailey & Son, Ltd., Stockport; Wardle Cotton Co., Ltd., Rochdale.—Earthenware: Keeling & Co., Ltd., Burslem; Minton's, Ltd., Stoke-on-Trent; W. T. Copeland & Sons, Stoke-on-Trent; Globe Pottery Co., Ltd., Stoke-on-Trent; T. G. Green & Co., Ltd., Burton-on-Trent; John Steventon & Sons, Ltd., Burslem; Bovey Pottery Co., Ltd., Bovey Tracey.—Enamel, White and Dark Grey: Blacklock & Macarthur, Ltd., Glasgow; Craig & Rose, Ltd., Leith; R. Gay & Co., London, E.; Mander Bros., Ltd., Wolverhampton; Paripan, Ltd., Egham; Gross, Sherwood & Heald, Ltd., Barking; Nobel Chemical Finishes, Ltd., Slough.—Enamelled Ware: Anglo Enamelled Ware, Ltd., West Bromwich; Eveson Bros. (1929), Ltd., Lye; Joseph & Jesse Siddons, Ltd., West Bromwich; Joseph Sankey & Sons, Ltd., Bilston.—Engine, Motor Fire: Dennis Bros., Ltd., Guildford.—Engines, Motor Boat: Parsons Oil Engine Co., Ltd., Southampton; Ferry Engine Co., Ltd., Southampton; J. & H. McLaren, Ltd., Leeds.—Flannel: R. Schofield, Ltd., Rochdale; T. & C. Littlewood & Co., Ltd., Rochdale; James Schofield & Sons (Buckley), Ltd., Rochdale.—Frocks and Drawers, Woolen: I. & R. Morley, Ltd., Heanor; S. D. Stretton & Sons, Ltd., Leicester.—Generators, Motor for Welding: Metropolitan Vickers Electrical Co., Ltd., Manchester.—Generating Sets and Equipment: Aster (1932), Ltd., London, W.—Generators and Boosters, Motor: Haslam & Newton, Ltd., Derby; W. Mackie & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; Mawdsleys, Ltd., Dursley.—Golden Syrup: Tate & Lyle, Ltd., London, E.C.; Westburn Sugar Refineries, Ltd., Greenock.—Gowns, Ward and Operating: Frank Lane, Ltd., London, E.C.—Handkerchiefs, White Cotton: J. H. Greenhow & Co., Ltd., Manchester.—Handles: R. Burley & Sons, Ltd., Glasgow; C. W. Clinch & Sons, Newbury.—Hides, Upholstery, etc.: Connolly Bros. (Curriers), Ltd., London, S.W.; Bryant & Co., London, S.E.—Hollow Ware: Joseph & Jesse Siddons, Ltd., West Bromwich; Clark's Ironware, Ltd., Wolverhampton; Archibald Kenrick & Sons, Ltd., West Bromwich.—Hydroplane Gear: Vickers-Armstrongs, Ltd., Barrow-in-Furness.—India Rubber Items: J. E. Baxter & Co., Ltd., Leyland; Dunlop Rubber Co., Ltd., Manchester; Greengate & Irwell Rubber Co., Ltd., Salford; Leyland & Birmingham Rubber Co., Ltd., Leyland.—Ingots, Aluminium: British Aluminium Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—Ingots, Bronze: British Metal Corporation, Ltd., London, E.C.—Ingots, Bronze: Manganese Bronze & Brass Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—Ingot, Tin: Vivian Younger & Bond, Ltd., London, E.C.—Jerseys, Blue: I. & R. Morley, Ltd., Heanor; D. Payne & Son, Ltd., Hinkley.—Jute Goods: Craiks, Ltd., Forfar; Ogilvy Brothers Kirriemuir, Ltd., Kirriemuir.—Lathes: Denhams Engineering Co., Ltd., Halifax; John Lang & Sons, Ltd., Johnstone.—Lead Sheet and Pipe: Locke, Lancaster and W. W. & R. Johnson & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.; British Lead Mills, Ltd., London, E.C.—Milk, Condensed, Unsweetened: Nestle Anglo-Swiss Condensed Milk Co., London, E.C.—Mountings and Holders for W/T Valves: Gambrell Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.W.; General Electric Co., Ltd., Salford; Radio Instruments, Ltd., Croydon; H. W. Sullivan, Ltd., London, S.E.; Veritys, Ltd., Birmingham; H. E. Williams & Son, Portsmouth.—Oil Paste, White Oxide of Zinc: Dixons White, Ltd.,*



London, E.; Fenner & Alder, Ltd., London, E.; Hoyle, Robson, Barnett & Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne; J. Kirkaldy & Son, Ltd., London, E.—**Pendants, Mooring and Shackles**: N. Hingley & Sons, Ltd., Netherton; H. Wood & Co., Ltd., Saltney.—**Pinnace, Motor and Pulling**: Sittingbourne Shipbuilding Co., Ltd., Sittingbourne.—**Porcelain, China**: Crown Staffs Porcelain Co., Ltd., Fenton, Stoke-on-Trent.—**Pumps, Electrically-driven Fresh Water**: Worthington Simpson, Ltd., Newark.—**Reflectors for Signalling Projectors**: C. A. Parsons & Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne; Chance Bros. & Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Satin, Drill**: Langworthy Bros. & Co., Ltd., Salford; Ashton Bros. & Co., Ltd., Hyde; Sir E. Armitage & Sons, Ltd., Patricroft; R. & J. Partington (1920), Ltd., Worsley.—**Sheets T.T., Mild Steel**: Appleby Iron Co., Ltd., Sounthorpe.—**Shirting, Cotton**: Howe & Coates, Ltd., Barley; Sir E. Armitage & Sons, Ltd., Patricroft.—**Shoes, Black Leather**: Adams Bros. (Raunds), Ltd., Raunds.—**Shoes, Black Leather, Boys'**: J. Horrell & Son, Ltd., Raunds.—**Side Scuttles, Aluminium**: J. Stone & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; John Roby, Ltd., Rainhill; J. & J. Woods, Ltd., Rainhill; Carron Company, Falkirk.—**Sild, Tinned**: British Fish Canneries, Ltd., Leeds.—**Skins, Chamois Leather**: Charles F. Stead & Co., Ltd., Leeds; John S. Deed & Sons, Ltd., London, W.C.—**Smiths' Work**: E. Baylie & Co., Ltd., Stourbridge; Brown Lenox & Co., Ltd., Pontypridd; Bullers, Ltd., Tipton; Carron Company, Falkirk; Douglass Bros., Ltd., Blaydon-on-Tyne; Fellows Bros., Ltd., Cradley Heath; Hughes-Johnson Stampings, Ltd., Birmingham; Laird & Son, Ltd., Irvine; Nixon & Whitfield, Blaydon-on-Tyne; Old Hill Co. (Powke Lane), Ltd., Old Hill; W. H. Tildesley, Ltd., Willenhall; Vaughan Bros., Willenhall; J. Wellings, Stourbridge; T. B. Wellings & Co., Ltd., Old Hill; J. Wheway & Son, Ltd., Walsall; Woodall & Co., Hull.—**Soap, Hard**: John Knight, Ltd., London, E.; T. H. Harris & Sons, Ltd., London, E.—**Socks, Blue Cashmere**: M. C. Foister Clay & Ward, Ltd., Leicester.—**Socks, Thick and Thin, and Stockings, Thick**: Herbert L. Driver, Leicester; Hall & Son, Stoke Golding; Johnson & Sons, Ltd., Great Yarmouth; Arthur Kemp, Ltd., Leicester.—**Solder, Spelter, Electricians', Plumbers', Timmen's**: C. Burley & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham; C. Carr, Ltd., Birmingham; Grey & Marten, Ltd., London, S.E.; Locke Lancaster and W. W. & R. Johnson & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.; Sheldon Bush & Patent Shot Co., Bristol; Tyne Solder Co., Felling.—**Suet, Refined Beef**: Ogston & Tennant, Ltd., Aberdeen.—**Suits, Overall, Blue**: J. B. Hoyle & Co., Hebden Bridge; Johnson & Sons, Ltd., Great Yarmouth; Wescot Overall Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Egham.—**Table Linen, Damask**: Ulster Weaving Co., Ltd., Linfield, Belfast; York Street Flax Spinning Co. (London), Ltd., Belfast.—**Target, Battle Practice**: Rose Street Foundry & Engineering Co., Ltd., Inverness.—**Timber, English**: Baynes (Reading), Ltd., Reading; George Blay, Honiton; C. R. Claridge & Sons, Ltd., Exeter; Dartington Hall, Ltd., Totnes; F. Davis & Co., Ashford; J. D. Foster, Ltd., Emsworth; G. F. Griffiths, Totnes; W. Ivens & Sons, Rugby; H. Longley & Sons, Ltd., East Grinstead; G. Randle & Son, Ltd., Bridgwater; J. Stenning & Son, Ltd., East Grinstead; A. Turner & Son, Ltd., Lewes; E. C. White & Son, Ltd., Basingstoke.—**Tin, Phosphor**: J. & J. Hughes, Birmingham.—**Towelling, Terry**: Stott & Smith, Ltd., Congleton.—**Towels**: Wm. R. Lee, Ltd., Heywood; Stott & Smith, Ltd., Congleton; Barlow & Jones, Ltd., Bolton.—**Transformers**: English Electric Co., Ltd., Stafford; Foster Engineering Co., Ltd., London, S.W.; Johnson & Phillips, Ltd., Charlton; British Thomson Houston Co., Ltd., Rugby; Ferranti, Ltd., Hollinwood.—**Valves, W/T**: General Electric Co., Ltd., Hammersmith, Lemington, Wembley and Witton; Edison Swan Electric Co., Ltd., Ponders End, Rugby, Chesterfield and Coventry; Mullard Radio Valve Co., Ltd., London, S.W. and Newcastle-on-Tyne.—**Vests, Winter and Summer**: Cooper Bros. (Nottingham), Ltd., Nottingham; I. & R. Morley, Ltd., Heanor.—**Vinegar**: Hill Evans & Co., Ltd., Worcester.—**Wedges, Beech**: C. R. Claridge & Sons, Ltd., Exeter; Arthur East & Son, Hemel Hempstead; J. D. Foster, Ltd., Emsworth; J. Jones & Sons, Ltd., Larbert.—**Winches, Electrically driven**: Stothert & Pitt, Ltd., Bath; Sunderland Forge & Engineering Co., Ltd., Sunderland.—**Zinc Cake**: H. Gardner & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; British Metal Corporation, Ltd., London, E.C.

WAR OFFICE.

**Basins, Soup**: F. Hill & M. Hart Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Blankets, Grey**: Rawden Briggs & Co., Ltd., Dewsbury; T. & D. Lee & Sons, Ltd., Dewsbury.—**Cans, 3-gallon**: Eli Griffiths & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Caps, Bearskin**: L. Silbertson & Sons, London, E.—**Chassis, 6-wheeler**: Morris Commercial Cars, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Coal Handling Plant**: Rowson Drew & Clydesdale, Ltd., London.—**Cooking apparatus**: Adams & Son (Engineers), Ltd., London, W.; Wm. Green & Co. (Ecclesfield), Ltd., Ecclesfield.—**Cylinders, Iron**: Baldwins, Ltd., London, E.—**Drill, Cotton**: Ritchie & Eason, Ltd., Manchester.—**Earthenware**: Booths, Ltd., Tunstall.—**Electric Light, &c. Fittings**: General Electric Co., Ltd., London, W.; Revo Electric Co., Ltd., Tipton; J. H. Tucker & Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Extinguishers, Fire, Refills**: Pyrene Co., Ltd., Brentford.—**Flannelette**: J. Wilkinson (Manchester and Nelson), Ltd., Nelson.—**Furnace, Annealing**: Dowson & Mason Gas Plant Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Generating Sets and Spares**: R. A. Lister & Co., Ltd., Dursley.—**Glassware**: Stevens & Williams, Ltd., Brierley Hill.—**Iron Wrought Flat**: Coghlan Steel & Iron Co., Ltd., Leeds.—**Jackets, S.D., &c.**: L. Silbertson & Sons, London, E.; Rego Clothiers, Ltd., London, N.—**Kerosene**: Anglo-American Oil Co., Ltd., London, W.C.—**Lamps, Electric**: British Thomson Houston Co., Ltd., Rugby and Ponders End; Edison Swan Electric Co., Ltd., Rugby and Ponders End; Stella Lamp Co., Ltd., London, N.W.; General Electric Co., Ltd., London, W.C.; Cryselco, Ltd., Bedford.—**M.T. Spirit**: Shell Mex & B.P., Ltd., London, W.C.; Redline Glico, Ltd., London, S.W.; Anglo-American Oil Co., Ltd., London, W.C.; Scottish Oils & Shell Mex, Ltd., Glasgow; McMullan Bros., Ltd., Belfast.—**Nickel**:

H. Gardner & Co., Ltd., Swansen.—**Oil, Fuel, etc.**: Shell Mex & B.P., Ltd., London, W.—**Petrol Benzol Mixture**: National Benzole Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Pump and Accessories**: Variable Speed Gear, Ltd., Elswick.—**Sheets, Cotton**: J. H. Greenhow & Co., Ltd., Manchester; Stott & Smith, Ltd., Manchester.—**Shirts, Angola, etc.**: Milns, Cartwright Reynolds, Ltd., London, E.; T. Briggs (London), Ltd., London, E.—**Tanks, Waterproof**: Geo. MacLellan & Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—**Tent Pegs**: D. Vanderstegen, Stoke Row.—**Tins, Feed, etc.**: Sargeant Turner & Sons, Ltd., Lye.—**Towels, Hand, etc.**: W. Lumsden & Son, Freuchie.—**Turbine Pump**: Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., Reading.—**X-Ray Apparatus**: Iford, Ltd., Iford and Warley; Kodak, Ltd., Wealdstone.—**Works Services (Building)**: Aldershot—Conversion of Buildings: W. Laughton, Bedford. Barry and Buddon—Repairs to Roads: Darroch Newell & Co., Ltd., Glasgow. Bordon, Quebec and St. Lucia Barracks—Arterial Road: Bridgewater Bros., Ashted. Didcot—Alterations to Workshops: G. Biggs & Sons, High Wycombe. Exeter—Improvements to Quarters: Peart Bros., Plymouth. Feltham—Erection of Offices, etc.: Thomas & Edge, Ltd., London. London, Wellington Barracks—Periodical Services: Fred Holdsworth, Ltd., Shipley; East and West Areas, Artificers Work: A. E. Guest, Ltd., London, N.W. Perham Down—Erection of Office Buildings: W. E. Chivers & Sons, Ltd., Devises; Tank Washing Platform: A. G. Smith, Durrington. Pitsea—Erection of Storehouse: J. B. Edwards & Co. (Whyteleaf), Ltd., London, W. Salisbury—Periodical Services: Fields, Ltd., Reading. Tidworth—Alterations to Gymnasium: A. G. Smith, Durrington. Woolwich—Alterations to Crossness Pier: J. Mowlem & Co., Ltd., London, S.W.

AIR MINISTRY.

**Accumulators**: Oldham & Son, Ltd., Denton.—**Aircraft**: Blackburn Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Brough; Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Bristol; Hawker Aircraft, Ltd., Kingston-on-Thames; Vickers (Aviation), Ltd., Weybridge.—**Aircraft Alteration**: Vickers (Aviation), Ltd., Weybridge.—**Aircraft, Conversion and Spares**: Armstrong Whitworth Aircraft, Ltd., Coventry; Fairey Aviation Co., Ltd., Hayes.—**Aircraft Conversion**: Westland Aircraft Works, Yeovil.—**Aircraft, Miscellaneous Work**: Short Bros. (Rochester and Bedford), Ltd., Rochester.—**Aircraft Modification**: Blackburn Aeroplane & Motor Co., Brough; Gloster Aircraft Co., Ltd., Hucolecote; Hawker Aircraft, Ltd., Kingston-on-Thames.—**Aircraft Reconditioning**: Hawker Aircraft, Ltd., Kingston-on-Thames.—**Aircraft Spares**: Armstrong Siddeley Motors, Ltd., Coventry; Blackburn Aeroplane & Motor Co., Ltd., Brough; Fairey Aviation Co., Ltd., Hayes; Hawker Aircraft, Ltd., Kingston-on-Thames; A. V. Roe & Co., Ltd., Newton Heath; Saunders-Roe, Ltd., E. Cowes; Short Bros. (Rochester and Bedford), Ltd., Rochester; Supermarine Aviation Works (Vickers), Ltd., Woolston; Vickers (Aviation), Ltd., Weybridge; Westland Aircraft Works, Yeovil.—**Aircraft Repair**: Blackburn Aero. & Motor Co., Ltd., Brough.—**Aircraft Test**: Armstrong Whitworth Aircraft, Ltd., Coventry.—**Aircraft, Work on**: Hawker Aircraft, Ltd., Kingston-on-Thames; Short Bros. (Rochester and Bedford), Ltd., Rochester.—**Automatic Heads for Air Cylinders**: Walter Kidde Co., London, W.—**Batteries**: Britannia Batteries, Ltd., Redditch.—**Buildings and Works Services**: Artificers Works—Aldergrove: J. Miskimmin & Son, Belfast. Andover and Worthy Down: H. G. Ross & Son, Netley Abbey. Bicester and Upper Heyford: J. E. Harper & Sons, Birmingham. Bircham Newton: Fisher & Sons, Fakenham; Boscombe Down: James & Crockerell, Salisbury; Cranwell: J. Chapman & Sons, Leicester; Digby: J. Chapman & Sons, Leicester; Donibristle: H. M. Askew, Dumfermline; Duxford: Lacey & Sons, Luton; Felixstowe: W. F. Cross, Ltd., Felixstowe; Hornchurch: Cronin & Sons, Brentwood; Hucknall: Bodill & Sons, Hucknall; Leuchars: T. Livingstone & Sons, St. Andrews, Fife; London Hirings: North Weald and Uxbridge: E. J. Logan, London, W.C.; Manston: A. Ross & Co., Westgate-on-Sea; Martlesham Heath: W. C. Reade, Aldeburgh; Old Sarum, etc.: Wort & Way, Salisbury; Thornaby: H. Jackson & Son, Thornaby-on-Tees; Turnhouse: W. & J. R. Watson, Ltd., Edinburgh. Waddington: F. Hossacks & Son, Sleaford. **Structural Steelwork**—Dhbban: Wm. Bain & Co., Ltd., Coatbridge. **Small Motors for Wind Tunnel**—Farnborough: British Thomson Houston, Ltd., Rugby. **Wind Tunnel Heating**—Farnborough: Brightside Foundry & Engineering Co., Birmingham.—**Seawage Ejector Plant**—Felixstowe: Adams Hydraulics, Ltd., York; Kai Tak: Hughes & Lancaster, Ltd., London, S.W. **Aero Shed**—Grantham: Tees Side Bridge & Engineering Works, Ltd., Middlesbrough. **Ration Store**—Uxbridge: Humphreys, Ltd., London, S.W. **Sergeants' Mess**—Uxbridge: J. Laing & Son, Ltd., London, N.W.—**Brooms, Sweeping**: Lord Roberts Memorial Workshops, London, S.W.—**Containers for T.T. Gear**: Westland Aircraft Works, Yeovil.—**Conversion Sets**: Saunders-Roe, Ltd., East Cowes.—**Crossley M.T. Components**: Crossley Motors, Ltd., Gorton.—**Dinghies**: R.F.D. Co., Guildford.—**Engines, Aero**: Armstrong Siddeley Motors, Ltd., Coventry; Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Bristol; D. Napier & Son, Ltd., London, W.—**Engines, Aero, Modification**: Armstrong Siddeley Motors, Ltd., Coventry.—**Engines, Aero, Overhaul**: Rolls-Royce, Ltd., London, W.—**Engines, Aero, Rebuilding**: Armstrong Siddeley Motors, Ltd., Coventry; Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Bristol; Rolls-Royce, Ltd., London, W.—**Engines, Aero, Reconditioning**: Rolls-Royce, Ltd., London, W.—**Engines, Aero, Research Running and Tests**: Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Bristol.—**Engines, Aero, Repair of Spares**: Armstrong Siddeley Motors, Ltd., Coventry.—**Engines, Aero, Spares and Tools**: Armstrong Siddeley Motors, Ltd., Coventry; Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Bristol.—**Engines, Aero, Spares**: Hoffmann Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Chelmsford; D. Napier & Son, Ltd., London, W.; Rolls-Royce, Ltd., London, W.—**Engines, Aero, Starters**: Rotax, Ltd., London, N.W.—**Engines, Aero, Test**: Armstrong Siddeley Motors, Ltd., Coventry; Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Bristol.—**Engines, Aero, Tools**: Rolls-Royce, Ltd., London, W.—**Engines, Aero, Valve Unit**: Ricardo & Co. Engineers (1927), Ltd., London, S.W.—**Cable Towing**: British Ropes,

Ltd., Dagenham.—**Fire Extinguishers**: Foamite Firefoam, Ltd., London, W.—**Flag Targets**: R.F.D. Co., Guildford.—**Flotation Bags**: Walter Kidde Co., Ltd., London, W.—**Frequency Measuring Equipment**: Marconi's W/T Co., Ltd., Chelmsford.—**Generating Plant**: Norris, Henty & Gardner, Patricroft.—**Helmets, Smoke**: Siebe Gorman & Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Hoists**: Arrow Aircraft (Leeds), Ltd., Leeds.—**Hose, Fuel, Armoured**: Petro Flex Tubing Co., Ltd., Watford.—**Lamps, Signalling**: Aldis Bros., Birmingham.—**Mechanical Transport—Reconditioning of Components**: Morris Commercial Motors, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Metal Cabs and Bodies, "Crossley"**: English Electric Co., Ltd., Preston.—**Methylated Spirit**: Suffolk Chemical Co., Ltd., Ipswich.—**Motor Generators**: Rotax, Ltd., London, N.W.—**Oil Furnace, Fuel**: Shell Mex and B.P., Ltd., London, W.C.—**Oil, Lubricating**: Snowdon Sons & Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Paraffin**: Anglo American Oil Co., Ltd., London, W.C.; Scottish Oils & Shell-Mex, Ltd., Glasgow.—**Oil, Lubricating and Aviation Fuel**: Asiatic Petroleum Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Parachutes and Spares**: Irving Air Chute of Great Britain, Ltd., Letchworth.—**Petrol, 1934-35**: Anglo American Oil Co., London, W.C.; Shell-Mex and B.P., Ltd., London, W.C.; Scottish Oils & Shell-Mex, Ltd., Glasgow.—**Racks, Storage**: Alfred Allen & Son, Ltd., Dudley; J. & E. Bates & Sons, Ltd., Wolverhampton; G. A. Harvey & Co. (London), Ltd., London, S.E.—**Receivers, W/T**: Marconi's W/T Co., Ltd., Chelmsford.—**Ring Mountings, Modification of**: Barr & Stroud, Ltd., Glasgow.—**Slips, C.F., Release**: Handley Page, Ltd., London, N.W.—**Stannic Chloride**: Wm. Blythe & Co., Ltd., Church, Lancs.—**Switch Boxes**: Phoenix Telephone & Electric Works, Ltd., London, N.W.—**Timber**: Cox Long & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Transmitters**: Marconi's W/T Co., Ltd., Chelmsford.—**Trays, Drip**: G. A. Harvey & Co. (London), Ltd., London, S.E.—**Vans, Singer**: Singer & Co., Ltd., Coventry.—**W/T Stations, Mobile**: Marconi's W/T Co., Ltd., Chelmsford.

POST OFFICE.

**Apparatus, Telephonic**: Automatic Electric Co., Ltd., Liverpool; Ericsson Telephones, Ltd., Beeston; General Electric Co., Ltd., Coventry; Hall Telephone Accessories (1928), Ltd., London, N.W.; Plessey Co., Ltd., Perivale, Greenford, Middlesex; Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; Standard Telephones & Cables, Ltd., London, N.; Telephone Manufacturing Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Apparatus, Testing and Protective**: Ernest Turner Electrical Instruments, Ltd., High Wycombe; Everett, Edgcombe & Co., Ltd., London, N.W.—**Arms, Wood**: Calders, Ltd., London, S.E.—**Boxes, Battery, Leclanché**: Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Boxes, Cardboard**: W. J. Noble & Son, Pudsey; Horace Slade & Co., Ltd., St. Albans.—**Brackets**: David Willetts, Ltd., Cradley Heath.—**Cable**: Connollys (Blackley), Ltd., Manchester; General Electric Co., Ltd., Southampton; W.T. Henley's Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.; Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; Standard Telephones & Cables, Ltd., London, E.; United Telephone Cables, Ltd., Dagenham.—**Chloride of Ammonia**: Imperial Chemical Industries, Ltd., Northwich.—**Clothing, India Rubber**: Campbell, Achnach & Co., Ltd., Manchester; Castle Rubber Co., Ltd., Warrington; David Moseley & Sons, Ltd., Manchester; Reggan Clothing Manufacturers, Ltd., Glasgow; Victoria Rubber Co., Ltd., Edinburgh.—**Coils, Loading**: Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; Standard Telephones & Cables, Ltd., London, E.—**Cords, Telephone**: Reliance Electrical Wire Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Dynamotors**: Dynamo & Motor Repairs, Ltd., Wembley.—**Fittings, Electric Light**: Hailwood & Ackroyd, Ltd., Morley, Leeds.—**Home Sales**: Pearson-Jewsbury Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Kiosks, Concrete**: Croft Granite, Brick & Concrete Co., Ltd., Leicester; Hilcrete, Ltd., Derby.—**Lamps, Side**: P. & H., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Motor Bodies**: Scammell & Nephew, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Motor Cycle Combinations**: B.S.A. Cycles, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Motor Cycles**: B.S.A. Cycles, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Motor Vans**: Morris Motors, Ltd., Purfleet, Oxford.—**Oil, Cylinder**: Anglo-American Oil Co., Ltd., Purfleet.—**Oil, Fuel**: Shell Marketing Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Paper, Printing**: Reed & Smith, Ltd., Stoke Canon.—**Parts for Stamping Machines**: Roneo Neopost, Ltd., Romford.—**Pliers**: Wm. Wilkinson & Son (Penketh), Ltd., Warrington.—**Rags, White**: I. & J. Hyman, Ltd., London, N.; William C. Jones, Ltd., Manchester.—**Scales, Automatic**: W. & T. Avery, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Seals, Lead**: British Die Casting & Engineering Co., Ltd., London, W.C.; Dunham, White & Co., Ltd., London, E.; Lead Seal Manufacturing Co., Salford.—**Spindles, etc.**: Bert Birks & Co., Cradley Heath; Bullers, Ltd., Tipton; C. Richards & Sons, Ltd., Darlaston; Wilkes, Ltd., Darlaston.—**Spirit, Methylated**: W. H. Palmer & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Spirit, Motor**: Anglo-American Oil Co., Ltd., London, W.C.; McMullan Bros., Ltd., Belfast; Scottish Oils & Shell-Mex, Ltd., Glasgow; Shell Mex & B.P., Ltd., London, W.C.—**Structural Alterations, Newquay Head Post Office**: J. W. Spencer, Plymouth.—**Suspenders**: Wrights' Ropes, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Wallboards**: H. J. Townsend & Son, London, N.—**Wire, Copper**: British Insulated Cables, Ltd., Prescott.—**Wire, Flameproof**: L. P. S. Electrical Co., Ltd., Alperton; Reliance Electrical Wire Co., Ltd., London, E.

**Armoured Cable Laying, etc.**: Edinburgh-North Berwick Main Cable (Edinburgh-Longniddry Section); Churston-Dartmouth & Dartmouth-Compass Cove; Norwest Construction Co., Ltd., Liverpool; Aberdeen-Elgin Main Cable (Huntly-Keith & Keith Elgin Sections); G. Wimpey & Co., London, W.—**Cable-Testing and Balancing and the Supply, Installation and Jointing of Loading Coil Cases**: Nantwick-Warrington-Liverpool Cables: Standard Telephones & Cables, Ltd., London, E.—**Cabling, Loading Coils and Terminations**: Leeds-Harrogate No. 2 Cabling: Standard Telephones & Cables, Ltd., London, E.; Leicester-Nuneaton Cabling; Coventry-Leamington-Warwick No. 2 Cabling: United Telephone Cables, Ltd., London, W.C.—**Conduit Laying, etc.**: Hornsey, Willesden, etc.: O. C. Summers, London, N.; Kensington-Sub-Tandem-Shepherds

Bush Junction, Deptford, etc.: J. E. Billings & Co., Ltd., London, S.W.; Ramsgate-Broadstairs-Margate & Ramsgate-Broadstairs Junction Cables; Stockport (Cheshire): G. Wimpey & Co., Ltd., London, W.; Hexham-Haydon Bridge (Northumberland); Wakefield-Castleford Cable: W. P. & P. G. Hayes, Ltd., Warrington; Plymouthstock (Devon); Plymouth (Devon) & Plymouth-Plymouth-Plymouth Junction Cable: C. D. L. Construction Co., Ltd., Egham; Eaton (Norwich): F. W. Shanks, Hunstanton; Erith, Bexley, Sidcup, etc.: Hodge Bros. (Contractors), Ltd., Birmingham; Birkenhead-New Mersey Tunnel Approach-Morpeth Dock: Edmund Nuttall, Sons & Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Electric Lifts**: Newcastle-on-Tyne Railway Station Sorting Office: W. Wadsworth & Sons, Ltd., Bolton.—**Pneumatic Ticket Tubes**: Belfast Central (Belfast Auto Area); Hull Trunk Telephone Exchange: Standard Telephones & Cables, Ltd., London, N.—**Telephone Exchange Equipment**: Stratford-on-Avon (New Auto Exchange); The Leeds City Police, Town Hall, Leeds (Private Exchange Equipment); Plymouth (Power Plant): Automatic Electric Co., Ltd., London, W.C. Sub-Contractors: Alton Battery Co., Ltd., Alton, Hants, for Batteries; Electric Construction Co., Ltd., London, W.C., for Generators & Ringing Machines. Bristol Auto Area Auto Exchanges (Re-ring Facilities); London Wall (London) (New Auto Exchange); Monument (London) Auto Exchange (Extension of Test Desk Equipment); Salisbury House, London Wall, E.C. (Main Distributing Frames); Automatic Electric Co., Ltd., London, W.C. Dundee (Replacing Manual Board & Associated Equipment); General Electric Co., Ltd., Stoke, Coventry. Hull Trunk Telephone Exchange (Demand Scheme): General Electric Co., Ltd., Stoke, Coventry. Dunlop Rubber Co., Ltd., Dunlop, Birmingham (Private Exchange Modifications); Waterloo (London) (New Auto Exchange); London Trunk Exchange-Demand & Delay Suites, 4th Floor Annex Trunk Exchange Equipment Extension No. 2; London Trunk Exchange-Incoming Suites 3rd Floor Annex (Trunk Exchange Equipment Extension No. 2); Southall (London) (Provision of Voice Frequency 7 Digit Keypunching Equipment): Standard Telephones & Cables, Ltd., London, N. Mitcham (London) Extension of the Auto Manual Equipment for Toll Control Working; Belfast Central (Power Plant): Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. Sub-Contractors: Chloride Electrical Storage Co., Ltd., Clifton Junction, Manchester, for Batteries; Electric Construction Co., Ltd., London, W.C., for Generator & Ringing Machines. Belfast North (Power Plant): Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. Sub-Contractors: Chloride Electrical Storage Co., Ltd., Clifton Junction, Manchester, for Batteries; Electric Construction Co., Ltd., London, W.C., for Generator & Ringing Machines. Malone (Power Plant): Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. Sub-Contractors: Chloride Electrical Storage Co., Ltd., Clifton Junction, Manchester, for Batteries; Electric Construction Co., Ltd., London, W.C., for Generator & Ringing Machines. Belfast East (Power Plant): Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. Sub-Contractors: Chloride Electrical Storage Co., Ltd., Clifton Junction, Manchester, for Batteries; Electric Construction Co., Ltd., London, W.C., for Generator, Portwilliam (Power Plant): Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. Sub-Contractors: Chloride Electrical Storage Co., Clifton Junction, Manchester, for Batteries; Electric Construction Co., Ltd., London, W.C., for Generator. **Submarine Cable**: Firth of Tay (Dundee-Newport) 1933: Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.

H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE.

**Cartage**: London Midland & Scottish Railway, London, E.C.—**Envelopes**: J. Dickinson & Co., Ltd., Hemel Hempstead.—**Paper**: Caldwell's Paper Mill Co., Ltd., Inverkeithing; E. Collins & Sons, Ltd., Glasgow; R. Craig & Sons, Ltd., Airdrie; Golden Valley Paper Mills, Ltd., Bitton; Guardbridge Paper Co., Ltd., Guardbridge; Imperial Paper Mills, Ltd., Gravesend; London Paper Mills, Ltd., Dartford; Olives Paper Mill Co., Ltd., Woolfold; Olive & Partington, Ltd., Glossop.—**Pencils**: G. Rowney & Co., Ltd., London, N.W.—**Printing, Ruling, Binding, etc.**: Group 370 (1934), Bookwork Printing: William Lewis (Printers), Ltd., Cardiff. Group 654 (1934), Jobwork Printing: Priory Press, Ltd., Cardiff. Group 657 (1934), Group 658 (1934), Jobwork Printing: King & Hutchings, Ltd., Uxbridge. Group 931 (1934), Miscellaneous Stamp Printing: H.M. Stationery Office Press, Harrow. Group 932 (1934), Manilla and Cloth Labels: John Dickinson & Co., Ltd., London, N.; Fisher Clark & Co., Ltd., Boston. Group 933 (1934), Manilla Labels: John Dickinson & Co., Ltd., London, N.; Fisher Clark & Co., Ltd., Boston. Group 934 (1934), Type Lithography: Henderson & Spalding, Ltd., London, S.E. Notices and Proceedings and Applications and Decisions for the Traffic Commissioners: Northern Area: Tyne Printing Works, Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne; Yorkshire Area: Edwin Jowett, Ltd., Leeds; North-Western Area: Richard Bates, Ltd., Manchester; West Midland Area: J. G. Hammond & Co., Ltd., Birmingham; East Midland Area: John Corah & Son, Ltd., Loughborough; Eastern Area: W. Heffer & Sons, Ltd., Cambridge; Southern Scotland Area: Bishop & Sons, Ltd., Edinburgh; South-Eastern Area: Howard Jones, Roberts & Leete, Ltd., London, E.C.; South Wales Area: William Lewis (Printers), Ltd., Cardiff; Northern Scotland Area: Middletons (Aberdeen), Ltd., Aberdeen; Western Area: Burrell, Ltd., Bristol; Metropolitan Area: Eyre & Spottiswoode, Ltd., London, E.C. Unemployment Insurance Cards: McCordquodale & Co., Ltd., Wolverton. Stationery Cabinets: Henry Stone & Son, Ltd., Banbury.

H.M. OFFICE OF WORKS.

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