

## THE SPIRIT RECTIFYING, COMPOUNDING AND METHYLATING TRADE

*Note.*—For information regarding the scope of the Census, instructions given to firms for making returns, and definitions of the terms used in this report, reference should be made to the Introductory Notes on pages v to xviii.

### Introductory

This trade comprises firms that were engaged wholly or mainly in the rectifying, compounding and methylating of spirits. As separate particulars for England and Wales and for Scotland cannot be published for the year 1930 owing to the risk of disclosure of information relating to individual firms, the summary table (I) and the tables showing details of power equipment (IV) and coal, coke and electricity used (V) are not appended to this report. The whole of this information is available in the report itself.

The following table shows the main results of the Censuses of 1930 and 1924 in respect of firms in Great Britain that employed an average of more than ten persons :—

Particulars	Unit	1930	1924
Value of products (Gross output) ... ..	£'000	5,344	5,842
Cost of materials used ... ..	,,	4,709	4,898
Net output ... ..	,,	635	944
Average number of persons employed ... ..	No.	702	828
Net output per person employed ... ..	£	905	1,140
Power available :—			
Prime movers ... ..	H.P.	60	301
Electric motors driven by purchased electricity	,,	277	289
Number of returns ... ..	No.	17	18
Number of establishments ... ..	,,	20	*

\* Not available.

**Deficiencies in 1930 aggregates.**—The aggregate number of persons employed in 1930 by firms that stated that they employed not more than ten persons on the average was 149 and two small firms did not furnish returns. The number of persons employed by

the small firms in 1924 was 130 and the value of their gross output was £762,000. Particulars of the principal classes of goods included in the latter figure are given below :—

	Th. proof galls.	£'000
Spirits, rectified or compounded*	220	710
Methylated spirits	177	18
	Th. galls.	
Wine, British-made	74	26
Other products	...	8
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>762</b>

\* Including liqueurs, cordials, mixtures and other preparations containing spirits (except perfumed spirits).

**Size of firms.**—In the following table the main particulars recorded at the Census of 1930 are grouped according to the average numbers of persons shown in the returns :—

Size of firm (average numbers employed)	Number of returns	Gross output	Net output	Average number of persons employed	Net output per person employed
	No.	£'000	£'000	No.	£
11-24	9	605	88	146	604
25-49	4	639	92	146	626
50-299	4	4,100	455	410	1,111
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>5,344</b>	<b>635</b>	<b>702</b>	<b>905</b>

**Regional distribution.**—In the following table the results recorded at the Censuses of 1930 and 1924 are grouped according to the principal areas\* of Great Britain in which firms in this trade are situated :—

Area	Number of returns	Gross output	Net output	Average number of persons employed	Net output per person employed	
	No.	£'000	£'000	No.	£	
I	1930	10	4,749	550	565	973
	1924	10	5,233	856	683	1,253
Other areas	1930	7	595	85	137	622
	1924	8	609	88	145	607
<b>TOTAL</b>	1930	17	5,344	635	702	905
	1924	18	5,842	944	828	1,140

\* For particulars see page xviii.

**Northern Ireland.**—No production was recorded in Northern Ireland for either year.

### Production

**Principal products.**—The following table shows the quantity and value of spirits methylated, rectified or compounded in 1930 and 1924 for sale. The value of dutiable spirits rectified, compounded, etc. for home consumption was returned inclusive of duty, whilst the value of spirits exported was recorded less drawbacks.

Kind of product	1930						1924	
	Returned on schedules for						Total	
	The Spirit Rectifying, Compounding and Methylating Trade			All trades				
	Quan- tity	Value	Ent- ries	Quan- tity	Value	Ent- ries	Quan- tity	Value
Th. proof galls.	£'000	No.	Th. proof galls.	£'000	No.	Th. proof galls.	£'000	
Methylated spirits...	5,973	329	5	10,320	592	10	7,024	606
Rectified or com- pounded spirits*	1,818	4,935	12	1,820	4,943	14	1,924	5,311
<b>TOTAL—PRINCIPAL PRODUCTS</b>	<b>7,791</b>	<b>5,264</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>12,140</b>	<b>5,535</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>8,948</b>	<b>5,917</b>

\* Including liqueurs, cordials, mixtures and other preparations containing spirits (except perfumed spirits).

The quantity of methylated spirits shown in the above table represents only that made for sale by methylators and distillers and does not include spirit methylated by firms, under Excise control, for their own manufacturing purposes. According to the Excise returns, the total quantity of spirit received free of duty for methylation was 10,709,300 proof gallons in the calendar year 1930 and 7,302,600 proof gallons in the calendar year 1924.

**Prices.**—The average selling values of rectified, compounded and methylated spirits in 1930 and 1924, as calculated from the Census returns, are shown in the following table. Those for rectified or compounded spirits are affected by the inclusion of goods exported and subject to drawback. It should be borne in mind that these comparisons do not take account of any changes that may

have occurred since the earlier year in the quality or kind of spirits included under the specified descriptions.

Kind of product	Average value		1930 as a percentage of 1924
	1930	1924	Per cent.
Methylated spirits ... ..	s. per proof gall. 1.15 £ per proof gall.	s. per proof gall. 1.73 £ per proof gall.	66.5
Rectified or compounded spirits ...	2.72	2.76	98.6

**Volume of production in 1930 and 1924.**—The following table compares the volume of production of rectified, compounded and methylated spirits in 1930 and 1924:—

Kind of product	Total production			1930 as a percentage of 1924
	1930	1924		
	As returned	As returned	At 1930 average values	
Methylated spirits ... ..	£'000 592	£'000 606	£'000 403	Per cent. 147
Rectified or compounded spirits ...	4,943	5,311	5,236	94
TOTAL ... ..	5,535	5,917	5,639	98

**Exports and imports.**—Exports of home-made methylated spirits in 1930 were about 64,000 proof gallons and in 1924 about 49,000 proof gallons; imports were not separately recorded. Particulars relating to exports and retained imports of rectified and compounded spirits are included with those of plain spirits (see page 186).

**Other products.**—In addition to the output shown in the table of principal products on page 197, the following goods were produced in 1930 and 1924 by firms that made their returns on schedules for the Spirit Rectifying, Compounding and Methylating Trade. These goods are dealt with in the reports on those trades in which the principal output was recorded.

	1930 £'000	1924 £'000
Wine, British-made ... ..	65	34
	(257,000 galls.)	(123,000 galls.)
Other goods made ... ..	15	42
TOTAL ... ..	80	76

### Employment and Wages

**Employment.**—The following table shows the average numbers of persons employed in 1930 and 1924:—

Persons employed	Males		Females		Total	
	Under 18	All ages	Under 18	All ages	Under 18	All ages
1930						
Operatives (average for the year)	20	310	23	63	43	373
Administrative, technical and clerical staff (as at 18th October) ... ..	8	280	6	49	14	329
TOTAL ... ..	28	590	29	112	57	702
1924						
Operatives (average for the year)	32	395	26	79	58	474
Administrative, technical and clerical staff (as at 18th October) ... ..	16	329	2	25	18	354
TOTAL ... ..	48	724	28	104	76	828

**Wages.**—The available information as to the amount of wages paid in 1930 and 1924 is given on pages 18 and 19.

### Power

The following table shows the capacity of prime movers, electric generators and electric motors ordinarily in use and in reserve or idle in 1930 and 1924:—

Power equipment	1930			1924		
	Ordinarily in use	In reserve or idle	Total	Ordinarily in use	In reserve or idle	Total
PRIME MOVERS						
Reciprocating steam engines ... ..	H.P. 51	H.P. —	H.P. 51	H.P. 275	H.P. —	H.P. 275
Internal combustion engines:—						
Gas ... ..	9	—	9	26	—	26
TOTAL ... ..	60	—	60	301	—	301
ELECTRIC GENERATORS						
Driven by	Kw.	Kw.	Kw.	Kw.	Kw.	Kw.
Reciprocating steam engines ... ..	—	—	—	48	13	61
TOTAL ... ..	—	—	—	48	13	61
ELECTRIC MOTORS						
Driven by	H.P.	H.P.	H.P.	H.P.	H.P.	H.P.
Electricity generated in same works ...	—	—	—	41	3	44
Purchased electricity	269	8	277	223	66	289
TOTAL ... ..	269	8	277	264	69	333

## Consumption of fuel

The following table shows the quantities of coal, coke and electricity recorded as used in 1930:—

Kind of fuel used	For power (driving engines)	For other purposes (so far as recorded)
	Tons	Tons
Coal ... ..	262	2,205*
Coke ... ..	—	164*
Purchased electricity used for all purposes ... ..		B.T.U. (Kw.-hrs.) '000 273

\* These figures were recorded by firms representing 92·5 per cent. of the net output of the whole trade.

## TABLES

Note.—Owing to the possible disclosure of information relating to individual firms, separate particulars for England and Wales and for Scotland cannot be given.

## I. Summary of results (see page 195)

## II. Production

Kind of products	Quantity	Value
	Th. proof galls.	£'000
Methylated spirits* ... ..	5,973	329
Rectified or compounded spirits, including liqueurs, cordials, mixtures and other preparations containing spirits (except perfumed spirits) ... ..	1,818 Th. galls.	4,935
Wine, British-made ... ..	257	65
Other goods made... ..	...	15
<b>TOTAL VALUE OF PRODUCTS (GROSS OUTPUT) ...</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>5,344</b>

\* No production of methylated spirits was recorded for Scotland.

## III. Employment

## A.—NUMBERS EMPLOYED IN WEEK ENDED 18TH OCTOBER, 1930

Persons employed	Males		Females		Males and females	
	Under 18	All ages	Under 18	All ages	Under 18	All ages
Operatives ... ..	20	316	24	64	44	380
Administrative, technical and clerical staff ... ..	8	280	6	49	14	329
<b>TOTAL ... ..</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>596</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>709</b>

## B.—OPERATIVES EMPLOYED IN ONE WEEK IN EACH MONTH OF 1930

Week ended	Males and females	Week ended	Males and females
January 18 ...	369	July 19 ... ..	361
February 15 ...	363	August 16 ... ..	363
March 15 ... ..	361	September 13 ...	365
April 12 ... ..	361	October 18 ... ..	380
May 17 ... ..	361	November 15 ...	406
June 21 ... ..	362	December 13 ...	427
AVERAGE FOR THE TWELVE MONTHS ... ..			373

## IV. Power (see page 199)

## V. Consumption of fuel (see page 200)