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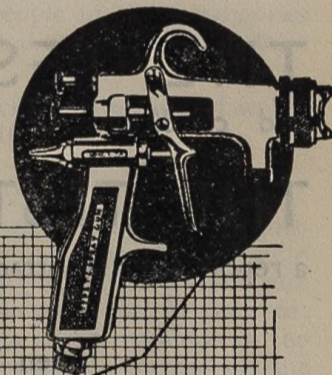
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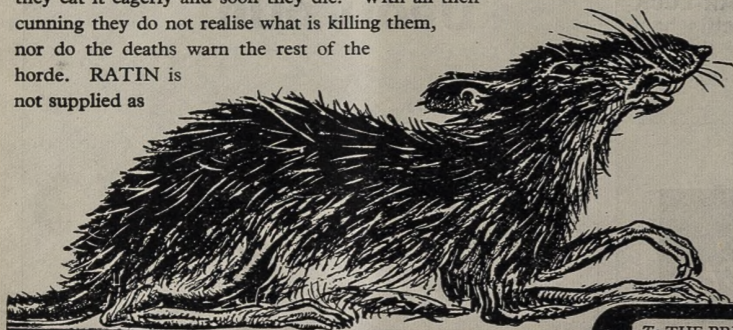
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AUGUST, 1941.

[PRICE SIXPENCE NET.]

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

EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT.

The number of men and boys registered at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain as wholly unemployed at 14th July was 113,662, a decrease of 7,900 as compared with 16th June. Of this total, 33,048 had been classified by interviewing panels as unsuitable for ordinary industrial employment.

Those registered as on short time or otherwise temporarily suspended from work on the understanding that they were shortly to return to their former employment numbered 20,862; this was an increase of 2,816 as compared with 16th June. Those registered as unemployed casual workers (being persons who normally seek their livelihood by jobs of short duration) numbered 11,005, an increase of 1,202 as compared with 16th June.

The corresponding figures for women and girls on the registers at 14th July were 105,915 wholly unemployed (of whom 3,814 had been classified by interviewing panels as unsuitable for normal full-time employment, and 4,658 had been classified as unable for good cause to transfer to another area although employment was not likely to be available locally), 25,165 temporarily stopped, and 671 unemployed casual workers. As compared with 16th June, the numbers wholly unemployed showed a decrease of 16,179, those temporarily stopped a decrease of 4,522, and unemployed casual workers a decrease of 76.

The total numbers of men and boys on the registers decreased between 16th June and 14th July in the North-Eastern, North-Western and Northern Regions, but increased in Wales; in other areas there was little change. Among women and girls the numbers on the registers were lower at 14th July in every Region, the decreases being greatest in the London and South-Eastern, North-Eastern and Northern Regions, and in Scotland and Wales.

The number of applicants for unemployment benefit or allowances on the registers at 14th July was 207,311, as compared with 225,759 at 16th June, and 653,949 at 15th July, 1940.

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 July resulted in an aggregate increase estimated at about £111,500 in the weekly full-time wages of about 1,070,000 workpeople, while about 5,000* workpeople sustained a small decrease under the operation of cost-of-living sliding scales.

In the coal-mining industry, a flat-rate increase, amounting to 4d. a shift for men and to 2d. a shift for youths and boys, was granted, under a cost-of-living sliding scale, in all districts except Nottinghamshire.

* The workpeople whose rates of wages were reduced in July had received increases of greater amount during the earlier months of 1941.

where the equivalent of the advance was merged into an increase in the percentage addition to basis rates. In South Derbyshire, there was an increase in the percentage addition to basis rates, in addition to the flat-rate advance, and in Cannock Chase and Leicestershire there was a slight reduction in the percentage which was more than counterbalanced by the general flat-rate advance. In the brick and tile industry in England and Wales, the wage rates for men engaged in the manufacture of building bricks, tiles, etc., were advanced by 1d. an hour, with smaller increases for women and juvenile workers. In the textile bleaching, dyeing, finishing, etc., industries, there were increases amounting to about one-half of 1 per cent. on current rates in Yorkshire, and to 4d. or 3d. a week in Lancashire and Scotland. A war bonus of 7s. a week for men and of 5s. 3d. a week for women employed by various company-owned motor omnibus undertakings in England and Wales (excluding the Metropolitan Area) was replaced by a war wage of 2½d. an hour for both men and women.

Other industries in which wage increases were granted included roadstone quarrying, refractory brick making in Scotland, bobbin making, heating and domestic engineering, and rubber manufacture.

The changes reported in the first seven months of 1941, in the industries for which statistics are compiled, are estimated to have resulted in a net increase of about £1,400,000 a week in the full-time rates of wages of 7,100,000 workpeople. In the corresponding months of last year, 7,150,000 workpeople in these industries received a net increase estimated at about £1,600,000 a week.

Particulars of the principal changes in rates of wages in July are given on pages 161 to 164.

COST OF LIVING.

At 1st August the official cost-of-living index figure was 99 per cent. above the level of July, 1914, showing no change as compared with 1st July. The index figure of food prices also remained unchanged at 67 per cent. above the level of July, 1914, a slight reduction in the average price of potatoes being offset by increases in the price of milk in some districts. Further particulars of the changes in retail prices during July are given on page 165.

TRADE DISPUTES.

The number of trade disputes involving stoppages of work, reported to the Department as beginning in July, was 60. In addition, 5 disputes which began before July were still in progress at the beginning of that month. The approximate number of workpeople involved in these 65 disputes (including workpeople thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred) was 16,500, and the aggregate duration of the disputes in July was about 25,000 working days.

The aggregate duration of all disputes in progress during the first seven months of 1941 was about 720,000 working days, and the total number of workpeople involved in these disputes was about 205,000.

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

Table with columns: Industry, District, Date from which Change took effect, Classes of Workpeople, Particulars of Change.

* This change took effect as the result of a Decision of the Retail Food Trades Joint Industrial Council...
† These increases took effect under Orders issued under the Trade Boards Act.

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 July† was 275, as compared with 251‡ in the previous month and with 220‡ in July, 1940.

Table with columns: Mines and Quarries, Factories—continued, Railway Service, and other categories.

* Statistics of fatal accidents to seamen are not available.
† For mines and quarries, weekly returns are furnished...

INDUSTRIAL DISEASES.

THE Table below shows the number of cases* and deaths* in Great Britain and Northern Ireland reported during July, under the Factories Act, 1937, or under the Lead Paint (Protection against Poisoning) Act, 1926:—

Table with columns: I. Cases, II. Deaths, and sub-categories like Lead Poisoning, Epitheliomatous Ulceration, etc.

* Cases include all attacks reported during the month, and not previously reported, so far as is known, during the preceding 12 months.

CHANGES IN RETAIL PRICES AND COST OF LIVING.

Summary of Index Figures for 1st August, 1941.

Table showing Food and All Items indices for 1st August 1941.

ITEMS OTHER THAN FOOD.

The average level of working-class rents (including rates) at 1st August showed no appreciable change as compared with 1st July...

As regards clothing, information collected from representative retailers in a number of the principal towns indicates that at 1st August the retail prices of clothing of the kinds generally bought by working-class families averaged between 1 and 2 per cent. higher than at 1st July...

FOOD.

At 1st August the average level of retail prices of the articles of food included within the scope of these statistics was practically the same as at 1st July.

The following Table compares the average retail prices in the United Kingdom at 1st August, 1941, with the corresponding prices at 1st July, 1941, and 1st September, 1939:—

Table comparing average retail prices per lb. for various food items across three dates: 1st Aug 1941, 1st July 1941, and 1st Sept 1939.

The following Table shows the average percentage increases or decreases in prices at 1st September, 1939, 1st July, 1941, and 1st August, 1941, respectively...

Table showing percentage changes in prices for various food items between 1st Sept 1939, 1st July 1941, and 1st Aug 1941.

On the basis of the figures in the foregoing Table, the average level of retail prices of food at 1st August was approximately the same as at 1st July, and about 21 per cent. higher than at the beginning of September, 1939.

* The increase in price, as compared with 1st July, was slight, but sufficient to alter the average to the nearest 1/4d.
† The description of bacon specified for quotation is streaky, but where this kind was seldom being sold the returns relate to another kind, locally representative.

In the fuel and light group the average level of the prices of coal and of gas was about the same at 1st August as a month earlier. Prices of coal averaged about 21 per cent. higher than at 1st September, 1939, and about 135 per cent. above the level of July, 1914.

As regards other items* included in these statistics, there were increases in the prices of domestic ironmongery, brushes and pottery, averaging between 3 and 4 per cent., but for the remaining items changes in prices during July were relatively slight.

ALL ITEMS.

If the average increases in the cost of all the foregoing items are combined in accordance with their relative importance in working-class family expenditure prior to August, 1941, the resultant general average increase at 1st August, 1941, is approximately 99 per cent. over the level of July, 1914...

SUMMARY TABLE: ALL ITEMS.

Average percentage increase, as compared with July, 1914, at the beginning of each month since January, 1920.

Summary Table: All Items. Table showing percentage increases from July 1914 for various months from 1920 to 1941.

A detailed account of the method of compilation of these statistics, 'The Cost of Living Index Number: Method of Compilation,' is obtainable, price 3d. net, from H.M. Stationery Office at any of the addresses shown on the cover of this GAZETTE.

* Soap, soda, domestic ironmongery, brushes, pottery, tobacco and cigarettes, fares and newspapers.

- a person paid otherwise than on a time rate basis shall be construed as including a reference to a datal plus tonnage bonus worker or a straight tonnage worker ;
- (c) the Appendix to this Order shall be inserted as an Appendix to the principal Order ; and
- (d) references to the Appendix shall be construed as references to the Appendix as amended by any subsequent Order, and references to an agreement set out in the Appendix shall be construed as references to that agreement as amended by any agreement that is approved by the Minister.

Signed by order of the Minister of Labour and National Service this 5th day of August, 1941.

T. W. PHILLIPS,

Secretary of the Ministry of Labour and National Service.

APPENDIX.

[In the Appendix particulars are given of the dates of and parties to eight agreements (referred to in Section 2 of the Order) concluded at dates ranging from 10th June to 14th July, 1941, between employers' and workers' organisations in the iron and steel industry.]

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR FORCE ORDER.

REGISTRATION OF AUSTRIANS, GERMANS AND ITALIANS.

The International Labour Force (Registration of Austrians, Germans and Italians) Order, 1941,* dated July 11, 1941, made by the Minister of Labour and National Service under Regulation 58A of the Defence (General) Regulations, 1939.

Whereas it is expedient, with a view to enabling the best use to be made of the services of the large body of Austrians, Germans and Italians in Great Britain who are well disposed to the Allied cause, that provision should be made for regulating the engagement of such persons in Great Britain by employers and that for that purpose Austrians, Germans and Italians of the classes or descriptions hereinafter specified should be required to register particulars about themselves in manner hereinafter appearing ;

Now, therefore, the Minister of Labour and National Service (hereinafter referred to as "the Minister") by virtue of the powers conferred on him by Regulation 58A of the Defence (General) Regulations, 1939, hereby makes the following Order :—

1.—(1) This Order may be cited as the International Labour Force (Registration of Austrians, Germans and Italians) Order, 1941, and shall come into force on the date hereof.

(2) In this Order the expression "local office" means an Employment Exchange or other office appointed by the Minister for the purposes of this Order.

2.—(1) Subject as hereinafter provided, every person to whom this Order applies shall attend at a local office and register particulars about himself in the form set out in the Schedule hereto or in some other form approved by the Minister substantially to the like effect—

- (a) in the case of persons who are within Great Britain at the date on which this Order comes into force, on such day or within such period as the Minister may by public notice or otherwise direct ;
- (b) in the case of persons not within Great Britain at the date on which this Order comes into force, within ten days of the day on which they enter Great Britain, or within such further period as the Minister may in any particular case for special reasons allow ; and
- (c) in the case of persons who at the date on which this Order comes into force are not, but who subsequently become, persons to whom this Order applies, within ten days of the day on which they become persons to whom the Order applies.

(2) If the Minister by public notice or otherwise so requires, any person who has registered particulars about himself in accordance with the foregoing provisions of this Article, shall from time to time furnish such further particulars about himself at such times, in such manner and at such places as the Minister may require.

(3) Any person who proves to the satisfaction of the Minister that it is not reasonably practicable for him to attend at a local office for the purpose of registering or furnishing particulars about himself in accordance with any of the foregoing requirements of this Article may register or furnish such particulars by sending them by post to such local office, in such form and within such period as the Minister may direct.

3. This Order applies to every person of either sex who—

- (i) is an Austrian, a German or an Italian or is described as an Austrian, a German or an Italian in his registration certificate issued under Article 6 or Article 6A of the Aliens Order, 1920 ; or

* Statutory Rules and Orders, 1941, No. 1020 ; H.M. Stationery Office, price 1d. net (2d. post free).

- (ii) has been a national of Austria, Germany or Italy and has not since become a national of any other country ; and who, in the case of a male, has attained the age of sixteen years but has not attained the age of sixty-five years or, in the case of a female, has attained the age of sixteen years but has not attained the age of fifty years, except that the Order does not apply to—

- (a) persons serving in His Majesty's armed forces (otherwise than as members of the Home Guard) or in the Allied or other foreign forces serving in association with His Majesty's armed forces ;
- (b) female persons whilst actually rendering full-time service with His Majesty's armed forces or with the Allied or other foreign forces serving in association with His Majesty's armed forces ;
- (c) prisoners of war ;
- (d) persons in internment.

4. Every person carrying on an undertaking in which persons who are registered or required to register in accordance with the provisions of this Order are employed shall—

- (a) keep such records concerning those persons as the Minister may from time to time by notice direct ;
- (b) produce such records to such persons as may be designated by or on behalf of the Minister and furnish such information relating to such persons as may be set out in any notice or direction ; and
- (c) permit any person so designated as aforesaid to enter and inspect with a view to securing compliance with this Order any premises used for or in connection with the undertaking.

Signed by order of the Minister of Labour and National Service this eleventh day of July, 1941.

T. W. PHILLIPS,

Secretary of the Ministry of Labour and National Service.

SCHEDULE.

[The Schedule to the Order reproduces the form on which persons to whom the Order applies are required to furnish particulars about themselves. The principal particulars required relate to the name, address, and nationality of the person concerned, his date and place of birth, marital status, police registration certificate and national registration identity card numbers, present and previous occupation, main language, and any other language qualifications.]

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LABOUR AND NATIONAL DEFENCE.—(i) *The Labour Situation in Great Britain*. A survey, May-October, 1940. Studies and Reports, Series B (Economic Conditions) No. 34. (ii) *Labour Supply and National Defence*. Studies and Reports, Series C (Employment and Unemployment) No. 23. [Published in London for the International Labour Office by P. S. King & Son Ltd. ; price 1s. and 4s. respectively.]

NATIONAL SERVICE (ARMED FORCES).—*Selected decisions given by the Umpire in respect of applications for postponement of liability to be called up for service in the Armed Forces of the Crown during the month of May, 1941*. N.S. Code 2. Pamphlet No. 3/1941. Ministry of Labour and National Service. [S.O. publication ; price 2d.]

PRICE STABILISATION.—*Statement by His Majesty's Government on Price Stabilisation and Industrial Policy*. July, 1941. [Cmd. 6294 ; price 1d.]

SAFETY IN MINES RESEARCH BOARD.—*Eighteenth annual report, 1939, including a report of matters dealt with by the Health Advisory Committee*. [S.O. publication ; price 1s.]

TRADE DISPUTE.—*Industrial Courts Act, 1919. Report by a Court of Inquiry into a dispute between Trent Sons & Cartridges, Ltd. and the National Union of General and Municipal Workers*. Ministry of Labour and National Service, [Cmd. 6300 ; price 2d.]

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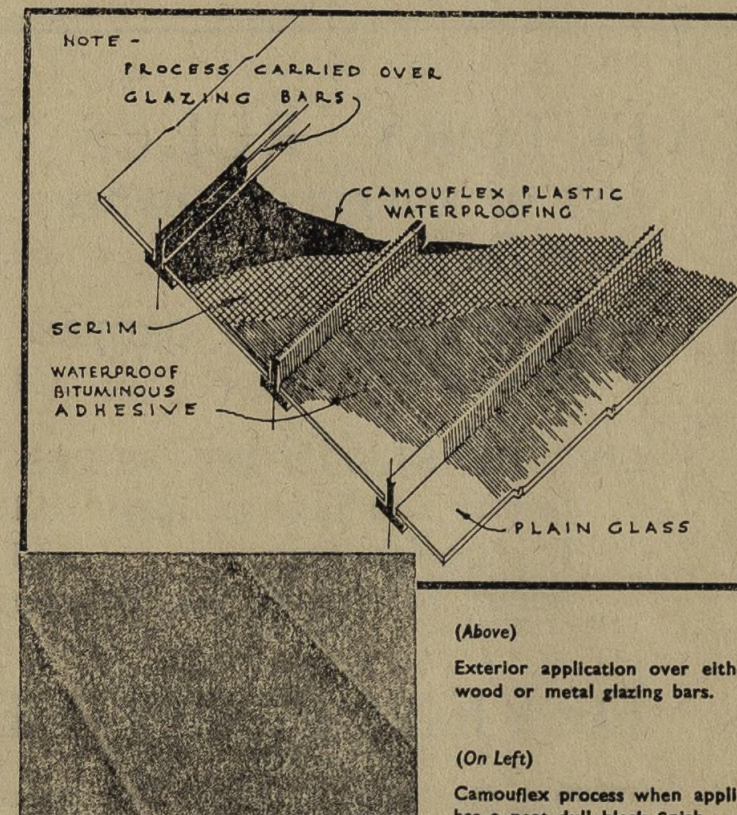
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