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Earnings and Hours in October, 1951

IN October, 1951, an enquiry was made by the Ministry of Labour and National Service in order to obtain particulars of the average weekly earnings and working hours of manual wage-earners employed in manufacturing industries generally, and in a number of the principal non-manufacturing industries, in the United Kingdom. Statistics summarising the results of similar enquiries which had previously been made at half-yearly intervals have been published in earlier issues of this GAZETTE (see for instance the issue for September, 1951).

In the enquiry of October, 1951, forms were sent to employers who had previously supplied information and to about 200 additional employers, asking for particulars of the number of wage-earners at work in the last pay-week in October, 1951, of the numbers paid at time rates and under systems of payment by results, of the aggregate earnings of those wage-earners in that week, and of the total number of man-hours worked in the week, classified under the following headings : men, 21 years and over ; youths and boys under 21 years ; women, 18 years and over ; and girls under 18 years. As in the case of the earlier enquiries, referred to above, the figures given were to include all wage-earners who were at work during the whole or part of the week in question, but were to exclude office staffs, shop assistants, and out-workers working at home on materials supplied by the employer ; managers, commercial travellers, clerks and typists, and salaried persons generally were also to be excluded. In cases where the works were stopped for the whole or part of the specified pay-week, as the result of a general or local holiday, breakdown, fire, strike or lock-out, the employers were asked to substitute particulars for the nearest week of an ordinary character. The wages shown were to be the total earnings, inclusive of bonuses, before any deductions in respect of income tax or of the workers' contributions to the national insurance schemes. The employers were asked to give separate particulars of the numbers and earnings of any men or women ordinarily employed as part-time workers for not more than 30 hours a week, and of the number of hours worked by such workers.

The total number of establishments to which forms were sent (excluding those which were found to be no longer in

operation in October, 1951, or to be employing no wage-earners within the scope of the enquiry) was about 60,000, of which approximately 57,800 furnished returns suitable for tabulation. The total number of wage-earners (including part-time workers) covered by returns showing the numbers employed and wages earned in the week was over 6½ million, and particulars of the aggregate man-hours worked in the week were obtained in respect of nearly all of these workpeople. It is estimated that the returns received covered rather more than two-thirds of the total number of wage-earners employed in the industries concerned at the time of the enquiry. The proportions varied in the different industries and in some cases were much more and in others much less than two-thirds. The average earnings of these workers in the last pay-week in October, 1951, are shown, industry by industry, in the Table on pages 85 and 86, together with the numbers of workpeople employed in those establishments from which returns were received. The average hours actually worked in each industry in the same week in October, 1951, and the average hourly earnings in that week, are shown on pages 87 and 88.

Weekly Earnings in October, 1951

The Table in the first column overleaf shows the average weekly earnings in October, 1951, in all the industries combined and in each of 19 broad groups of industries. The average earnings in this Table have been calculated by "weighting" the averages in each industry by the total numbers employed in October, 1951. This has been done in order to eliminate the effect of disparities in the proportion of returns received in the different industries.

In computing the averages for October, 1951, the earnings of women employed as part-time workers have been included on the basis of two part-time workers taken as representing one full-time worker. The earnings of these women averaged 46s. 2d. and the hours worked averaged 21.9. Their inclusion, however, has little effect on the average earnings shown, for, if such part-time workers had been excluded from the statistics, the general average of 90s. 1d. would have been altered by only 3d. (to 89s. 10d.), and among the 19 groups of industries their exclusion would not in the majority of cases

Table I.—Numbers of Wage-Earners Covered by the Returns Received and Average Earnings in the Last Pay-Week in October, 1951—continued

Table with columns for Industry, Numbers of wage-earners covered by the returns received (Men (21 & over), Youths and Boys, Women (18 & over)†, Girls, All Workers†), and Average earnings* in the last pay-week in October, 1951 (Men (18 & over), Youths and Boys, Women (18 & over)†, Girls, All Workers†). Rows include Textiles, Leather, Clothing, Food, Drink and Tobacco, Paper, Printing, Gas, Electricity and Water Supply, Transport, Public Administration, and Other Services.

* † ‡ See footnotes on previous page. § The returns for October, 1951, from certain firms included for the first time bonus payments which had previously been excluded. ¶ The figures relate to the permanent employees of dock, harbour and canal authorities: they do not cover workers paid by the day or half-day. ** Mainly postal, telegraph and wireless communication, but including also some returns for air transport, and port, river and canal transport. †† These figures relate to a minority of Government industrial employees. The great majority have been included in the figures for other industries and services such as shipbuilding, engineering, ordnance and small arms, printing, building, civil engineering contracting, transport and communication. ††† Excluding police and fire service.

TABLE II.—AVERAGE HOURS WORKED AND AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS IN THE LAST PAY-WEEK IN OCTOBER, 1951

(NOTE.—In view of the wide variations, as between different industries, in the proportions of skilled and unskilled workers, and in the opportunities for extra earnings from overtime, night-work and increased output by pieceworkers, the differences in average earnings shown in this Table should not be taken as evidence of disparities in the rates of wages prevailing in different industries for comparable classes of workpeople employed under similar conditions. In particular, the figures representing the average earnings of "All Workers" are, of course, affected by differences as between industries in the proportions of men, women and juveniles employed.)

Table with columns for Industry, Average number of hours worked* in the last pay-week in October, 1951, by the wage-earners covered by the returns received (Men (21 & over), Youths and Boys, Women (18 & over)†, Girls, All Workers†), and Average hourly earnings* in the last pay-week in October, 1951, by the wage-earners covered by the returns received (Men (18 & over), Youths and Boys, Women (18 & over)†, Girls, All Workers†). Rows include Mining, Chemicals, Metal Manufacturing, Engineering, Vehicles, Metal Goods, Precision Instruments, and Textiles.

* Where no figure is given, the number of workers covered by the returns was too small to provide a satisfactory basis for the calculation of a general average. † In calculating the averages given in this column, women employed as part-time workers have been included on the basis of two part-time workers taken as representing one full-time worker. The part-time workers referred to are those who were employed ordinarily for not more than 30 hours a week. ‡ Excluding coke-ovens and by-product works attached to blast furnaces, which are included under the heading Coke-Ovens and By-Product Works. § Excluding railway workshops.

NUMBERS EMPLOYED IN GREAT BRITAIN: INDUSTRIAL ANALYSIS

Table showing numbers employed in Great Britain by industry, sex, and quarter from 1950 to 1952. Includes categories like Mining, Manufacturing, Engineering, and Services.

Numbers Employed in Great Britain: Industrial Analysis—continued

Continuation of the industrial analysis table, detailing specific manufacturing and service industries like Paper and Printing, Gas, and Miscellaneous Services.

SHORT-TIME AND OVERTIME IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

Under the Statistics of Trade Act, 1947, monthly employment returns are collected by the Ministry of Labour and National Service from employers with more than ten workpeople in manufacturing industries...

Operatives on Short-time or Overtime in week ended 26th January, 1952 (at establishments which rendered returns)

Table showing statistics for short-time and overtime work for various industries in the week ended 26th January 1952. Columns include industry, number of operatives, and hours lost.

Unemployment at 11th February, 1952

SUMMARY FOR GREAT BRITAIN

The numbers of persons registered as unemployed at 14th January and 11th February, 1952, were as follows:—

Table with 6 columns: —, Men 18 and over, Boys under 18, Women 18 and over, Girls under 18, Total. Rows for 14th January and 11th February.

These figures include all unemployed persons on the registers of Employment Exchanges, with the exception of registered severely disabled persons who are unlikely to obtain work other than under special conditions.

It is estimated that the number of persons registered as unemployed at 11th February represented 1.9 per cent. of the total number of employees. The corresponding percentage at 14th January was 1.8.

The analysis of the figures for 11th February is as follows:—

Table with 7 columns: —, Wholly Unemployed (including Casuals), Unemployed for not more than 2 weeks, Unemployed for more than 2 weeks but not more than 8 weeks, Unemployed for more than 8 weeks, Temporarily Stopped, Total. Rows for Men 18 and over, Boys under 18, Women 18 and over, Girls under 18, and Total.

The total of 393,480 includes 72,449 married women.

The changes between 14th January and 11th February in each administrative Region were as follows:—

Large table showing regional unemployment data for Great Britain, including columns for Region, Unemployed for not more than 2 weeks, Wholly Unemployed (including Casuals), Unemployed for more than 2 weeks but not more than 8 weeks, Unemployed for more than 8 weeks, Temporarily Stopped, Total, and Inc. or Dec.

The following Table gives the numbers of persons registered as unemployed at 11th February, 1952, and the approximate percentage rates of unemployment in each Region:—

Table with 7 columns: Region, Males, Females, Total, Males, Females, Total. Rows for London and South-Eastern, Eastern, Southern, South-Western, Midland, North-Midland, East and West Ridings, North-Western, Northern, Scotland, Wales, and Great Britain.

* * *

NUMBERS UNEMPLOYED IN THE UNITED KINGDOM: REGIONAL ANALYSIS

The total number of unemployed persons on the registers of Employment Exchanges in the United Kingdom at 11th February, 1952, was 446,634, including 245,977 men, 10,061 boys, 171,376 women and 19,220 girls. Of the total, 370,821 (including 5,306 casual workers) were wholly unemployed and 75,813 temporarily stopped. The temporarily stopped are persons suspended from work on the understanding that they are shortly to return to their former employment.

The numbers of unemployed persons† on the registers in each Region at 11th February, 1952, are shown below.

Table with 6 columns: Region, Men 18 years and over, Boys under 18 years, Women 18 years and over, Girls under 18 years, Total. Rows for London and South-Eastern, Eastern, Southern, South-Western, Midland, North-Midland, East and West Ridings, North-Western, Northern, Scotland, Wales, Great Britain, Northern Ireland, and United Kingdom.

Table with 6 columns: Region, Total Registered as Unemployed. Rows for London and South-Eastern, Eastern, Southern, South-Western, Midland, North-Midland, East and West Ridings, North-Western, Northern, Scotland, Wales, Great Britain, Northern Ireland, and United Kingdom.

* Number registered as unemployed expressed as percentage of the estimated total number of employees. † The figures exclude registered severely disabled persons who are unlikely to obtain work other than under special conditions.

NUMBERS UNEMPLOYED IN THE PRINCIPAL TOWNS

The Table below shows the total numbers of unemployed* persons on the registers of all Employment Exchanges and Youth Employment Offices in each administrative Region at 11th February, 1952, and the numbers of persons on the registers of the Exchanges and Offices situated in some of the principal towns in each Region, together with the increase or decrease compared with 14th January, 1952.

Large table showing unemployment numbers in principal towns across various regions. Columns include Men 18 and over, Women 18 and over, Young Persons under 18 years, Total, and Inc.(+) or Dec.(-) in Totals as compared with 14th January, 1952. Rows list towns like London, Birmingham, Manchester, etc.

* The figures exclude registered severely disabled persons who are unlikely to obtain work other than under special conditions. They include, however, some persons who are not available for employment away from home and others who for various reasons are not suitable for the types of vacancies current.

Table showing unemployment numbers in principal towns across various regions. Columns include Men 18 and over, Women 18 and over, Young Persons under 18 years, Total, and Inc.(+) or Dec.(-) in Totals as compared with 14th January, 1952. Rows list towns like Northern, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland, etc.

NUMBERS UNEMPLOYED: 1939 to 1952

The Table below shows the annual average numbers registered as unemployed from 1939 to 1951, and the numbers so registered in March, June, September and December, 1951, and in January and February, 1952.

Table with multiple columns: Great Britain (Wholly Unemployed, Temporarily Stopped, Total), United Kingdom (Total). Rows for 1939, 1940, 1941, 1942, 1943, 1944, 1945, 1946, 1947*, 1948, 1949, 1950, 1951, and 1952 (Jan, Feb, Mar, June, Sept, Dec).

DISABLED PERSONS (EMPLOYMENT) ACT

The number of persons registered under the Disabled Persons (Employment) Act, 1944, at 21st January, 1952 (the last date on which a count was taken), was 889,724, compared with 895,620 at 15th October, 1951.

The number of disabled persons on the register who were unemployed at 18th February, 1952, was 55,564, of whom 49,221 were males and 6,343 were females. The total included 27,278 persons who had served in H.M. Forces and 28,286 who had not served. An analysis of these figures is given in the Table below.

Table with 3 columns: Males, Females, Total. Rows for Suitable for ordinary employment (Ex-Service, Others), Classified as unlikely to obtain employment other than under special conditions (Ex-Service, Others), and Grand Total.

The number of registered disabled persons placed in ordinary employment during the period 1st November, 1951, to 31st January, 1952, was 30,606, including 26,656 men, 3,193 women and 757 young persons.

* The averages for 1947 exclude the numbers stood off during the fuel crisis early in the year who did not register as unemployed at Employment Exchanges. † Up to June, 1948, the figures on which the averages are based relate only to persons insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts, but the figures for all later dates include all unemployed persons on the registers.

Principal Changes in Rates of Wages Reported during February—continued

Table with 5 columns: Industry, District, Date from which Change took effect, Classes of Workpeople, and Particulars of Change. Includes entries for Iron and Steel Manufacture, Tinplate Manufacture, Tube Manufacture, Galvanising, Shuttle Making, Motor Vehicle Retail and Repairing Trade, Metal Finishing, Engineering, Linen and Cotton Handkerchief and Household Goods and Linen Piece Goods Manufacture, Wool Textile, Pressed Felt Manufacture, Rope, Twine and Net Manufacture, Hosiery Manufacture, Textile Bleaching, Dyeing, Printing and Finishing, Leather Production, Waterproof Garment Manufacture, Bacon Curing, and Distilling.

* Under sliding-scale arrangements based on the official index of retail prices. † Authority to pay these increases was given in February, 1952, with retrospective effect to the date shown. ‡ This increase took effect under an Order issued under the Wages Councils Act (Northern Ireland). § These increases took effect under an Order issued under the Wages Councils Act. ¶ Including Hinckley, Leicester, Loughborough, Nottingham, Sutton-in-Ashfield, Mansfield and district. †† This increase was agreed in February and made retrospective to the date shown.

Principal Changes in Rates of Wages Reported during February—continued

Table with 5 columns: Industry, District, Date from which Change took effect, Classes of Workpeople, and Particulars of Change. Includes entries for Sawmilling, Veneer Producing and Plywood Manufacture, Sign Production and Display, Paper Box Making, Brush and Broom Manufacture, Cinematograph Film Production, Button Manufacture, and Building.

* The basic rates apply, where a bonus is actually being paid, to adult workers employed under a payment-by-results or bonus scheme which, except in circumstances over which neither the management nor the employee has any control, is capable of producing for employees of average ability 25 per cent. above the basic rates. † These increases took effect under an Order issued under the Wages Councils Act. ‡ These increases took effect under Orders issued under the Wages Councils Act. § Under sliding-scale arrangements based on the official index of retail prices. ¶ These increases took effect under an Order issued under the Wages Councils Act (Northern Ireland). ** These increases include 1½d. an hour for adult workers and proportional amounts for younger workers payable under sliding-scale arrangements based on the official index of retail prices. †† These increases include 2d. an hour for adult workers and proportional amounts for younger workers payable under sliding-scale arrangements based on the official index of retail prices.

Principal Changes in Rates of Wages Reported during February—continued

Industry	District (see also Note at beginning of Table)	Date from which Change took effect	Classes of Workpeople	Particulars of Change
Building (continued)	London (143)	4 Feb.	Road haulage workers	Increase* of 12s. a week. Rates after change: motor drivers 141s. 6d. to 160s. 6d. a week, according to carrying capacity of vehicle, tractor drivers (steam and I.C.) 159s. 6d., mates and statutory attendants 18 years and over 146s. 6d., drivers of mechanical vehicles with trailers 6d. a day more; carmen—one-horse 143s. 6d., two-horse 147s. 6d., assistant horse-keepers and stablemen 143s. 6d.
	England and Wales (excluding London) (143)	do.	do.	Increase* of 12s. a week. Rates after change: motor drivers Grade 1 districts 138s. to 155s. 6d. a week, according to carrying capacity of vehicle, Grade 2 districts 133s. 6d. to 150s. 6d., mates and statutory attendants 18 years and over 141s. 6d., 136s. 6d.
	Great Britain	do.	Firebrick bricklayers and labourers employed by refractory users (other than those in the employ of the Gas Council and Area Gas Boards)	Increase of 3d. an hour for adults, and of proportional amounts for apprentices and young male labourers.
Civil Engineering Contracting	Great Britain (145)	do.	Men, youths and boys	Increase† of 3d. an hour for adult workers, and of proportional amounts for younger workers. Rates after change include: craftsmen—London super grade and Liverpool grade 3s. 6d. an hour, Class I districts (remainder of England, Wales and Scotland) 3s. 4½d.; navvies and labourers—London super grade 3s. 0½d., Class I districts (remainder of England, Wales and Scotland) 2s. 11d.
Building and Civil Engineering Contracting	Northern Ireland (147)	Beginning of pay period in week commencing 4 Feb.	Watchmen	Increase of 1s. 6d. a shift. Rates after change: London super grade 18s. 9d. a shift (day or night), Class I districts 17s. 6d.
			Craftsmen and labourers employed in the building industry and similar classes employed by civil engineering contractors	Increase‡ of 1½d. an hour for adults, and of proportional amounts for apprentices. Rates after change: craftsmen 3s. 1¼d. to 3s. 4d. an hour, according to district, labourers 2s. 3¼d. to 2s. 8d.
Glazing	England and Wales (certain districts)	4 Feb.	Glaziers and wall liners	Increase of 3d. an hour in standard rates of wages. Rates after change: London area (within 12 miles from Charing Cross) and Liverpool area 3s. 6d. an hour; South Eastern area (from 12 to 30 miles from Charing Cross) 3s. 5¼d.; South Eastern area (from 30 to 45 miles from Charing Cross, except Aldershot and Guildford), Manchester, Midlands, North Eastern, West of England, South Wales and Yorkshire areas, Portsmouth and Bournemouth 3s. 4½d.; Poole, Christchurch, Wimborne, Romsey, Winchester and Basingstoke 3s. 4d.; Andover, Isle of Wight, Aldershot and Guildford 3s. 3½d.
Mastic Asphalt Laying	Great Britain (149)	do.	Men, youths and boys	Increase§ of 3d. an hour for adults, and of proportional amounts for apprentices. Rates after change include: charge-hands, London area and Liverpool (Mersey district) 4s. an hour, Provincial areas 3s. 10½d., spreaders 3s. 7d., 3s. 5½d., mixers 3s. 3½d., 3s. 2½d., potmen 3s. 2½d., 3s. 1½d., "classified" labourers 3s. 1d., 2s. 11½d.
Demolition Contracting	England and Wales (144)	do.	Men, youths and boys	Increase of 3d. an hour for men and youths 18 years and over, and of proportional amounts for younger workers. Rates after change for labourers: London district (within 12 miles radius) and Liverpool (Mersey and district) 3s. 0½d. an hour, London district (12 to 15 miles radius) 3s., Grade A districts 2s. 11d., Grade A1 2s. 10½d., Grade A2 2s. 10d., Grade A3 2s. 9½d.
Heating, Ventilating and Domestic Engineering	Great Britain (144)	do.	Craftsmen and adult mates	Increase of 3d. an hour for craftsmen, of 2½d. for adult mates 21 years and over, and of 2d. for adult mates 18 and under 21. Rates after change: craftsmen—London (within 15 miles radius of Charing Cross) 3s. 6½d. an hour, all other districts 3s. 5½d.; adult mates—21 years and over 3s., 2s. 11d., 18 and under 21 2s. 9½d., 2s. 8½d.
Electrical Contracting	England and Wales and Northern Ireland (148)	do.	Men, youths and boys	Increase of 2d. an hour in basic rates for journeymen, of 1½d. for adult mates, and of proportional amounts for youths and boys. Rates after change, inclusive of temporary addition of 9d. an hour, include: journeymen electricians—Grade A (London) area 3s. 10d. an hour, Mersey district 3s. 6d., Grade B (other areas) 3s. 5d.; adult mates—London 3s. 2½d., Bristol 2s. 10½d., Mersey district 2s. 9½d., all other areas 2s. 9d.
Waterworks Undertakings	England and Wales (154)	First full pay week commencing on or after 17 Feb.	Charge-hands, journeymen electricians, armature winders and apprentices employed on electrical installation and maintenance work (excluding work on ships)	Increase of 2d. an hour in standard rates for charge-hands, journeymen and armature winders, and of proportional amounts for apprentices. Rates after change: charge-hands, inclusive of extra hourly allowance—in charge of 4 or more other employees 3s. 7d. an hour, in charge of 8 or more 3s. 8d.; journeymen electricians 3s. 5d., armature winders 3s. 6d., apprentices 8d. an hour in first year of apprenticeship, rising to 2s. 1½d. in fifth year.
			Fully skilled engineering craftsmen employed in waterworks undertakings other than London Metropolitan Water Board	Increase of 1½d. an hour. Rates after change: blacksmiths, brass finishers, coppersmiths, electricians, engine-fitters and turners, motor mechanics, moulders, patternmakers, sheet metal workers and welders 3s. 5d. an hour.
Dock, Wharf and Riverside Labour	Great Britain (155)	25 Feb.	Dock labourers and other workers (except coal tipplers and trimmers at principal coal exporting centres) employed in the actual handling of cargoes in or on ship, quay, warehouse or craft:— Timeworkers	Increase in the national minimum wage of 1s. 6d. a day. Minimum daily rate after change on half-daily basis 22s. 6d.
			Pieceworkers	Minimum guarantee on half-daily basis increased from 21s. a day to 22s. 6d., with consequential increases during overtime periods; existing percentage addition to piecework rates increased from 45 per cent. to 52½ per cent., or by proportionate amounts where piecework rates have been compounded in whole or in part.
Post Office	London (168)	1 Jan., 1951†	Postmen, higher grade	Increase of 8s. 3d. a week. Minimum rate after change 123s. 9d. a week.
	Great Britain and Northern Ireland (excluding London) (168)	1 June, 1951‡	do.	Revised scale of pay adopted for full-time permanent male staff as follows:—108s. 6d. a week at 21 years, rising to 128s. at 24 and by 4 further annual increments to 152s.*
	Great Britain and Northern Ireland (168-169)	1 Jan., 1952	Manipulative grades (including postmen, postmen higher grade, male and female telegraphists, telephonists, and postal and telegraph officers), engineering, supplies and motor transport grades and other non-industrial grades covered by the National Whitley Council	Revised scales of pay adopted for full-time permanent male staff as follows:—intermediate areas—103s. 6d. a week at 21 years, rising to 125s. at 24 and by 4 further annual increments to 149s.; provincial areas—102s. 6d. at 21 rising to 122s. at 24 and by 4 further annual increments to 146s.**

* This increase includes 6s. payable under sliding-scale arrangements based on the official index of retail prices.

† These increases include 2d. an hour for adult workers and proportional amounts for younger workers payable under sliding-scale arrangements based on the official index of retail prices.

‡ Under sliding-scale arrangements based on the official index of retail prices.

§ These increases include 1½d. an hour for adults and proportional amounts for apprentices payable under sliding-scale arrangements based on the official index of retail prices.

¶ The grading of districts is in accordance with that for the building industry.

** These revised scales were authorised in February, 1952, with retrospective effect to the date shown. Revised scales on the basis of the replaced scheme of classification of offices were also adopted for provincial areas for the period from 1st January, 1951 to 31st May, 1951.

†† Revised scales were also adopted for full-time male and female temporary staff.

‡‡ In the cases of (i) male cleaners, doorkeepers, liftmen and handymen (wireless stations), (ii) women cleaners, (iii) motor mail drivers and supplies department motor drivers and guards, the standard wages are abated by (i) 8s. a week (6s. in certain cases), (ii) 6s. a week (4s. in certain cases), (iii) 2s. 6d. a week, and the 10 per cent. increase is allowable on the pay so abated.

Principal Changes in Rates of Wages Reported during February—continued

Industry	District (see also Note at beginning of Table)	Date from which Change took effect	Classes of Workpeople	Particulars of Change
Fire Services	Great Britain (189)	22 Feb.	Whole-time officers and other ranks (male and female) employed by Fire Brigades	Revised scales of pay adopted, resulting in increases of £52 a year for divisional officers, grades I, II and III, assistant divisional officers, station officers, group officers and assistant group officers, of 16s. 6d. a week for sub-officers or section leaders, leading firemen and firemen, and of £40 a year for senior leading firewomen, leading firewomen and firewomen. Rates after change include: males—firemen (19 years of age or over in England and Wales and 20 years or over in Scotland) 155s. a week during the first two years of service, then rising by yearly increments of 3s. a week to 176s. after 8 years' service, and by two further increments of 4s. a week after 10 and 15 years' service to a maximum of 184s.; leading firemen 174s. during first year of service after promotion, rising to 192s. after 6 years' service; sub-officers or section leaders 197s. a week during first year of service after promotion, rising to 212s. after 5 years' service; females—firewomen 20 years or over £285 a year during first year of service after appointment, rising by yearly increments of £10 to £325 after 4 years' service; leading firewomen £340, senior leading firewomen £380.* All these rates are increased by 10s. a week or £26 a year for members of brigades stationed in the Metropolitan Police district or the City of London Police area.

* These scales or rates of pay are set out in Regulations made under the Fire Services Act, 1947. See page 118.

Index of Rates of Wages

The index figure of rates of wages measures the movement, from month to month, in the level of full-time weekly rates of wages in the principal industries and services in the United Kingdom compared with the level at 30th June, 1947, taken as 100. The industries and services covered by the index and the method of calculation were described on page 41 of the issue of this GAZETTE for February, 1948. The index is based on the recognised rates of wages fixed by collective agreements between organisations of employers and workpeople, arbitration awards or statutory orders. The percentage increases in the various industries are combined in accordance with the relative importance of the industries, as measured by the total wages bill in 1946. The index does not reflect changes in earnings due to such factors as alterations in working hours, or in piece-work earnings due to variations in output or the introduction of new machinery, etc.

Where necessary the figures have been revised to include changes arranged with retrospective effect or reported too late for inclusion in the current figures.

The figures, on the basis of 30th June, 1947 = 100, are shown in the next column.

Date (end of month)	Men	Women	Juveniles	All Workers
1947				
June	100	100	100	100
December ..	103	103	106	103
1948				
June	105	107	108	106
December ..	107	109	110	107
1949				
June	108	111	112	109
December ..	109	112	113	109
1950				
June	109	113	114	110
December ..	113	116	118	114
1951				
March	117	119	122	117
June	118	122	124	119
September ..	120	126	127	121
December ..	125	130	132	126
1952				
January	125	130	133	127
February ..	127	130	134	128

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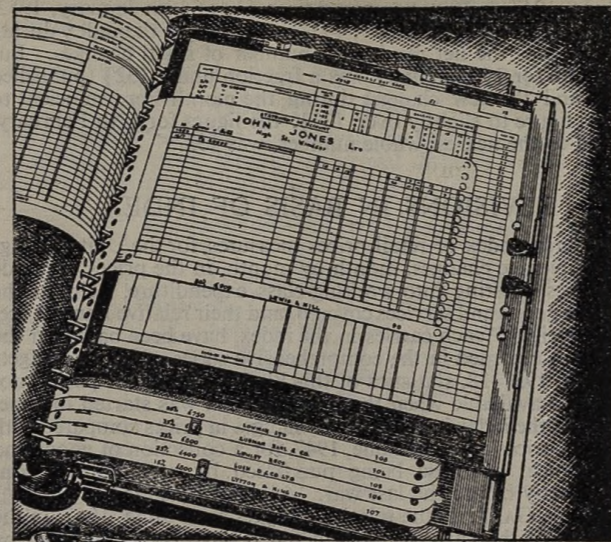
APPENDIX—LIST OF NEW WEIGHTS FOR EACH GROUP AND SECTION OF THE INDEX

Table with 4 columns: Group and Section, Weight (Proportion of 1,000 for "All Items"), Group and Section, Weight (Proportion of 1,000 for "All Items"). Categories include I. FOOD, II. RENT AND RATES, III. CLOTHING, IV. FUEL AND LIGHT, V. HOUSEHOLD DURABLE GOODS, VI. MISCELLANEOUS GOODS, VII. SERVICES, VIII. ALCOHOLIC DRINK, IX. TOBACCO.

RETAIL PRICES OVERSEAS

The monthly summary of the latest information received relating to changes in retail prices in overseas countries is given on the next page.

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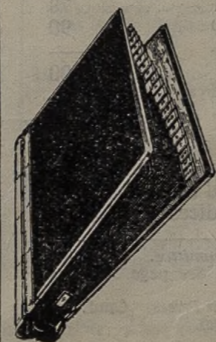
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MISCELLANEOUS STATISTICS

Contents of this Section

Table listing statistics and page numbers: Fatal Industrial Accidents (115), Industrial Diseases (115), Vocational and Disabled Training (115), Industrial Rehabilitation (115), Retail Prices Overseas (115).

Fatal Industrial Accidents

The number of workpeople (other than seamen) in the United Kingdom whose deaths from accidents in the course of their employment were reported in February was 115, compared with 130 (revised figure) in the previous month and 147 (revised figure) for February, 1951.

Table showing Fatal Industrial Accidents by industry: Mines and Quarries, Factories, Railway Service, Seamen. Includes sub-sections like 'Under Coal Mines Act' and 'Works and Places Under SS. 105, 107, 108, FACTORIES ACT, 1937'.

Vocational and Disabled Training

The statistics of the Vocational and Disabled Training Schemes given below relate to the four weeks ended 4th February, 1952.

Table showing Vocational and Disabled Training statistics: Applicants admitted to training during period, Number of persons in training at end of period, Trainees placed in employment during period.

Industrial Rehabilitation

The statistics given below, continuing those published in previous issues, relate to the four weeks ended 4th February.

Table showing Industrial Rehabilitation statistics: Persons admitted to courses during period, Persons in attendance at courses at end of period, Persons who completed courses during period.

Retail Prices Overseas

In the Table below a summary is given of the latest information relating to changes in retail prices in overseas countries contained in official publications received since last month's issue of this GAZETTE was prepared.

Table showing Retail Prices Overseas by country: Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Switzerland, Canada, Israel, Jamaica, South Africa, United States. Includes base of index and month for which index figure is given.

Industrial Diseases

The number of cases in the United Kingdom reported during February under the Factories Act, 1937, or the Lead Paint (Protection against Poisoning) Act, 1926, are shown below. No deaths were reported during the month.

Table showing Industrial Diseases by type: I. Cases (Lead Poisoning, Epitheliomatous Cancer, Chrome Ulceration, Other Poisoning, Anthrax), II. Deaths.

* For mines and quarries, weekly returns are furnished and the figures cover the 4 weeks ended 1st March, 1952, in comparison with the 5 weeks ended 2nd February, 1952, and the 5 weeks ended 3rd March, 1951.

* The items of expenditure on which the "all items" figures are based are food, clothing, house-rent, fuel and light, and other or miscellaneous items, except in the case of Belgium (food, clothing, fuel and light, and miscellaneous items), and Israel (food, clothing, house-rent, and household, etc., items).

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