

THE CINEMATOGRAPH FILM PRINTING 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 developing and printing of films for cinematograph purposes. As no production of this kind was recorded for Scotland, 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 tables given 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 work done (Gross output)...	£'000	1,053	672
Cost of materials used	"	702	495
Paid for work given out to other firms	"	6	—
Net output	"	345	177
Average number of persons employed	No.	641	600
Net output per person employed	£	539	294
Power available:—			
Electric motors driven by purchased electricity	H.P.	364	255
Number of returns	No.	13	18
Number of establishments	"	13	*

* 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 62, the corresponding figure for 1924 being 31. The value of the gross output of the small firms in 1924 was £14,000, of which £13,000 represented receipts for film printing (£12,000 for printing from British-made negatives and £1,000 from imported negatives) and £1,000 was received for other work.

In addition five small firms to which schedules were sent at the 1924 Census furnished no information.

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	3	40	13	52	261
25-49	5	267	92	181	509
50-99	5	746	240	408	587
TOTAL	13	1,053	345	164	539

Regional distribution.—Owing to the possible disclosure of information relating to individual firms, no particulars can be given for the separate areas in which this trade is carried on.

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

Production

Principal output.—The following table shows the quantity and value of cinematograph films printed in 1930 and 1924. No output of this kind was returned on schedules for other trades for 1930.

Cinematograph film printing	1930			1924	
	Total			Total	
	Quantity	Value	Entries	Quantity	Value
	Th.lin.ft.*	£'000	No.	Th.lin.ft.*	£'000
Positives printed:—					
From British-made negatives	104,784	439	12	60,278	299
From imported negatives	130,669	600	12	75,236	379
From British and imported negatives, not separately distinguished	—	—	—	11,836	56
TOTAL	235,453	1,039	...	147,350	734

* Linear feet of the standard width of 1.378 inches (35 mm.).

Prices and volume of output.—The average charge in 1930 and 1924 per 1,000 linear feet of positive printed, as calculated from the Census returns, was as follows :—

	1930	1924
	£	£
From British-made negatives ...	4.19	4.96
From imported negatives ...	4.59	5.04

On the basis of the amounts charged in 1930, the value of the output in 1924 (£734,000) would be reduced to about £647,000, indicating an increase in the volume of production in 1930 of about 61 per cent.

Exports and imports.—The retained imports of exposed positive films (whether developed or not) in 1930 amounted to 35,237,000 linear feet and the exports to 25,035,000 linear feet. The corresponding figures for 1924 were 32,052,000 linear feet and 23,913,000 linear feet respectively.

Other work.—In addition to the output recorded in the production table on page 351, firms engaged in film printing recorded an output of other work valued at £14,000 in 1930 and £20,000 in 1924. This work consisted principally of developing negatives.

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	351	21	212	41	563
Administrative, technical and clerical staff (as at 18th October)	4	54	4	24	8	78
TOTAL	24	405	25	236	49	641
1924						
Operatives (average for the year)	21	292	17	228	38	520
Administrative, technical and clerical staff (as at 18th October)	2	53	5	27	7	80
TOTAL	23	345	22	255	45	600

Wages.—The available information as to the amount of wages paid in 1930 and 1924 is given on pages 210 and 211.

Power

No prime movers or electric generators were recorded either for 1930 or for 1924. The total capacity of electric motors, all of which were driven by purchased electricity, was returned as 364 horse-power for 1930, of which motors with a capacity of 8 horse-power were shown as in reserve or idle; the corresponding capacities recorded for 1924 were 255 horse-power and 8 horse-power respectively.

Consumption of fuel

The quantity of coal used was returned as 203 tons and of coke 759 tons, the whole being used for purposes other than power. The total amount of electricity purchased was recorded as 957,000 Board of Trade units (kilowatt-hours).

TABLES

Note.—The following particulars relate throughout to England and Wales, no production being recorded for Scotland.

I. Summary of results (see page 350)

II. Production

Kind of work done	Quantity	Value
Cinematograph film printing :—	Th. lin. ft.*	£'000
Positives printed :—		
From British-made negatives	104,784	439
From imported negatives	130,669	600
TOTAL—Cinematograph film printing ...	235,453	1,039
Other work done	14
TOTAL VALUE OF WORK DONE (GROSS OUTPUT)	1,053

* Linear feet of the standard width of 1.378 inches (35 mm.).

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	21	363	22	220	43	583
Administrative, technical and clerical staff	4	54	4	24	8	78
TOTAL	25	417	26	244	51	661

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

Week ended	Males and females	Week ended	Males and females
January 18	546	July 19	559
February 15	551	August 16	555
March 15	564	September 13	562
April 12	545	October 18	583
May 17	551	November 15	585
June 21	563	December 13	591
AVERAGE FOR THE TWELVE MONTHS			563

IV. Power (see page 353)

V. Consumption of fuel (see page 353)