

Vol. LV.
No. 12.



BRITISH LIBRARY
- 9 JAN 1948
OF POLITICAL AND
ECONOMIC SCIENCE
DECEMBER, 1947

Published Monthly

THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE

CONTENTS

	PAGE		PAGE
Summary of Principal Statistics	399	Employment and Unemployment, etc. :	
Special Articles :		Employment in Great Britain in October :	
Recent Collective Agreements : Ship-		General Summary	412
building and Shiprepairing ; Cotton ..	400	Numbers Employed : Industrial Analysis	414
Increased Working Hours in Certain		Unemployment among Insured Persons at	
Industries : Coal Mining ; Cotton ..	401	10th November, 1947 :	
Joint Consultative Machinery : Statement		Summary for Great Britain	416
by Parliamentary Secretary	402	Numbers Unemployed in United King-	
Savoy Hotel Dispute : Report	402	dom : Regional Analysis	416
Time Rates of Wages and Hours of Labour		Numbers Unemployed in Principal Towns	417
Persons Insured against Unemployment :		Numbers Unemployed : 1939 to 1947 ..	417
Geographical Distribution	403	Numbers Unemployed : Composition of	
Registration for Employment Order :		Statistics	417
Report by House of Commons Select		Numbers Unemployed : Industrial	
Committee ; Further Information	403	Analysis	418
Assistance Board for Northern Ireland :		Placing Work of Exchanges	420
Report for 1946	404	Work of Appointments Department ..	420
Employment of Disabled Persons : Parlia-		Disabled Persons (Employment) Act ..	421
mentary Replies by Minister of Labour		Coal Mining : Employment in October ..	421
Electrical Power for Industry : Results of		Employment Overseas	422
Arrangements for Spreading the Load ..	404	Statutory Rules and Orders	422
Capital Investment in 1948	405	Official Publications Received	422
Co-operative Societies : Statistics for 1946		Wages, Disputes, Retail Prices:	
Government Activities in Wales and		Changes in Rates of Wages and Hours of	
Monmouthshire, 1946-1947	407	Labour in November	423
Cost of Holiday Accommodation : Enquiry		Trade Disputes in November	428
Building and Civil Engineering Industries :		Index of Retail Prices	429
Report on War-time Scheme of Payment		Retail Prices Overseas	429
by Results	408	Other Statistics:	
National Insurance Acts : Position of		Vocational and Disabled Training Schemes	430
Share-Fishermen ; Appointment of In-		Further Education and Training Scheme ..	430
dustrial Injuries Advisory Council	408	Business Training Scheme	430
Poor Relief : England and Wales	408	Releases and Discharges from Forces ..	430
International Labour Organisation : Pro-		Industrial Diseases	431
posed Action on Conventions and		Fatal Industrial Accidents	431
Recommendations ; Year Book of		Notices, Orders, Arbitration Awards, etc. :	
Labour Statistics, 1945-46 *	409	Conditions of Employment and National	
Forty-Hour Working Week in Australia ..	409	Arbitration Orders : Awards	431
Decasualisation of Dock Labour in France		Industrial Courts Act and Conciliation	
Productivity of Labour in Certain United		Act : Awards	432
States Industries	410	Wages Councils Acts : Notices and Orders	432
Wages in United States : Foundry		Road Haulage Wages Acts : Notice ..	432
Workers ; Textile Dyeing and Finishing		Agricultural Wages Regulation Acts :	
Wages and Hours in Czechoslovakia ..	411	Orders	432

LONDON :
PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses : York House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2 (or P.O. Box 569, London, S.E.1, for purchases by post) ; 13a Castle Street, Edinburgh 2 ; 39-41 King Street, Manchester, 2 ; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff ; Tower Lane, Bristol ; 80 Chichester Street, Belfast ; or through any bookseller.

Price Sixpence net.

Annual Subscription 7s. 6d. net, post free.



**"We're a family business, of course,
but we had to look about
for new blood"**

OUR BUSINESS has been a one-family concern since it started. I can't remember that any of our key-positions, from junior executives upward, has ever been filled by someone outside the family or friends.

"On balance this method of staffing has served pretty well. But we hadn't foreseen what we'd come up against these last two years, back again in peacetime production. Almost at once we were needing to double output with nothing like the requisite new plant in sight. That meant revising schedules, reorganizing, speeding the works up generally. And it meant a good new man to do it.

"I didn't think of the Appointments Office at first, and then when I'd come near believing the right man didn't exist, I remembered them out of the blue. In a matter of days they found us a first-rate man, already handling a similar job on a smaller scale up North. You see, the 14 Regional Offices are linked by teleprinter, so each office can tap another's resources. Pretty nice going I think. And, incidentally, we didn't need to interview more than half-a-dozen applicants — the preliminary sifting had been done for us!"

Hundreds of employers have commended the prompt and efficient service given by the fourteen Regional Appointments Offices. They are today's logical starting-point in the recruitment of high-grade staff, whether the need is for men and women already experienced and who are sometimes holding responsible posts, or for promising younger candidates to train.

Your nearest Appointments Office "matches men with jobs" in the executive, managerial, and administrative field. If you do not know the address, any local office of the Ministry of Labour will put you in touch at once.

Since VE-day, the Appointments Department has successfully filled over 59,000 responsible posts. If you have a staffing problem, your Regional Appointments Office is ready to help.

For highly qualified technical and scientific personnel — engineers, scientists, architects, etc. — appointments are dealt with centrally, in London, by the specialist staff of the Technical and Scientific Register, York House, Kingsway, W.C.2. Temple Bar 8020.

**14 linked Appointments Offices cover the Nation's
potential executive manpower**

*Issued by the Ministry of Labour and National Service, Appointments Dept.,
1-6 Tavistock Square, London, W.C.1*

NOTICE

SUBSCRIPTIONS AND SALES.

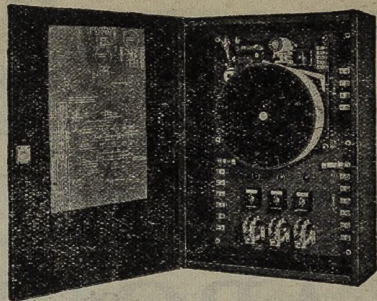
All communications concerning subscriptions and sales of this journal should be addressed to H.M. Stationery Office at one of the addresses shown on the front cover.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

Applications concerning the insertion of advertisements in the *Ministry of Labour Gazette* should be addressed to the Director of Publications, H.M. Stationery Office, 421-9 Oxford Street, London, W.1 (Telephone: Mayfair 7755, extension 271).

The Government accepts no responsibility for any of the statements in the advertisements and the inclusion of any particular advertisement is no guarantee that the goods or services advertised herein have received official approval.

PRINTED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF HIS MAJESTY'S
STATIONERY OFFICE BY C. NICHOLLS & CO. LTD.,
READING, MANCHESTER AND LONDON.



FOR AUTOMATIC SIGNALLING

in accordance with pre-arranged Time schedules and in perfect agreement with all Clocks and Time Recorders in the building, you should install an

INTERNATIONAL ELECTRIC PROGRAMME CONTROL CABINET

operating on the

INTERNATIONAL AUTOMATICALLY SUPERVISED ELECTRIC TIME SYSTEM

Ask for the special folder 433/5 "SIGNALLING"
sent free on request.

INTERNATIONAL TIME RECORDING Co. LTD., 8, Berkeley Square, Piccadilly, W.1

Head Offices:

International Works, Beavor Lane, London, W.6

Telephone: Mayfair 4796

THE "CHILLBROOK" STACKING CHAIR

FULLY UPHOLSTERED TUBULAR STEEL
STACKING CHAIRS

Four Legged Type. Curled Hair Seats.

Covered in "Everflex" Leathercloth.

Delivery Immediate.

Ideal for Municipal Undertakings, Canteens,
Schools and Offices, etc.

BROOKSONS DISTRIBUTORS LIMITED,
93, ALDERSGATE STREET, LONDON, E.C.1.

Telephone:
METropolitan 9807

Telegrams:
Brookdist Barb. London.

BAR-LOCK for quality

STANDARD OFFICE AND
PORTABLE MODELS

BARLOCK TYPEWRITER CO.
NOTTINGHAM Phone: 75141/2
Grams: Barlock, Nottingham



THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE

PUBLISHED MONTHLY.

VOL. LV—No. 12.]

DECEMBER, 1947.

[PRICE SIXPENCE NET.]

SUMMARY OF PRINCIPAL STATISTICS.

EMPLOYMENT.

The following is a summary of the employment statistics for Great Britain for October, 1947, and for mid-1939, mid-1945, end-1946, and September, 1947:—

	(Thousands)				
	Mid-1939.	Mid-1945.	End-1946.	Sept., 1947.	Oct., 1947.
Numbers in Civil Employment —					
Manufacture for Export ..	990	410	1,477	1,719	1,838
Other Manufactures:—					
Equipment, etc., for the Forces ..	1,270	3,830	460	350	350
Manufacture for Home Market ..	4,555	2,580	5,069	5,085	5,041
Agriculture, Fishing, Mining, etc., Utilities and Transport ..	3,298	3,288	3,530	3,618	3,623
Building and Civil Engineering ..	1,310	722	1,289	1,367	1,366
Government Services ..	1,465	2,030	2,158	2,160	2,161
Distributive Trades ..	2,887	1,958	2,309	2,333	2,352
Other Services ..	2,225	1,598	1,984	2,135	2,131
Total in Civil Employment	18,000	16,416	18,276	18,767	18,862
Armed Forces and Auxiliary Services ..	480	5,090	1,440	1,232	1,200
Ex-H.M. Forces who have not yet taken up Employment ..	—	40	300	115	110
Insured persons registered as Unemployed ..	1,270	103	398	250	262
Total Working Population (excluding Indoor Private Domestic Service)	19,750	21,649	20,414	20,364	20,434

The total number in civil employment in October, 1947, included 13,201,000 males and 5,661,000 females. Compared with mid-1939, the number of males showed an increase of 38,000 and the number of females an increase of 824,000.

The above figures are analysed in greater detail on pages 412 and 413.

UNEMPLOYMENT.

The numbers of insured persons registered as unemployed in Great Britain at 10th November, 1947, are given below, together with the corresponding figures for October and for mid-1939.

	Mid-1939.	13th Oct., 1947.	10th Nov., 1947.	Increase (+) or Decrease (—) at November compared with October.
Men (18 and under 65)	992,000	184,059	189,744	+ 5,685
Boys (14 to 17)	20,000	5,277	4,979	— 298
Women (18 and under 60)	239,000	65,097	68,743	+ 3,646
Girls (14 to 17)	19,000	4,552	4,319	— 233

The numbers unemployed at 10th November, 1947, represented 1½ per cent. of the estimated total number of insured persons, the corresponding percentages for males and females being 2 and 1½ respectively.

Of the total of 267,785 persons unemployed, 262,054 were wholly unemployed and 5,731 were temporarily stopped. Of the former, 71,587 had been out of work for not more than two weeks, 70,301 for more than two but not more than eight weeks, and 120,166 for more than eight weeks.

The figures for November, 1947, are analysed in greater detail on pages 416 to 419, on which statistics are given for each of the Regions and for a number of the larger towns and also for the separate industries.

WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR.

In the industries covered by the Department's statistics, the changes in rates of wages reported to have come into operation in November resulted in an aggregate increase estimated at approximately £665,000 in the weekly full-time wages of about 1,560,000 workpeople. In addition, a number of workpeople had their hourly rates increased so as to give approximately the same weekly wages as before for a shorter working week.

The principal groups of workpeople affected by increases in wage rates were employed in coal mining, the building industry, civil engineering construction, the retail furnishing and allied trades in England and Wales, agriculture and flax spinning in Northern Ireland, biscuit manufacture, and the wholesale grocery and provision trade in England and Wales. Revised scales of weekly rates of pay were also adopted for workers in manipulative grades in the postal service.

It is estimated that the weekly wage rates at the end of November, 1947, were about 73 per cent. higher than in September, 1939, as compared with about 70 per cent. at the end of October, 1947.

The number of workpeople whose hours were reduced in November was about 52,000, the average reduction being about 2¼ hours a week. The principal reductions affected workpeople employed in the retail furnishing and allied trades in England and Wales, brush and broom manufacture, the non-trading services of certain local authorities in Monmouthshire and Glamorganshire, the ophthalmic optical industry, general stoneware manufacture, and toy manufacture.

Full particulars of the changes in rates of wages and hours of labour in November, are given on pages 423 to 427.

TRADE DISPUTES.

The number of industrial disputes involving stoppages of work, reported to the Department as beginning in November, was 143. In addition, 15 stoppages which began before November were still in progress at the beginning of that month. The approximate number of workers involved, during November, in these 158 stoppages (including also workers thrown out of work at the establishments where the stoppages occurred though not themselves parties to the disputes) was about 42,000 and the aggregate number of working days lost at the establishments concerned, during November, was about 179,000.

Further particulars of disputes involving stoppages of work during November are given on page 428.

RETAIL PRICES.

At 18th November the official index figure, which measures changes in the average level of retail prices compared with the level at the base date, 17th June, 1947 (taken as 100), was 103. The corresponding figure at 14th October was 101.

The rise in the index during the month under review was mainly accounted for by increased prices for sugar, tomatoes and other fresh vegetables, and apples, and the effect of the recent increase in the duties on alcoholic drink.

Further details of changes in retail prices during the month under review are given on page 429.

RECENT COLLECTIVE AGREEMENTS.

RECRUITMENT AND TRAINING OF APPRENTICES FOR THE SHIPBUILDING AND SHIPREPAIRING INDUSTRY.

The following is the text of a joint memorandum signed in October, 1947, on behalf of the Shipbuilding Employers' Federation and the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions in regard to recruitment and training of apprentices for the shipbuilding and shiprepairing industry :-

I. National and Local Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committees.

1. The Shipbuilding Employers' Federation and the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions, recognising the need for a high standard of workmanship in the Shipbuilding and Shiprepairing industry and the necessity for apprentices recruited to the industry receiving the best possible training, agree that the recruitment of apprentices and their training in the industry shall be controlled nationally by a National Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee, and in districts by Local Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committees.

2. Neither the National Committee nor the Local Committees shall deal with questions concerning wages and working conditions, which will continue to be dealt with by the employers and the unions in accordance with the recognised procedure.

3. The National and Local Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committees shall each consist of five representatives of the employers and five representatives of the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions specially appointed to deal with the recruitment and training of apprentices.

II. Functions of National Joint Committee.

4. It shall be the first duty of the National Joint Committee to prepare a Scheme covering the whole question of recruitment and training of apprentices for the industry which shall include provisions in regard to the application of the Scheme.

5. The National Joint Committee shall later, so far as may be found practicable, prepare schemes laying down the general basis of training of apprentices for individual classes.

6. The National Joint Committee shall also prepare for circulation among schools in shipbuilding and shiprepairing districts a booklet descriptive of the work of shipbuilding and shiprepairing which shall explain how boys should proceed with a view to entering the industry as apprentices.

7. The National Joint Committee shall review at half-yearly intervals and at such other times as may be necessary the position in regard to the adequacy of recruitment of apprentices for the industry.

8. The National Joint Committee shall co-operate as may be necessary from time to time in connection with their work with the Ministry of Labour and National Service, the Admiralty, the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Health, and the Department of the Secretary of State for Scotland.

9. The National Joint Committee shall, in conjunction with Local Joint Committees, and, if necessary, in consultation with individual unions, take all steps that may be necessary to ensure that nothing in any existing local rules and conditions dealing with the recruitment and training of apprentices shall interfere with the operation of the National Scheme.

III. Functions of Local Joint Committees.

10. The Local Joint Committees shall be responsible for the administration of the National Scheme in their respective districts, and for ensuring that the general standards of training laid down by the National Joint Committee are observed in practice.

11. The Local Joint Committees shall keep in touch with the requirements of individual firms in regard to recruitment of apprentices, and shall afford such assistance as may be necessary in the recruitment of an adequate number of apprentices without interfering with the established practice under which boys are free to enter employment of their own choice through direct approach to shipbuilding and shiprepairing firms.

12. Local Joint Committees shall be kept advised by firms of cases in which boys have made direct application to them for employment as apprentices, but for whom there is no immediate prospect within a period of three months of the firm to whom the application has been addressed being able to start the boy in their establishment.

13. For the purpose of ensuring a regular entrance of suitable apprentices to the industry, Local Joint Committees and individual firms shall keep in close touch with the Headmasters of schools in their own areas; and local Joint Committees shall, so far as practicable, during each year arrange for short addresses being given to groups of boys leaving school in the course of that year on the importance of the industry and the opportunities for employment in the different classes of work.

14. Local Joint Committees may arrange for press publicity as may be considered necessary from time to time of a character likely to stimulate interest of parents and boys seeking opportunities of employment provided by the industry.

15. Shipbuilding and shiprepairing firms should be encouraged, so far as may be practicable, to arrange for boys who might be interested in securing employment in the industry having opportunities during their last year at school of visiting shipyards or shiprepairing establishments.

IV. General.

16. Boys should be recruited for employment in the industry as early as possible after attaining school-leaving age on personal application to individual shipbuilding and shiprepairing firms or through the Local Employment Exchanges, special encouragement being given to the sons and relatives of families already connected with the industry.

17. Recruitment should, as far as possible, be made direct from school, and boys for whom there are no immediate vacancies should be encouraged to remain at school until suitable employment is available.

18. Boys should not, apart from very exceptional circumstances, be allowed to commence an apprenticeship until they reach the age of 16. Boys engaged by a firm under age 16 who are considered suitable for apprenticeship on attaining that age should be regarded as probationers, and not be considered until then as finally attached to any particular occupation.

19. Applicants for employment as apprentices in the industry should in all cases be interviewed by the Labour Manager, Personnel Manager, Welfare Officer, or other official of the firm.

20. On selection for engagement all boys should be medically examined, in accordance with the provisions of the Factories Act.

21. While the normal age for appointment as an apprentice shall for all classes be age 16, boys up to the age of 18 may be recruited as apprentices in special cases where there is a shortage of boys of normal apprenticeship age, or where the boys available at 16 are not of sufficiently good physique for the particular work of an apprentice in the particular class.

22. Boys who have commenced an apprenticeship to a particular trade and after six months' training find themselves or are found to be unsuitable for work in that trade, should be allowed to change their employment, and in such cases time spent in training in the first trade not exceeding six months shall count towards completion of apprenticeship in the new employment either in the same or another shipbuilding or shiprepairing establishment.

V. Works Regulations and Arrangements for Safety.

23. On engagement the attention of all boys should be drawn to Works Rules and Regulations which they will be required to observe during their employment with the firm.

24. Immediately after engagement, all boys should be shown around the establishment and particularly the departments where they will be required to go in the course of their employment, and their attention directed to the safety precautions they are required to observe for the avoidance of accidents to themselves or others.

VI. Education.

25. When County Colleges are established in accordance with the Education Acts, the attendance of young persons up to age 18 at County Colleges will be in accordance with the appropriate statutory requirements.

26. It is recommended that until such time as County Colleges are established, shipbuilding and shiprepairing firms, where the necessary facilities are available, should make arrangements for the release of apprentices during normal working hours to attend educational courses on the following basis :-

(a) Apprentices up to the age of 18 should, where practicable, be permitted on one whole day or two half days in each week to attend at technical or other schools, payment being made for such attendance at the apprentices' plain time rate of wages.

(b) Apprentices over 18 years of age who show such aptitude and progress as would justify their continuing with technical courses should, at the discretion of the employers, be permitted to attend such courses, payment for such attendance being made at the apprentices' plain time rate of wages.

(c) Permission to attend classes under (a) and (b) will only be continued so long as the apprentice attends regularly and applies himself diligently to the work of the classes.

27. Apprentices should in addition be expected and encouraged to attend regularly at evening classes for the study of technical subjects related to their work or for general educational purposes.

VII. Supervision during Apprenticeship.

28. Apprentices during training shall be subject to the supervision and control of the Labour Manager, Personnel Manager, Welfare Officer, or other official of the firm in regard to general matters, including observance of Works Regulations, safety arrangements, etc., and, in connection with their practical training, to the immediate supervision and control of the officials and supervisors in charge of the trade or department in which they are employed.

COTTON INDUSTRY.

OVERTIME WORKING IN THE SPINNING SECTION.

The following agreement was reached on 19th November, 1947, between the Federation of Master Cotton Spinners' Associations, Ltd., the Amalgamated Association of Card, Blowing and Ring Room Operatives and the Amalgamated Association of Operative Cotton Spinners and Twiners regarding the temporary working of overtime :

It is hereby jointly agreed :

1. That productive and other overtime to the extent of two-and-a-half hours each week should in general be worked in all departments of Cotton Spinning and Doubling Mills.

2. That such two-and-a-half hours' overtime shall be worked within the period from Monday to Friday inclusive at such times as shall be agreed upon for each district by joint meetings of the local employers' and operatives' associations, provided that where double day shifts are worked Saturday morning working may be permitted by joint agreement.

3. That payment for the period of overtime worked by any operative shall be at the rate of time-and-a-half, and according to the following conditions :-

(a) Time-and-a-half will be payable upon aggregate wages for the period of overtime (*i.e.*, the ordinary wage plus the appropriate flat-rate payment).

(b) In the case of piece-rate workers, an addition of 2.63 per cent. shall be made upon earnings from the whole of the production (and upon the appropriate flat-rate payment) to compensate for overtime rates ;

		s.	d.
<i>e.g.</i> , Normal piece-rate earnings for 47½ hours ..		83	2
Normal flat-rate at 4½d. per hour (16s. x 47½)	45	16	10
		100	0
Equivalent Overtime Premium-add 2.63 per cent.	2	7½	
Total wage		102	7½

For any day on which work is performed during the ordinary hours but overtime is not worked, 0.526 per cent., *i.e.*, one-fifth of 2.63 per cent., may be deducted from the overtime premium of 2.63 per cent.

(c) The time-and-a-half rate applies only to general overtime worked in accordance with this agreement. The appropriate existing sectional agreements will continue to apply to any other overtime worked by individual operatives or classes of operatives (*e.g.*, boiler firemen, etc.) over and above engine-hours.

4. That the employers agree, and the union representatives concur, in every effort being made to discourage wilful absenteeism, persistent lateness and irregularity in attendance.

5. That for the operation of this Agreement the normal working week for the purpose of applying the terms of the Guaranteed Week Agreement shall continue to be a week of 45 hours.

6. That this Agreement shall come into force on and after Monday, the 24th November, and shall be terminable by the giving of one month's notice by any contracting party, or at such date as may be mutually agreed upon by all the contracting parties.

Note. With reference to Clause 3 (b), the formula used for arriving at 2.63 per cent. is as follows :-

$$\frac{50 \text{ per cent. } \times 2\frac{1}{2}}{45 + 2\frac{1}{2}} = 2.63 \text{ per cent.}$$

Deduct one-fifth from 2.63 per cent. for each day on which work is performed during the ordinary hours but on which overtime is not worked.

OVERTIME WORKING IN THE WEAVING SECTION.

An agreement has also been made for overtime working in the weaving section between the Cotton Spinners' and Manufacturers' Association and the Northern Counties Textile Trades Federation. The provisions of this agreement are for the most part similar to those contained in the agreement quoted above for the spinning section of the industry. In the weaving section, however, it is stated in the agreement that firms working single shifts should extend their present week of 45 hours by half-an-hour a day, and that each day should stand alone for overtime purposes, no operative to be entitled to the time-and-a-half rate under the agreement unless he or she has in fact worked overtime on that day.

PART-TIME EVENING SHIFTS IN WEAVING SHEDS.

The following is the text of a memorandum of agreement, dated 7th November, 1947, between the Cotton Spinners' and Manufacturers' Association, the Amalgamated Weavers' Association, and the General Union of Associations of Loom Overlookers regarding part-time evening shifts in weaving sheds :-

1. It is jointly recognized that part-time evening shifts of four hours per evening, Monday to Friday inclusive, can make a useful contribution to cloth production.

2. Any firm desiring to adopt part-time evening shift working in its weaving department upon licensed looms which are stopped during normal working hours through shortage of labour or absenteeism shall observe the following conditions :-

3. (a) No weaver shall be employed on a part-time evening shift who is at present, or has been at any time during the previous six months, employed as a weaver at another firm.

(b) No employer shall permit a full-time (day) weaver employed at his mill to transfer to a part-time evening shift at that mill except with the consent of the local employers' and operatives' associations.

(c) The employer shall ensure that adequate ancillary services are provided for the evening shift.

4. The Guaranteed Wage Agreement of April 12th, 1946, shall apply to weavers engaged on a part-time evening shift, except that such weavers may be temporarily "played-off" without notice in cases of stoppages arising through yarn or fuel shortage, or repairs.

5. All weavers employed on a part-time evening shift shall be paid the ordinary standard List rate of wages (and the appropriate proportion of the flat-rate payment). Where any such weavers are engaged on looms which are stopped through day-time absenteeism, the firm shall make arrangements for the satisfactory identification of cloth woven on the evening shift.

6. Where ancillary workers engaged on a part-time evening shift are not those normally employed in the day-time, they shall be paid the ordinary standard List rate of wages (and the appropriate proportion of the flat-rate payment). If they are those normally employed in the day-time, they shall be paid appropriate overtime rates for the evening shift.

7. It is recommended that firms adopting a part-time evening shift should exhibit a notice stating that it is preferable that such weavers should be members of their appropriate trade union.

8. This Agreement shall be jointly reviewed at the end of three months in the light of information meanwhile obtained as to its operation.

EMPLOYMENT OF FOREIGN WORKERS.

The following is the text of a memorandum of agreement between the Federation of Master Cotton Spinners' Associations, Ltd., and the Amalgamated Association of Card, Blowing and Ring Room Operatives, dated 12th November, 1947, concerning the employment of foreign workers in ring spinning rooms, card rooms, blowing rooms and mixing rooms :-

It is hereby agreed that :

I. Special Conditions.

(1) Foreign workers shall not be employed if British workers are available.

(2) If redundancy of workers occurs, foreign workers shall be the first to be dismissed.

(3) Foreign workers shall not be employed unless they agree to join the appropriate Union as soon as possible after starting work.

(4) Wages and conditions of employment for foreign workers shall be in accordance with agreements in force relative to British workers.

(5) The employer shall supply the appropriate Trade Union Secretary with the names and addresses of all foreign workers employed in the departments covered by this agreement.

(6) The total number of foreign workers employed in any Ring Spinning Room or in any Card Room shall not basically exceed a figure amounting to 10 per cent. of the full normal staffing of the Ring Spinning Room or Card Room concerned, and additions over and above this percentage shall only be permitted by agreement between the employers and the local Trade Union Secretary.

II. General Conditions.

(1) Commencement. This Agreement shall be effective on and after the date of signature.

(2) Amendment. This Agreement may be amended at any time by mutual consent and amendments shall come into force on such date as shall be mutually agreed by the signatories.

(3) Questions Arising. In the event of the failure of the management and workers to agree on any point arising, the question shall be subject to the customary local and central procedure.

(4) Termination. This Agreement may be terminated on three calendar months' notice being given by either party.

INCREASED WORKING HOURS IN CERTAIN INDUSTRIES.

In response to the Government's appeal for greater production, steps have been taken to increase the hours of work in certain industries. For this purpose two Orders have recently been made to legalise changes in the working hours in coal mining and in the cotton industry. Particulars of these Orders are given below.

COAL MINING.

In the case of coal mining, the Coal Mines Regulation (Suspension) Order, 1947,* was made by His Majesty in Council on 13th November, in accordance with the provisions of the Coal Mines Regulation Act, 1908.

This Act, as amended by subsequent enactments, limits the time during which the main categories of workmen in mines may be below ground for the purposes of their work, and of going to and from their work, to 7½ hours a day, plus "winding time"; the corresponding time for certain other categories is 8½ hours. The present Order suspends the operation of the relevant sections of the Act, in so far as it applies to coal mines, for the period up to 30th April, 1948.

COTTON INDUSTRY.

In the cotton industry, the Cotton Factories (Length of Spell Exemption) Order, 1947,† was made on 4th December by the Minister of Labour and National Service under Regulation 59 of the Defence (General) Regulations, 1939.

This Order amends the operation of Section 70 of the Factories

* S.R. & O. 1947, No. 2505. H.M. Stationery Office; price 1d. net (2d. post free).
† S.R. & O. 1947, No. 2600. H.M. Stationery Office; price 1d. net (2d. post free).

Act, 1937, in relation to factories in which the spinning or doubling of cotton yarn or the weaving of cotton cloth is carried on. This Section provides, *inter alia*, that a woman or young person shall not be employed continuously for a spell of more than 4½ hours without an interval of at least half-an-hour for a meal or rest, except that, where an interval of not less than ten minutes is allowed in the course of a spell, the spell may be increased to 5 hours. The new Order authorises the working of spells of 5 hours for women and young persons without a ten-minute interval in the course of a spell, if adequate arrangements are made for them to obtain refreshments in the course of the spell. No such women or young persons may, however, be employed continuously for a spell of more than 5 hours without an interval of at least half-an-hour for a meal or rest.

The object of the present Order, which came into force on 4th December, is to facilitate the working of overtime in cotton factories. The employers and trade unions in the industry recently concluded agreements providing for extension of working time by half-an-hour a day or 2½ hours a week (these agreements are the subjects of articles on pages 400 and 401 of this GAZETTE). It was represented to the Minister of Labour and National Service that as a contribution to the longer working day the workpeople would prefer to forego the ten-minute breaks in the morning and afternoon spells of work which are provided for in the Factories Act. The Minister gave effect to their request in the new Order

JOINT CONSULTATIVE MACHINERY.

STATEMENT BY PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY TO MINISTRY OF LABOUR.

In reply to a question in the House of Commons on 18th November, regarding joint consultation in industry, the Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Labour and National Service said that the Government regarded it as of the first importance that there should be the fullest possible development of such consultation. He was circulating in the *Official Report* a statement of the arrangements agreed by the National Joint Advisory Council. The Minister was considering with the Chancellor of the Exchequer how the Regional Boards for Industry could best be utilised in this connection, and it was to be hoped that in all industries joint consideration would be given to this important question without delay. The Parliamentary Secretary added that the services of his Ministry were always available to the two sides of industry and that communication had already been made with a number of industries.

The statement referred to by the Parliamentary Secretary is reproduced below.

"1. The National Joint Advisory Council agreed to recommend to employers' organisations and trade unions the setting up of joint consultative machinery, where it did not already exist, for the regular exchange of views between employers and workers on production questions, provided it was clearly understood:

(a) That such machinery would be purely voluntary and advisory in character.

(b) That it would not deal with questions relating to terms and conditions of employment which are normally dealt with through the ordinary machinery of joint negotiation.

(c) That it would be left to each industry through its ordinary negotiation arrangements to adjust the form of machinery best suited to its own particular circumstances, and to decide in particular whether such machinery could best be established at the factory level, or cover a wider area.

2. It was also agreed that the Ministry of Labour and National Service should obtain and circulate to the National Joint Advisory Council reports showing the progress made in establishing such joint machinery, and the functions of the Ministry of Labour and National Service in this regard have been further discussed. As a result, the following arrangements will now operate:—

(1) It will be for each industry to determine the form of machinery which it desires. When this has been done the industry concerned will inform the Ministry of Labour, and this information will be passed on to the Regional Industrial Relations Officers, who will then be available to assist local associations and branches to set up Joint Production Committees, and to explain to them the general principles that should govern the establishment of joint consultative machinery in the form determined by the particular industry.

(2) Should a Regional Industrial Relations Officer be approached with a view to the setting up of a Joint Production Committee, he will first ensure that the industry concerned has reached agreement at the national level on the introduction of such machinery, and he will take no further action until or unless such agreement is forthcoming. Providing that the industry has so agreed, the Regional Industrial Relations Officer will first establish contact with the local officials of the employers' association and trade unions concerned to confirm that the proposed discussions will not conflict with any other negotiations in progress. On receiving the necessary assurance he will then assist to the best of his ability in the setting up of a joint committee on the agreed lines.

(3) The Ministry of Labour will maintain records of Joint Production Committees and report progress from time to time to the National Joint Advisory Council. To assist in compilation of these records Committees constituted in accordance with agreed proposals will be invited to notify the Regional Office of the Ministry of Labour when they are established."

SAVOY HOTEL DISPUTE.

REPORT OF COURT OF INQUIRY.

The "Report of a Court of Inquiry into the Causes and Circumstances of a Dispute between the Savoy Hotel Limited and Members of the National Union of General and Municipal Workers" has recently been published by H.M. Stationery Office as a Command Paper (Cmd. 7266; price 9d. net, 10d. post free). The appointment of the Court of Inquiry, with Sir John Forster, K.C., as Chairman, was reported in last month's issue of this GAZETTE (page 395).

The Report records the history of the relationship between the Union and the management of the Savoy since the enactment of the Catering Wages Act, 1943, when the Catering Branch of the Union commenced to organise workers in hotels and restaurants in the London area. During this period there were three unofficial strikes among the Savoy catering staffs. The first occurred in October, 1946, after Mr. Arthur W. J. Lewis, M.P., the Union's District Official, had failed to secure recognition of the Union by the hotel. The second occurred in March, 1947, following the suspension of Mr. Frank Piazza, a waiter employed in the Grill Room of the hotel, for an alleged breach of his duty as a waiter amounting to misconduct. The third strike began on 6th November, 1947, as a result of the alleged victimisation of Mr. Piazza (whose employment had been terminated on 9th August, 1947) and the alleged failure of the hotel to implement an award of the National Arbitration Tribunal affirming a recommendation of an *ad hoc* District Council composed of members of the Hotels and Restaurants Association and the Union; this Council had been set up to investigate the circumstances which led to Mr. Piazza's suspension in March, 1947.

The conclusions of the Court with regard to the present dispute are summarised in the following paragraphs.

The Court reach the conclusion that, while the primary cause of the dispute is to be traced to the unhappy and unsatisfactory relationships which existed between the District and Local Officials of the Union and members of the Catering Branch on the one hand, and the Savoy on the other, the immediate cause of the strike centred upon the Piazza incident. The Court feel, however, that in the atmosphere existing between the hotel and the Union an explosion would have taken place at some time or on some other ground even if there had been no Piazza incident to cause it. The National Executive of the Union regarded the position of Mr. Piazza as secondary to the constitutional issue raised by the failure of the Savoy to implement a recommendation of the *ad hoc* District Council affirmed by an award of the National Arbitration Tribunal, a matter which in the view of the Union constituted a grave threat to the effective operation of both joint domestic and statutory machinery for the settlement of disputes.

The Court consider that it was an error of judgment on the part of the Savoy to give Mr. Piazza notice of dismissal after the dispute in which he was the principal character had been referred to the National Arbitration Tribunal for settlement and before the Tribunal had made their award, notwithstanding the fact that in law the Savoy clearly had the right to dismiss him or any other servant on proper notice and without assigning any reason for their action. Having noted that, since the High Court judgment in a recent case, it is no longer possible for any Tribunal to direct reinstatement, the Court consider that, even if such a course were possible, it would not be in the interests of Mr. Piazza, the Savoy or the Union if Mr. Piazza returned to service in the Savoy in the circumstances existing at this date. The Court therefore take the view that the Executive Committee of the Union and the Savoy should join in an effort to rehabilitate Mr. Piazza by endeavouring to obtain employment for him upon terms reasonably equivalent to those he had when in the service of the Savoy.

Whatever attitude may ultimately be adopted in relation to the question whether reinstatement disputes should be brought within the machinery for compulsory arbitration, the Court take the view that the two sides of the hotel industry might well consider the desirability of bringing reinstatement disputes within the ambit of their voluntary machinery. The Court further think that if understanding and goodwill are to be established between the parties it is incumbent upon the Union to consider whether their District or Local Officials should be permitted to undertake the leadership of strikes which the National Executive have not thought proper to recognise as official; equally, there is an obligation upon employers to see that those who undertake the responsibility for the conduct of their affairs with the trade union which they have recognised so order their dealings that neither intentionally nor inadvertently do they antagonise the trade union officials with whom they are on occasion brought properly into contact.

The Court draw attention to the peculiar significance of a ballot taken to decide for or against strike action and express the hope that the National Executive of the Union and its National Officers will consider what steps can be taken to ensure that in future such a ballot is properly conducted.

TIME RATES OF WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR.

A Report entitled "Time Rates of Wages and Hours of Labour, 1st September, 1947," has been compiled by the Ministry of Labour and National Service.

The Report consists of a series of Tables showing, for the more important industries and occupations, the minimum, or standard,

time rates of wages fixed by voluntary agreements made between organisations of employers and workpeople, or by Joint Industrial Councils or similar bodies, or by Statutory Orders under the Wages Councils Act, the Road Haulage Wages Act, the Agricultural Wages Act and the Catering Wages Act.

The extent to which rates of wages have been determined for different occupations within each industry varies considerably. In some industries the agreements or orders fix only a general minimum rate for men and women respectively. In others, rates are specified for a variety of occupations and in many cases for adults and for juveniles of different ages. It has not been found practicable to publish information of all the rates, but the Report contains those for men and women in most of the important industries and occupations for which minimum or standard time rates of wages have been fixed.

In addition to the minimum time rates, particulars are given of the normal working hours, and, where available, of the basic rates for pieceworkers and the additional rates payable to shift workers and night workers. Brief particulars are also given of the arrangements, where they exist, for a guaranteed weekly wage.

Particulars as to changes in rates of wages and hours of labour, which are regularly published in this GAZETTE, will enable a considerable amount of the information contained in the Tables to be kept up to date from month to month.

The Report is obtainable from H.M. Stationery Office, or through any bookseller, price 2s. 6d. net (2s. 9d. post free).

NUMBERS OF PERSONS INSURED AGAINST UNEMPLOYMENT.

CHANGES IN GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION.

Estimates of the total numbers of persons insured against unemployment in Great Britain at July, 1947, with corresponding figures for 1939 to 1946, were given in an article on pages 360-363 of last month's issue of this GAZETTE. The Table below shows, for 1939, 1945, 1946 and 1947, the estimated numbers in each of the Regions into which the country is divided for the purpose of the administration of the Unemployment Insurance Acts.* The figures relate to the Regions as at present constituted, and owing to the changes which were made in the boundaries of some of the Regions in April, 1946, some of the figures differ from those previously published (e.g., on page 193 of the November, 1945, issue of this GAZETTE). A statement showing the Counties now included in each Region was given on page 114 of the April, 1946, issue of the GAZETTE.

For convenience of comparison with later years, the figures for 1939 in the Table below have been adjusted to allow for (a) the exclusion of women aged 60 and under 65 from unemployment insurance as from July, 1940, and (b) the inclusion as from September, 1940, of non-manual workers with a rate of remuneration exceeding £250 but not exceeding £420 a year. In the article in last month's issue, referred to above, the breach of comparability due to these two factors was indicated by giving two sets of figures for each of the years 1940 and 1941.

Region.	Estimated numbers insured at July* (in thousands).				Figures for 1945 to 1947 expressed as percentages of the numbers in 1939.		
	1939.	1945.	1946.	1947.	1945.	1946.	1947.
	Males.						
London and South-Eastern	2,606	1,638	2,208	2,349	63	85	90
Southern	580	427	537	568	74	93	98
South-Western	509	387	488	512	76	96	101
Midland	1,096	857	989	1,039	77	95	98
North-Midland	794	613	744	772	77	90	95
E. and W. Ridings	1,042	779	960	987	75	92	95
North-Western	1,588	1,163	1,446	1,491	73	91	94
Northern	783	622	736	756	79	94	97
Scotland	1,218	906	1,095	1,152	74	90	95
Wales	602	473	547	565	79	91	94
Northern Ireland	231	231	245	248	100	106	107
	Females.						
London and South-Eastern	1,154	1,223	1,150	1,143	106	100	99
Southern	170	249	221	213	146	131	125
South-Western	133	232	193	185	174	145	139
Midland	162	249	214	205	154	132	127
North-Midland	431	521	465	461	121	108	107
E. and W. Ridings	290	343	306	293	118	105	101
North-Western	415	462	426	412	111	103	99
Northern	788	846	783	777	107	99	99
Scotland	168	277	258	245	165	154	146
Wales	459	557	520	506	121	113	110
Northern Ireland	94	205	180	166	218	191	177
	120	127	124	130	106	103	108
	Total.						
London and South-Eastern	3,760	2,861	3,358	3,492	76	89	93
Southern	750	676	758	781	90	101	104
South-Western	642	619	681	697	96	106	109
Midland	751	698	774	784	93	103	104
North-Midland	1,527	1,378	1,454	1,500	90	95	98
E. and W. Ridings	1,084	956	1,050	1,065	88	97	98
North-Western	1,457	1,241	1,386	1,399	85	95	96
Northern	2,376	2,009	2,229	2,268	85	94	95
Scotland	951	899	994	1,001	94	104	105
Wales	1,677	1,463	1,615	1,658	87	96	99
Northern Ireland	696	678	727	731	97	104	105
	351	358	369	378	102	105	108

* The numbers given exclude persons insured under the Special Schemes for the banking and insurance industries, a Regional analysis of whom is not available.

The Table shows that in all Regions of Great Britain except the London and South-Eastern Region the numbers of insured men at mid-1945 were between 73 and 80 per cent. of the numbers in 1939. This reduction was, of course, due to recruitment for the Armed Forces, partly offset by special wartime intakes into insured employment from uninsured employment and also from the unoccupied sector. In the London and South-Eastern Region the wartime reduction was much heavier, the effect of evacuation of staffs being added to the effect of military recruitment, and the number of insured men in the Region at mid-1945 was only 63 per cent. of the number in 1939. Between 1945 and 1947 demobilisation of the Forces brought the male insured population of that Region back to 90 per cent. of the 1939 total, while in all other Regions the 1947 figures were considerably closer to the pre-war level. The rate of increase between 1946 and 1947 was very similar in all Regions, being 5 per cent. of the 1939 total in five Regions and 3 per cent. in six Regions.

Among women, the peak of mobilisation for the war effort was reached in 1943. Between that year and 1945 there was some depletion of the number of insured women, but in the latter year the number was still well above the 1939 level in all Regions. The increase was greatest in Wales, where the 1945 figure was more than double the 1939 total. There were relatively large increases also in the Southern and Northern Regions; while in the London and South-Eastern and North-Western Regions, where women represented high proportions of the pre-war working population, the increases were comparatively small. There was a decrease in the female insured population in all Regions between 1945 and 1947, and in the London and South-Eastern, East and West Ridings and North-Western Regions it brought the total down to a level slightly below the 1939 figure.

REGISTRATION FOR EMPLOYMENT ORDER, 1947.

REPORT BY HOUSE OF COMMONS SELECT COMMITTEE.

The Registration for Employment Order, 1947 (*see* last month's issue of this GAZETTE, page 370), has recently been considered by the House of Commons Select Committee on Statutory Rules and Orders, etc., and their comments are included in a Paper* published by H.M. Stationery Office.

The Committee were of the opinion that the special attention of the House should be drawn to the Order on the ground that it appeared to make an unexpected use of the powers conferred by the Statutes under which it was made, and that its form and purpose called for elucidation.

FURTHER INFORMATION GIVEN BY MINISTER OF LABOUR AND NATIONAL SERVICE.

A motion that the Registration for Employment Order should be annulled, which was debated in the House of Commons on 3rd December, was defeated. During the debate, the Minister of Labour and National Service gave further information concerning the operation of the Order.

In his speech, the Minister stated that public notices on the requirement to register would be of three classes: (1) notices requiring street traders to register; (2) notices requiring persons not gainfully employed to register; and (3) notices requiring certain undertakings to register particulars about themselves and their employees. He gave a promise that, if any classes of persons or undertakings, other than those announced, were to be required to register, he would inform the House before issuing further notices.

The Minister said that every effort would be made to acquaint the public with the terms of the Order, and that it was proposed to publish a "quiz" leaflet similar to that issued in connection with the Control of Engagement Order (*see* the issue of this GAZETTE for October, 1947, page 320).

The Minister indicated that the younger age groups would be registered first and that the older groups would be registered later on. If the registration of the younger groups produced sufficient man and woman-power to fill the jobs that had to be filled, it would not be necessary to continue the registrations.

Dealing with a point raised at the session of the Select Committee (*see* above), the Minister stated that it was very difficult, within the confines of an Order, to ensure that the classes or descriptions of persons or undertakings were accurately or sufficiently described. If it were found that the original registrations failed to cover the classes or descriptions of persons which it was desired to include, this could be remedied by a further public notice and registration, without the need for a series of amending Orders.

The Minister referred to the provision under which persons carrying on certain undertakings might be required, by public notice or otherwise, to register. He explained that, when dealing with certain types of undertakings, it might well be convenient to all concerned if the notice to the firm or firms was by communication direct. He gave an undertaking, however, that whenever a direct notice was given, it would always be done by means of a written communication.

With regard to the registration of street traders, the Minister said that the public notices would apply to persons engaged in or assisting in street trading in the larger urban areas, and that

* First and Second Reports from the Select Committee on Statutory Rules and Orders, etc., with Minutes of Evidence. H.C. 12 of Session 1947-48. H.M. Stationery Office; price 2d. net (3d. post free).

local notices would indicate which were the areas affected. The urban areas were as follows: in England and Wales, the Administrative County of London and all county boroughs, together with those other boroughs and urban districts which had a population exceeding 20,000; in Scotland, the counties of cities, viz., Aberdeen, Dundee, Edinburgh and Glasgow, and those places known as large burghs. The Minister pointed out that street trading included not only the selling of articles in the street, but also singing, playing and performing for profit, shoe blacking, the taking of photographs of passers-by for sale, and similar occupations. It was recognised, however, that many street traders served a useful purpose. While it was not possible to exclude them from the need for registration by definition in the notices, they would have after registration full opportunity to explain their circumstances, and there would be no attempt to shift them to other work. The Minister added that street traders would be required to register at times convenient to themselves during normal office hours in the week ending 10th January.

In the case of persons not gainfully occupied, the Minister said that, in addition to the persons excluded from the scope of the Order, the notice would also exclude from registration certain other classes, such as persons looking after relatives or friends who were unable to look after themselves, deaf and dumb persons, disabled persons, full-time students, apprentices and articled clerks. It was recognised that there would be many persons other than those excluded from registration who were performing useful or essential services in an unpaid capacity. Such persons would be required to register, but would be given a full opportunity of claiming that no further action should be taken. In this connection, the Minister stated that panels of women would be appointed to consider claims by women for exemption on the ground of domestic circumstances.

The Minister recalled that in the case of certain undertakings the employees had no obligation to register, but that the employers were required to register particulars of themselves and their employees. The undertakings in this category included certain classes of amusement arcades, etc., the business of bookmaker and certain other facilities for betting, and night clubs. These undertakings would be required to register particulars not later than 17th January.

ASSISTANCE BOARD FOR NORTHERN IRELAND.

REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1946.

The "Report of the Assistance Board for Northern Ireland for the year ended 31st December, 1946," has been published by H.M. Stationery Office as a Command Paper (Cmd. 248 of Northern Ireland; price 6d. net, 7d. post free).

The Report states that during 1946 the main work of the Board continued to be the administration of the Unemployment Assistance and Supplementary Pensions Schemes, together with certain Agency Services, but that the work was affected by the changes made in the Social Service Schemes. Both unemployment assistance and supplementary pensions were paid on a means test basis, but the scope for payments on this basis had been considerably reduced by the grant of additional days' unemployment benefit under the General Scheme of Unemployment Insurance, by the increase in the rates of Old Age Pensions, and by the establishment of a scheme for the payment of family allowances. Reference is also made in the Report to the increased rates of children's allowances under the Unemployment Assistance and Supplementary Pensions Schemes; these new rates were payable as from 16th December, 1946.

The Report states that the number of claims for assistance was 1,865 in January, 1946, compared with 4,610 at the end of December, 1946; the increase over the year would have been considerably greater, had it not been for the re-introduction in April, 1946, of "additional days" of unemployment benefit, which had the immediate effect of transferring some 1,300 applicants from assistance to benefit. The total amount paid during 1946 in unemployment assistance was £227,643, compared with £92,935 in 1945. The average weekly payment at the commencement of 1946 was 37s. 3d.; as a result of the introduction of family allowances in August it fell to 32s., but increased with the higher rates allowed for children in December to 34s. 10d. at the end of the year. The number of current applications for supplementation of unemployment benefit remained very small during the year.

With regard to supplementary pensions, the Report shows that the average number of applications current in January, 1946, was about 45,200; the corresponding figure for September was nearly 46,200. With the introduction of increased rates for old age pensions the number fell in October to about 9,600, and remained at approximately that level for the rest of the year. In 1946 a total of £1,294,045 was paid, with an average payment of 14s. during the first nine months of the year, falling after September to 9s. 3d. The Board undertook a special enquiry in October, 1946, into the circumstances and conditions of supplementary pensioners, and the results of this enquiry are given in the Report in considerable detail.

The Report describes at some length the various welfare functions of the Board, and it also includes brief sections devoted to the local organisation of the Board and to the work of local Advisory Committees and Appeal Tribunals.

EMPLOYMENT OF DISABLED PERSONS.

PARLIAMENTARY REPLIES BY MINISTER OF LABOUR AND NATIONAL SERVICE.

In answer to questions in the House of Commons on 2nd December, the Minister of Labour and National Service gave some information about the employment of disabled persons.

With regard to the effect on the "Remploy" factories of the decision to limit capital expenditure, the Minister stated that the programme of the Disabled Persons Employment Corporation provided a total of 107 factories eventually; of these 12 were already open and 23 were in the course of erection. The Government would facilitate the completion of the programme to the maximum extent consistent with the needs of the present economic situation. In addition, it was the intention to make available to the Corporation accommodation in certain Government Training Centres which had become surplus to training requirements. In reply to another question, the Minister said that the number of severely disabled persons employed by the Corporation at 19th November was 635, of whom 58 were home workers.

The Minister also supplied information as to the types of employment available in the Corporation's factories. The employments concerned are as follows:—

Manufacture:

Boxes, cardboard and wooden.
Bookcases.
Christmas crackers.
Curtains and soft furnishings.
Electrically-heated pads and blankets.
Engineering—light assembly.
Farm gates and other agricultural woodwork.
Furniture, utility and nursery.
Kitchen woodware.
Ladies' handbags.
Leather goods, including industrial mittens, gloves and knee pads, ordinary straps and straps for the carriage of kettle drums.
Poultry houses.
Soft toys.
Step ladders.
Tea trolleys.
Violins, bows and cases.

Repairs:

Battery boxes.
Metal bedsteads.
Upholstery.
Watches and clocks.
Wooden lockers.

In reply to a question about hours and wages in the Corporation's factories, the Minister stated that the normal working week was 44 hours. Wages were paid on the following basis: (i) 70 per cent. of the normal trade rate during the period of instruction, subject to a minimum of 1s. 9d. an hour for adults; (ii) 80 per cent. of the normal trade rate to workers who were on productive work but who were not fully competent; (iii) the normal trade rate to competent workers. The Minister added that in each of the first two grades increases might be given above the minimum if justified by the worker's progress.

SUPPLY OF ELECTRICAL POWER FOR INDUSTRY.

RESULTS OF ARRANGEMENTS FOR SPREADING THE INDUSTRIAL ELECTRICITY LOAD.

In the course of a statement made in the House of Commons on 22nd July, announcing the Government's plans for safeguarding the supplies of electrical power for industry during the next winter, the Minister of Labour and National Service said that the Government had laid upon the Regional Boards for Industry and their District and other Committees the complicated but vital task of working out the plans to achieve the regional target of moving one-third of the peak load outside the normal day-time period (see the issue of this GAZETTE for August, 1947, pages 253 and 254). A press notice has been issued by the Ministry of Labour and National Service describing what has been achieved in industry by means of the schemes arranged by the Regional Boards. The notice explains, however, that industry is not alone concerned in reducing the peak load. The non-industrial consumer also has an important part, and the Ministry of Fuel and Power have been conducting a campaign to secure a voluntary reduction in the use of electricity in homes, shops, offices, and the premises of other large non-industrial consumers.

The Regional Boards for Industry (which consist of representatives of employers, trade unions and the Government Departments concerned) were faced with an enormous number and variety of problems in carrying out this task. The circumstances and working conditions of each industry, and even of each firm, were different. The problems varied with the locality, the industry, and the composition of the labour force. In many cases an alteration in working hours necessitated an alteration in other arrangements such as transport, the times of evening classes, and the hours during which day nurseries needed to be open.

In the face of these problems, the detailed work had of necessity to be delegated to District and other Committees, and in many

cases much of the secretarial work was done by electricity supply undertakings. The Regional Board usually suggested a number of alternative methods by which the required reduction might be achieved, and left each firm free to make the arrangements best suited to its circumstances, subject to the approval of the local Committee representing the Regional Board. The response of industry to the requests for co-operation was most satisfactory, and in no case has the exercise of compulsory powers been necessary.

As already stated, the circumstances of each industry and often of each firm differ, and a variety of methods of reducing demand for electricity during the peak hours have been adopted. The methods commonly used may be summarised as follows:—

- (1) Transfer to night work of processes with a heavy electrical load but involving comparatively few workers.
- (2) Staggered day and evening shifts. There are many forms of these arrangements, the object being to prevent the whole of any given set of electrically-driven machinery from being operated at once during the daytime, and particularly during the morning and evening peak periods.
- (3) Powerless day schemes. Under such a scheme, each firm in an area has one day each week without power, the working week being made up by working longer hours on the remaining days or at the week-end.
- (4) Installation of private generating plant.

Comprehensive information is not available showing the number of workers affected by any particular method.

The Central Electricity Board's estimates for this winter, which took no account of the possible effects of load spreading by industry or of voluntary economies by domestic consumers, showed that in mid-winter if domestic supplies of solid fuel were at the same time restricted, the demand might be expected to exceed generating capacity by 2½ million kilowatts, under the worst weather conditions; and half-a-million kilowatts under the most favourable weather conditions with deliveries of solid fuel in the maximum permitted quantities. Thus even on the mildest days, load shedding would have been necessary if no steps had been taken to spread the load.

The sum of the Regional targets at which the Regional Boards have been aiming would represent a transfer of some 1,700,000 kws., or one-third of the peak industrial load. Owing to the number of continuous process consumers and essential services, in respect of which little reduction can be obtained without loss of production (to avoid which is, of course, the whole object of the schemes), complete attainment of this target is not reasonably practicable. Because of varying weather and other conditions, it is difficult to measure closely the results so far achieved by load spreading, but there is evidence to show that a reduction of approximately 750,000-1,000,000 kws. has already been realised.

A comparison of the national load figures experienced during November of this year with the corresponding figures for 1946 shows that an increase has occurred in the late evening and night loads of 300,000-400,000 kws. The Central Electricity Board estimated that the day load during this winter would, apart from any special measures taken, have increased very considerably compared with last winter, owing to the number of new consumers, both industrial and domestic. However, as a result of the measures taken by industry and the economies effected by other consumers, only on rare occasions this year has the load during the peak hours greatly exceeded that experienced in the same period last year, while on days strictly comparable as regards temperature the morning peak loads this year have been substantially lower. It is, therefore, reasonable to say that the effect of the load spreading arrangements, if continued, will be to reduce the estimated gap between demand and generating capacity available in mid-winter from 2½ million kws. to about 1½ million kws. under the worst weather conditions, and to provide a margin of safety under the most favourable conditions.

When the demand increases beyond the capacity of the generating plant it becomes necessary to "shed load." Last winter load shedding was necessarily somewhat arbitrary in its incidence, and the dislocation that resulted from cuts being made without warning added to the inconvenience and loss of production. For this winter, as part of the general plan, supply undertakings have arranged, so far as possible, to avoid cutting supplies to large industrial consumers and to cut where necessary, in accordance with a pre-arranged rota system, the supplies to domestic and commercial consumers and to those smaller industrial consumers who are supplied from the same lines. In this way industrial consumers can plan their production with confidence that they will not be subjected to haphazard cuts in power.

It was never expected that the measures taken by industry would, by themselves, eliminate the excess of demand over generating capacity which makes it necessary to reduce load, and during November load reduction in fact took place on eight mornings and thirteen evenings. It was, however, confined to the two periods 7.30-9 a.m. and 4-6 p.m. In most cases it was possible to achieve the reduction in load by means of a drop in voltage, and the number of actual cuts was very small. Any ill effects which might have been felt by industry were further reduced by the load shedding rota arrangements described in the previous paragraph. Most large industrial consumers were completely unaffected by these cuts.

A diagram which was attached to the press notice shows the national load curves on comparable days in 1946 and 1947. These curves indicate the national demand for electricity by all users over the 24 hours and the effect of measures taken by industry is therefore to some extent submerged. Nevertheless, there is clearly noticeable an increase in the night and late evening

loads. Although the morning peaks are undoubtedly smaller than they would otherwise have been, they and the evening peaks represent a real danger. To meet this danger, not only must industry be asked to hold the industrial demand at its present level, but it is essential that all other users of electricity—in homes, shops, offices, hotels and institutions—should make a special effort to regulate their use of electricity during the critical hours in the next few months, particularly when the weather is coldest. The sole object of the load spreading arrangements has been to maintain employment and production; but unrestrained use of electrical apparatus, such as fires and water heaters, would undoubtedly dissipate the savings which have been achieved by industry. The Ministry of Fuel and Power are making a special effort to secure a voluntary reduction during the morning and evening peak hours by all users outside the factory, and it is the duty of everyone to co-operate to the utmost in order to maintain full employment and production.

CAPITAL INVESTMENT IN 1948.

A White Paper on Capital Investment in 1948 has recently been published by H.M. Stationery Office (Cmd. 7268; price 6d. net, 7d. post free).

After a reference to the cessation of capital investment during the war, and to the arrears of work which accumulated, the White Paper states that during the last two years six million workers have been transferred from the Services and war production to peace production, and gives examples to indicate the extent of the work accomplished. Since the end of the war the nation has made a net investment in home industry, houses, and public utilities estimated at £1,300-£1,400 million.

With the virtual exhaustion of the overseas credits a great effort to balance overseas payments by reduction of imports and expansion of exports is necessary. Labour, coal, steel and other materials must be switched from manufacture for the home market to manufacture for export. To achieve this certain investment projects must be postponed. The White Paper states that the gross amount of investment in 1948 would probably have reached £1,600 million, but that the Government propose to reduce this figure to £1,420 million. In deciding what volume of work could be profitably undertaken, the principal factor has been the availability of key materials such as steel, timber, bricks and cement.

The detailed application of the new decisions to various types of production is set out in a series of appendices to the White Paper. The first appendix, relating to building and civil engineering, begins with a review of the position in regard to housing. It is stated that the Government have decided that the 260,000 houses under construction and the 90,000 houses approved but not yet started should be completed as quickly as possible. The Government are providing for a total of 210,000 houses to be under construction at the end of June, 1948. At that date the labour force required for all housing purposes is estimated at about 525,000, but the requirement will be reduced as the number of houses under construction falls below 210,000.

In the case of new towns, the Government have decided that those designed to serve immediate industrial needs or mining areas should proceed, within the limits of the housing programme, but that work on "overspill" towns should in general be limited during 1948 to starting the provision of water and sewerage and roads and should use not more than an average of 300 workers.

With regard to other classes of building and civil engineering work, the White Paper gives figures showing in each case (a) the number employed in June, 1947, and (b) the maximum set for the labour force for June, 1948, and it analyses in some detail the considerations which have led to the adoption of this maximum. Separate sections are devoted to each class of work, viz., industrial building (new factories and extensions); agricultural buildings, land drainage and water supplies; civil aviation; education; fuel and power; health services; police, prisons, approved schools, shelter demolition, etc.; Post Office; transport; general Government building; Defence Services; and other building work.

In the case of industrial building, the White Paper says that approval was given between December, 1944, and August, 1947, to proposals for new factories and extensions estimated to cost £159 million, some of which have not yet been started. In present conditions, however, the Government have decided that it is necessary to restrict severely the volume of work on factories. Within the reduced volume, preferential treatment will be accorded to the Development Areas.

With regard to general Government building, the White Paper says that the programme of temporary office building for 1948 will continue, in order to release requisitioned buildings, but that permanent office building must be reduced to a minimum. Work on "Remploy" factories for the employment of disabled persons will, however, be given special consideration.

The second appendix to the White Paper relates to plant and machinery; it examines the position with regard to railways, electricity, gas, the Post Office, petroleum, agricultural machinery, and plant and machinery for other industry, and indicates in each case the maximum production which can be allowed under the revised programme. The programmes for civil aviation, coal mining and iron and steel are still under consideration. Two final appendices to the White Paper relate to shipbuilding and road vehicles.

CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES.

STATISTICS OF NUMBERS, MEMBERSHIP, TRANSACTIONS, ETC., IN 1946.

The particulars given in this article in respect of the numbers, membership, transactions, etc., of co-operative societies in 1946 have been compiled by the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies from statutory returns furnished to his Department, and relate, in general, to those societies registered under the Industrial and Provident Societies Acts that operate on a co-operative basis. Some comparative figures for 1944 and 1945 are also included.

I. RETAIL SOCIETIES.

The Table below shows the principal transactions of co-operative societies mainly engaged in retail distribution, including general supply stores and others, for the years 1944, 1945 and 1946, and their financial position at the end of each of those years. The figures cover the productive as well as the distributive activities of the societies.

	1944.	1945.	1946.
Number of Societies	1,125	1,128	1,129
Membership	9,110	9,268	9,574
Sales	347,174	356,490	394,590
Salaries and Wages	39,788	42,498	49,213
Surplus	41,288	41,612	44,558
Allocated from Surplus:—			
Share Interest	6,497	6,909	6,992
Dividends on Sales	31,199	31,179	33,454
Liabilities:—			
Share Capital	219,949	236,982	245,846
Due to Depositors and Loanholders	47,463	53,698	59,224
Other	30,424	33,158	36,491
Net Balance Disposable and Reserves	34,792	34,982	37,908
Assets:—			
Stocks	25,371	23,233	26,995
Investments	236,526	265,928	284,098
Other	70,731	69,659	68,376
Total Assets	332,628	358,820	379,469

The number of employees engaged in retail distribution in 1946 was 202,000 (107,000 males aged 18 years and over, 55,000 females aged 18 years and over and 40,000 persons under 18 years of age), and the amount paid to them in salaries and wages was £39,747,000.

II. WHOLESALE SOCIETIES.

The Table which follows shows the principal transactions and the financial position, in the years 1944, 1945 and 1946, of the societies mainly engaged in wholesale distribution and production. The figures cover both the distributive and the productive activities.

	1944.	1945.	1946.
Number of Societies	148	161	172
Membership	30	43	52
Sales	236,390	237,703	267,381
Salaries and Wages	13,131	13,616	16,839
Surplus	11,635	11,196	12,898
Allocated from Surplus:—			
Share Interest	838	875	895
Dividends on Sales	6,782	6,757	8,488
Liabilities:—			
Share Capital	22,450	23,356	23,917
Due to Depositors and Loanholders	155,187	172,366	188,074
Other	15,113	17,611	19,016
Net Balance Disposable and Reserves	21,969	22,628	24,861
Assets:—			
Stocks	11,880	10,911	13,130
Investments	28,666	31,237	31,056
Other	174,173	193,813	211,682
Total Assets	214,719	235,961	255,868

The bulk of the business was conducted by three societies, the Co-operative Wholesale Society Ltd., the Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society Ltd., and the English and Scottish Joint Co-operative Wholesale Society Ltd.

In considering the sales figures for both the retail and wholesale and productive societies, it should be borne in mind that the sales of the wholesale societies, in the main, are made to the retail societies for resale to their members and that, in consequence, any aggregation of the figures would be misleading.

The number of employees engaged in wholesale distribution in 1946 was 17,000 (11,000 males aged 18 years and over, 4,000 females aged 18 years and over and 2,000 persons under 18 years of age), and the amount paid to them in salaries and wages was £3,819,000.

III. PRODUCTION.

Both retail and wholesale societies are engaged in production, and during 1946 there were 890 such societies whose activities included the production of commodities. The number of persons employed in production was 94,000, of whom 55,000 were males aged 18 years and over, 26,000 were females aged 18 years and over, and 13,000 were persons under 18 years of age; the amount paid as salaries and wages was £20,650,000 and the value of the productions (including materials) was £138,428,000.

Owing to the difficulty in obtaining accurate figures relating to the cost of materials used, particulars relating to the tea estates in India and Ceylon belonging to the English and Scottish Joint Co-operative Wholesale Society Ltd. have been omitted. In

1946 the gross value of goods produced on these plantations was £664,647. European employees numbered 41 and their salaries and wages amounted to £28,428. Native overseers numbered 339 and their wages amounted to £33,951. Similar particulars of native labour employed in cultivation are not available.

In the Table below, the productive work undertaken by co-operative societies in 1946 is analysed by industry, the value of the productions being given gross, i.e., including the cost of materials used. Totals are also given for the years 1944 and 1945.

Industry.	Number of Employees.	Salaries and Wages.	Gross Value of Productions.				All Societies.
			Retail Societies.	Wholesale and Productive Societies.			
				C.W.S., S.C.W.S., E. & S. J. C.W.S.*	C.W.S.*	Other Societies.	
Food and Tobacco ..	30,825	7,232	31,865	43,430	5,988	81,283	
Farming and Dairying ..	6,866	1,496	7,991	12,572	3,178	23,741	
Clothing	23,239	4,074	2,891	5,596	2,906	11,393	
Textiles	3,636	634	—	3,191	240	3,431	
Mining and Quarrying ..	804	174	—	372	—	372	
Building and Wood-working	12,545	3,178	3,024	4,460	98	7,582	
Papermaking, Printing, etc.	4,633	1,081	9	1,708	1,334	3,051	
Metal and Engineering ..	4,526	1,165	698	2,760	328	3,786	
Miscellaneous (including Transport for Productive Departments) ..	7,044	1,616	180	3,417	192	3,789	
Totals for 1946 ..	94,118	20,650	46,658	77,506	14,264	138,428	
Corresponding Totals for:—							
1945	86,657	17,123	42,766	68,459	12,915	124,140	
1944	84,500	16,545	41,531	67,433	12,289	121,253	

The following is an analysis of the net value of productions, i.e., the value after the cost of materials used has been deducted:—

Net Value of Productions in 1946.

Industry.	Retail Societies.	Wholesale and Productive Societies.				All Societies.
		C.W.S.	S.C.W.S.*	E. & S. J. C.W.S.*	Other Societies.	
Food and Tobacco ..	9,264	6,276	1,222	133	1,750	18,645
Farming and Dairying ..	1,758	1,432	329	—	618	4,137
Clothing	1,645	2,165	398	—	1,377	5,585
Textiles	—	750	295	—	84	1,129
Mining and Quarrying ..	—	340	6	—	—	346
Building and Wood-working	1,713	1,858	425	—	50	4,046
Papermaking, Printing, etc.	4	672	259	—	873	1,808
Metal and Engineering ..	325	927	273	—	188	1,713
Miscellaneous	93	933	389	—	65	1,480
Totals for 1946 ..	14,802	15,353	3,596	133	5,005	38,889
Corresponding Totals for:—						
1945	12,628	14,827	2,888	128	4,266	34,737
1944	12,349	14,491	2,906	108	3,929	33,783

IV. SERVICES.

In addition to the production and distribution of commodities, services of a varied character are provided by the distributive societies and also by societies separately registered for these purposes, the principal of these services being banking, insurance and laundering.

Banking.—The Co-operative Wholesale Society Ltd. has a banking department that provides all banking services and conducts the banking business of almost all the societies in the co-operative movement in England and Wales. Figures relating to banking activities in the years 1944, 1945 and 1946 are given in the next Table.

	1944.	1945.	1946.
Number of Accounts—			
Co-operative Societies	830	824	818
Trade Unions	12,354	12,734	13,385
Clubs	1,147	1,200	1,290
Other Mutual Organisations	14,026	15,348	16,639
Individuals	59,552	63,962	70,377
Total	87,909	94,068	102,509
Deposit Balances—			
C.W.S. Trade Department	137,810,616	155,809,501	169,186,578
Other Accounts	32,446,818	36,504,589	42,923,977
Current Account Balances—			
C.W.S. Trade Department	8,339,200	8,552,131	9,496,637
Other Accounts	29,554,914	25,801,073	27,719,159
Investments	197,539,813	223,840,324	237,470,772
Total Assets	217,894,789	236,410,803	259,625,997

Insurance.—The Co-operative Insurance Society Ltd. is owned by the Co-operative Wholesale Society Ltd. and the Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society Ltd. The Society does extensive business in all the main branches of insurance, with the exception of marine risks. Figures of the work of this Society in 1944, 1945 and 1946 are shown in the next Table.

* The initials represent the Co-operative Wholesale Society Ltd., the Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society Ltd., and the English and Scottish Joint Co-operative Wholesale Society Ltd., respectively.

Transactions of Co-operative Insurance Society, Ltd.

	1944.	1945.	1946.
Premiums—			
Industrial Branch	8,664,736	9,354,645	10,328,546
Collective Life Branch	671,445	692,224	707,743
Other Branches	3,814,737	4,650,542	5,796,346
Total	13,150,918	14,697,411	16,832,635
Interest on Shares	1,313	1,313	1,855
Dividends on Premiums	58,295	63,938	63,021
Salaries and Wages	666,337	705,681	873,591
Commission	2,300,852	2,502,837	3,082,097

Laundering.—Many retail societies themselves undertake laundering, but others have combined to form separately registered federal laundry societies to perform this service in the areas covered by the retail societies concerned. At the end of 1946 there were 17 such societies. Total figures for these societies are given in the following Table:—

	1944.	1945.	1946.
Charges for Work Done	2,414,034	2,353,196	2,322,756
Surplus on Year	313,357	289,525	182,403
Share Loan and Reserve Capital	2,136,313	2,128,179	2,170,976
Salaries and Wages	1,220,673	1,195,846	1,266,010

V. AGRICULTURE AND FISHING.

The next Table gives particulars of the transactions of trading societies in agriculture and fishing for the years 1944, 1945 and 1946. The trading societies, all of which are registered under the Industrial and Provident Societies Acts, are divided into four groups: (i) *Requirements Societies*, whose principal function is to supply their members with seeds, manures, utensils or other requirements for the carrying on of agriculture; (ii) *Produce Societies*, which are chiefly concerned with the marketing of members' agricultural produce; (iii) *Farming and Growing Societies*, which themselves undertake growing operations; and (iv) *Fishermen's Societies*, which supply fishing gear to, and market fish on behalf of, their members.

	1944.	1945.	1946.
Requirements Societies:—			
Number of Societies	229	228	220
Members	108,713	115,227	120,146
Sales	19,258	19,858	20,578
Surplus on Year	814	888	852
Produce Societies:—			
Number of Societies	145	146	160
Members	47,981	49,430	53,639
Sales	13,284	14,064	16,070
Surplus on Year	264	282	281
Farming and Growing Societies:—			
Number of Societies	37	36	34
Members	2,030	2,011	1,741
Sales	268	254	227
Surplus on Year	72	44	39
Fishermen's Societies:—			
Number of Societies	41	41	43
Members	1,426	1,438	1,422
Sales	199	233	193
Surplus on Year	9	10	8
All Trading Societies:—			
Number of Societies	452	451	457
Members	160,150	168,106	176,948
Sales	33,019	34,409	37,008
Surplus on Year	1,159	1,224	1,180

At the end of 1946 there were also 704 service societies, which supplied their members with some service connected with agriculture, such as the provision of small holdings and allotments, credit, threshing facilities and cattle insurance. Some were registered under the Industrial and Provident Societies Acts and others under the Friendly Societies Acts. The total membership was 191,000, compared with 189,000 members of 703 societies at the end of 1945. The most important of the service societies are the small holdings and allotment societies. At the end of 1946, tenants of these societies numbered approximately 80,000.

GOVERNMENT ACTIVITIES IN WALES AND MONMOUTHSHIRE, 1946-1947.

The Prime Minister has presented to Parliament the second of a series of annual Command Papers intended to provide a factual basis for a review of the Government's activities in Wales and Monmouthshire. The Command Paper embodies the report of a Conference of the heads of all the Welsh Offices or Departments which has met in Wales at regular intervals throughout the year. It has been published by H.M. Stationery Office under the title "Wales and Monmouthshire. Report of Government Action for the year ended 30th June, 1947" (Cmd. 7267; price 2s. net, 2s. 2d. post free). The first Command Paper of the series, relating to

1945-1946 (Cmd. 6938), was noticed in the issue of this GAZETTE for November, 1946 (page 313).

The report opens with a general survey of the economic structure of industrial and rural Wales and of the tasks of reconstruction and rehabilitation which await Government action there. Industrial employment and development are then discussed in considerable detail. The Command Paper states that the improvement in employment noted in the previous report was continued during the year under review, although not without interruption, and that, compared with 1938, the unemployment position was much more favourable. On the other hand, the shortage of skilled labour presented a serious problem. This shortage, it is added, is likely to create extreme difficulties for the building programme in Wales and Monmouthshire, which includes large projects for steel and generating stations and which will also be adversely affected by shortages of building materials.

Consideration is given in the Command Paper to the position in the coal and other basic industries and services and the measures taken by the Board of Trade and other Government Departments to secure the diversification of industry. The man-power and other problems affecting agriculture, forestry and some of the leading Welsh industries are dealt with in separate sections. These are followed by notes on general industrial and employment matters, including training, the resettlement of disabled persons, the work in Wales and Monmouthshire of the Appointments Offices of the Ministry of Labour and National Service, the Juvenile Employment Service, and the employment of women.

Subsequent sections of the Command Paper review the progress made during the year in housing, health and other local government services; the administration of education in Wales, with special reference to activities during 1946; National Insurance, family allowances, workmen's compensation and other social services; and public utilities and services. A number of statistical Tables are appended to the Paper.

COST OF HOLIDAY ACCOMMODATION.

ENQUIRY BY CATERING WAGES COMMISSION.

The Catering Wages Commission have presented to the Minister of Labour and National Service a "Report on an Enquiry under Section 2(1) (b) of the Catering Wages Act into Alleged Overcharging for Holiday Accommodation." This Report has now been published by H.M. Stationery Office (price 3d. net, 4d. post free).

The Commission state that the enquiry was undertaken in view of a number of complaints which had come to their notice that visitors, especially at seaside resorts, were having to pay excessive charges for accommodation at hotels and boarding houses. They point out that one of the difficulties encountered in their enquiry has been to obtain sufficient information on which to determine whether the charges now being made for holiday accommodation are reasonable or not. The Ministry of Food, which have been responsible since 1941 for the general oversight of charges for accommodation, have received few complaints of excessive charges and most of these could not be substantiated. In 1944, the Ministry had considered a scheme for the control of charges at hotels and boarding houses, but they had decided not to proceed with the scheme on the ground that the evidence of overcharging was insufficient to justify the Government in taking the powers which would have been necessary to deal with it.

Enquiries made on behalf of the Commission by the Social Survey to discover how much people had paid for holiday accommodation in 1946 indicated that 65 per cent. of those who stayed at licensed hotels, and 80 per cent. of those who stayed at unlicensed hotels and boarding houses, regarded the charges as reasonable or cheap. The Commission themselves made enquiries of local authorities in holiday resorts in Great Britain. The information received showed that the most general increase in charges over the pre-war level was between 50 per cent. and 75 per cent. Representatives of the main employers' organisations, however, took the view that the charges made in 1938 and 1939 did not necessarily provide a fair standard with which to compare charges in 1946 or 1947, although they did not dispute that some overcharging was taking place.

In the opinion of the Commission, the information available does not bear out the view that widespread overcharging for holiday accommodation has been taking place, although there is a minority of establishments (mainly unlicensed hotels and boarding houses) at which excessive increases in charges appear to have occurred. The Commission do not recommend that there should be statutory control of prices at all hotels and boarding houses in holiday resorts. They express the view that overcharging will continue only so long as the amount of accommodation available is unequal to the demand, and that the prevention of overcharging depends, therefore, to a considerable extent on the success of the scheme for spreading the holiday season over a longer period. They also reiterate their opinion, which has been expressed in previous Reports, that the provision of accommodation to meet the needs of those in the lower income groups, and especially those with young families, is a matter of great importance and urgency.

It is stated on behalf of the Ministry of Labour and National Service that, as questions relating to the catering and tourist industries are now dealt with by the Board of Trade, the Report has been forwarded to that Department for consideration.

BUILDING AND CIVIL ENGINEERING INDUSTRIES.

REPORT ON WAR-TIME SCHEME OF PAYMENT BY RESULTS.

The Ministry of Works have issued a Report* on the operation of the Payment by Results Scheme applied under the Essential Work (Building and Civil Engineering) Order, 1941, during the period July, 1941, to March, 1947. The Scheme was introduced by the Government as a measure to speed production in the war-time building and civil engineering industries, and ceased to operate on the withdrawal of the Essential Work Order on 31st March, 1947. The Report does not claim to portray the results likely to be obtained by the application of payment by results to peacetime industry, nor is it intended as a Government commentary on the general principle of payment by results in industry.

The basis of the Scheme† was briefly that a bonus payment became payable when the output exceeded a fixed target and was additional to the usual hourly rates of pay, the bonus representing two-thirds of the saving in labour cost resulting from any increase in output above the target. Basic output rates or targets for the various operations in the building and civil engineering industries were published for the use of contractors in computing bonus and for reference by the operatives. As an example, the basic output rate for hand excavation in trenches up to 3 feet 6 inches deep was 0.5 cubic yards per man-hour, or a target of 2 hours to excavate 1 cubic yard. If the worker completed his work in 1½ hours, showing a saving of half-an-hour, he was entitled to his normal wage of say 1s. 6d.† an hour for 1½ hours, or 2s. 3d., and also to an output bonus of ½ hour at two-thirds of 1s. 6d., or 6d., making in all 2s. 9d. Thus, the operative, as a result of the output achieved, was paid 1s. 10d. an hour, or a wage of 1s. 6d. plus a bonus of 4d. Bonus earned was calculated on a weekly basis, and was normally based on the output of a gang and shared in the ratio of the notional wage rates of the members of the gang and in proportion to the hours worked by each.

When the Scheme was introduced in 1941 it had limited application, but it was extended from time to time and eventually covered all the main trade operations of the industries, including temporary housing and hutting and open-cast coal production. It did not, however, apply to the construction of permanent houses.

Statistics have been compiled regarding output achieved under the Scheme in relation to the basic output, and a table in the Report covering a period of three years shows the average level of actual output expressed as a percentage increase over basic in most of the main trade operations. The average on all operations covered by the Scheme, weighted by the volume of work recorded, was 34 per cent. over the basic output. As regards the main trade operations, there was a fairly wide variation in the percentage increases. In such operations as hand excavation, laying hardcore, etc., the increase in output was relatively small, while for hutting, open-cast coal production and the unloading of materials the increase was relatively large. Many factors are, however, to be taken into account in assessing output, and the Report points out the need for care in making comparisons.

The type of work covered by the Scheme was work which was capable of measurement, not only as regards the quantity completed but also the allocation of the time spent thereon; a proportion of the total man-hours worked each week was spent on non-measurable work and therefore was outside the scope of the Scheme. On war-time contracts it was estimated that 84 per cent. on the average of the total men on site were tradesmen and labourers engaged on work of a bonusable nature, 16 per cent. were foremen, walking gangers, fitters, checkers, welfare attendants, etc., who were not covered by the Scheme, and 57 per cent. of the total hours worked by tradesmen and labourers was spent on measurable work for which bonus could be paid. In all the main trade operations the average actual bonus earnings on measurable work was 27 per cent. of the basic wages, equivalent to 7d. an hour for craftsmen and 5d. for labourers. The variation in actual output in different operations was reflected in the bonus earned on these operations, which ranged from 3d. an hour on hand excavation to 1s. on hutting. Taking into account that only 57 per cent. of the time of tradesmen and labourers was measurable, the average bonus earned by these workers over the whole of their working hours was estimated to be approximately 4d. an hour for tradesmen and 3d. for labourers. At all sites where the Scheme was applied the average bonus earned was about 9 per cent. of the total basic wages paid to all the men employed, including supervisors and welfare staff, while the cost to the employer of additional staff required exclusively in connection with the application of the Scheme was not more than about 1 or 2 per cent. of the total labour cost.

The general conclusions drawn in the Report on the application of the Scheme are that the object of speeding production was achieved, with substantial increases in output in many cases; savings in labour costs were effected in many instances; the organisation of work was improved, particularly in relation to time lost by periods of waiting for materials due to inadequate site transport, plant breakdowns, and excessive movements of gangs

* Payment by results in building and civil engineering during the war. H.M. Stationery Office; price 6d. net (7d. post free).

† An article dealing with the Scheme appeared on page 104 of the May, 1942, issue of this GAZETTE.

‡ The bonus rates were based on notional hourly wage rates of 2s. for craftsmen and 1s. 6d. for labourers, with suitable allowances where plus rates applied. The bonus rates were uniform throughout the country and did not vary with the actual wage rates prevailing in different districts, and from time to time.

due to late delivery of materials or delay in receiving instructions; there was no evidence that the quality of workmanship was adversely affected, provided that supervision was adequate; and the success of the Scheme was to a large extent dependent on the co-operation and enthusiasm of both employers and operatives.

NATIONAL INSURANCE ACTS.

POSITION OF SHARE-FISHERMEN.

The Minister of National Insurance has referred to the National Insurance Advisory Committee (see last month's issue of this GAZETTE, page 373) a question relating to the position of share-fishermen under the National Insurance Act, 1946.

The particular question upon which the Minister is seeking the Committee's consideration and advice is whether fishermen who are remunerated by a share in the earnings of the vessel in which they work should be insured as employed persons rather than as self-employed persons under the new scheme of national insurance. If the Committee recommend that share-fishermen should be treated as employed persons, the Minister wishes to be advised as to what additional conditions, if any, should be made for the receipt of unemployment benefit by such workers.

APPOINTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL INJURIES ADVISORY COUNCIL.

In reply to a question in the House of Commons on 2nd December, the Minister of National Insurance announced that the Industrial Injuries Advisory Council had been appointed.

The Council, which has been set up under the National Insurance (Industrial Injuries) Act, 1946, consists of a Chairman and fifteen other members, including representatives of employers and insured persons, who will hold office for a period of three years. The Chairman of the Council is Sir Wilfrid Garrett, late Chief Inspector of Factories, and the other members are Mr. J. R. Allan, Mr. J. Bradshaw, Mr. E. De'Ath, D.C.M., Mr. E. C. Hapgood, Professor R. E. Lane, F.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., Mr. Will Lawther, J.P., Mr. T. A. E. Laybourn, C.B.E., Alderman D. B. Lewis, Miss Anne Loughlin, D.B.E., Mr. John Megaw, Mr. H. W. Naish, Mr. E. A. Nicoll, M.D., F.R.C.S. (Ed.), Mr. Alfred Roberts, O.B.E., Mr. Clifford C. Trollope, and Mr. Frank Wolstencroft, C.B.E., together with one other woman member to be appointed later. The Secretary of the Council is Mr. E. Field, C.B.E., Ministry of National Insurance, 6 Curzon Street, London, W.1.

The Council will consider and advise the Minister on the Regulations proposed to be made under the Act. Other matters relating to the Act may be referred to them at the Minister's discretion.

POOR RELIEF: ENGLAND AND WALES.

ANALYSIS FOR 1st JANUARY, 1947.

The Ministry of Health have issued a Return* showing the number of persons in receipt of poor relief in England and Wales at the beginning of 1947. The Return is substantially in the same form as that for 1st May, 1946 (see the issue of this GAZETTE for June, 1947, page 189).

The total number of persons in receipt of poor relief in England and Wales on the night of 1st January, 1947, was 476,928, or 117 in 10,000 of the population; this represents a decrease of 13,583 or 2.8 per cent. as compared with the corresponding total of 490,511 at 1st May, 1946. The figure for January, 1947, comprised 126,127 men, 213,659 women and 137,142 children, and was inclusive of persons who were "constructively" relieved on account of relief granted to dependants not in institutions, but not of those who were constructively relieved on account of relief granted to dependants in institutions. Rate-aided patients in mental hospitals were also not included.

The Table below shows the numbers of persons in receipt of poor relief in England and Wales on 1st January, 1947, and 1st May, 1946; for comparative purposes the corresponding figures for 1st January, 1939 (the last pre-war date for which information was obtained), are also given.

	1st Jan., 1947.	1st May, 1946.	1st Jan., 1939.
Persons in receipt of Institutional Relief	127,887	128,180	158,841
Persons in receipt of Domiciliary Relief—			
On account of Unemployment	1,684	1,893	52,623
Not on account of Unemployment	347,357	360,438	887,586
Total, Domiciliary Relief	349,041	362,331	940,209
Grand Total	476,928	490,511	1,099,050
Casuals (included in above figures)	1,545	1,192	10,541

Of the total number of recipients of poor relief on 1st January, 1947, 127,887 were in receipt of institutional relief, comprising 54,697 suffering from sickness, accident or bodily infirmity (including infirmity due to old age), 18,135 suffering from mental infirmity and 55,055 other persons. Persons in receipt of domiciliary relief

* H.C.3 of Session 1947-48. H.M. Stationery Office; price 9d. net (10d. post free).

THE FORTY-HOUR WORKING WEEK IN AUSTRALIA.

DECISION OF THE COMMONWEALTH COURT OF CONCILIATION AND ARBITRATION.

On 8th September, 1947, the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration issued an award conceding the claim by the workers' organisations in the printing and various other industries for the reduction of the standard weekly working time from 44 to 40 hours. The award, which is the outcome of proceedings extending over a period of twenty-two months, implements the announcement by the Court, on 30th October, 1946, of their approval of the principle of a 40-hour week. Its effect, in practice, will be, as the Court point out in their judgment, to lead to the introduction of the basic 40-hour week throughout Australian industry, since decisions of the Court, although they are directly applicable only to the cases under consideration, are made the bases of industrial determinations by State legislatures and State tribunals.

The detailed provisions of the award are set out in an order embodied in a statement containing the full judgment of the Court. The more important of these provisions prescribe that, in the several industries concerned, the standard hours of work, where fixed at 44 a week, shall be reduced to 40 a week, and that appropriate variations shall be made in the case of those industries in which the working hours, although not expressly fixed at 44 a week, are based on the Court's hitherto existing standard of 44 hours a week. By express provision, the right of employers to require the working of reasonable overtime is asserted and safeguarded. This provision is to be operative, however, only until the Judge or Conciliation Commissioner in charge of the industry otherwise determines. Existing clauses of awards providing for compulsory overtime are to remain operative. Wage-rates or other conditions of employment fixed by reference to the existing standard 44-hour week are to be adapted to the new standard 40-hour week.* Formal orders are to be made applying the award to the several industries concerned, and these orders are to come into operation at the beginning of the first pay period in January, 1948.

In their general observations concerning the workers' claims and the material placed before the Court during the hearing of the case, the Court pointed out that the 40-hour week claim was "expressive of a world movement sanctioned by the International Labour Office and already achieved in some countries"; that the Commonwealth Government and the Governments of four States, viz., New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland and Tasmania, had become parties to the proceedings and had supported the claim; that no Government, whether State or Federal, had opposed the claim or denied the Court's declaration of 30th October, 1946; and that it was "apparent that the employers did not intend disputing the proposition as a matter of doctrine," the gravamen of their case against the claim being that circumstances were not appropriate and the time not proper for any reduction in the existing standards of working hours.

Concerning the detailed arguments of the employers, the Court declared that, while the problem of the existing shortages of and deficiencies in goods and services was a matter that had given them the greatest concern, they did not regard these shortages, in all the present circumstances, as a reason for refusing the claim for shorter hours, but as a reason for some special provision, such as had been made in the Court's order. The effect of the shorter working week on production would not, in the view of the Court, be as great as was forecast by the employers, and might be rapidly caught up, as had been the case after the introduction of the 40-hour week in New Zealand in 1936. The effect of consequential price rises on fixed incomes could be mitigated by the adjustment of taxation, while the great expansion of Australia's industrial undertakings made it clear that foreign competition was not thought by industrialists to be a present menace. Australia had a huge unsatisfied internal market for most commodities and was not, with its present shortage of man-power, able yet to undertake both the satisfaction of its internal market and a full foreign trade.

On the question whether the present time was appropriate for the introduction of the 40-hour working week, the Court considered that, if this desirable social change were delayed, as had been suggested by certain witnesses, until a period of depression or unemployment, or until shortages had been overtaken, or until international disparities of hours, wages and conditions no longer existed, then the expression "not now" might mean "not ever." All the economists on both sides, the Court declared, were agreed that never in the history of Australia had all the factors been so favourable, nor was it easy to conceive their ever being more favourable. In concluding their general remarks, the Court acknowledged that their present decision, together with their earlier decision respecting wages, constituted a major social judgment that would have very great and important consequences for the national economy, and they declared that the situation would be kept closely and continuously under observation by the Court and by the Office of Economic and Industrial Research, to be set up under the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act, 1904-1947.

* During the hearing of the present case for the reduction of the standard weekly working hours, the Court came to the conclusion that the reconsideration of the amount of the basic wage was, in the public interest, a matter of urgency, and in proceedings subsequently instituted the Court made an interim award on 13th December, 1946, providing for an immediate increase amounting, in general, to 7s. a week.

numbered 349,041, of whom 1,684 (including dependants) were returned as relieved on account of unemployment, and 347,357 as relieved for other reasons. The latter figure comprised 161,542 suffering from sickness, accident or bodily infirmity, 5,547 suffering from mental infirmity and 180,268 other persons. The number of casuals included in the foregoing totals was 1,545.

The number of men pensioners over 65 years of age and women pensioners over 60 years of age under the Old Age Pensions Act, 1936, the Widows', Orphans' and Old Age Contributory Pensions Act, 1936, or the Old Age and Widows' Pensions Act, 1940, who were in receipt of poor relief was 64,004, of whom 6,945 were widow pensioners over 60 years of age. These figures include those persons (if any) constructively relieved by reason of relief afforded to dependants in institutions.

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION.

PROPOSED ACTION ON CONVENTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS ADOPTED AT 28th SESSION OF CONFERENCE.

The Minister of Labour and National Service has recently presented to Parliament a White Paper entitled "International Labour Conference: Proposed Action by His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland regarding certain Conventions and Recommendations adopted at the 28th (Maritime) Session, 1946." This Paper has been published by H.M. Stationery Office (Cmd. 7273; price 2d. net, 3d. post free). The texts of the nine Conventions and four Recommendations concerned were set out in the Report of the United Kingdom delegates to the Conference (Cmd. 7109—see the issue of this GAZETTE for May, 1947, page 152).

The White Paper states that certain of the Conventions cover industrial conditions of employment which, in the United Kingdom, are dealt with not by legislation but by collective agreements between the representatives of employers and workers. Provision has, however, been made in the texts of the Conventions concerned that effect may be given to them, or parts of them, by collective agreements. Discussions have, therefore, taken place with the National Maritime Board, representing the United Kingdom shipowners' and seafarers' organisations, and the views of that body have been communicated to H.M. Government on the position generally and on the extent to which the industrial provisions of the Conventions are, or will be, covered by collective agreements.

The Government propose to ratify a number of these Conventions as soon as the necessary legislation has been passed and the appropriate collective agreements have been concluded by the National Maritime Board. Generally, these Conventions contain provisions to ensure that they shall come into operation on the expiration of a stated period after they have been ratified by a specified number of countries, and it is proposed that the legislative provisions should ordinarily come into force only when the Conventions become operative.

The Conventions which the Government propose to ratify are those concerning (i) food and catering for crews on board ship, (ii) the certification of ships' cooks, (iii) social security for seafarers, and (iv) the certification of able seamen. For various reasons they are, however, not able, or not prepared, to ratify the Conventions concerning (a) seafarers' pensions, (b) vacation holidays with pay for seafarers, (c) the medical examination of seafarers, and (d) wages, hours of work on board ship and manning. As regards the remaining Convention, concerning crew accommodation on board ship, the Government and the industry are not in agreement with one provision of the Convention in its present form; the Government are accordingly unable to ratify the Convention, but they intend to adopt regulations covering all the other matters dealt with in it.

The four Recommendations adopted by the Conference concern (i) agreements relating to the social security of seafarers, (ii) medical care for seafarers' dependants, (iii) the organisation of training for sea service, and (iv) the provision to crews by shipowners of bedding, mess utensils and other articles. The Government state that they are prepared to comply with the first of these Recommendations, that the arrangements proposed in the second and third are already substantially in operation in the United Kingdom, and that the implementation of the fourth must be postponed until the supply of materials improves.

YEAR BOOK OF LABOUR STATISTICS, 1945-46.

The Year Book of Labour Statistics for 1945-46 has recently been published by the International Labour Office.* This volume summarises in tabular form the principal statistics available relating to labour conditions in over 60 countries during the period 1945-46, with comparable figures for earlier years. The tables are divided into nine sections dealing, respectively, with total and gainfully occupied population; employment and unemployment; hours of work; wages; cost of living and retail prices; family living studies; migration; industrial accidents; and industrial disputes. Appendices are also included giving index numbers of industrial production and of wholesale prices, together with statistics of changes in the gold values of the principal currencies and of exchange rates.

* Published in the United Kingdom for the International Labour Office by Staples Press Ltd., Orchard House, 14, Great Smith Street, London, S.W.1 (price 10s. 6d.).

DECASUALISATION OF DOCK LABOUR IN FRANCE.

By an Act dated 6th September, 1947, provision has been made for the organisation of dock labour and for the institution of a guaranteed payment to regular dockers in certain maritime trade ports and ports of internal navigation in France. The Act is to apply to those ports "in which the volume of traffic is sufficient to justify the presence of a permanent labour force of dock-workers." In such ports, dock-workers are to be classified either as regular dockers (*ouvriers dockers professionnels*), with an absolute priority of recruitment, or as casual dockers; and, with certain minor exceptions, all loading and unloading operations at public berths, and stacking and loading on open sites or in sheds, within the port area, are to be carried out by regular dockers. Joint bodies, designated Central Man-Power Offices, are to be set up in all ports falling within the scope of the Act, with responsibility for the identification and classification of all dock-workers and persons assimilated as dock-workers, and for the general organisation and control of recruitment in the port, the distribution of the work available, on a numerical basis, among the regular dockers, and all detailed measures necessary for the application of existing social legislation to the dock-workers.

The Act also provides for the institution of a system of guaranteed payments for regular dockers who present themselves for work but are not engaged. In consideration of such guaranteed payments, regular dockers are required to be always at the disposition of the port authority, to present themselves regularly for engagement and to accept work offered. The payment takes the form of a "guaranteed indemnity," payable in respect of each unworked shift, with a limit of 100 unworked shifts in each half-year. Exceptions to this limit in respect of particular ports may be authorised, for a maximum period of six months, by Ministerial Order. The indemnity may not be paid in addition to daily allowances in respect of accident or sickness insurance benefit, or in addition to unemployment benefit; and it is not payable if the individual undertakes other gainful employment on the day concerned, or refuses to accept work offered. It is not deemed to constitute a wage, and is, therefore, free from deductions in respect of social insurance contributions. The Act stipulates that payment of the indemnity shall be made for the first time two months after the date of promulgation of the Act (7th September, 1947).

For the general administration of the new scheme, the Act sets up a "National Dock-workers' Guarantee Fund," with an Administrative Council consisting of three representatives of the State and three representatives of employers and dock-workers, respectively. The financial resources of the Fund are provisionally to be derived from a contribution, fixed as a percentage of the gross total remuneration paid to regular and casual dockers, levied upon all employers of labour in the ports, and from certain other sources.

The Fund is to be responsible for registering regular dockers and maintaining registers of these workers, by ports; for maintaining lists, by ports, of employers using dockers' labour; for making proposals regarding alterations in the rates of contributions levied upon employers, and ensuring the collection of these contributions; for ensuring the payment to regular dockers, in each port, of the guaranteed indemnity, through the holidays-with-pay funds or other organisations; for administering the available funds and suggesting measures designed to promote financial stability; for fixing, on the advice of the Central Man-Power Office concerned, the general conditions in which changes in the number of effective workers are to be made; and for taking such measures as are necessary to ensure that the proportion of unworked shifts for regular dockers does not exceed 25 per cent.

By a Ministerial Order dated 13th October, 1947, the amount of the guaranteed indemnity has been fixed at 100 francs a shift, or 200 francs a day, and the rate of the employers' contribution at 15 per cent. of the gross total remuneration paid to regular and casual dockers. By a further Order, also dated 13th October, 1947, 33 ports, including three ports of internal navigation, have been named as ports in which the provisions of the Act are to be applied.

PRODUCTIVITY OF LABOUR IN UNITED STATES INDUSTRIES.

CONSTRUCTION MACHINERY AND MACHINE TOOL MANUFACTURE.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics of the United States Department of Labor are carrying out a series of studies of the expenditure of man-hours per unit of production in various industries in the United States in order to provide more comprehensive and detailed information on industrial productivity than has previously been available. The studies are based upon reports supplied to the Bureau by representative undertakings in the industries covered, showing the average numbers of man-hours per unit expended during a series of years in the production of selected types of goods. Summaries of the information thus obtained for the construction machinery industry and the machine tool industry were published in the issues of the *Monthly Labor Review* for July and August, 1947, respectively.

In connection with both studies, index figures have been compiled for each of the years 1941 to 1945 which show the changes in the expenditure of unit man-hours on the selected products, for wage-earners directly employed in production and for all

workers, including those employed on such indirect labour as timekeeping, shipping and receiving, the handling of materials, inspection, maintenance and plant supervision. The basis of comparison is in all cases the unit man-hour expenditure in 1939. The Table below shows the index figures thus compiled for 1941, 1943 and 1945, for all the selected types of products, with separate figures for certain of the types.

Product.	Index Figures of Man-Hours Expended per Unit of Production (1939=100.0).					
	Direct Labour.			Direct and Indirect Labour.		
	1941.	1943.	1945.	1941.	1943.	1945.
Construction Machinery : All Selected Types ..	100.0	103.1	101.1	97.8	103.0	106.6
Tractors, Track-laying ..	94.6	96.9	96.4	91.2	94.6	101.3
Rollers, Self-Propelled ..	89.9	95.2	101.0	90.6	103.2	105.3
Ditchers ..	99.3	93.6	78.2	94.7	106.4	98.1
Power Shovels ..	101.3	99.8	95.8	99.9	97.4	95.4
Motor Graders ..	106.3	114.9	112.5	109.2	126.2	150.8
Machine Tools : All Selected Types ..	88.5	80.6	90.4	89.5	90.5	103.8
Boring Machines ..	93.9	79.0	83.1	99.8	93.1	99.5
Drilling Machines ..	83.6	72.5	82.1	78.7	72.5	87.2
Lathes ..	86.3	82.7	100.0	89.4	91.6	107.2
Shapers, Horizontal ..	86.4	93.0	93.3	90.3	97.2	99.3

For the construction machinery industry, the index figures showed that between 1939 and 1941, when there were great increases in the production of all types of such machinery, the average unit man-hour requirement of direct and indirect labour for all the selected types decreased by between 2 and 3 per cent. After 1942, difficulties arising mainly from war-time conditions exerted an unfavourable influence upon output per man-hour and the index figure rose steadily each year until 1945, when it stood nearly seven points above the 1939 level. Fluctuations in the index figures relating to direct labour only were less marked, and the figure in 1945 was little more than one point above that in 1939. Thus, the increase of nearly 7 per cent. in the average requirement for all production labour resulted primarily from an increase in the units of indirect labour expended. There were marked differences in the direction and extent of changes in the index figures for individual products.

In the machine tools industry, the average number of man-hours of direct and indirect labour for each unit of output declined by approximately 10 per cent. between 1939 and 1941 and remained at about the same level during the next two years. The reduction accompanied the very marked expansion in the production of machine tools which reached a peak late in 1942 and made possible many economies associated with the standardisation of output and the greater specialisation of function by labour and equipment. A rise of about 13 per cent. in the average man-hour expenditure which occurred between 1943 and 1945 resulted from a combination of factors which tended to lower productive efficiency and which included substantial increases in overhead labour, replacement of experienced workers by new recruits and shortages of material and facilities. In 1945 the index figure was between three and four points above the 1939 level. The number of man-hours of direct labour required to produce a machine tool declined, on average, by about 19 per cent. between 1939 and 1943. After 1943, there was a rise in the average man-hour expenditure but in 1945 the index figure for direct labour was still ten points below the 1939 level. There were considerable variations in the course of the index figures for individual types of product.

WAGES IN THE UNITED STATES.

FOUNDRY WORKERS.

Some figures of the average earnings of foundry workers in the United States of America in January, 1945, were given in an article in the November, 1946, issue of this GAZETTE (page 319). The figures were reproduced from a survey published in the *Monthly Labor Review* by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the United States Department of Labor. A further survey, relating to the wages of foundry workers in October, 1946, was published in the August, 1947, issue of the *Review*.

As in January, 1945, the survey in October, 1946, covered the average "straight-time" hourly earnings of men employed in ferrous and non-ferrous foundries. Average "straight-time" hourly earnings, which are also described in the survey as average hourly wage rates, take account of the earnings of both time and piece workers during normal working hours but exclude payments for overtime and night work. The present survey was a somewhat more limited field than the earlier one, as it is restricted to foundries in the larger cities; but it is stated that the inclusion of undertakings in the smaller communities would probably have had little effect on the averages as calculated. The statistics of the earnings of women, which were obtained for the earlier survey, were not collected on this occasion, as the number of women employed in foundries had decreased sharply and represented 2 per cent. only of all foundry workers in October, 1946.

The average wage rates, or "straight-time" earnings, of men in October, 1946, were 1.20 dollars an hour in both ferrous and

non-ferrous foundries; in January, 1945, the hourly average was 1.01 dollars in ferrous and 1.05 dollars in non-ferrous foundries. The survey states that, despite the increase in hourly rates, the average weekly pay of foundry workers in January, 1945, and October, 1946, was roughly the same. It is pointed out that this fact reflects primarily the decrease in the average number of hours worked in a week since the end of the war, and the consequent loss in overtime pay. In October, 1946, a scheduled full-time working week of 40 hours was reported in at least three out of every five foundries studied, whilst a working week of 48 hours or more was reported only in one out of five ferrous and one out of eight non-ferrous foundries. These figures were in marked contrast to those for January, 1945, when about 85 per cent. of all the foundries reported a working week of 48 hours or more. It was found in October, 1946, that the average earnings of incentive workers were from 17 to 42 per cent. higher than those of time workers among the individual jobs studied in ferrous foundries and from 7 to 30 per cent. higher in non-ferrous foundries.

The Table below shows the average hourly wage rates, or average "straight-time" hourly earnings (exclusive of payments for overtime and night work), in October, 1946, of men employed in selected occupations in ferrous and non-ferrous foundries in large cities in the United States. For comparison, the corresponding rates in January, 1945, are also given; these figures, however, took account of earnings in smaller communities as well as in large cities.

Occupation.	Average Hourly Wage Rates, Ferrous Foundries.		Average Hourly Wage Rates, Non-Ferrous Foundries.	
	Oct., 1946.	Jan., 1945.	Oct., 1946.	Jan., 1945.
Moulders, Floor ..	Dollars. 1.45	Dollars. 1.17	Dollars. 1.49	Dollars. 1.35
" Hand, Bench ..	1.43	1.14	1.40	1.22
" Machine ..	1.55	1.31	1.52	1.29
Pourers, Metal ..	1.16	0.98	1.09	0.98
Patternmakers, Wood ..	1.55	1.34	1.81	1.45
Coremakers, Hand ..	1.44	1.22	1.42	1.24
" Turn-over-draw Machine ..	1.52	1.26	1.30	1.29
Sand Mixers, Hand and Machine ..	1.04	0.87	0.99	0.85
Shake-out Men ..	1.10	0.94	1.00	0.89
Chippers and Grinders ..	1.19	1.06	1.07	0.95
Working Foremen, Processing Departments ..	1.38	1.16	1.50	1.22
Inspectors (various grades) ..	1.12; 1.17;	0.88; 1.01;	1.03; 1.22	0.94; 1.10;
Truckers, Hand ..	1.29	1.06	1.19	1.01
" Power ..	0.98	0.81	0.91	0.81
Maintenance, Carpenters ..	1.07	0.94	1.11	0.94
" Electricians ..	1.21	1.03	1.25	1.11
" Mechanics ..	1.31	1.12	1.38	1.18
" General ..	1.25	1.08	1.32	1.17
Utility Men ..	1.19	0.97	1.25	1.07

TEXTILE DYEING AND FINISHING.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics of the United States Department of Labor have been carrying out enquiries into earnings at various dates in 1946 in the leading textile industries of the United States. Reports of the enquiries relating to the hosiery industry, the cotton industry, the woollen and worsted industry and the rayon and silk industry have already appeared and have been the subject of articles in the issues of this GAZETTE for April, June, July and November, 1947 (pages 122, 192, 228 and 375). The series has been supplemented by an enquiry into earnings in July, 1946, in the textile dyeing and finishing industry, the principal results of which were published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics in the *Monthly Labor Review* for June, 1947, and are summarised below.

Returns of "straight-time" earnings (i.e., earnings exclusive of extra payments for overtime, night work and shift working) were obtained from 193 textile dyeing and finishing undertakings, employing about 37,700 workers, or approximately one-half of the total numbers of such undertakings and their workers. Undertakings primarily engaged in the dyeing and finishing of knit goods were not included, and the survey covered a small number only of undertakings engaged in the dyeing and finishing of woollen and worsted goods, as these operations are, in the United States, more often carried out in woollen and worsted mills than in independent undertakings.

The average earnings in July, 1946, of production workers in all the undertakings studied were 89 cents an hour, exclusive of extra payments for overtime, etc. The average for men was 92 cents an hour, while that for women (who formed about one-sixth of the total labour force) was 75 cents an hour. Average hourly earnings were considerably higher for rayon and silk dyeing than for cotton and linen dyeing (viz., 0.96 cents, as compared with 0.85 cents).

Scheduled working hours for first-shift workers exceeding 40 a week were in operation for men in over two-fifths and for women in one-third of the undertakings. The corresponding proportions of undertakings having scheduled hours of 48 or more a week were one in four and one in six. Slightly more than half the undertakings reported extra shift working, and nearly one-third operated more than two shifts. Approximately one-third of the total labour force was employed on extra shift work, the additional remuneration, where paid, being generally 5 cents an hour.

The Table below shows the average hourly earnings, exclusive of extra payments for overtime, night work and shift working, in

July, 1946, in the principal occupations in cotton and linen dyeing and finishing and rayon and silk dyeing and finishing, respectively, and in all occupations taken together. Except where otherwise indicated, the occupational figures relate to men. The Table also shows the estimated numbers of workers in the occupations in all dyeing and finishing undertakings in the United States employing 8 or more workers each.

Occupation.	Cotton and Linen.		Rayon and Silk.	
	Number of Workers.	Average Hourly Earnings.	Number of Workers.	Average Hourly Earnings.
Boil-off Machine Operators ..	148	Dollars. 0.80	631	Dollars. 0.93
Calender Tenders ..	423	0.86	383	0.95
Colour Mixers :				
Dye House ..	329	0.93	282	1.03
Print Shop ..	194	1.02	101	1.09
Dry-Can Operators ..	708	0.83	373	0.94
Dyeing-Machine Tenders :				
Cloth, Jigger ..	1,100	0.88	1,363	0.94
Cloth, Other ..	609	0.83	388	0.83
Cloth, Spiral Dye Beck ..	248	0.89	1,750	0.94
Yarn ..	300	0.84	174	0.95
Mangle Tenders ..	647	0.83	359	0.99
Screen Printers, Hand ..	449	0.95	277	1.25
Second Hands ..	661	1.15	132	1.08
Teaser-Frame Tenders ..	850	0.85	1,084	0.98
Truckers: Hand ..	2,105	0.74	592	0.89
Winders :				
Cloth, Bolts or Tubes ..	524	0.87	578	0.93
Yarn (Women) ..	1,495	0.73	182	0.65
All Occupations (including many not shown above) ..	38,239	0.85	19,079	0.96

WAGES AND WORKING HOURS IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA.

The relation between rates of wages and earnings in the two Czechoslovak provinces of Bohemia and Moravia-Silesia is examined in an article appearing in the November, 1947, issue of the journal of the National Statistical Office of Czechoslovakia.

It is stated that the means employed in the Czechoslovak Republic to give effect to the State wages policy are Notices issued by the Ministry of Social Security fixing basic rates of wages. The article makes a comparison between the averages at certain recent dates of the basic hourly rates thus fixed for the various industries and the corresponding average hourly earnings of time workers, as ascertained by a special representative enquiry. Data as to piece-work earnings and weekly working hours were obtained by the same enquiry.

For all the industries, other than mining, the average hourly rates of wages in February and October, 1946, and May, 1947, were 10.13, 10.41 and 10.61 Czechoslovak crowns, and the average hourly earnings of time workers 11.25, 12.81 and 13.71 crowns, respectively. Thus, average hourly earnings exceeded average hourly wage rates by 11.1 per cent. in February, 1946, 23.1 per cent. in October, 1946, and 29.2 per cent. in May, 1947. At the same dates, average hourly piece-work earnings were 14.04, 16.57 and 18.44 crowns and average weekly hours of work of time and piece workers were 43.15, 46.08 and 47.40, respectively.

The Table below shows the average hourly rates of wages, the average hourly earnings of time and piece workers, and the average weekly hours of work in May, 1947, in industries in Bohemia and Moravia-Silesia. The Table also shows the corresponding general averages for all industries except mining.

Industry.	Average Hourly Rates of Wages.	Average Hourly Earnings.		Average Weekly Hours of Work.
		Time Workers.	Piece Workers.	
Mines ..	Kcs. 13.31	Kcs. 22.56	42.70	
Stone ..	10.60	14.96	20.33	42.44
Lime and Chalk ..	10.22	13.75	20.31	48.09
Cement ..	10.36	15.40	21.22	52.65
Cement Ware ..	9.97	12.68	22.39	47.42
Brick ..	10.00	13.58	17.94	46.56
Pottery ..	9.30	12.21	17.08	47.62
Glass ..	9.99	13.49	19.71	41.06
Chemicals ..	9.90	15.20	20.64	46.42
Iron, etc., Manufacture ..	10.70	12.01	19.22	51.59
Textiles ..	10.68	12.03	14.27	47.00
Leather and Skin ..	10.60	13.27	21.66	50.61
Clothing ..	9.51	12.36	15.52	43.97
Boots and Shoes ..	9.91	15.13	17.56	48.28
Dairies ..	8.82	14.37	21.07	48.45
Chocolate and Confectionery ..	8.02	11.13	14.24	45.25
Malt ..	10.74	12.97	14.24	49.14
Breweries ..	11.28	14.85	—	50.32
Distilleries ..	11.06	12.20	—	52.44
Saw Mills ..	10.10	12.29	19.68	46.89
Woodworking ..	10.53	13.01	17.00	46.84
Building ..	13.45	16.47	24.05	45.89
Paper Manufacture ..	14.29	14.43	22.35	51.13
Paper Goods ..	9.08	10.92	13.58	45.12
Printing ..	10.83	16.57	—	52.33
General Averages (excluding Mines) ..	10.61	13.71	18.44	47.40

EMPLOYMENT IN GREAT BRITAIN IN OCTOBER.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

During October, the rate of expansion in civilian employment was almost twice as great as the average monthly increase in the previous nine months of the year. The total increase in October was 95,000, compared with an average monthly increase of 55,000 during January to September. The greater expansion in October was confined to women; the number of women in civil employment rose by 50,000, compared with an average monthly increase of only 2,000 earlier in the year. This increase is clearly associated both with the campaign to bring more women into industry which began in the summer and which was already beginning to have its effects in September, and with the Control of Engagement Order, which came into operation on 6th October. The number of men rose by 45,000 in October, but this figure was a little below the average increase in the previous nine months (53,000 a month).

The expansion of employment in October was felt over a wide range of industries, but was most marked in manufacturing industries where employment rose by 75,000 (1.0 per cent.), compared with an increase of only 20,000 (0.2 per cent.) in non-manufacturing. In the textile group, where the shortage of labour is causing special concern, employment increased by 12,000 (1½ per cent.); the average monthly increase in textiles in January to September was only 2,700. In the metals and engineering group, there was a rise of 34,000 or 1 per cent., including an increase of 1,600 (2½ per cent.) in general ironfounding. Employment in the distributive industries increased by 19,000 (under 1 per cent.), most of the increase consisting of women. On the other hand, employment in mining and quarrying fell by 1,000 (later figures for coal mining show that the downward tendency was reversed during November). In building and civil engineering, employment fell by 1,000. The number engaged in hotels and catering, and in entertainments and sport, was reduced by about 10,000, but there were increases in laundries and cleaning and in professional and personal services (including nursing) amounting in total to about 6,000.

The increase in employment in manufacturing industry during October is more than fully accounted for by an expansion of 119,000 (7 per cent.) in the numbers attributed to work for export; part of this increase (44,000) was at the expense of work for the home market.

The size of the Forces was reduced during October by 32,000, bringing the total in the Forces at the end of the month to 1,200,000.

The number of insured persons registered as unemployed rose from 259,000 at 13th October to 267,800 at 10th November. At both dates the figures represented about 1½ per cent. of the insured population. The increase in unemployment during the month of October is estimated at 12,000. The estimated number of ex-Service men and women who had not yet taken up employment fell by 5,000 during October, standing at 110,000 at the end of the month.

As a result of the foregoing changes, it is estimated that the total working population increased during October by 70,000 (19,000 men and 51,000 women). During the previous nine months of the year, the total number of men varied little; the number of women was falling slowly until the end of August, but began to increase during September. Several factors have contributed to this expansion of the working population during October:—

(a) the number of women in part-time employment increased during October by 24,000 (in the figures above, these are counted as half-units);

(b) the number of foreign workers in employment increased during October by 10,000 (8,000 men and 2,000 women) bringing the total number of foreign workers entering employment under the various post-war schemes to 75,000;

(c) there is evidence to suggest that the rate of wastage from industry was distinctly less than normal during October;

(d) there was a substantial intake of full-time workers into the working population from persons not previously seeking employment.

During the four weeks ended 29th October, the Employment Exchanges placed 321,000 persons in employment, compared with an average of 203,000 in the previous three four-weekly periods—an increase of 58 per cent. Under the Control of Engagement Order, of course, a substantially larger proportion of job-changers have to pass through the Exchanges, which consequently have the opportunity of guiding both the inflow of fresh labour and the turnover of existing labour into the more essential vacancies. Thus the number of placings in the manufacturing industries to which Employment Exchanges have been instructed to accord "First Preference" (most branches of textiles, and of iron and steel, pottery, printing and bookbinding, etc.) increased in October, as compared with the average of the preceding three four-weekly periods, by 135 per cent. On the other hand, placings in hotels and catering, and in entertainments and sport, increased by only 8 per cent.

Some of the developments summarised above are analysed in more detail in the following paragraphs.

1. GENERAL MAN-POWER POSITION.

The broad changes in the man-power position between mid-1939 and October, 1947, are shown in the first Table in the next column. The figures relate to males aged 14 and under 65 and females aged 14 and under 60 years.

	(Thousands)				
	Mid-1939.	Mid-1945.	End-1946.	Sept., 1947.	Oct., 1947.
1. Total Working Population (excluding indoor private domestic service)					
Men	14,656	14,881	14,629	14,625	14,644
Women	5,094	6,768	5,785	5,739	5,790
Total	19,750	21,649	20,414	20,364	20,434
2. Ex-H.M. Forces who have not yet taken up employment	—	40	300	115	110
3. Insured Persons registered as unemployed	1,270	103	398	250	262*
4. Total number in H.M. Forces, and in Civil Employment:					
Men	13,643	14,786	14,044	14,332	14,348
Women	4,837	6,720	5,672	5,667	5,714
Total	18,480	21,506	19,716	19,999	20,062

2. TOTAL WORKING POPULATION.

There was an increase of 70,000 in the total working population during October, 1947. The number of men increased by 19,000 and the number of women increased by 51,000. Since June, 1945, however, the total is estimated to have fallen by 1,215,000 (men 237,000 and women 978,000). The total working population at the end of October, 1947, was greater than at mid-1939 by 684,000 (men 12,000 less and women 696,000 greater).

3. H.M. FORCES AND AUXILIARY SERVICES, AND CIVILIAN EMPLOYMENT.†

The total numbers in the Forces, Auxiliary Services, and civilian employment increased during October by 63,000 (men +16,000, women +47,000). At the end of October, the total was 1,444,000 less than at the end of June, 1945, (men 438,000 and women 1,006,000), but 1,582,000 greater than at mid-1939 (men 705,000 and women 877,000).

4. FORCES AND AUXILIARY SERVICES.

The numbers in the Forces and Auxiliary Services included in item 4 of the Table in paragraph 1 are as follows:—

	(Thousands)				
	Mid-1939.	Mid-1945.	End-1946.	Sept., 1947.	Oct., 1947.
Men	480	4,653	1,361	1,176	1,147
Women	—	437	79	56	53
Total	480	5,090	1,440	1,232	1,200

In the period from mid-1945 to the end of October, 1947, there has been a decrease of 3,890,000 (men 3,506,000 and women 384,000).

5. CIVIL EMPLOYMENT.†

The numbers in civil employment included in item 4 of the Table in paragraph 1 are as follows:—

	(Thousands)				
	Mid-1939.	Mid-1945.	End-1946.	Sept., 1947.	Oct., 1947.
Men	13,163	10,133	12,683	13,156	13,201
Women	4,837	6,283	5,593	5,611	5,661
Total	18,000	16,416	18,276	18,767	18,862
Equipment and Supplies for the Forces	1,270	3,830	460	350	350
Other Work‡	16,730	12,586	17,816	18,417	18,512
Total	18,000	16,416	18,276	18,767	18,862

Between mid-1939 and mid-1945, recruitment for the Forces, partly offset by substantial new intake from the non-industrial sections of the population, reduced the numbers in civil employment by nearly 1,600,000. Owing to the retirement of large numbers of men and women added during the war, the reduction continued up to the end of 1945, but since then the intake from demobilisation has greatly exceeded net losses from other causes. Between mid-1945 and the end of October, 1947, there was a net increase of 2,446,000 (men increased by 3,068,000, women decreased by 622,000). During October, 1947, there was an increase of 95,000. The number in civil employment at the end of October, 1947, was 862,000 greater than at mid-1939 (men increased by 38,000 and women increased by 824,000).

* Estimate for 31st October.

† Including N.F.S., Police and Civil Defence.

‡ Home civilian industries and services and manufactures for export.

6. MANUFACTURE OF EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES FOR THE FORCES.

By October, 1947, the number employed on the manufacture of equipment and supplies for the Forces had been reduced to 350,000.*

7. HOME CIVILIAN INDUSTRIES AND SERVICES AND MANUFACTURE FOR EXPORT.

The numbers employed in this sector at mid-1945 were 4,144,000 less than at mid-1939. Between mid-1945 and the end of October, 1947, there was an increase of 5,926,000 and at the latter date the number so employed was thus 1,782,000 greater than the number at mid-1939.

8. MANUFACTURE FOR HOME MARKET AND EXPORT.

The figures for this sector are shown in the following Table:—

	(Thousands)				
	Mid-1939.	Mid-1945.	End-1946.	Sept., 1947.	Oct., 1947.
Home Market:—	4,555	2,580	5,069	5,085	5,041
Export:—					
Metals and Chemicals†	450	200	942	1,095	1,169
Other Manufactures‡	540	210	535	624	669
Total, Export	990	410	1,477	1,719	1,838
Total, Home Market and Export	5,545	2,990	6,546	6,804	6,879

At mid-1945 the numbers employed on manufacture for home market and export were 2,555,000 lower than at mid-1939. Between mid-1945 and the end of October, 1947, there was an increase of 3,889,000, and the total at the latter date was thus 1,334,000 above the number at mid-1939.

The number employed on manufacture for export increased in the period from mid-1945 to the end of October, 1947, by 1,428,000, and at the end of October exceeded the mid-1939 figure by 848,000.

Employment on manufacture for the home market increased by 2,461,000 between mid-1945 and the end of October, 1947; at the end of October the total was 486,000 greater than at mid-1939.

9. ANALYSIS OF MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY.

The total numbers engaged in the principal groups of manufacturing industries are shown in the following Table:—

	(Thousands)				
	Mid-1939.	Mid-1945.	End-1946.	Sept., 1947.	Oct., 1947.
Metals, Engineering and Shipbuilding	2,812	3,899	3,474	3,503	3,537
Chemicals	294	447	351	362	365
Food, Drink and Tobacco	654	518	599	618	628
Textiles	1,002	634	767	791	803
Clothing	752	481	611	625	629
Other Manufactures	1,301	841	1,204	1,255	1,267
Total Manufactures	6,815	6,820	7,006	7,154	7,229

10. BASIC INDUSTRIES.

The figures for this sector are as follows:—

	(Thousands)				
	Mid-1939.	Mid-1945.	End-1946.	Sept., 1947.	Oct., 1947.
Agriculture and Fishing	950	1,041	1,081	1,089	1,090
Mining and Quarrying	873	799	801	828	827
Transport and Shipping	1,233	1,252	1,384	1,435	1,438
Gas, Water and Electricity	242	196	264	266	268
Total	3,298	3,288	3,530	3,618	3,623

The total number in this group of industries was almost the same at mid-1945 as at mid-1939; since mid-1945 the number has increased by 335,000.

* The figure of 350,000 has been estimated by the Ministry of Defence.

† Metal manufacture, shipbuilding and ship-repairing, engineering, aircraft, motors and other vehicles, metal goods, chemicals and explosives.

‡ Food, drink and tobacco, textiles, clothing, footwear, leather and leather goods, wood, paper, building materials, pottery, glass and other manufactures.

11. OTHER INDUSTRIES AND SERVICES.

The figures for other non-manufacturing industries and services are as follows:—

	(Thousands)				
	Mid-1939.	Mid-1945.	End-1946.	Sept., 1947.	Oct., 1947.
Building and Civil Engineering	1,310	722	1,289	1,367	1,366
National and Local Government	1,385	1,903	2,069	2,069	2,071
N.F.S., Police and Civil Defence	80	127	89	91	90
Distributive Trades	2,887	1,958	2,309	2,333	2,352
Hotels and Catering, Entertainments and Sport	817	618	781	855	845
Other Services*	1,408	980	1,203	1,280	1,286
Total	7,887	6,308	7,740	7,995	8,010

12. COMPARISON—OCTOBER, 1947, WITH MID-1939.

The numbers employed at the end of October, 1947, in certain important sectors of industry, expressed as percentages of the numbers so employed at mid-1939, are as follows:—

Manufacture for Home Market	110 per cent.
Equipment and Supplies for the Forces	28 " "
Manufacture for Export	186 " "
National and Local Government (including N.F.S. and Police)	148 " "
Basic Industries	110 " "
Building and Civil Engineering	104 " "
Distributive Trades	82 " "
Hotels and Catering, Entertainments and Sport	103 " "
Other Services	91 " "

13. SUMMARY.

The following Table shows the totals in the main categories at mid-1939, mid-1945, end-1946, September and October, 1947:—

	(Thousands)				
	Mid-1939.	Mid-1945.	End-1946.	Sept., 1947.	Oct., 1947.
Manufacture of Equipment and Supplies for the Forces	1,270	3,830	460	350	350
Manufacture for Home Market	4,555	2,580	5,069	5,085	5,041
Manufacture for Export	990	410	1,477	1,719	1,838
Total Manuf. Industries	6,815	6,820	7,006	7,154	7,229
Basic Industries†	3,298	3,288	3,530	3,618	3,623
Building and Civil Engineering	1,310	722	1,289	1,367	1,366
Government Service‡	1,465	2,030	2,158	2,160	2,161
Distributive Trades	2,887	1,958	2,309	2,333	2,352
Hotels and Catering, Entertainments and Sport	817	618	781	855	845
Other Services§	1,408	980	1,203	1,280	1,286
Total in Civil Employment	18,000	16,416	18,276	18,767	18,862
Armed Forces and Aux. Services	480	5,090	1,440	1,232	1,200
Total of above	18,480	21,506	19,716	19,999	20,062
Ex-H.M. Forces who have not yet taken up employment	—	40	300	115	110
Insured Persons registered as Unemployed	1,270	103	398	250	262
Total Working Population§	19,750	21,649	20,414	20,364	20,434

The Table below shows the changes in the main categories—increases (+) or decreases (—).

	(Thousands)			
	Mid-1939 to Mid-1945.	Mid-1945 to October, 1947.	Per cent. of mid-1945.	Changes during October, 1947.
Manufacture of Equipment and Supplies for the Forces	+ 2,560	— 3,480	— 91	—
Manufacture for Home Market	— 1,975	+ 2,461	+ 95	— 44
Manufacture for Export	+ 580	+ 1,428	+ 348	+ 119
Total Manuf. Industries	+ 5	+ 409	+ 6	+ 75
Basic Industries†	— 10	+ 335	+ 10	+ 5
Building and Civil Engineering	— 588	+ 644	+ 89	— 1
Government Service‡	+ 565	+ 131	+ 6	+ 1
Distributive Trades	— 929	+ 394	+ 20	+ 19
Hotels and Catering, Entertainments and Sport	— 199	+ 227	+ 37	— 10
Other Services§	— 428	+ 306	+ 31	+ 6
Total in Civil Employment	— 1,584	+ 2,446	+ 15	+ 95
Armed Forces and Aux. Services	+ 4,610	— 3,890	— 77	— 32
Total of above	+ 3,026	— 1,444	— 7	+ 63
Ex-H.M. Forces who have not yet taken up employment	+ 40	+ 70	+ 175	— 5
Insured Persons registered as Unemployed	— 1,167	+ 159	+ 154	+ 12
Total Working Population§	+ 1,899	— 1,215	— 6	+ 70

* Commerce and finance, professional services, personal services, laundries and cleaning.

† As defined in para. 10.

‡ National and Local Government Service, including N.F.S. Police and Civil Defence.

§ Excluding indoor private domestic service.

14. The Control of Engagement Order (details of which were given on pages 319 and 320 of the October issue of this GAZETTE) came into operation on 6th October. In connection with the Order, the Ministry of Labour and National Service have introduced a system of priorities, under which "First Preference" is given to vacancies for workpeople which, in the national interest, should take

precedence over others. The numbers of vacancies filled in October in the principal "First Preference" industries are shown in a Table on page 420. Figures are given in the Table below to show the net change in employment in the principal First Preference industries and certain other industries in October compared with July-September.

Industries.	Males.			Females.			Total.		
	Net change in employment.		Total employment at end of Oct.	Net change in employment.		Total employment at end of Oct.	Net change in employment.		Total employment at end of Oct.
	Monthly average July-Sept.	Oct.		Monthly average July-Sept.	Oct.		Monthly average July-Sept.	Oct.	
Manufacturing Industries.									
First Preference Industries :-									
Cotton spinning	+ 100	+ 500	51,500	+ 400	+ 1,900	94,100	+ 300	+ 2,400	145,600
Cotton manufacturing	+ 300	+ 1,100	78,100	+ 500	+ 2,000	93,900	+ 800	+ 3,100	172,000
Wool textiles	+ 400	+ 500	23,800	+ 100	+ 400	15,600	+ 600	+ 900	39,400
Rayon yarn	+ 100	+ 200	10,300	+ 100	+ 800	18,200	+ 100	+ 1,000	28,500
Silk and rayon weaving	+ 100	+ 200	6,300	+ 100	+ 800	11,400	+ 100	+ 1,000	17,700
Jute	+ 300	+ 300	47,200	+ 200	+ 200	21,700	+ 500	+ 500	68,900
Lace	+ 100	+ 500	22,400	+ 100	+ 400	37,300	+ 100	+ 900	59,700
Textile finishing	+ 100	+ 500	16,000	+ 100	+ 200	11,400	+ 200	+ 1,600	71,000
Miscellaneous textiles	+ 100	+ 1,400	59,600	+ 100	+ 200	15,100	+ 900	+ 1,100	180,600
Pig iron	+ 700	+ 1,100	165,500	+ 200	+ 100	2,700	+ 100	+ 100	14,800
Ironfounding	+ 100	+ 1,100	12,100	+ 100	+ 100	6,300	+ 300	+ 300	34,100
Steel melting, rolling, etc.	+ 100	+ 200	27,800	+ 100	+ 100	8,000	+ 100	+ 300	29,000
Tinplates	+ 100	+ 100	21,000	+ 200	+ 200	38,000	+ 600	+ 1,000	66,200
Iron and steel tubes	+ 200	+ 400	28,200	+ 400	+ 600	97,200	+ 800	+ 1,100	263,800
Wire, wire netting	+ 400	+ 400	166,600	+ 400	+ 1,100	553,000	+ 3,900	+ 15,700	1,329,600
Pottery									
Printing, publishing and book-binding									
Total First Preference Industries	+ 2,200	+ 6,800	776,600	+ 1,700	+ 8,900	553,000	+ 3,900	+ 15,700	1,329,600
Other Manufacturing Industries	+ 10,800	+ 34,200	3,775,700	+ 2,300	+ 25,100	1,799,300	+ 13,100	+ 59,300	5,575,000
Total Manufacturing Industries	+ 13,000	+ 41,000	4,552,300	+ 4,000	+ 34,000	2,352,300	+ 17,000	+ 75,000	6,904,600
Non-Manufacturing Industries and Services :-									
First Preference Industries and Services :-									
Coal mining	+ 1,200	+ 1,200	713,400	+ 600	+ 2,000	129,300	+ 1,200	+ 2,000	713,400
Laundries and cleaning			36,900						166,200
Other Industries and Services :-									
Building and civil engineering ..	+ 7,700	+ 1,000	1,141,700	+ 500	+ 200	54,700	+ 1,100	+ 500	465,400
Road transport	+ 600	+ 700	410,700	+ 200	+ 200	20,300	+ 200	+ 1,600	234,100
Public utilities	+ 200	+ 1,400	213,800			913,200	+ 3,000	+ 19,100	1,831,700
Distribution	+ 1,600	+ 2,700	918,500	+ 1,400	+ 16,400	103,800	+ 500	+ 5,000	181,100
Entertainment and sport	+ 1,500	+ 2,500	77,300	+ 2,000	+ 2,500	337,200	+ 3,100	+ 5,000	480,600
Hotels and catering	+ 1,000	+ 1,400	143,400	+ 300	+ 300	128,000	+ 400	+ 200	270,900
Commerce and finance	+ 400	+ 100	142,900						

Note. The Table excludes the following industries which are accorded First Preference treatment but for which separate statistics on this basis are not available: agriculture and horticulture, open cast coal production, coke ovens, iron ore mining and quarrying, engineers' iron and steel scrap merchants, shipbreakers, ball and roller bearing manufacture, china clay and chalk, gypsum mining and quarrying, shale oil mining, limestone quarrying, and domestic service in hotels and canteens in essential industries. "Other industries and services" also exclude the following, for which monthly statistics of insured employees are not available: national and local government service, railway service, fishing, shipping service, dock and harbour service, professional and personal services. On the other hand, the Table includes the natural silk industry (not separately distinguishable from rayon weaving) and publishing and newspaper printing (not separately distinguishable from printing and bookbinding) to which First Preference treatment is not accorded.

NUMBERS EMPLOYED : INDUSTRIAL ANALYSIS.

MID-1939, MID-1945, MID-1947 AND OCTOBER, 1947.

The Table below shows, in respect of those industries for which comparable figures are available, the changes in the level of employment between mid-1939, mid-1945, mid-1947 and October, 1947. The figures include only persons insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts, together with women in part-time employment, two of the latter being counted as one unit. They are thus different in scope from those given above, which include estimates of the numbers of uninsured full-time employees, and of employers and workers on own account. Satisfactory estimates of the changes in the numbers within these uninsured classes in each industry cannot, at present, be made at monthly intervals.

The figures given below for mid-1939, mid-1945 and mid-1947 are based on the count of insured persons in each industry at those dates, coupled with information as to the employment of

part-time women workers at mid-1945 and mid-1947 derived from the returns rendered by employers under the Undertakings (Records and Information and Inspection of Premises) Order, 1943. The information as to changes, since mid-1947, in the level of employment in each industry, except coal mining, building and civil engineering, is also derived from these returns. Certain industries and services, which are not covered by the returns (or are only partially covered), or in which uninsured persons form a large proportion of the labour force, are omitted from the figures. These are agriculture, mining and quarrying (other than coal mining), National and Local Government service, railways, shipping, fishing, dock and harbour service, and professional services. Insured persons registered as unemployed and demobilised men and women taking paid leave are not included.

Industry.	Males (14 and under 65).				Females (14 and under 60).				Total.			
	Mid-1939.	Mid-1945.	Mid-1947.	Oct., 1947.	Mid-1939.	Mid-1945.	Mid-1947.	Oct., 1947.	Mid-1939.	Mid-1945.	Mid-1947.	Oct., 1947.
	GROUP I (METAL AND CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES) :-											
Metal Manufacture :-												
Pig Iron	15.5	15.0	15.8	16.0	0.0	0.9	0.4	0.4	15.5	15.9	16.2	16.4
Steel Melting, etc.	156.4	147.0	162.3	165.5	3.6	27.8	14.6	15.1	160.0	174.8	176.9	180.6
Brass, Copper, Zinc, Tin, etc.	51.2	63.0	73.1	74.6	4.7	21.0	14.5	14.5	55.9	84.0	87.6	89.1
Tin Plates	22.7	9.7	12.3	12.1	2.4	2.7	2.7	2.5	25.1	12.4	15.0	14.8
Iron and Steel Tubes	29.1	25.9	27.7	27.8	2.6	8.8	6.1	6.3	31.7	34.7	33.8	34.1
Wire, Wire Netting, etc.	22.4	19.2	21.1	21.0	4.4	10.7	7.9	8.0	26.8	29.9	29.0	29.0
Total, Metal Manufacture	297.3	279.8	312.3	317.0	17.7	71.9	46.2	47.0	315.0	351.7	358.5	364.0
Engineering :-												
General Engineering	637.4	777.9	778.7	800.8	67.3	361.9	169.4	173.0	704.7	1,139.8	948.1	973.8
Electrical Engineering	105.9	106.1	105.3	107.1	28.0	69.7	49.0	50.3	133.9	175.8	154.3	157.4
Marine Engineering	51.1	70.1	64.6	63.6	1.1	10.4	3.5	3.5	52.2	80.5	68.1	67.1
Constructional Engineering	47.1	35.7	59.0	58.1	1.9	6.2	6.8	49.0	41.9	66.2	64.9	
Total, Engineering	841.5	989.8	1,007.6	1,029.6	98.3	448.2	229.1	233.6	939.8	1,438.0	1,237.7	1,263.2
Construction and Repair of Vehicles :-												
Motor Vehicles, Cycles and Aircraft	428.1	597.2	478.0	477.0	45.2	279.0	82.6	81.5	473.3	876.2	560.6	558.5
Carriages, Carts, etc.	10.7	10.9	22.0	22.8	1.9	3.5	4.2	4.6	12.6	14.4	26.2	27.4
Railway Carriages and Wagons	51.6	41.1	57.3	58.5	1.4	5.7	3.0	3.0	53.0	46.8	60.3	61.5
Total, Vehicles	490.4	649.2	557.3	558.3	48.5	288.2	89.8	89.7	538.9	937.4	647.1	647.4
Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing	141.8	230.4	206.1	206.2	2.9	21.9	8.6	8.5	144.7	252.3	214.7	214.7

NUMBERS EMPLOYED : INDUSTRIAL ANALYSIS—continued.
(Thousands)

Industry.	Males (14 and under 65).				Females (14 and under 60).				Total.			
	Mid-1939.	Mid-1945.	Mid-1947.	Oct., 1947.	Mid-1939.	Mid-1945.	Mid-1947.	Oct., 1947.	Mid-1939.	Mid-1945.	Mid-1947.	Oct., 1947.
Other Metal Industries :-												
Stove, Grate, Pipe, etc., and General Ironfounding	84.9	39.4	58.6	59.6	9.8	12.9	11.4	11.4	94.7	52.3	70.0	71.0
Electrical Wiring and Contracting	38.9	32.0	52.2	53.1	2.8	5.5	5.7	5.7	41.7	37.5	57.9	58.8
Electric Apparatus, Cables, etc.	116.4	112.2	143.0	147.6	79.5	167.7	133.2	137.8	195.9	279.9	276.2	285.4
Scientific and Photographic Instruments, etc.	34.0	38.1	41.8	42.5	14.3	38.7	25.6	26.2	48.3	76.8	67.4	68.7
Watches, Clocks, etc.	20.8	7.3	18.7	19.1	17.9	6.9	12.9	13.5	38.7	14.2	31.6	32.6
Hand Tools, Cutlery, etc.	21.9	20.6	26.0	26.5	11.6	16.6	18.4	18.5	33.5	37.2	44.4	45.0
Bolts, Nuts, etc.	16.8	16.1	17.9	17.6	13.0	18.8	16.0	15.7	29.8	34.9	33.9	33.3
Brass and Allied Metal Wares	17.4	9.2	12.6	12.8	11.1	8.8	9.1	9.1	28.5	18.0	21.7	21.9
Heating and Ventilating Apparatus	21.2	15.7	29.0	29.9	1.4	4.2	4.0	3.9	22.6	19.9	33.0	33.8
Other Metal Industries	185.2	170.0	225.2	228.9	101.1	145.6	132.2	134.1	286.3	315.6	357.4	363.0
Total, Other Metals	557.5	460.6	625.0	637.6	262.5	425.7	368.5	375.9	820.0	886.3	993.5	1,013.5
Chemicals, Paints, Oils, etc. :-												
Coke Ovens and By-Product Works	12.3	12.2	13.5	13.9	0.1	0.5	0.2	0.2	12.4	12.7	13.7	14.1
Chemicals	88.6	91.6	123.9	127.2	36.2	65.9	64.0	65.8	124.8	157.5	187.9	193.0
Paint, Varnish, etc.	29.2	78.3	21.6	21.7	7.9	90.4	13.0	12.7	37.1	168.7	34.6	34.4
Explosives	20.4	14.2	21.0	21.5	6.5	9.2	9.0	8.9	26.9	23.4	30.0	30.4
Oil, Glue, Soap, Ink, etc.	60.0	44.1	54.5	56.3	23.2	31.7	27.1	27.8	83.2	75.8	81.6	84.1
Total, Chemicals, etc.	210.5	240.4	234.5	240.6	73.9	197.7	113.3	115.4	284.4	438.1	347.8	356.0
Total, Group I Industries	2,539.0	2,850.2	2,942.8	2,989.3	503.8	1,453.6	855.5	869.5	3,042.8	4,303.8	3,798.3	3,858.8
GROUP II (BASIC INDUSTRIES)* :-												
Coal Mining	757.5	707.8	728.3	725.7	3.7	9.8	9.4	9.4	761.2	717.6	737.7	735.1
Gas, Water and Electricity Supply	203.2	138.2	211.9	213.8	11.6	28.4	20.1	20.3	214.8	166.6	232.0	234.1
Tramway and Omnibus Service	193.0	129.3	211.4	214.7	12.0	82.0	39.6	41.6	205.0	211.3	251.0	256.3
Other Road Passenger Transport	34.1	13.1	25.7	24.8	3.0	2.0</						

UNEMPLOYMENT AMONG INSURED PERSONS AT 10th NOVEMBER, 1947.

SUMMARY FOR GREAT BRITAIN.

The numbers of insured persons registered as unemployed* in Great Britain at 13th October and 10th November, 1947, were as follows:—

	Men 18 and under 65 years.	Boys 14-17 years.	Women 18 and under 60 years.	Girls 14-17 years.	Total.
13th October	184,059	5,277	65,097	4,552	258,985
10th November	189,744	4,979	68,743	4,319	267,785

In addition, there were on the registers at 10th November 14,498† uninsured persons, including 1,720 boys and girls under 18 who had not yet entered industry.

The figures for 10th November are analysed below:—

	Wholly Unemployed (including Casuals).					Total.
	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.	Total.	Temporarily Stopped.	
Men, 18-64	44,659	49,516	91,770	185,945	3,799	189,744
Boys, 14-17	2,951	1,278	686	4,915	64	4,979
Women, 18-59	21,331	18,527	27,106	66,964	1,779	68,743
Girls, 14-17	2,646	980	604	4,230	89	4,319
Total	71,587	70,301	120,166	262,054	5,731	267,785

The total of 267,785 includes 35,486 married women, and ex-Service personnel numbering 8,030 who had had no employment since leaving the Forces.

The changes between 13th October and 10th November, 1947, in each administrative Region were as follows:—

Region.		Wholly Unemployed (including Casuals).					Total.
		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.	Total.	Temporarily Stopped.	
London & South-Eastern	13th Oct.	18,555	8,575	8,962	36,092	226	36,318
	10th Nov.	18,440	11,057	9,434	38,931	540	39,471
Eastern	13th Oct.	2,937	1,778	2,269	6,984	7	7,029
	10th Nov.	2,965	2,414	2,246	7,625	115	7,740
Southern	13th Oct.	3,117	1,820	1,825	6,762	194	6,956
	10th Nov.	2,938	2,772	2,322	8,032	27	8,059
South-Western	13th Oct.	3,450	2,601	3,376	9,427	30	9,457
	10th Nov.	3,131	3,551	3,774	10,456	35	10,491
Midland	13th Oct.	3,715	1,766	4,093	9,574	226	9,800
	10th Nov.	3,865	2,228	3,777	9,870	197	10,067
North-Midland	13th Oct.	1,754	1,328	2,348	5,430	257	5,687
	10th Nov.	2,375	1,644	2,344	6,333	304	6,637
East and West Ridings	13th Oct.	4,372	3,149	5,898	13,419	523	13,942
	10th Nov.	3,809	3,443	6,043	13,295	678	13,973
North-Western	13th Oct.	12,609	11,864	22,703	47,176	674	47,850
	10th Nov.	11,949	12,901	22,573	47,423	777	48,200
Northern	13th Oct.	6,818	7,482	15,296	29,596	958	30,554
	10th Nov.	6,445	8,491	15,282	30,218	708	30,926
Scotland	13th Oct.	12,432	12,211	26,552	51,195	476	51,671
	10th Nov.	10,249	12,906	27,313	50,468	620	51,088
Wales	13th Oct.	5,978	7,336	23,558	36,872	995	37,867
	10th Nov.	5,317	8,525	23,839	37,681	1,730	39,411
Great Britain (including Special Schemes)	13th Oct.	75,978	60,243	118,160	254,381	4,604	258,985
	10th Nov.	71,587	70,301	120,166	262,054	5,731	267,785

* See footnote * in the next column.
† See footnote † in the next column.

The following Table gives the numbers unemployed and the approximate percentage rates of unemployment at 10th November among insured males and females in each Region:—

Region.	Number of insured persons registered as unemployed at 10th November, 1947.			Number registered as unemployed expressed as percentage of the estimated total number of insured persons.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
London and South-Eastern	29,650	9,821	39,471	1	1	1
Eastern	5,893	1,847	7,740	1	1	1
Southern	5,758	2,301	8,059	1	1	1
South-Western	7,648	2,843	10,491	1	1	1
Midland	7,840	2,227	10,067	1	1	1
North-Midland	4,851	1,786	6,637	1	1	1
E. and W. Ridings	10,730	3,243	13,973	1	1	1
North-Western	37,629	10,571	48,200	2	1	2
Northern	21,059	9,867	30,926	3	4	3
Scotland	35,871	15,217	51,088	3	3	3
Wales	26,778	12,633	39,411	5	7	5
Great Britain (excluding Special Schemes)	193,707	72,356	266,063	2	1	1

NUMBERS UNEMPLOYED IN THE UNITED KINGDOM: REGIONAL ANALYSIS.

The total number of insured persons registered as unemployed* in the United Kingdom at 10th November, 1947, was 293,023, including 216,533 men and boys and 76,490 women and girls. In addition, there were on the registers in the United Kingdom at 10th November, 14,945† uninsured persons, including 1,871 boys and girls under 18 who had not yet entered industry.

The numbers of insured unemployed persons on the registers in each Region are shown below.

Region.	Men 18 and under 65 years.	Boys 14-17 years.	Women 18 and under 60 years.	Girls 14-17 years.	Total.
London and South-Eastern	28,226	1,155	8,746	804	38,931
Eastern	5,703	151	1,626	145	7,625
Southern	5,575	167	2,103	187	8,032
South-Western	7,435	187	2,645	189	10,456
Midland	7,513	168	2,060	129	9,870
North-Midland	4,513	107	1,597	116	6,333
E. and W. Ridings	10,108	180	2,837	170	13,295
North-Western	36,289	856	9,872	406	47,423
Northern	20,134	480	9,015	589	30,218
Scotland	34,444	995	14,202	827	50,468
Wales	24,993	465	11,560	663	37,681
Special Schemes	1,012	4	701	5	1,722
Great Britain	185,945	4,915	66,964	4,230	262,054
Northern Ireland	21,150	437	3,004	146	24,737
United Kingdom	207,095	5,352	69,968	4,376	286,791
Temporarily Stopped.					
London and South-Eastern	267	2	269	2	540
Eastern	36	—	71	5	115
Southern	16	—	11	—	27
South-Western	26	4	—	1	31
Midland	155	1	—	—	156
North-Midland	230	1	69	—	300
E. and W. Ridings	433	9	231	5	678
North-Western	479	5	291	2	777
Northern	434	11	233	30	708
Scotland	421	11	184	4	620
Wales	1,302	18	374	36	1,730
Great Britain	3,799	64	1,779	89	5,731
Northern Ireland	214	9	270	8	501
United Kingdom	4,013	73	2,049	97	6,232
Total Registered as Unemployed.					
London and South-Eastern	28,493	1,157	9,015	806	39,471
Eastern	5,739	154	1,697	150	7,740
Southern	5,591	167	2,114	187	8,059
South-Western	7,461	187	2,653	190	10,491
Midland	7,668	172	2,098	128	10,067
North-Midland	4,743	108	1,666	120	6,637
E. and W. Ridings	10,541	189	3,068	175	13,973
North-Western	36,768	861	10,163	408	48,200
Northern	20,568	491	9,248	619	30,926
Scotland	34,865	1,006	14,386	831	51,088
Wales	26,295	483	11,934	699	39,411
Special Schemes	1,012	4	701	5	1,722
Great Britain	189,744	4,979	68,743	4,319	267,785
Northern Ireland	21,364	446	3,274	154	25,238
United Kingdom	211,108	5,425	72,017	4,473	293,023

* The figures exclude 17,703 insured men and 634 insured women on the registers in Great Britain who had been classified as unsuitable for ordinary employment.
† This figure excludes 920 uninsured persons on the registers in Great Britain who had been classified as unsuitable for ordinary employment.

NUMBERS UNEMPLOYED IN THE PRINCIPAL TOWNS.

The Table below shows the total numbers of unemployed* insured persons on the registers of all Employment Exchanges and Juvenile Employment Bureaux in each Administrative Region on 10th November, 1947, and the numbers of insured persons on the registers of the Exchanges and Bureaux situated in some of the principal towns in each Region, together with the increase or decrease compared with 13th October, 1947.

Regions (in italics) and Principal Towns.	Numbers of Insured Persons* on Registers at 10th November, 1947.			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Totals as compared with 13th October, 1947.
	Men 18 and under 65 years.	Women 18 and under 60 years.	Juveniles under 18 years.	
London and South-Eastern	28,493	9,015	1,963	39,471 + 3,153
London (Administrative County)	13,240	2,996	513	16,749 + 907
Acton	126	44	7	177 + 51
Brentford and Chiswick	167	25	7	199 + 21
Brighton and Hove	1,018	545	49	1,612 + 393
Chatham	546	449	88	1,083 + 214
Croydon	727	189	49	965 + 7
Dagenham	312	109	43	464 + 6
East Ham	309	74	19	402 + 22
Enfield	212	68	17	297 + 41
Harrow and Wembley	346	57	21	424 + 50
Hayes and Harlington	103	37	20	160 + 6
Hendon	385	61	23	469 + 18
Leyton and Walthamstow	645	171	44	860 + 32
Tottenham	629	112	29	770 + 67
West Ham	704	158	70	932 + 119
Willesden	285	120	16	421 + 27
Eastern	5,739	1,697	304	7,740 + 711
Bedford	152	32	7	191 + 10
Cambridge	46	31	8	85 + 1
Ipswich	174	37	16	227 + 25
Luton	181	35	13	229 + 35
Norwich	594	110	10	714 + 40
Watford	87	44	13	144 + 25
Southern	5,591	2,114	354	8,059 + 1,103
Oxford	194	42	31	267 + 47
Portsmouth (inc. Gosport)	1,125	538	80	1,743 + 335
Reading	305	97	24	426 + 18
Slough	307	28	5	340 + 80
Southampton	659	299	40	998 + 120
South-Western	7,451	2,653	377	10,491 + 1,034
Bristol (inc. Kingswood)	1,872	429	101	2,402 + 75
Exeter	282	90	13	385 + 16
Gloucester	59	67	7	133 + 3
Plymouth	786	699	55	1,540 + 146
Swindon	124	56	4	184 + 7
Midland	7,668	2,098	301	10,067 + 267
Birmingham	1,977	799	94	2,870 + 342
Burton-on-Trent	18	31	8	57 + 2
Coventry	1,350	245	26	1,621 + 58
Oldbury	65	15	8	88 + 1
Smethwick	80	58	3	141 + 4
Stoke-on-Trent	1,180	31	21	1,232 + 68
Walsall	232	70	18	320 + 41
West Bromwich	31	13	3	47 + 1
Wolverhampton	360	113	8	481 + 17
Worcester	74	51	17	142 + 24
North-Midland	4,743	1,666	228	6,637 + 950
Chesterfield	193	76	7	276 + 29
Derby	69	9	116	299 + 212
Grimsby	80	122	15	217 + 9
Leicester	309	63	21	393 + 21
Lincoln	70	55	—	125 + 39
Mansfield	251	52	3	306 + 11
Northampton	139	40	9	188 + 29
Nottingham	808	139	27	974 + 15
Peterborough	44	49	18	111 + 22
Scunthorpe	30	68	18	116 + 45
East and West Ridings	10,541	3,068	364	13,973 + 31
Barnsley	400	51	8	459 + 25
Bradford	730	39	15	784 + 42
Dewsbury	118	1	—	119 + 28
Doncaster	4			

NUMBERS UNEMPLOYED : INDUSTRIAL ANALYSIS.

The statistics given below show, industry by industry, the numbers of persons aged 14 and over, insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts, who were registered as unemployed at 10th November, 1947, distinguishing those wholly unemployed (i.e., out of a situation) from those temporarily stopped (i.e., suspended from work on the understanding that they were shortly to return to their former employment). The numbers include unemployed insured persons on the registers of Local Offices of the Ministry of Labour and National Service and of Juvenile Employment Bureaux, and claimants for benefit under the Special Schemes for banking and insurance.

The Unemployment Insurance Acts provide, subject to certain exceptions, for the compulsory insurance against unemployment of substantially all employed males under 65 years of age and females under 60 years of age. The principal classes of excepted employments are indoor private domestic service, employment otherwise than by way of manual labour at a rate of remuneration exceeding in value £420 a year, employment as female professional nurse, and, subject to certain qualifications, employment in the teaching profession and in the police forces; employment under public or local authorities, railway and public utility companies may, in certain circumstances, also be excepted. The Unemployment Insurance Acts do not apply to persons serving in an established capacity in the permanent

service of the Crown. Some persons employed in agricultural occupations are also outside the scope of the agricultural scheme, including sons, daughters, and other near relatives of the employer, persons not working under a contract of service, and persons engaged in such casual harvesting work as hop-picking, or gathering flowers, fruit, peas or potatoes (unless they normally undertake other insurable work). Persons not domiciled in the United Kingdom (e.g., migratory labourers from Éire) are not insurable in respect of employment in agriculture, and are accordingly not included in the figures. Part-time workers employed for not more than 30 hours a week, who entered employment during the war, are in most cases not insurable against unemployment, and are not, therefore, included. Insured persons on the registers in Great Britain who have been classified as unsuitable for ordinary employment are also excluded.

An unemployment book, on which is recorded 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 makes a claim for unemployment benefit or for an unemployment allowance, or registers as unemployed without claiming benefit or an allowance. The files of 'lodged' books at the Employment Exchanges thus furnish for each industrial group a record of the unemployment of insured persons.

Industry.	Great Britain.						United Kingdom.					
	Wholly Unemployed (including Casuals).			Temporarily Stopped.			Total.			Wholly Unemployed, Temporarily Stopped and Casuals.		
	Males aged 14 and under 65.	Females aged 14 and under 60.	Total.	Males aged 14 and under 65.	Females aged 14 and under 60.	Total.	Males aged 14 and under 65.	Females aged 14 and under 60.	Total.	Males aged 14 and under 65.	Females aged 14 and under 60.	Total.
Agriculture* :-												
Farming, Forestry, etc.	3,170	1,764	4,934	29	198	227	3,199	1,962	5,161	5,676	2,028	7,704
Market Gardening, Horticulture, etc.	519	353	872	8	23	31	527	376	903	568	379	947
Total, Agriculture	3,689	2,117	5,806	37	221	258	3,726	2,338	6,064	6,244	2,407	8,651
Fishing	901	8	909	57	—	57	958	8	966	1,003	8	1,011
Mining :-												
Coal Mining†	1,696	160	1,856	20	—	20	1,716	160	1,876	1,765	160	1,925
Iron Ore and Ironstone Mining, etc.	37	3	40	—	—	—	37	3	40	38	4	42
Lead, Tin and Copper Mining	43	—	43	—	—	—	43	—	43	—	—	—
Stone Quarrying and Mining	367	7	374	—	—	—	367	7	374	723	7	730
Slate Quarrying and Mining	87	1	88	—	—	—	87	1	88	88	—	88
Other Mining and Quarrying	60	46	106	—	—	—	60	46	106	65	46	111
Clay, Sand, Gravel and Chalk Pits	95	9	104	—	—	—	96	9	105	199	9	208
Total, Mining†	2,385	226	2,611	21	—	21	2,406	226	2,632	2,921	227	3,148
Non-Metalliferous Mining Products:-												
Coke Ovens and By-Product Works	172	7	179	—	—	—	172	7	179	173	7	180
Cast Stone and Cast Concrete Products, Patent Fuel, Stone Grinding, etc.	513	98	611	2	2	4	515	100	615	545	100	645
Cement, Limekilns and Whiting	99	27	126	3	3	6	102	28	130	190	29	219
Total, N.-M. Mining Products	784	132	916	5	5	10	789	135	924	908	136	1,044
Brick, Tile, Pipe, etc., Making	679	130	809	15	1	16	694	131	825	750	131	881
Pottery, Earthenware, etc.	276	79	355	4	—	4	280	79	359	292	81	373
Glass :-												
Glass Manufacture (exc. Bottles and Lenses, Prisms, etc.)	314	269	583	1	—	1	315	269	584	320	270	590
Glass Bottles, Jars, etc.	225	217	442	7	6	13	232	223	455	233	223	456
Total, Glass	539	486	1,025	8	6	14	547	492	1,039	553	493	1,046
Chemicals, Paints, Oils, etc. :-												
Chemicals	1,261	878	2,139	3	7	10	1,264	885	2,149	1,327	889	2,216
Explosives	3,263	2,437	5,700	5	5	10	3,268	2,442	5,710	3,284	2,445	5,729
Paint, Varnish, Red Lead, etc.	316	100	416	—	—	—	316	100	416	325	101	426
Oil, Glue, Soap, Ink, Matches, etc.	708	328	1,036	18	6	24	726	334	1,060	745	338	1,083
Total, Chemicals, Paints, Oils, etc.	5,548	3,743	9,291	26	18	44	5,574	3,761	9,335	5,681	3,773	9,454
Metal Manufacture :-												
Pig Iron (Blast Furnaces)	113	23	136	—	—	—	113	23	136	125	24	149
Steel Melting and Iron Puddling	1,499	681	2,180	1,111	15	1,126	2,610	696	3,306	2,648	696	3,344
Iron and Steel Rolling, etc.	1,143	969	2,112	75	165	240	1,134	2,352	1,295	1,135	2,430	1,295
Brass, Copper, Zinc, Tin, Lead, etc.	237	163	400	221	30	251	458	193	651	459	193	652
Tin Plates	382	121	503	6	—	6	388	121	509	392	123	515
Iron and Steel Tubes	235	156	391	103	—	103	338	158	496	341	158	499
Wire, Wire Netting, Wire Ropes, etc.	3,609	2,113	5,722	1,516	212	1,728	5,125	2,325	7,450	5,260	2,329	7,589
Engineering, etc. :-												
General Engineering : Engineers' Iron and Steel Founding	10,699	3,168	13,867	32	27	59	10,731	3,195	13,926	11,245	3,230	14,475
Electrical Engineering	1,192	494	1,686	3	2	5	1,195	496	1,691	1,261	503	1,764
Marine Engineering, etc.	1,114	278	1,392	5	2	7	1,119	280	1,399	1,328	281	1,609
Constructional Engineering	1,139	266	1,405	3	3	6	1,142	267	1,409	1,206	268	1,474
Total, Engineering, etc.	14,144	4,206	18,350	43	32	75	14,187	4,238	18,425	15,040	4,282	19,322
Construction and Repair of Vehicles :-												
Motor Vehicles, Cycles and Aircraft Carriages, Carts, etc.	8,949	1,424	10,373	40	6	46	8,989	1,430	10,419	10,111	1,487	11,598
Railway Carriages and Wagons, etc.	258	58	316	—	—	—	258	58	316	275	64	339
Total, Vehicles	9,407	1,504	10,911	40	6	46	9,447	1,510	10,957	10,626	1,574	12,200
Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing	6,225	581	6,806	242	33	275	6,467	614	7,081	7,658	616	8,274
Other Metal Industries :-												
Stove, Grate, Pipe, etc., and General Iron Founding	486	180	666	5	1	6	491	181	672	565	181	746
Electrical Wiring and Contracting	726	54	780	1	—	1	727	54	781	806	57	863
Electric Apparatus, Cable, Lamps, etc.	1,605	1,288	2,893	2	4	6	1,607	1,292	2,899	1,639	1,303	2,942
Hand Tools, Cutlery, Saws, Files, Bolts, Nuts, Screws, Rivets, Nails, etc.	170	96	266	—	—	—	170	96	266	189	97	286
Brass and Allied Metal Wares	170	221	391	—	—	—	170	221	391	173	221	394
Heating and Ventilating Apparatus	131	94	225	2	—	2	133	94	227	137	101	238
Watches, Clocks, Plate, Jewellery, etc.	304	31	335	—	—	—	304	31	335	321	34	355
Metal Industries not separately specified	223	102	325	1	1	2	224	103	327	228	107	335
Total, Other Metals	3,198	1,711	4,909	50	21	71	3,248	1,732	4,980	3,358	1,758	5,116
Total, All Industries	7,013	3,777	10,790	61	27	88	7,074	3,804	10,878	7,416	3,859	11,275

* Excluding private gardeners, grooms, gamekeepers, park gardeners, sports ground keepers, etc., who are insured under the Agricultural Scheme, but including workers in certain other employments, e.g., clerks, lorry drivers, etc., who are insured under the General Scheme.
† The figures for coal mining exclude all the unemployed at 10th November who, although their unemployment books bear the coal mining classification, have been found to be medically unfit for employment in that industry. These men are, however, included in the "grand total" on the next page.

NUMBERS UNEMPLOYED : INDUSTRIAL ANALYSIS—continued.

Industry.	Great Britain.						United Kingdom.					
	Wholly Unemployed (including Casuals).			Temporarily Stopped.			Total.			Wholly Unemployed, Temporarily Stopped and Casuals.		
	Males aged 14 and under 65.	Females aged 14 and under 60.	Total.	Males aged 14 and under 65.	Females aged 14 and under 60.	Total.	Males aged 14 and under 65.	Females aged 14 and under 60.	Total.	Males aged 14 and under 65.	Females aged 14 and under 60.	Total.
Textiles :-												
Cotton Preparing, Spinning, etc.	518	484	1,002	1	6	7	519	490	1,009	519	490	1,009
Cotton Manufacturing (Weaving, etc.)	278	298	576	6	27	33	284	325	609	284	325	609
Total, Cotton	796	782	1,578	7	33	40	803	815	1,618	803	815	1,618
Woollen and Worsted	454	281	735	1	—	1	455	283	738	467	292	759
Silk Spinning and Manufacture and Rayon, Nylon, etc., Weaving, etc.	62	78	140	1	2	3	63	83	146	71	86	157
Rayon, Nylon, etc., Yarn Manufacture	156	98	254	—	1	1	156	99	255	159	100	259
Linen	64	92	156	—	1	1	64	93	157	1,117	542	1,659
Jute	139	127	266	—	—	—	139	127	266	139	127	266
Hemp, Rope, Cord, Twine, etc.	124	239	363	2	2	4	126	241	367	162	298	460
Hosiery	83	235	318	131	24	155	214	259	473	217	268	485
Lace	19	11	30	—	—	—	19	11	30	31	20	51
Carpets	56	71	127	17	12	29	73	83	156	80	95	175
Other Textiles	281	285	566	1	23	24	282	308	590	307	379	686
Textile Bleaching, Printing, Dyeing, etc.	371	124	495	78	5	83	449	129	578	677	177	854
Total, Textiles	2,605	2,423	5,028	239	108	347	2,844	2,531	5,375	4,219	3,191	7,410
Leather, Leather Goods and Fur :-												
Tanning, Currying and Dressing, etc.	310	83	393	6	4	10	316	87	403	338	91	429
Leather Goods	147	94	241	1	—	1	148	94	242	152	102	254
Total, Leather	457	182	639	7	4	11	464	186	650	490	193	683
Clothing :-												
Tailoring	1,668	1,189	2,857	219	341	560	1,887	1,530	3,417	1,941	1,579	3,520
Dress Making and Millinery	154	509	663	16	70	86	170	579	749	172	597	769
Hats and Caps (including Straw Plait)	72	42	114	99	50	149	171	92	263	176	107	283
Shirts, Collars, Underclothing, etc.	78	296	374	3	139	142	81	435	516	119	808	927
Other Dress Industries	45	122	167	—	—	—	45	122	167	46	128	174
Boots, Shoes, Slippers and Clogs	564	168	732	21	13	34	585	181	766	654	182	836
Total, Clothing	2,581	2,326	4,907	358	613	971	2,939	2,939	5,878	3,108	3,401	6,509
Food, Drink and Tobacco :-												
Bread, Biscuits, Cakes, etc.	1,386	930	2,316	5	11	16	1,391	941	2,332	1,578	994	2,572
Grain Milling	229	128	357	—	3	3	229	131	360	264	133	397
Cocoa, Chocolate and Sugar Confectionery	251	384	635	2	2	4	253	386	639	254	387	641
Other Food Industries	1,146	1,091	2,237	13	42	55	1,159	1,133	2,292	1,280	1,2	

PLACING WORK OF THE EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES.

VACANCIES FILLED AND UNFILLED IN GREAT BRITAIN.

Statistics are compiled at four-weekly intervals showing the numbers of vacancies filled by Employment Exchanges and other Local Offices of the Ministry of Labour and National Service, together with the numbers remaining unfilled at the end of the period. The figures for the two four-weekly periods ended 29th October and 26th November, 1947, are given in the Table below. Figures for earlier periods were given in the last two issues of this GAZETTE.

	Four weeks ended 29th October, 1947.		Four weeks ended 26th November, 1947.		Total Number of Placings 26 Dec., 1946, to 26 Nov. 1947 (48 weeks).
	Placings.	Vacancies Unfilled.	Placings.	Vacancies Unfilled.	
Men aged 18 and over	199,297	246,586	220,736	230,982	1,680,859
Boys under 18	15,644	57,229	13,899	56,561	211,154
Women aged 18 and over	93,184	196,093	96,108	190,110	655,251
Girls under 18	13,225	80,013	11,938	79,028	168,618
Total	321,350	579,921	342,681	556,681	2,715,882

The number of placings by Employment Exchanges during the four weeks ended 26th November showed an increase of 21,331 over the figure for the preceding period of four weeks; compared with the four weeks immediately before the Control of Engagement Order came into operation, the increase was over 118,000. Between 29th October and 26th November the number of notified vacancies remaining unfilled fell from 580,000 to 557,000.

The placings figures of 342,681 and 321,350 for the two four-weekly periods shown in the above Table compare with totals of 224,077 in the four weeks ended 1st October, 219,502 in the four weeks ended 3rd September and 164,833 in the four weeks ended 6th August.

Of the total of 321,350 placings during the four weeks ended 29th October, the number to which "First Preference" was accorded under the Control of Engagement Order was 39,036, or 12 per cent. From 6th October to 31st October, 1947, 101 directions were issued, 84 to coal mining, 7 to agriculture, and 10 to other industries.

The following Table shows in detail the total number of placings in vacancies to which First Preference treatment was accorded up to 29th October:—

Industry.	Males.	Females.
Agriculture and horticulture	3,405	1,101
Coal (deep mining)	4,595	42
Coal (open cast)	838	4
Cotton, preparing, spinning, etc.	1,118	2,310
Cotton, manufacturing, weaving, etc.	586	846
Woolen and worsted	1,886	2,034
Rayon yarn manufacture	524	569
Rayon weaving	208	196
Jute	228	157
Lace	41	111
Miscellaneous textile industries	310	558
Textile bleaching, printing, etc.	733	324
Iron ore mining and quarrying	87	—
Iron founding, etc.	3,665	490
Pig iron	185	1
Steel melting, rolling, etc.	2,176	277
Tin plates	170	76
Iron and steel tubes	506	97
Wire, wire rope, wire netting	329	236
Iron and steel scrap merchants	714	39
Ball and roller bearings	247	162
China clay and chalk	30	—
Pottery	563	570
Gypsum mining	96	—
Shale oil mining	11	—
Printing and bookbinding	279	699
Domestic service in hostels, etc.	141	707
Coke ovens (iron and steel works)	77	—
Electrical generating plant for electricity undertakings	430	71
Coal mining machinery	336	30
Plant for gas undertakings	103	11
Coal-oil conversion equipment	35	—
Railway freight locomotives and wagons	381	6
Atomic energy development	22	—
Refractories	208	46
Bricks and tiles (certain undertakings only)	332	6
Power stations construction	274	—
Scottish hydro-electric schemes	203	—
Other essential vacancies (not determined on an industry basis)	931	252
Total first preference vacancies	27,003	12,033

In considering the figures in the Table above it should be borne in mind that (a) the Ministry of Labour and National Service are not responsible for all placings in employment; a substantial proportion of placings (of persons outside the scope of the Control of Engagement Order) are effected which do not go through the Employment Exchanges, although this proportion was considerably less in October than in previous months; and (b) the number placed must not be regarded as equivalent to the net increase in employment.

WORK OF APPOINTMENTS DEPARTMENT.

MONTHLY STATISTICS.

The particulars given below relate to the work of the Appointments Department of the Ministry of Labour and National Service. The figures for the Technical and Scientific Register and for the Appointments Register are in continuation of those published in previous issues of this GAZETTE, but particulars in respect of Nursing Appointments Offices are now given for the first time.

TECHNICAL AND SCIENTIFIC REGISTER.

The Technical and Scientific Register, which is situated at York House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2, operates on a national basis. It is assisted in its work by six Advisory Committees for architecture and public utilities, chemistry, civil engineering, electrical engineering, mechanical engineering, and scientific research. The Register provides a placing and advisory service for persons holding the necessary qualifications, these being, in general, possession of a University degree, or membership of the appropriate recognised professional institution.

A register of vacancies, notified by employers, is maintained, from which persons enrolled on the Register are supplied with full particulars of posts for which, by their qualifications and experience, they appear to be suitable. A wide range of overseas vacancies is also available. The services of the Register are available to physicists, mathematicians, chemists (other than pharmacists), metallurgists, agriculturists, biologists and all other scientists, professional engineers, architects, surveyors, town planners, estate agents and valuers.

The total number of persons enrolled on the Available Section of the Technical and Scientific Register at 10th November, 1947, was 4,593* ; this figure included 3,502 registrants who were already in work but desired a change of employment and 1,091 who were unemployed. Among the unemployed were 413 ex-Service men and women.

The number of vacancies notified and filled between 14th October and 10th November (4 weeks) is shown below:—

Vacancies outstanding at 14th October	4,579
Vacancies notified during the period	676
Vacancies filled during the period	215†
Vacancies cancelled or withdrawn	429
Vacancies outstanding at 10th November	4,611

APPOINTMENTS REGISTER.

The Appointments Register is concerned with the placing of persons having professional, administrative, managerial or executive experience or qualifications and those having technical qualifications not appropriate to the Technical and Scientific Register. The registers are maintained at the London Appointments Office and at the Regional Appointments Offices in the towns shown in the Table below.

The total number of persons on the registers of the Appointments Offices at 10th November, 1947, was 32,417,† consisting of 29,074 men and 3,343 women. Of these, 17,129 men and 568 women were ex-Service personnel. The numbers on the registers included 17,013 men and 1,703 women who were in employment, while 12,061 men and 1,640 women had registered as unemployed at some date in the preceding two months and were not known to be in employment at 10th November. Of those in employment, 9,872 men and 245 women were ex-Service personnel. The numbers of ex-Service personnel included in the numbers unemployed were 7,257 men and 323 women.

The following Table shows the total figures of registrations at each of the Offices:—

Appointments Office.	In Employment.		Unemployed.	
	Men.	Women.	Men.	Women.
London	4,623	508	5,073	607
Cambridge	728	51	478	38
Reading	549	54	317	62
Winnchester	600	22	494	24
Bristol	996	77	686	103
Birmingham	1,711	173	1,012	123
Nottingham	702	52	331	41
Leeds	985	111	457	96
Liverpool	1,081	96	551	54
Manchester	1,604	128	726	92
Newcastle-on-Tyne	703	81	352	75
Edinburgh	1,088	142	654	142
Glasgow	1,131	165	640	115
Cardiff	512	43	290	67
Total*	17,013	1,703	12,061	1,640

During the period 14th October to 10th November there were new registrations by 3,878 men and 794 women, and during the same period the registrations of 4,695 men and 940 women lapsed or were passed to Local Offices of the Ministry. The next Table shows the number of vacancies (other than those for nurses and midwives) notified, filled, etc., between 14th October and 10th November.

* This figure included 349 registrants who were also registered with Appointments Offices.
† Including 78 vacancies filled by ex-Service men.
‡ Excluding 625 persons registered for overseas employment only. Registrations of nurses and midwives are also excluded (see separate article).

Analysis of Vacancies, 14th October—10th November.

	Men.*	Women.
Vacancies outstanding at 13th October	4,486	977
Notified during the period	1,775	513
Cancelled or withdrawn during the period	1,275	255
Vacancies filled during the period†	743	224
Vacancies unfilled at 10th November	4,243	1,011

NURSING APPOINTMENTS OFFICES.

As indicated above, the numbers of vacancies notified and filled in the nursing and midwifery professions are not included in the statistics relating to the Appointments Register. The placing of student and trained nurses and midwives in vacancies notified by hospitals and other employers is carried out by the Nursing Services Branch of Appointments Department. The Branch also provides a careers advice service for potential students and qualified persons seeking other posts. (A short article dealing with the scope and functions of Nursing Appointments Offices was published in the issue of this GAZETTE for November, 1946, page 317.) Eleven of the Regional Appointments Offices have special Nursing Sections, and there are also 31 Nursing Appointments Offices situated in all parts of Great Britain.

Statistics of vacancies for nurses and midwives in respect of the period from 13th October to 10th November are given below.

	Men.	Women.
Vacancies outstanding at 13th October	2,382	29,761
Vacancies filled during period	151	999‡
Vacancies outstanding at 10th November	2,408	29,322‡

The total of 31,730 vacancies outstanding at 10th November included 3,264 vacancies for nursing orderlies, etc. An analysis of the remaining 28,466 vacancies, by grade of nurse (or midwife) and by type of institution or service, is given in the following Table:—

Institution or Service.	Trained Nurses.	Student Nurses.	Midwives and Pupil Midwives.	Asst. Nurses and Pupil Asst. Nurses.
Hospitals and Institutions:				
Tuberculosis Sanatoria	636	935	—	396
Maternity Hospitals and Domiciliary Midwifery Services	65	—	898	206
Mental Hospitals and Institutions	1,086	5,448	—	205
Infectious Diseases Hospitals	778	1,672	1	539
Hospitals and Institutions for Chronic Sick	551	—	66	1,960
Other Hospitals and Institutions	3,749	4,758	964	2,090
District Nursing	308	—	127	14
Health Visiting	284	—	13	—
Other Nursing§	335	—	84	298
Total	7,792	12,813 ^b	2,153	5,708

DISABLED PERSONS (EMPLOYMENT) ACT.

STATISTICS FOR NOVEMBER, 1947.

The number of disabled persons on the register who were unemployed at 17th November was 74,646, of whom 71,130 were males and 3,516 were females. The total included 40,631 persons who had seen service in H.M. Forces, and 34,015 who had had no such service. An analysis of these figures is given in the Table below.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Suitable for ordinary employment:			
Ex-Service	35,518	264	35,782
Non-Ex-Service	25,604	2,605	28,209
Total	61,122	2,869	63,991
Requiring employment under special conditions:			
Ex-Service	4,804	45	4,849
Non-Ex-Service	5,204	602	5,806
Total	10,008	647	10,655
Grand Total	71,130	3,516	74,646

* This column includes vacancies for which employers were willing to accept either men or women.

† The number of vacancies filled included 484 filled by ex-Service men and 52 filled by ex-Service women.

‡ These figures include, respectively, 26 vacancies filled and 492 vacancies outstanding for nursery nurses. In the case of vacancies filled, the figure given in the Table includes 198 vacancies filled by part-time workers.

§ Including Civil Nursing Reserve, school nursing, industrial nursing and private nursing.

|| These figures include, respectively, 635 vacancies for pupil midwives and 959 vacancies for pupil assistant nurses.

COAL MINING INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT IN OCTOBER.

The statistics given below in respect of employment, etc., in the coal mining industry in October, 1947, have been compiled by the Ministry of Fuel and Power.

The average weekly number of wage-earners on the colliery books in Great Britain during the four weeks ended 1st November, 1947, was 713,600, compared with 715,100,* during the five weeks ended 4th October, 1947, and 692,600 during the four weeks ended 26th October, 1946. The total numbers who were effectively employed were 667,800 in October, 1947, 654,800 in September, 1947, and 637,700 in October, 1946; these figures exclude wage-earners who were absent for any reason (including holidays) for the whole of any week. The Table below shows the numbers of wage-earners on the colliery books in the various Districts in October, 1947, together with the increase or decrease† in each case compared with September, 1947, and October, 1946.

Average Numbers of Wage-earners on Colliery Books—Analysis by Districts.

District.	Average numbers of wage-earners on colliery books during 4 weeks ended 1st November, 1947.	Increase (+) or Decrease (—)† compared with the average for	
		5 weeks ended 4th October, 1947.	4 weeks ended 26th October, 1946.
Northumberland	41,800	— 190	+ 1,700
Cumberland	5,700	— 100	+ 500
Durham	110,100	— 200	+ 1,800
South Yorkshire	97,800	— 200	+ 1,300
West Yorkshire	41,000	— 200	+ 1,700
North and South Derbyshire	44,600	— 200	+ 3,600
Notts. and Leicestershire	51,600	+ 200	+ 1,800
Lancashire and Cheshire	50,900	— 200	+ 200
North Wales	9,000	— 200	+ 500
North Staffordshire	20,800	— 200	+ 200
Cannock Chase	17,500	— 200	+ 300
South Staffs., Worcs., and Salop	5,600	— 200	+ 300
Warwickshire	15,000	— 100	+ 300
South Wales and Mon. Forest of Dean, Bristol, and Somerset	107,600	— 600	+ 300
Kent	7,300	— 100	+ 200
.. .. .	6,300	— 100	+ 300
England and Wales	632,600	— 1,500	+ 18,800
Fife and Clackmannan	20,600	— 100	+ 900
The Lothians	11,900	+ 100	+ 500
Lanarkshire, etc.	35,500	— 100	+ 500
Ayrshire, etc.	13,000	— 100	+ 300
Scotland	81,000	— 100	+ 2,200
Great Britain	713,600	— 1,500	+ 21,000

It is provisionally estimated that during October about 6,370 persons were recruited to the industry, while the total number of persons who left the industry was about 6,870; the numbers on the colliery books thus showed a net decrease of 500. During September there was a net decrease of 2,800.‡

The average number of shifts§ worked per week by coal-face workers who were effectively employed was 4.80 in October, 1947, 4.74 in September, 1947, and 5.14 in October, 1946. The corresponding figures for all workers who were effectively employed were 5.12, 5.05 and 5.52, respectively. In comparing these figures it should be borne in mind that a five-day week was introduced in the coal mining industry on 5th May, 1947.

With regard to absenteeism in the coal mining industry, separate figures are compiled in respect of (a) voluntary absenteeism (absences for which no satisfactory reason is given), and (b) involuntary absenteeism (absences due mainly to sickness). The figures for October, 1946, and September and October, 1947, which are given in the next Table, represent the numbers of shifts lost through absenteeism, expressed as percentages of the total numbers of shifts that could have been worked.

Percentages of Shifts lost through Absenteeism.

	October, 1946.	September, 1947.	October, 1947.
Coal-face workers:			
Voluntary	10.56	6.57	6.07
Involuntary	8.25	6.73	6.31
All workers:			
Voluntary	8.15	5.24	4.70
Involuntary	7.04	5.65	5.26

For face-workers the output per man-shift worked was 2.93 tons in October, 1947, compared with 2.86 tons in September, 1947, and 2.81 tons in October, 1946. The output per man-shift calculated on the basis of all workers was 1.10 tons in October, 1947; for September, 1947, and October, 1946, the figures were 1.07 tons and 1.05 tons, respectively.

* Revised figure. As explained in last month's issue of this GAZETTE (page 385), the figure for the five weeks ended 4th October in respect of South Wales and Monmouthshire was incorrect, and it was later discovered that the figure for Durham was also defective. The correct figures for these two Districts were 108,200 and 110,100, respectively.

† "No change" is indicated by three dots.

‡ Revised figure.

§ These figures are obtained by dividing the total number of man-shifts worked by the number of persons effectively employed.

EMPLOYMENT OVERSEAS.

AUSTRALIA.

According to information received by the Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics, the number of persons employed in factories in June, 1947, was 0.5 per cent. higher than in May, 1947, and 5.6 per cent. higher than in June, 1946.

Returns received by the Bureau, covering 56 per cent. of the total membership of trade unions, and relating to between 20 and 25 per cent. of all wage and salary earners, showed that the percentage of members of the reporting trade unions who were out of work for three days or more during a specified week in the June quarter of 1947, was 1.2, compared with 1.4 in the preceding quarter, and 1.3 in the second quarter of 1946.

CANADA.

Returns received by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics from over 18,000 employers in industries other than agriculture and private domestic service indicate that the total number of workpeople in employment at 1st September, 1947, in the establishments covered by the returns was 0.2 per cent. higher than at 1st August, 1947, and 9.9 per cent. higher than at 1st September, 1946; the figure for 1st August, 1947, showed an increase of 1.6 per cent. compared with that for 1st July. The number of persons employed in manufacturing industries at 1st September, 1947, was 0.4 per cent. higher than at the beginning of the previous month, and 8.6 per cent. higher than at 1st September, 1946; the number employed at 1st August, 1947, was 0.9 per cent. above the figure for 1st July.

NEW ZEALAND.

Statistics compiled by the New Zealand National Employment Service show that the total number of male workers who were disengaged and registered for employment at 30th September, 1947, was 96 or 0.2 per thousand of the estimated total labour force, compared with 101 or 0.2 per thousand at 31st August; the corresponding figure for 30th September, 1946, was 261 or 0.5 per thousand of the estimated total labour force. Of the total number of male workers registered at 30th September, 41 were fully employable, compared with 33 at the end of August, 1947, and 117 at the end of September, 1946. The number of female workers disengaged and registered for employment was very small at each of the dates concerned.

ÉIRE.

The number of unemployed persons on the live register of Employment Exchanges at 29th November, 1947, was 65,108, compared with 55,882 at 1st November, 1947, and 67,432 at 30th November, 1946.

BELGIUM.

The average daily number of persons recorded as unemployed in Belgium during August, 1947, was 48,737, compared with 54,904 during July, 1947, and 49,542 during August, 1946. Approximately 1,469,000 working days were lost in August, 1947, as a result of unemployment, compared with about 1,280,000 days in the previous month; the corresponding figure for August, 1946, was approximately 1,142,000.

DENMARK.

At the end of October, 1947, returns received by the Danish Statistical Department from approved unemployment funds showed that 11,676 or 2.0 per cent. of a total membership of nearly 578,000 had been unemployed for seven days or more, compared with 1.3 per cent. (revised figure) at the end of the previous month and 1.8 per cent. at the end of October, 1946. In addition, 12,663 members had been unemployed for less than seven days at the end of October, 1947, and 3,564 were considered as ineligible for employment on account of age or other reasons.

FINLAND.

According to returns received by the Finnish Social Ministry relating to employment in industry (including building) and State and local authority services, the number of workpeople in employment during the third quarter of 1947, was 134,773, an increase of 0.9 per cent. compared with the preceding quarter and of 3.9 per cent. compared with the third quarter of 1946.

SWEDEN.

Preliminary information received by the Swedish Social Board from trade unions with a total membership of over 859,000 showed that 1.7 per cent. of their members were unemployed at 31st July, 1947, compared with 1.8 per cent. at 30th June, 1947, and 2.2 per cent. at 31st July, 1946.

SWITZERLAND.

At the end of September, 1947, applications for employment were registered at Employment Exchanges by 1,317 persons, as compared with 1,136 at the end of August, 1947, and 1,726 at the end of September, 1946; these figures include employed persons who were seeking other employment. Offers of situations at the same dates numbered 5,690, 5,856 and 8,507, respectively. The number of registered applicants for employment at the end of September, 1947, who were wholly unemployed was 860 or 0.6 per thousand of the employed population (exclusive of apprentices) according to the census of 1941, compared with 670 or 0.4 per thousand at the end of August; for September, 1946, the number wholly unemployed was 879.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

The number of civilians in employment in industries other than agriculture and domestic service in September, 1947, is estimated by the United States Department of Labor to have been approximately 42,997,000. This was 1.1 per cent. higher than the figure for August, 1947, and 2.7 per cent. higher than that for September, 1946. The number of wage-earners employed in manufacturing industries in September, 1947, is estimated to have been 1.2 per cent. higher than in August, 1947, and 4.1 per cent. higher than in September, 1946.

The United States Bureau of the Census estimate that the total number of unemployed persons in the United States of America at the middle of September, 1947, was approximately 1,912,000, compared with 2,121,000 at the middle of August, 1947, and with 2,070,000 at the middle of September, 1946.

STATUTORY RULES AND ORDERS.

Since last month's issue of this GAZETTE was prepared, the undermentioned Orders* relating to matters with which the Ministry of Labour and National Service (or the Ministry of Labour and National Insurance for Northern Ireland) are concerned, either directly or indirectly, have been published in the series of *Statutory Rules and Orders*. The price of each Order, unless otherwise indicated, is 1d. net (2d. post free).

The Coal Mines Regulation (Suspension) Order, 1947 (S.R. & O. 1947, No. 2505), made by His Majesty in Council on 13th November, 1947, in accordance with the Coal Mines Regulation Act, 1908.—See page 401.

The Ostrich and Fancy Feather and Artificial Flower Wages Council (Great Britain) Wages Regulation (Holidays) Order, 1947 (S.R. & O. 1947, No. 2506; price 2d. net (3d. post free)), dated 26th November, 1947, made by the Minister of Labour and National Service under the Wages Councils Act, 1945.—See page 432.

The Cotton Factories (Length of Spell Exemption) Order, 1947 (S.R. & O. 1947, No. 2600) dated 4th December, 1947, made by the Minister of Labour and National Service under Regulation 59 of the Defence (General) Regulations, 1939.—See page 401.

OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.*

(Note.—Except in the case of publications of the International Labour Office the prices shown are net and those in brackets include postage.)

ASSISTANCE BOARD (Northern Ireland).—*Report of the Assistance Board for Northern Ireland for the year ended 31st December, 1946*. Cmd. 248 of Northern Ireland. Ministry of Labour and National Insurance, Northern Ireland. Price 6d. (7d.).—See page 404.

CAPITAL INVESTMENT.—*Capital Investment in 1948*. Cmd. 7268. Treasury. Price 6d. (7d.).—See page 405.

COTTON TEXTILE MACHINERY.—*Second and Final Report of Committee of Investigation on the Cotton Textile Machinery Industry*. Ministry of Supply. Price 4d. (5d.).

HOLIDAY ACCOMMODATION.—*Catering Wages Commission: Report on an Enquiry under Section 2(1) (b) of the Catering Wages Act into Alleged Overcharging for Holiday Accommodation*. Ministry of Labour and National Service. Price 3d. (4d.).—See page 407.

HOTEL INDUSTRY.—*Report of a Court of Inquiry into the causes and circumstances of a dispute between the Savoy Hotel Limited and Members of the National Union of General and Municipal Workers*. Cmd. 7266. Ministry of Labour and National Service. Price 9d. (11d.).—See page 402.

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONFERENCE.—*International Labour Conference: Proposed action by His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland regarding certain Conventions and Recommendations adopted at the 28th (Maritime) Session, 1946*. Cmd. 7273. Price 2d. (3d.).—See page 409.

NORTHERN IRELAND.—*The Ulster Year Book, 1947*. The Official Year Book of Northern Ireland. Published by authority of the Minister of Finance. Price 2s. (2s. 6d.).

PAYMENT BY RESULTS.—*Payment by Results in Building and Civil Engineering during the War*. A Report on the Operation of the Payment by Results Scheme applied under the Essential Work (Building and Civil Engineering) Order, 1941, during the Period July, 1941, to March, 1947. Ministry of Works. Price 6d. (7d.).—See page 408.

POOR RELIEF.—*Persons in receipt of Poor Relief (England and Wales) on the night of the 1st day of January, 1947*. H.C. 3, Session 1947-1948. Ministry of Health. Price 9d. (10d.).—See page 408.

REGISTRATION FOR EMPLOYMENT.—*First and Second Reports from the Select Committee on Statutory Rules and Orders, etc., with Minutes of Evidence*. H.C. 12 of Session 1947-48. Price 2d. (3d.).—See page 403.

WAGES AND WORKING HOURS.—*Time Rates of Wages and Hours of Labour, 1st September, 1947*. Ministry of Labour and National Service. Price 2s. 6d. (2s. 9d.).—See page 402.

WALES AND MONMOUTHSHIRE.—*Report of Government Action for the year ended 30th June, 1947*. Cmd. 7267. Price 2s. (2s. 2d.).—See page 407.

LABOUR STATISTICS.—*Year Book of Labour Statistics, 1945-46*. Published in the United Kingdom for the International Labour Office by Staples Press Ltd., Orchard House, 14 Great Smith Street, London, S.W.1. Price 10s. 6d.—See page 409.

* See footnote * on page 432.

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

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 the United Kingdom during November resulted in an aggregate increase estimated at approximately £665,000 in the weekly full-time wages of about 1,560,000 workpeople. In addition, a number of workpeople had their hourly rates increased so as to give approximately the same weekly wages as before for a shorter working week.

The principal groups of workpeople affected by increases in rates of wages reported in November were workers in coal mining, the building industry, civil engineering construction, the retail furnishing and allied trades in England and Wales, agriculture in Northern Ireland, flax spinning in Northern Ireland, biscuit manufacture, and the wholesale grocery and provision trade in England and Wales. Among other groups of workpeople receiving increased rates of wages were those employed in heating, ventilating and domestic engineering, glove manufacture, the baking industry in North-West Lancashire, the ophthalmic optical industry, and general stoneware manufacture.

In coal mining there were increases of 15s. a week in the national minimum wage for adult underground workers and of 10s. for adult male surface workers, and the shift rates of day-wage men were increased by 2s. 6d. for adult underground workers and 1s. 8d. for adult surface workers. In the building industry there were increases of 3d. an hour in the standard rates for craftsmen and of 2½d. or 2½d. for labourers. In civil engineering construction there was an increase of 2d. an hour for men. General distributive, clerical, etc., workers employed in the retail furnishing and allied trades in England and Wales had increases in minimum rates of 10s. a week in London and 9s. or 7s. in the provinces for men, and of 9s., 8s. or 5s., respectively, for women. The statutory minimum rates of wages of male agricultural workers in Northern Ireland were increased by 10s. a week for men, and by varying amounts, according to age and district, for younger workers. For timeworkers employed in flax spinning in Northern Ireland there were increases of varying amounts following the adoption of new minimum weekly rates; piece rates for reeler and flax roughers were also increased. In biscuit manufacture the weekly rates for men and women were increased by 4s. In the wholesale grocery and provision trade in England and Wales men and women had increases of 6s. a week in minimum rates.

Of the total increase of £665,000 about £398,000 resulted from arrangements made by Joint Industrial Councils or other joint standing bodies established by voluntary agreement; about £230,000 was the result of direct negotiations between employers and workpeople or their representatives; about £27,000 was the result of an Order made under the Agricultural Wages Regulation Acts; and the remainder resulted from arbitration awards.

Workers in manipulative grades in the postal service, numbering about 200,000, who also received increases in rates of pay during

November, are not included in the figures quoted in the previous column.

SUMMARY OF CHANGES REPORTED IN JANUARY-NOVEMBER, 1947.

The following Table shows the number of workpeople in the United Kingdom affected by increases in rates of wages reported to the Department during the eleven completed months of 1947, and the net aggregate amounts of such increases.

Industry Group.	Approximate Number of Workpeople affected by Net Increases.	Estimated Net Amount of Increase in Weekly Wages.
Agriculture	845,000	£ 374,500
Mining and Quarrying	391,000	233,000
Brick, Pottery, Glass, Chemical, etc.	84,500	22,200
Metal, Engineering and Shipbuilding	269,000	51,200
Textile	71,500	20,200
Clothing	206,500	52,900
Food, Drink and Tobacco	196,000	62,100
Woodworking, Furniture, etc.	90,500	19,200
Paper, Printing, etc.	48,000	12,800
Building, Civil Engineering Construction, etc.	860,000	348,000
Gas, Water and Electricity Supply	152,000	29,000
Transport	468,000	164,700
Public Administration Services	327,500	78,500
Other	623,000	168,900
Total	4,632,500	1,637,200

In the corresponding months of 1946, there were net increases of about £2,700,000 in the weekly full-time wages of 7,600,000 workpeople.

HOURS OF LABOUR.

The changes in hours of labour reported to have come into operation in November resulted in an average reduction of about 2½ hours a week for about 52,000 workpeople. The principal groups of workpeople affected were those employed in the retail furnishing and allied trades in England and Wales, in which the normal working week was reduced from 48 to 46 hours; brush and broom manufacture, in which the normal weekly hours beyond which overtime rates become payable were reduced from 48 to 45; and the non-trading services of certain local authorities in Monmouthshire and Glamorganshire, in which the normal working week of manual workers was reduced from 47 to 44 hours; the ophthalmic optical industry, with a reduction from 46 to 44 hours; general stoneware manufacture, from 48 to 47 hours; and toy manufacture, from 48 to 45 hours.

During the eleven completed months of 1947, changes in hours of labour reported to have come into operation in the industries covered by the Department's statistics* have resulted in an average reduction of about 3½ hours a week for about 5,050,000 workpeople.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING NOVEMBER.

Industry.	District.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change.
Agriculture	Northern Ireland.	3 Nov.	Male workers (other than those employed at or in flax scutch mills).	Increases of 10s. a week in minimum time rates for workers 21 and over and of 6s. to 9s. 6d., according to age and district, for workers 16 and under 21. Minimum time rates after change: 76s. to 83s. a week, according to district, for workers 21 and over, and 49s. to 76s. for workers under 21.†
Coal Mining	Great Britain	Beginning of the first full pay week in Nov.	Underground workers	Minimum weekly wage for adult males increased by 15s. a week (100s. to 115s.) and by proportional amounts for workers under 21 years of age; shift rates for adult day-wage workers increased by 2s. 6d. a shift and by proportional amounts for workers under 21 years of age, but not so as to increase any such rate to more than 19s. 10d. a shift, exclusive of war addition and the "skilled shilling" where paid.§
			Surface workers	Minimum weekly wage for adult males increased by 10s. a week (90s. to 100s.) and by proportional amounts for workers under 21 years of age; shift rates for adult day-wage workers increased by 1s. 8d. a shift and by proportional amounts for workers under 21 years of age, but not so as to increase any such rate to more than 18s. 2d. a shift, exclusive of war addition and the "skilled shilling" where paid.§
Other Mining and Quarrying.	Great Britain	From first full pay week in Nov.	Workpeople employed at limestone and igneous rock quarries.	Current war bonus of 6d. an hour, paid to adult workers, merged with the basic rate, making the basic rate for unskilled men 21 years and over 1s. 10d. an hour, plus a good timekeeping bonus of 4s. a week.
	Devon, Cornwall and Dorsetshire.	From first pay day in Nov.	Workpeople employed on day work and piecework in the ball clay industry.	Increase of 1d. an hour in the minimum day work rate and in the "fall back" rate for pieceworkers. Rates after change, inclusive of bonus of 2s. 6d. a week: minimum day work rate 2s. an hour; pieceworkers' "fall back" rate—regular miners 2s. 2d. an hour, regular surface workers 2s. 1d.; minimum rates for semi-skilled workers and maintenance men 1d. to 3d. an hour above the minimum day work rate; youths and boys 11d. an hour at 15 years rising, according to age, to 1s. 10d. at 20.

* The particulars of numbers affected by changes in rates of wages and working hours, and of the amount of change in weekly wages and hours of labour, exclude changes affecting Government employees, 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 wages and hours 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 either of short time or of overtime.

† In addition to the numbers quoted, wages stand at the same level as at the beginning of the year in the case of 206,000 workpeople whose wages have been increased and reduced by equal amounts during the year.

‡ These increases took effect under an Order issued under the Agricultural Wages (Regulation) Acts (Northern Ireland). See page 432 of this GAZETTE.

§ The war addition is a flat-rate advance of 2s. 8d. a shift for adults and 1s. 4d. for others. The "skilled shilling" refers to an increase of 1s. a shift granted to skilled craftsmen and certain other day-wage workers under the terms of the National Wages Agreement of April, 1944. The increases are to be applied proportionately to female workers whose wages are regulated in relation to those of male workers.

|| The change applied to workers employed by firms which are affiliated to the National Joint Industrial Council for the Roadstone Quarrying Industry. It did not apply to certain limestone quarry workers in West Cumberland, South and West Durham, Portland and certain other districts, whose wages are governed by local agreement.

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

Industry.	District.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change.
General Stoneware Manufacture.	Great Britain	First pay week commencing in Nov.	Men, youths, boys, women and girls.	New standard minimum basic rates adopted for a 47-hour week, incorporating war bonus and good timekeeping bonus previously paid, and resulting in increases of varying amounts. Minimum basic rates after change: big ware throwers and big ware turners 2s. 8d. an hour, skilled men who have served their apprenticeship 2s. 4d., kiln firemen, boiler firemen, continuous kiln personnel and other shift workers, such hourly or shift rates as will, together with any special payment for week-end work, secure earnings of not less than 12s. 4d. for a 56-hour week, unskilled men 21 years or over 1s. 11d. an hour, youths and boys 9d. an hour at 15, rising to 1s. 7d. at 20; women 1s. 3d., girls 8½d. at 15, rising to 1s. 2d. at 20. Piece rates to be such as will enable piece workers of average ability to earn a minimum of 20 per cent. above the appropriate basic day work rate.*
Glass Container Manufacture.	Great Britain	Beginning of first pay period following 7 Oct.	Workpeople employed in the glass container industry, except those whose wages are regulated by movements in other industries.	Increases of 1½d. an hour in minimum rates for men 21 and over, of ¾d. for youths 18 and under 21 and for women 18 and over, and of ¼d. for younger workers, following a reduction of working week from 48 (or 47) to 45 hours; increase of ¼d. an hour in differential rates for workers in the London district. Minimum hourly rates after change for day workers, inclusive of war bonus previously paid and now merged with basic rates: London district—the rates for other districts plus 1½d. an hour for workers 18 years and over, and 1d. for those under 18; other districts—founders, gas makers and furnace-men 2s. 1½d. or 2s. 2½d., according to melting capacity of furnace, boilermen or stokers and batch mixers 2s. 1½d., sorters 2s. 1½d., lister or similar truck drivers 2s. 0½d., general labourers 2s. 0½d., youths and boys 9d. at 14 rising, according to age, to 1s. 9d. at 20 and under 21, women and girls 8d. at 14 to 1s. 4d. at 21 and over.
Pin, Hook and Eye and Snap Fastener Manufacture.	Great Britain	3 Nov.	Men, youths, boys, women and girls, other than home workers.	New general minimum time rates and piecework basis time rate fixed for a 44-hour week, resulting in increases in general minimum time rates of 1½d., 1½d. or 2d. an hour, according to occupation, for men 21 years or over, of ¼d. to 1½d., according to age, for youths and boys, of ¼d. for female charge hands, of 1d. for other women 18 years or over, and of ¾d. or ¾d., according to age, for girls; increase of 1½d. an hour in piecework basis time rate for female workers (all ages). General minimum time rates after change include: men 21 years or over 1s. 10½d. to 2s. 6d. an hour, according to occupation, female charge hands 1s. 7½d., other women 18 years or over 1s. 4d.; piecework basis time rate for female workers 1s. 6½d.†
Electrical Cable Manufacture.	Great Britain	Third pay day in Nov.	Plumber jointers and plumber jointers' mates, youths and boys employed in laying, joining and maintenance of cables (including tele-communication cables) and accessories.	Increases in war bonus of 2½d. an hour (9d. to 11½d.) in London area, of 2d. (8d. to 10d.) in the provinces, and of proportional amounts for youths and boys to compensate for reduction in normal weekly working hours from 47 or 47½ to 44.*
Heating, Ventilating and Domestic Engineering.	Great Britain	17 Nov.	Craftsmen, adult mates and apprentices.	Increases of 3d. an hour for craftsmen, of 2½d. for adult mates, and of 1d. to 2½d., according to age, for apprentices. Rates after change: London, within a 15-mile radius of Charing Cross, craftsmen 2s. 11d. an hour, adult mates 2s. 4d.; all other districts, craftsmen 2s. 9½d., adult mates 2s. 3d.
Hosiery and Knitwear Manufacture.	Scotland (except Hawick).	1 Nov.	Men, women and juveniles	Increases of 5s. a week for males 21 years or over, of 4s. for females 18 or over, and of proportional amounts for younger workers; increase of 4s. a week in piecework basis time rate for female workers. Rates after change: males 29s. at 15 years, rising to 90s. a week at 21 or over; females 26s. at 15, rising to 56s. at 18 or over; piecework rates for female workers to yield a minimum of 61s. a week.
Flax Spinning	Northern Ireland	24 Nov.	Timeworkers	New minimum weekly rates adopted, resulting in increases of varying amounts. Rates after change for a week of 45 hours include: male workers of all ages—flax and tow store men, spinning room and shaft oilers, drying loft workers, hoist drivers, cleaning masters and yard labourers 75s. 8d., hand breakers, tape sewers, band tyers and assistant oilers, hemp softeners and cutters 56s. 9d., screwers at machines and machine sorters 55s. 2d., rove and yarn drawers and sett boys 48s. 3d., fillers-in, tipplers, bunchers and tow boys 46s. 6d., preparing room oilers and fluters 43s. 4d., end breakers 38s. 7d., cagers and handle holders 35s. 2d.; female workers of all ages—spinners (wet) 62s. 3d. a week, (dry) 60s. 9d., piecers 54s. 7d., reelers 54s., spreaders and carders 53s. 3d., rovers and drawers 51s. 9d., layers 51s., doffers (spinning) 46s. 10d., (preparing) 42s. 4d. (The minimum rates include a good time-keeping bonus of 6s. 6d. a week to spinners, 4s. 6d. to doffers (preparing) and 5s. to other workers.‡)
			Pieceworkers	Piece rates for reelers increased by 20 per cent.; existing piece rates and good timekeeping bonus for flax roughers consolidated, and increased by 7½ per cent.‡
Surgical Dressings, Surgical Plaster and Sanitary Towel Manufacture.	Great Britain	First pay day on or after 10 Nov.	Male and female workers 18 years and over.	Increases of 4s. a week in minimum rates and of 1d. an hour in the additional allowances paid to shift workers and permanent night workers. Minimum weekly rates after change include: males 67s. at 18, rising to 92s. at 21 and over, females 59s. to 62s.
Glove Manufacture (leather, fabric dress and industrial gloves).	England and Wales	Beginning of first full pay period following 12 Nov.	Men and women (20 years and over) — Timeworkers Pieceworkers	Increases of 1½d. an hour for skilled and semi-skilled men, of 1½d. for other men, and of 1½d. for women. Minimum rates after change: men—fully qualified table cutters and ironers after 3 years' apprenticeship 2s. 3d. an hour, semi-block cutters and block cutters, clickers, webbers, ironers who have not served 3 years' apprenticeship, fabric glove cutters 2s. 0d., all other workers 1s. 10d.; women—experienced dress glove machinists 1s. 4d., dress glove machinists under training, until competent for piecework, industrial glove machinists and all other workers 1s. 3d. Piecework rates to be such as will enable a worker of average ability to earn at least 20 per cent. above the appropriate minimum time rates instead of 15 per cent. previously in operation.
Biscuit Manufacture.	Great Britain	First pay day in week commencing 23 Nov.	Men, youths, boys, women and girls.	Increases of 4s. a week in minimum rates for men and women 21 and over, and of 2s. to 4s., according to age, for younger workers. Minimum day work rates after change: men 21 and over 78s. a week plus 13s. war bonus, plus 4s. to 15s., according to grade of occupation, women 52s. plus 12s. war bonus plus 4s. or 6s.

* See also under "Changes in Hours of Labour."

† For particulars of the hours change (which applied to workpeople other than shiftworkers) see page 389 of the November, 1947, issue of this GAZETTE.

‡ These increases took effect under an Order issued under the Wages Councils Act. See also under "Changes in Hours of Labour" and pages 396 and 397 of the November, 1947, issue of this GAZETTE.

§ The new minimum rates apply both to the Belfast area and to country districts. Previously the scale of rates was lower in country districts than in the Belfast area. The rates quoted for female workers are based on hourly rates which vary in amount according to the number of hours worked. For all hours up to 36 in the week the hourly rates range from 9½d. (doffers) to 1s. 1½d. (wet spinners). For hours above 36 and up to 45 higher rates are paid, ranging according to occupation from 1s. 3d. to 2s. for the 37th hour up to amounts ranging from 2s. to 3s. 5d. for the 45th hour.

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

Industry.	District.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change.
Baking	Liverpool and district (including Bootle, Crosby and Huyton).	First full pay period ending after 17 Nov.	Men, youths and boys	Increases of 6s. a week in basic rates for men 21 years and over, of 4s. for youths 18 and under 21, and of 2s. 9d. or 3s., according to age, for boys under 18; increase of 10s. a week in night work bonus for youths 18 and under 21. Basic rates after change include: foreman confectioner 122s., foreman baker 120s., first hand and single hand 116s., second hand, doughmaker, confectionery mixer and ovenman 114s., dividerman 112s., confectioner or table hand 108s., charge hand (packer) 106s., stoker 102s., other male workers 21 and over 100s., youths and boys 35s. 3½d. at 15 years, rising to 77s. at 20 and under 21 on day work, and to 79s. 6d. on night work. Night work bonus of 20s. for all workers 18 and over.*
			Women and girls	Increases of 4s. a week in basic rates for women 21 or over, of 3s. for girls 18 and under 21, and of 1s. 10d. or 2s., according to age, for girls under 18. Basic rates after change include: forewoman 79s., charge hand 76s., single hand 74s., confectioner 21 or over 72s., charge hand (packer) 70s., other female workers 21 or over 66s., younger workers, confectioner—32s. 1d. at 15, rising to 59s. at 20 and under 21, others 32s. 1d. to 56s.†
	Lancashire (excluding Liverpool and district).	17 Nov.	Men, youths and boys	Increases of 6s. a week in minimum wage rates for men 21 years or over, of 4s. for youths 18 and under 21, and of 2s. for boys under 18. Rates after change include: foreman confectioner and foreman baker 120s. a week, confectioner 21 or over 76s., younger confectioner 32s. 1d. at 14 rising to 62s., at 20 and under 21, charge hand (packing and despatch dept.) 104s., other male workers 21 years or over 98s., youths and boys 33s. at under 15, rising to 80s. at 20 and under 21 on daywork and to 96s. on night work. Night work bonus 16s. for male adults, and 8s. for youths under 20.†
			Women and girls	Increases of 4s. a week in minimum wage rates for women 21 and over, of 3s. for girls 18 and under 21, and of 2s. for girls under 18. Rates after change include: forewoman 83s. a week, charge hand 80s., single hand 78s., confectioner 21 or over 76s., younger confectioner 32s. 1d. at 14 rising to 62s., at 20 and under 21, charge hand (packing and despatch dept.) 74s., other female workers 21 or over 70s., younger workers 31s. 2d. at 14 rising to 59s. at 20 and under 21.†
Tobacco Manufacture.	Great Britain (certain firms)‡	27 Oct.	Men, women and juveniles	New minimum rates adopted for a working week of 45 hours, as follows:—Scale I (firms whose manufacture of cigarettes exceeds 20 per cent. of total manufacture of all types of tobacco) males—40s. a week (39s. 1d. for 44 hours) at 15, rising to 103s. at 21 and over, females 37s. 6d. (36s. 8d. for 44 hours) to 70s.; Scale II (firms whose manufacture of cigarettes does not exceed 20 per cent. of total tobacco manufacture)—males 36s. (35s. 3d. for 44 hours) at 15, rising to 95s. at 21 and over, females 34s. (33s. 3d. for 44 hours) to 63s.
Cane, Willow and Woven Fibre Furniture Manufacture.	Great Britain	1 Nov.	Adult timeworkers.	Adoption of a lieu bonus, to be paid to adult male and female workers who are not employed under an approved payment by results scheme, or who have not been offered such a scheme, as follows:—adult males 2d. an hour, adult females 1½d. an hour, or, in either case, such less sum as will secure for the worker a total hourly remuneration of not less than the appropriate current minimum time rate plus 2d. or 1½d. an hour, respectively.§
Window Blind Manufacture.	Great Britain	First full pay week in Nov.	Journeymen	Increase of ½d. an hour in basic minimum time rates for journeymen 21 years and over. Current minimum time rates after change (inclusive of 4d. an hour cost-of-living bonus): London district—bench hands 2s. 6½d., fixers 2s. 5½d., Provincial districts—bench hands 2s. 4½d., fixers 2s. 3½d.
			Sewers and sewing machinists	Current minimum time rates to be 63½ per cent. of the appropriate bench hand rate.
			Adult timeworkers	Adoption of a lieu bonus, to be paid to adult male and female workers who are not employed under an approved payment by results scheme, or who have not been offered such a scheme, as follows:—adult male workers, except fixers' mates, 2d. an hour; fixers' mates, 1st six months of employment in trade no bonus, 2nd six months ½d. an hour, 3rd six months 1d. thereafter 1½d.; adult females 1½d.; or, in each case, such less sum as will secure for the worker a total hourly remuneration of not less than the appropriate current minimum time rate plus the amounts of lieu bonus referred to above.§
Veneer Producing and Plywood Manufacture.	England and Wales	First full pay week after 16 Nov.	Adult timeworkers	Adoption of a lieu bonus, to be paid to adult male and female workers who are not employed under a payment by results scheme or who have not been offered such a scheme, as follows:—adult machinists and approved inspectors 2d. an hour, adult labourers and adult females 1½d. an hour, or, in each case, such less sum as will secure for the worker a total hourly remuneration of not less than the appropriate current minimum time rate plus 2d. or 1½d. an hour, respectively.¶
Millsawing	Preston and district	First full pay week after 11 Nov.	Woodcutting machinists employed in sawmill and building trade shops.	Increase of 3d. an hour (2s. 6d. to 2s. 9d.).
	Manchester and district.	First full pay week following 16 Nov.	Workpeople employed in steam joinery and sawmill shops.	Increases of 3d. an hour for machinists, of 2½d. for labourers, of 2d. for women 19 years and over, and of 1½d. to 1½d., according to age, for girls under 19. Rates after change: men—woodcutting machinists 2s. 9d. an hour, power-driven crane drivers 2s. 4½d., slingers (regularly employed as such) 2s. 3d., timber yard labourers 2s. 2½d.; women and girls—8d. at 14 years, rising to 1s. 8d. at 19 and over.
Packing Case Making.	Manchester, Salford and Bolton and district.	16 Nov.	Woodcutting machinists and sawyers employed in packing case and box shops.	Increases of 3d. an hour (2s. 6d. to 2s. 9d.) for journeymen and of proportional amounts for apprentices.
	Oldham	16 Nov.	Packing case makers	Increase of 3d. an hour (2s. 4½d. to 2s. 7½d.).
Building	England and Wales	Beginning of first pay week following 16 Nov.	Building operatives	Increases of 3d. an hour in standard rates for craftsmen, of 2½d. or 2½d. for labourers and of proportional amounts for apprentices and young male labourers. Rates after change for men include: inner London (within 12 miles radius from Charing Cross), Liverpool, Birkenhead and Wirral districts—craftsmen 2s. 10½d., labourers 2s. 3½d.; outer London (between 12 and 15 miles radius from Charing Cross) 2s. 10d. and 2s. 3½d.; other districts: Grade A towns 2s. 9d., 2s. 2½d., A1 2s. 8½d., 2s. 2d., A2 2s. 8d., 2s. 1½d., A3 2s. 7½d., 2s. 1½d.**
	Scotland	17 Nov.	do.	Increases of 3d. an hour for craftsmen, of 2½d. for labourers, and of proportional amounts, according to scale, for apprentices and trainees. Rates after change: craftsmen 2s. 9d. an hour, labourers 2s. 2½d.
			Painters	Increases of 3d. an hour (2s. 6d. to 2s. 9d.) and of proportional amounts for apprentices and trainees.

* These increases were agreed between the Liverpool Factory Bakers' and Confectioners' Federation, and the Amalgamated Union of Operative Bakers, Confectioners and Allied Workers (Liverpool District).

† These increases were agreed between the Manchester Area Bakers' Association, the North Western Federation of Master Bakers' Association, and the Amalgamated Union of Operative Bakers, Confectioners and Allied Workers.

‡ This agreement applies to firms which are members of the Federation of Home and Export Tobacco Manufacturers.

§ The lieu bonus is not payable to male or female workers whose total hourly remuneration exceeds the appropriate current minimum time rate plus an amount equal to the lieu bonus, nor is it to be reckoned as wages for calculating overtime, payment under an approved payment by results scheme, or payment for holidays.

¶ The lieu bonus is not payable to male or female workers whose total hourly remuneration exceeds the appropriate current minimum time rate plus 2d. or 1½d., respectively, nor is it to be reckoned as wages for calculating overtime or payment for holidays.

** A tool allowance of 2d. a day is paid to carpenters, joiners and plumbers.

** For wage purposes, the majority of localities have been assigned to the various grades; but the localities so graded are too numerous to be quoted in the space available. The increase in wage rates was accompanied by the introduction of an incentive system of bonus payments (see page 366 of the November, 1947, issue of this GAZETTE).

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

Industry.	District.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change.
Building (continued).	London	Beginning of first pay week following 16 Nov.	Road haulage workers employed in the building industry.	Increase of 12s. a week. Rates after change: motor drivers 111s. 6d. to 130s. 6d., according to carrying capacity of vehicle; tractor (steam and I.C.) 129s. 6d., mates and statutory attendants 18 years and over 116s. 6d., drivers of mechanical vehicles with trailers 6d. a day more, carmen—one-horse 113s. 6d., two-horse 117s. 6d., assistant horsekeepers and stablemen 113s. 6d.
	England and Wales (excluding London).	do.	do.	Increase of 12s. a week. Rates after change: motor drivers—Grade 1 districts—108s. to 125s. 6d., according to carrying capacity of vehicle, Grade 2—103s. 6d. to 120s. 6d., Grade 3—98s. 6d. to 115s. 6d.; mates and statutory attendants, 18 years and over, 111s. 6d., 106s. 6d., 101s. 6d.
	England and Wales	Beginning of first pay week following 16 Nov.	Terrazzo and mosaic workers	Increases of 3d. an hour for layers and polishers and of proportional amounts for apprentices. Rates after change: London—layers 2s. 11d. an hour, polishers—dry 2s. 9d., wet and hand 2s. 8d.; elsewhere—layers 2s. 9½d., polishers—dry 2s. 7½d., wet and hand 2s. 6½d.
Monumental Masonry.	England and Wales	17 Nov.	Men, youths and boys	Increases of 3d. an hour for craftsmen, and of proportional amounts for labourers and apprentices. Rates after change include: fully qualified masons employed on letter cutting—London and Merseyside 3s. 1¼d. an hour, rest of country 3s., other craftsmen—2s. 10½d., 2s. 9d.
	Aberdeen, Boddam and Peterhead.	17 Nov.	Monumental masons, cutters, polishers, etc., employed in granite yards.	Increase of 3d. an hour. Rates after change include: granite cutters, scabblers and toolsmiths, 2s. 9d., granite polishers 2s. 8d.
	Dalbeattie ..	do.	do.	Increase of 3d. an hour. Rates after change include: granite cutters 2s. 9d., polishers 2s. 8d.
	Edinburgh ..	do.	do.	Increase of 3d. an hour. Rates after change include: monumental masons and cutters 2s. 9d., polishers 2s. 8d.
Civil Engineering Construction.	Glasgow	do.	do.	Increase of 3d. an hour. Rates after change include: cutters, turners, scabblers, polishers, bedsetters and sawmen 2s. 9d.
	Great Britain ..	19 Nov.	Men, youths and boys	Increases of 2d. an hour for men, and of proportional amounts for youths and boys. Rates after change for navvies and labourers: London Area Super Grade 2s. 3½d. an hour, Class I districts 2s. 2½d.; 1A, 2s. 2d.; 2, 2s. 1½d.; 2A, 2s. 1d.; 3, 2s. 0½d.*
Demolition Contracting.	England and Wales	Beginning of first pay week following 16 Nov.	Men, youths and boys	Increase of 1s. a shift for men in all districts. Rates after change: England and Wales—London Area Super Grade 14s. 6d. a shift (day or night), Classes 1 and 1A districts, 13s. 6d.; 2, 2A and 3, 13s.; Scotland—Classes 1, 1A, 2 and 2A, 13s.; 3, 12s. 6d.*
	Scotland	17 Nov.	do.	Increases of 2½d. or 2¼d. an hour, according to district, for men and youths 18 years or over, with proportional amounts for younger workers. Basic rates for labourers after change: London district—within the 12-mile radius 2s. 3½d. an hour, from 12 to 15 miles radius 2s. 3¼d.; Grade A districts 2s. 2½d.; A1, 2s. 2d.; A2, 2s. 1½d.; A3, 2s. 1¼d.
Local Authority Services.	Monmouthshire and Glamorganshire (various authorities).†	First working week in Nov.	Manual workers employed in non-trading services, except those whose wages are regulated by movements in other industries.	Existing hourly rates increased to compensate for reduction in normal working week from 47 to 44 hours. Minimum basic rates after change for ordinary labourers 1s. 9½d.; plus 16s. a week cost-of-living bonus.†
Postal Service	Great Britain and Northern Ireland.	1 Oct.	Manipulative grades employed in the Post Office.‡	Revised scales of pay adopted, resulting in increases of varying amounts according to grade, length of service and place of employment. Maximum weekly rates after change for some of the principal grades (and age at which maximum rate is reached): men—postmen, London 120s., Provinces, class I, 111s., II 107s., III 103s. (at 28 years); postal and telegraph officers—London 158s., Provinces class I, 148s., class II 143s., class III 138s. (at 32 years); women—telephonists—London 103s. (at 29 years); Provinces, class 1 96s. (at 28 years), class II 91s. (at 27 years); class III 89s. (at 27 years); postal and telegraph officers—London 126s. (at 32 years); Provinces class I 118s. (at 31 years); class II 114s. (at 30 years); class III 110s. (at 30 years).
Ophthalmic Optical Appliance Making.	Great Britain ..	Beginning of first full pay period following 18 Nov.	Adult male and female workers.	Increases of 2s. in minimum weekly rates for adult males and of 1s. 6d. for adult females. Minimum rates after change include: operatives on prescription work—males 23 years and over 102s., females 71s.; operatives 21 and over on mass-production work, stock and store assistants and packers—males 94s., females 64s.; pieceworkers on mass-production work—rates to yield not less than 93s. plus 15 per cent. for males 21 years and over, and 63s. plus 15 per cent. for females 21 and over.¶
Retail Furnishing, Ironmongery and Turnery, China and Glass, Hardware, etc., Distribution.	England and Wales	3 Nov.	Branch shop managers and manageresses, male and female shop assistants, central warehouse staff, van salesmen, cashiers, clerks and male workers in other occupations (including porters but excluding craftsmen, mechanics, productive staff and transport workers).	Increases of 10s. a week (London), 9s. (Provincial A) and 7s. (Provincial B) in minimum rates for men 21 years and over, of 9s., 8s. and 5s. for women 21 and over, and of proportional amounts for juveniles. Minimum rates after change: branch shop managers—London 102s. a week in shops with weekly trade of under £60, rising to 141s. where the weekly trade is between £300 and £350, Provincial A 97s. to 136s., Provincial B 93s. to 132s.; branch shop manageresses—London 87s. to 126s., Provincial A 82s. to 121s., Provincial B 77s. to 116s.; shop assistants, central warehouse staff, van salesmen, cashiers and clerks—London, males 33s. at 15 years, rising to 98s. at 24, females 28s. at 15, rising to 72s. at 23, Provincial A, males 29s. to 93s. 6d., females 24s. to 67s. 6d., Provincial B, males 26s. to 89s. 6d., females 21s. to 62s. 6d.; other male employees—London 32s. to 90s., Provincial A 28s. to 85s. 6d., Provincial B 25s. to 81s. 6d.*
Wholesale Groceries and Provisions Distribution.	England and Wales	Beginning of first pay period following 13 Nov.	Warehouse and transport workers.	Increases of 6s. a week in minimum rates for men and women 21 years and over, and of proportional amounts for younger workers. Minimum rates after change include: warehouse workers, vanguards and mates—London area, men 100s., women 69s.; elsewhere, 94s. and 66s.; motor vehicle drivers (men)—London, from 102s. for vehicles with carrying capacity of under 30 cwt. to 114s. for vehicles with capacity of over 5 tons; elsewhere, grade I from 95s. for capacity of under 30 cwt. to 105s. for capacity of 3½ to 5 tons, grade II 94s. to 101s. (Outside the London area, rates for vehicles with a carrying capacity of over 5 tons are subject to local negotiation.)
Toy Manufacture.	Great Britain ..	12 Nov.	Men, youths, boys, women and girls.	New general minimum time rates fixed for a 45-hour week, resulting in increases of 2½d. an hour for male or female wood-cutting machinists or wood body makers and male body painters 21 years or over, of 2½d. for other male workers 21 or over, of 2d. for other female workers 20 or over, of ½d. to 1½d. according to age, for youths and boys, and of ¼d. to 1d., according to age, for girls. General minimum time rates after change include: men and women 21 years or over—wood-cutting machinists 2s. 2½d., 2s. 1d. or 1s. 11½d. an hour, according to qualifications, wood body makers 2s. 1d.; men 21 or over—body painters 1s. 11½d., other men 1s. 10d.; women 20 or over (other than wood-cutting machinists and wood body makers) 1s. 4d. Piecework basis time rates to remain 10 per cent. above the appropriate general minimum time rates.††

* For wage purposes, the majority of localities have been assigned to the various grades; but the localities so graded are too numerous to be quoted in the space available.

† The authorities affected are those affiliated to the Joint Wages Boards of Local Authorities of Monmouthshire and Glamorganshire. See also under "Changes in Hours of Labour."

‡ Including postal and telegraph officers, telegraphists, telephonists, postmen, cleaners, etc.

§ The principal grades are remunerated by means of incremental scales; and the increases from 21 to 25 years of age were appreciable, that at 21 years being generally 12s. or 12s. 6d. The increase at the maxima of the scales was 5s. for men and 4s. for women, except in the case of postal and telegraph officers whose maxima were increased by 8s. for men and 6s. for women. Certain grades who are paid on short scales or at fixed rates were given a flat rate increase, e.g., cleaners received an increase of 6s. in the case of men and 5s. in that of women.

|| London rates are paid to all staff employed within the London Postal Area. Generally speaking, Class I rates are paid at offices outside the London Postal Area but within a radius of 12 miles of Charing Cross and at about 40 large Provincial towns, Class II rates at just over 300 medium-sized towns and Class III rates are paid elsewhere.

¶ See also under "Changes in Hours of Labour."

** The agreement provides that Provincial A rates are to apply to all towns with a population of 10,000 or more (excluding the City of London and the Metropolitan Police District) and to certain other specified towns, and that Provincial B rates are to apply to all other parts of the country. See also under "Changes in Hours of Labour."

†† These increases took effect under an Order issued under the Wages Councils Act. See also under "Changes in Hours of Labour" and pages 396 and 397 of the November, 1947, issue of this GAZETTE.

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

Industry.	District.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change.
Brush and Broom Manufacture.	Great Britain ..	21 Nov.	Men, youths, boys, women and girls.	New general minimum time rates and piecework basis time rates fixed for a 45-hour week resulting in increases of varying amounts in hourly rates; percentage addition to general minimum piece rates increased by 7½ per cent. (20 to 27½ per cent.). Rates after change include: general minimum time rates, males—workers of any age who have completed an apprenticeship of not less than 3 years, and workers 19 years or over with not less than 3 years' experience in specified occupations 2s. 2½d. an hour, other workers 21 or over 1s. 11½d. (with addition of ¼d. to 2¼d. an hour, according to length of experience exceeding 6 months in specified occupations); females, other than apprentices to pan setting—pan hands of any age, 1s. 4d., 1s. 9½d. or 2s. 2½d., according to class of work, drawing hands 1s. 6½d. or 1s. 8½d., workers with not less than 3 years' experience in specified occupations 1s. 4d., other workers 20 or over 1s. 3d. (with addition of ¼d. to 1d. an hour, according to length of experience exceeding 6 months in specified occupations); piece work basis time rates, males 2s. 5½d., females 1s. 6d. to 2s. 2½d., according to occupation.*
Entertainments	London (suburban)	Beginning of first full pay period following 31 Oct.	Musicians employed in certain twice-nightly variety theatre and music hall orchestras.†	Increases of 20s. to 24s. 6d. a week in minimum rates, according to classification of instruments. Minimum rates after change: leader and first trumpet 132s. 6d., repetiteur 125s. 6d., doubling instruments and drummer 152s. 6d., rank and file 122s. 6d.‡

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN HOURS OF LABOUR REPORTED DURING NOVEMBER.

General Stoneware Manufacture.	Great Britain ..	First pay week commencing in Nov.	Men, youths, boys, women and girls.	Normal working week reduced from 48 to 47 hours.§
Pin, Hook and Snap Fastener Manufacture.	Great Britain ..	3 Nov.	Men, youths, boys, women and girls, other than home workers.	Normal weekly working hours beyond which overtime rates become payable reduced from 47 to 44.¶
Electric Cable Manufacture.	Great Britain ..	Third pay day in Nov.	Plumber joiners and plumber jointers' mates, youths and boys employed in laying, jointing and maintenance of cables (including tele-communication cables) and accessories.	Normal weekly working hours reduced from 47 for daywork and 47½ for night-work to 44 (to be worked over 5 or 5½ days).§
Local Authority Services.	Monmouthshire and Glamorganshire (various authorities).	First working week in Nov.	Manual workers employed in non-trading services, except those whose wages are regulated by movements in other industries.	Normal working week reduced from 47 to 44 hours.§
Ophthalmic Optical Appliance Making.	Great Britain ..	Beginning of first full pay period following 18 Nov.	Men, youths, boys, women and girls.	Normal working week reduced from 46 to 44 hours.§
Retail Furnishing, Ironmongery and Turnery, China and Glass, Hardware, etc., Distribution.	England and Wales	3 Nov.	Branch shop managers and manageresses, male and female shop assistants, central warehouse staff, van salesmen, cashiers, clerks and male workers in other occupations (including porters but excluding craftsmen, mechanics, productive staff and transport workers).	Normal working week reduced from 48 to 46 hours.§
Toy Manufacture.	Great Britain ..	12 Nov.	Men, youths, boys, women and girls.	Normal weekly hours beyond which overtime rates become payable reduced from 48 to 45.¶
Brush and Broom Manufacture.	Great Britain ..	21 Nov.	Men, youths, boys, women and girls.	Normal weekly hours beyond which overtime rates become payable reduced from 48 to 45.¶

* These increases took effect under an Order issued under the Wages Councils Act. See also under "Changes in Hours of Labour" and pages 396 and 397 of the November, 1947, issue of this GAZETTE.

† The variety theatres and music halls affected are the Empire Theatres at Chiswick, Finsbury Park, Hackney, Shepherds Bush, Wood Green and Croydon, the Empress Theatre, Brixton, Hippodrome Theatre, Lewisham, the Metropolitan Theatre, Edgware Road, and the Palace Theatres at Chelsea, East Ham and Walthamstow.

‡ The rates are minimum rates and are without prejudice to the continued payment of higher rates where these are already in operation. See also page 396 of the November, 1947, issue of this GAZETTE.

§ See also under "Changes in Rates of Wages."

¶ This reduction took effect under an Order issued under the Wages Councils Act. See also under "Changes in Rates of Wages" and pages 396 and 397 of the November, 1947, issue of this GAZETTE.

PERCENTAGE INCREASES IN RATES OF WAGES SINCE SEPTEMBER, 1939.

An estimate is made at the end of each month of the percentage increase in the weekly rates of wages of workpeople in the principal industries and services, including agriculture. These estimates relate to full-time rates of wages in industries, occupations and localities in which changes in the general levels of wage rates are regulated by collective agreements between organisations of employers and workpeople, arbitration awards or statutory orders. They are based on the recognised rates of wages contained in such agreements, orders, etc., and do not take account of changes in the rates of wages actually paid by employers to their workpeople, as to which comprehensive information is not available. They do not include the effects on the general level of wages of the changes which have occurred since 1939 in the proportion of workpeople employed in different industries, in the proportions of men, boys, women and girls employed, or in the proportions of workers employed on time-work and piece-work respectively. Moreover, they relate only to the recognised rates for a full week and do not reflect changes in the hours actually worked at different dates, or changes in piece-work earnings due to such factors as the introduction of new machinery, extra exertion on the part of the workers, etc. The percentage increases since

September, 1939, have varied considerably in different industries and in combining these percentages into the general averages shown in the following Table account has been taken of the approximate total pre-war wages bill in the various industries.

Date (end of month).	Estimated Percentage Increase in Weekly Wage Rates since September, 1939.	Date (end of month).	Estimated Percentage Increase in Weekly Wage Rates since September, 1939.
1946 January	57	1947 January	65
February	57-58	February	65-66
March	58	March	65-66
April	59-60	April	66
May	60-61	May	66-67
June	61	June	66-67
July	63-64	July	67-68
August	63-64	August	69
September	64	September	69
October	64	October	70
November	65	November	73
December	65		

TRADE DISPUTES IN NOVEMBER.

Number and Magnitude.—The number of industrial disputes involving stoppages of work* in the United Kingdom, reported to the Department as beginning in November, was 143. In addition, 15 stoppages which began before November were still in progress at the beginning of that month. The approximate number of workers involved, during November, in these 158 stoppages, including workers thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, is estimated at about 42,000. The aggregate number of working days lost at the establishments concerned, during November, was about 179,000.

Of the stoppages of work through industrial disputes known to have been in progress at some time in November, the coal mining industry accounted for 74, involving nearly 12,000 workers, and resulting in an aggregate loss of nearly 23,000 working days.

The following Table gives an analysis, by groups of industries, of disputes involving stoppages of work in November :—

Industry Group.	Number of Stoppages in progress in Month.			Number of Workers involved in all Stoppages in progress in Month.	Aggregate Number of Working Days lost in all Stoppages in progress in Month.
	Started before beginning of Month.	Started in Month.	Total.		
Coal Mining ..	2	72	74	11,700	23,000
Metal, Engineering and Shipbuilding ..	9	28	37	14,400	82,000
Transport ..	3	15	18	10,900	39,000
Other Industries and Services ..	1	28	29	5,100	35,000
Total, November, 1947 ..	15	143	158	42,100	179,000
Total, October, 1947 ..	7	171	178	72,200	213,000
Total, November, 1946 ..	23	191	214	44,700	133,000

In the 143 stoppages which began during November, 35,000 workers were directly involved, and nearly 3,000 indirectly involved (i.e., thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, but not themselves parties to the disputes). In the 15 stoppages which began before November, and were still in progress at the beginning of that month, the total number of workers involved during November, either directly or indirectly, was over 4,000.

Duration.—Of 143 stoppages of work, owing to disputes, which ended during November, 57, directly involving 7,800 workers, lasted not more than one day; 36, directly involving 5,400 workers, lasted two days; 11, directly involving 2,000 workers, lasted three days; 23, directly involving 7,800 workers, lasted four to six days; and 16, directly involving 8,700 workers, lasted over six days.

Causes.—Of the 143 disputes leading to stoppages of work

PRINCIPAL DISPUTES INVOLVING STOPPAGES OF WORK DURING NOVEMBER.

Occupations and Locality.	Approximate Number of Workers involved.		Date when Stoppage		Cause or Object.	Result.
	Directly.	Indirectly.†	Began.	Ended.		
COAL MINING :— Colliery workers—Blaenavon, Monmouthshire (3 collieries).	1,500	..	18 Nov.	24 Nov.	Non-payment of bonus to men who were late in descending pit following a morning meeting.	Men decided at a mass meeting to resume work to allow matter to be dealt with under normal procedure.
ENGINEERING :— Workers employed at an engineering establishment—Willesden (one firm).	1,070	..	30 Oct.	11 Nov.	In support of a demand for increased wages by operators of certain machines.	Work resumed under old conditions.
Workers employed in the aircraft industry—Belfast (one firm).	3,500	..	14 Nov.	10 Dec.	Protest against the suspension as redundant of a number of fitters and electricians for one day.	Work resumed under old conditions.
Workers employed in the aircraft industry—Newtownards and Lisburn (one firm).	500	..	19 Nov.	10 Dec.	In sympathy with the workers involved in the above dispute.	Work resumed under old conditions.
TRANSPORT :— Bus and tram drivers, conductors and conductresses employed by Birmingham Corporation.	5,340	..	2 Nov.	9 Nov.	Demand for an increase of £1 a week; and dissatisfaction with Transport Committee's offer of improved spread-over and merit bonus payments.	Work resumed to permit of negotiations.
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION SERVICES :— Tradesmen employed in the transport, cleansing, housing, etc. Departments of the Corporation of the City of Glasgow.	1,500	..	24 Nov.	1 Dec.	Protest against delay in negotiations on a claim for Joint Industrial Council conditions of service relative to holidays and sick pay as enjoyed by other Corporation employees.	Work resumed on the understanding that negotiations would take place immediately.
HOTEL SERVICES :— Hotel waiters, chefs, kitchen porters, etc.—London.	350	..	6 Nov.	2 Dec.	Dispute regarding the suspension and subsequent dismissal of a waiter, and claim by workers that management had not implemented an award of the National Arbitration Tribunal following a previous stoppage.	Agreement reached between management and workers' trade union providing <i>inter alia</i> for the preparation of a code of procedure designed to create and maintain a proper relationship between the parties and for the payment of a gratuity to the dismissed waiter until other employment was found for him (See page 402).
Hotel and restaurant waiters, chefs, kitchen porters, etc.—London.	490	..	6 Nov.	2 Dec.	In sympathy with the workers involved in the above dispute.	

* Stoppages of work due to disputes not connected with terms of employment or conditions of labour are excluded from the statistics. In addition, stoppages involving less than 10 workers, and those which lasted less than one day, are also excluded, unless the aggregate number of working days lost exceeded 100. The figures for the month under review are provisional and subject to revision; those for earlier months have been revised where necessary in accordance with the most recent information.

† Some workers, chiefly in the coal mining industry, were involved in more than one stoppage and are counted more than once in the totals. The net number of individuals involved in coal mining stoppages in the period under review in 1947 was approximately 200,000 and in the corresponding period in 1946 was approximately 130,000. For all industries combined the corresponding net totals were approximately 470,000 and 390,000, respectively.

‡ i.e., thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, but not themselves parties to the disputes.

which began in November, 20, directly involving 13,400 workers, arose out of demands for advances in wages, and 56, directly involving 4,400 workers, on other wage questions; 4, directly involving 3,200 workers, on questions as to working hours; 20, directly involving 3,600 workers, on questions respecting the employment of particular classes or persons; and 40, directly involving 7,500 workers, on other questions respecting working arrangements. Three stoppages, directly involving 3,000 workers, were in support of workers involved in other disputes.

TOTALS FOR THE FIRST ELEVEN MONTHS OF 1947 AND 1946.

The following Table gives an analysis, by groups of industries, of all stoppages of work through industrial disputes in the United Kingdom in the first eleven months of 1947 and in the corresponding months of 1946 :—

Industry Group.	January to November, 1947.			January to November, 1946.		
	Number of Stoppages beginning in period.	Number of Workers involved in all Stoppages in progress.	Aggregate Number of Working Days lost in all Stoppages in progress.	Number of Stoppages beginning in period.	Number of Workers involved in all Stoppages in progress.	Aggregate Number of Working Days lost in all Stoppages in progress.
Fishing ..	3	2,600	13,000	5	9,200	70,000
Coal Mining ..	977	300,800†	899,000	1,279	212,800†	417,000
Other Mining and Quarrying ..	12	700	3,000	9	700	2,000
Brick, Pottery, Glass, Chemical, etc. ..	22	1,900	8,000	30	3,200	21,000
Engineering ..	76	27,400	179,000	170	102,400	554,000
Shipbuilding ..	109	66,600	314,000	100	16,800	192,000
Iron and Steel and Other Metal ..	92	15,600	43,000	163	37,900	317,000
Textile ..	22	4,100	12,000	36	6,600	43,000
Clothing ..	20	3,100	14,000	35	15,700	109,000
Food, Drink and Tobacco ..	22	3,900	17,000	22	10,500	66,000
Woodworking, Furniture, etc. ..	17	1,500	7,000	15	900	6,000
Paper, Printing, etc. ..	9	1,600	10,000	7	3,400	4,000
Building ..	34	5,100	23,000	71	6,700	19,000
Gas, Water and Electricity Supply ..	3	400	1,000	10	4,800	18,000
Transport ..	103	133,300	619,000	100	58,700	157,000
Public Administration Services ..	12	4,900	59,000	6	1,300	8,000
Distribution, Commerce, etc. ..	22	19,700	73,000	24	10,800	68,000
All Other Industries ..	39	10,800	61,000	35	9,800	36,000
Total ..	1,594	604,000†	2,355,000	2,117	512,200†	2,107,000

INDEX OF RETAIL PRICES.

FIGURES FOR 18th NOVEMBER, 1947
(PRICES AT 17th JUNE, 1947, TAKEN AS = 100).

All Items 103 : Food 103.

The index of retail prices measures, for the United Kingdom, the average changes, as compared with 17th June, 1947, in the prices of the goods and services which entered into working-class expenditure in 1937-38, as recorded in the family budgets collected from large numbers of households in that period. The relative changes in the price levels of the various items included are combined by the use of "weights" representing the proportions in which they entered into working-class expenditure in 1937-38, adjusted to take account of changes in prices between that date and mid-June, 1947.*

The following Table shows the indices at 18th November for each of the main groups of items and for all the groups combined, together with the relative weights which are used in combining the group indices into a single "all items" index :—

GROUP.	INDEX FIGURES FOR 18th NOVEMBER, 1947.		WEIGHTS.
	INDEX FIGURE	WEIGHT	
I. Food ..	103.2	348	
II. Rent and rates ..	100.1	88	
III. Clothing ..	102.1	97	
IV. Fuel and light ..	106.9	65	
V. Household durable goods ..	104.0	71	
VI. Miscellaneous goods ..	109.0	35	
VII. Services ..	102.2	79	
VIII. Drink and tobacco ..	104.0	217	
All items ..	103.4†	1,000	

The figures given above are shown in the form in which they are used in the procedure adopted for calculating the index for all the groups combined, i.e., to the nearest first place of decimals. The decimals are shown only in order that, if desired, calculations may be made of the effect of combining particular groups and excluding others.† The information available as to price changes, however, is such that no precise significance can be attributed to the decimals, and for any other purpose, therefore, the figures should be used to the nearest whole number.

On the above basis, and taking the level of prices at 17th June, 1947, as 100, the "all items" index at 18th November was 103, compared with 101 at 14th October. The rise in the index, during the month under review, was mainly due to increased prices for sugar, tomatoes and other fresh vegetables and apples, and to the effect of the recent increase in the duties on alcoholic drink. For a number of other articles there were increases resulting from an increase in the purchase tax.

In the food group there was a rise in the index figure as compared with the previous month, mainly due to an increase of 2d. per lb. in the price of sugar, following an Order made by the Minister of Food increasing the maximum permitted retail prices by that amount. There was also a seasonal rise in the retail prices of tomatoes, some kinds of other fresh vegetables, and apples. The remaining articles of food covered by the index showed relatively little movement in price between 14th October and 18th November. For food as a whole there was a rise of between 2 and 3 per cent. in the average level of prices during the month, and, to the nearest whole number, the index for 18th November was 103, compared with 101 at 14th October.

In the clothing group there were further increases in the prices of woollen material, knitting wool and some made-up garments, and also increases in the prices of women's non-utility clothing and footwear as a result of increases in the purchase tax. As a result, the index figure for clothing prices as a whole rose slightly during the month, but, expressed to the nearest whole number, was 102 at 18th November, the same figure as at 14th October.

As regards the fuel and light group, as a result of the higher cost of coal, there were increases between 14th October and 18th November in the charges for gas in some areas. The index for electricity charges also showed a slight rise. For this group, taken as a whole, prices were approximately one per cent. higher than at 14th October, and the index at 18th November, expressed to the nearest whole number, was 107, compared with 106 a month earlier.

Among articles included in the group of household durable goods, the main changes during the month resulted from the increase in the rates of purchase tax from 13th November which increased the prices of many appliances and floor coverings and electric lamps. There were also increases in the prices of some kinds of furniture and further increases in the average prices of sheets, blankets and towels. There was some reduction in the average price of aluminium saucepans. For the group as a whole there was a rise of about 1 per cent. in the average level of prices as compared with 14th October, and, expressed to the nearest whole number, the index at 18th November was 104, compared with 103 at 14th October.

In the group covering miscellaneous goods there were increases between 14th October and 18th November in the average retail prices of toilet soap, medicines, toilet requisites, and writing paper resulting from the increase in the rates of purchase tax. For the

group as a whole the index figure at 18th November was 109, compared with 105 at 14th October.

In the services group there was little change in the level of prices during the month, and for the group as a whole the index at 18th November, to the nearest whole number, was 102, the same figure as at 14th October.

In the drink and tobacco group there were substantial increases in the prices of beer and whisky as a result of the increases in the excise duties which came into operation on 13th November, and at 18th November the index figure was 104, compared with 100 at 14th October.

In the remaining expenditure group, viz., rent and rates, there was no appreciable movement between 14th October and 18th November, and the index figure at 18th November was 100.

The price comparisons utilised in the compilation of these index figures relate to a fixed list of items, and steps are taken to ensure that, so far as possible, the index figures reflect changes in price levels but not changes in the prices quoted which are attributable to variations in quality.

SUMMARY OF INDEX FIGURES.

The following Table shows the index figures for food and for "all items" from 17th June, 1947, onwards :—

Date.	Food Index.	All items Index.
1947 :—		
17th June ..	100	100
15th July ..	101	101
12th August ..	99	100
16th September ..	100	101
14th October ..	101	101
18th November ..	103	103

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.

Country and Base of Index.*	Latest Period for which Index Figure is available.	Index Figure.	Rise (+) or Fall (−) of Index Figure compared with Previous Month (in Index Points).	Rise of Index Figure since August, 1939.†	
				Index Points.	Per Cent.
EUROPEAN COUNTRIES.					
Belgium (1936-1938 = 100)					
Food ..	Sept.	323	+ 3	220	214
Bulgaria (1939 = 100)					
Food ..	Sept.	619.2	− 11.8	519.2†	519†
All Items ..	"	795.5	− 23.1	695.5†	696†
Czechoslovakia (Prague) (March, 1939 = 100)					
Food ..	Sept.	284.7	+ 1.9	184.7†	185†
All Items ..	"	289.7	+ 3.8	189.7†	190†
Denmark (1935 = 100)					
Food ..	Oct.	175	+ 1‡	68†	64†
All Items ..	"	179	+ 1‡	71†	66†
Finland (Aug. 1938 = 100)					
Food ..	Oct. (end)	632‡	+ 15	532†	532†
All Items ..	"	760‡	+ 19	660†	660†
France (Paris) (1938 = 100)					
Food ..	Sept.	1,187	+ 98	1,079	999
Iceland (Reykjavik) (Jan.-Mar., 1939 = 100)					
Food ..	Oct. (1st)	325	+ 13	224†	222†
All Items ..	"	378	+ 22	277†	274†
Italy (Large Towns) (1938 = 100)					
Food ..	Aug.	5,079	+ 266	4,979†	4,979†
All Items ..	"	6,470	+ 336	6,370†	6,370†
Netherlands (Medium and Small Towns) (1938-1939 = 100)					
Food ..	Oct.	198	− 2	98†	98†
All Items ..	"	210	− 4	110†	110†
Poland (April, 1945 = 100)					
Food, Warsaw ..	Aug.	140	− 2	40†	40†
All Items, Warsaw ..	"	140	− 2	40†	40†
Food, Lodz ..	"	110	− 4	10†	10†
All Items, Lodz ..	"	120	− 2	20†	20†
Switzerland (June, 1914 = 100)					
Food ..	Oct.	222.7	+ 4.9	85.5	62
All Items ..	"	229.3	+ 7.2	98.1	75

* The items of expenditure on which the "all-items" index figures are based are food, house-rent, clothing, fuel and light, and other miscellaneous items, except in the case of Mexico (food, clothing, fuel and light, and soap only), and the Union of South Africa (food, fuel and light, rent, and certain other household articles only).

† In the following countries the comparison is with a period other than August, 1939: Bulgaria, average of 1939; Czechoslovakia, March, 1939; Denmark, July, 1939; Finland, average of August, 1938, to July, 1939; Iceland, 1st September, 1939; Italy, average of 1938; Netherlands, average of 1938 and 1939; Poland, April, 1945; Argentine Republic, average of 1943; Burma, average of 1941; Canada, beginning of September, 1939; Mexico, average of 1939; Palestine, pre-war period.

‡ The index is quarterly, and comparison is with the previous quarter.

§ Figures supplied by Labour Attaché, British Legation in Helsinki.

* A brief description of the scope and method of calculating the new index was given on page 255 of the issue of this GAZETTE for August, 1947.

† Taken as equivalent to 103 (see paragraph following the Table).

‡ The combination of any two or more group indices is effected by multiplying the respective indices by their corresponding weights and dividing the sum of the resulting products by the sum of the weights used.

RETAIL PRICES OVERSEAS—continued.

Country and Base of Index.*	Latest Period for which Index Figure is available.	Index Figure.	Rise (+) or Fall (—) of Index Figure compared with Previous Month (in Index Points).	Rise of Index Figure since August, 1939.†	
				Index Points.	Per Cent.
OTHER COUNTRIES.					
Argentine Republic (Buenos Aires) (1943 = 100)	June	164.0	+ 7.3	64.0†	64†
Food	June	164.8	+ 2.5	64.8†	65†
Burma (Rangoon) (1941 = 100)	Oct.	304	— 17	204†	204†
All Items‡ (a)	Oct.	353	+ 19	253†	253†
Food‡ (a)	Oct.	340	— 26	240†	240†
Food‡ (b)	Oct.	380	+ 27	280†	280†
Canada (1935-39 = 100)	Oct. (beginning)	142.2	+ 2.8	41.4†	41†
All Items	Oct. (beginning)	171.3	+ 6.0	71.9†	72†
Food	Oct. (beginning)	171.3	+ 6.0	71.9†	72†
India (Bombay) (July, 1933-June, 1934 = 100)	Sept.	29.9	+ 15	194	185
All Items	Sept.	38.2	+ 27	270	241
Food	Sept.	38.2	+ 27	270	241
Mexico (Mexico City) (1934 = 100)	Aug.	472.12	+ 7.92	316.18†	203†
All Items*	Aug.	482.45	+ 10.10	325.50†	207†
Food	Aug.	482.45	+ 10.10	325.50†	207†
Palestine (Arab and Jewish Markets) (Pre-war Period = 100)§	Aug.	277	+ 1	177†	177†
All Items	Aug.	277	+ 1	177†	177†
South Africa, Union (9 Urban Areas) (1938 = 100)	July	140.8	— 0.4	41.5	42
All Items*	July	153.3	— 2.0	55.6	57
Food	July	153.3	— 2.0	55.6	57
Southern Rhodesia (Aug. 1939 = 100)	Sept.	136	+ 3	36	36
All Items	Sept.	147	+ 10	47	47
Food	Sept.	147	+ 10	47	47
United States (1935-39 = 100)¶	Aug.	160.3	+ 1.9	61.7	63
All Items	Aug.	196.5	+ 3.4	103.0	110
Food	Aug.	196.5	+ 3.4	103.0	110

VOCATIONAL AND DISABLED TRAINING SCHEMES.

MONTHLY STATISTICS.

The statistics given below, which relate to the Vocational and Disabled Training Schemes, are in continuation of those published in last month's issue of this GAZETTE (page 393). The figures relate to the four weeks ended 20th October, 1947.

The total number of applicants admitted to training during the period under review was 1,353, and in all 14,105 persons were in training at the end of the period. The latter figure includes 12,157 males and 1,948 females, and of the total 3,775 were disabled persons. During the period 3,000 trainees were placed in employment. An analysis of these figures is given in the Table below.

Vocational and Disabled Training Schemes—Statistics for four weeks ended 20th October, 1947.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Applicants admitted to training during period at:			
Able-bodied	597	222	819
Disabled	487	47	534
Total	1,084	269	1,353
Number of persons in training at end of period at:			
Government Training Centres—			
Able-bodied	6,193	188	6,381
Disabled	2,134	21	2,155
Technical and Commercial Colleges—			
Able-bodied	1,967	1,340	3,307
Disabled	523	249	772
Employers' Establishments—			
Able-bodied	559	83	642
Disabled	489	19	508
Residential (Disabled) Centres	292	48	340
Total	12,157	1,948	14,105
Trainees placed in employment during period at:			
Able-bodied	2,323	230	2,553
Disabled	425	22	447
Total	2,748	252	3,000

During the period from the inception of the Vocational Training Scheme on 2nd July, 1945, up to 20th October, 1947, the total number of trainees placed in employment was 56,068, of whom 52,189 were males and 3,879 were females.

*† See footnotes *† in second column on page 429.
 ‡ The figures relate to (a) a Burmese family, (b) Tamils, Telegus and Uriyas.
 § The base date of the official figure is January, 1942; a comparison with the pre-war period has been effected by the Palestine Government by assuming that retail prices at the base date were, on average, 75 per cent. above the pre-war level.
 ¶ Official consumers' price index for wage earners and lower salaried officials in large cities.

FURTHER EDUCATION AND TRAINING SCHEME.

MONTHLY STATISTICS.

The figures given below show the progress made under the Further Education and Training Scheme up to the end of November, 1947. The total figures are in continuation of those published in previous issues of this GAZETTE; but separate figures for men and women are now given in addition.

Up to the end of November, 141,190 applications for financial assistance had been received under the Scheme; of this total 128,077 applications were from men, and 13,113 from women. Awards had been made in 91,646 cases, consisting of 83,788 awards in respect of men, and 7,858 in respect of women; in addition, over 3,100 applicants had been informed that awards would be made in their case.

The Table below gives particulars of the progress made under the Scheme (a) during November, 1947, and (b) during the period since the inception of the Scheme up to 30th November, 1947.

	Men.	Women.	Total.
November, 1947.			
Number of applications for assistance made	3,825	207	4,032
Number of awards made by—			
Ministry of Labour and National Service	1,130	29	1,159
Ministry of Education	1,825	161	1,986
Other award-making Departments	1,007	85	1,092
Total awards	3,962	275	4,237
Number of applications rejected	907	92	999
Applications transferred to other training schemes or withdrawn	552	72	624
Cumulative totals up to end of November, 1947.			
Number of applications for assistance made	128,077	13,113	141,190
Number of awards made by—			
Ministry of Labour and National Service	27,413	1,156	28,569
Ministry of Education	45,419	5,239	50,658
Other award-making Departments	10,956	1,463	12,419
Total awards	83,788	7,858	91,646
Number of applications rejected	20,730	1,744	22,474
Applications transferred to other training schemes or withdrawn	10,849	1,483	12,332
Cases under consideration at end of period	12,710	2,028	14,738*

BUSINESS TRAINING SCHEME.

MONTHLY STATISTICS.

The figures given below show the progress made under the Business Training Scheme up to 8th November, and are in continuation of those published in previous issues of this GAZETTE.

The number of persons who, at 8th November, 1947, had already completed a General Business Course was 5,897. Of this number, 4,192 had proceeded to Specialised Business Courses, while a further 181 were under submission to such Courses. At 8th November, 625 persons were attending a General Business Course.

Statistics relating to the progress of the Business Training Scheme (a) during the four weeks ended 8th November, 1947, and (b) during the period from the inception of the Scheme to 8th November are given in the following Table:—

	Four weeks ended 8th November, 1947.	Cumulative totals up to 8th November, 1947.
Number who have completed a General Business Course	132	5,897
Number placed in Specialised Business Courses	137	4,192
Number placed in business training vacancies	3	192
Number placed in employment†	37	1,327

RELEASES AND DISCHARGES FROM THE FORCES.

STATISTICS FOR OCTOBER, 1947.

During October, 1947, the number of men and women reported as released and discharged from the Forces and Auxiliary and Nursing Services was 56,190. The total number of men and women released and discharged in the period from 18th June, 1945, to the end of October, 1947, was 4,813,270.

Particulars are given in the next column of the numbers of releases and discharges (a) reported during October, and (b) effected during the period from 18th June, 1945, to 31st October, 1947, together with (c) a comparison of the latter with the numbers laid down in the Government's programme.

* This figure includes over 3,100 applicants who had been informed by the Ministry of Education that awards would be made in their case.
 † This category includes persons who returned to their former employment after completing a General Business Course.

Releases and Discharges from the Forces and Auxiliary and Nursing Services.

Service.	Class A.	Class B.	Other Releases and Discharges.	Total.
October, 1947.				
Men.				
Royal Navy	6,190	120	1,050	7,360
Army	36,080	620	2,190	38,890
Royal Air Force	4,600	110	1,270	5,980
Total	46,870	850	4,510	52,230
Women.				
Royal Navy	220	—	50	270
Army	2,080	—	260	2,340
Royal Air Force	1,160	10	180	1,350
Total	3,460	10	490	3,960
Total, Men and Women.				
Royal Navy	6,410	120	1,100	7,630
Army	38,160	620	2,450	41,230
Royal Air Force	5,760	120	1,450	7,330
Total	50,330	860	5,000	56,190
18th June, 1945, to 31st October, 1947.				
Men.				
Royal Navy	644,930	21,320	50,400	716,650*
Army	2,333,480	206,140	198,050	2,737,670
Royal Air Force	799,840	56,460	58,120	914,420
Total	3,778,250	283,920	306,570	4,368,740
Women.				
Royal Navy	71,590	310	5,820	77,720*
Army	188,520	2,890	21,090	212,500
Royal Air Force	137,060	980	16,270	154,310
Total	397,170	4,180	43,180	444,530
Total, Men and Women.				
Royal Navy	716,520	21,630	56,220	794,370*
Army	2,522,000	209,030	219,140	2,950,170
Royal Air Force	936,900	57,440	74,390	1,068,730
Total	4,175,420	288,100†	349,750	4,813,270

Comparison of the Numbers Released and Discharged with the Numbers in the Government's Programme.

Service.	Men.			Women.		
	Pro-gramme.	Releases and Discharges.	Excess (+) or Deficit (—) on Pro-gramme.	Pro-gramme.	Releases and Discharges.	Excess (+) or Deficit (—) on Pro-gramme.
Royal Navy	697,500	716,650†	+19,150	77,780	77,720†	— 60
Army	2,731,960	2,737,670	+ 5,710	217,160	212,500	— 4,660
Royal Air Force	907,960	914,420	+ 6,460	154,920	154,310	— 610
Total	4,337,420	4,368,740	+31,320	449,860	444,530	— 5,330

INDUSTRIAL DISEASES.

The Table below shows the number of cases and deaths‡ in the United Kingdom reported during November under the Factories Act, 1937, or under the Lead Paint (Protection against Poisoning) Act, 1926:—

I. Cases.		II. Deaths.	
LEAD POISONING.			
Operatives engaged in:			
Smelting of Metals	..	Pitch	.. 2
Plumbing and Soldering	..	Tar	.. 5
Shipbreaking	.. 1	Paraffin	..
Printing	..	Oil	.. 5
Other Contact with Molten Lead	..	TOTAL	.. 12
White and Red Lead Works	..	CHROME ULCERATION.	
Pottery	..	Manufacture of Bichromates	.. 3
Vitreous Enamelling	..	Dyeing and Finishing	.. 1
Electric Accumulator Works	.. 2	Chromium Plating	.. 3
Paint and Colour Works	..	Other Industries	.. 2
Shipbuilding	..	TOTAL	.. 9
Other Industries	..	TOTAL Cases	.. 27
Painting of Buildings	..	OTHER POISONING.	
TOTAL	.. 3	Toxic Anæmia	.. 1
OTHER POISONING.			
Aniline	.. 2	TOTAL	.. 1
Toxic Anæmia	.. 1	TOTAL Deaths	.. 1
TOTAL	.. 3		

* These figures include an estimate of 1,800 men whose release had been effected at 31st October, 1947, but not yet recorded at the Admiralty.

† Individual specialist releases numbered 17,978 men and 578 women.

‡ Deaths comprise all fatal cases reported during the month; they have also been included (as cases) in the same or previous returns.

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 November was 141, compared with 157 in October, 1947, and 146 in November, 1946. In the case of seamen employed on ships registered in the United Kingdom, 7 fatal accidents were reported in November, 1947, compared with 8 in October, 1947, and 15 in November, 1946.* Detailed figures for separate industries are given below.

MINES AND QUARRIES.†	FACTORIES—continued.	
Under Coal Mines Acts:	Electrical Stations	.. 3
Underground	Other Industries	.. 2
Surface		
Metalliferous Mines	WORKS AND PLACES UNDER ss. 105, 107, 108, FACTORIES ACT, 1937.	
Quarries	Docks, Wharves, Quays and Ships	.. 3
	Building Operations	.. 20
	Works of Engineering Construction	.. 2
	Warehouses	..
TOTAL, MINES AND QUARRIES	TOTAL, FACTORIES ACT	72

FACTORIES.	RAILWAY SERVICE.
Clay, Stone, Cement, Pottery and Glass	.. 4
Chemicals, Oils, Soap, etc.	.. 2
Metal Extracting and Refining	..
Metal Conversion and Founding (including Rolling Mills and Tube Making)	.. 5
Engineering, Locomotive Building, Boilermaking, etc.	.. 8
Railway and Tramway Carriages, Motor and other Vehicles and Aircraft Manufacture	.. 3
Shipbuilding	.. 5
Other Metal Trades	.. 2
Cotton	.. 1
Wool, Worsted, Shoddy	.. 1
Other Textile Manufacture	..
Textile, Printing, Bleaching and Dyeing	..
Tanning, Currying, etc.	.. 1
Food and Drink	.. 1
General Woodwork and Furniture	.. 4
Paper, Printing, etc.	..
Rubber Trades	..
Gas Works	.. 4
TOTAL, RAILWAY SERVICE	21
TOTAL (excluding Seamen)	141

SEAMEN.

Trading Vessels	.. 6
Fishing Vessels	.. 1
TOTAL, SEAMEN	7
TOTAL (including Seamen)	148

NATIONAL ARBITRATION TRIBUNAL AWARDS.	
During November, 1947, the National Arbitration Tribunal issued eight awards,† Nos. 1018—1025. Two of the awards are summarised below; the others related to individual employers.	
Award No. 1020 (12th November).—Parties: Firms represented by the Employers' Side of the National Joint Standing Committee for the Glove Manufacturing Industry, and members of trade unions constituting the Trade Union Side of the Committee in their employment. Claim: For increased pay and an adjustment in the piecework percentage. Award: The Tribunal awarded that the minimum hourly time rates should be: adult males—skilled 2s. 3d., semi-skilled 2s., all other workers 1s. 10d.; adult females—Class A 1s. 4d., Class B 1s. 3d. The Tribunal further awarded that piecework rates should be such as would enable a worker of average ability to earn at least 20 per cent. over the minimum time rates provided by the award.	
Award No. 1023 (18th November).—Parties: Firms represented by the Employers' Side of the Joint Industrial Council for the Ophthalmic Optical Industry, and members of trade unions comprising the Workers' Side of the Council in their employment. Claim: (a) That the wages of all adult workers should be increased by 5s. a week, with proportionate increases for juniors; (b) that the wages of all employees should be increased by 10s. a week after 10 years' service in the industry; (c) that working hours should be reduced from 46 to 44 a week; and (d) that annual holidays should be extended from 6 to 12 days per annum. Award: The Tribunal awarded that the minimum rates of adult male and female workers should be increased by 2s. and 1s. 6d. a week, respectively, and that normal working hours should be reduced to 44 a week. They found against those parts of the claim set out at (b) and (d) above.	
* These figures exclude fatal accidents to seamen directly attributable to causes arising from the recent war. Fifty-seven such accidents were reported during November, 1947 (all of these resulted from the loss of one vessel which occurred in April, 1947, but had not previously been reported); none were reported in October, 1947, or in November, 1946.	
† For mines and quarries, weekly returns are furnished, and the figures cover the 4 weeks ended 29th November, 1947, in comparison with the 5 weeks ended 1st November, 1947, and the 4 weeks ended 30th November, 1946.	
‡ See footnote * on page 432.	

NATIONAL ARBITRATION TRIBUNAL (NORTHERN IRELAND) AWARDS.

Since the last issue of this GAZETTE was prepared the National Arbitration Tribunal (Northern Ireland) issued ten awards, Nos. 661 to 670. Two of these awards are summarised below.

Award No. 662 (29th October).—Parties: The Belfast member firms of the Northern Ireland Coal Importers' Association, and certain employees of the member firms. *Claim:* (1) That all fillers should be put on a weekly basis and paid £5 10s. for a week of 44 hours, with overtime at proportionate rates, or (2) that the minimum daily rate should be increased to £1 for a day of 8 hours and the existing tonnage rates amended in accordance with the rates specified in the claim; (3) that when coal is loaded on to wagons and the remainder goes to the yard for graping the rate should be 2s. 6d. a ton; (4) that when importers' lorries carry over 4 tons, three gangs should be employed, or loading money paid to the fillers concerned; and (5) that firms should supply loaders to all Northern Ireland Road Transport Board and outside lorries, and that travelling to other firms should cease. *Award:* The Tribunal found that parts (1), (2) and (3) of the claim had not been established and awarded accordingly; and they referred parts (4) and (5) back to the parties for settlement by negotiation. If no agreement were reached within two months from the date of the award, it would be open to either party to bring these matters again before the Tribunal.

Award No. 666 (13th November).—Parties: The member firms of the North of Ireland Brickmakers' Association, and certain employees of the member firms. *Claim:* (1) That double time rates be paid for all shift work performed by kilnmen, firemen, and enginemen from 12 noon on Saturday to 6 a.m. on Monday morning; and (2) that any of these workers required by the management to work beyond his normal shift of 8 hours should be paid at overtime rates. *Award:* The Tribunal awarded that shift workers to whom the claim related should be paid double time rates for all shift work between 10 p.m. on Saturday and 6 a.m. on Monday next following, while they were required to work a minimum of 56 hours in the week. The Tribunal found that the remaining part of the claim had not been established.

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

INDUSTRIAL COURT AWARDS.

During November, 1947, the Industrial Court issued two awards, Nos. 2117 and 2118, one of which is summarised below.

Award No. 2117 (26th November).—Parties: The Joint Industrial Council for the Wholesale Grocery and Provision Trade (England and Wales)—Employees' Side and Employers' Side. *Claim:* For a minimum wage for all adult male workers of 21 years of age and over of £5 a week, with proportionate advances to juveniles and female workers; and for a reduction in the working week from 46 to 44 hours without loss of pay. *Award:* The Court awarded an increase of 6s. a week for all adult workers of 21 years of age and over, with proportionate increases for juveniles. The Court found against the remainder of the claim and awarded accordingly.

SINGLE ARBITRATORS AND AD HOC BOARDS OF ARBITRATION.

During November, 1947, one award was issued by a Single Arbitrator, sitting with assessors, appointed under the Industrial Courts Act, 1919. The award related to an individual undertaking.

WAGES COUNCILS ACT, 1945.

NOTICES OF PROPOSAL.

During November, 1947, notices of intention to submit to the Minister of Labour and National Service wages regulation proposals were issued by the following Wages Councils:—

Tobacco Wages Council (Great Britain).—Proposal N.(31), dated 4th November, 1947; relating to the fixing of revised general minimum time rates, piece work basis time rates and overtime rates.

Boot and Shoe Repairing Wages Council (Great Britain).—Proposal D.(92), dated 11th November, 1947; relating to the fixing of revised piece rates for certain specified operations, provision for guaranteed weekly remuneration, and the amendment of the provision for trainees under the Government Vocational Training Scheme.

Stamped or Pressed Metal-Wares Wages Council (Great Britain).—Proposal Q.(65), dated 11th November, 1947; relating to the fixing of revised general minimum time rates, piece work basis time rates and overtime rates.

Paper Box Wages Council (Great Britain).—(1) Proposal B.(39), dated 28th November, 1947; relating to the fixing of revised general minimum time rates, piece work basis time rates and overtime rates. (2) *Proposal B.(40),* dated 28th November, 1947; relating to the increase of the annual holidays with pay from 6 days to a maximum of 12 days and fixing payment for such holidays.

Further information concerning any of the above proposals may be obtained by persons engaged in the trade affected by application to the Secretary of the Council in question at Queen Anne's Chambers, Broadway, London, S.W.1.

WAGE REGULATION ORDERS.

During November, 1947, the Minister of Labour and National Service made the following Wages Regulation Order* giving effect to the proposals made to him by the Wages Council concerned:—

The Ostrich and Fancy Feather and Artificial Flower Wages Council (Great Britain) Wages Regulation (Holidays) Order, 1947: S.R.&O. 1947, No. 2506 (O.F. (16)), dated 26th November, and effective from 15th December, 1947.—This Order prescribes the annual holidays and certain customary holidays to be allowed to workers (other than homeworkers) and fixes payment for such holidays.

3008 Rub.

WAGES COUNCILS ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND), 1945.

There were no Notices of Proposal issued or Wages Regulation Orders made under the Wages Councils Act (Northern Ireland) during the month of November, 1947.

ROAD HAULAGE WAGES ACTS.

NOTICE OF PROPOSAL.

The Road Haulage Central Wages Board have issued Proposal R.H.(23), dated 18th November, 1947, for the amendment of the existing Road Haulage Wages Order, which fixed the statutory remuneration for road haulage workers employed in connection with vehicles operating under A or B licences for defence permits. The changes proposed include (a) a re-classification of some vehicles for the purposes of the rates; (b) increases of 4s. a week for all workers aged 21 years and over, and 2s. a week for younger workers; (c) an extension of the hours for which night work payment should be made; (d) a revision of the provisions relating to guaranteed weekly remuneration and holiday remuneration; and (e) the abolition of the special provisions relating to milk workers.

AGRICULTURAL WAGES REGULATION ACTS.

ORDER RELATING TO WAGES, ETC., IN NORTHERN IRELAND.

An Order (No. 13) was made on 1st October, 1947, by the Agricultural Wages Board for Northern Ireland, with effect on 3rd November, 1947, raising the statutory minimum and overtime rates of wages and holiday remuneration for male workers employed in agriculture for time work in Northern Ireland (except workers employed at or in flax scutch mills), and varying the maximum values at which cottages and board and lodging may be reckoned as payment of wages in lieu of payment in cash. A summary of the provisions of the Order relating to rates of wages is given on page 423 of this GAZETTE.

ORDERS RELATING TO WAGES, ETC., IN ENGLAND AND WALES.

Orders were made on 5th November, 1947, by the Agricultural Wages Board for England and Wales, with effect on 16th November, 1947, (a) (No. 1702) varying the statutory minimum and overtime rates of wages for inexperienced male and female workers, other than wives, sons and daughters of agricultural workers, during their first two months of employment in agriculture, and revising the values at which board and lodging may be reckoned as a benefit or advantage in lieu of payment in cash; and (b) (No. 1703) varying the statutory minimum and overtime rates of wages for male and female foreign students during their third, fourth and fifth months of employment in agriculture under an exchange scheme sponsored by the National Farmers' Union or other authority approved for the purpose by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

* Copies of official publications (including Orders, Regulations, etc.) referred to in the GAZETTE may be purchased from H.M. Stationery Office at any of the addresses shown on the front cover.

REFE