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## EMPLOYMENT, WAGES, COST OF LIVING, AND TRADE DISPUTES IN DECEMBER.

### EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT.

THERE was a further decline in employment between 15th November and 13th December, a substantial part of which was due, however, to the effect of adverse weather conditions at the latter date.

*Insured Persons in work.*—It is provisionally estimated that at 13th December, 1937, the number of insured persons, aged 16-64, in employment in Great Britain, exclusive of persons within the agricultural scheme, was approximately 11,437,000. This was 136,000 less than at 15th November, 1937. On a comparable basis there was an increase of about 200,000 as compared with 14th December, 1936.

*Numbers Unemployed (excluding Persons normally in Casual Employment).*—At 13th December, 1937, there were 1,283,604 persons on the registers of Employment Exchanges in Great Britain who were out of a situation. This was 56,004 more than at 15th November, 1937. On a comparable basis there was a decrease of about 48,820 as compared with 14th December, 1936.

*Numbers Temporarily Stopped.*—At 13th December, 1937, there were registered as unemployed in Great Britain 324,779 persons who were on short time or otherwise temporarily suspended from work. This was 107,973 more than at 15th November, 1937. On a comparable basis there was an increase of about 142,890 as compared with 14th December, 1936.

*Numbers unemployed normally in Casual Employment.*—At 13th December, 1937, there were on the registers in Great Britain 57,024 unemployed persons who normally seek a livelihood by means of jobs of short duration. This was 2,227 more than at 15th November, 1937. On a comparable basis there was a decrease of about 2,330 as compared with 14th December, 1936.

*Applicants for Benefit or Allowances.*—The total of 1,665,407 persons on the registers at 13th December, 1937, included 896,019 persons with claims admitted for insurance benefit, 555,927 persons with applications authorised for unemployment allowances, 75,487 persons with applications for benefit or allowances under consideration, and 137,974 other persons, of whom 25,611 were under 16 years of age.

*Percentages Unemployed, Insured Persons aged 16-64, in Great Britain and Northern Ireland.*—Among persons insured under the general scheme of unemployment insurance (including the special schemes for the banking and insurance industries), the percentage unemployed at 13th December, 1937, was 12·2, as compared with 11·0 at 15th November, 1937. Among persons within the agricultural scheme, the percentages were 8·3 at 13th December, 1937, and 5·0 at 15th November, 1937. For the two schemes combined the percentage for 13th December, 1937, was 12·0, as compared with 10·7 for 15th November, 1937. On a comparable basis, there was an increase at 13th December, 1937, as compared with 14th December, 1936, of about 0·6 in the percentage unemployed among persons within the general scheme, and an increase of about 4·5 among persons within the agricultural scheme. For the two schemes combined

there was an increase of about 0·7 between these two dates.

*Industries in which the Principal Variations occurred.*—The decline in employment shown by the figures for 13th December was most marked in outdoor occupations, in which employment was adversely affected by the severe weather conditions prevailing at that date. In the building, public works contracting, stone quarrying, and ship building and repairing industries, for example, the numbers unemployed in Great Britain and Northern Ireland showed an increase of 94,000 as compared with 15th November, of whom 55,500 were registered as only temporarily stopped. Other industries in which employment declined included the textile, boot and shoe, pottery, furniture and certain food manufacturing industries, shipping service, the manufacture of metal goods and electrical apparatus, engineering (mainly textile machinery manufacture), agriculture and fishing. On the other hand employment improved in the distributive trades, in hotel and boarding house service, and, to a slight extent, in the motor vehicle industry.

### WAGES.

In the industries for which statistics are regularly compiled by the Department, changes in rates of wages reported to have come into operation in December are estimated to have resulted in an increase of £54,600 in the weekly full-time wages of 414,000 workpeople.

The principal increases affected coal miners in Leicestershire, Nottinghamshire, North Derbyshire and Scotland; iron puddlers and iron and steel millmen in the Midlands; steel sheet millmen in various districts; employees of electricity supply undertakings in Great Britain; and employees of municipal tramway, trolleybus and omnibus undertakings outside the Metropolitan Area.

The only decrease in rates of wages reported in December affected about 2,000 workpeople engaged in the manufacture of certain classes of silk stockings.

The changes reported to have come into operation during 1937 have resulted in total net increases estimated at about £780,000 in the weekly full-time wages of over 5,100,000 workpeople. Only about 4,400 workpeople were reported as having sustained a net reduction in wage rates during the year.

### COST OF LIVING.

At 1st January the average level of retail prices of the commodities taken into account in the statistics compiled by the Ministry of Labour (including food, rent, clothing, fuel and light, and miscellaneous items) was approximately 59 per cent. above the level of July, 1914, as compared with 60 per cent. at 1st December, and 51 per cent. at 1st January, 1937. For food only the corresponding percentages were 45, 46 and 36, respectively.

### TRADE DISPUTES.

The number of trade disputes involving stoppages of work reported to the Department as beginning in December was 40. In addition 16 disputes which began before December were still in progress at the beginning of that month. The number of workpeople involved in these 56 disputes, including workpeople thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, was about 9,000, and the aggregate duration of the disputes in December is estimated at about 45,000 working days.



## EMPLOYMENT, WAGES, HOURS OF LABOUR, COST OF LIVING AND TRADE DISPUTES IN 1937.

### EMPLOYMENT.

After a seasonal decline in January, the improvement in employment which had been in progress since 1933 continued during the first half of 1937, and at 23rd August the numbers of insured persons (excluding agricultural workers) in employment were higher than at any previous date. In the last four months of the year, however, there was a setback in employment, accentuated in December through the interruption of outdoor work by bad weather.

The figures given below show the estimated number of insured persons, aged 16-64, exclusive of persons within the agricultural scheme, in employment in Great Britain month by month from December, 1936 to December, 1937. In compiling the figures for the last four months of the year the numbers of unemployed insured persons have been ascertained in accordance with the revised procedure introduced in September, 1937, under which persons subsequently found to have been in employment on the day of the count are excluded from the figures. At that date the change reduced the figure for the number of insured persons, aged 16-64, recorded as unemployed by about 44,000.\*

1936.		1937—continued.	
14th December ...	11,182,000	26th July ...	11,623,000
25th January ...	11,163,000	23rd August ...	11,672,000
22nd February ...	11,250,000	13th September:	
15th March ...	11,310,000	Old basis ...	11,662,000
19th April ...	11,472,000	New basis ...	11,706,000
24th May ...	11,473,000	18th October ...	11,659,000
21st June ...	11,613,000	15th November ...	11,573,000
		13th December ...	11,437,000

Notwithstanding the decline in the latter part of the year, the total for December, 1937 was about 200,000 higher, on a comparable basis, than that for December, 1936.

The approximate average\* numbers of insured persons, aged 16-64, exclusive of agricultural workers, in employment in Great Britain in each year since 1924 have been as shown below:—

Year	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937
Number	9,526,000	9,611,000	9,062,000	10,015,000	10,019,000	10,220,000	9,797,000	9,421,000	9,348,000	9,681,000	10,139,000	10,377,000	10,912,000	11,496,000†

Owing to the change (referred to above) in the procedure for counting the unemployed, the average of 11,496,000 given for 1937 is not strictly comparable with those shown for previous years. It is estimated that, on a comparable basis, the average for 1937 would be about 11,480,000, showing an increase of about 570,000 as compared with 1936.

The average proportion of insured persons, aged 16-64, exclusive of agricultural workers, unemployed in Great Britain during 1937 was between 10 and 11 per cent., compared with nearly 13 per cent. in 1936. The following Table gives the corresponding percentages for (a) Great Britain and (b) Great Britain and Northern Ireland for each of the years 1921 to 1937:—

Year.	Percentage Unemployed.		Year.	Percentage Unemployed.	
	Great Britain.	Great Britain and Northern Ireland.		Great Britain.	Great Britain and Northern Ireland.
1921	16.6	17.0	1930	15.8	16.1
1922	14.1	14.3	1931	21.1	21.3
1923	11.6	11.7	1932	21.4	22.1
1924	10.2	10.3	1933	19.8	19.9
1925	11.0	11.3	1934	16.6	16.7
1926	12.3	12.5	1935	15.3	15.5
1927	9.6	9.7	1936	12.9	13.1
1928	10.7	10.8	1937	10.6‡	10.9‡
1929	10.3	10.4			

The corresponding percentages for each month of 1937, and the number of unemployed persons registered at Employment Exchanges at one date in each month, are given in Tables on page 15. At 13th December, 1937, the percentage unemployed amongst insured persons, aged 16-64, exclusive of agricultural workers, in Great Britain and Northern Ireland was 12.2; on a comparable basis there was an increase of about 0.6 compared with 14th December, 1936.

The number of unemployed persons (insured and uninsured) on the registers of Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland at 13th December, 1937, was 1,755,491 (of whom 1,424,960 were wholly unemployed, including persons normally in casual employment, and 330,531 temporarily stopped); on a comparable basis there was an increase of about 109,000 in the total number compared with 14th December, 1936.

After a seasonal increase in January, 1937, the numbers wholly unemployed (including persons normally in casual employment) declined steadily until July; after that month, however, the numbers showed a continuous increase, but the figure for December, 1937, was still nearly 36,000‡ less than that for December, 1936.

\* For further details, see the October, 1937, issue of this GAZETTE (page 379).  
† See footnote \* in first column on page 10.

‡ These averages are affected by the introduction, in September, 1937, of the revised procedure for counting the unemployed. The extent to which comparability with earlier figures is impaired as a result of the change is, however, very slight.

§ For the purpose of comparison with 14th December, 1936, an estimate has been made of the effect of the change in the procedure for counting the unemployed, mentioned above.

The numbers temporarily stopped showed a decrease between December, 1936, and April, 1937, when the lowest figure for the year was recorded. After that date holiday stoppages occurred, and the figures showed considerable fluctuation in the second half of the year. There were sharp increases in November and December, largely due, in the latter month, to severe weather at the date of the count and in December, 1937, the numbers temporarily stopped were about 145,000\* higher than a year earlier.

At 13th December, 1937, the number of unemployed men and boys on the registers of Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland was 1,377,493; on a comparable basis\* this represents an increase of about 20,000, or of 1.5 per cent., compared with 14th December, 1936. The corresponding total for women and girls at 13th December, 1937, was 377,998, an increase on a comparable basis\* of about 90,000, or of more than 30 per cent., over a year earlier. Among insured males, aged 16-64 (exclusive of those within the agricultural scheme), the rate of unemployment was lower in every month of 1937 than in the corresponding month of 1936; in the case of females it was lower in every month except November and December. The proportions unemployed among insured males and females, aged 16-64, in December, 1937, were 13.2 per cent. and 9.5 per cent. respectively; on a comparable basis\* these figures represent a very slight decrease in the case of males, but an increase of over 2 per cent. in the case of females, compared with those for December, 1936.

The Table below shows the average percentage rates of unemployment among insured persons (exclusive of those within the agricultural scheme) in each Administrative Division for the years 1936 and 1937.

Division.	Average percentage rates of unemployment among insured persons, aged 16-64 (exclusive of agriculture).	
	1936.	1937.†
	London ...	7.0
South-Eastern ...	7.2	6.7
South-Western ...	9.4	7.8
Midlands ...	9.2	7.2
North-Eastern ...	13.5	11.0
North-Western ...	17.0	14.0
Northern ...	22.9	17.9
Scotland ...	18.7	15.9
Wales ...	29.4	22.3
Northern Ireland ...	22.6	23.3
Great Britain and Northern Ireland ...	13.1	10.9

### AGRICULTURAL SCHEME.

Among all persons, aged 16-64, insured under the agricultural scheme the average proportion unemployed in Great Britain and Northern Ireland during 1937 was about 4½ per cent. The corresponding figures for males and for females were nearly 4 per cent. and nearly 14 per cent. respectively. These averages exclude private gardeners from January to June, 1937, but include them from July to December of that year.

### EMPLOYMENT IN THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES.

A summary of the course of employment in some of the principal industries is given below. It should be noted that the average percentages of unemployment for 1937 are affected by the introduction in September, 1937, of the revised procedure for counting the unemployed, mentioned above. The extent to which comparability with earlier figures is impaired, however, as a result of the change is generally small.

**Mining.**—In the coal mining industry employment in 1937 showed a marked improvement compared with 1936. The percentage unemployed among insured workpeople, aged 16-64, was much lower in every month than in the corresponding month of 1936, and the yearly average declined from nearly 22 in 1936 to about 15 in 1937. The average number of wage-earners on the colliery books in 1937 was 777,000, compared with 756,000 in 1936 and with 759,000 in 1935; the figure for the week ended 25th December, 1937 (790,600), was the highest recorded since March, 1933. The average number of days per week on which the pits wound coal showed a further increase to 5.13; the corresponding averages for 1936 and 1935 were 4.86 and 4.74, respectively.

In the iron mining industry employment continued to improve during 1937 and was good. The numbers employed at shale mines showed little change throughout the year, and the position continued fair; employment at tin mines was still slack.

**Metal Trades.**—In pig iron manufacture employment showed a further marked improvement during 1937. The average percentage unemployed among insured workpeople, aged 16-64, fell from nearly 15 in 1936 to about 10 in 1937. There was also a marked increase in the number of furnaces in blast, the figure for December, 1937, being 133, compared with 110 a year earlier.

There was also a further improvement in iron and steel manufacture, but employment was affected to some extent by shortages of materials. The average percentage unemployed among insured persons, aged 16-64, was about 11 in 1937, compared with 16 in 1936.

Employment in the tinsplate industry continued to expand during the greater part of 1937; there was, however, a severe decline in the last two months of the year, the numbers unemployed being almost doubled between October and December. While the average

\* See note § in previous column.

† See note ‡ in previous column.

percentage unemployed in 1937 was about 13, compared with over 26½ in 1936, the percentage for December, 1937 (17.5) was slightly higher than the figure for a year earlier. In steel sheet manufacture employment showed little change during the year as a whole.

Further improvement was recorded during 1937 in engineering, and employment was good; shortages of skilled labour were reported from many areas. The average percentage of unemployment in the engineering and motor vehicle, etc. industries, taken as a whole, was about 5 in 1937, compared with nearly 8 in 1936. The corresponding approximate percentages for the individual sections of the industry were, respectively: general engineering, 5½ and 8½; electrical, 3 and 4; marine, 9 and 14; constructional, 10 and 12½; motor vehicles, cycles and aircraft, 5 and 6.

There was also a further improvement in employment in the shipbuilding and ship-repairing industry in most areas during the greater part of 1937. The average percentage of unemployment for the year was about 24, compared with over 31 in 1936.

In the other metal trades there was further improvement during the first half of 1937, but there was some decline in the later months of the year.

**Textile Industries.**—Employment in the cotton industry continued to improve, on the whole, in the first half of 1937; after some fluctuations, however, a marked decline occurred in the last two months of the year in both the spinning and manufacturing sections, and the percentage of unemployment for the industry as a whole at 13th December, 1937, was 15.8, an increase of about 3.9\* as compared with 14th December, 1936. Over the year as a whole, however, the average percentage of unemployment declined from nearly 16 in 1936 to about 11½ in 1937.

In the wool textile industry employment in the first nine months of 1937, though rather better than in the corresponding period of 1936, showed on the whole a slight decline. In the last three months, however, the decline became marked and the rate of unemployment in December, 1937, was 17.9 per cent., an increase of about 11.9\* per cent. as compared with a year earlier. The average yearly percentage of unemployment rose from over 9 in 1936 to more than 10 in 1937.

In the carpet, hosiery, lace, silk and artificial silk, and textile bleaching, dyeing, etc. industries some improvement in the early months of 1937 was followed by a decline, which became marked in the last two months of the year. The linen industry declined almost continuously; while with jute employment remained bad and showed a sharp decline in the last quarter of 1937.

**Clothing Trades.**—Employment both in tailoring and in dress-making and millinery showed the usual seasonal fluctuations in 1937, but, except at the end of the year, was slightly better on the whole than in 1936. The average percentage of unemployment in tailoring was nearly 11 in 1937, compared with about 11½ in 1936; the corresponding figures for dressmaking were about 5½ and 6½, respectively. In the shirt and collar trade employment was fairly good for the greater part of 1937, but declined somewhat towards the end of the year. It was good in the corset and glove trades. In the hat and cap industry employment showed marked seasonal fluctuations; on the whole it was worse than in 1936.

In the boot and shoe industry employment was fairly good generally during 1937, and was better than in the previous year. The average percentage rate of unemployment in 1937 was about 11, compared with over 12½ in 1936.

**Leather Trades.**—In the tanning, currying and leather-dressing trades and in leather goods manufacture employment improved until late in the year; there was a setback, however, in the last quarter, and in December, 1937, the percentages unemployed were above the level of a year earlier.

**Building, Woodworking, etc.**—In the building industry employment was affected by the usual seasonal fluctuations; it was good for the greater part of 1937 with skilled workers, but unemployment continued at a high level with labourers and in certain other occupations. In December employment was interrupted as a result of bad weather. Shortages of skilled workers, especially bricklayers, were again reported from many areas. In the building industry as a whole the average rate of unemployment in 1937 was about 14 per cent., compared with nearly 15 per cent. in 1936.

In public works contracting unemployment continued to be very heavy, but was slightly lower than in 1936. In brick, tile and pipe manufacture employment improved until July, after which there was a slight decline, accentuated, in December, by bad weather; employment was good on the whole. In the furnishing trade there was an improvement compared with 1936 and employment was good; with mill-sawyers and coachbuilders also it was better than in the previous year and was fairly good.

**Paper Manufacture, Printing and Bookbinding.**—Improvement continued in paper manufacture and in the printing and bookbinding industries, and employment was good.

**Pottery and Glass.**—Employment in the pottery industry improved and was much better on the whole than in 1936; there was, however, a marked decline in December, 1937. The average percentage of unemployment in 1937 was about 14½, compared with over 18 in 1936. In glass bottle manufacture employment was slack at the beginning of 1937, but later improved and was fair; in other sections of the glass trades employment was fairly good.

**Transport Services.**—With seamen and dock workers employment, though still slack, was slightly better in 1937 than in the previous year. The average percentages of unemployment in 1937 were about 22 in shipping service and nearly 26 in dock, harbour, etc. service, compared with nearly 26 and 29½, respectively, in 1936. Employment also improved in road transport; it was very good in tramway and omnibus service, and moderate in other road transport services.

\* See note § in first column on page 2.

**Other Industries and Services.**—The distributive trades showed a further slight improvement in 1937, the average rate of unemployment falling to under 9 per cent. from about 10 per cent. in 1936. Improvement also continued during 1937 in the food and drink industries, in entertainments, sport, etc., and in hotel and boarding house service; in the latter service, however, the percentage unemployed at the end of 1937 was slightly higher than a year earlier.

### RATES OF WAGES.

There was a further rise in the general level of wage-rates during 1937. The number of workpeople whose rates of wages were increased and the total amount of the increase were greater than in any year since 1920. In those industries for which detailed statistics of changes in rates of wages are regularly compiled,\* the changes reported during the year resulted in an aggregate net increase of about £780,000 in the weekly full-time rates of wages of over 5,110,000 workpeople. Only 4,400 workpeople were reported as having sustained net reductions in wage rates. These figures are exclusive of changes in rates of wages in agriculture and certain other employments, in which there were also some increases in wage-rates during 1937. In all the industries (including agriculture) for which information is available the average level of weekly full-time rates of wages is estimated to have risen by over 4 per cent. in 1937.

The following Table shows the approximate numbers of workpeople affected by the changes in rates of wages reported to the Department in 1937, and the net amount of the change in their weekly rates of wages, in each of the principal groups of industries for which detailed statistics are available.\* Corresponding figures are also given for 1936:—

Industry Group.	Approximate Number of separate Individuals reported as affected by Net Increases or Net Decreases in weekly Rates of Wages.				Estimated Net Weekly Increase in Rates of Wages of all Workpeople affected.	
	1937.†		1936.		1937.†	1936.
	Net Increases.	Net Decreases.	Net Increases.	Net Decreases.	£	£
Coal Mining ...	679,000	—	767,700	—	167,000	167,925
Other Mining and Quarrying ...	41,350	—	34,750	50	8,500	3,920
Brick, Pottery, Glass, Chemical, etc. ...	170,850	—	190,750	50	16,700	13,790
Iron and Steel ...	160,100	—	144,250	—	74,400	21,000
Engineering ...	622,800	—	493,500	—	93,650	42,450
Shipbuilding ...	101,000	—	86,900	—	23,300	9,850
Other Metal ...	263,250	—	153,600	—	48,100	15,325
Textile ...	370,500	2,000	562,250	250	49,550	67,025
Clothing ...	695,000	2,300	74,200	—	83,000	8,550
Food, Drink and Tobacco ...	140,050	—	13,400	—	17,950	2,600
Woodworking, Furniture, etc. ...	75,000	—	67,700	—	12,750	9,250
Paper, Printing, etc. ...	17,250	—	7,100	—	2,150	550
Building, Public Works, Contracting, etc. ...	706,900	—	575,750	—	54,800	50,750
Gas, Water and Electricity Supply ...	145,900	—	128,900	50	18,500	12,840
Transport ...	737,500	100	630,500	300	86,300	53,060
Public Administration Services ...	85,450	—	94,250	100	9,700	9,265
Other ...	102,500	—	36,900	—	14,150	4,750
Total ...	5,114,400	4,400	4,062,400	800	780,500	492,900

### PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN 1937.

Among the principal groups of workpeople whose rates of wages were increased in 1937 were coal miners; chemical workers; pottery workers; iron and steel workers; engineers; ship builders and repairers; cotton weavers; workpeople engaged in the textile finishing trades; boot and shoe operatives and workpeople in other major clothing industries; building trade operatives; gas workers; workers in electricity supply undertakings; railway servants; dock labourers; and seamen.

In the coal mining industry there were increases in most of the principal districts. Some of the changes took the form of increases in the percentage additions to basis rates, in other cases, they were increases in the basis rates. The amount of increase varied, in different cases, from about 2 per cent. to 20 per cent. on current rates.

Workers engaged in the manufacture of heavy chemicals received increases amounting, in the case of adult male workers, to ½d. an hour; and pottery workers, with the exception of those in the sanitary earthenware section, received increases of between 1½ and 2 per cent. on current wages.

Workpeople employed in the manufacture of pig iron and of iron and steel received substantial increases, mainly as a result of the operation of sliding scales under which wages are regulated according to movements in selling prices. The amount of increase varied widely in different occupations and districts.

In the engineering industry men received increases in the flat-rate was bonus amounting to 4s. a week, including 1s. arranged in 1936

\* These statistics are exclusive of changes affecting agricultural labourers, Government employees, domestic servants, shop assistants and clerks, (see, however, paragraph in column 1 on page 4 as to agricultural labourers, etc.). They relate to rates of wages for a full week, assuming full employment, and do not take account of variations in actual earnings resulting from changes in the state of employment. In many cases changes arranged by individual employers, and those affecting unorganised workers, are not reported to the Department.

† The figures given for 1937 are preliminary and subject to revision. ‡ Changes affecting workpeople employed in railway engineering workshops are included under "Engineering" and not under "Transport."



to operate early in 1937. There were also increases of various amounts for boys in many districts. In addition, the basis rates for certain occupations, mainly patternmakers, were increased by various amounts in a number of districts. Women and girls received an increase of 1s. a week in their cost-of-living bonus. In the ship building and repairing industry there were increases amounting to 4s. a week for men on time work and of 8 per cent. for those on piece-work.

Cotton weavers, and workers engaged on processes ancillary to weaving, received increases ranging generally from 5½ to 14 per cent. on current wages. In the textile bleaching, dyeing, printing and finishing industry, wages were increased on three occasions during the year, under the operation of sliding scales under which wages vary with movements in the cost of living. The increases amounted to nearly 7 per cent. for time workers and nearly 6 per cent. for pieceworkers in Yorkshire, and to 3s. 3d. a week for men on time work, 3s. 1d. a week for men on piece work, and 1s. 11d. a week for women in Lancashire and Scotland.

There were general increases in most of the important clothing industries. Boot and shoe operatives received increases, under a cost-of-living sliding scale, amounting to 2s. and 1s. a week on time rates for men and women, respectively, and to approximately 3½ per cent. for male workers and 2½ per cent. for female workers on piece rates. For other workers in the clothing industries the increases for the most part were consequent upon the raising of the minimum rates of wages fixed by various Trade Boards, including the Boards for the ready-made tailoring, wholesale mantle and costume, shirt making, corset making, and laundry trades in Great Britain, and the dress-making and hat, cap and millinery trades in England and Wales.

For building trade operatives (with the principal exceptions of those in the Liverpool and Birkenhead district and of painters in Scotland) there was a general increase of ½d. an hour for craftsmen and of ¼d. or ½d. an hour for labourers.

Gas workers received an increase of ½d. an hour or 4d. a shift, and electricity supply workers one of ¼d. an hour.

Railway servants of the main line companies in Great Britain had their wages increased by the withdrawal of a deduction of 1½ per cent. from earnings. There were also special increases, usually of 6d. or 1s. a week, for the lowest-paid workers; while a considerable proportion of the staff received two increases of 1s. a week under a cost-of-living sliding scale. Dock labourers received an increase of 1s. a day for both time and piece workers; and seamen's wages were increased by the restoration, on 1st January, 1937, of the remaining quarter of a 10 per cent. reduction made in 1932.

In addition to the above changes, rates of wages were increased in many other industries or sections of industries. There were increases in quarrying and iron mining in various districts; china clay mining in Devon and Cornwall; shale mining in Scotland; coke and by-product plants in several districts; cement manufacture; tinsplate and sheet manufacture; galvanizing; light castings manufacture; electrical cable making; wire-drawing; cutlery, file, edge tool, etc. manufacture at Sheffield; brass working in Birmingham and Yorkshire; the precious metal trades at Birmingham, Sheffield and London; chain making; hollow-ware manufacture; and stamped or pressed metal wares manufacture. Other classes of workers who received increases included the lower-paid card and ring-room operatives in the cotton spinning industry; wool textile operatives in Scotland, the West of England and Leicestershire; jute, flax and hemp workers; silk workers at Leek and Macclesfield; lace makers (plain net); asbestos workers; workers employed in the cocoa and chocolate and food preserving industries; brewery workers at Burton-on-Trent; bakers in several towns; coopers; vehicle builders and wheelwrights; furniture trade operatives in many towns; female workers in paper mills generally and male workers in mills in Scotland, West of England and Wales; electrical wiremen; waterworks employees in certain large areas; employees of provincial municipal tramway, trolleybus and omnibus undertakings; coal trimmers and tipplers at the principal coal exporting centres; workpeople other than motor drivers and attendants in the furniture removal and warehousing industry; workers in the non-trading departments of a number of local authorities; and leather tanners, dressers and curriers.

**Agricultural Labourers, Government Industrial Employees, and Shop Assistants.**—The statistics given in the foregoing Table are exclusive of changes in the rates of agricultural labourers, Government employees, shop assistants, clerks and domestic servants. As regards agricultural labourers, increases, usually amounting to 1s., 1s. 6d., or 2s. a week, took place during the year in the minimum rates fixed under the Agricultural Wages (Regulation) Act, 1924, for adult male labourers in 45 of the 47 Agricultural Wages Committee Areas in England and Wales. In Scotland the available information indicates that there was a substantial increase in the average level of cash wages. As regards Government industrial employees, a large number of men employed in engineering and shipyard occupations by the Admiralty and in engineering occupations by the War Department, Air Ministry and H.M. Office of Works received increases amounting generally to 4s. a week, including 1s. arranged in 1936 to operate early in 1937. As regards shop assistants, collective agreements between certain groups of employers, or large individual firms, and the trade unions concerned resulted in increases in rates of wages for large numbers of workers in some sections of the distributive trades.

**INDUSTRIES IN WHICH THERE WAS NO GENERAL CHANGE IN 1937.**

Among the more important groups of workpeople whose rates of wages remained generally unchanged during 1937 were drug and fine chemical workers; paint, colour and varnish workers; heating and domestic engineers (except in London); outside steelwork erectors in England and Wales; cotton spinners; woollen and worsted

trade operatives in Yorkshire; lace makers (except the plain net section); hosiery workers in Scotland; linen workers in Northern Ireland; carpet makers; retail bespoke tailors; glove makers; flour millers; printers and bookbinders; building trade operatives at Liverpool and Birkenhead; house painters in Scotland; civil engineering construction workers in England and Wales; bakers in many areas; road transport workers in most districts; and local authority employees in most of the large towns. The statutory minimum rates fixed by some Trade Boards (e.g., those for paper box making, aerated waters manufacture, milk distribution, tobacco) also remained unchanged in 1937.

In the case of about 128,500 workpeople, there were two or more movements in wages during the year which left the general level of wages the same at the end as at the beginning of the year. The principal classes of workpeople included in this total were coal miners in South Derbyshire, Cannock Chase, and North Staffordshire, and hosiery workers in the Midlands.

#### CHANGES IN WAGES IN THE YEARS 1924-1937.

The following Table shows the approximate numbers of workpeople, in the industries and services for which detailed statistics are available\*, whose rates of wages were increased or reduced (so far as reported) in each of the years 1924-1937, and the net amount of increase or decrease in their weekly rates of wages:—

Year.	Approximate Number of separate Individuals† reported as affected by		Estimated Net Weekly Amount of Change in Rates of Wages.		Estimated Net Weekly Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Rates of Wages of all Workpeople affected.
	Net Increases.	Net Decreases.	Increases.	Decreases.	
1924 ...	3,019,000	481,500	£ 616,000	£ 62,100	+ 553,900
1925 ...	873,000	861,000	80,900	159,000	- 78,100
1926 ...	420,000	740,000	133,000	83,700	+ 49,300
1927 ...	282,000	1,855,000	30,700	388,500	- 357,800
1928 ...	217,000	1,615,000	21,800	163,800	- 142,000
1929 ...	142,000	917,000	12,900	91,700	- 78,800
1930 ...	768,000	1,100,000	59,500	116,100	- 56,600
1931 ...	47,000	3,010,000	5,150	406,300	- 401,150
1932 ...	33,500	1,945,000	2,600	251,800	- 249,200
1933 ...	179,500	834,000	17,250	82,500	- 65,250
1934 ...	1,344,000	85,500	95,500	4,000	+ 91,500
1935 ...	2,366,500	49,600	198,900	6,800	+ 192,100
1936 ...	4,062,400	800	493,075	175	+ 492,900
1937‡	5,114,400	4,400	781,900	1,400	+ 780,500

In view of the limitations to which attention has been drawn above\* and particularly of the fact that certain large groups of workpeople (notably agricultural labourers) are not covered by the statistics, the figures given in this Table should not be regarded as affording more than a general indication of the movement of wages in any year in comparison with that in other years, and special significance should not be attached to small differences in the amount of change as between one year and another.

#### HOURS OF LABOUR.

There were further reductions in the normal weekly hours of some important classes of workers in 1937. The total number of workers whose normal hours of labour were reported as having been changed, in the industries and services for which statistics are regularly collected,§ was about 388,500†. Of these, 387,700 had an average reduction of about 2½ hours per week, while 800 had their hours slightly increased. The principal classes of workers affected were workpeople in the printing and allied trades, whose hours were reduced generally from 48 to 45 per week; flour millers, for whom the weekly hours of dayworkers were reduced from 47 to 44 and of shiftworkers from 44 to 42; workers on rotating shifts at blastfurnaces, whose working week was reduced from 7 shifts of 56 hours to 6 shifts of 48 hours; workpeople employed in match manufacture; ship repairers on the Thames; limestone quarry workers at Portland; organ builders; and surface workers at coal mines in Durham and West Yorkshire. There was also a decrease of one hour in the length of the Saturday shift for workers employed underground at coal mines in Scotland.

The following Table shows the number of workpeople, in the industries covered by the statistics,§ whose hours of labour were reported as changed in each of the years 1924 to 1937, and the aggregate net amount of the change:—

Year.	Approximate Number of Workpeople whose Hours of Labour were		Aggregate Net Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Weekly Hours.
	Increased.	Reduced.	
1924 ...	13,150	16,150	+ 12,500
1925 ...	1,300	3,925	- 11,750
1926 ...	934,200	340	+ 3,984,650
1927 ...	18,700	1,700	+ 59,000
1928 ...	1,400	2,000	- 200
1929 ...	4,050	1,050	+ 8,750
1930 ...	13,175	349,225	- 873,500
1931 ...	294,000	111,000	+ 142,000
1932 ...	6,000	3,750	+ 7,000
1933 ...	2,500	12,500	- 36,000
1934 ...	520	5,000	- 11,500
1935 ...	2,450	43,700	- 153,850
1936 ...	600	160,600	- 804,500
1937‡	800	387,700	- 953,500

The comparatively large numbers affected in the years 1926, 1930 and 1931 were mainly coal miners.

\* See footnote \* in column 2 on page 3.  
† In addition to the workpeople for whom figures are given in this Table there were considerable numbers in most years whose wages during the year were increased and reduced by equal amounts.  
‡ The figures given for 1937 are preliminary and subject to revision.  
§ The statistics are exclusive of changes affecting agricultural labourers, Government employees, domestic servants, shop assistants and clerks.

#### COST OF LIVING.

The average level of working-class costs of living in 1937, as indicated by the statistics regularly compiled by the Ministry of Labour, was nearly 5 per cent. higher than in the previous year. At 1st January, 1937, the official index-number (which is designed to indicate the average increase in the cost of maintaining unchanged the pre-war standard of living of working-class families) showed an increase of 51 per cent. over the level of July, 1914, as compared with 47 per cent. at the beginning of 1936. The seasonal downward movement in the index figures which is usually evident in the first half of the year was not recorded in 1937, and, after remaining virtually unchanged for several months, the figure rose to 55 at the beginning of July (as compared with 46 at 1st July, 1936). Later in the year there were further upward movements and at 1st November and at 1st December the percentage was 60, as compared with 51 at the corresponding dates in 1936. At 1st January, 1938, the figure was 59 per cent. above the level of July, 1914. On the basis of these figures, the average level of working-class costs of living was over 5 per cent. higher, at the beginning of 1938, than at the corresponding date in 1937.

The following Table shows, month by month during the period under review, the average percentage increase over the level of July, 1914, in retail prices, etc., in each of the five groups of items (food, rent, clothing, fuel and light, and miscellaneous other items) included in the figures. The particulars from which the figures given are calculated relate to the prices most generally paid by working-class families.

#### Average Percentage Increase in Retail Prices, Rents, etc., over the level of July, 1914.

Date.	Food.	Rent (including Rates).	Clothing.	Fuel and Light.	Other Items included.	All Items included.
1937.						
1st January ...	36	59	90-95	75-80	70	51
1st February ...	35	59	95	75-80	70-75	51
1st March ...	35	59	95	75-80	70-75	51
1st April ...	35	59	95-100	75-80	70-75	51
1st May ...	36	59	100	75-80	70-75	52
1st June ...	36	59	100-105	75	75	52
1st July ...	40	59	105	75	75	55
31st July ...	40	59	105	75	75	55
1st September ...	40	59	105	75-80	75	55
1st October ...	43	59	105-110	80	75	58
1st November ...	46	59	110	80	75	60
1st December ...	46	59	110	80-85	75	60
1938.						
1st January ...	45	59	110	80-85	75	59

**Food.**—The rise in the index figure in 1937 as compared with 1936 was largely the result of an upward movement of prices of food. At 1st January, 1937, the average increase above the level of July, 1914, in the prices of food included in the statistics was 36 per cent. There was little change, on average, in the first half of 1937, but at 1st July the percentage rose to 40, and further increases were recorded at 1st October and 1st November. At 1st January, 1938, the figure was 45 per cent. above the level of July, 1914.

The following Table gives a comparison of average retail prices in July, 1914, and at 1st January, 1937, and 1st January, 1938, together with the average percentage increase, at the two latter dates, over the level of July, 1914:—

Article.	Average Price (per lb. unless otherwise indicated—to the nearest ¼d.).		Average Percentage Increase or Decrease (-) as compared with July, 1914.	
	July, 1914.	1st Jan., 1937.	1st Jan., 1938.	1st Jan., 1938.
Beef, British—	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	Per cent.
Ribs ...	0 10	1 1½	1 2½	35
Thin Flank ...	0 6½	0 7	0 7½	7
Beef, Chilled or Frozen—				
Ribs ...	0 7½	0 8½	0 9½	20
Thin Flank ...	0 4½	0 4½	0 5	- 8
Mutton, British—				
Legs ...	0 10½	1 3½	1 4½	45
Breast ...	0 6½	0 7½	0 8	14
Mutton, Frozen—				
Legs ...	0 6½	0 9½	0 10½	42
Breast ...	0 4	0 3½	0 4½	- 5
Bacon (streaky)* ...	0 11½	1 2½	1 3½	29
Fish ...				
Flour ...	0 10½	1 3½	1 4½	105
Bread ... per 7 lb.	0 5½	0 9	0 9½	43
Tea ... per 4 lb.	0 5½	0 9	0 9½	63
Sugar (granulated) ...	1 6½	2 1½	2 2½	38
Milk ... per quart	0 2	0 2½	0 2½	15
Butter—				
Fresh ...	0 3½	0 6½	0 7	90
Salt ...	1 2½	1 3½	1 5½	4
Cheese† ...	1 2½	1 1½	1 4	- 4
Margarine ...	0 8½	0 10	0 11	28
Eggs (fresh) ... each	0 7	0 6	0 6½	- 16
Potatoes ... per 7 lb.	0 1½	0 2	0 2½	73
	0 4½	0 7½	0 6½	53

It will be seen that nearly all the articles included in the Table were somewhat dearer at the end of 1937 than at the beginning, potatoes providing a noteworthy exception. The greatest proportional

\* If this kind is seldom dealt with in a locality, the returns quote the prices of another kind locally representative.  
† The description of cheese for which prices are quoted is in most cases Canadian or New Zealand, but in some districts the returns quote the prices of another kind locally representative.

increase was shown by butter, the price of which averaged about 2½d. per lb. higher at 1st January, 1938, than at the corresponding date in 1937.

**Rents.**—There was little movement on the whole in working-class rents (including rates) during 1937. The average level of such rents, controlled and decontrolled, was approximately 59 per cent. above the pre-war level.

**Clothing.**—Throughout 1937 there was an upward movement in the retail prices of many of the items of clothing and of clothing materials included in the statistics; for all the items taken together the average level of prices rose from between 90 and 95 per cent. above the pre-war level at the beginning of 1937 to about 110 per cent. at the end of the year.

**Fuel and Light and Other Items.**—In the early months of 1937 prices of coal were at about the same level as in 1936, but thereafter were somewhat higher than at the corresponding dates in the previous year; at the end of 1937 prices averaged between 95 and 100 per cent. above the pre-war level, as compared with about 90 per cent. at the beginning of the year. Prices of gas remained throughout the year between 45 and 50 per cent. above pre-war prices, on the average. Prices of lamp oil rose slightly, from about 15 per cent. to about 20 per cent. above the pre-war level. There was a marked increase in the prices of ironmongery during the year, and some upward movement in those of pottery and brush-ware. Little or no change was recorded in the prices of soap, soda, candles, matches, tobacco and newspapers, or in fares.

**Comparison with previous years.**—The following Table compares the averages of the percentage increases recorded for the beginning of each of the 12 months of 1937 with the corresponding averages for the years 1924 to 1936:—

#### Average Percentage Increase over the level of July, 1914.

Year.	Food only.	All Items included.	Year.	Food only.	All Items included.
1924	70	75	1931	31	47½
1925	71	76	1932	26	44
1926	64	72	1933	20	40
1927	60	67½	1934	22	41
1928	57	66	1935	28	43
1929	54	64	1936	30	47
1930	45	58	1937	39	54

#### TRADE DISPUTES.\*

The number of disputes, involving stoppages of work, reported to the Department as having begun in 1937 in Great Britain and Northern Ireland was 1,122. This total was 304 in excess of that for the previous year. Disputes in the coal mining industry accounted for about two-fifths of the total number recorded in 1937, and the increase in the total number of disputes in 1937, as compared with 1936, was largely due to stoppages in this industry; all but a small proportion of these stoppages, however, affected only individual collieries.

The number of workpeople directly involved (i.e., on strike or locked out) in the disputes beginning in 1937 was about 390,000, while about 205,000 were indirectly involved (i.e., thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, but not themselves parties to the disputes). In addition, about 13,000 workpeople were involved, either directly or indirectly, in 12 disputes which began in 1936 and extended into 1937. The total number of workpeople involved, either directly or indirectly, in all disputes which were in progress in 1937 was thus about 608,000†; the corresponding total for 1936 was 322,000‡.

At the establishments where disputes were reported the aggregate time lost in 1937 on account of disputes in progress during the year is estimated at about 3,417,000 working days, as compared with 1,829,000 in 1936.

**Principal Disputes in 1937.**—Although, as in previous years, the majority of the disputes which occurred in 1937 affected only individual firms, there were several each of which affected a considerable number of employers. The largest of these occurred in July in the Yorkshire coalfield, and involved about 95,000 workpeople in a loss of over 400,000 working days. Nearly 25,000 coal miners in Lanarkshire were involved in a one-day stoppage in November, in sympathy with the workpeople involved in a protracted dispute at a single colliery. About 10,000 engineering and shipbuilding apprentices on Clydeside lost some 240,000 working days in a dispute which lasted from the end of March to the beginning of May, and about 30,000 engineers and shipbuilders stopped work for one day in April in sympathy with the apprentices. Another large dispute involving apprentice engineers occurred in September in various districts in Lancashire, Cheshire and Yorkshire, as a result of which about 14,000 employees lost 100,000 working days. Nearly 45,000 days were lost in April and May by 6,500 hosiery workers at Hinckley; while there was a two-day stoppage in June, which involved between 6,000 and 7,000 dock workers at Hull.

Of the disputes affecting single employers, the largest involved

\* Disputes involving less than ten workpeople, and those which lasted less than one day, are omitted from the statistics, except when the aggregate duration (i.e., number of workpeople multiplied by number of working days, allowing for workpeople replaced by others, etc.) exceeded 100 days. The figures for 1937 are preliminary and subject to revision.

† Workpeople are counted in the totals for each year as many times as they were involved in a dispute during the year. The resulting duplication during each of the above years was generally slight, except in the coal mining industry, in which the net number of workpeople involved was approximately 211,000 in 1937, and 123,000 in 1936. The net number of workpeople involved in all industries was approximately 418,000 in 1937, and 254,000 in 1936.



over 24,000 London omnibus drivers, conductors, etc., in a loss of 565,000 working days in May. Another dispute involving similar classes of workpeople occurred in Scotland in March, and caused the loss of 75,000 days, nearly 9,000 employees being involved. The only other dispute involving over 5,000 workpeople in a single firm took place at a Coventry textile factory at the beginning of October, and resulted in about 6,000 employees losing 50,000 working days.

*Analysis by Industries.*—The following Table shows by industries the number of disputes reported as beginning in 1937 and in 1936, together with the approximate numbers of workpeople involved in, and the estimated aggregate duration of, all disputes in progress in each year\* :—

Industry Group.	1937.			1936.		
	No. of Disputes beginning in 1937.	Number of Work-people involved in all Disputes in progress.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress.	No. of Disputes beginning in 1936.	Number of Work-people involved in all Disputes in progress.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress.
Fishing and Agriculture ...	6	1,700	19,000	5	2,500	20,000
Coal Mining ...	457	390,600†	1,499,000	270	181,800†	852,000
Other Mining and Quarrying ...	14	1,200	7,000	20	4,000	117,000
Brick, Pottery, Glass, Chemical, etc. ...	37	2,500	19,000	32	2,600	18,000
Engineering and Shipbuilding ...	123	91,300	693,000	86	29,900	114,000
Iron and Steel and other Metal ...	97	16,700	85,000	62	17,500	92,000
Textile ...	84	23,200	156,000	79	13,400	97,000
Clothing ...	33	10,000	72,000	27	12,300	155,000
Food, Drink and Tobacco ...	18	2,000	6,000	8	4,200	13,000
Woodworking, Furniture, etc. ...	59	2,800	31,000	41	5,800	98,000
Paper, Printing, etc. ...	10	1,400	7,000	8	1,900	27,000
Building, Public Works Contracting, etc. ...	91	7,400	38,000	77	7,900	44,000
Transport ...	50	52,600	748,000	66	26,000	86,000
Commerce, Distribution and Finance ...	12	1,000	10,000	9	8,800	69,000
All other Industries ...	31	3,500	27,000	28	3,800	27,000
Total ...	1,122	607,900†	3,417,000	818	322,400†	1,829,000

Of the total numbers of workpeople shown above as involved in all disputes which were in progress in the two years, approximately 207,700 in 1937 and 77,200 in 1936 were only indirectly involved (i.e., thrown out of work at the establishments affected, but not themselves parties to the disputes).

*Comparative Figures for 1924-1937.*—The following Table shows the total number of disputes, involving stoppages of work, reported as beginning in each of the years 1924-1937, together with the approximate number of workpeople involved in these disputes, and the aggregate number of working days lost, at the establishments where the disputes occurred, in all disputes in progress during the year. It should be observed that in the Table below the particulars of numbers involved relate to persons involved in disputes beginning in each year, whilst in the previous Table they relate to the total numbers involved in all disputes in progress, irrespective of the date when they began.

Year.	Number of Disputes beginning in Year.	Number of Workpeople involved in Disputes beginning in Year.†			Approximate Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress during Year (to nearest 10,000).
		Directly.	Indirectly.	Total.	
1924 ...	710	558,000	55,000	613,000	8,420,000
1925 ...	603	401,000	40,000	441,000	7,950,000
1926 ...	323	2,724,000	10,000	2,734,000	152,230,000
1927 ...	308	90,000	18,000	108,000	1,170,000
1928 ...	302	80,000	44,000	124,000	1,390,000
1929 ...	431	493,000	40,000	533,000	8,290,000
1930 ...	422	286,000	21,000	307,000	4,400,000
1931 ...	420	424,000	66,000	490,000	6,980,000
1932 ...	389	337,000	42,000	379,000	6,490,000
1933 ...	357	114,000	22,000	136,000	1,070,000
1934 ...	471	109,000	25,000	134,000	950,000
1935 ...	553	230,000	41,000	271,000	1,960,000
1936 ...	818	241,000	75,000	316,000	1,830,000
1937 ...	1,122	390,000	205,000	595,000	3,420,000

The magnitude of the figures for 1926 was due to the prolonged general dispute in the coal mining industry and the "general strike" occurring in that year.

\* See note \* in previous column.  
† See note † in previous column.  
‡ For the purpose of these totals workpeople are counted in the total for each year as many times as they were involved in a dispute during that year. The resulting duplication is mainly confined to the coal mining industry, with the addition in 1926 of other industries involved in the "general strike." Since 1926 the more considerable duplications in the totals for all industries have been as follows:—1931, 57,000; 1932, 70,000; 1935, 59,000; 1936, 66,000; 1937, 180,000.

## ENQUIRY INTO WORKING-CLASS FAMILY BUDGETS.

ENQUIRIES IN OCTOBER, 1937.

An enquiry was instituted by the Ministry of Labour in October, 1937, in order to obtain a representative collection of "budgets" giving a detailed analysis of the weekly expenditure of working-class households. The main object of this enquiry was to provide the data required by the Department for the purpose of a revision of the basis of the official cost-of-living index figures; in addition, it was expected to furnish information, with regard to the kinds and amounts of food bought by such households, which would be of special value to the Health Departments of the Government in the study of current problems relating to diet and nutrition. The scope of the enquiry, and the methods by which it was to be conducted, were explained on page 378 of the October, 1937, issue of this GAZETTE.

The response to the enquiry has been highly satisfactory, over 13,600 budgets having been received. The Department is greatly indebted to all those who have supplied information, to the members of the numerous local committees who assisted in organising the enquiries within each district, and to the large numbers of voluntary helpers who undertook the work of visiting the households, distributing the forms, and collecting the budgets.

FURTHER ENQUIRIES IN JANUARY, 1938.

As prices and expenditure vary at different periods of the year, it will be necessary to supplement the information given in the budgets already obtained, relating to a week in the autumn of 1937, by data relating to other seasons of the year. The households which supplied budgets in October or November, therefore, will be invited to furnish similar particulars for three further weeks, in January, April and July, 1938, respectively. The next week in respect of which particulars are to be obtained is that beginning Sunday, 23rd January. As on the previous occasion, the enquiries for this purpose are being organised through the Ministry of Labour Employment Exchanges, assisted by informal local committees, and by groups of voluntary helpers. During the week ending 22nd January, the voluntary helpers will visit the households which supplied information in October or November, and invite them to supply similar particulars, on printed forms, analysing their expenditure during the following week. The households will be visited again during that week, and given any assistance they may require in filling up the forms. Shortly after the end of the week, the visitors will call to collect the completed budgets and to see, so far as practicable, that no items of expenditure have been omitted. Arrangements are being made under which any households which prefer to do so may post the completed forms direct to the Ministry of Labour.

THE ENQUIRY FORMS.

The enquiry forms, which are similar to those used in October, ask for particulars of the composition of the household; the rent (or purchase payments) and rates of the house or dwelling, together with the number of rooms occupied, the number of rooms let (if any), and rent received; the quantity and cost of each item of food bought, day by day, throughout the week; expenditure on gas and electricity; expenditure during the week on coal and coke, clothing, furniture and utensils, fares, amusements, and any other items; the quantities of garden, allotment, etc., produce raised and consumed by the household during the week; and the amount of any allowances in kind received by members of the household from their employers.

The form contains a page of instructions for the guidance of the householder, who is assured that all the information supplied will be treated as strictly confidential. The names and addresses of householders supplying information will not appear on the forms.

As the personal expenditure of some members of the household, particularly the wage-earners or salary-earners, may not be completely known to the housewife, or other person who fills up the form, arrangements are again being made under which the individuals concerned may supply, confidentially, particulars of their personal expenditure on separate forms, which may, if preferred, be posted direct to the Ministry of Labour.

PAYMENTS FOR BUDGETS.

The persons who are asked to supply budgets will be informed that the Ministry of Labour will be prepared to pay 2s. 6d. for each completed budget supplied on the official enquiry forms, in recognition of the time and labour involved in keeping the necessary records and in filling up the forms. A similar payment will be made for each budget supplied in April and July; and to those households which supply budgets for all the four weeks covered by the enquiry, a further payment of 2s. 6d. (making 12s. 6d. in all) will be made.

## RENT RESTRICTIONS ACTS COMMITTEE: REPORTS.

THE Reports of the Inter-Departmental Committee on the Rent Restrictions Acts, of which Viscount Ridley was Chairman, were published in December.

The Majority Report gives a summary of the present position under the Rent Restrictions Acts and of the general housing position, and makes a number of recommendations. So far as the majority of the pre-war working-class houses are concerned, it is recommended that existing controlled houses should remain controlled until after 1942, when in England and Wales but not in Scotland, control would be gradually reduced by areas, according to the extent of over-crowding.

There are reservations by two of the members signing the Majority Report, who do not approve of the proposals for securing decontrol; and there is a Minority Report signed by three members, who also, *inter alia*, dissent from these proposals.

## PORT LABOUR IN ABERDEEN AND GLASGOW.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF INQUIRY.

THE Report of the Board which was appointed by the Minister of Labour in January, 1937, to inquire into the circumstances giving rise to the difficulties in making schemes for promoting greater regularity of employment for dock workers in Aberdeen and Glasgow has been published.\*

Registration schemes for dock workers administered by Joint Committees representative of the employers' organisations and of the trade unions have been established voluntarily at all the large ports in Great Britain except Aberdeen and Glasgow, and by means of these schemes the supply of port workers is regulated so as to prevent overcrowding at the docks. The Report says that these schemes have accomplished much to promote greater regularity of employment. For some years the employers in Aberdeen and Glasgow have advocated the establishment of similar schemes in their respective ports, but the members of the Transport and General Workers' Union in Aberdeen, and of the Scottish Transport and General Workers' Union in Glasgow, have persistently refused to co-operate. The Report describes the trade unions' objections in some detail. They object to joint control because of the belief that this system would take away from them rights won after years of effort, weaken their organisations, and be "a form of industrial conscription." They also object to the use of employment record books as the token of registration, and claim that by means of their policy of restricting the membership of the dockers' branch the unions themselves regulate the supply of dock labour. The Glasgow dock workers also fear that the employers would use a registration scheme to increase the number of men; the employers' organisations were, however, prepared to agree that the members of the union should be accepted as the first list or register under the joint scheme.

The Report draws attention to serious abuses of the unemployment insurance scheme by dock workers in Glasgow, who fail on engagement to produce their unemployment books, and give fictitious names, and by casual dock workers in Aberdeen who, after earning high wages during spells of employment on piece work, refuse other work and draw unemployment benefit. The serious responsibility of employers in these matters is emphasised, and the Report advises the employers' organisations and the unions in the two ports to co-operate in establishing schemes which, in the opinion of the Board, will render these malpractices more difficult.

In the course of their enquiry, the Board framed, and submitted to the employers' and to the workers' organisations, proposals to serve as a basis for schemes on which it was hoped that agreement might be reached. Having failed to obtain the agreement of the parties to certain features of these proposals, and in view of the difficult circumstances in Aberdeen and Glasgow, the Board do not advocate the adoption, at these two ports, of such comprehensive schemes as are in operation at other parts. They recommend, however, that Joint Committees be formed in each of the two ports for the purpose of promoting the more convenient engagement and the more regular employment of workmen at the port. These Committees should establish calling-on stances appropriately distributed throughout the docks where workmen would assemble for engagement; they should be provided, by the trade unions, with a list of members, to be accepted as constituting (subject to periodical review) a list or register of recognised preference port workers; and they should co-operate with the employers, the unions and the Ministry of Labour in collecting information about the amount of employment obtained by registered men, and in matters relating to unemployment insurance. The Board also recommend that the token of enrolment on the list or register should be the union badge.

## EXTENSION OF UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE.

DOMESTIC WORKERS EMPLOYED IN ANY TRADE OR BUSINESS NOT CARRIED ON FOR GAIN.

THE Minister of Labour has accepted the report of the Unemployment Insurance Statutory Committee on the draft Unemployment Insurance (Insurable Employments) Regulations,† and on 22nd December, 1937, he made the Unemployment Insurance (Insurable Employments) Regulations, 1937.‡

These Regulations, which apply to certain classes of domestic workers employed in organisations not carried on for the purposes of gain, will have the effect of bringing into unemployment insurance, under the general scheme, about 170,000 domestic workers. They are in the same terms as the draft Regulations submitted to the Unemployment Insurance Statutory Committee in April, 1937, with slight amendments to bring them into accord with a recommendation of the Committee. This recommendation was that domestic workers in residential educational establishments, whose work was similar to that commonly performed by indoor private domestic servants, should be excluded from the scope of the scheme.

It has also been necessary to add to the schedule to the regulations provisions excluding from their scope horticultural workers who are already insured under the Agricultural Scheme and certain other

\* Port Labour in Aberdeen and Glasgow. Report of the Board of Inquiry. H.M. Stationery Office; price 1s. net (1s. 1d., post free).  
† See last month's issue of this GAZETTE, page 470.  
‡ Statutory Rules and Orders, 1937, No. 1207. H.M. Stationery Office; price 1d. net (1d., post free).

classes of outdoor private domestic servants, which the Government intend to bring into insurance under the agricultural scheme, partly directly under the Bill now before Parliament§ and partly by regulations to be made under the Bill after it becomes law.

## HOURS OF EMPLOYMENT (CONVENTIONS) ACT, 1936.

DATES OF COMING INTO FORCE.

The Hours of Employment (Conventions) Act, 1936|| made certain alterations in existing legislation to enable H.M. Government to ratify the Night Work (Women) Convention (revised) and the Sheet Glass Works Convention, both adopted by the International Labour Conference in 1934. The first-named Convention was a revision of an earlier Convention, restricting the employment of women at night, adopted by the International Labour Conference in 1919, and embodied in the Employment of Women, Young Persons and Children Act, 1920. The revised Convention made an exception for women holding responsible positions of management who are not ordinarily engaged in manual work; and sections 1 and 2 of the Hours of Employment (Conventions) Act gave effect to this principle, and to this extent repealed section 1 of the Employment of Women, Young Persons and Children Act, 1920. Section 3 of the Act applied to persons who work in successive shifts in necessarily continuous operations in sheet-glass works which manufacture by automatic machines sheet glass, or other glass of the same characteristics, which only differs from sheet glass in thickness and other dimensions.

The Act was to come into force on a date or dates to be fixed by Order in Council; and the London Gazette for 24th December, 1937, contains the text of an Order in Council, dated 21st December, entitled the Hours of Employment (Conventions) Act (Commencement) Order, 1937¶, providing that section 3 of the Act shall come into force for all purposes on 1st January, 1938, and that certain other provisions of the Act shall come into force on the same date for the purposes of the said section 3; while the whole of the Act, in so far as it is not already in force, shall come into force for all purposes on 25th January, 1938.

## OUTPUT, COSTS, PROCEEDS AND WAGES IN THE COAL-MINING INDUSTRY.

QUARTER ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER, 1937.

A STATISTICAL summary\*\* of the output, costs of production, proceeds and profits of the coal-mining industry for the quarter ended 30th September, 1937,†† prepared by the Mines Department, has recently been published.

The return relates to undertakings which produced 55,232,375 tons of saleable coal, or about 96 per cent. of the total quantity raised in the quarter, of which 51,466,656 tons were disposable commercially, the balance being used for mine consumption or miners' coal.

The net costs, after deducting the proceeds of miners' coal, amounted to £39,065,809, equivalent to 15s. 2.17d. per ton, of which 10s. 0.81d. per ton represented wages costs. The proceeds of commercial disposals amounted to £40,742,037, equivalent to 15s. 9.99d. per ton. There was thus a credit balance of £1,676,228, or 7.82d. per ton.

The average number of workpeople employed was 740,434, and the number of man-shifts worked was 48,613,088. The average output per man-shift worked was 22.72 cwt., and the average cash earnings per man-shift worked were 10s. 7.90d. The average value of allowances in kind was 4.53d. per shift.

The following Table shows the average earnings in each of the principal districts, together with the average value of allowances in kind. The corresponding figures for the third quarter of 1936 are given for comparison :—

District.	July-Sept., 1937.		July-Sept., 1936.	
	Average cash earnings per shift.	Average value of allowances in kind per shift.	Average cash earnings per shift.	Average value of allowances in kind per shift.
Scotland ...	s. d. 10 3.25	d. 0.30	s. d. 9 6.56	d. 0.27
Northumberland ...	9 1.17	11.65	8 6.00	10.64
Durham ...	9 3.46	12.91	8 7.02	12.98
South Wales and Mon.††	10 5.95	2.35	9 7.88	2.56
Yorkshire ...	11 8.02	3.54	11 3.45	3.36
North Derbyshire and Notts.	12 7.71	3.43	11 4.25	3.53
South Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Cannock Chase and Warwickshire ...	11 5.93	4.33	11 0.65	4.00
Lancashire, Cheshire and North Staffs. ...	10 9.79	0.30	10 5.08	0.30
Cumberland, North Wales, South Staffs., Shropshire, Bristol, Forest of Dean, Somerset and Kent ...	9 11.67	2.37	9 7.34	2.34
All Districts ...	10 7.90	4.53	10 0.19	4.42

§ See last month's issue of this GAZETTE, page 469.  
|| 26 Geo. 5 and 1 Edu. 8, ch. 22. See the issue of this GAZETTE for August, 1936, page 281.  
¶ Statutory Rules and Orders, 1937, No. 1179. H.M. Stationery Office; price 1d. net (1d., post free).  
\*\* Cmd. 5535. H.M. Stationery Office; price 1d. net (1d., post free).  
†† In the case of South Wales and Monmouthshire the period covered is the quarter ended 31st October.



AGE DISTRIBUTION OF PERSONS REGISTERED AS UNEMPLOYED. SPECIAL ANALYSIS FOR 1st NOVEMBER, 1937.

In previous issues\* of this GAZETTE, the results have been given of special analyses showing the age-distribution of unemployed men and women on the registers of Employment Exchanges in Great Britain in May and November of 1935 and 1936, and in May, 1937. A similar analysis, of which details are given below, has been made for 1st November, 1937.

MEN AND WOMEN, AGED 18 YEARS AND OVER.

The numbers and proportions of men and women registered as unemployed in Great Britain at 1st November, 1937, in each of the age-groups for which particulars were obtained, with corresponding figures for 3rd May, 1937, and 2nd November, 1936, are summarised in the Table below. In comparing the figures for 1st November, 1937, with those for the earlier dates, it should be borne in mind that they have been compiled in accordance with the revised procedure for counting the unemployed, introduced in September, 1937, under which persons subsequently found to be in employment at the date of the count are excluded from the figures.†

Sex and Age Group.	Numbers Unemployed			Percentage of Total.		
	1st Nov., 1937.	3rd May, 1937.	2nd Nov., 1936.	1st Nov., 1937.	3rd May, 1937.	2nd Nov., 1936.
<b>Men:—</b>						
18-20 ...	44,934	41,536	52,449	4.1	3.7	4.1
21-24 ...	123,825	121,210	150,822	11.2	10.9	11.9
25-34 ...	259,644	260,658	306,947	23.5	23.4	24.3
35-44 ...	224,829	227,987	256,600	20.3	20.5	20.3
45-54 ...	213,721	219,415	242,350	19.3	19.7	19.2
45-54 ...	210,851	225,273	135,188	10.9	11.2	10.7
55-59 ...	120,851	125,273	135,188	10.9	11.2	10.7
60-64 ...	114,835	114,656	115,875	10.4	10.3	9.2
65 and over ...	3,343	3,430	3,706	0.3	0.3	0.3
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>1,105,982</b>	<b>1,114,165</b>	<b>1,263,937</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Women:—</b>						
18-20 ...	29,860	24,676	30,105	11.4	11.1	12.2
21-24 ...	49,718	41,970	48,136	19.0	18.9	19.4
25-34 ...	72,357	61,776	67,515	27.7	27.8	27.3
35-44 ...	50,005	41,867	45,739	19.1	18.8	18.5
45-54 ...	35,685	30,954	34,102	13.6	13.9	13.8
45-54 ...	14,200	12,403	13,038	5.4	5.8	5.3
55-59 ...	9,589	8,575	8,633	3.7	3.8	3.5
60-64 ...	132	141	136	0.1	0.1	0.0
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>261,546</b>	<b>222,362</b>	<b>247,404</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

After allowance is made for the revised procedure for counting the unemployed, referred to above, there was a marked decrease in the number of men registered as unemployed at November, 1937, as compared with November, 1936, but a slight increase as compared with May, 1937. In the case of unemployed women, however, the figures for November, 1937, show an increase as compared with both of the earlier dates. From May, 1935, when this series of age-analyses was begun, up to and including May, 1937, concurrently with a steady decline in the total numbers unemployed, the proportion of younger persons in the total unemployed tended to decrease, while the proportion of older persons tended to increase. In the figures for November, 1937, these tendencies are reversed, and for the first time since the analyses were started the proportion of the total unemployed included in the lower age groups shows an increase, and the proportion in the higher age groups a decrease. At 1st November, 1937, 38.7 per cent. of the unemployed men were under 35 years of age, as compared with 38.0 per cent. at 3rd May.

These changes have had little effect on the broad age distribution of the unemployed, about two-fifths of the men unemployed at 1st November, 1937, being under 35 years of age and a further two-fifths over 45 years; while rather less than three-fifths of the women were under 35 and rather more than one-fifth over 45.

The Table below gives separate figures for 1st November, 1937, for (a) single women and widows, and (b) married women; the proportions of married women among all unemployed women for each age group are also shown:—

Age Group.	Single Women and Widows.		Married Women.		Unemployed Married Women as proportion of all Unemployed Women.
	Numbers Un-employed.	Per cent. of Total.	Numbers Un-employed.	Per cent. of Total.	
18-20 ...	27,630	18.5	2,230	2.0	7.5
21-24 ...	31,833	21.3	17,885	15.9	36.0
25-34 ...	31,805	21.3	40,552	36.2	56.0
35-44 ...	22,367	15.0	27,638	24.7	55.3
45-54 ...	19,969	13.3	15,716	14.0	44.0
45-54 ...	9,175	6.1	5,025	4.5	35.4
55-59 ...	6,605	4.4	2,984	2.7	31.1
60-64 ...	103	0.1	29	0.0	22.0
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>149,487</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>112,059</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>42.8</b>

Of the women aged 18 and over, registered as unemployed at 1st November, 1937, over two-fifths were married. In the case of those aged 25-54, who form 60 per cent. of all unemployed women, over one-half were married.

\* The issues for July, 1935, February, August and December, 1936, and July, 1937.  
† See page 379 of the issue of this GAZETTE for October, 1937.

In the Table below separate figures are given for applicants for benefit or allowances and other persons in November, 1937, and November, 1936. In November, 1937, for the first time, separate figures were obtained in respect of claimants for insurance benefit and applicants for unemployment allowances.

Sex and Age Group.	Applicants for Benefit or Allowances.			Other Persons.	
	1st November, 1937.			2nd Nov., 1936.	
	Bene-fit.	Allow-ances.	Total.	Total.	
				1st Nov., 1937.	2nd Nov., 1936.
<b>NUMBERS.</b>					
<b>Men:—</b>					
18-20 ...	33,602	9,903	43,505	46,520	1,429
21-24 ...	82,773	38,114	120,887	138,442	2,356
25-34 ...	143,845	108,957	252,802	278,378	6,846
35-44 ...	104,967	112,242	217,209	232,614	7,620
45-54 ...	91,496	111,740	203,236	217,034	10,485
45-54 ...	45,864	66,978	112,842	118,887	8,009
55-59 ...	35,306	69,891	105,197	100,841	9,638
60-64 ...	—	—	—	—	—
65 and over ...	—	—	—	3,343	3,706
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>537,853</b>	<b>517,825</b>	<b>1,055,678</b>	<b>1,132,716</b>	<b>50,304</b>
<b>Women:—</b>					
18-20 ...	22,516	4,033	26,549	23,947	3,311
21-24 ...	40,395	5,051	45,446	41,645	4,272
25-34 ...	56,236	7,959	64,195	56,769	8,162
35-44 ...	34,119	8,517	42,636	36,001	7,369
45-54 ...	19,865	8,933	28,799	25,143	6,886
45-54 ...	6,706	4,532	11,238	9,388	2,962
55-59 ...	3,713	4,014	7,727	6,509	1,862
60-64 ...	—	—	—	—	—
65 and over ...	—	—	—	132	136
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>183,551</b>	<b>43,039</b>	<b>226,590</b>	<b>199,402</b>	<b>34,956</b>

Sex and Age Group.	PERCENTAGES.					
	1st Nov., 1937.	3rd May, 1937.	2nd Nov., 1936.	1st Nov., 1937.	3rd May, 1937.	2nd Nov., 1936.
<b>Men:—</b>						
18-20 ...	3.2	0.9	4.1	4.1	2.8	4.5
21-24 ...	7.8	3.6	11.4	12.2	5.8	9.4
25-34 ...	13.6	10.3	23.9	24.6	13.6	21.8
35-44 ...	10.0	10.6	20.6	20.5	15.2	18.3
45-54 ...	8.7	10.6	19.3	19.2	20.8	19.3
45-54 ...	4.3	6.4	10.7	10.5	15.9	12.4
55-59 ...	3.4	6.6	10.0	8.9	19.2	11.5
60-64 ...	—	—	—	—	6.7	2.8
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>51.0</b>	<b>49.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Women:—</b>						
18-20 ...	9.9	1.8	11.7	12.0	9.5	12.8
21-24 ...	17.8	2.3	20.1	20.9	12.2	13.5
25-34 ...	24.8	3.5	28.3	28.5	23.3	22.4
35-44 ...	15.1	3.7	18.8	18.0	21.1	20.3
45-54 ...	8.8	3.9	12.7	12.6	19.7	18.7
45-54 ...	3.0	2.0	5.0	4.7	8.5	7.6
55-59 ...	1.6	1.8	3.4	3.3	5.3	4.4
60-64 ...	—	—	—	—	0.4	0.3
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>81.0</b>	<b>19.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

In comparing the total figures for the two dates in the above Table, it should be borne in mind that as a result of the extension of the unemployment assistance scheme, and the consequent increase in applications for unemployment allowances, as from 1st April, 1937, the figures relating to applicants for benefit or allowances in November, 1937, cover a larger proportion, and the figures relating to other persons cover a smaller proportion, of the unemployed persons on the register than the corresponding figures for November, 1936. Further, the figures for November, 1937, are affected by the revision in the method of counting the unemployed mentioned at the beginning of this article.

In November, 1937, while little more than one-half of the men applicants were claimants for benefit, in the case of women the proportion was over four-fifths. Among men, the number of claimants for benefit exceeded the number of applicants for allowances only among men under 35 years of age; but among women benefit claimants preponderated in each age-group except 60-64.

JUVENILES UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE.

Particulars of the numbers of unemployed juveniles under 18 years of age were not obtained for the above dates. The following Table, however, gives, for another date in each of the same months, the age-distribution of unemployed juveniles on the registers:—

	15th Nov., 1937.	24th May, 1937.	23rd Nov., 1936.
<b>Boys:</b>			
16 and 17 years ...	24,201	22,610	25,393
Under 16 years ...	13,075	13,810	19,626
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>37,276</b>	<b>36,420</b>	<b>45,019</b>
<b>Girls:</b>			
16 and 17 years ...	25,512	19,199	21,414
Under 16 years ...	18,059	19,129	23,617
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>43,571</b>	<b>38,328</b>	<b>45,031</b>

DIVISIONAL ANALYSIS.

A Divisional analysis of the figures for 1st November, 1937, is given in the Tables on the next page.

I. NUMBERS AND PROPORTIONS UNEMPLOYED IN DIFFERENT AGE GROUPS, 18 YEARS AND OVER—DIVISIONAL ANALYSIS.

Sex and Age Group.	Numbers.											Percentages.										
	London.	S. Eastern.	S. Western.	Midlands.	N. Eastern.	N. Western.	Northern.	Scotland.	Wales.	Gt. Britain.	London.	S. Eastern.	S. Western.	Midlands.	N. Eastern.	N. Western.	Northern.	Scotland.	Wales.	Gt. Britain.		
<b>Men:—</b>																						
18-20 ...	5,982	3,351	2,827	3,638	3,399	7,636	4,366	9,059	4,676	44,934	4.3	5.8	4.6	3.3	3.0	3.5	3.7	5.2	4.0	4.1		
21-24 ...	18,443	7,661	6,802	11,081	10,490	24,884	11,831	22,289	10,364	123,825	13.4	13.2	10.9	9.9	9.3	11.6	10.0	12.8	8.8	11.2		
25-34 ...	32,489	12,944	13,257	23,357	24,116	52,658	28,868	46,470	25,485	259,644	23.6	22.3	21.3	21.0	21.5	24.5	24.5	26.8	21.7	23.5		
35-44 ...	25,029	11,231	12,488	22,369	23,079	44,339	24,894	36,205	25,195	224,829	18.2	19.3	20.1	20.1	20.6	20.6	21.1	20.8	21.4	20.3		
45-54 ...	25,220	10,546	12,032	22,809	23,541	41,877	22,848	29,623	25,225	213,721	18.3	18.1	19.3	20.5	20.1	19.5	19.4	17.1	21.5	19.3		
45-54 ...	15,616	6,137	6,641	13,910	13,928	22,911	12,317	15,661	13,730	120,851	11.3	10.5	10.7	12.5	12.4	10.6	10.5	9.0	11.7	10.9		
55-59 ...	14,265	6,102	7,964	13,964	13,454	20,250	12,542	13,723	12,571	114,835	10.3	10.5	12.8	12.5	12.0	10.6	10.6	7.9	10.7	10.4		
60-64 ...	802	189	183	178	192	609	279	665	246	3,343	0.6	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.2	0.3		
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>137,846</b>	<b>58,161</b>	<b>62,194</b>	<b>111,306</b>	<b>112,199</b>	<b>215,164</b>	<b>117,945</b>	<b>173,675</b>	<b>117,492</b>	<b>1,105,982</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>		
<b>All women:—</b>																						
18-20 ...	1,951	2,278	1,965	2,865	3,343	5,525	2,862	6,488	2,583	29,860	6.0	13.2	15.7	9.0	10.9	7.4	25.1	15.5	28.2	11.4		
21-24 ...	5,501	3,423	2,538	6,829	5,486	12,221	2,665	8,560	2,495	49,718	17.0	19.9	20.3	21.5	17.9	16.4	16.0	13.6	16.5	15.9		
25-34 ...	9,656	4,133	3,077	10,002	8,511	21																



## ESTIMATED NUMBERS OF INSURED PERSONS IN EMPLOYMENT IN GREAT BRITAIN.

In the issue of this GAZETTE for November, 1937 (page 424), a statement was published giving for the period from 1924 to October, 1937, estimates of the numbers of insured persons, aged 16-64, exclusive of agricultural workers, in employment in Great Britain. In the following Table the figures are given for each month from January, 1936, to December, 1937. The figures in column 6 have been obtained by deducting from the total estimated numbers insured the numbers recorded as unemployed and the numbers directly involved in trade disputes, together with an allowance of 3½ per cent. of the numbers insured in respect of absences from work through sickness and other forms of unrecorded non-employment apart from "recognised" holidays.

Date.	Estimated Total Insured, aged 16-64 (excluding agriculture).	Number Unemployed.	Number recorded as unemployed.	Estimated Number in Employment after allowance for Sickness, etc.—	
				(A) including persons directly involved in Trade Disputes; (B) excluding such persons.	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Numbers. (Thousands.)					
1936—					
20th January ...	12,909	2,063	10,846	10,394	10,391
24th February ...	12,937	1,949	10,988	10,535	10,525
23rd March ...	12,961	1,814	11,147	10,693	10,689
27th April ...	12,991	1,745	11,246	10,791	10,785
25th May ...	13,016	1,635	11,381	10,925	10,918
22nd June ...	13,039	1,645	11,394	10,938	10,933
20th July ...	13,065	1,595	11,470	11,013	11,011
24th August ...	13,100	1,548	11,552	11,093	11,091
21st September ...	13,130	1,556	11,574	11,114	11,110
26th October ...	13,160	1,549	11,611	11,150	11,141
23rd November ...	13,186	1,553	11,633	11,171	11,166
14th December ...	13,205	1,552	11,653	11,191	11,182
Average for 1936	13,058	1,684	11,374	10,917	10,912
1937—					
25th January ...	13,243	1,604	11,639	11,175	11,163
22nd February ...	13,268	1,552	11,716	11,252	11,250
15th March ...	13,290	1,505	11,785	11,320	11,310
19th April ...	13,325	1,368	11,957	11,491	11,472
24th May ...	13,360	1,390	11,970	11,502	11,473
21st June ...	13,390	1,306	12,084	11,615	11,613
26th July ...	13,420	1,321	12,099	11,629	11,623
23rd August ...	13,440	1,294	12,146	11,676	11,672
13th September—					
Old Basis*	13,452	1,315	12,137	11,666	11,662
New Basis*	13,452	1,271	12,181	11,710	11,706
18th October ...	13,467	1,328	12,139	11,668	11,659
15th November ...	13,481	1,432	12,049	11,577	11,573
13th December ...	13,495	1,584	11,911	11,439	11,437
Average for 1937*	13,386	1,413	11,973	11,505	11,496
Index Numbers. (Average 1924 = 100.)					
1936—					
20th January ...	116.6	183.4	109.0	108.7	109.1
24th February ...	116.8	173.2	110.5	110.2	110.5
23rd March ...	117.1	161.2	112.1	111.9	112.2
27th April ...	117.3	155.1	113.0	112.9	113.2
25th May ...	117.5	145.3	114.4	114.3	114.6
22nd June ...	117.8	146.2	114.5	114.4	114.8
20th July ...	118.0	141.8	115.3	115.2	115.6
24th August ...	118.3	137.6	116.1	116.0	116.4
21st September ...	118.6	138.3	116.3	116.3	116.6
26th October ...	118.8	137.7	116.7	116.6	117.0
23rd November ...	119.1	138.0	116.9	116.9	117.2
14th December ...	119.3	138.0	117.1	117.1	117.4
Average for 1936	117.9	149.7	114.3	114.2	114.6
1937—					
25th January ...	119.6	142.6	117.0	116.9	117.2
22nd February ...	119.8	138.0	117.8	117.7	118.1
15th March ...	120.0	133.8	118.5	118.4	118.7
19th April ...	120.3	121.6	120.2	120.2	120.4
24th May ...	120.7	123.6	120.3	120.3	120.4
21st June ...	120.9	116.1	121.5	121.5	121.9
26th July ...	121.2	117.4	121.6	121.6	122.0
23rd August ...	121.4	115.0	122.1	122.0	122.5
18th September ...	121.5	116.9	122.0	122.0	122.4
18th October ...	121.6	122.2	121.6	121.6	121.9
15th November ...	121.7	131.7	120.7	120.6	121.0
13th December ...	121.9	145.7	119.3	119.2	119.6
Average for 1937*	120.9	127.1	120.2	120.2	120.5

The figures for July to December, 1937, are provisional, and subject to possible revision when information becomes available as to the number of unemployment books exchanged in July, 1938.

\* A revised procedure for counting the unemployed was introduced in September, 1937, under which persons subsequently found to be in employment at the date of the count are excluded from the figures. At 13th September, 1937, the count of the unemployed was made on both the original and the revised bases, and the figures so obtained have been utilised for the purpose of linking the index numbers for September to December, 1937, and the averages of the index numbers for the year 1937, with those for earlier dates, in order to obtain a continuous and comparable series of index numbers. The averages for 1937 of the actual numbers in cols. (3) to (6), of the first part of the Table, however, are computed from the figures (a) on the old basis for January to August, and (b) on the new basis for later months, and they are not strictly comparable with those given for 1936. It is estimated that on the old basis the average numbers in employment in 1937, shown in column 6, would be about 11,480,000.

## CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES IN 1936.

The following particulars have been compiled by the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies from statutory returns furnished to his Department and from information supplied to him by the Co-operative Union, Ltd. The figures are exclusive of agricultural societies (the transactions of which will be summarised in an article in a subsequent issue of this GAZETTE) and relate only to societies which are co-operative in character, so that, in effect, the article deals with the transactions of societies operating within the co-operative movement.

The societies are divided into two classes, viz., those which deal directly with the consumer and those which do not. The two categories for convenience are described as "Retail" and "Wholesale and Productive" respectively.

### (A) DISTRIBUTION.

#### (1) GENERAL.

At the end of 1936 there were 1,261 registered industrial co-operative societies in Great Britain mainly engaged in the supply of commodities, or 6 less than in 1935. Of these 1,261 societies, 1,143 were retail societies and 118 were wholesale and productive societies.

The sales made by these societies in each of the last eleven years are shown in the following Table:

Year.	Sales of Retail Societies.	Sales of Wholesale and Productive Societies.			
		C.W.S.*	S.C.W.S.*	E. & S. J. C.W.S.*	Other Societies.
1926 ...	£1,000's 183,820	£1,000's 75,292	£1,000's 16,726	£1,000's 7,470	£1,000's Not available.
1927 ...	198,173	86,894	17,718	8,633	7,490
1928 ...	207,652	87,294	17,715	8,809	7,738
1929 ...	215,739	89,288	18,353	8,647	7,120
1930 ...	216,327	85,313	17,694	7,721	7,120
1931 ...	206,878	82,067	16,569	6,798	7,132
1932 ...	200,127	83,824	16,148	6,209	6,144
1933 ...	196,357	83,031	16,023	5,976	5,895
1934 ...	205,583	91,293	17,674	7,590	6,496
1935 ...	218,991	98,284	18,645	8,864	6,969
1936 ...	232,386	107,692	20,592†	7,538	7,422

In considering the above Table, 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. Further, the sales of the English and Scottish Joint Co-operative Wholesale Society, Ltd., (which is the separately registered joint tea, etc., department of the Co-operative Wholesale Society, Ltd., and the Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society, Ltd.) include goods invoiced to the two principal wholesale societies for resale. In 1936 the value of the goods so invoiced was £6,410,000.

The number of persons employed in distribution by the retail and wholesale and productive societies was 192,000 (117,000 males aged 18 years and over, 36,000 females aged 18 years and over and 39,000 persons under 18 years of age), and the amount paid in salaries and wages was £25,281,000. Corresponding figures for 1935 were: employees, 182,000, and salaries and wages, £23,895,000.

#### (2) RETAIL SOCIETIES.

Of the 1,143 retail societies engaged in distribution, 1,087 were general supply stores.

The sales of the general supply stores (including revenue from service departments) totalled £231,966,000 and represented an increase of £13,317,000 over 1935. These societies had 7,746,000 shareholding members at the end of the year, with share capital amounting to £141,858,000. They returned an aggregate surplus on the year's working of £28,271,000, of which £4,849,000 was distributed as interest on share capital and £21,717,000 as dividends on sales. Their investments totalled £128,336,000, of which about £93,000,000 was invested in other co-operative societies, mainly in the Co-operative Wholesale Society, Ltd. Corresponding figures for 1935 were: societies, 1,098; sales, £218,649,000; shareholding members, 7,414,000; share capital, £134,981,000; surplus on year's working, £26,625,000; share interest, £4,808,000; dividends on sales, £20,329,000, and investments, £120,294,000 (about £87,000,000 in other co-operative societies).

The total number of persons employed in distribution by the general supply stores was 177,000 (107,000 males aged 18 years and over, 32,000 females aged 18 years and over and 38,000 persons under 18 years of age). Their salaries and wages totalled £22,781,000. Corresponding figures for 1935 were: employees, 167,000, and salaries and wages, £21,542,000.

The dividends on sales distributed by the general supply stores in 1936 averaged 1s. 10½d. in the £, compared with 1s. 10½d. in 1935.

The remaining 56 retail co-operative societies were various in character and their sales in 1936 amounted to only £420,000.

\* Co-operative Wholesale Society, Ltd., Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society, Ltd., and English and Scottish Joint Co-operative Wholesale Society, Ltd., respectively.

† The figures for 1936 cover 53 weeks.

### (3) WHOLESALE AND PRODUCTIVE SOCIETIES.

There were 118 wholesale and productive societies at the end of 1936. The bulk of the business of the group, however, was conducted by the Co-operative Wholesale Society, Ltd., the Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society, Ltd., and the English and Scottish Joint Co-operative Wholesale Society, Ltd.

The sales of the three wholesale societies in 1936 (excluding goods invoiced by the Joint society to the two parent societies) amounted to £129,412,000. They had a total shareholding membership of 1,829, of which 1,259 were retail societies and 570 were employees of the Scottish wholesale society; an aggregate share capital of £16,000,000 (excluding £2,409,000 share capital provided by the English and Scottish wholesale societies for the Joint society), loan capital of £76,830,000 and a balance of reserves and undivided profit amounting to £11,248,000. Most of the capital was not required for trading; their investments totalled £11,978,000, and, in addition, the English wholesale society had £72,085,000 deposited with its banking department. The aggregate surplus (before deducting £649,000 share interest) amounted to £4,547,000. Corresponding figures for 1935 were: sales, £118,183,000; members, 1,842; share capital, £14,822,000; loan capital, £69,242,000; balance of reserves and undivided profit, £11,295,000; investments, £10,862,000; deposit with the banking department of the English wholesale society, £64,148,000; and surplus on the year's working, £4,099,000.

The total number of persons employed in distribution by the three wholesale societies (including those engaged in the buying departments) was 13,800 (9,400 males aged 18 years and over, 3,000 females aged 18 years and over and 1,400 persons under 18 years of age), and their total salaries and wages amounted to £2,328,000. Corresponding figures for 1935 were: employees, 12,800, and salaries and wages, £2,170,000.

A dividend of 4d. in the £ on sales was distributed by the English wholesale society for 1936, together with an additional dividend of 3d. in the £ on sales of its own products. Dividends at the same rates were distributed for 1935. The Scottish Wholesale Society distributed a dividend of 6d., as compared with 5d. and 6d. for the first and second half-years respectively of 1935. The dividends of these two societies aggregated £2,649,000.

#### (B) PRODUCTION.

In 1936, there were 983 societies whose activities included the production of commodities. The number of persons employed in production was over 103,000 (60,000 males aged 18 years and over, 28,000 females aged 18 years and over and 15,000 persons under 18 years of age); the amount paid as salaries and wages was £13,776,000, and the value of productions (including materials) was £90,367,000.

In the following Table the productive work undertaken in 1936, in comparison with that in 1935, is analysed by industry, the value of productions being given gross, i.e., including the cost of materials used. Totals also are given for each of the five years 1932-6.

Industry.	Year.	No. of Employees.	Salaries and Wages.	Gross Value of Productions.				
				Retail Societies.	Wholesale and Productive Societies.	All Societies.		
				C.W.S.; S.C.W.S.; E. & S.J. C.W.S.*	Other Societies.			
				£1,000's	£1,000's	£1,000's	£1,000's	£1,000's
Food and Tobacco	1936	30,151	4,461	31,837	24,976	2,443	59,256	
	1935	29,582	4,336	29,831	22,284	2,483	54,598	
Farming and Dairying	1936	3,211	373	3,013	706	501	4,220	
	1935	3,230	343	2,602	513	437	3,552	
Clothing ...	1936	29,783	3,218	2,351	4,205	2,209	8,765	
	1935	28,848	3,062	2,296	3,802	2,140	8,238	
Soap, Candles and Starch	1936	2,117	293	—	2,314	—	2,314	
	1935	1,943	288	—	2,233	—	2,233	
Textiles ...	1936	4,727	490	—	1,868	241	2,109	
	1935	4,388	437	—	1,606	245	1,851	
Mining and Quarrying	1936	996	128	—	211	26	237	
	1935	960	116	—	189	22	211	
Building and Woodworking	1936	14,573	2,386	2,675	3,099	21	5,795	
	1935	13,501	2,102	2,466	2,682	21	5,169	
Papermaking, Printing, etc.	1936	5,706	831	—	1,460	843	2,303	
	1935	5,358	772	—	1,386	753	2,139	
Metal and Engineering	1936	4,414	634	399	1,747	145	2,291	
	1935	4,173	578	344	1,619	151	2,114	
Drugs and Chemicals	1936	1,733	171	—	1,481	—	1,481	
	1935	1,531	163	—	1,399	—	1,399	
Miscellaneous (including Transport for Productive Depts.)	1936	6,227	791	118	1,464	14	1,596	
	1935	5,273	715	179	1,195	17	1,392	
Totals ...	1936	103,638	13,776	40,393	43,531	6,443	90,367	
	1935	98,787	12,912	37,718	38,909	6,269	82,896	
	1934	93,777	12,166	35,472	35,484	5,944	78,900	
	1933	89,322	11,526	34,542	31,863	5,538	71,943	
	1932	87,906	11,636	34,463	33,259	5,806	73,528	

\* See footnote \* on page 10, column 2.

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

Industry.	Year.	Net Value of Productions.					All Societies.
		Retail Societies.	Wholesale and Productive Societies.				
			C.W.S.*	S.C.W.S.*	E. & S.J. C.W.S.*	Other Societies.	
		£1,000's	£1,000's	£1,000's	£1,000's	£1,000's	£1,000's
Food and Tobacco	1936	8,632					



of the societies, although they may become shareholding members (with full rights as such) in the ordinary way. In the wholesale and productive societies (other than the three principal wholesale societies), however, the registered rules frequently provide for the employees, as such, not only to share in the capital but also to become members of the committee of management. Employees shared both in capital and in management in 52 of these societies. These 52 societies, whose sales in 1936 amounted to £2,730,000, had a total shareholding membership of 15,049, of whom 5,901 were employees. Of the 465 committeemen of these societies, 254, or 55 per cent., were employees, 149, or 32 per cent., were other individual members, and the remaining 62, or 13 per cent., were representatives of societies. The total share capital of these societies amounted to £520,000, of which 30 per cent. was held by the employees who also held 28 per cent. of the aggregate loan capital of £428,000.

## (C.) SERVICES.

The services provided by the co-operative movement are varied in character, but the principal are banking, insurance and laundering. **Banking.**—The Co-operative Wholesale Society, Ltd., has as a separate department a bank which provides all banking services and conducts the banking business of almost all the societies in the co-operative movement in England and Wales. Receipts on deposit and current account in 1936 totalled £357,632,000 and the aggregate balances of deposit and current accounts at the end of the year amounted to £74,786,000 and £25,476,000 respectively. There were 69,687 separate accounts, of which 885 were in the names of co-operative societies, 10,111 trade unions, 995 clubs, 10,467 other mutual organisations and 47,229 individuals. Of the total amounts held on deposit and on current account, £55,000,000 and £17,085,000 respectively represented the balances of the society's own trade department. The assets of the bank totalled £105,105,000, of which £96,667,000 was invested in Government, municipal and other securities. Profit on the year's working amounted to £338,000. Corresponding figures for 1935 were: receipts on deposit and current account, £342,846,000 (excluding a transfer from current to deposit account); deposit and current accounts balances, £90,590,000 (which included £64,148,000 to the credit of the trade department); assets, £95,019,000 (including £86,892,000 in Government, etc., securities), and profit on the year's working, £323,000.

**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. The total premium income for all departments in 1936 amounted to £7,694,000, an increase of £702,000 over 1935. More than one-half of the premium income was in respect of industrial assurance. Collective life assurance, which is undertaken largely in conjunction with the retail societies, accounted for £492,000 of the premium income. The total of the insurance funds at the end of the year was £23,236,000 and the increase for the year was £2,719,000. Profit on the year's working amounted to £117,000, of which £1,000 was allocated as interest on shares to the two constituent societies and £42,000 as dividends on premiums. Salaries and wages payable in 1936 totalled £405,000 and commission £1,544,000, compared with £390,000 and £1,408,000 in 1935.

**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 1936 there were 17 such societies, with 403 shareholding members. Charges for work done in 1936 amounted to £1,255,000, and resulted in an aggregate net surplus on the year of £130,000. Share, loan and reserve capital totalled £1,367,000. Salaries and wages amounted to £616,000. Corresponding figures for 1935 were: societies, 16; charges for work done, £1,085,000; net surplus, £113,000; capital, £1,109,000, and salaries and wages, £501,000; but the charges for work done and net surplus include particulars of a Scottish society which transferred its engagements to the Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society, Ltd., in 1935.

**Miscellaneous.**—The retail and wholesale and productive societies in 1936 provided miscellaneous services yielding revenue amounting to £1,431,000, and employed in service departments 5,800 persons whose salaries and wages totalled £656,000. Corresponding figures for 1935 were: revenue, £1,315,000; employees, 6,200, and salaries and wages, £638,000.

### POOR RELIEF IN THE SECOND AND THIRD QUARTERS OF 1937.

#### ENGLAND AND WALES.

Statements\* issued by the Ministry of Health show that the total number of persons† in receipt of poor relief (domiciliary and institutional) at the end of March, June and September, 1937, and the corresponding figures for the previous year, were as follows:—

Year.	March.	June.	September.
1937 ... ..	1,255,202	1,029,412	1,017,317
1936 ... ..	1,328,432	1,240,673	1,223,478

A decline of 162,878 in the numbers in receipt of relief occurred in the first two weeks of April, 1937, due mainly to the transfer to the

\* Persons in Receipt of Poor Relief (England and Wales): April–June, 1937, and July–September, 1937. H.M. Stationery Office; price 6d. net each (7d., post-free).

† Excluding persons in receipt of domiciliary medical relief only, and casuals, who numbered 20,708 and 7,367, respectively, at the end of June, 1937, and 21,086 and 8,779, respectively, at the end of September, 1937.

Unemployment Assistance Board, as from 1st April, of considerable numbers of persons previously in receipt of poor relief. A further reduction occurred in each succeeding week of the quarter (with two exceptions); and the reduction continued, except in the last week of July and in the week after August Bank Holiday week, until nearly the end of the September quarter, when there was a seasonal increase. The total reduction between the end of March and the end of September, 1937, was 237,885, or 19 per cent.

The total number of persons\* in receipt of poor relief at the end of June, 1937, viz., 1,029,412, included 152,751 in receipt of institutional relief, and 876,661 in receipt of domiciliary relief ("outdoor" relief, i.e., relief in their own homes). The corresponding figures for the end of September were 151,870 and 865,447 respectively, making a total, as stated above, of 1,017,317.

The statistics of domiciliary relief are presented, in these two returns, in greater detail than in previous returns, the principal innovation being that, in most of the classes, the numbers relieved on account of unemployment (and their dependants) are distinguished from those relieved for other causes (and their dependants). The principal statistics are summarised below: the figures represent averages of those in receipt of relief on each Saturday of the respective months:—

Classes of persons in receipt of domiciliary relief.†	Relieved on account of unemployment.	Relieved for other causes.
JUNE, 1937.		
1. Unemployed persons insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts ... ..	4,246	6,871
Wives and dependent children of above persons ... ..	7,873	15,668
2. Unemployed persons not insured, but registered at an Employment Exchange ... ..	17,900	2,039
Wives and dependent children of above persons ... ..	23,273	3,201
3. Other persons ordinarily engaged in some regular occupation, and their dependants ... ..	4,293	161,293
4. Total of above three classes ... ..	246,657	635,195
5. All other persons ... ..	635,195	—
Total (all persons) ... ..	881,852	—

SEPTEMBER, 1937.		
1. Unemployed persons insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts ... ..	3,285	6,514
Wives and dependent children of above persons ... ..	6,065	14,430
2. Unemployed persons not insured, but registered at an Employment Exchange ... ..	16,417	2,008
Wives and dependent children of above persons ... ..	21,441	3,024
3. Other persons ordinarily engaged in some regular occupation, and their dependants ... ..	3,961	155,726
4. Total of above three classes ... ..	232,871	626,406
5. All other persons ... ..	626,406	—
Total (all persons) ... ..	859,277	—

The total of 881,852 in June, 1937, corresponded to a rate of 216 per 10,000 of the population; that of 859,277 in September to a rate of 210 per 10,000.

#### SCOTLAND.

The following Table shows the number of persons‡ in receipt of outdoor relief in Scotland, on 15th March, 15th June and 15th September, 1937, and the corresponding figures for the previous year:—

Year.	15th March.	15th June.	15th September.
1937 ... ..	319,551	214,512	212,881
1936 ... ..	332,479	320,017	314,042

The reduction in the numbers in receipt of relief in the second quarter of 1937 was mainly due to the transfer to the Unemployment Assistance Board, as from 1st April, 1937, of large numbers of persons previously in receipt of relief from the Public Assistance Authorities.

The figures for 15th June and for 15th September, 1937, are analysed below:—

Classes of persons in receipt of outdoor relief.†	15th June, 1937.	15th September, 1937.
1. Unemployed persons insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts ... ..	978	903
Wives and dependent children ... ..	1,512	1,498
2. Unemployed persons not insured but registered at an Employment Exchange ... ..	5,121	4,913
Wives and dependent children ... ..	4,855	5,375
3. Other persons ordinarily engaged in some regular occupation:—		
I. Able-bodied unemployed ... ..	1,342	1,394
Wives and dependent children ... ..	1,388	1,397
II. Other persons ... ..	24,226	23,817
Wives and dependent children ... ..	50,925	49,737
4. Totals of above three classes ... ..	90,347	89,034
5. All other persons ... ..	124,165	123,847
Total (all persons) ... ..	214,512	212,881

\* See footnote † in the previous column.  
† Excluding persons in receipt of domiciliary medical relief only, for whom see note ‡ in the previous column.  
‡ Excluding lunatics, mental defectives, persons in receipt of outdoor medical relief only, and casuals.

### EXPENDITURE ON PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES.

A RETURN\* has been issued showing, so far as particulars are available, the total expenditure under certain Acts of Parliament (see Table below), and the total number of persons directly benefiting therefrom, for a series of years, ending in 1935 (or where possible) 1936. The figures for 1936, where given, are estimates.

The expenditure given in the Return is restricted to expenditure accounted for by, or to, Government Departments and Local Authorities. It comprises expenditure from (i) local rates, (ii) Parliamentary votes, and (iii) other receipts, not being loans or other receipts for capital purposes. (Capital expenditure and receipts from loans are shown separately in another Table in the Return.) The "other receipts" referred to above include, for example, in the case of education, revenue from endowments, voluntary contributions, teachers' superannuation contributions, etc.; in the case of health insurance, unemployment insurance, and widows', orphans', and old age contributory pensions, the contributions of employers and employed; in the case of housing, rents; and so forth.

The expenditure for the services specified is stated for the financial years beginning on 1st April, 1900, 1910, 1920, 1930, and 1935, or the latest year for which figures are available. For some of the services an estimate of the expenditure for the financial year 1936 is given. Comparisons between the totals for the several years are necessarily subject to the consideration that, during the period to which the Return relates, unrecorded private expenditure on some of the services mentioned has been replaced by recorded public expenditure; for example, the amount of fees formerly paid to medical practitioners by persons now insured under the National Health Insurance Acts was not recorded and is not included in the Return, while the amounts now paid to medical practitioners under those Acts form part of the expenditure included in the Return.

The cost of any central department which is devoted wholly to one of the specified services is included throughout the Return in the amounts entered in respect of that service. For the financial years 1930, 1935 and 1936, however, a proportion of the cost of central departmental administration has been allocated to each specified service in cases where a department administers more than one service.

The following Table gives the total expenditure (other than expenditure out of loans for capital services or out of capital receipts) under the specified services during the financial year 1935 (or the latest year available), and an estimate for the financial year 1936, where that is available:—

Acts under which Expenditure is incurred.	England and Wales.		Scotland.	
	Financial year 1935 (or latest available year).	Financial year 1936 (estimated).	Financial year 1935 (or latest available year).	Financial year 1936 (estimated).
Unemployment Insurance, etc. Acts:—	£	£	£	£
Unemployment benefit, etc.:—				
General scheme ... ..	45,702,000	38,318,000	6,409,000	5,732,000
Agricultural scheme ... ..	—	311,000	—	53,000
Unemployment allowances and transitional payments ... ..	38,898,000	34,698,000	7,957,000	7,163,000
National Health Insurance Acts ... ..	34,213,000	35,600,000	4,131,000	4,200,000
Widows', Orphans', and Old Age Contributory Pensions Acts ... ..	39,807,000	40,500,000	4,821,000	4,870,000
Old Age Pensions Acts ... ..	39,090,000	40,010,000	4,684,000	4,771,000
War Pensions Acts and Ministry of Pensions Act ... ..	36,391,000	35,527,000	4,059,000	3,925,000
Education Acts ... ..	97,355,000	100,526,000	14,393,000	14,842,000
Acts relating to Approved Schools ... ..	550,000	603,000	129,000	138,000
Public Health Acts, so far as they relate to:—				
(i) Hospitals and treatment of disease ... ..	13,147,000	—	1,482,000	1,465,000
(ii) Maternity and child welfare work ... ..	3,244,000	—	346,000	341,000
Housing Acts ... ..	41,994,000	—	6,163,000	6,443,000
Acts relating to the Relief of the Poor ... ..	44,421,000	—	7,398,000	7,182,000
Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts ... ..	2,962,000	—	—	—
Mental Deficiency Acts ... ..	2,755,000	—	1,282,000	1,350,000
Totals ... ..	440,529,000	—	63,254,000	62,475,000

The Return also shows the total numbers of persons directly benefiting from the expenditure under the various services. Thus, under the Unemployment Insurance, etc., Acts, the number of insured persons, aged 16-64, in 1935, was 11,271,000 in England and Wales, and 1,356,000 in Scotland; under the Health Insurance Acts the corresponding figures were 17,194,000 and 1,976,000; under the Education Acts the numbers benefiting were 6,929,926 and 981,794, respectively; and so on.

Figures are also given in the Return showing the total expenditure in the financial year 1935 (or the latest available year), sub-divided between interest on loans and provision for repayment of loans, administrative expenses, and all other expenses (benefits, etc.). The receipts from which the total expenditure was met are also shown, subdivided between (i) specific receipts from contributions, fees, interest, rents, etc.; (ii) specific receipts from Parliamentary votes; and (iii) local rates and block grants.

\* Cmd. 5609. H.M. Stationery Office; price 4d. net (5d., post-free).

### CENSUS OF UNEMPLOYMENT IN THE UNITED STATES.

THE results of a census of unemployment in the United States of America, recently carried out by the Federal Government, have now been published in a preliminary Report. The census took the form of a voluntary registration, through the post, of unemployed persons within the age limits of fifteen to seventy-four throughout the country, supplemented by a house-to-house enumeration in 1,864 areas, selected at random, covering about 1,950,000 persons. The census related to the period 16th to 20th November, 1937.

The total number of persons who registered themselves as totally unemployed, but able and willing to work, or as working on emergency relief schemes in the period specified was 7,822,912, including 5,826,213 males and 1,996,699 females. The number of persons included in this total who were working on emergency relief schemes was 2,001,877 (1,662,444 males and 339,433 females). The results of the subsequent house-to-house census, which related to the same period, indicated that, in the selected areas, voluntary registrations represented about 72 per cent. of the total number of the unemployed revealed by the house-to-house enumeration. On this basis, therefore, a universal house-to-house census would have yielded a total of about 10,870,000 persons wholly unemployed or working on emergency relief schemes, and it is estimated that the true total of unemployment lay between this number and 7,822,912, the aggregate number of voluntary registrations. It is pointed out that these figures reflect the decline in employment during the earlier stages only of the current business recession, and that included in the figures of persons declaring themselves unemployed is a number of persons to whom "unemployment is a status depending on their current inclinations and temporary economic conditions."

### WAGES AND HOURS MOVEMENTS OVERSEAS.

#### DENMARK.

**Prohibition of Overtime.**—As from 1st October, 1937, overtime is, in principle, prohibited in industry, transport and commerce in Denmark, by virtue of an Act dated 7th May, 1937, which will remain in operation until 1st April, 1940. Overtime, for the purposes of the Act, is defined as work in excess of the normal working time prescribed by collective agreements for the various branches of activity. The prohibition applies to all employers and workers in the industries covered, even if they are not members of the organisations signatory to the agreements. Overtime is, however, permissible in specified cases of emergency and in other circumstances where there is agreement that it is essential; but all such overtime must subsequently be compensated by an equivalent shortening of working hours, and, moreover, must be paid for at the overtime rates prescribed by the collective agreements. In branches of activity in which unemployment is very small, the Minister for Social Affairs may suspend the operation of the Act. Both employers and workers are liable to fine for the illegal working of overtime.

#### FRANCE.

**Strikes of Transport and Municipal Workers, Paris.**—On 24th December, workers employed in some 400 commercial transport undertakings in Paris ceased work in support of a demand for an increase in wages of 15 per cent. The strike was followed, on 29th December, by a strike of municipal workers in Paris, resulting in a complete stoppage of work on the underground railway, tramway and omnibus systems and in the sanitary service, and a partial stoppage in the water, gas and electricity supply. The municipal workers were dissatisfied with the amount of a wage advance offered by the Paris Municipal Council in consideration of the rise in the cost of living, and demanded equality of treatment with civil servants. The strike of municipal workers lasted one day only and was brought to an end by the intervention of the Government. It is reported that a wage commission has been appointed to consider the wages of municipal workers and that, provisionally, a larger increase has been granted. No settlement of the dispute in the commercial transport industry has yet been effected; but it is reported that work has been resumed in many undertakings.

#### NEW ZEALAND.

**Basic and Standard Rates of Wages.**—The New Zealand Court of Arbitration is required, by the Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Amendment Act, 1936, to issue General Orders fixing the basic rates of wages for adult male and female workers in those industries for which awards or industrial agreements exist. In the case of adult male workers, the basic wage rate must be such a rate as would enable the recipient to maintain a wife and three children in fair and reasonable comfort (see this GAZETTE for September, 1936, page 324). In accordance with these provisions, the Court issued a General Order, which came into effect on 2nd November, 1936, and prescribed basic weekly wage rates of 76s. for adult male and 36s. for adult female workers. On 7th September, 1937, this General Order was supplemented by a pronouncement of the Court in respect of standard hourly rates of wages, which were declared to be 2s. 9d. for skilled workers, 2s. 5d. to 2s. 7½d. for semi-skilled workers and 2s. 4d. for unskilled workers. This pronouncement, which has no legally binding force, is issued for the general guidance of employers' and workers' organisations. The rates are intended as general standard minima for workers whose employment is casual or intermittent, and they are not necessarily applicable where employment is regular throughout the year.



EMPLOYMENT IN DECEMBER: GENERAL SUMMARY.

THERE was a further decline in employment between 15th November and 13th December, a substantial part of which was due, however, to the effect of adverse weather conditions at the latter date. In the building, public works contracting, stone quarrying, and ship building and repairing industries, for example, the numbers unemployed in Great Britain and Northern Ireland showed an increase of 94,000 as compared with 15th November, of whom 55,500 were registered as only temporarily stopped. Other industries in which employment declined included the textile, boot and shoe, pottery, furniture and certain food manufacturing industries, shipping service, (mainly manufacture of metal goods and electrical apparatus, engineering (mainly textile machinery manufacture), agriculture and fishing. On the other hand employment improved in the distributive trades, in hotel and boarding-house service, and, to a slight extent, in the motor vehicle industry.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS.

It is estimated that at 13th December, 1937, the number of insured persons, aged 16-64, in employment in Great Britain, exclusive of persons within the agricultural scheme, was approximately 11,437,000. This was 136,000 less than at 15th November, 1937. On a comparable basis\* there was an increase of about 200,000 as compared with 14th December, 1936.

Among persons, aged 16-64, in Great Britain and Northern Ireland insured under the general scheme of unemployment insurance (including the special schemes for the banking and insurance industries), the percentage unemployed at 13th December, 1937, was 12.2 as compared with 11.0 at 15th November, 1937. For persons aged 16-64 insured under the agricultural scheme the percentages were 8.3 at 13th December, 1937, and 5.0 at 15th November, 1937. For both schemes combined the percentage unemployed at 13th December, 1937 was 12.0 as compared with 10.7 at 15th November, 1937. On a comparable basis,\* there was an increase at 13th December, 1937, as compared with 14th December, 1936, of about 0.6 in the percentage unemployed among persons within the general scheme, and of about 4.5 among persons within the agricultural scheme (exclusive of private gardeners, who first became insurable in February, 1937). For the two schemes combined there was an increase of about 0.7 between these dates.

At 13th December, 1937, the numbers of unemployed persons on the registers of Employment Exchanges in Great Britain were 1,283,604 wholly unemployed, 324,779 temporarily stopped, and 57,024 normally in casual employment, making a total of 1,665,407; this was 166,204 more than at 15th November, 1937. On a comparable basis\* there was an increase of about 91,740 as compared with 14th December, 1936.

The total of 1,665,407 persons on the registers at 13th December, 1937, included 836,019 persons with claims admitted for insurance benefit, 555,927 with applications authorised for unemployment allowances, 75,487 persons with applications for insurance benefit or unemployment allowances under consideration, and 137,974 other persons, of whom 25,611 were juveniles under 16 years of age.

In Great Britain and Northern Ireland the total number of persons on the registers of Employment Exchanges at 13th December, 1937, was 1,755,491, as compared with 1,579,914 at 15th November, 1937. On a comparable basis\* there was an increase at 13th December, 1937, of about 109,100 as compared with 14th December, 1936.

EMPLOYMENT IN THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES.

**Mining and Quarrying.**—In the coal mining industry employment during December showed a further slight improvement. The total number of wage-earners on the colliery books at 18th December, 1937, showed an increase of 0.3 per cent. as compared with 20th November, 1937, and of 3.8 per cent. as compared with 19th December, 1936. The average number of days worked per week in the fortnight ended 18th December, 1937, was 5.46, an increase of 0.19 of a day as compared with the fortnight ended 20th November, 1937, and of 0.12 of a day as compared with the fortnight ended 19th December, 1936.

In the iron mining industry employment continued good. At limestone quarries both in the Buxton and in the Cleveland areas it showed little change and remained good. At the East of Scotland whinstone quarries it declined and was slack. Employment at slate and chalk quarries also showed a decline, but was still good at the former and fairly good at the latter. There was little change at shale mines, and employment continued fair. At china clay quarries it remained fairly good, while at tin mines it was still slack.

**Pig Iron, Iron and Steel, and Tinplate.**—In the pig iron industry there was a slight decline compared with November. In iron and steel manufacture employment remained good. In the tinplate industry employment in December showed a further decline; there was little change in steel sheet manufacture.

**Engineering, Shipbuilding and Other Metal Industries.**—In the engineering industry employment declined slightly in most districts, but continued good on the whole. In electrical engineering it was very good. A slight decline occurred in the general engineering section (mainly textile machinery manufacture), but there was some improvement in motor vehicle manufacture, and employment was good in both of these sections; it was fair in marine engineering; and it continued moderate in constructional engineering.

In the shipbuilding and ship-repairing industry employment in December showed a slight decline on the whole, compared with the previous month.

\* For the purpose of comparison with 14th December, 1936, an estimate has been made of the effect of the change in the procedure for counting the unemployed introduced in September, 1937 (see page 379 of the October, 1937, issue of this GAZETTE).

In the other metal trades employment showed a decline but was fairly good on the whole. It was good in the sheet metal, brasswork, file, jewellery and plated ware, chain and anchor, and nut, bolt, nail, rivet, etc. trades; fairly good in the ironfounding, wire manufacturing, edge tool, cutlery, and needle and fishing tackle trades; and fair in the tube and hollow-ware trades.

**Textile Industries.**—In the cotton industry employment showed a further decline during December. Holiday stoppages were extended by many firms, both in the spinning and in the manufacturing departments.

In the wool textile industry employment showed a further considerable decline, particularly in the woollen section. Short time was largely worked and many firms extended the holiday stoppages at Christmas. In the carpet section there was a further decline at most of the principal centres, but employment remained fairly good at Glasgow.

Employment in the hosiery trade showed a further decline but was still fairly good. There was also a decline in the lace trade, but employment remained moderate. In the silk manufacturing industry there was a further marked decline, which was partly seasonal: short-time working was reported from many areas and employment was moderate; in artificial silk yarn manufacture also, employment declined slightly but was fairly good. In the linen and jute trades employment showed little change and remained bad. In the textile bleaching, printing, dyeing, etc. trades there was a further decline and employment remained very slack, with much short-time working.

**Clothing Trades.**—In the retail bespoke and in the ready-made and wholesale bespoke branches of the tailoring trades employment showed little change and remained moderate on the whole. There was a further decline in the dressmaking and millinery trades, but employment generally continued fairly good. In the shirt and collar trade employment showed a further decline but remained moderate at most centres. There was also a further decline in the glove and corset trades, but employment on the whole was fair. In the hat and cap industry there was an improvement, but employment was still bad.

In the boot and shoe industry employment in December showed a further decline, which was partly seasonal. There was much short-time working and many firms extended the holiday stoppage at Christmas or the New Year.

**Leather Trades.**—Employment in all sections of the leather trades showed a further decline; it was fair to moderate in the tanning, currying and leather-dressing sections and fairly good, on the whole, in other sections.

**Building, Woodworking, etc.**—In the building industry employment at 13th December was adversely affected by weather conditions which interrupted outdoor employment. Between 15th November and 13th December, the number of insured persons, aged 16-64, recorded as unemployed increased by nearly 73,000, of whom 41,000 were only temporarily stopped. In brick manufacture employment showed a slight seasonal decline, but was still fairly good.

Employment in the furnishing trades continued to decline and was fair; there was also a decline with millswyers and employment was moderate; with coachbuilders it showed little change and remained fair.

**Paper Manufacture, Printing and Bookbinding.**—In the paper-making industry, employment showed a further slight decline but was still good. There was also a decline in the printing industry. With bookbinders employment improved and was good generally.

**Pottery and Glass.**—In the pottery industry employment showed a decline, mainly due to the completion of Christmas orders, and was slack on the whole. There was little change in the glass trades, and employment continued fair in the bottle-making section and fairly good in other sections.

**Fishing.**—Employment with fishermen showed a marked decline and was very bad; the decline occurred chiefly in Scotland, owing to the return of the fishing fleets on the termination of the East Anglian herring fishing season.

**Dock Labourers and Seamen.**—With dock labourers employment declined somewhat, particularly in the port transport service, and was slack. Among seamen there was a further decline.

NUMBERS ON THE REGISTERS AT 13TH DECEMBER, 1937.

In the Table below, an analysis is given of the numbers of unemployed persons on the registers of Employment Exchanges at 13th December, 1937:—

	Persons normally in Regular Employment.		Persons normally in Casual Employment.	Total.
	Wholly Unemployed.	Temporarily Stopped.		
Great Britain.				
Men ... ..	1,019,739	202,635	55,080	1,277,454
Boys ... ..	31,283	5,665	177	37,125
Women ... ..	199,947	108,172	1,739	309,858
Girls ... ..	32,655	8,507	28	40,970
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>1,283,604</b>	<b>324,779</b>	<b>57,024</b>	<b>1,665,407</b>
Great Britain and Northern Ireland.				
Men ... ..	1,075,685	204,087	57,713	1,337,485
Boys ... ..	34,128	5,703	177	40,008
Women ... ..	221,037	112,159	1,761	334,957
Girls ... ..	34,431	8,582	28	43,041
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>1,365,281</b>	<b>330,531</b>	<b>59,679</b>	<b>1,755,491</b>

UNEMPLOYMENT SUMMARY BY DISTRICTS.

The following Table shows the percentages unemployed among insured workpeople, aged 16-64 years, at 13th December, 1937, classified by districts:—

Division.	Percentages unemployed amongst Insured Workpeople, aged 16-64, at 13th December, 1937.						
	General Scheme (including Special Schemes).			Agricultural Scheme.			
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	
Great Britain:—							
London ... ..	8.0	4.9	7.1	+ 0.3	4.0	7.5	+ 2.0
South-Eastern ...	8.3	7.5	8.1	+ 0.6	2.7	42.9	+ 4.9
South-Western ...	9.4	5.9	8.6	+ 0.7	3.6	17.1	+ 3.9
Midlands ... ..	8.7	8.0	8.5	+ 1.1	4.9	41.5	+ 5.9
North-Eastern ...	13.4	10.9	12.7	+ 1.9	6.5	63.6	+ 12.3
North-Western ...	16.6	13.4	15.5	+ 1.2	9.4	22.1	+ 9.9
Northern ... ..	20.5	10.2	18.9	+ 2.1	10.9	18.1	+ 11.5
Scotland ... ..	19.4	12.7	17.6	+ 2.4	9.6	20.2	+ 10.4
Wales ... ..	23.0	14.2	21.9	+ 0.7	12.4	16.4	+ 12.6
Special Schemes	2.1	0.4	1.5	...	...	...	...
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>12.9</b>	<b>9.0</b>	<b>11.8</b>	<b>+ 1.1</b>	<b>5.5</b>	<b>37.7</b>	<b>+ 7.4</b>
Northern Ireland	28.9	24.2	27.1	+ 1.9	29.8	28.0	+ 29.8
Great Britain and Northern Ireland	13.2	9.5	12.2	+ 1.2	6.5	37.5	+ 8.3

UNEMPLOYMENT DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS.

The following Table shows the numbers of unemployed persons (insured and uninsured) on the registers of Employment Exchanges at one date in each month since December, 1936:—

Date.	Great Britain.					Total 14 and over.
	Men 18 and over.	Boys 14-17.	Women 18 and over.	Girls 14-17.	Total 14 and over.	
14 December 1936.	1,305,382	40,949	241,771	40,617	1,628,719	1,702,673
25 January 1937.	1,318,595	51,036	263,225	56,367	1,689,223	1,766,362
22 February ...	1,278,659	45,535	253,666	49,985	1,627,845	1,703,926
15 March ... ..	1,266,707	41,072	248,733	44,689	1,601,201	1,676,825
19 April ... ..	1,141,011	41,315	227,026	45,091	1,454,443	1,525,708
24 May ... ..	1,151,867	36,420	224,715	38,328	1,451,330	1,519,260
21 June ... ..	1,085,614	29,612	209,441	31,931	1,356,598	1,423,439
26 July ... ..	1,074,474	40,392	221,400	43,193	1,379,459	1,445,328
23 August ... ..	1,046,723	45,044	221,302	45,552	1,358,621	1,424,167
13 Sept.— Old Basis*	1,069,652	43,133	230,997	44,818	1,388,600	1,454,006
New Basis†	1,034,809	39,793	222,905	41,797	1,339,204	1,403,506
18 October ...	1,074,482	36,641	239,177	39,949	1,390,249	1,460,080
15 November ...	1,133,418	37,276	284,938	43,571	1,499,203	1,579,914
13 December ...	1,277,454	37,125	309,858	40,970	1,665,407	1,755,491

The following Table shows the percentages unemployed among insured persons, aged 16-64, in Great Britain and Northern Ireland at one date in each month since December, 1936:—

Date.	General Scheme (including Special Schemes).†				Agricultural Scheme‡			
	Males.	Females.	Males and Females.		Males.	Females.	Total.	
			Wholly Unemployed and Stop-Casuals.	Temporarily Stopped.				
14th December 1936.	13.7	7.5	10.6	1.4	12.0	3.8	19.9	4.7
25th January 1937.	13.9	8.5	11.0	1.4	12.4	5.0	23.4	6.0
22nd February ...	13.4	8.1	10.8	1.2	12.0	4.9	21.3	5.8
15th March ... ..	13.1	7.5	10.4	1.2	11.6	4.9	21.0	5.8
19th April ... ..	11.9	7.0	9.6	0.9	10.5	3.7	9.1	4.0
24th May ... ..	12.0	7.1	9.1	1.6	10.7	3.3	6.7	3.5
21st June ... ..	11.3	6.5	8.5	1.5	10.0	2.2	4.1	2.3
26th July ... ..	11.2	7.2	8.3	1.8	10.1	2.6	4.2	2.7
23rd August ... ..	11.0	7.1	8.4	1.5	9.9	3.0	5.9	3.2
13th September:— Old Basis*	11.1	7.2	8.5	1.6	10.1	3.1	5.6	3.2
New Basis*	10.8	7.0	8.3	1.4	9.7	2.9	5.4	3.1
18th October ...	11.2	7.6	8.9	1.3	10.2	3.2	6.4	3.4
15th November ...	11.8	8.9	9.4	1.6	11.0	4.2	19.3	5.0
13th December ...	13.2	9.5	9.8	2.4	12.2	6.5	37.5	8.3

\* The method of counting the unemployed was altered in September, 1937 (see article on page 379 of the October issue of this GAZETTE). The effect of the change is shown by the separate figures for September, given in the Tables, and by the two points for that month, on the chart in the next column.

† Up to and including June, 1937, these are revised percentages calculated on the basis of the estimated numbers insured at the dates referred to; those for later months are based on the estimated numbers insured at July, 1937, and are subject to slight revision when information becomes available as to the number of unemployment books exchanged at July, 1938.

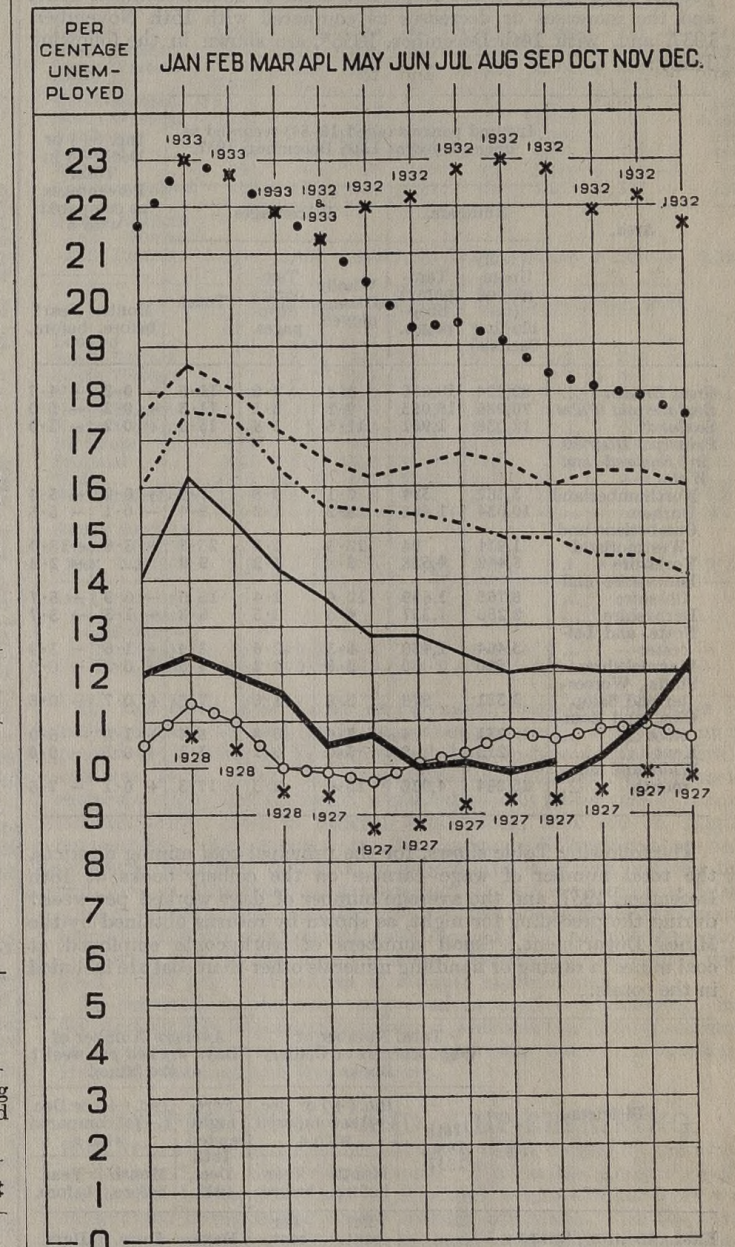
‡ Private gardening is excluded from the percentages for 21st June and earlier dates, but is included in those for 26th July and later dates. Private gardening first became insurable in February, 1937, but estimates of the numbers insured are not available for any date earlier than July, 1937.

UNEMPLOYMENT CHART.

PERCENTAGES UNEMPLOYED\* AMONG INSURED PERSONS, AGED 16-64, IN GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND (EXCLUDING THE AGRICULTURAL SCHEME).

1937.† ———— 1934. - - - - -  
1936. ———— 1933. •••••  
1935. - - - - - Mean for 1924-29‡ ○-○-○-○-

\* The crosses indicate the minimum and maximum monthly percentages unemployed during the years 1924-1936.†



VACANCIES NOTIFIED TO, AND FILLED BY, EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES.

(GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.)

	Four weeks ended 20th Dec., 1937.		Period 22nd December, 1936, to 20th December, 1937.			
	Vacancies Notified.	Vacancies Filled.§	Vacancies Notified.		Vacancies Filled.¶	
			Number.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a year before.	Number.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a year before.
Men ... ..	123,180	113,811	1,644,443	- 58,774	1,495,257	- 73,746
Boys ... ..	21,467	18,558	365,740	- 1,310	274,340	- 4,508
Women ... ..	55,618	43,542	747,471	+ 15,305	550,836	+ 1,294
Girls ... ..	20,554	14,702	330,743	+ 3,395	249,515	- 1,378
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>220,819</b>	<b>187,613</b>	<b>3,088,397</b>	<b>- 41,384</b>	<b>2,569,948</b>	<b>- 78,338</b>

\* Excluding persons insured under the agricultural scheme. See also footnote† in previous column.

† See footnote \* in previous column.

‡ Excluding the period April, 1925, to March, 1927.

§ "Vacancies Filled" include certain types of cases (described as Class B engagements) in which the work of the Exchanges was limited; for instance, obtaining for an employer former employees or placing the same men in relief work in alternate weeks. During the four weeks ended 20th December, 1937, the average number of such placings of men and women was 7,779 per week.



EMPLOYMENT IN SOME OF THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES.

COAL MINING.

EMPLOYMENT during December showed a further slight improvement. The percentage unemployed (including those temporarily stopped) among insured workpeople, aged 16-64, was 11.5 at 13th December, 1937, as compared with 11.7 at 15th November, 1937. The percentage wholly unemployed decreased by 0.1 (from 9.6 to 9.5) and the percentage temporarily stopped by 0.1 (from 2.1 to 2.0). On a comparable basis, there was a decrease of about 4.7\* in the total percentage as compared with 14th December, 1936.

The numbers and percentages unemployed among insured workpeople, aged 16-64, in the respective areas at 13th December, 1937, and the increases or decreases as compared with 15th November, 1937, and, with 14th December, 1936\*, are shown in the following Table:—

Area.	Insured persons (aged 16-64) recorded as unemployed at 13th December, 1937.				Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Total Percentages as compared with a		
	Numbers.		Percentages.		Total.	Month before.	Year* before.
	Wholly Unemployed (including Casuals).	Temporarily Stopped.	Wholly Unemployed.	Temporarily Stopped.			
Great Britain ...	82,124	18,036	9.5	2.0	11.5	- 0.2	- 4.7
England and Wales ...	70,086	16,055	9.2	2.1	11.3	- 0.2	- 5.0
Scotland ...	12,038	1,981	11.5	1.8	13.3	+ 0.2	- 3.0
<b>Principal Districts in England and Wales:—</b>							
Northumberland ...	3,367	374	7.1	0.8	7.9	+ 0.2	- 3.4
Durham ...	10,034	1,488	8.2	1.2	9.4	- 0.1	- 5.5
Cumberland and Westmorland ...	1,914	94	22.6	1.1	23.7	- 3.6	- 18.0
Lancashire ...	8,442	4,538	5.8	3.2	9.0	...	- 2.8
Cheshire ...	8,765	1,659	12.6	2.4	15.0	- 0.9	- 5.7
Derbyshire ...	2,266	1,337	4.3	2.5	6.8	- 1.3	- 3.7
Notts. and Leicester ...	3,464	1,430	6.3	2.6	8.9	- 1.6	- 3.9
Warwickshire ...	540	30	3.8	0.2	4.0	- 0.2	- 0.9
Staffs., Worcester and Salop ...	3,381	979	5.9	1.6	7.5	+ 0.7	- 0.6
Glos. and Somerset ...	731	74	7.6	0.8	8.4	+ 1.0	- 5.0
Kent ...	212	9	3.0	0.1	3.1	+ 0.1	- 0.8
Wales and Monmouth ...	25,894	4,026	15.0	2.3	17.3	+ 0.1	- 7.6

The following Table shows, for the principal coal mining districts, the total number of wage earners on the colliery books at 18th December, 1937, and the average number of days worked per week during the preceding fortnight, as shown by returns obtained by the Mines Department. Small numbers of workpeople employed at coal mines in raising or handling minerals other than coal are included in the totals.

Districts.	Total Number of Wage Earners on Colliery Books.				Average Number of Days worked per week† at the Mines.			
	18th Dec., 1937.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a		Fortnight ended 18th Dec., 1937.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a		Month before.	Year before.
		Month before.	Year before.		Month before.	Year before.		
ENGLAND AND WALES:		Per cent.	Per cent.	Days.	Days.	Days.		
Northumberland ...	45,446	+ 0.3	+ 2.4	5.38	+ 0.13	- 0.12		
Durham ...	116,917	+ 0.2	+ 6.7	5.41	+ 0.05	...		
Cumberland and Westmorland ...	6,640	+ 0.7	+ 31.4	5.55	+ 0.07	- 0.10		
South Yorkshire ...	99,009	+ 0.1	+ 2.8	5.25	+ 0.19	+ 0.39		
West Yorkshire ...	42,807	+ 0.8	+ 2.6	5.29	+ 0.37	+ 0.30		
Lancs. and Cheshire ...	59,221	+ 0.2	- 1.5	5.48	+ 0.36	+ 0.16		
Derbyshire ...	44,564	+ 0.5	+ 1.8	4.81	+ 0.55	+ 0.13		
Notts. and Leicester ...	53,578	+ 0.5	+ 1.3	5.29	+ 0.49	+ 0.50		
Warwick ...	16,993	+ 0.6	- 0.3	5.83	+ 0.33	+ 0.27		
North Staffordshire ...	23,711	+ 0.6	+ 2.8	5.31	- 0.08	- 0.18		
South Staffs., Worcs. and Salop ...	26,771	- 0.0	+ 4.0	5.78	+ 0.77	+ 0.19		
Glos. and Somerset ...	8,737	+ 0.6	- 2.6	5.70	+ 0.09	+ 0.10		
Kent ...	7,132	+ 0.4	- 1.9	5.56	...	+ 0.10		
North Wales ...	9,797	+ 0.2	+ 1.7	5.59	- 0.10	- 0.13		
South Wales and Mon. ...	137,624	+ 0.2	+ 9.6	5.71	+ 0.01	+ 0.05		
England and Wales	698,947	+ 0.3	+ 3.8	5.42	+ 0.20	+ 0.14		
SCOTLAND:								
Mid. and East Lothians ...	13,214	+ 0.6	+ 3.0	5.79	+ 0.06	- 0.04		
Fife and Clackmannan ...	23,567	+ 0.4	+ 4.9	5.69	+ 0.17	+ 0.03		
Rest of Scotland ...	54,452	+ 0.7	+ 3.6	5.82	+ 0.14	- 0.07		
Scotland ...	91,233	+ 0.6	+ 3.8	5.78	+ 0.13	- 0.05		
GREAT BRITAIN	790,180	+ 0.3	+ 3.8	5.46	+ 0.19	+ 0.12		

The average number of coal-winding days lost in Great Britain during the fortnight ended 18th December, 1937, was 0.32 of a day per week, of which 0.20 of a day was due to want of trade. The

\* See footnote \* in first column on page 14.  
† The figures in this and the two following articles show the number of days (allowance being made in all the calculations for short time) on which coal, iron, etc. were got from the mines included in the returns. It is not necessarily implied that all the persons worked every day the mines were open. Mines not working are omitted in computing the average number of days worked.  
‡ Including Cannock Chase.

corresponding figures for the fortnight ended 20th November, 1937, were 0.51 and 0.36 of a day per week, respectively, and for the fortnight ended 19th December, 1936, 0.45 and 0.29 of a day per week, respectively. The average non-winding time, for each of the three periods under review, was about one-fifth of a day per week.

The output of coal in Great Britain for the four weeks ended 18th December, 1937, as reported to the Mines Department, was 20,606,200 tons, as compared with 19,761,700 tons in the four weeks ended 20th November, 1937, and 19,618,200 tons in the four weeks ended 19th December, 1936.

IRON MINING.

EMPLOYMENT during December continued good. The percentage unemployed (including those temporarily stopped) among insured workpeople, aged 16-64, in the iron ore and ironstone mining industry was 7.5 at 13th December, 1937, as compared with 7.1 at 15th November, 1937. On a comparable basis there was a decrease of about 3.4\* in the percentage as compared with 14th December, 1936.

The following Table summarises the information received from employers who furnished returns:—

Districts.	Number of Workpeople employed at Mines included in the Returns.				Average No. of Days worked per week at the Mines.†			
	Fortnight ended 18th Dec., 1937.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a		Fortnight ended 18th Dec., 1937.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a		Month before.	Year before.
		Month before.	Year before.		Month before.	Year before.		
		Per cent.	Per cent.	Days.	Days.	Days.		
Cleveland ...	3,237	+ 0.9	+ 9.8	6.00	...	5.95	+ 0.05	+ 0.14
Cumberland and Lancashire ...	1,764	- 0.2	+ 8.0	6.00	...	...	...	- 0.04
Other Districts ...	1,980	+ 0.4	+ 3.7	5.82	+ 0.16	+ 0.31		
ALL DISTRICTS	6,981	+ 0.5	+ 7.5	5.95	+ 0.05	+ 0.14		

SHALE MINING.

The number of workpeople employed at the West Lothian mines during the fortnight ended 18th December, 1937, by firms making returns, was 2,096, an increase of 0.2 per cent. as compared with November, 1937, and of 1.6 per cent. as compared with December, 1936.

The average number of days worked per week† at the mines making returns was 5.89 in December, 1937, as compared with 5.97 in November, 1937, and 5.96 in December, 1936.

PIG IRON INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT during December showed a slight decline as compared with the previous month but was much better than in December, 1936. The percentage unemployed (including those temporarily stopped) among insured workpeople aged 16-64, was 8.9 at 13th December, 1937, as compared with 8.3 at 15th November, 1937. On a comparable basis there was a decrease of about 3.9\* in the percentage as compared with 14th December, 1936.

Returns received by the British Iron and Steel Federation from firms engaged in the production of pig iron, employing 16,684 workpeople at the end of December, 1937, showed a decrease of 0.1 per cent. in the numbers employed compared with November, 1937, but an increase of 19.6 per cent. compared with December, 1936.

The number of furnaces in operation at the end of December, 1937, was 133, compared with 135 at the end of November, 1937, and 110 at the end of December, 1936. The figures are analysed below:—

Districts.	Number of Furnaces in Blast.			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on	
	Dec., 1937.	Nov., 1937.	Dec., 1936.	Month before.	Year before.
Durham and Cleveland ...	36	37	30	- 1	+ 6
Cumberland and W. Lancs. Parts of Lancs. and Yorks (including Sheffield), N. Wales and Cheshire ...	11	11	8	...	+ 3
Derby, Leicester, Notts., and Northants ...	8	8	8	...	...
Lincolnshire ...	29	30	27	- 1	+ 2
Staffs. Shrops. Worcs. and Warwick ...	15	15	13	...	+ 2
South Wales and Mon. ...	11	11	7	...	+ 4
England and Wales	7	7	5	...	+ 2
Scotland ...	117	119	98	- 2	+ 19
Great Britain	16	16	12	...	+ 4
	133	135	110	- 2	+ 23

The production of pig iron in December, 1937, amounted to 783,800 tons compared with 762,300 tons in November, 1937, and 671,400 tons in December, 1936.

\* See footnote \* in first column on page 14.  
† See footnote † in previous column.

IRON AND STEEL MANUFACTURE.

EMPLOYMENT in December remained good, and was slightly better than in December, 1936.

The percentage unemployed (including those temporarily stopped) among insured workpeople, aged 16-64, was 11.0 at 13th December, 1937, as compared with 10.4 at 15th November, 1937. On a comparable basis there was a decrease of about 0.9\* in the percentage as compared with 14th December, 1936.

The following Table summarises the information received from employers who furnished returns:—

DEPARTMENTS.	No. of Workpeople employed by Firms making returns.				Aggregate number of Shifts. †			
	Week ended 18th Dec., 1937.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a		Week ended 18th Dec., 1937.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a		Month before.	Year before.
		Month before.	Year before.		Month before.	Year before.		
		Per cent.	Per cent.		Per cent.	Per cent.		
Open Hearth Melting Furnaces ...	9,270	+ 1.7	+ 9.2	54,801	+ 1.6	+ 9.3		
Puddling Forges ...	830	- 19.1	- 26.9	3,719	- 25.4	- 31.7		
Rolling Mills ...	26,686	- 0.4	+ 2.6	146,802	+ 1.6	+ 3.1		
Forging and Pressing ...	1,670	+ 6.2	+ 15.3	9,214	+ 7.3	+ 12.6		
Founding ...	9,637	+ 0.6	+ 12.3	55,674	+ 0.7	+ 11.1		
Other Departments (Mechanics, Labourers ...)	12,399	+ 0.6	+ 2.7	71,649	+ 1.8	+ 3.5		
TOTAL ...	18,244	- 0.2	+ 10.6	106,097	- 0.2	+ 10.3		
	78,736	+ 0.1	+ 6.0	447,956	+ 0.9	+ 6.2		
<b>DISTRICTS.</b>								
Northumberland, Durham, and Cleveland ...	14,668	- 1.0	+ 12.1	84,513	- 1.2	+ 12.4		
Sheffield, Rotherham, Leeds, Bradford, etc. Cumberland, Lancs. and Cheshire ...	24,291	+ 1.0	+ 9.8	137,645	+ 1.2	+ 9.3		
Staffordshire ...	438	...	+ 3.5	2,398	- 3.2	+ 0.4		
Other Midland Counties ...	5,919	+ 4.0	+ 6.3	32,847	+ 5.5	+ 9.7		
Wales and Mon. ...	5,961	- 1.7	+ 1.0	34,102	+ 0.5	+ 1.1		
TOTAL, Eng. & Wales	6,479	- 0.8	+ 5.9	37,273	+ 0.6	+ 5.6		
Scotland ...	9,272	- 0.0	- 1.8	52,740	+ 3.4	- 1.2		
TOTAL ...	70,228	+ 0.2	+ 7.0	381,518	+ 1.1	+ 7.2		
	11,708	- 1.0	+ 1.1	66,438	- 0.7	+ 0.9		
TOTAL ...	78,736	+ 0.1	+ 6.0	447,956	+ 0.9	+ 6.2		

The average number of shifts† during which the works were open was 5.7 in the week ended 18th December, 1937, as compared with 5.6 in November, 1937, and 5.7 in December, 1936.

The production of steel ingots and castings, as shown in returns from the British Iron and Steel Federation, amounted to 1,103,800 tons in December, 1937, as compared with 1,178,300 tons in November, 1937, and with 1,019,200 tons in December, 1936.

TINPLATE AND STEEL SHEET INDUSTRIES.

In the tinplate industry employment in December showed a further decline. The percentage unemployed (including those temporarily stopped) among insured workpeople, aged 16-64, was 17.5 at 13th December, 1937, as compared with 14.9 at 15th November, 1937. On a comparable basis there was an increase of about 0.3\* in the percentage as compared with 14th December, 1936.

In steel sheet manufacture employment showed little change. The following Table shows the number of mills in operation at those works in respect of which returns were received for the week ended 18th December, 1937, and comparisons with a month before and a year before:—

Works.	Number of Works Open.			Number of Mills in Operation.		
	Week ended 18th Dec., 1937.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 18th Dec., 1937.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month before.	Year before.		Month before.	Year before.
Tinplate ...	63	- 1	+ 4	356	- 20	+ 10
Steel Sheet ...	9	...	- 3	89	- 3	- 14
TOTAL ...	72	- 1	+ 1	445	- 23	- 4

ENGINEERING.

EMPLOYMENT during December declined slightly in most districts but continued good on the whole. In electrical engineering it was very good. A slight decline occurred in the general engineering section (mainly textile machinery manufacture), but there was some improvement in motor vehicle manufacture, and employment was good in both of these sections; in marine engineering it was fair; in constructional engineering it continued moderate. There was a continued shortage of some classes of skilled labour in certain districts.

Compared with a year ago employment was better in all sections of the industry except in electrical engineering and in motor vehicle manufacture. In the administrative divisions it was not quite so

\* See footnote \* in first column on page 14.  
† The figures relate to the number of shifts during which the works were in operation, taken in conjunction with the number of men employed. No account is taken of time lost by individuals owing to absenteeism, etc., and it is not intended to imply that the number of shifts shown were actually worked by all the men employed. Works closed are omitted in computing the average number of shifts.

good in the Midlands, North-Eastern, London and the Southern Divisions; it was better in the remaining divisions.

The following Table shows the numbers and percentages unemployed (including those temporarily stopped) at 13th December, 1937, among insured workpeople, aged 16-64, and the increases or decreases as compared with a month before and a year before\*:—

Division.	Numbers of Insured Workpeople, aged 16-64, Unemployed at 13th December, 1937.							Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a		
	General Engineering, Iron and Steel Founding.	Electrical Engineering.	Marine Engineering.	Constructional Engineering.	Motor Vehicles, Cycles, and Aircraft.	TOTAL.	Month before.	Year before.*	Month before.	Year before.*
London ...	3,563	678	76	231	2,721	7,269	- 133	+ 1,740		
South-Eastern ...	1,456	251	134	124	1,915	3,155	+ 183	+ 790		
South-Western ...	857	105	288	118	1,233	2,601	+ 106	+ 880		
Midlands ...	2,897	863	11	601	7,355	11,727	- 1,733	+ 3,620		
North-Eastern ...	5,654	191	193	264	855	7,157	+ 1,077	+ 1,020		
North-Western ...	8,752	926	111	446	2,023	12,258	+ 963	- 2,960		
Northern ...	3,228	429	1,464	730	542	6,393	+ 126	- 960		
Scotland ...	6,133	200	1,473	1,057	1,123	9,992	+ 496	+ 480		



COTTON INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT showed a further decline during December. Holiday stoppages were extended by many firms, both in the spinning and in the manufacturing departments.

The percentage unemployed (including those temporarily stopped) among insured workpeople, aged 16-64, was 15.8 at 13th December, 1937, as compared with 13.1 at 15th November, 1937. On a comparable basis there was an increase of about 3.9\* in the percentage as compared with 14th December, 1936. For 13th December and 15th November, 1937, the corresponding figures in the preparing and spinning departments were 16.2 and 12.7, and in the manufacturing department 15.5 and 13.5. On a comparable basis there were increases in the percentages as compared with 14th December, 1936, of about 5.4\* in the preparing and spinning departments and of about 2.6\* in the manufacturing department.

The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished returns:—

DEPARTMENTS.	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 18th Dec., 1937.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 18th Dec., 1937.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month before.	Year before.		Month before.	Year before.†
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Preparing ...	11,441	- 0.1	+ 0.5	19,914	- 1.0	+ 7.5
Spinning ...	22,179	- 0.8	- 2.5	37,194	- 3.2	+ 2.5
Weaving ...	21,148	- 2.5	- 4.2	36,997	- 4.0	+ 1.9
Other ...	6,981	- 1.1	- 1.2	15,531	- 0.9	+ 1.8
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>61,749</b>	<b>- 1.3</b>	<b>- 2.4</b>	<b>109,636</b>	<b>- 2.7</b>	<b>+ 3.1</b>
<b>DISTRICTS.</b>						
Ashton ...	3,832	- 1.7	- 1.7	6,283	- 4.5	+ 3.5
Stockport, Glossop and Hyde ...	5,539	- 1.7	- 1.8	9,397	- 1.2	+ 3.1
Oldham ...	10,870	- 0.8	- 0.6	21,188	- 1.9	+ 9.5
Bolton and Leigh ...	11,705	- 1.1	- 0.8	20,373	- 3.2	+ 2.2
Bury, Rochdale, Heywood and Todmorden ...	6,089	+ 0.8	- 2.7	11,544	- 0.3	+ 6.3
Manchester ...	3,785	- 1.0	- 0.6	6,494	- 3.4	+ 5.5
Preston and Chorley ...	3,987	- 1.6	- 5.1	6,682	- 1.1	- 2.1
Blackburn, Accrington and Darwen ...	3,381	- 3.5	- 3.2	5,769	- 8.9	+ 2.4
Burnley and Padiham ...	3,242	- 7.2	- 7.7	6,436	- 6.6	- 2.4
Colne and Nelson ...	2,591	- 0.6	- 3.9	5,665	- 2.4	+ 1.1
Other Lancashire Towns ...	2,806	+ 2.1	- 3.9	4,010	+ 3.9	+ 3.3
Yorkshire Towns ...	1,146	- 3.5	- 11.0	1,791	- 8.1	- 10.4
Other Districts ...	2,776	- 0.1	- 1.7	4,004	- 1.9	- 8.2
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>61,749</b>	<b>- 1.3</b>	<b>- 2.4</b>	<b>109,636</b>	<b>- 2.7</b>	<b>+ 3.1</b>

Returns from firms employing about 60,300 workpeople in the week ended 18th December, 1937, showed that about 11½ per cent. of these workpeople were on short time in that week, losing 14½ hours each on the average.

At Ashton-under-Lyne employment remained fair. At Stalybridge and at Stockport it declined, and was not so good as in December, 1936. At Hyde and at Glossop there was little change.

In the Oldham district employment continued to be generally good in the spinning department, though there was an increase in short-time working. In the manufacturing department employment remained good with weavers of fancy goods, but declined considerably in the velvet weaving section, in which a large amount of machinery was stopped.

At Bolton employment declined, and was unsatisfactory with spinners and slack with cardroom workers; in the manufacturing department there was a further decline in the quilt section. At Leigh there was an increase in short-time working.

Employment at Bury and at Rochdale declined, and was not so good as in December, 1936.

In the principal manufacturing centres many firms extended the holiday stoppage at Christmas. At Preston and at Burnley employment showed a further decline. At Blackburn it declined sharply and was bad, and worse than in December, 1936. At Accrington, Chorley, Colne, Darwen and Padiham there was a further decline. Employment at Nelson remained bad. In the Rossendale Valley short-time working and under-employment increased.

At Huddersfield there was a further decline, and employment was bad. At Todmorden there was a good deal of under-employment, and many firms extended the holiday stoppage.

The following Table shows the number of men and of women (other than casuals) on the registers of 56 Employment Exchanges in the principal cotton trade centres of Lancashire and Cheshire at 13th December, 1937:—

Department.	Numbers (excluding Casuals) on the Registers at 13th December, 1937.				Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a month before.
	Wholly Unemployed.		Temporarily Stopped.		
	Men.	Women.	Men.	Women.	
Card and Blowing Room ...	833	1,842	509	2,682	+ 1,373
Spinning ...	5,180	1,810	3,081	3,636	+ 2,891
Beaming, Winding and Warping ...	912	3,217	1,198	6,873	+ 3,288
Weaving ...	2,986	6,367	1,952	5,351	+ 1,548
Other Processes ...	579	221	250	237	+ 162
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>10,490</b>	<b>13,457</b>	<b>6,990</b>	<b>18,779</b>	<b>+ 9,262</b>

\* See footnote \* in first column on page 14.  
† Comparison of earnings is affected by changes in rates of wages.

WOOL TEXTILE INDUSTRY.

CONTRARY to the usual tendency of employment at the end of the year, employment in December showed a further considerable decline; the decline was especially marked in the woollen section. Short time was largely worked, and many firms extended the holiday stoppage at Christmas.

The percentage unemployed (including those temporarily stopped) among insured workpeople, aged 16-64, in the woollen and worsted industries, was 17.9 at 13th December, 1937, as compared with 15.5 at 15th November, 1937. On a comparable basis there was an increase of about 11.9\* in the percentage as compared with 14th December, 1936. In the carpet section the percentage unemployed at 13th December, 1937, was 17.2, as compared with 13.4 at 15th November, 1937; there was an increase, on a comparable basis, of about 15.0\* in the percentage as compared with 14th December, 1936.

Worsteds Section.—Employment showed a further decline at most centres, and was considerably worse than in December, 1936.

Returns from employers for the week ended 18th December, 1937, showed that, in the worsteds section as a whole, 33 per cent. of the workpeople covered by the returns were on short time† in that week, losing 10½ hours each on the average, and 5 per cent. were on overtime, averaging 6 hours each. In the *sorting, combing and preparing* departments 36 per cent. were on short time, losing 18 hours each on the average, and 5 per cent. were on overtime, averaging 8 hours each. In the *spinning* department 38 per cent. were on short time, losing 8½ hours each on the average, and 5½ per cent. were on overtime, averaging 6½ hours each. In the *weaving* department the corresponding figures were: short time†, 22½ per cent. and 11 hours; overtime, 5 per cent. and 4½ hours.

Among woollenters employment was reported as bad, though slightly better than in the previous month. Among woollcombers there was a slight improvement in the merino section but a further decline in the crossbred section. In other departments the decline continued, and employment was very slack in the spinning department and slack in the manufacturing department.

At Bradford and Shipley short time was largely worked, particularly in the wool combing and spinning departments. At Halifax employment was slack; at Keighley it improved slightly, but was still slack. In the fine worsteds trade at Huddersfield employment showed a further decline, and was very slack.

Woollen Section.—There was a marked decline, and employment was much worse than in December, 1936.

Returns from employers for the week ended 18th December, 1937, showed that, in the woollen section as a whole, 43 per cent. of the workpeople covered by the returns were on short time† in that week, losing 11 hours each on the average, and 10 per cent. were on overtime, averaging 7 hours each. In the *spinning* department, 45 per cent. were on short time, losing 11½ hours each on the average, and 14 per cent. were on overtime, averaging 8 hours each. In the *weaving* department the corresponding figures were: short time†, 48 per cent. and 10 hours; overtime, 6 per cent. and 5½ hours.

In the Huddersfield and Colne Valley district and at Morley there was a further considerable decline, and employment was slack. In the Heavy Woollen District short time was largely worked. In the rag and shoddy trade, also, unemployment increased.

In the blanket trade there was a decline in Yorkshire and employment was bad; at Witney there was an improvement. With flannel workers at Rochdale and Saddleworth employment showed little change, and was moderate. In the West of England there was little general change, and employment remained fair on the whole. In the South of Scotland there was a further decline; employment was bad, and much worse than in December, 1936.

Carpet Section.—Employment again declined, and was worse, at most centres, than in December, 1936.

The following Tables summarise the information received from employers:—

Departments:	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 18th Dec., 1937.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a month before.		Week ended 18th Dec., 1937.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a month before.	
		Per cent.	Index Figure. (Jan., 1926 = 100).		£	Per cent.
<b>WORSTED SECTION:</b>						
Wool Sorting and Combing ...	8,534	- 0.3	85.8	19,419	+ 8.2	69.3
Spinning ...	35,533	- 1.8	84.9	52,120	- 2.8	78.6
Weaving ...	15,843	- 0.5	83.2	30,159	- 3.8	76.4
Other Depts. ...	9,332	- 0.6	98.7	20,472	- 4.2	80.7
Not Specified ...	1,436	+ 4.4	83.2	2,796	+ 6.2	61.8
<b>Total—Worsted</b>	<b>70,678</b>	<b>- 1.1</b>	<b>85.6</b>	<b>124,966</b>	<b>- 1.6</b>	<b>76.3</b>
<b>WOOLLEN SECTION:</b>						
Wool Sorting ...	911	+ 6.3	72.5	1,992	+ 8.1	73.7
Spinning ...	11,699	- 4.1	84.2	23,005	- 9.0	85.1
Weaving ...	20,819	- 3.0	90.9	35,158	- 7.3	87.4
Other Depts. ...	14,969	- 1.2	84.7	30,758	- 4.1	81.7
Not Specified ...	1,920	- 1.3	80.2	3,795	- 4.0	79.8
<b>Total—Woollen</b>	<b>50,318</b>	<b>- 2.5</b>	<b>86.7</b>	<b>94,709</b>	<b>- 6.3</b>	<b>84.2</b>
<b>CARPET SECTION...</b>	<b>12,036</b>	<b>- 2.4</b>	<b>133.0</b>	<b>20,635</b>	<b>- 2.9</b>	<b>121.4</b>
<b>Total—Wool Textile Industry</b>	<b>133,032</b>	<b>- 1.7</b>	<b>88.6</b>	<b>240,310</b>	<b>- 3.6</b>	<b>81.9</b>

\* See footnote \* in first column on page 14.  
† The figures given in this article as to short time do not take into account in the case of the weaving departments, other forms of under-employment, such as "playing for warps," or tending one loom instead of two.  
‡ Comparison of earnings is affected by changes in rates of wages.

BOOT AND SHOE INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT showed a further decline in December, which was partly seasonal. There was much short time working, and many firms extended the holiday stoppage at Christmas or the New Year.

The percentage unemployed (including those temporarily stopped) among insured workpeople, aged 16-64, was 12.1 at 13th December, 1937, as compared with 10.0 at 15th November, 1937. On a comparable basis there was a decrease of about 0.6\* in the percentage as compared with 14th December, 1936.

The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who made returns:—

Districts:†	Number of Workpeople.			Total wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 18th Dec., 1937.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 18th Dec., 1937.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month before.	Year before.		Month before.	Year before.†
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
<b>WORSTED SECTION:</b>						
Bradford ...	30,968	- 0.6	84.8	57,964	+ 1.0	72.6
Huddersfield ...	6,982	- 0.7	88.0	12,559	- 5.2	73.0
Halifax ...	8,131	+ 0.0	77.1	13,153	- 5.4	69.6
Leeds ...	7,353	- 2.9	85.9	12,907	- 5.0	84.2
Keighley ...	6,831	- 1.5	86.0	11,874	+ 3.3	85.9
Heavy Woollen (Dewsbury, Batley, etc.) ...	3,370	- 1.5	102.2	4,938	- 1.7	97.7
<b>Total—Worsted</b>	<b>63,635</b>	<b>- 1.0</b>	<b>84.9</b>	<b>113,395</b>	<b>- 1.1</b>	<b>75.3</b>
<b>WOOLLEN SECTION:</b>						
Huddersfield ...	11,321	- 2.3	91.7	22,794	- 8.6	81.3
Heavy Woollen (Dewsbury, Batley, etc.) ...	9,175	- 3.9	77.7	15,435	- 12.0	74.2
Leeds ...	7,514	- 4.2	94.3	16,256	- 6.0	102.8
Halifax and Calder Vale ...	2,477	- 2.8	98.2	5,067	- 7.8	84.5
Bradford ...	1,116	+ 2.3	91.8	2,227	+ 2.1	76.9
<b>Total—Woollen</b>	<b>31,603</b>	<b>- 3.1</b>	<b>89.5</b>	<b>61,779</b>	<b>- 8.4</b>	<b>86.6</b>
<b>CARPET SECTION...</b>	<b>12,036</b>	<b>- 2.4</b>	<b>133.0</b>	<b>20,635</b>	<b>- 2.9</b>	<b>121.4</b>
<b>Total—Wool Textile Industry</b>	<b>133,032</b>	<b>- 1.7</b>	<b>88.6</b>	<b>240,310</b>	<b>- 3.6</b>	<b>81.9</b>

The following Table shows, by districts and by departments, the percentage increases and decreases in the numbers employed in the week ended 18th December, 1937, by those firms who supplied returns for the purpose of the foregoing Table (excluding the carpet section), as compared with the week ended 20th November, 1937:—

Districts:†	Percentage Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in numbers employed as compared with previous month. (—, without a figure, signifies "few or no workpeople returned.")				
	Wool Sorting and Combing.	Spinning.	Weaving.	Other Depts.	All Depts. (including not specified).
<b>WORSTED SECTION:</b>					
Bradford ...	+ 0.2	- 1.6	+ 0.1	- 0.8	- 0.6
Rest of W. Riding ...	- 0.6	- 1.8	- 1.2	- 0.3	- 1.3
Rest of Gt. Britain ...	- 5.3	- 3.0	- 0.7	- 0.9	- 2.1
<b>TOTAL ...</b>	<b>- 0.3</b>	<b>- 1.8</b>	<b>- 0.5</b>	<b>- 0.6</b>	<b>- 1.1</b>
<b>WOOLLEN SECTION:</b>					
Huddersfield ...	-	- 2.4	- 3.9	+ 0.2	- 2.3
Heavy Woollen (Dewsbury, Batley, etc.) ...	-	- 5.6	- 3.0	- 4.2	- 3.9
Leeds ...	-	- 5.9	- 5.5	+ 0.2	- 4.2
Rest of W. Riding ...	-	- 5.3	- 0.3	- 2.2	- 1.3
Rest of Gt. Britain ...	-	- 3.4	- 1.5	- 0.4	- 1.4
<b>TOTAL ...</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>- 4.1</b>	<b>- 3.0</b>	<b>- 1.2</b>	<b>- 2.5</b>

The following Table shows the number of men and of women (other than casuals) on the registers of 17 employment exchanges in the principal wool textile trade centres at 13th December, 1937:—

Department.	Numbers (excluding Casuals) on the Registers at 13th December, 1937.				Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a month before.
	Wholly Unemployed.		Temporarily Stopped.		
	Men.	Women.	Men.	Women.	
Wool Sorting ...	134	10	469	3	616 - 371
Wool Washing and Preparing ...	401	121	586	278	1,386 + 108
Wool Combing ...	267	256	1,107	859	2,489 - 292
Wool Carding ...	358	39	895	172	1,464 + 267
Wool Spinning ...	341	66	695	350	1,452 + 386
Worsted Drawing and Spinning ...	253	882	531	3,458	5,124 + 810
Woollen Winding and Warping ...	71	22	276	204	573 + 140
Worsted Winding and Warping ...	63	112	133	1,011	1,319 + 108
Woollen Weaving ...	170	336	457	2,975	3,938 + 1,351
Worsted Weaving ...	56	158	105	1,340	1,659 + 264
Other Processes ...	595	66	975	212	1,848 + 390
<b>TOTAL ...</b>	<b>2,709</b>	<b>2,068</b>	<b>6,229</b>	<b>10,862</b>	<b>21,868 + 3,161</b>

\* Comparison of earnings is affected by changes in rates of wages.  
† Most of the districts are indicated by the names of their principal towns, but neighbouring towns and areas are included in each case.

Returns from firms employing about 48,500 workpeople in the week ended 18th December, 1937, showed that 42 per cent. of these workpeople were on short time in that week, losing 8½ hours each on the average; while 12 per cent. were on overtime, to the extent of 3½ hours each on the average. The short time working was fairly general; but at Northampton more than two-thirds, and at Norwich and in the Bristol and Kingswood district more than half, of the workpeople covered by the returns were on short time, losing 10 hours each on the average.

Employment remained moderate in East London, and fairly good in North London.

At Leicester and at Northampton there was a decline, partly seasonal; employment was moderate at Leicester and slack at Northampton. There was also a slight decline in the Leicestershire country district; but employment remained fairly good, and was better than in December, 1936.

In the Higham and Rushden district and at Kettering employment remained good with some firms, and fairly good generally. It remained good at Daventry, and was better than in December, 1936. Elsewhere in the Northamptonshire country district employment remained fair.

At Stafford employment remained fairly good, and was better than in December, 1936. At Norwich there was a decline, and employment was bad.

In the Bristol and Kingswood district employment remained slack; it was better, however, than in December, 1936. At Leeds there was a decline, and employment was slack.

In the Lancashire slipper trade there was a marked seasonal decline, but employment was better than in December, 1936.

Employment continued fairly good at Kilmarnock; it was very quiet at Maybole; it declined and was bad at Edinburgh.

The following Table shows the numbers of men and of women (other than casuals) on the registers of 53 Employment Exchanges in the principal centres of the boot and shoe industry at 13th December, 1937:—

Department.	Numbers (excluding casuals) on the Registers at 13th December, 1937.				Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a month before.
	Wholly Unemployed.				



BRICK INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT during December showed a slight seasonal decline, but was still fairly good. The increase in the number of persons recorded as unemployed between 15th November and 13th December, 1937, was partly due to the severe weather at the later date.

The percentage unemployed (including those temporarily stopped) among insured workpeople, aged 16-64, was 10.1 at 13th December, 1937, as compared with 8.4 at 15th November, 1937. On a comparable basis there was an increase of about 0.2\* in the percentage as compared with 14th December, 1936.

The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished returns:—

Districts.	Number of Workpeople.		Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.	
	Week ended 18th Dec., 1937.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month before.	Week ended 18th Dec., 1937.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month before.
Midlands and Eastern Counties ...	8,646	- 0.3	25,102	- 0.5
Rest of Great Britain ...	3,852	+ 0.9	10,194	- 2.6
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>12,498</b>	<b>- 0.2</b>	<b>35,296</b>	<b>- 1.1</b>

Returns from employers relative to short-time working, exclusive of time lost on account of bad weather, showed that, of 12,498 workpeople employed by firms furnishing information, about 2 per cent. were working on an average about 10½ hours less than full time in the week ended 18th December, 1937. On the other hand about 4½ per cent. were working overtime, to the extent of nearly 7 hours each on the average.

BUILDING.

EMPLOYMENT at 13th December, 1937, was adversely affected by weather conditions which interrupted outdoor employment. Between 15th November and 13th December, the number of insured persons, aged 16-64, recorded as unemployed increased by nearly 73,000, of whom 41,000 were only temporarily stopped.

The following Table shows the numbers and percentages unemployed (including those temporarily stopped) among insured workpeople, aged 16-64, at 13th December, 1937, and the increases and decreases compared with a month before and a year before\*.

OCCUPATIONS.	Estimated Numbers aged 16-64 Insured at July, 1937.	Numbers aged 16-64 Unemployed at 13th Dec., 1937.	Numbers included in previous column who were Temporarily Stopped.	Percentage Unemployed.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Percentages as compared with a	
					Month before.	Year before.*
<b>Carpenters ...</b>	146,150	14,315	2,083	9.8	+ 3.2	+ 2.4
<b>Bricklayers ...</b>	102,300	19,982	10,217	19.5	+13.1	+ 9.4
<b>Masons ...</b>	21,700	4,365	2,203	20.1	+12.8	+ 7.6
<b>Slaters and Tilers ...</b>	9,060	2,850	1,548	31.5	+21.0	+20.8
<b>Plasterers ...</b>	36,100	6,551	2,406	18.1	+10.4	+ 8.0
<b>Painters ...</b>	138,940	40,639	3,357	29.3	+ 8.7	+ 3.9
<b>Plumbers ...</b>	42,930	3,610	458	8.4	+ 1.2	+ 1.5
<b>Labourers to above and Builders' Labourers ...</b>	299,580	56,239	14,365	18.8	+ 7.0	+ 3.3
<b>Navvies, etc., and General Labourers ...</b>	106,520	37,845	5,165	35.5	+ 7.6	+ 5.9
<b>All other occupations ...</b>	132,010	32,041	3,806	24.3	+ 3.6	+ 1.7
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>1,035,290</b>	<b>218,497</b>	<b>45,613</b>	<b>21.1</b>	<b>+ 7.0</b>	<b>+ 4.1</b>

DIVISIONS.	Estimated Numbers aged 16-64 Insured at July, 1937.	Numbers aged 16-64 Unemployed at 13th Dec., 1937.	Numbers included in previous column who were Temporarily Stopped.	Percentage Unemployed.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Percentages as compared with a	
					Month before.	Year before.*
London ...	240,250	41,139	211	17.1	+ 2.1	+ 3.7
South-Eastern ...	139,500	18,368	479	13.2	+ 3.3	+ 3.2
South-Western ...	114,030	15,111	1,492	13.3	+ 4.2	+ 2.3
Midlands ...	128,290	21,684	7,251	16.9	+ 7.9	+ 4.6
North-Eastern ...	86,760	23,385	10,814	27.0	+14.7	+ 5.2
North-Western ...	124,540	32,646	6,354	26.2	+ 7.8	+ 2.0
Northern ...	50,370	18,972	7,769	37.7	+18.5	+ 9.9
Scotland ...	96,190	27,880	10,535	29.0	+13.4	+ 8.9
Wales ...	34,010	10,284	692	30.2	+ 6.3	+ 0.8
Northern Ireland ...	21,370	9,028	16	42.2	+ 7.2	+ 1.9
<b>Great Britain and Northern Ireland ...</b>	<b>1,035,290</b>	<b>218,497</b>	<b>45,613</b>	<b>21.1</b>	<b>+ 7.0</b>	<b>+ 4.1</b>

BUILDING PLANS APPROVED.

Returns as to the estimated cost of buildings for which plans were approved during December have been received from 140 Local Authorities (representing towns with a population of 17,082,000 in 1931). The returns show that, in December, 1937, plans were passed for buildings with an estimated cost of £9,764,400, compared with £8,677,200 in December, 1936.

An analysis of the figures for December, 1937, by districts and by classes of buildings, is given on page 37 of this issue.

\* See footnote \* in first column on page 14.

POTTERY INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT in North Staffordshire showed a decline, mainly due to the completion of Christmas orders, and was slack on the whole. At Derby, however, employment continued good; at Worcester and at Bristol it was still fairly good.

The percentage unemployed (including those temporarily stopped) among insured workpeople, aged 16-64, was 18.5 at 13th December, 1937, as compared with 15.6 at 15th November, 1937. On a comparable basis there was an increase of about 2.8\* in the percentage as compared with 14th December, 1936.

The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished returns:—

BRANCHES.	Number of Workpeople.			Total wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 18th Dec., 1937.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month before.		Week ended 18th Dec., 1937.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month before.†	
		Per cent.	Per cent.		£	Per cent.
China ...	2,033	- 0.4	+ 4.6	3,577	- 2.3	+ 4.0
Earthenware ...	6,651	- 0.6	+ 0.8	13,146	- 3.8	+ 2.6
Other Branches (including unspecified) ...	2,288	- 1.7	+ 4.6	4,193	- 3.3	+ 2.6
<b>TOTAL ...</b>	<b>10,972</b>	<b>- 0.8</b>	<b>+ 2.2</b>	<b>20,916</b>	<b>- 3.4</b>	<b>+ 1.7</b>

Returns from employers relative to short-time working showed that of 10,888 workpeople employed by firms making returns, 3,172, or about 29 per cent., were working on an average nearly 9½ hours less than full time in the week ended 18th December, 1937; on the other hand, 697, or about 6½ per cent., were working overtime to the extent of nearly 5½ hours each on the average.

PAPER MANUFACTURE, PRINTING AND BOOKBINDING.

EMPLOYMENT in the paper-making industry showed a further slight decline but was still good generally.

In the letterpress printing industry employment showed a decline as compared with November, but was still good on the whole. At Liverpool and Plymouth, however, it was described as slack; while at some centres, including Bradford, Bristol and Belfast, it was reported as moderate. Employment with electrotypers and stereotypers remained fairly good generally.

Employment in the lithographic printing industry showed little change as compared with the previous month and with December, 1936. With lithographic artists employment continued fair.

In the bookbinding industry employment showed an improvement as compared with November and was good generally. It was much better than in December, 1936.

The percentage unemployed (including those temporarily stopped) among insured workpeople, aged 16-64, in the paper and paper-board industries was 4.6 at 13th December, 1937, as compared with 4.4 at 15th November, 1937. On a comparable basis there was an increase of 0.4\* in the percentage as compared with 14th December, 1936. The corresponding figures for the cardboard box, paper-bag and stationery industries were 4.3, 3.8 and +0.4\*, and the figures for the printing and bookbinding industries were 6.1 at each of the dates, 13th December, 1937 and 15th November, 1937; on a comparable basis there was little change as compared with 14th December, 1936.

The following Table summarises the returns from various trade unions which furnished information:—

	No. of Members at end of Dec. 1937.	Percentage Unemployed at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) on a	
		Dec., 1937.	Nov., 1937.	Dec., 1936.	Month before.	Year before.
<b>Letterpress Printing:</b>						
London ...	35,840	4.4	3.3	4.7	+ 1.1	- 0.3
Northern Counties, Yorkshire, Lancashire and Cheshire ...	13,915	6.4	4.3	6.2	+2.1	+ 0.2
Midlands and Eastern Counties ...	7,752	3.5	3.1	3.2	+ 0.4	+ 0.3
Scotland ...	5,217	2.9	3.0	5.7	- 0.1	- 2.8
Other Districts ...	11,159	3.2	2.5	3.7	+ 0.7	- 0.5
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>73,883</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>+ 1.1</b>	<b>- 0.4</b>
<b>Lithographic Printing</b>	11,911	5.0	5.1	5.0	- 0.1	- 2.2
<b>Bookbinding</b>	8,190	3.6	4.1	5.8	- 0.5	- 2.2
<b>Printing and Bookbinding (branches not distinguished) ...</b>	<b>31,678</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>- 0.1</b>	<b>...</b>

DOCK AND RIVERSIDE LABOUR.

EMPLOYMENT during December declined somewhat, particularly in the port transport service, and was slack; it was better than in the corresponding period of 1936.

The percentage unemployed (including those temporarily stopped) among insured workpeople, aged 16-64, in the dock, harbour, river

\* See footnote \* in first column on page 14.  
† Comparison of earnings is affected by changes in rates of wages.

NUMBERS ON THE REGISTERS IN THE PRINCIPAL TOWNS.

THE Table below shows for each of the Employment Exchange administrative areas in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and for the principal towns therein, the number of unemployed persons registered at Employment Exchanges on 13th December, 1937:—

Area.	Number of Persons on Register at 13th December, 1937.				Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in totals as compared with	
	Men.	Women.	Juveniles.	Total.	15th Nov. 1937.	14th Dec. 1936.*
<b>London Division</b> ...	153,650	37,978	4,352	195,980	+ 6,996	+ 34,310
<b>South-Eastern Division</b> ...	70,410	21,023	4,735	96,168	+ 10,824	+ 16,560
Brighton ...	5,624	1,204	199	5,027	- 7	700
Chatham ...	2,222	663	218	3,103	- 96	540
Ipswich ...	1,845	216	83	2,144	+ 325	420
Norwich ...	5,438	1,257	196	6,891	+ 436	770
Reading ...	2,237	379	77	2,693	+ 61	250
Rest of Division ...	55,044	17,304	3,962	76,310	+ 10,105	+ 13,880
<b>South-Western Division</b> ...	71,628	11,613	4,036	87,277	+ 7,144	+ 4,200
Bristol ...	10,771	1,412	321	12,504	- 51	1,350
Plymouth ...	5,556	1,049	305	6,910	+ 237	350
Portsmouth ...	5,569	807	353	6,729	+ 207	250
Southampton ...	5,845	565	205	6,615	+ 934	+ 2,110
Swindon ...	878	87	26	991	+ 250	80
Rest of Division ...	42,943	7,732	2,826	53,501	+ 5,981	+ 3,450
<b>Midlands Division</b> ...	128,062	42,258	4,997	175,317	+ 23,787	+ 25,140
Birmingham ...	16,827	5,008	251	22,086	+ 1,316	+ 7,110
Covey ...	2,855	794	72	3,721	+ 233	+ 1,070
Cradley Heath and Halesowen ...	2,009	747	63	2,819	+ 13	+ 1,540
Derby ...	2,112	706	123	2,941	+ 194	+ 310
Leicester ...	6,823	4,691	195	11,709	+ 2,163	+ 3,350
Northampton ...	3,332	922	128	4,382	+ 444	+ 30
Nottingham ...	9,378	2,573	171	12,122	+ 846	+ 470
Smalldale ...	4,111	4,537	25	8,673	+ 31	+ 310
Stoke-on-Trent ...	13,969	7,294	445	21,708	+ 5,209	+ 3,480
Walsall ...	3,666	670	114	4,450	+ 787	+ 820
West Bromwich ...	1,004	139	12	1,155	+ 18	+ 20
Wolverhampton ...	3,376	1,047	99	4,522	+ 278	+ 180
Rest of Division ...	61,600	17,209	3,299	82,108	+ 12,255	+ 7,730
<b>North-Eastern Division</b> ...	143,480	42,161	7,632	193,273	+ 31,682	+ 33,160
Barnsley ...	5,765	513	369	6,647	+ 87	+ 990
Bradford ...	10,883	5,388	284	16,555	+ 513	+ 7,010
Dewsbury ...	2,686	1,101	134	3,921	+ 593	+ 1,500
Doncaster ...	3,715	379	378	4,472	+ 534	+ 920
Grimsby ...	4,770	504	503	5,777	+ 47	+ 610
Hull ...	2,725	1,752	106	4,583	+ 1,781	+ 2,240
Huddersfield ...	3,210	2,299	206	5,715	+ 1,207	+ 3,190
Leeds ...	11,661	1,362	540	13,763	+ 851	+ 880
Lincoln ...	17,033	5,437	328	22,798	+ 3,697	+ 4,620
Lincoln ...	1,683	322	128	2,133	+ 232	+ 550
Rotherham ...	3,593	336	231	4,160	+ 290	+ 290
Sheffield ...	14,181	2,688	212	17,081	+ 1,735	+ 3,640
Wakefield ...	2,744	698	203	3,645	+ 536	+ 330
York ...	3,013	436	54	3,503	+ 991	+ 1,040
Rest of Division ...	55,618	18,946	3,956	78,520	+ 18,669	+ 17,460
<b>North-Western Division</b> ...	239,468	88,208	13,722	341,398	+ 27,084	+ 8,190
Accrington ...	2,083	1,955	137	4,175	+ 1,356	+ 200
Ashton-u-Lyne ...	2,868	1,388	113	4,369	+ 157	+ 210
Barrow ...	1,479	366	152	1,997	+ 264	+ 330
Birkenhead ...	7,193	714	344	8,251	+ 287	+ 500
Blackburn ...	6,575	7,321	398	14,294	+ 2,698	+ 2,000
Blackpool ...	5,192	3,195	487	8,874	+ 224	+ 730
Bolton ...	6,972	3,889	368	11,229	+ 1,098	+ 2,400
Burnley ...	4,743	3,549	231	8,523	+ 790	+ 1,060
Bury ...	1,925	1,165	71	3,161	+ 388	+ 50
Chorley ...	2,027	1,020	92	3,139	+ 725	+ 190
Liverpool ...	62,465	8,841	4,016	75,322	+ 8,319	+ 1,270
Manchester ...	27,564	11,975	850	40,389	+ 2,588	+ 2,900
Nelson ...	1,783	949	166	2,898	+ 117	+ 200
Oldham ...	8,295	3,157	203	11,655	+ 1,984	+ 640
Preston ...	4,295	2,121	129	6,575	+ 745	+ 360
Rochdale ...	3,832	951	98	4,881	+ 426	+ 420
St. Helens ...	5,122	428	295	5,845	+ 52	+ 860
Salford ...	7,283	4,428	375	12,086	+ 1,618	+ 950
Stockport ...	4,775					



UNEMPLOYMENT AMONG INSURED PERSONS AT 13th DECEMBER, 1937.

INDUSTRIAL ANALYSIS.

The statistics here presented show, industry by industry, the estimated number of persons, aged 16-64, insured against unemployment at July, 1937, and the total number and percentage of such persons unemployed on 13th December, 1937, 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 Unemployment Insurance Acts provide, subject to certain exceptions, for the compulsory insurance against unemployment of substantially all employed persons. The principal classes of excepted employments are private domestic service, employment otherwise than by way of manual labour at a rate of remuneration exceeding in value £250 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, railways and public utility companies may, in certain circumstances, also be excepted. Persons aged 65 and over, and certain other classes, are excluded from insurance. The Unemployment Insurance Acts do not apply to persons serving in an established capacity in the permanent service of the Crown. Prior to September, 1934, juveniles under 16 years of age were also excepted, and they are excluded from the statistics in these Tables; particulars of the numbers of these juveniles recorded as unemployed at 13th December, 1937, are given on page 27.

The agricultural scheme introduced by the Unemployment Insurance (Agriculture) Act, 1936, came into operation for the payment of contributions on 4th May, 1936. Unemployment benefit became payable under the scheme six months later. Private gardeners were included as from 1st February, 1937.

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 allowances.

The files of "lodged" books at the Employment Exchanges thus furnish for each industrial group a record of the unemployment of insured persons. In arriving at this figure the books of those

persons who are known to be working in an uninsured trade, or to be sick or deceased, or to have gone abroad, are excluded. Where information on these points is lacking, the books remain in the "lodged" files, and are included in the statistics of unemployment, for a period of two months from the date on which the insured person was last in touch with the Exchange.

The numbers unemployed given in the following Tables relate only to persons aged 16-64, insured against unemployment. They include insured persons of those ages maintaining registration at Employment Exchanges, together with those whose unemployment books remain lodged in the "two months" file referred to above. The figures given on pages 14 and 15 relating to persons registered at Employment Exchanges include uninsured as well as insured persons who are maintaining registration for employment, but not insured persons whose books are in the two months file. A Table showing the composition of the two series of figures is given on page 26.

Insured persons who are disqualified for the receipt of unemployment benefit under the trade dispute disqualification are not included in the numbers unemployed, unless they are definitely maintaining registration for other employment.

The estimated numbers of insured persons in each industry are computed once a year, in November, on the basis of information obtained at the annual exchange of unemployment books. The figures relate to the beginning of July, and similar statistics are not available for other dates in the year. In considering the figures on pages 24 and 25 it should be borne in mind that, in the case of individual industries, the percentage rates of unemployment at November and December, 1937, have been calculated on the basis of the estimated numbers of insured persons at July, 1937, while the figures for December, 1936, used for the purpose of comparison, are calculated on the basis of the estimated numbers insured at July, 1936. (See however, footnote § on page 25 regarding the percentage for all industries and services combined.) In an industry in which a relatively large change has occurred between July, 1936, and July, 1937, in the estimated number of insured workpeople, this change may have an important effect on the relative percentage rates of unemployment.

Table with 4 main columns: GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND, and GREAT BRITAIN ONLY. Each has sub-columns for Males, Females, Total. Rows include Fishing, Mining, Non-Metallic Mining Products, Brick, Tile, Pipe, etc., Pottery, Glass, Chemicals, Metal Manufacture, Engineering, Construction and Repair of Vehicles, Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing.

I. PERSONS, AGED 16-64, INSURED UNDER THE GENERAL SCHEME.\*

Main table for I. PERSONS, AGED 16-64, INSURED UNDER THE GENERAL SCHEME. Columns: Industry, Males, Females, Total (Great Britain and Northern Ireland), Males, Females, Total (Great Britain Only).

\* Persons insured under the special schemes for the banking and insurance industries have been included in the figures.

GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.

GREAT BRITAIN ONLY.

Main table for GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND. Columns: Industry, Males, Females, Total (Wholly Unemployed including Casuals), Males, Females, Total (Temporary Stoppages), Males, Females, Total (Total), Males, Females, Total (Wholly Unemployed, Temporary Stoppages and Casuals).

II. PERSONS, AGED 16-64, INSURED UNDER THE AGRICULTURAL SCHEME.

Table for II. PERSONS, AGED 16-64, INSURED UNDER THE AGRICULTURAL SCHEME. Columns: Industry, Males, Females, Total.

\* See footnote \* on page 22.

† Including 59,292 casuals (males, 57,535; females, 1,757).



Table with columns: Industry, Estimated Number of Insured Persons, Percentages at 13th Dec 1937, Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Total Percentages, and Great Britain Only Total Percentages at 13th Dec 1937. Section I: Persons Insured Under the General Scheme.

\* For the purpose of comparison with 14th December, 1936, an estimate has been made of the effect of the change in the procedure for counting the unemployed, introduced in September, 1937 (see page 379 of the October, 1937, issue of this GAZETTE).

Table with columns: Industry, Estimated Number of Insured Persons, Percentages at 13th Dec 1937, Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Total Percentages, and Great Britain Only Total Percentages at 13th Dec 1937. Section II: Persons Insured Under the Agricultural Scheme.

Table with columns: Industry, Estimated Number of Insured Persons, Percentages at 13th Dec 1937, Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Total Percentages, and Great Britain Only Total Percentages at 13th Dec 1937. Section II: Persons Insured Under the Agricultural Scheme.

\* See footnote \* on page 24. † For 14th December, 1936, separate figures are not available. ‡ See footnote \* on page 22. § The percentage for all industries and services combined for December, 1936, used for this comparison, is the revised figure based on the estimated number insured at that date—see the issue of the GAZETTE for November, 1937, page 424 (see also footnote \* on page 24). ¶ Comparable figures are not available. †† For the purpose of comparison with 14th December, 1936, private gardening is excluded.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN NUMBERS UNEMPLOYED. GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.

Table with columns: Industries, Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Numbers Insured, and Unemployed at 13th Dec 1937 compared with 15th Nov 1937.

NEW ENTRANTS INTO UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE. DECEMBER, 1937.

Table with columns: Division, Men aged 18-64, Boys, Women aged 18-64, Girls, and Total.

\* For the purpose of comparison with 14th December, 1936, an estimate has been made of the effect of the change in the procedure for counting the unemployed, introduced in September, 1937 (see page 379 of the October, 1937, issue of this GAZETTE).



COMPOSITION OF UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS: GREAT BRITAIN.

ANALYSIS FOR 13TH DECEMBER, 1937.

	Men (18 years and over)	Boys (16 & 17 years)	Women (18 years and over)	Girls (16 & 17 years)	Total.
<b>A. Insured on Register:—</b>					
1. Claims admitted for insurance benefit:					
(a) General scheme ...	630,277	16,464	206,298	14,207	867,246
(b) Agricultural scheme ...	17,432	758	9,954	629	28,773
2. Unemployment allowances authorised:					
(a) Excluding insurance benefit claimants* ...	489,811	2,125	33,215	1,802	526,953
(b) Insurance benefit claims disallowed ...	3,451	60	1,396	82	4,989
3. Claims under consideration ...	53,201	2,649	16,624	2,198	74,672
4. Others not in receipt of benefit or allowances:					
(a) aged 16-64 ...	41,924	1,939	21,840	2,547	68,250
(b) aged 14 and 15 ...	—	5,011	—	5,953	10,964
<b>B. Others on Register:—</b>					
5. Unemployment allowances authorised ...	16,589	538	5,808	1,050	23,985
6. Applications under consideration ...	551	35	164	65	815
7. Not in receipt of allowances:					
(a) aged 16 and over ...	24,218	2,076	14,559	3,260	44,113
(b) aged 14 and 15 ...	—	5,470	—	9,177	14,647
<b>C. Total on Register ...</b>	<b>1,277,454</b>	<b>37,125</b>	<b>309,858</b>	<b>40,970</b>	<b>1,665,407</b>
<b>D. Insured Unemployed:—</b>					
Aged 16-64:					
8. Number on Register (items 1-3 and 4 (a)) ...	1,236,096	23,995	289,327	21,465	1,570,883
9. Two-months file † ...	26,456	2,253	28,396	2,956	60,061
10. Special Schemes ‡ claimants to benefit ...	2,123	14	228	6	2,371
Total aged 16-64 ...	1,264,675	26,262	317,951	24,427	1,633,315
11. Aged 14 and 15:					
(a) Item 4 (b) ...	—	5,011	—	5,953	10,964
(b) Two-months file ...	—	1,869	—	2,815	4,684
Total aged 14-64 ...	1,264,675	33,142	317,951	33,195	1,648,963

UNEMPLOYMENT FUND. GREAT BRITAIN.

The following Table shows, approximately, the income and expenditure of the Unemployment Fund † for the periods stated:—

	Five weeks ended 1st Jan., 1938.	Four weeks ended 27th Nov., 1937.	Four weeks ended 26th Dec., 1936.
<b>(1) General Account.</b>			
Contributions received from:—			
Employers ...	£ 2,085,000	£ 1,411,000	£ 1,550,000
Employed persons ...	2,053,000	1,616,000	1,494,000
Exchequer ("Equal thirds") ...	2,065,000	1,505,000	1,518,000
Miscellaneous Receipts ...	438,000	123,000	—
<b>Total Income ...</b>	<b>6,641,000</b>	<b>4,655,000</b>	<b>4,562,000</b>
Benefit ...	3,937,000	2,745,000	2,570,000
Cost of Administration ...	555,000	352,000	529,000
Accrued Charge for Debt Services ‡	385,000	384,000	385,000
Miscellaneous Payments ...	72,000	13,000	43,000
<b>Total Expenditure ...</b>	<b>4,949,000</b>	<b>3,494,000</b>	<b>3,527,000</b>
Debt Outstanding ¶ ...	103,122,000	103,122,000	104,741,000
<b>(2) Agricultural Account.</b>			
Contributions received from:—			
Employers ...	56,000	44,000	47,000
Employed persons ...	56,000	43,000	47,000
Exchequer ("Equal thirds") ...	56,000	43,000	47,000
Miscellaneous Receipts ...	11,000	3,000	—
<b>Total Income ...</b>	<b>179,000</b>	<b>133,000</b>	<b>141,000</b>
Benefit ...	89,000	38,000	31,000
Cost of Administration ...	21,000	16,000	18,000
Miscellaneous Payments ...	3,000	1,000	—
<b>Total Expenditure ...</b>	<b>113,000</b>	<b>55,000</b>	<b>49,000</b>

UNEMPLOYMENT ALLOWANCES (GREAT BRITAIN).

As from 1st April, 1937, the cost of unemployment allowances is met from the Unemployment Assistance Fund which is reimbursed by the Exchequer. For the period of five weeks ended 1st January, 1938, expenditure on these allowances (excluding the cost of administration) amounted to approximately £3,515,000, as compared with £2,684,000 during the four weeks ended 27th November, 1937, and £2,849,000 during the four weeks ended 26th December, 1936.

\* These exclusions represent (a) insurance benefit claimants in receipt of unemployment allowances in supplementation of benefit (numbering 5,844 at 13th December, 1937); and (b) persons disqualified for short periods from receiving benefit, who are shown in line 2 (b) of the Table.

† See explanation on page 22.

‡ A detailed account of the Fund is presented to Parliament annually (see H.C. 44 of 1937, for the period ended 31st March, 1936).

§ Includes adjustment of contributions from Defence Departments for period April, 1936 to October, 1937.

¶ Includes adjustment.

‡ Provision is made in the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1935, for the repayment (including interest) of the debt outstanding on 1st July, 1934 (amounting to £105,780,000) by half-yearly payments of £2,500,000. The first of these payments was made on 30th September, 1934, under the authority of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1934.

APPLICANTS FOR INSURANCE BENEFIT AND UNEMPLOYMENT ALLOWANCES.

DIVISIONAL ANALYSIS—13TH DECEMBER, 1937. CLAIMS ADMITTED FOR INSURANCE BENEFIT.\*

Division.	Men 18-64.	Boys 16 & 17.	Women 18-64.	Girls 16 & 17.	Total 16-64.
<b>General Scheme.</b>					
London ...	105,635	1,102	27,191	653	134,581
South-Eastern ...	45,935	1,163	12,139	1,002	60,239
South-Western ...	45,196	902	7,657	839	54,594
Midlands ...	73,502	1,256	34,200	1,656	110,614
North-Eastern ...	78,179	1,493	30,805	2,035	112,512
North-Western ...	109,615	3,432	57,361	3,016	173,424
Northern ...	47,659	1,887	6,181	1,273	57,010
Scotland ...	78,676	3,465	25,782	2,940	111,863
Wales ...	44,870	1,764	4,982	793	52,409
<b>Great Britain</b>	<b>630,277</b>	<b>16,464</b>	<b>206,298</b>	<b>14,207</b>	<b>867,246</b>
<b>Agricultural Scheme.</b>					
London ...	600	5	860	10	1,475
South-Eastern ...	2,637	101	3,605	113	6,456
South-Western ...	1,925	47	174	16	2,162
Midlands ...	1,644	33	657	15	2,349
North-Eastern ...	2,352	76	3,503	300	6,231
North-Western ...	1,601	55	184	16	1,856
Northern ...	1,005	81	160	42	1,288
Scotland ...	3,973	269	725	110	5,077
Wales ...	1,695	91	86	7	1,879
<b>Great Britain</b>	<b>17,432</b>	<b>758</b>	<b>9,954</b>	<b>629</b>	<b>28,773</b>

APPLICATIONS AUTHORISED FOR UNEMPLOYMENT ALLOWANCES.†

Division.	Men aged 18-64.	Boys aged 16 & 17.	Women aged 18-64.	Girls aged 16 & 17.	Total aged 16-64.
London ...	31,687	7	2,888	4	34,586
South-Eastern ...	14,781	34	1,346	49	16,210
South-Western ...	16,571	21	1,021	30	17,643
Midlands ...	40,892	23	1,946	45	42,906
North-Eastern ...	48,702	53	2,440	203	51,398
North-Western ...	105,112	625	13,854	342	119,933
Northern ...	77,262	478	2,166	539	80,445
Scotland ...	101,223	1,066	12,611	1,158	116,058
Wales ...	73,621	416	2,147	564	76,748
<b>Great Britain</b>	<b>509,851</b>	<b>2,723</b>	<b>40,419</b>	<b>2,934</b>	<b>555,927</b>

PERIODS OF REGISTERED UNEMPLOYMENT.

ANALYSIS IN RESPECT OF PERSONS APPLYING FOR INSURANCE BENEFIT OR UNEMPLOYMENT ALLOWANCES. The following Table gives an analysis, according to the length of their last spell of registered unemployment, of persons aged 16-64 applying for insurance benefit or unemployment allowances (including those applicants whose position in relation to insurance benefit and unemployment allowances had not been determined), who were registered at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain as unemployed on 13th December, 1937. Corresponding particulars are not available in respect of persons, registered as unemployed, who were not applicants for insurance benefit or unemployment allowances.

Of the persons who had been on the register for extended periods a proportion, which will increase as the period on the register increases, will have had one or more short spells of employment, lasting not more than three days each, during such periods.

Applicants, aged 16-64, who had been on Register.						
	Less than 3 months.	3 months but less than 6 months.	6 months but less than 9 months.	9 months but less than 12 months.	12 months or more.	Totals.
Men, 18-64	735,219	122,902	58,421	49,042	261,544	1,227,128
Boys, 16-17	19,670	2,097	685	260	233	22,935
Women, 18-64	220,440	26,367	8,374	6,186	17,051	278,418
Girls, 16-17	17,974	1,524	512	155	93	20,258
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>993,303</b>	<b>152,890</b>	<b>67,992</b>	<b>55,643</b>	<b>278,911</b>	<b>1,548,739</b>

NUMBERS.

	Men, 18-64	Boys, 16-17	Women, 18-64	Girls, 16-17	Total
Men, 18-64	735,219	122,902	58,421	49,042	261,544
Boys, 16-17	19,670	2,097	685	260	233
Women, 18-64	220,440	26,367	8,374	6,186	17,051
Girls, 16-17	17,974	1,524	512	155	93
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>993,303</b>	<b>152,890</b>	<b>67,992</b>	<b>55,643</b>	<b>278,911</b>

PERCENTAGES.

	Men, 18-64	Boys, 16-17	Women, 18-64	Girls, 16-17	Total
Men, 18-64	59.9	10.0	4.8	4.0	21.3
Boys, 16-17	85.8	9.1	3.0	1.1	1.0
Women, 18-64	79.2	9.5	3.0	2.2	6.1
Girls, 16-17	88.7	7.5	2.5	0.8	0.5
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>64.1</b>	<b>9.9</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>18.0</b>

Of the 993,303 applicants who had been on the register for less than three months, approximately 765,900, or 49.4 per cent. of the total number of applicants, had been on the register for less than six weeks.

\* The persons with claims admitted for insurance benefit included 5,844 for whom payment of unemployment allowances in supplementation of benefit had been authorised.

† Including 4,989 persons, disqualified for short periods from receiving unemployment benefit, who had applications authorised for unemployment allowances.

JUVENILE UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS.

JUVENILES, UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE, ON THE REGISTERS OF EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES AND JUVENILE EMPLOYMENT BUREAUX AT 13TH DECEMBER, 1937.

Division.	Boys.			Girls.		
	Aged 14 and 15.	Aged 16 and 17.	Total.	Aged 14 and 15.	Aged 16 and 17.	Total.
London ...	648	1,832	2,480	676	1,196	1,872
South-Eastern ...	469	1,645	2,114	847	1,774	2,621
South-Western ...	565	1,303	1,871	767	1,398	2,165
Midlands ...	391	1,812	2,203	556	2,238	2,794
North-Eastern ...	629	2,243	2,872	1,286	3,474	4,760
North-Western ...	1,720	5,270	6,990	2,057	4,675	6,732
Northern ...	1,728	3,230	4,958	2,623	2,859	5,482
Scotland ...	2,265	6,056	8,321	2,946	5,528	8,474
Wales ...	2,063	3,253	5,316	3,372	2,698	6,070
<b>Great Britain</b>	<b>10,481</b>	<b>26,644</b>	<b>37,125</b>	<b>15,130</b>	<b>25,840</b>	<b>40,970</b>
N. Ireland ...	599	2,284	2,883	398	1,673	2,071
<b>Gt. Britain and N. Ireland ...</b>	<b>11,080</b>	<b>28,928</b>	<b>40,008</b>	<b>15,528</b>	<b>27,513</b>	<b>43,041</b>

Note.—These figures include considerable numbers of boys and girls who, though registered at Employment Exchanges and Juvenile Employment Bureaux as applicants for employment, are remaining whole time at school until employment is obtained. See article on page 337 of the issue of this GAZETTE for September, 1937.

INSURED JUVENILES, UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE, RECORDED AS UNEMPLOYED AT 13TH DECEMBER, 1937.

Division.	Boys.			Girls.		
	Aged 14 and 15.	Aged 16 and 17.	Total.	Aged 14 and 15.	Aged 16 and 17.	Total.
London ...	1,099	2,532	3,631	1,271	1,970	3,241
South-Eastern ...	495	1,775	2,271	787	1,789	2,576
South-Western ...	342	1,303	1,645	429	1,395	1,754
Midlands ...	432	1,956	2,388	552	2,405	2,957
North-Eastern ...	468	2,174	2,642	846	3,490	4,336
North-Western ...	1,280	5,156	6,436	1,751	4,608	6,359
Northern ...	1,819	2,980	3,799	913	2,191	3,104
Scotland ...	1,393	5,668	7,061	1,659	4,894	6,553
Wales ...	552	2,701	3,253	560	1,749	2,309
Special Schemes ...	—	14	14	—	6	6
<b>Great Britain</b>	<b>6,880</b>	<b>26,262</b>	<b>33,142</b>	<b>8,768</b>	<b>24,427</b>	<b>33,195</b>
N. Ireland ...	503	2,217	2,720	409	1,665	2,074
<b>Gt. Britain and N. Ireland ...</b>	<b>7,383</b>	<b>28,479</b>	<b>35,862</b>	<b>9,177</b>	<b>26,092</b>	<b>35,269</b>

Note.—These figures include not only insured juveniles on the register, but also those whose unemployment books were in the "two months' file," i.e., boys and girls who had registered as unemployed at some date within the past two months, but were not maintaining



UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE: ADJUDICATIONS BY THE STATUTORY AUTHORITIES.

THE Table below analyses for Great Britain for the period 1st to 31st December, 1937, inclusive, the decisions of Insurance Officers, of Courts of Referees and of the Umpire on doubtful claims for insurance benefit:—

A.—DECISIONS OF INSURANCE OFFICERS\*.

	Men.	Women.	Juveniles.	Total.
Claims allowed:—				
Grounds on which Insurance Officers have power to disallow ...	4,817	1,218	210	6,245
Grounds on which Insurance Officers have not power to disallow ...	10,228	12,435	1,996	24,659
Claims disallowed:—				
Contributions conditions:—				
(a) General Scheme ...	136	50	124	310
(b) Agricultural Scheme ...	6	5	1	12
Not unemployed ...	2,568	860	273	3,701
Other grounds on which Insurance Officers have power to disallow ...	4,953	1,099	260	6,312
Total Claims disallowed ...	7,663	2,014	658	10,335

B.—DECISIONS OF COURTS OF REFEREES\*.

(1) Appeals against Disallowances by Insurance Officers.

	Men.	Women.	Juveniles.	Total.
Claims allowed ...	135	22	4	161
Claims disallowed:—				
Contributions conditions:—				
(a) General Scheme ...	18	13	2	33
(b) Agricultural Scheme ...	1	1	1	3
Not unemployed ...	268	76	8	352
Other grounds ...	507	107	17	631
Total Claims disallowed ...	794	197	28	1,019

(2) Other Cases.

	Men.	Women.	Juveniles.	Total.
Claims allowed ...	4,075	3,644	804	8,523
Claims disallowed:—				
Contributions conditions:—				
(a) General Scheme ...	5	2	1	8
(b) Agricultural Scheme ...	1	—	—	1
Anomalies Orders:—				
Class (b)—seasonal workers ...	262	468	25	755
Class (c)—normal employment not more than 2 days a week ...	45	54	—	99
Class (d)—married women ...	—	3,273	—	3,273
Employment left voluntarily without just cause ...	5,462	3,230	2,061	10,753
Employment lost through misconduct ...	3,012	1,008	1,095	5,115
Failure or refusal to apply for or accept suitable employment, or failure to carry out written directions ...	1,218	1,691	446	3,355
Not unemployed ...	220	40	14	274
Not capable of work, or not available for work ...	523	1,177	146	1,846
Other grounds ...	262	119	468	849
Total Claims disallowed ...	11,010	11,062	4,256	26,328

C.—TRADE DISPUTE CASES.

	Claims Allowed.	Claims Disallowed.	Total.
Cases dealt with by Insurance Officers ...	1,963	4,910	6,873
Appeals against disallowances by Insurance Officers dealt with by Courts of Referees ...	88	178	266
Men ...	4	3	7
Women ...	1	3	4
Juveniles ...	—	—	—
Total Appeals ...	93	184	277

D.—DEPENDANTS BENEFIT CASES.

	Men.	Women.	Juveniles.	Total.
Cases dealt with by Insurance Officers ...	9,159	4,091	13,250	
Cases dealt with by Courts of Referees:—				
(1) Appeals against disallowances by Insurance Officers ...	112	435	547	
(2) Other cases ...	38	115	153	

E.—DECISIONS BY UMPIRE.

	Men.	Women.	Juveniles.	Total.
Appeals by the Chief Insurance Officer:—				
(1) Against allowances ...	24	86	110	
(2) Against disallowances ...	32	16	48	
Appeals by Associations ...	22	36	58	
Appeals by Claimants ...	61	57	118	
Total ...	139	195	334	

\* Except in "Trade Dispute" and "Dependants Benefit" cases, which are given separately in Parts C and D.

POOR RELIEF IN DECEMBER.

(Data supplied by the Ministry of Health for England and Wales and the Department of Health for Scotland.)

THE number of persons\* relieved on one day† in December, in the forty-seven selected areas named below, was 585,775, or 1.9 per cent. more than in the previous month, but 25.7 per cent. less than in December, 1936. The numbers relieved at these three dates were equivalent, respectively, to rates of 356, 349, and 477 per 10,000 of the estimated population. The reduction in the numbers in receipt of relief in the two periods of 1937, as compared with December, 1936, was mainly due to the transfer to the Unemployment Assistance Board, as from 1st April, 1937, of large numbers of persons previously in receipt of relief from the Public Assistance Authorities.

In the forty-three selected areas in England and Wales the number relieved in December was 463,007, an increase of 1.9 per cent. as compared with a month earlier, but 21.9 per cent. less than in December, 1936. In the four areas in Scotland the number relieved was 122,768, or 1.8 per cent. more than in the previous month, but 37.1 per cent. less than a year ago.

Recipients of indoor relief in the forty-seven areas in December numbered 72,107, or 0.1 per cent. less than in the previous month, and 5.9 per cent. less than a year ago. Recipients of outdoor relief numbered 513,668, or 2.1 per cent. more than in the previous month, but 27.8 per cent. less than in December, 1936.

Of the forty-seven areas, forty-four showed slight increases in the proportion of the population in receipt of relief in December, as compared with November, and three areas showed slight decreases.

ENGLAND AND WALES.	Number of persons* in receipt of Poor Relief on one day† in December, 1937.			Increase (+) or Decrease (−) in rate per 10,000 of Population as compared with a	
	Indoor.	Outdoor.	Total.	Month before.	Year before.
County of London	23,534	75,931	99,465	240	+ 3 − 32
Birkenhead ...	781	6,055	6,836	462	+ 11 − 144
Birmingham ...	4,448	13,965	18,413	181	+ 5 − 5
Blackburn ...	743	2,436	3,179	274	+ 10 − 111
Bolton ...	822	3,770	4,592	266	+ 4 − 55
Bradford ...	1,049	6,152	7,201	248	+ 3 − 14
Brighton ...	593	2,295	2,888	197	+ 8 − 7
Bristol ...	1,996	7,290	9,286	224	+ 3 − 8
Bury ...	335	2,364	2,699	295	+ 16 − 152
Cardiff ...	1,078	9,169	10,247	463	+ 6 − 150
Coventry ...	407	1,689	2,096	108	+ 3 − 8
Croydon ...	752	4,273	5,025	208	+ 3 − 53
Derby ...	565	2,769	3,334	238	+ 9 − 29
East Ham ...	666	3,735	4,401	330	+ 5 − 25
Gateshead ...	562	5,752	6,314	551	+ 9 − 252
Huddersfield ...	494	1,556	2,050	178	+ 11 − 19
Kingston-upon-Hull ...	1,521	17,269	18,790	574	+ 15 − 120
Leeds ...	1,157	12,416	13,573	277	+ 10 − 133
Leicester ...	823	4,076	4,899	187	+ 3 − 35
Liverpool ...	4,164	50,836	55,000	650	+ 9 − 417
Manchester ...	2,825	30,901	33,726	453	+ 11 − 134
Middlesbrough ...	337	3,718	4,055	290	+ 6 − 90
Newcastle-on-Tyne ...	788	11,697	12,485	430	+ 2 − 224
Norwich ...	770	4,500	5,270	426	+ 10 − 265
Nottingham ...	1,119	9,431	10,550	378	+ 5 − 34
Oldham ...	875	3,112	3,987	304	+ 5 − 81
Plymouth ...	476	4,886	5,362	260	+ 11 − 58
Portsmouth ...	854	2,948	3,802	151	+ 5 − 11
Preston ...	510	1,894	2,404	209	+ 9 − 58
St. Helens ...	367	4,941	5,308	491	+ 2 − 46
Salford ...	500	6,206	6,706	326	+ 8 − 140
Sheffield ...	1,283	21,341	22,624	437	+ 11 − 247
Southampton ...	1,292	4,334	5,626	317	+ 9 − 16
Southeast-on-Sea ...	317	2,651	2,968	218	+ 11 − 18
South Shields ...	401	4,420	4,821	431	+ 16 + 5
Stockport ...	615	1,720	2,335	177	+ 1 − 17
Stoke-on-Trent ...	1,744	8,749	10,493	384	+ 6 − 8
Sunderland ...	740	11,610	12,350	671	+ 14 − 186
Swansea ...	436	6,364	6,800	414	+ 8 − 123
Walsley ...	267	2,073	2,340	244	+ 8 − 21
Walsall ...	278	2,329	2,607	264	+ 11 − 38
West Ham ...	2,090	10,608	12,698	478	+ 1 − 95
Wolverhampton ...	576	2,626	3,202	225	+ 9 − 11
Totals for above 42 County Boroughs	42,416	321,126	363,542	350	+ 7 − 110
Totals, London and 42 Boroughs	65,950	397,057	463,007	319	+ 6 − 87
SCOTLAND.					
Glasgow ...	4,604	90,463	95,067	846	+ 16 − 527
Edinburgh ...	778	13,469	14,247	307	+ 4 − 167
Dundee ...	353	7,209	7,562	423	+ 19 − 126
Aberdeen ...	422	5,470	5,892	334	+ 17 − 255
Totals for above 4 Scottish Burghs	6,157	116,611	122,768	632	+ 11 − 380
Totals for all 47 areas above	72,107	513,668	585,775	356	+ 7 − 121

\* The figures include dependants, but exclude persons in receipt of outdoor medical relief only, and casuals. In England and Wales, rate-aided patients in mental hospitals, and, in Scotland, lunatics and mental defectives, are also excluded.

† 18th December in London and Salford, 25th December in the rest of England and Wales, and 15th December in Scotland.

EMPLOYMENT OVERSEAS.

[N.B.—The following paragraphs include an abstract of such official and other information as is available with regard to the state of employment abroad, in order to indicate, as far as possible, the fluctuations in employment in each country from period to period. The bases of the statistics published in the various countries are, however, not the same as those of the statistics relating to this country; and therefore the figures quoted below cannot properly be used with those on pp. 14–15 to compare the actual level of employment in Great Britain and Northern Ireland with that in other countries.]

GERMANY.‡

THERE was a sharp increase in unemployment during December, due, it is stated, almost entirely to seasonal causes, particularly the severity of the winter. The total number of persons reported by the Employment Exchanges as unemployed at 31st December, 1937, was 994,590,\* as compared with 572,621† at the end of November, 1937, and 1,478,862 at the end of December, 1936.

At 31st December, 1937, 578,329\* persons were in receipt of standard unemployment benefit or emergency benefit, as compared with 300,650† at the end of November, 1937, and 896,033 at the end of December, 1936.

FRANCE.§

There was a further increase in unemployment during December. The total number of persons remaining on the registers of the Employment Exchanges at the end of the month was 394,330, as compared with 362,551 at the end of November, 1937, and 447,046 at the end of December, 1936.

At the beginning of December, 1937, the number of persons employed in mining, industrial, transport and commercial undertakings covered by the official monthly investigation showed an increase of nearly 5.5 per cent. as compared with 1st December, 1936. If the average number of persons employed in the undertakings covered by the returns in December, 1936, be represented by 100, the index of employment for 1st December, 1937, was 79.5.

BELGIUM.¶

Returns received by the National Employment and Unemployment Office from approved unemployment insurance funds with a total membership of 910,368 showed that 9.9 per cent. of these were totally unemployed in September, 1937, as compared with 9.8 per cent. in August, 1937, and 11.4 per cent. in September, 1936. In addition, 9.3 per cent. were employed intermittently in September, 1937, as compared with 9.9 per cent. in August, 1937, and 8.5 per cent. in September, 1936. In September, 1937, 11.5 per cent. of the aggregate possible working days were lost through unemployment; in the preceding month the percentage was also 11.5, and in September, 1936, 12.9.

HOLLAND.¶¶

Unemployment increased during November. Figures compiled by the State Department of Unemployment Insurance and Employment Exchanges show that, of 471,323 members of subsidised unemployment funds making returns for the week ended 27th November, 1937, 25.3 per cent. were unemployed during the whole week and 3.3 per cent. for less than 6 days. In the corresponding week of the preceding month the percentages were 23.1 and 3.0, and in the last week of November, 1936, 29.5 and 3.9. At the end of November, 1937, 403,752 applicants for work were registered at public Employment Exchanges, of whom 385,983 were unemployed; at the end of the previous month the corresponding totals were 356,869 and 340,436, and at the end of November, 1936, 434,269 and 419,480.

SWITZERLAND.\*\*

Unemployment increased heavily during November, mainly owing to seasonal causes. At the end of that month, 71,002 applications for employment (49.4 per thousand of the employed population according to the census of 1930) were registered at Employment Exchanges, as compared with 56,804 (39.6 per thousand) at the end of October, 1937, and 96,541 (67.2 per thousand) at the end of November, 1936. Offers of situations at the dates mentioned above numbered 1,311, 1,655 and 1,010, respectively.

AUSTRIA.††

There was a considerable increase in unemployment during November. The total number of persons in receipt of benefit at the end of the month was 224,166 (95,426 in Vienna), as compared with 188,262 at the end of October, 1937, and 257,063 at the end of November, 1936.

HUNGARY.†††

Unemployment showed a slight tendency to increase during October. The number of applications for employment registered at Employment Exchanges at the end of the month was 45,187, as compared with 44,946 at the end of September, 1937, and 50,655 at the end of October, 1936.

\* Provisional figure. † Revised figure.  
‡ Arbeit und Arbeitslosigkeit, 12th January, 1938. Berlin.  
§ Bulletin du Marché du Travail, 7th January, 1938, and Monthly Supplement to the Bulletin de la Statistique générale de la France, January, 1938. Paris.  
¶ Revue du Travail, December, 1937. Brussels.  
¶¶ Maandschrift van het Centraal Bureau voor de Statistiek, 31st December, 1937. The Hague.  
\*\* La Vie Economique, December, 1937. Berne.  
†† Statistische Nachrichten, 24th December, 1937. Vienna.  
††† Magyar Statisztikai Szemle, November, 1937. Budapest.

POLAND.‡

There was an increase in unemployment during October. The number of applicants for work remaining on the registers of the Employment Exchanges at the end of the month was 262,954, as compared with 251,376 at the end of September, 1937, and 282,239 at the end of October, 1936.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA.§

There was a further sharp increase in unemployment during December. The total number of applicants for work remaining on the registers of the Employment Exchanges at the end of the month was 451,484,\* as compared with 333,455† at the end of November, 1937, and 619,143 at the end of December, 1936.

SCANDINAVIAN COUNTRIES.

Unemployment increased in Denmark during December, in Norway during October, and in Sweden during November.

Denmark.—According to returns received by the Danish Statistical Department from approved unemployment funds with a total membership of approximately 440,000, 34.5\* per cent. of this membership were unemployed at the end of December, 1937, as compared with 23.5† per cent. at the end of November, 1937, and 30.3 per cent. at the end of December, 1936.

Norway.—Returns furnished by ten trade unions, with a total membership of 85,257, show that 19.1 per cent. of this membership were unemployed at the end of October, 1937, as compared with 17.0 per cent. at the end of September, 1937, and 16.8 per cent. at the end of October, 1936.

Sweden.—Of a total of approximately 575,000 members covered by the returns of the reporting trade unions, 10.9\* per cent. were unemployed at the end of November, 1937, as compared with 8.1 per cent. at the end of the previous month, and 12.3 per cent. at the end of November, 1936.

UNITED STATES.††

According to returns received by the Bureau of Labour Statistics from employers, covering over one-half of the aggregate number of wage-earners in manufacturing industries, the number of workpeople employed at the middle of November, 1937, showed a decline of 5.7 per cent. as compared with the previous month. Aggregate weekly earnings in these establishments declined during the same period by 10.9 per cent. If the average monthly index of employment in manufacturing industries for the three years 1923–1925 be taken as 100, the corresponding index for November, 1937, was 94.7, as compared with 100.4 for the previous month, and 96.9 for November, 1936.

Reports received by the American Federation of Labour from affiliated trade unions in 24 cities showed that, in December, 1937, 17\* per cent. of the membership of these unions covered by the returns were unemployed, as compared with 14 per cent. in both November, 1937, and December, 1936. The Federation assesses the total number of unemployed persons in the United States in October, 1937, at 8,491,000, as compared with 8,291,000 at the end of September, 1937, and 8,894,000 at the end of October, 1936. According to the estimates of the National Industrial Conference Board, the total number of persons out of work rose from 6,062,000 in September, 1937, to 6,355,000 in October; in October, 1936, the corresponding figure was 7,464,000. All the above estimates include a considerable number of persons engaged on public relief work schemes.

EIRE.‡‡

The number of persons on the live registers of the Employment Exchanges fell from 94,414 at 29th November to 89,879 at 20th December, 1937. At 21st December, 1936, the corresponding figure was 98,340.

CANADA.§§

There was a seasonal contraction in employment at the beginning of December. The total number of workpeople employed at 1st December, 1937, by 10,459 firms from which returns were received by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics was 1,159,727, as compared with 1,194,



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

Rates of Wages.

In the industries covered by the Department's statistics\* changes in the rates of wages reported to have come into operation in December in Great Britain and Northern Ireland resulted in an aggregate increase of about £54,600 in the weekly full-time wages of 414,000 workpeople. The only decrease affected about 2,000 workpeople.

The particulars of the increases are analysed by industry groups below:—

Industry Group.	Approximate Number of Workpeople affected by Increases.	Estimated Amount of Increase in Weekly Wages.
Mining and Quarrying ... ..	182,300	£ 20,700
Metal ... ..	54,000	12,300
Transport ... ..	81,500	6,200
Other ... ..	116,200	15,400
<b>TOTAL ... ..</b>	<b>414,000</b>	<b>54,600</b>

In the mining and quarrying group the increases affected coal miners in Leicestershire, Nottinghamshire, North Derbyshire, and Scotland, for whom the percentage additions to basis rates were increased as a result of the district ascertainment of proceeds.

The largest group of workpeople affected by increases in the metal group were those employed at iron puddling furnaces and at iron and steel rolling mills and forges in the Midlands, whose wages were advanced by about 3 per cent. on current rates under the operation of a sliding scale based upon the selling price. Other groups of workpeople whose wages were increased included steel sheet millmen in various districts, galvanisers in England and Wales, blast-furnacemen in Cleveland and Durham, workpeople at iron foundries at Cardiff and Barry, metal bedstead makers in various towns, farriers in Lancashire, Yorkshire, North Staffordshire and Cheshire, and some of the female workers employed in tinplate manufacture.

In the transport group the increases related mainly to employees of municipal tramway, trolleybus and omnibus undertakings outside the Metropolitan Area, for whom there was a general increase amounting to 2s. per week in the case of adult workers.

The principal increases in the other industrial groups affected employees of electricity supply undertakings in various districts in Great Britain, for whom there was an increase generally of 3d. per hour in the minimum rates scheduled by the Joint Industrial Council; cement makers, who received increases generally of 3d. per hour for men and 1d. per hour for women; corset makers, for whom the minimum rates prescribed under the Trade Boards Acts were advanced by various amounts; coopers, whose wages were increased by 1d. per hour for timeworkers and by 6½ per cent. on list prices for pieceworkers; basket makers in various towns; and manual workers employed in the non-trading departments of several local authorities.

The decrease in rates of wages affected workpeople engaged in the manufacture of certain classes of silk stockings.

Of the total increase of £54,600 per week, about £19,900 was due to arrangements made by joint standing bodies (including about £80 due to sliding scales based on the cost of living); £1,125 was due to the operation of other sliding scales based on the cost of living; £32,100 took effect under sliding scales based on selling prices or on the proceeds of the industry (coal mining); and the remaining £1,475 was due to direct negotiation between employers and workpeople.

Hours of Labour.

In the industries covered by the Department's statistics,\* the changes during December in the number of hours constituting a full ordinary week's work affected 3,750 workpeople engaged in match manufacture, whose recognised full-time hours were reduced by 3 hours per week.

Changes in Wages and Hours in 1937.

A special article dealing with these changes appears on pages 3 and 4 of this issue of the GAZETTE.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING DECEMBER, 1937

Industry.	District.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change.
Agriculture	West Riding of Yorkshire.	5 Dec.	Male workers 20 years and over employed as wagoners, horsemen, beastmen and shepherds.	Increase of 6d. per week. Minimum rates after change: 14s. at 14 years, increasing to 41s. at 21 years and over.†
			Other male workers ... ..	Increases of 6d. per week for those 20 years and over and of 1s. per week for those 14 and under 15 years. Minimum rates after change: 12s. at 14 years, increasing to 36s. at 21 years and over.†
	Derbyshire ... .. Leicestershire and Rutland.	26 Dec. 5 Dec.	Male workers 21 years and over ... ..	Increase in minimum rate of 10½d. per week (37s. 1½d. to 38s.)†. Increases in minimum rates of 6d. or 1s. per week. Minimum rates after change: Leicestershire—1s. 6d. at 14 years, increasing to 35s. at 21 years and over; Rutland—1s. 6d. at 14 years, increasing to 33s. 6d. at 21 years and over.††
			Male workers ... ..	Increases in minimum rates of 4d. to 1s. per week. Minimum rates after change: 11s. 6d. at under 15 years, increasing to 34s. 6d. at 21 years and over, plus additional sums of 6s. 6d. for cowmen, 5s. 6d. for teamsters and shepherds and of 4s. 6d. for sheep-tenders and bullock-tenders over 18 years of age and in sole charge of animals, payable in respect of time in excess of the normal hours spent on customary duties in connection with the care of horses and stock.†
	Norfolk ... ..	26 Dec.	Female workers ... ..	Increase in minimum rates of 1d. per hour. Minimum rates after change: 4½d. at 14 years, increasing to 6d. at 18 years and over.†
	Warwickshire ... ..	19 Dec.	Male workers ... ..	Increases in minimum rates of 6d. or 1s. per week. Minimum rates after change: 11s. at 14 years, increasing to 33s. at 21 years and over.†
	Herefordshire ... ..	19 Dec.	Male workers ... ..	Increase in minimum rate of 1s. 6d. per week. Minimum rates after change: 11s. 6d. at under 15 years, increasing to 34s. at 21 years and over.†
			Female workers ... ..	Increase in minimum rate of 1d. per hour. Minimum rates after change: 5d. at 15 years, increasing to 6d. at 18 years and over.†
	Buckinghamshire ... ..	5 Dec.	Male workers ... ..	Increases in minimum rates of 1s. to 1s. 6d. per week. Minimum rates after change: 12s. 6d. at 14 years, increasing to 34s. 6d. at 21 years and over.†
	Surrey ... ..	19 Dec.	Skilled workers 21 years and over employed as horsemen, stockmen, or shepherds.	Increase in minimum rate of 1s. 6d. per week (40s. to 41s. 6d.)†
			Other male workers (except casual workers).	Increases in minimum rates of 5d. to 1s. 2d. per week. Minimum rates after change: 12s. 10d. at 14 years, increasing to 34s. 6d. at 21 years and over.†
			Casual workers ... ..	Increases in minimum rates of 3d. or 4d. per hour. Minimum rates after change: 3d. at 14 years, increasing to 8½d. at 21 years and over.†
Female workers ... ..			New scale of minimum rates fixed involving an increase of 1d. per hour for those 18 years and over. Minimum rates after change: 3d. at 14 years, increasing to 6½d. at 18 years and over.†	
Anglesey and Caernarvon.	12 Dec.	Male workers (other than those engaged in forestry).	Increase in minimum rates of 1s. per week. Minimum rates after change: those employed as horsemen, cowmen, shepherds or hwsmyrn (balliffs), 21s. at 15 years, increasing to 36s. at 21 years and over; other male workers, 18s. at under 17 years, increasing to 32s. at 21 years and over.†	
		Female workers ... ..	Increase in minimum rates of 3d. per hour. Minimum rates after change: 5½d. at under 17 years, increasing to 6½d. at 18 years and over.†	
			Male workers engaged in forestry (preparing land, planting and maintaining forestry areas and nursery work in connection therewith).	Increase in minimum rates of 1s. per week. Minimum rates after change: 22s. at 15 years, increasing to 37s. at 21 years and over.†

\* The particulars of numbers affected and amount of change in the weekly wages exclude changes affecting Government employees, agricultural labourers, 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 current rates of wages 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 of short-time working, etc.  
† These increases took effect under Orders issued under the Agricultural Wages (Regulation) Act, 1924.  
‡ See also under "Changes in Hours of Labour."

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING DECEMBER, 1937—continued.

Industry.	District.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change.
Coal Mining	Leicestershire ... ..	1 Dec.	Workpeople employed in and about coal mines.	Increase of 0.18 (42.46 to 42.64) in the percentage addition to basis rates.*
	Nottinghamshire ... ..			
	Derbyshire (except South Derbyshire).	1 Dec.	Workpeople employed in and about coal mines.	New basis rates adopted which shall equal the sum of the basis rates existing at 30th November, 1937, plus 38 per cent., and, where applicable, the subsistence allowances.
Scotland ... ..	1 Dec.	Workpeople employed in and about coal mines.	Increase of 4.17 in the percentage addition to basis rates, making the percentage 4.17.†	
Cement Manufacture.	Great Britain (except certain districts in Wales) and Magheramorne, Co. Antrim. Certain districts in Wales.	3rd full pay week in Dec.	Workpeople employed in the cement manufacturing industry (except those whose wages are regulated by movements in other industries).	Increase of 9.65 (106.85 to 116.5) in the percentage addition to basis rates.‡
	Flint Glass Cutting.	1st pay day in Dec.	Flint glass cutters ... ..	Flat increases of 3d. per hour for adult male workers and of 1d. for males under 21 years of age and for females.¶
Match Manufacture.	Great Britain ... ..	1st pay day in Dec.	Workpeople who entered the industry on or after 1st June, 1932.	Flat increases of 3d. per hour for adult male workers and of 1d. for males under 21 years of age and for females.¶
Glue and Artificial Manure Manufacture.	Bristol (certain firms)	1st week in Dec.	Workpeople employed in the manufacture of glue and chemical manures.	Increase** of 3s. per week. Minimum rate after change for men 22 years and over, 54s.
	Cleveland and Durham.	5 Dec.	Workpeople (excluding those engaged on maintenance work) employed at blastfurnaces.	Increase†† of 6.75 (35 to 41.75) in the percentage addition to standard rates.
Pig-Iron and Iron and Steel Manufacture.	Tees-side ... ..	5 Dec.	Cokemen and by-product workers	Increase†† of 5 (57.5 to 62.5) in the percentage addition to basis rates.
	Midlands and part of South Yorkshire and South Lancashire.	6 Dec.	Workpeople at iron puddling furnaces and iron and steel rolling mills and forges.	
	Barrow-in-Furness ... ..	6 Dec.	Wire and hoop millmen ... ..	Increase†† of 17.5 (67.5 to 85) in the percentage addition to basis rates.
	Various districts in Great Britain.‡‡	6 Dec.	Workpeople in steel sheet rolling mills:— Adult workers (except general labourers). Boys and youths. ... ..	
South Yorkshire (certain firms).	21 Nov.	Skilled engineers, etc., employed on maintenance work at bulk steel works.	Increase†† of 17.5 in the percentage addition to basis rates, making the percentages 92.5 for pryler, markers and scrap lads in the mill and 90 for boys and youths in other departments.	
South-West Wales	6 Dec.	Bricklayers employed at Siemens steel works.	Increase of 3s. per week on basis time rate.	
Engineering, Founding and Ship-Repairing.	Sheffield (including Chappeltown) and Rotherham.	1st full pay period in week commencing 21 Nov.	Skilled fitters, turners and skilled machinists employed in toolrooms.	Adoption of minimum rate¶¶ of 4s. per week above the recognised district rate for such classes. Rate after change for skilled fitters and turners employed in toolrooms, 53s., plus a bonus of 20s. per week for timeworkers.
	Cardiff and Barry districts.	1st full pay in Dec.	Workpeople employed in iron foundries.	Increase of 2s. 6d. per week. Rates after change: brassfounders, 76s. 6d. per week; fitters, smiths, turners, coremakers and moulders, 74s. 6d.; patternmakers, 74s. 6d. plus 1s. per week tool money; dressers, 62s.; labourers, 55s.
Grimsby¶¶ ... ..	1 Dec.	Workpeople employed in ship-repairing.	Increase of 1s. per week. Rates after change: fitters and turners, 70s. 6d. per week; shipwrights and blacksmiths, 69s. 6d.; plumbers, 68s. 6d.; painters, 63s.; smiths' strikers, 59s. 6d.; platers' helpers, 50s.; labourers, 47s.	
Cutlery Manufacture.	Great Britain ... ..	20 Dec.	Fork guards and smiths, hardeners and temperers of blades.	Revised general minimum time rates and piece work basis time rates adopted under the Trade Boards Acts, resulting in increases of various amounts.***
Galvanising	England and Wales.†††	6 Dec.	Workpeople employed in galvanising processes (excluding process of annealing):— Adult workers (except general labourers). Boys and youths ... ..	Increase†† of 17.5 (67.5 to 85) in the percentage addition to basis rates. Increase†† of 17.5 in the percentage addition to basis rates, making the percentages 92.5 for pryler, markers and scrap lads in the mill and 90 for boys and youths in other departments.

\* Flat-rate additions are also paid of 1s. per day to workers 21 years and over and of 6d. per day to other workers.  
† Flat-rate additions are also paid of 1s. per shift to workers 18 years and over and of 6d. per shift to other workers. Adult able-bodied day-wage workers whose basis wages plus the percentage addition amount to less than 8s. 9d. per shift are paid, as previously, a subsistence allowance sufficient to bring their wages up to that amount, subject to a maximum allowance of 6d. per shift; whilst no adult able-bodied day-wage worker is to receive a gross rate, including subsistence allowance, of less than 7s. 11d. per shift (plus 1s. per shift).  
‡ Flat-rate additions are also paid of 9d. per shift to workers 18 years and over at the coal face, and to all other workers 21 years and over, and of 4d. per shift to other workers.  
§ Flat-rate additions are also paid of 9d. per shift to male workers 18 years and over and of 4½d. per shift to other male workers, with proportionate additions for female workers.  
¶ This increase took effect under a decision made by the National Joint Industrial Council for the Cement Manufacturing Industry.  
¶¶ Including Barnsley, Birmingham, Edinburgh, Glasgow, London, Manchester, Sheffield, Stourbridge and Tutbury.  
¶¶ Under cost-of-living sliding-scale arrangements.  
†† This increase was agreed upon by the National Joint Industrial Council for the Match Manufacturing Industry. The minimum rates for workpeople who entered the industry before 1st June, 1932, remain unaltered and, except in Northern Ireland, are as follows:—(a) male workers, 5½d. to 1s. 1½d. for those 14 and under 20 years of age (less ½d. throughout in the West of England) and 1s. 3½d. at 20 years and over, and (b) female workers, 5d. to 7½d. for those 14 and under 18 years (less ½d. in West of England) and 9½d. at 18 years and over. In England, outside the West, in most factories higher rates are paid to males 18 years and over as follows:—18, 1s. 0½d.; 19, 1s. 2½d.; 20, 1s. 4½d. At the factories where these higher rates are paid, the agreement provides that for those receiving the minimum hourly rate, there will be a further increase of ½d. per hour after four years' continuous service, and an additional ½d. per hour after a further three years' continuous service, reckoned from the age of 20 years in the case of males and 18 years in the case of females. See also under "Changes in Hours of Labour."  
‡‡ Under selling-price sliding-scale arrangements.  
§§ This increase affected mainly the employees of firms who are members of the Sheet Trade Board, the principal districts affected being Staffordshire, Cheshire, Tees-side, South Wales and Monmouthshire and the Glasgow district. In the case of general labourers the minimum total wage remained unaltered at 50s. per normal week.  
¶¶ The minimum rate does not apply to men employed on the production of tools for sale.  
¶¶¶ This increase affected workpeople employed by members of the Grimsby Ship Repairers' Association.  
\*\*\* Full details of the minimum rates are contained in the Minister of Labour's Confirming Order, obtainable from H.M. Stationery Office.  
††† This increase affected mainly the employees of firms who are members of the Galvanising Conciliation Board. In the case of general labourers the minimum total wage remained unaltered at 50s. per normal week.



PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING DECEMBER, 1937—continued.

Industry.	District.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change. (Decreases in italics.)
Electrical Cable Manufacture.	Middlesex, Kent, Surrey, Sussex, Hertfordshire, Buckinghamshire, and Berkshire.	Pay preceding 3rd pay day in Dec.	Youths and boys ...	Increases of 1s. 5½d. per week for youths 18 to 20 years, of 6d. for boys 14 and 15 years, and of 5½d. for boys 16 and 17 years. Rates after change: 14s. 8½d. at 14 years, increasing to 46s. 0½d. at 20 years.
	Great Britain, other than the above counties.		Jointers and jointers' mates ...	Increases of 1s. 6d. per week for youths 18 to 20 years and of 6d. for boys 14 to 17 years. Rates after change: 14s. at 14 years, increasing to 42s. 6d. at 20 years.
	Greater London district. All other districts in Great Britain.		Plumber-jointers and jointers and their mates.	Increase* of ½d. per hour.
Farriery	Manchester, Hanley and Stoke-on-Trent.	6 Dec.	Farriers ...	Increase of ½d. per hour. Rates after change: firemen, 1s. 6½d.; doormen, 1s. 6d.
	Large towns in Lancashire and Cheshire (except Manchester, Liverpool and Birkenhead).†			Increase of ½d. per hour. Rates after change: firemen, 1s. 6d.; doormen, 1s. 5½d.
Machine Knife, Scythe, Saw, etc., Manufacture.	Other towns in Lancashire and Cheshire,‡ with Kendal and High Peak district. §	Beginning of 1st full pay after 29 Nov.	Women and girls, youths and boys employed in the machine knife, scythe, sickle, hook and saw trades.	Increase of ½d. per hour. Rates after change: firemen, 68s. 6½d. per week; doormen, 65s. 6½d.
	Sheffield ...			Increase of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: firemen, 1s. 6d.; doormen, 1s. 5½d.
Metallic Bedstead Manufacture.	Birmingham, Smethwick, Dudley, Bilston, Manchester, Warrington, Sowerby Bridge and Keighley.	3 Dec.	Workpeople employed in the metallic bedstead trade.	Increase in flat-rate bonus of 2s. per week for male workers 18 years and over (except youths engaged after 18th October, 1926, for whom the increase was 1s. for those 18 to 20 years and 1s. 6d. for those 20 to 21 years), of 1s. for women 18 years and over and 6d. for boys under 18 years. Rates after change include: general minimum (men), 1s. 1½d. per hour, less 7.5 per cent. and plus a bonus of 12s. per week; women 18 years and over, 7d. or 8d., less 2½ per cent. and plus a bonus of 6s. per week.
Tinplate Manufacture.	South Wales, Monmouthshire and Gloucestershire.	11 Oct.**	Female workers (except openers and girls covered by the pickling piece rate agreement.)	Adoption of daily rates** of 2s. 6d. for those under 18 years, 3s. 4d. for those 18 and under 19 years, 3s. 9d. for those 19 and under 20 years, 4s. 2d. for those 20 and under 21 years and 4s. 7½d. for those 21 years and over: reckoners to be paid a piece rate of 2s. 4½d. per 100 boxes—resulting in increases of various amounts.
Silk Manufacture.	Macclesfield ...	Pay day in week ending 4 Dec.	Adult workpeople employed in the hard or thrown silk section.	Increases of 4s. per week for male spinners of double and single threads, of 2s. for night men and throwing mill men and 1s. for females. Minimum rates after change: throwing mill men, 47s.; spinners—males, 38s. and 40s., females, 31s. and 32s. 6d.; ring spinners, 32s. 6d.; parters, 31s. 6d.; danters, 31s.; knotters, doublers, drummers and reelers, 30s. 6d.; winders and cleaners, 29s.; male night-workers, 44s.
Hosiery Manufacture.	Various districts in England (principally Leicester, Loughborough, Hinckley, Ilkeston, Mansfield, Nottingham, Sutton-in-Ashfield, Baldock and Elstree).	8 Dec.	Knitters employed in the fine gauge full fashioned (silk stocking) section of the hosiery industry.	Reductions in list prices of 7½, 12½ or 15 per cent. according to type of machine (except for those on 18 division legger machines for whom there was no change).
Asbestos Manufacture.	Great Britain ...	5 Dec.	Workpeople employed on night shift (10 p.m. to 6 a.m.) on continuous three-shift work.	Rate adopted of 20 per cent. above the minimum daywork rate.
Corset Making	Great Britain ...	6 Dec.	Male workers 21 years and over††	Increases of ½d., ¼d., or 1d. per hour in general minimum time rates, and of 1d. in piecework basis time rates.††
			Female workers (other than learners)	Increase in general minimum time rates and piecework basis time rates of ½d. per hour.††
Baking	Belfast ...	17-18 Dec.	Workpeople other than operative bakers.	Adoption of new scale of minimum rates resulting in increases of various amounts.††
Brewing	Sheffield ...	1st pay day after 19 Dec.	Adult male workers ...	Increases of 3s. to 11s. 6d. per week. Rates after change: bogeymen, 55s. 6d. and 60s.; other bakehouse workers, 60s. and 64s. 6d.; other labour, 53s. and 57s. 6d. for daywork and nightwork respectively in each case.
			Boys and youths ...	Increase of 2s. per week. Minimum rates after change: carters and lorrymen, 64s.; others, 62s.
Mill Sawing (pit-props).	Bo'ness, Grange-mouth and South Alloa.	1 Oct.	Female workers ...	Adoption of scale of minimum weekly rates starting at 23s. at 16 years, increasing to 53s. at 20 years.
			Male workers under 19 years of age.	Adoption of scale of minimum weekly rates involving increases of various amounts. Rates after change: 20s. at 16 years, increasing to 33s. at 20 years.
			Male workers 19 years of age and over.	Increase of 3s. per week. Rates after change include: single bench sawyers, 71s. 6d.; double bench sawyers and saw-sharpeners, 68s. 6d.; labourers, 62s.
			Female workers ...	Increase of 2s. per week. Rates after change: 19s. 6d. at 14 years increasing to 35s. 6d. at 18 years.
				Increase of 2s. per week. Rates after change: 18s. 6d. at 14 years increasing to 32s. at 19 years and over.

\* This increase took place in accordance with an arrangement whereby fluctuations in the wages of the workpeople mentioned are governed by wages movements in the electricity supply industry.  
 † Including Accrington, Altrincham, Ashton, Blackburn, Blackpool, Bolton, Burnley, Bury, Chorley, Clitheroe, Colne, Lancaster, Leigh, Middleton, Nelson and district, Oldham, Ormskirk, Preston, Rochdale, Rossendale, St. Helens, Southport, Warrington, Widnes and Wigan.  
 ‡ Including Alsager, Bentham, Cheadle, Chester, Congleton, Crewe, Furness district, Garstang, Kirkham, Knutsford, Macclesfield, Middlewich, Nantwich, Northwich and Tarporley.  
 § Including Barnsley, Bradford, Dewsbury, Halifax, Huddersfield, Hull, Keighley, Leeds, Rotherham, Sheffield and Todmorden.  
 ¶ Under cost-of-living sliding-scale arrangements.  
 \*\* The flat-rate bonus for girls over 16 and under 18 years remained unchanged.  
 \*\*\* These rates were agreed to at a meeting, held on 20th December, 1937, of the London Committee of the Joint Industrial Council for the Welsh Plate and Sheet Trades, with retrospective effect to the date shown. The rates quoted are subject to the current tinplate sliding-scale percentage addition.  
 †† Including also makers-up of 19 years and over, and warehousemen and packers, 22 years and over, with not less than two years' experience.  
 ‡‡ These increases took effect under Orders issued under the Trade Boards Acts. Full details of the minimum rates are contained in the Minister of Labour's Confirming Order, obtainable from H.M. Stationery Office.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING DECEMBER, 1937—continued.

Industry.	District.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change.
Furniture Manufacture.	North East Coast* ...	1st full pay in Dec.	Upholsterers ... Upholstresses and carpet sewers ...	Increase of ½d. per hour (1s. 7d. to 1s. 7½d.). Increase of ¼d. per hour (9½d. to 9¾d.).
Coopering	Great Britain, also Belfast.†	1st pay day after 19 Dec.	Coopers ...	Increase of 1d. per hour for timeworkers, and 6½ per cent. on basic list prices for pieceworkers. Hourly rates after change: London, 1s. 8d.; other districts, 1s. 7d.†
	Belfast ...		Dock workers engaged in unloading grain.	Increase of 1s. per day for timeworkers and of 5 per cent. on tonnage rates for pieceworkers. Rates after change for timeworkers, 16s. 6d. per day.
Dock, Wharf and Riverside Labour.	Newry ...	1 Dec.	Dock workers engaged in handling coal ...	Increase of ¼d. per ton to pieceworkers (1s. 5d. to 1s. 5½d. per ton). Increase of 4s. per week for timeworkers, and of ½d. per ton for pieceworkers. Rates after change: timeworkers, 47s. per week; pieceworkers, 2s. 3½d. per ton.
			timber workers ...	Increase of 3s. per week for timeworkers. Rate after change, 41s. per week.
Road Passenger Transport.	Various towns in Great Britain (excluding Metropolitan Area).	Com-mencement of first full pay period in Dec.	Dock workers employed on schooners carrying slates and tiles.	Increase of 1d. per ton on piecework rates.
			Employees of municipal tramway, trolleybus and motor omnibus undertakings,‡ except those whose wages are regulated by movements in other industries.	Flat-rate increase of 2s. per week for all adult workers and of 1s. for those under 21 years. Annual holidays with pay increased to not less than 8 days after 12 months' continuous service, not less than 10 days after 2 years and 12 days after 3 years.
Electricity Supply.	Belfast ...	1st full pay day in Dec.	Youths employed as parcels, messenger and point boys.	Revised scale of wages adopted, ranging from 13s. per week at 14-15 years to 29s. at 18-19 years, resulting in increases of 1s. and 1s. 6d. per week for those 17-18 and 18-19 respectively.
			Employees of the Corporation tramways and motor omnibus department, except those whose wages are regulated by movements in other industries.	Increase of ½d. per hour or 2s. per week for adult workers and of 1s. for those under 21 years.
Basket Making.	Midland Counties ...	6 Dec.	Youths employed as parcels, messenger and point boys.	Increases of 1s. to 1s. 9d. per week for youths between 17 and 21 years.
			Manual workers, except those whose wages are regulated by movements in other industries.	Increase of ¼d. per hour in the scheduled rates for the various areas.§
Basket Making.	Darlington ...	1 Dec.	Manual workers (except paviors and masons) employed by the Corporation.	Increase of ¼d. per hour. Rates after change: general labourers and sweepers, 1s. 1½d.; refuse collectors, 1s. 2½d.
			Middlesbrough ...	Manual workers (except paviors) employed by the Corporation.
Basket Making.	Boston ...	9 Dec.	Manual workers employed by the Corporation.	Increase of ¼d. per hour or 2s. 6d. per week. Rate after change for general yard labourers, road scavengers and refuse collectors, 1s.
			Wellingborough ...	Certain classes of manual workers employed by the Urban District Council.
Basket Making.	West Midlands   ...	1 Dec.	Able-bodied manual workers, except those whose wages are regulated by movements in other industries.	Minimum wage rates increased by amounts varying from 2s. to 1s. 4d. per week according to Zone of Authority. Minimum rates after change for Grade I occupations (e.g. labourers): Zone A1, 54s. 8d.; Zone A2, 53s. 2½d.; Zone B1, 50s. 2d.; Zone B2, 47s. 3½d.; Zone B3, 44s. 3½d.; Zone C1, 40s. 4½d.; Zone C2, 36s. 5½d.
			Hampshire ...	Road workers employed by the County Council.
Basket Making.	Winchester ...	6 Dec.	Manual workers employed by the Rural District Council.	Increase of 1s. per week. Rates after change: general yard labourers, 36s.; road scavengers, 37s. 6d. to 39s. 6d.; road labourers, 38s. 3d. to 40s. 3d.
			Montgomeryshire ...	Road workers employed by the County Council.
Basket Making.	Glasgow ...	1st full pay in Dec.	Settmakers employed by the Corporation.	Increase of 1d. per ton. Rate after change: 4s. 7d. per ton.
			Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Lancashire and Cheshire.	Basket makers employed on Government work.
Basket Making.	Skip and basket makers ...	6 Dec.	Skip and basket makers ...	Increase of 2 per cent. on list prices, making wages 87½ and 77½ per cent. above the list for timeworkers and pieceworkers respectively.
			Workpeople employed in basket, hamper, and cane and wicker furniture manufacture:—	
Basket Making.	London ...	1 Nov.	Timeworkers ...	Increase of 1d. per hour (1s. 1½d. to 1s. 2½d.).
			Pieceworkers ...	Increase of 7½ per cent. in percentage additions paid on list of October, 1916 (with amendments thereto), making bonuses 37½ per cent. on Derby and croquet chairs, 32½ per cent. on Worcester pots, 49 per cent. on Worcester half-pots, and 52½ per cent. on other work.
Race-horse Training.	Newmarket ...	10 Dec.	Basket makers ...	Bonus of 35 per cent. on 1916 list increased to 42½. Rate after change for timeworkers, 1s. per hour plus 42½ per cent.
Cemeteries	London ...	1 Sept.	Stablemen employed in race-horse training establishments.	Increase of 3s. per week. Minimum rate after change, 48s.
Wholesale Distribution.	England and Wales	1st full pay in Dec.	Gravediggers, gardeners, etc., employed in certain non-municipal cemeteries.	Increase of 3s. per week. Rates after change: gravediggers, 66s.; assistant gravediggers, 59s.; qualified gardeners, 60s.; labourers, 55s.
			Clerks, salesmen, warehouse and general staffs employed by the Co-operative Wholesale Society, Ltd.	Increase of 1s. per week for those 14 to 18 years, of 2s. for those over 18 and under 21 years, and of 4s. and 3s. respectively for males and females over 21 years. Rates after change for workers 24 years and over: clerks and salesmen—males, 72s.; females, 48s.; warehouse workers and packers—males, 68s.; females, 45s.; porters, general hands, etc.—males, 64s.; females, 42s.

\* Including Darlington, Middlesbrough, Newcastle-on-Tyne, South Shields, Stockton, Sunderland and West Hartlepool.  
 † This increase took effect under a decision made by the National Joint Industrial Council for the Cooperage Industry. It did not apply to Burton-on-Trent, where wages are governed by a local agreement. It was also agreed to stabilise wages until April, 1938.  
 ‡ The undertakings affected are mainly those affiliated to the National Joint Industrial Council for the Road Passenger Transport Industry (Tramways, Trolleybuses and Motor Omnibuses).  
 § The undertakings affected are mainly those which follow the wages agreements of the National Joint Industrial Council for the Electricity Supply Industry. In some Areas, where there is a fixed percentage relationship between the rates for the different zones or subdivisions of the Areas, the increases were slightly less than ¼d. for the lower-rated zones.  
 || The Authorities affected are mainly those affiliated to the Joint Industrial Council for Local Authorities' Non-Trading Services (manual workers) in the Area.  
 ¶ Under cost-of-living sliding-scale arrangements.



PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING DECEMBER, 1937—continued.

Industry.	District.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change.
Retail Distribution.	Bolton and district...	15 Nov.	Transport workers employed by co-operative societies affiliated to the District Hours and Wages Board of the Co-operative Union, Ltd. (except those employed wholly or mainly as dairy workers).	Adoption of scales of weekly rates involving increases of various amounts for certain workers. Rates after change include: one-horse drivers, 57s.; two-horse drivers, 63s.; mechanical vehicle drivers, 60s. or 65s.; fillers in coal department, stable and garage hands, 55s.
	Manchester and district.	13 Dec.	Butchery workers employed by co-operative societies affiliated to the District Hours and Wages Board of the Co-operative Union, Ltd.	Increases of 6d. to 2s. 6d. per week. Rates after change include: slaughtermen, 77s.; butchery shop assistants, 23 years and over, 65s. 6d.; pork section—1st hands, 77s.; 2nd hands, 74s.; pork butchers or machinememen, 21 years and over, 65s. 6d.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN HOURS OF LABOUR REPORTED DURING DECEMBER, 1937.

Industry.	District.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change.
Agriculture	Leicestershire ...	5 Dec.	Male workers ...	Weekly number of hours beyond which overtime rates become payable reduced from 54 to 52 in winter, the summer hours (54) remaining unchanged.*
	Rutland ...	5 Dec.	Male workers ...	Weekly number of hours beyond which overtime rates become payable reduced from 50 to 48 in winter, the summer hours (54) remaining unchanged.*
	Anglesey and Caernarvon.	12 Dec.	Male workers, excluding horsemen, cowmen, shepherds or hwsmyrn (balliffs) and those engaged in forestry.	Weekly number of hours beyond which overtime rates become payable reduced from 50 to 48 in winter, the summer hours (50) remaining unchanged.*
	Norfolk ...	26 Dec.	Male workers employed as cowmen	Weekly number of hours beyond which overtime rates become payable fixed at 60 throughout the year.*
Match Manufacture.	Great Britain ...	3 Dec.	Workpeople employed in the match manufacturing industry.	Weekly full-time hours reduced from 47 to 44.†

\* These changes took effect under Orders issued under the Agricultural Wages (Regulation) Act, 1924. See also under "Changes in Rates of Wages."  
† See also under "Changes in Rates of Wages."

TRADE DISPUTES IN DECEMBER.\*

*Number, Magnitude and Duration.*—The number of disputes involving stoppages of work in Great Britain and Northern Ireland reported to the Department as beginning in December was 40. In these 40 new disputes about 4,800 workpeople were directly involved, and 1,400 workpeople indirectly involved (i.e., thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, though not themselves parties to the disputes). In addition, about 3,000 workpeople were involved, either directly or indirectly, in 16 disputes which began before December and were still in progress at the beginning of that month. The total number of disputes in progress in December was thus 56, involving about 9,200 workpeople, and resulting in a loss during December estimated at about 45,000 working days.

In the following Table is given an analysis, by groups of industries, of all disputes in progress in December:—

Industry Group.	Number of Disputes in progress in Month.			Number of Workpeople involved in all Disputes in progress in Month.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress in Month.
	Started before beginning of Month.	Started in Month.	Total.		
Mining and Quarrying ...	2	12	14	6,200	16,000
Metal, Engineering and Shipbuilding ...	4	9	13	1,500	19,000
Other ...	10	19	29	1,500	10,000
<b>Total, December, 1937...</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>9,200</b>	<b>45,000</b>
<i>Total, November, 1937 ...</i>	<i>26</i>	<i>91</i>	<i>117</i>	<i>55,100</i>	<i>152,000</i>
<i>Total, December, 1936 ...</i>	<i>27</i>	<i>49</i>	<i>76</i>	<i>29,300</i>	<i>195,000</i>

*Causes.*—Of the 40 disputes beginning in December, 6, directly involving 400 workpeople, arose out of demands for advances in

\* Disputes involving less than 10 workpeople, and those which lasted less than one day, have, as usual, been omitted from the statistics, except when the aggregate duration (i.e., number of workpeople multiplied by number of working days, allowing for workpeople replaced by others, etc.) exceeded 100 days.  
† The totals for 1937 are preliminary and subject to revision.

SHIPBUILDING IN THE FOURTH QUARTER, 1937.

ACCORDING to Lloyds Register Quarterly Shipbuilding Returns the gross tonnage of merchant vessels under construction in Great Britain and Ireland at the end of December, 1937, amounted to 1,125,426 tons. This was 59,209 tons less than at the end of September, 1937, but 161,784 tons more than at the end of December, 1936.

The tonnage commenced during the quarter was 217,497 tons, a decrease of 1,060 tons as compared with the corresponding total for the September quarter.

wages, and 11, directly involving 1,200 workpeople, arose on other wage questions; 1, directly involving 900 workpeople, on a question as to working hours; 15, directly involving 1,900 workpeople, on questions respecting the employment of particular classes or persons; 3, directly involving 100 workpeople, on other questions respecting working arrangements; and 3, directly involving 100 workpeople, on questions of trade union principle. One stoppage, directly involving 200 workpeople, was due to sympathetic action in support of workpeople involved in another dispute.

*Results.*—Final settlements of disputes which terminated during December have been effected in the case of 23 new disputes, directly involving 3,700 workpeople, and 14 old disputes, directly involving 2,000 workpeople. Of these new and old disputes, 12, directly involving 1,700 workpeople, were settled in favour of the workpeople; 12, directly involving 2,100 workpeople, were settled in favour of the employers; and 13, directly involving 1,900 workpeople, resulted in a compromise. In the case of 9 other disputes, directly involving 700 workpeople, work was resumed pending negotiations on the matters in dispute.

[The usual tabular statement of principal disputes in progress during the month is omitted, as none of the disputes beginning in December involved a large number of workpeople.]

SUMMARY FOR 1937.†

The total number of disputes involving stoppages of work reported as having begun in 1937 was 1,122. The total number of workpeople involved in all disputes in progress during the year (including disputes which began in 1936 and extended into 1937) was about 608,000. The aggregate duration in 1937 of all disputes in progress during the year was about 3,417,000 working days.

Further information regarding disputes in 1937, with comparative statistics for 1936, and, in less detail, for earlier years, is given in the annual review on pages 5 and 6 of this issue.

The tonnage launched during the quarter under review amounted to 223,495 tons, a decrease of 42,062 tons as compared with the previous quarter.

The total horse-power of marine engines under construction or being installed on board vessels in Great Britain and Ireland at the end of December, 1937, amounted to 1,034,076 h.p., as compared with 1,084,756 h.p. in the previous quarter.

The above figures are exclusive of warships and of merchant vessels under 100 tons.

CHANGES IN COST OF LIVING: STATISTICS FOR 1st JANUARY.

Summary: Average Increases since July, 1914.

All Items included ... .. 59%  
Food only ... .. 45%

FOOD.

At 1st January, 1938, the average level of the retail prices of food in Great Britain and Northern Ireland was slightly lower than at 1st December, 1937. There was relatively little change in the prices of most items of food, but those of eggs and butter showed reductions, while fish was a little dearer than a month earlier.

As a net result of all the changes recorded, the average increase over the level of July, 1914, in the retail prices of the articles of food included in these statistics was 45 per cent. at 1st January, 1938, as compared with 46 per cent. at 1st December, 1937, and 36 per cent. at 1st January, 1937.

In the following Table is given a comparison of retail prices in July, 1914, and at 1st December, 1937 and 1st January, 1938:—

Article.	Average Price (per lb. unless otherwise indicated—to the nearest 1/4d.)			Average Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) at 1st Jan., 1938, as compared with	
	July, 1914.	1st Dec., 1937.	1st Jan., 1938.	July, 1914.	1st Dec., 1937.
Beef, British—	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	d.	d.
Ribs ...	0 10	1 2½	1 2½	+ 4½	—
Thin Flank ...	0 6½	0 7½	0 7½	+ 1½	—
Beef, Chilled or Frozen—					
Ribs ...	0 7½	0 9½	0 9½	+ 2½	—
Thin Flank ...	0 4½	0 5	0 5	+ 0½	—
Mutton, British—					
Legs ...	0 10½	1 4½	1 4½	+ 5½	—
Breast ...	0 6½	0 8	0 8	+ 1½	—
Mutton, Frozen—					
Legs ...	0 6½	0 10½	0 10½	+ 3½	—
Breast ...	0 4	0 4½	0 4½	+ 0½	—
Bacon (streaky)* ...	0 11½	1 3½	1 3½	+ 4	—
Flour ... per 7 lb.	0 10½	1 4½	1 4½	+ 5½	—
Bread ... per 4 lb.	0 5½	0 9½	0 9½	+ 3½	—
Tea ...	1 6½	2 2½	2 2½	+ 8½	—
Sugar (granulated) ...	0 2	0 2½	0 2½	+ 0½	—
Milk ... per quart	0 3½	0 7	0 7	+ 3½	—
Butter—					
Fresh ...	1 2½	1 5½	1 5½	+ 3	- 0½
Salt ...	1 2½	1 4½	1 4	+ 1½	- 0½
Cheese† ...	0 8½	0 11	0 11	+ 2½	—
Margarine ...	0 7	0 6½	0 6½	- 0½	—
Eggs (fresh) ... each	0 1½	0 2½	0 2½	+ 1	- 0½
Potatoes ... per 7 lb.	0 4½	0 6½	0 6½	+ 1½	—

The following Table gives a percentage comparison of the level of retail prices at the same dates:—

Article.	Average Percentage Increase or Decrease (-) at 1st January, 1938, as compared with July, 1914.			Corresponding General Average for 1st Dec., 1937.
	Large Towns (Populations over 50,000).	Small Towns and Villages.	General Average.	
Beef, British—	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Ribs ...	46	46	46	46
Thin Flank ...	18	19	18	18
Beef, Chilled or Frozen—				
Ribs ...	32	35	34	34
Thin Flank ...	—	6	3	5
Mutton, British—				
Legs ...	54	58	56	55
Breast ...	23	25	24	24
Mutton, Frozen—				
Legs ...	55	50	52	52
Breast ...	-1	7	3	4
Bacon (streaky)* ...	37	37	37	37
Fish ...	116	94	105	100
Flour ...	50	54	52	53
Bread ...	64	62	63	63
Tea ...	43	45	45	45
Sugar (granulated) ...	50	22	26	26
Milk ...	95	103	99	99
Butter—				
Fresh ...	16	25	21	22
Salt ...	10	15	12	15
Cheese† ...	27	29	28	28
Margarine ...	-6	-8	-7	-7
Eggs (fresh) ...	95	91	93	112
Potatoes ...	41	19	30	29
All above articles of Food (Weighted Percentage Increase) ...	45	45	45	45

\* If this kind is seldom dealt with in a locality, the returns quote the prices of another kind locally representative.  
† The description of cheese for which prices are quoted is in most cases Canadian or New Zealand, but in some districts the returns quote the prices of another kind locally representative.

RENT, CLOTHING, FUEL AND LIGHT.

As regards rents, enquiries which have been made into the changes which have taken effect under the Rent and Mortgage Interest Restrictions Acts indicate that the average increase in the controlled rents (including rates) of working-class dwellings between July, 1914, and 1st January, 1938, was approximately 51 per cent. When decontrolled rents are also included, the combined average increase, as compared with July, 1914, in controlled and decontrolled working-class rents (including rates) is approximately 59 per cent. This latter figure has been utilised in calculating the final percentage increase shown below for "all items."

As regards clothing, owing to the wide range of quotations, both now and before the war, to changes in qualities and in stocks held by retailers, and to the variations in the extent to which different articles and qualities have been affected by price changes, it is impossible to make an exact calculation of the increase in prices. Information which has been collected, however, from retailers in the principal towns as to the prices of clothing bought by working-class families indicates that for articles of, as far as possible, similar quality at each date, the average increase in retail prices between July, 1914, and 1st January, 1938, was about 110 per cent. For the separate groups of items included, the percentage increases were approximately: men's suits and overcoats 80, woollen material for women's outer clothing 155, woollen underclothing and hosiery 140, cotton material for women's outer clothing 145-150, cotton underclothing material and hosiery 115, boots and shoes 95-100.

In the fuel and light group the prices of coal were between 95 and 100 per cent. above the level of July, 1914. The average price of gas was between 45 and 50 per cent. above the pre-war level. For the fuel and light group as a whole (including coal, gas, oil, candles and matches) the average increase at 1st January, as compared with July, 1914, was between 80 and 85 per cent.

ALL ITEMS.

If the average increases in the cost of all the foregoing items are combined in accordance with their relative importance in pre-war working-class family expenditure, allowance being also made for the increase in the prices of soap, soda, domestic ironmongery, brushware and pottery, tobacco, fares and newspapers (averaging about 75 per cent.), the resultant general average increase for 1st January, 1938, is approximately 59 per cent. over the level of July, 1914, as compared with 60 per cent. at 1st December, 1937, and 51 per cent. at 1st January, 1937.

The result of this calculation (in which the same quantities and as far as possible, the same qualities of each item are taken now as in 1914) is to show the average increase in the cost of maintaining unchanged the pre-war standard of living of working-class families (i.e., the standard actually prevailing in working-class families before the war, irrespective of whether such standard was adequate or not). In view of the variations in the amounts of increase in the prices of different commodities, it is probable that economies or readjustments in expenditure have been effected in many families, especially in those cases where incomes have not increased so much as prices. On the other hand, the standard of living has doubtless risen in many cases in which wages have been increased in greater proportion than prices. No allowance is made in the figures for any such alterations in the standard of living, as to which trustworthy statistics are not available.

SUMMARY TABLE: 1920 to 1938.

The following Table shows the average percentage increase, as compared with July, 1914, for all the items included in the statistics, at the beginning of each month, 1920 to 1938:—

Average Percentage Increase since July, 1914—All Items. (Food, rent, clothing, fuel and light, etc.)

Year.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1920	125	130	130	132	141	150	152	155	161	164	176	169
1921	165	151	141	133	128	119	119	122	120	110	103	99
1922	92	88	86	82	81	80	84	81	79	78	80	80
1923	78	77	76	74	70	69	69	71	73	75	75	77
1924	77	79	78	73	71	69	70	71	72	76	80	81
1925	80	79	79	75	73	72	73	73	74	76	76	77
1926	75	73	72	68	67	68	70	70	72	74	79	79
1927	75	72	71	65	64	63	66	64	65	67	69	69
1928	68	66	64	64	64	65	65	65	65	66	67	68
1929	67	65	66	62	61	60	61	63	64	65	67	67
1930	66	64	61	57	55	54	55	57	57	56	57	57
1931	53	52	50	47	47	45	47	45	45	45	46	48
1932	47	47	46	44	43	42	43	41	41	43	43	43
1933	42	41	39	37	36	36	38	39	41	41	43	43
1934	42	41	40	39	37	38	41	42	43	43	44	44
1935	43	42	41	39	39	40	43	43	43	45	47	47
1936	47	47	46	44	44	44	46	46	47	48	51	51
1937	51	51	51	51	52	55	55	55	58	58	60	60
1938	59											

A review of the changes in the cost of living during 1937 appears on page 5 of this issue.

NOTE.

A detailed account of the method of compilation of these statistics, "The Cost of Living Index Number: Method of Compilation," is obtainable, price 3d. net (3½d. post free), from H.M. Stationery Office at any of the addresses shown on the cover of this GAZETTE.



RETAIL PRICES OVERSEAS.

N.B.—While the percentages given in the following Summary Tables are derived from the most authoritative sources of statistical information, certain differences in the nature and scope of the data used, in the methods of combining such data and in the periods for which the rise is measured, suggest the need for caution in drawing conclusions from a comparison between the figures for any two countries or cities. In every case, the percentage calculation is based on the cost of a fixed list of commodities taken in identical quantities.

I.—FOOD.

PERCENTAGE INCREASE IN RETAIL FOOD PRICES IN THE VARIOUS COUNTRIES AS COMPARED WITH JULY, 1914.\*

Country.	Percentage Increase as compared with July, 1914.*					Latest figures available.
	July, 1934.	July, 1935.	July, 1936.	July, 1937.	Rise.	
<b>GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND</b> ...	Per cent. 22	Per cent. 26	Per cent. 29	Per cent. 40	Per cent. 45	1938. 1 Jan.
<b>FOREIGN COUNTRIES.</b>						1937.
Austria (Vienna) ...	0	2	0	0	-1.88	Dec.
Czechoslovakia (Prague) ...	553	585	575	579	561	Nov.
Egypt (Cairo)† ...	18	19	14	10	10	Jan.
Finland ...	755	809	792	870†	910†	Nov.
France (Paris) ...	391	325	362	500	575	Dec.
France (other towns) ...	370§	305§	352§	477§	519	Nov.
Germany ...	20	23	24	25	21	Dec.
Holland (Amsterdam)¶	23¶	18¶	19¶	36	31	Nov.
Norway ...	33	40	45	61	64	Nov.
Portugal‡	1,805	1,889	1,963	2,444	2,445	Nov.
Sweden†	25	32	35	41	42	Nov.
Switzerland ...	15	15	20	31	30	Nov.
United States ...	17	27	33	36	35	Oct.
<b>BRITISH DOMINIONS, &amp;c.</b>						
Australia ...	19	25	27	31††	32††	Nov.
Canada ...	1	3	9	17	20	Dec.
Eire ...	34§	40§	45§	54§	65	Nov.
New Zealand ...	11	18	25	36	43	Nov.
South Africa ...	3	2	1	2	5	Nov.

II.—ALL ITEMS.

PERCENTAGE INCREASE IN THE VARIOUS COUNTRIES IN THE COST OF FOOD, TOGETHER WITH (SO FAR AS POSSIBLE) HOUSE-RENT, CLOTHING, FUEL AND LIGHT, AND OTHER HOUSEHOLD REQUIREMENTS, AS COMPARED WITH JULY, 1914.\*

Country.	Items on which computation is based.**	Percentage Increase as compared with July, 1914.*					Latest figures available.
		July, 1934.	July, 1935.	July, 1936.	July, 1937.	Rise.	
<b>GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND</b> ...	A,B,C,D,E	Per cent. 41	Per cent. 43	Per cent. 46	Per cent. 55	Per cent. 59	1938. 1 Jan.
<b>FOREIGN COUNTRIES.</b>							1937.
Austria (Vienna) ...	A,B,C,D,E	4	5	4	5	5	Dec.
Belgium ...	A,C,D,E	554	554	574	640	658	Dec.
Czechoslovakia (Prague) ...	A,B,C,D,E	593	617	609	623	623	Nov.
Denmark ...	A,B,C,D,E	66	73	74	80	83	Oct.
Egypt (Cairo) ...	A,B,C,D,E	27	30	30	28	29	Oct.
Finland ...	A,B,C,D,E	867	896	888	952†	991†	Oct.
France (Paris) ...	A,B,C,D,E	411††	369††	404††	530††	530	3rd Qr.
Germany ...	A,B,C,D,E	22	24	25	26	25	Dec.
Holland (Amsterdam)¶	A,B,C,D,E	40¶	36¶	31¶	39	40	Nov.
Italy (Rome) ...	A,B,C,D,E	283	300	324	363	379	Oct.
Norway ...	A,B,C,D,E	48	51	55	68	71	Nov.
Sweden ...	A,B,C,D,E	55	56	58	62	65	Oct.
Switzerland ...	A,B,C,D	29	28	30	37	38	Nov.
United States ...	A,B,C,D,E	37¶	40	43	47¶	48	Sept.
<b>BRITISH DOMINIONS, &amp;c.</b>							
Australia ...	A,B,C,D,E	19††	22††	25††	28††	28	3rd Qr.
Canada ...	A,B,C,D,E	22	23	26	30	33	Dec.
Eire ...	A,B,C,D,E	52§	56§	59§	70§	77	Nov.
New Zealand ...	A,B,C,D,E	29	33	37	47	51	Nov.
South Africa ...	A,B,C,D,E	16	16	16	18	21	Nov.

\* Exceptions to this are: Finland, Italy (Rome), January to June, 1914; Switzerland, June, 1914; Portugal, South Africa, 1914; Egypt, Germany, 1913-1914; Holland, 1911-1913; Belgium, April, 1914; United States, Canada, 1913; Australia (all items), November, 1914. The Australian percentages for all items are weighted averages for the six capital cities. The percentages are calculated, in Austria, on prices converted at the rate of 1.44 Schilling equals one pre-war Krone, and, in the other countries, on prices in the ordinary currency.

† Fuel and light are also included in these figures.  
 ‡ The method of calculation was revised in 1937.  
 § Figure for August.  
 ¶ The figures for 1936 and subsequent years are on a revised basis.  
 ¶ Figure for June.  
 \*\* A = Food; B = House-Rent; C = Clothing; D = Fuel and Light; E = Other or Miscellaneous Items.  
 †† Figure for 3rd Quarter.  
 ††† The method of calculation was revised during the latter half of 1936.  
 §§ Decrease.

FATAL INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS.

Statistics of fatal industrial accidents in Great Britain and Northern Ireland reported during December are given below:—

RAILWAY SERVICE.		Factories and Workshops	
Brakemen, Goods Guards	2	Shipbuilding	5
Engine Drivers, Motormen	1	Other Metal Trades	1
Firemen	1	Cotton	1
Guards (Passenger)	1	Wool, Worsted, Shoddy	3
Permanent Way Men	2	Other Textile Manufacture	1
Porters	1	Textile Printing, Bleaching and Dyeing	1
Shunters	2	Tanning, Currying, etc.	1
Mechanics	2	Food and Drink	6
Labourers	2	General Woodwork and Furniture	5
Other Grades	1	Paper, Printing, etc.	6
Contractors' Servants	1	Rubber	1
		Gas Works	3
		Electric Generating Stations	1
		Other Industries	2
<b>TOTAL, RAILWAY SERVICE</b>	<b>14</b>		
MINES.		PLACES UNDER SS. 104-106, FACTORY ACT, 1901.	
Underground	69	Docks, Wharves, etc.	15
Surface	7	Buildings	19
		Warehouses and Railways	1
<b>TOTAL, MINES</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>TOTAL, FACTORY ACTS</b>	<b>106</b>
		Use or Working of Tramway	1
		<b>Total (excluding Seamen)</b>	<b>206</b>
<b>QUARRIES over 20 feet deep</b>	<b>9</b>	SEAMEN.	
		Trading Vessels—	
		Sailing	2
		Steam and Motor	30
		Fishing Vessels—	
		Steam and Motor	2
		<b>TOTAL, SEAMEN</b>	<b>34</b>
		<b>Total (including Seamen)</b>	<b>240</b>

INDUSTRIAL DISEASES.

THE total number of cases\* of poisoning, anthrax, and epitheliomatous and chrome ulceration in Great Britain and Northern Ireland reported during December, under the Factory and Workshop Act or under the Lead Paint (Protection against Poisoning) Act, was 80†; the total number of deaths\* reported was 4.

I. Cases.		I. Cases—continued.	
<b>LEAD POISONING.</b>		<b>EPITHELIOMATOUS ULCERATION (SKIN CANCER).</b>	
Among Operatives engaged in—		Pitch	4
Smelting of Metals	1	Tar	4
Plumbing and Soldering	1	Paraffin	1
Shipbreaking	1	Oil	8
Printing	1		
Tinning of Metals	1	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>16</b>
Other Contact with Molten Lead	1		
White and Red Lead Works	1	<b>CHROME ULCERATION.</b>	
Pottery	1	Manufacture of Bichromates	1
Vitreous Enamelling	1	Dyeing and Finishing	2
Electric Accumulator Works	1	Chrome Tanning	13
Paint and Colour Works	2	Other Industries	31
India-rubber Works	1	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>46</b>
Coach and Car Painting	1		
Shipbuilding	1	<b>Total, Cases</b>	<b>80</b>
Paint used in other Industries	1		
Other Industries	3	<b>II. Deaths.</b>	
Painting of Buildings	5	<b>LEAD POISONING.</b>	
		Pottery	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>14</b>	Painting of Buildings	1
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>OTHER POISONING.</b>			
Arsenical	1	<b>EPITHELIOMATOUS ULCERATION (SKIN CANCER).</b>	
Aniline	1	Tar	1
Manganese	1	Oil	1
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3</b>		
		<b>ANTHRAX.</b>	
		Wool	1
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2</b>
		<b>Total, Deaths</b>	<b>4</b>

\* Cases include all attacks reported during the month, and not previously reported, so far as is known, during the preceding 12 months. Deaths include all fatal cases reported during the month, whether included (as cases) in previous returns or not.  
 † In addition, one case of lead poisoning was reported among plumbers not employed in factories.

BUILDING PLANS APPROVED.

DECEMBER, 1937.

RETURNS as to the estimated cost of buildings for which plans were approved during December have been received from 140\* of the 146 Local Authorities which supply such information to the Department.

The returns received from these 140 Authorities (representing towns with a total population of 17,082,000 in 1931) are summarised in the following Table, in which are also given comparisons with December, 1936, in respect of the same 140 Authorities:—

District.	Dwelling Houses.	Factories and Workshops.	Shops, Offices, Warehouses and Other Business Premises.	Churches, Schools and Public Buildings.	Other Buildings; and Additions and Alterations to existing Buildings.	Totals; and Percentage Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) compared with Dec., 1936.
<b>ENGLAND AND WALES:—</b>						
Northern Counties	£ 337,800	£ 76,000	£ 200	£ 28,000	£ 34,100	£ 476,100 +130.9
Yorkshire	808,600	33,900	79,100	37,100	76,800	1,035,500 - 8.0
Lancs. & Cheshire	634,300	38,400	62,800	56,300	105,200	897,000 - 14.8
North and West-Midland Counties	855,600	209,600	296,600	441,700	185,200	1,988,700 + 42.1
South-Midland & Eastern Counties	185,900	1,300	24,300	9,600	92,500	313,600 - 52.1
Outer London†	1,178,500	195,000	100,000	7,600	116,800	1,597,900 + 0.5
South-Eastern Counties.	415,700	14,500	42,600	10,500	114,900	598,200 - 23.9
South-Western Counties.	72,200	—	1,000	26,000	16,100	115,300 - 23.9
Wales and Mon.	187,000	12,700	9,500	200	21,700	231,100 + 30.9
<b>SCOTLAND</b> ...	2,234,700	5,500	26,100	122,700	122,000	2,511,000 +144.7
<b>TOTAL, Dec., 1937</b>	<b>6,910,300</b>	<b>586,900</b>	<b>642,200</b>	<b>739,700</b>	<b>885,300</b>	<b>9,764,400 + 12.5</b>
<b>Total, Dec., 1936</b>	<b>5,174,500</b>	<b>596,500</b>	<b>785,400</b>	<b>1,193,800</b>	<b>927,000</b>	<b>8,677,200</b>

NOVEMBER, 1937.

In last month's issue of this GAZETTE figures were given for 141 Local Authorities in respect of plans approved during November, 1937. Returns for the latter month are now available for all of the 146 Local Authorities covered by the Department's enquiries (representing towns with a total population of 17,810,000 in 1931). The estimated cost of the buildings included in the returns was £3,309,000, compared with £3,698,000 in October, 1937, and £9,678,700 in November, 1936. Of the total for November, 1937, dwelling houses accounted for £5,285,200; factories and workshops, £442,900; shops, offices, warehouses and other business premises, £830,000; churches, schools and public buildings, £948,100; other buildings, and additions and alterations to existing buildings, £802,800. The number of dwelling houses for which plans were approved by the 146 Authorities in November, was 11,340, as compared with 11,377 in October, 1937, and 13,846 in November, 1936.

LEGAL CASES AFFECTING LABOUR.

Trade Boards Acts, 1909-1918.

MILK DISTRIBUTIVE TRADE (ENGLAND AND WALES).

An employer pleaded guilty to charges of underpaying three male workers and producing a false wage record. He was fined £6 on the underpayment charges and £1 on the record charge. He was also ordered to pay one guinea costs, and arrears of wages amounting to £24 4s. 4d.—*Re v. John Archer Howell*. Brighton Town Hall. 9th December, 1937.

Workmen's Compensation Act, 1925.

ACCIDENT TO WORKMAN IN COURSE OF EMPLOYMENT—FORM OF RECEIPT FOR COMPENSATION SIGNED BY WORKMAN—WHETHER CLAIM FOR DAMAGES AGAINST THIRD PARTY BARRED.

The plaintiff, a farm bailiff employed by Sir Fowell Buxton, Bart., at Waltham Abbey, was driving a motor-van on Christmas Eve, 1935, when a lorry belonging to the defendant came into collision with the plaintiff's van and he was severely injured. As a result of his injuries the plaintiff was unable to return to work until late in March or early in April, 1936. In this action the plaintiff sued the owner of the van, who admitted negligence but relied on section 30 of the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1925, alleging that the plaintiff had received compensation under that Act and was therefore debarred from claiming damages from him. Section 30 reads as follows:—"Where the injury for which compensation is payable under this Act . . . was caused under circumstances creating a legal liability in some person other than the employer to pay damages in respect thereof—(1) The workman may take proceedings both against that person to recover damages and against any person liable to pay compensation under this Act . . . for such compensation, but shall not be entitled to recover both damages and compensation."

\* The outstanding returns were distributed as follows:—Northern Counties (one); Yorkshire (two); Lancs. and Cheshire (one); South-Midland and Eastern Counties (one); and Wales and Mon. (one).  
 † Particulars are not available for the London County Council area.

When the plaintiff's employer heard of the accident no idea of terminating the contract of service entered his mind, and he gave instructions to a Mr. Gunn (an assistant to the firm which acted as Sir Fowell Buxton's agents), that the plaintiff was to be paid his wages at the full amount during the time he was off work. The plaintiff made no application to his employer for workmen's compensation, and no question of paying him anything except his full wages ever arose between him and Sir Fowell Buxton. Mr. Gunn, remembering that Sir Fowell Buxton was insured against claims under the Workmen's Compensation Act, gave notice to the insurance company, which wrote to Sir Fowell Buxton:—

"Re claim under workmen's compensation policy"—giving the number—"Injured employee J. Lind. Kindly pay the insured party compensation at the rate of £1 10s. per week whilst he is totally incapacitated from work, or until further notice, and obtain his signature on the enclosed form week by week, as a receipt for same."

In April, when the plaintiff had returned to work, Mr. Gunn handed him the form of receipt which had been sent by the insurance company and asked him to fill it in and sign it. The first entry of £1 10s. had been filled in by the insurance company with the appropriate date, and the plaintiff filled in the form for the remaining weeks and signed for each week.

The form was in these terms:—

"Received by me, J. Lind, from Sir F. Buxton the undernoted sums, being compensation at the rate of £1 10s. per week, in terms of the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1925, under which I elect to take compensation in respect of injuries arising from an accident which occurred to me while in the course of my employment with the said Sir F. Buxton on or about the 24th day of December, 1935." Mr. Justice Goddard gave judgment in favour of the plaintiff, holding that he had "in no sense, either by action, by demand, or by acceptance of money, recovered compensation under the Act within the terms of section 30."

His Lordship, in the course of his judgment, said:—

"It is only right to say that neither Mr. Gunn nor Sir Fowell Buxton was aware of what I may call, I hope without disrespect, the trap which is contained in section 30, for there can be no doubt that the effect of the section sometimes works great hardship on an injured workman, who may in a time of stress accept a payment of half wages without realizing that in so doing he is debarring himself from seeking damages."

"I have no doubt that the plaintiff read the receipt which was left with him, and indeed he does not dispute that he did; but he says—and I accept his evidence on this point—that he gave it no consideration, nor do I think he understood why he was asked to sign it. His explanation was that if he was told by the agent to sign a paper he would do so without question, and in the present instance his mind had never been directed to the question of workmen's compensation, which he had never claimed and which had never been mentioned. Of course, it is quite possible for an employer to say to an injured workman: 'I will not only pay you compensation but I will also pay you an amount in addition to that which the law requires, so that you shall be no worse off during your illness.' But that was not what happened here. In truth the statement at the head of the form that the amount was received in terms of the Workmen's Compensation Act was not the fact. He had received nothing except his wages. No doubt the case would have been much stronger for the defendant had Lind acknowledged and signed for these payments week by week, but he did not. He signed the receipt some considerable time after he was back at work; and if it be the fact that what he was paid was wages, his signature to an incorrect statement cannot turn the wages into compensation. Compensation seems to me to be the antithesis of wages: a man receives the former because he cannot earn the latter."—*Lind v. Johnson*. King's Bench Division. 29th October, 1937.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE STATUTORY COMMITTEE.

REPORT ON THE DRAFT UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE (CREDITING OF CONTRIBUTIONS) (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS, 1937.

The Report of the Unemployment Insurance Statutory Committee on the above-mentioned regulations, which were referred to them by the Minister of Labour, has been published.\*

The purpose of the draft regulations is to amend the Unemployment Insurance (Crediting of Contributions) Regulations, 1935†, with a view to removing doubt and simplifying forms and procedure in certain respects. The draft regulations also provide for credit of contributions to be given in certain circumstances for attendance at special schools, and deal with certain other minor matters.

The Statutory Committee suggested two slight verbal amendments in the wording of the regulations, and, with those exceptions, recommended that they should be made in the form in which they were submitted to them.

The Minister has accepted the recommendations of the Committee, and made the regulations, with the suggested amendments, on 22nd December, 1937.‡ The Regulations come into force on 7th February, 1938.

\* Report of the Unemployment Insurance Statutory Committee on the draft Unemployment Insurance (Crediting of Contributions) (Amendment) Regulations, 1937. H.M. Stationery Office; price 1d. net. (1½d. post free).  
 † See the issue of this GAZETTE for August, 1935, page 322.  
 ‡ Statutory Rules and Orders, 1937, No. 1221. H.M. Stationery Office; price 2d. net. (2½d. post free.)



### INSURANCE INDUSTRY SPECIAL SCHEME (VARIATION AND AMENDMENT) ORDER, 1938.

THIS Order\* modifies one of the conditions for the receipt of extended benefit under the Insurance Industry Special Scheme. Instead of requiring an aggregate of 150 weeks' employment in the insurance industry in the four years preceding the date of the claimant's application for extended benefit, these weeks may now be counted from the last date on which he was last insurably employed in the insurance industry.

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

#### Recent Proceedings.

#### INDUSTRIAL COURT DECISIONS.

**FALE, STADELMANN AND COMPANY, LIMITED.**—The National Union of Distributive and Allied Workers claimed alterations in wages and working conditions (including working hours, rates of payment for overtime, annual holidays, sickness payment, meal times and other matters) for employees in the warehouse sections of the company's London, Manchester and Glasgow depots. In support of their claim for increased wages, the union relied upon various agreements covering other classes of workpeople, and as regards working conditions it was submitted that the alterations asked for were not unreasonable. The company opposed the claim. The Court awarded revised rates of pay, these rates to be without prejudice to the position of employees possessing special qualifications or skill, who are in receipt of higher rates than those normally payable, and to be held not to limit the discretion of the management in granting to any employee higher rates than those specified. The rates awarded are subject to a 5 per cent. deduction for employees working in the provinces. The Court made no alteration in working conditions, save that in the case of employees with not less than three months' service there shall be one week's notice of termination of service on either side.—Award No. 1690; dated 21st December, 1937.

**CO-OPERATIVE WHOLESALE SOCIETY, LIMITED.**—The National Union of Clerks and Administrative Workers, the National Union of Distributive and Allied Workers, the National Union of Shop Assistants, Warehousemen and Clerks, and the Transport and General Workers' Union, submitted a claim for an increase of 10 per cent. on the scale rates for the clerical, sales, warehouse, and general staffs of the Co-operative Wholesale Society, Limited. In support of the claim, the unions referred to the improved financial position of the society since a reduction in wages which had been made in 1922. They contended that the reduction had only been partially restored in 1925. The unions also relied upon the wages paid under agreements in various industries and services. The Society contended that their employees, as they had suffered no reduction in wages since 1925, had been in a more advantageous position compared to the general body of workers throughout the country, and that the rates of wages now paid compare favourably with those of other commercial houses engaged in similar businesses. The Court awarded that the scale rates of all clerks, salesmen, warehouse workers, packers, porters, general hands, etc., should be increased as follows:—

Employees of 14 years of age and under 18 years	... 1s. a week
" " 18 years " " " 21 years	... 2s. a week
" " 21 years " " " over—Men	... 4s. a week
Women	... 3s. a week

such rates to be paid to all employees of the classes concerned whether they are or are not in receipt of merit rates which may bring their weekly rates to amounts in excess of the wage points in the scale rates.—Award No. 1691; dated 21st December, 1937.

### CIVIL SERVICE ARBITRATION TRIBUNAL DECISIONS.

**LOCALLY ENTERED CLERKS: H.M. DOCKYARD, MALTA.**—The Civil Service Clerical Association claimed increased scales of pay as follows for locally entered clerks employed at H.M. Dockyard, Malta:—

Grade I	... £240 rising by £10 to £290 a year.
Grade II	... £180 rising by £10 to £230 a year.
Grade III	... £100 rising by £10 to £180 a year.

with an annual leave allowance of 24 days for grade I, 21 days for grade II and 18 days for grade III.

The Tribunal awarded the following scales of pay and annual leave allowances:—

Scales of pay:—	
Local Clerks, grade I	... £210 rising by £10 to £260 a year.
Local Clerks, grade II	... 65s. rising by 3s. to 80s. a week.
Local Clerks, grade III	... 32s. 6d. at age 19; 35s. at age 20; 40s. at age 21, or on entry if older than 21 years when appointed, thence by increments of 2s. 6d. a week to a maximum of 65s. a week.
Annual Leave:—	
Local Clerks, grade I	... 21 days.
Local Clerks, grades II and III	... 15 days after the first five years of service as local clerk, grade III or grade II, and 18 days thereafter.

The Tribunal awarded an assimilation increase of approximately one increment on the scale to the existing staff.—Award No. 15; dated 14th December, 1937.

\* H.M. Stationery Office; price 1d. net (1½d., post free.)

### CONCILIATORS, SINGLE ARBITRATORS, AND AD HOC BOARDS OF ARBITRATION

**MILL SAWING INDUSTRY: NORTH EASTERN AREA.**—A difference having arisen between the Amalgamated Society of Wood Cutting Machinists and the North Eastern Federation of Sawmill Proprietors regarding a claim by the Society for an increase of 2d. an hour in the wages of machinists employed by members of the Federation, a Board of Arbitration, consisting of Messrs. J. Lyne and J. Whittaker (workpeople's representatives) and Messrs. W. O. Woodward and W. A. Ball (employers' representatives) under the chairmanship of Mr. John Forster, was appointed under the Industrial Courts Act, 1919, to determine the matter.

The Board was unable to reach a unanimous decision and the Chairman, acting as Umpire, made an award on 13th December, 1937, providing for the minimum rate for the machinists in question to be advanced by 1d. an hour, of which advance ½d. is to operate from 1st January, 1938, and the remaining ½d. from 1st February, 1938. The new minimum rate is to be operative until determined by three months' notice by either party; such notice may not be given earlier than 30th September, 1938.

**NEWSPAPER PRINTING.**—Mr. V. R. Aronson was appointed under the Industrial Courts Act, 1919, to act as arbitrator to determine a difference which had arisen between the Newspaper Proprietors' Association and the London branch of the Society of Lithographic Artists, Designers, Engravers and Process Workers, regarding the interpretation of certain clauses relating to overtime in an Agreement, dated 8th July, 1925, between the parties.

Mr. Aronson issued an Award on 7th January, 1938.

### TRADE BOARDS ACTS.

#### Orders, Notices, etc., Recently Issued.

#### NOTICES OF PROPOSAL.

##### Rope, Twine and Net Trade Board (Great Britain).

Proposal R.(53), dated 17th December, 1937, to vary general minimum time rates, piecework basis time rates, general minimum piece rates, and overtime rates for male and female workers employed in sections of the trade other than the net section. Objection period expires 17th February, 1938.

Proposal R.(54), dated 17th December, 1937, to vary general minimum time rates, piecework basis time rates, general minimum piece rates, and overtime rates for male and female workers employed in the net section of the trade. Objection period expires 17th February, 1938.

##### Aerated Waters Trade Board (England and Wales).

Proposal A.(11), dated 21st December, 1937, to vary general minimum time rates, piecework basis time rates, and overtime rates for male and female workers. Objection period expires 21st February, 1938.

##### Perambulator and Invalid Carriage Trade Board (Great Britain).

Proposal I.(26), dated 29th December, 1937, to vary general minimum time rates and piecework basis time rates for certain classes of male workers, and overtime rates for all male and female workers. Objection period expires 28th February, 1938.

##### Boot and Floor Polish Trade Board (Great Britain).

Proposal B.P.(5), dated 31st December, 1937, to vary general minimum time rates, piecework basis time rates, and overtime rates for male and female workers. Objection period expires 28th February, 1938.

##### Linen and Cotton Handkerchief and Household Goods and Linen Piece Goods Trade Board (Northern Ireland).

Proposal N.I.H.H.G.(N.55), dated 14th December, 1937, to vary general minimum time rates, piecework basis time rates, and general overtime rates for certain male workers.

Proposal N.I.H.H.G.(N.56), dated 14th December, 1937, to vary general minimum time rates, piecework basis time rates, general minimum piece rates, and general overtime rates for female workers.

##### Laundry Trade Board (Northern Ireland).

Proposal N.I.L.(N.7), dated 21st December, 1937, to vary general minimum time rates, piecework basis time rates and general overtime rates for certain female workers.

### CONFIRMING ORDERS.

#### Cutlery Trade Board (Great Britain).

Order C.T.(19), dated 8th December, 1937, confirming the variation of general minimum time rates, piecework basis time rates, and overtime rates for certain classes of male workers, and specifying 20th December, 1937, as the date from which such rates should become effective.

#### Perambulator and Invalid Carriage Trade Board (Great Britain).

Order I.(25), dated 23rd December, 1937, confirming the variation of general minimum time rates, piecework basis time rates, and overtime rates for male workers and certain classes of female workers, and specifying 23rd December, 1937, as the date from which such rates should become effective.

### Tin Box Trade Board (Great Britain).

Order X.(11), dated 4th January, 1938, confirming the variation of general minimum time rates, piecework basis time rates, and overtime rates for male and female workers, and specifying 17th January, 1938, as the date from which such rates should become effective.

### Milk Distributive Trade Board (England and Wales).

Order M.D.(19), dated 6th January, 1938, confirming the variation of general minimum time rates and overtime rates for certain classes of male and female workers, and specifying 17th January, 1938, as the date from which such rates should become effective.

### OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

[NOTE.—The prices are net, and do not include postage.]

**ARTIFICIAL LIGHTING.**—The effects of conditions of artificial lighting on the performance of worsted weavers. Report No. 81. Industrial Health Research Board. [S.O. publication; price 9d.]

**CHOICE OF CAREERS.**—(i) Choice of Career Series: No. 10 (revised). Commerce. Ministry of Labour. [S.O. publication; price 3d.] (ii) Careers for secondary school girls (revised). Ministry of Labour. [S.O. publication; price 6d.]

**DISTRIBUTION OF INDUSTRIAL POPULATION.**—Royal Commission on the Geographical Distribution of the Industrial Population. Minutes of evidence: sixth, seventh and eighth days, November 17th and December 1st and 2nd, 1937. [S.O. publications; price 2s. 6d., 1s. 6d. and 2s. 6d. respectively.]

**HOLIDAYS WITH PAY.**—Committee on Holidays with Pay. Minutes of evidence: eleventh, twelfth, thirteenth, and fourteenth days, November 3rd, 16th, 17th and December 14th, 1937. Ministry of Labour. [S.O. publications; price 2s., 2s., 4s. 6d., and 2s. 6d., respectively.]

**HOUSING.**—House production, slum clearance, etc., England and Wales. Position at 30th September, 1937. Ministry of Health. [S.O. publication; price 4d.]

**INDUSTRIAL ASSURANCE.**—Report of the Industrial Assurance Commissioner for the year ended 31st December, 1936. [H.C.78; price 1s. 6d.]

**MINING.**—(i) Statistical summary of output, and of the costs of production, proceeds and profits of the coal mining industry for the quarter ended 30th September, 1937. Mines Department. [Cmd. 5635; price 1d.]; see page 7 of this GAZETTE. (ii) Output and employment at metalliferous mines, quarries, etc. for the quarter ended 30th September, 1937. Mines Department. [S.O. publication; price 4d.]

**POOR RELIEF.**—Persons in receipt of poor relief (England and Wales), July—September, 1937. Ministry of Health. [S.O. publication; price 6d.]; see page 12 of this GAZETTE.

**PORT LABOUR.**—Port labour in Aberdeen and Glasgow, report of the Board of Inquiry. October, 1937. Ministry of Labour. [S.O. publication; price 1s.]; see page 7 of this GAZETTE.

**RENT RESTRICTION.**—Reports of the inter-departmental committee on the Rent Restriction Acts. December, 1937. Ministry of Health. [Cmd. 5621; price 1s.]

**UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE.**—Report of the Unemployment Insurance Statutory Committee on Draft Unemployment Insurance (Crediting of Contributions) (Amendment) Regulations, 1937. 9th December, 1937. Ministry of Labour. [S.O. publication; price 1d.]; see page 37 of this GAZETTE.

### GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS.

#### LIST OF NEW CONTRACTS, DECEMBER, 1937.

##### ADMIRALTY.

**Air Compressing Equipments:** Reavell & Co., Ltd., Ipswich—Sub-contractors for Motors, Metropolitan-Vickers Electrical Co., Ltd., Manchester; Crompton Parkinson, Ltd., Chelmsford—Sub-contractors for Starters, Metropolitan-Vickers Electrical Co., Ltd., Manchester; Allen West & Co., Ltd., Brighton.—**Air Compressor Gear:** Vickers Armstrongs, Ltd., Crayford—Sub-contractors for Electrical Equipment, W. H. Allen, Sons & Co., Ltd., Bedford.—**Alternators, motor:** Small Electric Motors, Ltd., Beckenham; Electro Dynamic Construction Co., Ltd., St. Mary Cray—Sub-contractors for Control Gear, Electrical Apparatus Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Amulance:** Morris Commercial Cars, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Anchors:** N. Hingley & Sons, Ltd., Dudley.—**Asbestos sheathing and millboard:** Turner Bros., Asbestos Co., Ltd., Rochdale and Manchester; George MacLellan & Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—**Battery, Call:** D.P. Battery Co., Ltd., Bakewell.—**Battery Components:** D.P. Battery Co., Ltd., Bakewell; Tudor Accumulator Co., Ltd., Dukinfield.—**Battery Equipment:** Pritchett & Gold & C.P.S. Co., Ltd., Dagenham Dock.—**Beans, tinned:** Wisbech Produce Canners, Ltd., Wisbech.—**Bitumen, Laying of:** Limmer & Trinidad Lake Asphalt Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Blankets:** Charles Early & Co., Ltd., Witney.—**Blocks, geared and Trolleys:** Herbert Morris, Ltd., Loughborough; Wm. Thomson & Co. (Kinning Park), Ltd., Glasgow; Vaughan Crane Co., Ltd., Manchester; Rowland Priest, Cradley Heath.—**Boards, central control:** Wm. McGeoch & Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Boats, Motor:** Philip & Son, Ltd., Dartmouth; Ferry Engine Co., Ltd., Southampton—Sub-contractors for Machinery, J. I. Thornycroft & Co., Ltd., Southampton—Sub-contractors for Electrical Equipment, J. B. Marr & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. **Boiler Plant:** Sturtevant

Engineering Co., Ltd., Nottingham.—**Boxes, Coupling:** Fraser & Chalmers Engineering Works, Erith; Laurence Scott & Electromotors, Ltd., Norwich.—**Boxes, Junction:** General Electric Co., Ltd., Coventry.—**Boxes, Lamp:** Wm. McGeoch & Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Boxes, Telephone Connection:** General Electric Co., Ltd., Coventry.—**Brushes, Tooth:** C. F. Marshall & Son, London, E.; "Addis," Hertford.—**Buildings, Temporary, Erection of:** J. Harrison (London), Ltd., London, S.E.—**Buoys:** Clelands (Successors), Ltd., Willington Quay; Gas Accumulator Co. (United Kingdom), Ltd., Brentford.—**Cable, Electric:** General Electric Co., Ltd., Southampton; Enfield Cable Works, Ltd., Brimsdown; Connolly's (Blackley), Ltd., Manchester; Siemens Electric Lamps & Supplies, Ltd., London, S.E.; Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Calico:** James Kenyon & Son, Ltd., Bury; Fred. Taylor & Sons, Ltd., Burnley; J. H. Greenhow & Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Caps, Cloth:** J. Compton, Sons & Webb, Ltd., London, E.; Army & Navy Hat & Cap Co., Portsmouth; R. Z. Bloomfield, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Capstan Gear and Machinery:** Napier Bros., Ltd., Glasgow Clarke, Chapman & Co., Ltd., Gateshead; Stothert & Pitt, Ltd., Bath—Sub-contractors for Electrical Equipment, W. H. Allen, Sons & Co., Ltd., Bedford; Laurence Scott & Electromotors, Ltd., Norwich.—**Chain Cable and Gear:** Brown Lenox & Co., Ltd., Pontypridd; Laird & Son, Ltd., Irvine; Edge & Sons, Ltd., Shifnal; Richard Sykes & Son, Cradley Heath; Henry Wood & Co., Ltd., Chester; J. Wright & Co., Ltd., Tipton; Henry Reece, Cradley Heath; **Chain, Staybrite:** Joseph Woodhouse, Cradley Heath; **Chains, Rings and Fittings:** Brown Lenox & Co., Ltd., Pontypridd; Edge & Sons, Ltd., Shifnal; N. Hingley & Sons, Ltd., Dudley; Henry Reece, Cradley Heath; R. Sykes & Son, Cradley Heath; H. Wood & Co., Ltd., Saltney.—**Coats, Waterproof:** David Moseley & Sons, Ltd., Manchester; Rego Clothiers, Ltd., London, N.; J. Weinberg & Sons (1927), Ltd., Manchester; Dunlop Rubber Co., Ltd., London, N.—**Cocks, Steam, etc.:** Sir James Laing & Son, Ltd., Sunderland; Shipham & Co., Ltd., Hull; Hunt & Mitton, Ltd., Birmingham; Hayward-Tyler & Co., Ltd., Luton; J. Clayton & Co., Ltd., Nottingham; Peter Brotherhood, Ltd., Peterborough; Smith Bros. & Co. (Hyson), Ltd., Nottingham; W. N. Baines & Co., Ltd., Rotherham; M. W. Swinburne & Sons, Ltd., Wallasey; Thos. Wilson & Sons (Swalwell), Ltd., Swalwell.—**Compasses:** Sperry Gyroscope Co., Ltd., Brentford.—**Concentrator Plant:** Bertrams, Ltd., Edinburgh.—**Control Panels, etc.:** Vickers Armstrong, Ltd., Barrow-in-Furness.—**Coolers, Drain:** Caird & Rayner, Ltd., London, E.—**Cotton Waste:** Wm. C. Jones, Ltd., Manchester; William Leigh, Ltd., Oldham; Tom Yates (Cotton Waste), Ltd., Darwen.—**Cranes:** Cowans Sheldon & Co., Ltd., Carlisle; Sir William Arrol & Co., Ltd., Glasgow—Sub-contractors for Motors, Laurence Scott & Electromotors, Ltd., Manchester; Lancashire Dynamo & Crypto, Ltd., Manchester; English Electric Co., Ltd., Stafford—Sub-contractors for Control Gear, Allen West & Co., Ltd., Brighton—Sub-contractors for Steel Wire Rope, British Ropes, Ltd., London, W.C.—**Cross Connectors:** Charles Richards & Sons, Ltd., Darlston.—**Cupolas and Fans, etc.:** Alldays & Onions, Ltd., Birmingham—Sub-contractors for Motors, Lancashire Dynamo & Crypto Ltd., Manchester—Sub-contractors for Control Gear, Allen West & Co., Ltd., Brighton.—**Cutters, Motor:** James Taylor (Chertsey), Ltd., Chertsey—Sub-contractors for Electrical Equipment, J. B. Marr & Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Cylinders, Engine:** Napier Bros., Ltd., Glasgow.—**Cylinders, Gas:** British Oxygen Co., Ltd., London, N.W.—**Electrical Installations:** G. E. Taylor & Co., London, E.C.—**Fencing:** W. Bain & Co., Ltd., Coatbridge; J. Robertson & Co. (Glasgow), Ltd., Glasgow.—**Flour:** Spillers, Ltd., London, Cardiff and Avonmouth.—**Foundation:** Wests Rotinoff Piling & Construction Co., Ltd., London, W.C.—**Furnace:** Integra Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Generating Sets:** Peter Brotherhood, Ltd., Peterborough; Ferry Engine Co., Ltd., Southampton—Sub-contractors for Electrical Equipment—Lancashire Dynamo & Crypto, Ltd., Manchester.—Sub-contractors for Dynamo, Mawdsleys, Ltd., Dursley.—**Generator Sets, Motor:** Lancashire Dynamo & Crypto, Ltd., Manchester.—**Generators:** Robey & Co., Ltd., Lincoln; Ashworth & Parker, Ltd., Bury; W. H. Allen, Sons & Co., Ltd., Bedford; Mawdsleys, Ltd., Dursley—Sub-contractors for Electrical Equipment, Laurence Scott & Electromotors, Ltd., Norwich.—**Grips, Wire:** F. W. Rowlands & Co., Seacombe.—**Heating Installation:** J. H. Nicholson & Co., Ltd., London, S. E.—**Herrings, Tinned:** Maconochie Bros., Ltd., Fraserburgh; C. & E. Morton, Ltd., Lowestoft; Marshall & Co. (Aberdeen), Ltd., Aberdeen.—**Impellers:** Drysdale & Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—**Indicator Instruments:** Evershed & Vignoles, Ltd., London, W.—**Indicators and Springs:** Dobbie, Molnes, Ltd., Glasgow.—**Ingots, Manganese Bronze:** J. Stone & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Jars, Wickered:** Glasgow Trading & Transport, Ltd., Glasgow; Govaneroft Pottery Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—**Knives, Table:** Needham Veall & Tyzack, Ltd., Sheffield; Sheffield Steel Products, Ltd., Sheffield.—**Lagging:** Cape Asbestos Co., Ltd., Barking.—**Lamps, Searchlight:** Clarke Chapman & Co., Ltd., Gateshead.—**Lampshades:** Waite & Son, Ltd., Mitcham.—**Lard:** C. & T. Harris (Calne), Ltd., Calne.—**Lathes:** Churchill-Redman, Ltd., Halifax; Denhams Engineering Co., Ltd., Halifax—Sub-contractors for Motors, Lancashire Dynamo & Crypto, Ltd., Manchester; English Electric Co., Ltd., Stafford—Sub-contractors for Control Gear, Verity's Ltd., Birmingham.—**Lanchnes, Hospital:** Hugh McLean & Sons, Ltd., Renfrew—Sub-contractors for machinery, Norris Henty & Gardner, Ltd., Manchester—Sub-contractors for Electrical Equipment, J. B. Marr & Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Lift, Electric:** William Wadsworth & Sons, Ltd., Bolton.—**Lighters:** Goole Shipbuilding & Repairing Co., Ltd., Goole.—**Lighting Apparatus:** Gas Accumulator Co. (United Kingdom), Ltd., Brentford.—**Lines, Cotton:** J. & W. Stuart, Ltd., Musselburgh.—**Locks, etc.:** Banks & Rushton, Willenhall; Josiah Parkes & Sons, Ltd., Willenhall; Walsall Locks & Cart Gear, Ltd., Walsall.—**Locomotive:** Robert Stephenson & Hawthorns, Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne.—**Log Equipment:** Improved Submerged Log Co., Ltd., London, W.—**Machine, Milling:** Alfred Herbert, Ltd., Coventry—Sub-contractors for motors, Crompton Parkinson,



Ltd., Chelmsford—Sub-contractors for switchgear, Brookhirst Switchgear, Ltd., Chester.—**Machine, Mixing**: Hobart Manufacturing Co., Ltd., London, N.—**Machine, Testing**: A. Macklow Smith, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Machines, Drafting**: Evershed & Vignoles, London, W.—**Machines, Drilling and Tapping**: George Swift & Sons, Ltd., Halifax.—Sub-contractors for motors, Metropolitan-Vickers Electrical Co., Ltd., Manchester.—Sub-contractors for Control Gear, Igranice Electric Co., Ltd., Bedford.—**Machines, Grinding**: Churchill Machine Tool Co., Ltd., Manchester.—Sub-contractors for motors, Lancashire Dynamo & Crypto, Ltd., Manchester; Metropolitan-Vickers Electrical Co., Ltd., Manchester.—Sub-contractors for Control Gear, Allen West & Co., Ltd., Brighton; Brookhirst Switchgear, Ltd., Chester.—**Machines, Moulding**: Macnab & Co., Ltd., Accrington; Coleman Foundry Equipment Co., Ltd., Thrapston; Adaptable Moulding Machine Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Machines, Pipe-bending**: Hilmor, Ltd., London, E.; W. Kennedy, Birmingham.—**Machines, Screw**: Butterworth British Automatic Machine Tool Co., Ltd., Rochdale, Sub-contractors for Motors & Control Gear—British Thomson-Houston Co., Ltd., Rugby.—**Marmalade**: Chivers & Sons, Ltd., Histon; Crosse & Blackwell (Mfg. Co.), Ltd., London, E.—**Mattresses, Pillows and Covers**: Siddall Manufacturing Co., London, E.C.; Hampton & Sons, Ltd., London, S.W.; F. Lane, Ltd., London, E.C.; E.H.P. (Hadleigh), Ltd., Hadleigh.—**Metallizing Equipment**: British Oxygen Co., Ltd., London, N.W. Schori Metallizing Process, Ltd., London, N.W.—**Motive Units and Trailers**: Scammell Lorries, Ltd., Watford.—**Motors**: General Electric Co., Ltd., Witton; Laurence Scott & Electromotors, Ltd., Manchester; Evershed & Vignoles, Ltd., London, W.—**Motors and Spares**: Electro Dynamic Construction Co., Ltd., St. Mary Cray.—**Multiphone equipment**: A. Graham & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Overcoats, Uniform**: G. Glanfield & Son, Ltd., London, E. and Benfleet.—**Panels, Battery Charging**: Igranice Electric Co., Ltd., Bedford.—**Panels, Switchboard**: Igranice Electric Co., Ltd., Bedford; Whipp & Bourne, Ltd., Castleton, Lancs.—**Pedestals, Searchlight**: Chadburn's (Ship) Telegraph Co., Ltd., Liverpool.—**Piles, Reinforced Concrete**: Stent Precast Concrete, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Pipes and Fittings**: Stewarts & Lloyds, Ltd., Glasgow.—Sub-contractors for Valves, Alley & McLellan, Ltd., Glasgow.—**Pipes, Boiler**: Aiton & Co., Ltd., Derby.—**Plastering and Tiling**: Marchetti, Ltd., Portsmouth.—**Platform, Rolling**: Greenwood & Batley, Ltd., Leeds; Head Wrightson & Co., Ltd., Thornaby-on-Tees.—**Plywood**: Venesta, Ltd., London, E.; R.G.C. Panels, Ltd., London, N.—**Projectors, Searchlight**: Laurence Scott & Electromotors, Ltd., Norwich.—**Projectors, Signalling**: Clarke, Chapman & Co., Ltd., Gateshead.—**Racers, Brass**: Bulls Metal & Melloid Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—**Racks, Bottle**: British Pressed Panels, Ltd., Coventry.—**Red Lead**: Walkers, Parker & Co., Ltd., Chester; Blacklock & Macarthur, Ltd., Glasgow.—**Reels**: Westmoor Engine Works Co., Ltd., Sunderland.—**Reflectors, Searchlight**: C. A. Parsons & Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne; Clarke Chapman & Co., Ltd., Gateshead.—Sub-contractors for Glass, Pilkington Bros., Ltd., St. Helens.—**Refrigerators**: Haslam Foundry & Engineering Co., Ltd., Derby; J. & E. Hall, Ltd., Dartford; Marco Refrigerators, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Resistances**: General Electric Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Whipp & Bourne, Ltd., Manchester; Engineering & Lighting Equipment Co., Ltd., St. Albans.—**Rolls, Plate Straightening**: James Bennie & Sons, Ltd., Glasgow.—Sub-contractors for Motors, Lancashire Dynamo & Crypto, Ltd., Manchester.—Sub-contractors for Control Gear, Edward Holme & Co., Altrincham.—**Sausages, tinned**: C. T. Harris (Calne), Ltd., Calne.—**Saws, Band**: Drabble & Sanderson, Ltd., Sheffield; George E. Gibbins, Sheffield; Hodges & Pickles, High Wycombe; Clarkson Bros., Halifax.—**Scows, Loading**: Philip & Son, Ltd., Dartmouth.—**Screws, nuts, etc.**—Thomas Eaves, Ltd., Birmingham; Ormond Engineering Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; Davis & Timmins, Ltd., London, N.; Thomas Haddon & Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Butler, Spragg & Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Plessey Co., Ltd., Ilford.—**Seals, Silica**: Thermal Syndicate, Ltd., Wallsend.—**Sheeting, Cotton**: Stott & Smith, Ltd., Oldham; Thomas Johnson & Sons, Ltd., Manchester.—**Sheets, Aluminium**: British Aluminium Co., Ltd., Warrington.—**Sheets, Steel, etc.**: Rotherham Forge & Rolling Mills Co., Ltd., Rotherham; T. Firth & J. Brown, Ltd., Sheffield; Swift, Levick & Sons, Ltd., Sheffield.—**Soda Crystals**: Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd., London, E.; Hope Chemical Works, London, E.—**Steam Heating Installation**: Sturtevant Engineering Co., Ltd., Nottingham.—**Steelwork**: Dunlop & Rankin, Ltd., Leeds; Milliken Bros., Ltd., London, N.W.—**Steering Gear**: Donkin & Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne; Caldwell & Jackson, Ltd., Glasgow; John Hastie & Co., Ltd., Greenock.—**Superheater Spares**: Wallsend Slipway & Engineering Co., Ltd., Wallsend.—**Switches**: E. N. Bray, Ltd., London, E.—**Switchgear, etc.**: A. Reyrolle & Co., Ltd., Hebburn; Whipp & Bourne, Ltd., Manchester; Bertram Thomas, Manchester; Wm. McGeoch & Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Engineering & Lighting Equipment Co., Ltd., St. Albans.—**Telescopes**: Wm. Ottway & Co., Ltd., London, W.; Ross, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Tiles, White**: Campbell Tile Co., Ltd., Stoke-on-Treat; Gibbins Hinton & Co., Ltd., Brierley Hill; Richard Tiles, Ltd., Tunstall; Mansfield Bros., Ltd., Church Gresley; Maw & Co., Ltd., Jackfield.—**Tractors, Electric**: Wingrove & Rogers, Ltd., Liverpool.—**Transmitters**: Telephone Manufacturing Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; Aeronautical & General Instruments, Ltd., Croydon.—**Travellers, Electric**: Cowans Sheldon & Co., Ltd., Carlisle.—Sub-contractors for Motors, Lancashire Dynamo & Crypto, Ltd., Manchester; English Electric Co., Ltd., Stafford.—Sub-contractors for Control Gear, Allen West & Co., Ltd., Brighton.—**Trays, Aluminium**: London Aluminium Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Trucks, Electric**: Greenwood & Batley, Ltd., Leeds.—**Trucks, Railway**: R. Y. Pickering & Co., Ltd., Wishaw.—**Tunes, Deck, etc.**: Fairless Engineering Supplies Co., Ltd., Stockton-on-Tees; A. Chalmers & Mitchell, Glasgow; Highton & Sons, Ltd., London, E.—**Tubes, Water and Fittings**: Stewarts & Lloyds, Ltd., Halesowen, Glasgow and Corby; John Knowles (Wednesbury), Ltd., Wednesbury; Russell Bros. (Walsall), Ltd., Walsall.—**Tubing, Flexible**: United Flexible Metallic

Tubing Co., Ltd., Ponders End; Power Flexible Tubing Co., Ltd., London, N.; Midland Flexible Metallic Tubing Co., Ltd., Long Eaton.—**Urinal Ranges**: B. Finch & Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Valves, Wireless**: Mullard Radio Valve Co., Ltd., Mitcham; General Electric Co., Ltd., London, W.—Sub-contractors for Bulbs, Johnston, Ltd., Rugby.—Sub-contractors for Silica Parts, Thermal Syndicate, Ltd., Wallsend.—Sub-contractors for Holders, etc., H. W. Sullivan, Ltd., London, S.E.—**Vehicles, Goods, Passenger**: Vauxhall Motors, Ltd., Luton.—**Vessels, Refit and Alterations of**: Grangemouth Dockyard Co., Ltd., Grangemouth.—**Washers**: British Lock Washers, Ltd., Wolverhampton.—**Water-heaters**: Serek Radiators, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Wheels, Cast Iron**: Ley's Malleable Castings Co., Ltd., Dergy; Hale & Hale (Tipton), Ltd., Tipton.—Sub-contractors for Machining, Highfield Gear Co., Ltd., Huddersfield.—**White Lead Oil Paste**: Walkers, Parker & Co., Ltd., Chester.—**Winches**: Clarke, Chapman & Co., Ltd., Gateshead; James Robertson & Sons (Fleetwood), Ltd., Fleetwood; Thomas Reid & Sons (Paisley), Ltd., Paisley.—**Wire, Brass and/or Copper**: Thos. Bolton & Sons, Ltd., Oakamoor; Richard Johnson & Nephew, Ltd., Manchester.—**Wire Rope**: George Elliott & Co., Ltd., Cardiff; Bruntons (Musselburgh), Ltd., Musselburgh.—**Wire Rope Taping**: St. Helens Cable & Rubber Co., Ltd., Slough.—**Zinc, White Oxide of**: Thomas Hubcock & Son, Ltd., London, E.

## WAR OFFICE.

**Ambulance**: Vauxhall Motors, Ltd., Luton.—**Apparatus, Cable Laying**: J. M. Dangerfield & Sons, London, S.E.—**Bandoliers, Cans**: Pike Bros. & Co. (1937), Ltd., London, E.C.—**Barrows, Wheel**: A. Hingley, Derby.—**Basins, Steel**: J. & J. Siddons, Ltd., West Bromwich.—**Batteries**: J. Lucas, Ltd., Birmingham and Redditch; Pritchett and Gold and E.P.S. Co., Ltd., Dagenham; Edison Swan Electric Co., Ltd., Ponders End.—**Bedsteads, Boards and Trestles**: J. Wheelton & Sons, Salford; Papworth Industries, Cambridge.—**Bearings**: Skefco Ball Bearing Co., Ltd., Luton; British Timken, Ltd., Birmingham; Ransome and Marles Bearing Co., Ltd., Newark.—**Bedsteads Camp, etc.**: E. Atkins, Ltd., Alperston; "X" Chair Patents Co., Ltd., Hayes, Middlesex; S. Heath & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Blankets**: Rawden Briggs & Co., Ltd., Dewsbury.—**Bodies, G.S.**: Eagle Coachworks, Ltd., Thames Ditton; Caffyns, Ltd., Eastbourne.—**Boots, Knee**: Adams Bros. (Raunds), Ltd., Raunds; Dunlop Rubber Co., Ltd., Liverpool.—**Braid**: Firmin & Sons, Ltd., London, W.—**Brass, Rod**: Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Brushes, Various**: Beechwood, Ltd., Chesham.—**Buckets, Canvas**: J. Smith & Co. (London, E.), Ltd., London, E.—**Burner Units**: Hydran Products, Ltd., Staines.—**Cable, etc.**: Callender's Cable & Construction Co., Ltd., Leigh; Concordia Electric Wire Co., Ltd., Long Eaton; Union Cable Co., Ltd., Dagenham; Hackbridge Cable Co., Ltd., Hackbridge; B.I. Cables, Ltd., Helsby.—**Canvas**: Port Glasgow & Newark Sailcloth Co., Ltd., Port Glasgow; Boase Spinning Co., Ltd., Dundee; Richards, Ltd., Aberdeen; Anderson & Chalmers, Arbroath.—**Capsules, Microphone**: Standard Telephones & Cables, Ltd., London, N.—**Carriers Web**: Mills Equipment Co., Ltd., London, N.—**Cases, Map**: S. E. Norris & Co., Ltd., Dagenham.—**Cases, Tool**: Barrow, Hepburn & Gale, Ltd., London, S.E.—**Castings**: Metal Castings, Ltd., Worcester.—**Chassis**: Guy Motors, Ltd., Wolverhampton.—**Clinometers**: Cinetra Manufacturing Co., Ltd., London, N.W.—**Cloth, Various**: J. Atkinson & Sons (Sowerby Bridge), Ltd., Sowerby Bridge; P. Womersley & Sons, Pudsey; W. & H. Foster, Ltd., Bradford; J. Murgatroyd & Son, Ltd., Luddenden.—**Containers, Cooking**: Fisher & Ludlow, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Conveyor Plant, etc.**: T. Ryder & Son, Ltd., Bolton; Mining Engineering Co., Ltd., Worcester.—**Copper Ingot**: Anglo Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Cordage**: R. Hood Haggie & Son, Ltd., Willington Quay.—**Cranes**: Clyde Crane & Engineering Co., Ltd., Mossend.—**Curtains, Mosquito**: Donald & Co., Nottingham.—**Degreasing Plants**: I.C.I., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Drawers, Cellular, Short**: E.H.P. (Hadleigh), Ltd., Hadleigh.—**Drilling Machines**: G. Swift & Sons, Ltd., Halifax. Rotax, Ltd., London, N.W.—**Electric Fittings**: Barton Conduits, Ltd., Walsall; Longmore Bros., Darlaston.—**Elements A.C. Control**: Sperry Gyroscope Co., Ltd., Brentford.—**Forks, Knives and Spoons**: Mappin & Webb, Ltd., Sheffield; W. Page & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; R. Groves & Sons, Ltd., Sheffield; Sheffield Steel Products, Ltd., Sheffield; Harrison, Fisher & Co., Ltd., Sheffield; F. Greaves & Sons, Sheffield.—**Forms, Barrack**: J. Wheelton & Sons, Ltd., Salford.—**Forms, Barrack, Legs and Stays**: B. C. Barton & Son, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Frequency Measuring Equipment**: Marconi-Ekco Instruments, Ltd., Chelmsford.—**Fume Extraction Units**: Doulton & Co., Erith and London, S.E.—**Generating Sets**: A. Lyon & Co., London, W.C.—**Greatcoats, Dis-mounted**: Rego Clothiers, Ltd., London, N.; Hobson & Sons (London), Ltd., London, S.E.; Milns, Cartwright & Reynolds, Ltd., London, E.; J. Hammond & Co. (1922), Ltd., Newcastle, Staffs.—**Grinding Machines**: Churchill Machine Tool Co., Ltd., Broadheath.—**Haversacks**: Maple & Co., Ltd., London, W.; E. H. P. (Hadleigh), Ltd., Hadleigh; Hampton & Sons, Ltd., London, S.W.; Barrow, Hepburn & Gale, Ltd., London, S.E.—**Helmets, Bodies**: J. Compton Sons & Webb, Ltd., London, E.; E. W. Vero & Co., London, S.E.—**Helmets, Lining**: Helmets, Ltd., Wheatthamstead.—**Hessian**: J. Lowson, Jnr. & Co., Ltd., Forfar; Craiks, Ltd., Forfar; Jute Industries, Ltd., Dundee; Ogilvy Bros. (Kirkcaldy), Ltd., Kirkcaldy.—**Hides**: Connolly Bros. (Curriers), Ltd., London, N.W.—**Hose, Canvas**: F. Reddaway, Pendleton.—**Instruments, Drawing**: A. G. Thornton, Ltd., Manchester.—**Keys, W.T.**: Phoenix Telephone and Electrical Works, Ltd., London, N.W.—**Kilts**: J. Compton Sons & Webb, Ltd., London, E. and/or Swindon; Hobson & Sons (London), Ltd., London, S.E.; Rego Clothiers, Ltd., London, N.; Milns, Cartwright & Reynolds, Ltd., London, E.—**Laces, Leather**: North British Boot Lace Co., Ltd., Johnstone.—**Lamps**: British Thomson-Houston Co., Ltd., Rugby and Ponders End.—**Lathes**: J. Lang & Sons, Ltd., Johnstone; G. Swift & Sons, Ltd., Halifax; J. B. Corrie & Co., Ltd., Halifax Drummond (Sales), Ltd., Guildford; Denhams Engineering Co., Ltd.,

Halifax; C. Churchill & Co., Ltd., Coventry; T. Ryder & Son, Ltd., Bolton.—**Lead Pipe**: Locke, Lancaster & W. W. & R. Johnson & Sons, Ltd., London, E.—**Line, Natural**: J. Holmes & Sons, Ltd., E. Ardsley and Carlton.—**Linoleum**: Tayside Floorcloth Co., Ltd., Newburgh.—**Machines, Coal Cutting**: Siskol Machines, Ltd., Sheffield.—**Machines, Shot Blasting**: J. W. Jackman & Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Masts, Duralumin**: Duramin Engineering Co., Ltd., London, N.W.; Marconi's Wireless Telegraph Co., Ltd., Chelmsford.—**Mattresses, Spring**: Hoskins & Sewell, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Metal Rod**: H. Wiggan & Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; J. Booth & Co. (1915), Ltd., Birmingham; I.C.I. Metals, Ltd., Birmingham; Manganese Bronze & Brass Co., Ltd., Ipswich.—**Methylated Spirits**: W. H. Palmer & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; J. M. Mills, Ltd., Liverpool.—**Mirrors**: Pilkington Bros., Ltd., St. Helens.—**Mopheads, Woolen**: T. M. Clewes & Sons, Cradley.—**Motor Cycles**: B.S.A. Cycles, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Motors and Starters**: Electric Construction Co., Ltd., Wolverhampton; Bruce, Peables & Co., Ltd., Edinburgh.—**Nitrators**: Towler & Son, Ltd., London, E.—**Packs**: County Screen Co., Ltd., London, N.W.; Barrow Hepburn & Gale, Ltd., London, S.E.; Blackman Leather Goods Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; Mills Equipment Co., Ltd., London, N.—**Pantaloons**: H. Lotery & Co., Ltd., London, E.; J. Compton Sons & Webb, Ltd., London, E. and/or Swindon.—**Pickets, Screw**: T. Blackburn, Preston.—**Plaster Board**: British Plaster Board, Ltd., Wallasey.—**Poles**: C. Webber & Co., Exeter.—**Posts, Picketing**: Jones & Leach, Ltd., Newtown (N. Wales).—**Pots, Cooking**: S. J. & E. Fellows, Ltd., Wolverhampton.—**Press Tools**: Omes, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Presses**: Fawcett Preston & Co., Ltd., Bromborough.—**Rails**: R. White & Sons, Widnes; Cargo Fleet Iron Co., Ltd., Middlesbrough.—**Repairs to W.D. Vessel**: Groves & Gutteridge, Ltd., E. Cowes.—**Rings, Packing**: Climax Rock Drill & Engineering Works, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Rolling Mills**: W. H. A. Robertson & Co., Ltd., Bedford.—**Salt Cellars**: H. Radcliffe & Co., Birmingham.—**Scotchies, Lorry and Tractor**: C. Butterfield & Co., London, E.; J. Wellings, Lye.—**Shalloon**: C. B. Brook & Co., Ltd., Bradford.—**Sheets, Ground**: P. Frankenstein & Sons (Manchester), Ltd., Manchester; North British Rubber Co., Ltd., Edinburgh.—**Shirting, Cotton**: Kiernan Son & Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Shoes**: Dunlop Rubber Co., Ltd., Liverpool; Adams Bros. (Raunds), Ltd., Raunds.—**Shovels**: English Tools, Ltd., Wigan.—**Skins, Chamois, Leather**: E. Cope & Son, Nuneaton.—**Sockets and Ferrules**: Cradley Heath Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Cradley Heath; Alma & Cranmore Tube Co., Ltd., Wednesbury.—**Soda Crystals**: Hope Chemical Works, London, E.; I.C.I., Ltd., Warrington and London.—**Springs**: Morris Springs, Ltd., Wolverhampton.—**Stair Treads**: Safety Tread Syndicate, Ltd., London, E.; Ferodo, Ltd., Chapel-en-le-Frith.—**Stands, Cooking**: J. Westwood & Co., London, E.—**Steel Doors**: Elclair Doors, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Steel Fabric Reinforcement**: R. Hill & Co., Ltd., Middlesbrough.—**Steel Fencing**: W. Bain & Co., Ltd., Coatbridge.—**Steel, Various**: Baldwins, Ltd., Panteg; Guest, Keen & Baldwins Iron & Steel Co., Ltd., Port Talbot; United Steel Co.'s, Ltd., (Steel, Peech & Tozer Branch), Rotherham; S. Durham Iron & Steel Co., Ltd., Middlesbrough; Vickers-Armstrongs, Ltd., Sheffield; T. Firth & J. Brown, Ltd., Sheffield; Rotherham Forge & Rolling Mills Co., Ltd., Rotherham; Whitehead Iron & Steel Co., Ltd., Newport (Mon.), English Steel Corporation, Ltd., Sheffield.—**Stoves**: Orme, Evans & Co., Ltd., Wolverhampton; Turley & Williams (1925) Ltd., Birmingham; F. J. Ballard & Co., Ltd., Tipton.—**Straps, Chin**: Maple & Co., London, W.—**Tables**: Mann Egerton & Co., Ltd., Norwich.—**Tables, Tops**: F. Pratten & Co., Ltd., Midsomer Norton.—**Tanks, Storage**: Metal Propellers, Ltd., Croydon; J. Thompson (Dudley), Ltd., Dudley.—**Telescopes and Parts**: Soho, Ltd., Leeds; R. & J. Beck, Ltd., London, W.; W. F. Stanley & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Tents, Bottoms, Canvas**: J. McIlwraith & Co., Ltd., Glasgow; Adam & Lane & Neeve, Ltd., London, E.—**Timber**: Baynes (Reading), Ltd., Reading; A. Turner & Son, Ltd., Lewes; Holbrow Bros., Limpley Stoke; Causa, Ltd., London, W.C.; J. Stenning & Son (London), Ltd., London, E.C.; Burt, Boulton & Haywood, Ltd., London, W.C.; W. M. Chalke & Sons, Salisbury; J. C. Edge & Co., Ltd., Craven Arms; East & Son, Ltd., Berkhamsted; Darlington Hall, Ltd., Totnes; J. Green, Silsden; H. Longley & Sons, Ltd., E. Grinstead; G. Randle & Son, Ltd., Bridgewater.—**Tipplates**: Baldwins, Ltd., Neath.—**Tools, Artillery**: J. Brookhouse & Co., Ltd., W. Bromwich.—**Transformers**: Ultra Electric, Ltd., London, W.—**Trews**: Rego Clothiers, Ltd., London, N.; J. Compton Sons & Webb, Ltd., London, E. and/or Swindon; Milns, Cartwright & Reynolds, Ltd., London, E.—**Trousers and Tunics**: Hobson & Sons (London), Ltd., London, S.E.; Rego Clothiers, Ltd., London, N.; J. Compton Sons & Webb, Ltd., London, E. and/or Swindon; Milns, Cartwright & Reynolds, Ltd., London, E.—**Trucks and Trailers**: Reliance Trucks, Ltd., Heckmondwike.—**Tyres, Covers and Tubes**: Firestone Tyre & Rubber Co., Ltd., Brentford.—**Valves, W.T.**: A. Cossor, Ltd., London, N.—**Ventilating Plant**: Thermotank, Ltd., Glasgow.—**Vices**: Steel Nut & J. Hampton, Ltd., Wednesbury.—**Washers, Dermatine**: Dermatine Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Watches, G.S.**: Carley & Clemence, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Waterproofing Compound**: Stucco, Ltd., Letchworth.—**Window Glass**: Pilkington Bros., Ltd., St. Helens; Chance Bros. & Co., Ltd., Smethwick and Glasgow.—**Zinc Ingot**: H. Gardner & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Zinc Oxide**: Fricker's Metal & Chemical Co., Ltd., Luton.—**Building and Works Services**: Shorncliffe, Ross Barracks—Conversion of Stables to Garages: J. J. Clayton & Son, Ltd., Lyminge. Aldershot, Mons Barracks—Conversion of Stables to Garages: E. J. Logan, London, W.C. Blackdown—Tar Roads and Paths: Johnson Bros. (Aylesford), Ltd., Tonbridge. Aldershot, Wellington Lines—Mechanisation of Transport: Crossby & Co., Ltd., Farnham. R.S.A.F.—Reconditioning Walls of Canal Stream: Concrete Piling, Ltd., London. Blackdown—M.T. Garages: H. T. Hill & Son, Ltd., Farnborough, Hants. Chatham—Erection of Married Soldiers' Quarters: J. B. Edwards & Co. (Whyteleafe), Ltd., London, W. Romford—Clothing

to Store Shed: T. Bates & Son, Ltd., Barking. Granby Barracks, Devonport—Demolition of Reservoir: Wakeham Bros., Ltd., Plymouth. Town Barracks, Exeter: Improve Married Soldiers' Quarters: Staverton Builders, Ltd., Totnes. Isle of Wight: Periodical Painting: F. Holdsworth, Shipley. Cambridge Barracks, Portsmouth—Improve Married Soldiers' Quarters: S. A. Evans & Co., Southsea. Bulford—Married Officers' Quarters: Building & Public Works Construction Co., Ltd., Swindon. Royal Small Arms Factory—Erection of Concrete Track and Bridges: Mullen & Durkin, Ltd., Burnley. Trawsfynydd—Erection of Cinema: Staveleys, Ltd., Manchester. York—Alterations to N.A.A.F.I. Grocery Establishment; Alterations to Laundry: W. West, Ltd., York. Derby—Internal Painting: R. Skevington & Sons, Derby. Catterick, Wathgill Camp—Structures: J. R. Surtees, Ltd., Catterick. Victoria Barracks, Windsor—Alteration to Married Soldiers' Quarters: E. P. Gilkes & Sons, Aylesbury. Queen Alexandra's Military Hospital, Millbank—Renewal of Boiler, etc.: H. J. Cash & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. Chattenden—Electric Lighting System: Pemberton & Sturges (Gt. Britain), Ltd., London, S.W. Sheerness—Workshops, etc.: C. H. Chaston & Co., Ltd., Holland-on-Sea; Colewort Barracks—Hot Water Installations: A. H. Banfield, Wareham. Cowley Barracks—Erection of Drill Shed: Universal Housing Co., Rickmansworth. Royal Arsenal—Erection of Garage: Thomas & Edge, Ltd., London, S.E. Strensall and York—Erection of Garages: W. Birch & Sons, Ltd., York. Royal Arsenal, Woolwich—Alterations and Additions to Buildings: J. Mowlem & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. R.O.F., Birtley—Electric Lighting Installation: Gray Bros. (Newcastle), Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne. Aldershot, Buller Barracks—Alterations to Regimental Institute: Lee Bros. (Aldershot), Ltd., Aldershot. Pontefract Barracks—Erection of Gymnasium: J. W. Maw & Sons, Ltd., York. Blackdown, Alma Barracks—Erection of Sergeants' Mess: C. F. Day, Ltd., London, N. Edinburgh, Redford Barracks—Garages: J. Miller & Sons, Ltd., Edinburgh. East London Area—Artificers' Work: J. Garrett & Son, Ltd., London, S.W. Hilsa—Supply and Erection of Steel Doors—J. Lay & Co. (Portsmouth), Ltd., Portsmouth.

## AIR MINISTRY.

**Accumulators**: Batteries, Ltd., Redditch.—**Aero Engines**: Armstrong-Siddeley Motors, Ltd., Coventry; D. Napier & Son, Ltd., London, W.; De Havilland Aircraft Co., Ltd., Hatfield.—**Aero Engine Accessories and Spares**: Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Bristol.—**Aero Engine Modifications and Spares**: De Havilland Aircraft Co., Ltd., Hatfield.—**Aero Engine Spares**: Rolls-Royce, Ltd., Derby.—**Aero Engine Spares and Repairs**: Armstrong-Siddeley Motors, Ltd., Coventry.—**Aero Engine Spares, Repair of**: Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Bristol.—**Aero Engine Spares for and Work on**: Rolls-Royce, Ltd., Derby.—**Aero Engine, Work on**: Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Bristol.—**Aircraft**: De Havilland Aircraft Co., Ltd., Hatfield; Phillips and Powis Aircraft, Ltd., Reading.—**Aircraft Conversion Sets**: De Havilland Aircraft Co., Ltd., Hatfield.—**Aircraft Equipment**: Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Bristol.—**Aircraft Fuel Tanks**: Airspeed (1934), Ltd., Portsmouth.—**Aircraft General Spares, Parts**: Fairey Aviation Co., Ltd., Hayes; Arrow Aircraft, Ltd., Yeading; Rolls Razor, Ltd., London, N.W.; D. Gilson & Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Aircraft Modifications**: Blackburn Aircraft, Ltd., Brough.—**Aircraft Spares**: Saunders-Roe, Ltd., E. Cowes; Gloster Aircraft Co., Ltd., Hucclecote; Vickers Aviation, Ltd., Weybridge; Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Bristol; Aircraft Components, Ltd., Cheltenham; Blackburn Aircraft, Ltd., Brough; Short Bros. (Rochester & Bedford), Ltd., Rochester; Phillips & Powis Aircraft, Ltd., Reading; Hawker Aircraft, Ltd., Kingston-on-Thames; A. V. Roe & Co., Ltd., Manchester; Handley-Page, Ltd., London, N.W.—**Aircraft, Work on**: Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Bristol; Phillips & Powis Aircraft, Ltd., Reading; Sir W. G. Armstrong Whitworth Aircraft, Ltd., Coventry; Westland Aircraft, Ltd., Yeovil.—**Aircscrews**: Fairey Aviation Co., Ltd., Hayes.—**Anemometers and Clocks**: R. W. Munro, Ltd., London, N.—**Bags, Travelling, for Parachutes**: Pak Parachute Co., Ltd., Mitcham.—**Benches, Fight**: Alfred Allen & Son, Ltd., Dudley.—**Boards, Battery Charging**: Walsall Electrical Co., Ltd., Walsall.—**Boxes**: Sheepridge Coal & Iron Co., Ltd., Chesterfield; Hampshire Car Bodies, Ltd., Southampton; Vickers-Armstrongs, Ltd., London, S.W.; R. & J. Park, Ltd., London, E.C.; Boulton & Paul, Ltd., Norwich; Jewson & Sons, Ltd., Norwich; Prison Commissioners, London, S.W.—**Brassards**: Dalton, Barton & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Buildings and Works Services**: Martlesham Heath, Suffolk. Erection and Completion of Refrigerator Plant House: Cubitt & Gotts, Ltd., Ipswich. Hook, Surrey, Chigwell, Essex. Steelwork for Various Buildings: Furness Shipbuilding Co., Ltd., London, S.W. Cosford, Salop. Steelwork for Various Buildings: Redpath Brown & Co., Ltd., Edinburgh. Woodford, Dorset. Checkpall, Dorset, Chesil Bank, Dorset. Artificers' Works: G. J. Furneaux, Christchurch. Driffield, Glos. Underground Cable Scheme: Anderson, Angell & Co., Ltd., London, E.C. Brize Norton, Oxon. Underground Cable Scheme: Pirelli-General Cable Works, Ltd., Southampton. Detling, Kent. Foundations: William F. Blay, Ltd., London, E.C. Kemble, Glos. Heating Installations to Various Buildings: Brightside Foundry & Engr. Co., Ltd., Birmingham. St. Athan, Glamorgan. Underground Cable Scheme: Liverpool Electric Cable Co., Ltd., Liverpool. Felixstowe, Suffolk. Various Buildings and External Services: Kirk & Kirk, Ltd., London, S.W. Catfoss, Yorks, Skipton, Yorks, Bridlington, Yorks.: Artificers' Works: A. J. Darnley & Son, Ltd., Hull. Broomhill Colliery, Northumberland: Underground Cables, Removal and Diversion of Overhead Cables: Pirelli-General Cable Works, Ltd., Southampton. Cosford, Salop. Overhead Cable and Internal Wiring: Lowdon Bros. & Co., Ltd., Dundee. Brize Norton, Oxon. Heating Scheme: Dilworth & Carr, Ltd., Preston. Brize Norton, Oxon. Heating Scheme: William Freer, Ltd., Leicester. North Weald, Essex. Preparation of Landing Ground: Bradshaw Bros. (Contractors), Ltd., Leicester. St. Athan, Glam. Heating Scheme: G. N. Haden & Sons, Ltd., London, W.C. St. Athan, Glam.



Steelwork: Wright, Anderson & Co., Ltd., Gateshead. Shawbury, Salop. Various Buildings and External Services: Henry Boot & Sons, Ltd., Sheffield. Detling, Kent. Building Work and External Services: Crosby & Co., Ltd., Farnham. St. Athan, Glam. Overhead Cables: Lowdon Bros. & Co., Ltd., Dundee. St. Athan, Glam. Internal Wiring: Gray Bros. (Newcastle), Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne. Bridlington, Yorks. Boat Shed: C. Gant & Son, Bridlington.—**Camera, High Speed**: W. Vinten, Ltd., London, N.W.—**Canvas, Proofed**: Holdsworth & Gibbs, Ltd., Swinton.—**Carburetors**: Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Bristol.—**Carburetors and Spares**: D. Napier & Son, Ltd., London, W.—**Chassis**: J. Brockhouse & Co., West Bromwich; Alvis Straussler, Ltd., Coventry; Crossley Motors, Ltd., Gorton.—**Cleaners, Suction**: Paterson Engineering Co., Ltd., Southwold.—**Coats, Great**: John Hammond Co. (1922), Ltd., Newcastle, Staffs.—**Containers**: John Thompson Motor Pressings, Ltd., Wolverhampton.—**Control, Remote**: Marconi's Wireless Telegraph Co., Ltd., London, W.C.—**Covers, Outer**: Palmer Tyre Co., London, S.W.—**Cranes**: John M. Henderson Co., Ltd., Aberdeen; Herbert Morris, Ltd., Loughborough.—**Cylinders**: Walter Kidde Co., Ltd., Northolt.—**Dope**: Nobel Chemical Finishes, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Drums**: Plessey Co., Ltd., Ilford.—**Equipment, Beacon**: Airports, Ltd., Horley.—**Equipment, D/F**: Marconi's Wireless Telegraph Co., Ltd., London, W.C.—**Equipment, Marine, Maintenance of**: J. A. White, Fife; S. Caernarvonshire Yacht Co., Pwllheli.—**Equipment, Test**: Heath & Co., London, S.E.—**Fabric, Proofing**: J. Mandelburg & Co., Manchester.—**Fittings, Sanitary**: J. S. & F. Folkard, Edgware.—**Flame Floats, Filling and Assembly of**: Holmes Marine Life Protection Association, Ltd., London, W.C.—**Gantries, Lifting**: Alfred Allen & Son, Ltd., Dudley.—**Gauntlets, Flying**: G. Waddington & Son, Ltd., Hull; Threghan, Ltd., London, S.E.—**Gearboxes and Axles, Rear**: Crossley Motors, Ltd., Gorton.—**Indicators, Air Speed**: R. W. Munro, Ltd., London, N.—**Indicators, Engine Speed**: S. Smith & Sons (M.A.), Ltd., London, N.W.—**Indicators, Modulation**: Ferranti, Ltd., Hollinwood.—**Instruments, Drawing**: Jas. Farrow, London, S.E.—**Items, Camera**: L. Adams, Ltd., London, N.W.; Baldwin Instrument Co., Ltd., Dartford; Williamson Mfg. Co., Ltd., London, N.W.—**Jacks**: Tangyes, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Lathes**: Denham's Engineering Co., Ltd., Halifax.—**Machines, Drilling**: Desoutter Bros., London, N.W.; Grimston Electric Tools, London, E.C.—**Machines, Grinding**: Churchill Machine Tool Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Machines, Sensitive Drilling**: Alfred Herbert, Ltd., Coventry.—**Machines, Slotting**: Denham's Engineering Co., Ltd., Halifax.—**Machines, Tinsmiths**: F. J. Edwards, Ltd., London, N.W.—**Machines, Tube Bending**: Hilmor, Ltd., London, N.—**Magnets, Modification of**: Rotax, Ltd., London, N.W.—**Nails**: Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Nuts**: L. H. Newton, Birmingham.—**Paint**: Fenner & Alder, London, E.—**Parachutes for Flares**: P. & E. Spencer, London, N.—**Plant, Anodic Treatment**: W. Canning & Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Plant, Engine Cleaning**: Clarkson Thimble Tube Boiler Co., Ltd., Renfrew and Oldbury.—**Plugs**: Plessey Co., Ltd., Ilford.—**Plugs, Sparking Conversion of**: K.L.G. Sparking Plugs, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Presses**: Adcock & Shipley, Leicester.—**Pumps, Air Foam**: Auto Fire Protection, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Pumps, Petrol**: Zwicky, Ltd., Slough.—**Rangefinders, Plan**: A. W. Wood & Co., Ltd., Teddington; Henry Hughes & Sons, Barkingside.—**Rectifiers**: Westinghouse Brake & Signal Co., Ltd., London, N.—**Screws, Wood**: Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Screws, Wood and Rivets**: Brown Bros. (Aircraft), Ltd., London, E.C.—**Sets, Compressor**: Siebe Gorman & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; Climax Rock Drill & Engineering Works, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Sets, Generating**: New Pelapone Eng. Co., London, W.—**Sets, Motor Alternator**: British Thomson-Houston Co., Ltd., Coventry.—**Shafts, Stainless Steel**: Edgar Allen & Co., Ltd., Sheffield.—**Sleepers, Railway**: Calders, Ltd., London, W.—**Spares**: Ford Motor Co., Dagenham.—**Spares, Magneto**: British Thomson-Houston Co., Ltd., Coventry.—**Spares, Oil Cooler**: A. 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(Walsall), Ltd., Walsall; Aeccles & Pollock, Ltd., Birmingham; Auster, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Thermometers, Oil Temperature**: Drayton Regulator and Instrument Co., Ltd., West Drayton.—**Thermometers, Radiator**: S. Smith & Sons (M.A.), Ltd., London, N.W.—**Transmitters**: Marconi's Wireless Telegraph Co., Ltd., London, W.C.—**Trays, Drip**: Bulpitt & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Trousers, Blue-Grey**: H. Lotery & Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Trucks**: Ford Motor Co., Dagenham.—**Tyres and Tubes**: Pirelli, Ltd., Burton-on-Trent; Firestone Tyre & Rubber Co., Brentford; Goodyear Tyre & Rubber Co., Wolverhampton; Dunlop Rubber Co., Birmingham.—**Unit, Research Compression Ignition**: John Fowler & Co. (Leeds), Ltd., Leeds.—**Units, Counter for Camera**: Cinetra Mfg. Co., Ltd., London, N.W.—**Vehicles**: Ford Motor Co., Dagenham.—**Watches, Stop**: Carley & Clemence, London, E. C.—**Wheels, Aero and Tyres**: Palmer Tyre, Ltd., London, S.W.; Dunlop Rubber Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**W/T Rectifying Equipment**: Marconi's Wireless Telegraph Co., Ltd., London, W.C.—**W/T Stations, Portable**: Plessey Co., Ltd., Ilford.—**W/T Transmitter and Receiver**: Radio Transmission Equipment, Ltd., London, W.

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Electric Co., Ltd., Coventry; Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; Standard Telephones & Cables, Ltd., London, N.—**Apparatus, Telephonic, Parts**: B. W. Johnson & Sons, Nailsworth.; Moulded Products, Ltd., Birmingham; Power Equipment Co., Ltd., London, N.W.—**Apparatus, Testing and Protective**: Chamberlain & Hookham, Ltd., Birmingham; Evershed & Vignoles, Ltd., London, W.; Gent & Co., Ltd., Leicester; Gillett & Johnston, Ltd., Croydon; Phoenix Telephone & Electric Works, Ltd., London, N.W.; Standard Fuse Co., Ponders End; Westinghouse Brake & Signal Co., Ltd., Chippendale.—**Apparatus, Wireless**: Standard Telephones & Cables, Ltd., London, E.—**Battery Stores**: Batteries, Ltd., Redditch.—**Belts, Safety**: Barrow, Hepburn & Gale, Ltd., London, S.E.; Matthew Harvey & Co., Ltd., Walsall.—**Bends, C.I.**: Carron Co., Carron; Jones & Attwood, Ltd., Stourbridge.—**Bolts**: Thomas William Lench, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Boots and Shoes**: Adams Bros. (Raunds), Ltd., Wellingborough.—**Braces, Arm**: Bert Birks & Co., Cradley Heath; Bullers, Ltd., Tipton; David Willetts, Ltd., Cradley Heath.—**Cable**: Connollys (Blackley), Ltd., Manchester; General Electric Co., Ltd., Southampton; Hackbridge Cable Co., Ltd., Hackbridge; Pirelli-General Cable Works, Ltd., Eastleigh; Standard Telephones & Cables, Ltd., London, E.; United Telephone Cables, Ltd., Dagenham.—**Cable Bearers**: Bayliss, Jones & Bayliss, Ltd., Wolverhampton.—**Carbonic Acid Gas**: Carbon Dioxide Co., Ltd., Liverpool.—**Clothing, Oilskin**: M. Barr & Co., Ltd., Glasgow; Chamberlins, Ltd., Norwich; Johnson & Sons, Ltd., Great Yarmouth; Edward MacBean & Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—**Cords, Telephone**: Reliance Electrical Wire Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Ducts, Asbestos Cement**: Turners Asbestos Cement Co., Widnes.—**Ducts, Stoneware**: Church Gresley Firebrick & Fireclay Co., Ltd., Burton-on-Trent; Doulton & Co., Ltd., Dudley, Worcs.; J. Oakes & Co. 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Morgan Rees & Sons, Ltd., Cardiff.—**Saddles, Bicycle**: Dunlop Rubber Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Sleeves, Paper**: Textile Paper Tube Co., Ltd., Stockport.—**Small Timber for Telegraph Poles**: Armstrong, Addison & Co., North Shields; Burt, Boulton & Hayward, Ltd., Southampton; Calders, Ltd., Boston; Christie's Wharf, Ltd., London, S.E.; Forestry Commission (England & Wales), New Forest; Gabriel, Wade & English, Ltd., Hull; James Jones & Sons, Ltd., Huntly; John Stenning & Son (London), Ltd., Farnborough, Hants; Thomas Hay Wilson, Edinburgh.—**Spindles**: Bayliss, Jones & Bayliss, Ltd., Wolverhampton; Thomas William Lench, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Steps, Manhole**: Booth Bros. (Dial Foundry), Ltd., Stourbridge.—**Building Alterations**: Rees Jones & Sons, Towyn, Merioneth; Robert Carlyle & Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Cabling, etc.**: Warrington-Northwich-Stoke-on-Trent: United Telephone Cables, Ltd., London, W.C. Sub-Contractor for Warrington-Stoke-on-Trent: Automatic Telephones & Electric Co., Ltd., London, W.C. for Loading Coils; Wigan-Warrington, Belfast-Carrickfergus-Larne, Ormskirk-Preston-Lancaster: United Telephone Cables, Ltd., London, W.C. Sub-Contractor for Wigan-Warrington, Belfast-Larne and Ormskirk-Lancaster: Standard Telephones & Cables, Ltd., London, E., for Loading Coils; Galashiels-Selkirk-Hawick: United Telephone Cables, Ltd., London, W.C. Sub-Contractor for Galashiels-Hawick: Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E., for Loading Coils; Endon-Leek, Newbury-Marlborough: Standard Telephones & Cables, Ltd., London, E.; Leeds-Doncaster: Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Conduit Laying, etc.**: Brize Norton and Carterton, Witney and Witney-Carterton, Lustleigh (Devon): A. Thomson & Co. (London), Ltd., London, E.C.; Culcheth (Lancs.), Little Waltham & Terling (Essex), Haddenham-Brill, Elmley Castle: W. P. & P. G. 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