



420)
6 MAR 1944

OF DOMESTIC AND
ECONOMIC SERVICES

THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE

VOL. LII.—No. 2.]

FEBRUARY, 1944.

[PRICE SIXPENCE NET.]

CONTENTS.

| | PAGE | | PAGE |
|--|------|--|------|
| Special Articles, Reviews, etc. :— | | | |
| Supply of Labour for Domestic Employment: Special Arrangements for Recruitment; Appointment of Advisory Committee | 21 | Average Earnings and Working Hours in the Principal Industries at July, 1943 | 26 |
| Apprenticeship and Training for the Building Industry | 22 | Employment in January | 36 |
| Coal Mining (Training and Medical Examination) Order, 1944 | 22 | Employment Overseas | 37 |
| Man Power in Coal Mining | 23 | Retail Prices Overseas | 37 |
| Minimum Wages and Overtime Rates in Coal Mining | 23 | Changes in Rates of Wages and Hours of Labour | 38 |
| Wool Textile Industry: Rates of Wages in the Wool-combing Section: Court of Inquiry | 23 | Changes in Retail Prices and Cost of Living | 41 |
| Grants and Allowances to Transferred Workers | 24 | Trade Disputes in January | 42 |
| Joint Industrial Councils: Reconstitution of National Joint Council for Local Authorities' Administrative, Professional, Clerical, etc. Services | 25 | Fatal Industrial Accidents; Industrial Diseases | 43 |
| Control and Organisation of Dock Labour: Activities of the National Dock Labour Corporation | 25 | Legal Cases Affecting Labour | 43 |
| Labour in the Aircraft Industry: Memorandum by Ministry of Labour respecting Recommendations of Select Committee on National Expenditure | 25 | Unemployment Insurance: Decisions by the Umpire | 44 |
| | | Conditions of Employment and National Arbitration Orders: Arbitration Awards | 45 |
| | | Industrial Courts Act, 1919, and Conciliation Act, 1896: Arbitration Awards; Court of Inquiry | 45 |
| | | Trade Boards Acts: Notices and Orders | 45 |
| | | Statutory Rules and Orders | 46 |
| | | Official Publications Received | 46 |

SPECIAL ARTICLES, REVIEWS, ETC.

SUPPLY OF LABOUR FOR DOMESTIC EMPLOYMENT.

SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR RECRUITMENT.

There is an urgent need for workers to carry on certain forms of essential domestic work, and in order to assist in meeting this need special arrangements have been instituted by the Ministry of Labour and National Service. The domestic work in question consists of paid domestic employment in hospitals, institutions and services for the care of the sick and wounded, the old and infirm, and young children, and in private households where the lack of permanent domestic help is causing exceptional hardship or where temporary help is required for emergencies, e.g., sickness or confinement. In future such domestic work is to be regarded as work of national importance. First priority is to be given to essential work in hospitals and allied services and women may, where necessary, be directed to such work, provided that the rates of pay and conditions of service are as good as those recently laid down by the Committee set up in July, 1943, by the Minister of Labour and National Service to advise him on this matter.*

Special importance is attached by the Minister of Labour and National Service to the provision of proper welfare facilities for domestic workers and he has added to the membership of the Factory and Welfare Advisory Board, which advises him on all matters affecting the welfare of industrial workers, two members of the Standing Advisory Committee on Institutional Domestic Employment. At the same time, the scope of the Board has been extended to include the welfare of domestic workers in institutions, and in accordance with the advice of the Board the Ministry's Welfare Officers are being instructed to pay special attention, *inter alia*, to the grant of reasonable time off, the provision of adequate canteen arrangements and satisfactory working and sleeping quarters for such workers.

Some particulars of the new arrangements for the recruitment of domestic workers are contained in an explanatory leaflet (P.L. 143/1944), copies of which may be obtained from Local

* See the issue of this GAZETTE for November, 1943, page 150.

Offices of the Ministry of Labour and National Service. Detailed information regarding vacancies, pay and conditions of service, etc., may also be obtained on request at the Local Offices.

APPOINTMENT OF ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

In his reply to a question in the House of Commons regarding the progress of his plans for supplying domestic labour to hospitals and other similar services the Minister of Labour and National Service announced on 20th January that the Advisory Committee whose appointment he had foreshadowed recently had now been constituted as follows:—Mr. M. S. McCorquodale, M.P., Joint Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Labour and National Service (Chairman); Miss Violet Markham, C.H., LL.D., D.Litt, J.P. (Vice-Chairman); Mr. F. Barraclough, M.A., Secretary to the Education Committee, North Riding of Yorks.; Capt. H. Brierley, O.B.E., M.C., F.H.O.A., House Governor and Secretary of the London Hospital; Mrs. E. J. Davies, President of Co-operative Women's Guild, Tonypanydy; Mrs. I. K. Bowman Edgar, County Representative, Dumfriesshire British Red Cross Society; Mr. J. B. Frizell, B.L., A.L.A.A., City Education Officer, Edinburgh; Mrs. K. M. Goldney, S.C.M., W.V.S., Headquarters; Dr. F. Hall, C.B.E., M.D., D.P.H., Barrister-at-Law, County Medical Officer of Health, Lancashire; Miss Florence Hancock, O.B.E., National Woman Officer, Transport and General Workers' Union; Mrs. M. A. Hill, Chairman of a District Nursing Association and County Committee Member of the Women's Land Army, Somerset; Mrs. Montagu Norman, Chairman of the Women's Advisory Council to the Nuffield Provincial Hospital Trust, Vice-Chairman of the Women's Group on Public Welfare; Mrs. M. Parry, M.B.E., J.P., Vice President of the Machynlleth, Corris and District Hospital, Organiser of W.V.S.; Miss O. M. Snowden, O.B.E., S.R.N., Matron-in-Chief, Birmingham Municipal Hospitals; Miss E. M. A. Wilson, Organiser for Domestic Subjects and School Meals, City of Leicester Education Department.

The Committee, which is designated the Standing Advisory Committee on Institutional Domestic Employment, is required by its terms of reference "to advise the Minister of Labour

AVERAGE EARNINGS AND WORKING HOURS IN THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES AT JULY, 1943.

In July, 1943, an enquiry was made by the Ministry of Labour and National Service, in continuation of previous enquiries which had been made from time to time during the war, in order to obtain particulars of the average weekly earnings of wage-earners employed in manufacturing industries generally, and in a number of the principal non-manufacturing industries, throughout Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

In the enquiry of July, 1943, forms were sent to all employers who had supplied information in response to a previous enquiry made in January, 1943, asking for particulars of the number of wage-earners at work in the first pay-week of July, 1943, and of the aggregate earnings of those wage-earners in that week, classified under the following headings: men, 21 years and over; youths and boys under 21 years; women, 18 years and over; and girls under 18 years.

In view of the marked increases in average earnings which, as shown by the results of previous enquiries, had taken place during the war, it was thought desirable that on this occasion the information relating to earnings should be supplemented by particulars of the hours worked. The employers were accordingly asked to state the aggregate number of man-hours actually worked in the week by the men, youths and boys, women and girls, respectively, covered by the returns of earnings.

The total number of establishments to which forms were sent (exclusive of those which were found to be no longer in operation in July, 1943, or to be employing no wage-earners within the scope of the enquiry) was about 55,000, of which approximately 54,500 furnished returns suitable for tabulation. The total number of wage-earners (including part-time workers) covered by returns showing the numbers employed and wages earned in the week was over 6 million, and particulars of the aggregate man-hours worked in the week were obtained in respect of nearly all of these workpeople.

WEEKLY EARNINGS IN JULY, 1943, AND PERCENTAGE INCREASES SINCE OCTOBER, 1938.

The average earnings, in the first pay-week of July, 1943, of the 6 million workpeople covered by the returns received were as shown below:—

Table with 2 columns: Category and Amount. Categories include Men (21 years and over)†, Youths and boys (under 21 years), Women, 18 years and over, Excluding part-time workers†, Part-time workers‡, Counting two part-time workers‡ as representing one full-timer, Girls, under 18 years.

These figures, however, relate only to the wage-earners employed in the establishments from which returns were received, and the average earnings shown are affected by the fact that different industries, with varying levels of wages, were not represented in equal proportions in the returns. For example,

* See the issues for November and December, 1940; March, 1941; November and December, 1941; June, and December, 1942; and June, 1943.

† Men employed as part-time workers (for not more than 30 hours a week), who had entered the employment of the firms concerned since July, 1941, have been excluded from the statistics given in this article and in the Tables on pages 30 to 35, the numbers shown in the returns having been insignificant. The earnings of the small number returned averaged 32s. 11d. in the first pay-week of July, 1943, and the hours worked averaged 18.2.

‡ The part-time workers referred to are those who were employed for not more than 30 hours a week, and had entered the employment of the firms concerned since July, 1941.

Returns were obtained from a much higher proportion of employers in the engineering industry than in the building industry, and the engineering industry has therefore an unduly heavy weight, in comparison with the building industry, in the calculations from which the foregoing averages are derived. In order to eliminate the effects of such disparities, general averages for all industries combined, and for each of 16 broad groups of industries, have been calculated* on the basis of the estimated total numbers of wage-earners employed in the individual industries (a) in October, 1938, and (b) in July, 1943, and are given in the following Table. In calculating the averages, the earnings of women employed as part-time workers have been included on the basis of two part-time workers taken as representing one full-time worker; small numbers of men employed as part-time workers have been excluded.†

Average Earnings in October, 1938, and July, 1943, calculated on the basis of the total numbers employed in each industry.

Table with 6 columns: Industry Group, Men (21 years and over)‡, Youths and Boys (under 21 years), Women (18 years and over)‡, Girls (under 18 years), All Workers.‡. It contains two main sections: Average Earnings in the last pay-week of October, 1938, and Average Earnings in the first pay-week of July, 1943. Each section has columns for s. d. and p. s. d.

When the general averages for July, 1943, shown in this Table, are compared with those given in the previous column, it will be seen that the differences resulting from re-calculating the average earnings on the basis of the total numbers employed in each industry (instead of the numbers employed by those firms who supplied returns) are insignificant except in the case of women, for whom the general average of 62s. 2d. shown in the Table is 6d. less than the unadjusted average computed on the basis of the returns received. In calculating the average earnings of women and "all workers" at July, 1943, women who were employed as part-time workers have, as stated above, been included on the basis of two part-time workers taken as representing one full-timer. The inclusion of these women, however, has little effect on the average earnings shown, for if such part-time workers had been excluded from the statistics the general average of 62s. 2d. for women in all industries combined would have been altered by only 3d. (to 62s. 5d.). Moreover, among the sixteen groups of industries for which

* The averages for "all workers" have been calculated by applying the total numbers employed in each industry to the average earnings of all the workers covered by the returns received for that industry; those for men by applying the total number of men employed to the average earnings of the men covered by the returns received; and similarly for youths and boys, women and girls.

† In the calculation of the averages for women, and of those for "all workers," women employed as part-time workers in July, 1943 (see footnote ‡ in previous column) have been included on the basis of two part-timers taken as representing one full-timer.

‡ The numbers returned were insufficient to provide a satisfactory basis for general averages.

separate figures are given in the Table, the exclusion of the women part-time workers would not, in the great majority of cases, have altered the average earnings shown for women by more than 2d., the principal exception being the chemical, paint, oil, etc., group, in which the exclusion of these women would raise the average by 10d. (to 64s. 5d.).

It should be observed that the figures shown in the above Table, and in the detailed Tables on pages 30 and 31, are general averages covering all classes of manual wage-earners, including unskilled workers and general labourers as well as operatives in skilled occupations, and that they represent the actual earnings in the weeks specified, inclusive of payments for overtime, night-work, etc., and of amounts earned on piece-work or other methods of payment by results. In view of the wide variations, as between different industries, in the proportions of skilled and unskilled workers and in the opportunities for extra earnings from overtime, night-work and increased output by piece-workers, the differences in average earnings shown in the Tables should not be taken as evidence of disparities in the rates of wages prevailing in different industries for comparable classes of workpeople employed under similar conditions.

The percentage increases in average weekly earnings between October, 1938, and July, 1943, shown by the figures in the foregoing Table, are set out below:—

Average Percentage Increases in Weekly Earnings between October, 1938, and July, 1943.

Table with 6 columns: Industry Group, Men, Youths and Boys, Women*, Girls, All Workers.*. Columns show Per cent. for each category.

From these figures, together with those given on pages 30 and 31, it will be seen that the percentage increases in average earnings between October, 1938, and July, 1943, varied widely in different industries. In the industries for which particulars are given on pages 30 and 31, for example, the average percentage increases shown for men range from less than 40 per cent. in some industries to over 80 per cent. in others, while those for women range from less than 50 per cent. to over 100 per cent. The general averages for all industries combined showed increases of about 76 per cent. for men, 81 per cent. for youths and boys, 91 per cent. for women, 83 per cent. for girls, and 76 per cent. for all workers combined. The fact that the average percentage rise in the earnings of women is greater than that shown for men is partly due to the marked increase which has taken place in the numbers of women engaged on work formerly undertaken by men. In most of the principal industries in which such increases have occurred, the employers' and workers' organisations have agreed that where women are employed on work previously done by men they shall be paid either the full rates for men (usually after a qualifying period, or subject to ability to perform the man's work without extra supervision or assistance), or specified proportions of those rates, yielding wages higher than those generally paid for work not regarded as men's work. If separate figures were available as to the earnings of women engaged on work corresponding with that represented in the figures relating to average earnings in October, 1938, the percentage increases shown for such women would be considerably lower, in many industries, than those given in the above Table and in the detailed Table on pages 30 and 31.

It should be noted that the percentages of increase in the earnings of all classes of workers combined, as shown in the last column of the above Table, are affected by the changes which have taken place since 1938 in the relative proportions of men, boys, women and girls employed in each of the various groups of industries, the proportions of men, boys and girls having declined while those of women have increased. Similarly, the percentage increases shown for all the industries taken together include the effects of transference to the munitions industries, in which earnings are relatively high, of large numbers of workers formerly employed in industries with a lower average level of earnings.

* See footnote ‡ in previous column. † In the case of the Government industrial establishments, the comparisons between the average earnings in October, 1938, and July, 1943, are materially affected by the fact that the returns for the latter date covered a number of establishments, employing large numbers of workers, which were not in operation in October, 1938.

WEEKLY HOURS WORKED IN OCTOBER, 1938, AND JULY, 1943.

Employers furnishing particulars of the earnings of their wage-earners in the first pay-week of July, 1943, were asked to state the aggregate number of man-hours actually worked in that week by the men, youths and boys, women and girls, respectively, whose earnings were shown in their returns. Corresponding particulars had been collected by the Department in respect of the last pay-week of October, 1938, but not for any later date. The response to this request was highly satisfactory, particulars of the aggregate man-hours worked having been received in respect of all except 79,000* of the total of over 6 million workpeople whose earnings were returned; and the thanks of the Department are due to the employers who furnished returns, and to the British Employers' Confederation and their affiliated organisations, who gave valuable assistance by recommending their members to supply the desired information.

The average hours worked in each industry in the last pay-week of July, 1943, by the workpeople covered by the returns received, are set out in the Table on pages 32 and 33, in which comparative figures are also given for the last pay-week of October, 1938. The following Table shows the corresponding averages for each of the 16 main groups of industries covered by the two enquiries, and for all these industries taken together, calculated by combining the averages for the individual industries on the basis of the estimated total numbers of wage-earners employed in those industries at each of the two dates.† The figures given relate to the total number of hours actually worked in the weeks referred to, including all overtime and excluding all time lost. Recognised intervals for meals, etc., are also excluded. In the calculation of the averages, only those workpeople who were at work during part or the whole of the pay-week are included, those who were absent during the whole of the pay-week having been excluded from the returns.

Hours worked in October, 1938, and July, 1943, calculated on the basis of the total numbers employed in each industry.

Table with 6 columns: Industry Group, Men (21 years and over)‡, Youths and Boys (under 21 years), Women (18 years and over)‡, Girls (under 18 years), All Workers.‡. It contains two main sections: Average Hours worked in the last pay-week of October, 1938, and Average Hours worked in the first pay-week of July, 1943. Each section has columns for Hours.

* Of the returns which gave particulars of the hours worked, a small number (covering not more than 50,000 workers) gave only a total figure, relating to all classes of workers combined. In all the other returns received, separate totals were given for men, youths and boys, women and girls, respectively, so far as employed.

† See footnote † in first column on page 26. ‡ See footnote ‡ in second column on page 26. The hours worked by women employed as part-time workers in the first week of July, 1943, averaged nearly 23½. The numbers returned were insufficient to provide a satisfactory basis for general averages.

The hours actually worked in the first pay-week of July, 1943, averaged approximately 53 for men, 48 for youths and boys (under 21 years of age), 46 for women, and 45 for girls (under 18 years), compared with approximately 47½ for men, 46¼ for youths and boys, 43½ for women, and 44¼ for girls in the last pay-week of October, 1938.

From the detailed figures in the Table on pages 32 and 33 it will be seen that there was considerable variation in the average hours worked in different industries and among different sex and age groups. In the great majority of industries the average hours worked by men ranged between 47 and 55 in the first week of July, 1943, compared with between 44 and 51 in the last week of October, 1938.

HOURLY EARNINGS IN JULY, 1943, AND PERCENTAGE INCREASES SINCE OCTOBER, 1938.

The following Table shows for each group of industries covered by the enquiry, and for all those industries combined, the average hourly earnings in the first pay-week of July, 1943, computed from the foregoing figures of average weekly earnings and working hours, and the average percentage increases as compared with the average hourly earnings in the last pay-week of October, 1938 :-

Average Hourly Earnings in July, 1943, and Percentage Increases as compared with October, 1938.

Table with columns for Industry Group, Men (21 years and over), Youths and Boys (under 21 years), Women (18 years and over), Girls (under 18 years), and All Workers. It lists various industries like iron, stone, quarrying, brick, pottery, glass, etc., and their respective earnings and percentage increases.

The hourly earnings in the first week of July, 1943, averaged 2s. 3½d. for men, nearly 1s. for youths and boys (under 21 years), nearly 1s. 4¼d. for women, and 9d. for girls (under 18 years), showing increases of 58 per cent., 74 per cent., 81 per cent., and 81 per cent., respectively, over the average earnings in the last week of October, 1938.

WEEKLY EARNINGS IN JULY, 1943, AS COMPARED WITH JANUARY, 1943, AND JULY, 1942.

As compared with the average earnings in the last pay-week of January, 1943, particulars of which were published in the issue of this GAZETTE for June, 1943, the general averages for the first pay-week of July, 1943, for all industries combined, showed increases of about 6½ per cent. for men, 4½ per cent. for youths and boys, 6 per cent. for women, and 5½ per cent. for girls.

AVERAGE EARNINGS IN OCTOBER, 1938, AND IN THE YEARS 1940-1943.

The following Table shows the average weekly earnings, in the industries covered by these enquiries, in October, 1938, and at various dates for which information is available between July, 1940, and July, 1943, computed on the basis of the total numbers of workpeople employed in the different industries at the dates specified :-

Table showing Average Weekly Earnings and Percentage Increase compared with October, 1938, for Men, Youths and Boys, Women, and Girls, across various dates from October 1938 to July 1943.

The percentage increases in average earnings since October, 1938, shown in the foregoing Tables, represent the combined effect of a number of factors, including (a) increases in rates of wages, (b) fuller employment, with longer working hours and more extended working of night-shifts, (c) extensions of systems of payment by results, and increased output by the workers affected, and (d) changes in the proportions of men, boys, women and girls employed in different industries and occupations.

As regards the first of these factors, it is estimated, from such information as is available to the Department, that in the industries covered by these enquiries the average level of rates of wages for a full ordinary week's work, exclusive of overtime was about 30 per cent. higher in July, 1943, than in October, 1938.

* See Table in second column on page 27. † See footnote † in second column on page 26. ‡ In July, 1940, figures analysed by age and sex were supplied by firms employing less than four-fifths of the total number of workpeople covered by the figures relating to the average earnings of "all workers", and the particulars shown for men, boys, women and girls at that date, therefore, are less fully representative than the corresponding particulars for other dates, which covered between 95 and 100 per cent. of the total number of workpeople included in the returns received.

* See footnote † in second column on page 26. † See footnote † in first column on page 27.

As regards working hours, the figures given in the Table on page 27 show that the average number of hours* actually worked by the wage-earners employed in the industries covered by these enquiries was about 7½ per cent. greater in the first pay-week of July, 1943, than in the last pay-week of October, 1938.

The changes which have occurred during the war in the numbers employed in the different industries have tended to raise the general level of average earnings of men, boys, women and girls, respectively, through the transference of workers from industries and occupations in which wages were relatively low to others with a higher level of earnings.

INCREASES IN WAGES SINCE JULY, 1943.

Since the first pay-week of July, 1943, there have been substantial increases in rates of wages in some of the industries covered by the enquiry, which will have raised the average earnings shown for those industries in the Tables on pages 30 to 35.

In the heavy chemical manufacturing industry, increases in wage rates were granted, in December, 1943, and January, 1944, of ¼d. or 1d. an hour for men, ¼d. or 1½d. an hour for women, ¼d. to 3d. an hour for youths and boys, and ¼d. to 1½d. an hour for girls.

EARNINGS IN THE COAL MINING INDUSTRY.

In the coal mining industry, which was not covered by the enquiry, information collected by the Ministry of Fuel and Power shows that for all classes of workpeople combined, including juveniles, the average earnings per man-shift worked (exclusive of the value of allowances in kind) were approximately 19s. 2d. in the three months ended September, 1943, as compared with 18s. 2d. in the corresponding period of 1939.

* See footnote † in second column on page 26.

pared with 11s. 4d. in the corresponding period of 1939, the increase between the two dates being equivalent to approximately 69 per cent.

There have been further increases, as from 22nd January, 1944, in the wages of large numbers of workers in this industry, as the result of an award raising the minimum wages of men, youths and boys, details of which are given on page 38.

EARNINGS IN THE RAILWAY SERVICE.

As regards the railway service, which was also excluded from the scope of the enquiry, returns are obtained annually by the Ministry of War Transport* from all railway companies in Great Britain and from the London Passenger Transport Board, giving particulars, for one week in March, of the numbers of wage-earners receiving wages for the full week, together with the equivalent number of full-time workers in cases where the employees are paid for less than the complete week, and the aggregate wages (including bonuses, etc.) paid in the week.

Table showing Average Earnings of Wage-earners in one week and Average Percentage Increase in March, 1943, compared with March, 1939, for various departments like Men, Youths and Boys, Women, and Girls.

The average earnings shown above include war bonus, etc., piece-work payments and tonnage bonus, payments for overtime, Sunday duty and night duty, and all other payments for work performed, but exclude travelling and out-of-pocket expenses, and meal and lodging allowances.

It will be seen that the average earnings in March, 1943, showed increases, as compared with the corresponding averages for March, 1939, of 53 per cent. for men and 33½ per cent. for youths and boys.

* The number employed was insufficient to provide a satisfactory basis for general averages.

AVERAGE EARNINGS AND WORKING HOURS IN

(III).—AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS IN THE FIRST PAY-WEEK OF JULY, 1943, AND PERCENTAGE INCREASES AS COMPARED WITH THE AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS IN THE LAST PAY-WEEK OF OCTOBER, 1938.

Table with columns: Industry, Average hourly earnings* in the first pay-week of July, 1943, of the wage-earners covered by the returns received. (Men (21 & over), Youths and boys, Women (18 & over), Excluding part-time workers, Counting two part-timers as one full-timer, Girls, All workers.†), Average percentage increase as compared with the hourly earnings in the last pay-week of October, 1938. (Men, Youths and boys, Women (18 & over), Excluding part-time workers, Counting two part-timers as one full-timer, Girls, All workers.†)

* Where no figure is given, the number of workers covered by the returns received was too small to provide a satisfactory basis for the calculation of a general average for the industry.
† The part-time workers referred to are those who were employed for not more than 30 hours a week and had entered the employment of the firms concerned since July, 1941; see third paragraph in first column on page 26.
‡ In calculating the averages given in this column, women employed as part-time workers (see footnote † above) have been included on the basis of two part-time workers taken as representing one full-time worker.
§ The number of workpeople in respect of whom information was received in October, 1938, was too small to provide a basis for a calculation of the average percentage increase between that date and July, 1943.
|| The figures given for the engineering, etc., industry are based partly on returns from firms who are members of the Engineering and Allied Employers' National Federation, and partly on returns from non-federated firms. The average earnings shown by the federated firms were considerably higher than those shown by the non-federated firms; for example, the average hourly earnings of "all workers" in July, 1943 (including men, boys, women and girls and counting two part-time workers as representing one full-time worker) were 26-3d. for the federated firms, as compared with 24-0d. for the non-federated firms.
¶ The average earnings in the cotton industry in October, 1938, were adversely affected by trade depression.
** Many of the principal firms in the linen industry in Northern Ireland did not supply information for October, 1938, and enquiries were sent to these firms in July, 1943, in addition to those who had furnished returns. Consequently the number of returns received in July, 1943, was much greater than in October, 1938. While the average earnings shown for July, 1943, are based on all returns received, the percentages of increase since October, 1938, have been calculated from the data supplied by firms who furnished returns for both dates.
†† The number of workpeople now employed in the fur industry is much smaller than in 1938 and some firms whose operatives were earning high wages in October, 1938, were employing few or no workpeople in July, 1943.

THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES AT JULY, 1943—continued.

(III).—AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS IN THE FIRST PAY-WEEK OF JULY, 1943, AND PERCENTAGE INCREASES AS COMPARED WITH THE AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS IN THE LAST PAY-WEEK OF OCTOBER, 1938—continued.

Table with columns: Industry, Average hourly earnings* in the first pay-week of July, 1943, of the wage-earners covered by the returns received. (Men (21 & over), Youths and boys, Women (18 & over), Excluding part-time workers, Counting two part-timers as one full-timer, Girls, All workers.†), Average percentage increase as compared with the hourly earnings in the last pay-week of October, 1938. (Men, Youths and boys, Women (18 & over), Excluding part-time workers, Counting two part-timers as one full-timer, Girls, All workers.†)

* † ‡ § See footnotes on previous page.
|| The figures relate to the permanent employees of dock, harbour and canal authorities: they do not cover workers paid by the day or half-day.
¶ In the case of the Government Industrial Establishments the comparisons between the average earnings in October, 1938, and July, 1943, are materially affected by the fact that the returns for the latter date covered a number of establishments, employing considerable numbers of workpeople, which were not in operation in October, 1938.

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

Main table with columns for Industry, District, Date from which change took effect, Classes of Workpeople, and Particulars of Change. Rows include Paper Box Manufacture, Electrical Contracting, Waterworks Undertakings, Milk Distribution, etc.

* These increases took effect under Orders issued under the Trade Boards Acts. Details are contained in the Confirming Orders of the Minister of Labour and National Service, obtainable from H.M. Stationery Office.
† These increases took effect as a result of a decision of the National Joint Industrial Council for the Waterworks Undertakings Industry.

OUTPUT BONUS IN THE COAL MINING INDUSTRY.

Under the scheme providing for the payment of a bonus to workers in the coal mining industry for output in excess of a specified tonnage (see the issue of this GAZETTE for November, 1942, page 191), a bonus became payable, in respect of the four weeks ended 25th December, of 6d. a shift for adult workers in Leicestershire.

CHANGES IN RETAIL PRICES AND COST OF LIVING.

Summary of Index Figures for 1st February, 1944.

Summary table showing Index Points for Food (68%) and All Items (100%) compared with July 1914 and January 1944.

FOOD.

Retail prices of food at 1st February showed little change, on average, as compared with a month earlier.

For the articles of food included within the scope of these statistics, the following Table compares the average prices at 1st February, 1944, with the corresponding prices at 1st January, 1944, and 1st September, 1939:—

Table comparing average prices (per lb. unless otherwise indicated) for various food items like Beef, Butter, Milk, etc. across three dates: 1st Feb. 1944, 1st Jan. 1944, and 1st Sept. 1939.

The following Table shows the average percentage changes in prices at 1st September, 1939, 1st January, 1944, and 1st February, 1944, respectively, as compared with July, 1914:—

Table showing Average Percentage Increase or Decrease since July 1914 for various food items, comparing prices at 1st Sept. 1939, 1st Jan. 1944, and 1st Feb. 1944.

On the basis of the figures given in the foregoing Tables the average level of retail prices, at 1st February, 1944, of the articles of food specified was about 68 per cent. higher than in July, 1914, about 22 per cent. higher than at the beginning of September, 1939, and approximately the same as at 1st January, 1944.

* A rise of 1 point on a total of 199 for "all items" (the figure for July, 1914 being 100) is equivalent to one-half of one per cent.
† The description of bacon specified for quotation is streaky, but where this kind was seldom being sold the returns relate to another kind, locally representative.

ITEMS OTHER THAN FOOD.

The average level of working-class rents (including rates) at 1st February was about the same as at 1st January, being about 1 per cent. above the level of 1st September, 1939, and about 64 per cent. above that of July, 1914.

As regards clothing, there was very little change in the average level of prices generally at 1st February as compared with a month earlier. For men's suits and overcoats there was a decrease of between one-half and one per cent. in the average level of prices; for the remaining groups of items included in the figures, viz., woollen materials, woollen underclothing and hosiery, cotton materials and cotton hosiery, and boots and shoes, there was practically no change in the average level of prices between 1st January and 1st February.

In the fuel and light group, the average level of prices of coal at 1st February was about 5 per cent. above the level of 1st January, as a result of the general increase at the rate of 3s. per ton which took effect on 1st February. There was little change in the prices of gas during the month.

As regards other items* included in these statistics, there were relatively few changes in prices during January. In the group as a whole the average level of prices at 1st February was about the same as at 1st January, about 63 per cent. higher than at 1st September, 1939, and about 191 per cent. above the level of July, 1914.

ALL ITEMS.

If the average increases in the cost of all the foregoing items are combined in accordance with their relative importance in working-class family expenditure prior to August, 1914, the resultant general average increase at 1st February, 1944, is approximately 100 per cent. over the level of July, 1914, as compared with 99 per cent. at 1st January, and with 55 per cent. at 1st September, 1939.

The rise of 45 points since the beginning of September, 1939, is equivalent to about 29 per cent. Of these 45 points, about 4½ points represent the effect of the increases, since that date, in the taxes on sugar, tobacco and cigarettes, and matches; and approximately three-fourths of a point is due to increases resulting from the Purchase Tax.

SUMMARY TABLE : ALL ITEMS.

Average Percentage Increases as compared with July, 1914.

Summary Table showing Average Percentage Increases as compared with July 1914 for various years from 1920 to 1944.

A detailed account of the method of compilation of these statistics, "The Cost of Living Index Number: Method of Compilation," is obtainable, price 3d. net, from H.M. Stationery Office, at the addresses shown on page 46 of this GAZETTE.

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

STATUTORY RULES AND ORDERS.

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

The Mental Nurses (Employment and Offences) Order (Scotland), 1943 (S. R. & O. 1943, No. 1788/S.63).—By this Order, made by the Secretary of State for Scotland on 31st December, 1943, persons who are in whole-time employment for remuneration as nurses in mental institutions where the rates of pay and conditions of service are not less favourable than those recommended by the Mental Nurses Sub-Committee of the Scottish Nurses' Salaries Committee in their Report dated 2nd September, 1943 (see the issue of this GAZETTE for January, 1944) and who have completed at least twelve months' service in the aggregate in such institutions, are required to continue in such employment until their services are dispensed with in accordance with the Order.

The Coal Mining (Training and Medical Examination) Order, 1944, dated January 1, 1944, made by the Minister of Fuel and Power under Regulations 55AA and 58AE of the Defence (General) Regulations, 1939 (S. R. & O. 1944, No. 7. 2d. net (3d. post free)).—See summary on page 22.

The Defence (National Service) Regulations, 1944 (S. R. & O., 1944, No. 67); Order in Council approving Proclamation directing that certain British Subjects shall become liable to be called up for Service (S. R. & O., 1944, No. 94); and The Registration for Employment (Amendment) Order, 1944 (S. R. & O., 1944, No. 80).—British subjects not ordinarily resident in Great Britain have not hitherto become liable to be called up for service under the National Service Acts, 1939-1942, or to registration under the Registration for Employment Order, 1941, until they have been in Great Britain for at least two years and not at all so long as they were in Great Britain only for a temporary purpose. The position in this respect of certain classes of British subjects from outside Great Britain has been modified as shown below by the foregoing Regulations and Orders, made on 20th January.

The effect of the *Defence (National Service) Regulations, 1944*, is to amend the National Service Acts so as to extend the liability to be called up for service under those Acts to the undermentioned classes of British subjects from outside Great Britain in cases where they have been resident in Great Britain during any continuous period of three months ending on or after the date of the coming into force of the Regulations. The classes of persons to which the Regulations apply are (i.) nationals or citizens of, or persons born or domiciled in, the Isle of Man, any of the Channel Islands, Canada, the Commonwealth of Australia, New Zealand, Newfoundland, or any Colony, and (ii.) persons born or domiciled in any British

Protectorate, in any mandated territory, the mandate in respect of which is being exercised by His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom or the Commonwealth of Australia or New Zealand, or in any country or territory under His Majesty's protection or suzerainty other than a British Protectorate or a mandated territory.

By the *Order in Council approving Proclamation directing that certain British Subjects shall become liable to be called up for Service* effect was given to the foregoing Regulations on 20th January, 1944.

The effect of the *Registration for Employment (Amendment) Order* is to amend the principal Order in the same way as the National Service Acts have been amended by the Defence (National Service) Regulations, 1944, so as to make liable to register under the Registration for Employment Order certain classes of British subjects from outside Great Britain as soon as they have been in Great Britain for three months, and thus to maintain the position under which liability under the Registration for Employment Order remains in line with liability under the National Service Acts. The Order took effect on 20th January, 1944.

OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.*

[NOTE.—The prices shown are net; those in brackets include postage.]

BUILDING APPRENTICESHIP AND TRAINING COUNCIL.—*First Report*, 15th December, 1943. Ministry of Works. Price 6d. (7d.).—See summary on page 22 of this GAZETTE.

COURT OF INQUIRY.—*Report by the Court of Inquiry into Wages and Hours of Work in the Woolcombing Section of the Wool Textile Industry in Yorkshire*. Cmd. 6499. Ministry of Labour and National Service. Price 6d. (7d.).—See summary on page 23 of this GAZETTE.

NATIONAL SERVICE.—*Selected Decisions given by the Umpire during December, 1943, in respect of Applications for Postponement of Liability to be called up for Service under the National Service Acts, 1939-1942*. N.S. Code 2. Pamphlet No. 8/1943. Ministry of Labour and National Service. Price 2d. (3d.).

SELECT COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL EXPENDITURE.—*Seventeenth Report (Session 1942-43): Replies from Departments to Recommendations in Reports*. H.C. 131. Price 6d. (7d.).—See page 25 of this GAZETTE.

TEACHERS.—*Supply, Recruitment and Training in the Period immediately following the War*. Reports of the Advisory Council on Education in Scotland. Cmd. 6501. Price 1s. (1s. 2d.).

YOUTH SERVICE SCHEME IN SCOTLAND.—*Notes for the Guidance of Education Authorities, Youth Councils and Local Youth Panels*. Scottish Education Department. Price 4d. (5d.).

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

ADVERTISEMENTS.

CARTONS CARDBOARD BOXES AND TUBES

THE PAZO CO. :: OLDBURY
Tel. No.: BROADWELL 1605-6-7 Nr. BIRMINGHAM

MILLBROOK ENGINEERING CO. LTD. CHILLED AND GRAIN ROLLS

for Steel, Copper, Rubber, Fabric, Seed Paper, etc.
General Engineering, Electric Welded Pots.

LANDORE, SWANSEA

ENAMELLING

Quality work in all types of materials. Large quantities undertaken. Prompt deliveries guaranteed. Enquiries solicited.

CHARLES STORMONT LIMITED

Tel.: Birmingham South 3022 (4 lines) 15 Alcester Road, Birmingham, 13

KODAK

Photographic apparatus, materials, technical advice

KODAK LIMITED • KINGSWAY • LONDON • W.C.2

BLINDS

J. AVERY & CO., 81, Great Portland Street, W.1
& CURTAINS

LONDON: PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.

To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses: York House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120 George Street, Edinburgh 2; 39-41 King Street, Manchester 2; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff; 80 Chichester Street, Belfast; or through any bookseller

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

PRINTED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE BY C. NICHOLLS & CO. LTD., MANCHESTER, LONDON AND READING
S.O. Code No. 72-3-2-44