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EMPLOYMENT, WAGES, COST OF LIVING, AND TRADE DISPUTES IN MARCH.

EMPLOYMENT.

EMPLOYMENT showed a further improvement in March. Among workpeople insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts in Great Britain and Northern Ireland the percentage unemployed at 24th March, 1924, was 9.9, compared with 10.7 at 25th February, 1924, and with 11.5 at March, 1923. Among members of Trade Unions from which returns were received the percentage unemployed was 7.8 at the end of March, 1924, compared with 8.1* at the end of February, 1924. The total number of workpeople registered at 31st March, 1924, at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland as applicants for employment, was approximately 1,057,000, of whom 791,000 were men and 204,000 were women, the remainder being boys and girls; at 25th February, 1924, the total was 1,156,000, of whom 858,000 were men and 227,000 were women.

Employment was good in the coal mining industry, in the tinplate, steel sheet, carpet, jute and coachbuilding trades, and with skilled operatives (except painters) in the building trades; it was fairly good with millsawyers, brickmakers, and in certain sections of the metal trades; and fair with coopers and in some branches of the leather and clothing trades. In some of the other large industries, however, it was very slack.

WAGES.

The upward tendency in wages continued during March. In the industries for which statistics are available the changes reported resulted in an aggregate inrease of nearly $\pm 30,000$ in the weekly full-time wages of nearly 600,000 workpeople and in a reduction of about $\pm 7,500$ in the weekly wages of over 180,000 workpeople.

Among the workpeople whose wages were increased were coal miners in the Yorkshire and East Midland area and in Scotland, whose wages were increased by bout 1³/₄ and ¹/₂ per cent., respectively, on current rates. Other important groups of workers who received intreases included iron ore miners in Cumberland, iron buddlers and millmen in the North of England and West of Scotland, soap makers in England, chemical workers in Scotland, workpeople employed in the textile making-up and packing trade at Manchester, brewery workers at Burton, and workpeople employed in the non-trading services of local authorities in Lancashire and Cheshire and the East Midlands.

The principal groups of workpeople whose wages were educed were coal miners in Durham and in the Forest of Dean, who sustained reductions of about $1\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. and $3\frac{1}{4}$ per cent., respectively, on current rates.

During the first three months of 1924 the changes in ates of wages reported to the Department have resulted

• Revised figura.

in net increases of over £206,000 in the weekly full-time wages of over 1,700,000 workpeople and in net reductions of nearly £36,000 in the wages of 590,000 workpeople. In the corresponding period of 1923 there were net increases of about £19,500 in the weekly full-time wages of nearly 190,000 workpeople and net reductions of over £160,000 in the weekly wages of nearly 1,600,000 workpeople.

COST OF LIVING.

At 1st April the average level of retail prices of the commodities taken into account in the statistics prepared by the Ministry of Labour (including food, rent, clothing, fuel, light and miscellaneous items) was approximately 73 per cent. above that of July, 1914, as compared with 78 per cent. a month ago and 74 per cent. a year ago. For food alone the corresponding percentage for 1st April was 67, as compared with 76 a month ago and 68 a year ago. The fall in the percentage between 1st March and 1st April was mainly due to substantial reductions, largely of a seasonal nature, in the prices of eggs, milk and butter.

The statistics are designed to indicate the average increase in the cost of maintaining unchanged the prewar standard of living of working-class families. Accordingly, in making the calculations, the changes in the prices of the various items included are combined in proportions corresponding with the relative importance of these items in pre-war working-class family expenditure, no allowance being made for any changes in the standard of living.

For further particulars and details of the statistics for 1st April reference should be made to the article on page 124.

TRADE DISPUTES.

The number of trade disputes involving stoppages of work, reported to the Department as beginning in March, was 59. In addition, 21 disputes, which began before March, were still in progress at the beginning of the month. The total number of workpeople involved in all disputes in March (including workpeople thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, but not themselves parties to the disputes) was approximately 76,000, as compared with 144,000 in the previous month, while the estimated aggregate duration of all disputes during March was about 730,000 working days, as compared with 700,000 days in February. The principal stoppage was that involving nearly 40,000 tramway and omnibus workers in London.

During the first three months of 1924 the stoppages of work owing to trade disputes reported to the Department have involved approximately 288,000 workpeople, as compared with 125,000 workpeople involved in disputes in the first three months of last year. The aggregate duration of the stoppages in January to March, 1924, has been nearly 2,100,000 working days, as compared with over 1,200,000 days in the corresponding period of 1923.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE BILLS.

THE Unemployment Insurance Bill (No. 2)* "to amend the Unemployment Insurance Acts, 1920 to 1924," and the Unem-ployment Insurance Bill (No. 3)† "to extend the periods for which the receipt of unemployment benefit during the current benefit year may be authorised under Section 2 of the Unem-ployment Insurance Act, 1923," were introduced in the House of Commons by the Minister of Labour on the 3rd and 4th April respectively. The Unemployment Insurance Bill (No. 3) subse-quently passed through all stages, and received the Royal assent on 15th April.

Unemployment Insurance (No. 2) Bill.

The principal provisions of this Bill are as follows :-Period of Benefit.—Sub-sections 1 and 2 of Clause 1 provide that, up to a limit of one week of benefit for every six contri-butions paid, or of 26 weeks of benefit during a "benefit year" (whichever is the less), benefit is to be paid on conditions which are in the main the same as those applied by the existing law to covenanted benefit. Certain modifications of the existing con-

ditions in this respect are proposed in Clauses 3 and 4. "Benefit year" is defined in sub-section 5 of Clause 1. Further benefit for a period additional to the above is to be payable if and so long as the insured contributor satisfies not only the conditions already referred to, but also the additional con-ditions specified in sub-section 3 of Clause 1.

Persons Insured.—Clause 5 provides that boys and girls between the ages of 14 and 16 years are, on and after 6th October, 1924, to be insured against unemployment on becoming employed in an insured trade. Under the existing law no persons under the age of 16 years are insurable.

the age of 16 years are insurable. Courses of Instruction.—Provision is already made in Section 7 of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920, for enabling unem-ployed persons to be required to attend courses of instruction as one of the conditions for the receipt of benefit. Clause 11 of the present Bill authorises the Minister of Labour, with the con-sent of the Treasury, to pay certain grants out of the unemploy-ment fund towards the cost of such courses of instruction.

Rates of Benefits.—The weekly rates of benefit under the existing law and those proposed by the Bill are as follows :—

						xist rat		Prop rat	
						S. (d.	6.	d.
Men	1		E			15	0	18	0
Women						12	0	15	0
Boys (16	to 18)			1		7	6	7	6
,, (14	to 16)					-	-	5	0
Girls (16						6	0	6	0
,, (14				12.00		12512		4	0
Additiona									
for wife	e (or i	nvali	ded hu	isband)	5	0	5	0
C. S. C. C. C.	112 1 1 1 1 1	1300	Salar Charles		-	1000	0	0	0

for each young dependent child ... 1 0 for each young dependent child ... 1 0 2 0 Rates of Contribution.—No change is proposed in the rates of contribution payable for the time being and until the end of the "deficiency period" (*i.e.*, the date certified by the Treasury to be the date when the unemployment fund is solvent) by employers, employed, and the Exchequer, respectively, in respect of the classes of workpeople at present insured. For boys and girls between 14 and 16 years of age the weekly rates of contribution during the deficiency period will be the same as those payable during that period in respect of boys and girls between 16 and 18 years of age, namely :—

	Employer.	Employed person.	Exchequer.
Boys	5d.	4½d.	$3\frac{7}{8}d$.
Girls	$4\frac{1}{2}d$.	4d.	3§d.

Girls ... 4½d. 4d. 5§d. Section 4 of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1923, pro-vides that after the end of the deficiency period the rates of contribution from employers and employed shall be reduced so as not to exceed certain specified maximum rates, and that the Exchequer contribution, which is at present approximately one-third of the combined contributions of employers and em-ployed, shall become one-fourth of the combined contributions. Clause 6 of the present Bill leaves unaltered the maximum rates for employers and employed, but provides that the Exchequer contribution shall after the end of the deficiency period become one-half of the combined contributions of employers and em-ployed, *i.e.*, one-third of the total contributions of employers. ployed, *i.e.*, one-third of the total contributions of employers, employed and the Exchequer. Under the proposals of the Bill the maximum rates of weekly contribution when the reduction above referred to is made after the end of the deficiency period will be as follows

77 7	The set of the set	II La maran
Employer	s. Employed.	Exchequer.

		1 Annia	d.	d.	d.
Men	· · · · · · · ·		' 6	6	б
Women			5	4	41/2
Boys (14 to	18) .		3	3	3
Girls (14 to	18) .		$ 2\frac{1}{2}$	2	$2\frac{1}{4}$

Trade Dispute Disqualification for Benefit .- Under Section 8 (1) of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920, persons thrown out of work owing to a stoppage of work due to a trade dispute at the premises at which they were employed are in general disqualified for benefit so long as the stoppage continues. Sub-section 1 of Clause 4 of the present Bill removes this dis-qualification in cases where the insured contributor proves that

House of Commons Bill 101. H M. Stationery Office ; price 6d. net.
 House of Commons Bill 102. H.M. Stationery Office ; price 2d. net.

he is not participating in the trade dispute which caused the stoppage of work, and that he does not belong to a grade or class of workers members of which are participating in the dispute

Special Schemes of Insurance by Industries.—The power con-ferred by Section 18 of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920, to make special schemes of insurance by industries is, under Section 5 of the Unemployment Insurance (No. 2) Act, 1921, suspended during the deficiency period. The Bill proposes that the power to make special schemes shall be abolished for the future architect to a coving durance for the former of the schemes for the schemes for the schemes for the scheme of the scheme the power to make special schemes shall be abolished for the future, subject to a saving clause in favour of the continuance of any special scheme already approved or submitted to the Minister in a complete form before 3rd April, 1924. No restric-tion is proposed in the power to make supplementary schemes of insurance by industries, as conferred by Section 20 of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920.

Refunds to Insured Persons at age of 60.—Under Section 25 of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920, insured persons reaching the age of 60 years (or their personal representatives) may, under certain conditions, obtain a refund of the contri-butions paid less any benefit received with compound interest at 21 per cent.

Clause 9 of the present Bill abolishes these refunds for $t_{\rm he}$ future but provides that :--

(a) Valid claims for refund which could have been made before the passing of the Bill into law are to be paid in full if made within 12 months thereafter;
(b) Insured contributors aged 50 years or over when the Bill

passes into law (or their personal representatives) in whose case a refund has not then become due, are to receive com-pensation (on certain specified terms) for the loss of their prospective rights to a refund, provided that they have paid at least 50 contributions before the passing of the Bill into law and make their claims within 12 months thereafter.

In connection with this Bill, the Government Actuary has pre-sented a report to the Minister of Labour on the financial pro-visions of the Bill.*

The Government Actuary was instructed that his estimates should be based on the assumption that the numbers on the live register of the Employment Exchanges would average 1,100,000 up to the end of the present benefit year (15th October, 1924); 1,000,000 thereafter until the end of the deficiency period; 1924) the state of the second state of the deficiency period;

1,100,000 up to the end of the present bencht year (10th Octobe, 1924); 1,000,000 thereafter until the end of the deficiency period; and 800,000 after the end of the deficiency period. He has further assumed that the new provisions will operate as from the 1st July next, except that juveniles aged 14 to 16 will not be included in the scheme until 6th October next. On this basis he estimates the net income of the Unemployment Fund (after allowing for cost of administration) up to the 15th October next at £23,900,000, and the expenditure at £21,700,000, leaving a credit balance of £2,200,000. This would reduce the Unemployment Fund's debt to the Treasury, on the 15th October, to about £7,800,000. The Actuary estimates that the debt to the Exchequer will be finally extinguished about June, 1926, when the deficiency period will come to an end. After the end of the deficiency period the Exchequer con-tribution is fixed, under the new Bill, at one-half of the total contributions of employers and employed. It is estimated that the net income of the fund on this basis will be £31,500,000, and the expenditure £30,500,000, leaving a net balance of £1,000,000, which could be applied to build up a reserve against future con-tingencies.

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In all the above calculations no account has been taken of the possible effects of the new trade disputes clause, the cost of which is insusceptible of calculation.

Unemployment Insurance (No. 3) Act.

The Unemployment Insurance (No. 3) Act substitutes a mai-mum of forty-one weeks of benefit for that of twenty-six pro-vided for by the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1923, during the "first benefit year" (*i.e.*, 18th October, 1923, to 15th October, 1924).

The additional benefit allowed by the Act will be governed the conditions applying to uncovenanted benefit (†).

The financial effect of the Act will be that an additional sum estimated at between £2,000,000 and £2,250,000, will be paid is benefit out of the unemployment fund in the period up to October

HOUSING (CONSOLIDATION) BILLS.

LORD MUIR MACKENZIE introduced in the House of Lords, a the 18th March, a Bill[‡] "to consolidate the enactments relating to the housing of the working classes in England and Wales, and a similar Bill[§] for housing in Scotland.

The Bills are intended to consolidate, without amenda the permanent law relating to the housing of the working class in England and Wales and in Scotland, respectively. They do not incorporate, but leave outstanding, the temporary measure which have been passed for the purpose of encouraging built ing in the immediate future, to meet the present shortage d housing accommodation.

Cmd. 2109: H.M. Stationery Office; price 3d. net.
See page 78 of last month's issue of th-MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE.
House of Lords Bill, No. 32. H.M. Stationery Office; price 4s. net.
House of Lords Bill, No. 33. H.M. Stationery Office; price 3s. net.

FINANCIAL PROVISION FOR RELIEF OF

INEMPLOYMENT SINCE THE ARMISTICE.

April, 1924.

April, 1924.

STATISTICAL Tables* have recently been issued showing the extent of the effort from public sources since the Armistice to meet the problems of post-war resettlement and unemployment, and to indicate the measure of assistance provided by the Exchequer. The methods of financial co-operation are so diverse that it is impracticable to give an aggregated figure of Exchequer assistance, but the following statement gives some of the principal figures under each scheme separately. In regard to unemployment insurance the following is a state-ment of income and expenditure from the Armistice to the et March, 1924 :-countries abroad. Originally a system of cash advances against bills of exchange was adopted, but this has been discontinued and superseded by two systems of guarantees, viz., (i) general credits, which do not involve a separate reference to the Export Credits Department in respect of each transaction, and (ii) credits in respect of each specific transaction. The maximum contingent liability of the Exchequer under this scheme is £26,000,000, of which £8,142,136 was in use or earmarked at the beginning of March, 1924, leaving £17,857,864 available. Under the Trade Facilities Acts 1921 and 1922 which langed March, 1924 :-

	£	£
rpenditure :		
Benefit paid Appropriation for Administra-	154,874,000	
tion	13,733,000	
Miscellaneous (Refunds, etc.)	1,831,000	170,438,000
sentenderes annount in senten		s and from the set
come :		
Contributions :		
Employers	54,311,000	
Employed	49,463,000	
Exchequer	35,222,000	
Exchequer (for ex-Service		
Men)	2,841,000	
recommand Shet alloss hormonia	1- to state to and it	141,837,000
Interest (net)		1,204,000
dance of Old Fund at Armistice		
(excluding interest accrued) + :	F 005 000	
Employers	5,825,000	
Employed	5,825,000	
Exchequer	3,884,000	15 574 000
ans from Treasury (net)	-	15,534,000
iscellaneous (mainly deposits in		11,470,000
respect of future contributions)		393,000
capeer of future contributions)		393,000
		£170,438,000

A summary of expenditure on schemes of post-war resettle-ment, of which the whole cost is borne by the Exchequer, shows that out-of-work donation (to ex-Service men and civilians) accounts for about £62,500,000; the training of ex-service officers, men, nurses and war widows for nearly 255,750,000; and grants for resettlement in civil life for over 23,750,000; making a total under this head of about 2102,000,000. About £98,000,000 of this was spent from the Armistice to the 31st March, 1923, and about £4,000,000 was provided for in the 1923-4 Estimates. The expenditure on the training of women and juveniles reached nearly £550,000 by the 29th February, 1924. As regards schemes assisted by the Unemployment Grants committee, by grants on the basis of 60 per cent. of the wages costs, grants paid to 31st January, 1924, amounted to about £4,000,000. Loans approved by the Unemployment Grants Committee for grant over a number of years towards interest interest and sinking fund charges amounted to about £5,250,000 up to 29th February, 1924, and the Exchequer about £14,500,000. In addition, schemes promoted by public tability (capitalised) in respect of these loans is estimated at boot £14,500,000. In addition, schemes promoted by public tability companies had been approved to the extent of about 1.700,000.

rants amounting to about £9,328,000 have been made under special post-Armistice road and bridge programme of 1919-0 in respect of works carried out by local authorities at estimated total cost of approximately £20,000,000. The "unemployment programme" proper was initiated by the "unemployment programme" proper was initiated by the mated expenditure up to the year 1926-27 in respect of this gramme and those of the succeeding years 1921-2 and 1922-3 tearly £26,000,000, about 43 per cent. being contributed by authorities and the remainder by the Government. a additional programme was authorised by the Government October, 1923. This contemplates a maximum Government tribution of £8,050,000, towards a total estimated expendi-of £11,750,000 (or, if the new Liverpool-Manchester road included, £14,000,000). chemes concerned with land drainage, water supply, ats amounting to about £9,328,000 have been made under

s concerned with land drainage, water supply, light railways, etc., to the approximate value of nearly 0, have involved Exchequer assistance to the extent 2,000,000. bout £1,350,000.

about £1,350,000. Expenditure (including advances by Public Works Loan oard Commissioners) on schemes for the provision, under the and Settlement (Facilities) Act, 1919, of small holdings, and her land settlement schemes for the benefit primarily of ex-truce men, reached a total of nearly £18,500,000 up to the ad of February, 1924. Under the Export Credits Scheme, which is intended to

and. 2082. Statistics relating to Financial Provision for Relief of Unemploy-(including Post War Re-settlement of Ex-Members of His Majesty's Forces), the Armistice. H.M. Stationery Office; price 3d. net. Note. - The old fund at 8th November, 1920, had reached a total of £22,210,000.

facilitate the resumption of the ordinary means whereby traders can obtain facilities from their bankers to finance their export trade, the Government guarantee drafts drawn against shipments of goods exported from Great Britain to approved countries abroad.

or earmarked at the beginning of March, 1924, leaving £17,857,864 available. Under the Trade Facilities Acts, 1921 and 1922, which lapsed on the 9th November, 1923, the Treasury was empowered, on the advice of an Advisory Committee, to guarantee the payment of interest and principal, or either interest or principal, of loans raised in connection with capital undertakings, provided the loans are expended in such a way as to relieve unemployment in Great Britain. The assistance involved is in the nature of guarantees, which do not call for money from the Exchequer unless losses are incurred. The total amount in respect of which the Treasury had stated their willingness to give guarantees was, at the 29th February, 1924, about £38,200,000. Tables in regard to expenditure on Poor Law Relief in (a) England and Wales and (b) Scotland since the Armistice are also included. In the former, domiciliary relief (in money or kind) to persons "ordinarily engaged in some regular occupation" and their dependants, from the 1st April, 1920, to the 26th January, 1924, amounted to nearly £25,000,000. In Scotland power to grant relief to the *able-bodied* poor was conferred on Parish Councils for the first time by the Poor Law Emergency Provisions (Scotland) Act, 1921, to the 26th January, 1924, was nearly £3,000,000. A summary intended to show the extent to which the Exchequer is involved in schemes of which the cost is borne in whole or in part by the Exchequer shows that the approximate Exchequer contribution from the Afrik the approximate value of £390,000,000.

EMPLOYMENT OF EX-SERVICE MEN.

INDUSTRIAL TRAINING.

AT 25th March, 1924, the number of men in training was 10,067, and the number awaiting training 4,145. Since 1st August, 1919, 81,600 men have terminated training.

INTERRUPTED APPRENTICESHIPS.

Up to 31st March, 1924, 44,713 apprentices have been accepted for training with 17,864 employers, as compared with 44,712 apprentices with 17,863 employers on 31st December, 1923. The apprentices rejected up to 31st March, 1924, numbered 2,179, this being the same as on 31st December, 1923. Of those accepted 43,663 had terminated their training and 1,050 are still in training. The corresponding numbers on 31st December, 1923, were 43,548 and 1,164. The number of men who have received institutional training up

The number of men who have received institutional training up to 31st March. 1924, is 2,313, this being the same as on 31st December, 1923.

NATIONAL SCHEME (KING'S ROLL).

The latest returns show that there are 28,554 firms on the King's National Roll. The number of disabled ex-service men employed by these firms is approximately 330,000.

DOCK LABOUR DECASUALISATION COMMITTEE.

In accordance with the terms of settlement of the recent trade IN accordance with the terms of settlement of the recent trade dispute in connection with dock transport workers,* a Com-mittee has been set up by the Minister of Labour for the purpose of developing and strengthening the system of registra-tion of dock transport workers, and to examine the proposal for a guaranteed week for such workers, with a view to arriving at an agreement to give effect to the Shaw Report.+ The members of the Committee are :--Sir Donald Maclean (*Uhairman*); Sir Alfred Booth, Mr. Frederic Scrutton and Mr. James S. Spencer (nominated by the National Council of Port Labour Employers); Mr. James Sexton, M.P., Mr. Ben Tillett, M.P., and Mr. Ernest Bevin (nominated by the Transport and General Workers' Union). Mr. G. T. Reid will act as Secretary of the Committee, and Mr. C. G. Dennys, M.C., as Assistant Secretary.

* See the March, 1924, issue of this GAZETTE (page 81).

+ *I.e.*, the Report of the Court of Enquiry presided over by Lord Shaw of Dunfermline. For a summary of the Majority Report of this Court (*i.e.*, that signed by Lord Shaw himself, and a majority of the other members), see the April, 1920, issue of this GAZETTE, page 168. missign

April, 1924.

has no control, they are prepared to undertake that the mini-num production would be two-thirds of the figures given above. With regard to the control of prices of materials, the Comand Mr. A. G. Cameron; with Mr. C. S. Hurst and Mr. H. C. Emmerson, of the Ministry of Labour, as secretaries. It is understood that representatives of the owners and of the men have come to a temporary arrangement as to the terms on which work will be continued after the 17th April (the date of termination of the existing agreement) pending the report of the Court h regard to the control of prices of materials, the Com-recommend that, for the purpose of dealing with out-ng attempts to increase prices, the Statutory Committee, the Housing Act, should have adequate authority to ne carefully any suggested increase in the price of als before such increase becomes operative. It is sug-, therefore, for consideration, that every proposed in-in prices should be submitted for the approval of the ory Committee prior to such increase being allowed to report of the Court. LONDON TRAMWAY AND OMNIBUS STRIKE

April, 1924.

DISPUTE.

ON 19th December, 1923, the Transport and General Workers' Union gave notice to the employers' representatives on the District Joint Industrial Council for the Tramway Industry in the Metropolitan Area that they claimed an advance of 8s. per week in the basic rate of wages of all tramway workers in the Metropolitan Area. The application was considered by the District Council, but the employers stated that they were unable to meet the application owing to the financial position of their undertakings. No agreement was reached either by the District Council or by the National Joint Industrial Council, and on 13th March, 1924, the matter was reported to the Minister of Labour. At the same time the employees made known their decision to cease work on 15th March. The Minister consulted both parties to the dispute, and at his request the date of perate. Two Appendices to the Report give (i) estimates of the robable demands for labour and materials, and the cost thereof, or a given number of houses; and (ii) a Report on the avail-ble supplies of materials for housing schemes. COURT OF INQUIRY INTO COAL MINES ON January 17th, 1924, the Miners' Federation of Great Britain gave three months' notice to the Mining Association of Great Britain to terminate the National Wages Agreement in the Coal Mining Industry of the 1st July, 1921.* During the currency of the notice repeated meetings of repre-entatives of the two bodies took place, and during the last ew weeks the Secretary for Mines was in touch with both vertices both parties to the dispute, and at his request the date of both parties to the dispute, and at his request the date of ceasing work was postponed for six days. Further meetings were held, and on 20th March the employers' representatives offered to refer the claim to arbitration. The employees' repre-sentatives refused this proposal. The London County Council and certain of the Municipal Authorities then offered advances offered to refer the claim to arbitration. The employees' repre-sentatives refused this proposal. The London County Council and certain of the Municipal Authorities then offered advances of various amounts to motormen, conductors, inspectors and regulators. The employees' representatives rejected the offers and confirmed their claim for a general advance of 8s. per week in the basic rate of wages of all grades, failing which the notices to cease work would become operative at midnight on Friday, 21st March. On 21st March the Minister appointed Sir Arthur Colefax, K.B.E., K.C. (Chairman), Mr. G. W. Paton, Mr. Arthur Pugh and Mr. H. C. Emmerson (Secretary) as a Court of Inquiry under the Industrial Courts Act, 1919, to inquire into the causes and circumstances of the threatened stoppage of the tramway and omnibus services in and around London, and to Finally, on the 27th March, the employers made the followoffer :-

- g oner.
 1. Increase in the general minimum rate of wages from 20 per cent. above standard wages to 32½ per cent..
 2. A sum equivalent to 15 per cent. of standard wages to go to profits instead of the present 17 per cent.
 3. Eighty-seven per cent. of any surplus to wages and 13 per cent. to profits, instead of the present 83 per cent. to profits and the present so profits.
- wages and 17 per cent. to profits. In no district shall the wages of any adult able-bodied day wage workman fall below a figure 40 per cent. above the standard wages (as defined in clause 7 of the Wages Agreement) of the lowest-paid class of day wage workman in the district.
- In the district. [For this purpose the word "district" means each dis-trict within an area where the area comprises more than one district, and not the area as a whole.] Existing subsistence wages and allowances to be increased by one gight
- one-eighth.

- Existing subsistence wages and anowances to be increased by one-eighth.
 Owners' deficiencies below standard profits to be recouped by taking, for this purpose, instalments of 33¹/₃ per cent. of later available surpluses.
 Contributions of employers to pensions schemes not to be treated as "costs of production," but must be borne by the employers themselves.
 Question of inclusion in district ascertainments of the cost of maintenance of temporarily stopped collieries to be dealt with by the National Board, if re-established.
 Fuller information on "other costs" to be supplied in accordance with workmen's proposals.
 Information to be supplied respecting capital and quasi-capital expenditure at the collieries, in accordance with the workmen's proposals.
 Anomalies created by the above proposals in the wages of workmen in receipt of wages at or near the new rate of the lowest-paid workmen to be dealt with by districts.
 The Delegate Conference of the Miners' Federation discussed these terms and passed a resolution recommending the members

The Delegate Conference of the Miners' Federation discussed these terms and passed a resolution recommending the members of the Federation to reject them, "as providing no solution of the miners' wage question generally, nor giving the immediate relief so vitally necessary," and to call on the Government to institute an inquiry into (a) wages compared with 1914, (b) wages compared with the cost-of-living index figure, (c) wages compared with wages now prevailing in industry generally. A ballot of the members of the Federation was taken on these terms. It is members have a state with for the second

res, the members being asked to vote *either* for the accept-ce of the terms *or* for their rejection coupled with an plication to the Government for an inquiry. The ballot resulted a small majority for the second alternative, the figures being :

For acceptance 322,392 For rejection coupled with an appli-cation to the Government for an inquiry 338,650

Majority for second alternative .. 16 258

On the 11th April the Executive Committee of the Miners' ederation met the Secretary for Mines and reported to him the result of the ballot. Mr. Shinwell discussed the situation ith the Executive Committee and afterwards with representa-ves of the owners. On the recommendation of the Secretary or Mines, the Minister of Labour has decided to set up a Court Inquiry under the Industrial Courts Act, 1919, "to inquire into and report upon the question of wages in the coal mining Industry under the Industrial Courts Act, 1919, "to inquire into and report upon the question of wages in the coal mining industry and the matters in issue between the Mining Associa-tion of Great Britain and the Miners' Federation of Great Britain relating thereto." The members of the Court are: The light Hon. Lord Buckmaster (chairman), Mr. Roscoe Brunner, • See the July, 19:1, issue of this GAZETTE, pages 336-7.

REPORT ON THE BUILDING INDUSTRY, IN **RELATION TO THE PROPOSED HOUSING** PROGRAMME.

A REPORT* has been issued on the present position in the build-ing industry, with regard to the carrying out of a full housing programme, having particular reference to the means of pro-viding an adequate supply of labour and materials. It has been prepared by the National House Building Committee (representative of employers and operatives in the building trades), formed at the request of the Minister of Health and the Minister of Labour in February last. A Report prepared by a Committee of building materials manufacturers and sup-pliers, formed at the request of the Minister of Health, is included as an Appendix.

phers, formed at the request of the Minister of Health, is included as an Appendix. The House Building Committee represented employers and operatives in all sections of the building industries, with Mr. W. H. Nicholls, of the National Federation of Building Trades Employers, as Chairman, and Mr. T. Barron, of the National Federation of Building Trade Operatives, as Vice-Chairman. Mr. B. H. Rogers, of the Ministry of Labour, acted as Secretary to the Committee the Committee

he Committee. In regard to the depletion in the numbers of skilled crafts-nen, the Report states the causes may be shortly indicated men, thus :-

(1) The casual nature of employment, partly due to seasonal causes, partly to irregularity of demand for build-

seasonal causes, party to integrating the seasonal causes, party to integrating the seasonal causes, party to integrating the seasonal causes, (2) The drafts which other industries make upon the labour supply of the industry for the purposes of other industries, e.g., maintenance staffs in large works, requirements in shipbuilding, cabinet making, wagon building and the (3) The prolonged depression in the industry which ex-

(4) The loss of personnel due to the war, to post war-time conditions, and also to emigration;

"agreed." The Committee consider that there is a definite shortage of bricklayers, masons and plasterers; and say there is a general feeling that when other industries (particularly shipbuilding) become active again, there will be a pronounced shortage of carpenters and joiners, and also of plumbers. The Committee do not, however, think that a sufficient amount of suitable labour for house building would be released by limiting the demand in other sections of the building industry, or that the supplying of materials would thereby be rendered easy. "The labour, and much of the material, used in ordinary com-"mercial building is unsuitable for house building... In "the interests of the community there should be no restric-"tion on private or commercial work, the continuance of which

"the interests of the community there should be no restric-"tion on private or commercial work, the continuance of which "is necessary in order to employ large numbers of craftsmen "who would otherwise be unemployed, and such restriction "could not facilitate housing production." The Committee recommend that the maximum programme for the first year should be an added production of 50,000 houses, over and above the 40,000 houses a year that are now being built under the 1923 Housing Act; and consider that the best way to secure the requisite labour will be to distri-bute the contracts over the largest number of employers possible, and that every opportunity should be given to the smaller types of employers to undertake housing contracts by making the contracts small enough. The Committee desires to lay the greatest stress on this recommendation, believing that

making the contracts small enough. The Committee desires to lay the greatest stress on this recommendation, believing that its adoption and observance is a sine quâ non for the successful launching and prosecution of the housing proposals. In regard to the augmentation of the labour supply the Com-mittee "strongly recommend that the work of the National "Joint Apprenticeship Committee should be expedited, and "that among its proposals should be found provisions for "establishing joint apprenticeship committees of employers and "operatives in every locality where both sides are organised, whose mission it should be to stimulate, in every possible way, "the engagement of apprentices up to the limit provided by "the existing working rule agreements, together with the re-

* Cmd. 2104. H.M. Stationery Office. Price 9d. net

moval, for a time at least, of the restrictions as to the numb "moval, for a time at least, of the restrictions as to the number of apprentices which any one employer may have, so long as "the total number of apprentices in a given district, when "compared with the total number of craftsmen of any "trade concerned who are employed in the district, does not "exceed the ratio prescribed by the existing rules. The regis "tration of every apprentice is also required." In addition, the Committee propose that "it should be made a condition "tractor shall employ upon the work, under such contract, ap. "prentices up to a total ratio of one apprentice to three crafts. "men, in each of the following trades, viz., bricklayers and "and plumbers. (This does not mean one to three of the men "and plumbers. (This does not mean one to three of the men "apprentices to be indentured under an approved form of in on the contract, but in the trade in the district.) Such apprentices to be indentured under an approved form of in denture in such a manner that they shall be under the super. vision of a local joint committee of employers and opera-tives, and shall be transferable by that committee wherever possible, should the contractor discontinue housing work, and also in order to secure continuity of training and employ-ment. Such apprentices to be similarly registered. The Committee recognise that part of the difficulty at present apprehended in launching the present housing programme is the want of balance between certain trades (e.g., the relative the shortage of bricklayers and plasterers); and, as this disshortage of bricklayers and plasterers); and, as this dis-crepancy should be rectified, the Committee recommend that instruction should be given to the local apprenticeship com-mittees to exercise a certain discretion as to the number of apprentices in the respective trades until the balance i adjusted.

"adjusted. "The Committee further recommend that these apprentices "be accepted up to 20 years of age. Special consideration shall, "however, be given to applicants who have had previous er." perience of the trade (e.g., building trade labourers). That apprentices so entering the trade prior to their 20th birth. day shall serve not less than four years, subject, however, in "exceptional circumstances, to their right to apply to their "local joint committee to pass a test as qualified craftsmen "after three years' training."

'after three years' training." The following scale of payment is recommended for appren tices under this scheme :

First six	months	40 per	cent.	of the jour	neyman's wag	e
Second	,,	45	,,	,,	"	
Third	,,	50	,,	,,	,,	
Fourth	,,	55	12	"	"	
Fifth	,,	60	12	,,	,, (ashans	
Sixth	,,	65	,,	,,	,,	
Seventh	0.1. 198	75	,,	,,	,,	
Eighth	all end	85	,,	,,	,,	
T	1	the the	the second s	lingtion of	all interacts	

the Committee propose the setting up of a Nation House Building Committee, composed of representatives of the nouse building Committee, composed of representatives of the various organisations, and under the chairmanship of a member of the building industry. It is suggested that such a Com-mittee should be given a status, and a permanency, which would enable it to deal with everything arising within the industry connected with the exercise of its functions under the housing scheme scheme.

scheme. The Statutory Committee so set up should be given power to obtain any information which it deems necessary from housing contractors and others. Its proceedings should be given the requisite amount of publicity to ensure the maintenance of public confidence. It should be consulted in regard to the consideration of design as affecting economy of construction, as to the method of obtaining competitive tenders and of placing contracts, also as to the method of ensuring prompt settlement of accounts. ettlement of accounts.

As to wages in the building industry generally the following

As to wages in the building industry generally the following conclusion is arrived at :--"Bearing in mind the adverse effect upon the building in dustry of certain employers seeking to take advantage of a "shortage, or surplus, of labour by varying the wages pay" "ments according to the state of trade, the Committee are "strongly of opinion that, in the case of contracts placed under "the Government housing scheme, it should be made an "offence to pay either more or less than the agreed standard "for monetary payments. In the case of contracts involving "the expenditure of Government money, that object could and "should be secured by a suitable provision in the contracts, "but legislation would appear to be necessary fully to proteet "the interests of all concerned." In a section of the Report dealing with the supply of materials

In a section of the Report dealing with the supply of materials the Committee express the opinion that under the most favour-able circumstances, and allowing for no increase in building and other new housing, the maximum number of houses that could be built would be :--

1925			90,000	1930		 150,000	
1926			100,000	1931		 170,000	
1927	201.220 24	DE ST	110,000	1932	0.0104	 190,000	
1928	MAR IN	191900	120,000	1933		 210,000	
1929		. Alactica	135,000	1934	(1986 B)	 225,000	
100 100 all	10089 0 00	1125 20 20	STATE OF THE		10000	1.	d

These figures, allowing for the five further years (to make up the 15 years' programme) maintaining a production of 225,000 houses per annum, represent a total of approximately 2,500,000 houses, an average of 170,000 houses per annum. The figures given are inclusive of houses built under the Housing Acts, whether by private enterprise or otherwise. The Committee add that, though it may not be possible to reach this standard of production, owing to circumstances over which the industry

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THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE.

under the Industrial Courts Act, 1919, to inquire into the causes and circumstances of the threatened stoppage of the tramway and omnibus services in and around London, and to report thereon. The strike of tramwaymen began at midnight of the 21st-22nd, and the employees of the London General Omnibus Com-pany, who were not parties to the dispute, ceased work in sympathy with the tramway employees. Over 16,000 tramway-men and 23,000 omnibus workers were involved in the stoppage. The inquiry was opened at the Royal Courts of Justice on Saturday, 22nd March, and was concluded on Sunday, 23rd March. An Interim Report was presented on 24th March. Mr. Ernest Bevin, the General Secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union, presented the case for the tramway-men. Mr. C. W. Matthews, Chairman of the Highways Com-mittee of the London County Council, represented the Council and the Municipal Corporations. Mr. C. J. Spencer represented the three tramway companies in the Metropolitan Area, of which he is General Manager. Evidence was also given by the Rt. Hon. Lord Ashfield, Chairman and Managing Director of the London General Omnibus Company, Limited, and Mr. Frank Pick, its General Manager. The Court submitted the following conclusions in their Interim Report :--(a) Throughout the inquiry the merits of the claim on

(a) Throughout the inquiry the merits of the claim on behalf of the workers for an increase of wages were not (b) The present crisis has, in the main, arisen through

the tramway undertakings in the metropolitan area being unable to earn sufficient to meet the claim. This has been brought about by the severe competition of the omnibuses in the absence of any co-ordinating control, by the heavy expenditure on renewals and upkeep of the permanent way at present high costs, and by the discharge of the statutory obligations for the maintenance of the surface of the

(c) There is unanimity on the part of those who have appeared before us, competent to express an opinion on the matter, that the solution for the present unsatisfactory position of the industry in the metropolitan area is not to

position of the industry in the metropolitan area is not to be found in an increase of fares. (d) All parties express the view, with which we concur, that without some co-ordinating control of passenger traffic within the metropolitan area there is little, if any, prospect of improvement in the condition of the industry. (e) A definite undertaking by the Government to intro-duce and press forward legislation placing the passenger traffic of the metropolitan area under some co-ordinating control affords, in our view, a basis, and the only one at present suggested, for reopening negotiations between the parties. parties.

On receipt of the Interim Report the Government announced their intention of bringing in a Bill for the control of traffic in the metropolitan area, and got into touch with the parties on this basis. Renewed negotiations followed, and on March 25th the representatives of the tramway undertakings, both municipal and company owned (except those of Erith, Ilford, and Bexley), made the following offer :--

On the assumption that the Traffic Bill of the Govern-ment will afford them some relief from the present financial difficulties, the following authorities, namely, the London

County Council, including Leyton, the West Ham, East Ham, Croydon, Walthamstow, and Barking authorities, and the London United, Metropolitan Electric, and South Metropolitan Electric Companies, are prepared to recommend their authorities to make an immediate advance of 5s. a week to the motormen, conductors, inspectors and regulators employed, and to agree to arbitrate as regards the balance of the claim of ϑ s. per week and the claim so far as it affects the other grades of tram employees; and they will all call emergency meetings to ratify this offer.

The men's representatives rejected this offer, and the negotiations broke down. Both sides, however, agreed to attend a conference if called by the Ministry of Labour when the Government thought a suitable opportunity for attempting a settlement presented itself.

The Minister of Transport introduced the London Traffic Bill* in the House of Commons on March 25th, and it was read a second time on March 28th.

On March 26th the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen gave instructions to its members who were employed on the London underground railways to cease work at midnight on the following Friday (March 28th).

work at midnight on the following Friday (March 28th). At the invitation of the Prime Minister, representatives of the Transport and General Workers' Union, the National Union of Railwaymen, and the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen met him on March 27th. In response to a similar invitation, representatives of the tramway and omnibus undertakings also met the Prime Minister. After an adjournment a joint meeting of the parties was held, over which the Prime Minister, and later the Minister of Labour, presided. The conference adjourned late in the evening until the following morning. the following morning.

A provisional settlement was reached on Friday, March 28th, and submitted to a delegate conference on the following day, the strike order to the "tube" men being meanwhile cancelled. The delegate conference decided to submit the terms to a ballot vote of the tramwaymen; and the men were advised to accept them, both by the leaders of the Transport and General Workers' Union and by the Emergency Committee of the Trades Union Congress General Council. The ballot resulted in a large majority for acceptance, the figures being 9,428 for and 4,377 against. Work was generally resumed on Tuesday, April 1st April 1st.

The terms of settlement were as follows :-

(1) Resumption of Work: That immediately upon ratifica-tion of these heads there shall be a complete resumption of work, and all the men shall be reinstated in their former positions and shall in no way be prejudiced for any part taken the dispute.

(2) Tramway Wages: (a) Motormen, conductors, inspectors nd regulators—As and from the date of resumption of work and regulators—As and from the date of resulption of work the basic wages of these grades of employees shall be advanced at the rate of 6s. per week. (b) Other grades—The other grades covered by the Tramway Agreements and Awards shall, as and from the resumption of work, have their bonus increased at the with to consider the question of night work and other condi-

(3) Sliding Scale : All Grades—It is hereby agreed in respect of all grades that the application of the cost of living scale shall be suspended so long as the cost of living index figure is between 75 and 68 inclusive, and thereafter operate in accord

ance with the sliding scale arrangements, namely, 1s. for four points above 75 or below 68 up or down. (4) Boys and youths under the age of 18 years shall be paid one half of the amounts of the increases given under clauses (2) and (3) shows (2) and (3) above

(2) and (3) above.
 (5) Other Conditions: These heads of agreement shall not otherwise than as provided thereunder affect any of the other conditions of labour now operating.
 The Court of Inquiry issued their Final Report on the 3rd

April. In addition to confirming the conclusions set out pre-viously they submitted the following :— (1) The consideration by the National and District Joint Industrial Councils of the question of revision of wages paid to the tramway employees in the metropolitan area was unduly protracted, and the issues, although frequently under discussion, were not resolutely faced. (2) For some weeks at least before the cessation of work it

must have been reasonably clear to the parties that they could not reach a settlement of the claim for an increase of wages, but notwithstanding the fact that the claim was one affecting a service the stoppage of which must occasion the public most serious inconvenience, no real efforts were made on either side to arrive at an agreement to submit the dispute to arbitration. (3 While the present dispute was complicated by the fact that it involved the need for co-ordination and control of the present traffic in the metropolitan area we desire to emphasize

that it involved the need for co-ordination and control of the passenger traffic in the metropolitan area, we desire to emphasise what we have stated in paragraph 45 of this Report, that it should be a recognised principle in industrial disputes affecting public services that prompt and sustained effort should be applied in an endeavour to reach a settlement by means of the established machinery for negotiation, and, failing this, that arbitration should be the mutually recognised procedure for dealing with any outstanding issue between the parties.

House of Commons Bill No. 84. H.M. Stationery Office; price 6d. net.
 Cmd. 2101. H.M. Stationery Office : price 6d. net.

INDUSTRIAL FATIGUE RESEARCH BOARD,

THE Industrial Fatigue Research Board have published thr Reports, dealing respectively with shift systems in the gla trade, with rest pauses in industry, and with variety in repetiti

(i.) Shift Systems in the Glass Trade.*

(i.) Shift Systems in the Glass Trade.* This Report embodies the results of an investigation, conducted in collaboration with the Glass Research Association, into the relative merits of the ten-hour and of the eight-hour shift systems in the glass trade. The conclusions of the Report are that the relative hourly efficiency in bottle blowing increases almost consistently in the eight-hour as compared with the ten-hour shift; the hourly output is greater, and there is less spoilt work. The increase in output is in no case so great as to bring the total output of the eight-hour shift up to the level of the total output of the ten-hour shift; but it should be borne in mind that, where a three-shift system is in operation, the plant in the factories is being productively used for twenty-four instead of twenty hours every day.

being productively used for twenty-four instead of twenty hours every day. The Report also states that night work under the three-shift system does not appear to put a markedly greater strain on the men than day work. The night shift is always more efficient than the morning shift and not much less efficient than the afternoon shift. When two gangs of men are working alternately in six-hour shifts, one each during the day and one each at night, it is found that night work is consistently less efficient than day work. It was found that output is greater in winter than in summer, as in other hot trades, such as the tinplate and the steel in dustries. Further investigation is required with the object of finding a remedy by more efficient ventilation. The Report also suggests that fatigue could be lessened and efficiency increased by alternating the work of the members of a gang (or "chair," as it is called in the glass bottle trade. The heaviest work is that of gathering the molten glass from the pot, and it is probable that fatigue could be relieved if the men took turns at this. Such alternation would also allow, in some cases, of a change of posture from standing to sitting.

(ii.) Rest Pauses in Industry.+

This Report contains an account of the results of an investiga-tion into the effects of breaking up the spells of work in occupa-tions involving light repetitive work by short rest pauses of definite duration and interpolated at definite intervals.

definite duration and interpolated at definite intervals. It is stated that the results of the experiments suggest that monotonous activities of the type under consideration cause a con-siderable reduction in output, which is most apparent about the middle of the spell of work. This reduction can be avoided to a certain extent by the introduction of a rest pause of 15 minutes' duration half-way through the spell, and such a pause is slightly more effective than two rests of $7\frac{1}{2}$ minutes each introduced at intervals of 50 minutes. There is an increase in output not only after the rest, but also before the pause take place.

In the opinion of the Board the judicious introduction of repauses in light repetitive work may not only tend to reduc monotony and so increase the contentment of the workers, bu may also often bring about an increase in output amounting to from 5 to 10 per cent., in spite of the diminution in working time

time. (iii.) Variety in Repetitive Work.[‡] This Report is divided into two sections, setting out the results of investigations into (a) the degree of variety in repetitive industrial work, and (b) the effect of changes in activity. In section (a) it is shown, as a result of actual observation of workers engaged on repetitive processes, that the cycles of rep-tition do not form an unbroken series, but that a certain degree of variety is provided either by changes in activity, short inter-polated rest pauses, or changes in posture. Methods by which this variety can be still further increased are also indicated. The degree of variety must, however, be limited by practical con-siderations, and it is suggested in the Report that there must be some optimum condition between extreme uniformity and

some optimum condition between extreme uniformity and frequent changes of activity. Some light is thrown on this point in section (b) of the Report which is based on actual observations at a factory, supplemented by some experiments carried out in the laboratory. The former by some experiments carried out in the laboratory. Supplementer show that, although the highest output, as measured by earning occurred on days on which the same type of repetitive work con tinued throughout, there are indications that no diminution need hour, a system which was much preferred by the operatives. More

hour, a system which was much preferred by the operatives. More frequent changes, however, caused a much lower output, and greatly increased the amount of unproductive time. The laboratory experiments indicated that spells of work in which changes of activity were introduced every fifty minutes gave a much higher output and less spoiled work than spells in which the same activity was maintained throughout. It is pointed out in the Report that the laboratory experiments repre-sent a comparison between varied and truly continuous work; whereas the factory observations relate rather to types of work all having some, but different degrees of, variety.

* Industrial Fatigue Research Board, Report No. 24. H.M. Stationery Office price 1s. 6d. net. † Industrial Fatigue Research Board, Report No. 25. H.M. Stationery Office price 1s. 6d net. † Industrial Fatigue Research Board, Report No. 26. H.M. Stationery Office price 1s. 6d. net.

MEDICAL EXAMINATION OF YOUNG PERSONS IN FACTORIES.

THE Home Secretary has appointed a Committee to inquire into the working of the provisions of the Factory and Workshop Acts for the medical examination of young persons as to their fitness for employment in factories, and to consider :---

(a) Whether the existing requirement of a certificate of fitness, limited to a particular factory, should be modified; whether any other changes should be made in the examination and certificate, and what arrangements should be adopted for the future.

(b) What measures should be taken for linking up the examination of young persons under the Factory and Work-shop Acts with their examination under the school medical inspection service, and, if considered desirable, with other public health services of the country.

(c) What arrangements could best be made for providing medical supervision of young persons (where such supervi-sion is considered necessary by the Department) during employment in factories or processes where the conditions of work are unfavourable to health or physique.

- The Committee consists of :---
- Mr. Rhys J. Davies, M.P., Parliamentary Under-Secretary of tate, Home Office (*Chairman*). Mr. Gerald Bellhouse, C.B.E., Chief Inspector of Factories. Dr. R. Wallace Henry.

Mr. J. Moore Murray, secretary to the Warrington Educa-Jommittee. Sydney W. Pascall. S. Rackham. W. J. Tout, M.P. A. H. Wood, of the Board of Education (Medical

Mr.

The Secretary of the Committee is Miss R. E. Squire, O.B.E., f the Home Office.

PROCEEDINGS OF JOINT INDUSTRIAL COUN-CILS AND INTERIM INDUSTRIAL RECON-STRUCTION COMMITTEES IN MARCH.

DURING the five weeks ended 29th March, 1924, eight meetings of Joint Industrial Councils and Interim Industrial Reconstruc-tion Committees were reported to the Ministry of Labour. The Trade Union side of No. 5 Provincial Council, East Midlands Area, Local Authorities Non-Trading Services Manual Workers) asked the Council to interpret the sliding scale agreement in accordance with Award 861 of the Industrial Council for its decided to refer the whole matter to the National Council for its deciden and the childs by the more that tional Council for its decision and to abide by the result. It ided also that if the National Council gave a decision in our of the Trade Union side a resulting increase on the edule rates should be made retrospective as from the first day in March, 1924.

a meeting of the Joint Industrial Council for the Road report Industry (Scotland) it was agreed to extend the ag scale agreement, operative last year, for a further year m the 1st May, 1924.

t was announced at a recent meeting of the National Joint lustrial Council of the *Tramways* Industry that the Yar-ath Corporation had decided to rejoin the Council. At this eting the Council discussed the London Tramways dispute,* failing to reach an agreement, reported the position to the

nd, failing to reach an agreement, reported the position to the linistry of Labour. The National Joint Industrial Council for *Electricity Supply*, aving discussed certain matters relating to grading of generat-ing stations or sub-stations, decided to appoint a sub-committee consider the advisability or otherwise of extending the present mits of grading of sub-stations as agreed in existing agree-eents, and also the possibility of applying the system of grading men in generating stations by virtue of the size and of the nits contained therein. An application for an increase in basic ates of pay was referred by this national body to the District ouncils concerned for consideration and report. The Joint Industrial District Council for the *Export Packing* and *Clothworkiag* Industries (London Area) asked the Ministry

The Joint Industrial District Council for the Export Packing d Clothworking Industries (London Area) asked the Ministry Labour to appoint an independent chairman to give an inion on the merits of a wages claim. The two sides accepted chairman Sir Richard Redmayne, and thereupon passed a solution agreeing unanimously that they were prepared to take rt in an inquiry, conducted by the chairman appointed, into e ability of the clothworking industry to pay increased wages. F. Richard Redmayne duly reported his findings to the inister of Labour. A summary of this case will be found der "Conciliators, Single Arbitrators, etc.," on page 150 this issue. THE Swiss Federal Council has issued a Decree, dated 4th March, || to the effect that on and from 1st April, 1924, Federal subsidies to unemployment relief works shall cease. It has also decreed, under date 7th March, || that from the middle of April, 1924, unemployment relief shall cease to be issued to part-time under the transformation of the statement of th workers, that subsidies to private undertakings shall no longer be granted, that no further contributions towards unemployment relief shall be levied on employers, and that trade associations shall cease to participate in the administration of unemployment relief funds. issue

Joint Industrial Council for the Waterworks Undertak-^{gs} Industry has decided not to take the initiative in calling ^{rther} meetings of the Conference of Chairmen of the Public

See page 121 of this issue

April, 1924. April, 1924

Utilities Joint Industrial Councils to consider the question of co-ordinating the pay of general labourers, on the grounds that there is no general desire for a resumption of the Conference. The question of silicosis was further considered by the *Quarrying* Joint Industrial Council, who emphasised their claim to be consulted when any consideration is given to quarries by the Departmental Committee appointed to deal with certain matters connected with the Workmen's Compensation (Silicosis) Act, 1918. Among other questions considered by various Councils at

Act, 1918. Among other questions considered by various Councils at meetings held during March were : the Merchandise Marks Bill; the employment and maintenance of ex-Service men; the pro-portion of apprentices to skilled workers; superannuation; the proposed ratification of the Washington Hours Convention; holiday allowances; and the Industrial Courts Bill.

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ACTS, 1906 AND 1923.

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM.

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM. A MEMORANDUM* has been issued by the Home Office, the object of which is stated to be "to set out briefly and in plain language the main provisions of the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1906, as amended by the Act of 1923."† After a summary of the object of the Acts and of the main changes in the law made by the 1923 Act, the Memorandum deals with the injuries to which the Acts apply, the persons entitled to compensation, the persons liable to pay compensa-tion, the amount of compensation and how payable, the proce-dure for claiming and recovering compensation, the review and redemption of weekly payments, the settlement of disputes by medical referees, the application of the Acts to industrial diseases (which may, in certain specified cases, entitle the person suffering therefrom, or injured thereby, to compensation), and "contracting out."

Appendices are included setting out (i) the rates of compen-sation payable to disabled workmen whose average weekly earn-ings are less than 50s. per week, showing separately the rates for total disablement and for partial disablement; and (ii) the industrial *diseases* to which the Acts apply.

CONTROL OF TRADE UNION FUNDS IN ITALY.

A DECREE, dated 24th January, 1924, placing the control of administration of the funds of workmen's associations un local prefectures, came into force on 6th February, 1924.

All associations and corporations which draw their funds from workers' contributions with a view to mutual benefit are covered by the Decree. Where there is ground for suspicion that the public confidence is being abused, or that the funds are being appropriated to uses other than the economic or moral benefit of the workers, the prefect may order an inquiry; and in grave or urgent cases may suspend the managing committee and appoint a commissioner to carry on the administration for a period not

exceeding one year. A month before the termination of his appointment the commissioner must submit a report on the organisation of the association and on any irregularities which may have been disovered

The prefect, after interrogating such persons as he may think fit, shall decide whether to restore the control to the managing committee, or to appoint a commissioner for a further period, or to suppress the association. In the last case any assets of the association remaining after liquidation are to be used for the benefit of the member

The Socialist and Catholic press and the Corriere della Sera point out that the employment of trade union funds for political purposes will be illegal under the terms of the Decree.

UNEMPLOYMENT RELIEF IN SWITZERLAND FURTHER RESTRICTION.§

• H.M. Stationery Office; price 1d. net. † See the December, 1923, issue of this GAZETTE, page 434. ‡ Published in Gazzetta Ufficiale for 6th February, 1924. § See this GAZETTE for January, 1920, page 11, and for July, August and ovember, 1922, pages 290, 326 and 440 respectively. *[]Recueil des Lois Fédérales*, 5th and 12th March, 1924.

April, 1924.

April, 1924.

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

Summary: Average Increases since July, 1914.

All Items included	 	73 %
Food only	 	67 %

FOOD.

DURING March there was a substantial fall in the retail prices of several of the principal articles of food, largely owing to seasonal causes. The price of eggs fell to an average of 1¹/₂d. each at 1st April, as compared with 2¹/₂d. at 1st March and 3³/₃d. in December. The price of milk was reduced by 1d. or 2d. a quart in many towns. The average price of butter fell during the month by over 2¹/₂d. per lb., and that of cheese by 1d. per lb. There were also smaller but appreciable reductions in the prices of the price of the price of the prices of the prices.

There were also smaller but appreciable reductions in the prices of fish and bacon. Potatoes showed the only appreciable in-crease in prices during the month. As a net result of all the changes recorded, the average in-crease over the level of July, 1914, in the retail prices (in Great Britain and Northern Ireland) of the articles of food included in these statistics fell to about 67 per cent. at 1st April, as compared with about 76 per cent. at 1st March. In the following Table is given a comparison of retail prices of food in July, 1914, and at 1st March and 1st April, 1924 :--

Article.	other	Price (per l wise indicat he nearest	Average Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) at 1st April, 1924, as compared with		
Article.	July, 1914.	lst Mar., 1924.	lst April, 1924.	July, 1914.	lst Mar., 1924.
Theorem and selection states	1 s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Beef, British— Ribs Thin Flank	0 10 0 61	$ \begin{array}{ccc} 1 & 5\frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & 10 \end{array} $	1 51 0 10	$+ 0 7\frac{1}{2}$ + 0 $3\frac{1}{2}$	anter Tata
Beef, Chilled or Frozen- Ribs Thin Flank	0 71 0 42	0 10 ¹ 0 5 ¹ / ₂	0 10 0 5 ¹ / ₃	$+ 0 2\frac{3}{4}$ + 0 0 $\frac{3}{4}$	- 0_ 0‡
Mutton, British— Legs Breast – Mutton, Frozen—	0 10 <u>1</u> 0 6 <u>1</u>	1 73 0 114	1 7 ³ 0 11	+ 0 9 ¹ / ₄ + 0 4 ¹ / ₂	- 0 0‡
Legs Breast Bacon (streaky)*	0 62 0 4 0 114	1 01 0 51 1 32	1 04 0 54 1 32	$\begin{array}{c} + & 0 & 5\frac{1}{2} \\ + & 0 & 1\frac{1}{4} \\ + & 0 & 4\frac{1}{4} \end{array}$	- 0 04
Flour per 7 lb. Bread per 4 lb. Tea Sugar (granulated) Milk per quart	$\begin{array}{c} 0 & 10\frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & 5\frac{3}{2} \\ 1 & 5\frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 3\frac{1}{2} \end{array}$	1 3 0 8 ¹ / ₂ 2 6 ¹ / ₇ 0 7	1 3 0 81 2 61 0 74 0 6	$\begin{array}{c} + 0 & 4\frac{1}{2} \\ + 0 & 2\frac{3}{4} \\ + 1 & 0\frac{1}{5} \\ + 0 & 5\frac{1}{4} \\ + 0 & 2\frac{1}{2} \end{array}$	
Butter	1 21 1 21 0 87 0 7 0 11 0 43	2 21 2 1 1 23 0 63 0 22 0 103	$ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	$\begin{array}{c} + 0 & 9\frac{1}{4} \\ + 0 & 8 \\ + 0 & 5 \\ - 0 & 0\frac{1}{4} \\ + 0 & 6\frac{1}{4} \end{array}$	$ \begin{array}{c} - & 0 & 2\frac{1}{2} \\ - & 0 & 2\frac{3}{4} \\ - & 0 & 1 \\ - & 0 & 1 \\ + & 0 & 0\frac{1}{4} \end{array} $

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

and all incomplete	1st Apri	Average Percentage Increase at 1st April, 1924, as compared with July, 1914.				
Article.	Large Towns (Popula- tions over 50,000).	Small Towns and Villages.	General Average.	sponding figure for 1st March, 1924.		
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.		
Beef, British- Ribs Thin Flank	78 47	73 52	76 49	77 51		
Beef, Chilled or Frozen- Ribs	38 11	38 16	38 14	40 15		
Mutton, British Legs Breast	89 69	91 70	90 69	91 72		
Mution, Frozen Legs Breast Bacon (streaky)* Fish	82 30 40 109	75 30 36 93	79 30 38 101	80 30 42 110		
Flour Bread Tea Sugar (granulated) Milk	39 51 66 261 67	44 47 68 237 82	42 49 67 249 74	42 48 67 250 96		
Butter Fresh <th.< td=""><td>58 53 56 - 4 34</td><td>$\begin{array}{c} 70 \\ 59 \\ 61 \\ -7 \\ 21 \end{array}$</td><td>64 56 58 - 6 28</td><td>81 75 71 - 5 99</td></th.<>	58 53 56 - 4 34	$ \begin{array}{c} 70 \\ 59 \\ 61 \\ -7 \\ 21 \end{array} $	64 56 58 - 6 28	81 75 71 - 5 99		
Potatues All above articles of Food (Weighted Percentage)	<u>148</u> 68	66	128 67	124		

" If this kind is seldom dealt with in a locality, the returns quote the price

another kind locally representative.

RENT, CLOTHING, FUEL AND LIGHT.

As regards rents, inquiries into the changes which have taken effect under the Rent and Mortgage Interest Restrictions Acts indicate that the average increase in rents of working-class dwellings between July, 1914, and 1st April, 1924, was ap-proximately 47 per cent. Of the total increase, about two-fifths is accounted for by increases on account of rates and water charges and about two-fifths is on account of the landlord's responsibility for repairs, increases on account of the higher level of mortgage interest permitted by the Acts falling within the remaining one-fifth.

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 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 changes, it is impossible to make an exact calculation of the increase in prices; but information as to the movements of prices of men's suits and overcoats, underclothing and hosiery, textile materials and boots, received from retailers in the prin-cipal towns, indicates that at 1st April the level of retail prices of articles in this group, taking goods of the kinds pur-chased by the working classes and so far as possible the same qualities of goods at each date, was approximately 125 per cent higher than in July. 1914. higher than in July, 1914.

In the *fuel and light* group there were further increases in the prices of coal during March, and at 1st April the average retail price was about 105 per cent. above that of July, 1914. The average prices of gas and lamp oil showed no considerable change during March, and were about 50 and 55 per cent. respectively above the pre-war level. The prices of candles, however, rose from about 30 to between 45 and 50 per cent. above the pre-war level while these of matches showed no appreciable change level, while those of matches showed no appreciable charge during the month. Taking the fuel and light group as a whole, the average increase at 1st April was about 90 per cent. highe than in July, 1914.

ALL ITEMS.

If the average increases in the cost of all the foregoing item If the average increases in the cost of all the foregoing item 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 iro-mongery, brushware and pottery, tobacco, fares and newspaper (averaging about 80 per cent.), the resultant general average increase for 1st April is approximately 73 per cent.* over the pre-war level, as compared with 78 per cent. a month earlier.

pre-war level, as compared with 78 per cent. a month earlier. The result of this calculation (in which the same quantities and, as far as possible, the same qualities of each item are take for 1924 as for 1914) is to show the average increase in the cot of maintaining unchanged the pre-war standard of living (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). Owing to the variations in the amounts of increase in the prices of different commodities is prohable that economies or re-adjustments in expenditure has is probable that economies or re-adjustments in expenditure has been effected in many families, especially in those cases when incomes have not increased so much as prices. On the other hand, it is probable that the standard of living has been raise in some families in which wages have been increased in great proportion than prices. No allowance is made in the figure for any such alterations in the standard of living, as to which trustworthy statistics are not available.

SUMMARY TABLE : 1915 TO 1924.

The following Table shows the average percentage increase as compared with July, 1914, for all items included in the statistics, at the beginning of each month since January, 1915-

Average	Percentage	Increase	since	July,	, 1914—All	Iven
	(Food rent	clothing	fuel	and]	ight. &c.)	

Month (beginning of).	1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	192
January February March April May June	10-15 15 15-20 15-20 20 25	35-40 35-40 40-45	70-75	90 90-95 95-100	120 120 115 110 105 105	125 130 130 132 141 150	165 151 141 133 128 119	92 88 86 82 81 80	78 77 76 74 70 69	77777
July August September October November December	25 25 30 30-35 35			110 110		152 155 161 164 176 169	119 122 120 110 103 99	84 81 79 78 80 80	69 71 73 75 75 75	1 101 1 101

NOTE.

A brief Statement of the method of compiling these statistic was given on page 236 of the July, 1923, issue of this GAZET A more detailed account was given in the issue of February 1021

• If the amount of increased taxation on commodities is deducted verage increase at 1st April, 1924, is about 5 per cent. less.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

IMPLOYMENT showed a further improvement in March. It was MPLOYMENT showed a further improvement in March. It was ood in the coal mining industry, in the tinplate, steel sheet, arpet, jute and coachbuilding trades, and with skilled peratives (except painters) in the building trades; it was airly good with millsawyers, brickmakers and in certain sec-ions of the metal trades, and fair with coopers, and in some ranches of the leather and clothing trades. In some of the ther large industries, however, it was still very slack.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS.

Among members of Trade Unions from which returns were received, the percentage of unemployed was 7.8 at the end of March, 1924, compared with 8.1* at the end of February, and with 12.3 at the end of March, 1923. Among workpeople covered by the Unemployment Insurance Acts, numbering approximately 1,500,000, and working in practically every industry except agriculture and private domestic service, the percentage un-employed at 24th March, 1924, was 9.9, compared with 10.7 at 25th February, 1924, and 11.5 at the end of March, 1923. For males alone the percentage was 10.3 at 24th March, as com-pared with 11.1 at 25th February, 1924; for females the corre-ponding figures were 8.8 and 9.5. The number of workpeople registered at 31st March, 1924, at Employment Exchanges as pplicants for employment was approximately 1,057,000, of whom men numbered 791,000 and women 204,000, the remainder being boys and girls. The corresponding total for 25th February, 1924, was 1,156,000, of whom 858,000 were men and 227,000 were women. (It should be noted that some unemployed persons— *.g.*, some of those who have not valid claims to unemployment tenefit, or who are not insured under the Unemployment Insur-mice Acts—do not register at the Employment Exchanges.) Among members of Trade Unions from which returns were

EMPLOYMENT IN THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES.

Mining and Quarrying.—Employment at coal mines continued ood generally. The total number of wage-earners on the col-ery books at 29th March was 1,188,461, an increase of 3.6 per ent as compared with March, 1923. The average number of ays worked per week by the pits in the fortnight ended 29th larch was 5.68, as compared with 5.63 in March, 1923.

At iron mines employment was bad in Cleveland and in Cum-erland and Lancashire; in other districts it was fair on the hole. At the mines covered by the returns received there were cereases of 10.6 per cent. in the numbers employed as compared ith February and of 8.2 per cent. compared with March, 1923. The average number of days worked per week by the mines in he fortnight ended 29th March, 1924, was 5.48, an increase of 038 days on the previous month. At shale mines employment mas fair. At limestone quarries employment improved to good in the Clitheroe district; in the Buxton district it was fairly good, and in the Weardale district moderate. At granite quar-tes in the Aberdeen district employment was reported as fair; At iron mines employment was bad in Cleveland and in Cum-, and in the Weardale district moderate. At granice quar-in the Aberdeen district employment was reported as fair; late quarries in North Wales it continued fairly good; at istone quarries in the East of Scotland it improved, and moderate. Employment at china clay quarries continued generally.

Manufacture of Pig Iron, Iron and Steel, and Tinplate.... the pig-iron industry employment during March was slack, d showed a decline as compared with February. Of a total 487 furnaces, the number in blast at the end of March was as compared with 202 at the end of February, 1924.

iron and steel works employment was slack on the e. In the tinplate and steel sheet trade employment nued good. At the end of March 545 mills were reported be in operation, as compared with 511 in March, 1923.

be in operation, as compared with 511 in March, 1923. Engineering, Shipbuilding and other Metal Trades.—Employ-ment in the engineering trades, though showing continued moreovement, was still bad on the whole; in the railway, elec-tical, and motor and cycle sections it remained fairly good; marine and general engineering improved, but were still bad; he textile machinery section showed no improvement. In the shipbuilding and ship-repairing industries employment howed a further slight improvement, but was still very bad. Imployment in the other metal trades showed an improvement aseveral sections, and was fair on the whole. It was fairly od in the brasswork and hollow-ware trades; fair in the nut, olt and nail, cutlery and file, needle and fishing tackle, tube, het metal, farriery, wire, and stove and grate trades; and ack or bad in the metallic bedstead, lock and latch, harness miture, chain and anchor, and jewellery and plated-ware and the trades.

txtile Trades.—In the cotton trade employment showed e general change, though an improvement was reported in e sections of the weaving branch. In the Egyptian spin-section employment continued good, but in the American ming section it remained bad. Employment in the woollen worsted industries shared a further slight improvement, ecially in the woollen section, and was moderate on the ole.

evised figure

THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE.

EMPLOYMENT IN MARCH.

In the hosiery trade employment showed an improvement and was fair on the whole; in the Nottingham district, however, it continued bad. Employment in the lace trade continued bad, with much unemployment and short-time working. In the silk trade employment was moderate, and showed a further slight improvement in the Macclesfield, Leek and Congleton district. In the jute and carpet trades employment continued good. In the linen trade in Ireland it showed a further improvement; in Scotland it continued depressed. Employment in textile bleaching, printing, dyeing, etc., remained slack on the whole, though an improvement was reported with hosiery trimmers at Hinckley and with silk dyers at Macclesfield and Leek.

Leek. Clothing Trades.—Employment in the tailoring trade was fair on the whole, and showed a seasonal improvement, especi-ally in the wholesale bespoke and ready-made branch of the trade. In the dressmaking and millinery trades it was also fair, some improvement being reported from most districts; it continued good in the blouse and light underclothing trade in the London district. In the corset trade employment continued to show improvement and was fair; in the shirt and collar trade it was fair in most districts. In the felt hat trade employment showed a slight improvement, but was still slack; in the boot and shoe trades it continued moderate.

Leather Trades.-Employment in the tanning and currying section continued fair; in the portmanteau, trunk and fancy leather section employment was generally only moderate, but at Birmingham it was very good, except in the fancy leather section, where a slight decline was reported. With saddlery and harness makers employment continued bad.

Building, Woodworking, etc.-Employment in the building trade showed a general improvement; it was good, on the whole, with skilled operatives (except painters) and slack with un-skilled workers. With painters there was a further improve-ment, but employment was still slack in most districts. In the brick trade it showed an improvement and was fairly good.

In the furnishing trades employment improved and was moderate generally; at Birmingham it was fairly good. With coachbuilders it showed a marked improvement and was good; with millsawyers and woodcutting machinists employment also improved and was fairly good generally; with coopers it showed a decline but was still fair; with brushmakers it showed an improvement and was moderate; with basket-makers it was slack, and with packing-case makers it continued bad.

and with packing-case makers it continued bad. Paper Manufacture, Printing and Bookbinding.—In paper manufacture employment continued moderate on the whole. With letterpress printers employment showed a slight improve-ment; in London it was still slack with compositors; but in the provinces it was reported to be good at a number of centres. In the lithographic printing trade employment was generally moderate; it was slack, however, at Liverpoel and Manchester. With bookbinders it was also moderate, on the whole. whole.

Pottery and Glass.—In the pottery trades employment con-tinued slack, on the whole, but was reported as good in the tile, sanitary earthenware and fireclay sections. In the glass trade employment remained moderate, on the whole.

Agriculture and Fishing.—The supply of agricultural labour continued ample for all requirements, but there was less un-employment than during the previous month; many casual labourers being engaged for seasonal work. In the fishing industry employment continued fair.

Dock Labour and Seamen.—Employment among dock labour was moderate, the increased activity following the recent stoppage of work not having been maintained; with seamen it continued poor.

The following Table shows the percentages unemployed (a) among members of those Trade Unions from which returns are obtained, and (b) among workpeople covered by the Unemploy-ment Insurance Acts in Great Britain and Northern Ireland month by month since March 1923 :--

12 10 120 - 2 10		,Pue	Percentages unemployed among					
Da (End of M	Da (End of Month.)		and the second		Trade Unions making Returns.	1002.00	Insured Workpeople.	-: selita rokot
			making Hoburns.	Males. Females.		Total.		
1923. March _ April May June July August September October November December 1924.		1:1:1:1:1:1	12:3 11:3 11:3 11:1 11:1 11:1 11:4 11:3 10:9 10:5 9:7	12-6 12-3 12-0 12-1 12-2 12-4 12-3 12-4 12-3 12-4 12-1 11-2	8·5 8·7 8·9 9·5 10·1 10·0 9·8 9·7 9·1	11.5 11.4 11.2 11.3 11.5 11.8 11.7 11.7 11.7 11.5 10.7		
January February March		: - :	8·9 8·1•	12:5 11:1 10:3	10·2 9·5 8·8	11.9 10.7 9.9		

· Revised figure.

TRADE UNION PERCENTAGES of UNEMPLOYED.

TRADE Unions with a net membership of 1,118,250 in branches covered by the returns received reported 86,731 (or 7.8 per cent.) of their members as unemployed at the end of March, 1924, compared with 8.1* per cent. at the end of February, 1924, and 12.3 per cent. at the end of March, 1923.

weiting to the site over the findner shall out Creating district	Member- ship of Unions reporting	Unemp at en Mar 1924	d of ch,	Inc. (+) or Dec. (- in percentage Unemployed as compared with a		
Trade.	at end of March, 1924.	Num- ber.	Per- cent- age.	Month ago.	Year ago ¶	
Buildingt	113,045 141,920	4, 691 1, 283	4·1 0·9	+ 0.2	- 4·8 - 5·2	
Engineering and Ship- building	358,002 47,299	56,951 3,546	15·9 7·5	-0.7 -1.3	- 6·3 - 1·6	
Textiles:- Cotton Woollen and Worsted Other	59,384 12,133 57,414	3,425§ 168 1,568	5.8 1.4 2.7	$ \begin{array}{r} -1.0 \\ +0.1 \\ -0.3 \end{array} $	-3.4 + 0.3 - 1.4	
Printing, Bookbinding and Paper Furnishing Woodworking	99,242 26 993 44,206	3,676 1,489 1,671	3.7 5.5 3.8	$ \begin{array}{r} -1.0 \\ -1.2 \\ -0.3 \end{array} $	$-\frac{1\cdot 2}{-\frac{1\cdot 4}{-1\cdot 4}}$	
Clothing:	76.027 43,040 5,677 1,188 28,000 4,680	3,596 885 446 38 1,500 1,798	4·7 2·1 7·9 3·2 5·4 38·4	$ \begin{array}{c} + & 0.5 \\ - & 0.2 \\ - & 1.1 \\ + & 0.3 \\ \vdots \\ + & 10.4 \end{array} $	$ \begin{array}{r} - & 0.3 \\ - & 0.5 \\ - & 0.9 \\ + & 0.5 \\ -11.3 \\ + & 3.4 \end{array} $	
Total	1,118,250	86,731	7.8	- 0.3•	- 4.5	

UNEMPLOYMENT IN INSURED TRADES.

THE percentage unemployed among workpeople insured under the Unemployment Insurance Act in Great Britain and Northern Ireland was 9-9 per cent. (males 10.3 per cent.; females 5.8 per cent.) at 24th March, 1924, as compared with 10.7 per cent. (males 11.1 per cent., females 9.5 per cent.) at 25th February, 1924, and 11.5 per cent. (males 12.6 per cent., females 8.5 per cent.) at 26th March, 1923. Tables showing the numbers unem-ployed in the principal industries appear on pages 134 and 135.

SUMMARY OF EMPLOYERS' RETURNS.

ari ind ; containers	Workpeople	Cate Anno 18 and	Inc. (+) o as compar	r Dec. $(-)$ red with a
Trade.	in the Returns for Mar., 1924.	Mar., 1924.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Coal Mining Iron " Shale "	1,188,461 7,518 4,139	Days Worked per week by Mines. 5.68 5.48 5.90	Days. +0.02 +0.38 +0.01	Days. +0.05 +0.04 +0.08
Pig Iron Tinplate and Steel Sheet Iron and Steel	 – 78,893	Furnaces in Blast 194 Mills Working 545 Shifts Worked (one week). 423,734	Number. -8 +6 Per cent. -1.9	Number. - 8 +34 Per cent -3.1

		(0) (JTHER :	I RADES.		theory h	10 Stations	
ing havelynes			of Work		Total Wages Paid to all Workpeople.			
Trade.		Week Inc. (+) or ended Dec. (-) on a		Week	Inc. (+) or Dec. () on a			
		29th Mar., 1924.	Month ago.	Year ago.	29th Mar., 1924.	Month agc.¶	Year ago.¶	
Textiles : Cotton Woollen Worsted Boot and Shoe Pottery Brick		85,356 14,809 26,431 51,738 11,635 6,841	Per cent. - 1.7 + 0.7 - 0.1 + 0.7 + 0.4 + 3.5	Per cent. - 1.0 - 1.5 - 5.6 + 3.2 + 1.8 + 26.3	£ 146,856 30,384 49,248 118,893 21,513 16,784	Per cent. - 3.1 + 2.3 + 0.0 + 0.2 + 1.5 + 6.8	Per cent. - 1·4 - 2·8 -10·0 + 1·7 - 2·1 +32·4	
Total		196,810	- 0.4	+ 0.3	383,678	- 0.6	- 0.7	

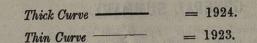
The figure for February has been revised.
* The figure for February has been revised.
* Short time and broken time are not reflected in the figures. In the mining and textile industries a contraction in the demand for labour is generally met by short-time working. Persons on strike or locked-out are also excluded.
* The percentage is based on returns relating to woodworkers and plumbers, and as regards woodworkers, who constitute the bulk of the membership, the returns relate to January.
§ In addition to those shown, who were totally unemployed, a large number of the members of the unions reporting were "paid off part of each week, or alternate weeks or fortnights" or on "temporary stoppage benefit."
I The returns for the tobacco trade are supplied by unions whose members are mainly cigar makers.

cigar makers. oparison of earnings is affected by changes in rates of wages.

EMPLOYMENT CHART.

April 1924.

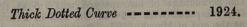
(1) PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED AT THE END OF EACH MONTH AMONG MEMBERS OF TRADE UNION MAKING RETURNS :-

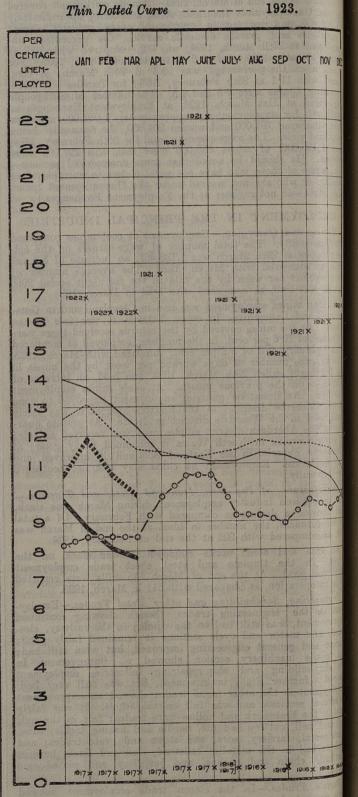


Chain Curve ----- = Mean of 1919-23.

× The crosses indicate the maximum and minimum percentages of Trade Union members unemployed, in the months named, during the years 1894-1923.

PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED AMONG WORK. (2) PEOPLE INSURED AGAINST UNEMPLOYMENT UNDER THE UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACT:





NOTE

The figures relate to Great Britain and Northern Ireland. The Trade Union returns are furnished by various Tradu Unions which pay unemployment benefit to their member Persons on strike or locked out, sick or superannuated, are su cluded from the figures. Detailed figures are given in the pr

The figures for insured workpeople are briefly explained, at re analysed in detail, on pages 134 and 135.

April, 1924.

DETAILED REPORTS ON EMPLOYMENT IN SOME OF THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES.

NOTE .- The numbers of workpeople given in the following Tables represent the numbers covered by the Returns received and (except as regards coal mining) not the total numbers employed in the various industries. The comparisons of numbers employed and wages paid at different dates relate to the same firms at each date, and cover all the wage-carners, prespective of age, sex, or occupation, employed by these firms. In comparing the earnings in different industries, it should be remembered that any averages calculated from these figures will be affected not only by the variations in the state of employment and in rates of wages, but also by differences in the proportions of males and females, of adults and juveniles, and of skilled and unskilled workers in the respective industries.

COAL MINING.

EMPLOYMENT in the coal-mining industry during March continued good generally, and, on the whole, showed little change from the previous month. The total number of wage-earners on the colliery books at 29th March showed an increase of 0.1 per cent. as compared with that at 23rd February and of 3.6 per cent. as compared with that at 24th March, 1923.

mpared with that at 24th March, 1925. The average number of days worked per week for the fort-ght ended 29th March was 5.68, an increase of 0.02 of a day r week as compared with the fortnight ended 23rd February st, and an increase of 0.05 of a day per week as compared with e relative figures for 24th March, 1923. There was a decline the Fife and Chakmanna distinct at a second the Fife and Clackmannan district, where an average of three-insters of a day was lost owing to transport difficulties and of trade.

The percentage of workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 1 per cent. at 24th March, as compared with 2.5 per cent. at ebruary last.

The following Table shows, for the principal coal-mining dis-ricts, the total number of wage-earners on the colliery books and the average number of days worked per week * during the ortnight ended 29th March, as indicated by the returns bitained by the Mines Department. Small numbers of work-eople employed at coal-mines in raising or handling minerals ther than coal are included in these totals.

1-21-21	Wage Ea	I Numberners on Books at		Days w	age Num orked per the Min	r Week
Districts.	29th Mar.,	(-)as c) or Dec. ompared ch a	Fort- night ended	Inc. (+) (-) as c wit	or Dec. ompared h a
	1924.	Month ago.	Year ago.	29th Ma ., 1924.	Month ago.	Year ago.
ENGLAND AND WALES: Northumberland	64.237	$\frac{\text{Per cent}}{+ 0.0}$	Per cent + 4.8	Days. 5.48	Days. + 0.05	Days. + 0.01
Durham	175,822	+ 0.2	+ 5.0	5.43	+ 0.04	- 0.01
morland	11,949	- 0.6	+ 2.0	5.73	_	+ 0.03
South Yorkshire	114,113	+ 0.3	+ 5.3	5.61	+ 0.03	- 0.01
Lancs. and Cheshire	69,834 105,742	-0.3 + 0.0	+ 4.0	5·74 5·91	+ 0.01	- 0.05
Derbyshire	65.951	+ 0.0	+ 2.7	5.82	+ 0.02 + 0.06	+0.27 +001
Notts. and Leicester.	66.529	+ 0.4	+ 4.3	5.74	+0.08 + 0.15	+0.01 + 0.10
Warwick	21,692	- 0.2	+ 0.1	5.97	- 0.01	+0.02
North Staffordshire South Staffs., † Worc.	35.312	- 0.1	+ 1.8	5.76	- 0.05	- 0.04
and Salop	36,488	+ 0.3	+ 4.1	5.99		+ 0.07
Glouc, and Somerset	14,780	+ 1.2	+ 3.5	5.90	+ 0.02	+ 0.15
Kent North Wales	1,892	+ 3.1	+ 3.2	5.73	-	+ 0.23
South Wales and Mon.	18,437 243.794	-0.2 -0.1	+ 5.4 + 31	5·77 5·86	$\begin{vmatrix} -0.17 \\ +0.03 \end{vmatrix}$	-0.19 + 0.21
England and Wales	1,046,572	+ 0.1	+ 3.6	5.73	+ 0.04	+ 0.08
COTLAND :			1.5000000			
Mid & East Lothians.	15,808	+ 0.0	+ 2.5	5.31	- 0.11	- 0.04
FifeandClackmannan	31,084	- 0.2	+ 3.7	4.78	- 0.73	- 0.78
Rest of Scotland -	94,997	+ 0.5	+ 4.3	5.48	+ 0.05	- 0.01
Scotland	141,889	+ 0.1	+ 4.0	5.31	- 0.16	- 0.18
GREAT BRITAIN _	1,188,461	+ 0.1	+ 3.6	5.68	+ 0.02	+ 0.05

The average number of coal-winding days lost in Great Britain using the fortnight ended 29th March, 1924, was 0.08 of a day (of which 0.04 of a day was lost through transport diffi-culties and want of trade). The corresponding figures for the fortnight ended 25rd February, 1924, were 0.10 of a day and 0.6 of a day respectively; for the fortnight ended 24th March, 1923, they were 0.13 of a day and 0.06 of a day respectively. The average non-winding time for each of the three periods under review was about a quarter of a day per week. The output of coal in Great Britain for the four weeks ended 29th March was returned to the Mines Department at 23,051,900 ons, as compared with 22,572,400 tons for the four weeks ended 29th March, 1923.

1923.

The exports of coal, including coal shipped for the use of teamers engaged in the foreign trade, and the coal equivalent f coke and manufactured fuel, amounted in March to 6,953,909 ons, compared with 6,908,862 tons in February.

The figures in this and the following article show the number of days (allow, e being made in all the calculations for short days) on which coal, iron were got from the mines included in the returns. It is not necessarily uled that all the *persons* worked every day the mines were open. Mines not king are unitted in computing the average number of days worked. Including Cannock Chase.

IRON AND SHALE MINING.

Iron Mining.

EMPLOYMENT continued bad in the Cleveland district; it was also bad in the Cumberland and Lancashire area, where there was a considerable decline in March. Elsewhere it was fair on the

whole. The percentage of workpeople unemployed in iron ore and iron-stone mining and quarrying, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges. was 22.6 on 24th March, as compared with 20.2 on 25th February. The following Table summarises the information received from these employees who furnished returns in

those employers who furnished returns :--

In udana starypila	peopl	ber of e emplo s includ e Retur	yed at led in	work	ge No. c ed per w he Mines	eek by	
Districts.	Fort- night ended 29th	Inc. (Dec.() pared		Fort- n ght ended /9th	Inc. (Dec.(-) pared	as com.	
Landing and Area	Mar., 1924.	Month ago.	Year ago.	Mar., 1924.	Month ago.	A COLUMN TO A COLUMN TO A COLUMN	
	E Carl	Per cent.	Per cent.	Days.	Days.	Days.	
Cleveland	3,592	+ 0.3	+ 8.9	5.22	+ 0.75	+ 0.28	
shire	· 2,188 1,738	-30.1 + 2.2	-33.6 + 90	5·72 5·73	+ 0.19 + 0.10	- 0.13 + 0.09	
ALL DISTRICTS	7,518	- 10.6	- 8.2	5.48	+ 0.38	+ 0.04	

Shale Mining. Employment continued fair during March. At mines employ-ing 4,139 workpeople during the fortnight ended 29th March there was a decrease in the number employed of 0.3 per cent. compared with the previous month, and of 5.2 per cent. com-pared with a year ago. The average number of days * worked per week by the mines was 5.90 in March, 1924, 5.89 in Feb-ruary, 1924, and 5.82 in March, 1923.

PIG IRON INDUSTRY.

PIG IRON INDUSTRY. EMPLOYMENT during March was slack, and showed a decline as compared with February. The percentage of workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 11.8 at 24th March, 1924, compared with 10.1 at 25th February. Returns received by the National Federation of Iron and Steel Manufacturers from 83 firms employing 21,133 workpeople at the end of March showed a decrease of 2.7 per cent. compared with the number employed at the end of February, and a decrease of 8.9 per cent. compared with March, 1923. The total number of furnaces in blast at the end of March as shown by the returns collected by the Federation was 194, a decrease of 8 compared with February, 1924, or with March, 1923.

The following Table shows the number of furnaces in blast at the end of March, 1924, February, 1924, and March, 1923 :---

District.	Total Number	Number			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Mar., on a	
TRADES.	of Furnaces.	Mar. 1924.	Feb 1924	Мат. 1923.	Month ago.	Year ago.
ENGLAND AND WALES.	100000	lipoj es lepsites	64154	he the	30,51	the eff
Durham and Cleveland Cumberland and W. Lancs.	115 46	44 10	47 12	43 17	- 3 - 2	$+ \frac{1}{7}$
Other parts of Lancs. and Yorks., including Sheffield.	38	17	17	16	-	+ 1
Oerby, Leicester, Notts. and Northants.	73	41	40	3 5	+ 1	+ 6
Lincolnshire Staffs, Shropshire, Worcester and War- wick.	22 58	19 19	19 19	16 19	-	+ 3
South Wales and Mon- mouth.	33	11	11	9	2001	+ 2
Total, England and Wales	385	161	165	155	- 4	+ 6
Scotland	102	33	37	47	- 4	- 14
Total	487	194	202	202	- 8	- 8

* See note * in previous column

THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE.

The production of pig iron in March amounted to 668,600 tons as compared with 612,700 tons in February, and 633,600 tons in March, 1923.

IRON AND STEEL WORKS.

EMPLOYMENT among iron and steel workers was slack, on the whole, during March.

The percentage of workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 16.3 on 24th March, as compared with 16.8 on 25th February.

According to returns from firms employing 78,893 workpeople, the volume of employment during the week ended 29th March (as indicated by the number of workpeople employed at each works, combined with the number of shifts during which work was carried on in each case) decreased 1.9 per cent., as com-pared with February and 3.1 per cent. as compared with a year ago. The average number of shifts during which the works were open was 5.4 per week in all three periods.

The following Table summarises the information received from employers who furnished returns for the three periods under review :--

The second second	emple	t Workpo oyed by ing retu	firms	Aggreg	ate num Shifts.•	te number of hifts.•		
And	Week ended 29th Mar.		Week ended 29th Mar.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a				
Time and man	1924.	Month year ago. ago.		1924.	Month ago.	Year ago.		
DEPARTMENTS. Open Hearth Melting Furnaces Puddling Forges Rolling Mills Forging and Pressing Founding Other Departments Mechanics, Labourers	9,416 4,303 28,706 3,156 8 283 7,811 17,218	Per cent. - 0.4 + 13.1 - 1.5 - 5.1 - 2.9 - 5.4 - 0.5 - 1.1	$\begin{array}{r} \text{Per} \\ \text{cent.} \\ - 2.0 \\ - 12.6 \\ - 15.6 \\ + 5.2 \\ + 0.9 \\ + 0.6 \\ - 5.7 \\ - 2.5 \end{array}$	54,100 19,587 144,018 16,762 47,268 43,211 98,788 423,734	Per cent. - 1.6 + 10.9 - 3.1 - 5.4 - 1.9 - 4.7 - 0.4	Per cent. -3.3 -17.9 -3.4 +12.1 +3.6 +0.1 -5.7 -3.4		
TOTAL	78,893	- 11	- 2.0	423,134	- 1.9	- 3.1		
Districts. Northumberland, Dur- ham and Cleveland Sheffield and Rother- ham Leeds, Bradford, etc Cumberland, Lancs. and Cheshire Staffordshire Other Midland Counties Wales and Monmouth	15,680 19,393 2,528 6,876 8,157 4,281 9,297	$\begin{array}{rrrr} - & 2.6 \\ - & 1.2 \\ - & 0.6 \\ - & 13.0 \\ + & 4.9 \\ - & 2.0 \\ + & 1.2 \end{array}$	$ \begin{array}{r} - 3.8 \\ + 1.0 \\ + 10.4 \\ - 12.0 \\ - 1.6 \\ + 0.3 \\ + 3.2 \\ \end{array} $	86,577 103,807 13,832 35,318 44,009 23,210 49,880	$\begin{array}{rrrr} - & 2.9 \\ - & 1.5 \\ - & 0.8 \\ - & 16.2 \\ + & 4.8 \\ - & 0.9 \\ - & 2.2 \end{array}$	$ \begin{array}{r} - 4.2 \\ + 2.5 \\ + 10.6 \\ - 14.8 \\ - 2.5 \\ + 2.8 \\ + 0.2 \\ \end{array} $		
Total, England and Wales Scotland TOTAL	66,212 12,681 78,893	$-\frac{1.9}{+3.2}$ - 1.1	-1.4 -7.6 -2.5	356,633 67,101 423,734		$ \begin{array}{r} - 1.8 \\ - 9.6 \\ \hline - 3.1 \\ \end{array} $		

The production of steel ingots and castings, as returned by the National Federation of Iron and Steel Manufacturers, amounted in March to 825,200 tons, compared with 767,600 tons in February and 802,500 tons in March, 1923.

TINPLATE AND STEEL SHEET TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT in these trades continued good during March. At the end of the month 545 tinplate and steel sheet mills were reported to be in operation at the works for which information is available, as compared with 539 in February and 511 at the end of March, 1923.

The percentage of workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the number of unemployment books lodged at Employment Ex-changes, was 3.8 on 24th March, compared with 4.0 on 25th February

The following Table shows the number of mills in operation at the works covered by the returns received at the end of March, 1924, together with the increases and decreases as compared with February, 1924, and March, 1923 :-

• The figures relate to the number of shifts during which the works were in operation, allowance being made for the numbers of men employed. No account is taken of the time lost by *individuals* owing to absenteeism, &c., and it is not implied that the number of shifts shown were actually worked by all the men employed.

THEMYO	Number	of Work	s Open	Numb	Number of Mills in Operation			
Works.	At end of	Inc. (Dec. (-	+)or -)on a	At end of	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a			
inkin falst i	Mar., 1924.	Month ago.	Year ago.	Mar., 1924. Month ago.	And starting of the local strength of the	Year ago.		
Tinplate Steel Sheet	78 14	+ 1	+ 4	415 130	+ 7 - 1	+ 23 + 11		
TOTAL	92		+	545	+ 6	+ 34		

The *exports* of tinned and galvanised plates and sheets i March, 1924, amounted to 96,447 tons, or 1,025 tons more tha in February, 1924, but 4,165 tons less than in March, 1923.

ENGINEERING.

EMPLOYMENT in this industry during March was still bad on the whole, although showing continued improvement. In the railway, electrical, and motor and cycle sections it remained fairly good; in marine and general engineering, though still bad, it showed a slight upward tendency, but in the textile machinery section no improvement was recorded. The following Table shows the numbers and percentages of insured workpeople unemployed at 24th March, 1924, and the increase or decrease as compared with 25th February, 1924 :--

-elfa palaing la	Number of Insured Workpeople Unemployed at 24th March, 1924.							
Divisions.	Engi- neering, Engineers' Iron and Steel Founding.	Electri- cal Engi- neering.	Marine Engi- neering and Marine Boiler Making.	Con- struc- tional Engi- neering.	TOTAL.	Dec. (as con pare with 25th Feb 1924		
London South Eastern South Western Midlands North Eastern North Western Scotland Wales Northern Ireland	10,641 4,492 2,721 11,549 22,769 32,934 19,717 660 } 1,857	366 234 64 1,146 431 939 173 30 7	120 135 563 43 6,276 348 2,825 17 625	118 50 48 836 867 189 956 11 13	11,245 4,911 3,396 13,574 31,273 34,4 0 23,671 718 2,502			
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.	} 108,340	3,390	10,882	3,088	125,700	- 9,		
Males Females	106,028 2,312	2,814 576	10,847 35	3,050 38	122,739 2,961	- 8		
	Percent	age Unemj	ployed at 2	4th March	, 1924.	Inc.		
Divisions.	Engi- neering, Engineers' Iron and Steel Founding.	Electri- cal Engi- neering.	Marine Engi- neering and Marine Boiler Making.	Con- struc- tional Engi- neering.	TOTAL.	- Dec. in p cent as co par wit 25 Fe 19		

1969 - 19	Steel Founding.	neering.	Marine Boiler Making.	Engi- neering.	Reading .	25th Feb., 1924.
London South Eastern South Western Midlauds North Eastern North Western Scotland Wales Northern Ireland	$\begin{array}{c} 11.2\\ 10.4\\ 7.6\\ 12.4\\ 16.6\\ 21.2\\ 21.2\\ 8.4\\ \end{array}$	5·3 3·0 2·4 5·5 7·5 5·9 8·6 8·6 6·4	23.5 3.8 9.0 2.5 21.6 12.9 16.2 34.0 10.8	7·1 6·3 8·9 15·0 12·6 10·4 15·6 2·9 65·0	10 8 8·9 7·5 11·2 16·9 19·5 20·0 8·3 17·6	$ \begin{vmatrix} - & 12 \\ - & 11 \\ - & 02 \\ - & 15 \\ - & 15 \\ - & 16 \\ - & 04 \\ - & 02 \\ + & 05 \end{vmatrix} $
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.	} 16.1	5•4	16•3	13.0	15-2	- 11
			10.5	10.0	15-0	1.2

On the North-East Coast employment was still very bad in the general and marine engineering sections, although a further improvement was experienced, especially in the latter section; at locomotive works conditions were fair, but a decline was reported on the Tyne. In Yorkshire the slow improvement con-tinued, especially at Sheffield; railway engineering work was fairly good, and printing machinery makers at Otley continued well employed. In Lincolnshire employment remained bad, the agricultural machinery section being still much below normal. In Lancashire and Cheshire the textile machinery section re-mained depressed, much short time being still reported; but in mained depressed, much short time being still reported; but in other sections a steady improvement was noted, increased activity being observed chiefly in the motor, locomotive, elec trical and mining machinery sections, while with patternmakers employment was fair on the whole. In the Birmingham, Wolverhampton and Coventry district

4.9

3.2

4.5

5.6 - 0

Males..... Females

16.7 5.8

April, 1924. April, 1924.

he motor and cycle industries continued to improve, especially the light car and motor-cycle sections. Activity was most ronounced at Coventry, where night shifts were in operation t many works. In locomotive and electrical engineering emt many works. In locomotive and electrical engineering em-loyment was good. General engineering was slack, but improv-ng; there was a considerable demand for small tools, and em-loyment in the machine tool section, although still very bad, ontinued to show a slight improvement. At Nottingham em-loyment was slack, except in the cycle section. At Derby, elicester and Newark it was fair, and better than in February. Little change was observed in the Eastern Counties, but the endency was towards improvement; at Norwich employment emained fair, while at Colchester it continued bad. In London and the Southern Counties employment on motor, aircraft and gilway work continued good; in general engineering it was ad the Southern Countries employment on motor, aircraft and ailway work continued good; in general engineering it was ery moderate, but showed a slight improvement. In South Vales employment was moderate on the whole.

In Glasgow and the West of Scotland employment still renained bad, though a further slight improvement was recorded, nd patternmakers were fairly well employed in some branches. Yonditions were also a little better at Edinburgh. At Aberdeen and Dundee employment remained slack. No improvement was experienced at Belfast, where employment remained bad.

SHIPBUILDING AND SHIP-REPAIRING.

SHIPBUILDING AND SHIP-REPAIRING. EMPLOYMENT in the shipbuilding and ship-repairing industries emained very bad during March, though generally there was a inther slight improvement. On the North-East Coast employment was very bad, but it ontinued slowly to improve; with ship-joiners it was fair on the Tyne and good on the Wear. On the East Coast it continued ad. On the Thames it was still bad, but showed some improve-ment. On the South Coast employment was slack, but showed a slight improvement, except at Southampton, where the wages sispute, which commenced in February, continued throughout the month. On repair work at the Bristol Channel Ports there was considerable fluctuation in employment; at the end of the month it was bad and rather worse than at the end of February. On the Mersey employment on repair work was fairly active, and showed a further slight improvement. At Barrow employment ontinued bad, but was better than in February. Employment ontinued bad, but was better than in February. At Belfast it movement compared with the previous month; with ship-joiners twas good. At Dundee employment was moderate. At Aber-ten it was good, and better than in February. At Belfast it mained bad, and showed some decline. The following Table shows the numbers and percentages of

The following Table shows the numbers and percentages of sured workpeople unemployed at 24th March, 1924, and the crease or decrease as compared with 25th February, 1924 :--

Divisions.	Total number of insured workpeople unemployed at 24th Mar., 1924.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as com- pared with 25th Feb., 1924.	Percentage Unemployed at 24th Mar., 1924.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in per- centage as compared with 25th Feb., 1924.
London	4,144 1,126 5,474 168 25,370 10 018 18,888 4,119 7,801	$\begin{array}{rrrr} - & 422 \\ - & 138 \\ + & 408 \\ + & 33 \\ - & 1,973 \\ - & 1,328 \\ - & 1,045 \\ + & 122 \\ + & 584 \end{array}$	29·2 11·9 17·6 33·6 35·0 27·9 26·3 32·3 31·9	$ \begin{array}{r} - 3.0 \\ - 1.5 \\ + 1.3 \\ + 6.6 \\ - 2.7 \\ - 3.7 \\ - 1.5 \\ + 0.9 \\ + 2.4 \\ \end{array} $
REAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND	77,108	- 3,759	28.3	- 1.4
Males	76,849	- 3,717	28.6	- 1.4
Females	259	- 42	6.5	- 1.0

SHIPBUILDING IN THE QUARTER ENDED 31st MARCH, 1924.

CORDING to Lloyd's Register Quarterly Shipbuilding Returns gross tonnage of merchant vessels under construction in eat Britain and Ireland at the end of March, 1924, amounted 1,473,629 tons, as compared with 1,395,181 tons at the end December, 1923, and 1,492,138 tons at the end of March, 3. These figures include a considerable amount of tonnage out 101,000 tons at the end of March, 1924) on which work d been suspended. When allowance is made for this the mage actually under construction at the end of March, 1924, nounted to about 1,373,000 tons. The average tonnage build-g during the twelve months immediately preceding the war a 1,890,000 tons. 1,890,000 tons.

slight decrease is shown in the tonnage commenced during quarter, viz., 227,786 tons, as compared with 244,506 tons ing the previous quarter.

he above figures are exclusive of warships and of merchant els under 100 tons gross.

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WOOLLEN AND WORSTED TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT during March showed a slight further improvement in these trades, and was moderate on the whole. The improve-ment was mainly in the woollen sections of the industry. The percentage of workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges,

the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 5.0 on 24th March, as compared with 6.6 on 25th February.

Employment with wool sorters and warehousemen showed little net change as compared with the previous month, a decline with some firms being counterbalanced by an improve-ment with others. With wool combers there was an improve-ment in the crossbred section, where employment was described as good; no improvement was reported in other sections, where there was much short time. In the worsted spinning section employment was reported as moderately good, with some all-round improvement; the previously noted improvement in the crossbred spinning section was maintained, and employment in the botany spinning section was also slightly better than a month earlier.

In the manufacturing section the conditions of employment Where irregular; with some firms employment was good, with others it was bad. In the fine cloth trade of Huddersfield, Leeds and Halifax, and in the coating trade of Bradford and Keighley employment was reported as bad; in the Bradford dress goods trade it remained moderate.

dress goods trade it remained moderate. In the Huddersfield area, a noticeable improvement was reported with firms engaged in the medium worsted trade. In the tweed trade of the Colne Valley and the Heavy Woollen District of Dewsbury and Batley, in Saddleworth and the Calder Vale, employment was described as good. The improve-ment previously noticed in the low woollen trade in the Leeds and Morley districts was maintained. In the flannel and blanket trade employment was reported as good.

In Scotland employment was reported as good. In Scotland employment was better than in February. At Galashiels it was reported as fair, with some overtime, and as better than in February; at Hawick it was described as dull, with much short time, especially in the tweed trade. At Dumfries orders were said to be increasing, and at Alloa woollen manufacturers also received a large number of orders. The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished returns as to the numbers of workpeople employed and the total amount of wages paid in the three periods under review :—

		and the second second					
		Number Vorkpeo		Total all	Wages 1 Workpe	oaid to ople.	
And Property States	Week ended 29th	Inc. (- Dec. (-	(+) or -) on a	Week ended 29th	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on		
anno as agnado imad	March, 1924.	Month ago.	Year ago.	March, 1924.	Month ago.	Year ago.•	
the propessi to york	WOOLLE	INDU	JSTRY.	and h	tica qe	neiden	
Departments. Wool Sorting Spinning Weaving Other Departments Not specified TOTAL	398 3,435 5,718 4,351 907 14,809	Per cent. + 3 ⁻ 1 + 1 ⁻ 0 + 0 ⁻ 6 + 0 ⁻ 7 - 0 ⁻ 9 + 0 ⁻ 7	$\begin{array}{c} \text{Per} \\ \text{cent.} \\ + 3.9 \\ - 1.3 \\ - 1.6 \\ - 2.3 \\ + 0.3 \\ - 1.5 \end{array}$	£ 937 7,061 10,575 9,896 1,915 30,384	Per cent. - 2:2 + 0:3 + 3:7 + 2:6 + 3:6 + 2:3	Per cent. + 1·1 + 1·3 - 2·1 - 4·3 - 13·5 - 2·8	
income demand. Out	1000 300	Per	Per	The summer of	Per	Per	
Districts.	* 2001 Still	cent.	cent.	£	cent.	cent.	
Huddersfield District Leeds District Dewsbury and Batley	1,179 1,159	$\begin{array}{c} - & 0.4 \\ + & 6.7 \end{array}$	- 2.7 + 4.0	2,719 2,653	+ 2.5 + 2.3	- 10•5 + 13•3	
District	1,619 1,586	- 0.6 + 0.5	+ 2.3 - 0.9	3,675 3,649	+ 1.2	+ 0.5	
Total West Dille					- 1.8	- 1.6	
Scotland	5,543 4,572 4,694	+ 0.0 + 2.3 - 0.0	+ 0.6 - 3.3 - 2.0	12,696 9,318 8,370	+ 0.8 + 7.8 - 1.0	- 0.4 - 2.2 - 6.8	
TOTAL	14,809	+ 0.7	- 1.2	30,384	+ 2.3	- 2.8	
W Endersteinen was	VORSTE	d Indu	JSTRY.	e zone e Net kanto	ind an	ale Lo D'é Co	
Departments. Vool Sorting and Combing pinning Veaving Other Departments Not Specified	2,404	- 0.5	Per cent. - 6·5 - 4·6 - 6·5 - 0·0 - 13·8	£ 10,020 21,052 9,052 6,164 2,960	Per cent. + 3.4 + 1.3 - 2.9 - 3.9 - 2.9	Per cent. - 9.7 - 7.7 - 9.5 - 9.6 - 25.9	
TOTAL	26,431	- 0.1	- 5.6	49,248	+ 0.0	- 10.0	

Districts. Bradford District ... Keighley District ... Halifax District ... Huddersfield District ... Other Parts of West Riding ... £ 28,323 7,349 4,392 4,745 1,690 + 1.4 + 6.7 2,783 - 3.5 - 5.1 Total, West Riding Other Districts - 0.1 - 5.8 - 1.125,306 1,125 TOTAL .. 26,431 - 0.1 - 5.6 49,248 + 0.0 - 10.0

Per cent. - 0.6

* Comparison of earnings is affected by changes in rates of wages,

Returns from firms in the *woollen* section employing 14,558 workpeople in the week ended 29th March showed that about 29 per cent. of these workpeople were on short time to the extent, on the average, of six hours in that week. In the *worsted* section returns from firms employing 24,6-5 workpeople in the same week showed that about 14 per cent. of these workpeople were on short time to the extent of about ten hours on the average.

The imports (less re-exports) of raw wool (sheep or lambs') were 75,447,900 lbs. in March, 1924, compared with 42,768,700 lbs. in February, 1924, and 44,557,600 lbs. in March, 1923. The *exports* of woollen and worsted yarns were 3,557,800 lbs., compared with 4,635,600 lbs. in February, 1924, and 4,157,000 lbs. in March, 1923.

lbs. in March, 1923. The exports of woollen and worsted tissues were 14,769,300 square yards, compared with 19,822,200 square yards in February, 1924, and 14,381,500 square yards in March, 1923. The exports of blankets were 204,346 pairs, 157,102 pairs and 98,466 pairs in March, 1924, February, 1924, and March,

1923, respectively.

The following Table shows the number of men and women registered at 3rd March as applicants for employment at Em-ployment Exchanges in the principal centres, at which approxi-mately 62 per cent. of the total number of applicants for employ-ment in the woollen and worsted trades were registered :--

Departments.	310	d March, 19	924.	Increase (+) Decrease (-) as compared with 4th February, 1924.				
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.		
Wool Sorting	89	2	91	+ 15	- 3	+ 12		
Wooll Washing and Preparing	488	98	586	- 147	- 19	- 166		
Wool Combing	486	435	921	- 212	- 255	- 467		
Wool Carding	443	80	523	- 295	- 49	- 344		
Wool Spinning	228	102	330	- 132	- 04	- 150		
Spinning	152	1,038	1,190	- 120	- 674	- 794		
Wool Winding and	A K BAR	ar gees	- Victoria (1996)	S PARE ST IT	all and the	AD LODGE		
Warping	146	90	236	- 31	- 56	- 87		
Worsted Winding and	47	203	250	a and all	- 156	- 156		
Warping Wool Weaving _	282	969	1,241	- 118	- 597	- 715		
Worsted Weaving	72	1,010	1,082	- 35	- 408	- 443		
Other Processes	1,037	139	1,176	- 224	- 45	- 269		
TOTAL	3,470	4,156	7,626	- 1,299	- 2,326	- 3,625		

COTTON TRADE

DURING March employment showed little general change as com-pared with February. Practically all the employers in the section spinning American cotton adopted the proposal to work short time, and the mills engaged in that class of work, with very few exceptions, were running 264 hours per week, or were reducing their production in proportion by the stoppage of an equivalent number of spindles. Spinners of Egyptian cotton continued to be fully employed. In the weaving section of the trade increased employment was reported among operatives engaged in the manufacture of fancy goods and of fine plain goods, but operatives employed on medium and coarse cloths continued very slack. It was reported that many manufacturers were adapting their machinery to meet the present demand, but some difficulty was experienced in securing weavers with sufficient skill to weave cloth to which they were not accustomed. The percentage of workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the DURING March employment showed little general change as com-

The percentage of workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 15.4 on the 24th March, as compared with 15.7 on the 25th February.

In the Oldham, Ashton and Stockport districts employment in the spinning section was reported as bad and worse than in February; organised short time of three days per week was in force during the month in the American section of the trade.

February; organised short time of three days per week was in force during the month in the American section of the trade. In the manufacturing section also employment was very slack, and short time was very prevalent. A slight improvement was, however, reported with velvet weavers. At Bolton, Leigh and Chorley employment with spinners continued good. With weavers in the Bolton district employment was reported as fair; with cardroom workers it continued fairly good. In the Bury and Rochdale districts employment with spinners was reported as bad; with weavers there was a slight improvement. Employment with weavers in the Burnley, Blackburn, Preston and Darwen districts continued slack. There was some slight improvement in the Burnley and Blackburn districts; in Burnley the total production was reported to be rising rapidly up to 70 per cent. of normal, as compared with about 60 per cent. in February. At Blackburn it was reported that about 15,000 looms (out of a total of 97,000) were idle during March, as com-pared with over 17,000 looms in the previous month, and with 19,600 in November last. In Preston it was reported that the volume of unemployment was less than for many months past, but that there was, on the other hand, an increase in the volume of under-employment; about 3,000 weavers were reported to be working alternate weeks during March. At Darwen a large number of looms. number of looms.

The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished returns for the three periods under review :---

and ages and stories as		umber o rkpeopl		Total V all V	Vages pa Vorkpeo	id to ple.
All Mariting and All	Week ended 29th	Inc. (Dec. (-	+) or -) on a	Week ended 29.h	Inc. (Dec. (-	+) or
ta Constant, box and Anotic registrophysic ad unit, bu Tender	Mar., 1924.	Month ago.	Year ago.	Mar., 1924.	Month ago.	Year ago.
DEPARTMENTS. Preparing Spinning Weaving Other Not specified	11,288 21,147 36,152 8,163 8,606	Per cent. - 1 [.] 1 - 0 [.] 8 - 2 [.] 8 - 1 [.] 4 - 0 [.] 2	$\begin{array}{c} \text{Per} \\ \text{cent.} \\ + & 2.0 \\ + & 1.4 \\ - & 4.1 \\ - & 2.5 \\ + & 4.3 \end{array}$	£ 17,298 34,567 61,018 18,445 15,528	Per cent. - 6.8 - 4.6 - 0.9 - 3.4 - 4.4	Per cent. + 04 + 14 - 44 - 6 + 11
Total	85,356	- 1.7	- 1.0	146,856	- 3.1	- 19
DISTRICTS. Ashton	3,974 7,433 9,554 16,041	$ \begin{array}{r} \text{Per} \\ \text{cent.} \\ - 0.3 \\ - 0.3 \\ - 4.0 \\ - 0.4 \end{array} $	Per cent. + 1.4 - 5.7 + 2.7 + 1.2	£ 6,172 11,962 15,200 28,028	$\begin{array}{c c} & \text{Per} \\ \text{cent.} \\ -10.2 \\ & -5.1 \\ -16.7 \\ & +0.8 \end{array}$	Per cent. + 0' - 9' + 2' + 0'
Bury, Rochdale, Hey- wood, Walsden, and Todmorden Manchester Preston and Chorley Blackburn, Accrington	- 8,589 5,205 6,538	$+ 1.9 \\ - 0.8 \\ + 1.9$	$\begin{array}{rrr} - & 0.1 \\ + & 5.1 \\ - & 4.6 \end{array}$	12,335 8,185 11,244	-3.3 -1.4 +3.6	+ 0. - 1. - 7.
and Darwen Burnley, Padiham, Colne	8,659	- 3.3	- 0.5	16,990	+ 3.1	+ 3
and Nelson Other Lancashire	9,563	- 3.5	- 6.4	19,627	- 3.1	- 9
Towns	3,030 3,857 2,913	$ \begin{array}{r} -12.0 \\ -3.4 \\ -0.7 \end{array} $	$ \begin{array}{r} - 8.2 \\ + 1.9 \\ + 0.9 \end{array} $	5,184 7,087 4,842	$ \begin{array}{r} - 7.5 \\ - 1.7 \\ + 4.3 \end{array} $	- 2 + 13 + 5
Total	85,356	- 1.7	- 1.0	146,856	- 3.1	- 1

Returns from firms employing about 76,865 workpeople showe that about 28 per cent. of the workpeople reported on were a short time, to the extent of about $18\frac{1}{2}$ hours on the average, in the week ended 29th March.

The *imports* (less re-exports) of raw cotton (including cott linters) were 72,608,200 lbs. in March, 1924, compared wi 135,494,500 lbs. in the previous month and with 118,854,500 lb in March, 1923.

The exports of cotton yarn were 13,172,000 lbs. in March 1924, compared with 14,121,900 lbs. in February, 1924, and 13,030,200 lbs. in March, 1923.

The exports of cotton piece goods were 353,983,100 square yards, as compared with 397,070,200 square yards in the pre-vious month, and with 337,411,500 square yards in March, 1923 The following Table shows the number of men and of wome

registered as applicants for employment at Employment Exchanges at 3rd March, in the principal centres, at which approximately 93 per cent. of the total number of applicants for employment in the cotton trade were registered.

DEPARTMENT.	3rd	l March,	1924.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on previous month.			
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
Card and Blowing Room Spinning Beaming, Warping	2,902 15,230	13,642 11,429	16,544 26,659	+ 643 + 5,904	+ 3,805 + 1,689	+ 4,448 + 7,593	
and Winding Weaving Other Processes	2,575 4,629 964	11,405 11,956 495	13,980 16,585 1,459	$ \begin{array}{r} - & 254 \\ + & 77 \\ - & 54 \end{array} $	+ 1,178 - 414 - 31	+ 924 - 337 - 8	
Total	26,300	48,927	75,227	+ 6,316	+ 6,227	+ 12,543	

BOOT AND SHOE INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT in March was only moderate, and, taken as a whole, showed little change compared with February; the heavy boot section, in particular, was still very quiet. Em-ployment was, however, somewhat better than in March, 1923 Although overtime was worked to a small extent in one or two centres, a considerable proportion of the industry was still working short time during the month.

The percentage of workpeople unemployed, as indicated the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, w 9.5 on the 24th March, 1924, as compared with 9.1 on the 25 February, 1924.

In London employment was still very slack, though a little better than in the previous month. At Leicester it was fair only a few factories were on short time, while here and there overtime was worked. Employment at Northampton shows a slight improvement; some firms were still on short time, but

April, 1924. April, 1924.

It was reported as very good with craftsmen, other than painters, in several districts, including Harrogate, Blackpool, Southport, Burton-on-Trent, West Middlesex, North-west Surrey and Bournemouth, and as good at many other centres, a little overtime, mainly on urgent work, being worked in some cases; on the other hand, it was slack or quiet in a few districts, including Grimsby, St. Helens and Coventry, and a few instances of short-time working, generally due to unfavourable weather conditions, were reported. the other hand, overtime was occasionally necessary at some actories; employment was considerably better than in March last year. At Kettering there was a further decrease in last year. At Kettering there was a further decrease in ort time working, and employment was fair and somewhat etter than in February. In the Hinckley district and in the esborough, Higham and Rushden, and Wellingborough districts nployment was slack, and worse than in the previous month; not time working was prevalent in all these centres. At eeds employment was still very depressed, short time being pain in general operation. Employment remained fair at

A further improvement was reported at Norwich, employment ing generally good and much better than this time last year; ere was very little unemployment or short time, and overtime as worked in some factories. In the Bristol and Kingswood strict employment was very poor, and worse than in February, uch unemployment and irregular time being reported. Em-oyment in the Rossendale Valley was good, some overtime ng reported.

Employment was bad, with much short time, at Arbroath and Ayr. There was a slight decline at Edinburgh and at aybole, but in Glasgow employment improved, and was fairly d, a little overtime being worked.

The following Table summarises the information received om those employers who furnished returns for the three griods under review :---

	Nui	nber of people.		Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.				
AROUR	Week ended 29th		(+) or -) on a	Week ended 29th	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a			
in the set	Mar., 1924.	Month ago.	Year ago.	Mar., 1924.	Month ago.	Year ago.		
gland and Wales :	Per cent.		Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.		
eicester	2,066 8,776	- 0.9 + 0.1	- 1·4 - 2·7	4,790 22,876	$+ 1.1 \\ - 1.1$	- 2·5 - 7·1		
trict forthampton orthampton Country	2,440 6,487	+ 0.2 + 0.7	- 0.0 + 6.1	5,647 16,272	+ 1·1 + 2·5	+ 37 + 10·3		
District	8,290 3,407 2,602	- 0.0 + 0.6	+ 7.6 + 6.3 + 3.2	18,698 8,833 5,003	- 0.9 + 1.0 - 12.6	+ 7.3 + 5.1 - 18.9		
orwich and District ristol, Kingswood and District eeds and District	4,336 1,958 1,999	+ 4.7 - 2.8 - 0.7	+7.9 -8.7 +1.8	9,470 3,401	+ 5.7	+ 18.9		
ancashire (mainly Rossendale Valley) irmingham and Dis-	4,189	+ 3.0	+ 1.8 + 3.0	3,964 9,079	- 2.5 + 5.0	- 1.6 - 4.6		
trict ther parts of England and Wales	994	- 2.0	- 1.9	2,115	+ 5.1	+ 20.4		
England and Wales	49,087	+ 1.8	+ 8.0	2,954	$\frac{-0.5}{+0.1}$	+ 8.2 + 1.1		
tland	2,651	+ 2.0	+ 10.8	5,791	+ 1.4	$\frac{+1.1}{+14.7}$		
Great Britain	51,738	+ 0.7	+ 3.2	118,893	+ 0.5	+ 1.7		

Returns from firms employing about 40,645 workpeople in the eek ended 29th March, 1924, showed that nearly 31 per cent. I these workpeople worked short time in that week to the itent of about 12¹/₂ hours each on an average.

The exports of boots and shoes in March, 1924, amounted to 548 dozen pairs, or 8,354 dozen pairs less than in February, 24, but 18,521 dozen pairs more than in March, 1923.

The following Table shows the number of men and women gistered as applicants for employment at Employment Ex-anges at 3rd March, in the principal centres, at which approxi-ately 73 per cent. of the total number of applicants for em-oyment in the boot and shoe industry were registered.

Department.	3rd	l March, 1	924.	Inc.(+) or Dec.(-) on previous month.			
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
and Shoe Manufacture : eparing Department ugh Stuff Department icking Department asing Department aking Department inshing Department per Making Making Making Making Makya Maky	154 338 709 37 2,522 1,413 589 43 903	45 12 18 789 95 264 361 1 4	199 350 727 826 2,617 1,677 950 44 907	$ \begin{array}{r} + & 3 \\ - & 28 \\ + & 55 \\ + & 5 \\ + & 90 \\ -133 \\ -135 \\ + & 3 \\ + & 70 \\ \end{array} $	$ \begin{array}{r} + & 7 \\ - & 3 \\ + & 4 \\ + & 30 \\ - & 79 \\ - & 73 \\ + & 1 \\ - & - \\ \end{array} $	$ \begin{array}{r} + 10 \\ - 31 \\ + 59 \\ + 5 \\ + 120 \\ - 212 \\ - 208 \\ + 4 \\ + 70 \end{array} $	
Total	6,708	1,589	8,297	- 70	-113	-183	

BUILDING TRADE.

PLOYMENT in the building trade again showed a general im-vement during March; it was good, on the whole, with skilled ratives (except painters) and slack with unskilled workers.

As regards individual occupations employment was very good generally with bricklayers, and good with masons, plasterers and carpenters and joiners; in a considerable number of districts a shortage of one or more of the foregoing classes of skilled operatives was again reported, especially with bricklayers and plasterers. Employment with plumbers and slaters was generally only moderate; it improved considerably with painters, as is usual at this time of the year, but was slack in most districts; and it continued very slack, on the whole, with builders' labourers.

The following Table shows the numbers and approximate per-centages* of workpeople insured under the Unemployment Insur-ance Acts who were unemployed at 24th March, and the increase or decrease in the percentage as compared with 25th February :--

occupations.	Total Number of Insured Workpeople Unemployed at 24th March, 1924.	Approximate Percentage* Unemployed.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in percentage as compared with 25th February, 1924.
Carpenters	3,960 903 608 383 360 11,659 2,331 29,353 23,026	3*2 1*6 2*7 7*4 2*2 10*9 6*8 11*5 24*1	$ \begin{array}{r} - 0.8 \\ - 0.2 \\ - 0.6 \\ - 0.8 \\ -11.1 \\ - 0.4 \\ - 1.7 \\ - 1.8 \end{array} $
Total	72,583	10.1	- 2.7
Divisions. London	19,238 7,426 7,059 8,232 8,445 10,521 6,640 2,223 2,799	12-0 6·9 8·1 10·6 10·0 11·3 10·1 8·5 21·9	- 3.0 - 2.9 - 2.3 - 2.9 - 2.8 - 2.9 - 2.8 - 2.7 - 2.5 - 1.7 - 1.0
Great Britain and Northern Ireland	72,583	10.1	- 2.7
Males – Females	72 ,835 248	10·2 2·9	- 2.8 + 02

BUILDING PLANS APPROVED.

Returns from Local Authorities in 143 of the principal urban areas in Great Britain (except the London County Council area), with a total population of 16,273,000, show that in March, 1924, plans were passed for buildings of an estimated cost of $\pm 5,360,500$, as compared with $\pm 5,038,100$ in February, 1924, and $\pm 4,148,100$ in March, 1923. Of the total for March, 1924, dwell-ing houses accounted for $\pm 3,515,400$; factories and workshops for $\pm 416,900$; shops, offices, warehouses and other business premises for $\pm 492,200$; and other buildings, and additions and alterations to existing buildings, for $\pm 1,436,000$. (For figures for the three months ended March, see p. 143.)

BRICK TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT in March was fairly good on the whole, and showed an improvement as compared with February. In the Peterborough, Birmingham and Coventry districts employment was reported as good.

The percentage of workpeople unemployed in the brick, pipe, tile, etc., trades, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges on 24th March, was 6.9, as compared with 8.1 on 25th February.

The following Table summarises the information received as to the number of workpeople employed and the amount of wages paid by those employers who furnished returns for the three periods under review :---

• Figures are not available as to the exact numbers of insured workpeople, in each of the occupations shown in the first column of the Table, in the building industry. For the purpose of computing the percentages given in the third column, the total numbers insured, in each occupation, have been estimated by applying ratios obtained from the exchange of unemployment books which took place in 1922 to the total number of insured workers engaged in the building industry as shown by the 1923 exchange of books. The estimated numbers so arrived at were given on page 20 of the January issue of this GAZETTE. In view of the possibility that some changes of unemployed, as given in the third column, should be regarded as only approximate.

THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE.

ionipanti statemi	Number	of Worl	speople	Total Wages Paid to all Workpeople.			
Districts.	Week Inc. (+) or ended Dec. (-) on a		Week ended	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a			
	29th Mar. 1924.	Month ago.	Year ago,	29th Mar., 1924.	Month ago.•	Year ago.	
Northern Counties, York- shire, Lancashire and	1,806	Per cent. + 7 [.] 6	Per cent. + 24.0	£ 4,434	Per cent. + 7.6	Per cent. +25 [.] 6	
Cheshire Midlands and Eastern	3,952	+ 2.2	+31.6	9,656	+ 7.0	+40•9	
Counties South and South-West Counties and Wales	1,083	+ 1.4	+12.9	2,694	+ 4.7	+17.6	
Other Districts	Telese b	inter 1					
TOTAL	6,841	+ 3.5	+26.3	16,784	+ 6.8	+32.4	

Returns from firms employing 6,214 workpeople showed that about 2 per cent. of these workpeople worked short time to the extent of eight hours each, on an average, during the week ended 29th March.

POTTERY TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT in these trades, though still slack on the whole, showed some improvement as compared with the previous month. In the tile, sanitary earthenware and fireclay sections employ-ment generally was good.

In Staffordshire employment continued slack on the whole; at Derby and Worcester it was good; at Bristol it was reported as fair, and at Glasgow as bad.

The percentage of workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges at 24th March, 1924, was 11.9, as compared with 13.4 at 25th February, 1924.

The following Table summarises the information received from employers who furnished returns for the three periods under review :-

1252 - 1251 - 12		umber o orkpeop		Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.			
	Week ended 29th Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 29th	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a			
1011	Mar., 1924.	Month ago.	Year ago.	Mar., 1924.	Month ago.	Year ago.	
18 101	al and	Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.	
BRANCHES. China Manufacture Earthenware Manufacture	1,496 8,375	+ 0.9 + 0.7	+ 1.0 + 1.8	3,078 15,377	$- \frac{1.8}{+ 2.2}$	+ 10.5 - 3.3	
Other Branches (including unspecified)	1,764	- 1.3	+ 2.4	3,058	+ 1.4	- 6.9	
TOTAL	11,635	+ 0.4	+ 1.8	21,513	+ 1.2	- 2.1	
DISTRICTS. Potteries Other Districts	8,876 2,759	+ 0.6 - 0.2	+ 0.8 + 5.1	15,701 5,812	+ 0.5 + 4.4	- 4.1 + 3.8	
TOTAL	11,635	+ 0.4	+ 1.8	21,513	+ 1.5	- 2.1	

Returns from employers relating to short-time working showed that of 9,739 workpeople employed 2,722, or 28 per cent., were working on an average 14 hours less than full time in the week ended 29th March, 1924.

SEAMEN.

SEAMEN. EMPLOYMENT with seamen during March remained poor on the whole. There was generally a substantial surplus of men disen-ggod, although at a few ports the supply of able seamen and other deck hands was reported to be inadequate. Among insured workpeople in the shipping service the percentage unemployed at 24th March was 19-0, compared with 21-9 at 25th February. On the Thames the demand for men was generally moderate, and declined towards the end of the month. On the Tyne it was very quiet, but a scarcity of deck hands was reported. It was poor on the Wear. On the Tees it improved towards the middle of the month, but became quiet afterwards. Employment at Hull was good. At Southampton it was very quiet, being adversely affected by the strike of local shipyard workers. At Avonmouth it was quiet during the first half of March, but revived later. The demand at Bristol was quiet. At Newport it was fairly good. The demand at Cardiff was generally fair, a shortage of white deck hands being again reported. Employment at Swansea was good until the last week of the month, when a decline set in. The demand in the foreign-going trade on the Mersey varied from quiet to moderate. At Manchester it was fair in the first half of March, and declined subsequently. The demand on the Clyde and at Leith was quiet on the whole. The demand on the Clyde and at Leith was quiet on the whole.

At Belfast it was poor. The following Table shows the number of seamen shipped in British registered foreign-going vessels at the undermentioned ports of Great Britain and Northern Ireland during March:—

* Comparison of earnings is affected by changes in rates of wages.

Break the man and the	N	Number of Seamen* shipped in							
Principal Ports.	Mar.	Inc. (Dec. (-	+) or -) on a	Three months ended					
	1924.	Month ago.	Year ago.	Mar. 1924.	Mar. 1923.				
ENGLAND & WALES: Liverpoolt Manchester Southampton Southampton Sunderland Middlesbrough Hull Bristolt Cardiff Swansea	776 7,612 6,681 1,456 56 338 1,567	$\begin{array}{r} + 2,246 \\ + 119 \\ + 1,578 \\ + 1,578 \\ + 1,245 \\ - 336 \\ - 72 \\ + 306 \\ - 22 \\ - 48 \\ + 82 \\ - 986 \\ + 191 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{rrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrr$	28,191 2.3(6 21.507 17,882 4,444 283 1,156 4,655 24 2,229 2,785 8,283 2,454	30,822 2,077 21,858 20,368 4,454 683 1,231 4,324 4,324 2,590 3,290 8,615 2,063				
SCOTLAND: Leith Kirkcaldy, Methil and Grangemouth Glasgow	. 141	+ 94 - 126 - 544	- 93 - 99 - 1,011	1,029 609 6,579	1,267 921 6,202				
NORTHERN IRELAND: Belfast	. 209	- 7	- 36	530	576				
TOTAL	. 35,455	+ 3,656	- 1,821	104,946	111,265				

DOCK AND RIVERSIDE LABOUR.

EMPLOYMENT among dock labourers during March was on moderate, the increased activity following the recent stoppage work not having been maintained. Among insured workpeople the canal, river, harbour and dock service 24.1 per cent. unemployed at 24th March, the same percentage as at 25 February.

London .- The following Table shows the average daily no ber of dock labourers employed at the docks and at the pricipal wharves in each week of the month :--

	Average Daily Number of Labourers employed in Docks and at Principal Wharves in London.							
	In	In Docks.						
Period.	By the Port of London Authority or through Contractors.	By Ship- owners, etc.	Total,	At Wharves making Returns.	Total Docks an Principa Wharves			
Week ended 8th Mar., 1924 15th " 22nd " 29th "	5,915 5,320 5,038 5,016	2,951 3,023 2,588 2,643	8,866 8,343 7,626 7,659	8,452 8,234 8,105 8,028	17,318 16.577 15,731 15,687			
Average for 4 weeks ended 29th Mar., 1924	} 5,322	2,801	8.123	8,205	16,323			
Average for 3 weeks ended 16th Feb., 1924¶	} 6,314	2,378	7,692	7,912	15,604			
Average for Mar., 1923	4,807	2,905	7,712	8,127	15,839			

Tilbury.—The mean daily number of dock labourers employ in the four weeks ended 29th March was 832, as compared wi 826 in the three weeks ended 16th February and with 870 March, 1923.

East Coast.—Employment with coal trimmers on the Typ and at Blyth continued good. With other classes of workers of the Type it was fair, and better than in February. At Blythi declined and was slack. At Middlesbrough and Grimsby ployment was fair, though at the latter port it was not as good as in February. At Hull it remained slack.

as in February. At Hull it remained stack. Western and Southern Ports.—At Liverpool employment on tinued moderate. The average weekly number of dock labour registered at the Clearing Houses under the Liverpool Dod Scheme as employed in the four weeks ended 31st March will 15,554, compared with 15,208 in the three weeks ended 18 February and with 15,289 in March, 1923. The average weekly amount of wages paid to these men through the Clearing House was £44,462 in the four weeks ended 31st March, ompared will £38,475 in the three weeks ended 18th February.

Employment at the South Wales ports remained quiet. Plymouth and other South-Western ports it continued sla At Southampton it was fair.

Scottish and Irish Ports.—Employment continued moderate Glasgow and slack at Leith. At Dundee there was a decline. Belfast it remained fair.

It will be understood that the numbers given are the numbers of separate engagements, and not of separate individuals.
† Including Birkenhead and Garston.
‡ Including Avonmouth and Portishead.
§ Including Barry and Penarth.
¶ In the week ended 25rd February there was a general strike of downable.

April, 1924. April, 1924.

MINISTRY OF LABOUR EMPLOYMENT **EXCHANGES.***

IB number of persons remaining on the "live registers" of nployment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland— of applications for employment outstanding from workpeople at 31st March, 1924, was 1,057,031,† of whom 790,932 were and 31,126 boys, 204,440 women, and 30,533 girls. Compared th 25th February there was a decrease of 98,873, which was

248. During the five we	:—Men, 66,		en, 22,759;	juveniles,	Area.	Numbe Live I	er of Person Registers a	ns remainin t 31st Marcl	g on the 1, 1924.	Inc. (+) o Dec. (-) a compared
acancies filled by Em 4.014 were for men, 2	ployment E 25,327 for w	xchanges vomen, and	was 118,635	, of which	benogen ed dreise	Men.	Women.	Juveniles.	Total.	with 25th Feb., 1924.
The following Tabl uring the five weeks of	e summaris ended 31st]	March, 192	Application	s outstand.	London South Eastern Division Brighton Chatham Ipswich Norwich	128,906 44 201 2 272 3,050 2,588	33,043 7,809 668 298 442	10,203 4,399 458 658 209	172,151 56,409 3,398 4,0 6 3,239 3,408	$ \begin{vmatrix} - & 16,783 \\ - & 9,356 \\ - & 605 \\ - & 138 \\ - & 478 \end{vmatrix} $
Week ended	tions by Employers.	Vacancies Filled.	From Workpeople	From Employers	Rest of South Eastern South Western Division	2,990 33,301 58,791	341 6,060 10,131	77 2,997 <i>4,859</i>	3,408 42,358 68,781	- 794 - 7,438 - 1,557
th February, 1924	25 528	23,152	1,155,904	19,071	Bristol Plymouth Portsmouth	10,818 4,739 6,107	3,579 607 676	1,084 439 693	15,481 5,785	+ 88' + 9
rd March, 1924 th " " ··· th " " ··· th " " ··· st " " ···	27,686 27,440 28,946 30,582 28,416	23.049 22.799 24,378 24,855 23,554	1,137.291 1,115.773 1,093,392 1,063,428 1,057,031	20 412 21,763 22,530 24,422 25,747	Reading Southampton Swindon Rest of South Western Midlands Division	1,487 6,140 455 24,045 <i>87,637</i>	179 545 76 4,469 29,487	267 443 92 1,841 4,545	7,476 1,933 7,128 623 30,355	$ \begin{array}{c c} + & 18 \\ - & 4 \\ + & 57 \\ - & 17 \\ - & 3,08 \\ \end{array} $
Total (5 weeks)	143,070	118,635	_		Birmingham Coventry Cradley Heath	21,928 1,436 2,882	8,114 202	382 24	121,669 30,424 1,661	- 18,29 - 4,97 - 66
A detailed analysis of ty yet available, but larch are dealt with Applications from Mo- oplications from wor d March showed a verage, men account iveniles for 2,515. I werages were : Men, Vacancies Notified tere were 105,253 vac ge of 4,386. Of this r women, and 718 for uring the previous mo- veniles. Vacancies FilledT e period was 89,981 ith 3,538 during the verage, men accounter of 612. The correspon en, 2,159; women, 79 JuvenilesDuring t om boys, and 31,302 tilfed for boys was 8 le case of girls, 8,41 led. Of the total was	statistics i below :— Workpeople. kpeople du daily aver- ced for 19, n the prece 23,145; wou -During the cancies notifi daily avera juveniles, o onth, of 2,3 "he total nun , a daily a preceding sf d for 2,332, iding figures 3; and juve he period, 22 from girl 3,807, and 7 9 vacancies	-The tot -The tot uring the age of 30 560, wom ding mon men, 8,800 e four wee fied, repre- age, 2,584 compared 54 men, 1 mber of v. verage of atistical m women f s for the p miles, 586. 9,062 appli s. The r ,650 vacan	ur weeks of four weeks (447. Of the en for 8, the the correly; juveniles ks ended 3 senting a d were for n with a daily (059 women acancies fill 3,749, as bonth. Of or 305, and revious more cations were umber of cies were d	ended 3rd of 730,740 ks ended this daily 372, and responding 5, 3,198. ord March aily aver- nen, 1,084 y average, t, and 648 ed during compared this daily juveniles th were : e received vacancies filled. In	Derby	1,485 1,730 1,280 4,745 5,558 4,018 2,096 2,096 4,291 33,174 143,662 845 3,092 1,4.9 346 6,285 2,019 8,092 10,273 1,506 6,285 2,019 8,092 10,273 1,215 17,477 4,743 4,838 9,453 1,835 37,802	$\begin{array}{c} 1,005\\ 327\\ 327\\ 495\\ 327\\ 495\\ 327\\ 495\\ 326\\ 522\\ 109\\ 326\\ 713\\ 461\\ 1,019\\ 33605\\ 713\\ 461\\ 1,917\\ 9,690\\ 199,$$28\\ 129\\ 149\\ 141\\ 171\\ 171\\ 171\\ 171\\ 623\\ 212\\ 521\\ 247\\ 870\\ 844\\ 1,510\\ 870\\ 844\\ 1,510\\ 875\\ 1,256\\ 232\\ 2,651\\ 401\\ 169\\ 792\\ 349\\ 5,524\\ \end{array}$	128 90 90 26 777 124 202 28 2,319 10 036 61 109 152 65 223 573 184 65 202 202 120 851 224 206 332 1,397 233 1,037 353 166 727 650 2,117	$\begin{array}{c} 4,016\\ 1,902\\ 2,251\\ 1,69:\\ 6,473\\ 4,236\\ 9,551\\ 5,389\\ 2,656\\ 6,436\\ 4,5,183\\ 172,916\\ 1.025\\ 4,916\\ 1.025\\ 4,916\\ 1.025\\ 6,670\\ 2,669\\ 2,09:\\ 6,734\\ 3,009\\ 9,781\\ 12,007\\ 2,990\\ 8,712\\ 16,672\\ 1,680\\ 21,165\\ 5,497\\ 1,680\\ 21,165\\ 5,497\\ 1,687\\ 2,684\\ 3,009\\ 9,781\\ 1,2007\\ 2,900\\ 1,165\\ 5,497\\ 1,687\\ 2,165\\ 5,497\\ 1,687\\ 2,165\\ 5,497\\ 1,687\\ 2,843\\ 3,0097\\ 2,284\\ 2,843\\ 3,097\\ 2,284\\ 3,0097\\ 2,284\\ 3,0097\\ 2,284\\ 3,0097\\ 2,284\\ 3,0097\\ 2,284\\ 3,0097\\ 2,284\\ 3,0097\\ 2,284\\ 3,0097\\ 2,284\\ 3,0097\\ 2,284\\ 3,0097\\ 2,284\\ 3,0097\\ 2,284\\ 3,0097\\ 2,284\\ 3,0097\\ 2,284\\ 3,009\\ 3,100\\ 3$	$\begin{array}{c} - & 733 \\ - & 59 \\ - & 36 \\ - & 311 \\ - & 656 \\ - & 1,344 \\ + & 111 \\ - & 199 \\ - & 6,366 \\ - & 21,738 \\ - & 1111 \\ - & 1,733 \\ + & 1177 \\ - & 466 \\ - & 1177 \\ - & 21,738 \\ - & 1177 \\ - & 21,738 \\ - & 21,73$
re filled by applican ving school. Statistics relating to vice occupations (' arch have been sum the outstanding f in the building trad d 7,404 vacancies we med were: Carpent ed; bricklayers, 1 inters, 2,146 vacancie ourers, 1,493 vacance the number of men des was 76,593† at bruary. The number of va vice for the four v s number, 5,408 we non-resident domen for waitresses; ot the strick service, 2,367 as waitresses. The total number of ch for work in dor 225 on 4th Februar; The figures above, en exclusive of dock	<i>Building T</i> women) for marised un- eatures are es 8,813 vac re filled. ' ters, 2,185 ,179 vacan es notified a cites notified on the '' li 3rd March, weeks ender er for resi stic servant her domest es filled, 2, as non-resid of women mestic servin y. weeks those labourers ar	Trades (m. "rades (m. the fou der the p dealt with cancies we The princi- vacancies cies notif- and 1,979 and 1,42 ive register compared ified for 1 3rd Man dent dom. s, 3,744 f ic occupat 425 were lent, 3,483 remaining ce was 32 in the fir	niles, 16'6 first situa en) and to r weeks en rincipal occh h below. Te notified pal occupat notified and 74 filled; and 1 placings. r in the l with 92,1. women in the was 13 setic servar or charwon ions accoun placings in 9 as charwon registered 900, compa-	per cent. tion since Domestic inded 3rd cupations, for men, tions con- ind 1,806 59 filled; builders' builders' builders' builders' builders' building 48 at 4th domestic 5,650. Of ints, 3,051 men, and nting for resident on 3rd ured with ragraphs.	North Western Division Accrington Bartow Birkenhead Birkenhead Blackpool Blackpool Bolton Bury Bury Chorley Bury Chorley Bury Chorley Bury Bury Chorley Bury Bury Bury Chorley Bury Bury Chorley Bury Bury Bury Chorley Bury Chorley Bury Bury Chorley Bury Bury Chorley Bury Chorley Bury Bury Chorley Bury States States States States States Bury Bury Bury Bury Bury Bury Bury States States Bury Bury Bury Bury Bury Bury Bury Bury	$\begin{array}{c} 166,891\\ 1,978\\ 2,273\\ 4,899\\ 4,174\\ 3,139\\ 861\\ 5,707\\ 2,259\\ 2,183\\ 938\\ 41,536\\ 19,579\\ 812\\ 16,727\\ 3,404\\ 4,891\\ 1,384\\ 7,315\\ 2,902\\ 2,301\\ 1,434\\ 36,195\\ 10,990\\ 4,170\\ 1,861\\ 6,147\\ 4,894\\ 53,523\\ 4,166\\ 1,009\\ 3,866\\ 27,354\\ $26,57\\ 295\\ 2,041\\ 2,204\\ 16,671\\ 28,886\\ 19,018\\ \end{array}$	70,267 869 1,218 433 568 2,119 731 1,231 1,833 1,555 532 7,154 7,154 7,154 7,154 7,154 4,746 2,62 3,895 2,514 3,474 19,178 24,949 2,976 1,969 11,451 6,635 2,933 733 191 190 181 1,638 6,604 4,416	15,020 173 147 617 377 284 212 373 110 227 72 3,229 1,307 21 1,404 111 631 127 862 220 152 637 3,827 9,941 207 119 182 1,066 5,636 267 69 358 1,997 1,935 377 64 143 176 1,75 72 1 462	253,178 3,020 3,638 5,949 5,119 5,542 1,5642 1,5642 1,542 5,199 28,016 28,0	$\begin{array}{c} - & 0.32.\\ - & 18,56\\ - & 1.53.\\ + & 82\\ - & 1,82\\ - & 366\\ - & 2.91.\\$

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THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE.

The following Table shews for each of the Employment Exchange administrative areas and for the principal towns therein the number of persons remaining on the "live registers" at the Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland at 31st March, 1924. In certain cases, e.g., Bristol, Birmingham, Sheffield, Liverpool, Glasgow, etc., the figures cover more than one Exchange Area :---

UNEMPLOYMENT IN INSURED INDUSTRIES.

THE statistics here presented show, industry by industry, the numbers of persons insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts, and the number and percentage of such persons who were unemployed on 24th March, 1924. "Unemployed" as used in these statistics does not necessarily more that the unemployed on 24th March, 1924. "Unemployed" as used in these statistics does not necessarily mean that the person is definitely without a job. Persons who on 24th March, 1924, were not at work because they were suspended, "stood off," "furloughed," or on short time, and whose unemployment books were lodged at Exchanges, are counted in the statistics as "unemployed." Under the Unemployment Insurance Acts, substantially all persons except outworkers and persons employed in

Under the Unemployment Insurance Acts, substantially all persons, except outworkers and persons employed in agriculture and private domestic service, must be insured against unemployment. Employees of local authorities, railways and certain other public utility undertakings, members of the police forces, and persons with rights under a statutory superannuation scheme, may, in certain circumstances, be excepted. Persons employed otherwise than by way of manual labour at a rate of remuneration exceeding in value £250 per annum are excepted, as are also juveniles under sixteen years of age.

annum are excepted, as are also juvenites under sixteen years of age. The statistics take account only of persons insured under the Acts. Such persons number approximately 11,500,000 in Great Britain and Northern Ireland. This figure is computed annually, and is obtained from a count of the unemployment books which must be held by all insured persons, and which are exchanged at the beginning of each insurance year in the early weeks of July. In arriving at the estimated number of current books regard is paid not only to those books actually exchanged, but also to those which are likely to be exchanged in the course of the insurance year. The issue of new books between the ex-change of books and the date of the estimate is also included, and at the same time allowance is made for wastage by deaths, emigration, leaving industry, etc. emigration, leaving industry, etc. Every insured person claiming unemployment benefit must

lodge his unemployment book at an Employment Exchange when making a claim. It is possible therefore to obtain from a count of the lodged books a record of unemployment in insured trades. The figures given of numbers unemployed are not, however, confined to persons in receipt of benefit. They include :-

April, 1924.

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(a) Insured persons unemployed and in receipt of benefit (b) Insured persons not in receipt of benefit, but known to be unemployed by reason of their maintaining registra-tion at an Employment Exchange or otherwise;

(c) Insured persons who are not in receipt of benefit and are not maintaining registration, but whose unemployment books remain lodged at Employment Exchanges. Provided there is no definite evidence of employment these are counted in the statistics for two months after the insured person's lost attendance at an Exchange. last attendance at an Exchange.

last attendance at an Exchange. Concurrently with the exchange of insurance books in the middle of July last opportunity was taken to revise the classifica-tion of insured workpeople so as to bring it, so far as practicable, into conformity with the industrial grouping adapted in connec-tion with the 1921 census of population. At the same time the industrial classification was amended. Previously it had not been on a strictly industrial basis, but in some cases had fol-lowed an occupational grouping. At the last exchange of books all unemployment books were classified according to the industry of the employer, or, in the case of unemployed persons, of the last employer. As the composition of the several industrial groups has undergone modification the statistics subsequent to June, 1923, are not strictly comparable with those prior to that date. date.

Insured persons who have lost their employment owing to a stoppage of work due to a trade dispute at the premises at which they were employed are not generally eligible for benefit, and are not included in the figures. Persons who were not at work owing to sickness are also not included.

NUMBERS AND PERCENTAGES UNEMPLOYED.

INDUSTRY.	ESTIMATED NUMEI INSURED PERSON JULY, 1923. (GREAT BRITAIN NORTHERN IRELA INDUSTRY.				T NUMBER OF UNEMPLOY- MENT BOOKS REMAINING LODGED AT			PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED AT 24TH MARCH, 1924.				INCREASE (+) OR DECREASE (-) AS COMPARED WITE 25TH FEBRUARY, 1924. (GREAT BRUTAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.)			
				andran Rolling (1997)	6	bas la		60.1 gett	Tot	al.					
	Males.	Females.	Total:	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Great Britain & North'rn Ireland.	Great Britain only.	Males.	Females.	Total.		
Fishing	23,600	530	24,130	3,256	53	3,309	13.8	10.0	13.7	13-1	- 0.8	- 1.7	- 0%		
Mining :	1,258,650	8,200	1,266,850	26,061	375	26,436	2.1	4.6	2.1	2.1	- 0.3	- 0.4	- 04		
Iron Ore and Ironstone Mining and Quarrying	19,670 5,000 32,060 8,000 24,960	50 70 270 20 1,580	19,720 5,070 32,330 8,020 26,540	4,449 777 1,383 138 1,299	2 3 13 1 176	4,451 780 1,396 139 1,475	22:6 15:5 4:3 1:7 5:2	4.0 4.3 4.8 5.0 11.1	22.6 15.4 4.3 1.7 5.6	22·4 15 4 3·9 1·7 5·3	$ \begin{array}{r} + 2.3 \\ - 2.3 \\ - 0.6 \\ - 0.4 \\ - 1.2 \\ \end{array} $	$\begin{array}{r} + 2.0 \\ - 1.4 \\ - 0.8 \\ - 5.0 \\ - 3.3 \end{array}$	+ 24 - 23 - 06 - 04 - 12		
Clay, Sand, Gravel and Chalk Pit Digging	12,520	170	12,690	608	25	633	4.9	14.7	5.0	4.8	- 1.3	+ 1.8	- 13		
Non-Metalliferous Mining Products :- Coke Ovens and By Product Works	15,070	200	15,270	874	13	887	5.8	6.2	5.8	5.8	+ 0.6	- 5.0	+ 05		
Artificial Stone and Concrete Manu- facture	10,090	660	10,750	1,446	71	1,517	14.3	10.8	14.1	14.1	- 1.1	- 0.7	- 10		
Cement, Limekilns and Whiting Works Brick, Tile, etc., Making Pottery, Earthenware, etc. Glass Trades :	16,080 54,340 35,750	620 7,500 36,380	16,700 61,840 72,130	1,42? 3,437 3,698	26 835 4,892	1,453 4,272 8,590	8·9 6·3 10·3	4·2 11·1 13·4	8·7 6·9 11·9	8.7 6.8 11.9	$\begin{array}{c c} - 2.9 \\ - 1.4 \\ - 1.6 \end{array}$	$ \begin{array}{c c} - 1.1 \\ - 0.5 \\ - 1.4 \end{array} $	- 28 - 12 - 15		
Glass (excluding Bottles, Optical and Scientific Glass) Manufacture Glass Bottle Making Ammunition, Explosives, Chemicals,	22,880 14,950	4,990 1,650	27,870 16,600	2,920 2,960	396 125	3,31 6 3,085	12·8 19·8		11·9 18·6	11·9 18·5	- 0.3 - 2.2	- 0.5 - 1.0	- 04 - 21		
etc. : Chemicals Manufacture Explosives Manufacture	80,430 13,960	24,940 5,120	105,370 19,080	7,393 1,473	1,681 500	9,074 1,973	9·2 10·6		8.6 10.3	8.6 10.3	- 0.8 - 0.1	$+ 0.2 \\ - 0.3$	- 06 - 03		
Paint Varnish, Japan, Red and White Lead Manufacture		2,950	13,870	498	164	662	4.6	5.6	4.8	4:8	- 0.3	+ 0.2	- 02		
Oil, Grease, Glue. Soap, Ink, Match,	57,530	21,620	79,150	3,664	1,645	5,309	6.4	7.6	6.7	6.6	- 1.5	- 0.3	- 12		
Metal Manufacture and Secondary Pro- cesses :	29,310	240	29,550	3,473	26	3,499	11.8	10.8	11.8	11.8	+ 1.6	+ 5.8			
naces, Iron and Steel Rolling Mills and Forges	210,150	4,480	214,630	34,767	305	35,072	16.2	6.8	16.3	16:3	- 0.2	222/011	- 05		
Manufacture of Brass, Copper, Zinc, Tin, Lead, etc	38,510 25,860 23,900	4,000 4,330 1,450	42,510 30,190 25,350	4,500 934 3,477	427 201 191	4,927 1,135 3,668	11.7 3.6 14.6	4.6	11.6 3.5 14.5	11.6 3.7 14.4	-1.4 -0.4 + 0.2	+ 0.8	-13 -02 +01		
Wire, Wire Netting, Wire Rope Manufacture	20,650	3,940	24,590	1,889	339	2,238	9.1	8.6	9.1	9.1	+ 1.1	+ 0.6	+ 14		
Engineering: Engineers' Iron and Steel Founding	635,260	39 660	674,920	106 028	2,312	108,340	16.7	5.8	16.1	16.0	- 1.3	- 0.7	- 12		
Stove, Grat-, Pipe, etc., and General Ir in Founding	79,020 50,570	6,890 11,710	85,910 62,280	9,718 2,814	786	10,504 3,390	12·3 5·6			12 1 5·4	- 0.4	+ 0.6	- 00		
Marine Engineering and Marine Boiler Making Constructional Engine ring	65,760 22,940	1,110 840	66,870 23,780	10,847 3,050	35 38	10,882 3,088	16·5 13·3		16·3 13·0	16·8 12·9		- 02	- 16 + 18		
Construction and Repair of Vehicles :- Construction and Repair of Motor Vehicles and Aircraft Construction and Repair of Carriages,	174,590	19,830	194,420	13,769	1,079	14,848	7.9	5-4	7.6	7.6	- 12	- 0.9	- 12		
Construction and Repair of Carriages, Carts, etc. Railway Carriage, Wagon, and Tram-		2,400	27,940	3,026	193	3,219	11.8	8.0	11.2	11.4	- 12	and the second of the	- 10		
Railway Carriage, Wagon, and Tram- car Building	50,560	1,280	51,840	. 2,059	34	2,093	4-1	2.7	4.0	4.0	- 0.5	5 + 0.7	- 00		

April, 1924.

ing, arrangements; 7,			b no jai			4. R. 4. 4. 4. 4. 4. 4. 4. 4. 4. 4. 4. 4. 4.			NTAGES U	NEMPLOY	aD.	in W	marth
INDUSTRY.	INSUI (GRE	ATED NUM RED PERSO JULY, 1923 AT BRITAI HERN IRE	ONS AT 5. IN AND	MENT B 24TH (GREA	ER OF UNE BOOKS RE LODGED A MAR'H, AT BRITAI HERN IRE	MAINING T 1924. N AND			UNEMPLO (ARCH, 192	YED	(-) AS 25TH I (GREA	COMPAREI COMPAREI FEBRUARY AT BRITAT FERN IREI	WITH 1924. N AND
	and the second	Store a		Carona Carona Carona		and Librar al and Librar al order of	The second		Tot	al.	d duit	-aller	b 12 m
erest and 25, directly in ere- mised. In the case of \$ 2 worldpergle, erectly range version	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Great Britain & North'rn Ireland	Great Britain only.	Males.	Females.	Total.
hipbuilding and Ship Repairing	268,520	4,010	272,530	76,849	259	77,108	28.6	6.5	28.3	27.9	- 1.4	- 1.0	- 1.4
Electrical Wiring and Contracting Electrical Cable, Wire and Electric Lamp Manufacture	11,010 48,480	860 24,360	11,870 72,840	1,057 3,887	27 1,966	1,084 5,853	9·6 8·0	3·1 8·1	9·1 8·0	9.0 8.0	- 0.2 + 0.1	+ 0.4	- 0.2 + 0.1
Hand Tool, Cutlery, Saw, File Making Bolts, Nuts, Screws, Rivets, Nails, etc., Manufacture	22,760 17,510	7,340 12,730	30,100 30,240	3,870 2,085	1,034 1,662	4,904 3,747	17·0 11·9	14·1 13·1	16·3 12·4	16·3 12·4	- 0.7	- 1.2	- 0·9
Brass and Allied Metal Wares Manu- facture Heating and Ventilating Engineering	20,450 5,340	12,000 420	32,450 5,760	3,331 276	1,970	5,301 291	16·3 5·2	16·4 3·6	16 3 5·1	16.3	- 2.7	- 0·2 - 1·4	- 0'9 - 2'2
Watches, Clocks, Plate, Jewellery, etc., Manufacture	29,380 107,180	20,450 60,310	49,830 167,490	4,231 10,411	2,111 7,084	6,342	14.4	10.3	12.7	5·2 12·7	- 0.5 - 0.5	+ 0.7 - 0.4	-0.4 -0.5
Cotton Industry	211,010	365,280	576,290	32,226	56,356	17,495 88,582	9·7 15·3	11·7 15·4	10·4 .15 4	10·4 15·4	- 1·3 - 0·7	- 0.5 - 0.9	-1.0 -0.3
Woollen and Worsted Industry Silk Industry	19,630 14,320 25,700	153,700 23,820 56,370	273,330 38,140 82,070	6,295 890 3,395	7,408 1,852 4,175	13,703 2,742 7,570	5·3 6·2 13·2	4·8 7·8 7·4	5·0 7·2 9·2	5•0 7·2 10•4	-1.8 -0.1 -0.1	-1.5 -1.5 -0.8	-1.6 -1.0 -0.6
Jute Industry Hemp, Spinning and Weaving, Rope, Cord, Twine, etc., Making	14,190 7,620	27,340 12,540	41,530 20,160	1,848 881	2,296 1,901	4,144 2,782	13·0 11·6	8·4 15·2	10·0 13·8	10·0 11·5	+ 1.2 + 0.1	+ 1.0 + 0.4	+ 1·1 + 0·2
Hosiery Industry Lace Industry	19,99) 9,330 11,220	71,380 12.240 14,540	91,370 21,570 25,760	1,065 2,062 445	4,703 1,448 949	5,771 3,510 1,394	5·3 22·1 4·0	6.6 11.8 6.5	6·3 16·3 5·4	6.2 16.3 5.3	- 1·2 - 1·8	-1.6 -1.3 +1.4	-1.6 -1.5 +0.8
Other Textile Industries Textile, Bleaching, Printing, Dyeing, etc.	13,480 85,560	29,940 31,400	43,420	1,293 11,273	3,652 3,078	4,945 14,351	9·6 13·2	12·2 9·8	11·4 12·3	11·2 12·7	- 1.3	- 0.5	- 0.7
eather and Leather Goods :	33,230	8,590	41,820	3,313	1,066	4,379	10.0	12.4			-	- 1.2	- 0.3
Saddlery, Harness and Other Leather Goods Manufacture	16,800	12,550	29,350	1,834	1,000	3,093	10.9	12.4	10.5 10.5	10.5 10.5	- 0·2 - 0·3	-0.2 -0.1	- 0·2 - 0·2
Tailoring Dress and Mantle Making and	65,910	120,300	186,210	6,572	8,022	14,594	10-0	6.7	7.8	7•7	- 3.0	- 3.8	- 3.6
Millinery Hat and Cap (including Straw Plait) Manufacture	12,250 13,810	104,160 20,830	116,410 34,640	971 1,671	7,237 1.280	8,208 2,951	7·9 12·1	6·9 6·1	7·1 8·5	6*8 8*5	-09 -12	-2.7 -1.0	- 2·4 - 1·1
Blouses, Shirts, Collars, Undercloth- ing, etc., Making	6,640	60,880 20,470	67,520 32,940	306 1,341	3,341 1,868	3,647 3,209	4·6 10·8	5·5 9·1	5·4 9·7	4·9 9·7	- 0.8	- 0.9	- 0.9
Boot, Shoe, Slipper and Clog Trades	12,470 93,620	50,230	143,850	10,590	3,106	13,696	11.3	6.2	9.5	9•3	-0.2 + 0.4	- 2.7 + 0.6	-1.8 + 0.4
Bread, Biscuit, Cake, etc., Making Grain Milling Cocca, Chocolate and Sugar Confec-	104,290 26,460	54,840 3,100	159,130 29,560	10,908 1,241	4,805 210	15,713 1,451	10·5 4·7	6·8	9•9 4•9	9•8 4•7	- 0.8 - 0.8	-0.5 + 0.9	- 0.6 - 0.4
tionery	25,040 49,070 81,500	45,740 49,220 20,850	70,780 98,290 102,350	2,162 3,794 4,488	7,175 8,380 2,645	9,337 12,174 7,133	8.6 7.7 5.5	15·7 17·0 12·7	13·2 12·4 7·0	13·1 12·3 6·7	$+ 0.5 \\ - 1.0 \\ - 0.1$	+ 3.8	+ 2.7 - 0.5 - 0.1
Tobacco, Cigar, Cigarette and Snuff Manufacture awmilling, Furniture and Woodwork :-	14,960	30,360	45,320	1,131	3,244	4,375	7.6	10.7	9.7	9.2	+ 0.4	+ 0.8	+ 0.7
Sawmilling and Machined Woodwork Wood Box and Packing Case Making Furniture Making. Upholstering, etc.	54,700 10,710 76,540	3,300 2,020 17,810	58,000 12,730 94,350	5,803 1,586 6,115	279 267 1,354	6,082 1,853 7,469	10.6 14.8 8.0	8.5 13.2 7.6	10·5 14·6 7·9	10·3 14·4 7 8	-0.9 -1.6 -0.9	-0.4 -0.7	-0.9 -1.4
Other Woodworking	20,610	6,840 16,120	27,450 56,560	2,195	772	2,961	10.7	11.3	10.8	10:7	- 0.5	- 0.6 - 0.2	- 0.8 - 0.3
Cardboard Boxes Paper Bags and Stationery	19,740	35,900	55,640	3,7 65 1,1 54	1,291 2,949	5,056 4,103	9·3 5·8	8·0 8·2	8·9 7·4	8·9 7·2	- 0.5 - 0.4	-1.1 - 0.2	- 0.7 - 0.2
Wall Paper Making and Paper Staining Stationery and Typewriting Requis-	3,510	1,270	4,780	145	143	288	4-1	11.3	6.0	6.0	- 1.1	+ 2.1	- 0.3
ites (not paper) Printing, Publishing and Bookbinding suilding and Gonstruction of Works :	1,950 150,870	2,850 80,140	4,800 231,010	123 8,449	157 5,057	280 13,506	6·3 5·6	5•5 6•3	5·8 5·8	5·8 5·8	-1.1 - 0.5	- 0.2	- 0.5 - 0.4
Building Public Works Contracting, etc.	708,640 126,900	8,480 860	717,120 127,760	72,335 21,605	248 13	72,583 21,618	10·2 17·0	2·9 1·5	10·1 16·9	9·9 16·8	- 2.8 - 1.5	+ 0.2 - 0.9	- 2.7 - 1.5
Rubber Manufacture	33,140 10,440	24,76) 1.880	57,900 12,320	3,304 534	2,528 118	5,832 652	10·0 5·1	10.2	10.1	10.1	- 0.5	- 0.8	- 0.6
Scientific and Photographic Instru-	4,930	4,060 6,520	8,9±0 17,790	401 588	352 200	753	8·1 5·2	8·7 3·1	8.4	· 8·3	- 2.4	-2.2 - 0.2	- 2.3
Musical Instrument Making Toys, Games and Sports Requisites Manufacture	6,580	3,330 5,640	19,760 12,220	1, 341 616	255 809	1,596 1,425	8·2 9·4	7.7	8.1	8:0	+ 0.5 - 0.4	+ 1.5 - 0.7	+ 0.6 - 0.5
as, Water, and Electricity Supply Industries Tansport and Communication :—	168,940	6,760	175,700	10,195	228	10,423	6.0	3.4	5.9	5.8	- 0.2	Contraction of the	- 0.3
RailwayService Tramway and Omnibus Service	182,240 105,810 142,770	10,540 4,550 4,470 5,850	192,780 110,360 147,240	9,842 3 477 21,954	453 161 155	10,295 3,638 22,109 22,407	54 3·3 15·4	4·3 3·5 3·5	5·3 33 15·0	5.3 3.3 14.9	-0.6 -0.2 -1.1	-05 + 02	-0.7 -0.2 -1.1
Shipping Service	112,050	Service The	117,900	21,987	420	The second second	19.6	7.2	19.0	19.0	$-\frac{1}{-3}$	Part mour	-1.1 -2.9
Other Transport and Communication and Storage	191,790 23,450	1,850 2,850	193,640 26,300	46,6:0	134 338	46,734 4,515	24-3	7·2 11·9	24·1 17·2	24·0 17·1	+ 0.1	- 1.9 + 0.4	tanta -
ommercial, Banking, Insurance and Finance	756,43J 91,020	505,15 / 52,600	1,261,580 143,620	55,529 5661	31,012 1,484	86,541 7,145	73	6·1 2·8	6·9 5·0	6·8 4·9	-0.3 -02	-0.3 - 0.2	- 0·2 - 0·2
National Government	143,410 228,000	37,820 18,370	181,230 246,370	15,032 14,751	2.263	17,295 15,401	10.5	6·0 3·5		9.6 6.2	- 0 ^{.6} - 0 ^{.2}	- 0·5 - 0·4	- 0.6 - 0.2
Entertainments and Sports	65,300 38,740	42,770 20,550	108,070 59,290	3,125 5,584	1,260 2,547	4,385 8,131	48	2·9 12 4	4·1 13·7	4·0 13·7	- 0.2	- 0·2 + 0·1	- 0.2
Hotel, Boarding House, Club Services Laundries, Dyeing, and Dry Cleaning Other Industries and Services.	93,220 20,290 78.230	161,520 86,990 28,650	254,740 107.280 105,880	. 13,218 1.245 27,740	20,371 5,217 2,793	33,589 6,462 30,533	14·2 6·1 35·5	12·6 6·0 9·7	13 2 6v 28 6	13·1 59 28·3	$\begin{vmatrix} -1.0 \\ -0.6 \\ -0.5 \end{vmatrix}$	$\begin{vmatrix} - 0.6 \\ - 0.2 \\ - 1.0 \end{vmatrix}$	-0.7 -0.3 -0.6
	12/2	Concerni -	<u>en subs</u>	anoide d	<u>ie stoda</u>	mation d	PROMIS OF	The second second			1000	nated in	
TOTAL	8,526,930	2,975,900	11,502,800	876,280	261,403	1,137,683	10.3	8.8	9•9	9.8	- 0.8	- 0.7	- 0.8

UNEMPLOYMENT IN INSURED INDUSTRIES.-continued.

TRADE DISPUTES.*

Number, Magnitude and Duration .- The number of trade disputes involving a stoppage of work, reported to the Department as beginning in March in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, as beginning in March in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, was 59, as compared with 56 in the previous month and 52 in March, 1923. In these new disputes about 63,000 workpeople were involved, either directly or indirectly (i.e., thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, though not themselves parties to the disputes). In addition, about 13,000 workpeople were involved, either directly or indirectly, in 21 disputes which began before March and were still in pro-gress at the beginning of that month. The number of new and old disputes was thus 80, involving about 76,000 workpeople, and resulting in a loss during March of about 730,000 workge days. The principal stoppage was that involving nearly 40,000 tramway and omnibus employees in London, which was in pro-gress from 22nd to 31st March (see article on page 121). The following Table analyses the disputes in progress in

gress from 22nd to oust March (see article on page 121). The following Table analyses the disputes in progress in March in Great Britain and Northern Ireland by groups of industries, and indicates the number of workpeople involved (whether directly or indirectly) at the establishments concerned, and the approximate time lost during the month in all disputes in progress :--

	Numb	er of Dispu gress in M	Number of Work- people in-	Aggregate Duration inWorking Days		
Groups of Industries.	Started before 1st March.	Started in March,	Total.	volved in all Dis- putes in progress in March.	of all Dis- putes in progress in March.	
Mining & Quarrying	6	17	23	13,000	106,000	
Metal, Engineering and Shipbuilding	5	12	17	10,000	201,000	
Transport		9	9	46,000	365,000	
Other	- 10	21	31	7,000	58,000	
Total, Mar., 1924	21	59	80	76,000	730,000	
Total, Feb., 1924	20	56	76	144,000	699,000	
Total, Mar., 1923 _	27	52†	79†	83,000†	762,000†	

Causes.—Of the 59 disputes beginning in March, 19, directly involving 23,000 workpeople, arose out of demands for advances in wages; 4, directly involving 2,000 workpeople, against pro-posed reductions in wages; 11, directly involving 3,000 work-people, on other wages questions; 9, directly involving 4,000

workpeople, on details of working arrangements; 7, directly involving 2,000 workpeople, on questions respecting the employ. ment of particular classes or persons; 6, directly involving 3,000 workpeople, on questions of Trade Union principle; and 3, directly involving 25,000 workpeople, in sympathy with work. people involved in other disputes.

April, 1924.

people involved in other disputes. *Results.*—Settlements were effected in the case of 34 new dis. putes, directly involving 47,000 workpeople, and 13 old disputes, directly involving 2,000 workpeople. Of these new and old disputes, 13, directly involving 4,000 workpeople, were settled in favour of the workpeople; 9, directly involving 3,000 work-people, in favour of the employers; and 25, directly involving 42,000 workpeople, were compromised. In the case of 9 dis-putes, directly involving 8,000 workpeople, work was resumed people, work was resumed pending negotiations.

TOTALS FOR FIRST THREE MONTHS OF 1923 AND 1924.1 The following Table summarises the figures for Great Britain and Northern Ireland for the first three months of 1924, in comparison with the corresponding period of 1923 :-

	Janua	ary to Mar	ch, 1923.	January to March, 1924.				
Groups of Industries.	No. of Dis- putes.	Number of Work- people involved in all Disputes in pro- gress.	Argrenate Dura ion in Work- ing Days of all Disputes in pro- gress.	No. of Dis- putes.	Number of Work people involved in all Disputes in pro- gress.	Aggregate Duration in Work- ing Days of all Disputes in pro- gress.		
Agriculture	2	8,000	66,000					
Mi ing and Quarry- ing	50	52,000	400,000	49	34,000	313,000		
Engineering and Shipouilding	19	3.000	25,000	19	10.000	245 000		
Other Metal.	13	1.000	15,000	10	3. 00	26,000		
Textile	10	32,0005	330,00 \$	8	1.000	10,000		
Clothing	6	3 000	19,000	11	2,000	7,000		
P per. Printing, etc. Building, Decorat- ing, Contracting,	Б.	6,000	117,000		-			
etc.	14	13,000	175 000	14	2,000	34,000		
Transport	8	1,000	11.000	23	230,000	1,370,000		
Public Administra-	12 005.02	AL CREATE	1 and and	1-2-10-10	1 and the second	1 Contraction		
tion Services	5	2,000	15,000	6	4,000	34,000		
Other	32	4,000	41.000	19	2,000	29,000		
Total	164	125,000	1,214,000	159	288,000	2,068,000		

PRINCIPAL TRADE DISPUTES IN PROGRESS DURING MARCH, 1924.

Occupations	and Locality	Approximate Number of Work- people Involved.		Date when Dispute		Cause or Object.	Result.
Occupations			Directly. Indi- rectly.		Ended.		autotani bad
MINING AND QUAR	RYING :	2,0	15	1923. 4 Dec.	1924. 	Dispute respecting wages, alleged victimisation and other	No settlement reported.
Coal miners, S	wansea (near)	850	• • • • •	1924. 21 Jan.	1000.0	grievances. Dispute respecting rates of wages payable when working with "conveyors."	No settlement reported.
N	lewport, Mon. (near).	2,000		8 Mar.	17 Mar.	Dispute respecting allowances to hauliers consequent upon shortage of trams.	Work resumed pending negotia- tions.
METAL, ENGINEE BUILDING :	RING, AND SHIP-			TRS	1 242	AND PROPAGATION AND	
and other sh	pwrights, joiners ipyard workers—	7,00	P. 10	19 Feb.** 25 Feb. ††	} -	For advance in wages	No settlement reported.
Southampton. Workpeopleeng facture of ele tors-London.	aged in the manu- ctrical accumula-	287	76	12 Mar.	240. 	For payment for statutory bank holidays and for one week's annual holiday with pay.	No settlement reported.
TRANSPORT :					1 Bit		A CALLER AND A C
Railway carter and attendar goods shed sta	s, motor drivers ats, vanlads and aff—London.	4,284		10 Mar.	14 Mar.	For payment of extra rate of wages to motor drivers re- quired to work with trailers, and against non-provision of vanlads to accompany certain vanmen.	Work resumed pending negotia- tions.
Omnibus emplo	yees-London yees-London	16,200 22,500	·600	}22 Mar	31 Mar.	(See article	on page 121.)
OTHER INDUSTRIN		1.46011		12 Mar.	1 Lat	Against proposed substitution of	No settlement reported.
employed in	s, labourers, etc., Paving, etc., and partments — Man-	1,40011	••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••	12 Mar.	192	civil engineering rates of wages and hours of labour, with certain modifications, for those observed in the building trades.	ite settement reported
Electricians-W	embley, Middle-	400	• •••	25 Mar.	27 Mar.	Refusal to work with non- members of the Electrical Trades Union.	Non-members withdrawn.

es 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 number of workpeople multiplied by number of working days, allowing for workpeople replaced by others, etc.) exceeded 100 days.

Disputes involving less than 10 workpeople and chose which issue the allowing for workpeople replaced by others, etc.) exceeded too uays.
duration (i.e., number of workpeople multiplied by number of working days, allowing for workpeople replaced by others, etc.) exceeded too uays.
t Revised figures.
In making up the totals for the several months of the year the figures have been amended in accordance with the most recent information. Workpeople involved in more than one disput- are counted more than once in the totals; the extent of such duplication is, however, very slight.
A dispute involving 29,006 jute workers at Dundee was in progress in March, 1923.
I.e., thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, but not themselves parties to the disputes. The statements of cause and result do not apply to these persons.
Testimated number. A lock-out of shipyard workers, except boilermakers and shipwrights, was imposed on 12th April in federated yards throughout Great Britain.
** Engineers. ++ Other workpeople.
** Engineers. ++ Other workpeople.

April, 1924.

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR.

Rates of Wages.

In the industries covered by the Department's statistics* the changes in rates of wages reported to have come into operation in March in Great Britain and Northern Ireland resulted in an aggregate increase of nearly £30,000 in the weekly full-time wages of nearly 600,000 workpeople, and in a reduction of about £7,500 in the weekly wages of over 180,000 workpeople. The groups of industries principally affected were as below :--

Group of Industries.	Appro Number people af	of Work-	Amount of Changes in Weekly Wages.		
	Increases.	Decreases.	Increases.	Decreases.	
Mining and Quarrying	495,000	183,000	£ 17,200	£ 7,500	
Brick, Pottery, Glass, Chemical, etc Metal Public Utility Services	13,500 16,000 34,500		2,200 1,200 4,000	=	
Other Total	36,000 595,000	1,000	4,900	50 7,550	

In the mining group the principal changes affected coal miners, whose wages were increased in the Yorkshire and East Midland area and in Scotland by about $1\frac{3}{4}$ and $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. respectively on current rates, while they were reduced by about $1\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. on current rates in Durham and by $3\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. on current rates in the Forest of Dean. There were also increases of 1d. and 2d. per shift respectively in the wages of iron ore miners in Cumberland and Furness.

miners in Cumberland and Furness. In the brick, chemical, etc., group there were increases of 4s. and 2s. per week in the wages of men and women respectively employed in the soap trade in England. Chemical workers in Scotland received increases of 2s. per week in the case of time-workers and 2s. 6d. per week in the case of pieceworkers. Brickmakers at Peterborough received an increase equivalent to

Brickmakers at Peterborough received an increase equivalent to over 5 per cent. on their previous earnings. The principal increases in the metal group affected iron pud-dlers and millmen in the North of England and West of Scot-land, the increases amounting to about 5 per cent. on current rates in the former district and to over $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. in the latter district. Workpeople employed in the penmaking, etc., trade at Birmingham received increases amounting to 1s. 4d. or 1s. per week in the case of men and 5d. per week in the case of women. In the public utility services the principal changes affected workpeople employed in the non-trading services of local authorities, for whom there was an increase of 10 per cent. on the basis rates in the majority of towns in Lancashire and Cheshire, and a general increase of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour in the East Midland counties, and also at Sheffield and a few other towns in the West Riding of Yorkshire.

of Yorkshire

Under the Trade Boards Acts a new Order for the boot and shoe repairing, etc., trade resulted in an increase in the minimum rates of wages of certain classes of workpeople, and a decrease

a those of certain other classes. In industries other than the above the principal groups of workpeople affected by increases in wages in March included

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING MARCH, 1924.

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)
			AGRICULTURE.	
	Lancashire (ex- cept Furness dis- trict)	8 Mar.	Agricultural labourers	Rates previously agreed upon extended up to 31 May, viz., (a) Northern Area-teamsmen and stockmen, 378. 6d.; other adult male workers, 35s.; (b) Eastern Area-teamsmen and stockmen, 40s.; (c) Southern Area-teamsmen and stockmen, 35s.; other adult male workers, 32s. 6d., with proportionate rates for youths and female workers. [†]
Agriculture (Shropshire	1 Mar.	Male agricultural labourers	Rates previously agreed upon extended up to 1 Novem- ber, viz., 30s. for a guaranteed week of 54 hours for adult workers, and for youths varying from 24d. per hour at 14 to 15 years to 64d. at 20 to 21 years.†
	Devonshire	26 Mar.	Male agricultural labourers MINING AND QUARRYING.	Rate previously agreed upon for adult workers extended up to 28 June, viz., 30s. for a week of 51 hours, and proportionate rates adopted for youths. [†]
Coal Mining	Durham	1 Mar.	Workpeople employed in or about coal mines, other than those whose wages are regu- lated by movements in other industries	Decrease of 3.80 per cent. on standard base rates of 1879, leaving wages 116.60 per cent. above the standard of 1879, subject to lower-paid men receiving a sub- sistence wage of 6s. 8½d. per day (as previously fixed).

The particulars of numbers affected and amount of change in weekly wages exclude changes affecting Government employees, police, agricultural labourd stic servants, shop assistants, and clerks, for which classes the information available is not sufficient to provide a basis for statistics. Where information the heaver, details of general changes in the current rates of wages of agricultural labourers, shop assistants, and clerks are included in the list of principal searce reported. The statistics relate to full-time rates of wages, and do not take into account the effect of short-time working. The rates were agreed upon by the local Conciliation Committee set up under the Corn Production Acts (Repeal) Act, 1921.

THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE.

[Based on Returns from Employers and Workpeople.]

those employed in the textile making-up and packing trade at Manchester, brewery workers at Burton, furniture trade opera-tives in Scotland, and men employed by electrical contractors in Scotland.

tives in Scotland, and men employed by electrical contractors in Scotland. Of the increases taking effect in March, 17, amounting to over £18,100 per week, took effect under sliding scales based on selling prices or the proceeds of the industry; 10, amounting to £4,200 per week, were arranged by stending joint bodies of employers and workpeople (including over £2,000 incorporated below under cost of living sliding scales); 27, amounting to £3,200 per week, took effect under cost of living sliding scales; four, amounting to over £200 per week, were arranged by arbitra-tion or mediation; and the remaining 29 cases, amounting to £5,800 per week, were arranged by direct negotiation between the parties or took effect under a Trade Board Order. In eight cases, involving nearly £300 per week, the increases were preceded by disputes causing stoppage of work. Of the de-creases, three, amounting to nearly £7,500 per week, took effect under sliding scales based on selling prices or the proceeds of the industry; iwo, amounting to £25 per week, took effect under cost of living sliding scales; two, amounting to £60 per week, were arranged by direct negotiation between the parties or took effect under a Trade Board Order. In only one case, involving under £50 per week, was a decrease preceded by a dispute causing a stoppage of work. **Summary of Changes in January-March, 1924.**

Summary of Changes in January-March, 1924.

The following Table shows the number of workpeople in Great Britain and Northern Ireland affected by changes in rates of wages reported to the Department during the first three months of 1924, and the net aggregate amounts of such changes :--

Group of Industries.	Number	ximate of Work- ople by net	Net Amount of Change in Weekly Wages.		
	Increases.	Decreases	Increases.	Decreases.	
Mining and Quarrying Brick, Pottery, Glass, Chemical, etc Ir in and Steel Engineering, Shipbuild- iug, and other Metal Textile Clothing Food, Drink and Tobacco Woodworking Building and Allied Trades Transport	335,000	451,000 50 114,000 3,100 350 11,600 250 30 4,700	£ 73,550 3,850 2,200 2,500 2,250 150 2,200 2,000 47,100 45,800	£ 27,800 5,000 700 50 1,150 150 50 - 400	
Public Utility Services Other Total	182,000 41,500 1,724,000	1,300 3,250 589,630	19,650 5,400 206,650	250 300 35,810	

In the corresponding three months of 1923 there were net reductions of over £160,000 in the weekly wages of nearly 1,600,000 workpeople, and net increases of about £19,500 in the weekly wages of nearly 190,000 workpeople.

Hours of Labour.

No important changes were reported in March.

April, 1924. THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE.

April, 1924.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING MARCH, 1924-(continued).

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)	Industry.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	
	Yorkshire and East Midland	takono nu uku tokan u taropherica	MINING AND QUARRYING-(c	ontinued). Increase of 2.81 per cent. on standard base rates of 1911, making wages 58.477 per cent. above the standard	Spelter Manu-	Swansea	1 Mar.	W
Coal Mining (contd.)	Area* Forest of Dean Scotland	1 Mar.	Workpeople employed in or about coal mines, other than those whose wages are regulated by movements in other industries	of 1911. Decrease of 5.60 per cent. on standard base rates of 1919, leaving wages at the minimum of 62 per cent. above the standard of 1919. Increase of 1.08 per cent. on the standard base rates of	facture Tinplate Manufacture	South Wales and Monmouthshire	30 July, 1923*	L
Coke and	Durham			1888, making wages 147'45 per cent. above the standard of 1888, subject to a subsistence allowance for surface workers, operative from 1 January, 1922. (See p. 89 of February, 1922, GAZETTE.) Decrease of 3'80 per cent. on standard base rates, leav- ing wages 116'60 per cent. above the standard, subject to lower-paid men receiving a subsistence wage of	Lock, Latch and Key	Birmingham, Wol- verhampton,Wil-	First pay day after	A
Coke and By-products Ianufacture	South Yorkshire Cleveland	1 Mar. 18 Feb.	Cokemen and by-product workers Face deputy helpers at iron- stone mines	6s. 8 ³ / ₂ d. per day (as previously fixed.) Increase of 2.81 per cent. on standard base rates, mak- ing wages 58.47 per cent. above the standard. Base rates varying from 3s. 8d. to 4s. 7d. per shift increased to 4s. 7d. to 5s. per shift. ¹ Increases of 1d. per shift in the bargain price (10s. 1d. to 10s. 2d.), and of 1d. per shift in the minimum wage	Manufacture	lenhall and Wal- sall Districts; also London, Bolton and Wigan	1 Mar.	M
Iron	Cumberland	10 Mør.	Iron ore miners Winding enginemen Other underground and surface workers	to 10s. 2d.), and of 1d. per shift in the minimum wage (7s. 5d. to 7s. 6d.). Increases of 3d. per shift (8s. 92d. to 8s. 102d.). Increases of 2d. per shift for men and of 2d. per shift for boys under 16 years. Rates after change: under	1942). 1942). 1943).	Birmingham and	Pay day	10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 1
Mining	Furness District	10 Mar.	Iron ore miners and surfacemen (except blacksmiths and fitters whose wages are not regu- lated by sliding scale arrange-	 (78. 5d. to 78. 6d.). Increases of \$\frac{3}{d}\$, per shift (8s. 9\frac{1}{d}\$, to 8s. 10\frac{1}{d}\$, 1. Increases of \$\frac{3}{d}\$, per shift for men and of \$\frac{1}{d}\$, per shift for boys under 16 years. Rates after change: under ground, 1st class or leading labourers, 6s. 5\frac{1}{d}\$, per shift; joiners, 9s. 2\frac{1}{d}\$, per shift, plus 6d, per shift tool money; blacksmiths, 9s. 2\frac{1}{d}\$, per shift. Increases of 2d, per shift in the bargain price (8s. 11d) to 9s. 1d.); of 2d, per shift in the minimum wage (8s. 2d, to 8s. 4d.); of 1\frac{1}{d}\$, per shift for surfacemen, and of \$\frac{1}{d}\$, per shift for boys under 16 years. 	Manufacture of Steel and Metal Pens and other Small Ware.	District	following 3 Mar.	M Aj F
Quarrying	West Cumberland	10 Mar.	ments) Limestone quarrymen	and of 2d. per shift for boys under 10 years. Increases of 2d. per shift for blacksmiths and joiners, of 3d. per shift for other men, and of 2d. per shift for boys under 16 years. Rates after change: knob blers, 8s. 9d.; haulage enginemen, 8s. 5d.; black- smiths and joiners, 8s. 82d.; day borers (1st class), 8s. 3d.; day labourers, 7s. 7d.; ruddmen, 7s. 1d.	Parts. Tester and a streng descent	terr failterstratt		F
1000 000 000	Portland	3 Mar. BRICK,	Limestone quarry labourers POTTERY, GLASS, CHEMICAL,	ETC., TRADES.	Cotton	Nelson	lst pay aay in Mar.	Ck
Brick- making	Peterborough and District	First full pay week in Mar.	Pressed brickmakers	Bonus of 5 per cent. on weekly wages withdrawn, and an increase of such amount as will restore the 10 per cent. reduction made in February, 1923; also an amount equivalent to half the reduction made in rates of pay for extras as from May, 1922, restored. Bates after change: burners, 10s. 11d. per shift; oilers, 1s. 04d. per hour; fitters, 1s. 34d.; labourers, 11d.; press boys, 5d.	Elastic Web Weaving Making up and Packing	Leicester { Manchester	18 Feb. 24 Mar. Pay pre- ceding 1st pay day	EW
Chemical Manufacture	Scotland¶	13 Mar.	Workpeople employed in the manufacture of heavy chemicals (except those whose wages are regulated by move- ments in other trades) Workpeople employed in the	Increase of 2s. per week for timeworkers and of 2s. 6d. per week for shiftworkers.	Balan Jacob Jaka, Nazi Balan Jacob	and the second s	în April	
Soap Manufacture	England**	1 Mar.	workpeople employed in the soap trade (except those whose wages are regulated by move- ments in other trades)	and 2s. per week for female workers 12 and over." Minimum rates after change: male workers 21 and over-large industrial centres (including Port Sunlight and Bromborough Pool), 56s.; other centres, 54s.; female workers 18 and over, 30s. ^{††}	Print St. Strong	to mode we'reddio hewreitor tol or an en ar an ar an ar an ar ar ar		M
and the solution	The start of the start		AND STEEL SMELTING AND M		San	ning al an and an ning al an and an ning al an and a		M
Pig Iron Manufacture	West Cumberland and North Lan- cashire	20d full pay in Mar,	Blastfurnacemen	Increases of 2 per cent. on standard rates, making wages 394 per cent.‡ above the standard, plus, in some cases, an output bonus. Minimum rates after change: general labourers, 4s. 10d. per shift, plus 394 per cent.; shift labourers, 5s. per shift, plus 394 per cent. Increases of 72 per cent. on standard rates, making wages 55 per cent. above the standard.	Boot and Shoe Making and Repairing	Great Britain	3 Mar.3	F
Iron and Steel Manufacture	North of England Barrow-in-Furness South and West	31 Mar. { 31 Mar. Feb.	Iron millmen Merchant millmen Bricklayers employed in Siemens steel works	Increases of 7½ per cent. on standard rates, making wages 52½ per cent. above the standard. Increases of 7½ per cent. on standard rates, making wages 52½ per cent. above the standard. Increase of ½d. per hour (1s. 7d. to 1s. 7½d.).	concident - our	Continuera Ang nadla salah rom		P
	Wales West of Scotland	31 Mar.	Iron puddlers and millmen ENGINEERING AND SHIPBUI	Increases of 2½ per cent. on standard rates, making wages 57½ per cent. above the standard. LDING.	allers county	hour links affair r		FO
Engineering	Derby	First making up day after 11 Jan.	Acetylene welders	Minimum rate of 42s. per week fixed for men at present engaged as acetylene welders, and minimum rates adopted for men starting without any previous experi- ence as follows: first year, 36s.; second year, 38s.; third year, 40s.; afterwards, 42s. per week; subject, in each case, to the addition of 10s. war wage.		Bath Bristol Aberdeen	1 Mar. 1 Mar. 1st pay day in	Lange Charles
toble reduction	Mansfield	1 Mar.	Skilled coremakers§§	Increase of 2s. per week (54s. to 56s.).§§		Ayrshire	Mar. 1st pay day in Mar.	
Shipbuild- ing, etc.	Great Britain	First full pav after 18 Mar.	Qualified joiners, plumbers, bricklayers, masons and painters III employed in H.M. Dockyards and Admiralty	Increase of 1s. per week in basic rate when engaged on craftsmen's work. Rates after change: joiners, plumbers, bricklayers and masons, 41s.; painters, 40s.; plus, in each case, a war advance of 17s. per week. (See I.C. Decision No. 882 on p. 149.)	Baking and Confec- tionery	Clydebank Glasgow (non-asso-	Mar. 1st pay day in Mar. 1st pay	в

The change took effect from the date mentioned under an agreement dated 10th March, 1924.
In future wages will vary in accordance with fluctuations in the Ministry of Labour index number of retail prices.
This change took effect under an arrangement whereby wages fluctuate in accordance with the Ministry of Labour index number of retail prices.
See p. 112 of March GAZETTE.
Including Auchinlech, Dalm ellington, Irvine, Kilbirnie, Kilmarnock, Kilwinning, Maybole, Stevenston, and Troon.
The changes took effect under the terms of an agreement made between the firms concerned and the Scottish Union of Bakers and Confectioners, by which ages were to be regulated in accordance with the Ministry of Labour index number of retail prices.

THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE

OF WACES PEPORT	ED DURING MARCH, 1924—(continued).
S OF WAGES REFORT.	ED DORING MARCH, 1924—(continuea).
Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)
OTHER METAL TRADES.	A JAMES CONT
orkpeople, other than furnace hands, employed in the spelter	Increase of 6d. per day.
industry see drivers and shunters	Daily rates adopted resulting in increases of from 7d. to 11d. per day, the new rates varying as follows: loco drivers—Group "A" works, 7s. 6d.; Group "B," 7s.; Group "C," 6s. 7d.; shunters—Group "A," 6s. 6d.; Group "B," 6s.; Group "C," 5s. 7d.; plus, in each case, a consolidated bonus of 25 per cent., 111 per cent. sliding scale addition, and 71 per cent. special allow- ance.
pprentices and youths em- ployed in the lock, latch and key industry	Rates adopted, varying according to age, from 15s. per week at 15 years to 31s. 6d. per week at 19 years for apprentices, and from 16s. per week at 15 years to 33s. per week at 19 years for other youths.
ale timeworkers over 21 years of age	Increasest of 1s. 4d. per week for skilled men and charge hands, and of 1s. per week for others. Rates after change: toolmakers over 25 years of age, 80s. 8d. and 71s. 2d.; toolmakers 21 to 25 years, 61s. 2d.; charge hands in hardening shops and rolling mills, 73s. 2d.; charge hands in shaking mills and tempering and colouring shops, 65s. 2d.; others, 50s.
ale timeworkers under 21 years of age pprentices	Increasest of amounts, varying according to age, from 3d. to 9d. per week. Increasest of amounts, varying according to age, from 2d. to 6d. per week.
emale dayworkers and learners emale pieceworkers	Increasest of amounts, varying according to age, from 2d. to 5d. per week. Rate after change for day- workers 18 years and over, 25s. 1d. per week. Increaset of 5d. per week (26s. 2d. to 27s. 6d.) in the basic piecework rate.
TEXTILE TRADES.	Suble precentra rate.
otton drawers and twisters on	Extra payments fixed for one beam, where the ends are
astic web weavers (males) { orkpeople employed in the making-up and packing industry	 laid in approximately to pattern at 2d. per 1,000 ends on ordinary list prices: and for one beam where the ends are not laid in approximately to pattern at 3d. per 1,000 ends on ordinary list prices: for two beams, the same price as one beam not laid in approximately to pattern. Bonus increased; from 15s. to 16s. in the pound. Bonus increased; from 16s. to 15s. in the pound. Increaset of 3d. per week for men 21 and over, and of 2d. per week for women 18 and over. Rates after change for certain classes: Men-hydraulic packers and makers-up (prints), 68s. 11d.; makers-up (greys). 63s. 4d.; lappers, 54s. 3d.; general warehousemen, 52s. 10d.; porters, 49s. Women-markers-ofl, 36s. 1d.; cutters, 33s. 4d.; other classes, 27s. 9d. to 31s. 11d.
CLOTHING TRADES.	Saussis, 505, 44, 50000 Gaussos, 216, 54, 50 515, 114.
ale and female workers wholly or mainly employed in making bespoke hand-sewn leather footwear (including hand-sewn surgical work)	Minimum rate of 65s. per week fixed under the Trade Boards Acts.§
ale learners (other than male indentured apprentices) and temale learners	New scale of minimum weekly rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts, resulting in decreases of 1s. for those of 15 and under 17 years, and in an increase of 1s. for those 19 and under 21 years, the rates for other ages remaining unchanged. Minimum rates after change: 13s. at 14 years, increasing to 43s. at 20.8
emale workers employed as foremen and managers eceworkers	Increase of 4s. per week (70s. to 74s.) in the guaranteed time rate fixed under the Trade Boards Acts.§ Revised list of piece rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts, subject to a deduction of 5 per cent. for bespoke hand-sewn, bespoke hand-sewn surgical, bespoke
	pegged and bespoke riveted work and certain classes of surgical repair work, and of 7½ per cent. for repair- ing (including surgical repair work other than the above).§
OD, DRINK, AND TOBACCO	TRADES.
	Increase [‡] of 1s. 3d. per week. Rate after change for Tablehands, 62s. 9d. Increase [‡] of 1s. 3d. per week. Rate after change for Tablehands, 63s. 6d. Increase [‡] of 1s. 6d. per week. Minimum rates after change, 4 a.m. start, 78s. 6d.; 5 a.m. and 6 a.m. start, 76s. Increase [‡] of 1s. per week. Minimum rate after change, 71s.
akers and confectioners	Increase [‡] of 1s. 6d. per week. Minimum rate after change, 76s. 6d.
the second residence was a functioned	Increase of 1s. 6d. per week. Minimum rate after change, 76s. 6d.¶
ANSPORT TRADES	Increase [‡] of 1s. per week. Minimum rate after change 71s. Increase [‡] of 1s. 6d. per week. Minimum rate after change, 76s. 6d.
anged 1	Increase; of 1s. per week. Minimum rate after change 71s.

Date from which change took effect.

17 Mar. 1st pay after 3 Mar.

Pay pre-ceding 1st pay day in April

24 Mar. Ca

17 Mar. Ro

10 Mar. Ro

14 Mar. Ca

Ma

Ma

Week ended 6 Mar. Ist full pay in Mar.

12 Mar. Ma

1 Mar. Ma

Ma

Ma

lst pay day in Mar.

lst pay day after I Mar.

Ro

R

CHANGES IN RATES

Newcastle-on-Tyne 17 Mar. Ro

PRINCIPA	L CHANGES I	N RATE	S OF WAGES REPORTE	D DURING MARCH, 1924—(continued).	PRINCIPA	L CHANGES IN
Industry.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)	Industry.	Locality.
Brewing	Burton-on-Trent	FOOD, Payable on 1st pay day in April	DRINK AND TOBACCO TRADES Male workers	-(continued). Increase of 6s. per week for men 21 and over, and of proportionate amounts for boys and youths. Standard rates after change for men 21 and over:-labourers, 56s., loaders and stowers, 59s.; shiftmen, 60s.; loco. drivers, 77s. 6d.; enginemen (48 hours), 68s.; stokers (48 hours), 65s. 6d.; lorry drivers, 66s.; lorry steersmen, 61s.; carters-one-horse, 56s.; two-horse, 58s. Increase of 4s. per week (31s. to 35s.) for those 21 and over, and of proportionate amounts for girls.		Newcastle-on-Tyne Sunderland Nottingham
woods Lacoord and edd anothing to the second for an another to	and a part of the second		WOODWORKING AND FURNITUR	Andrews I was well to an an and the state of the state	Road	Cambridge Bristol
actule han a	Manchester, Sal- ford and Dis- trict, and Ash- ton-under-Lyne	{ 1 Feb. 29 Mar. { 1 Feb.	Woodcutting machinists and sawyers Timber yard labourers, slingers and power driven crane drivers Woodcutting machinists and	Increase of id. per hour (is. id. to is. rid.). Increase of id. per hour. Rates after change: timber yard labourers, is. 1id.; slingers, is. 1id.; crane drivers, is. 2d. Increase of id. per hour (is. 7d. to is. 7id.).	Transport	
Mill Sawing	Preston and Dis- trict Bristol Leicester	1 Mar. 7 Mar. 1 Mar.	sawyers Labourers Woodcutting machinists and sawyers Workpeople employed in saw-	Increase of 1d. per hour (1s. 1d. to 1s. 11d.). Increase* of 1d. per hour (1s. 6d. to 1s. 61d.). Increase* of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: machinists and sawyers 1s. 51d.: labourers, 1s. 2d.		Forfarshire Belfast
to see from to use from	Nottingham Scotland	1 Mar. 1st full pay in Mar.	mills Woodcutting machinists and sawyers Woodcutting machinists	 Increase of id. per hour (1s. 5¹/₂d.; labourers, 1s. 2d.) Increase* of ¹/₂d. per hour (1s. 5¹/₂d. to 1s. 6d.). Increase of 1³/₈d. per hour for journeymen and of proportionate amounts for apprentices. Minimum rate after change for journeymen, 1s. 5d. 		Londonderry
Packing	Manchester, Sal- ford and Bolton Scotland (except Aberdeen)		Woodcutting machinists Packing case makers and wood- cutting machinists	Increase of ¹ / ₂ d. per hour (1s. 7d. to 1s. 7 ¹ / ₂ d.). Increase of 1 ³ / ₂ d. per hour for journeymen and ¹ / ₂ d. per hour for apprentices. Rates after change: packing case makers—Glasgow, 1s. 5d.; Edinburgh, Leith, Dunfermline and Dundee, 1s. 4d.: woodcutting		Scarborough West Riding of Yorkshire‡
Case Making	Aberdeen	13 Mar.	Packing case makers and wood- outting machinists	Leith, Dunfermline and Dundee, 1s. 4d.: woodcutting machinists (all districts), 1s. 5d. Increase of 11d. per hour for time-workers (1s. 11d. to 1s. 3d.), and of 20 per cent. on pre-war rates for pieceworkers, leaving wages 100 per cent. above pre- war rates.		The second secon
	Nottingham	1 Mar.	Cabinet makers, french polishers, machinists, up- holsterers, sanders by hand or machine (single band) packers, etc.	Increase* of ½d. per hour. Rates after change: sanders and packers, 1s. 3½d.; other classes, 1s. 6½d.		Sheffield
Furniture Trades	Beith, Dundee, Glasgow, Green- ock, Kirkcaldy and Lochwinnoch	1st full pay week in Mar.	Cabinet makers, chairmakers, c a r v e r s, french polishers, machinists, upholsterers, up- holstery sewers and s a n d paperers.	Increase* of 1d. per hour for men, ½d. per hour for women, 5 per cent. for pieceworkers and proportionate amounts for apprentices. Minimum rates after change: Glasgow-men, 1s. 6½d.; women, 9½d Beith, Lochwinnoch, Dundee and Kirkcaldy-men, 1s. 5½d.; women, 8¾d.		Lancashire and Cheshires
Paper Making	Great Britain	22 Feb.	PAPER, PRINTING AND ALLIED Boys and youths employed in paper mills (except those em- ployed in hand-made paper	Decrease of id. per hour for those of 16 and 18 years of age, of id. per hour for those of 17 years, and increase of id. per hour for those of 20 years, the rates	Non-trading Services of	East Midlands
	un vendir ratas fir remining in darian or 17. ratas and in d. finder 22. reace	minities to other stranger og averbander of a stranger of	mills and board mills)	for those aged 14, 15 and 19 years remaining un- changed. Rates after change: 14 years, 3§d. per hour increasing to 8d. per hour at 18 years and to 11§d. at 20 years; Scotland, West of England and Wales: 14 years, 3d., increasing to 7½d. at 18 years and to 10§d. at 20 years.	Local Auth- orities	n in tradict in the second sec
Printing	Manchester	1st full pay after 4 Mar.	Engineers, fitters and turners, electrical fitters and assistants employed in certain morning and evening newspaper offices	Bonus of 5s. per week granted. Minimum rates after change: daywork—electricians (mechanics) and engi- neers, 105s.; electricians' assistants, 90s.: nightwork- electricians (mechanics) and engineers, 135s.; elec- tricians' assistants, 100s. (See Decision No. 876 on p. 149.)		
	duction of 5 per ord	b it of too ing sail of too unconside for	BUILDING AND ALLIED	TRADES.		Middlesex¶
1	Plymouth a n d Devonport Dis-	1 Feb.	Building trade operatives	Increase* of id. per hour. Rates after change: painters, 1s. 5id.; other craftsmen, 1s. 6id.; labourers, 1s. 2d.†	A second	The state of the
	trict† Keynsham† Torquay	1 Feb. 17 Mar.	Building trade operatives Building trade operatives	Increase [*] of id. per hour. Rates after change: crafts- men, 1s. 6id.; labourers, 1s. 2d.† Increase of id. per hour for craftsmen (is. 5id. to		angelika katakang ng
al aparto	Abergavenny	71	Building trade operatives	1s. 6 ¹ / ₂ d.) and ² / ₃ d. per hour for labourers (1s. 1 ¹ / ₄ d. to 1s. 2d.). ¹ Increase of ¹ / ₂ d. per hour for craftsmen (1s. 6 ¹ / ₂ d. to 1s. 7d.) and ¹ / ₃ d. per hour for labourers (1s. ² / ₂ d. to		
Building	metal M. steele and	14 Feb. 7 Mar.	Plasterers	1s. (d.) and 3d. per hour 101 insources (is, is, is, is, is, is, is, is, is, is,		in the second second
actuals rela	Aberdeen Elgin and District Huntly and In-	21 Mar.	machinists, slaters and plumbers Joiners Masons	Increase of 1d. per hour (1s. 3d. to 1s. 4d.). Increase of 1d. per hour (1s. 6d. to 1s. 7d.).		instantion bins 20171 A sectore and a sector
	verurie Districts Peterhead		Masons, joiners, slaters and	Increase of id. per hour (1s. 6id. to 1s. 7d.). Increase of id. per hour (1s. 5d. to 1s. 6d.).	t The change t	two-horse drivers was redu . per week by mutual agre ook effect under an arrang
Electrical Installation	Scotland§	payable 14 Mar.	trical contractors	Alitzandbright Film	Services, and inclu- bury, Rawmarsh, S B.D.C. (no change)	itles affected are those wide: -Grade B1: Bingley, penborough, Whitwood, B
ock, Wharf, etc., Labour	Grimsby	26 Feb.	TRANSPORT TRADES Deal carriers employed in the timber trade	Increase of 5 per cent. on the 1920 tariff, leaving a total decrease of 27 ¹ / ₂ per cent. or 30 per cent. on list	Local Authorities'	a todmorden R. D.C. (no ch cost of living "sliding sca Non-trading Services that n their respective Zones: r's Department), Manches

The change took effect under an arrangement whereby wages fluctuate in correspondence with the Ministry of Labour index number of retail prices.
 † This change was in accordance with the agreement of the National Wages and Conditions Council for the Building Industry referred to in the March GAZETTE, and took effect from the same date as in the rest of the country. Confirmation in respect of these particular towns, however, did not reach the Department in time for their inclusion in the list of towns published on p. 104 of the March GAZETTE.
 ‡ This increase took effect as the result of the district having been up-graded under the Grading Scheme of the National Wages and Conditions Council (see p. 104 of March GAZETTE).
 § The change took effect and encount of the district having been up-graded under the Grading Scheme of the National Wages and Conditions Council (see p. 104 of March GAZETTE).

§ The change took effect under an agreement made between the Electrical Contractors' Association of Scotland and the Electrical Trades Union.

The Authorities affected are those which follow the recommendations of the Fast Midlands Joint Industrial Council for Local Authorities' Non-Trading Services, The above zones and rates were recommended by the Middlesex Joint Industrial Council. The following Authorities are reported to have adopted the recom-sudations:-Zone 1: Brentford (from 27 March), Tottenham; Zone 2: Friern Barnet, Hanwell, Southall-Norwood, Twickenham.

THE MINISTRY OF L'ABOUR GAZETTE.

OF	WAGES	RE PORTED	DURING	MARCH,	1924—(continued).	
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	and and stated in the second and the second
Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change.
the manage of the paste	(Decreases in italics).
TDANSDODT TDADES Joonto	
TRANSPORT TRADES—(conti	Portanours Portanours
ad transport workers	Increase of 3s. per week. Rates after change: one horse drivers, 53s., two horse drivers, 56s.; petrol wagon drivers (2 tons and over), 63s.; steam wagon
ad transport workers	drivers, 63s.; steerers, 57s.; loaders and mates, 53s. Increase of 3s. per week.
ad transport workers	Increase of 3s. per week. Increase of 2s. per week. Rates after change: one horse drivers, 53s.; two horse drivers, 58s.; petrol wagon drivers, 2 tons and over, 63s.; 15 cwts. to 2 tons, 58s.; under 15 cwts., 53s.; electric vehicle drivers 1 ton and over, 60s.; under 1 ton, 53s.; loaders and
rters, coal porters, etc	garage hands, 53s. Rate of 40s. adopted for carters and motor mates, of
ad transport workers	46s. for coal carters, and 45s. for coal yardmen. New schedule of rates adopted resulting in an increase
	of 3s. per week for adults and 1s. 6d. per week for boys and youths. Rates after change: one horse drivers 59s.; two horse drivers, 63s. 6d.*; three horse drivers, 65s. 6d.; mechanical vehicle drivers, under ton, 66s., over 1 and under 2 tons, 68s., 2 tons and over 73s.; steersmen, 68s.; loaders, 66s.; horse-keepers, 61s.
ad transport workers	Increase of 2s. per week. Rates after change at Dundee: one horse carters, 52s.; two horse carters, 54s.
ad transport workers	Increase of 3s. per week. Rates after change: one horse carters (first 6 months), 54s.; (after 6 months), 57s.; two horse carters (light), 62s.; (heavy), 65s.
rters	Increase of 3s. per week (54s. to 57s.).
PUBLIC UTILITY SERVICES	Others and a second sec
nual workers	Increaset of 1s. 3d. per week. Rates after changes general and road labourers, scavengers and refuse
de manual workers	collectors, 50s. per week; road paviors, 52s. Revised area grading scheme adopted whereby three intermediate grades, B 1, C 1 and D 1, are created in addition to the four grades A, B, C and D previously existing, resulting in an increase of 3d, per hour in the scheduled minimum rates for the towns included in the three new grades. Minimum hourly rates for
anteriore bacteria a obreccione anterio the series entre an alla consectione series entre and alla consection and bogoration finitica (Consta fing	labourers after change: Grade B 1 areas, 1s. 01d. (i.e., 1d. less than Grade A); Grade C 1, 111d. (i.e., 1dd. less than Grade A); Grade D 1, 101d. (i.e., 2dd. less than Grade A). The minimum rates for Grade A, Grade B (now B 2), Grade C (now C 2) and Grade D (now D 2) remain unchanged at 1s. 1d., 1s., 11d. and 10d. respec- tively.1
nual workers (excluding hose whose wages are gov- rned by Trade Union rates)	Increase in bonus or allowances of 2s. per week, or ½d. per hour. Rates after change: general labourers, 1s. 2d. per hour; scavengers, 8s. 1d. per day; refuse collectors: motor drivers, 57s. 6d. per week, labourers, 54s. 6d., horse drivers, 51s. 6d., labourers, 49s. 6d.
le manual workers	"Cost of living" bonus increased from 75 to 85 per cent. on basic rates. Minimum weekly rates after change: labourers. Zone A. 51s. 10d.: Zone B. 43s. 1d.: Zone C.
nual workers :	men), 37s.; street sweepers, Zone A, 48s. 1d.; Zone E. (road-
len paid hourly rates	44s. 5d.; Zone C, 42s. 7d.; Zone D, 38s. 10d.; Zone E, 37s. Increaset of 1d. per hour. Scheduled minimum hourly rates after change for road and general labourers and scavengers: Grade A areas, 1s. 2d. (gardeners and gardeners' labourers, 1s. 1d.); Grade B, 1s.; Grade C,
len paid weekly rates (in-	11d.; Grade D, industrial areas, 11d.; agricultural areas, 10d. Increaset of 1s. 11d. per week for Grade A areas, of
cluding attendants, vare- takers, porters, cleaners, lamplighters, etc.)	1s. 9d. for Grade B areas, and of 1s. 6d. for Grade C areas. Scheduled minimum rates after change: Grade A areas, 50s. 11d.; Grade B areas, 47s. 1d.; Grade
omen (baths, library and lavatory attendants)	C areas, 40s. 3d. Increaset of 11d. per week in Grade A areas. Scheduled minimum rate after change for Grade A areas.
le manual workers	25s. 8d. per week. Area grading scheme adopted whereby minimum
WAGES IN THE IRO	basic rates were recommended for three zones as follows:-Zone I. districts: Grade A work- people (including bath and lavatory attendants, scavengers, lamplighters, etc.), 30s.; Grade B (includ- ing dust collectors, gardeners, yardmen, labourers, etc.), 32s.; Grade C (including stokers, asphalters, etc.),
a pages in the providence of t	34s.; Grade D (including motor drivers not required to do running repairs, sewer men, etc.), 36s.; Grade E (including motor drivers capable of doing running
and the second s	repairs, steam roller drivers, etc.), 38s.; Grade F (in- cluding horse keepers, foremen sewer men, etc.), 40s. Grade G (no occupations fixed), 42s. Zone II. rates to be 5 per cent. less than Zone I. Zone III. rates to be 122 per cent. less than Zone I. The above rates are to be subject to a bonus as follows: 22s. 6d. on the first 30s., plus 50 per cent. on the balance, such bonus to vary in future in accordance with the cost of living
Analysis and a second second	22s. 6d. on the first 30s., plus 50 per cent. on the balance, such bonus to vary in future in accordance with the cost of living.¶

The rate for two-horse drivers was reduced to 58s. 6d. per week as reported on p. 217 of the June, 1923, GAZETTE, but was subsequently (in December, 1923) The change took effect under an arrangement whereby wages fluctuate in correspondence with the Ministry of Labour index number of retail prices. The Authorities affected are those which recognise the wages agreements of the Provincial Joint Industrial Council for Local Anthorities' Non-Trading es, and include: -*Grade B1*: Binley, Castleford, Conisborough (no change) on previous rates), Doncaster (change made from 1st April), Keichley, Queens-Rawmarsh, Spenborough, Whilwood, Rotherham R.D.C. (no change). *Grade C1*: Horbury, Hunsworth, Selby, Kiveton Park R.D.C. *Grade D1*: Pontefract (ao change), Todmorden R.D.C., (no change). *Grade C1*: Horbury, Hunsworth, Selby, Kiveton Park R.D.C. *Grade D1*: Pontefract are shown in their respective Zones: the Authorities printed in italies pay general yard labourers the same rate as a builder's labourer - Zone A: Bolton, pool (Engineer's Department), Manchester, Sonthport, Abram, Ashton-in Makerfield, Atherion, Stretford, Zone B, Barrow-in-Furness, Blackpool, Colne, Creue, en, *Dukinfield*, Eccles, Haslingden, *Hyde*, Middleton (unskilled men in Highways Department), Nelson, Preston, 8t. Helens, Stalvforder, Wallasey, ington, Altrincham, Audenshaw, Barrowford, Brieffeld, Chaddertom, Crompton, Drovlsden, *Failsworth*, Golborn, Ince-In-Makerfield, Littleborouch, Little, Newton-in-Makerfield, Prestwich, *Radelife*, Ramsbottom, Porton. Swinton and Pend'ebury, Tottington, *Nultesley-with Shakerley*. Zone C: Chester, Chorley, ere, Glossy, D, ytham St. Annes, Macclesfield, Morecambe, Alderley Edge, Ashton-upon-Mersey, Aspul, Bollington, Daton-In-Furness, Hale, Hazel Grove and hall, Kirkham, Little Huiton, Milnrow. Northwich, Oswaldwi tie, Padiham, Sale. Skeimersdiae. Standish-with Langtere, Turness, Hale, Hazel Grove and etc., Zone D : Trawden, Withnell, and R.D.Cs of Burnley and Leigh. Zone E : Lancashire County Council, Fri

THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING MARCH, 1924-(continued).

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)
		arias la	PUBLIC UTILITY SERVICES-(co	ntinued).
Non-trading Services of Local Auth- orities	Portsmouth Aberdeen	1 Feb. 1 Mar,	Labourers	Increase of ¹ d. per hour (1s. 0 ¹ d. to 1s. 0 ² d.). Increase [*] of 1s. per week. Rates after change: gen labourers and labourers in Waterworks Departn 50s. per week; scavengers and refuse collectors, s
(contd.)	Glasgow	3 Mar.	Settmakers	pipe layers, 57s. 6d. Increase* of 1d. per 110 stones. Rate after chan 4s. 11d. per 110 stones.
	etd , tevo: has and the	a state all	MISCELLANEOUS TRADES	ALL AND A REAL AND A
Saddlery, etc., Trade	London (Metro- politan Police Area)	lst pay day in Mar.	Gig saddlers, harness makers, etc. Brown saddlers	Increase* of 1d. per hour for timeworkers and 7 cent. for pieceworkers, leaving wages 90 per cent. 75 per cent. above the list for heavy and light respectively. Minimum rate after change for t workers, 1s. 6d Increase* of 1d. per hour for timeworkers and 7 cent. for pieceworkers, leaving wages 75 per of above pre-war list prices. Minimum rate after cha for timeworkers, 1s. 6d.
tics and over	London (City and	Ist pay	Packers and porters employed by certain large rotail drapery, etc., shops (new en- trants): Packers	New scale of minimum weekly rates adopted, star
Other	Metropolitan Police District†)	day after (1 Mar.	Porters	for males at 18s. at 16 years and increasing to 60, 24 years; and for females at 15s. at 16 years and creasing to 36s. at 23 years.† New scale of minimum weekly rates adopted, star for males at 18s. at 16 years and increasing to 53, 24 years; and for females at 15s. at 16 years and
Trades and / Occupations	Liverpool	26 Feb.	Workpeople employed in the cold storage industry	creasing to 34s. at 23 years. [†] Increase of 5s. 6d. per week for permanent men an 1s. per day for casual men. Rates after change: manent labourers, 62s. 6d. per week; casual men, per day; engine drivers, 64s. 2d. per week; free motormen and greasers, 60s. 6d.; hydraulie i cranemen and snowmen, 65s. 6d.
and the second s	Yorkshire‡	Pay day in week beginning 3 Mar.	Managers, secretaries, and heads of departments em- ployed by co-operative socie- ties	Decrease of 24 per cent. on basic rates, subject minimum of £4 per week.‡

The change took effect under an arrangement whereby wages fluctuate in correspondence with the Ministry of Labour index number of retail prices.
 t The new rates took effect under an agreement made between the London Employers' Association, Ltd and the National Union of Distributive and Allied Workers. It is understood that the rates are to be applied to new entrants only and that generally the rates of existing staffs will not be reduced.
 The change took effect as the result of an award to which the Co-operative Union, Ltd. (North Eastern Section) and the National Union of Co-operative Official were parties.

CHANGES IN WAGES TAKING EFFECT IN APRIL, 1924.

The following groups of workpeople are affected by changes in wages already reported as having been arranged to take effect in April, all the changes mentioned being increases :--Fint glass cutters; paint colour and varnish workers; blast furnacemen in the Cleveland district; iron puddlers and millmen in the Midlands; electrical cable makers; workpeople employed in the seed crushing and oil milling industry; vehicle builders in Scotland; house painters in Scotland; tramwaymen in London; workpeople employed in the non-trading services of local authorities in Kent, Surrey and Sussex. Particulars of the changes will be included in the May issue of the GAZETTE.

PRICES AND WAGES IN THE IRON TRADE.

In certain sections of the iron and steel industry rates of wages are adjusted from time to time, under "sliding scale" agree-ments, in accordance with changes in the selling prices of speci-fied iron and steel products as indicated by results of periodical "ascertainments." The results of recent ascertainments of the selling prices of iron are given below :--

a cutante la sociatation el	Price acc last A		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) of last Audit* on			
Product and District.	Period covered by last Audit. Average selling Price Per Ton.		Previous Audit.	A Year ago.		
Pig Iron : Cleveland (No. 3)	1924 JanMar.	s. d. 95 9	s. d. + 0 8	s. d + 2 10‡		
Cumberland	Jan,-Feb. Jan. Feb.	101 6 101 14 101 94	$ \begin{array}{c} + 1 & 7_{\frac{1}{4}} \\ + 0 & 11 \\ + 0 & 8_{\frac{1}{2}} \end{array} $	+ 5 11 + 6 71 + 5 33		
Manufactured Iron: North of Eugland (Bars and angles.)	JanFeb.	243 1불	+11 73	+36 11		
(Bars and angles.) West of Scotland (Rounds, flats, tees, angles, hoops and rods.)	Jan. Feb.	244 64	+ 3 5½	+27 6‡		

* Stated to the nearest fartning.

quarrymen. Manufactured Iron.-In the North of England the wages

Manufactured 1707.—In the North of England the were puddlers and millmen were increased by 7½ per cent. on standard rates, with effect from 31st March, in consequence of the ris-in the ascertained price of manufactured iron in that district. In the West of Scotland an increase of 2½ per cent. on standard rates took effect from 31st March as the result of the increase in the ascertained price. Particulars of these increases at rise as page 159 given on page 138.

April, 1924.

BUILDING PLANS APPROVED.

April, 1924

RETURNS have been received from 143 Local Authorities in Great Britain giving the estimated cost of buildings for which plans were passed during the first three months of this year. The summarised figures for the quarter are given in the Table below, together with similar figures as to plans passed by the same Local Authorities during the corresponding quarter of

1923. In the localities to which the figures relate, plans were passed in the first quarter of 1924 for buildings of an estimated cost of over £15,400,000, of which dwelling-houses accounted for ver £10,000,000. In the corresponding quarter of 1923, plans were passed in the same localities for buildings of an estimated ost of over £10,500,000, dwelling-houses accounting for nearly 36,000,000 of this total.

1		and a first of the state of the	The second second and		The second second second second	March 1 and 1 and 1	
	to official and the second	Estimate	d in the	of Buildin a 143 to ave been	wns from	n which	ns were returns
opulatio 21) of	and Aggregate n (at Census of Towns from urns have been seeived.	Dweiling Houses.	Factories and Workshops.	Shops, Offices, Warehouses, and other Business Premises.	Churches, Schools and Public Buildings.	Other Buildings, and Additions and Alterations.	TOTAL
1.5.2.9	(a) FIRST G	UARTER	OF 1924	• m		MARCEL C
	AND WALES-	£	£	£	£	£	£
orkshir		397,800 1,237,400	16,300 130,400	37,100 202,500	13, 400 44,300	88,400 295,900	553,000 1,910,500
	re and Cheshire (3,035,000)	1,750,400	123,400	481,000	626,500	264,300	3,245,600
Countie		1,697,200	179,800	67,200	118,900	594,500	2,657,600
Juter Lo	unties (581,000) ndon* (2,068,000)	709,000 1,913,200	11,400 72,300	54,600 113,400	16,000 99,500	127,800 243,700	918,800 2,442,100
Bouth-Ea	(1,012,000)	821,200	22,600	157,300	6,000	182,800	1,189,900
Wales a	(432,000)	426,900	5,100	7,600	4,000	61,400	505,000
shire	(834,000)	419,600	64,300	38,800	40,000	53,900	616,600
OTLAND	(2,146,000)	781,900	172,600	78,200	82,700	269,900	1,385,300
Total	(16,273,000)	10154600	798,200	1,237,700	1,051,300	2,182,600	15424400
	(b)	FIRST Q	DARTER	OF 1923.	a linefil a	(STER)	got the
	AND WALES-	£	£	£	£	£	£
Yorkshin		198,100 775,600	34,400 151,900	50,600 151,700	29,100 196,800	73,000 306,800	385,200 1,582,800
	(3,035,000)	1,017,200	165,400	148,600	52,700	220,300	1,604,200
Counti	nd West-Midland ies (2,911,000) idland and East-	777,200	145,600	170,400	173,600	315,200	1,582,000
ern Co Outer Lo	unties (581,000) ondon* (2,068,000)	457,600 1,300,400	42,000 79,600	37,100 219,100	16,200 135,200	56,400 211,500	609,300 1,945,800
South-W	astern Counties (1,012,000)	621,600	20,400	44,300	32,800	200,800	919,900
	(432,000) and Monmouth-	177,000	3,800	8,000	13,000	40,400	242,200
shire	(834,000)	214,000	20,600	37,900	21,200	42,700	336,400
OTLAND	(2,146.000)	427,100	83,700	24,600	158,700	629,600	1,323,700
Total	(16,273,000)	5,965,800	747,400	892,300	829,300	2,096,700	10531500

ASSISTED PASSAGES UNDER THE EMPIRE SETTLEMENT ACT, 1922.

THE number of assisted passages granted durinng March, 1924, in connection with agreed schemes under the Empire Settle-ment Act, and the total number of such passages granted from the inception of these schemes, together with the number of departures during the same periods, are shown in the follow-ing Table :--

	Assisted Passages	Pass	Assisted sages nted.	Depar- tures	Total Departures.		
Abos	Granted in Mar., 1924	1922 and 1923	Jan Mar., 1924	in Mar., 1924	1922 and 1923	Jan Mar., 1924	
Assisted Passage Schemes : To Australia " New Zealand " Canada :	2,116 746	32,977† 7,599†	6,241 2,010	3,0 26 540	31,067 6,839	7,369 1,447	
Dominion of Canada Province of Ontario	1,244	3,559† 1,343	1,685 24	1,186	3,519 1,312	1,627 44	
Minor Schemes	79	1,619†	359	44	1,581	247	
TOTAL	4,185	47,097†	10,319	4,796	44,318	10,734	

The figures given in the above Table include both applicants and dependants of applicants to whom assisted passages have been granted.

• Particulars are not available for the London County Council area. † Revised figures.

DISEASES OF OCCUPATIONS.*

THE total number of casest of poisoning and of anthrax in Great Britain and Northern Ireland reported under the Factory and Workshop Act during March, 1924, was 52. Two deathst were reported during the month, one due to lead poisoning in the pottery industry and one due to epitheliomatous ulceration from contact with oil. In addition, six cases of lead poisoning among house painters and plumbers came to the knowledge of the Home Office during March, but notification of these cases is not obligatory. not obligatory.

(a) CASES OF LEAD POISONIN	G.]	(b) CASES OF OTHER FORMS	OF
Among Operatives engaged in	1-	POISONING.	
Smelting of Metals	2	Mercury Poisoning	
Plumbing and Soldering	4	Phosphorus Poisoning	
		Arsenic Poisoning	
Shipbreaking	7	Toxic Jaundice-	
Printing	1	Arseniuretted Hydrogen Gas	
Tinning of Metals			
Other Contact with	1	Benzine, etc., derivatives Epitheliomatous Ulcera-	•
Molten Lead		tion-	
White and Red Lead	Sec. 10	Paraffin	1
Works	2	Pitch	2
‡Pottery	4	Tar	1
Vitreous Enamelling	Ser State	Oil	9
Electric Accumulator	Next I	Chrome Ulceration—	
Warles	5	Manufacture of	
the second s	0	Bichromates	1
Paint and Colour Works		Dyeing and Finishing	1
Indiarubber Works	1	Chrome Tanning	
Coach and Car Painting	2	Other Industries	1
GL: 1	2	TOTAL OTHER FORMS OF	-
	2	POISONING	16
Paint used in other In-		(a) Chang on Assessments	-
dustries	1	(c) CASES OF ANTHRAX- Wool	2
Other Industries	1	Handling of Horsehair	
	Talk	Handling and Sorting	
TOTAL OF ABOVE	28	of Hides and Skins	
TOTAL OF ABOVE.	20	(Tanners, Fellmongers,	
	-	&c.)	
HOUSE PAINTING AND	250	Other Industries	
PLUMBING	6		
ATTAC TO A CONTRACT OF A CONTRACT		TOTAL, ANTHRAX	8

FATAL INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS.§

THE number of workpeople, other than seamen, reported as killed in the course of their employment in Great Britain and Northern Ireland during March, 1924, was 231, as compared with 227 in the previous month and with 196 a year ago.

BrakesmenandGoods(continued):Guards1Locomotives, Railway &TamwayCarriages,TramwayCarriages,Guards (Passenger)3Permanent Way Men9Shipbuilding3Porters1Babourers1GasMechanics1Electric Generating Sta-Iabourers1Electric Generating Sta-Miscellaneous6Clay, Stone, Glass, etc.6Contractors' Servants2MINES103Surface110PLACES UNDER Ss. 104-106,FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS7Guards110PLACES UNDER Ss. 104-106,FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS7Wool, Worsted, & Shoddy3Other Textiles1Docks, Wharves, etc.7Wool, Worsted, & Shoddy37Metal Conversion, inclu1Use or Working of TramwaysMetal Conversion, inclu1Construction or Repair ofMetal Founding13Tramways1Metal Founding13Construction or Repair of1	RAILWAY SERVICE.	- IIII	FACTORIES AND WORKSHOI	PS
Guards1Locomotives, Railway & Tramway Carriages, Motors, Aireraft3Firemen <td< td=""><td>Brakesmen and Goods</td><td>A Burner</td><td></td><td>and and</td></td<>	Brakesmen and Goods	A Burner		and and
Engine DriversFiremenTramway Carriages, Motors, AireraftGuards (Passenger)Guards (Passenger)Guards (Passenger)Permanent Way MenPortersMechanicsMachanicsMiscellaneousMiscellaneousTOTAL, RAILWAY SERVICE 24Clay, Stone, Glass, etcMinnesUndergroundMINESUndergroundMINESUndergroundYotal, MINESUndergroundMinnesUndergroundVool, Worsted, & Shoddy3Other TextilesCottonTotal, FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPSMetal Conversion, incluMetal Conversion, incluMetal FoundingMetal FoundingMetal FoundingMetal FoundingMakingMotal foundingMakin		1		
Firemen			Tramway Carriages	
Guardis (Fassenger)			Motors Aircroft	Z
Permanent Way Men9Shipbuilding7Porters3Shunters1Mechanics1Mechanics1Labourers1Electric Generating Sta-tionsMiscellaneous6Contractors' ServantsTOTAL, RAILWAY SERVICE 24Food and DrinkMINESUnderground103SurfaceTOTAL, MINES110QUARRIES over 20 feet deep 4Docks, Wharves, etcWool, Worsted, & Shoddy 33Other Textiles1DyeingMetal Conversion, including3Metal Conversion, including3Metal Founding13Metal Founding13Metal Founding13Making6Boiler Making & Con-6			Other Motel Trades	
Porters3Wood4Shunters1Gas1Mechanics1Electric Generating Stations1Labourers1Electric Generating Stations1Miscellaneous6Clay, Stone, Glass, etc.6Contractors' Servants6Chemicals, etc.6TOTAL, RAILWAY SERVICE246MINES103Currying, etc4Muner, Carrying, etc77TOTAL, MINES100FACTORY ACT, 1901.QUARRIES over 20 feet deep4Docks, Wharves, etc.7PLACES UNDER SS. 104-106,FACTORY ACT, 1901.7Warehouses and RailwaySidings7Cotton10Wool, Worsted, & Shoddy3Other Textiles1Metal Extracting and Metal Conversion, inclu- ding Rolling Mills and Tube Making3Metal Founding2Construction or Repair of CanalsMaking6Boiler Making & Con-6Total (excluding Sea-				
Shunters 1 Gas 1 Itelectric Gas 1 Itelectric Itelectric Gas 1 Itelectric Itelectric Gas 1 Itelectric Itelectric Gas 1 Itelectric Gas 1 Itelectric			Wood	G-022-0-
Mechanics1Labourers1Labourers1Miscellaneous6Contractors' Servants6TOTAL, RAILWAY SERVICE24Food and DrinkTOTAL, RAILWAY SERVICE24Food and DrinkMINES1036Underground103Surface103PLACES UNDER SS. 104-106,FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS10QUARRIES over 20 feet deep4Docks, Wharves, etcWool, Worsted, & Shoddy37Warehouses and RailwaySidings70Warehouses and RailwaySidings70Warehouses and RailwaySidings70Metal Extracting and Dyeing10NorksHOPS, ANDMetal Conversion, inclu- ding Rolling Mills and Tube Making10Mattal Founding2Construction or Repair of CanalsMattag10Metal Founding10Mattag10Model I Extracting and MakingMetal Founding <td< td=""><td></td><td></td><td>Coa</td><td>an an an an an</td></td<>			Coa	an an an an an
Labourers		1	Floatnia Comparating Sta	No. 1
Miscellaneous		1000	tions sta-	0
Contractors' ServantsOf ay, Boole, Othes, Construction or Repair of Chemicals, etc.TOTAL, RAILWAY SERVICE 24 MINES.Chemicals, etc.6MINES			Class Stone Class at	
TOTAL, RAILWAY SERVICE24MINESUnderground-Surface-TOTAL, MINESUnderground103Surface-TOTAL, MINESUNARRIES OVER 20 feet deep4QUARRIES over 20 feet deep4PACTORIES AND WORKSHOPSCotton-FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.Docks, Wharves, etc.Cotton-Wool, Worsted, & Shoddy3Other TextileBleaching andDyeing-Metal Extracting and-RefiningMetal Conversion, including Rolling Mills and-Tube Making-Mattal, Founding-Mattal, Founding-Construction or Repair ofCanals-Total (excluding Sea-		1000	Chamicala etc.	
TOTAL, RAILWAY SERVICE 24MINES.MINES.Paper, Printing, etc.Underground103Surface7TOTAL, MINES7TOTAL, MINES110QUARRIES over 20 feet deep4FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.PLACES UNDER SS. 104–106, FACTORY ACT, 1901.QUARRIES over 20 feet deep4Buildings7Bui			Food and Duinly	
Taper, Frinting, etc. 4MINES.Tanning, Currying, etc. 4Underground 103Tanning, Currying, etc 7Surface 7Totales 7TOTAL, MINES 110PLACES UNDER SS. 104–106, FACTORY ACT, 1901.QUARRIES over 20 feet deep 4Docks, Wharves, etc 7QUARRIES over 20 feet deep 4Docks, Wharves, etc 7Wool, Worsted, & Shoddy 3Total, FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.Cotton 1Total, FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.Cotton 1Total, FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.Cotton 1Total conversion, including summer and MachineMetal Extracting and Tube Making 2Use or Working of Tramways 1Metal Founding 2Use or Working of Tramways 1Metal Founding 2Construction or Repair of Canals 1Making 16Tramways 10	TOTAL, BAILWAY SERVICE	24	Popon Drinting etc	
MINES.Rubber TradesUnderground103Surface7TOTAL, MINES110QUARRIES over 20 feet deep4PLACES UNDER SS. 104–106, FACTORY ACT, 1901.QUARRIES over 20 feet deep4FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS. CottonFACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS. CottonCottonTextileBleaching and DyeingTextileBleaching and DyeingRefiningMetalConversion, inclu- ding Rolling Mills and Tube MakingMetal Founding13Metal Founding13Metal Founding2Construction or Repair of CanalsTramways1Construction or Repair of CanalsTotal (excluding Sea		-	Taper, Frinting, etc.	1000
Underground103Other HadesSurface7TOTAL, MINES10QUARRIES over 20 feet deep4PLACES UNDER SS. 104-106, FACTORY ACT, 1901.QUARRIES over 20 feet deep4Docks, Wharves, etcGUARRIES over 20 feet deep4Docks, Wharves, etcFACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS. Cotton1Wool, Worsted, & Shoddy3Other Textiles2TotAL, FACTORIES AND WorkSHOPSMetal Extracting and Refining1Metal Conversion, inclu- ding Rolling Mills and Tube Making13Metal Founding2Engineering and Machine Making13Mating6Boiler Making & Con-6	MINES.		Pathan Trades	
Surface 7 TOTAL, MINES 110 PLACES UNDER SS. 104-106, FACTORY ACT, 1901. QUARRIES over 20 feet deep 4 Docks, Wharves, etc. 7 FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS. Docks, Wharves, etc. 7 FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS. Warehouses and Railway Sidings 7 Wool, Worsted, & Shoddy 3 7 Other Textiles 1 Sidings 7 Metal Extracting and Refining 1 PLACES 90 Metal Conversion, inclu- ding Rolling Mills and Tube Making 13 Use or Working of Tram- ways 1 Metal Founding 2 Construction or Repair of Canals 1 Metal Founding 6 Total (excluding Sea- 1		103		10.1.
TOTAL, MINES110PLACES UNDER SS. 104-106, FACTORY ACT, 1901.QUARRIES over 20 feet deep4Docks, Wharves, etc7FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS. Cotton1Docks, Wharves, etc7Wool, Worsted, & Shoddy33Sidings7Other Textiles1Sidings7Dyeing1PLACES7Metal Extracting and ding Rolling Mills and Tube Making13TotAL, FACTORIES AND90Metal Founding13Use or Working of Tram- ways90Metal Founding13Construction or Repair of Canals10Making6Total (excluding Sea-10		7		T
FACTORY ACT, 1901. QUARRIES over 20 feet deep 4 Docks, Wharves, etc. 7 Buildings 7 Wool, Worsted, & Shoddy 3 Other Textiles 1 Dyeing 1 Refining 1 Metal Extracting and 7 Refining 1 Metal Conversion, inclu- 13 Metal Founding 14 Making 6 Boiler Making & Con- 6			tries	0
QUARRIES over 20 feet deep FACTORY ACT, 1901. QUARRIES over 20 feet deep Docks, Wharves, etc 7 FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS. Docks, Wharves, etc 7 Wool, Worsted, & Shoddy 3 Other Textiles 1 Buildings 7 Workshops. Yarehouses and Railway Sidings 7 Workshops, AND TOTAL, FACTORIES AND Dyeing 1 Metal Extracting and Workshops, AND Refining 3 Metal Conversion, inclu- Ways ding Rolling Mills and Tramways Tube Making 2 Engineering and Machine Construction or Repair of Making 6 Boiler Making & Con- Total (excluding Sea-	TOTAL MINES	110	PLACES UNDER SS. 104-1	06,
FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS. Buildings		Tarles .	FACTORY ACT, 1901.	
FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS. Buildings 7 Vool, Worsted, & Shoddy 3 Warehouses and Railway Other Textiles 2 TOTAL, FACTORIES AND Textile Bleaching and WORKSHOPS, AND Dyeing 1 PLACES 50 Metal Extracting and Use or Working of Tramways 1 Metal Conversion, including Rolling Mills and Construction or Repair of Tramways 1 Metal Founding 2 Construction or Repair of Canals 1 Metal Founding 2 Construction or Repair of Canals 1 Making 6 Total (excluding Sea-	OUARRIES over 20 feet deep	4	Docks Wharves etc.	7
FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS. Warehouses and Railway Cotton 1 Wool, Worsted, & Shoddy 3 Other Textiles - Textile Bleaching and TOTAL, FACTORIES AND Dyeing - Refining - Metal Extracting and - Metal Conversion, including Rolling Mills and Use or Working of Tramways Tube Making - Metal Founding - Metal Founding - Metal Founding - Making - Making - Total (excluding Sea-	Commune over to reer top			1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1
Cotton 1 Sidings Wool, Worsted, & Shoddy 3 7 TOTAL, FACTORIES AND Other Textiles 2 TOTAL, FACTORIES AND Dyeing 1 PLACES 90 Metal Extracting and 1 PLACES 90 Metal Conversion, including Rolling Mills and 3 Use or Working of Tramways 1 Metal Founding 13 Tramways 1 Metal Founding 2 Construction or Repair of 1 Metal Founding 2 Construction or Repair of 1 Metal Founding 2 Construction or Repair of 1 Metal Founding 6 1 1 Metal Founding 6 1 1	TACTORIES AND WORKSHOP	pe	Warehouses and Railway	31.20
Wool, Worsted, & Shoddy 3 — … … … … 1 Dyeing … … … … … … 10 PLACES …	Catter.	12 CO. 10 CO.		
Other Textiles 2 TOTAL, FACTORIES AND Textile Bleaching and 1 WORKSHOPS, AND Dyeing 1 PLACES 50 Metal Extracting and 3 Use or Working of Tramways 1 Metal Conversion, including Rolling Mills and 3 Use or Working of Tramways 1 Metal Founding 13 Construction or Repair of 1 Tramways 1 Metal Founding 2 Construction or Repair of 1 Canals 1 Metal Founding 6 Tramways 1 Making 6 Total (excluding Sea-		Contraction of the	NIGINGS	
Textile Bleaching and Dyeing 1 WORKSHOPS, AND Metal Extracting and Refining 3 Use or Working of Tram- ways 1 Metal Conversion, inclu- ding Rolling Mills and Tube Making 13 Use or Working of Tram- ways 1 Metal Founding 2 Construction or Repair of Tramways 1 Metal Founding 2 Construction or Repair of Canals 1 Making 6 Total (excluding Sea-			TOTAL FACTORIES AND	
Dyeing1PLACES90MetalExtracting and3Use or Working of Tram- ways1MetalConversion, inclu- ding Rolling Mills and1Construction or Repair of Canals1Metal Founding13Tramways1Metal Founding2Construction or Repair of Canals1Making6Total (excluding Sea-	Tartila Planching and	180		
Metal Extracting and Refining Image: Construction of the second		1		SO
Refining 3 Use or Working of Tramways Metal Conversion, including Rolling Mills and Construction or Repair of 1 Tube Making 13 Tramways 1 Metal Founding 2 Construction or Repair of 1 Metal Founding 2 Construction or Repair of 1 Making 6 Canals 1 Boiler Making & Con- Total (excluding Sea- 1		Section of the		North Co
Metal Conversion, inclu- ding Rolling Mills and Tube Making	The second se	3	Use or Working of Tram-	Brad
ding Kolling Mills and Construction of Repair of Tube Making 13 Metal Founding 2 Engineering and Machine Canals 1 Making 6 Boiler Making & Con- Total (excluding Sea-	Metal Conversion inclu-	1		Legisland
Tube Making13Tramways1Metal Founding2Construction or Repair of Canals1Engineering and Machine Making6Canals1Boiler Making & Con-Total (excluding Sea1	ding Bolling Mills and		Construction or Benair of	126-215
Metal Founding		13		1
Engineering and Machine Making 6 Boiler Making & Con- Total (excluding Sea-				E State
Making				1
Boiler Making & Con- Total (excluding Sea-		6	Callars	and and
	Deiler Making & Con		Total (excluding See.	1
structional Engineering 1 men)	Boller Making & Coll-	1		231
	structional Engineering		men)	

Returns from the Home Office and from the Ministry of Labour fo

Based on Returns from the Home Office and from the Ministry of Labour for Northern Ireland.
 t 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.
 t of the four persons affected in the Pottery industry three were females.
 § Based on Returns from the Home Office, the Mines Department, the Ministry of Transport, and the Ministry of Labour for Northern Ireland.

POOR LAW RELIEF IN GREAT BRITAIN.

(Data supplied by the Ministry of Health in England and Wales and by the Board of Health in Scotland.)

THE number of persons relieved on one day* in March, 1924, in the thirty-one selected areas named below was 827,934, or 81 per cent. less than in the previous month, and 91 per cent. less than in March, 1923. The numbers relieved at these dates were equivalent, respectively, to rates of 468, 509 and 525§ per 10,000 of the estimated population.

In the twenty-five selected areas in England and Wales the number of persons relieved in March, 1924, was 682,741, or 437 per 10,000 of the estimated population. In the six areas in Scotland the number relieved was 145,193, or 702 per 10,000 of the estimated population.

Recipients of indoor relief in the thirty-one districts in March numbered 127,621, or 1.7 per cent. less than in the previous month, but 10 per cent. more than in March of last year. Recipients of outdoor relief numbered 700,313, a decrease of 9.2 per cent. on the previous month, and of 10.8 per cent. on a year ago.

year ago. Twenty-nine districts showed decreases and two districts showed increases in the number per 10,000 relieved in March, 1924, as compared with February. Districts showing the most marked decreases were East London (119 per 10,000), Glasgow (116 per 10,000), West Ham (103 per 10,000), Paisley and Greenock (89 per 10,000) and Hull (83 per 10,000). Compared with March, 1923, twenty-nine districts showed decreases and two showed increases. The chief decreases were recorded in the districts of Sheffield (237 per 10,000), Coatbridge and Airdrie (200 per 10,000), Birmingham (197 per 10,000), Paisley and Greenock (169 per 10,000) and Stockton and Tees (141 per 10,000). There were no marked increases.

interest in yel		r of per law re in Ma	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in rate per				
Selected Urban Areas.†	Indoor	Out- door.	Total.	Rate per 10,000 of Esti-	10,000 of Population as compared with a		
E a dizistanti	1.6000	Ra	1. arts 4.	mated Popu- lation.	Month ago	Year ago.	
ENGLAND & WALES.	16 1	igr	-		PAG.		
Metropolis. West District	9,163	8,357	17.520	213	- 12	- 38	
North District	10,628	22,576	33 204	327	- 28	- 53	
Central District _	2.549	22,576 3.160	5.709	428	- 23	- 9	
East District	10,422	53,633	64,055	998	-119	- 40	
South District	19,915	80,831	100,746	523	- 71	- 58	
TOTAL, Metropolis	52,677	168,557	221,234	487	- 56	- 49	
West Ham	4,374	72.628	77,002	1,021	-103	+ 30	
Other Districts. Newcastle District	2,679	27,866	30,545	618	- 42	- 85	
Stockton and Tees Dis-	1 100	10.100	10 770	714			
Bolton Oldham ata	1,168 4,109	18,162	19,330	714 150	- 57	-141	
Bolton, Oldham, etc	1,791	7,826 10,734	11,935 12.525	281	$\begin{vmatrix} - & 1 \\ - & 9 \end{vmatrix}$	+ 9	
Manchester District	9,125	29.389	38,514	372	- 9	- 51 - 54	
Liverpool District	10,066	54,130	64,196	529	- 39	- 46	
Bradford District	1,788	3,834	5,622	151	- 10	- 33	
Halifax and Hudders-	a superior		Children .		marian an	Same V36	
field	1,309	3,275	4,584	120	- 4	- 8	
Leeds District	2,540 878	8,888	11,428	234 257	- 14	- 28	
Barnsley District	2,660	7,415 36,045	8,293 38,705	753	-3 - 60	- 41	
Hull District	1,747	13,642	15,389	485	- 83	-237	
North Staffordshire	2,173	5.667	7,840	189	+ 1	- 10	
Nottingham District	2,162	9,327	11,489	246	- 9	- 8	
Leicester District	1,264	2,378	3,642	153	- 10	- 18	
Wolverhampton Dis-	7 407	21 517	24.000	747			
trict District	3,407	21,513	24,920	343 463	- 31	- 96	
Birmingham District Bristol District	7,260 2,419	36,510 12,919	43,770 15,338	373	- 35	-197	
Cardiff and Swansea	2,421	14,019	16,338	349	+ 2	- 13	
TOTAL "Other Districts"	60,966	323.539	384,505	372	- 25	- 65	
Telling the second second second		8 Base					
TOTAL, Districts in Eng- land and Wales	118,017	564,724	682,741	437	- 37	- 56	
		-		and the second		- Jon The	
SCOTLAND.				1 000	Institut	" HER ALL	
Glasgow District Paisley & Greenock Dist.	5.456	94 081	99.537 13,745 17.175	1,025	-116	- 405	
Edinburgh and Leith Dis.	806	12 939 15.571	17,175	715	- 89	-169	
Dundee and Dunfermline	787	3,047	3,834	174	- 20	- 20 - 40	
Aberdeen	544	4,342	4,886	306	- 40	- 40	
Coatbridge and Airdrie	407	5,609	6,016	591	- 16	-200	
TOTAL for the above }	9,604	135,589	145,193	702	- 71	- 645	
TOTAL for above 31 Dis- tricts in March, 1924	127,621	700,313	827,934	468	- 41	- 57§	

The figures for England and Wales relate to 29th March, and those for Scotland to 15th March.
† These urban areas include in the case of England and Wales more than one Poor-law union, except in the Leicester, Birmingham, and West Ham districts; and more than one parish in the case of Scotland, except in the Aberdeen and Edinburgh districts.
‡ Exclusive of casuals, of lunatics in Asylums, Registered Hospitals and Licensed Houses, and of persons receiving out-door medical relief only.
§ The figures previously published for March, 1923, have been revised.

RETAIL PRICES OVERSEAS.

[N.B.—While the percentages given in the following Summary Tables are derived from the most authoritative sources of statis-tical 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 com-parison between the figures for any two countries. It is also to be observed that in every case the percentage calculation is based on the assumption that the standard of living is identical at the various periods compared.]

I.-FOOD.

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

dings of which sizes with bours from which sizes		Percentage Increase as compared with July, 1914.*									
Country.	July,		July, 1921.	July, 1922	July, 1923.	Latest figures available.					
	ALL DAS	1920.	1001.	1002	1000.	Rise.	Date				
UNITED KINGDOM	Contraction of	Per cent. 158	Per cent. 120	Per cent. 80	Per cent. 62	Per cent. 67	Apr. '24				
FOREIGN COUNTRIES, Austria (Vienna) Czechoslovakia§ _ Denmark Finland France (Paris)§ , (other towns)§ Holland (The Hague) , (Amsterdam) Italy (Milan) Norway Poland (Warsaw) Sweden § Switzerland United States		 153 882 273 2880 111 345 219 197 115	9,700† 1,246 136 1,178 206 250 113 80 406 195 45,655 132 110 45	328,600 1,330 84 1,005 197 212 80 40 392 133 129,711 79 57 39	1291000 821 88 868 221 249 60 36 396 118 2419623 60 64 44	1392900 817 94 276 274 65 44 423 141 \$ 62 67 44	Mar. 24 Feb. 23 Jan. 24 Feb. 24 Jan. 24 Jan. 24 Jan. 24 Mar. 23 Jan. 24 Mar. 23 Feb. 23 Feb. 28				
BRITISH DOMINIONS, &C. Australia Canada India (Bombay) Irish Free State New Zealand South Africa	1:1:11	127 88 67 97	61 48 74 64 39	48 38 60 85† 44 16	64 37 48 82 42 16	55 43 47 96 49 22	Jan. '24 Mar. '24 Mar. '24 Jan. '24 Jan. '24 Feb. '24				

* Exceptions to this are: Belgium, in which comparison is with April, 1914; France (other towns), 3rd quarter of 1914; The Hague, January to July, 1914 Milan, January to June, 1914; Switzerland, June, 1914; Poland, Jønnar 1914; Amsterdam, South Africs, average, 1914. † Figure for June. ‡ 4,150,917 fold increase. § Fuel and lighting are also included in these figures # Figure for August.

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 REQUISI-MENTS, AS COMPARED WITH JULY, 1914.[†]

		Items on	P	ercent		crease July, 1	as comj 1914.†	pared
	Country.	which Computa- tion is based.*	July		July,		Lates	t figure ilable.
and the second se	00 234,000 1223,000	1990 1990 1990	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	Rise.	Date
Contraction of the second	THE SECTION OF MANY AND THE	and the second	Per	Per	Per	Per	Per	CIACO A
and the second	UNITED KINGDOM FOREIGN COUNTRIES	. A, B, C, D, E	cent. 152	cent. 119	cent. 84	cent 69	cent. 73	Apr. '
	Austria (Vienna)					1090200		Mar.
5		_ A, C, D, E	353	279	266	329	410	Mar.
		A, D	162	1,512	2,368	2,289	2,482	Jan.
1		A, B, C, D, E A, D	TO CHERRY !!	93	72	52	51	Jan. "
	This land	A, B, C, D, E	811	1,039	1,018	990	1,026	Feb.
	France (Paris)	A, B, C, D, E	263‡	195‡	189‡	231‡	245	4th Qt 1923
	Greece (Athens) .	. A, B, C, D, E		1.00	516	933	1,225	Jan.
	Hungary	. A, B, C, D, E		3,661	15,579	225,16	597,320	Jan.
	Italy (Milan) .	A, B, C, D, E	341	394	388	387	421	Mar.
		. A, C, D	000	284	259 155	340 1396	400 149	Feb. " Mar. "
	Norway	. A, B, C, D, E A, B, C, D, E	2025	202§ 25609		209354t	145	Jan.
	(hadald)	AD	90t	84	79	72	90	Feb. 2
	(Descalance)	. A, D	91±	78	73	65	70	Feb. "
	Sweden	ADÓDE	170	136	90	74	73	Apr.
		. A, D			59	66	68	Feb. "
	United States .	. A, B, C, D, E	1175	801	675	705	73	Dec. "
	BRITISH DOMINIONS, & Australia	A, B	67‡	46‡	43‡	56‡	52	4th Qtr 1523
	Canada	. A, B, D	90	52	46	46	48	Mar. "
	India (Bombay)	LADAD	89	77	65	53	53	Mar. 2
		A, B, C, D, E			85	80	88	Jan 7
	New Zealand .	. A, B, D	49	57	44	45	49	Dec. 2
	South Africa .	. A, B, D, E			35	30	34	Feb. 7

• A=Food; B=House-Rent; C=Clothing; D=Fuel and Light; E=Other or Miscellaneous Items. † Exceptions to this are: France, Spain, Australia and South Africa, in which comparison is with the average for 1914; Belgium, April, 1914; Greece, March, 1914; Milan and New Zealand, January to June, 1914; Egypt. Hungary, average, 1913-1914; Poland, January, 1914; Switzerland and Luxemburg, June, 1914; United States, 1913; Bulgaria, average, 1901-1910. ‡ Figure for 3rd Quarter. & Figure for June. # Figure for May. •• 2,988,671-fold increase.

April, 1924. April, 1924.

COMPARATIVE REAL WAGES

IN LONDON AND CERTAIN CAPITAL CITIES ABROAD IN FEBRUARY, 1924.

[N.B.—The method by which the index-numbers in the follow-ing table have been computed was explained in an article in the issue of this GAZETTE for July, 1923, pages 236-238. The numbers relate to purchasing-power in terms of food alone, and, for the reasons given in the article referred to, they can and, for the reasons given in the article referred to, they can only be accepted as affording a very rough indication of the dif-ierences that existed, on or about the date at the head of the table, between the real wage levels (in terms of food), in the parious capitals, of the selected categories of typical urban male labour. The numbers for the various occupations are com-parable horizontally but not vertically. The averages, however, are comparable both ways, provided it be understood (a) that this applies only to capitals other than London, and (b) that any difference between the indices for a given capital at two different dates does not imply a proportionate change in its real-wage level between those dates, but only a proportionate change in the level in relation to that of London.]

ndex Numbers of Comparative Real Wages, 1st February, 1924. (London=100.)

		and the second		- Salaria	1000	2 pland				and the second second	Section in the	Contraction of	200000	
London.	Amsterdam.	Berlin.	Brussels.	Christiania.	Copenhagen	Madrid.	New York.	Ottawa.	Paris.	Prague.	Stockholm.	Sydney.	Vienna.	Warsaw.
1000	and a state				1245	16								
100 100 100 100 100 100	98 98 98 98 98 98 98 97	58 58 58 60 58 63	53 53 57 59 52 47	80 80 76 76 76 84	11111	11111	11111	263 263 197 197 210 180	11111	75 73 94	97 97 97 97 90 113	11111	11111	91 91 89 - 96
100	108	69	48	100	-	-	2	140	10000	77	115	-		75
	1.0		573			200	Part A	- Frid	esto.	1				131
100	100	57	67	96	-	-	-	203	-	122	81	-	-	80
100 100 100	86 93 100	53 57	66 89 68	96 89 96	11+	111	11	200 220 203	111	108 	81 76 81	111		80 74 80
100	103	64	68	126	-	_		190	10007	95	97	-	-	71
100	77	72	56	76			三十二	138		75	82		Prove Prove	-
100 100 100 100	78 81 78 87	47 47 48	48 48 49 52	75 69 75 87		1111	1111	181 168 181 194	1111	- 87 78	78 80 78 79	111	1-1-1-1-	140 182 140 156
100	93	58	58	86	1	I and		196		90	89			103
100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100	92 91 92 100 99 100 99 100 99 10? 103	48 36	60 61 58 60 59 57 62 64 65 70 70	89 89 94 92 94 90 87 86 93 92				190 189 188 190 190 183 186 182 182 182 174 180	83* 86 88 91 88 91 90 87 	92 89 90 74 77 65 67 67 65 67	88 87 86 86 84 88 86 84 88 85 85	173 	47 49 51 50 50 50 47 48 44 47	50 59 73 60 91 91 76 96 98 101 85
	1000 1000 1000 1000 1000 1000 1000 100	100 98 100 98 100 98 100 98 100 98 100 98 100 98 100 98 100 97 100 108 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 77 100 78 100 73 100 73 100 93 100 93 100 92 100 92 100 92 100 92 100 92 100 92 100 103 100 92 100 100 100 92 100 103 100 103 100 103 100 100	100 98 58 100 98 58 100 98 58 100 98 58 100 98 58 100 98 58 100 98 58 100 98 58 100 97 63 100 108 69 100 100 57 100 93 53 100 77 72 100 73 47 100 87 48 100 93 58 100 93 58 100 93 58 100 93 58 100 93 58 100 93 58 100 93 58 100 93 58 100 94 48 100 99 - 100 9	$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	$ \begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	$ \begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	$ \begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	$ \begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$

The noteworthy increase since January, 1924, in the index number for Warsaw is mainly due to the fact that while money-wages rose on an average by about 125 per cent. between that month and February, the average increase in food-prices was about 22 per cent. only.

TRADE UNIONS IN GERMANY : MEMBERSHIP IN 1923.

ORDING to the Reichsarbeitsblatt for 16th January, 1924, the total membership of the German trade union organisations during 1923 was 13,308,721, an increase of 778,483 over the total number for the previous year. The total figures for both years, distinguishing manual from non-manual workers, are as fol-

N.	Manual	Non-Manua	al Workers.		
Year.	Workers.	In Private Employment.	In Public Employment.	Total.	
922 ··· 923 ···	9,459,089 9,679,466	1,682,486 1,691,088	1,388,663 1,938,167	12,530,238 13,308,721	

mong the non-manual workers in public employment are rail-servants, among whom would be counted a certain number manual workers.

Provisional figures. Based on prices and wages for the first two weeks of the month. Revised figures.

EMPLOYMENT OVERSEAS.

IN.B.—The following paragraphs include an abstract of such official 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 official statistics published in the various countries, are, however, not the same as those of the United Kingdom statistics, and therefore the figures quoted below cannot properly be used with those on pp. 125-126 to compare the actual level of employment in the United Kingdom with that in other countries. For further information on the subject of the bases of the unemployment statistics of the various countries see Report issued in 1922 by the International Labour Office under the title "Methods of Compiling Statistics of Unemployment." (Studies and Reports, Series C., No. 7.)]

FRANCE.*

FRANCE.* Interployment in March.—The total number of unemployed femaning on the "live register" of Employment Exchanges on 29th March was 10,129 (6,924 men and 3,205 women). At the end of February the corresponding figure was 11,239 and on 31st March, 1923, 8,868. The total number of vacancies remaining unfilled on the same date was 11,980 (6,986 for men and 4,994 for women), as against 9,086 at the end of February and 9,112 on 31st March, 1923. During the week under review the Exchanges succeeded in placing 28,668 persons (including 11,402 dock workers) in situations, and, in addition, found employment for 4,786 foreign immigrant. March 1923, 2,660 the persons of out-of work benefit through their agency being 1,022 (786 men and 26 women). The corresponding total for the preceding month is 1,042 and that for March, 1923, 2,560. It is to be noted that these figures do not fully represent the number of persons out of employment, since some localities are without unemploy-ment funds, and where they do exist their record of un-employed persons is not complete.

GERMANY.+

GERMANY.⁺ Employment in February.—The statistics relating to the labour market all indicated a further improvement during the month of February. The difficulties in the way of a definite restoration of German industry, particularly in the heavy metal trades, were still so great that the general improvement could only be described as slight. The membership returns of health insurance societies show that in extensive areas of Germany the mining, metal and engineering, and electrical and chemical trades had not yet emerged from the depression. The increase in the numbers employed, particularly of women and girls, throughout the unoccupied area of the country, is due to a revived demand in branches of industry manufacturing articles of minor importance.

revived demand in branches of industry manufacturing articles of minor importance. As regards unemployment among organised workers, the im-provement noted in January was maintained. Returns received from 34 trade unions, and covering 4,195,393 members, showed that 1,052,390 of these were unemployed on 23rd February, a percentage of 25.1, as against 26.5 in January and 5.2 in February, 1923. Percentages for the principal unions included in the fore-going figures are given in the following Table :--

UNIONS. S. D. =Social-Democratic H. D.=Hirsch-Duncker (non- Social-Democratic) C.=Christian	Member- ship reported	Percentage Unemployed at end of Month.			
	on at end of Feb., 1924.	Feb., 1924.	Jan., 1924.	Feb., 1923.	
All Unions making Returns	4,195,393	25.1	26.5	5-2	
Building (S. D.)	383,000 40,000 41,000 1,129,000 117,000 107,000 477,000 30,000 332,000 63,000 63,000 61,000 3227,000 55,000 67,000 289,000 57,000	72.6 78 7 50 6 27.5 35.4 9.7 3.7 13.7 6.2 14.1 19.1 13.0 19.6 15.0 12.9 17.5 9.4 22.4 19.7	71.5 75.7 59 0 24.4 53.9 10.0 9 2 21.3 10.1 25.4 18.5 18.8 27.6 21.2 16.5 10.4 16.8 26.0 18.6	16-9 13-1 14-7 2-3 0-5 4-8 4-4 4-4 4-4 2-9 4-6 4-8 2-6 8-4 4-4 2-7 9.0 2-1 27-9 4-8 1-9	
ers (S. D.)	93,000 152,000	32 0 6•4	42·4 5·0	4·1 2·5	

Short time was less prevalent in February on the evidence of trade union returns. Out of 3,624,531 members 17.1 per cent. were partially unemployed, as compared with 23.4 per cent. in January; for February, 1923, the corresponding percentage was

Bulletin du Marché du Travail, 4th April, 1924. Paris.
 † Reichsarbeitsblatt, 1st April, 1924. Berlin.

The number of totally unemployed persons in receipt of out-of-work donation fell from 1,307,035 on 15th February to 1,172,646 on 1st March, and 988,752 on 15th March. Partially unemployed persons in receipt of donation, who numbered 251,550 in the middle of February, were 90,133 in number only on 15th March. This fall is partly due to the further restric-tions imposed upon the payment of donation for partial un-employment. These totals do not include figures for the occu-nical areas of Communy. employment.

employment. These totals do not include figures for the occu-pied area of Germany. Returns from Employment Exchanges showed a further im-provement. Evidence of the more favourable position of the labour market is afforded by an increase of 14 per cent. in the number of vacancies offered by employers. At the same time the number of workers applying for situations fell by 4 per cent. The increased demand for men and boys was particularly noticeable. On an average there were 770 applications for each 100 vacancies for men and 239 for each 100 for women; in January the corresponding figures were 936 and 301. Statistics of health insurance societies show that in 4,574 societies making returns, the membership rose from 9,525,015 on 1st February to 9,686,510 on 1st March, an increase of 1.7 per cent.

per cent.

BELGITTM *

per cent. BEIGIUM.* Unemployment in January and February.—The latest figures areceived by the Ministry of Industry and Labour from 1,535 approved unemployment insurance esocieties with a total mem-bership of 657,034 show that 23,713 of these were either total days lost through unemployment in February numbered gds,377, or 1.88 per cent. of the aggregate possible working days; in the preceding month the percentage was 2.30, and in Bernary, 1923, 1.87. The vised figures are given for January, in which month returns were received applying to 658,176 members of unemployment in December, 1923, and in January, 1923, was 1.7. Thring February 13,125 applications for employment were received at Employment Exchanges, as compared with 15,829 in the preceding month. Vacancies notified by employes in the preceding month. Vacancies notified by employment the set at Employment Exchanges, as conducted by employment in the preceding month. Vacancies notified by employment to be preceding month. Vacancies notified by employment to the preceding month to the preceding to the preceding month to the preceding month. Vacancies notified by employment to the preceding month to the preceding to the preceding to the preceding month. The preceding to the preceding

NORWAY.

Unemployment in January.—According to information sup-plied through the courtesy of the Norwegian Central Bureau of Statistics, the percentage of members unemployed at the end of January in certain trade unions making returns to the Bureau was as shown below, where comparative figures are also given for the previous month and for January, 1923 :—

Unions.	Membership.			Percentage Unemployed.		
	Jan. 31, 1924.	Dec. 31, 1923.	Jan. 31, 1923.	Jan. 31, 1924.	Dec. 31, 1923.	Jan. 31, 1923.
Bricklayers and masons (Christiania) Carpenters Painters (Christiania) Metal workers Boot and shoe makers Printers Bookbinders (Christiania) Cabinetmakers Bakers (Christiania)	910 768 350 5,763 887 2,524 947 452 590	910† 768 452 5,627 863 2,478 937 452 589	871 801 449 6,763 933 2,393 810 501 609	12.6 9.0 20.0 9.0 8.7 6.7 10.2 6.2 9.2	47·3† 9·0 24·1 10·9 11·7 6·2 6·2 4·0 11·0	9.2 20.1 20.3 13.8 13.6 4.1 12.3 16.4 13.3
Total	13,191	13,076†	14,130	. 9.1	12.44	12.4

SWEDEN.1

Unemployment in January.—Trade unions with an aggregate membership of 180,065 reported 24,487, or 13.6 per cent. as unemployed on the last day of January, as compared with 14.1 per cent. on 31st December, 1923, and 20.5 per cent. on 31st January, 1923. The following Table gives particulars for the principal unions included in the returns :—

22 NO 10 0	Membership	Percentage Unemployed.			
Unions.	reporting on 31st Jan., 1924.	31st Jan., 1924.	31st Dec., 1923.	31st Jan., 1923.	
All Unions making Returns	180,065	13.6	14.1	20.2	
PRINCIPAL UNIONS : Iron and steel Engineering Textile Totatile Totatile Boot, shoe and leather Food preparation Tobacco Sawmilling Paper and pulp General and factory workers (trades not specified)	13,568 39,276 8,790 3,242 8,314 5,164 2,968 15,275 12,689 9,454 6,090 18,897	$5.9 \\ 11.0 \\ 2.6 \\ 6.2 \\ 11.1 \\ 2.1 \\ 2.1 \\ 2.4 \\ 7.5 \\ 31.0 \\ $	8·1 10·3 2·9 12·4 4·0 19·1 2·2 47·3 5·4 3·8 6·8 24·8	40.5 25.9 4 0 26.6 7.5 12.5 2.7 6.7 3.7 28.2	

Revue du Travail, 31st March, 1924. Brussels.

Revised figures. Sociala Meddelanden, No. 3, 1924. Stockholm.

Unemployment in February.—Returns supplied to the Daniah Statistical Department by trade unions and by the Central Employment Exchange show that, out of 254,310 workpeople, 21.3 per cent. were unemployed on 29th February last, as con-pared with 21.0 per cent. on 25th January, and with 23.2 per cent. at the end of February, 1923.

AUSTRIA.

Unemployment in February.—According to Statistische Nach. richten, the journal of the Austrian Department of Statistic, for 25th March, the number of persons in receipt of unemploy-ment benefit in Austria was 126,734 at the end of February, as ment benefit in Austria was 120,704 at the end of February, as compared with 119,613 at the end of the preceding month, and 167,417 at the end of February, 1923. In Vienna alone there were 61,177 in receipt of benefit at the end of February, 60,354 at the end of January, and 87,050 at the end of February, 1923.

HOLLAND.

HOLLAND. Unemployment in March.—H.M. Commercial Secretary at The Hague, in a despatch to the Department of Overseas Trade, reports that, according to figures supplied by the State Department of Unemployment Insurance, in the week ended 8th March, out cf 276,672 members of unemployment funds making returns, 32,723 (11.8 per cent.) were unemployed for six days in the week, and 9,024 (3.3 per cent.) for less than six days. In the corresponding week of the preceding month (ended 9th February) the percentages were respectively 12.8 and 2.9, and in the week ended 10th March, 1923, 10.8 and 2.7.

SWITZERLAND.+

SWITZERLAND.T Unemployment in February.—According to figures compiled by the Swiss Federal Labour Office, the number of applicants for work remaining on the "live register" of Employment Exchanges at the end of February was 27,120, as compared with 28,460 at the end of the preceding month and with 52,734 a the end of February, 1923. Of these, 6,174 were employed a relief works, leaving 20,946 entirely without work. The 27,120 applicants included 5,428 normally occupied in the building trades, 3,108 in the metal, engineering and electrical trades, and 2,286 in the textile trades. In addition to the foregoing persons who were entirely without work, 11,985 were reported

and 2,286 in the textile trades. In addition to the foregoing persons who were entirely without work, 11,985 were reported as partially unemployed, including 6,492 in the textile trades and 2,629 in the metal, engineering and electrical trades. Taking February as a whole, there were on an average 34 applications for each 100 vacancies for men and 82 for each 100 for women. In January the corresponding figures were 30 and 127 respectively.

UNITED STATES.[‡]

UNITED STATES.[‡] Employment in February.—The Federal Department of Labour publishes preliminary figures relating to the volume of employment in February, based on returns from 8,222 establish ments in 52 manufacturing industries, covering 2,693,636 work people. These establishments in January reported 2,661,200 persons employed, and the February figures consequently indi-cate a net increase of 1.2 per cent. in numbers employed. The aggregate wages paid show for the same period an increase of 6.7 per cent., and the average weekly earnings an increase of 5.4 per cent. The end of the January inventory season accounts for a part of these increases, although the reports received show a decided and general upward tendency, both in employ the 52 industries show increases in the number of workpeople employed in February. The sugar refining industry (owing to a general resumption of work) shows the greatest increase (4) per cent.); large increases are also shown in the stove making industry (15.4 per cent.) and the fertilizer industry (12.6 per cent.); large increases hetween the menth under parises and cent.)

cent.). As regards comparison between the month under review and the corresponding month of 1923, returns from 4,689 establish-ments in 43 industries show practically no change in the number of persons employed, and increases of 3.6 per cent, both in aggregate wages paid and average weekly earnings. Seventee of the 43 industries show increases in the number of workpeople employed, that recorded for the automobile industry amounting to 18 per cent.

CAN'ADA.

Employment in March. §—For 1st March, 1924, returns was received by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics at Ottawa from 5,886 firms, with an aggregate pay-roll of 748,537. This tota 5,836 firms, with an aggregate pay-roll of 748,537. This tos shows practically no change when compared with the correspon-ing figure for 1st February. If the number 100 be assigned to the week ended 17th January, 1920, the index of employment for 1st March, 1924, is 90.7, as compared with 90.6 for 1st February, 1924, and 89.9 for 1st March, 1923. Trade Union Unemployment at the end of February. I-At the end of February 7.8 per cent. of the members of trade union making returns were unemployed, as compared with 7.5 per cent. in the previous month and 6.4 per cent. on 28th Feb-ruary. 1923.

ruary, 1923.

Statistiske Efterretninger, 22nd March, 1924. Copenhagen.
 Der Schweizerische Arbeitsmarkt, 15th March, 1924. Berne.
 Employment in Selected Industries, February, 1924. Washington, D.C.-The March Employment Situation, 1924. Ottawa.
 Information supplied through the courtesy of the Canadian Department

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACTS.

April, 1924.

April, 1924

DECISIONS GIVEN BY THE UMPIRE.

VOLUMES containing the collected decisions of the Umpire, ppointed under Section 12 of the Unemployment Insurance let, 1920, respecting disputed claims to benefit, are published y H.M. Stationery Office.

Cases after No. 2000 are not published in volume form, but summaries of the decisions are printed in pamphlets issued at approximately fortnightly intervals. The pamphlets will be oplied post free, as and when issued, for an annual sub-iption of 7s. 6d., payable in advance. All applications puld be made to H.M. Stationery Office, at any of the dresses shown on the front cover of this GAZETTE.

The following are recent decisions of general interest :----

ASE NO. 6084, SECTION 7 (1) (ii).—NOT UNEMPLOYED—RETAIN-ING FEES—APPLICANT WAS PAID HALF WAGES DURING SUS-PENSION FOR PLANT REPAIRS—PAYMENT NOT EX-GRATIA BUT MADE PURSUANT TO TRADE CUSTOM-DECISION SHOWING GENERAL PRINCIPLES IN SUCH CASES.

The applicant, a finisher, was one of a number of employees some glass bottle works who were working on alternate weeks ly, under a short-time system. In May, 1923, the applicant d some others were wholly suspended for four weeks during pairs to machinery and, during these weeks of suspension, they are paid half wages (*i.e.*, amounts varying from £1 7s. 7d. to 1 11s. 7d.), in respect of the weeks when they would have orked but for the fact that the repairs were in progress. The applicant's case was taken as a test case, and his claim he applicant's case was taken as a test case, and his claim benefit was disallowed for the weeks in respect of which

payment of half wages was made, on the ground that the yment was equivalent to a retaining fee and that conse-ently the applicant could not be regarded as unemployed. On behalf of the applicant it was contended that the weekly ment was not a retaining fee and was contended that the weekly ment was not a retaining fee and was made merely as a tuity to compensate him for loss of work. The receipt of h money would not have prevented him from taking other rk if he had found any, and the payment of the money had, fact, been continued in similar circumstances to men who had n transferred to other work on the firm's premises. It was mitted that the decisions on Cases Nos. 6209 (O.W.D.) and and 1367 applied. A representative of the employers stated the half wages were paid to the applicant as compensation pass of work in accordance with an old custom of the trade, e men were not prevented from seeking work elsewhere.

ind the men were not prevented from seeking work elsewhere. When receiving the payments, however, they were regarded as being at the call of the firm and if the men found work else-where the half wages would cease to be paid. *Recommended* by the Court of Referees that the claim for benefit should be allowed. The Court thought at first that a contract of service was involved, but in view of the employers' evidence they held that the case was covered by the decisions on Cases Nos. 6209 (O.W.D.) and 1367. The Insurance Officer declined to accept the Court's recom-mendation. In his view the half wages did not appear to have been an *ex-gratia* payment, but a retaining fee, and, accord-angly, the decisions on Cases Nos. 6252 (O.W.D.) and 332 applied.

The Umpire originally gave a decision on 18th October, 1923, sallowing the case on the ground that it was indistinguishable principle from No. 6252 (O.W.D.), but he subsequently issued decision appended hereto.

decision appended hereto, *ceision*.—" On the facts before me my decision is that the a for benefit should be disallowed.

"I have been invited to revise my decision in this case on w facts being brought to my notice and, though I see no ason for altering my decision, I think it may be convenient

son for altering my decision, I think it may be convenient give reasons at greater length. (1) It has been held in a number of cases that when in ordance with the terms of his employment an employee is itled to receive, and does receive, from his employer part ges during periods when his actual services are not required, continues during such periods to be in employment and is unemployed. The fact that the payments are made pursuant the customary or expressly agreed terms of the employment icates that the relation of employer and employee continues ong as the payments are made. The decisions on Cases Nos. 539 and 1819 (Benefit, 1911), 6252 (O.W.D.), and 55, 332, 365 and 469, establish this e.

le. "In Cases Nos. 772 and 1925 payment of part wages was not ade pursuant to any agreement, but the Umpire inferred from e substantial amount paid weekly and other circumstances at in effect the employer was, by paying his employees re-iced wages during the time when he had no work for them, eping them in his employment, and the applicants were re-orded as not unemployed as not unemployed.

(2) When, however, weekly payments are made to ex-em-yees entirely as an act of grace on the part of the em-yer with the intention of assisting the recipients whilst out work, the relation of employer and employees no longer sub-

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sists and the recipients are properly regarded as being un-employed, and in receipt of charity, not wages. "The decisions on Cases Nos. 6209 (O.W.D.) and 522 were decided on this primit. decided on this principle.

decided on this principle. "(3) In another group of cases, applicants for benefit have been found to be in receipt of small periodical payments made to them, simply as an inducement to hold themselves in readi-ness for immediate employment when called upon either in occasional emergencies (see Cases Nos. 224, 4021 and 5019) or [as in No. 1465 (Benefit 1911 Act) and Nos. 1367 and 4937] at certain seasons when it was known that their services would be required. In all these cases the retaining fees were small in amount relatively to the wages paid when the applicants were in actual employment, and the applicants were expected to obtain, and did normally obtain, other employment whilst in receipt of the retaining fees, but as at the time when they claimed benefit they in fact had no other employment, they were held to be unemployed. "This case seems to me to fall within the first rule. It is

were held to be unemployed. "This case seems to me to fall within the first rule. It is clear that the weekly sum paid to the applicant was paid pursuant to a well-established custom, which is fully set out in the rules of applicant's Trade Union, and was payable there-fore pursuant to the terms of applicant's engagement and not as charity, and the circumstances under which it was paid, as well as the reasons for which the payment is insisted on as due, show that it was paid not to secure the future services of the applicant, but as part wages payable because the employment continues though there is temporarily no work for him to do."

CASE NO. 6714, SECTION 7 (1) (ii).—NOT UNEMPLOYED—ADDI-TIONAL OCCUPATION AS INSURANCE AGENT—WORK DONE ON Two DAYS PER WEEK ONLY—WORKING DAYS NOT SO RE-STRICTED BY EMPLOYER, BUT FACTS KNOWN TO HIM— DECISION SHOWING GENERAL POSITION OF PART-TIME INSUR-ANDE AGENTS ANCE AGENTS.

The applicant had for a number of years followed a spare-time occupation as insurance agent, in addition to and outside the ordinary working hours of his usual occupation as a blacksmith. His claim for benefit, lodged on 9th July, 1923, was disallowed, however, on the ground that the remuneration derived from his additional occupation exceeded is 4d, nor day on the doily his additional occupation exceeded 3s. 4d. per day on the daily

Average. It appeared that the applicant had bought the agency, which was a part-time one, in June, 1912, for £90, and at that time the collections amounted to £5 per week. He had, however, since doubled the value of his book, and now collected £10 per week. He had previously furnished accounts showing that his average earnings from the agency were from £1 11s. 6d. to £2 10s. per week.

E2 10s. per week. At the Court of Referees the applicant stated that he had always done his collections on Friday evening and Saturday afternoon and evening of each week, after finishing his day's work as a blacksmith, and he continued to work on this system when he lost his usual employment in July, 1923. He had to make from 50 to 80 collections weekly. He submitted that he should not be penalised for his thriftiness in saving up to buy the agency and for putting his leisure time to the best advantage. *Recommended* by the Court of Referees that the claim for benefit should be disallowed under Section 7 (1) (ii). The Court were influenced by the Umpire's decision on Case No. 4751. The applicant's association appealed to the Umpire. They contended that the claim should be disallowed only in respect of the two days per week on which the applicant actually worked as an agent.

of the two days per week on which the applicant actually worked as an agent. The district manager of the assurance society for which the applicant acted as agent, stated, in reply to an inquiry from the Umpire, that he understood that the applicant did all his busi-ness relating to the agency on Fridays and Saturdays, but he was not restricted to working on any particular number of days. The applicant's earnings for the months of July and August, 1923, were £8 14s. 5d. and £10 9s. 4d. per month respectively. *Decision.*—" On the facts before me my decision is that the claim for benefit should be allowed except in respect of Fridays and Saturdays.

claim for benefit should be allowed except in respect of Fridays and Saturdays. "I have to consider in many cases whether insurance agents and collecting agents whose work does not occupy them full time are to be regarded as being employed throughout the week or only on those days on which they are actually at work. And it may be convenient to explain the principles on which these cases have been decided by my predecessor or myself.

"(1) It is quite clear that an agent who is engaged as a whole-time agent expressly, or in such circumstances that it should be inferred that he was expected to make the agency his sole or principal occupation, is employed throughout the week, even though owing to slackness of trade he finds that he can conveniently get through his work in two or three days in each week, and does in fact confine his activities to those days. Cases Nos. 252, 368 and 369 are of this kind. "(2) More difficulty arises in the case of snare-time agents days in each week, and does in fact connect of this kind. to those days. Cases Nos. 252, 368 and 369 are of this kind. "(2) More difficulty arises in the case of spare-time agents or part-time agents; that is to say, persons who take up agencies not as their sole or principal occupation, but who work as agents in their spare time whilst normally following some other whole-time employment, or, if they take them

up whilst out of work, expect to continue when they are in work to do the work of the agency in their spare time. The work of agents of this kind is often done mainly on two or three days at the week-end, but is not necessarily restricted three days at the week end, but is not necessarily restricted to certain days; and the agent (if he is a canvasser, and not a mere collecting agent) is usually at liberty to canvass for new business whenever he finds it convenient to do so. An agent of this kind, although in fact he does all his An agent of this kind, although in fact he does all his collecting on certain days, and does not canvass on other days, is *prima facie* to be regarded as employed throughout the week. He cannot be regarded as being in the same position as a worker who by the act of the employer is put on short time and is therefore unable to follow his employ-ment on certain days. Cases Nos. 279, 1171, 2142, 4751 and 4752 are of this kind.

4752 are of this kind. "(3) In another group of cases the applicants have been able to show not only that the work is done only on certan days of the week, but that the limiting of the employment to those days was contemplated by the employer at the time of the engagement, or assented to by him, so that the contract of employment may fairly be regarded as one for those days only. To determine whether an agency is of this kind regard must be had to its nature and possibilities and to all the circumstances, and it is especially desirable, if possible, to obtain the applicant's agreement with his em-ployer (if in writing) or the evidence of the employer (where there is no written agreement). In Cases Nos. 4753, 5074 and 5853 it was clearly shown by the employer's evidence, or by the terms of the applicant's engagement, that the employers understood that the applicant would only work for them on certain days of the week, although the applicant was at liberty to work on other days, and I was applicant was at liberty to work on other days, and I was satisfied that the applicants in fact were engaged on the work of the agency on those days only.

work of the agency on those days only. "In cases of this class a further question may arise as to whether the applicant is unable to find suitable employment on the days of the week when he is not employed. The answer must in each case depend on the prospect which the applicant would have of so increasing his connection that the employment would be suitable having regard to Section 7 (1) (b). "I may add that when it is necessary to ascertain the daily average of the applicant's remuneration, this is found by divid-ing the weekly remuneration by the number of days in the week on which it is determined that the applicant is employed. "In the case now under consideration there was no express agreement limiting the employment to particular days, but the

agreement limiting the employment to particular days, but the applicant appears to have done the work on Fridays and Saturdays only for eleven years, and this was known to the district agent. The agency was on a considerable scale, and this itself would suggest the inference that some collecting or canvassing or clerical work must have been done on days other than Fridays and Saturdays, but in the face of the applicant's explicit state-ment to the contrary I should not be justified in drawing that inference

"Accordingly I come to the conclusion that the employment was by tacit agreement with the employers an employment for Fridays and Saturdays only in each week, and was in fact only exercised on those days, and that the applicant is unemployed from Mondays to Thursdays (inclusive) in each week."

CASE NO. 6783 SECTION 8 (1).-TRADE DISPUTE, EMPLOYMENT LOST OWING TO-LABOURERS IN GENERAL STORES FUT ON SHORT TIME THROUGH BOILERMAKERS' LOCK-OUT-75 PER CENT. OF WORK FOR MARINE ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT AND MAINDER FOR SHIPYARD-STORES FOR BOILERMAKERS NOT HANDLED.

The employers, a shipbuilding and iron company, reported that the applicants, two general store labourers employed in the shipyard department and engine works, had been suspended under a short-time system whereby they worked for two weeks in four. The short-time system, which was instituted on 10th October, 1923, was necessary owing to a stoppage of work caused by the boilermakers' lock-out which began in April, 1923. If there had been no dispute the applicants would have had full-time employment

had full-time employment. The applicants, whose claims for benefit, lodged on 10th October, 1923, were disallowed under Section 8 (1), appealed to the Court of Referees. They stated that all the stores were dealt with in their department, but they spent only 25 per cent. of their time in dealing with the stores for shipyard workers, such as joiners, cabinet makers, plumbers, painters, electricians, blacksmiths and riggers. They handled nothing for electricians, blacksmiths and riggers. They handled nothing for the boilermakers, the men who were actually in dispute and whose materials were dealt with in another depot some distance away by the quayside. The remaining 75 per cent. of their time was spent in dealing with stores for the marine engi-neering department and the blast furnaces; these departments used to have a separate store, but a few years ago it had been amalgamated with the shipyard stores under one head foreman. The applicants contended that their unemployment was due to slackness of work in the marine engineering and blast furnaces departments. One of the applicants stated that his case differed from the other man's because he was on the shipyard pay list, from the other man's because he was on the shipyard pay list, although prior to the amalgamation of the stores he was on the

engineering pay list. *Recommended* by the Court of Referees that the claims for benefit should be allowed under Section 8 (1) on the ground that the applicants were mainly engaged in a separate depart-

ment and on work which was commonly carried on as a separate business in separate premises from the work of the boilermaker. The Insurance Officer declined to accept the Court's recom-mendation because, in his opinion, the applicants were to be regarded as having lost employment by reason of a stoppage of work due to a trade dispute work due to a trade dispute.

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Decision -" On the facts before me my decision is that the claims for benefit should be disallowed.

"The applicants were employed in a general store, in which are handled the stores for both the shipbuilding department and the marine engineering department. There was a trade dispute in the shipbuilding department, but none in the marine engineering department, and by reason of the stoppage of work due to that trade dispute the applicants lost employment.

"It was contended on their behalf that as only 25 per cent of their work was in connection with stores for the shipbuildin department they should be treated as having been employen not in that department, but only in the marine engineerin department.

"It seems to me that they were employed in both departments ments and that having lost employment by reason of a stop page of work due to a trade dispute in one of the department in which they were employed, they are disqualified for receiving benefit.

'The decisions on Case No. 2757 and Case No. 45 (O.W.D.) are to the same effect. "If it had been shown either that the stores belonged to the

marine engineering department exclusively, but that the applicants' duties in connection with that store occasionally to cants' duties in connection with that store occasionary too them into the shipbuilding department to do work incidenta to their duties as employees in the marine engineering depar-ment, or that the amount of work they did in the shipbuilding department was so small as to be negligible, I should have been prepared to hold (following decision 4562 (O.W.D.)) that they were not employed in the shipbuilding department."

DECISIONS GIVEN BY THE MINISTER OF LABOUR

Nornce is hereby given of decisions given by the Minister Labour upon questions submitted to him for determination under Section 10 of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920. The Minister has decided that the following employments

employment within the meaning of the Acts, and that contribu-tions are accordingly payable in respect of them :--Employment by a farmer and wood dealer in cutting

lengths of underwood purchased standing by the employed into the required lengths for hoops. *Decision* 283.

Employment by a farmer and wood dealer in making hurds from underwood purchased standing by the employer. Decision

Employment by a farmer and wood dealer to cut copse and underwood purchased standing by the employer and to tria and cut the said underwood into lengths for sale. Decision 38

Employment by a public trainer of racehorses as a groom i a training stable to ride horses at exercise, groom racehors and keep the racing establishments clean. *Decision* 289.

Employment by the governors of a voluntary hospital as senior staff nurse before 1st July, 1922, was employment with the meaning of the Act. Decision 294.

Employment by a farmer, florist and horticulturist as a flow packer. Decision 295.

Employment by the proprietor of a distillery to do all min repairs and painting to the distillery buildings, plant and walk supply and to houses in the occupation of tenants of the employer, to assist the Excise Officer in his visits to the dis-tillery, to assist in the despatch of goods and to keep the premises tidy and in order. Decision 297A.

Employment by the proprietor of a distillery to assist a previous employee to do all clerical work necessary, to kee books of accounts, to receive rents from tenants of the employe and, when necessary, to assist in the overhaul of valves in the machinery at the distillery. Decision 2978.

[NOTE.—The decisions numbered 297A and 297B have been wheld on appeal by the Scottish Court of Session.]

Employment by a farmer, florist and horticulturist as cashe and correspondent. Decision 298.

Employment by a farmer, florist and horticulturist as deal and seed dresser whose employment includes clerical and typin duties. Decision 299.

Employment by a farmer, florist and horticulturist as a cle Decision 300.

Employment by a Co-operative Dairy, Limited, of a class persons engaged in cheese-making, milk-cooling, pig-feeding so work incidental thereto. Decision 305.

Employment as a handyman in "Service Flats." Decision

Employment as a fisherman for salmon by a net from a ba Employment as a inherman for salmon by a net from the fixed to the shore by a wire of which the employee is the occupant and for which employment he is remunerated by half share of the value of the fish caught by him calculated the price obtaining at the local market irrespective of wheth the fish is sold at that price or not. Decision 310. Employment by a farmer and butcher as part time assistant lesman in the butcher's business. Decision 312. Employment by a farmer and butcher as a part time assistant hterer. Decision 314.

Employment by a dental surgeon in dusting the surgery, wash-ng the instruments after use, making appointments with patients, ending out accounts and giving receipts. *Decision* 315.

Employment by the Trustees of a Philosophical Institution as Supplyment by the firsters of a Fullosophical institution as hier and sub-librarian, to issue books to members, to keep o cash books, pay accounts, sign receipts for money received, I tickets and generally to do the bulk of the clerical work tailed by the financial business of the institution. Decision

Employment by a timber haulier, sawyer and general con-ctor to drive a water-cart. Decision 317.

Employment by a timber haulier, sawyer and general con-actor as a labourer, waggoner and driver of a water-cart. sion 318.

Employment by a timber haulier, sawyer and general con-ctor as a labourer and to assist in sawing timber. Decision

Employment by a timber haulier, sawyer and general con-actor to drive a steam engine for sawing timber, to drive press for the haulage of timber and to assist occasionally ith sawing of timber. *Decision* 320.

Employment as a probationer nurse at an isolation hospital as, prior to 1st July, 1922, employment within the meaning the Act. Decision 321.

ployment as a nursing sister at an isolation hospital was, to 1st July, 1922, employment within the meaning of the Decision 322.

nployment as a mason's labourer. Decision 323.

Employment by a firm of carting contractors as a driver

Employment in making bricks by hand, digging clay, counting cks delivered and writing out tickets therefor. Decision 326A

nployment in making bricks by hand. Decision 326B.

mployment as a daily servant engaged in preparing break-s for and in cleaning bedrooms of lodgers. Decisions 327A

Employment by a game, poultry and egg dealer, in rabbit and min trapping for the purpose of killing game and rabbits sold the employer in his business. Decision 328.

imployment by a farmer and miller as a miller and in hauling traction engine in connection with the work of the mill.

Employment by a farmer in milk distribution while also aployed as a farm hand. *Decision* 330.

The following employments have been decided not to be ployment within the meaning of the Acts; no contribu-ins are therefore payable in respect of them :---

mployment by a dairy farmer to convey milk from cows to y, to cool milk, to fill bottles with milk and cap them down, ake the bottles and load them in milking van and wash and lise dairy utensils, to take care of boiler and attend to general nliness of dairy for the production of Grade A Certified Milk farm. Decision 303 farm. Decision 303.

mployment by H.M. Office of Works as a night watchman.

apployment by a Life Assurance Society as cook and house-ar at a holiday home carried on by the society for the benefit eir employees at the seaside. Decisions 307A and B.

DECISIONS UNDER SECTION 10 (1) (b).

vage men employed by the Glasgow Rate and Salvage Asso are a class of persons to whom the Insurance Industry ployment Insurance Scheme applies. Decision 306.

resons employed by a firm of Incorporated Insurance Brokers not a class of persons to whom the Insurance Industry Unem-t Insurance Scheme applies. (The firm were not members or cribers of Lloyd's.) Decision 325.

ECENT CONCILIATION AND ARBITRATION CASES.

INDUSTRIAL COURT DECISIONS.

Assistants-Agreement, Construction of-Normal ADP ASSISTANTS—AGREEMENT, CONSTRUCTION OF—NORMAL BRING WEEK.—The National Amalgamated Union of Shop istants, Warebousemen and Clerks v. The Northern Co-rative Society, Ltd. Decision.—The agreement does not vide for a working week of the employees concerned being uced from 52[±]/₄ hours to 48 hours. Issued 3rd March, 1924.

VSPAPER OFFICES, MANCHESTER-ENGINEERS AND OTHERS IN SPAPER OFFICES, MARCHESTER—ENGINEERS AND OTHERS IN es Union and the Amalgamated Engineering Union v. The spaper Society (acting on behalf of certain morning and ng newspaper printing offices in Manchester). Decision.— from the beginning of the first full pay following the date of the decision, the men concerned shall be paid a bonus of 5s. a week, on the same conditions as the bonus is at present pay-able to members of the Typographical Association and of the National Society of Operative Printers and Assistants. Issued 4th March, 1924. (876.)

CAP MAKERS—PIECE PRICES—REVISION OF.—Messre, B. Prager and Co., Ltd., v. The Tailors' and Garment Workers' Trade Union. *Decision.*—Reductions of 4d. per dozen should be made in the existing piece price for peaks with fasteners and stiff bands, but the remainder of the claim has not been established. Provided that in powers during the currency of the Decision bands, but the remainder of the claim has not been established. Provided that in no case during the currency of the Decision shall wages be reduced below the minimum rate payable under the Trade Boards Acts, 1909 and 1918. The parties had agreed that the Decision should operate as from the date of resumption of work. Issued 7th March, 1924. (877.)

of work. Issued 7th March, 1924. (877.) DEMARCATION—SHEET IRON WORKERS AND SHEET METAL WORKERS—ENGINEERING ESTABLISHMENTS.—Messrs. Douglas and Grant, Ltd. v. The United Society of Boilermakers and Iron and Steel Shipbuilders and the National Union of Sheet Metal Workers and Braziers. Decision.—Having regard to the circum-stances of this particular establishment, the Court decide in respect of sheet iron (black and galvanised) and sheet steel :— (a) that the sheet iron workers work from the heavier sheets down to and including 16 B.W.G.; (b) that the sheet metal workers work from the lightest sheets up to and including 16 B.W.G.; (c) that the sheet iron workers may work down to and including 24 B.W.G. Issued 11th March, 1924. (878.)

(878.) SPRINGSMITHS, KILMARNOCK—LAMINATED SPRINGS—VARIATION IN PRACTICE IN RAILWAY WORKSHOPS—RELATION TO PARAGRAPH 29 OF DECISION NO. 728.—The Associated Blacksmiths' and Iron-workers' Society v. The London Midland and Scottish Railway. The Society claimed the payment of an additional 2s. per week. Decision.—The springsmiths at Kilmarnock are paid a rate equivalent to the rate of the fully-skilled smith, and on a matter of interpretation, as this application is, it is not open to the Court to declare a different rate. Issued 12th March, 1924. (679.)

CONDITIONS OF SERVICE—RUNNING SHEDS—47 HOURS' WEEK— ROTATING SHIFTS—SATURDAY AFTERNOONS AND SUNDAYS.—The National Union of Railwaymen v. The London and North Eastern Railway. Decision.—Saturday afternoon: For the pur-pose of calculating overtime each day is to stand by itself, and where Saturday morning has not been rostered, and where no time is worked on Saturday morning, there is no overtime by working on Saturday afternoon. The extra rates which Decision No. 728 provides for the week-end are for the period after 6 p.m. on Saturday, all Sunday and before 6 a.m. on Monday. It does not, therefore, provide for an extra rate in running sheds before 6 p.m. on Saturday. In this respect work in run-ning sheeds differs from work in production shops. Sunday : The standard week of 47 hours, which does not include work done on Sunday, is made up of certain shifts. Sunday duty is paid for at one uniform rate, namely, double ordinary rate, whereas different rates are paid on weekdays according to the shift. Decision No. 728 does not prescribe a guaranteed week, but only a standard week. Issued 14th March, 1924. (880.) RATES OF PAY—LOCAL AUTHORITY WITHDRAWING FROM JOINT CONDITIONS OF SERVICE-RUNNING SHEDS-47 HOURS' WEEK-

RATES OF PAY-LOCAL AUTHORITY WITHDRAWING FROM JOINT INDUSTRIAL COUNCIL-EXCEPTIONAL CHCUMSTANCES OF DISTRICT -How FAR RECOMMENDATION OF JOINT DISTRICT COUNCIL MAX BE APPLIED.—The National Union of General Workers v. Lin-coln Corporation. Owing to the depressed state of the staple industry of the city of Lincoln, the lack of employment and the large sums paid in relief schemes, the Corporation were unable to accept the recommendations of the Joint Industrial Council for Local Authorities' Non-Trading Services, and there-fore withdrew from that Council. The Corporation then re-solved to pay a uniform rate to non-skilled workers employed by them in their trading and non-trading services of 49s. per week. The Union claimed an advance of 1d. per hour. De-cision.—The circumstances now prevailing in Lincoln are ex-ceptional and peculiar. In the meantime no change should be made in the rates payable to the unskilled workmen in the non-trading departments of the Corporation. Issued 18th March, 1924. (881.) RATES OF PAY-LOCAL AUTHORITY WITHDRAWING FROM JOINT

March, 1924. (881.) JOINERS, PLUMBERS, BRICKLAYERS, MASONS AND PAINTERS IN H.M. DOOKYARDS AND ADMIRALTY ESTABLISHMENTS—BASIC RATES —CLAIM FOR INCREASE—RELATION TO RATES OF OTHER CRAFTS-MEN.—The Trade Union Side of the Shipbuilding Trade Joint Council for Government Departments v. The Official Side. Decision.—(a) Joiners, plumbers, bricklayers and masons who have become fully qualified in their respective trades shall, when engaged on craftsmen's work, be included within the group of occupations rated at a basic rate of 41s. per week; and (b) painters who have become fully qualified in their trade shall, when engaged on craftsmen's work, be placed on a basic rate of 40s. per week. These rates are exclusive of the war advance at present amounting to 17s. per week. The Decision is to operate as from the beginning of the first full pay period following its date. Issued 18th March, 1924. (882.) STEEL WORK ERECTOR—DEFINITION.—The Cleveland Bridge

STEEL WORK ERECTOR—DEFINITION.—The Cleveland Bridge and Engineering Co., Ltd., v. The Iron and Steel Trades Con-federation. In connection with Decision No. 865 the parties were unable to agree as to which of the men were in fact steel work erectors, and evidence was tendered by both sides as to what constitutes a steel work erector. *Decision.*—Steel work erectors, employed as such, are men who are capable of work-ing aloft, capable from experience of carrying out all the

various stages of their work, and subject only to the general supervision of the foreman or charge hand. They must be able to appreciate the security of knots, splicing, etc., of ropes and the strength of ropes and chain slings for any particular job. Men employed aloft, and required only to work under the specific instructions of steel work erectors as above de-fined, and not themselves capable of carrying out the various stages of a steel work erector's work, are not entitled to benefit by the provisions of Decision No. 865. Men not employed aloft are to benefit by the provisions of the Decision only in stages of a steel work erector's work, are not entitled to benefit by the provisions of Decision No. 865. Men not employed aloft are to benefit by the provisions of the Decision only in so far as the work for which they are engaged requires in its execution the ability and experience of a steel work erector as above defined. Failing agreement between the parties as to whether any individual is a steel work erector as above defined, it is open to either party to come back to the Court to have the matter finally settled. Shuttering and putting in expanded metal is not part of the work of a steel work erector as above defined. Issued 21st March, 1924. (883.)

MACHINISTS, DERBY-GRADING UNDER DECISION No. 728.-Workers' Union v. The London Midland and Scottish Railway. Decision.-The Court, having viewed the work, gave definite decisions in a number of typical cases, so that remaining cases might be dealt with on the basis of analogy. Issued 24th March, 1924. (884.)

GENERAL LABOURERS, DERBY—DISTINCTION BETWEEN GRADES I. AND II., DECISION NO. 728, SCHEDULE E.—The Workers' Union v. The London Midland and Scottish Railway. Decision. —The general interpretation which the Union seek to place upon Decision No. 728 is not one in which the Court are able to concur; and no evidence was submitted by the Union to indicate that the Company are rating the men concerned otherwise than in the manner laid down in the main Decision and in Decision No. 777. Issued 24th March, 1924. (885.)

STEAM WAGON AND LORBY DRIVERS AND MATES-MEN EM-PLOYED AT CENTRAL REPAIR DEPOT OF TRAMWAYS SYSTEM-DEPOT DEEMED TO BE ENGINEERING ESTABLISHMENT-QUESTION OF REGU-LATION OF WAGES BY ENGINEERING PRACTICE OR BY ROAD TRANS-LATION OF WAGES BY ENGINEERING PRACTICE OR BY ROAD TRANS-PORT AGREEMENTS.—The Transport and General Workers' Union v. The London County Council. *Decision.*—It is too early to seek to revise the principle laid down in Decisions 417-419, that the Central Repair Depot should be deemed to be an engineering establishment for the purposes of wage regulation. In the case of the electric lorries which run only on the tracks of the County Council tramways system, there would not appear to be vehicles of a precisely similar nature employed by private firms, and the rates of remuneration of the drivers thereof should be settled by analogy. Issued 24th March, 1924. (886.)

PATTERNMAKERS-CREWE-WITHDRAWAL OF "MERIT ALLOW-ANCES"-DECISION NO. 728, PARAGRAPH 29-INDIVIDUAL CASES -EXERCISE OF DISCRETION OF MANAGEMENT.-The United Pattern -EXERCISE OF DISCRETION OF MANAGEMENT.—The United Pattern makers' Association v. The London Midland and Scottish Rail-way. Decision.—The question of whether the ability of a par-ticular individual is worth to the management something above the awarded standard rate is in the end a question falling within the discretion of the management. Taking this view, the Court can only point out to the parties that the main Decision does not in any way order the reduction of specially qualified or specially skilled men to the scheduled rates. It would not appear that the general body of patternmakers in the shop are called upon to do the special work required of the men in question, and in these circumstances the Court recom-mend the management to consider further the cases of these latter men. Issued 25th March, 1924. (887.)

MARYLEBONE POWER HOUSE-" SWITCH HANDS "-CLAIM FOR MARYLEBONE POWER HOUSE—" SWITCH HANDS"—CLAIM FOR GRADING AS SWITCHBOARD ATTENDANTS.—The National Union of Railwaymen v. The London and North-Eastern Railway. Decision.—The claim that the men concerned should be graded as "Electricians in Charge or Switchboard Attendants up to 5,000 k.w.," as contemplated by the agreements referred to at the hearing and rated under "Schedule H" has not been established. Issued 27th March, 1924. (888.)

established. Issued 27th March, 1924. (666.) PAPER CUTTERS AND PAPER WAXING ATTENDANT—MEN ON PAPER CUTTING MACHINES AND PAPER WAXING MACHINE IN EXPLOSIVES FACTORY—CLAIM FOR PRINTING TRADE RATE OF PAY.—The Glasgow Men's Branch, Printing Section, of the National Union of Printing, Bookbinding, Machine Ruling and Paper Workers v. The Explosives Trade Employers' Associa-tion (representing Nobel's Explosives Co., Ltd.). Decision.— The three men on the guillotine cutters are engaged on work which brings them within the description of a cutter in the printing trade. It is the almost universal practice of firms employing cutters in an ancillary capacity to pay such men in printing trade. It is the almost universal practice of hrms employing cutters in an ancillary capacity to pay such men in accordance with the printing trade agreements, and in these circumstances the wages of these three men should be regulated accordingly. In the case of the waxing attendant the claim has not been established. Effective as from the beginning of of first full pay period following date of issue. Issued 28th March, 1924. (889.)

CUTLERY TRADE, SHEFFIELD—TABLE AND BUTCHER BLADE GRINDERS AND FINISHERS—RENTS FOR HEAVY TROUGHS—LIGHT-ING CHARGES FOR TROUGHS.—The Sheffield Cutlery Manufac-turers' Association (acting on behalf of certain Trough Owners) v. The National Amalgamated Union of Labour (acting on behalf of the Table and Butcher Blade Grinders and Finishers). Decision.—The trough owners have not substantiated and justified their claim to the full amount of the charges proposed, and the Court fix the following rates:—Maximum rent for heavy troughs, 3 deep, 10s. per trough per week; maximum

rent for heavy troughs, 2 deep, 8s 6d. per trough per week (Men to find their own tools, stone and material; light extra, Maximum charge for lighting, 9d. per trough per week. Due notice to give effect to the Decision should be issued so soon as may be after its date. Issued 31st March, 1924. (890.)

April, 1924.

April, 1924.

The decisions of the Industrial Court issued during the period 1st January to 31st December, 1923, have now been printed in volume form and placed on sale. Copies of the volume may be obtained from H.M. Stationery Office direct or through any bookseller (price 3s. 6d.).

CONCILIATORS, SINGLE ARBITRATORS AND AD HOC BOARDS OF ARBITRATION APPOINTED BY THE MINISTER OF LABOUR.

CLOTHWORKERS: LONDON AREA.—Workpeople v. Employers in the Clothworking Section of the Joint Industrial (Listrict) Council for the Industries of the Making-up and Packing of Textiles for Export and of Clothworking in trust and/or on commission (London Area). Difference : As to the ability of the clothworking trade to increase wages. Conciliator : Sir Richard Redmayne, K.C.B. Report : The industry could not at the moment meet an advance in wages. Dated 20th March, 1924 (J.B. 365/3/1924.) (I.B. 365/3/1924.)

(1.K. 365/3/1924.) FURNACEMEN: DOWLAIS WORKS, CARDIFF.—Iron and Steel Trades Confederation v. Messrs. Guest, Keen and Nettlefolds, Dowlais Works, East Moors, Cardiff. Difference: Claim by the firm for a reduction in the number of men employed for re-heating slabs from five heaters to one heater and one helper, and that the rate of heating be reduced from 8.02d. plus sliding scale percentage to 3d. per ton plus percentage, and this to be apportioned between the heater and the helper in the following proportion : following proportion :---

Heater, 2d. per ton plus sliding scale percent

Helper, 1d. per ton plus sliding scale percentage. Board of Arbitration : Mr. W. Addington Willis (chairman), Mr. M. L. Simpson (Employers' representative) and Mr. W. T. Griffiths (Workpeople's representative). Award : It was held that the claim had not been established. Issued 11th March, 1924. (I.R. 216/3/1924.)

AGREEMENTS NEGOTIATED BY OFFICERS OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR.

QUARRYMEN AND LABOURERS : CHEPSTOW.—Altogether Builder' Labourers' and Constructional Workers' Society v. Beaufor Quarries, Limited, Chepstow. Difference : Application by th Union for rates of 1s. 3d. per hour for quarrymen and 1s. 2d per hour for labourers. Agreement : A rate of 1s. 1d. per hour would be paid to all the men concerned. Agreed 19th March, 1924. (I.R. 645/1924.)

COAL MINERS : TARBRAX.-National Union of Shale Mine COAL MINERS: TARBRAX.—National Union of Shale Miner and Oil Workers v. Pumpherston Oil Company (Scottish Oils Limited), Woolford Mines, near Tarbrax. Difference: Propose by the employers to reduce wages. Agreement: A reduction of 6d. per ton on tonnage rates should be made on 12th March with a further reduction of 3d. per ton on tonnage rates whe the third shift is withdrawn. Agreed 12th March, 1924. (LR 2020 (1924) 322/1924.)

BOOT AND SLIPPER WORKERS: MANCHESTER.—National Units of Boot and Shoe Operatives v. Messrs, Gregg and Company Strangeways, Manchester. Difference: Action of employers making reductions in wages in excess of those allowed by the National Agreement. Agreement: Work would be resumed a the minimum wage rate of 36s., pending discussion of the questions in dispute. Agreed. 18th March, 1924. (I.B. 628/1924.)

628/1924.) JOINERS: ELGIN AND DISTRICT.—Amalgamated Society of Wook workers v. Elgin and District Master Carpenters' Association Difference: Application for an increase of 4d. per hour, together with doubling of country allowances, and the substitution weekly for fortnightly payments. Agreement: An increase of 1d. per hour would be granted as from the 21st March, and further increase of 1d. per hour on 2nd June, 1924. Week payments would take place from and after the 20th Mark The agreement would remain in force until the 1st March, 1924 subject to not less than two months' notice being given be either party of termination. Signed 25th March, 1924. (IR 202/1924.)

CHEMICAL WORKERS : BURRY PORT .- National Unio CHEMICAL WORKERS: BURRY PORT.—National Union General Workers v. Burry Port Chemical Company (Frick Metal Company, Limited), Burry Port, near Llanelly. Dif-ence: Objection of the workers to the wages paid by the f and to the excessive number of hours worked. Agreement three-shift system would be adopted, and the men would rece a rate of 1s. per hour, with 1s. 6d. per hour for Sunday wo the men to work alternate shifts to equalise earnings. above conditions apply only to furnaces and collecting plan In the other departments men other than skilled men wou receive a rate of 1s, per hour, with time and a half for ore time. The working hours would be 48 per week, and a employee would be compelled to work overtime. Agreed 16th March, 1924. (I.R. 222/1924.)

COAL CARTERS AND YARDMEN : CAMBRIDGE.-National Union of The control of the second seco

CARTERS AND MOTOR MATES : CAMBRIDGE .- National Union of CARPENS Norkers v. Cambridge Cartage Contractors. Differ-nce: Claim for an advance of wages. Agreement: A rate of 0s. would be paid to the men concerned. Agreed 21st March, 924. (I.R. 409/1924.)

1924. (I.R. 409/1924.) OMNIBUS DRIVERS AND CONDUCTORS : NEWBRIDGE.—Transport and General Workers' Union v. Messrs. Lewis and James, Limited (proprietors of the Western Valleys Garage and Engi-neering Company), Newbridge, Mon. Difference : As to the terms of a wages and conditions agreement which the Union desired to draw up with the firm. Agreement : An agreement was reached providing for a rate of £4 per week for drivers of Leyland vehicles and of £3 10s. per week for drivers of Daimler vehicles. Conductors would receive 1s. 2d. per hour. A week's holiday per annum, on half pay, would be granted after twelve months' service. The firm would provide uniforms and privilege tickets would be provided for each man and his wife. Signed 14th March, 1924. (I.R. 565/1924.) TROLLEY BOYS : SALFORD.—Transport and General Workers'

TROLLEY BOYS: SALFORD.—Transport and General Workers' nion v. Salford Corporation (Tramways Department). Differ-ice: Proposal to dispense with the services of trolley boys. greement: Strike notices were withdrawn upon an agreed reement: Strike notices were withdrawn upon an agreed nula. Agreed 23rd February, 1924. (I.R. 375/1924.)

TRADE BOARDS ACTS, 1909 AND 1918.

ORDERS.

REDERS confirming minimum rates of wages as varied by the ollowing Trade Boards have been made under Section 4 (2) of he Trade Boards Act, 1918 :---

Paper Bag Trade Board (Great Britain),

Order P. (10), dated 2nd April, 1924, confirming certain addi-onal variations of rates for female workers for periods pendent upon the "Cost of Living" Index Figure, and ecifying 7th April, 1924, as the date from which these variauld become effective

This Order merely reinstates certain provisions governing the polyment of female workers which were inadvertently omitted from the Board's Notice P. (9), but all the rates now operative the trade are included in the revised Order. The chief of se rates are set out on p. 351 of the September, 1923, issue of is GAZETTE.

Fur Trade Board (Great Britain).

Order Z. (14), dated 9th April, 1924, confirming certain meral minimum time rates, piece-work basis time rates and vertime rates for the undermentioned classes of workers, and becifying 14th April, 1924, as the date from which the rates, as ed, should become operative. eneral Minimum Time Rates :----

1. Male workers of 21 years of age or over, employed as "Cleaners," 58s. per week of 48 hours.

 Cleaners, bos. per week of 40 hours.
 Female workers employed as :-
 (a) Fur Machinists, 45s. per week of 48 hours.
 (b) Liners and/or Finishers and/or Hand Fur Sewers.
 (c) Machinists other than Fur Machinists, 40s. per and/or Machinists.

 week of 48 hours.

3. Learners to Hand Fur Sewing, certain lower rates as previously fixed for learners to Machining, Lining or Finishing.

Female Workers as in 2 (a) above, 60s. per week of 48 hours. Female Workers as in 2 (b) above, 50s. per week of 48 hours. Apprentices may now be indentured in the form prescribed by rade Board or in such other form as may be approved by Trade Board.

opies of the above-mentioned Orders may be obtained from I. Stationery Office, at the addresses shown on the cover of GAZETTE, price 3d. net.

TRADE BOARDS ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND), 1923.

ORDERS.

Order made by the Ministry of Labour for Northern Ireland, der Section 9 (2) of the Trade Boards Act (Northern Ireland), 23, confirming minimum rates of wages as varied by the under-ted Trade P d Trade Board :---

Brush and Broom Trade Board (Northern Ireland)

rder N.I.B.B. (29, 30 and 31), dated the 29th March, 1924, firming general minimum piece-rates and general overtime is for certain male and female workers, and specifying the April, 1924, as the date from which these rates are effective.

THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE.

NOTICES OF PROPOSAL.

Retail Bespoke Tailoring Trade Board (Northern Ireland).

Proposal N.I.T.R.B. (N. 18), dated 26th March, 1924, to vary general minimum time-rates, piece-work basis time-rates and overtime rates for certain classes of female workers, and to fix piece-work basis time-rates for certain classes of female workers.

VACANCIES ON STAFF OF MINES INSPECTORATE.

THE Secretary for Mines is prepared to receive applications for nominations to attend competitive examinations that will be held shortly to fill vacancies on the staff of the Mines Inspectorate, viz. :-Sub-Inspector of Mines: 2 in the Midland and Southern Division, 3 in the York and North Midland Division, 3 in South Wales, and I each in Scotland, the Northern Division and the Lan-cashire and North Wales Division. Sub-Inspector of Quarries: 1 vacancy in the Midland and Southern Division. Forms of application and full particulars of these posts can be obtained from the Establishment Branch, Mines Department, Dean Stanley Street, Millbank, Westminster, London, S.W. 1. Appli-cations for nomination will not be considered unless the pre-scribed forms, duly completed, are received in the Mines Depart-ment not later than Wednesday, 7th May, 1924.

OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

CENSUS.—Census of England and Wales, 1921. (a) County of Pembroke, (b) County of Cardigan, (c) Counties of Merioneth and Montgomery, (d) County of Flint. (S.O. publications : price 6s., 5s. 6d., 9s., 5s. 6d. respectively.)

COAL-TAR INDUSTRIES.—Report of H.M. Inspector on instruc-tion in England in the manufacture and applications of coal-tar products. Board of Education. (S.O. publication : price 6d.)

HOUSING.-(1) Interdepartmental Committee appointed to sur-HOUSING.—(1) Interdepartmental Committee appointed to sur-vey the price of building materials. Chairman's report for the months of January and February, 1924. Ministry of Health. (Cmd. 2076: price 6d.) (2) Report on the present position in the building industry, with regard to the carrying out of a full housing programme, having particular reference to the means of providing an adequate supply of labour and materials. 10th April, 1924. (Cmd. 2104: price 9d.) (See p. 120.)

INDUSTRIAL FATIGUE.—On the extent and effects of variety in repetitive work. Report No. 26. Industrial Fatigue Research Board. (S.O. publication; price 1s. 6d.) (See p. 122.)

LABOUR STATISTICS.—Report on the International Conference of Representatives of Labour Statistical Departments held at Geneva, 29th October to 2nd November, 1923. Studies and Reports, Series N., No. 4. International Labour Office. (Geneva, March, 1924: price 1s. 3d.)

MINING.—Coal dust explosions, Eskmeals, 1923. Paper No. 3. Safety in Mines Research Board. (S.O. publication : price 4d.)

POLICE.—Report of the Committee appointed to consider pos-sible re-adjustments in the standard conditions of service of the police forces in Great Britain. (Home Office. Cmd. 2086: price 2d.) (See page 113 of March, 1924, GAZETTE.)

ROAD FUND.—Abstract account of the receipts into and pay-ments out of the Road Fund in the year ended 31st March, 1923, together with the report of the Comptroller and Auditor-General thereon. Exchequer and Audit Department. (H.C. 28: price 3d)

SEAMEN.—Return of shipping casualties to and deaths on vessels registered in the United Kingdom, 1919, 1920 and 1921, with comparative figures for the years 1900 to 1914. Board of Trade. (S.O. publication: price 5s.)

TRANSPORT SERVICES.-Industrial Courts Act, 1919. Report by a Court of Enquiry concerning the stoppage of the London tramway and omnibus services, 1924. Ministry of Labour. (a) Interim report. (Cmd. 2087: price 2d.) (b) Final report. (Cmd. 2101': price 6d.) (See p. 121.)

UNEMPLOYMENT.—Statistics relating to financial provisions for relief of unemployment (including post-war resettlement of ex-members of His Majesty's Forces), from the Armistice. (Cmd. 2082: price 3d.) (See p. 119.)

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE.—Unemployment Insurance (No. 2) Bill, 1924. Report by the Government Actuary on the financial provisions of the Bill. (Cmd. 2109 : price 3d.) (See p. 117.)

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION.—Memorandum on the Workmen's Compensation Acts, 1906 and 1923. Home Office. (S.O. publi-cation : price 1d.) (See p. 123.)

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS.

LIST OF NEW CONTRACTS, MARCH, 1924. ADMIRALTY.

(Civil Engineer-in-Chief's Department).

H.M. Naval Establishments Abroad : Steelwork : Wm. Bain & Co., Ltd., Coatbridge. Paint Materials: N. J. Fenner & H. B. Alder & Co., London, E.C. Flexible Metallic Hoses: The United Flexible Metallic Tubing Co., Ltd., Ponders End, Middlesex.— Devonport: Bathing and Washplaces and Cook House: Wakeham ros., Tothill, Plymouth.—Forton, Gosport: Steelwork: E. C. J. Keay, Ltd., Birmingham.—Portsmouth: Timber: W. Crundall & Co., Dover.

(Contract and Purchase Department.)

Aluminium Ingots: The British Aluminium Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—Beech Wedges: Bartlett, Bayliss & Co., Ltd., Bideford; Bowerman & Sons, Ltd., Bridgwater; East & Son, Ltd., Berk-hamsted; J. D. Foster, Emsworth.—Blocks, Gravity Lowering: hamsted; J. D. Foster, Emsworth.—Blocks, Gravity Lowering: H. Wharton, Ltd., Stockport.—Blocks, Thrust, Michell: Brush Electrical Engineering Co., Ltd., Loughborough.—Boots, Sea: Regulation Boot Co. (Raunds), Ltd., Raunds.—Boxes, Junction, Distribution, etc.: Ewart & Son, Ltd., London, N.W.; Hawkers, Ltd., Birmingham; Player & Mitchell, Birmingham; L. Weekes, Ltd., Luton; Johnson & Phillips, Ltd., Charlton, Kent; Accles & Pollock, Ltd., Birmingham; Wm. McGeoch & Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—Brass and Copper Tubes: Muntz's Metal Co., Ltd., Dismingham. U Wilkos, Sons & Manulabeck Ltd. Bir. Ltd., Birmingham; J. Wilkes, Sons & Mapplebeck, Ltd., Bir-mingham; The Broughton Copper Co., Ltd., Manchester; C. mingham; The Broughton Copper Co., Ltd., Manchester; C. Clifford & Son, Ltd., Birmingham; Grice, Grice & Son, Ltd., Birmingham; The Birmingham Battery & Metal Co., Ltd., Bir-mingham; Allen Everitt & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham.—Brass Bars, High Tension: The Manganese Bronze & Brass Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—Bronze Strip, Extruded and Loop Nuts: The Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—Brushes, Shaving: C. H. Leng & Sons, Birmingham.—Buttons: Buttons, Ltd., Birming-ham; Firmin & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham; H. Gill & Whitehouse, Ltd., Birmingham, Smith & Wright, Ltd., Birmingham.—Cans, Oil: J. G. Carrick & Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—Cap Covers, Marcel-line: Milns, Cartwright, Reynolds, Ltd., London, S.W.—Cap-stans, Steam Warping: Cowans, Sheldon & Co., Ltd., Carlisle.— Carpets, Rugs and Mats: Carpet Trades, Ltd., Kidderminster; Tomkinson & Adam, Kidderminster.—Castings, Maileable Iron: Tomkinson & Adam, Kidderminster.-Castings, Malleable Iron: Tomkinson & Adam, Kidderminster.—Castings, Malleable Iron: Wycliffe Foundry Co., Ltd., Lutterworth; The Court Works, Ltd., Madeley; H. W. Lindop, Walsall; J. Crowley & Co., Ltd., Sheffield.—Chamois Skins: The Pavlova Leather Co., Ltd., Mitcham, Surrey; W. J. Turney & Co., Ltd., Stourbridge.— Cloths, Sponge: C. E. Austin & Sons, Ltd., Manchester.— Coffee: Ridgways, Ltd., London, E.—Cotton Sliver, Press Pack-ing and Bleaching of: The Cotton Cellulose Co., Ltd., Rawten-stall.—Cotton Sliver (Unbleached Carded): The Croft Mill, Ltd., Rochdale.—Duck Cloth, Fine White: Thos. Adair, Ltd., Cooks-town, Co. Tyrone.—Electric Welding Equipment: Handstock, Ltd., Wokingham, Berks.—Envelopes, Silica and Caps for Wire-less Valves: The Thermal Syndicate. Ltd., Wallsend.—Fireclay: Ltd., Wokingham, Berks.—Envelopes, Silica and Caps for Wire-less Valves: The Thermal Syndicate, Ltd., Wallsend.—Fireclay: R. Brown & Son, Ltd., Paisley; J. T. Price & Co., Ltd., Stour-bridge.—Flags: Adam & Lane & Neeve, Ltd., London, E.; Walter Cockshaw, Leeds; Kirk, Hall & Co., Leeds; E. Riley & Co., Ltd., Leeds.—Flour: W. Vernon & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.; Spillers & Bakers, Ltd., Bristol; E. Marriage & Son, Ltd., Felixstowe.—Gearing, Turbine: D. Brown & Sons (Huddersfield), Ltd., Huddersfield.—Generators, Turbo: British Thomson Hous-ton Co., Ltd., Rugby.—Gloves, Leather, Various: E. & W. C. French, Ltd., Taunton: J. S. Deed & Son, Ltd., London, W.C.; Felixstowe.—Gearing, Turbine: D. Brown & Sons (Huddersfield), Ltd., Huddersfield.—Generators, Turbo: British Thomson Hous-ton Co., Ltd., Rugby.—Gloves, Leather, Various: E. & W. C.
French, Ltd., Taunton; J. S. Deed & Son, Ltd., London, W.C.; C. Ockwell & Co., Cricklade; J. J. William & Sons, Canterbury; North of England Chamois Co., Newcastle-on-Tyne.—Hides, Buffaio, etc.: Bryant & Co., London, S.E.; George Brooker & Co., London, E.C.; John T. Hart & Sons, London, S.E.-Hides, Leather and Leather Goods: John Tullis & Son, Ltd., Glasgow; Geo. Angus & Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne; S. E.
Norris & Co., Ltd., London, E.; Barrowfield Leather Co., Glas-gow; H. Densham & Son, Ltd., Bristol; J. S. Deed & Son, Ltd., London, W.C.; Barrow, Hepburn & Gale, Ltd., London, S.E.; J. & F. J. Baker, Ltd., Colyton, Devon.—Leather Straps or Millbands: Harbord & Poole, Ltd., London, S.E.; S. E. Norris & Co., Ltd., London, E.—Lime Juice: L. Rose & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—Linen Goods: A. Blyth & Co., Kirkcaldy; Wm. Ewart & Son, Ltd., Belfast; C. Gallen & Co., Balbriggan, Co. Dublin; J. Gunning & Son, Ltd., Belfast; Thos. McLaren & Sons, Kirkcaldy; R. Stocks & Co., Kirkcaldy; Ulster Weaving Co., Ltd., Belfast; York St. Flax Spinning Co., Ltd., Belfast.— Machine, Testing: W. & T. Avery, Ltd., Birmingham..—Man-ganese Bronze Tubes: The Manganese Bronze & Brass Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—Mopheads: A. Smart & Sons, Manchester.— Mustard : Keen, Robinson & Co., Ltd., London, E.—Oirs, Lin-sed: James Arnott & Sons, Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne; Dixon & Cardus, Ltd., Southampton; F. F. Fox & Co., Ltd., Bristol; J. M. Hamilton & Co., Ltd., Hull; Price's Patent Candle Co., Itd., London, S.W.; Smith Bros, & Co., London, C..—Paraffin Wax: Scottish Oil Agency, Ltd., Glasgow.—Piping, Flexible Voice and Gear: The Power Flexible Tubing Co., Ltd., London, N.— Pump, Motor-driven: Drysdale & Co., Ltd., London, N.— Pump, Motor-driven: Drysdale & Co., Ltd., London, N.— Pump, Motor-driven: Brysdale & Co., Ltd., London, N.— Putty: Pilche

Spragg & Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Henry Cox Screw Co., Ltd., Birmingham; T. Eaves, Ltd., Birmingham; Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham; T. Haddon & Co., Birmingham; The London Screw Co., Ltd., Smethwick; A. Stokes & Co., Ltd. The London Screw Co., Ltd., Smethwick; A. Stokes & Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—Seacocks and Valves: Shipham & Co., Ltd., Hull.—Serge, Blue: The Co-operative Wholesale Society, Ltd., Buckfastleigh.—Shoes, Brown Canvas: Owen Smith, Raunds.-Shorts, Cellular: Johnson & Sons, Ltd., Great Yarmouth.-Silver Solder: E. W. Oakes & Co., Ltd., Sheffield.—Socks, Black Cashmere: I. & R. Morley, Heanor; Hanford & Miller, Ltd., Loughborough.—Steel Sections: Dorman, Long & Co., Ltd., Mid dlesbrough; Bolckow, Vaughan & Co., Ltd., Middlesbrough; Frodingham Iron & Steel Co., Ltd., Scunthorpe; Pease & Part. ners, Ltd., Saltburn-by-the-Sea.—Steel Wire Hawsers: Edwin Ellis & Co., Etd., London, E.—Steel Wire Rope: Craven & Speeding Bros., Sunderland; Edwin Ellis & Co., Ltd., War. rington.—Surgical Dressings: Dacca Twist Co., Manchester. Bullivant & Co., Ltd., London, E.; Whitecross Co., Ltd., W rington.—Surgical Dressings: Dacca Twist Co., Manchest Fastnet Surgical Dressing Co., Ltd., London, N.; W. G. Tay Birmingham.—Table for Punching Machine: Churchin & Wats London, E.C.—Thermometers, Hydrometers, etc.: B. Black Son, London, E.C.; A. C. Cossor & Son, London, N.; Heat Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; T. A. Reynolds, Son & Co., Londo E.C.—Timber, English: Bartlett, Bayliss & Co., Ltd., Bidefo R. Batcheller & Sons, Ltd., Maidstone; Bowerman & S Bridgwater; C. R. Claridge, Exeter; East & Son, Ltd., Berkh sted; J. D. Foster, Emsworth; W. Ivens & Sons, Rugby; Miles & Sons, Stamford: G. Randle & Son, Ltd., Bridgwa sted; J. D. Foster, Emsworth; W. Ivens & Sons, Rugby; (. Miles & Sons, Stamford; G. Randle & Son, Ltd., Bridgwater; W. J. Taylor & Sons, Ltd., Bath; A. Turner & Sons, Ltd., Lewes; E. C. White & Sons, Ltd., Basingstoke.—Towelling, Terry: Stott & Smith, Ltd., Manchester.—Trolley and Pulley Blocks, Alterations to: The Vaughan Crane Co., Ltd., Man-chester.—Trucks, Electric Platform: Gillespie Partners, Ltd., Labor & Store, Ltd., Sonapart, Store, Store, Ltd., Wansher, Store, Store, Store, Ltd., Wansher, Store, Store, Ltd., Sonapart, Store, Store, Store, Ltd., Store, Store, Store, Ltd., Store, Store, Ltd., Store, Store, Ltd., Store, Store, Store, Store, Ltd., Store, St chester.—**Trucks, Electric Platform**: Gillespie Partners, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Tubes, Steel**: John Spencer, Ltd., Wednesbury; Stewarts and Lloyds, Ltd., Glasgow.—**Winches, Electrically. driven**: Napier Bros., Ltd., Glasgow.—**Wire**: T. Bolton & Son, Ltd., Oakamoor, Staffs; Bruntons, Musselburgh; The Darlington Wire Mills, Ltd., Darlington; Locke, Lancaster & W. W. & R. Johnson & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.; J. Rigby & Sons, Ltd., Manchester; Rylands Bros., Ltd., Warrington.—**Wire Work**: 6. Baker, Ltd., Birmingham; Patent Process Wire Weaving Ca., Glasgow; G. A. Harvey & Co. (London), Ltd., London, S.E. J. Dickson, London, W.C.; H. W. Carter & James, Ltd., Br-mingham; T. P. Hawkins & Son, Ltd., Birmingham; J. Nichds & Son, Ltd., Birmingham; S. Ramsey & Co., London, E.C. Tower Manufacturing Co., Worcester.

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AIR MINISTRY.

Aircraft: Vickers, Ltd., London, S.W.; A. V. Roe & Co., td., Newton Heath, Manchester; Handley Page, Ltd., London, W.; Supermarine Aviation Works, Ltd., Woolston, South-mpton.—Aircraft Hull: S. E. Saunders, Ltd., East Cowes.— icraft Model: A. V. Roe & Co., Ltd., Newton Heath, Man-hester.—Aircraft Repairs: Westland Aircraft Works, Yeovil; dackburn Aeroplane & Motor Co., Ltd., Leeds; A. V. Roe & o., Newton Heath, Manchester.—Aircraft, Repairs to: Vickers, td., London, S.W.; Gloucestershire Aircraft Co., Ltd., Chelten-am.—Aircraft, Reconditioning Allerons: H. G. Hawker Engi-eering Co., Ltd., Kingston-on-Thames.—Aircraft Spares: Geo. Ltd., London, S. W.; Guodestersnire Aircraft Co., Ltd., Chelten-nam.—Aircraft, Reconditioning Ailerons: H. G. Hawker Engi-neering Co., Ltd., Kingston-on-Thames.—Aircraft Spares: Geo. Parnall & Co., Bristol; Fairey Aviation Co., Ltd., Hayes, Middle-sex; Handley Page, Ltd., Cricklewood; Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Bristol; Gloucestershire Aircraft Co., Ltd., Cheltenham; Super-marine Aviation Works, Ltd., Southampton; Armstrong, Whit-worth Aircraft, Ltd., Coventry.—Aircraft Trials: Vickers, Ltd., Hayes, Middlesex.—Alternator, Engine Driven: Parsons Motor Co., Ltd., Southampton.—Benzol: The National Benzol Co., Ltd., London, S.W.; Walter Waugh & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.— Blankets: Priestley Bros., Halifax.—Building Works Services: Married Quarters (Uxbridge): J. Laing & Son, Ltd., London, W.C. Spinning Tower (Farnborough): General Electric Co., Ltd., London, W.C. Re-roofing Flight Sheds (Old Sarum): Playlair & Toole, Ltd., Southampton.—Camera Magazine (All Metal): Williamson Mfg. Co., Ltd., London, N.W.—Gases, Silp: C. Groom, Ltd., London, E.C.—Colours, Nitro Identification: British Celanese, Ltd., London, S.W.; Cellon (Richmond), Ltd., Richmond.—Deflector Tubes (Rapson): Rapson Tyre & Jack Co., Ltd., New Malden, Surrey.—Desks, School: North of England New Malden, Surrey.—Desks, School: North of England IFurnishing Co., Ltd., Darlington.—Coal: Cranwell, Dinham, 18 & Co., Ltd., London, E.C. Harlescott: Peake, Oliver ke, Ltd., London, E.C. Milton: Judd, Budd, Ltd., London, Coke: Cranwell; Halton; Harlescott: Peake, Oliver & , Ltd., London, E.C.—Dope (Cellulose Acetate): British ese, Ltd., London, S.W.—Electrical Measuring Instrunits: The Weston Electrical Instrument Co., Ltd., London, E.-gines, Aircraft: The Sunbeam Motor Car Co., Ltd., Wolver-mpton. Engines, Aircraft, Duration Test on: Rolls, Royce, npton.—Engines, Aircraft, Duration Test on: Rolls, Royce, I., Derby.—Engine, Aircraft, Spares: The Bristol Aeroplane , Ltd., Bristol; Rolls, Royce, Ltd., Derby.—Ford Touring r and Delivery Vans: W. Harold Perry, London, N.—Furnace el Oli: British Petroleum Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—Generator, uble Purpose: W. Mackie & Co., Ltd., London, W.C.— nerators: G. R. Mortley, Sprague & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. Paints and Varnishes: Jenson & Nicholson, Ltd., London, C.—Paraffin: Anglo-American Oil Co., Ltd., London, E.C.— trol, M.T.: British Petroleum Co., Ltd., London, E.C., h Oil Agency, Ltd., Glasgow.—Switchboards: Erskine, Heap Co., Ltd., Manchester.—Valve Unit (Large Sleeve): Ricardo 1 oil Agency, Ltd., Glasgow.—Switchboards: Erskine, Heap Co., Ltd., Manchester.—Valve Unit (Large Sleeve): Ricardo gineers, Ltd., London, S.W.—Water Cooling Plant: Heenan Froude, Ltd., Worcester.—Wheels, Steel Disc: The Dunlop bber Co., Ltd., Birmingham.

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(South): Phillips & Lewis, London, S.W. London (East): C. J. Miller, London, N. London (West): T. Freebury, Senr., London, W. London (Central): The Westminster Chimney Sweeping Co., London, S.W. Flooring (Wood Block): R. W. Brooke & Co., Ltd., Liverpool; A. M. Macdougall & Son, Glas-gow. Glass for Museum Cases: Pilkington Bros., Ltd., St. Helens. Horse and Cart Hire: R. Deards, London, N.W. Kero-sene: Anglo-American Oil Co. Ltd. Londow F.O. sene: Anglo-American Oil Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; The Scottish Oil Agency, Ltd., Glasgow. Motor Spirit: Shell-Mex, Ltd., London, W.C. Museum Cases: Wylie & Lochhead, Ltd., Glas-Condon, W.C. Museum Cases: Wylie & Lochhead, Ltd., Glas-gow. Timber: The Whilwood Co., Ltd., Westerham. Uniform Clothing: John Hammond & Co. (1922), Ltd., Newcastle, Staffs. Window Cleaning—Houses of Parliament and London Generally: The Great Metropolitan Window Cleaning Co., Ltd., London, S.W. Royal Mint: The Daylight Window Cleaning Co., Ltd.,

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Mallandain, Ltd., London, N.W.; Ramsbottom Paper Mill Co., Ltd., Ramsbottom; Ryburn-dale Paper Mills Co., Ltd., Ripponden; Sanitas Co., Ltd., London, E.; R. Somerville & Co., Ltd., Creech St. Michael; Wiggins, Teape & A. Pirie (Sales), Ltd., Stoneywood; J. Wild & Sons, Ltd., Radcliffe.—Pencils: Royal Sovereign Pencil Co., Ltd., London, N.W.—Pens: British Pens, Ltd., Birmingham; E. S. Perry, Ltd., London, N.—Penholders: British Pens, Ltd., Birmingham.—Pins: D. F. Tayler & Co., Ltd., Birmingham.— Pins, Drawing: Setten & Durward, Ltd., Birmingham.—Printing, Ruling and Binding, etc.: Group 235 (1924), Type-Lithography, excluding Reducing and Ruling: Charles & Read, Ltd., London, W.C. 70,750 Forms Q. 9; 155,000 Forms Q. 9 (ins.): Pearce & Gardner, Manchester. 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