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THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE

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THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE

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SUMMARY OF PRINCIPAL STATISTICS.

EMPLOYMENT.

As a result of traffic dislocation due to the severe weather and the measures that were taken to reduce fuel consumption there was a serious curtailment of industrial activity during the latter part of February, and, owing to the abnormal conditions, it has not been possible to compile satisfactory statistics of employment for the end of that month.

UNEMPLOYMENT.

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

	Mid-1939.	13th Jan., 1947.	10th Mar., 1947.	Increase (+) or Decrease (—) at March compared with January.
Men (18 and under 65)	992,000	292,157	571,601	+ 279,444
Boys (14 to 17)	20,000	9,771	18,041	+ 8,270
Women (18 and under 60)	239,000	92,517	163,192	+ 70,675
Girls (14 to 17)	19,000	6,804	12,014	+ 5,210
			764,848	

The numbers unemployed at 10th March, 1947, represented 5 per cent. of the estimated total number of insured persons, the corresponding percentages for males and females being 5½ and 3½ respectively.

Of the total of 764,848 persons unemployed, 450,195 were wholly unemployed and 314,653 were temporarily stopped. Of the former, 93,769 had been out of work for not more than two weeks, 138,706 for more than two but not more than eight weeks, and 217,720 for more than eight weeks.

The figures for March, 1947, are analysed in greater detail on pages 123 to 126, on which statistics are given for each of the Regions and for a number of the larger towns and also for the separate industries.

WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR.

In the industries covered by the Department's statistics, the changes in rates of wages reported to have come into operation in March resulted in an aggregate increase estimated at £18,000 in the weekly full-time wages of about 82,000 workpeople, and a decrease of about £4,500 in the wages of about 194,000 workpeople. In addition, a number of workpeople had their hourly rates increased so as to give approximately the same weekly wages as before for a shorter working week.

The principal industries in which wage rates were increased were papermaking and boardmaking, boot and shoe repairing, and the factory branch of the dressmaking and women's light clothing trade in Northern Ireland.

It is estimated that the weekly wage rates at the end of March, 1947, were about 65 to 66 per cent. higher than at September, 1939, the same as at the end of February, 1947.

The number of workpeople whose hours were reduced in March was nearly 460,000, the average reduction being about 3¼ hours a week. The principal reductions affected workpeople employed in shipbuilding and ship-

repairing, road haulage, the production of provincial morning and evening newspapers in England and Wales, the non-trading services of local authorities in Scotland, the manufacture of soap, candles and edible fat, the boot and shoe repairing trade, and the storage and distribution of petroleum products.

Full particulars of the changes in rates of wages and hours of labour in March are given on pages 129 to 132.

AVERAGE EARNINGS AND WORKING HOURS AT OCTOBER, 1946.

An enquiry was made into the earnings and working hours in the last pay-week of October, 1946, of manual wage-earners employed in manufacturing industries, and in a number of the principal non-manufacturing industries, in the United Kingdom. For all these industries combined, the average earnings at this date were 120s. 9d. for men 21 years and over, 46s. 6d. for youths and boys, 65s. 3d. for women 18 years and over, 38s. 8d. for girls, and 101s. 0d. for all workers. The average hours worked in the same week were 47.6 for men, 44.7 for youths and boys, 42.6 for women, 42.6 for girls, and 46.2 for all workers.

In the last pay-week of October, 1938 (the latest pre-war date for which similar statistics are available), the average earnings in the same industries were 69s. 0d. for men, 26s. 1d. for youths and boys, 32s. 6d. for women, 18s. 6d. for girls, and 53s. 3d. for all workers combined. The average hours worked in October, 1938, were 47.7 for men, 46.2 for youths and boys, 43.5 for women, 44.6 for girls, and 46.5 for all workers combined.

Details of average weekly and hourly earnings and average weekly hours worked, together with some comparisons with earlier dates, are given on pages 106 to 115.

TRADE DISPUTES.

The number of industrial disputes involving stoppages of work, reported to the Department as beginning in March, was 159. In addition, 12 stoppages which began before March were still in progress at the beginning of that month. The approximate number of workers involved, during March, in these 171 stoppages (including workers thrown out of work at the establishments where the stoppages occurred) was about 52,000 and the aggregate number of working days lost at the establishments concerned, during March, was about 112,000.

Further particulars of disputes involving stoppages of work during March are given on page 133.

COST OF LIVING.

At 1st April the official cost-of-living index figure was 103 per cent. above the level of July, 1914, as compared with 104 per cent. at 1st March. For food alone the index figure was 68 per cent. above the level of July, 1914, as compared with 69 per cent. a month earlier. The fall in the food index was due to a reduction of 3d. per lb. in the average price of cheese.

There were increases in the price of coal in most areas and of certain kinds of domestic pottery.

The rise in the index since the beginning of September, 1939, is equivalent to about 31 per cent. for all items and about 22 per cent. for food.

Further details are given on page 134.

AVERAGE EARNINGS AND WORKING HOURS IN THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES AT OCTOBER, 1946.

In October, 1946, an enquiry was made by the Ministry of Labour and National Service in order to obtain particulars of the average weekly earnings and working hours of manual wage-earners employed in manufacturing industries generally, and in a number of the principal non-manufacturing industries, in the United Kingdom. Statistics summarising the results of similar enquiries which had previously been made at half-yearly intervals (in January and July) during the war have been published in earlier issues of this GAZETTE,* together with some comparative figures for October, 1938. It has been decided that in future these enquiries should be made in the spring and autumn.

In the enquiry of October, 1946, forms were sent to all employers who had supplied information in response to a previous enquiry made in January, 1946,† asking for particulars of the number of wage-earners at work in the last pay-week in October, 1946, of the aggregate earnings of those wage-earners in that week, and of the total number of man-hours worked in the week, classified under the following headings: men, 21 years and over; youths and boys under 21 years; women, 18 years and over; and girls under 18 years. As in the case of the earlier enquiries, referred to above, the figures given were to include all wage-earners other than office staffs, shop assistants, and outworkers working at home on materials supplied by the employer; managers, commercial travellers, clerks and typists, and salaried persons generally were to be excluded. In cases where the works were stopped, for the whole or part of the specified pay-week, as the result of a general or local holiday, breakdown, fire, strike or lock-out, the employers were asked to substitute particulars for the nearest week of an ordinary character. The wages shown were to be the total earnings, inclusive of bonuses, before any deductions in respect of income tax or of the workers' contributions to statutory insurance schemes (health and pensions, unemployment, etc.). The employers were asked to give separate particulars of the numbers and earnings of any men or women employed as part-time workers for not more than 30 hours a week, who had entered their employment since July, 1941, and of the number of hours worked by such workers.

The total number of establishments to which forms were sent (exclusive of those which were found to be no longer in operation in October, 1946, or to be employing no wage-earners within the scope of the enquiry) was about 53,600, of which approximately 51,500 furnished returns suitable for tabulation. The total number of wage-earners (including part-time workers) covered by returns showing the numbers employed and wages earned in the week was over 5½ million, and particulars of the aggregate man-hours worked in the week were obtained in respect of nearly all of these workpeople. The average earnings of these workers in the last pay-week in October, 1946, are shown, industry by industry in the Table on pages 110 and 111, together with the numbers of workpeople employed in these establishments from which returns were received. The average hours actually worked in each industry in the same week in October, 1946, and the average hourly earnings in that week, are shown on pages 112 and 113, and a further Table on pages 114 and 115 shows the average percentage increases in weekly and hourly earnings in October, 1946, as compared with those in October, 1938 (the latest pre-war date for which statistics of average earnings are available). Particulars of the average earnings in the last pay-week of October, 1938, and of the average hours worked in that week, were published in the issues of this GAZETTE for August, 1944, and February, 1945, respectively.

WEEKLY EARNINGS IN OCTOBER, 1946, AND PERCENTAGE INCREASES SINCE OCTOBER, 1938.

The average earnings in the last pay-week in October, 1946, of the 5½ million workpeople covered by the returns received were as shown below:—

Men (21 years and over)†	121s. 3d.
Youths and boys (under 21 years)	46s. 3d.
Women (18 years and over):	
Excluding part-time workers§	65s. 1d.
Part-time workers§	33s. 6d.
Counting two part-time workers§ as representing one full-timer	65s. 2d.
Girls (under 18 years)	39s. 0d.

These figures, however, relate only to the wage-earners employed in the establishments from which returns were received and the average earnings shown are affected by the fact that

* See the issues for November and December, 1940; March, 1941; November and December, 1941; June and December, 1942; June, 1943; February and August, 1944; February and August, 1945; and February, July and October, 1946.

† An enquiry made in July, 1946, was restricted to a sample of the firms, and was much less detailed than the half-yearly enquiries.

‡ Men employed as part-time workers (for not more than 30 hours a week), who had entered the employment of the firms concerned since July, 1941, have been excluded from the statistics given in this article and in the Tables on pages 110 to 115, the numbers shown in the returns having been insignificant. The earnings of the small number returned averaged 35s. 11d. in October, 1946, and the hours worked averaged 17.0.

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

different industries, with varying levels of wages, were not represented in equal proportions in the returns. For example, returns were obtained from a much higher proportion of employers in the engineering industry than in the building industry, and the engineering industry has therefore an unduly heavy weight, in comparison with the building industry, in the calculations from which the foregoing averages are derived. In order to eliminate the effects of such disparities, general averages for all industries combined, and for each of 16 broad groups of industries, have been calculated* on the basis of the estimated total numbers of wage-earners employed in the individual industries in October, 1946. These averages are set out in the following Table, together with the percentage increases which they show as compared with similar averages relating to October, 1938, calculated by "weighting" the average earnings in each industry by the total numbers employed at that date. In computing the averages for October, 1946, the earnings of women employed as part-time workers have been included on the basis of two part-time workers taken as representing one full-time worker; small numbers of men employed as part-time workers have been excluded.†

Average Weekly Earnings in October, 1946, and Percentage Increases as compared with October, 1938, calculated on the basis of the total numbers employed in each industry.

Industry Group.	Average Earnings in the last pay-week in October, 1946.				
	Men (21 years and over)†	Youths and Boys (under 21 years)	Women (18 years and over)‡	Girls (under 18 years)	All Workers.‡
Iron, stone, etc., mining and quarrying	112 8	56 5	§	§	107 8
Treatment of non-ferrous metal and quarry products	123 3	58 9	67 5	35 6	116 0
Brick, pottery and glass	119 11	52 2	58 4	35 6	96 11
Chemical, paint, oil, etc.	119 11	47 9	64 0	38 3	100 10
Metal, engineering and ship-building	132 9	45 1	70 7	41 0	114 4
Textiles	110 0	47 9	63 7	42 10	78 3
Leather, fur, etc.	118 8	49 8	65 9	38 3	95 7
Clothing	114 9	43 6	63 0	37 0	70 0
Food, drink and tobacco	112 6	45 2	60 7	36 9	87 10
Woodworking	119 1	42 6	67 11	37 10	99 10
Paper, printing, stationery, etc.	126 7	38 9	60 9	34 3	96 11
Building, contracting, etc.¶	110 7	49 8	61 9	§	103 0
Miscellaneous manufacturing industries	129 5	47 7	68 5	40 1	100 7
Transport, storage, etc. (excluding railways)	115 2	47 4	84 2	§	110 4
Public utility services	105 11	44 1	55 8	33 5	97 6
Government industrial establishments	116 6	52 7	76 4	39 5	108 10
All the above	120 9	46 6	65 3	38 8	101 0
	Average Percentage Increases since October, 1938.				
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Iron, stone, etc., mining and quarrying	88	87	§	§	90
Treatment of non-ferrous metal and quarry products	86	89	127	§	90
Brick, pottery and glass	90	89	110	139	103
Chemical, paint, oil, etc.	73	62	96	111	83
Metal, engineering and ship-building	77	73	112	106	92
Textiles	92	99	100	118	107
Leather, fur, etc.	85	96	88	119	104
Clothing	79	76	92	111	100
Food, drink and tobacco	72	61	84	93	87
Woodworking	80	82	102	117	93
Paper, printing, stationery, etc.	50	57	78	100	68
Building, contracting, etc.¶	68	94	§	§	68
Miscellaneous manufacturing industries	87	78	115	118	116
Transport, storage, etc. (excluding railways)	65	75	141	§	68
Public utility services	68	60	101	56	63
Government industrial establishments**	55	61	71	§	54
All the above	75	78	101	109	90

When the average earnings for October, 1946, shown in this Table, are compared with those given in the previous column, it will be seen that the effect of re-calculating the general averages for all industries combined on the basis of the total numbers

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

† See footnote † in previous column.

‡ In the calculations of the averages for women, and of those for "all workers," women employed as part-time workers in October, 1946, (see footnote § in previous column) have been included on the basis of two part-timers taken as representing one full-timer.

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

¶ For the engineering industry, most returns used in 1938 related to a week in July. ¶ For the building and contracting industries, the returns collected in 1938 related to the last pay-week of September.

** In the case of the Government industrial establishments, the comparisons between the average earnings in October, 1938, and October, 1946, are materially affected by the fact that the returns for the latter date covered a number of establishments which were not in operation in October, 1938.

employed in each industry (instead of the numbers employed by those firms who supplied returns) is to lower the average shown for men by 6d. and that for girls by 4d., and to raise the average for women by 1d. and that for boys by 3d. In calculating the average earnings of women and "all workers" at October, 1946, women who were employed as part-time workers have, as stated above, been included on the basis of two part-time workers taken as representing one full-timer. The inclusion of these women, however, has little effect on the average earnings shown, for if such part-time workers had been excluded from the statistics the general average of 65s. 3d. for women in all industries combined would have been altered by only 2d. (to 65s. 1d.), and among the sixteen groups of industries for which separate figures are given in the Table, the exclusion of the women part-time workers would not in any case have altered the average earnings shown for women by more than 7d.

In the last week of October, 1938—the latest pre-war date for which similar statistics are available—the average earnings of the wage-earners employed in the groups of industries covered by the foregoing Table were approximately 69s. 0d. for men, 26s. 1d. for youths and boys, 32s. 6d. for women, 18s. 6d. for girls, and 53s. 3d. for all workers combined. The corresponding averages for October, 1946, given in the Table, showed increases of 51s. 9d. or 75 per cent., for men; 20s. 5d. or 78 per cent., for youths and boys; 32s. 9d. or 101 per cent., for women; 20s. 2d. or 109 per cent., for girls; and 47s. 9d. or 90 per cent., for all workers combined. The percentage increases, however, varied widely in different industries. In those industries for which particulars are given on pages 114 and 115, for example, the average percentage increases in weekly earnings shown for men ranged from less than 50 per cent. in some industries to over 100 per cent., in others, while those for women ranged from less than 70 per cent. to over 130 per cent. The fact that the average percentage rise in the earnings of women was greater than that shown for men is partly due to the increase since October, 1938, in the numbers of women engaged on work normally undertaken by men. In most of the principal industries in which such increases have occurred, war-time dilution agreements are still in operation providing that where women are employed on work previously done by men they should be paid either the full rates for men (usually after a qualifying period, or subject to ability to perform the man's work without extra supervision or assistance), or specified proportions of those rates, yielding wages higher than those generally paid for work not regarded as men's work. Some part of the difference is also due to the fact that war advances, or war bonuses, granted to women, while usually less in amount than those granted to men, have generally represented a somewhat greater percentage increase on pre-war rates than the war advances granted to men.

It should be noted that the figures of average earnings and percentages of increase of all classes of workers combined, as shown in the last column of the foregoing Table, are affected by the changes which have taken place since 1938 in the relative proportions of men, boys, women and girls employed in each of the various groups of industries, the proportions of men included in the totals for all the industries, combined on the basis of the estimated total numbers of wage-earners employed in the individual industries at the respective dates, having risen from between 61 and 62 per cent. in October, 1938, to nearly 69 per cent. in October, 1946, while the proportions of youths and boys declined from about 12 per cent. to about 7½ per cent., and those of girls from nearly 7 per cent. to about 4 per cent. The proportion of women was about the same in October, 1946, as in October, 1938, viz., rather less than 20 per cent. If the proportion of men, boys, women and girls employed in each of the industries had remained the same in October, 1946, as in October, 1938, the averages quoted for "all workers" for the individual industries enumerated in the detailed Table on pages 110 and 111 would have been lowered in over four-fifths of the cases. On the other hand, the average earnings and the percentage increases shown for all the industries taken together include the effects of changes in the relative numbers of workers employed in the different industries.

It should also be observed that the figures shown in the above Table and in the detailed Table on pages 110 and 111, are general averages covering all classes of manual wage-earners, including unskilled workers and general labourers as well as operatives in skilled occupations, and that they represent the actual earnings in the weeks specified, inclusive of payments for overtime, night-work, etc., and of amounts earned on piecework or other methods of payment by results. In view of the wide variations, as between different industries, in the proportions of skilled and unskilled workers and in the opportunities for extra earnings from overtime, night-work and increased output by piece-workers, the differences in average earnings shown in the Tables should not be taken as evidence of disparities in the rates of wages prevailing in different industries for comparable classes of workpeople employed under similar conditions.

WEEKLY HOURS WORKED IN OCTOBER, 1946, COMPARED WITH OCTOBER, 1938

The average hours worked in each industry in the last pay-week in October, 1946, by the workpeople covered by the returns received, are set out in the Table on pages 112 and 113. The following Table shows the averages for each of the 16 main groups of industries and for all these industries taken together, with the corresponding averages for the last pay-week of October, 1938, calculated by combining the averages for the individual

industries on the basis of the estimated total numbers of wage-earners employed in those industries at each of the two dates.* The figures given relate to the total number of hours actually worked in the week, including all overtime and excluding all time lost from any cause but including any period during which workpeople were available for work and for which a guaranteed wage was payable to them. Recognised intervals for meals, etc., are also excluded. In the calculation of the averages, only those workpeople who were at work during part or the whole of the pay-week are included, those who were absent during the whole of the pay-week having been excluded from the returns.

Average Hours worked in October, 1946, and October, 1938, calculated on the basis of the total numbers employed in each industry.

Industry Group.	Average Hours worked in the last pay-week in October, 1946.				
	Men (21 years and over)†	Youths and Boys (under 21 years)	Women (18 years and over)‡	Girls (under 18 years)	All Workers.‡
Iron, stone, etc., mining and quarrying	47.6	45.8	§	§	47.3
Treatment of non-ferrous metal and quarry products	49.5	45.3	43.3	§	49.0
Brick, pottery and glass	48.3	44.7	43.1	43.7	46.7
Chemical, paint, oil, etc.	48.3	44.2	42.9	42.7	46.6
Metal, engineering and ship-building	48.0	44.6	43.0	42.7	46.9
Textiles	48.2	45.4	43.9	43.6	45.6
Leather, fur, etc.	47.4	44.8	42.7	43.4	45.8
Clothing	44.5	43.5	41.0	41.6	42.0
Food, drink and tobacco	48.7	44.5	43.5	43.2	46.6
Woodworking	45.1	43.8	41.9	41.7	44.5
Paper, printing, stationery, etc.	46.0	44.4	43.0	43.3	44.9
Building, contracting, etc.¶	45.5	44.7	40.5	§	45.3
Miscellaneous manufacturing industries	48.2	44.3	43.0	42.5	46.1
Transport, storage, etc. (excluding railways)	50.0	47.0	45.2	§	49.5
Public utility services	47.9	45.5	38.7	41.8	46.6
Government industrial establishments	48.4	46.1	44.9	43.4	48.0
All the above	47.6	44.7	42.6	42.6	46.2
	Average Hours worked in the last pay-week in October, 1938.				
	Hours.	Hours.	Hours.	Hours.	Hours.
Iron, stone, etc., mining and quarrying	45.9	45.7	§	§	45.8
Treatment of non-ferrous metal and quarry products	49.8	47.3	45.5	45.2	49.3
Brick, pottery and glass	48.7	45.9	42.6	44.1	46.8
Chemical, paint, oil, etc.	48.4	46.7	44.0	44.6	47.2
Metal, engineering and ship-building	48.0	45.9	44.2	44.7	47.1
Textiles	47.7	45.6	44.5	45.9	45.8
Leather, fur, etc.	47.4	46.8	45.7	46.5	46.8
Clothing	44.8	45.3	41.2	42.7	42.4
Food, drink and tobacco	49.4	47.3	45.8	45.9	47.8
Woodworking	46.9	46.2	44.3	45.0	46.4
Paper, printing, stationery, etc.	46.1	45.5	44.4	44.9	45.4
Building, contracting, etc.¶	46.3	46.5	§	§	46.3
Miscellaneous manufacturing industries	48.6	46.9	44.5	44.9	46.8
Transport, storage, etc. (excluding railways)	48.9	48.1	45.7	§	48.8
Public utility services	49.0	47.6	32.8	43.7	48.0
Government industrial establishments	49.5	47.1	44.9	§	49.1
All the above	47.7	46.2	43.5	44.6	46.5

From the detailed figures in the Table on pages 112 and 113 it will be seen that there were considerable variations in the average hours worked in different industries and among different sex and age groups. In the great majority of industries the average hours worked by men in the last pay-week in October, 1946, ranged between 44 and 50, those worked by youths and boys mostly ranged between 43 and 47, while those worked by women and girls were mostly between 40 and 45. For all the industries taken together the hours worked averaged approximately 47½ for men, 44½ for youths and boys, and 42½ for women and girls. As compared with the hours worked in the last week of October, 1938, these averages showed little change in the case of men, but reductions of about 1½ hours for youths and boys, nearly 1 hour for women and about 2 hours for girls. (The changes between 1938 and 1946 in the working hours of boys and girls were to some extent affected by the operation of the Factories Act, 1937, which reduced the maximum weekly hours of juveniles under 16 years of age employed in factories, subject to certain qualifications, from 48 to 44 as from July, 1939.) For all workers combined, in the industries covered by the enquiry, the average time worked in the last pay-week of October, 1946, was about 46½ hours or about ½ hour less than in the last week of October,

* See footnote * in the second column on page 106.

† See footnote † in the first column on page 106.

‡ See footnote ‡ in the second column on page 106. The hours worked by women employed as part-time workers in October, 1946, averaged about 22.

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

¶ For the engineering industry, most returns used in 1938 related to a week in July.

** For the building and contracting industries, the returns collected in 1938 related to the last pay-week of September.

1938, but this comparison is affected to a slight extent by the changes which took place between the two dates in the numbers of workpeople employed in different industries, and in the proportions of men, youths, women and girls included. If the proportions in the different sex and age groups, and in the different industries, had been the same in 1946 as in 1938, the average hours shown for October, 1946, would have been about 45½.

In all the industry groups for which figures are quoted in the above Tables (with the exception of mining and quarrying), the average number of hours worked by youths, boys and girls in October, 1946, showed reductions as compared with October, 1938. In all but three of the industry groups the average hours worked by women in October, 1946, were less than in October, 1938. In the case of five industry groups (mining and quarrying, metal, textiles, leather and transport) the average number of weekly hours worked by men in October, 1946, was either the same as or greater than in October, 1938.

HOURLY EARNINGS IN OCTOBER, 1946, AND PERCENTAGE INCREASES SINCE OCTOBER, 1938.

The following Table shows for each group of industries covered by the enquiry and for all these industries combined, the average hourly earnings in the last pay-week in October, 1946, computed from the foregoing figures of average weekly earnings and working hours, and the average percentage increases as compared with the average hourly earnings in the last pay-week in October, 1938. Corresponding particulars for individual industries are given on pages 112 to 115.

Average Hourly Earnings in October, 1946, and Percentage Increases as compared with October, 1938.

Industry Group.	Men (21 years and over).	Youths and Boys (under 21 years).	Women (18 years and over).*	Girls (under 18 years).	All Workers.*
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
A Iron, stone, etc., mining and quarrying	2 4.4	1 2.8	—	—	2 3.3
B Treatment of non-metallic minerals, etc.	2 5.9	1 3.6	1 6.7	—	2 4.4
Brick, pottery and glass	2 5.8	1 2.0	1 4.2	9.7	2 0.9
Chemical, paint, oil, etc.	2 5.8	1 1.0	1 5.9	10.7	2 2.0
Metal, engineering and shipbuilding	2 9.2	1 0.1	1 7.7	11.5	2 5.3
Textiles	2 3.4	1 0.6	1 5.4	11.8	1 8.6
Leather, fur, etc.	2 6.0	1 1.3	1 6.5	10.6	2 1.0
Clothing	2 6.9	1 0.0	1 6.4	10.7	1 8.0
Food, drink and tobacco	2 3.7	1 0.2	1 4.7	10.2	1 10.6
Woodworking	2 7.7	11.6	1 7.5	10.9	2 2.9
Paper, printing, stationery, etc.	2 9.0	10.5	1 5.0	9.5	2 1.9
Building, contracting, etc.	2 5.2	1 1.3	1 6.3	—	2 3.3
Miscellaneous manufacturing industries	2 8.2	1 0.9	1 7.1	11.3	2 2.2
Transport, storage, etc. (excluding railways)	2 3.5	1 0.1	1 10.3	—	2 2.7
Public utility services	2 2.6	11.6	1 5.3	9.6	2 1.1
Government industrial establishments	2 4.9	1 1.7	1 8.4	10.9	2 3.2
All the above	2 6.4	1 0.5	1 6.4	10.9	2 2.2
Average Percentage Increases since October, 1938.					
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
A Iron, stone, etc., mining and quarrying	81	87	—	—	84
B Treatment of non-metallic minerals, etc.	87	97	139	—	91
Brick, pottery and glass	91	94	107	141	104
Chemical, paint, oil, etc.	74	71	101	120	86
Metal, engineering and shipbuilding	77	78	118	115	92
Textiles	90	100	103	129	108
Leather, fur, etc.	85	105	102	134	109
Clothing	80	83	93	117	102
Food, drink and tobacco	75	71	94	105	92
Woodworking	87	92	113	135	101
Paper, printing, stationery, etc.	51	61	84	108	70
Building, contracting, etc.	70	101	—	—	72
Miscellaneous manufacturing industries	89	89	123	130	120
Transport, storage, etc. (excluding railways)	61	79	144	—	66
Public utility services	72	67	71	63	68
Government industrial establishments	58	65	71	—	58
All the above	75	84	105	119	91

For all industries combined, the percentage increase in the average hourly earnings of youths and boys, women and girls, was greater than the percentage increase in average weekly earnings shown in the Table in the second column on page 106, the average number of hours worked in the week having been less in October, 1946, than in October, 1938.¶

* See footnote † in the second column on page 106.
 † For the engineering industry, most returns used in 1938 related to a week in July.
 ‡ For the building and contracting industries, the returns collected in 1938 related to the last pay-week of September.
 § See footnote ** in the second column on page 106.
 ¶ See first paragraph following the Table in the previous column.

AVERAGE EARNINGS AND WORKING HOURS IN OCTOBER, 1946, COMPARED WITH JANUARY, 1946.

The average weekly earnings in the last pay-week in October, 1946, in all industries combined showed increases compared with January, 1946. For men the increase was 6s. 8d. a week, for women 5s. 5d., for youths and boys 3s. 2d., and for girls 4s. 5d. These increases were due to a great extent to increases in wage rates granted during the period. In the case of men the increases in earnings varied in different groups of industries from 3s. 1d. a week in paper, printing, etc., to 10s. 2d. in the metal, engineering and shipbuilding group and in the woodworking group and 13s. 9d. in the mining and quarrying group. For women the increases ranged from 1s. 1d. in the building group to 9s. 2d. in the leather group. For all workers combined the increase was 8s. 5d., but part of this increase was due to the fact that the proportion of men increased between January, 1946, and October, 1946, while that of youths and boys, women and girls, declined.

The average hours worked showed small increases between January, 1946, and October, 1946, of 0.2 hours for men, 0.6 for youths and boys, 0.3 for women and 0.1 for girls. The average hourly earnings in October, 1946, were, for all workers combined, nearly 2d. higher than in January, 1946.

AVERAGE EARNINGS AND HOURS IN OCTOBER, 1946, COMPARED WITH EARLIER YEARS.

The following Table shows the average weekly earnings, in the industries covered by these enquiries,* in October, 1938, and at the various dates for which information is available between July, 1940, and October, 1946, computed on the basis of the total numbers of workpeople employed in the different industries at the dates specified.—

Average Weekly Earnings.

Date.	Men (21 years and over).	Youths and Boys.	Women (18 years and over).†	Girls.	All Workers.†
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
October, 1938	69 0	26 1	32 6	18 6	53 3
July, 1940	89 0	35 1	38 11	22 4	69 2
July, 1941	99 5	41 11	43 11	25 0	75 10
January, 1942	102 0	42 6	47 6	26 10	77 9
July, 1942	111 5	46 2	54 2	30 3	85 2
January, 1943	113 9	45 1	58 6	32 1	87 11
July, 1943	121 3	47 2	62 2	33 10	93 7
January, 1944	123 8	46 10	63 9	34 3	95 7
July, 1944	124 4	47 4	64 3	34 11	96 8
January, 1945	119 3	44 1	63 2	33 8	93 9
July, 1945	121 4	45 6	63 2	35 1	96 1
January, 1946	114 1	43 4	59 10	34 3	92 7
October, 1946	120 9	46 6	65 3	38 8	101 0
Percentage Increase since October, 1938.					
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
July, 1940	29	35	20	21	30
July, 1941	44	61	35	35	42
January, 1942	48	63	46	45	46
July, 1942	61	77	67	64	64
January, 1943	65	73	80	73	65
July, 1943	76	81	91	83	76
January, 1944	79	80	96	85	79
July, 1944	80	81	98	89	82
January, 1945	73	69	94	82	76
July, 1945	76	74	94	90	80
January, 1946	68	66	84	85	74
October, 1946	75	78	101	109	90

In July, 1946, it was estimated, on the basis of a sample enquiry, that the average earnings of "all workers" was 100s. 5d., showing an increase of 89 per cent. over average earnings in October, 1938. Separate figures for men, boys, women or girls were not obtained at this date.

The percentage increases in average earnings since October, 1938, shown in the foregoing Tables, represent the combined effect of a number of factors, including (a) increases in rates of wages, (b) increases or decreases in the number of hours worked and in the proportion of hours paid for at overtime, week-end, and night-shift, etc., rates, (c) extensions of systems of payment by results, and increased output by the workers affected, (d) changes in the proportions of men, boys, women and girls employed in different occupations, and (e) changes in the proportions of workers employed in different industries.

As regards the first of these factors it is estimated, from such information as is available to the Department, that in the industries covered by these enquiries the average level of rates of wages for a full ordinary week's work, exclusive of overtime, was about 57 to 58 per cent.‡ higher in October, 1946, than in October, 1938. The difference between this figure and the average increase of 90 per cent. shown by the returns of actual weekly earnings represents the net effect of the other factors referred to above.

As regards working hours, the following Table shows the average hours worked by the wage-earners whose average earnings have been given above, in the last week in October, 1938, and at the various dates between July, 1943, and October, 1946, which were covered by the enquiries into average earnings; particulars of working hours were not collected for earlier dates during the war.

* For list of industries covered, see pages 110 and 111.
 † See footnote ‡ in the second column on page 106.
 ‡ This figure applies only to the industries covered by the enquiry into average earnings in October, 1946. If industries not covered by the enquiry (e.g., agriculture, coal mining, railway service, and merchant shipping) were included, the figure would be raised to about 65 per cent.

Average Weekly Hours Worked.

Date.	Men (21 years and over).	Youths and Boys.	Women (18 years and over).*	Girls.	All Workers.*
October, 1938	47.7	46.2	43.5	44.6	46.5
July, 1943	52.9	48.0	45.9	45.1	50.0
January, 1944	52.0	47.1	45.2	44.6	49.2
July, 1944	51.2	46.7	44.6	44.2	48.6
January, 1945	49.4	45.2	43.1	43.0	47.0
July, 1945	49.7	45.6	43.3	43.5	47.4
January, 1946	47.4	44.1	42.3	42.5	45.8
October, 1946	47.6	44.7	42.6	42.6	46.2

Owing to payments for overtime, night shifts, and week-end work at rates above the normal rates, the increases in weekly working hours since October, 1938, which continued up to July, 1945, resulted in more than proportionate increases in weekly earnings. The following Table shows the average hourly earnings at each of the dates for which particulars of working hours have been collected, and the percentage increases as compared with October, 1938.—

Average Hourly Earnings.

Date.	Men.	Youths and Boys.	Women.*	Girls.	All Workers.*
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
October, 1938	1 5.4	6.8	9.0	5.0	1 1.7
July, 1943	2 3.5	11.8	1 4.3	9.0	1 10.5
January, 1944	2 4.5	11.9	1 4.9	9.2	1 11.3
July, 1944	2 5.1	1 0.2	1 5.3	9.5	1 11.9
January, 1945	2 5.0	1 1.7	1 5.6	9.4	1 11.9
July, 1945	2 5.3	1 0.0	1 5.5	9.7	2 0.3
January, 1946	2 4.9	11.8	1 5.0	9.7	2 0.3
October, 1946	2 6.4	1 0.5	1 6.4	10.9	2 2.2
Percentage Increase since October, 1938.					
	58	74	81	81	63
July, 1943	64	76	89	85	70
January, 1944	68	80	93	90	74
July, 1944	67	73	96	89	74
January, 1945	69	77	95	94	77
July, 1945	66	74	89	94	77
January, 1946	66	74	89	94	77
October, 1946	75	84	105	119	91

The extensions during the war period of piecework and other forms of payment by results, to which reference has been made above, combined with increased production by workpeople employed on such systems of payment, contributed towards the increases in average hourly earnings shown in this Table, equally with the increases in weekly earnings. Where production was increased, the extra charges arising from the higher earnings were, of course, spread over the larger output.

The average levels of weekly and hourly earnings have also been affected by the changes which occurred during and since the war in the numbers of workpeople employed in different industries. On the one hand, the transference of workers from industries and occupations in which wages were relatively low to others with a higher level of earnings has tended to raise the general level of average earnings of men, youths, women and girls, respectively. On the other hand, the percentage increases in the average earnings of "all workers," as shown in the foregoing Tables, are affected by the fact that during the war period, the proportions of men, boys and girls represented in the figures were lower than in October, 1938, while those of women were higher. At January, 1946, and October, 1946, however, the proportion of men was appreciably higher than in October, 1938.† If the average weekly earnings in each industry, both at October, 1938, and at October, 1946, are combined by the use of "weights" corresponding with the estimated numbers employed in the various industries at October, 1938, the figures so obtained for October, 1946, show increases of nearly 73 per cent. for men, 77 to 78 per cent. for youths and boys, 73 to 98 per cent. for women, 109 per cent. for girls, and about 77 per cent. for all workers combined. The result of this calculation is to eliminate the effects, on the general averages, of the changes which have taken place in the proportions of workpeople employed in the different industries covered by the enquiry (and in the proportions of men, boys, women and girls employed in each of these industries), but not the changes in the proportions employed in different occupations within each industry.

INDUSTRIES NOT COVERED BY THE ENQUIRY.

The principal employments not covered by the enquiry were agriculture, coal mining, railway service, the shipping service, port transport (dock labour), the distributive trades, the catering trades, the entertainment industries, commerce and banking, and domestic service. As regards manual wage-earners employed in coal mining and railway service, and dock labourers in the port transport industry, some particulars are given below.

Coal Mining.

In the coal mining industry, information collected by the Ministry of Fuel and Power shows that for all classes of workpeople combined, including juveniles, the average earnings per

* See footnote † in the second column on page 106.
 † See the figures quoted in the third paragraph of the first column on page 107.

man-shift worked (exclusive of the value of allowances in kind which amounted to 11d. per man-shift) were approximately 24s. 8d. in the three months ended December, 1946, as compared with 11s. 3d. in the corresponding period of 1938, the increase between the two dates being equivalent to approximately 119 per cent. The average weekly cash earnings of the same classes of workpeople are estimated to have been approximately 126s. 6d. in the three months ended December, 1946, compared with 56s. 10d. in the three months ended December, 1938, showing an increase of approximately 123 per cent.

For the three months ended December, 1946, it is estimated that the weekly cash earnings of adult male workers in the industry averaged 134s. 8d., as compared with 62s. 0d. in the three months ended December, 1938. The value of allowances in kind, for the corresponding periods, 5s. 1d. in 1946 and 2s. 1d. in 1938, is not included in the figures.

The average level of weekly earnings given above has been calculated by reference to the total number of wage-earners whether they were actually at work or not. In consequence, the average rate of weekly earnings disclosed is substantially lower than it would be if wage-earners who are absent for a complete week were excluded from the calculation. Before any detailed comparison could properly be made between average weekly earnings in the coalmining industry and those in any other industry, it would be necessary to make adjustments to take account of the relative level of absenteeism in the two industries and also of such factors as the value of allowances in kind and variations in the amount of overtime worked. As average weekly earnings for other industries are calculated by reference to the number of wage-earners actually at work in a given week, a more comparable figure for the coalmining industry than that given above would be one calculated by reference to effective wage-earners only, i.e., a figure obtained by multiplying average earnings per shift by the average number of shifts worked by those who worked at least one shift in the week concerned.

For the reasons already explained, no close comparison of weekly cash earnings in the coalmining industry with those in other industries is possible without taking account of various factors about which insufficient evidence is at present available. Nevertheless, an estimate adjusted in the manner discussed above would be much more illuminating than one made on the assumptions adopted hitherto. A calculation made on this revised basis shows that the average weekly cash earnings of adult male workers in the coalmining industry effectively employed during the last week in October, 1946, amounted to 144s. 8d. (as compared with 134s. 8d. the figure for the three months ended December, 1946, obtained by the earlier method of estimation). In neither of these estimates is any account taken of the money value of allowances in kind.

Railway Service.

In the railway service, statistics showing the average earnings of the wage earners employed in one week of March, 1946, by the railway companies in Great Britain and by the London Passenger Transport Board, have been included in a Return prepared by the Ministry of Transport and published by H.M. Stationery Office. The average earnings of men, youths and boys, women and girls are shown in an article on page 119 of this issue of the GAZETTE, together with corresponding averages, so far as available, for one week in March, 1945, and March, 1939. It will be seen that the average earnings in March, 1946, were 121s. 6d. for men, 45s. 9d. for youths and boys, 88s. 4d. for women, and 47s. 10d. for girls. These figures showed increases as compared with the corresponding averages for March, 1939, of 77 per cent. for men and 59 per cent. for youths and boys. It should be noted that in March, 1946, and March, 1945, considerable numbers of the male juniors in the higher age groups were employed in adult positions and were accordingly included in the returns as men. The number of women and girls employed in March, 1939, was insufficient to provide a satisfactory basis for averages comparable with those for March, 1946.

Dock Labour.

The figures relating to dock, harbour, canal, etc., service, given on pages 111 to 115, cover only the wage-earners in the regular employment of the authorities and firms concerned, excluding dock labourers on daily or half-daily engagements. At nearly all ports throughout Great Britain, dock labour schemes are now in operation establishing reserve pools of labour from which employers must engage any port transport workers whom they require for work by the day or half-day. Statistics compiled by the National Dock Labour Corporation and, as regards certain ports, the Ministry of Transport (by whom these schemes are controlled) show that in the last pay-week in October, 1946, the earnings of all classes of dock labourers, covered by these schemes and on the pay-rolls during that week, averaged 141s. 3d., inclusive of wages, attendance money and guarantee payments, and payments for annual holidays. In the three months October-December, 1946, the average earnings were 143s. 0d. a week. Comparable figures are not available for any pre-war date, but in the corresponding three months of the years 1942 to 1945 the average weekly earnings were 127s. 7d. in 1942, 150s. 10d. in 1943, 158s. 11d. in 1944, and 131s. 6d. in 1945. The average of 131s. 6d. for the last quarter of 1945 was affected by a wide-spread strike of dockers during the first five weeks of the quarter. The average earnings for the remaining eight weeks of the quarter were 138s. 6d.

TABLE I.—NUMBERS OF WAGE-EARNERS COVERED BY THE RETURNS RECEIVED, AND AVERAGE EARNINGS IN THE LAST PAY-WEEK IN OCTOBER, 1946.

(NOTE.—In view of the wide variations, as between different industries, in the proportions of skilled and unskilled workers, and in the opportunities for extra earnings from overtime, night-work and increased output by pieceworkers, the differences in average earnings shown in this Table should not be taken as evidence of disparities in the rates of wages prevailing in different industries for comparable classes of workpeople employed under similar conditions. In particular, the figures representing the average earnings of "All Workers" in the different industries are, of course, affected by the variations in the proportions of men, women and juveniles employed.)

Industry.	Numbers of wage-earners covered by the returns.					Average earnings* in the last pay-week in October, 1946.					
	Men (21 & over).	Youths and boys.	Women (18 & over)†.	Girls.	All workers.†	Men (21 & over).	Youths and boys.	Women (18 & over).		Girls.	All workers.†
								Exclud- ing part- time workers.‡	Counting two part- timers as one full- timer.†		
						s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
IRON, STONE, ETC., MINING AND QUARRYING :—											
Iron Ore and Ironstone Mining, etc.	5,039	297	71	2	5,409	118 10	59 6	—	—	—	114 8
Stone Quarrying and Mining	14,687	899	43	7	15,636	111 7	54 11	—	—	—	108 2
Clay, Sand, Gravel and Chalk Pits	6,776	390	53	6	7,225	111 2	57 10	—	—	—	107 10
Other Mining and Quarrying	7,855	607	726	390	9,578	113 5	55 11	63 11	63 11	39 0	103 0
TREATMENT OF NON-METALLIFEROUS MINING PRODUCTS :—											
Coke-Ovens and By-product Works	11,533	563	37	8	12,141	124 0	55 10	—	—	—	120 6
Cement	8,077	376	286	47	8,786	131 8	57 7	61 0	60 0	—	125 9
Limekilns and Whiting	5,032	310	91	13	5,446	119 8	69 0	—	—	—	115 8
Cast Stone and Cast Concrete Products Manufacture	9,118	1,053	202	17	10,390	117 10	54 0	68 5	69 0	—	110 4
Other Non-Metalliferous Mine and Quarry Products	8,517	498	1,461	134	10,610	124 5	62 3	68 3	68 3	—	112 9
BRICK, POTTERY AND GLASS INDUSTRIES :—											
Brick, Tile, Pipe, etc.	33,388	4,299	2,759	455	40,917	120 9	56 11	66 6	66 6	45 0	109 6
Pottery, Earthenware, etc.	13,042	1,983	13,341	3,175	33,437	110 6	41 8	54 0	54 3	34 1	74 6
Glass and Glass Bottle, Jars, etc., Manufacture	26,336	3,732	6,861	1,213	38,151	124 6	53 5	63 9	64 1	33 1	103 10
CHEMICAL, PAINT, OIL, ETC., INDUSTRIES :—											
Chemicals and Explosives	87,916	5,001	28,624	5,552	127,488	122 3	49 8	65 3	65 4	37 1	102 10
Paint, Varnish, Red Lead, etc.	11,912	860	3,043	485	16,300	112 3	43 8	60 1	60 11	33 11	96 9
Oil, Glue, Soap, Ink, Matches, etc.	32,369	2,286	9,701	3,007	47,363	116 7	45 7	61 0	61 3	41 0	97 1
METAL, ENGINEERING AND SHIP-BUILDING INDUSTRIES :—											
Pig-Iron Manufacture (Blast Furnaces)	15,409	557	181	5	16,152	135 8	58 8	—	—	—	132 5
Iron Puddling, Steel Smelting, Rolling, Forging, etc.	137,130	10,712	5,978	334	154,154	141 2	59 0	68 7	68 11	35 8	132 5
Non-Ferrous Metal Manufacture	58,578	2,456	9,442	774	71,250	135 0	52 2	77 2	77 2	41 9	123 5
Tin Plate and Sheet Manufacture	8,923	1,378	1,082	400	11,783	138 9	56 8	59 3	59 3	40 10	118 6
Iron and Steel Tube Manufacture	22,341	1,533	2,557	214	26,645	132 1	51 7	73 11	73 8	45 3	121 2
Wire, Wire Netting, Wire Ropes, etc., Engineering, etc.	15,722	1,289	4,120	586	21,717	125 3	45 11	61 9	62 2	38 7	106 3
General Engineering, and Engineers' Iron and Steel Founding	449,539	54,012	62,049	5,293	572,795	126 6	41 11	71 2	71 3	41 8	111 9
Electrical Engineering	75,915	13,014	32,698	2,719	124,346	129 8	40 6	71 4	71 7	39 11	103 1
Marine Engineering	39,759	7,469	735	29	47,992	121 7	46 0	73 4	73 3	—	109 0
Constructional Engineering (including Components) Manufacture and Repair	226,735	24,277	27,272	1,796	281,900	142 10	44 7	78 2	78 3	45 11	127 6
Ship Building and Repairing	145,483	20,571	1,795	223	168,072	134 8	46 0	71 5	71 3	33 3	123 0
Railway Carriage, Wagon, and Tram Building and Repairing	13,811	2,505	387	23	16,726	136 3	44 11	70 11	71 0	—	120 11
Electrical Apparatus, Cable, Lamps, etc., Manufacture	55,884	5,313	48,406	5,002	115,032	127 3	43 10	70 1	70 4	40 11	95 6
Hand Tools, Cutlery, Saws, Files, etc.	17,214	2,246	9,264	1,513	30,237	129 1	41 6	65 4	65 8	37 0	98 6
Bolts, Nuts, Screws, Rivets, Nails, etc.	11,814	1,476	9,064	994	23,348	127 5	44 10	68 6	68 9	41 9	95 9
Brass and Allied Metal Wares	9,961	1,346	4,754	706	16,841	126 8	44 10	66 11	67 11	41 7	99 11
Heating and Ventilating Engineering	8,833	1,679	525	25	11,062	131 3	54 5	68 6	68 9	—	116 5
Watches, Clocks, Plate, Jewellery, etc.	8,384	852	4,543	816	14,595	135 6	42 11	68 2	68 4	38 7	103 9
Stoves, Grates, Pipes, etc., and General Iron Founding	22,595	2,211	3,286	439	28,531	131 3	52 6	69 9	69 9	39 8	116 8
Other Metal Industries	104,635	12,445	52,299	9,708	179,922	133 2	47 3	66 8	66 11	41 2	102 8
TEXTILE INDUSTRIES :—											
Cotton	63,944	6,316	102,884	14,820	188,946	110 10	56 4	68 4	68 4	48 6	80 10
Woolen and Worsted	52,971	5,254	52,164	9,515	121,043	108 6	49 6	63 8	63 10	46 7	81 5
Silk Throwing, Spinning and Weaving (including Rayon, Nylon, etc., Weaving)	5,747	576	8,530	2,447	17,300	110 0	47 3	69 3	69 5	43 6	78 5
Rayon, Nylon, etc., Yarn Manufacture	16,273	807	6,440	1,636	25,156	121 1	46 0	65 3	65 7	40 10	99 3
Flax Spinning and Weaving	8,742	4,348	23,215	7,153	43,458	97 10	42 10	50 1	50 0	38 3	57 0
Jute Spinning and Weaving	3,595	475	5,889	805	10,764	97 1	48 10	58 11	59 1	41 6	70 0
Hemp, Rope, Cord, Twine, etc.	3,779	1,012	1,407	1,407	12,315	108 10	40 0	54 3	54 9	35 11	67 9
Hosiery	14,282	1,861	33,629	10,773	60,545	114 3	41 0	63 4	63 8	40 1	70 9
Lace	1,567	163	1,597	289	3,616	105 3	—	55 0	55 4	38 7	74 11
Carpets and Rugs	2,849	432	2,903	1,215	7,399	112 7	36 1	64 9	64 9	37 1	76 11
Other Textiles	13,691	1,740	19,221	4,920	39,572	114 5	46 5	60 4	60 6	38 7	75 10
Textile Bleaching, Printing, Dyeing, Finishing, etc.	34,187	2,907	11,646	2,389	51,129	108 10	46 3	56 6	56 8	39 5	89 6

* Where no figure is given, the number of workers covered by the returns was too small to provide a satisfactory basis for the calculation of a general average.
 † For the purpose of the figures given in this column, women employed as part-time workers (See note ‡ below) have been included on the basis of two part-time workers taken as representing one full-time worker.
 ‡ The part-time workers referred to are those who were employed for not more than 30 hours a week and had entered the employment of the firms concerned since July, 1941.
 § As some of the firms who supplied figures showing the total earnings of all the workers employed did not give separate particulars for men, boys, women and girls, this total is greater than the sum of the figures in the four preceding columns.
 ¶ The figures given for the engineering, etc., industry are based partly on returns from firms who are members of the Engineering and Allied Employers' National Federation, and partly on returns from non-federated firms. The average earnings shown by the federated firms were in general higher than those shown by the non-federated firms; for example, the average weekly earnings of "all workers" in October, 1946 (including men, boys, women and girls and counting two part-time women workers as representing one full-time worker), were 116s. 8d. for the federated firms, as compared with 111s. 10d. for the non-federated firms.

TABLE I.—NUMBERS OF WAGE-EARNERS COVERED BY THE RETURNS RECEIVED, AND AVERAGE EARNINGS IN THE LAST PAY-WEEK IN OCTOBER, 1946—continued.

Industry.	Numbers of wage-earners covered by the returns.					Average earnings* in the last pay-week in October, 1946.					
	Men (21 & over).	Youths and boys.	Women (18 & over)†.	Girls.	All workers.†	Men (21 & over).	Youths and boys.	Women (18 & over).		Girls.	All workers.†
								Exclud- ing part- time workers.‡	Counting two part- timers as one full- timer.†		
						s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
LEATHER, LEATHER GOODS AND FUR INDUSTRIES :—											
Tanning, Currying and Dressing	18,218	1,700	2,889	450	23,257	117 4	51 0	63 2	63 4	40 9	104 4
Leather Goods Manufacture	3,086	433	3,759	1,210	8,488	110 3	44 4	62 10	63 2	36 9	75 7
Fur Dressing, etc.	1,856	181	1,259	246	3,542	155 11	—	84 5	84 2	43 11	117 10
CLOTHING INDUSTRIES :—											
Tailoring :—											
Ready-made and Wholesale Bespoke	19,525	2,674	56,460	20,083	98,742	128 10	43 7	67 0	67 5	39 0	73 2
Retail Bespoke—											
Firms employing 10 or more workers	1,380	107	2,286	1,165	4,938	123 7	—	62 2	63 2	30 1	71 7
Firms employing less than 10 workers	536	21	534	215	1,306	126 5	—	61 3	62 6	29 2	82 10
All firms supplying returns	1,916	128	2,820	1,380	6,244	124 5	—	61 11	63 0	29 11	74 0
Dress Making and Millinery :—											
Firms employing 10 or more workers	1,543	166	17,787	8,854	28,387	137 6	—	70 7	71 0	37 9	64 1
Firms employing less than 10 workers	35	3	951	261	1,250	—	—	68 4	68 6	29 9	61 11
All firms supplying returns	1,578	169	18,738	9,115	29,637	137 2	—	70 5	70 10	37 6	64 0
Hats and Caps (including Straw Plait)	4,125	401	4,811	931	10,268	118 2	46 4	62 2	62 5	40 10	82 3
Shirts, Collars, Underclothing, etc.	2,664	327	23,221	8,999	35,211	112 6	41 9	60 2	60 4	37 8	58 7
Other Dress Industries	3,610	451	11,329	4,507	20,516	106 8	39 10	59 5	59 7	37 1	62 7
Boot, Shoe and Slipper Making	33,628	4,035	24,473	5,042	68,163	108 3	46 4	66 2	66 4	38 5	83 11
Foot and Shoe Repairing :—											
Firms employing 10 or more workers	4,451	908	232	232	6,813	110 0	38 7	60 5	60 8	32 4	88 0
Firms employing less than 10 workers	1,049	268	61	24	1,402	99 9	41 0	—	—	—	85 5
All firms supplying returns	5,500	969	293	256	8,215	108 1	39 0	60 0	60 4	32 2	87 7
Laundry Service	12,679	3,406	47,713	9,078	73,261	108 2	42 7	55 0	55 7	33 9	61 6
Job Dyeing, Dry Cleaning, etc.	3,797	498	6,730	1,395	12,420	110 9	47 3	58 10	59 5	34 3	71 9
FOOD, DRINK AND TOBACCO INDUSTRIES :—											
Bread, Biscuits, Cakes, etc. :—											
Firms employing 10 or more workers	43,955	6,082	18,052	4,764	72,853	114 5	42 10	59 5	60 0	33 1	89 8
Firms employing less than 10 workers	4,180	724	1,182	336	6,425	111 0	41 7	52 8	5		

TABLE II.—AVERAGE HOURS WORKED AND AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS IN THE LAST PAY-WEEK OF OCTOBER, 1946.

(NOTE.—In view of the wide variations, as between different industries, in the proportions of skilled and unskilled workers, and in the opportunities for extra earnings from overtime, night-work and increased output by pieceworkers, the differences in average earnings shown in this Table should not be taken as evidence of disparities in the rates of wages prevailing in different industries for comparable classes of workpeople employed under similar conditions. In particular, the figures representing the average earnings of "All Workers" in the different industries are, of course, affected by the variations in the proportions of men, women and juveniles employed.)

Industry.	Average number of hours worked* in the last pay-week in October, 1946, by the wage-earners covered by the returns received.					Average hourly earnings* in the last pay-week in October, 1946, of the wage-earners covered by the returns received.						
	Men (21 & over).	Youths and boys.	Women (18 & over).		Girls.	Men (21 & over).	Youths and boys.	Women (18 & over).		Girls.	All workers.†	
	Hours.	Hours.	Excluding part-time workers.†	Counting two part-timers as one full-timer.‡	Hours.	d.	d.	Excluding part-time workers.†	Counting two part-timers as one full-timer.‡	d.	d.	
IRON, STONE, ETC., MINING AND QUARRYING :—												
Iron Ore and Ironstone Mining, etc.	47.0	46.1	—	—	—	46.9	30.3	15.5	—	—	29.3	
Stone Quarrying and Mining .. .	47.4	46.0	—	—	—	47.3	28.2	14.3	—	—	27.4	
Clay, Sand, Gravel and Chalk Pits ..	49.1	46.2	—	—	—	48.8	27.2	15.0	—	—	26.5	
Other Mining and Quarrying .. .	46.8	45.0	43.7	43.7	44.3	46.3	29.1	14.9	17.6	17.6	10.6	26.7
TREATMENT OF NON-METALLIFEROUS MINING PRODUCTS :—												
Coke-Ovens and By-product Works	48.2	45.6	—	—	—	48.1	30.9	14.7	—	—	30.1	
Cement .. .	53.2	46.2	43.1	42.5	—	52.5	29.7	15.0	17.0	16.9	28.7	
Limekilns and Whiting .. .	47.4	45.3	—	—	—	47.2	30.3	18.3	—	—	29.4	
Cast Stone and Cast Concrete Products Manufacture .. .	48.5	44.3	41.7	41.8	—	48.0	29.2	14.6	19.7	19.8	—	27.6
Other Non-Metalliferous Mine and Quarry Products .. .	50.3	46.1	43.7	43.8	—	49.1	29.7	16.2	18.7	18.7	—	27.6
BRICK, POTTERY AND GLASS INDUSTRIES :—												
Brick, Tile, Pipe, etc. .. .	49.7	45.5	43.7	43.6	41.8	48.8	29.2	15.0	18.3	18.3	12.9	26.9
Pottery, Earthenware, etc. .. .	47.6	45.1	42.9	42.9	44.2	45.1	27.9	11.1	15.1	15.2	9.3	19.8
Glass and Glass Bottle, Jars, etc., Manufacture .. .	46.7	43.2	43.2	43.4	43.3	45.7	32.0	14.8	17.7	17.7	9.2	27.3
CHEMICAL, PAINT, OIL, ETC., INDUSTRIES :—												
Chemicals and Explosives .. .	48.6	44.3	42.9	43.0	42.8	46.9	30.2	13.5	18.3	18.2	10.4	26.3
Paint, Varnish, Red Lead, etc. ..	47.5	44.9	42.6	42.9	43.0	46.0	28.4	11.7	16.9	17.0	9.5	25.2
Oil, Glue, Soap, Ink, Matches, etc. .	47.8	43.6	42.5	42.6	42.3	46.2	29.3	12.5	17.2	17.3	11.6	25.2
METAL, ENGINEERING AND SHIP-BUILDING INDUSTRIES :—												
Pig-Iron Manufacture (Blast Furnaces)	49.2	46.7	—	—	—	49.1	33.1	15.1	—	—	—	32.4
Iron Puddling, Steel Smelting, Rolling, Forging, etc. .. .	49.0	45.3	41.7	42.0	42.3	48.4	34.6	15.6	19.7	19.7	10.1	32.8
Non-Ferrous Metal Manufacture ..	48.0	44.1	42.7	42.9	43.0	47.1	33.8	14.2	21.7	21.6	11.7	31.4
Tin Plate and Sheet Manufacture ..	42.9	43.1	44.3	44.2	43.5	43.1	38.8	15.8	16.0	16.1	11.3	33.0
Iron and Steel Tube Manufacture ..	48.4	44.2	43.0	43.0	42.3	47.6	32.7	14.0	20.6	20.6	12.8	30.5
Wire, Wire Netting, Wire Ropes, etc. Engineering, etc.‡	49.4	45.2	43.1	43.3	43.9	47.9	30.4	12.2	17.2	17.2	10.5	26.6
General Engineering, and Engineers' Iron and Steel Founding .. .	48.1	44.6	43.2	43.4	42.8	47.2	31.6	11.3	19.8	19.7	11.7	28.4
Electrical Engineering .. .	48.0	44.7	43.0	43.3	42.6	46.3	32.4	10.9	19.9	19.8	11.2	26.7
Marine Engineering .. .	48.3	44.9	44.1	44.2	—	47.7	30.2	12.3	20.0	19.9	—	27.4
Constructional Engineering .. .	48.6	45.0	42.7	43.1	—	48.0	32.2	11.5	20.2	20.0	—	30.0
Motor Vehicle, Cycle and Aircraft (including Components) Manufacture and Repair .. .	47.0	44.5	43.3	43.4	42.1	46.4	36.5	12.0	21.7	21.6	13.1	33.0
Ship Building and Repairing .. .	47.7	44.3	43.5	43.5	43.1	47.2	33.9	12.5	19.7	19.7	9.3	31.3
Railway Carriage, Wagon, and Tram Building and Repairing .. .	48.2	45.0	41.7	41.9	—	47.6	33.9	12.0	20.4	20.3	—	30.5
Electric Apparatus, Cable, Lamps, etc., Manufacture .. .	49.2	44.5	42.8	43.0	42.9	46.1	31.0	11.8	19.6	19.6	11.4	24.9
Hand Tools, Cutlery, Saws, Files, etc.	46.7	44.5	41.6	42.0	42.3	44.9	33.2	11.2	18.8	18.8	10.5	26.3
Bolts, Nuts, Screws, Rivets, Nails, etc.	49.1	44.3	43.7	43.6	43.5	46.4	31.1	12.1	18.8	18.9	11.5	24.8
Brass and Allied Metal Wares .. .	47.9	44.1	41.1	41.3	42.3	45.5	31.7	12.2	19.5	19.7	11.8	26.4
Heating and Ventilating Engineering	49.8	45.9	44.9	44.9	—	48.9	31.6	14.2	18.3	18.4	—	28.6
Watches, Clocks, Plate, Jewellery, etc.	46.6	43.3	42.4	42.5	42.1	44.9	34.9	11.9	19.3	19.3	11.0	27.7
Stoves, Grates, Pipes, etc., and General Iron Founding .. .	47.7	43.9	42.9	42.9	42.8	46.8	33.0	14.4	19.5	19.5	11.1	29.9
Other Metal Industries .. .	48.3	44.3	42.1	42.4	42.6	46.0	33.1	12.8	19.0	18.9	11.6	26.8
TEXTILE INDUSTRIES :—												
Cotton .. .	48.7	46.4	45.1	45.1	44.5	46.3	27.3	14.6	18.2	18.2	13.1	21.0
Woolen and Worsted .. .	47.8	44.7	43.1	43.1	43.2	45.3	27.2	13.3	17.7	17.8	12.9	21.6
Silk Throwing, Spinning and Weaving (including Rayon, Nylon, etc., Weaving) .. .	47.3	44.5	42.7	42.8	43.4	44.4	27.9	12.7	19.5	19.5	12.0	21.2
Rayon, Nylon, etc., Yarn Manufacture	48.6	43.7	43.9	44.1	42.7	46.9	29.9	12.6	17.9	17.8	11.5	25.4
Flax Spinning and Weaving .. .	49.0	47.0	45.4	45.4	45.6	46.3	24.0	10.9	13.2	13.2	10.1	14.8
Jute Spinning and Weaving .. .	49.6	46.7	45.1	45.2	43.8	46.7	23.5	12.5	15.7	15.7	11.4	18.0
Hemp, Rope, Cord, Twine, etc. .. .	50.1	44.4	43.1	43.2	44.0	45.5	26.1	10.8	15.1	15.2	9.8	17.9
Hosiery .. .	43.4	44.0	42.4	42.6	42.3	42.8	31.6	11.2	17.9	17.9	11.4	19.8
Lace .. .	45.3	—	41.3	41.7	42.5	43.4	27.9	—	16.0	15.9	—	20.7
Carpets and Rugs .. .	45.5	43.6	42.5	42.5	43.2	43.8	29.7	9.9	18.3	18.3	10.3	21.1
Other Textiles .. .	47.1	43.6	41.7	41.8	41.8	43.7	29.2	12.8	17.4	17.4	11.1	20.8
Textile Bleaching, Printing, Dyeing, Finishing, etc. .. .	49.9	45.3	42.8	42.8	43.3	47.7	26.2	12.3	15.8	15.9	10.9	22.5

* Where no figure is given, the number of workers covered by the returns was too small to provide a satisfactory basis for the calculation of a general average.
 † The part-time workers referred to are those who were employed for not more than 30 hours a week and had entered the employment of the firms concerned since July, 1941.
 ‡ In calculating the averages given in this column, women employed as part-time workers (see footnote † above) have been included on the basis of two part-time workers taken as representing one full-time worker.
 § The figures given for the engineering, etc., industry are based partly on returns from firms who are members of the Engineering and Allied Employers' National Federation, and partly on returns from non-federated firms. The average hourly earnings shown by the federated firms were in general higher than those shown by the non-federated firms; for example, the average hourly earnings of "all workers" in October, 1946 (including men, boys, women and girls and counting two part-time women as one full-time worker), were 29.7d. for the federated firms and 28.8d. for the non-federated firms.

TABLE II.—AVERAGE HOURS WORKED AND AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS IN THE LAST PAY-WEEK OF OCTOBER, 1946.

Industry.	Average number of hours worked* in the last pay-week in October, 1946, by the wage-earners covered by the returns received.					Average hourly earnings* in the last pay-week in October, 1946, of the wage-earners covered by the returns received.						
	Men (21 & over).	Youths and boys.	Women (18 & over).		Girls.	Men (21 & over).	Youths and boys.	Women (18 & over).		Girls.	All workers.†	
	Hours.	Hours.	Excluding part-time workers.†	Counting two part-timers as one full-timer.‡	Hours.	d.	d.	Excluding part-time workers.†	Counting two part-timers as one full-timer.‡	d.	d.	
LEATHER, LEATHER GOODS AND FUR INDUSTRIES :—												
Tanning, Currying and Dressing ..	47.6	44.9	43.0	43.1	44.2	46.8	29.6	13.6	17.6	17.6	11.1	26.8
Leather Goods Manufacture .. .	47.0	44.8	42.4	42.5	43.4	44.4	28.1	11.9	17.8	17.8	10.2	20.4
Fur Dressing, etc. .. .	46.4	—	42.3	42.4	42.2	44.5	40.3	—	23.9	23.8	12.5	31.8
CLOTHING INDUSTRIES :—												
Tailoring :												
Ready-made and Wholesale Bespoke	43.3	41.9	40.4	40.6	41.4	41.3	35.7	12.5	19.9	19.9	11.3	21.3
Retail Bespoke :												
Firms employing 10 or more workers .. .	44.9	—	42.1	42.2	42.6	43.0	33.0	—	17.7	18.0	8.5	20.0
Firms employing less than 10 workers .. .	44.1	—	41.4	41.6	42.3	42.7	34.4	—	17.8	18.0	8.3	23.3
All firms supplying returns .. .	44.7	—	42.0	42.1	42.5	43.0	33.4	—	17.7	18.0	8.4	20.7
Dress Making and Millinery :												
Firms employing 10 or more workers	43.7	—	40.7	40.9	41.2	41.2	37.8	—	20.8	20.8	11.0	18.7
Firms employing less than 10 workers	43.7	—	40.1	40.2	41.7	40.5	—	—	20.4	20.4	8.6	18.3
All firms supplying returns .. .	43.7	—	40.7	40.9	41.2	41.2	37.7	—	20.8	20.8	10.9	18.7
Hats and Caps (including Straw Plait)	41.2	42.4	38.7	38.8	40.9	40.1	34.4	—	19.3	19.3	12.0	24.6
Shirts, Collars, Underclothing, etc. .	44.1	43.1	40.7	40.8	41.6	41.3	30.6	11.6	17.7	17.7	10.7	17.0
Other Dress Industries .. .	44.7	43.3	40.3	40.5	41.5	41.5	28.6	11.0	17.7	17.7	10.7	18.1
Boot, Shoe and Slipper Making .. .	43.9	43.2	41.3	41.4	43.2	42.9	29.6	12.9	19.2	19.2	10.7	23.5
Boot and Shoe Repairing :												
Firms employing 10 or more workers	45.9	45.3	43.5	43.5	42.0	45.4	28.8	10.2	16.7	16.7	9.2	23.3
Firms employing less than 10 workers	47.4	44.7	—	—	—	46.3	25.3	11.0	17.0	16.7	9.2	23.1
All firms supplying returns .. .	46.2	45.2	43.1	43.1	41.8	45.5	28.1	10.4	16.7	16.8	9.2	23.1
Laundry Service .. .	46.9	44.1	41.4	41.6	41.7	42.6	27.7	11.6	15.9	16.0	9.7	17.3
Job Dyeing, Dry Cleaning, etc. ..	46.7	44.9	41.2	41.8	41.7	43.4	28.5	12.6	17.1	17.1	9.9	19.8
FOOD, DRINK AND TOBACCO INDUSTRIES :—												
Bread, Biscuits, Cakes, etc. :												
Firms employing 10 or more workers	49.0	44.3	43.8	44.0	43.0	46.9	28.0	11.6	16.3	16.4	9.2	22.9
Firms employing less than 10 workers	49.6	43.8	42.2	42.4	41.2	47.2	26.9	11.4	15.0	15.3	9.2	22.5
All firms supplying returns .. .	49.1	44.3	43.7	43.9	42.9	47.0	27.9	11.6	16.2	16.3	9.2	22.9
Grain Milling .. .	47.5	44.2	41.4	41.5	41.5	46.4	29.0	14.6	16.5	16.6	11.9	26.5
Cocoa, Chocolate and Sugar Confectionery .. .	47.3	44.3	43.7	43.8	43.1	45.0	29.9	11.2	17.7	17.8	10.0	20.9
Other Food Industries .. .	49.4	44.9	42.9	43.1	42.7	46.7	28.0	13.1	16.9			

TABLE III.—AVERAGE PERCENTAGE INCREASES IN WEEKLY AND HOURLY EARNINGS BETWEEN OCTOBER, 1938, AND OCTOBER, 1946.

Industry.	Average percentage increase* in WEEKLY earnings in the last pay-week in October, 1946, as compared with the last pay-week in October, 1938.					Average percentage increase* in HOURLY earnings in the last pay-week in October, 1946, as compared with the last pay-week in October, 1938.				
	Men.	Youths and boys.	Women.		All workers.†	Men.	Youths and boys.	Women.		All workers.†
			Excluding part-time workers.‡	Counting two part-timers as one full-timer.‡				Excluding part-time workers.‡	Counting two part-timers as one full-timer.‡	
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
IRON, STONE, ETC., MINING AND QUARRYING :—										
Iron Ore and Ironstone Mining, etc.	84	72	—	—	86	61	52	—	—	63
Stone Quarrying and Mining ..	83	106	—	—	89	78	107	—	—	83
Clay, Sand, Gravel and Chalk Pits ..	96	80	—	—	93	92	—	—	—	96
Other Mining and Quarrying ..	90	82	—	—	88	87	85	—	—	86
TREATMENT OF NON-METALLIFEROUS MINING PRODUCTS :—										
Coke-Ovens and By-product Works	75	64	—	—	77	83	74	—	—	85
Cement ..	83	72	—	—	86	78	80	—	—	81
Limekilns and Whiting ..	116	117	—	—	119	114	123	—	—	117
Cast Stone and Cast Concrete Products Manufacture ..	88	83	—	—	99	90	93	—	—	101
Other Non-Metalliferous Mine and Quarry Products ..	93	104	128	128	96	88	111	137	136	93
BRICK, POTTERY AND GLASS INDUSTRIES :—										
Brick, Tile, Pipe, etc. ..	96	95	133	133	151	107	98	101	134	135
Pottery, Earthenware, etc. ..	81	81	94	95	135	102	75	81	91	92
Glass and Glass Bottle, Jars, etc., Manufacture ..	81	92	135	137	106	94	82	96	139	139
CHEMICAL, PAINT, OIL, ETC., INDUSTRIES :—										
Chemicals and Explosives ..	77	72	100	101	105	92	77	82	108	108
Paint, Varnish, Red Lead, etc. ..	73	57	99	102	94	79	76	63	109	110
Oil, Glue, Soap, Ink, Matches, etc. .	67	56	84	85	120	68	67	66	85	85
METAL, ENGINEERING AND SHIP-BUILDING INDUSTRIES :—										
Pig-Iron Manufacture (Blast Furnaces)	64	76	—	—	66	61	74	—	—	62
Iron Puddling, Steel Smelting, Rolling, Forging, etc. ..	77	91	—	—	81	67	79	—	—	71
Non-Ferrous Metal Manufacture ..	89	72	144	144	90	96	81	146	145	95
Tin Plate and Sheet Manufacture ..	65	127	70	70	66	53	81	56	56	54
Iron and Steel Tube Manufacture ..	86	80	151	150	91	82	85	161	160	89
Wire, Wire Netting, Wire Ropes, etc. Engineering, etc.‡	83	80	111	113	112	92	82	123	124	122
General Engineering, and Engineers' Iron and Steel Founding ..	72	72	122	122	114	85	75	78	125	124
Electrical Engineering ..	89	64	120	121	106	103	79	70	129	119
Marine Engineering ..	74	64	120	121	106	103	79	70	129	119
Constructional Engineering ..	62	150	—	—	77	68	160	—	—	82
Motor Vehicle, Cycle and Aircraft (including Components) Manufacture and Repair ..	81	76	—	—	93	86	85	—	—	98
Ship Building and Repairing ..	72	58	95	95	73	80	76	63	90	77
Railway Carriage, Wagon, and Tram Building and Repairing ..	92	122	—	—	105	81	125	—	—	95
Electric Apparatus, Cable, Lamps, etc., Manufacture ..	90	87	—	—	95	90	91	—	—	96
Hand Tools, Cutlery, Saws, Files, etc. Bolts, Nuts, Screws, Rivets, Nails, etc.	89	75	134	135	141	118	88	80	146	145
Bolts, Nuts, Screws, Rivets, Nails, etc.	98	86	130	130	128	126	94	89	141	142
Heating and Ventilating Engineering	84	71	119	123	123	103	87	81	140	142
Watches, Clocks, Plate, Jewellery, etc.	72	106	—	—	72	72	108	—	—	72
Stoves, Grates, Pipes, etc., and General Iron Founding ..	91	68	122	123	118	116	98	82	136	136
Other Metal Industries ..	88	76	120	120	52	97	77	76	120	59
	90	81	112	112	117	113	89	89	121	120
TEXTILE INDUSTRIES :—										
Cotton ..	118	156	118	118	145	127	112	144	117	151
Woolen and Worsted ..	89	101	104	104	115	109	90	109	105	106
Silk Throwing, Spinning and Weaving (including Rayon, Nylon, etc., Weaving) ..	77	103	123	124	139	102	79	84	122	145
Rayon, Nylon, etc., Yarn Manufacture	64	64	132	132	120	90	58	72	114	113
Flax Spinning and Weaving†	104	113	88	88	117	95	97	112	86	86
Jute Spinning and Weaving ..	90	103	73	74	99	92	89	106	80	80
Hemp, Rope, Cord, Twine, etc. ..	93	111	95	97	97	117	92	123	108	109
Hosiery ..	45	50	72	73	98	75	64	63	83	83
Lace ..	74	—	83	84	120	88	64	—	86	85
Carpets and Rugs ..	85	49	78	78	91	98	95	60	93	106
Other Textiles ..	92	83	97	97	118	119	98	100	109	138
Textile Bleaching, Printing, Dyeing, Finishing, etc. ..	90	75	97	98	114	97	80	76	92	93
LEATHER, LEATHER GOODS AND FUR INDUSTRIES :—										
Tanning, Currying and Dressing ..	87	93	110	111	113	94	86	101	112	118
Leather Goods Manufacture ..	79	103	103	104	124	117	83	112	122	142
Fur Dressing, etc. ..	87	—	83	83	104	111	94	—	98	97

* Where no figure is given, the number of workers covered by the returns received either in October, 1938, or October, 1946, was too small to furnish a satisfactory basis for the calculation of the average percentage increase in earnings.
 † The part-time workers referred to are those who were employed for not more than 30 hours a week and had entered the employment of the firms concerned since July, 1941.
 ‡ In calculating the averages given in this column, women employed as part-time workers (see footnote † above) have been included on the basis of two part-time workers taken as representing one full-time worker.
 § For the engineering industry, most of the returns used in 1938, related to a week in July.
 ¶ The average earnings in the cotton industry in October, 1938, were adversely affected by trade depression.
 ¶¶ Many of the principal firms in the linen industry in Northern Ireland did not supply information for October, 1938, and enquiries were sent to these firms in October, 1946, in addition to those who had furnished returns. Consequently the number of returns received in October, 1946, was much greater than in October, 1938. The percentages of increase since October, 1938, have been calculated from the data supplied by firms who furnished returns for both dates.

TABLE III.—AVERAGE PERCENTAGE INCREASES IN WEEKLY AND HOURLY EARNINGS BETWEEN OCTOBER, 1938, AND OCTOBER, 1946—continued.

Industry.	Average percentage increase* in WEEKLY earnings in the last pay-week in October, 1946, as compared with the last pay-week in October, 1938.					Average percentage increase* in HOURLY earnings in the last pay-week in October, 1946, as compared with the last pay-week in October, 1938.				
	Men.	Youths and boys.	Women.		All workers.†	Men.	Youths and boys.	Women.		All workers.†
			Excluding part-time workers.‡	Counting two part-timers as one full-timer.‡				Excluding part-time workers.‡	Counting two part-timers as one full-timer.‡	
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
CLOTHING INDUSTRIES :—										
Tailoring :										
Ready-made and Wholesale Bespoke	87	79	103	104	124	113	97	94	106	106
Retail Bespoke—										
Firms employing 10 or more workers	68	—	61	64	80	60	67	—	70	73
Firms employing less than 10 workers	106	—	80	84	—	92	96	—	76	79
All firms supplying returns ..	77	—	64	67	80	66	74	—	71	73
Dress Making and Millinery :										
Firms employing 10 or more workers	101	—	98	99	117	97	114	—	106	106
Firms employing less than 10 workers	103	—	92	93	72	114	—	103	103	77
All firms supplying returns ..	103	—	97	99	116	97	114	—	105	105
Hats and Caps (including Straw Plait)	80	82	93	94	118	107	86	89	93	93
Shirts, Collars, Underclothing, etc. .	70	72	88	88	117	95	77	82	95	95
Other Dress Industries ..	70	69	79	79	114	94	71	77	88	88
Boot, Shoe and Slipper Making ..	68	83	73	73	105	85	66	88	81	107
Boot and Shoe Repairing :										
Firms employing 10 or more workers	69	55	84	85	102	62	68	60	89	90
Firms employing less than 10 workers	67	63	—	—	—	64	58	70	—	60
All firms supplying returns ..	70	56	85	86	101	63	67	61	91	92
Laundry Service ..	79	84	97	99	90	110	84	93	85	86
Job Dyeing, Dry Cleaning, etc. ..	82	85	90	92	112	103	77	92	101	100
FOOD, DRINK AND TOBACCO INDUSTRIES :—										
Bread, Biscuits, Cakes, etc. :										
Firms employing 10 or more workers	76	78	81	82	88	97	78	92	95	96
Firms employing less than 10 workers	88	93	86	90	—	87	90	105	106	110
All firms supplying returns ..	77	80	80	82	88	96	79	93	94	96
Grain Milling ..	81	53	92	93	163	78	76	59	100	101
Cocoa, Chocolate and Sugar Confectionery ..	58	34	87	89	86	98	64	42	100	102
Other Food Industries ..	78	54	96	97	114	92	81	64	106	107
Drink Industries ..	67	67	97	99	80	74	70	77	98	99
Tobacco, Cigars, Cigarettes, etc. ..	40	13	56	57	66	57	42	18	60	60
WOODWORKING :—										
Sawmilling and Machined Woodwork	71	96	96	96	123	79	74	103	101	144
Wood Box and Packing Case M'f're	67	88	99	99	120	91	75	97	114	114
Cabinet Making, Furniture Making, Upholstery, etc. :										
Firms employing 10 or more workers	87	68	98	99	99	100	100	82	113	113
Firms employing less than 10 workers	78	92	—	—	—	84	77	103	—	—
All firms supplying returns ..	87	69	98	99	99	100	100	82	113	113
Carriage, Cart, etc., Building ..	86	74	132	134	133	93	84	72	122	120
Other Woodworking ..	77	102	130	132	147	96	83	113	145	146
PAPER, PRINTING, ETC., INDUSTRIES :—										
Paper and Paper Board Manufacture	86	71	100	101	101	96	85	81	102	101
Cardboard Box, Paper Bag and Stationery Manufacture ..	59	54	80	80	111	90	65	61	85	86
Wallpaper Manufacture ..	76	—	110	111	—	110	101	—	139	139
Stationery and Typewriting Requisites (not paper) ..	52	106	91	92	117	89	54	113	101	125
Printing, Publishing and Bookbinding	41	50	70	71	91	57	41	51	76	76
BUILDING, CONTRACTING, ETC. :—										
Building, Decorating, etc.‡ ..	63	102	—	—	—	65	68	110	—	—
Civil Engineering Construction, etc. §	86	76	—	—	—	85	81	89	—	—
Electrical Wiring and Contracting ..	60	70	—	—	—	69	61	71	—	—
MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES :—										
Rubber (excluding rubber garments)	91									

RECENT COLLECTIVE AGREEMENTS.

SHORT-TIME AGREEMENT FOR THE FURNITURE MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY.

The following are the terms of an agreement made on 8th March, 1947, by the British Furniture Trade Joint Industrial Council:—

In respect that the National Labour Agreement for the Furniture Manufacturing Trade dated 31st January, 1946, contains specific provisions relative to a longer working week (overtime) than the normal working week but does not contain any specific provisions relative to a shorter working week (short-time) than the normal working week, and it is desirable to make specific provisions for short-time, it is agreed:—

1. Short-time may be operated in relation to a department of factory or to a group of workers or to a whole factory.

2. Short-time shall be operated by the employer only if the majority of the workers affected, or the shop representatives of these workers agree. A short-time agreement between an employer and his workers affected, or their shop representatives (which may be either written or verbal) shall fix the number of hours per week to be worked.

3. Short-time shall not commence until after the same notice has been given by the employer (on or after the date when agreement is reached) as is provided in paragraph 21 of the National Labour Agreement for termination of employment.

4. No variation of a short-time agreement shall be made by the employer otherwise than by agreement with the majority of the workers affected, or their shop representatives, except that the employer may terminate short-time and restore the normal working week at any time subject to his giving notice of termination of short-time not later than 11 a.m. on the previous day.

5. So long as short-time is in operation the provisions* of the National Labour Agreement relating to the normal working week shall (as regards the workers affected) apply to the short-time week in the same manner and to the same effect as if the short-time working week were the normal working week and as if the short-time starting and stopping times were the normal starting and stopping times.

6. So long as short-time is in operation the employer shall keep a notice to the effect posted up where it is accessible to all the workers affected and shall remove such notice on termination of the short-time.

7. It shall not be competent for workers affected or their shop representatives to stipulate for the termination or for the non-termination by the employer of the employment of any individual worker or of any group or class of workers as a condition of agreeing to short-time being operated.

8. This Agreement, which may be referred to as Appendix V of the National Labour Agreement, shall come into force forthwith and shall continue to be operative—

(a) until terminated by either the British Furniture Trade Confederation (Employers' Side) or the National Federation of Furniture Trade Unions (Workers' Side) giving notice of termination to the other; or

(b) until terminated by the British Furniture Trade Joint Industrial Council.

ADJUSTMENT OF WAGES BY COST-OF-LIVING SLIDING SCALES.

In a number of industries (a list of which is given below) collective agreements between organisations of employers and workpeople are in operation providing for the automatic adjustment of wage rates, on a pre-arranged basis, in accordance with the changes in the average level of working-class cost of living, as indicated by the official index figures which are regularly published in the monthly issues of this GAZETTE.

This method of regulating wages was first introduced in certain industries towards the end of the 1914-1918 war, and was gradually extended to a number of other industries and services until the total number of workpeople covered by such arrangements had risen, by the year 1922, to about 3 million. In some industries and services these arrangements were subsequently suspended or abandoned, and by 1939 the number of workpeople covered had fallen to about 1½ million. During the war there was a further extension of such agreements to some other important industries, including coal mining, pig-iron manufacture, iron and steel manufacture, cotton spinning and weaving, pottery manufacture and the tobacco industry; and although in some industries and services (e.g., railway service, electrical cable manufacture, and the non-trading services of some local authorities) sliding scales which were in operation at the beginning of the war were suspended or abandoned, the number of workpeople covered had risen by June, 1944, to about 2½ million.†

* The National Labour Agreement provides that the normal working week may be spread over 5 or 5½ days at the discretion of the individual employer, and that the starting and stopping times of work are to be fixed by mutual agreement between the employer and the majority of his workers.

† See the article in the issue of this GAZETTE for June, 1944 (page 94). This article also gives an account of the general structure of the scales then in operation.

Since the end of the war, the scales in some important industries (cotton, wool, textile bleaching, dyeing and finishing) have been abandoned, and comparatively few new scales have been introduced. It is estimated that the total number of employees whose wage rates are now subject to periodical adjustments under arrangements of this kind is nearly 2½ million, i.e., about the same as in June, 1944. Although some important scales have been abandoned since 1944, the numbers employed have increased in some of the industries in which sliding scales are still operative, particularly in the building industry.

In considering the influence of these scales on the general course of wage rates, it should be observed that, both during and after the war, increases in wage rates in the industries in which these arrangements are in operation have not been restricted to those taking effect under the cost-of-living sliding-scale agreements, the great majority of the 2½ million workers concerned having received additional increases in wage rates, or war bonuses, either by direct agreement between the employers' and workers' organisations or by arbitrators' awards. In some of the industries the terms of the sliding-scale agreements have been altered so as to provide for an immediate increase in the cost-of-living wage, additional to the amount warranted by movements in the cost-of-living index figure.

The industries and services in which cost-of-living sliding-scale arrangements are known to be in operation at the present time are specified below:—

Mining and Quarrying:—

Coal Mining (Great Britain)
Coke and By-Products Manufacture (principal districts)
Iron Mining (principal districts in England)
Shale Mining and Oil Works (Scotland)
Fireclay Mining (Yorkshire)
Limestone Quarrying (West Cumberland, South and West Durham, Northamptonshire and Portland)

Glass Industries:—

Flint Glass Making and Cutting (Stourbridge and other districts)
Pressed Glass Manufacture (Gateshead and Sunderland)
Plate and Sheet Glass Manufacture (St. Helens and Doncaster)
Glass Processing (Great Britain)

Iron and Steel and Other Metal Industries:—

Pig Iron Manufacture (principal districts in Great Britain)
Iron Puddling, Steel Smelting, Rolling and Forging (principal districts in Great Britain)
Tinplate Manufacture (South Wales and Mon.)
Iron and Steel Wire Manufacture (Great Britain)
Wire Rope Manufacture (Great Britain)
Wireworking (Scotland)
Chain and Anchor Making (Cradley Heath, etc.)
Chain Making (Great Britain)*
Metallic Bedstead Making (Midlands)
Metal Pen Making (Birmingham)
Lock, Latch and Key Making (England)
Bobbin Making (England and Wales)
Shuttlemaking (Lancashire and Yorkshire)
Card Clothing Manufacture (Lancashire and Yorkshire)
Tube Manufacture (Landore and Newport, Mon.)
Shoe Rivet Manufacture (England)

Textile Industries:—

Wool Textile Industry (Leicester and West of England)
Hosiery Manufacture (England)
Hosiery Manufacture (Hawick)
Lace Curtain Manufacture (Notts. and Scotland)
Pressed Felt Manufacture (Rossendale Valley)
Mechanical Cloth Manufacture (Bury)
Shirtings, Costume Cloths and Other Cotton and Woollen Goods Manufacture (West of Scotland)
Asbestos Manufacture (Great Britain)
Hosiery Bleaching, Dyeing and Finishing (Midlands)
Lace Bleaching and Dyeing (Notts.)
Textile Making-up and Packing (Manchester)

Clothing Industries:—

Boot and Shoe Manufacture (Great Britain)
Industries Ancillary to Boot and Shoe Manufacture (Great Britain)†
Boot, Shoe and Slipper Making (Rossendale Valley)
Felt Hat Manufacture (Denton district and Atherstone)
Waterproof Garment Manufacture (Manchester)

Food, Drink and Tobacco Industries:—

Baking (Scotland)*
Malting (Newark and district)
Tobacco Manufacture (Great Britain)*

* In these cases the sliding-scale arrangements are embodied in Orders issued under the Wages Councils Act, providing for the minimum rates of wages to be varied in accordance with changes in the official cost-of-living index figures.
† These industries include stiffener, toe puff, cut sole, built heel and wood heel manufacture, and wood heel processing.

Woodworking:—

Furniture Manufacture (Great Britain)
Furniture Manufacture (Northern Ireland)
Bedding and Mattress Manufacture (Great Britain)
Cane, Willow and Woven Fibre Furniture Manufacture (Great Britain)
Educational and Allied Woodworking Industries (Great Britain)
Window Blind Manufacture (Great Britain)
Pianoforte Manufacture (Great Britain)
Coopering (Great Britain)
Packing Case Making (Nottingham)
Perambulator and Invalid Carriage Manufacture (Great Britain)*
Ladder, Trolley, Steps, Truck, etc., Making (England and Wales)

Building and Allied Industries:—

Building (Great Britain)
Civil Engineering Construction (Great Britain)
Electrical Contracting (England, Wales and Northern Ireland)†
Mastic Asphalt Industry (Great Britain)

Other Industries and Services:—

Electricity Supply—Technical Engineering Departments (Great Britain)
Waterworks Undertakings (South Wales and Monmouthshire)
Local Authorities' Non-Trading Services—Manual Workers (Glamorganshire and Monmouthshire)
Brush and Broom Making (United Kingdom)*
Basket Making (United Kingdom)
Hair, Bass and Fibre Working (Great Britain)*
Coffin Furniture Making (Great Britain)*
Cinematograph Film Production—Cine-technicians (Great Britain)
Wallpaper Manufacture (England)
Artificial Limb and Orthopaedic Appliance Manufacture (Great Britain)

WIRE AND WIRE ROPE INDUSTRY.

REPORT OF COURT OF INQUIRY.

A Report‡ has recently been issued by the Court of Inquiry appointed by the Minister of Labour and National Service to inquire into the causes of industrial unrest among the workers concerned likely to affect the future harmonious relations between employers and workers in the wire and wire rope industry, and to report.§

After briefly summarising the evidence given at the hearings, the Court conclude that the unrest in the industry is due to the fact that a proportion of the workpeople who are members of the National Union of General and Municipal Workers and the Transport and General Workers' Union have no representation in national negotiation of their wages and conditions of employment, which is conducted between the employers' associations and the Amalgamated Society of Wire Drawers and Kindred Workers. The Court point out that to maintain peace in the industry machinery for national negotiation must be made representative, and they conclude that a Joint Industrial Council is the solution to the difficulties. They suggest that on such a Joint Industrial Council the representation on the workpeople's side should be proportionate to membership.

CONDITIONS OF WORK IN COTTON MILLS.

REPORT ON SPACING OF MACHINERY IN WEAVING SHEDS.

The Joint Advisory Committee of the Cotton Industry, set up by the Chief Inspector of Factories to enquire into and report on practical methods of improving conditions of work in cotton mills (see the issue of this GAZETTE for December, 1944, page 195), have issued a First Report on Spacing of Machinery|| which has recently been published.

The Report states that the Joint Advisory Committee appointed a Sub-Committee to study and report on the best and most efficient arrangement of spacing machinery to ensure better and safer working conditions, including the consideration of specific standards in respect of particular machines and processes in both the spinning and manufacturing sections of the industry, and of reducing noise in cotton mills, particularly in weaving sheds. The Sub-Committee have submitted Reports containing suggestions for re-spacing in both spinning mills and weaving sheds. As, however, there are important differences in detail in the spacing problems affecting the two sides of the industry, the Joint Advisory Committee have restricted the present Report to the suggestions made in respect of weaving sheds, leaving spinning mills for separate consideration in a later Report.

* See footnote * in second column on page 116.

† In this case the sliding scale is under suspension.

‡ Cmd. 7097. H.M. Stationery Office; price 3d. net (4d. post free).

§ See the issue of this GAZETTE for March, 1947 (page 102).

|| Joint Advisory Committee of the Cotton Industry, Conditions of Work in the Cotton Trade. First Report on Spacing of Machinery. Cotton Weaving. H.M. Stationery Office; price 2d. net (3d. post free).

The Report of the Sub-Committee on weaving sheds, which is re-printed as an appendix to the Joint Advisory Committee's Report, includes a recommended schedule of spacing of looms. The Committee consider that this schedule should be regarded as the minimum standard for all new weaving sheds. They point out that, in respect of all new sheds, the Factory Inspectorate examine the building plans submitted to them by the Local Authorities, and thus have the opportunity at the planning stage of discussing with firms the matter of spacing, so that there should be no difficulty in securing a satisfactory spacing of new sheds before construction begins.

As regards existing weaving sheds, the Committee recognise that the application of the scheduled spacing presents difficulties, but they are convinced that the schedule recommended by the Sub-Committee forms a practical standard which should be a satisfactory basis for dealing with all sheds, if coupled with a procedure for granting exemptions or permitting variations in specified circumstances. The Committee group existing weaving sheds into three main categories, viz., sheds in which the spacing of machinery falls seriously below the standards proposed and which require re-spacing with all practicable expedition; sheds (constituting the great majority of such premises) which are not seriously overcrowded but in which definite improvement is required in view of the recommendations of the Sub-Committee; and sheds in which the spacing is equal to or better than the new standards, or is good although not completely in compliance with the proposed schedule, and in which immediate action is not called for in most cases.

Consideration is given in the Report to the principal difficulties which are likely to be met in carrying out the Sub-Committee's recommendations, whether arising from the physical characteristics of the general shed structure and types of looms involved, undue loss of productive capacity, or financial problems. The Committee consider that all such difficulties should be dealt with equitably and they approve, for this purpose, the recommendation of the Sub-Committee for the setting up of a Joint Appeal Committee similar in constitution to that indicated in the Cotton Weaving Agreement, 1929, in connection with the provision of runways for handling beams in weaving sheds. The following method of procedure is suggested in the Report for carrying out the recommendations.

Firms should carefully consider the standards of spacing recommended and in the first place voluntarily plan and put forward to H.M. District Inspector of Factories their proposals. If the scheme does not reach the standards as recommended, the firm should indicate in detail the reasons why they do not consider it reasonably practicable to conform. The Inspector would then, having regard to the suggestions embodied in the present Report, either accept the scheme or suggest amendments on practical lines for further consideration by the firm. In the event of agreement not being reached finally between the firm and the Inspector, the case with full particulars should be referred to a Joint Appeal Committee appointed by the Chief Inspector of Factories. This Committee would include two representatives each of the Cotton Spinners and Manufacturers' Association Ltd., the appropriate operatives' organisation or organisations, and the Factory Department of the Ministry of Labour and National Service, the Chairman being H.M. Superintending Inspector of Factories in the Division in which the mill is situated. The Committee should investigate all the circumstances of the case and notify their opinion to the firm and the Inspector of the district.

The Joint Advisory Committee anticipate that much of the recommended re-spacing will be accomplished without legal sanctions, but where firms do not respond to the voluntary method of approach, they suggest that the Minister of Labour and National Service should consider the introduction of legislation to give the necessary effect to the recommendations. This legislation would impose a statutory duty on defaulters to submit and carry out satisfactory schemes within a specified time limit, such time limit being assessed in accordance with the circumstances obtaining, and in such a way as to ensure that the worst crowded sheds were dealt with at the earliest date possible.

LABOUR REQUIREMENTS IN THE BRICK INDUSTRY.

REPORT OF TECHNICAL COMMITTEE.

The First Report* on labour requirements in the brick industry, of the Technical Committee of the National Brick Advisory Council has recently been published. This Council was set up by the Ministry of Works in 1942 in pursuance of recommendations of the Committee of the Brick Industry (the Simmonds Committee) which had been appointed by the Minister of Works and Buildings in the previous year to consider and report, *inter alia*, on the action to be taken for increased efficiency and economy in the manufacture of bricks and for ensuring the necessary supplies of bricks for both war-time and post-war probable demands.

In a preliminary discussion of labour problems in the brick industry, the Technical Committee point out that the present shortage of labour suitable for brickmaking is part of a shortage affecting industry generally which should tend to be overcome

* Labour Requirements in the Brick Industry. First Report of the Technical Committee of the National Brick Advisory Council. H.M. Stationery Office; price 4d. net (5d. post free).

as demobilisation and industrial reconversion proceed. The industry is, however, subject to the influence of other, more long-term factors, especially the shortage of juvenile labour which is anticipated in the future and which will require the employment of men on work previously carried on by boys. This substitution will increase the cost of labour in relation to other manufacturing costs, thus making expenditure on labour-saving mechanisation more worth while. It will also accentuate any difficulties which there may be in attracting adult labour to the industry.

The Committee discuss the steps by which, in spite of labour difficulties, the national demand for bricks is to be met. The employment of prisoner-of-war labour and of Service men directed to work in the industry is mentioned as a temporary expedient designed to meet the immediate emergency. A longer-term policy would be to attract recruits to the industry by improvements in working conditions, and to increase the productivity of the labour force wherever it is possible to do so by re-organisation and more extensive mechanisation, without overloading the operative. The Committee state that the main purpose of their Report is to explore the possibilities of increasing the productivity of the labour force, although questions relating to working conditions also are necessarily involved. Reference is made at this point to the work of the Committee on Amenities in the Brick Industry, whose Report was reviewed in the issue of this GAZETTE for February, 1947 (page 49).

In discussing the question of economy in the use of labour, the Committee state that the labour requirements of the 50 brickworks investigated revealed variations from works to works which were wider than they need be, and they urge that brick-makers should endeavour to reduce their requirements in terms of man-hours per thousand bricks towards a reasonable target figure, by eliminating all waste in the use of labour and by increasing efficiency generally. The Committee then review the relative advantages of various mechanical methods of clay getting and clay haulage, and make some practical recommendations.

It is recommended that manual methods of winning clay and removing overburden should be replaced by mechanical methods wherever the nature of the clay permits. There should be a substantial development of the use of the dragline excavator, and the tractor and scraper and the bulldozer should be considered for use in brickworks. New haulage systems should be designed, and, wherever possible, old ones reconstructed. Powered locomotive or other mechanical haulage methods should, wherever possible, replace hand-pushing or tramping, the use of which should not be continued unless conditions are exceptionally favourable or the distances involved very short.

In view of the importance to the future of the industry of improved working conditions and prospects in brickyards, the Committee recommend that steps should be taken, wherever necessary, to reduce the amount of heavy manual work and of work under dirty or exposed conditions and to increase the proportion of skilled workers to unskilled and thereby to improve the chances of promotion in the industry. It is suggested, as a first step, that schemes for mechanisation or reorganisation of brickworks should be specially considered in respect of their probable effect upon working conditions, and that priority should be given, so far as possible, to schemes that are likely to be most beneficial in this direction.

In order that the extensive mechanisation of brickyards contemplated in the Report should become effective within a reasonable time, the Committee emphasise the need for an early supply of the necessary plant. They therefore recommend that the Ministry of Works should arrange for priority to be given to orders for excavating, conveying and brickmaking plant and assist the manufacturers to obtain all necessary labour and raw materials, and should consider whether the manufacturing capacity and facilities available for producing the plant are adequate.

Finally, the Committee estimate approximately the saving of man-power in the brickmaking industry which might be achieved by applying their recommendations. In certain sections of the industry, amounting to about 83 per cent. of the whole on the basis of pre-war production, they calculate that it should be possible, by carrying out specified reforms and assuming the same working hours and effort on the part of the workers as before the war, to produce the pre-war output with a labour force smaller by a figure lying between 6,000 and 15,000 than the pre-war number. They further anticipate that, if the additional plant and facilities required for increasing manufacturing capacity are available, it should be possible for the industry in the course of time to improve considerably on its pre-war output without raising its labour force above the pre-war level.

Reference is made in the Report to a series of papers on various aspects of the making and use of bricks which is being prepared by the British Refractories Research Association, the Building Research Station and the Fuel Research Station. The Committee state that they intend to submit all these papers as soon as possible, and, in view of the present urgency of the problem of man-power for brickmaking, have put forward two for immediate submission to the Minister of Works. The subject of the first of these papers, which have now been published,* is the getting of clay for the manufacture of common bricks, with special reference to labour requirements, and of the second the labour involved in the making and firing of common bricks, with a summary of the total labour requirements of brickmaking.

* Brickmaking. Paper One: The Getting of Clay. Paper Two: Labour Requirements. H.M. Stationery Office; price 9d. and 1s. net, respectively (10d. and 1s. 2d. post free).

IRON FOUNDRIES.

RECRUITMENT OF ITALIAN WORKERS.

An article was published in the issue of this GAZETTE for October, 1946 (page 281), dealing with the recruitment of Italian labour for temporary employment in British iron foundries. The first party of Italian workers arrived in London on 16th April.

The article stated that, in view of the acute shortage of experienced British labour for iron foundries and the need for expanding production in this industry, it had been agreed between the employers' and workers' organisations concerned that a limited number of Italians might be brought in for employment in the industry on certain specified conditions. Among other things, it was stipulated that they should not be employed where suitable British labour was available, that they should be repatriated as soon as British labour became available, that while employed here they should be paid not less than the recognised trade union rates of wages and should become temporary members of the appropriate trade union, and that they should not be employed in any foundry without the consent both of the employers and of the workpeople directly concerned.

The selection of the Italians to come to Britain under the scheme has been carried out in Italy by representatives of the British Government in conjunction with the Employment Service of the Italian Government, and arrangements have been made in this country for the allocation of the workers as they arrive to known vacancies in regard to which the stipulated conditions for their employment have already been agreed.

As stated above, the first party of Italian workers arrived on 16th April, and further parties are following as transport, reception and placing arrangements permit.

DURATION OF UNEMPLOYMENT AND TURNOVER AMONG THE UNEMPLOYED.

In the issues of this GAZETTE for July, 1946 (page 182) October, 1946 (page 271), and January, 1947 (page 8), analyses were given of the numbers of insured persons registered as wholly unemployed at 17th June, 16th September and 9th December, 1946, according to age and duration of the last spell of unemployment (the age analysis was obtained in fuller detail in June and December than in September). Information in similar detail to that obtained in September has been compiled in respect of 10th March, 1947, and the figures* are given in the following Table, with comparative total figures for 9th December, 1946:—

Duration of Unemployment in weeks.	Numbers wholly unemployed at 10th March, 1947.					Total Numbers wholly unemployed at 9th December, 1946.
	Aged 14 and 15.	Aged 16 and 17.	Aged 18 and under 21.	Aged 21 and under 60/65†.	Total.	
Males.						
4 or less	2,671	4,938	3,999	96,494	108,102	83,197
Over 4 and up to 6	384	1,103	1,524	36,689	39,700	23,938
" 6 " " 8	181	563	901	24,438	26,083	18,065
" 8 " " 13	221	589	1,262	41,680	43,752	32,355
" 13 " " 26	98	476	1,214	48,597	50,385	39,272
" 26 " " 39	39	111	412	23,403	23,965	23,328
" 39 " " 52	15	37	201	16,252	16,505	17,357
Over 52	23	32	207	33,611	33,873	25,016
Total	3,632	7,849	9,720	321,164	342,365	262,528
Females.						
4 or less	1,980	2,927	4,461	26,697	36,065	33,080
Over 4 and up to 6	265	501	1,108	8,219	10,093	8,838
" 6 " " 8	165	317	774	6,574	7,830	6,529
" 8 " " 13	178	370	1,064	11,929	13,541	12,775
" 13 " " 26	110	316	1,030	17,214	18,670	14,518
" 26 " " 39	40	61	245	6,872	7,218	5,767
" 39 " " 52	18	8	79	2,833	2,938	2,883
Over 52	10	10	75	4,063	4,158	3,470
Total	2,766	4,510	8,836	84,401	100,513	87,860
Total.						
4 or less	4,651	7,865	8,460	123,191	144,167	116,277
Over 4 and up to 6	649	1,604	2,632	44,908	49,793	32,776
" 6 " " 8	346	880	1,675	31,012	33,913	24,594
" 8 " " 13	399	959	2,326	53,609	57,293	45,130
" 13 " " 26	208	792	2,244	65,811	69,555	53,790
" 26 " " 39	79	172	657	30,275	31,183	29,095
" 39 " " 52	33	45	280	19,085	19,443	20,240
Over 52	33	42	282	37,674	38,031	28,486
Total	6,398	12,359	18,556	405,565	442,878	350,388

Comparison of the last two columns in the Table shows that the number of wholly unemployed males was about 80,000 greater at 10th March than at 9th December. This was mainly due to the fuel and other difficulties through which industry had passed during the period immediately preceding 10th March, as is shown by the fact that the greater part of the increase occurred in the number who had been unemployed for not more than 13 weeks. There was also some increase in the numbers

* The figures exclude casuals, persons temporarily stopped, persons insured under the Special Schemes for the Banking and Insurance Industries and persons classified as unsuitable for ordinary employment.

† 65 in the case of males and 60 in the case of females.

who had been unemployed for 13-26 weeks and also in the numbers who had been unemployed for more than 12 months.

Among females, the increase between 9th December and 10th March in the total number wholly unemployed was about 13,000, and affected all the "duration" categories separately distinguished in the Table.

The analyses according to duration of unemployment are made at quarterly intervals, and as figures are obtained for duration ranges of thirteen weeks it is possible, by comparing the numbers in one thirteen-week range at a particular date with the number in the next range in the following quarter, to measure the extent to which persons in the various ranges had found work (or had ceased to register for some other reason) in the interval.

The Table below gives a comparison on these lines between the figures for 9th December, 1946, and 10th March, 1947; and the last two columns show the percentage reduction in each duration-range during the preceding two quarters.

Turnover among the Unemployed, December, 1946-March, 1947.

Duration of Unemployment at 9th December, 1946 (in weeks).	Number at 9th Dec., 1946.	Number remaining on Register at 10th March, 1947.	Reduction.		Corresponding percentage reductions in preceding two quarters.	
			Number.	Per cent. of number at 9th Dec., 1946.	Sept.-Dec., 1946.	June-Sept., 1946.
Males aged 14 to 17.						
Up to 13	7,237	574	6,663	92	95	94
Over 13 and up to 26	403	150	253	63	72	75
" 26 " " 39	142	52	90	63	65	57
Over 39	107	55	52	49	43	47
Total	7,889	831	7,058	89	93	92
Males aged 18 and under 21.						
Up to 13	6,120	1,214	4,906	80	84	84
Over 13 and up to 26	865	412	453	52	63	64
" 26 " " 39	374	201	173	46	58	52
Over 39	373	207	166	44	51	49
Total	7,732	2,034	5,698	74	78	78
Males aged 21 and under 65.						
Up to 13	144,198	48,597	95,601	66	72	71
Over 13 and up to 26	38,004	23,403	14,601	38	47	45
" 26 " " 39	22,812	16,252	6,560	29	36	34
Over 39	41,893	33,611	8,282	20	31	23
Total	246,907	121,863	125,044	51	58	57
Total—Males	262,528	124,728	137,800	52	60	59
Females aged 14 to 17.						
Up to 13	4,894	426	4,468	91	95	96
Over 13 and up to 26	255	101	154	60	74	81
" 26 " " 39	52	26	26	50	68	80
Over 39	27	20	7	26	75	71
Total	5,228	573	4,655	89	94	95
Females aged 18 and under 21.						
Up to 13	6,349	1,030	5,319	84	89	90
Over 13 and up to 26	638	245	393	62	71	78
" 26 " " 39	164	79	85	52	74	78
Over 39	107	75	32	30	74	65
Total	7,258	1,429	5,829	80	86	87
Females aged 21 and under 60.						
Up to 13	49,979	17,214	32,765	66	71	75
Over 13 and up to 26	13,625	6,872	6,753	50	55	66
" 26 " " 39	5,551	2,833	2,718	49	59	63
Over 39	6,219	4,063	2,156	35	53	51
Total	75,374	30,982	44,392	59	65	70
Total—Females	87,860	32,984	54,876	62	69	72

The figures show that 52 per cent. of the males and 62 per cent. of the females who were registered as wholly unemployed at 9th December had found work within the next three months. These figures were substantially lower than the corresponding figures for the third and fourth quarters of 1946, when the proportions of men who had found work were 59 and 60 per cent., and the proportions of women were 72 and 69 per cent. The figures for December-March reflect the curtailment of industrial activity which was experienced during that period.

The Table shows that there was a slowing-down of the rate of re-entry into employment in all the age-groups for which separate figures are given, and that, with a minor exception in the case of boys under 18 years of age, they were all affected irrespective of the length of time that the persons concerned had been unemployed at the beginning of the quarter.

Young persons continued to find work at a much faster rate than adults. Of the boys under 18 years of age who were unemployed in December, 89 per cent. had found work by 10th March, whereas for the age-classes 18 to 20 and 21 to 64 the corresponding proportions were 74 per cent. and 51 per cent., respectively. The figures for the same three age-groups among women were 89 per cent., 80 per cent. and 59 per cent.

The turnover among the unemployed during the quarter may be summarised as follows: of the 262,528 males and 87,860 females who were wholly unemployed at 9th December, 137,800 and 54,876, respectively, found work by 10th March, but 217,637 males and 67,529 females became unemployed during the quarter and were on the registers at 10th March.

JUVENILE EMPLOYMENT SERVICE.

ESTABLISHMENT OF NATIONAL JUVENILE EMPLOYMENT COUNCIL.

The Minister of Labour and National Service has recently set up the National Juvenile Employment Council* to consider matters affecting the organisation, procedure and development of the Juvenile Employment Service. Advisory Committees for Scotland and Wales have also been appointed.

The establishment of these bodies was recommended in the Report of the Committee on the Juvenile Employment Service, which was summarised in the issue of this GAZETTE for December, 1945 (page 220). The Committee recommended, *inter alia*, that a Central Juvenile Employment Executive† should be established, and that, in view of the great importance attached to the co-operation of representatives of education and industry and others interested in the welfare of juveniles, the Executive should have the help and guidance of a National Advisory Council, with separate Advisory Committees for Scotland and Wales.

The first meeting of the National Juvenile Employment Council was held on 19th March. The Minister of Labour and National Service, in welcoming the members of the Council, said that, with fewer juveniles becoming available for employment as a result of the decline in the birth-rate in the nineteenth-thirties and the raising of the school leaving age, it was essential that the fullest use should be made of our available resources and that every step should be taken to train and develop potential talents and aptitudes. In the long run, industry should gain, because when boys and girls were ready to start work they should be both physically and mentally more mature. There was a moral responsibility to see that every boy and girl was given a chance to follow the career for which he or she seemed to be most suited, and was kept out of blind alley jobs. But advice on careers and help in finding appropriate employment were not sufficient. Juveniles should be properly trained and given opportunities to carry on their education while in jobs. This could only be done with the full co-operation of industry. While many sections of industry were alive to their responsibilities in this respect and had improved their training schemes and welfare conditions, others had been slower to respond. He looked to the industrial representatives on the Council to advise on the ways in which more rapid progress might be made. He was confident that, representing as they did a variety of interests, the Council and Committees would be able to give sound advice and put forward helpful suggestions.

Sir Godfrey Ince, Chairman of the Committee on the Juvenile Employment Service, was also present at the first meeting of the Council. After reviewing the recommendations of the Committee, he referred to the work which had been accomplished by the Central Juvenile Employment Executive since its inception, and he expressed the hope that it would be possible to develop a comprehensive and efficient Juvenile Employment Service which would operate to the advantage of the juveniles themselves and the needs of the nation.

EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES IN THE RAILWAY SERVICE, 1945-1946.

A Return‡ prepared by the Ministry of Transport relating to the numbers employed and wages in the railway service of Great Britain in one week in March, 1945, and March, 1946, has recently been published. The Return shows for each date the total number of persons employed by the railway companies (including the London Passenger Transport Board in respect of their railways) and the numbers employed in each of the various departments and in each of the principal grades of occupations. Particulars are also given of the average weekly earnings at the same dates, and the total yearly earnings in the calendar years 1944 and 1945.

Numbers employed.—The total numbers of persons employed§ in one week in March, 1945, and March, 1946, were 622,369 and 652,253, respectively. These totals include all persons employed in the specified weeks, except staff not directly employed (e.g., staff employed by contractors). The figures represent the numbers of staff receiving salaries or wages for the full week combined with the equivalent number of full-time workers where employees were paid for less than the complete week.

Of the total number of persons employed in March, 1945, there were 499,770 men, 31,292 youths and boys, 85,473 women and 5,834 girls. In March, 1946, there were 546,859 men, 32,737 youths and boys, 67,686 women and 4,971 girls.

Earnings.—The average weekly earnings of men, youths and boys, women and girls in various departments in one week in March, 1945, and March, 1946, (together with the figures for March, 1939, as given in the previous Return), are shown in the Table below. The figures for the "wages grades" are exclusive of (a) clerical staffs and other classes of salaried employees,

* The appointment of the Chairman of the National Juvenile Employment Council was reported in the issue of this GAZETTE for September, 1946 (page 239).

† The establishment of the Executive was reported in the issue of this GAZETTE for April, 1946 (page 94).

‡ *Railways (Staff) Return.* H.M. Stationery Office; price 1d. net (2d. post free). § Excluding railway employees of the Manchester Ship Canal, whose staff was about 1,600 in March, 1945, and about 1,450 in March, 1946.

(b) workpeople who were receiving full or partial board and lodging in addition to cash wages, and (c) women and girls employed on a part-time basis as crossing-keepers, waiting room and lavatory attendants, office cleaners, etc. As regards the departments for which separate figures are given, the "conciliation staff" consist mainly of workpeople concerned with the manipulation of traffic; the shop and artisan staff mainly comprise the workpeople employed on construction and repair work; and the "other staff" include those employed in ancillary businesses (e.g., canal, dock and quay staff, marine staff, motor omnibus, etc., staff, hotel, dining car and refreshment room staff) and at electrical generating stations, police staffs, etc.

The earnings shown include war bonus, etc., piece-work payments and tonnage bonus, payments for overtime, Sunday duty and night duty and all other payments for work performed, but exclude travelling and out-of-pocket expenses and meal and lodging allowances. In calculating the averages, the total amount of wages paid at each date has been divided by the number of staff receiving wages for the full week combined with the equivalent number of full-time workers where employees were paid for less than the complete week.

All workpeople paid at adult rates have been classified as men and women, while those paid at junior rates have been classified as youths, boys and girls. The age at which adult rates are paid is usually 20 years for the wages staffs in the conciliation grades and 21 years for those in the shop and artisan grades and other departments.

Average earnings in one week in March.

	1939.	1945.	1946.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
(i) Wages Grades.			
Men:			
Conciliation staff	67 8	111 3	117 10
Shop and artisan staff	71 3	131 7	132 5
Other staff	72 8	131 1	124 6
All men	68 9	116 10	121 6
Youths and Boys:			
Conciliation staff	30 10	41 11	45 7
Shop and artisan staff	25 10	43 0	46 5
Other staff	24 2	41 0	43 8
All youths and boys	28 10	42 3	45 9
Women:			
Conciliation staff	*	80 7	88 5
Shop and artisan staff	*	91 2	92 7
Other staff	*	69 10	68 9
All women	*	82 8	88 4
Girls:			
Conciliation staff	*	44 3	47 10
Shop and artisan staff	*	53 10	48 0
Other staff	*	*	*
All girls	*	48 8	47 10
(ii) Salaried Grades.			
Men:			
Clerical, supervisory, etc. (exclusive of officers)	93 3	143 6	146 5

The total salaries and wages paid in the years ended 31st December, 1944, and 31st December, 1945, were £180,828,478 and £186,428,396, respectively.

UNEMPLOYMENT FUND.

FINANCIAL CONDITION AT END OF 1946.

The Unemployment Insurance Statutory Committee have presented to the Ministry of National Insurance their Fourteenth Annual Report on the General Account and their Eleventh Annual Report on the Agricultural Account of the Unemployment Fund, relating to the financial condition of the Fund at 31st December, 1946.†

In their last Annual Report, the Committee indicated the possibility that, despite the prospect of a continuing shortage of goods and of labour, the process of demobilisation and of turnover to a peace economy might none the less be accompanied by an increase in unemployment and consequently in expenditure on unemployment benefit. In 1946, some increase in registered unemployment did in fact occur during the first half of the year, but the amount was never very considerable and the subsequent trend was slightly downwards. For 1947, however, the Committee thought that the increase to be expected in the average of unemployment as a consequence of the coal shortage might be substantial.

Apart from the slight increase in unemployment, the liabilities of the Fund were increased somewhat in 1946 by two sets of Regulations. The Unemployment Insurance (Emergency Powers) (Amendment) Regulations, 1946,‡ which were made in April, 1946, provide that additional days of benefit may be paid under the General Scheme after the statutory period is exhausted, the number of additional days depending on the claimant's recent record of contributions paid and benefit received; the number of persons receiving benefit under these Regulations in December was 34,655. The other Regulations, entitled the

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

† H.C. 66 of Session 1946-47. H.M. Stationery Office; price 2d. net (3d. post free).

‡ See the issue of this GAZETTE for April, 1946 (page 92).

National Insurance (Extension of Unemployment Benefit) Regulations, 1946,* were made in December but did not take effect until 10th February, 1947. These Regulations authorise the payment of benefit, on the recommendation of a local tribunal, to persons who are in all respects entitled to benefit except that they have exhausted their rights. The Committee believed that the number of persons who would qualify initially for such an extension of benefit might be about 50,000.

The following are the main items of the General Account and the Agricultural Account for 1946, fuller details of which are given in an Appendix to the Report.

General Account.—The receipts for the calendar year 1946 amounted to £97.9 million, of which £87.9 million represented insurance contributions by employers, employed persons and the State (including the Defence Departments). As compared with 1945, contributions from employers and employed persons rose by £4.1 million. This is accounted for by an increase in the total labour force in insurable employment as a result of men and women being released from the Services, partly offset by an increase in the number of persons unemployed and by the withdrawal of many married women and other persons from industry as war occupations came to an end or controls of labour were removed. For the year 1946 as a whole, the average number of insured persons in employment was about one million greater than in 1945. The contributions from the Service Departments in respect of persons released from the Services during 1946 amounted to £9.3 million; this was £6.3 million more than the figure for 1945, which represented a partial payment in respect of discharges from 1939 to 1945 inclusive. Income from investments during 1946 amounted to £10.0 million.

Expenditure during 1946 amounted to £29.3 million. This figure includes £23.5 million in respect of unemployment benefit, as compared with £8.3 in 1945; the increase was mainly due to the larger number of persons unemployed in 1946, but a secondary factor was the reintroduction of the provisions relating to the payment of benefit for additional days (see above).

Income during 1946 exceeded expenditure by £68.8 million. The balance at the end of the year was £431.1 million, compared with £362.5 million at the end of 1945.

Agricultural Account.—Receipts amounted to about £1,857,000 and expenditure to £405,000. Income accordingly exceeded expenditure by £1,452,000. The balance at the end of 1946 was £11,671,000, as compared with £10,219,000 at the end of 1945.

The balances on the General and Agricultural Accounts have been invested by the National Debt Commissioners mainly in National War Bonds or Savings Bonds.

SHIPBUILDING IN 1946.

According to the Annual Summary of the Mercantile Shipbuilding of the World for the year 1946, recently issued by Lloyd's Register of Shipping, the total number of merchant vessels launched during that year in Great Britain and Ireland was 371, with a total gross tonnage of 1,133,245 tons. The total output for the year exceeded the previous year's figure by about 235,000 tons, or over 26 per cent., and, although less than in each of the war-years 1941, 1942 and 1943, was approximately 103,000 tons higher than in 1938. The vessels launched included 171 steamers, 143 motorships and 57 sailing vessels and barges, with gross tonnages of 590,770, 529,756 and 12,719 tons, respectively.

Of the total number launched during 1946, 56 vessels with a total gross tonnage of 115,467 tons were for owners residing in Holland, France and other overseas countries. The total number of steamers and motorships known to have been launched in overseas countries during 1946 was 376, with a total gross tonnage of 994,176 tons; no figures were, however, available for launchings in the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and in some other countries involved in the recent war. Of the tonnage launched in the world, as recorded in the Returns, the output in Great Britain and Ireland was therefore 53.3 per cent. of the total.

Of British shipbuilding districts, the Clyde had the highest output for the year, with 344,677 gross tons launched, followed by the Wear (192,011 tons), the Tyne (184,052 tons), Belfast (125,891 tons), the Tees (87,279 tons), the Mersey (52,377 tons), the Hartlepoons (46,653 tons), the Tay (26,309 tons), and the Forth (24,276 tons). As compared with 1945, there were marked increases on the Clyde, at Belfast, and on the Tyne, Tees and Mersey, but declines on the Wear, Forth and Tay.

At the end of 1946, 1,937,062 tons of merchant shipping were under construction in Great Britain and Ireland compared with 1,612,810 tons at the beginning of the year. Tonnage commenced during 1946 was about 1,386,000 tons, or over 250,000 tons more than that launched during the same period; it exceeded by nearly 130,000 tons the tonnage commenced in 1945 and was the highest figure recorded since 1929.

The figures quoted above take into account only merchant vessels of 100 tons gross and upwards that were launched during the year. They exclude vessels that were being built at merchant shipbuilding yards to the order of the Admiralty, solely for naval purposes, but include vessels which were of merchant type (e.g., tugs and oil tankers) but which were intended for naval service.

* See the issue of this GAZETTE for January, 1947 (page 12).

CENSUS OF PRODUCTION.

POSTPONEMENT OF CENSUS FOR 1947.

An article published in the issue of this GAZETTE for April, 1946 (page 96), stated that a Census of Production was to be taken in 1948 in respect of production in the year 1947. This Census has now been postponed.

On 18th March, the Parliamentary Secretary to the Board of Trade announced in the House of Commons that the Government had decided to take a full Census of Production in 1949 (in respect of 1948), and not in 1948 as originally planned. The decision to postpone the Census has been taken because the Government realise that this year is proving particularly difficult for manufacturers, and they do not wish to add to their troubles in any way. The Government confidently expect that industry will co-operate whole-heartedly in giving the full information which is necessary to make the first complete Census a success.

The partial Census which is being taken in respect of 1946 is not affected by the decision mentioned above. Those manufacturers who have not yet completed their returns for it are asked to make every effort to do so as soon as possible, so that the results of this Census may be available in good time. They are urgently needed, not only because of the light they will throw on the industries affected, but also for the guidance they can give in the preparation of the schedules for the 1948 Census. It is hoped to issue these schedules at the end of the present year so that all manufacturers will be aware of the kind of record they should keep for 1948.

RAISING OF THE SCHOOL-LEAVING AGE.

The statutory school-leaving age was raised to 15 years on 1st April, 1947.

Under the Education Act, 1944, the school-leaving age in England and Wales was to be raised to 15 from 1st April, 1945. The Act provided, however, that the Minister of Education might make an Order postponing the raising of the age to a date not later than 1st April, 1947, if he was satisfied that the supply of necessary teachers or of school accommodation was insufficient. On 17th August, 1944, the Minister made such an Order,* which, as laid down in the Act, was to expire not later than 1st April, 1947.

The Education (Scotland) Act, 1945, provided that in Scotland the school-leaving age was to be raised to 15 as from 1st April, 1946, but the Secretary of State for Scotland was given power to postpone the raising of the age, if necessary, for not more than a year. On 25th October, 1945, the Secretary of State did in fact make an Order which had the effect of postponing the raising of the age until 1st April, 1947.

PASSPORTS AND TRAVEL IDENTITY CARDS.

ISSUE THROUGH LOCAL OFFICES OF MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND NATIONAL SERVICE.

Arrangements have been made between the Ministry of Labour and National Service and the Foreign Office to simplify the procedure for obtaining British passports and travel identity cards, in order to eliminate unnecessary correspondence and delays and to save trouble to members of the public who want to travel abroad.

As from 8th April, 1947, applicants for passports or travel identity cards, or for renewal or endorsement of existing passports, need no longer go or write directly to the Passport Office in London or to the Branch Passport Office in Liverpool or Glasgow. Applicants will be able to obtain the necessary application forms, receive guidance in completing their applications, and hand over the applications with any fees payable, at the nearest Employment Exchange or Resettlement Advice Office of the Ministry of Labour and National Service. These Local Offices are open daily from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. (9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturdays), and notices are displayed directing applicants to the officer responsible for dealing with passport matters.

The completed applications will be sent by the Ministry's Local Offices to the Passport Office, which will continue to be responsible for authorising the grant of a passport or travel identity card, for its actual preparation, and for its dispatch by post to the applicant. In normal circumstances, the Passport Office will deal with these applications within twenty-four hours of their receipt. In urgent cases, applications will be dealt with, if possible, by return of post.

Applicants who wish to follow the old procedure of application direct to the Passport Office in person or by post may continue to do so. It is pointed out, however, that full and accurate completion of the application, together with the submission of supporting documents for verification, is essential, and for this reason application by post may result in queries and delay. Applications may also still be made through travel agencies and payment made through them; but, if an applicant wishes to do so, he may take his completed application form and supporting

* See the issue of this GAZETTE for August, 1944 (page 123).

documents to a Local Office of the Ministry of Labour and National Service and have his signature witnessed and photograph endorsed there, before returning the form to his travel agent for transmission to the Passport Office.

Further, provided that the applicant for a passport attends in person at a Local Office of the Ministry (or the Passport Office) and produces his National Registration Identity Card, it will be sufficient for his signature to be put to the declaration in the presence of an examining officer on the spot. Hitherto, an applicant has been required to obtain the signature of an approved "recommender"—a mayor, magistrate, minister of religion, barrister, solicitor, doctor, or bank manager—confirming the applicant's declaration and certifying his photograph. For those who prefer this arrangement, it will continue to be valid. It will, in any case, still be necessary to follow this procedure where application is made for a separate passport for a child under 16, or for a travel identity card.

Applicants are reminded that the possession of a British Passport does not exempt the holder from the necessity of obtaining a visa, where one is required, from the consular office of each foreign country to which he wishes to travel.

RETAIL PRICES: FOOD RATIONING.

MAXIMUM RETAIL PRICES.

Recent Orders made by the Minister of Food have reduced, as from 27th April, the maximum retail price of butter by 2d. per lb. and the maximum retail prices of shell eggs in categories I and II by 3d. per dozen. Other Orders have prescribed increased maximum prices for lard and dripping, coffee and coffee mixtures, oat products, pre-packed semolina, macaroni and similar products, imported canned meats, home-produced meat paste, and some kinds of canned sweet puddings. The Minister of Food has also made Orders scheduling maximum retail prices for new potatoes of the 1947 crop and increasing the maximum retail prices for potatoes of the 1946 crop by 1d. per 7lb. as from 4th May.

Other changes in maximum retail prices include increases in the maximum prices of coal in most areas and higher maximum prices for many kinds of domestic pottery and some kinds of soap.

FOOD RATIONING.

By an Order of the Minister of Food household milk powder and various barley and oat products have been removed from the points rationing scheme, while points values have been fixed for canned roast or boiled beef or mutton. In answer to a question in the House of Commons, the Minister of Food announced the issue of 1 lb. of sugar per ration book for domestic jam making during the four weeks beginning on 27th April.

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION.

MEETINGS OF INDUSTRIAL COMMITTEES.

At the 94th Session of the Governing Body of the International Labour Organisation, which was held in London in January, 1945,* it was decided that international industrial committees should be set up in a number of industries. The first sessions of the committees for the textile industries, for building, civil engineering and public works and for petroleum production and refining have recently been held, and reports of these meetings are given below.

TEXTILES INDUSTRIAL COMMITTEE.

The Textiles Industrial Committee held their first session in Brussels from 14th to 22nd November, 1946. Representatives of Governments, employers and workers from the following countries attended: the United Kingdom, the United States of America, Australia, Belgium, Canada, China, Denmark, Egypt, France, India, Italy, Mexico, the Netherlands, Norway, Peru, Poland, Sweden and Switzerland. For the United Kingdom, the Government representatives were Mr. M. D. Tennant (Ministry of Labour and National Service) and Mr. G. H. Carruthers (Board of Trade); the employers were represented by Mr. H. S. Farrar and Mr. G. B. Fielding, and the workers by Mr. G. H. Bagnall and Mr. A. C. C. Robertson, J.P. The Chairman of the Committee was Radi Bey, Egyptian Government member of the Governing Body of the I.L.O.

The Committee entered into a full discussion of the international problems of the textiles industry. Particular attention was paid to two groups of questions, viz., (a) production and related questions, including wages, hours of work and the recruitment and training of personnel, and (b) social security and welfare, including extension of social services, improved working conditions and welfare facilities, and holidays with pay. A number of resolutions in connexion with the treatment of these problems were adopted, and it was also recommended that the International Labour Office should undertake certain lines of study, the results of which should be placed before the Committee at later sessions.

* See the issue of this GAZETTE for February, 1945 (page 21).

BUILDING, CIVIL ENGINEERING AND PUBLIC WORKS INDUSTRIAL COMMITTEE.

The Building, Civil Engineering and Public Works Industrial Committee held their first session in Brussels from 25th November to 3rd December, 1946. Representatives of Governments, employers and workers attended from the following countries: the United Kingdom, the United States of America, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Denmark, Finland, France, India, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Sweden, Switzerland, and the Union of South Africa. The British Government representatives were Mr. H. H. Montgomerie, C.B., O.B.E. (Ministry of Works) and Mr. S. G. Holloway (Ministry of Labour and National Service). Mr. Norman Longley and Mr. W. H. G. Roach, A.C.G.I., represented British employers, and Mr. R. Coppock, C.B.E., and Mr. J. W. Stephenson, C.B.E., J.P., represented British workers. The Chairman of the Committee was Mr. Hacke, Netherlands Government representative.

Resolutions were adopted by the Committee on safety and health in the building industry; on social security; on daily hours of work and pay, with particular reference to the necessity for their determination by free negotiations; and on annual holidays with pay through compensation funds. The Committee also recommended that the principle of payment for a minimum number of hours weekly, irrespective of time lost through bad weather, should be adopted. The Committee proposed that the question of the 40-hour week should be placed on the Agenda for the next meeting, and they also asked the International Labour Office to undertake the study of the practical application of the suggestions embodied in their resolutions and recommendations. A special resolution emphasised the importance of improving rural housing. A declaration on general problems of production and reconstruction was adopted, in which it was stated that construction had become urgent in all countries and was the collective task of all nations. The Committee considered that Governments, workers and employers should, with the help of the International Labour Organisation, undertake the solution of the general problems of programmes of work, production, reconstruction, occupational recruitment and training of manpower, and stabilisation of employment.

PETROLEUM PRODUCTION AND REFINING INDUSTRIAL COMMITTEE.

The Petroleum Production and Refining Industrial Committee held their first session in Los Angeles from 4th to 12th February, 1947. Representatives of Governments, employers and workers attended from the United Kingdom, the United States of America, Canada, Colombia, Egypt, France, Iran, Mexico, the Netherlands, Peru, and Venezuela. The British Government representatives were Mr. J. A. Diack (Ministry of Labour and National Service) and Mr. K. L. Stock (Ministry of Fuel and Power). British employers were represented by Mr. E. R. C. Beard, M.B.E., and Mr. R. B. Southall, and British workers by Mr. H. C. Bullock and Mr. L. Daegleish. Mr. D. Luis Alvarado, Peruvian Minister to Canada and Peruvian Government member of the Governing Body of the I.L.O., presided over the Committee.

The Committee adopted resolutions in favour of the provision of general basic education for petroleum workers and their children; vocational training in the industry and, where necessary, the setting up of special schools for general and full technical education; the study by the International Labour Office of technical education and vocational training; the study of apprenticeship training with a view to establishing basic standards; the recruitment of workers on a definite basis, with a preference to workers residing in the country; and promotion within undertakings. Other resolutions approved in principle the fixing of minimum wages for petroleum workers in each country, and called for co-operation by labour and management in improving safety measures in the industry, the International Labour Office being invited to assemble information on safety matters. The Committee also affirmed the right of freedom of association for the workers and employers in the industry, and recommended that harmonious relations should be maintained through collective bargaining. The need for machinery for the settlement of disputes was affirmed, and the Committee invited the International Labour Office to study the industrial relations, laws, machinery and methods in practice in the various countries in the petroleum industry.

PROPOSED ACTION BY H.M. GOVERNMENT RELATING TO AMENDMENT OF CONSTITUTION.

A Command Paper* has recently been published setting out the action which H.M. Government propose to take on (1) the Constitution of the International Labour Organisation Instrument of Amendment, 1946, and (2) the Final Articles Revision Convention, 1946. In the Paper, the Government announce their intention to ratify the Instrument and the Convention both of which were adopted on 9th October, 1946 by the International Labour Conference during their 29th Session at Montreal.

The Instrument of Amendment embodies an almost complete revision of the Constitution of the International Labour Organisation, resulting from discussions extending over two-and-a-half years. Among the amendments are a number designed to facilitate co-operation between the International Labour Organisation and the United Nations, to emphasise the tripartite character of the Organisation, and to define and strengthen the obligations of Members in respect of Conventions and

Recommendations adopted by the International Labour Conference. In regard to all essential matters, the Instrument is based on the proposals of the Conference Delegation on Constitutional Questions (see the issue of this GAZETTE for March, 1946, page 72). The detailed changes are described in the Command Paper, which also contains the English text of the Instrument.

The Final Articles Revision Convention, 1946, is consequential on the dissolution of the League of Nations and the procedural amendments of the Constitution as contained in the Instrument of Amendment. It amends the texts of the Conventions adopted by the International Labour Conference in the course of its first twenty-eight sessions to bring them into line with the new procedure.

EARNINGS OF HOSIERY WORKERS IN THE UNITED STATES.

A summary of the results of an investigation into earnings in the hosiery industry in the United States of America has been published in the December, 1946, issue of *Monthly Labor Review*, the journal of the United States Department of Labor. The investigation, which was carried out by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, related to earnings in January, 1946, and covered 393 full-fashioned and seamless hosiery mills, employing in all 64,250 workers, or about 58 per cent. of the total number in the industry in the United States. The earnings taken into account are the "straight-time" earnings of production workers, i.e., the earnings of time-workers and piece workers during normal working hours, including cost-of-living bonuses, but excluding payments for overtime, night work and shift work, and Christmas, profit-sharing and other non-incentive bonuses. In all the full-fashioned and seamless hosiery mills investigated, the earnings of the majority of the workers were based on piece-rate scales.

The enquiry showed that in January, 1946, the average straight-time hourly earnings in full-fashioned hosiery mills were 1.24 dollars for men (who represented over two-fifths of the mill workers) and 78 cents for women. Nylon hosiery workers earned on average about 10 per cent. more an hour than those making rayon stockings. The higher average earnings of men as compared with those of women were ascribed in large part to the concentration of men in skilled knitting occupations, such as footers, leggers and single-unit and backrack-converted-machine knitters.

The average hourly earnings of seamless hosiery workers were much lower than those engaged on full-fashioned hosiery, being 75 cents in the case of men and 58 cents in the case of women, in January, 1946. The lower level of skill, the predominance of women in employment (almost three-fourths of the total), and concentration of the mills in the South-Eastern States were stated to be important factors accounting for the low level of earnings in the seamless branch.

In both branches of the industry 40 hours constituted the typical working week; but in the South-Eastern States over 10 per cent. of the mills scheduled 48 hours a week for men and women alike. A majority of the mills operated extra shifts but seldom provided a wage differential for late work.

The average hourly straight-time earnings in January, 1946, of workers in a number of important occupations in full-fashioned and seamless hosiery mills are shown in the Table below, which also shows the total numbers employed in the several occupations in all undertakings of a similar class in the United States employing eight or more workers each. The earnings of inexperienced beginners, apprentices and handicapped workers, which were included in the general averages quoted elsewhere in this summary, were excluded from the data from which the occupational averages were calculated.

Occupation.	Full-Fashioned Hosiery Mills.		Seamless Hosiery Mills.	
	Number of Workers.	Average Hourly Earnings.	Number of Workers.	Average Hourly Earnings.
Men:		Dollars.		Dollars.
Adjusters and Fitters, Knitting Machines (over 4 years' experience)	700	1.52	2,381	0.99
Boards, Machine	1,127	1.07	2,382	0.72
Knitters, Footer	1,343	1.54	—	—
" Legger	4,715	1.34	—	—
" Single-Unit and Back-rack	9,540	1.47	—	—
" Automatic	—	—	1,491	0.71
Women:				
Boards, Machine	1,877	0.94	1,674	0.61
Folders and Boxers	1,345	0.76	1,730	0.60
Inspectors, Hosiery	2,473	0.72	2,695	0.58
Knitters, Single-Unit and Back-rack	705	1.06	—	—
" Automatic	—	—	2,205	0.64
" Transfer	—	—	3,554	0.60
Loopers (1 year's experience)	—	—	7,753	0.62
" Toe only	1,497	0.82	—	—
" Toe and Heel	1,545	0.81	—	—
Menders, Hand	2,182	0.78	1,487	0.57
Pairers	1,797	0.87	2,180	0.61
Seamers	5,328	0.83	—	—
Toppers	3,817	0.83	—	—

* Cmd. 7071. H.M. Stationery Office; price 6d. net (7d. post free).

UNEMPLOYMENT AMONG INSURED PERSONS AT 10th MARCH, 1947.

(Statistics of employment in February are not available—see page 105).

SUMMARY FOR GREAT BRITAIN.

The numbers of insured persons registered as unemployed* in Great Britain at 13th January, 22nd February and 10th March, 1947, were as follows:—

	Men 18 and under 65 years.	Boys 14-17 years.	Women 18 and under 60 years.	Girls 14-17 years.	Total.
13th January	292,157	9,771	92,517	6,804	401,249
22nd February	1,197,984	53,354	557,347	65,376	1,874,061
10th March	571,601	18,041	163,192	12,014	764,848

In addition there were on the registers at 10th March 8,335† uninsured persons, including a number of boys and girls under 16 who had not yet entered industry.

The figures for 10th March are analysed below:—

Region.	Wholly Unemployed (including Casuals).				Temporarily Stopped.	Total.
	Unem- ployed for not more than 2 weeks.	Unem- ployed for more than 2 weeks but not more than 8 weeks.	Unem- ployed for more than 8 weeks.	Total.		
Men, 18-64	64,075	103,869	167,770	335,714	235,887	571,601
Boys, 14-17	5,370	4,477	1,645	11,492	6,549	18,041
Women, 18-59	20,655	27,861	47,183	95,699	67,493	163,192
Girls, 14-17	3,669	2,499	1,122	7,290	4,724	12,014
Total	93,769	138,706	217,720	450,195	314,653	764,848

The total of 764,848 includes 49,583 married women, some of whom probably are retiring from industrial employment, and ex-Service personnel numbering 27,515 who had had no employment since leaving the Forces.

The changes between 13th January and 10th March, 1947, in each administrative Region are given in the Table below:—

Region.	Wholly Unemployed (including Casuals).				Temporarily Stopped.	Total.
	Unem- ployed for not more than 2 weeks.	Unem- ployed for more than 2 weeks but not more than 8 weeks.	Unem- ployed for more than 8 weeks.	Total.		
London and South-Eastern	13th Jan. 20,565	13,147	14,202	47,914	719	48,633
10th Mar. 24,122	26,973	18,741	69,836	24,769	94,605	
Inc. or Dec. + 3,557	+ 13,826	+ 4,539	+ 21,922	+ 24,050	+ 45,972	
Eastern	13th Jan. 4,654	6,231	4,211	15,096	309	15,405
10th Mar. 4,558	7,936	7,663	20,157	13,008	33,165	
Inc. or Dec. - 96	+ 1,705	+ 3,452	+ 5,061	+ 12,699	+ 17,760	
Southern	13th Jan. 3,149	2,782	3,016	8,947	96	9,043
10th Mar. 2,867	3,671	3,683	10,221	7,446	17,667	
Inc. or Dec. - 282	+ 889	+ 667	+ 1,274	+ 7,350	+ 8,624	
South-Western	13th Jan. 3,903	3,889	4,412	12,204	178	12,382
10th Mar. 3,874	4,602	5,607	14,083	7,224	21,307	
Inc. or Dec. - 29	+ 713	+ 1,195	+ 1,879	+ 7,046	+ 8,925	
Midland	13th Jan. 3,831	3,461	6,617	13,909	1,206	15,115
10th Mar. 4,508	6,637	7,807	18,652	71,665	90,317	
Inc. or Dec. + 677	+ 3,176	+ 890	+ 4,743	+ 70,459	+ 75,202	
North-Midland	13th Jan. 3,374	4,867	4,366	12,607	1,018	13,625
10th Mar. 3,155	5,676	7,335	16,166	20,147	36,313	
Inc. or Dec. - 219	+ 809	+ 2,969	+ 3,559	+ 19,129	+ 22,688	
East and West Ridings	13th Jan. 6,291	5,356	10,630	22,277	986	23,263
10th Mar. 6,108	8,439	11,780	26,327	56,343	82,670	
Inc. or Dec. - 183	+ 3,083	+ 1,150	+ 4,050	+ 55,357	+ 59,407	
North-Western	13th Jan. 14,651	19,182	34,940	68,773	2,007	70,780
10th Mar. 14,053	23,594	40,271	77,918	50,461	128,379	
Inc. or Dec. - 598	+ 4,412	+ 5,331	+ 9,145	+ 48,454	+ 57,599	
Northern	13th Jan. 8,546	12,692	28,838	50,076	742	50,818
10th Mar. 8,448	14,927	29,082	52,457	17,157	69,614	
Inc. or Dec. - 98	+ 2,235	+ 244	+ 2,381	+ 16,415	+ 18,796	
Scotland	13th Jan. 14,764	22,515	45,788	83,067	1,264	84,331
10th Mar. 15,094	23,514	46,055	84,663	16,601	101,264	
Inc. or Dec. + 330	+ 999	+ 267	+ 1,596	+ 15,337	+ 16,933	
Wales	13th Jan. 6,452	10,238	36,316	53,006	553	53,559
10th Mar. 6,726	12,117	37,281	56,124	29,832	85,956	
Inc. or Dec. + 274	+ 1,879	+ 965	+ 3,118	+ 29,279	+ 32,397	
Great Britain (including Special Schemes)	13th Jan. 90,506	105,075	196,590	392,171	9,078	401,249
10th Mar. 93,769	138,706	217,720	450,195	314,653	764,848	
Inc. or Dec. + 3,263	+ 33,631	+ 21,130	+ 58,024	+ 305,575	+ 363,599	

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

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

Region.	Number of insured persons registered as unemployed at 10th March, 1947.			Number registered as unemployed expressed as percentage of the estimated total number of insured persons.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
London and South-Eastern	78,057	16,548	94,605	3†	1†	3
Eastern	25,325	7,540	32,865	3†	3†	4†
Southern	14,896	2,781	17,677	3	1†	2†
South-Western	17,403	3,904	21,307	3	2	2†
Midland	70,449	19,868	90,317	7	4†	6
North-Midland	28,871	7,442	36,313	4	2†	3†
E. and W. Ridings	59,005	23,665	82,670	6	5†	6
North-Western	96,614	31,765	128,379	6†	4	5†
Northern	52,088	17,526	69,614	7	7	7
Scotland	79,370	2,894	82,264	7	4	6
Wales	66,299	19,657	85,956	12	11	12
Great Britain (excluding Special Schemes)	588,367	172,890	761,257	5†	3†	5

NUMBERS UNEMPLOYED IN THE UNITED KINGDOM: REGIONAL ANALYSIS.

The total number of insured persons registered as unemployed* in the United Kingdom at 10th March, 1947, was 809,474, including 628,921 men and boys and 180,553 women and girls. In addition, there were on the registers in the United Kingdom at 10th March, 8,647† uninsured persons, including a number of boys and girls under 16 who had not yet entered industry.

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

Region.	Men 18 and under 65 years.	Boys 14-17 years.	Women 18 and under 60 years.	Girls 14-17 years.	Total.
	Wholly Unemployed (including Casuals).				
London and South-Eastern	55,567	2,558	10,411	1,300	69,836
Eastern	14,400	475	4,947	332	20,157
Southern	7,679	330	1,952	260	10,221
South-Western	10,991	290	2,581	221	14,083
Midland	15,372	402	2,615	263	18,652
North-Midland	10,834	254	4,825	253	16,166
E. and W. Ridings	20,878	450	4,644	355	26,327
North-Western	62,130	1,954	13,234	600	77,918
Northern	34,737	1,421	14,991	1,298	52,457
Wales	38,840	1,152	14,991	1,141	56,124
Special Schemes	1,266	9	2,304	12	3,591
Great Britain	335,714	11,492	95,699	7,290	450,195
Northern Ireland	36,850	778	3,639	234	41,501
United Kingdom	372,564	12,270	99,338	7,524	491,696
Temporarily Stopped.					
London and South-Eastern	19,175	757	4,436	401	24,769
Eastern	10,197	250	2,343	218	13,008
Southern	6,695	182	501	68	7,446
South-Western	6,002	120	994	108	7,224
Midland	53,636	1,039	16,415	575	71,665
North-Midland	17,314	469	6,992	197	20,147
E. and W. Ridings	36,787	8			

NUMBERS UNEMPLOYED IN THE PRINCIPAL TOWNS.

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

Regions (in italics) and Principal Towns.	Numbers of Insured Persons* on Registers at 10th March, 1947.				Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Totals as compared with 13th Jan., 1947.
	Men 18 and under 65 years.	Women 18 and under 60 years.	Juveniles under 18 years.	Total.	
<i>London and South-Eastern</i> ..	74,742	14,847	5,016	94,605	+ 45,972
London (Administrative County) ..	28,711	3,917	1,185	33,813	+ 14,107
Acton ..	355	30	28	413	+ 233
Brentford and Chiswick ..	412	64	25	501	+ 243
Brighton and Hove ..	2,805	931	167	3,903	+ 2,050
Chatham ..	1,182	809	174	2,165	+ 697
Croydon ..	2,134	259	149	2,542	+ 1,336
Dagenham ..	3,349	822	377	4,548	+ 3,778
East Ham ..	1,036	143	63	1,242	+ 452
Enfield ..	729	75	62	866	+ 553
Harrow and Wembley ..	1,082	262	59	1,403	+ 891
Hayes and Harlington ..	1,552	488	58	2,098	+ 1,895
Hendon ..	1,591	191	78	1,860	+ 1,278
Leyton and Walthamstow ..	2,261	265	99	2,625	+ 1,463
Tottenham ..	1,642	210	117	1,969	+ 753
West Ham ..	2,036	141	161	2,338	+ 924
Willesden ..	823	136	72	1,031	+ 582
<i>Eastern</i> ..	24,800	7,290	1,275	33,165	+ 17,700
Bedford ..	547	49	21	617	+ 441
Cambridge ..	259	73	15	347	+ 222
Ipswich ..	932	48	49	1,029	+ 548
Luton ..	538	45	34	617	+ 296
Norwich ..	3,086	241	91	3,418	+ 1,938
Watford ..	645	81	29	755	+ 536
<i>Southern</i> ..	14,374	2,453	840	17,667	+ 8,824
Oxford ..	3,524	360	172	4,056	+ 3,821
Portsmouth (including Reading) ..	1,419	638	185	2,242	+ 268
Reading ..	441	75	42	558	+ 245
Slough ..	478	58	20	556	+ 39
Southampton ..	1,004	180	64	1,248	+ 532
<i>South-Western</i> ..	16,993	3,575	739	21,307	+ 8,925
Bristol (including Kingswood) ..	4,180	480	162	4,822	+ 2,269
Exeter ..	487	138	27	652	+ 116
Gloucester ..	142	32	16	190	+ 56
Plymouth ..	883	746	80	1,709	+ 43
Swindon ..	319	63	20	402	+ 164
<i>Midland</i> ..	69,008	19,030	2,279	90,317	+ 75,202
Birmingham ..	28,946	8,597	494	38,037	+ 35,170
Burton-on-Trent ..	138	54	24	216	+ 138
Coventry ..	6,328	1,826	89	8,243	+ 6,563
Oldbury ..	275	20	13	308	+ 299
Smethwick ..	2,012	139	147	2,298	+ 2,215
Stoke-on-Trent ..	7,737	3,040	371	11,148	+ 8,694
Walsall ..	1,912	300	116	2,328	+ 1,791
West Bromwich ..	709	51	41	801	+ 779
Wolverhampton ..	3,402	305	82	3,819	+ 3,121
Worcester ..	390	266	43	699	+ 580
<i>North-Midland</i> ..	28,148	6,992	1,173	36,313	+ 22,858
Chesterfield ..	640	257	63	960	+ 518
Derby ..	1,689	129	44	1,862	+ 1,584
Grimsby ..	2,075	144	74	2,293	+ 1,014
Leicester ..	2,896	149	86	3,131	+ 2,468
Lincoln ..	439	38	13	490	+ 366
Mansfield ..	1,271	73	55	1,399	+ 746
Northampton ..	1,090	62	22	1,174	+ 786
Nottingham ..	3,732	331	136	4,199	+ 2,603
Peterborough ..	347	705	30	1,082	+ 446
Southport ..	214	416	39	669	+ 291
<i>East and West Ridings</i> ..	57,665	21,845	3,160	82,670	+ 59,407
Barnsley ..	1,284	264	62	1,610	+ 1,284
Bradford ..	8,359	3,617	291	12,267	+ 10,706
Dewsbury ..	1,804	1,228	330	3,362	+ 3,097
Doncaster ..	1,995	618	155	2,768	+ 1,051
Halifax ..	1,550	71	27	1,648	+ 2,682
Huddersfield ..	2,321	1,093	202	3,616	+ 3,365
Hull ..	4,846	546	118	5,510	+ 1,899
Leeds ..	7,024	1,498	200	8,722	+ 5,170
Rotherham ..	1,516	475	76	2,067	+ 1,213
Sheffield ..	5,082	376	107	5,565	+ 4,265
Wakefield ..	631	315	81	1,027	+ 685
York ..	1,562	85	41	1,688	+ 852
<i>North-Western</i> ..	93,891	30,374	4,214	128,379	+ 67,699
Accrington ..	706	439	43	1,188	+ 684
Ashton-under-Lyne ..	934	127	26	1,087	+ 368
Barrow ..	806	995	76	1,877	+ 350
Birkenhead ..	2,700	398	86	3,184	+ 890
Blackburn ..	1,797	1,531	50	3,378	+ 2,373
Blackpool ..	1,539	336	50	1,925	+ 671
Bolton ..	2,808	1,076	137	4,021	+ 2,324
Burnley ..	2,084	1,709	97	3,890	+ 2,809
Bury ..	597	130	7	734	+ 436
Crews ..	191	109	27	327	+ 23
Liverpool (including Bootle) ..	25,531	4,312	1,271	31,114	+ 6,574
Manchester (including Stretford) ..	10,186	1,103	260	11,549	+ 3,495
Oldham (including Failsforth and Royton) ..	2,895	415	48	3,358	+ 1,557
Preston ..	2,104	1,976	124	4,204	+ 2,519
Rochdale ..	2,130	813	67	3,010	+ 2,635
St. Helens ..	1,444	1,095	122	2,661	+ 1,274

* The figures are exclusive of persons classified as unsuitable for ordinary employment. They include, however, some persons who were not available for employment away from home and others who for various reasons were not suitable for the types of vacancies current.

Regions (in italics) and Principal Towns.	Numbers of Insured Persons* on Registers at 10th March, 1947.				Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Totals as compared with 13th Jan., 1947.
	Men 18 and under 65 years.	Women 18 and under 60 years.	Juveniles under 18 years.	Total.	
<i>North-Western (continued)</i>					
Salford (including Eccles and Pendlebury) ..	2,549	172	86	2,807	+ 1,020
Stockport ..	2,796	476	87	3,359	+ 2,046
Warrington ..	682	483	36	1,201	+ 730
Wigan ..	2,225	817	40	3,082	+ 783
<i>Northern</i> ..	50,614	16,122	3,410	69,614	+ 18,798
Carlisle ..	601	271	55	927	+ 328
Darlington ..	611	211	54	876	+ 376
Gateshead ..	2,680	670	75	3,425	+ 805
Hartlepool ..	2,019	1,400	120	3,539	+ 1,088
Jarrow and Hebburn ..	1,202	716	137	2,055	+ 317
Middlesbrough (including South Bank) ..	1,964	848	199	3,011	+ 981
Newcastle-upon-Tyne ..	6,144	2,102	301	8,547	+ 999
South Shields ..	2,717	434	165	3,316	+ 794
Stockton-on-Tees ..	1,932	1,551	191	3,674	+ 1,203
Sunderland ..	5,894	1,163	453	7,510	+ 2,593
Wallsend (including Willington Quay) ..	687	272	18	977	+ 125
<i>Scotland</i> ..	76,689	20,393	4,182	101,264	+ 16,933
Aberdeen ..	2,223	359	70	3,023	+ 175
Clydebank ..	611	223	48	882	+ 241
Dunfermline ..	3,027	637	43	3,707	+ 256
Edinburgh ..	5,416	450	113	5,979	+ 606
Glasgow (including Rutherglen) ..	21,392	1,036	1,036	29,158	+ 1,872
Greenock ..	1,658	758	178	2,594	+ 116
Motherwell and Wishaw ..	2,813	881	243	3,937	+ 870
Paisley ..	1,561	375	114	2,050	+ 543
<i>Wales</i> ..	64,143	18,067	3,748	85,958	+ 32,397
Cardiff ..	2,649	442	149	3,240	+ 370
Merthyr Tydfil ..	2,723	657	110	3,490	+ 293
Newport ..	2,536	509	178	3,223	+ 1,523
Rhondda ..	4,853	1,106	235	6,194	+ 744
Swansea ..	4,593	1,344	209	6,146	+ 2,327
<i>Northern Ireland</i> ..	33,471	4,989	1,188	44,638	+ 8,404
Belfast ..	12,893	1,292	161	14,346	+ 1,743
Londonderry ..	3,422	883	254	4,559	+ 1,295

NUMBERS UNEMPLOYED: 1939 to 1947.

The Table below shows the average numbers of insured persons registered as unemployed in the years 1939 to 1946, and the numbers so registered in January, February and March, 1947, together with the estimated numbers who were stood off at the last three dates but did not register.

	Great Britain.				United Kingdom.	
	Wholly Unemployed (Including Casuals).		Temporarily Stopped.		Total.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Total.
1939 ..	934,332	258,088	137,192	78,347	1,407,959	1,480,324
1940 ..	468,777	222,373	100,389	58,549	850,088	918,054
1941 ..	135,320	99,756	29,275	27,476	291,827	330,675
1942 ..	62,019	31,859	3,196	2,691	99,765	119,117
1943 ..	47,191	20,574	795	733	69,293	85,538
1944 ..	45,062	17,634	394	518	63,608	77,929
1945 ..	86,273	53,004	549	594	140,410	159,977
1946 ..	251,914	107,840	2,097	1,218	363,669	394,164
1947 —						
13th January ..	296,196	95,975	5,732	3,346	401,249	437,471
22nd Feb. (a) ..	349,294	110,889	902,044	511,834	1,874,061	1,915,531
(b) ..	—	—	—	—	503,200	—
5th Mar. (a) ..	357,554	109,320	248,241	78,472	793,587	Not available
(b) ..	—	—	—	—	43,600	—
10th Mar. (a) ..	347,206	102,989	242,436	72,217	764,848	809,474
(b) ..	—	—	—	—	24,000	Not available

NUMBERS UNEMPLOYED: COMPOSITION OF STATISTICS.

The Table below gives an analysis of the numbers of persons registered as unemployed* in Great Britain at 10th March.

	Men 18 years and over.				Boys 18 years and over.				Women 18 years and over.				Girls 18 years and over.				Total.
	A.—INSURED UNEMPLOYED		B.—UNINSURED PERSONS ON REGISTERS OF EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES		A.—INSURED UNEMPLOYED		B.—UNINSURED PERSONS ON REGISTERS OF EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES		A.—INSURED UNEMPLOYED		B.—UNINSURED PERSONS ON REGISTERS OF EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES		A.—INSURED UNEMPLOYED		B.—UNINSURED PERSONS ON REGISTERS OF EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES		
Insured Persons on the Registers of Employment Exchanges ..	562,985	12,753	148,559	7,395	731,692	562,985	12,753	148,559	7,395	731,692	562,985	12,753	148,559	7,395	731,692		
Claimants to Benefit and Applicants for Unemployment Allowances ..	7,350	5,279	12,329	4,607	29,565	7,350	5,279	12,329	4,607	29,565	7,350	5,279	12,329	4,607	29,565		
Non-claimants ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
Claimants for Benefit under Special Schemes ..	1,266	9	2,304	12	3,591	1,266	9	2,304	12	3,591	1,266	9	2,304	12	3,591		
Total of Insured Persons Unemployed ..	571,601	18,041	163,192	12,014	764,848	571,601	18,041	163,192	12,014	764,848	571,601	18,041	163,192	12,014	764,848		
Applicants for Unemployment Allowances ..	—	464	—	346	810	—	464	—	346	810	—	464	—	346	810		
Persons not applying for Allowances ..	3,038	—	4,487	—	7,525												

NUMBERS UNEMPLOYED: INDUSTRIAL ANALYSIS—continued.

INDUSTRY.	Great Britain.						United Kingdom.					
	Wholly Unemployed (including Casuals).			Temporarily Stopped.			Total.			Wholly Unemployed, Temporarily Stopped and Casuals.		
	Males aged 14 and under 65.	Females aged 14 and under 60.	Total.	Males aged 14 and under 65.	Females aged 14 and under 60.	Total.	Males aged 14 and under 65.	Females aged 14 and under 60.	Total.	Males aged 14 and under 65.	Females aged 14 and under 60.	Total.
Textiles —												
Cotton Preparing, Spinning, etc. . .	761	517	1,278	2,409	3,480	6,089	3,870	3,997	7,867	3,371	4,001	7,372
Cotton Manufacturing (Weaving, etc.)	455	380	835	3,621	7,413	11,034	4,078	7,793	11,871	4,078	7,793	11,871
Total, Cotton	1,216	897	2,113	6,230	10,893	17,123	7,948	11,790	19,738	7,449	11,794	19,243
Woolen and Worsted	256	176	432	579	254	833	835	430	1,265	911	463	1,374
Silk Spinning and Manufacture and Rayon, Nylon, etc. Weaving, etc. . .	158	107	265	1,422	1,337	2,759	1,580	1,444	3,024	1,586	1,489	3,075
Rayon, Nylon, etc. Yarn Manufacture	245	169	414	332	93	425	577	282	859	583	262	845
Linen	129	155	284	55	38	93	184	193	377	2,260	822	3,082
Jute	236	162	398	17	5	22	253	187	440	253	167	420
Hemp, Rope, Cord, Twine, etc. . .	189	298	487	96	56	152	285	354	639	328	393	721
Hosiery	166	301	467	1,238	325	1,563	1,404	698	2,102	1,413	646	2,059
Lace	27	27	54	325	91	416	352	118	470	352	120	472
Carpets	57	76	133	1,326	1,151	2,477	1,383	1,227	2,610	1,387	1,229	2,616
Other Textiles	480	385	865	1,224	794	2,018	1,704	1,179	2,883	1,743	1,292	3,035
Textile Bleaching, Printing, Dyeing, etc.	747	142	889	7,629	1,214	8,843	8,378	1,356	9,734	8,643	1,206	9,849
Total, Textiles	3,906	2,895	6,801	20,473	16,251	36,724	24,379	19,146	43,525	26,908	20,100	47,008
Leather, Leather Goods and Fur —												
Tanning, Currying and Dressing, etc.	628	164	792	842	243	1,085	1,470	407	1,877	1,486	414	1,900
Leather Goods	203	119	322	95	72	167	298	181	479	303	193	496
Total, Leather	831	283	1,114	937	315	1,252	1,768	588	2,356	1,789	607	2,396
Clothing —												
Tailoring	934	1,373	2,307	1,280	3,021	4,301	2,214	4,894	7,108	2,282	4,652	6,934
Dress Making and Millinery	174	392	566	62	205	267	336	597	933	237	622	859
Hats and Caps (including Straw Plait)	82	69	151	677	270	947	759	339	1,098	771	344	1,115
Shirts, Collars, Underclothing, etc. .	97	337	434	32	428	460	129	765	894	229	1,840	2,069
Other Dress Industries	72	91	163	60	51	111	132	142	274	135	144	279
Boots, Shoes, Slippers and Clogs . .	1,309	226	1,535	1,008	113	1,121	2,317	359	2,676	2,456	359	2,815
Total, Clothing	2,668	2,488	5,156	3,119	4,088	7,207	5,787	6,576	12,363	6,110	7,991	14,071
Food, Drink and Tobacco —												
Bread, Biscuits, Cakes, etc.	2,137	1,176	3,313	277	345	622	2,414	1,521	3,935	2,614	1,580	4,194
Grain Milling	410	206	616	65	12	77	475	218	693	556	225	781
Cocoa, Chocolate and Sugar Confectionery	503	361	864	301	521	822	804	882	1,686	808	885	1,693
Other Food Industries	2,170	1,480	3,650	654	763	1,417	2,324	5,067	7,391	2,528	5,568	8,096
Drink Industries	2,000	678	2,678	1,131	203	1,334	3,131	878	4,009	3,278	911	4,229
Tobacco, Cigars, Cigarettes and Snuff	477	215	692	33	18	51	510	83	593	561	322	883
Total, Food, Drink, etc.	7,697	4,113	11,810	2,461	1,862	4,323	10,158	5,975	16,133	10,877	6,451	17,328
Woodworking, etc. —												
Sawmilling and Machined Woodwork	2,546	648	3,194	1,998	455	2,453	4,544	1,103	5,647	4,814	1,104	5,918
Wood Boxes and Packing Cases . . .	512	189	701	163	109	272	675	298	973	685	300	985
Furniture Making, Upholstering, etc.	2,021	342	2,363	978	203	1,181	2,989	545	3,534	3,098	558	3,656
Other Woodworking	505	173	678	37	85	122	842	268	1,110	908	264	1,172
Total, Woodworking, etc.	5,584	1,352	6,936	3,476	852	4,328	9,060	2,304	11,364	9,605	2,226	11,731
Building and Civil Engineering Construction —												
Building	43,628	264	43,892	50,459	42	50,501	94,087	306	94,393	99,700	318	100,018
Civil Engineering Construction . . .	14,053	115	14,168	6,928	12	6,940	20,981	127	21,108	24,022	130	24,152
Total, Building, etc.	57,681	379	58,060	57,387	54	57,441	115,068	433	115,501	123,722	448	124,170
Paper, Printing, etc. —												
Paper and Paper Board	841	369	1,210	1,898	357	2,255	2,739	726	3,465	2,787	733	3,520
Cardboard Boxes, Paper Bags and Stationery	349	308	657	55	94	149	404	806	1,210	415	410	825
Wall Paper Making	36	5	41	421	34	455	457	39	496	457	39	496
Stationery and Typewriting Requisites (not paper)	52	35	87	12	3	15	64	38	102	64	38	102
Printing, Publishing and Book-binding	2,873	791	3,664	13,333	13,864	27,197	16,206	14,655	30,861	16,266	14,679	30,945
Total, Paper, Printing, etc.	4,151	1,508	5,659	16,719	14,352	31,071	19,870	15,860	35,730	19,899	15,899	35,798
Other Manufacturing Industries —												
Rubber	1,092	303	1,395	5,645	1,095	6,740	6,737	1,186	7,923	6,857	1,401	8,258
Oilcloth, Linoleum, etc.	219	99	318	107	17	125	327	118	445	329	119	448
Brushes and Brooms	146	90	236	137	182	319	283	272	555	307	273	580
Scientific and Photographic Instruments and Apparatus	658	260	918	211	82	293	809	342	1,151	876	348	1,224
Musical Instruments	122	22	144	49	9	58	171	31	202	172	31	203
Toys, Games and Sports Requisites .	225	140	365	36	86	122	261	228	489	278	231	509
Other Manufactures	1,437	676	2,113	794	507	1,301	2,231	1,183	3,414	2,372	1,201	3,573
Total, Other Manufacturing	3,899	1,590	5,489	6,980	1,778	8,758	10,779	3,568	14,347	11,191	3,604	14,795
Gas, Water and Electricity Supply —												
Transport and Communication—												
Railway Service	4,253	2,727	6,980	508	69	577	4,761	2,796	7,557	5,082	2,806	7,888
Tramway and Omnibus Service	2,284	2,037	4,321	698	126	824	2,982	5,145	8,127	3,125	2,169	5,294
Other Road Passenger Transport . . .	965	35	1,000	178	2	180	1,280	1,281	2,561	1,281	58	1,339
Goods Transport by Road	5,744	115	5,859	1,728	13	1,741	7,472	128	7,600	7,777	130	7,907
Shipping Service	5,006	84	5,090	280	5	285	5,288	89	5,377	5,517	90	5,607
Dock, Harbour, Canal, etc. Service:—												
Port Transport (Docks, Wharves, etc.)	5,136	71	5,207	275	8	283	5,411	79	5,490	6,547	79	6,626
Harbour, River and Canal Service . .	966	44	1,010	296	51	347	1,282	95	1,377	1,304	95	1,399
Total, Docks, Harbours, etc.	6,102	115	6,217	571	59	630	6,693	174	6,867	7,851	174	8,025
Other Transport, Communication, etc.	1,023	68	1,091	116	2	118	1,189	70	1,259	1,167	70	1,237
Total, Transport, etc.	25,377	5,201	30,578	4,079	276	4,355	29,456	5,477	34,933	31,770	5,497	37,267
Distributive Trades —												
Commerce, Banking, Insurance and Finance*	20,345	13,704	34,049	2,665	1,013	3,678	23,010	14,717	37,727	25,346	15,204	40,550
Miscellaneous Services —												
National Government Service (exc. National Fire Service)	16,732	6,063	22,795	1,623	222	1,845	18,355	6,285	24,640	20,683	6,673	27,356
National Fire Service	538	167	705	78	10	88	618	177	795	740	181	921
Local Government Service	10,363	3,220	13,583	1,185	131	1,316	11,548	3,351	14,899	12,346	3,399	15,745
Professional Services	1,842	1,543	3,385	112	65	177	1,954	1,608	3,562	2,076	1,661	3,737
Entertainments, Sports, etc.	4,233	1,767	6,000	375	222	597	4,808	1,989	6,797	4,797	2,054	6,851
Hotel, Boarding House, Restaurant, Club, Catering, etc. Service	8,087	9,304	17,391	380	620	1,000	8,467	9,924	18,391	8,993	10,376	19,369
Laundry Service	741	1,223	1,964	71	256	327	812	1,479	2,291	869	1,589	2,458
Job Dyeing, Dry Cleaning, etc.	215	273	488	160	530	690	878	1,178	2,056	915	1,203	2,118
Other Services†	4,170	1,220	5,390	1,058	564	1,622	5,228	1,784	7,012	5,540	1,803	7,343
Total, Miscellaneous	46,921	24,780	71,701	5,042	2,620	7,662	51,963	27,400	79,363	56,434	28,551	84,985
Ex-Service Personnel not Classified by Industry —												
Industry	49,884	3,608	53,492	11,952	143	12,095	61,836	3,751	65,587	64,797	3,911	68,708
GRAND TOTALS	347,206	102,989	450,195	242,436	72,217	314,653	589,642	175,206	764,848	628,921	180,553	809,474

* Persons insured under the Special Schemes for the banking and insurance industries are included in these figures.
 † Including private gardeners, grooms, gamekeepers, park gardeners, sports ground keepers, chauffeurs, hairdressers, window cleaners, etc.
 ‡ These are ex-Service personnel who have not yet been classified to a particular industry, although they may have had some employment since release or discharge from the Forces.
 § The totals include 3,566 male and 160 female unemployed casual workers in Great Britain and 5,401 males and 178 females in the United Kingdom.

WORK OF APPOINTMENTS DEPARTMENT.

MONTH

1947, 4.94 in January, 1947, and 5.11 in February, 1946. The corresponding figures for all workers who were effectively employed were 5.45, 5.30 and 5.43, respectively.

The statement of the Ministry of Fuel and Power also includes certain information about absenteeism in the coalmining industry; separate figures are given in respect of (a) voluntary absenteeism (absences for which no satisfactory reason is given), and (b) involuntary absenteeism (absences due mainly to sickness). The figures for February, 1946, and January and February, 1947, which are given in the Table below, represent the numbers of shifts lost through absenteeism, expressed as percentages of the total numbers of shifts that could have been worked.

Percentages of Shifts Lost through Absenteeism.

	February, 1946.		January, 1947.		February, 1947.	
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Coal-face workers:						
Voluntary	10.47	11.44	11.12	11.12	11.12	11.12
Involuntary	11.16	8.50	9.12	9.12	9.12	9.12
All workers:						
Voluntary	8.51	9.13	9.14	9.14	9.14	9.14
Involuntary	10.07	7.56	8.62	8.62	8.62	8.62

For face-workers the output per man-shift worked was 2.78 tons in February, 1947, compared with 2.81 tons in January, 1947, and 2.76 in February, 1946. The output per man-shift calculated on the basis of all workers was 1.05 tons in February, 1947.

EMPLOYMENT OVERSEAS.

AUSTRALIA.

According to information received by the Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics, the number employed in factories in October, 1946, was 0.6 per cent. higher than in September, 1946, and 4.2 per cent. higher than in October, 1945.

CANADA.

Returns received by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics from over 17,000 employers in industries other than agriculture and private domestic service indicate that the total number of workpeople in employment at 1st January, 1947, in the establishments covered by the returns was 2.4 per cent. lower than at 1st December, 1946, but 7.8 per cent. higher than at 1st January, 1946. The number of persons employed in manufacturing industries at 1st January, 1947, was 1.8 per cent. lower than at the beginning of the previous month, but 6.0 per cent. higher than at 1st January, 1946. The decrease in employment between December and January was mainly due to seasonal causes.

NEW ZEALAND.

Statistics compiled by the New Zealand National Employment Service show that the total number of male workers who were disengaged and registered for employment at 31st January, 1947, was 90 or 0.2 per 1,000 of the estimated total labour force, compared with 106 or 0.2 per 1,000 at 31st December, 1946. Of the total number of adult male workers registered at 31st January, 26 were fully employable; the corresponding figure for the end of December was 32. The number of female workers disengaged and registered for employment was very small at both dates.

ÉIRE.

The number of unemployed persons on the live register of Employment Exchanges at 29th March, 1947, was 72,033, compared with 74,968 at 22nd February, 1947. The decrease between the two dates is stated to be due partly to the operation of an Order made under the Unemployment Assistance Act, 1933, restricting during the period 5th March, 1947, to 22nd October, 1947, the eligibility for unemployment assistance of a particular class of persons living in rural areas. At 30th March, 1946, the number of persons on the live register was 73,662; this total is comparable with the figure for 29th March, 1947.

BELGIUM.

The average daily number of persons recorded as unemployed in Belgium during December, 1946, was 80,742, compared with 43,391 during November, and 120,742 during December, 1945. Approximately 2,262,000 working days were lost in December, 1946, as a result of unemployment, compared with about 998,000 in the previous month; the number of days lost from this cause in December, 1945, was nearly 3,383,000.

SWEDEN.

According to statistics compiled by the Swedish Social Board on the basis of returns from representative establishments, the number of manual workers employed in industrial and commercial undertakings in January, 1947, showed a slight increase over the previous month. The index number (based on the figure for September, 1939, taken as 100) was 96 in January, 1947, compared with 95 in December, 1946, and 97 in January, 1946.

Preliminary information received from trade unions with a total membership of approximately 864,000 showed that 4.9 per cent. of their members were unemployed at 31st December, 1946, compared with 2.8 per cent. (revised figure) at 30th November, 1946, and 6.7 per cent. at 31st December, 1945.

SWITZERLAND.

At the end of January, 1947, applications for employment were registered at Employment Exchanges by 15,411 persons, as compared with 11,126 at the end of December, 1946, and 21,817 at the end of January, 1946; these figures included employed persons who were seeking other employment. Offers of situations at the same dates numbered 5,328, 5,025 and 5,046, respectively. The number of registered applicants for employment at the end of January, 1947, who were wholly unemployed was 14,533 or 9.7 per thousand of the employed population (exclusive of apprentices) according to the census of 1930; the corresponding figures for December, 1946, were 10,155 or 7.1 per thousand, and those for January, 1946, were 19,582 or 13.6 per thousand.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

The number of civilians in employment in industries other than agriculture and domestic service in December, 1946, is estimated by the United States Department of Labor to have been approximately 40,795,000. This was 1.0 per cent. higher than the figure for November, 1946, and 8.9 per cent. higher than that for December, 1945; it was 34.4 per cent. above the average for the year 1939. The number of wage-earners employed in manufacturing industries in December, 1946, is estimated to have been 0.5 per cent. higher than in November, 1946, and 16.7 per cent. higher than in December, 1945; it was 49.9 per cent. above the average for the year 1939.

The United States Bureau of the Census estimate that the total number of unemployed persons in the United States of America at the middle of January, 1947, was approximately 2,400,000, compared with 2,120,000 at the middle of December, 1946, and with 2,300,000 at the middle of January, 1946.

STATUTORY RULES AND ORDERS.

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

The Boot and Shoe Repairing Wages Council (Great Britain) Wages Regulation Order, 1947 (S.R. & O. 1947, No. 399; price 1s. net (1s. 1d. post free)), dated 10th March, 1947; The Rubber Manufacturing Wages Council (Great Britain) Wages Regulation (No. 2) Order, 1947 (S.R. & O. 1947, No. 414), dated 12th March, 1947; The Baking Wages Council (Scotland) Wages Regulation Order, 1947 (S.R. & O. 1947, No. 440/S. 14; price 3d. net (4d. post free)), dated 13th March, 1947; The Baking Wages Council (Scotland) Wages Regulation (Holidays) Order, 1947 (S.R. & O. 1947, No. 441/S. 15; price 2d. net (3d. post free)), dated 13th March, 1947; The Baking Wages Council (England and Wales) Wages Regulation (No. 2) Order, 1947 (S.R. & O. 1947, No. 444; price 4d. net (5d. post free)), dated 14th March, 1947; The Fustian Cutting Wages Council (Great Britain) Wages Regulation Order, 1947 (S.R. & O. 1947, No. 454), dated 17th March, 1947; The Fustian Cutting Wages Council (Great Britain) Wages Regulation (Holidays) Order, 1947 (S.R. & O. 1947, No. 455; price 2d. net (3d. post free)), dated 17th March, 1947; and The Cotton Waste Reclamation Wages Council (Great Britain) Wages Regulation Order, 1947 (S.R. & O. 1947, No. 477; price 2d. net (3d. post free)), dated 20th March, 1947. These Orders were made by the Minister of Labour and National Service under the Wages Councils Act, 1945.—See page 138.

The Essential Work (Shipbuilding and Ship-repairing Orders) (Revocation) Order, 1947 (S.R. & O. 1947, No. 543), dated 26th March, made by the Minister of Labour and National Service under Regulation 58A of the Defence (General) Regulations, 1939.—This Order revokes, as from 2nd April, the Essential Work (Shipbuilding and Ship-repairing) Orders, 1942 and 1944. The two Orders which are now revoked were summarised in the issues of this GAZETTE for August, 1942 (page 147), and October, 1944 (page 161), respectively.

The Wages Regulation (Industrial and Staff Canteen Undertakings) (Amendment) Order, 1947 (S.R. & O. 1947, No. 605), dated 31st March, 1947, made by the Minister of Labour and National Service under the Catering Wages Act, 1943.—See page 139.

The Kiers Special Regulations (Northern Ireland), 1947 (S.R. & O. of Northern Ireland 1947, No. 9; price 4d. net (5d. post free)), dated 22nd January, 1947, made by the Ministry of Labour and National Insurance for Northern Ireland under the Factories Act (Northern Ireland), 1938.—These Regulations apply to all factories in which kiers are used for the purpose of boiling textile material. They will come into force on 1st May, 1947, except that certain Regulations will not apply until after the expiration of twelve months from that date.

See footnote in first column on page 139.

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

RATES OF WAGES.

In the industries covered by the Department's statistics,* the changes in rates of wages reported to have come into operation in the United Kingdom during March resulted in an aggregate increase estimated at approximately £18,000 in the weekly full-time wages of about 82,000 workpeople, and in a decrease of about £4,500 in the wages of about 194,000 workpeople. In addition, a number of workpeople had their hourly rates increased so as to give approximately the same weekly wages as before for a shorter working week.

The principal groups of workpeople affected by increases in rates of wages during March were those employed in papermaking and boardmaking, boot and shoe repairing, and the factory branch of the dressmaking and women's light clothing trade in Northern Ireland. There were slight increases for iron and steel workers in the West of Scotland and for workers employed in iron mining and limestone quarrying in Cumberland, resulting from the operation of arrangements under which wages fluctuate according to movements in the cost of living index figure.

In the papermaking and boardmaking industry there were increases of 1d. an hour for men and 3d. for other workers on daywork, and 1½d. an hour for men and 1d. for other workers on shiftwork. In boot and shoe repairing the general minimum time rates fixed under the Wages Councils Act were increased by 5s. 6d. a week for men and women. In the factory branch of the dressmaking and women's light clothing trade in Northern Ireland the general minimum time rates fixed under the Wages Councils Act were increased by 1½d. or 2½d. an hour for men, according to occupation, and by 1½d. or 1¾d. for women.

The industries in which wages rates were decreased during March included pig iron and iron and steel manufacture in most districts, iron mining and limestone quarrying in some districts, tobacco manufacture, and cinematograph film production. These reductions operated under cost-of-living sliding-scale arrangements.

Of the total increase of £18,000, about £10,000 was the result of direct negotiations between employers and workpeople or their representatives, and most of the remainder resulted from Orders made under the Wages Councils Acts.

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES IN JANUARY-MARCH, 1947.

The following Table shows the number of workpeople in the United Kingdom affected by increases in rates of wages reported to the Department during the first three months of 1947, and the net aggregate amounts of such increases. No workpeople were reported as having sustained a net decrease in this period.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING MARCH.

Industry.	District.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change. (Decreases in Italics.)
Building Brick and Allied Industries.	Southern Counties	3 Mar.	Adult male operators of mechanical shovels, dragline and ladder excavators, employed in the brick and tile making industry, (other than the Fletton, stock, sand-lime or concrete brick industries).	New minimum rates fixed for adult male operators of mechanical shovels, dragline and ladder excavators, in substitution for the rate previously fixed for drivers of mechanical excavators and diggers, resulting in increases of 1d. or 2d. an hour for certain operators, according to cubic capacity of excavator or shovel. Minimum rates after change: excavators or shovels of up to and including ½ cubic yard and all multi-bucket excavators 2s. 1d. an hour, from ¾ cubic yard up to and including 1 cubic yard 2s. 2d., over 1 cubic yard 2s. 3d.
Mining and Quarrying.	Cleveland .. .	3 Mar.	Iron-ore miners .. .	Flat-rate addition to wages, previously granted, decreased† by 1d. a shift (2s. 10d. to 2s. 9d.) for men and youths 18 years and over, and by ¾d. (1s. 5d. to 1s. 4½d.) for boys.
	South and West Durham.	3 Mar.	Limestone quarrymen .. .	Flat-rate addition to wages, previously granted, decreased† by 1d. a shift (2s. 10d. to 2s. 9d.) for men and youths 18 years and over, and by ¾d. (1s. 5d. to 1s. 4½d.) for boys.¶
	North Lincolnshire	2 Mar.	Ironstone miners and quarrymen.	Flat-rate addition to wages, previously granted, decreased† by 1.2d. a shift (5s. 0d. to 4s. 10.8d.) for men, by 0.9d. (3s. 8d. to 3s. 8.1d.) for youths 18 and under 21 years, and by 0.6d. (2s. 6d. to 2s. 5.4d.) for boys.
	Notts., Leics., parts of Lincs., Northants. and Banbury.	2 Mar.	Ironstone miners and quarrymen and limestone quarrymen.	Flat-rate addition to wages, previously granted, decreased† by 1d. a shift (4s. 6d. to 4s. 5d.) for men, by ¾d. (3s. 4½d. to 3s. 3½d.) for youths 18 and under 21 years, and by ¾d. (2s. 3d. to 2s. 2½d.) for boys.¶
	Cumberland .. .	31 Mar.	Iron-ore miners .. .	Cost-of-living bonus increased‡ at the rate of 0.7d. a shift for men and youths 18 years and over, and of 0.35d. for boys (calculated to the nearest halfpenny). Cost-of-living bonus after change, for 6 shifts worked: men and youths 14s. 11½d., boys 7s. 5½d.
	West Cumberland	31 Mar.	Limestone quarrymen .. .	Flat-rate addition to wages, previously granted, increased† by ¾d. a shift (2s. 3d. to 2s. 3½d.) for men and youths 18 years and over, and 1s. 1½d. to 1s. 2d. for boys.**
Coke Manufacture.	Cumberland, South Durham, Cleveland, Lincolnshire and Northants. (certain firms).	2 Mar.	Workpeople employed at coke oven plants attached to blastfurnaces.	Flat-rate addition to wages, previously granted, decreased† by 1.2d. a shift (5s. to 4s. 10.8d.) for men and for women and youths employed on men's work, by 0.9d. (3s. 9d. to 3s. 8.1d.) for youths 18 and under 21 years, and for women†† employed on youths' work, and by 0.6d. (2s. 6d. to 2s. 5.4d.) for boys and for girls doing boys' work.

* The particulars of numbers affected by changes in rates of wages and working hours, and of the amount of change in weekly wages and hours of labour, exclude changes affecting Government employees, shop assistants and clerks, for which classes the information available is not sufficient to form a basis for statistics. Where information is available, however, details of changes in the wages and hours of these classes are shown in the list of principal changes recorded. The estimates of the effects of the changes on weekly wages are based on normal conditions of employment and do not take into account the effect either of short time or of overtime.

† In addition to the numbers quoted, wages stand at the same level as at the beginning of the year in the case of 186,000 workpeople whose wages have been increased and reduced by equal amounts during the year.

‡ Under cost-of-living sliding-scale arrangements.

§ Wages are subject to a further flat-rate addition (not subject to sliding-scale arrangements) of 1s. 2d. a shift for men and youths 18 years and over when employed as dotal workers, and of 7d. for boys, or an addition, varying at different mines, on tonnage rates.

¶ Wages are subject to a further flat-rate addition (not subject to sliding-scale arrangements) of 1s. a shift for men and youths 18 years and over, and of 6d. for boys.

** Wages are subject to a further flat-rate addition (not subject to sliding-scale arrangements) of 1s. 2d. a shift for men, of 10½d. for youths 18 and under 21 years, and of 7d. for boys.

†† Additional war bonus, previously granted, of 3s. a shift worked for men and youths and of 1s. 6d. for boys, remained unchanged.

‡‡ Women aged 21 years and over are not to receive less than 4s. 8d. a shift, plus additions of 53.7, 62.5, 66.5 or 67.5 per cent. according to district, and a flat-rate addition of 4s. 10.8d.

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

Industry.	District.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change. (Decreases in <i>Italics</i> .)
Pig Iron Manufacture.	Cleveland, Durham, West Cumberland, North Lancs., North Lines, Staffs, Bilston, Derby, Notts., Leics., Northants., Corby, South Wales and Mon.	2 Mar.	Workpeople employed at blast-furnaces, except those whose wages are regulated by movements in other industries.	<i>Flat-rate addition to wages, previously granted, decreased* by 1-2d. a shift (5s. to 4s. 10-8d.) for men and for women and youths employed on men's work, by 0-9d. (3s. 9d. to 3s. 8-1d.) for youths 18 and under 21 years, and for women employed on youths' work, and by 0-6d. (2s. 6d. to 2s. 5-4d.) for boys and for girls doing boys' work.</i>
	West of Scotland.	Pay week beginning nearest 1 Mar.	Workpeople employed at certain blast-furnaces, excluding those engaged on maintenance work.	<i>Flat-rate addition to wages, previously granted, decreased* by 1d. a shift (4s. 10d. to 4s. 9d.) for men, with usual proportions for youths and boys, by 1d. (3s. 6d. to 3s. 5d.) for women 21 years and over, and by 0-5d. (1s. 9d. to 1s. 8-5d.) for girls.</i>
Iron and Steel Manufacture.	Great Britain†	2 Mar.	Workpeople employed in steel melting shops (melting, pitmen, slagmen, ladle-men, furnace helpers, gas producermen, semi-skilled workers and labourers, etc.).	<i>Flat-rate addition to wages, previously granted, decreased* by 1-2d. a shift (5s. to 4s. 10-8d.) for men and women, by 0-9d. (3s. 9d. to 3s. 8-1d.) for youths and girls 18 and under 21 years, and by 0-6d. (2s. 6d. to 2s. 5-4d.) for those under 18.</i>
	Great Britain‡	3 Mar.	Workpeople employed at steel sheet rolling mills.	do. do.
	North-East Coast Area.	2 Mar.	Workpeople employed at steel rolling mills.	do. do.
	Barrow-in-Furness	do.	Rail millmen, merchant millmen, enginemmen, crane-men, etc.	do. do.
	Workington	do.	Steel millmen and labourers (dual workers).	do. do.
	Scunthorpe	do.	Steel millmen, wagon builders and repairers.	do. do.
	Bilston	do.	Steel, millmen, maintenance men, etc.	do. do.
	West of Scotland	do.	Millmen, gas producermen, enginemmen, crane-men, firemen and mill labourers, semi-skilled workers and general labourers, and locomotive drivers and firemen employed at steel rolling mills.	do. do.
	North-East Coast	do.	Iron puddlers and millmen and semi-skilled workers, labourers, etc., employed at iron puddling furnaces and rolling mills on a 47-hour week.	do. do.
	Midlands and parts of South Yorkshire and South Lancashire.	Sunday preceding 1st pay day in Mar.	Workpeople employed at iron puddling furnaces and iron and steel rolling mills and forges, except those engaged on maintenance work.	<i>Flat-rate addition to wages, previously granted, decreased* by 1-2d. a shift (5s. 2-4d. to 5s. 1-2d.) for men and women 21 years and over, by 0-9d. (3s. 10-8d. to 3s. 9-9d.) for workers 18 years and under 21, and by 0-6d. (2s. 7-2d. to 2s. 6-6d.) for those under 18 years.</i>
	do.	Sunday preceding 1st pay day in Apr.	do.	<i>Flat-rate addition to wages, previously granted, increased* by 1-2d. a shift (5s. 1-2d. to 5s. 2-4d.) for men and women 21 years and over, by 0-9d. (3s. 9-9d. to 3s. 10-8d.) for workers 18 years and under 21, and by 0-6d. (2s. 6-6d. to 2s. 7-2d.) for those under 18 years.</i>
	West of Scotland	Pay period beginning 31 Mar.	Workpeople employed at iron puddling furnaces and mills and sheet mills.	<i>Flat-rate addition to wages, previously granted, increased* by 1-4d. a shift (5s. 0-2d. to 5s. 1-6d.) for men, by 1-05d. (3s. 9-15d. to 3s. 10-2d.) for youths 18 and under 21 years, by 0-7d. (2s. 6-1d. to 2s. 6-8d.) for boys under 18, by 0-8d. (3s. 1-6d. to 3s. 2-4d.) for women 21 and over, and by 0-4d. (1s. 6-8d. to 1s. 7-2d.) for girls under 21 years. (The additional war bonuses of 5s. a week for men and married youths and 2s. 6d. for other youths and boys remained unchanged.)</i>
	South-West Wales	2 Mar.	Workpeople employed in Siemens steel manufacture, except bricklayers and carpenters.	<i>Flat-rate addition to wages, previously granted, decreased* by 1d. a shift (3s. 10d. to 3s. 9d.) for men and for women employed on men's work, and by ½d. (1s. 11d. to 1s. 10½d.) for youths and boys, and for women employed on youths' and boys' work.</i>
Galvanising.	England and Wales.	3 Mar.	Galvanisers and ancillary workers employed at steel sheet works, other than those engaged in the process of annealing.	<i>Flat-rate addition to wages, previously granted, decreased* by 1-2d. a shift (5s. to 4s. 10-8d.) for men and women, by 0-9d. (3s. 9d. to 3s. 8-1d.) for youths and girls 18 and under 21 years, and by 0-6d. (2s. 6d. to 2s. 5-4d.) for those under 18.</i>
Tinplate Manufacture.	South Wales, Mon. and Gloucestershire.	2 Mar.	Men, women and juveniles, other than those engaged on maintenance work.	<i>Flat-rate addition to wages, previously granted, decreased* by 1-2d. a shift (5s. to 4s. 10-8d.) for men, and by 0-8d. (3s. 4d. to 3s. 3-2d.) for women and juveniles.</i>
Tube Manufacture.	Newport and Landore.	2 Mar.	Men, youths and boys.	<i>Cost-of-living bonus decreased* by 1-16d. a shift (4s. 10d. to 4s. 8-84d.) for men and by 0-58d. (2s. 5d. to 2s. 4-42d.) for youths and boys.</i>
Dressmaking and Women's Light Clothing Manufacture.	Northern Ireland.	5 Mar.	Men, youths and boys in the factory branch.	New general minimum time rates fixed for a 45-hour week, resulting in increases of 1½d. an hour for cutters, of 2½d. for other workers 22 years or over, of 1½d. to 3d., according to age, for younger workers, and of 2d. for late entrants 19 years or over; increases of 2½d. an hour in piecework basis time rates for cutters, and of 2½d. for other workers. Minimum time rates after change: cutters 2s. 2d. an hour, other workers 7d. at under 15 years of age rising to 1s. 9½d. at 22 years or over, late entrants 1s. 0½d. for first 6 months of employment and 1s. 0½d. for second 6 months.¶
			Women and girls in the factory branch, other than workers employed in hand embroidery, drawn thread work, thread drawing and sparring by hand.	New general minimum time rates fixed for a 45-hour week, resulting in increases of 1½d. an hour for conveyor belt machinists, of 1½d. for other workers except learners, and of ½d. to 1½d., according to period of employment, for learners; increases of 1½d. an hour in piecework basis time rate, and of 1½d. in guaranteed time rate for certain piece workers. Minimum time rates after change: conveyor belt machinists 1s. 3½d. an hour, other workers except learners 1s. 1½d., learners 6d. during first 6 months rising to 1½d. during 4th year.¶

* Under cost-of-living sliding-scale arrangements.

† Women aged 21 years and over are not to receive less than 4s. 8d. a shift, plus additions of 53-7, 62-5, 66-5 or 67-5 per cent. according to district, and a flat-rate addition of 4s. 10-8d.

‡ These increases affected mainly the employees of firms which are members of the Iron and Steel Trades Employers' Association, the principal districts concerned being the North-East Coast, Cumberland, Lancashire, South Yorkshire (excluding Sheffield special steels district), the Midlands, South Wales and West of Scotland.

§ These increases affected mainly the employees of firms which are members of the Sheet Trade Board, the districts concerned being Staffordshire, Cheshire, Tees-side, South Wales and Monmouthshire and the Glasgow district.

¶ These increases took effect under an Order issued under the Wages Councils Act (Northern Ireland). See also under "Changes in Hours of Labour," and page 103 of the March, 1947 issue of this GAZETTE.

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

Industry.	District.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change. (Decreases in <i>Italics</i> .)
Wholesale Mantle and Costume Making.	Northern Ireland.	10 Mar.	Women and girls.	Increases of 1½d. an hour (1s. to 1s. 1½d.) in general minimum time rates for female workers other than conveyor belt machinists and learners, of 1½d. (4½d. to 6d.) during first 6 months and ½d. (6d. to 6½d.) during second 6 months of employment for female learners commencing at 14 and under 15 years of age; increase of 2½d. an hour (1s. 1d. to 1s. 3½d.) in piecework basis time rate for female workers.*
Waterproof Garment Manufacture.	Lancashire and Cheshire (certain firms).	1st pay day in April for preceding pay week.	Male and female pieceworkers	Increases of 7½ per cent. (22½ to 30) in standard list prices of 1934 for single texture work and of 7½ per cent. (27½ to 35) for double texture work, on reduction of normal working week from 47 to 44 hours.†
Boot and Shoe Repairing.	Great Britain	28 Mar.	Men, youths, boys, women and girls	New general minimum time rates, and guaranteed time rates for certain workers when employed on piecework, fixed for a 45-hour week, resulting in increases of 5s. 6d. a week for men and women 21 years or over, and certain workers under 21, and of 2s. to 4s. 6d. for all other workers under 21. General minimum time rates after change for workers, 21 years or over, other than new entrants: men 90s. to 102s., according to occupation; women 69s. to 102s., according to occupation.‡
Baking.	Scotland	31 Mar.	Men, youths and boys	New minimum weekly rates fixed for a 47-hour week, with varying rates, according to commencing time of work, for workers not employed on a shift system or, according to shift, for those employed on a shift system, and higher rates in certain cases for workers who are usually required to work on a Sunday, resulting in increases of varying amounts. New minimum rates include: journeymen bakers 102s. to 115s., doughmakers and ovenmen 107s. to 120s., ingredient storemen 89s. 6d. to 100s., bakery workers 21 years or over 84s. 6d. to 95s.; the minimum rates payable to foremen and charge hands are 20s. and 10s. above the rates for journeymen bakers and male bakery workers, respectively.‡
			Women and girls	New minimum weekly rates fixed for a 47-hour week, resulting in increases of varying amounts. New minimum rates for workers 21 years or over: assistant bakers 68s. 9d., bakery workers 59s. 9d.; the minimum rate payable to charge hands is 10s. above the rate for female bakery workers.‡
Seed Crushing, Compound Food and Provender Manufacture.	Great Britain	31 Mar.	Electricians	Increase of 2s. 6d. a week in base rates for workpeople employed in Class "B2" districts as a result of the upgrading of all Class "B2" districts to Class "B" for wages purposes, and increase of 3s. 6d. for workpeople in Class "C" districts. Rates after change inclusive of war supplement: "Class A" 120s., "Class B" 112s., "Class C" 110s.
Tobacco Manufacture.	Great Britain	1 Mar.	Men, women and juveniles	<i>Decreases of 5½d. a week for men and 3½d. for women and juveniles in the existing additions on a time basis to the minimum rates of both time and pieceworkers.¶</i>
Box and Packing Case Making.	Northern Ireland.	Beginning of 1st full pay period following 12 Mar.	Men	Increase of ½d. an hour (2s. 1½d. to 2s. 2d.)¶
Papermaking, Papercoating and Board Making (excluding hand-made paper).	United Kingdom.	Beginning of 1st full pay period following 28 Mar.	Dayworkers	Increases of 1d. an hour for men 21 years and over, and of ½d. for women, youths, boys and girls; war bonus consolidated with basic rates. Minimum rates after change: men—2s. 0½d., 1s. 11½d., or 1s. 10½d., according to occupation, women—1s. 2½d.**
			Shiftworkers	Increases of 1½d. an hour for men 21 years and over, and of 1d. for youths and boys; war bonus consolidated with basic rates. Minimum rates after change: men—2s. 5d., 2s. 3d., 2s. 2d. or 2s. 1d., according to occupation.**
			Pieceworkers	Piecework prices to be such as to yield to a worker of ordinary ability, working with reasonable diligence, not less than 25 per cent above the minimum rate for a time worker of the same grade or age (instead of 20 per cent on the time rate before the addition of war bonus).
Road Haulage (Goods).	Great Britain	17 Mar.	Drivers, mates, heavy brakesmen and steersmen employed on mechanically propelled vehicles in the carriage of indivisible and abnormal indivisible loads.	Statutory rates of remuneration fixed for a 44-hour week, as follows: vehicles with carrying capacity of 6 tons and up to and including 10 tons, London area, drivers 115s., mates 96s.; over 10 tons to 16 tons, 122s., 96s.; over 16 tons to 20 tons, 128s., 99s.; over 20 tons to 25 tons, 133s., 103s.; over 25 tons to 45 tons, 138s., 103s.; over 45 tons 163s., 103s.; grade I and II areas, drivers 4s. less than London rates, mates 3s. less than London rates; heavybrakesmen and steersmen, London area 113s., grade I and II areas 110s.††
Wholesale Distribution (Co-operative Societies).	England and Wales.	Pay day in week commencing 25 Nov., 1946.‡‡	Clerical and sales staffs, warehouse workers, cleaners, door keepers, watchmen, lift attendants and general hands employed at main centres and depots by the Co-operative Wholesale Society Ltd.	Basic rates increased by 6s. to 13s. a week, according to age and occupation, for male workers employed in the London area, by 2s. to 9s. for those employed in the Provinces, by 6s. to 14s. for females in the London area and by 2s. to 10s. for those in the Provinces. Rates after change, including current war bonus: males, clerical and sales staff, London—38s. at 15 years rising to 113s. 6d. at 26, Provinces—35s. to 109s. 6d.; warehousemen, London—37s. to 103s. 6d. at 23, Provinces—34s. to 99s. 6d.; cleaners, door keepers, watchmen, lift attendants and general hands, London—36s. to 98s. 6d. at 23 years, Provinces—33s. to 94s. 6d.; females, clerical and sales staffs, London—36s. at 15 years rising to 89s. 6d. at 26 years, Provinces—33s. to 85s. 6d.; warehouse workers, London—35s. to 79s. 6d. at 23 years, Provinces—32s. to 75s. 6d.; cleaners, etc., London—34s. to 75s. 6d., Provinces—31s. to 71s. 6d. (Previously all age scales started at 14 and ended at 24 years of age.)
Sign Production and Display.	Great Britain	Pay day in week ending 8 Mar.	Production artists, sign, ticket, display and glass writers, poster writers, silk screen printers, carpenters, painters and general display workers.	New minimum rates fixed for a normal working week of 44 hours, as follows: production artists—London§ 3s. an hour, Provinces 2s. 10½d., sign, ticket, display and glass writers, 2s. 10½d., 2s. 9d., poster writers 2s. 9d., 2s. 7½d., silk screen printers grade I 2s. 7½d., 2s. 6d., grade II 2s. 5½d., 2s. 4d., carpenters, painters 2s. 7½d., 2s. 6d., general display workers—rates as for labourers in building industry, juniors—1½th of the appropriate adult rate at 14 years rising to 4½ths at 20 years; workers on permanent nightshifts to receive 3d. an hour extra.
Cinematograph Film Production.	Great Britain	1st Pay day in Mar.	Laboratory workers; cine-technicians whose normal salaries do not exceed £17 10s., a week; certain workers¶¶ employed in film laboratories.	<i>Bonus decreased by 6d. a week (24s. 6d. to 24s.) at 21 years and over and by 4d. (16s. 4d. to 16s.) at under 21.</i>
	United Kingdom.	do.	Technical workers, including learners, employed in producing newsreels.	do. do.

* These increases took effect under an Order issued under the Wages Councils Act (Northern Ireland). See page 138 of this GAZETTE.

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

‡ These increases took effect under an Order issued under the Wages Councils Act. See also under "Changes in Hours of Labour," and page 138 of this GAZETTE.

§ Under cost-of-living sliding-scale arrangements.

¶ These decreases took effect under a Confirming Order issued under the Wages Councils Act.

¶¶ This increase was the result of an award of the National Arbitration Tribunal (Northern Ireland).

** It is provided that all workers are to receive these increases, except where a greater increase is necessary to raise a worker's rate of wage to the new minimum rate.

†† These rates are contained in an Order made under the Road Haulage Wages Act. See also under "Changes in Hours of Labour," and page 79 of the March, 1947, issue of this GAZETTE.

‡‡ These increases were agreed on 8th March, and made retrospective to the date shown.

§§ London area is defined as the area within 15 miles radius of Charing Cross, and Provincial area as all areas outside the London area.

¶¶ Carpenters are to receive a tool allowance of 2d. a day.

¶¶¶ Including boiler attendants, stores foremen, transport mechanics, transport drivers, charge hand cleaners, cleaners, commissionaires, doormen and gatemen, charge hand painters, painters, painters' mates, carpenters, carpenters' mates and general labourers.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN HOURS OF LABOUR REPORTED DURING MARCH.

Industry.	District.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change.
Soap, Candle and Edible Fat Manufacture.	Great Britain	3 Mar.	Men, youths, boys, women and girls.	Normal working week reduced from 44 to 42 hours (to be counted over 5 days) for Class 1 firms, and from 48 to 45 hours (to be counted over 5 or 5½ days) for Class 2 firms.
Shipbuilding and Ship-repairing.	All federated ship-building and ship-repairing centres in the United Kingdom.	Beginning of 1st full pay-bill week commencing in Mar.	Workpeople employed in the shipbuilding and ship-repairing industry.	Normal weekly working hours reduced from 47 to 44 (dayshift hours to be worked over 5½ days for the four months commencing with the first full paybill week in November, and over 5 days for the eight months commencing with the first full paybill week in March, and nightshift hours to be worked over 5 nights throughout the year.)*
Orthopaedic and Surgical Appliance Manufacture.	England and Wales (excluding Sheffield).	Beginning of pay period ending in week commencing 24 Mar.	Men, youths and boys employed in the manufacture of artificial limbs and orthopaedic appliances.	Normal weekly working hours reduced from 47 to 44.
Dressmaking and Women's Light Clothing Manufacture.	Northern Ireland	5 Mar.	Workpeople employed in the factory branch.	Normal weekly hours beyond which overtime rates become payable reduced from 48 to 45.†
Waterproof Garment Manufacture.	Lancashire and Cheshire (certain firms).	1st pay day in April.	Men, youths, boys, women and girls.	Normal working week reduced from 47 to 44 hours (to be worked over 5 days).‡
Boot and Shoe Repairing.	Great Britain	28 Mar.	Men, youths, boys, women and girls.	Number of weekly hours beyond which overtime rates become payable reduced from 48 to 45.§
Baking.	Scotland	31 Mar.	Men, youths, boys, women and girls.	Normal working week reduced from 47 to 46 hours.¶
	do.	do.	Men, youths, boys, women and girls.	Normal working week reduced from 48 to 47 hours.¶
Beet-Sugar Manufacture.	Great Britain	3 Mar.	Workpeople employed in beet sugar factories in the off-season and refining periods.	Normal working week reduced from 47 to 44 hours.
Morning and Evening Newspaper Printing.	England and Wales (except London).	30 Mar.	Dayworkers	Normal weekly hours reduced from 42 to 40 (to be worked in five shifts).
			Nightworkers	Normal weekly hours reduced from 39½ to 37½, or 36½ for night linotype operators and night rotary machine minders (to be worked in five shifts).
Local Authority Services.	Scotland	Beginning of 1st full working week commencing after 1 Mar.	Manual workers employed in non-trading services, except those whose wages are regulated by movements in other industries.	Normal working week reduced from 48 to 44 hours.
Road Haulage (Goods).	Great Britain	17 Mar.	Drivers and mates of mechanically propelled vehicles, foremen, removal packers and porters employed in furniture warehousing and removing, statutory attendants and other road haulage workers.	Normal working week reduced from 48 to 44 hours (to be worked in 5 or 5½ days by regular workers, other than milk workers).¶
Distribution.	United Kingdom	13 Mar.	Workpeople employed by the Petroleum Board in the storage and distribution of petroleum products.	Normal working week reduced from 48 to 44 hours.

* See article on page 40 of the February, 1947, issue of this GAZETTE.
 † This reduction took effect under an Order issued under the Wages Councils Act (Northern Ireland). See also under "Changes in Rates of Wages," and page 103 of the March, 1947, issue of this GAZETTE.
 ‡ Current minimum weekly time rates to remain unchanged: for piece rates see under "Changes in Rates of Wages."
 § These reductions took effect under Orders issued under the Wages Councils Act. See also under "Changes in Rates of Wages," and page 138 of this GAZETTE.
 ¶ This reduction took effect under the terms of a National Agreement. The normal hours of labour before this reduction were 47 hours (maximum) and shorter hours were in operation in many areas. The reduction applies only to those districts in which the normal hours were 47 per week. The normal working week is to be further reduced from 46 to 45 hours as from 29th September, 1947.
 ¶ This reduction took effect under an Order made under the Road Haulage Wages Act. Weekly rates of remuneration remain unchanged. See also under "Changes in Rates of Wages," and article on page 79 of the March, 1947, issue of this GAZETTE.

PERCENTAGE INCREASES IN RATES OF WAGES SINCE SEPTEMBER, 1939.

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

or changes in piece-work earnings due to such factors as the introduction of new machinery, extra exertion on the part of the workers, etc. The percentage increases since September, 1939, have varied considerably in different industries, and in combining these percentages into the general averages shown in the following Table account has been taken of the approximate total pre-war wages bill in the various industries.

Date.	Estimated Percentage Increase in Weekly Wage Rates since September, 1939.	Date.	Estimated Percentage Increase in Weekly Wage Rates since September, 1939.
1946 January	57	1946 August	63-64
February	57-58	September	64
March	58	October	64
April	59-60	November	65
May	60-61	December	65
June	61	1947 January	65
July	63-64	February	65-66
		March	65-66

TRADE DISPUTES IN MARCH.

Number and Magnitude.—The number of industrial disputes involving stoppages of work* in the United Kingdom, reported to the Department as beginning in March, was 159. In addition, 12 stoppages which began before March were still in progress at the beginning of that month. The approximate number of workers involved, during March, in these 171 stoppages, including workers thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, is estimated at 52,000. The aggregate number of working days lost at the establishments concerned, during March, was about 112,000.

Of the stoppages of work through industrial disputes known to have been in progress at some time in March, the coal mining industry accounted for 87, involving over 10,000 workers, and resulting in an aggregate loss of nearly 13,000 working days.

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

Industry Group.	Number of Stoppages in progress in Month.			Number of Workers involved in all Stoppages in progress in Month.	Aggregate Number of Working Days lost in all Stoppages in progress in Month.
	Started before beginning of Month.	Started in Month.	Total.		
Fishing	1	86	87	2,000	11,000
Coal Mining .. .	1	86	87	10,400	13,000
Metal, Engineering and Shipbuilding .. .	6	46	52	26,700	42,000
Transport .. .	2	14	16	8,200	32,000
All Other Industries ..	3	12	15	4,600	14,000
Total, March, 1947 ..	12	159	171	51,900	112,000
Total, February, 1947 ..	14	137	151	50,000	158,000
Total, March, 1946 ..	21	204	225	56,000	274,000

In the 159 stoppages which began during March, nearly 29,000 workers were directly involved, and over 2,000 indirectly involved (i.e., thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, but not themselves parties to the disputes). In the 12 stoppages which began before March, and were still in progress at the beginning of that month, the total number of workers involved during March, either directly or indirectly, was about 21,000.

Duration.—Of 153 stoppages of work, owing to disputes, which ended during March, 80, directly involving 9,800 workers, lasted not more than one day; 29, directly involving 5,100

workers, lasted two days; 16, directly involving 2,700 workers, lasted three days; 15, directly involving 1,300 workers, lasted four to six days; and 13, directly involving 48,700 workers, lasted over six days.

Causes.—Of the 159 disputes leading to stoppages of work which began in March, 14, directly involving 2,500 workers, arose out of demands for advances in wages, and 58, directly involving 5,500 workers, on other wage questions; 8, directly involving 2,700 workers, on questions as to working hours; 20, directly involving 6,600 workers, on questions respecting the employment of particular classes or persons; 53, directly involving 9,900 workers, on other questions respecting working arrangements; and 4, directly involving 700 workers, on questions of trade union principle. Two stoppages, directly involving 800 workers, were in support of workers involved in other disputes.

TOTALS FOR THE FIRST THREE MONTHS OF 1947 AND 1946.
 The following Table gives an analysis, by groups of industries, of all stoppages of work through industrial disputes in the United Kingdom in the first three months of 1947 and in the corresponding months of 1946:—

Industry Group.	January to March, 1947.			January to March, 1946.		
	Number of Stoppages beginning in period.	Number of Workers involved in all Stoppages in progress.	Aggregate Number of Working Days lost in all Stoppages in progress.	Number of Stoppages beginning in period.	Number of Workers involved in all Stoppages in progress.	Aggregate Number of Working Days lost in all Stoppages in progress.
Fishing	1	2,000	11,000	1	2,000	11,000
Coal Mining .. .	264	34,300†	48,000	351	52,000†	101,000
Engineering .. .	28	3,200	10,000	57	36,700	283,000
Shipbuilding .. .	41	54,400	263,000	30	3,800	39,000
Iron and Steel and Other Metal .. .	25	5,100	9,000	48	8,100	38,000
Textile .. .	5	800	4,000	15	3,300	13,000
Clothing .. .	4	500	6,000	12	7,200	55,000
Food, Drink and Tobacco .. .	6	400	1,000	5	1,600	10,000
Building, etc. .. .	13	1,800	6,000	12	400	1,000
Transport .. .	31	46,800	216,000	26	14,400	28,000
Distribution, Commerce, etc.	10	9,900	49,000	3	300	3,000
All Other Industries ..	31	6,300	59,000	29	2,200	6,000
Total ..	459	165,500†	682,000	588	130,000†	577,000

PRINCIPAL DISPUTES INVOLVING STOPPAGES OF WORK DURING MARCH.

Occupations and Locality.	Approximate Number of Workers Involved.		Date when Stoppage		Cause or Object.	Result.
	Directly.	In-directly.‡	Began.	Ended.		
FISHING:— Trawler crews—Hull.	2,000§	..	6 Mar.	16 Mar.	Dispute respecting the employment of deck hands on dual duties and demand for provision of additional engine-room personnel.	Dispute referred to Trawl Fishing Industry Joint Industrial Council and agreement reached providing for an increase in the payment for dual duties and for the employment of an additional trimmer on all vessels above a certain length.
ENGINEERING, SHIPBUILDING AND SHIP REPAIRING:— Ship repairing workers—Swansea ..	400	..	4 Mar.	15 Mar.	Objection to the introduction of a time-checking system.	Work resumed on the understanding that the time-checking system would be in full operation by 11th April, 1947.
Workers employed in shipbuilding and ship repairing—Glasgow.	1,010	..	3 Mar.	5 Mar.	Objection to the rearrangement of working hours on the introduction of a 5-day week of 44 hours provided for in a national agreement.	Work resumed pending negotiations.
Engineering operatives—Glasgow.	290	..	4 Mar.	4 Mar.	In sympathy with the workers involved in the above dispute.	
TRANSPORT:— 'Bus drivers, conductors and depot workers—Wiltshire, Hampshire and Dorsetshire.	1,680	..	15 Mar.	15 Mar.	Dissatisfaction with progress of negotiations between workpeople's trade union and National Council of the Omnibus Industry on claims for improved working conditions.	Work resumed.
Dock workers—Glasgow.	3,450	..	24 Mar.	..	Objection to the proposed discharge of a number of men as redundant.	No settlement reported.
HOTEL SERVICES:— Hotel waiters, waitresses, kitchen staffs, etc.—London.	750	..	13 Mar.	21 Mar.	Demand for the re-instatement of a shop steward who had been suspended for indiscipline.	Work resumed after the recommendations of a committee of enquiry, set up to enquire into the dispute, had been made known.
	570	..	17 Mar.	21 Mar.	In support of workers involved in the above dispute.	

* Stoppages of work due to disputes not connected with terms of employment or conditions of labour are excluded from the statistics. In addition, stoppages involving less than 10 workers, and those which lasted less than one day, are also excluded, unless the aggregate number of working days lost exceeded 100. The figures for the month under review are provisional and subject to revision; those for earlier months have been revised where necessary in accordance with the most recent information.
 † Some workers, chiefly in the coal mining industry, were involved in more than one stoppage and are counted more than once in the totals. The net number of individuals involved in coal mining stoppages in the period under review in 1947 was approximately 30,000 and in the corresponding period in 1946 was approximately 40,000. For all industries combined the corresponding net totals were approximately 150,000 and 115,000, respectively.
 ‡ i.e., thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, but not themselves parties to the disputes.
 § Estimated maximum number involved.

CHANGES IN RETAIL PRICES AND COST OF LIVING.

INDEX FIGURES FOR 1st APRIL, 1947.

Rise since July, 1914	68%	103%
Fall since 1st March, 1947.	1	1
Index Points	1	1
Per cent.	1/2*	1/2*

FOOD.

At 1st April the average price of ordinary cheese was about 3d. per lb. lower than at 1st March, following an Order made by the Minister of Food reducing the maximum permitted price by that amount. The retail prices of the other articles of food included in the index showed no appreciable changes between 1st March and 1st April.

For the articles of food included within the scope of these statistics, the following Table compares the average prices in the United Kingdom at 1st April, 1947, with the corresponding prices at 1st March, 1947, and 1st September, 1939:—

Article.	Average Price (per lb. unless otherwise indicated) to the nearest 1d., at—			Percentage Increase or Decrease (—) at 1st April, 1947, compared with—	
	1st Apr., 1947.	1st Mar., 1947.	1st Sept., 1939.	1st Mar., 1947.	1st Sept., 1939.
Beef, British—	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Ribs	1 3½	1 3½	1 2½	..	11
Thin Flank ..	0 9½	0 9½	0 7½	..	27
Beef, Chilled or Frozen					
Ribs	1 1	1 1	0 9½	..	35
Thin Flank ..	0 6	0 6	0 4½	..	23
Mutton, British—					
Legs	1 5½	1 5½	1 3½	..	13
Breast	0 8	0 8	0 7½	..	8
Mutton, Frozen—					
Legs	1 0	1 0	0 10½	..	16
Breast	0 4	0 4	0 4	..	..
Bacon†	1 10½	1 10½	1 3	..	50
Fish					
Flour .. per 6 lb.	1 3	1 3	0 11½	..	31
Bread .. per 3½ lb.	0 9	0 9	0 7½	..	25
Tea	2 10	2 10	2 4	..	21
Sugar (granulated) ..	0 4	0 4	0 3	..	32
Milk .. per quart	0 9	0 9	0 6½	..	32
Butter—					
Fresh	1 6	1 6	1 4½	..	9
Salt			1 3½	..	18
Cheese	10	1 1	0 10	—23	..
Margarine—					
Special	0 9	0 9	0 6½	..	12
Standard	0 5	0 5	..	..	..
Eggs (fresh)§ .. each	0 2	0 2	..	..	1
Potatoes .. per 7 lb.	0 7½	0 7½	0 6½	—1	14

The following Table shows the average percentage changes in prices at 1st September, 1939, 1st March, 1947, and 1st April, 1947, respectively, as compared with July, 1914:—

Article.	Average Percentage Increase or Decrease (—) since July, 1914, at—		
	1st Sept., 1939.	1st Mar., 1947.	1st Apr., 1947.
Beef, British—	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Ribs	44	59	59
Thin Flank ..	15	46	46
Beef, Chilled or Frozen—			
Ribs	32	79	79
Thin Flank ..	1	24	24
Mutton, British—			
Legs	48	67	67
Breast	14	24	24
Mutton, Frozen—			
Legs	51	75	75
Breast	—3	—3	—3
Bacon†	35	102	102
Fish	116	138	138
Flour	26	66	66
Bread	42	78	78
Tea	52	85	85
Sugar (granulated) ..	46	93	93
Milk	92	154	154
Butter—			
Fresh	13	23	23
Salt	7	27	27
Cheese	—16	51	16
Margarine	3	3	3
Eggs (fresh)	58	60	60
Potatoes	33	53	52
All above articles (Weighted Average on July, 1914, basis)	38	69	68

On the basis of the figures given in the foregoing Tables the average level of retail prices, at 1st April, 1947, of the articles of food specified was about 68 per cent. higher than in July, 1914, and about 22 per cent. higher than at the beginning of September, 1939.

* A fall of 1 point on a total of 169 for "food" (the figure for July, 1914, being 100) is equivalent to rather more than one-half of 1 per cent. Similarly, a fall of 1 point on a total of 204 for "all items" is equivalent to about one-half of 1 per cent.

† The description of bacon specified for quotation is streaky, but where this kind is seldom being sold the returns relate to another kind, locally representative.

‡ This figure is an average calculated from the prices of various brands of margarine on sale at 1st September, 1939.

§ Of the two prices shown for eggs at 1st April and 1st March, 1947, 2d. was for large eggs (in Ministry of Food category I) and 1½d. for small eggs (in category II). At 1st September, 1939, the average price for eggs, as shown by the returns received, was between 1½d. and 2d.

ITEMS OTHER THAN FOOD.

The average level of working-class rents (including rates) at 1st April was about the same as at 1st March, being nearly 4 per cent. above the level of 1st September, 1939, and about 68 per cent. above that of July, 1914. A substantial part of the increase since 1914 is accounted for by increases in rates.

As regards clothing, changes in retail prices during March were relatively slight. Owing to the wide range of quotations, to changes in qualities, and to the variations in the extent to which different articles have been affected by price changes, it is not possible to make exact comparisons over a period of many years, but the available information (based on returns from representative retailers in a large number of towns) indicates that at 1st April the average level of prices was about 64 per cent. higher than at 1st September, 1939, and about 240 to 245 per cent. above the level of July, 1914.

In the fuel and light group, the average level of retail prices of coal at 1st April was about 1 per cent. above the level of a month earlier, as a result of increases in many towns which took effect during March: the average level of prices was about 59 per cent. higher than at 1st September, 1939, and about 208 per cent. above the level of July, 1914. The average price of gas at 1st April was about the same as a month earlier, being about 40 per cent. higher than at 1st September, 1939, and about 117 per cent. higher than in July, 1914. There were no appreciable changes in the prices of lamp oil, candles, or matches during the month. For the fuel and light group as a whole the index figure at 1st April was about 55 per cent. higher than at 1st September, 1939, and about 183 per cent. higher than in July, 1914.

As regards other items* included in these statistics, there were some increases during March in the prices of domestic pottery. In the "other items" group as a whole the average level of prices at 1st April was about 69 per cent. higher than at 1st September, 1939, and about 202 per cent. above the level of July, 1914.

ALL ITEMS.

If the average increases in the cost of all the foregoing items are combined in accordance with their relative importance in working-class family expenditure prior to August, 1914, the resultant general average increase at 1st April, 1947, is approximately 103 per cent. over the level of July, 1914, as compared with 104 per cent. at 1st March, 1947, and with 55 per cent. at 1st September, 1939. The result of this calculation (in which the same quantities and, as far as possible, the same qualities of each item are taken at each date) is to show the average percentage increase in the United Kingdom in the cost of maintaining unchanged the standard of living prevailing in working-class families prior to August, 1914, no account being taken of any changes in the standard of living or of any readjustments in consumption since that date.

The rise of 48 points since the beginning of September, 1939, is equivalent to about 31 per cent. Of these 48 points, about 4½ points represent the effect of the increases, since that date, in the taxes on sugar, tobacco and cigarettes, and matches, and rather more than one-half of a point is due to increases resulting from the Purchase Tax.

INDEX FIGURES: 1930 to 1947.

The following Table shows the average percentage increase in the United Kingdom for all items at the beginning of each month as compared with July, 1914.

Year.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1930 ..	66	64	61	57	55	54	55	57	57	56	57	55
1931 ..	53	52	50	47	47	45	47	45	45	45	46	48
1932 ..	47	47	46	44	43	42	43	41	41	43	43	43
1933 ..	42	41	39	37	36	36	38	39	41	41	43	43
1934 ..	42	41	40	39	37	38	41	42	43	43	44	44
1935 ..	43	42	41	39	39	40	43	43	43	45	47	47
1936 ..	47	47	46	44	44	44	46	46	47	48	51	51
1937 ..	51	51	51	51	52	52	55	55	55	58	60	60
1938 ..	59	57	56	54	56	55	59	56	56	56	56	56
1939 ..	55	55	53	53	53	53	56	55	53	65	69	73
1940 ..	74	77	79	78	80	81	87	85	87	89	92	95
1941 ..	96	97	97	98	100	100	99	99	99	100	101	101
1942 ..	100	100	100	99	100	99	100	101	100	100	100	100
1943 ..	99	99	99	98	99	98	100	99	98	99	99	99
1944 ..	99	100	100	100	100	100	101	102	102	101	101	101
1945 ..	102	102	102	102	103	104	107	105	103	103	103	103
1946 ..	103	103	103	103	104	103	105	105	103	103	103	104
1947 ..	104	103	104	103	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

A detailed account of the method of compilation of these statistics, "The Cost of Living Index Number: Method of Compilation," is obtainable, price 2d. net (3d. post free), from H.M. Stationery Office, at the addresses shown on the front cover of this GAZETTE.

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

RETAIL PRICES OVERSEAS.

In the Table below a summary is given of the latest information relating to changes in retail prices and cost of living in overseas countries, contained in official publications received since last month's issue of this GAZETTE was prepared.

Country and Base of Index.*	Latest Period for which Index Figure is Available.	Index Figure.	Rise (+) or Fall (—) of Index Figure compared with Previous Month (in Index Points).	Rise of Index Figure since August, 1939.†	
				Index Points.	Per Cent.
EUROPEAN COUNTRIES:					
Czechoslovakia (Prague) (March, 1939=100)					
All Items	Feb. (middle)	312.8	+ 2.5	212.8†	213†
Food	" "	316.1	+ 3.5	216.1†	216†
Eire (July, 1914=100)					
All Items	Feb.	295	+ 2†	122	71
Food	" "	271	+ 3†	113	72
France (Paris) (1938=100)					
Food	Feb.	851	+ 4	743	688
Italy (Rome) (1938=100)					
All Items	Jan.	2,830	+ 147	2,730†	2,730†
Food	" "	3,858	+ 268	3,758†	3,758†
Portugal (Lisbon) (July, 1938—June, 1939=100)					
All Items*	Dec.	209.3	+ 3.3	110.6	112
Food	" "	219.2	+ 4.0	120.8	123
OTHER COUNTRIES:					
Ceylon (Colombo) (Nov., 1942=100)					
All Items	Jan.	133	+ 2	§	§
Food	" "	121	+ 3	||	||
India (Bombay) (July, 1933—June, 1934=100)					
All Items	Jan.	267	— 12	162	154
Food	" "	328	— 22	216	193
Jamaica (Kingston) (Aug., 1939=100)					
All Items	Jan.	178.00	+ 3.07	78.00	78
Food	" "	163.93	+ 1.74	63.93	64
Southern Rhodesia (Aug., 1939=100)					
All Items	Feb.	133.7	+ 0.2	33.7	34
Food	" "	137.6	+ 2.7	37.6	38
United States (1935-39=100)†					
All Items	Jan. (middle)	153.1	— 0.2	54.5	55
Food	" "	183.8	— 2.1	90.3	97

UNEMPLOYMENT FUND.

The following Table shows, approximately, the receipts and payments of the Unemployment Fund** in Great Britain for the periods stated:—

	Thirteen weeks ended 29th March, 1947.	Thirteen weeks ended 28th Dec., 1946.	Thirteen weeks ended 30th March, 1946.
(1) General Account.	£	£	£
Contributions received from:—			
Employers	6,338,000	6,605,000	5,873,000
Employed persons	6,338,000	6,605,000	5,873,000
Service Depts.††	116,000	1,663,000	5,584,000
Exchequer	6,313,000	7,436,000	8,665,000
Miscellaneous Receipts	4,352,000	588,000	4,345,000
Total Income	23,457,000	22,897,000	30,340,000
Benefit	10,976,000	5,473,000	5,807,000
Cost of Administration	1,471,000	1,092,000	1,177,000
Miscellaneous Payments	122,000	140,000	65,000
Total Expenditure	12,569,000	6,705,000	7,049,000
(2) Agricultural Account.			
Contributions received from:—			
Employers	113,000	107,000	108,000
Employed persons	112,000	106,000	107,000
Exchequer	112,000	107,000	107,000
Miscellaneous Receipts	117,000	17,000	123,000
Total Income	454,000	337,000	445,000
Benefit	112,000	35,000	113,000
Cost of Administration	42,000	40,000	40,000
Miscellaneous Payments	1,000	—	2,000
Total Expenditure	155,000	75,000	155,000

* The items of expenditure on which the "all-items" index figures are based are food, house-rent, clothing, fuel and light, and other or miscellaneous items, except in the case of Portugal, for which country the figure relates to the cost of food, fuel and light, and certain other household articles only.

† In the following countries the comparison is with a period other than August, 1939: Czechoslovakia, March, 1939; Italy, average of 1938.

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

§ Linked with the earlier series of index figures for Ceylon (base, November, 1938, to April, 1939=100), the "all-items" figure for January, 1947, was 244, an increase of 5 points compared with the previous month and of 143 points or 142 per cent. compared with August, 1939.

|| Not stated.

†† Official consumers' price index for wage earners and lower salaried officials in large cities.

** A detailed account of the Fund is presented to Parliament annually (see H.C. 62 of Session 1945-46 for the period ended 31st March, 1945).

†† Contributions made under Section 96 of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1935.

UNEMPLOYMENT ALLOWANCES.

a general indication of the probable releases during the months April to June, inclusive. Details of the provisional programme for later periods have now been issued.

In reply to a question in the House of Commons on 18th March, the Minister of Labour and National Service supplied a statement giving the provisional programme in detail for the period April to September, 1947, inclusive. During this period the estimated number of men and women to be released and discharged will be approximately 308,750*, making the cumulative total from 18th June, 1945, to the end of September, 1947, approximately 4,717,300. The statement also indicates the release groups which it is hoped to reach by the end of 1947. This programme will achieve the Government's aim of releasing in the present year all men called up before 1st January, 1944. As on previous occasions, however, the Minister emphasised that compulsory deferment of release of individuals would continue to be necessary, and, as in the past, there would be some inequality in the rate of release for certain branches, categories and trades of the Royal Navy and Royal Air Force.

The provisional programme for the Forces and Auxiliary Services in respect of the period April to September, 1947, is set out below.

Period.	Men.		Women.	
	Age and Service Groups (Class A releases).	Estimated Number of Releases and Discharges.	Age and Service Groups (Class A releases).	Estimated Number of Releases and Discharges.
Royal Navy.				
(Average)				
April	60	4,500	63	200
May	61	4,500	64	200
June	62	5,000	65	200
July	63	5,000	66	200
August	64	4,500	67	200
September	65	4,500	68	200
Total: Apr.—Sept.	60-Pt. 65	28,000	63-68	1,200
Army.				
(Actual)				
April	Pt. 48 and Pt. 49	34,900	Pt. 57 — Pt. 59	2,500
May	Pt. 49 — Pt. 51	46,700	Pt. 59 — Pt. 61	2,590
June	Pt. 51 — Pt. 53	44,600	Pt. 61 and Pt. 62	2,500
July	Pt. 53 — Pt. 55	31,900	Pt. 62 and Pt. 63	2,590
August	Pt. 55 — Pt. 57	28,400	Pt. 63 and Pt. 64	2,590
September	Pt. 57 and 58	27,500	Pt. 64 and Pt. 65	2,500
Total: Apr.—Sept.	Pt. 48 — 58	214,000	Pt. 57 — Pt. 65	15,270
Royal Air Force.				
(Gen. Level)				
April	Pt. 54	7,800	Pt. 55 — Pt. 57	1,080
May	Pt. 55	8,200	Pt. 57 and Pt. 58	1,080
June	Pt. 55 and Pt. 56	6,910	Pt. 58	1,120
July	Pt. 56 and Pt. 57	5,820	Pt. 58 and Pt. 59	1,850
August	Pt. 57	5,800	Pt. 59 and Pt. 60	1,850
September	Pt. 57 and Pt. 58	6,290	Pt. 60 and Pt. 61	1,840
Total: Apr.—Sept.	Pt. 54 — Pt. 58	40,820	Pt. 55 — Pt. 61	8,820

With regard to the last quarter of 1947, it is expected that the equivalent of two further groups of officers and ratings will be released from the Royal Navy in that period. The provisional programme for the Army provides for the release of Groups 59 and 60 and part of Group 61 for men, and of part of Group 65 and the whole of Groups 66 and 67 for women. For the Royal Air Force, Groups 58 (part)—61 are to be released in the case of men, and Groups 61 (part)—67 in the case of women.

In the case of the Nursing Services, the estimated numbers of releases and discharges from the Royal Navy and the Royal Air Force under the provisional programme for April to September, 1947, are shown in the Table below. Estimates in respect of the Army had not been completed.

Period.	Royal Navy.		Royal Air Force.	
	Age and Service Groups (Class A releases).	Estimated Number of Releases and Discharges.	Age and Service Groups (Class A releases).	Estimated Number of Releases and Discharges.
(Average)				
April	Pt. 56	75	50	27
May	Pt. 56	100	51	16
June	Pt. 57	100	52	22
July	Pt. 58	75	53	20
August	Pt. 58	75	54	15
September	Pt. 58	100	55	16
Total: Apr.—Sept.	56-58	525	50-55	116

During the last quarter of 1947 it is expected that the equivalent of two further groups of Nursing Sisters, V.A.D. Officers and V.A.D.s will be released from the Royal Navy. During the same period Groups 56-58 are to be released from the Royal Air Force. Estimates for the Army had not been completed.

* Excluding releases from the Nursing Services of the Army, estimates for which had not been completed when the statement was made.

FATAL INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS.

The number of workpeople (other than seamen) in the United Kingdom whose deaths from accidents in the course of their employment were reported in March was 119, compared with 142 in February, 1947, and 148 in March, 1946. In the case of seamen employed on ships registered in the United Kingdom, 24 fatal accidents were reported in March; the corresponding figures for February, 1947, and March, 1946, were 42 and 17, respectively. Detailed figures for separate industries are given below.

MINES AND QUARRIES.*	FACTORIES—continued.
Under Coal Mines Acts: Underground 24	Gas Works
Surface 4	Electrical Stations
Metalliferous Mines	Other Industries 1
Quarries 4	
TOTAL, MINES AND QUARRIES 32	WORKS AND PLACES UNDER SS. 105, 107, 108, FACTORIES ACT, 1937.
	Docks, Wharves, Quays and Ships 3
FACTORIES.	Building Operations 13
Clay, Stone, Cement, Pottery and Glass 6	Works of Engineering Construction 2
Chemicals, Oils, Soap, etc. 6	Warehouses
Metal Extracting and Refining 2	TOTAL, FACTORIES ACT 60
Metal Conversion and Founding (including Rolling Mills and Tube Making) 7	RAILWAY SERVICE.
Engineering, Locomotive Building, Boilermaking, etc. 4	Brakemen, Goods Guards Engine Drivers, Motormen 2
Railway and Tramway Carriages, Motor and other Vehicles and Aircraft Manufacture 3	Firemen
Shipbuilding 5	Guards (Passenger)
Other Metal Trades 1	Labourers 4
Cotton	Mechanics 2
Wool, Worsted, Shoddy 1	Permanent Way Men 12
Other Textile Manufacture 1	Porters 1
Textile Printing, Bleaching and Dyeing	Shunters 3
Tanning, Currying, etc. 1	Other Grades 3
Food and Drink 3	Contractors' Servants
General Woodwork and Furniture	TOTAL, RAILWAY SERVICE 27
Paper, Printing, etc. 1	
Rubber Trades	SEAMEN.
	Trading Vessels 24
	Fishing Vessels
	TOTAL, SEAMEN 24
	TOTAL (including Seamen) 143

INDUSTRIAL DISEASES.

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

I. Cases.	I. Cases.—continued.
LEAD POISONING.	EPITHELIOMATOUS ULCERATION (SKIN CANCER).
Operatives engaged in:	Pitch 4
Smelting of Metals	Tar 7
Plumbing and Soldering	Paraffin
Shipbreaking 3	Oil 4
Printing	TOTAL 15
Other Contact with Molten Lead	
White and Red Lead Works	CHROME ULCERATION.
Pottery	Manufacture of Bichromates
Vitreous Enamelling	Chrome Tanning
Electric Accumulator Works 1	Chromium Plating 7
Paint and Colour Works	Other Industries 2
Other Industries	TOTAL 9
Painting of Buildings	TOTAL CASES 31
TOTAL 4	
ANTHRAX.	II. Deaths.
Wool	Nil.
Handling and Sorting of Hides and Skins 3	
TOTAL 3	

* For mines and quarries, weekly returns are furnished and the figures cover the 4 weeks ended 29th March, 1947, in comparison with the 4 weeks ended 1st March, 1947, and the 4 weeks ended 30th March, 1946. † 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 or not they have been included (as cases) in the same or previous returns.

FURTHER EDUCATION AND TRAINING SCHEME.

MONTHLY STATISTICS.

The Further Education and Training Scheme was instituted in March, 1943, for the purpose of assisting men and women eligible under the Scheme to obtain the further education and training which their war service had interrupted or prevented. The figures given below, which show the progress made under the Scheme up to the end of March, 1947, are in continuation of those published in previous issues of this GAZETTE (see, for example, page 101 of last month's issue).

Up to the end of March, 100,379 applications for financial assistance had been received under the Scheme. Awards had been made in 61,297 cases: in addition over 3,900 applicants had been informed that awards would be made in their case. The total number of awards made during March was 4,051.

The Table below gives particulars of the progress made under the Scheme (a) during March, 1947, and (b) during the period since the inception of the Scheme up to 31st March, 1947.

	March, 1947.	Cumulative totals up to end of March, 1947.
Number of applications for assistance made	4,596	100,379
Number of awards made by—		
Ministry of Labour and National Service	1,895	19,849
Ministry of Education	1,717	32,363
Other award-making Departments	439	9,085
Total awards	4,051	61,297
Number of applications rejected	864	15,380
Persons transferring to other training schemes or withdrawing applications	607	7,537
Cases under consideration at end of period	—	16,165*

BUSINESS TRAINING SCHEME.

MONTHLY STATISTICS.

The Business Training Scheme was introduced early in 1946 for the training of men and women in business administration after their release from war service. The figures given below, which show the progress made under the scheme up to the end of March, 1947, are in continuation of those published in previous issues of this GAZETTE (see, for example, page 101 of last month's issue).

The number of persons who at 29th March, 1947, had already completed the General Business Course was 3,618. Of this number, 2,229 had proceeded to Specialised Business Courses, while a further 629 were under submission to such Courses; this latter figure includes 324 persons who had completed the General Business Course within the previous four weeks. At 29th March, 1,467 persons had been allocated to, or were attending, the General Business Course.

Statistics relating to the progress of the Business Training Scheme (a) during the four weeks ended 29th March, 1947, and (b) during the period from the inception of the Scheme to 29th March, are given in the following Table:—

	Four weeks ended 29th March, 1947.	Cumulative Totals up to 29th March, 1947.
Number who have completed a General Business Course	466	3,618
Number placed in Specialised Business Courses	245	2,229
Number placed in business training vacancies	11	121
Number in employment†	93	633

REINSTATEMENT IN CIVIL EMPLOYMENT.

DECISIONS GIVEN BY THE UMPIRE.

The Reinstatement in Civil Employment Act, 1944, an account of which was given in the issues of this GAZETTE for January, 1944 (page 1), and April, 1944 (page 59), provides that application may be made to a Reinstatement Committee by any person who claims that he has rights under the Act which have been denied him. The Umpire is a judicial authority, independent of the Ministry of Labour and National Service, appointed by the Crown under the Act for the adjudication of appeals from the decisions of Reinstatement Committees.

The text of a recent decision‡ by the Umpire in a case of general interest is given in the next column.

* This figure includes over 3,900 applicants who had been informed by the Ministry of Education that awards would be made in their case. † This category includes persons who returned to their former employment or who took up employment after completing a General Business Course. ‡ R.E. Code 1: Pamphlet No. 57. H. M. Stationery Office; price 1d. net (2d. post free).

Case No. 822/1947 (12th March, 1947).

DATE OF APPLICATION FOR REINSTATEMENT—RENEWAL NOT WITHIN THIRTEEN WEEKS—REQUIREMENT NOT WAIVED—SECTION 2 (2) PROVISO AND 2 (3) PROVISO

"This is an appeal by the employer against a decision of the Aberdeen Reinstatement Committee, whereby the employer was ordered to make employment as a baker available to the applicant, and to pay him compensation.

"The question in this appeal is whether it was open to the Reinstatement Committee to consider the question whether an application for reinstatement which was not renewed within thirteen weeks from the date of the original application can be treated as having effect by reason of the fact that the applicant was prevented from renewing his application before the expiration of thirteen weeks from the date of making thereof 'by his sickness or other reasonable cause' (see proviso of Sub-section (2) of Section 2 of the Reinstatement in Civil Employment Act, 1944, and Sub-section (3) proviso (a) of Section 2.)

"It is not in dispute, in this case, that the applicant did not renew his application for reinstatement within the statutory thirteen weeks. He purported to renew it some eight months after he had made his original application, and the Reinstatement Committee found that he had 'reasonable cause' for the delay. For reasons hereinafter appearing it is not necessary, in this case, to discuss whether the applicant's excuse amounted to a 'reasonable cause'.

"The submission made on behalf of the employer is that Section 2 (3) of the Act makes no provision for an applicant being exempted from the provisions of the said Sub-section on reasonable cause being proved. There is no doubt that the employer has not waived his statutory right of notice under the Act.

"By Section 2 (2) of the Act it is provided that 'an application under the said section shall be of no effect' unless it is made during the period therein specified. The proviso to that Sub-section extends the period under certain circumstances, namely, 'if the applicant was prevented from making it (the application) within that period by his sickness or other reasonable cause, and the application was made as soon as reasonably may be after the expiration of the said period.'

"By Sub-section (3) it is provided that 'an application under the said Section shall cease to have effect on the expiration of thirteen weeks from the date of making thereof'; and goes on by (a) of that Sub-section (3) to provide that 'while the application is still in force . . . it may from time to time be renewed. The terms of Sub-section (3) of Section 2 of the Act are peremptory, and no provision is made in the proviso thereto, whereby an applicant can escape the consequences of the words 'shall cease to have effect on the expiration of thirteen weeks from the date of the making thereof'.

"The proviso to Sub-section (2) of Section 2 cannot properly be regarded as applying to Sub-section (3) of Section 2, for the words used in that proviso are 'an application made after the end of the said period shall not be invalid by virtue of this Sub-section'

"The period referred to is the period mentioned in Sub-section (2) of Section 2, and not the period of thirteen weeks within which renewal must be made. In these circumstances the application of the applicant has ceased to have effect and he has no rights under the Act against his 'former employer'. It follows that the question whether it was reasonable and practicable that the applicant should have been reinstated does not arise.

"This appeal is allowed, and the orders of the Reinstatement Committee are set aside."

CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT AND NATIONAL ARBITRATION ORDERS. NATIONAL ARBITRATION TRIBUNAL AWARDS.

During March, 1947, the National Arbitration Tribunal issued twelve awards*, Nos. 926-937. One of the awards is summarised below; the others related to individual employers.

Award No. 935 (24th March).—Parties: Members of the Association of Master Lightermen and Barge Owners, and members of the Watermen, Lightermen, Tugmen and Barge-men's Union in their employment. Claim: For variations in the existing method of working. Award: The union withdrew part of the claim and the Tribunal found against the remainder of it.

NATIONAL ARBITRATION TRIBUNAL (NORTHERN IRELAND) AWARDS.

During March, 1947, the National Arbitration Tribunal (Northern Ireland) issued nine awards, Nos. 585-593. Three of these awards are summarised below.

Award No. 585 (26th February).—Parties: The Ministry of Agriculture for Northern Ireland, and certain slaughtermen employed at the Belfast Abattoir. Claim: That the sum paid to each foreman slaughterman at the Belfast Abattoir be increased from 10s. to 30s. a week. Award: The Tribunal found that the claim had not been established and awarded accordingly.

Award No. 587 (12th March).—Parties: The member firms of the Ulster Packing Case Manufacturers' Association, and certain employees of the member firms. Claim: (1) That the

* See footnote * in first column on page 139.

wages of male adult box and packing case makers should be increased by 3d. an hour, with proportionate increases in the wages of apprentices and improvers; and (2) that wages should be paid for six public or statutory holidays a year in addition to six annual holidays as at present. *Award*: The Tribunal awarded: (1) that the present rate of wages of adult male box and packing case makers should be increased by 3d. an hour; and (2) that the workers to whom the claim related should be allowed six customary or public holidays with pay each year, in addition to six days' annual holiday with pay as at present. The award was to have effect as from the beginning of the next full pay period following 12th March, 1947.

Award No. 593 (26th March).—*Parties*: The Belfast, Bangor, Newtownards, Downpatrick, Banbridge, Lurgan, Portadown, Lisburn, Larne, Ballymena, Ballyclare, Ballymoney, Portrush, Portstewart, Antrim, Coleraine, Saintfield and Ballynahinch members of the Northern Ireland Master Butchers' Association, and certain employees of the member firms. *Claim*: For a working week of 44 hours distributed over the week as indicated in the claim. *Award*: The Tribunal found against the claim and awarded accordingly.

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

INDUSTRIAL COURT AWARDS.

During March, 1947, the Industrial Court issued three awards, Nos. 2082-2084. Two of these are summarised below.

Award No. 2082 (3rd March).—*Parties*: The Musicians Union, and the Choral and Orchestral Union of Glasgow. *Claim*: For a minimum salary of £10 a week for the season which commenced at the beginning of October, 1946. *Award*: The Court found in favour of the claim.

Award No. 2083 (5th March).—*Parties*: The Union of Shop, Distributive and Allied Workers, and the Navy, Army and Air Force Institutes Corporation. *Claim*: To determine the adult male rate for Grade B warehouses and Command Supply Depots. *Award*: The Court awarded that the minimum rate for adult males in Grade B warehouses and Command Supply Depots should, as from the week commencing 26th January, 1947, be 93s. a week.

SINGLE ARBITRATORS AND AD HOC BOARDS OF ARBITRATION.

During March, 1947, four awards were issued by Single Arbitrators appointed under the Industrial Courts Act, 1919. All the awards related to individual undertakings.

COMMITTEE OF INVESTIGATION.

The Minister of Labour and National Service has appointed Lord Terrington, C.B.E. (Chairman), Mr. G. Maurice Hann, and Mr. A. H. Mathias to be a Committee of Investigation under the Conciliation Act, 1896, to inquire into the application made by the Transport and General Workers' Union to the London Passenger Transport Board for improved conditions of work.

WAGES COUNCILS ACT, 1945.

NOTICES OF PROPOSAL.

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

Sugar Confectionery and Food Preserving Wages Council (Great Britain).—Proposal F. (42), dated 7th March, 1947; relating to the fixing of revised general minimum time rates, piece work basis time rates and overtime rates.

Milk Distributive Wages Council (England and Wales).—Proposal M.D. (49), dated 14th March, 1947; relating to the fixing of revised general minimum time rates and overtime rates.

Laundry Wages Council (Great Britain).—Proposal W. (58), dated 25th March, 1947; relating to the fixing of revised general minimum time rates and overtime rates.

Baking Wages Council (England and Wales).—Proposal B.K. (29), dated 28th March, 1947; relating to an increase of the annual holidays with pay from 6 days to a maximum of 12 days.

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

WAGES REGULATION ORDERS.

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

The Boot and Shoe Repairing Wages Council (Great Britain) Wages Regulation Order, 1947: S.R. & O. 1947, No. 399 (D. (89)), dated 10th March, and effective from 28th March, 1947.—This Order prescribes increased minimum time rates, guaranteed time rates and minimum overtime rates.—See pages 131 and 132.

* See footnote * in first column on page 139.

The Rubber Manufacturing Wages Council (Great Britain) Wages Regulation (No. 2) Order, 1947: S.R. & O. 1947, No. 414 (R.U. (24)), dated 12th March, and effective from 26th March, 1947.—This Order provides for the payment of guaranteed weekly remuneration.

The Baking Wages Council (Scotland) Wages Regulation Order, 1947: S.R. & O. 1947, No. 440/S.14 (B.K.S. (13)), dated 13th March, and effective from 31st March, 1947.—This Order prescribes increased hourly minimum rates, minimum weekly remuneration and minimum overtime rates.—See pages 131 and 132.

The Baking Wages Council (Scotland) Wages Regulation (Holidays) Order, 1947: S.R. & O. 1947, No. 441/S.15 (B.K.S. (14)), dated 13th March, and effective from 31st March, 1947. This Order provides that the annual holidays with pay shall be increased from 6 days to a maximum of 12 days, and that certain customary holidays shall be allowed to workers; it also fixes payment for such holidays.

The Baking Wages Council (England and Wales) Wages Regulation (No. 2) Order, 1947: S.R. & O. 1947, No. 444 (B.K. (28)), dated 14th March, and effective from 2nd April, 1947.—This Order (1) provides for the substitution of new provisions relating to guaranteed weekly remuneration in place of those prescribed under the Baking Wages Council (England and Wales) Wages Regulation Order, 1946 (S.R. & O. 1946, No. 504)*; and (2) amends the Baking Wages Council (England and Wales) Wages Regulation (Holidays) Order, 1946 (S.R. & O. 1946, No. 505)*, which relates to holidays and holiday remuneration.

The Fustian Cutting Wages Council (Great Britain) Wages Regulation Order, 1947: S.R. & O. 1947, No. 454 (F.C. (21)), dated 17th March, and effective from 2nd April, 1947.—This Order prescribes increased general minimum time rates, piece work basis time rates and overtime rates for females only.

The Fustian Cutting Wages Council (Great Britain) Wages Regulation (Holidays) Order, 1947: S.R. & O. 1947, No. 455 (F.C. (22)), dated 17th March, and effective from 2nd April, 1947.—This Order provides that certain customary holidays shall be allowed to workers and fixes payment for such holidays.

The Cotton Waste Reclamation Wages Council (Great Britain) Wages Regulation Order, 1947: S.R. & O. 1947, No. 477 (C.W. (42)), dated 20th March, and effective from 8th April, 1947.—This Order prescribes increased general minimum time rates and overtime rates.

WAGES COUNCILS ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND), 1945.

NOTICES OF PROPOSAL.

During March, 1947, notice of intention to submit to the Ministry of Labour and National Insurance wages regulation proposals was issued by the following Wages Council:—

Revised Waters Wages Council (Northern Ireland).—Proposal N.I.A. (N.25), dated 7th March, 1947; relating to the fixing of revised general minimum time rates and overtime rates for male and female workers.

Further information about these proposals may be obtained by persons engaged in the trade affected by application to the Secretary of the Council at Tyrone House, Ormeau Avenue, Belfast.

WAGES REGULATION ORDERS.

During March, 1947, the Ministry of Labour and National Insurance made the following Wages Regulation Orders giving effect to the proposals made by the Wages Councils concerned:—

The Wholesale Mantle and Costume Wages Council (Northern Ireland) Wages Regulation Order, 1947 (N.I.W.M. (25)), dated 3rd March, and effective from 10th March, 1947.—This Order prescribes increased general minimum time rates and piece work basis time rates for certain female workers employed in the trade.—See page 131.

The Linen and Cotton Handkerchief and Household Goods and Linen Piece Goods Wages Council (Northern Ireland) Wages Regulation (Holidays) Order, 1947 (N.I.H.H.G. (90)), dated 10th March, and effective from 24th March, 1947.—This Order prescribes the customary and annual holidays to be allowed to workers and fixes payment for all such holidays.

The Linen and Cotton Handkerchief and Household Goods and Linen Piece Goods Wages Council (Northern Ireland) Wages Regulation Order, 1947 (N.I.H.H.G. (91)), dated 10th March, and effective from 24th March, 1947.—This Order contains certain amendments to the overtime provisions for work on customary holidays. The amendments in question were necessitated by the making of the Order relating to holidays (see previous paragraph).

The Laundry Wages Council (Northern Ireland) Wages Regulation (Holidays) Order, 1947 (N.I.L. (29)), dated 18th March, and effective from 24th March, 1947.—This Order prescribes the customary and annual holidays to be allowed to workers and fixes payment for all such holidays.

The Laundry Wages Council (Northern Ireland) Wages Regulation Order, 1947 (N.I.L. (30)), dated 18th March, and effective from 24th March, 1947.—This Order contains certain amend-

* Reference was made to these Orders in the issue of this GAZETTE for May, 1946 (page 142).

ments to the overtime provisions for work on customary holidays. The amendments in question were necessitated by the making of the Order relating to holidays (see previous paragraph).

The Hat, Cap and Millinery Wages Council (Northern Ireland) Wages Regulation Order, 1947 (N.I.H.M. (18)), dated 31st March, and effective from 7th April, 1947.—This Order prescribes increased general minimum time rates, piece work basis time rates and overtime rates for male and female workers employed in the factory branch of the trade.

CATERING WAGES ACT.

ORDER RELATING TO RATES OF WAGES.

The Wages Regulation (Industrial and Staff Canteen Undertakings) (Amendment) Order, 1947 (S.R. & O. 1947, No. 605), has been made by the Minister of Labour and National Service under the Catering Wages Act, 1943, giving effect from 26th April, 1947, to proposals made by the Industrial and Staff Canteen Undertakings Wages Board for increases in the minimum rates of remuneration payable to male and female workers (other than night workers, shift workers and split duty workers).

CATERING WAGES COMMISSION.

APPOINTMENT OF NEW SECRETARY.

The Minister of Labour and National Service has appointed Mr. J. M. Vincent Smith to be Secretary of the Catering Wages Commission, in place of Mr. E. M. Hunt, who is taking up duties overseas.

OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED*

(Note.—The prices shown are net; those in brackets include postage).

BRICK INDUSTRY.—(i) *Labour Requirements in the Brick Industry*. First Report of the Technical Committee of the National Brick Advisory Council. Price 4d. (5d.). (ii) *Brick-making: The Getting of Clay*. Paper 1. Price 9d. (10d.). (iii) *Brickmaking: Labour Requirements*. Paper 2. Price 1s. (1s. 2d.). Ministry of Works.—See page 117.

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

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COTTON INDUSTRY.—*Joint Advisory Committee of the Cotton Industry: Conditions of Work in the Cotton Trade: First Report on Spacing of Machinery: Cotton Weaving*. Ministry of Labour and National Service. Price 2d. (3d.).—See page 117.

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONFERENCE.—*Proposed Action by His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland regarding The Constitution of the International Labour Organisation Instrument of Amendment, 1946, and The Final Articles Revision Convention, 1946*. Cmd. 7071. Ministry of Labour and National Service. Price 6d. (7d.).—See page 121.

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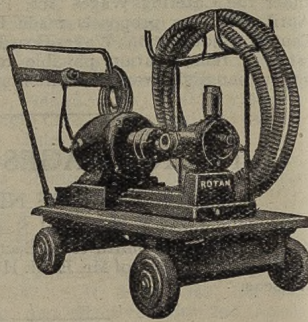
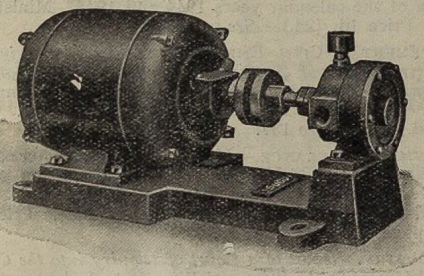
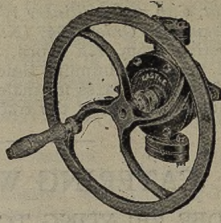
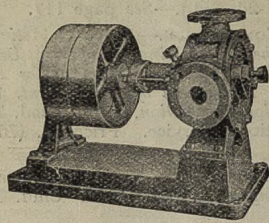
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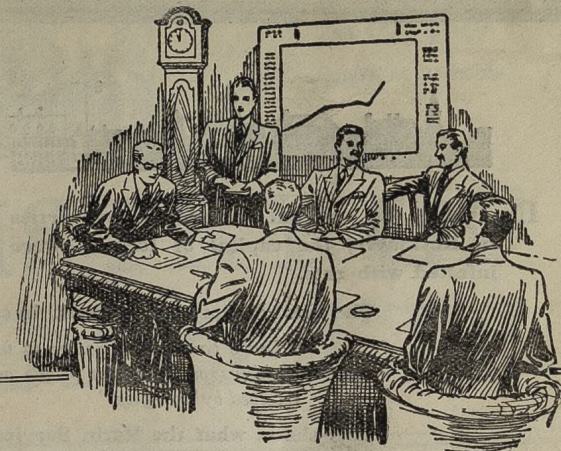
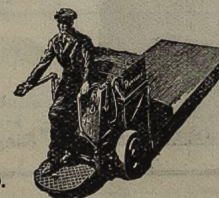
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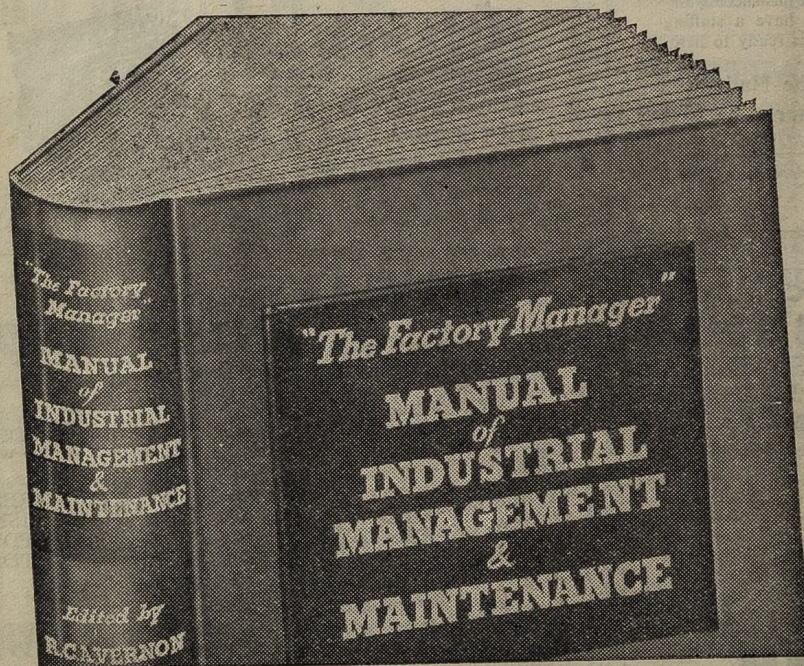
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