## THE SHIPBUILDING TRADE (Private firms)

Note.-For information regarding the scope of the Census, instructions given to firms for making returns, and definitions of the terms used in this report, reference should be made to the Introductory Notes on pages v to xviii.

## Introductory

This trade comprises private firms that were engaged wholly or mainly in the construction or repair of ships, boats, etc. Work of the same kind done at Government dockyards and by railway companies and canal, dock and harbour authorities is not included in this report, but is dealt with in a separate volume.

The particulars given in the following pages relate to work carried out in shipbuilding and ship-repairing yards, and do not cover the marine engineering shops maintained by shipbuilding firms. Separate returns in respect of these shops were made on the schedule for the Mechanical Engineering Trade, and the information received is included in the report on that trade in the section relating to Marine Engineering (see page 240). A table showing, in summary form, the output of marine machinery by shipbuilding firms is, for convenience of reference, given later in the present report (page 318).

The following table shows the main results of the Censuses of 1930 and 1924 in respect of firms in Great Britain that employed an average of more than ten persons :-

| Particulars | Unit | 1930 | 1924 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Value of products and work done (Gross output) ... | £'000 | 57,299 | 51,001 |
| Cost of materials used | " | $30,019\}$ | 28,243 |
| Paid for work given out to other firms | " | 1,360 $\}$ | 28,243 |
| Net output ... ... ... |  | 25,920 | 22,758 |
| Average number of persons employed | No. | 123,571 | 134,321 |
| Net output per person employedPower available :- |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| Prime movers | H.P. | 28,284 | 34,587 |
| Electric motors driven by purchased electricity |  | 276,450 | 301,467 |
| Number of returns | No. | 401 | 493 |
| Number of establishments ... | , | 456 | * |

[^0]312 engineering, SHIPBUILDING and vehiole trades
Deficiencies in 1930 aggregates. -The aggregate number of persons employed in 1930 by firms that stated that they employed not more than ten persons on the average was 2,379 , the corresponding figure for 1924 being 1,740 . The value of the gross output of the small firms in 1924 was $£ 399,000$, and particulars of the items included in this figure are given below :-


In addition, 62 firms to which schedules were sent at the 1930 Census and about 75 at that of 1924 furnished no information; these firms either had small businesses or had ceased productive operations before the end of the censal year.
Size of firms. - In the following table the main particulars recorded at the Census of 1930 are grouped according to the average numbers of persons shown in the returns:-

| Size of firm (average numbers employed) | Number of returns | Gross output | Net output | Average number of persons employed | Net output per person employed |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | No. | $£^{\prime} 000$ | £'000 | No. | £ |
| 11-24 | 86 | 442 | 252 | 1,480 | 170 |
| 25-49 | 70 | 786 | 435 | 2,463 | 177 |
| 50-99 | 73 | 1,801 | 1,044 | 5,369 | 194 |
| 100-199 | 50 | 2,420 | 1,428 | 7,259 | 197 |
| 200-299 | 28 | 2,663 | 1,637 | 6,659 | 246 |
| 300-399 | 18 | 2,574 | 1,228 | 6,159 | 199 |
| 400-499 | 14 | 2,787 | 1,453 | 6,360 | 228 |
| 500-749 | 23 | 7,092 | 3,070 | 14,156 | 217 |
| 750-999 | 8 | 4,155 | 1,419 | 6,892 | 206 |
| 1,000-1,499 ... | 8 | 4,788 | 1,962 | 9,629 | 204 |
| 1,500 and over ... | 23 | 27,791 | 11,992 | 57,145 | 210 |
| Total | 401 | 57,299 | 25,920 | 123,571 | 210 |

Regional distribution.-In the following table the results recorded at the Censuses of 1930 and 1924 are grouped according to the areas* into which Great Britain has been sub-divided :-


Northern Ireland.-The following table summarises the particulars recorded at the Census of Production taken by the Government of Northern Ireland for 1930, together with those furnished at the 1924 Census. The 1930 figures relate to firms that employed an average of more than five persons, while those for 1924 relate to all firms.

| Particulars | Unit | 1930 | 1924 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Value of products and work done (Gross output)... | £'000 | 5,425 | 3,271 |
| Cost of materials used and amount paid for work given out to other firms | " | 3,792 | 1,817 |
| Net output ... ... ... ... ... |  | 1,633 | 1,454 |
| Average number of persons employed | No. | 9,882 | 7,546 |
| Net output per person employed ... | £ | 165 | 193 |
| Power available :- |  |  |  |
| Prime movers | H.P. | 8,323 | 10,095 |
| Electric motors driven by purchased electricity | " | 38,634 | 28,954 |

* For particulars see page xviii.

Detailed particulars of the items included in the gross output values shown in the above table are given below :-


## Production

The schedule for the Shipbuilding Trade was divided at both Censuses into three sections dealing respectively with (a) vessels wholly constructed during the year of return, (b) new constructional work on vessels not wholly constructed during the year, and (c) repair work. These three sections are, for convenience, considered separately in the following paragraphs.

Ships, boats, etc., wholly constructed in the year.-The following table shows, for 1930 and 1924, the value and, where available, the number and tonnage of ships, boats, etc., wholly constructed in the year of return, whether sold in that year or not. The particulars of value are inclusive of machinery and fittings purchased from other firms or supplied by other departments of the shipbuilding firms, and also of the value of all work such as the manufacture of machinery, etc. given out to sub-contract. Boats forming part of a ship's equipment are included in the value of
the ship and are not shown separately. The figures for both years are inclusive of the output returned on schedules for other trades.

| Kind of vessels | 1930 |  |  |  | 1924 |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Number | Gross tonnage | Value | Entries | Number | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Gross } \\ & \text { tonnage } \end{aligned}$ | Value |
| War vessels ...Steam vessels | 6 235 | Tons 10,596* 345,122 | £'000 1,278 8,500 | No. 4 4 57 | $\dagger$ |  | $\begin{gathered} £^{\prime} 000 \\ \dagger \\ 5,041 \end{gathered}$ |
|  | 5 | $\ddagger$ |  | 2 | 2 | 士 | 3 |
|  | $+$ | $\pm$ | 16 | 2 | $\pm$ | $\ddagger$ | 4 |
| Exceeding 50 tons | 40 | 97,745 | 2,851 | 25 |  |  |  |
| gross $\ldots$... $\ldots$, | $\ddagger^{8}$ | $\ddagger$ |  | 2 1 | $\}\left\{\begin{array}{l}127 \text { § } \\ 78\end{array}\right.$ | 21,059§ | 525 § |
| Not exceeding 50 \{ | 230 | 1,816 | 214 | 35 | $\ddagger$ | + | 39 |
| tons gross $\ldots$ | 25 | $\stackrel{1}{\ddagger}$ | 17 | 9 |  |  |  |
| Sailing vessels\\| ... | 273 | 1,185 | 126 | 19 | 523 | 19,740 | 296. |
| Sailing vessels\\| | 350 | $\ddagger$ | 59 | 9 | 23 | $\ddagger$ | 4 |
|  | 672 | 23,736 | 555 | 43 | 612 | 7,141 | 164 |
| Other vessels | 912 | $\ddagger$ | 64 | 18 |  | + | 99 |
|  | $\ddagger$ | $\ddagger$ | 47\|| | 11 | $\ddagger$ | $\ddagger$ | 8 |
| Total | ... | $\cdots$ | 13,814 | $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ | 6,234 ${ }^{\text {- }}$ |

* Displacement tonnage.
$\dagger$ Included with motor vessels.
$\ddagger$ Not stated.
§ Including very small amounts in respect of war motor vessels.
II Described as "Sailing vessels and barges (other than war vessels)" for 1924.
|| Including $£ 11,000$ returned on 5 schedules for other trades.
Average values.-The average selling values per ton of the various kinds of ships, boats, etc., wholly constructed in 1930 and 1924, as calculated from the Census returns, are shown in the following table. It should be borne in mind that the vessels included under the specified descriptions may vary considerably in type and in the materials used in their construction, and that variations of this kind between the two censal years are not accounted for in the values shown. This fact, together with the somewhat different scope of the heading in the two years (see footnote to preceding table), may account for the wide variations in the average value per ton shown for " Sailing vessels."


Work of new construction done on ships, boats, etc. not wholly constructed in the year.-The following table gives, for 1930 and 1924, the estimated value of all new constructional work carried out in the year of return on vessels not wholly constructed in the year. Amounts returned on schedules for other trades are included in the table.

| Kind of vessels | 1930 |  | 1924 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Value | Entries | Value |
|  | £'000 | No. | £'000 |
| War vessels | 2,756 | 12 | 553 |
| Steam vessels | 10,779 | 71 | 21,524 |
| Motor vessels :- |  |  |  |
| Exceeding 50 tons gross ... | 9,408 | 47 |  |
| Not exceeding 50 tons gross | 2,565* | 31 | 5,262 |
| Sailing vessels $\dagger$... ... ... ... | 30 | 10 |  |
| Other vessels (including floating docks) | 1,267 | 36 | $266 \ddagger$ |
| Total | 26,805 | ... | 27,789 |

* Including $£ 1,000$ returned on 6 schedules for other trades.
$\dagger$ Described as "Sailing vessels and barges (other than war vessels)" for 1924. $\ddagger$ Including the value of floating docks, stages and other structural work wholly constructed in the year and of repair work to floating docks. The total value of all work done on these structures in 1924 was $£ 217,000$ but the corresponding figure
for 1930 is not available for publication.

In addition to the constructional work detailed in the foregoing tables, a total amount of $£ 227,000$ ( 30 entries) was recorded in respect of ships' and boats' fittings (blocks, masts, spars, oars, etc.) made in 1930. Of this sum, $£ 112,000$ ( 15 entries) was recorded on schedules other than that for the Shipbuilding Trade. The corresponding total for 1924 was $£ 348,000$.

Repair work done on ships, boats, etc.-The value of repair work carried out on vessels of all kinds in 1930 and 1924, as returned on schedules for all trades, is shown in the following table :-


[^1]An aggregate amount of $£ 693,000$ ( 38 entries) was also returned for 1930 as received for painting, plumbing and other work done on ships : of this total, $£ 91,000$ ( 12 entries) was recorded on schedules for other trades. This kind of work was not separately distinguished in 1924.

Summary of production.-The particulars dealt with in the preceding paragraphs of this report are summarised below :-

|  | Kind of output |  |  |  | 1930 | 1924 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Volume of production in 1930 and 1924.-The following table compares the volume of production (including repair work) in the Shipbuilding Trade in Great Britain in 1930 and 1924. For the purpose of revaluing the 1924 figures the price relationships shown in the table on page 315 have been used for all work of new construction and for repair work. The calculation for war vessels has been made on the same basis as that for motor vessels.

| Kind of output | Total production |  |  | $\begin{gathered} 1930 \\ \text { as a } \\ \text { percentage } \\ \text { of } \\ 1924 \end{gathered}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1930 | 1924 |  |  |
|  | As returned | $\underset{\text { returned }}{\mathrm{As}}$ | At 1930 average values |  |
|  | £'000 | £'000 | $£^{\prime} 000$ | Per cent. |
| New construction :- |  |  |  |  |
| War vessels | 4,034 | 553 | 687 | 587 |
| Steam vessels | 19,328 | 26,572 | 32,046 | 60 |
| Motor vessels ... ... | 15,109 | 5,877 | 7,299 | 207 |
| Sailing vessels and other vessels | 2,148 | 1,021 | 2,865 | 75 |
| Repair work on :- |  |  |  |  |
| War vessels and steam vessels ... | 12,584 | 14,958 | 18,050 | 70 |
| Motor vessels ... ... | 1,145 | 339 | 421 | 272 |
| Sailing vessels and other vessels | 666 | 818 | 1,308 | 63 |
| Unspecified vessels ... ... | 854 | 196 | 241* | § |
| Ships' and boats' fittings ... ... | 227 | 348 | $435 \dagger$ | 52 |
| Painting, plumbing and other work done on ships | 693 | $\ddagger$ | - | - |
| Total ... ... .. | 56,788 | 50,682 | 63,352 | 90 |

[^2]Exports and imports. -The absence both of complete particulars of number and tonnage of ships, boats, etc., wholly constructed in the year, and of information regarding vessels commenced in years prior to the censal years and finished in those years renders impracticable any comparison of production with overseas trade. The following table shows the number and gross tonnage of vessels exported from the United Kingdom in 1930 and 1924, together with corresponding particulars of vessels imported and retained. The export figures include all new ships and boats built in the United Kingdom and sold to owners abroad, if not registered in the United Kingdom, or if so registered only for the purpose of delivery or transfer abroad. Old vessels sold to owners abroad are not included.

| Ships and boats (new), complete | Exports |  | Retained imports |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Number | Gross tonnage | Number | Gross tonnage |
| War vessels ... ... ... $\begin{aligned} & 1930 \\ & 1924\end{aligned}$ | 8 | 5,331* | - | - |
| Steam vessels ... ... 1930 | 131 | 287,450 | - | - |
| Motor vessels :Exceeding 50 tons gross... 1930 | 69 |  | - | - |
| Not exceeding 50 tons gross ... ... ... 1930 | 69 169 | $1,092$ | - 21 | 48 |
|  | $\begin{aligned} & 369 \\ & 150 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 643,460 \\ & 151,114 \end{aligned}$ | 21 8 | 48 78 |
| Sailing vessels $\quad \ldots \quad \ldots\left\{\begin{array}{l}1930 \\ 1924\end{array}\right.$ | 83 28 | 259 76 | 2 20 | 7 99 |
| Other vessels ... ... $\left\{\begin{array}{l}1930 \\ 1924\end{array}\right.$ | 678 | 12,103 | 221 | 8,856 |
| Other vessels $\quad \cdots \quad \cdots\{1924$ | 588 | 10,282 | 199 | 6,945 |

* Displacement tonnage.

Production of marine machinery by shipbuilding firms.-As explained on page 311, shipbuilding firms that maintained their own marine engineering shops furnished separate returns at both Censuses on schedules for the Mechanical Engineering Trade. The following table shows, in summary form, the output of marine machinery and parts thereof made in these shops in 1930 and 1924. It should be understood that this output is accounted for in the aggregates for the Mechanical Engineering Trade and does not form part of the output of the Shipbuilding Trade as defined for purposes of the present report. The figures for both years relate to firms in Great Britain only.

| Marine machinery |
| :--- |

Other products.-In addition to the building of ships, boats, etc., and the manufacture of ships' fittings, the following output was recorded for 1930 and 1924 by firms that made their, returns on schedules for the Shipbuilding Trade, and is dealt with in the reports on those trades in which such output was principally recorded.

| Kind of output | 1930 | 1924 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Value | Value |
|  | £'000 | £'000 |
| Machinery and plant ... ... ... Other iron and steel manufactures ... | 32 42 | 16 127 |
| Building and contracting work and constructional engineering | 163 | * |
| Other goods made | 191 | 36 |
| Total | 428 | 179 |

* Not separately recorded.

Other work done.-Apart from the constructional, repair and other work done on ships which is detailed in the preceding paragraphs, firms that made returns on schedules for the Shipbuilding Trade stated that they received a total of $£ 355,000$ for other kinds of work done in 1930, the corresponding figure for 1924 being £338,000.

## Employment and Wages

Employment.--The following table shows the average numbers of persons employed in 1930 and 1924 :-

| Persons employed | Males |  | Females |  | Total |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\begin{array}{\|c\|} \hline \text { Under } \\ 18 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { All } \\ & \text { ages } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Under } \\ & 18 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { All } \\ \text { ages } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Under } \\ 18 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { All } \\ \text { ages } \end{gathered}$ |
| $\begin{array}{cl} 1930 \\ \text { Operatives } & \\ \text { (average for } & \\ \text { year) } \ldots & \ldots \end{array} \ldots$ | 12,766 | 114,399 | 99 | 836 | 12,865 | 115,235 |
| Administrative, technical and clerical staff (as at 18th October) | 694 | 7,141 | 135 | 1,195 | 829 | 8,336 |
| Total | 13,460 | 121,540 | 234 | 2,031 | 13,694 | 123,571 |
| $\begin{gathered} \text { 1924 } \\ \text { Operatives (average for the } \\ \text { year) } \ldots \end{gathered}$ | 12,834 | 123,676 | 107 | 793 | 12,941 | 124,469 |
| clerical staff (as at 18th October) | 792 | 8,430 | 136 | 1,422 | 928 | 9,852 |
| Total | 13,626 | 132,106 | 243 | 2,215 | 13,869 | 134,321 |

Wages.-The available information as to the amount of wages paid in 1930 and 1924 is given on pages 212-3.

## Power

The following table shows the capacity of prime movers, electric generators and electric motors ordinarily in use and in reserve or idle in 1930 and 1924:-

| Power equipment | 1930 |  |  | 1924 |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Ordinarily in use | In reserve or idle | Total | Ordinarily in use | In reserve or idle | Total |
|  | H.P. | H.P. | H.P. | H.P. | H.P. | H.P. |
| Reciprocating steam engines | 6,342 10,030 | 2,191 | 8,533 | 11,148 | 5,335 | 16,483 |
| Internal combustion engines :- | 10,030 | - | 10,030 | 3,660 | - | 3,660 |
| Gas ... ... | 3,636 | 1,557 | 5,193 | 6,666 | 4,337 | 11,003 |
| Petrol, kerosene or other light oils ... | 913 | 447 | 1,360 | 909 | 1,211 | 2,120 |
| Heavy oils ... ... | 3,073 | 35 | 3,108 | 731 | 590 | 1,321 |
| Water engines | 60 | - | 60 | - | - | - |
| Total ... | 24,054 | 4,230 | 28,284 | 23,114 | 11,473 | 34,587 |


| Power equipment | 1930 |  |  | 1924 |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\left\lvert\, \begin{array}{\|c} \text { Ordinarily } \\ \text { in use } \end{array}\right.$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { In } \\ \text { reserve } \\ \text { or idle } \end{gathered}$ | Total | Ordinarily in us | $\begin{aligned} & \text { In } \\ & \text { reserve } \\ & \text { or idle } \end{aligned}$ | Total |
| Eliectric generators Driven by | Kw. | Kw. | Kw. | Kw. | Kw. | Kw. |
| Reciprocating steam engines ... | 932 | 1,062 | 1,994 | 1,304 | 2,359 | 3,663 |
| Steam turbines ... | 7,000 | - | 7,000 | 2,500 | - | 2,500 |
| Internal combustion engines :- <br> Gas | 1,420 | 820 | 2,240 | 2,301 | 2,489 | 4,790 |
| Petrol, kerosene or other light oils | 226 | 150 | 376 | 32 | 681 | 713 |
| Heavy oils | 1,121 | 17 | 1,138 | 408 | 465 | 873 |
| Total ... | 10,699 | 2,049 | 12,748 | 6,545 | 5,994 | 12,539 |
| Electrio motors | H.P. | н.P. | н.Р. | H.P. | H.P. | н.P. |
| Electricity generated in same works | 32,557 | 489 | 33,046 | 16,589 | 1,067 | 17,656 |
| Electricity generated in other works under same ownership |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Purchased electricity | 245,059 | 31,391 | 276,450 | 232,435 | 69,032 | 301,467 |
| Total ... | 279,220 | 32,971 | 312,191 | 249,024 | 70,099 | 319,123 |

## Consumption of fuel

The following table shows the quantities of coal, coke and electricity recorded as used in 1930 :-
 of the whole trade.

TABLES
I. Summary of results

| Particulars | Unit | England and Wales | Scotland | Great <br> Britain |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Value of products and work done (Gross output) | $£^{\prime} 000$ | 36,293 | 21,006 | 57,299 |
| Cost of materials used ... ... .. | ,, | 17,924 | 12,095 | 30,019 |
| Paid for work given out to other firms... | " | 1,310 | 50 | 1,360 |
| Net output ... ... ... |  | 17,059 | 8,861 | 25,920 |
| Average number of persons employed... | No. | 85,799 | 37,772 | 123,571 |
| Net output per person employed | £ | 199 | 235 | 210 |
| Power available :- |  |  |  |  |
| Prime movers ... | H.P. | 26,505 | 1,779 | 28,284 |
| Electric motors driven by purchased electricity | " | 168,512 | 107,938 | 276,450 |

II. Production



[^3]$\dagger$ Owing to the possible disclosure of information relating to individual firms, separate figures for England and Wales and for Scotland cannot be given.

## III. Employment

A.-Numbers employed in week ended 18th October, 1930


* Administrative, technical and clerical staff.
B.-OPERATIVES EMPLOYED IN ONE WEEK IN EACH MONTH OF 1930

| Week ended | Males and females |  |  | Week ended | Males and females |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | England and Wales | Scotland | Great <br> Britain |  | England and Wales | Scotland | Great Britain |
| Jan. 18 | 91,746 | 37,025 | 128,771 | July $19 .$. | 82,657 | 35,379 | 118,036 |
| Feb. 15 | 87,798 | 36,310 | 124,108 | Aug. 16... | 77,573 | 34,540 | 112,113 |
| Mar. 15 | 85,835 | 36,918 | 122,753 | Sept. 13... | 74,055 | 33,389 | 107,444 |
| Apl. 12 | 85,758 | 39,208 | 124,966 | Oct. $18 .$. | 71,341 | 32,766 | 104,107 |
| May 17. | 84,175 | 37,295 | 121,470 | Nov. 15... | 71,00] | 32,165 | 103,166 |
| June 21 | 79,772 | 34,782 | 114,554 | Dec. $13 .$. | 69,271 | 32,063 | 101,334 |
| Average for the 12 months |  |  | S | ... ... | 80,082 | 35,153 | 115,235 |

## IV. Power

Particulars of prime moverss, electric generators and ELECTRIC MOTORS


## V. Consumption of fuel



* In addition, 338 tons of coal and 79 tons of coke (all in England and Wales) were recorded as used for power and for other purposes, not separately distinguished.


[^0]:    * Not available.

[^1]:    * Including $£ 45,000$ returned on 4 schedules for other trades.
    $\dagger$ Described as "Sailing vessels and barges (other than war vessels)" for 1924.
    $\ddagger$ Including $£ 12,000$ returned on 3 schedules for other trades.

[^2]:    * Based on the aggregates of the preceding three items.

    This figure would have no significance.
    Based on average values of all preceding items.
    $\ddagger$ Not recorded separately.

[^3]:    * Less than $£ 500$.

