

## THE FELLMONGERY TRADE

## INTRODUCTORY

This trade comprises firms that were engaged wholly or mainly in fellmongery work.

Table I A.—General summary

Particulars	Unit	1935	1930	1924
Value of products (Gross output) ...	£'000	2,652	3,186	4,718
Cost of materials, fuel and electricity used ...	"	2,122	2,669	3,845
Amount paid for work given out ...	"	2	1	—
Net output ...	"	528	516	873
Average number of persons employed...	No.	2,431	2,358	2,405
Net output per person employed ...	£	217	219	363
Number of returns ...	No.	60	62	67
Number of establishments ...	"	62	63	*

\* Not available.

Table I B.—Firms employing not more than ten persons on the average

Particulars	1935	1930	1924
Number of returns received ...	No. 116	No. 121	No. 63
Average number of persons employed:—			
Males...	636	626	325
Females ...	49	65	23
Total ...	685	691	348
Number of firms not making returns ...	—	19	20

In 1924 the value of the gross output of the small firms making returns was 10·4 per cent. of the total, the principal classes of goods affected being:—

Output	Quantity	Value	Proportion of total value
Sheep and lamb skins, pulled ...	<i>Th. skins</i> 1,056	£'000 180	Per cent. 12·6
Wool ...	<i>Th. lbs.</i> 4,128	336	8·3
Other goods made, etc. ...	...	30	...
TOTAL ...	...	546	10·4

Table II.—Size of establishments in 1935

Size of establishment (average number employed)	Number of establishments	Gross output	Net output	Number of persons employed	Net output per person employed
	No.	£'000	£'000	No.	£
11-24 ...	30	664	110	514	215
25-49 ...	19	744	135	618	218
50-99 ...	9	586	104	553	188
100 and over ...	4	658	179	746	239
TOTAL ...	62	2,652	528	2,431	217

Table III.—Particulars of output, etc., in each of the principal areas of the United Kingdom

Area*	Number of establishments†	Gross output	Net output	Average number of persons employed	Net output per person employed
	No.	£'000	£'000	No.	£
2 ...	5	259	29	162	181
3 ...	7	356	54	184	295
	10	575	93	384	243
	9	633	82	315	260
1 ...	4	160	24	135	178
5 ...	6	159	32	207	156
8 ...	4	86	16	80	200
9 ...	7	292	120	605	198
10 ...	5	141	20	94	214
Other areas in England and Wales ...	9	248	48	185	259
1 and 4-13 ...	35	1,086	260	1,306	199
	35	1,438	268	1,296	207
14 ...	3	120	21	111	190
15 ...	3	185	34	158	214
16 ...	6	427	91	310	293
14 to 16...	12	732	146	579	252
	11	759	112	563	199
TOTAL ...	62	2,652	528	2,431	217
	62	3,186	516	2,358	219

\* For particulars see page xviii.

† Number of returns for 1930.

Table IV.—No sub-divisions of this trade have been distinguished.

45342

M 4

## PRODUCTION

Table V.—Output of principal products

Kind of output	1935			1930	
	Quantity	Value	Entries	Quantity	Value
Sheep and lamb skins, pulled	Th. skins 10,542	£'000 678	No. 52	Th. skins 9,792	£'000 1,101
Wool ... ..	Th. lbs. 44,746	1,915	84	Th. lbs. 40,493	1,946
Skin rugs and mats ... ..	86	42	14	...	202†
Other fellmongery products*	...	78	4	...	21
Work done for the trade ...	...	8	7	...	10‡
	...	3‡	7	...	...
TOTAL — PRINCIPAL PRODUCTS ... ..	...	2,724	...	...	3,280

\* Goat skins (worked), skins of other animals (worked), etc.

† This figure is probably somewhat overstated.

‡ Amount received.

The figures shown in the preceding table include the following output recorded by firms whose returns were made on schedules for other trades and are not, therefore, included in Table I A.

Kind of output	1935			1930	
	Quantity	Value	Entries	Quantity	Value
Sheep and lamb skins, pulled	Thous. skins 16	£'000 1	No. 1	—	—
Wool ... ..	Th. lbs. 4,577	188	28	Th. lbs. 3,213	144
Other fellmongery products	...	4	1	...	5
Work done for the trade ...	—	—	—	...	1*
Total ... ..	...	193	...	...	150

\* Amount received.

According to information supplied by the Ministry of Agriculture, the Department of Agriculture for Scotland and the Ministry of Agriculture for Northern Ireland, the estimated numbers of sheep and lambs slaughtered in the United Kingdom and the weight of the skin wool obtained therefrom were as shown in the following table; the weight of the skin wool recorded for England and Wales is estimated on the basis of greasy wool.

Country	Sheep and lambs slaughtered			Weight of skin wool		
	Average of years ended May			1924	1930	1935
	1924/5	1930/1	1935/6			
England and Wales ... ..	Thous. 5,844	Thous. 6,526	Thous. 7,780	Mill. lbs. 18.0	Mill. lbs. 20.0	Mill. lbs. 23.0
Scotland ... ..	2,400	2,794	2,900	6.0	7.0	7.2
Northern Ireland ... ..	137	180	220	0.4	0.5	0.6
United Kingdom ... ..	8,381	9,500	10,900	24.4	27.5	30.8

The weight of skin wool produced has, for each of the years given above, been estimated on an average of 3 lbs. per skin for England and Wales and 2½ lbs. for Scotland and Northern Ireland.

The following statement shows the estimated number of skins available for treatment in the United Kingdom in the three censal years:—

	1924	1930	1935
—	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.
Skins available from sheep slaughtered in the United Kingdom ... ..	8,400	9,500	10,900
Retained imports of woolled skins ... ..	7,200	5,800	3,700
Total—Skins available ... ..	15,600	15,300	14,600
Exports of woolled skins ... ..	533	418	606
Estimated number of sheep and lamb skins used in rugs and mats ... ..	100*	100*	100
Available supply ... ..	14,967	14,782	13,894

\* The estimates given in Part III of the Final Report on the Fourth Census of Production (1930) were probably overstated.

Of the estimated available supplies the following quantities were handled by firms in the Fellmongery Trade employing more than ten persons on the average:—

	Woolled skins available (estimated) Thous.	Skins treated in the Fellmongery Trade Thous.
1924 ... ..	14,970	8,810
1930 ... ..	14,780	9,790
1935 ... ..	13,890	10,530

The number of woolled skins available for treatment by the smaller firms in the Fellmongery Trade, from whom detailed returns were not required, and by such dressers of glove and similar leathers as rendered combined returns for their fellmongery and dressing departments was, therefore, approximately:—

	Thous.
1924 ... ..	6,160
1930 ... ..	4,990
1935 ... ..	3,360

As will be seen from Table I B. the number treated by the smaller firms was probably not inconsiderable; in 1924 the output of pulled sheep and lamb skins recorded by such firms was 1,056,000.

Information in respect of the consumption of sheep and lamb skins by firms in the Leather (Tanning and Dressing) Trade and Glove Trade is available in respect of the year 1935 only, the figures being:—

Trade	Sheep and lamb skins	
	Woolled	Dewoolled
Glove ... ..	Thous. 292	Thous. 385
Leather ... ..	2,456	14,575
Total ... ..	2,748	14,960

Table VI.—Average values of goods produced, exported and imported

Kind of goods	Production (at factory)			Exports (f.o.b.)		Imports (c.i.f.)	
	Average value		1935 as a percentage 1930	Average value		Average value	
	1935	1930		1935	1930	1935	1930
	£ per th. skins	£ per th. skins	Per cent.	£ per th. skins	£ per th. skins	£ per th. skins	£ per th. skins
Sheep and lamb skins, pulled	64.3	112.4	57.2	51.8	125.2	79.3	137.4
	£ per th. lbs.	£ per th. lbs.		£ per th. lbs.	£ per th. lbs.	£ per th. lbs.	£ per th. lbs.
Wool ... ..	42.8	48.1	89.0	42.7*	52.6*	47.2†	49.3†

\* British sheep's or lambs' skin wool (pulled or slipped).

† Sheep's or lambs' skin wool (pulled or slipped).

Table VII.—Volume of Production, 1924-1935

Kind of output	Total production			Production index (1935 = 100)	
	1935 as returned	1930		1924	1930
		As returned	At 1935 average values		
	£'000	£'000	£'000	Per cent.	Per cent.
Sheep and lamb skins, pulled...	678	1,101	630	84	93
Wool ... ..	1,915	1,946	1,733	86	90
Other output ... ..	131	233	151	100	115
TOTAL ... ..	2,724	3,280	2,514	86	92

Table VIII.—Production in relation to Exports and Imports

Sheep and lamb skins, pulled	Production	Exports	Proportion of production exported	Retained imports	Available for use in the United Kingdom	Share of home market held by British goods
					Th. skins	Th. skins
1935 ... ..	10,542	2,780	26.4	3,615	11,377	68.2
1930 ... ..	9,792	1,517	15.5	3,125	11,400	72.6

Table IX.—Other output of the Fellmongery Trade

The value of the gross output of the firms whose returns were made on schedules for the Fellmongery Trade was £2,652,000 in 1935 and £3,186,000 in 1930, of which £2,531,000 in 1935 and £3,130,000 in 1930 consisted of products included in Table V. Particulars of the remaining items are shown below.

Kind of output	1935	1930
	£'000	£'000
Leather, dressed and undressed ... ..	44	45
Boots, shoes and gaiters, other than of rubber ... ..	26	
Other goods made ... ..	42	
Waste and by-products sold ... ..	9	11
TOTAL ... ..	121	56

## MATERIALS AND FUEL

Table X A.—Materials, fuel and electricity purchased and used

Kind of materials, etc.	1935		1930
	Quantity	Cost	Cost
	Th. tons	£'000	£'000
Fuel and electricity used for all purposes:—			
Coal ... ..	14.6	13	2,669
Coke ... ..	5.5	6	
Heavy fuel oil ... ..	13	*	
	Th. galls.		
	13		
	Th. B.T.U. (Kw.-hrs.)		
Purchased electricity† ... ..	1,058	5	
All purchased materials and other fuel ... ..		2,098	
TOTAL ... ..		2,122	2,669

\* Less than £500.

† Including electricity generated in other works under the same ownership.

Table X B.—Consumption of coal, coke and electricity

Kind of fuel	1935	1930
	Th. tons	Th. tons
Coal ... ..	14.6	12.6
Coke ... ..	5.5	5.2
	Th. B.T.U. (Kw.-hrs.)	Th. B.T.U. (Kw.-hrs.)
Electricity:—		
Generated in same works... ..	1,040	795
Generated in other works under same ownership ... ..	113	170
Purchased ... ..	945	562
Total electricity consumed ... ..	2,098	1,527

## EMPLOYMENT

Table XI A.—Average numbers employed

Persons employed	Males		Females		Total		
	Under 18	All ages	Under 18	All ages	Under 18	All ages	
Operatives (average for the year) ...	1935	122	1,876	53	259	175	2,135
	1930	125	1,802	61	257	186	2,059
Administrative, technical and clerical staff* ...	1935	8	224	6	72	14	296
	1930	4	212	12	87	16	299
TOTAL ...	1935	130	2,100	59	331	189	2,431
	1930	129	2,014	73	344	202	2,358

\* As at 12th October, 1935, and 18th October, 1930.

Table XI B.—Operatives employed in one week in each month of 1930 and 1935 by firms furnishing returns in respect of the twelve months ended December

Mid week of*	Operatives employed		Monthly index†	
	1930	1935	1930	1935
January ...	1,201	1,458	103.4	105.5
February ...	1,189	1,457	102.4	105.4
March ...	1,150	1,422	99.0	102.9
April ...	1,117	1,338	96.2	96.8
May ...	1,089	1,345	93.8	97.3
June ...	1,078	1,339	92.8	96.9
July ...	1,069	1,345	92.0	97.3
August ...	1,044	1,361	89.9	98.5
September ...	1,123	1,352	96.7	97.8
October ...	1,101	1,366	94.8	98.8
November ...	1,159	1,396	99.8	101.0
December ...	1,114	1,400	95.9	101.3
Average for the twelve months ...	1,120	1,382	96.4	100.0
Proportion of total operatives represented ...	54.4	64.7	...	...

\* For the ending date of each week see page xiv.

† Based on the estimated average for the year 1935.

Table XI C.—Average numbers employed, 1924-1935

Year	Operatives	Administrative, technical and clerical staff	Total
1924 ...	2,117	288	2,405
1930 ...	2,059	299	2,358
1935 ...	2,135	296	2,431

## WAGES

Table XII.—Wages paid by firms furnishing returns of wages

The aggregate amount of wages paid by firms furnishing returns of wages was £134,000 in 1935, representing 41.7 per cent. of the net output of these firms, the corresponding figures for 1930 being £149,000 and 65.9 per cent. The figures for these firms given below indicate the size of the sample and the extent to which it is representative.

Firms furnishing returns of wages	1935		1930	
	Aggregate	Proportion of trade	Aggregate	Proportion of trade
Gross output... ..	£'000	Per cent.	£'000	Per cent.
Net output ... ..	1,310	49.4	1,892	59.4
	321	60.8	226	43.8
Operative staff employed :—	No.		No.	
During mid-week of October :—				
Males ... ..	1,069	57.3	}	*
Females ... ..	238	92.3		
Total ... ..	1,307	61.6	1,068	52.6
Average for the year ... ..	1,286	60.2	1,065	51.7
Administrative, technical and clerical staff ... ..	196	66.2	*	*
Number of establishments ... ..	30	48.4	...	...

\* Not recorded separately.

## COUNTRY TABLES (1935)

Note.—The figures given in the following tables relate only to firms whose returns were made on schedules for the Fellmongery Trade. No production was recorded for Northern Ireland.

Table I.—General summary

Particulars	Unit	England and Wales	Scotland	Great Britain
Value of products (Gross output) ...	£'000	1,920	732	2,652
Cost of materials, fuel and electricity used	"	1,538	584	2,122
Amount paid for work given out ...	"	*	2	2
Net output ...	"	382	146	528
Average number of persons employed ...	No.	1,852	579	2,431
Net output per person employed ...	£	205	252	217
Number of returns ...	No.	49	11	60
Number of establishments ...	"	50	12	62

\* Less than £500.

Table II.—Output

Kind of output	Unit	England and Wales	Scotland	Great Britain
Sheep and lamb skins, pulled ...	Th. skins	7,930	2,596	10,526
	£'000	521	156	677
Wool ...	Th. lbs.	29,851	10,318	40,169
	£'000	1,153	574	1,727
Skin rugs and mats ...	Quantity stated ...	86	—	86
	Quantity not stated ...	42	—	42
	£'000	78	—	78
Other fellmongery products ...	£'000	4	—	4
Leather, dressed and undressed ...	£'000	43	1	44
Boots, shoes and gaiters, other than of rubber ...	£'000	26	—	26
Work done for the trade ...	£'000	3*	—	3*
Other goods made ...	£'000	42	—	42
Waste and by-products sold ...	£'000	8	1	9
TOTAL ...	£'000	1,920	732	2,652

\* Amount received.

Table III A.—Materials, fuel and electricity purchased and used

Kind of materials, etc.	Unit	England and Wales	Scotland	Great Britain
Fuel and electricity used for all purposes:—				
Coal ...	Th. tons	10.6	4.0	14.6
	£'000	10	3	13
Coke ...	Th. tons	4.8	0.7	5.5
	£'000	5	1	6
Heavy fuel oil ...	Th. galls.	13	—	13
	£'000	*	—	*
Purchased electricity† ...	Th. B.T.U. (Kw.-hrs.)	945	113	1,058
	£'000	4	1	5
All purchased materials and other fuel ...	£'000	1,519	579	2,098
TOTAL ...	£'000	1,538	584	2,122

\* Less than £500.

† Including electricity generated in other works under the same ownership.

Table III B.—Consumption of electricity

Electricity consumed	England and Wales	Scotland	Great Britain
	Th. B.T.U. (Kw.-hrs.)	Th. B.T.U. (Kw.-hrs.)	Th. B.T.U. (Kw.-hrs.)
Generated in same works ...	736	304	1,040
Generated in other works under same ownership ...	113	—	113
Purchased ...	832	113	945
Total ...	1,681	417	2,098

Table IV A.—Numbers employed in week ended 12th October, 1935

Persons employed	Males		Females		Total	
	Under 18	All ages	Under 18	All ages	Under 18	All ages
England and Wales:—						
Operatives ...	79	1,337	53	253	132	1,590
Administrative, etc.* ...	8	182	5	57	13	239
Total ...	87	1,519	58	310	145	1,829
Scotland:—						
Operatives ...	42	530	—	5	42	535
Administrative, etc.* ...	—	42	1	15	1	57
Total ...	42	572	1	20	43	592
Great Britain:—						
Operatives ...	121	1,867	53	258	174	2,125
Administrative, etc.* ...	8	224	6	72	14	296
TOTAL ...	129	2,091	59	330	188	2,421

\* Administrative, technical and clerical staff.

Table IV B.—Operatives employed in one week in each month of 1935

Week ended	Males and females		
	England and Wales	Scotland	Great Britain
January 19 ... ..	1,668	561	2,229
February 16 ... ..	1,666	557	2,223
March 16 ... ..	1,639	450	2,089
April 13 ... ..	1,629	470	2,099
May 18... ..	1,589	510	2,099
June 15 ... ..	1,600	501	2,101
July 13... ..	1,559	501	2,060
August 17 ... ..	1,603	517	2,120
September 14 ... ..	1,582	549	2,131
October 12 ... ..	1,590	535	2,125
November 16 ... ..	1,607	565	2,172
December 14 ... ..	1,621	548	2,169
Average for the twelve months ... ..	1,613	522	2,135

Table V.—Firms employing not more than ten persons on the average

Particulars	England and Wales	Scotland	Great Britain
Number of returns received ... ..	No. 113	No. 3	No. 116
Average number of persons employed :—			
Males... ..	622	14	636
Females ... ..	47	2	49
Total ... ..	669	16	685