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THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE

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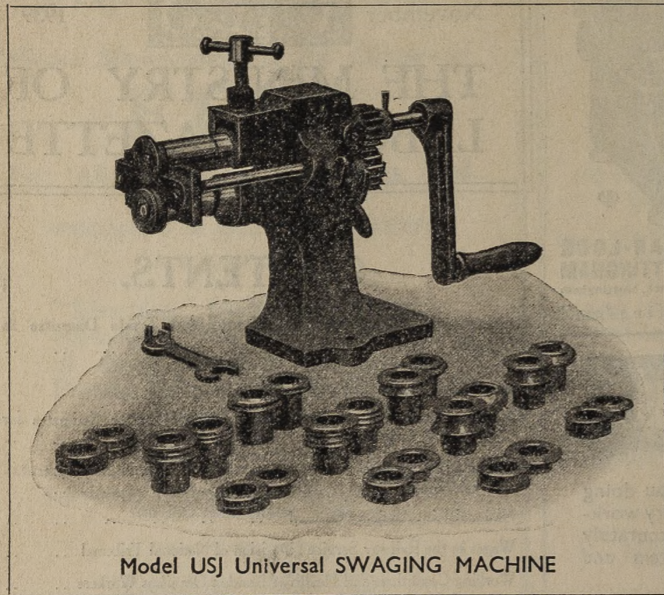
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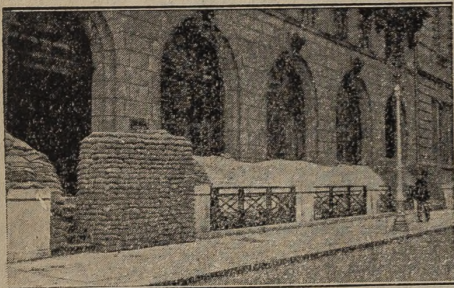
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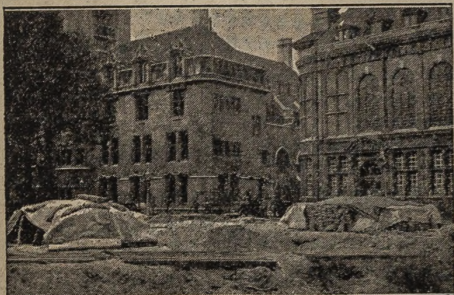
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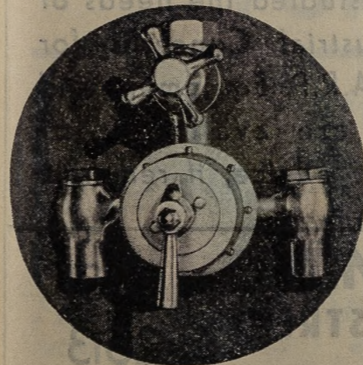
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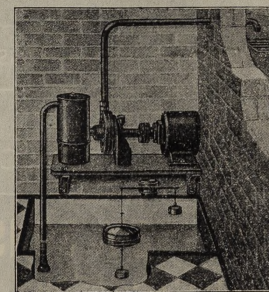
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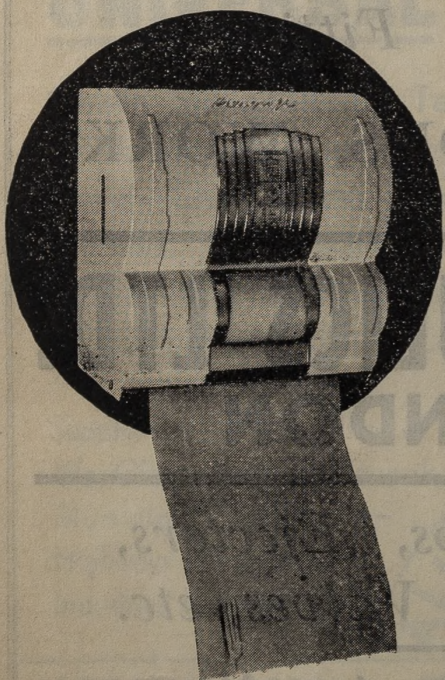
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EMPLOYMENT, WAGES, COST OF LIVING, AND TRADE DISPUTES IN OCTOBER.

EMPLOYMENT* AND UNEMPLOYMENT.

EMPLOYMENT at 16th October, 1939, showed some decline, on the whole, as compared with 11th September. The decline occurred largely in certain industries which usually experience a seasonal recession at this period of the year, but the increases in unemployment this year were greater than those which normally occur between September and October in those industries. The total of the registered unemployed in Great Britain increased by 99,710 between 11th September and 16th October, 1939; part of this increase, however, was due to the registration of women offering their services for work in connection with the war.

Numbers Wholly Unemployed (excluding Persons normally in Casual Employment).—At 16th October, 1939, there were 1,221,655 persons on the registers of Employment Exchanges in Great Britain who were out of a situation. This was 169,437 more than at 11th September, 1939, but 187,277 less than at 17th October, 1938.

Numbers Temporarily Stopped.—At 16th October, 1939, there were registered as unemployed in Great Britain 146,451 persons who were on short time or otherwise temporarily suspended from work. This was 80,648 less than at 11th September, 1939, and 161,496 less than at 17th October, 1938.

Numbers unemployed normally in Casual Employment.—At 16th October, 1939, there were on the registers in Great Britain, 62,532 unemployed persons who normally seek a livelihood by means of jobs of short duration. This was 10,921 more than at 11th September, 1939, but 1,816 less than at 17th October, 1938.

Applicants for Benefit or Allowances.—The total of 1,430,638 persons on the registers at 16th October, 1939, included 1,214,562 applicants for benefit or allowances and 216,076 non-claimants. The latter figure showed an increase of 29,552 as compared with 11th September, 1939, and this increase consisted mainly of women and girls registering as applicants for work.

Percentages Unemployed.—Among insured persons, aged 16-64, the percentage unemployed in Great Britain and Northern Ireland at 16th October, 1939, was 9.4 as compared with 9.0 at 11th September, 1939, and 12.3 at 17th October, 1938. For persons insured under the general scheme the corresponding percentages were 9.7 at 16th October, 1939, 9.2 at 11th September, 1939, and 12.7 at 17th October, 1938. For persons within the agricultural scheme the percentages were 3.9, 3.4 and 4.3 respectively.

Industries in which the Principal Variations occurred.—The industries showing the most marked increases in the numbers unemployed included building, public works contracting, hotel and boarding house service, the distributive trades, the printing industry, laundry

* The information required for compiling monthly statistics of the numbers of insured persons in employment is no longer available and this series of figures is therefore discontinued for the present.

service, local government service, road transport, dock and harbour service, and agriculture, horticulture, etc. On the other hand, there were substantial decreases in unemployment in coal mining, the textile and clothing industries, metal goods manufacture, the furniture trade, the fishing industry and the entertainments, sport, etc., industries.

WAGES.

In the industries for which statistics are regularly compiled by the Department, the changes in rates of wages reported to have come into operation in October are estimated to have resulted in an increase of about £86,000 in the weekly full-time wages of over 600,000 workpeople, and in a decrease of £2,300 in those of 40,000 workpeople.

The principal increases in rates of wages affected workpeople in the cotton spinning and the textile bleaching, dyeing, printing and finishing industries, felt hat makers in certain districts, women and girls employed in engineering establishments, and coal miners in Nottinghamshire, North Derbyshire, and Warwickshire. The decreases mainly affected coal miners in the Forest of Dean, blastfurnacemen in West Cumberland and North Lancashire, and workpeople employed by electrical contractors in various districts.

The changes so far reported in the ten completed months of 1939 are estimated to have resulted in a net increase of about £300,000 a week in the full-time wages of over 2,100,000 workpeople, and in a net decrease of £26,000 in those of about 330,000 workpeople.

COST OF LIVING.

At 1st November the average level of retail prices of the commodities taken into account in the statistics compiled by the Ministry of Labour (including food, rent, clothing, fuel and light, and miscellaneous items) was approximately 69 per cent. above the level of July, 1914, as compared with 65 per cent. at 30th September, 1939. The rise of 4 points (i.e. from 165 to 169, the figure for July, 1914, being 100) is equivalent to about 2½ per cent.

For food alone, the index figure at 1st November was 54 per cent. above the level of July, 1914, showing a rise of 4 points or about 2½ per cent. since 30th September, when the figure was 50 per cent. above the level of July, 1914.

The rise in the index figure for food was due largely to increases in the prices of bacon and eggs. Among items other than food, the principal change was an increase, on average, in the prices of clothing.

Further particulars are given on page 396.

TRADE DISPUTES.

The number of trade disputes involving stoppages of work reported to the Department as beginning in October was 80. In addition, 10 disputes which began before October were still in progress at the beginning of that month. The approximate number of workpeople involved in these 90 disputes, including workpeople thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, was 38,000, and the aggregate duration of the disputes in October was about 102,000 working days.

NUMBERS OF PERSONS INSURED AGAINST UNEMPLOYMENT.

ESTIMATES FOR JULY, 1939, AND COMPARISON WITH PREVIOUS YEARS.

The number of persons insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts is estimated once a year, on the basis mainly of information derived from the annual exchange of unemployment books in the early part of the insurance year. Each insurance year normally begins on the first Monday in July. The classes of persons who are within the scope of the Acts are indicated in the introduction to the unemployment Tables on page 390.

For the purpose of the statistics compiled from the working of the Acts, "insured" persons include (1) persons in respect of whom unemployment books have been issued by the Ministry of Labour, and who are either in insured employment, or, if unemployed, are maintaining contact with Employment Exchanges, or have ceased to do so within a limited period, and (2) persons insured under the Special Schemes for the banking and insurance industries. Certain classes of persons to whom special types of unemployment books are issued (e.g., Irish migratory labourers in agriculture), are excluded from the figures.

It is estimated that at 3rd July, 1939, approximately 14,838,000 persons aged 14 and under 65 in Great Britain were insured under the General Scheme (including Special Schemes), and 710,000 under the Agricultural Scheme. For Great Britain and Northern Ireland the corresponding totals were 15,157,400 and 740,900, respectively. The following Table gives an analysis of these totals according to age and sex:—

Estimated Numbers of Insured Persons at 3rd July, 1939.

Year (July).	Great Britain.		Great Britain and Northern Ireland.	
	General Scheme (including Special Schemes).	Agricultural Scheme.	General Scheme (including Special Schemes).	Agricultural Scheme.
Males:—				
Aged 21-64 ...	8,588,000	547,000	8,747,700	570,500
18-20 ...	897,000	50,000	914,700	53,300
16 & 17 ...	605,000	37,000	617,700	39,200
14 & 15 ...	448,000	27,000	456,500	27,900
Total ...	10,090,000	634,000	10,280,100	663,000
16-64 ...	10,090,000	634,000	10,280,100	663,000
14-64 ...	10,538,000	661,000	10,736,600	690,900
Females:—				
Aged 21-64 ...	2,650,000	36,000	2,730,300	36,800
18-20 ...	752,000	6,000	770,600	6,150
16 & 17 ...	528,000	4,000	541,000	4,050
14 & 15 ...	370,000	3,000	378,900	3,000
Total ...	3,930,000	48,000	4,041,900	47,000
16-64 ...	3,930,000	48,000	4,041,900	47,000
14-64 ...	4,300,000	49,000	4,420,800	50,000
Grand Totals ...	14,020,000	680,000	14,322,000	710,000
Aged 16-64 ...	14,838,000	710,000	15,157,400	740,900

Comparisons between the figures for 1939 and those for earlier years, for the General Scheme (including the Special Schemes) and the Agricultural Scheme, respectively, by age and sex are given in the paragraphs below. Corresponding details for individual industries and geographical areas are not yet available, but will be given in next month's issue of this GAZETTE.

GENERAL SCHEME (INCLUDING SPECIAL SCHEMES).

The total of 15,157,400 persons, aged 14-64, insured under the General Scheme (including the Special Schemes for the Banking and Insurance industries) in Great Britain and Northern Ireland at 3rd July, 1939, compares with a total of 14,992,500 at 4th July, 1938, thus showing an increase of 164,900 or 1.1 per cent. An analysis of this increase for males and females, distinguishing the age-groups for which separate figures are available, is given in the following Table:—

Increase (+) or Decrease (-) between July, 1938, and July, 1939.

Age Group.	Males.		Females.	
	Number.	Per cent. of number insured at July, 1938.	Number.	Per cent. of number insured at July, 1938.
21-64 ...	+ 70,200	+ 0.8	+ 24,800	+ 0.9
18-20 ...	+ 83,900	+10.1	+ 98,500	+14.7
16 & 17 ...	+ 52,100	+ 7.8	+ 23,300	+ 4.1
14 & 15 ...	+ 21,000	+ 4.4	+ 16,100	+ 4.1
Total ...	+ 81,000	+ 0.8	+ 83,900	+ 1.9

The variations in the numbers under 21 years of age, in the age groups shown in the Table, are necessarily influenced by the changes in the birth rate between 1917 and 1925. Those who were aged 18 to 20 at July, 1939, were born between July, 1918, and June, 1921, and the increase in the numbers in this group, for both males and females, during the insurance year 1938-39 (following a similar increase in the previous year), reflects the rise in the birth rate which began about the middle of the year 1919.

The decreases during the insurance year 1938-39 in the numbers aged 16 and 17 and the numbers aged 14 and 15 have resulted from the decline in the birth rate which set in after the post-war rise.

If the age group 14 to 20 is considered as a whole it will be seen that the numbers insured have shown an increase during the insurance year 1938-39. This increase followed a movement in the same direction, although of larger dimensions, in the previous insurance year. Between July, 1938, and July, 1939, the numbers aged 14-20 increased by nearly 70,000. During the previous insurance year the increase (excluding the classes which first became insurable in April, 1938) amounted to 92,000. The increase during the insurance year 1938-9 in the numbers of insured persons under 21 years of age was more marked, both absolutely and relatively, among females than among males.

The increase between July, 1938, and July, 1939, in the number of insured men aged 21-64 was about the same as in the previous year. Among women of these ages there was this year an increase of nearly 25,000, whereas last year there was a decrease of nearly 3,000.

The numbers of each sex insured in each age group for which separate figures are available at July of the years 1935 to 1939 are given in the following Table:—

Year (July).	Estimated Numbers Insured.		Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Great Britain and Northern Ireland as compared with year before.	
	Great Britain.	Great Britain and Northern Ireland.	Number.	Per cent.
Men (21 to 64 years).				
1935 ...	8,076,000	8,226,800	+ 149,800	+ 1.9
1936 ...	8,218,000	8,375,100	+ 148,300	+ 1.8
1937 ...	8,360,000	8,518,550	+ 143,450	+ 1.7
1938* ...	8,431,000	8,589,910	+ 71,360	+ 0.8
1939 ...	8,518,000	8,677,500	+ 70,200	+ 0.8
Young Men (18 to 20 years).				
1935 ...	827,000	842,400	+ 37,700	+ 4.3
1936 ...	756,000	770,400	+ 37,800	+ 4.9
1937 ...	718,000	732,600	+ 37,800	+ 4.9
1938* ...	811,000	827,760	+ 95,160	+13.0
1939 ...	814,000	830,800	+ 83,900	+10.1
Boys (16 and 17 years).				
1935 ...	453,000	461,800	+ 16,300	+ 3.4
1936 ...	564,000	575,200	+ 113,400	+23.6
1937 ...	683,000	696,150	+ 120,950	+21.0
1938* ...	655,000	667,780	+ 28,370	+ 4.1
1939 ...	657,000	669,800	+ 28,370	+ 4.1
1939 ...	605,000	617,700	+ 52,100	+ 7.8
Boys (14 and 15 years).				
1935 ...	517,000	524,350	+ 7,350	+ 1.4
1936 ...	515,000	522,500	+ 1,850	+ 0.4
1937 ...	493,000	501,200	+ 21,300	+ 4.1
1938* ...	467,000	475,490	+ 25,710	+ 5.1
1939 ...	469,000	477,500	+ 21,000	+ 4.4
1939 ...	448,000	456,500	+ 21,000	+ 4.4
Women (21 to 64 years).				
1935 ...	2,432,000	2,510,500	+ 43,200	+ 1.8
1936 ...	2,476,000	2,556,200	+ 45,700	+ 1.8
1937 ...	2,526,000	2,609,000	+ 52,800	+ 2.1
1938* ...	2,526,000	2,606,020	+ 2,980	+ 0.1
1939 ...	2,625,000	2,705,500	+ 24,800	+ 0.9
1939 ...	2,650,000	2,730,300	+ 24,800	+ 0.9
Young Women (18 to 20 years).				
1935 ...	633,000	648,400	+ 30,300	+ 4.5
1936 ...	585,000	599,550	+ 48,850	+ 7.5
1937 ...	557,000	571,450	+ 28,100	+ 4.7
1938* ...	641,000	658,000	+ 86,550	+15.1
1939 ...	655,000	672,100	+ 98,500	+14.7
1939 ...	752,000	770,600	+ 98,500	+14.7
Girls (16 and 17 years).				
1935 ...	359,000	368,100	+ 10,700	+ 2.8
1936 ...	451,000	462,250	+ 94,150	+25.6
1937 ...	556,000	569,250	+ 107,000	+23.1
1938* ...	542,000	555,280	+ 13,970	+ 2.5
1939 ...	551,000	564,300	+ 13,970	+ 2.5
1939 ...	528,000	541,000	+ 23,300	+ 4.1
Girls (14 and 15 years).				
1935 ...	411,000	420,150	+ 3,650	+ 0.9
1936 ...	415,000	423,800	+ 11,000	+ 2.6
1937 ...	403,000	412,800	+ 21,800	+ 5.3
1938* ...	382,000	390,990	+ 21,800	+ 5.3
1939 ...	386,000	395,000	+ 16,100	+ 4.1
1939 ...	370,000	378,900	+ 16,100	+ 4.1
Totals (14 to 64 years).				
1935 ...	13,708,000	14,002,500	+ 292,500	+ 2.0
1936 ...	13,980,000	14,285,000	+ 326,000	+ 2.3
1937 ...	14,296,000	14,611,000	+ 326,000	+ 2.3
1938* ...	14,455,000	14,771,230	+ 160,230	+ 1.1
1939 ...	14,675,000	14,992,500	+ 164,900	+ 1.1
1939 ...	14,838,000	15,157,400	+ 164,900	+ 1.1

* The figures on line (a) for 1938 exclude insured persons in those domestic employments which first became insurable on 4th April, 1938, while the figures on line (b) and those for 1939 include them.
† Figures not available. Juveniles under 16 years of age first became insurable in September, 1934.

The following Table shows the estimated numbers insured, exclusive of agricultural workers, in Great Britain and Northern Ireland at July of each year since 1923, distinguishing males and females:—

Year	Males.		Females.		Total.
	Number	Per cent.	Number	Per cent.	
Aged 16 and over.					
1923 ...	8,492,900	100.0	2,992,900	100.0	11,485,800
1924 ...	8,585,800	101.1	3,078,200	102.5	11,664,000
1925 ...	8,717,400	102.6	3,174,600	105.8	11,892,000
1926 ...	8,843,800	104.1	3,197,200	106.8	12,041,000
1927 ...	8,899,000	104.8	3,232,000	107.7	12,131,000
Aged 16-64.					
1928 ...	8,621,900	100.0	3,259,600	100.0	11,881,500
1929 ...	8,755,350	101.5	3,338,650	104.0	12,094,000
1930 ...	8,931,530	103.5	3,474,170	106.6	12,405,700
1931 ...	9,188,400	105.4	3,583,400	109.9	12,771,800
1932 ...	9,303,700	107.1	3,506,100	107.6	12,809,800
1933 ...	9,346,000	107.3	3,539,000	108.0	12,885,000
1934 ...	9,435,200	108.7	3,524,800	108.1	12,960,000
Aged 14-64.					
1935 ...	10,055,350	100.0	3,947,150	100.0	14,002,500
1936 ...	10,243,200	102.0	4,041,800	102.4	14,285,000
1937 ...	10,448,500	104.3	4,162,500	105.4	14,611,000
1938* ...	10,560,940	104.7	4,220,290	106.9	14,771,230
1939 ...	10,655,600	105.6	4,336,900	109.9	14,992,500
1939 ...	10,736,600	106.5	4,420,800	112.0	15,157,400

The foregoing figures relate to all insured persons, other than agricultural workers, and are affected by the changes which have been made in the scope of the unemployment insurance scheme. The Table below shows the estimated total numbers of persons aged 16 and over insured under the General Scheme (including the Special Schemes) at July of each year since 1923, together with index numbers indicating the percentage changes since that year. For the years 1923-27 the available figures relate to persons aged 16 and over (including those over 65 years of age), while for 1928-39 they relate to persons aged 16 to 64 inclusive. From information which was available as to the approximate proportions over 65 years of age, estimates have been made of the numbers aged 16-64 in 1927, and these estimates have been used to provide a means of linking up the index numbers on a comparable basis. Separate figures of the numbers of persons in the classes of domestic employment which were brought within insurance in April, 1938, were obtained at June, 1938, and these provided the means of linking the index numbers for 1939 with earlier years. Juveniles under 14 years of age, who first became insurable in September, 1934, have been excluded.

Estimated numbers insured aged 16 and over (excluding Agriculture).

Year (July).	Great Britain.		Great Britain and Northern Ireland.	
	Estimated number insured.	Index Number (1923=100).	Estimated number insured.	Index Number (1923=100).
Aged 16 years and over.				
1923 ...	11,232,000	100.0	11,485,800	100.0
1924 ...	11,403,500	101.5	11,664,000	101.6
1925 ...	11,623,200	103.5	11,892,000	103.5
1926 ...	11,773,700	104.8	12,041,000	104.8
1927 ...	11,875,600	105.7	12,131,000	105.6
Aged 16-64 years.				
1927 ...	11,533,600	105.7	11,784,000	105.6
1928 ...	11,629,000	106.6	11,881,500	106.5
1929 ...	11,834,000	109.5	12,094,000	108.4
1930 ...	12,138,000	111.2	12,405,700	111.2
1931 ...	12,500,000	114.6	12,771,800	114.5
1932 ...	12,543,000	115.0	12,809,800	114.8
1933 ...	12,620,000	115.7	12,885,000	115.5
1934 ...	12,690,000	116.3	12,960,000	116.1
1935 ...	12,780,000	117.1	13,058,000	117.0
1936 ...	13,050,000	119.6	13,336,700	119.5
1937 ...	13,400,000	122.8	13,697,000	122.7
1938* ...	13,606,000	124.7	13,905,000	124.6
1939 ...	13,820,000	124.7	14,120,000	124.6
1939 ...	14,020,000	126.5	14,322,000	126.4

AGRICULTURAL SCHEME.

The estimated total number of persons, aged 14-64, insured under the Agricultural Scheme in Great Britain and Northern Ireland at July, 1939, was 740,900, as compared with 750,350 at July, 1938, showing a decrease of 9,450, or nearly 1.3 per cent. The following Table analyses the changes between July, 1938, and July, 1939, for males and females in each age group for which figures are available:—

Increase (+) or Decrease (-) between July, 1938, and July, 1939.

Age Group.	Males.		Females.	
	Number.	Per cent.	Number.	Per cent.
21-64 ...	+ 12,000	+ 2.1	+ 2,000	+ 5.7
18-20 ...	+ 3,300	+ 6.6	+ 450	+ 7.9
16 & 17 ...	+ 2,700	+ 6.4	+ 550	+ 12.0
14 & 15 ...	+ 100	+ 0.4	+ 50	+ 1.6
TOTAL ...	+ 11,300	+ 1.6	+ 1,850	+ 3.8

* The figures on line (a) for 1938 exclude insured persons in those domestic employments which first became insurable on 4th April, 1938, while the figures on line (b) and the figures for 1939, include them.

If these figures are compared with those for the General Scheme given in the first column on page 382, it will be seen that while the total number of

ESTIMATED NUMBERS OF INSURED PERSONS, AGED 16-64, IN EMPLOYMENT IN GREAT BRITAIN.

ESTIMATES of the numbers of insured persons, aged 16-64, in employment in Great Britain have been regularly compiled by the Department and published in this GAZETTE (see, for example, the Table on page 244 of the issue for July, 1939). These estimates have been discontinued since the outbreak of war, as some of the information necessary for compiling the figures at monthly intervals is no longer available. The figures were obtained by deducting the numbers recorded as unemployed from the estimated total numbers insured, allowance being also made for workers absent from work owing to sickness or to trade disputes.

The estimates of the total numbers of insured persons were based on the numbers of unemployment books exchanged by such persons at the general exchange of books in July of each year. Between one July and the next, estimates had to be made of the monthly changes in the numbers insured, and these figures were checked and revised in November of each year from the ascertained figures of books exchanged in the previous July. The information now available as to the total number of persons insured against unemployment at July, 1939, shows that the increase since July, 1938, in the number of such persons, was larger than had been estimated. In consequence, increases are required in the figures of the numbers of such persons in employment for each month since July, 1938, which have been published in previous issues of this GAZETTE. Final figures for the old series (i.e., excluding agriculture and the newly insured domestic workers) and the new series, which includes these classes, are given below, together with comparative figures for earlier dates.

OLD SERIES.

Prior to October, 1938, the monthly estimates of the numbers of insured persons in employment excluded persons insured under the Agricultural Scheme, which came into operation in May, 1936, and persons engaged in certain classes of domestic employments which first became insurable in April, 1938. The following Table gives comparable figures in this series up to and including July, 1939:—

Date.	Estimated Total Insured, aged 16-64 (excluding agriculture, etc.).	Number Unemployed.	Number not recorded as unemployed.	Estimated Number in Employment after allowance for Sickness, etc.—	
				(A) including persons directly involved in Trade Disputes; (B) excluding such persons.	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	A. (5)	B. (6)
Numbers. (Thousands.)					
1924 (average for year)	11,073	1,125	9,948	9,560	9,526
1925	11,272	1,236	10,036	9,642	9,611
1926	11,423	1,401	10,022	9,623	9,602
1927	11,529	1,108	10,421	10,018	10,015
1928	11,567	1,235	10,332	10,023	10,019
1929	11,850	1,212	10,638	10,223	10,220
1930	12,149	1,915	10,234	9,809	9,797
1931	12,504	2,630	9,874	9,437	9,421
1932	12,562	2,756	9,806	9,367	9,348
1933	12,622	2,496	10,126	9,684	9,681
1934	12,693	2,107	10,586	10,142	10,139
1935	12,792	1,958	10,834	10,386	10,377
1936	13,058	1,684	11,374	10,917	10,912
1937*	13,388	1,413	11,975	11,506	11,497
1938:—					
17th January	13,522	1,729	11,793	11,320	11,319
14th February	13,537	1,720	11,817	11,343	11,338
14th March	13,551	1,677	11,874	11,400	11,399
4th April	13,562	1,673	11,889	11,414	11,412
15th May	13,583	1,695	11,887	11,412	11,406
13th June	13,596	1,744	11,852	11,376	11,369
18th July	13,614	1,721	11,893	11,417	11,415
15th August	13,630	1,698	11,932	11,455	11,453
12th September	13,646	1,728	11,918	11,440	11,438
17th October	13,662	1,716	11,946	11,468	11,466
14th November	13,676	1,754	11,922	11,443	11,441
12th December	13,689	1,742	11,947	11,468	11,466
Average for 1938	13,606	1,717	11,889	11,413	11,410
1939:—					
16th January	13,706	1,925	11,781	11,301	11,299
13th February	13,718	1,799	11,919	11,439	11,435
13th March	13,735	1,646	12,089	11,608	11,606
17th April	13,756	1,557	12,199	11,718	11,712
15th May	13,774	1,419	12,355	11,873	11,870
12th June	13,791	1,299	12,492	12,009	12,005
10th July	13,807	1,210	12,597	12,114	12,112

* A revised procedure for counting the unemployed was introduced in September, 1937, under which persons subsequently found to be in employment at the date of the count are excluded from the figures. At 13th September, 1937, the count of the unemployed was made on both the original and the revised bases, and the figures so obtained have been utilised for the purposes of linking the index numbers for September, 1937, and later dates, and the averages of the index numbers for the year 1937, with those for earlier dates, in order to obtain a continuous and comparable series of index numbers. The averages for 1937 of the actual numbers in cols. (3) to (6), of the first part of the Table, however, are computed from the figures (a) on the old basis for January to August, and (b) on the new basis for later months, and they are not strictly comparable with those given for previous years. It is estimated that on the old basis the average numbers in employment in 1937, shown in column (6) would be about 11,480,000. If the new procedure had been in operation throughout that year, the average would have been about 11,530,000, and this figure is comparable with the average of 11,410,000 for 1938.

Date.	Index Numbers. (Average 1924 = 100.)				
	100-0	100-0	100-0	100-0	100-0
1924 (average for year)	100-0	100-0	100-0	100-0	100-0
1925	101-8	109-9	100-9	100-9	100-9
1926	103-2	124-5	100-7	100-7	95-1
1927	104-1	98-5	104-8	104-8	105-1
1928	105-4	109-8	104-9	104-8	105-2
1929	107-0	107-7	106-9	106-9	107-3
1930	109-7	170-2	102-9	102-6	102-8
1931	112-9	233-8	99-3	98-7	98-9
1932	113-4	245-0	98-6	98-0	98-1
1933	114-0	221-9	101-8	101-3	101-6
1934	114-6	187-3	106-4	106-1	106-4
1935	115-5	174-1	108-9	108-6	108-9
1936	117-9	149-7	114-3	114-2	114-5
1937*	120-9	127-0	120-2	120-2	120-5
1938:—					
17th January	122-1	159-0	117-9	117-8	118-2
14th February	122-3	158-2	118-2	118-0	118-4
14th March	122-4	154-2	118-8	118-6	119-1
4th April	122-5	153-9	118-9	118-8	119-2
15th May	122-7	156-0	118-9	118-8	119-1
13th June	122-8	160-4	118-5	118-4	118-7
18th July	122-9	158-3	118-9	118-8	119-2
15th August	123-1	156-2	119-4	119-2	119-6
12th September	123-2	158-9	119-2	119-0	119-4
17th October	123-4	157-8	119-5	119-3	119-7
14th November	123-5	161-3	119-2	119-1	119-5
12th December	123-6	160-2	119-5	119-3	119-7
Average for 1938	123-9	157-9	118-9	118-8	119-2
1939					
16th January	123-8	177-1	117-8	117-5	117-9
13th February	123-9	165-4	119-2	119-0	119-4
13th March	124-0	151-4	120-9	120-8	121-2
17th April	124-2	143-2	122-1	122-0	122-4
15th May	124-4	130-5	123-7	123-7	124-1
12th June	124-5	119-5	125-1	125-1	125-6
10th July	124-7	111-3	126-2	126-3	126-7

The figures in the last column have been obtained by deducting, from the estimated numbers insured, the numbers recorded as unemployed and the numbers directly involved in trade disputes, together with an allowance of 3½ per cent. of the numbers insured in respect of absences from work through sickness and other forms of unrecorded non-employment, apart from "recognised" holidays.

NEW SERIES.

The following Table, which has been compiled on the same lines as that given above, includes not only persons insured under the General Scheme and the Special Schemes for the banking and insurance industries, but also persons insured under the Agricultural Scheme and the domestic employments that were brought into insurance in April, 1938. As comparable figures on this basis are not available for dates prior to July, 1938, the series starts with that date. In compiling the index numbers, the figures for July, 1938, have been equated to 100.

Date.	Estimated Total Insured, aged 16-64.	Number Unemployed.	Number not recorded as unemployed.	Estimated Number in Employment after allowance for Sickness, etc.—	
				(A) including persons directly involved in Trade Disputes; (B) excluding such persons.	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	A. (5)	B. (6)
Numbers. (Thousands.)					
1938:—					
18th July	14,519	1,751	12,768	12,261	12,259
15th August	14,535	1,729	12,806	12,298	12,296
12th September	14,551	1,759	12,792	12,283	12,281
17th October	14,566	1,750	12,816	12,307	12,305
14th November	14,578	1,797	12,781	12,271	12,269
12th December	14,589	1,804	12,785	12,275	12,273
1939:—					
16th January	14,604	2,003	12,601	12,090	12,088
13th February	14,615	1,869	12,746	12,315	12,311
13th March	14,630	1,702	12,928	12,456	12,414
17th April	14,651	1,604	13,047	12,535	12,529
15th May	14,669	1,463	13,206	12,693	12,690
12th June	14,687	1,331	13,356	12,842	12,838
10th July	14,704	1,240	13,464	12,950	12,948
Index Numbers. (18th July, 1938 = 100.)					
18th July	100-0	100-0	100-0	100-0	100-0
15th August	100-1	98-7	100-3	100-3	100-3
12th September	100-2	100-5	100-2	100-2	100-2
17th October	100-3	99-9	100-4	100-4	100-4
14th November	100-4	102-6	100-1	100-1	100-1
12th December	100-5	103-0	100-1	100-1	100-1
1939:—					
16th January	100-6	114-4	98-7	98-6	98-6
13th February	100-7	106-7	99-8	99-8	99-8
13th March	100-8	97-2	101-3	101-3	101-3
17th April	100-9	91-6	102-2	102-2	102-2
15th May	101-0	83-6	103-4	103-5	103-5
12th June	101-2	76-0	104-6	104-7	104-7
10th July	101-3	70-8	105-5	105-6	105-6

The figures for August, 1939, were affected by the calling up of men for training under the Military Training Act and the Reserve and Auxiliary Forces Act, 1939. It is estimated that the total number of insured persons aged 16-64 in employment in Great Britain at 14th August, 1939, exclusive of approximately 50,000 militiamen and reservists under training, was probably about 12,940,000.

* See footnote * in previous column.

NATIONAL JOINT ADVISORY COUNCIL.

A NATIONAL JOINT ADVISORY COUNCIL has been established, by agreement with the British Employers' Confederation and the Trades Union Congress General Council, to advise the Government on matters in which employers and workers have a common interest. The Council is to operate purely as an advisory body and will not encroach on the jurisdiction of the organisations in the respective industries.

The Council includes 15 representatives nominated by the British Employers' Confederation and 15 representatives nominated by the Trades Union Congress General Council, whose names are as follows:—

Representatives nominated by British Employers' Confederation—Mr. W. M. Wiggins, J.P. (President of Confederation), Mr. H. F. Brand (Vice-President of Confederation), Mr. Basil Sanderson (Past President of Confederation), Mr. John S. Boyd (Vice-President of Shipbuilding Employers' Federation), Mr. G. L. Darbyshire (Chief Officer for Labour and Establishment, L.M.S. Railway), Mr. Lewis Jones, M.P. (Secretary of South Wales Siemens Steel Association), Mr. Herbert Kay, C.B.E. (Secretary of Wholesale Clothing Manufacturers' Federation of Great Britain), Mr. W. A. Lee, C.B.E. (Director of Mining Association of Great Britain), Mr. Leonard Lyle (Chairman of Employers' Side of Retail Distributive Trades Conference), Mr. S. S. Ogilvie (Joint Manager of Federation of Gas Employers), Sir Alexander Ramsay (Director of Engineering and Allied Employers' National Federation), Mr. Richard Snedden (General Manager of Shipping Federation, Ltd.), Sir Jonah Walker-Smith, M.P. (Director of National Federation of Building Trades Employers), Sir John Forbes Watson (Director of Confederation), Mr. L. G. Wilson (Wool and Allied Textile Employers' Council).

Representatives nominated by General Council of Trades Union Congress—Mr. J. Bell (Weavers Association, Oldham), Mr. J. Brown (Iron and Steel Trades Confederation), Mr. G. Chester (National Union of Boot and Shoe Operatives), Sir Walter Citrine (Trades Union Congress), Mr. A. Conley (Tailors and Garment Workers Union), Mr. E. Edwards (Mineworkers Federation of Great Britain), Mr. W. J. Farthing (Transport and General Workers Union), Mr. J. Hallsworth (National Union of Distributive and Allied Workers), Mr. H. N. Harrison (National Union of General and Municipal Workers), Mr. G. Hicks, M.P. (Amalgamated Union of Building Trade Workers), Mr. M. Hodgson, J.P. (Boilermakers and Iron and Steel Shipbuilders), Mr. W. Holmes (National Union of Agricultural Workers), Mr. J. Kaylor (Amalgamated Engineering Union), Mr. J. Marchbank (National Union of Railwaymen), Mr. G. W. Thomson (Association of Engineering and Shipbuilding Draughtsmen).

At the first meeting of the Council, which was held on 1st November, 1939, with the Minister of Labour and National Service in the Chair, the subjects under consideration included the Schedule of Reserved Occupations, the Control of Employment Act, the question of the cost-of-living index-figure, and the possibility of reducing the black-out period. Upon the subject of the Schedule of Reserved Occupations, the Council decided to draw public attention to the fact that the Schedule merely places certain restrictions upon enlistment or enrolment in the Defence Services. Nothing in the Schedule affects the freedom of any person to change his civil occupation.

The next meeting of the Council has been arranged for 6th December.

WAGES IN THE RAILWAY SERVICE.

DECISION OF NATIONAL TRIBUNAL.

THE Railway Staff National Tribunal, which forms part of the machinery of negotiation* established by agreement between the four main line railway companies, the National Union of Railwaymen, the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen, and the Railway Clerks' Association, has recently issued its sixth decision on claims presented by the unions to the companies. The Tribunal heard the parties on the 19th and 20th September, 1939.

The staff coming within the scope of the machinery of negotiation comprises: (a) the "Conciliation Grades", including engine drivers, firemen, cleaners and locomotive shed grades, all the traffic grades, permanentwaymen, signalmen and telegraph staff, dock porters and crane-men and certain staff afloat and staff employed on the canals; and (b) the "Salaried Grades", including stationmasters, agents, yard-masters, controllers and inspectors and clerical staff.

The claims presented before the Tribunal were:—
By the National Union of Railwaymen—That the minimum rate of pay of any adult Conciliation Grade employee (male or female) shall be not less than 50s. per week.

By the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen, in regard to drivers, motormen, firemen and engine cleaners—(a) for increased rates of wages; (b) after twelve months' service two weeks' holiday—twelve weekdays—with full pay to be given annually; (c) all time worked between midnight Saturday and midnight Sunday to receive payment of a minimum of eight hours' pay, plus half time for all time worked, for each time of signing on duty: turns commencing on Sunday and extending into Monday to receive payment of a minimum of eight hours' pay, plus half time for all time worked, and to be exclusive of the Guaranteed week; (d) cancellation of the provision for an extension of rosters, where economy will accrue, up to nine hours a day.

By the Railway Clerks' Association, on behalf of the Clerical and other Salaried Staff—in the case of those not in receipt of the Aggregation Allowance, all time worked between 10 p.m. and 4 a.m.

* For a description of the machinery of negotiation, see the issue of this GAZETTE for March, 1935, page 89.

to be paid for at the rate of time-and-a-quarter, it being understood that the night off in ten for continuous night duty should continue, but that the night off in fifteen for intermittent night duty should be discontinued.

The decision of the Tribunal is unanimous except as regards the claim of the National Union of Railwaymen for a 50s. minimum. In a majority report on this claim, the Chairman of the Tribunal (Sir Arthur Salter) and Mr. H. J. May recommend that the minimum base and current rates of pay (at the "governing" cost of living figure of 55) for adult male staff in the Conciliation Grades shall be increased from the existing figure of 45s. to 50s., 48s., and 47s. per week in the London area, industrial areas and rural areas respectively. In a separate report Mr. H. E. Parkes recommends that these rates shall be 48s., 46s. 6d. and 45s. respectively. As regards adult female staff in the Conciliation Grades the Tribunal unanimously recommend that the rates (at the "governing" cost of living figure of 55) shall be increased from 33s. to 38s., 36s. 6d. and 35s. in London, industrial areas and rural areas respectively.

The decision concedes the claim made on behalf of Clerical and other Salaried Staff for payment for night duty at the rate of time-and-a-quarter.

With regard to the claim made in respect of Sunday Duty, while finding against the claim as presented, the decision recommends that the provisions contained in the National Agreement as to the minimum payments for Sunday Duty shall be restored. Briefly, the recommendation is that the minimum payments in respect of Sunday Duty shall be, in the case of—(a) trainmen, a standard day's pay, i.e., eight hours at ordinary rate (instead of four hours at the Sunday rate of time-and-a-half), for each time of signing on; (b) other Conciliation Grades, of four hours (instead of two hours for each time of signing on) at Sunday rate, or if the turn of duty exceeds three hours or a man is required to book on twice on a Sunday, of eight hours at the Sunday rate; and (c) Salaried Staff, of four hours at the Sunday rate, or if the turn of duty exceeds four hours or the man is required to book on twice on a Sunday, of eight hours at the Sunday rate (instead of three, five and eight hours at the Sunday rate for one, two, or more than two times of signing on, respectively).

The decision is against the other claims presented, except that in the case of the claim for increased rates of pay for engine drivers, firemen and cleaners, it recommends that the existing minimum rate of 12s. per day for drivers and motormen shall be increased to 13s. per day. It provides, however, that in the case of firemen with ten years' service who under existing arrangements receive the drivers' minimum rate when firing, the rate is to continue at the present figure of 12s.

WORKING CONDITIONS AND HEALTH OF LONDON OMNIBUS WORKERS.

A REPORT of conferences between representatives of the London Passenger Transport Board, the Transport and General Workers' Union and the Medical Research Council, under the chairmanship of Sir John Forster, has recently been issued.*

The subject of the health of London central omnibus workers was raised in connection with the stoppage

OUTPUT, COSTS, PROCEEDS AND WAGES IN THE COAL-MINING INDUSTRY.

A STATISTICAL summary* of the output, costs of production, proceeds and profits of the coal-mining industry for the quarter ended 30th June, 1939,† prepared by the Mines Department, has recently been published. This summary is based partly upon returns made for the purpose of wages ascertainment for certain districts and partly upon other returns supplied by individual colliery owners.

The return relates to undertakings which produced 55,304,315 tons of saleable coal, or about 97 per cent. of the total quantity raised in the quarter, of which 51,392,526 tons were disposable commercially, 2,878,302 tons were for mine consumption and 1,033,487 tons were miners' coal.

The net costs, after deducting the proceeds of miners' coal, amounted to £42,220,737, equivalent to 16s. 5.17d. per ton, of which 10s. 10.80d.† per ton represented wages costs. The proceeds of commercial disposals amounted to £44,566,430, equivalent to 17s. 4.12d. per ton. There was thus a credit balance of £2,345,693 or 10.95d. per ton.

The average number of workpeople employed was 739,621, and the number of man-shifts worked was 48,626,938. The average output per man-shift worked was 22.75 cwt. and the average earnings per man-shift worked were 11s. 6.24d.‡ The average value of allowances in kind was 4.94d. per shift.

The following Table shows the average earnings in each of the principal districts, and average value of allowances in kind, in the second quarter of 1939, in comparison with the corresponding figures for the second quarter of 1938:—

District.	April-June, 1939.		April-June, 1938.	
	Average earnings per shift.†	Average value of allowances in kind per shift.	Average earnings per shift.	Average value of allowances in kind per shift.
	s. d.	d.	s. d.	d.
Scotland	11 2.50	0.39	11 2.04	0.44
Northumberland ...	9 11.46	14.12	9 7.58	14.26
Durham	9 8.96	14.24	9 10.18	14.70
South Wales and Mon.†	11 0.52	2.59	11 0.29	2.85
Yorkshire	12 8.64	4.12	12 7.26	4.17
North Derbyshire and Notts.	14 0.54	3.73	13 5.51	4.03
South Derbyshire, Leicester-shire, Cannock Chase and Warwickshire ...	12 4.09	4.84	11 10.24	4.97
Lancashire, Cheshire and North Staffs. ...	11 8.35	0.35	10 10.04	0.38
Cumberland, North Wales, South Staffs., Shropshire, Bristol, Forest of Dean, Somerset and Kent ...	10 7.87	3.00	10 5.98	2.70
All Districts	11 6.24	4.94	11 3.44	5.19

* Cmd. 6104. H.M. Stationery Office; price 1d. net. (1½d. post free).
† In the case of South Wales and Northumberland, the period covered is the quarter ended 31st July.
‡ In districts where allowances in respect of holidays with pay are counted as items of cost in the wages ascertainment they are included in this figure.

MAXIMUM RETAIL PRICES OF FOOD.

In the issue of this GAZETTE for October, particulars were given of a number of Orders issued by the Ministry of Food prescribing maximum prices for eggs, potatoes, sugar, butter, canned salmon, condensed milk, dried fruits, and imported lard. Subsequent Orders have been made amending certain of these Orders, and an Order has been made relating to the price of herrings.

The *Eggs* (Maximum Prices) (No. 3) Order, dated 20th October, raised the maximum retail price of home-produced and near-European fresh eggs by 3d. per dozen, the maximum price being 2s. 9d. per dozen eggs, of a minimum weight of 15 lb. per 120 eggs, produced in Great Britain and Northern Ireland. The *Eggs* (Maximum Prices) (No. 4) Order, dated 3rd November, raised maximum prices further, the maximum of 2s. 9d. (referred to in the previous sentence) being increased to 3s. These advances in the prices of eggs were mainly seasonal.

The *Potatoes* (Provisional Prices) (No. 3) Order, dated 25th October, by amending the Schedule to the previous Order, prescribed maximum retail prices as follows, the varieties of potatoes within each grade being specified in the Order:—

	Grade.	Per 14 lb.	Per 7 lb.	Per lb.
England and Wales	A, A(1), A(2)	1s. 3d.	8d.	1½d.
	B	1s. 1d.	7d.	1d.
Scotland*	A(1)	1s. 3d.	8d.	Per 3½ lb.
	A(2)	1s. 1d.	7d.	4d.
	B	11½d.	6d.	3½d.

Maximum prices were also fixed for retail sales by the cwt.

The *Sugar* (Maximum Prices) (No. 4) Order, dated 9th November, retained the general range of prices of sugar prescribed by previous Orders, but removed from their operation icing sugar and certain recognised trade brands of castor sugar.

The *Dried Fruits* (Maximum Prices) (No. 2) Order, dated 20th October, with a further amending Order dated 10th November, and the *Condensed Milk* (Provisional Prices) (No. 3) Order,

* Prices in Dumfries and Kirkcudbright as in England.

dated 9th November, amended the Schedules of maximum prices for dried fruits and condensed milk respectively.

The *Herrings* (Maximum Prices) Order, dated 14th October, fixed maximum retail prices in Great Britain as follows: fresh herrings, 6d. per lb.; bloaters and smoked and red herrings, 8d. per lb.; kippers, 10d. per lb.

RETAIL PRICES AT 1ST NOVEMBER.

Statistics relating to the retail prices of food at 1st November are given on page 396 of this issue.

WAR-TIME EMPLOYMENT CONDITIONS IN GERMANY.

By a Decree dated 30th August, 1939, a Ministerial Council for National Defence, with power to promulgate Orders having the force of law during the present emergency, was set up in Germany under the presidency of Field-Marshal Goering. In the exercise of its powers, the Council has issued Orders amending existing provisions for the regulation of working conditions (in particular, wages and hours), and imposing further restrictions on changes of employment. The main provisions of these Orders are summarised below.

Regulation of Working Conditions.—By an Order dated 1st September, 1939, male manual and non-manual workers 18 years of age and over are excluded from the scope of the hours provisions of the Working Hours Order fixing the normal working hours at eight a day (of which a revised text was promulgated on 30th April, 1938—see this GAZETTE for July, 1938), and of the legislation relating to hours of work in bakeries, pastrycooks' establishments and hospitals and to employment in unhealthy conditions. The effect of this measure is to remove all limitation of the working hours of adult male workers. The Order also empowers the higher administrative authorities to suspend (for individual undertakings and either wholly or in part) other legislative provisions restricting the employment of male and female workers of all ages, in so far as the Federal Minister of Labour may not have issued more general instructions of this nature.

In the exercise of the powers conferred by the above Order, the Federal Minister of Labour gave permission on 11th September, 1939, for the extension, in cases of urgency, of the working time of workers between 16 and 18 years of age and of women workers to not more than 10 hours a day, exclusive of the time occupied by young workers in attending a technical school, subject to a maximum working time of 56 hours a week. Permission was also granted for the extension, in similar circumstances, of the working time of workers under 16 years to not more than 10 hours a day, inclusive of the time occupied in attending a technical school, subject to a maximum, exclusive of such time of attendance, of 48 working hours a week. The length of the rest intervals granted to young workers and women workers has been reduced, and certain other restrictions on the employment of these classes of workers have been relaxed.

By a further provision of the Order dated 1st September, 1939, Orders regulating working conditions (*Tarifordnungen*) may be issued by the Labour Executors under the Regulation of National Labour Act, dated 20th January, 1934 (see this GAZETTE for February, 1934), not only, as heretofore, for groups of undertakings, but also in respect of individual undertakings. In the drawing up of such Orders and in laying down guiding principles to govern the provisions of Works Regulations and individual labour contracts, the Labour Executors are no longer required to consult a Statutory Committee of Experts.

A War Economy Order dated 4th September, 1939, is designed by the Council to effect a stringent control of working conditions and prices. Labour Executors are required by this Order immediately to adjust earnings to war conditions by the issue of collective regulations fixing binding maximum limits for wages and salaries, in accordance with detailed instructions to be issued by the Federal Minister of Labour. The Order abolishes supplementary payments for overtime, night work, Sunday work and work performed on holidays, and suspends, for the present, provisions and agreements relating to paid holidays. The Federal Minister of Labour is empowered to vary existing regulations concerning the drawing up and contents of Orders Regulating Working Conditions, and concerning hours of work and other conditions of employment. In so far as savings in wage costs result from the application of the provisions of the War Economy Order, the prices of goods and services are to be correspondingly reduced.

Restrictions on Changes of Employment.—In accordance with an Order dated 1st September, 1939, and administrative regulations issued thereunder, the consent of the employment exchange authorities is required for the engagement of all workers or apprentices except for employment in agriculture or (unless the person to be engaged was last employed in agriculture) for employment in mining or in domestic service in houses in which children under 14 years are living. Similar consent is required for the termination by either the employer or the worker of a contract of employment or apprenticeship, except where the termination is effected by agreement or by the suspension of work in the undertaking, or where the worker has been employed for less than one month as a probationer or substitute. Exceptions from the foregoing restrictions on the free right to engage workers or to terminate their employment may be authorised by the Federal Minister of Labour for particular branches of economic activity, households or persons; and official consent to terminate the employment is not required in cases of casual employment not covered by the sickness insurance system. Workers whose dismissal is not subject to the consent of the employment exchange authorities must register at their employment exchange immediately on quitting employment.

EMPLOYMENT AT 16th OCTOBER, 1939—GENERAL REVIEW.

EMPLOYMENT at 16th October, 1939, showed some decline, on the whole, as compared with 11th September. The decline occurred largely in certain industries which normally experience a seasonal recession at this period of the year, but the increases in unemployment this year were greater than those which normally occur between September and October in those industries. At 16th October, 1939, the total number of persons on the registers of Employment Exchanges in Great Britain showed an increase of 99,710 as compared with 11th September. Part of this increase, however, was due to the registration of women offering their services for work in connection with the war; a large proportion of these women had not previously been in insured employment.

The following Table gives an analysis of the numbers* of persons on the registers at 16th October, 1939, with comparative figures for 11th September, 1939, and 17th October, 1938:—

	Wholly Unemployed (including Casuals).	Temporarily Stopped.	Total.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with 11th Sept., 1939.
GREAT BRITAIN.				
Men	819,053	84,074	903,127	+ 76,316
Boys	42,070	1,850	43,920	- 223
Women	360,372	57,226	417,598	+ 22,555
Girls	62,692	3,101	65,793	+ 1,462
Total	1,284,187	146,451	1,430,638	+ 99,710
Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with 11th September, 1939	+ 180,358	- 80,648	+ 99,710	—
17th October, 1938 ...	- 189,093	- 161,496	- 350,589	—

GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.				
Men	864,051	85,278	949,329	+ 80,712
Boys	44,619	1,867	46,486	- 223
Women	376,334	59,222	435,556	+ 22,065
Girls	64,410	3,212	67,622	+ 1,798
Total	1,350,014	149,879	1,499,893	+ 104,343
Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with 11th September, 1939	+ 185,910	- 81,567	+ 104,343	—
17th October, 1938 ...	- 198,429	- 164,340	- 362,769	—

Of the total increase in October, much the greater part occurred in the London and Southern Divisions. There were decreases in unemployment in the Midlands and North Midlands Divisions; in the East and North of England, Scotland and Wales the increases in unemployment were smaller than in London and the South of England.

The industries showing the most marked increases in the numbers unemployed included building, public works contracting, hotel and boarding house service, the distributive trades, the printing industry, laundry service, local government service, road transport, dock and harbour service, and agriculture, horticulture, etc. On the other hand there were substantial decreases in unemployment in coal mining, the textile and clothing industries, metal goods manufacture, the furniture trade, the fishing industry and the entertainments, sport, etc., industries.

Among insured persons, aged 16-64, the percentage unemployed* in Great Britain and Northern Ireland at 16th October, 1939, was 9.4, as compared with 9.0 at 11th September, 1939, and 12.3 at 17th October, 1938. For persons insured under the general scheme the corresponding percentages were 9.7 at 16th October, 1939, 9.2 at 11th September, 1939, and 12.7 at 17th October, 1938. For persons within the agricultural scheme the percentages were 3.9, 3.4 and 4.3 respectively.

CHANGES IN THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES.

Mining and Quarrying.—In the coal mining industry there was a further decrease in unemployment. The percentage unemployed (including those temporarily stopped) among insured workpeople, aged 16-64, was 7.5 at 16th October, 1939, as compared with 8.9 at 11th September, 1939, and 14.2 at 17th October, 1938.

In the iron mining industry employment showed some further improvement. The percentage unemployed (including those temporarily stopped) was 5.1 at 16th October, 1939, compared with 5.6 at 11th September, 1939, and with 20.1 at 17th October, 1938. Employment in the other mining and quarrying industries showed a decline, especially at slate quarries and stone quarries.

Pig Iron, Iron and Steel and Tinplate.—There was little change in the pig iron industry; the percentage unemployed at 16th October, 1939 was 6.3 as compared with 6.8 at 11th September, 1939, and 22.4 at 17th October, 1938.

In iron and steel manufacture also, little change occurred in the numbers unemployed. At 16th October the percentage unemployed among insured persons was 6.0, as compared with 5.7 at 11th September, 1939, and 20.9 at 17th October, 1938.

* The numbers and percentages unemployed have probably been affected to some extent by the withdrawal of men from the industrial field owing to the recent expansion of H.M. Forces, but the information necessary for making an estimate of the effect of this factor is not available.

The percentages unemployed among insured workpeople at 16th October and 11th September, 1939, quoted in this issue have been computed on the basis of the numbers insured at July, 1938. Revised percentages for Great Britain and for Great Britain and Northern Ireland, based on the numbers insured at July, 1939, will be published in the December issue of this GAZETTE.

There was a further increase in unemployment in the tinplate industry. The percentage rate of unemployment among insured persons was 11.2 at 16th October, 1939, as compared with 8.6 at 11th September, 1939, and 33.7 at 17th October, 1938.

Engineering, Shipbuilding and Other Metal Industries.—In the engineering industry the numbers unemployed showed little change on the whole. In general engineering an increase in unemployment in London was offset by decreases in the North of England. There was a further slight improvement in marine engineering in Scotland. In constructional and electrical engineering employment showed little change. An improvement occurred in the motor vehicle, etc., industry in the Midlands, but this was more than counter-balanced by a decline in certain other areas. The percentage unemployed among insured persons in the engineering industries as a whole (excluding motor vehicle, cycle and aircraft manufacture) was 3.8 at 16th October, 1939, the same as at 11th September, 1939, as compared with 3.0 at 17th October, 1938. At these dates the corresponding percentages in the motor vehicle, cycle and aircraft industry were 6.1, 5.7 and 6.5, respectively.

There was little change in the shipbuilding and ship-repairing industry. The percentage unemployed among insured persons was 10.5 at 16th October, 1939, as compared with 10.0 at 11th September, 1939, and 22.7 at 17th October, 1938.

There was a further decrease in the numbers unemployed in most of the other metal industries, especially in the manufacture of stoves, grates, pipes, etc., iron and steel tubes and hand tools, cutlery, saws and files.

Textile Industries.—At 16th October there was a substantial reduction in the numbers unemployed in the cotton industry; the reduction was most marked in the manufacturing department. The percentage unemployed among insured persons in the cotton industry as a whole was 8.7 at 16th October, 1939, as compared with 13.1 at 11th September, 1939, and with 24.0 at 17th October, 1938. In the preparing and spinning departments the corresponding percentages were 7.9, 10.5 and 21.5, and in the manufacturing department they were 9.7, 15.7 and 26.6.

In the wool textile industry there was a further improvement in employment; the percentage unemployed at 16th October, 1939, was 4.2, compared with 5.7 at 11th September, 1939, and with 15.8 at 17th October, 1938. In the carpet industry the percentage unemployed fell from 21.5 at 11th September to 17.0 at 16th October; the corresponding figure for 17th October, 1938, was 9.2.

There was a decrease in unemployment in the other textile industries apart from the jute trade, in which there was little change. The decrease in the numbers unemployed was most marked in the silk manufacturing and artificial silk weaving industry, in the hosiery industry, and in textile bleaching, printing, dyeing, etc.

Clothing Trades.—In the tailoring trades the numbers unemployed showed a marked decrease, especially in the London, North Eastern and North Western Divisions. In the dressmaking and millinery and hat and cap trades there was also a considerable improvement in employment as compared with September. Employment also improved in the other dress industries. In the clothing trades as a whole (exclusive of the boot and shoe industry) the percentage rate of unemployment among insured workers at 16th October was 10.1 as compared with 17.7 at 11th September, 1939, and 12.4 at 17th October, 1938.

In the boot and shoe industry the numbers unemployed showed a decrease, particularly in London and the Eastern and North Midlands Divisions. At 16th October, 1939, the percentage unemployed in Great Britain and Northern Ireland was 5.8, as compared with 7.5 at 11th September, 1939, and with 10.7 at 17th October, 1938.

Leather Trades.—In the tanning, currying and leather dressing sections of the leather trades the numbers unemployed again showed a marked decrease, chiefly in London. In other sections of the industry a slight decrease in unemployment also occurred in London. For Great Britain and Northern Ireland the percentage rate of unemployment in the leather trades as a whole decreased from 9.1 at 11th September, 1939, to 6.0 at 16th October, 1939; at 17th October, 1938, the corresponding figure was 8.9.

Building, Woodworking, etc.—There was an increase in the numbers unemployed in the building industry at 16th October, as compared with 11th September, 1939. The increase affected all occupations, both skilled and unskilled, and was particularly marked with carpenters, bricklayers and painters. In the building industry as a whole the percentage unemployed at 16th October, 1939, was 13.1, as compared with 9.5 at 11th September, 1939, and 16.0 at 17th October, 1938.

In brick manufacture the numbers unemployed again increased. For the country as a whole the percentage unemployed rose from 7.9 at 11th September, 1939, to 9.3 at 16th October, 1939; the figure for 17th October, 1938, was 11.0.

Employment in the furniture trade improved, but in the saw-milling, machined woodwork and coachbuilding trades it declined slightly.

Paper Manufacture, Printing and Bookbinding.—Employment in the paper-making industry showed a decline as compared with the previous month. There was also a marked increase in unemployment in the printing and bookbinding industries, and short-time working continued. The percentage unemployed in the paper and paper-board industries was 4.4 at 16th October, 1939, compared with 3.2 at 11th September, 1939, and with 7.4 at 17th October,

1938. The corresponding figures for printing and bookbinding were 12.6, 8.6 and 7.3; for the cardboard box, paper bag and stationery industries they were 5.1, 4.7 and 4.8.

Pottery and Glass.—In the pottery industry employment showed an improvement. The percentage unemployed among insured persons, aged 16-64, was 16.9 at 16th October, 1939, compared with 20.1 at 11th September, 1939, and with 17.3 at 17th October, 1938. There was a further improvement in the bottle-making section of the glass trades; in other sections there was no appreciable change.

Fishing.—There was a considerable decrease in the number of fishermen unemployed. The percentage rate of unemployment in the fishing industry at 16th October was 27.4, as compared with 48.4 at 11th September, 1939, and 19.5 at 17th October, 1938.

Dock Labourers and Seamen.—Between 11th September and 16th October, 1939, there was a further increase in unemployment among dock labourers in the country as a whole. The percentage unemployed in dock, harbour, river and canal service was 27.7 at 16th October, 1939, compared with 24.1 at 11th September, 1939, and with 25.8 at 17th October, 1938. In harbour, river and canal service the corresponding percentages were 7.7, 6.6 and 10.8; in dock, wharf and lighterage (port transport) service, they were 31.4, 27.3 and 28.5.

There was a slight increase in unemployment in shipping service, but shortages of ratings, especially deck hands, were again reported at several ports. The percentage unemployed in the shipping service was 17.9 at 16th October, 1939, compared with 16.6 at 11th September, 1939, and with 24.4 at 17th October, 1938.

UNEMPLOYMENT SUMMARY BY DISTRICTS.

The following Table shows the percentages* unemployed at 16th October, 1939, among insured persons, aged 16-64, in each of the areas into which the United Kingdom is now divided for the purpose of the administration of the Labour Exchanges Act and the Unemployment Insurance Acts:—

Division.	General and Agricultural Schemes.†			General Scheme.†			Agricultural Scheme.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
London ...	8.7	11.5	9.6	8.8	11.5	9.6	5.2	14.8	6.5
Eastern ...	6.8	10.8	7.7	8.2	11.2	9.0	1.4	3.6	1.6
S. Eastern ...	7.2	13.0	8.4	8.0	13.3	9.2	2.3	6.4	2.6
Southern ...	5.3	9.2	6.1	5.8	9.3	6.6	1.7	6.9	1.9
S. Western ...	5.6	7.7	6.0	6.1	7.7	6.5	2.2	15.0	2.4
Midlands ...	5.1	8.3	6.0	5.3	8.3	6.1	2.3	10.6	2.6
N. Eastern ...	5.6	4.8	5.4	5.9	4.9	5.6	2.0	2.2	2.0
N. Western ...	11.1	12.2	11.5	11.2	12.2	11.6	5.9	13.7	6.1
Northern ...	13.0	15.7	13.4	13.3	15.7	13.7	5.7	15.2	6.4
Scotland ...	11.0	12.3	11.4	11.6	12.3	11.8	4.4	13.1	5.1
Wales ...	14.4	18.8	14.9	14.7	18.9	15.3	7.5	12.0	7.7
Special Schemes	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	—	—	—
GREAT BRITAIN	8.7	10.5	9.2	9.1	10.5	9.5	3.1	7.9	3.4
N. IRELAND	22.1	18.4	20.8	22.9	18.4	21.2	16.8	20.5	17.0
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND	9.0	10.7	9.4	9.3	10.7	9.7	3.6	8.2	3.9

Particulars of the changes between 11th September and 16th October, in the numbers of unemployed persons on the registers of Employment Exchanges in each of the above Divisional Areas are given on page 389.

UNEMPLOYMENT DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS.

(1) NUMBERS UNEMPLOYED ON REGISTERS.

The following Table shows the numbers of unemployed persons (insured and uninsured) on the registers of Employment Exchanges at one date in each month since October, 1938:—

Date.	Great Britain.					Total Great Britain and Northern Ireland.
	Men 18 and over.	Boys 14-17.	Women 18 and over.	Girls 14-17.	Total 14 and over.	
1938.						
17 October	1,318,423	51,996	358,269	52,539	1,781,227	1,862,662
14 November	1,366,685	51,010	360,306	50,104	1,828,103	1,911,293
12 December	1,384,922	45,549	356,580	44,321	1,831,372	1,918,583
1939.						
16 January	1,509,947	64,231	399,756	65,092	2,039,026	2,133,809
13 February	1,402,417	55,191	380,664	58,446	1,896,718	1,986,302
13 March...	1,285,366	44,268	349,133	48,162	1,726,929	1,813,987
17 April ...	1,217,085	48,935	327,116	51,258	1,644,394	1,726,083
15 May ...	1,108,893	36,335	304,813	42,241	1,492,282	1,565,313
12 June ...	1,022,790	28,264	266,836	31,689	1,349,579	1,417,239
10 July ...	953,859	27,151	245,930	29,484	1,256,424	1,326,134
14 August ...	908,752	38,347	245,209	39,384	1,231,692	1,294,805
11 Sept. ...	826,811	44,543	395,243	54,331	1,330,928	1,395,550
16 Oct. ...	903,127	43,920	417,798	65,793	1,430,638	1,499,893

* These percentages, and those for each month since July, 1938, used for the purpose of statistics in this issue of the GAZETTE, (including the chart in the next column), are based on the estimated numbers insured at the beginning of July, 1938, and are subject to slight revision when full information becomes available as to the number of insured persons at July, 1939.
† The Special Schemes for the banking and insurance industries, for which divisional figures are not available, are shown separately.

(2) PERCENTAGES UNEMPLOYED AMONG INSURED PERSONS.

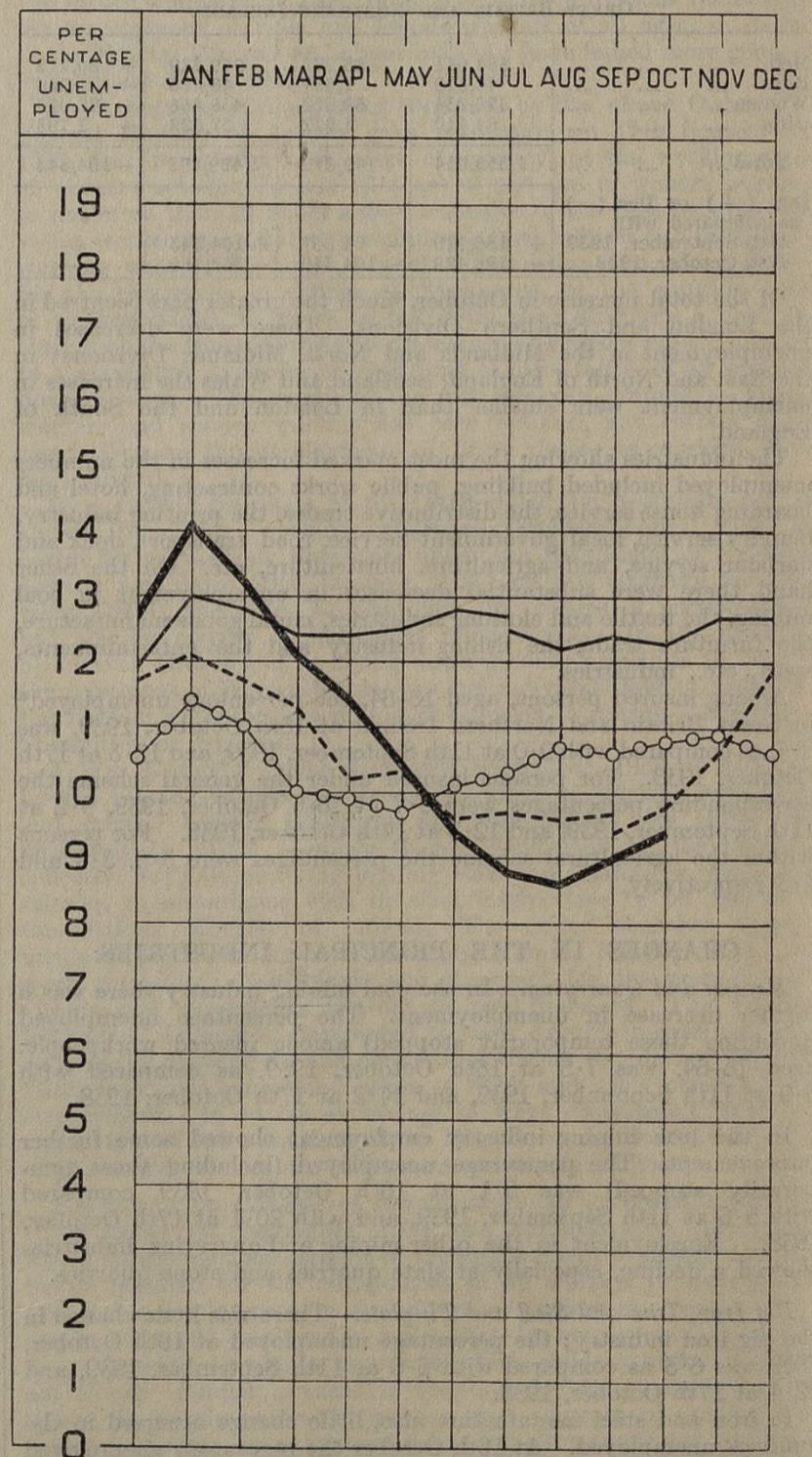
The following Table shows the percentages* unemployed among insured persons, aged 16-64, in Great Britain and Northern Ireland at one date in each month since October, 1938:—

Date.	General and Agricultural Schemes.†			General Scheme.†			Agricultural Scheme.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1938.									
17th October	12.9	10.7	12.3	13.5	10.8	12.7	4.1	7.4	4.3
14th November	13.4	10.7	12.7	13.9	10.7	13.0	4.8	18.6	5.7
12th December 1938.	13.6	10.5	12.7	14.0	10.2	12.9	6.9	38.9	8.9
16th January 1939.	14.9	12.0	14.1	15.3	11.6	14.3	8.9	43.9	11.1
13th February	13.9	11.4	13.2	14.3	11.1	13.4	7.7	40.5	9.8
13th March ...	12.7	10.4	12.1	13.1	10.2	12.3	6.5	26.7	7.8
17th April ...	11.9	9.8	11.4	12.4	9.7	11.6	5.6	14.5	6.1
15th May ...	10.8	9.1	10.4	11.2	9.0	10.6	5.1	14.2	5.7
12th June ...	10.0	7.9	9.4	10.4	7.9	9.7	4.0	7.1	4.2
10th July ...	9.4	7.4	8.8	9.7	7.4	9.1	3.8	6.2	3.9
14th August ...	9.0	7.6	8.6	9.3	7.6	8.8	3.6	7.4	3.8
11th September	8.3	10.9	9.0	8.6	10.9	9.2	3.0	8.3	3.4
16th October	9.0	10.7	9.4	9.3	10.7	9.7	3.6	8.2	3.9

UNEMPLOYMENT CHART.

PERCENTAGES UNEMPLOYED‡ AMONG INSURED PERSONS, AGED 16-64, IN GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.

1939. ————— 1937.§ —————
1938.† ————— Mean for 1924-29.¶ —————



* See footnote * in previous column.
† Including the special schemes for the banking and insurance industries.
‡ From January, 1937, the percentages used for this chart relate to unemployment among all insured persons, aged 16-64, including those insured under the general and special schemes and the agricultural scheme. From July, 1938, they also include persons in the domestic employments that were brought into insurance in April, 1938. The effect of this inclusion is shown by the two points on the chart for July, 1938. See also footnote * in previous column as regards the percentages for July, 1938, to October, 1939.
§ The method of counting the unemployed was altered in September, 1937, (see article on page 379 of the October, 1937, issue of this GAZETTE). The effect of the change is shown by the two points for that month.
¶ Including the period April, 1926, to March, 1927, and agricultural workers, for whom no figures were available.

COMPOSITION OF UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS: GREAT BRITAIN.

ANALYSIS FOR 16TH OCTOBER, 1939.

	Men (18 years and over)	Boys (under 18 years)	Women (18 years and over)	Girls (under 18 years)	Total.
A. Insured on Register:—					
1. Claimants to Benefit and applicants for Unemployment Allowances	834,821	18,754	303,020	24,125	1,180,720
2. Non-claimants:—					
(a) Aged 16-64 ...	22,394	2,169	27,104	4,382	56,049
(b) Aged 14 and 15 ...	—	9,966	—	12,798	22,764
B. Others on Register:—					
3. Applicants for unemployment allowances ...	18,355	235	14,295	957	33,842
4. Persons without applications:—					
(a) Aged 16-64 ...	27,557	4,589	73,379	8,126	113,651
(b) Aged 14 and 15 ...	—	8,207	—	15,405	23,612
C. Total on Register ...	903,127	43,920	417,798	65,793	1,430,638
D. Insured Unemployed:—					
Aged 16-64:—					
5. Number on Register (items 1 and 2 (a)) ...	857,215	20,923	330,124	28,507	1,236,769
6. Two months' file* ...	44,952	1,961	44,002	2,641	93,556
7. Special Schemes † ...	—	—	—	—	—
Claimants to Benefit	1,526	34	720	135	2,415
Total aged 16-64 ...	903,693	22,918	374,846	31,283	1,332,740
8. Aged 14 and 15:—					
(a) Item 2 (b) ...	—	9,966	—	12,798	22,764
(b) Two months' file ...	—	3,881	—	5,744	9,625
Total aged 14-64 ...	903,693	36,765	374,846	49,825	1,365,129

JUVENILE UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS.

JUVENILES, UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE, ON THE REGISTERS OF EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES AND JUVENILE EMPLOYMENT BUREAUX AT 16TH OCTOBER, 1939.

Division.	Boys.			Girls.		
	Aged 14 and 15.	Aged 16 and 17.	Total.	Aged 14 and 15.	Aged 16 and 17.	Total.
London ...	3,538	5,581	9,119	4,856	7,940	12,796
Eastern ...	715	1,326	2,041	894	1,715	2,609
South-Eastern ...	592	829	1,421	1,238	1,735	2,973
Southern ...	541	915	1,456	1,199	1,428	2,627
South-Western ...	446	943	1,389	776	1,340	2,116
Midlands ...	401	1,103	1,504	678	1,306	1,984
North Midlands ...	442	890	1,332	809	1,006	1,815
North-Eastern ...	981	1,460	2,441	1,904	2,232	4,136
North-Western ...	2,845	4,093	6,938	3,656	5,484	9,140
Northern ...	3,222	2,573	5,795	5,087	4,383	9,470
Scotland ...	2,517	3,633	6,150	3,713	5,045	8,758
Wales ...	1,933	2,401	4,334	3,393	3,976	7,369
Great Britain ...	18,173	25,747	43,920	28,203	37,590	65,793
N. Ireland ...	682	1,884	2,566	401	1,428	1,829
Gt. Britain and N. Ireland ...	18,855	27,631	46,486	28,604	39,018	67,622

INSURED JUVENILES, UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE, RECORDED AS UNEMPLOYED AT 16TH OCTOBER, 1939.

Division.	Boys.			Girls.		
	Aged 14 and 15.	Aged 16 and 17.	Total.	Aged 14 and 15.	Aged 16 and 17.	Total.
London ...	4,082	5,486	9,568	5,563	7,135	12,698
Eastern ...	629	1,203	1,832	706	1,465	2,171
South-Eastern ...	436	680	1,116	733	1,351	2,084
Southern ...	410	811	1,221	711	1,174	1,885
South-Western ...	347	784	1,131	474	1,068	1,542
Midlands ...	457	876	1,333	650	1,152	1,802
North Midlands ...	462	805	1,267	562	860	1,422
North-Eastern ...	576	1,138	1,714	974	1,433	2,407
North-Western ...	2,135	3,646	5,781	2,716	4,759	7,475
Northern ...	1,643	2,268	3,911	2,114	3,447	5,561
Scotland ...	2,009	3,403	5,412	2,455	4,461	6,916
Wales ...	661	1,753	2,414	884	2,443	3,327
Special Schemes ...	—	34	34	—	135	135
Great Britain ...	13,847	22,918	36,765	18,542	31,283	49,825
N. Ireland ...	593	1,781	2,374	354	1,233	1,587
Gt. Britain and N. Ireland ...	14,440	24,699	39,139	18,896	32,516	51,412

Note.—These figures include not only insured juveniles on the register, but also those whose unemployment books are in the "two-months' file." (See paragraph below Table in first column on page 394). The effect of the inclusion of the two-months' file is especially marked in the case of the London Division.

* See explanation on page 390.

NUMBERS ON THE REGISTERS IN THE PRINCIPAL TOWNS.

UNEMPLOYMENT AMONG INSURED PERSONS AT 16th OCTOBER, 1939.

INDUSTRIAL ANALYSIS.

THE statistics here presented show, industry by industry, the estimated number of persons, aged 16-64, insured against unemployment at July, 1938, and the total number and percentage of such persons unemployed on 16th October, 1939,* distinguishing those wholly unemployed (i.e., out of a situation) from those temporarily stopped (i.e., suspended from work on the understanding that they were shortly to return to their former employment).

The Unemployment Insurance Acts provide, subject to certain exceptions, for the compulsory insurance against unemployment of substantially all employed persons. The principal classes of excepted employments are indoor private domestic service, employment otherwise than by way of manual labour at a rate of remuneration exceeding in value £250 a year, employment as female professional nurse, and, subject to certain qualifications, employment in the teaching profession and in the police forces. Employment under public or local authorities, railways and public utility companies may, in certain circumstances, also be excepted. Persons aged 65 and over, and certain other classes, are excluded from insurance. The Unemployment Insurance Acts do not apply to persons serving in an established capacity in the permanent service of the Crown. Some persons employed in agricultural occupations are outside the scope of the agricultural scheme. These include sons, daughters, and other near relatives of the employer, persons not working under a contract of service, and persons engaged in such casual harvesting work as hop-picking, or gathering flowers, fruit, peas or potatoes (unless they normally undertake other insurable work). Persons not domiciled in Great Britain, such as Irish migratory labourers, are not included in the figures. Prior to September, 1934, juveniles under 16 years of age were also excepted, and they are excluded from the statistics in these Tables; particulars of the numbers of these juveniles recorded as unemployed at 16th October, 1939, are, however, given on pages 389 and 394.

An unemployment book, on which is recorded the industry in which he is employed, is issued to every insured person, and this book must be lodged at an Employment Exchange whenever the

insured person makes a claim for unemployment benefit or for an unemployment allowance, or registers as unemployed without claiming benefit or an allowance.

The files of "lodged" books at the Employment Exchanges thus furnish for each industrial group a record of the unemployment of insured persons. In arriving at this figure the books of those persons who are known to be working in an uninsured trade, or to be sick or deceased, or to have gone abroad, are excluded. Where information on these points is lacking, the books remain in the "lodged" files, and are included in the statistics of unemployment, for a period of two months from the date on which the insured person was last in touch with the Exchange.

The numbers unemployed given in the following Tables relate only to persons, aged 16-64, insured against unemployment. They include insured persons of those ages maintaining registration at Employment Exchanges, together with those whose unemployment books remain lodged in the "two months" file referred to above. The figures given on pages 387, 388 and 389 relating to persons registered at Employment Exchanges include uninsured as well as insured persons who are maintaining registration for employment, but not insured persons whose books are in the two months file. A Table showing the composition of the two series of figures is given on page 389.

The estimated numbers of insured persons in each industry are computed once a year, about November, on the basis of information obtained at the annual exchange of unemployment books. The figures relate to the beginning of July, and similar statistics are not available for other dates in the year. In considering the figures on pages 392 and 393 it should be borne in mind that the percentage rates of unemployment at September and October, 1939, and those for October, 1938, used for the purpose of comparison, have been calculated on the basis of the estimated numbers of insured persons at July, 1938.

Revised percentages for September and October, 1939, based on the numbers insured at the beginning of July, 1939, will be published in next month's issue of this GAZETTE.

INDUSTRY.	GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.									GREAT BRITAIN ONLY.		
	WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED (including Casuals).			TEMPORARY STOPPAGES.			TOTAL.			WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED, TEMPORARY STOPPAGES AND CASUALS.		
	Males.	Fe-males.	Total.	Males.	Fe-males.	Total.	Males.	Fe-males.	Total.	Males.	Fe-males.	Total.
Agricultural Scheme:—												
Farming, Forestry, etc.	15,231	1,525	16,756	250	126	376	15,481	1,651	17,132	11,185	1,429	12,614
Market Gardening, Horticulture, etc.	2,870	1,790	4,660	101	141	242	2,971	1,931	4,902	2,819	1,928	4,747
Private Gardening	3,425	26	3,451	186	2	188	3,611	28	3,639	3,356	28	3,384
Other Employments	2,386	96	2,482	73	2	75	2,459	98	2,557	2,384	97	2,481
TOTAL, AGRICULTURAL SCHEME	23,912	3,437	27,349	610	271	881	24,522	3,708	28,230	19,744	3,482	23,226
Fishing	8,766	238	9,004	187	27	214	8,953	265	9,218	8,881	265	9,146
Mining:—												
Coal Mining	51,526	281	51,807	12,537	24	12,561	64,063	305	64,368	64,045	304	64,349
Iron Ore and Ironstone Mining, etc.	558	1	559	23	—	23	581	1	582	576	1	577
Lead, Tin and Copper Mining	600	2	602	23	—	23	625	2	627	621	2	623
Stone Quarrying and Mining	5,214	2	5,216	2,046	1	2,047	7,260	10	7,270	5,963	8	5,971
Slate Quarrying and Mining	823	2	825	1,120	—	1,120	1,943	2	1,945	1,941	2	1,943
Other Mining and Quarrying	381	121	502	203	8	211	584	129	713	561	129	690
Clay, Sand, Gravel and Chalk Pits	950	9	959	104	8	112	1,054	17	1,071	883	17	900
Total, Mining	60,052	425	60,477	16,056	41	16,097	76,104	466	76,570	74,590	463	75,053
Non-Metalliferous Mining Products:—												
Coke Ovens and By-Product Works	934	22	956	115	3	118	1,049	25	1,074	1,046	25	1,071
Artificial Stone, Concrete, etc.	1,919	132	2,051	305	16	321	2,224	148	2,372	2,182	147	2,329
Cement, Limekilns and Whiting	526	35	561	23	5	28	549	40	589	483	40	523
Total, N.-M. Mining Products	3,379	189	3,568	443	24	467	3,822	213	4,035	3,711	212	3,923
Brick, Tile, Pipe, etc., Making	6,724	914	7,638	2,038	364	2,402	8,762	1,278	10,040	8,444	1,276	9,720
Pottery, Earthenware, etc.	2,411	3,532	5,943	1,877	4,841	6,718	4,288	8,373	12,661	4,266	8,368	12,634
Glass:—												
Glass (excluding Bottles, Optical Glass, Lenses, Prisms, etc.)	1,521	471	1,992	430	171	601	1,951	642	2,593	1,936	642	2,578
Glass Bottles	1,218	218	1,436	231	10	241	1,449	228	1,677	1,447	227	1,674
Total, Glass	2,739	689	3,428	661	181	842	3,400	870	4,270	3,383	869	4,252
Chemicals, Paints, Oils, etc.:—												
Chemicals	3,232	1,537	4,769	104	65	169	3,336	1,602	4,938	3,225	1,593	4,818
Explosives	425	410	835	17	144	161	442	554	996	437	551	988
Paint, Varnish, Red Lead, etc.	690	318	1,008	31	41	72	721	359	1,080	707	359	1,066
Oil, Glue, Soap, Ink, Matches, etc.	2,350	1,044	3,394	370	71	441	2,720	1,115	3,835	2,686	1,098	3,784
Total, Chemicals, Paints, Oils, etc.	6,697	3,309	10,006	522	321	843	7,219	3,630	10,849	7,055	3,601	10,656
Metal Manufacture:—												
Fig Iron (Blast Furnaces)	880	5	885	196	—	196	1,076	5	1,081	1,064	5	1,069
Steel Melting and Iron Puddling, Iron and Steel Rolling, etc.	6,209	132	6,341	4,565	10	4,575	10,774	142	10,916	10,755	142	10,897
Brass, Copper, Zinc, Tin, Lead, etc.	1,409	169	1,578	179	61	240	1,588	230	1,818	1,534	230	1,764
Tin Plates	611	118	729	2,210	123	2,333	2,821	241	3,062	2,816	241	3,057
Iron and Steel Tubes	1,215	78	1,293	793	9	802	2,008	87	2,095	1,975	87	2,062
Wire, Wire Netting, Wire Ropes	753	162	915	305	30	335	1,250	192	1,442	1,037	191	1,228
Total, Metal Manufacture	11,077	664	11,741	8,248	233	8,481	19,325	897	20,222	19,181	896	20,077
Engineering, etc.:—												
General Engineering; Engineers' Iron and Steel Founding	17,859	3,222	21,081	2,510	499	3,009	20,369	3,721	24,090	19,630	3,709	23,339
Electrical Engineering	2,114	978	3,092	134	90	224	2,248	1,068	3,316	2,183	1,063	3,246
Marine Engineering, etc.	2,101	18	2,119	88	2	90	2,189	20	2,209	1,928	18	1,946
Constructional Engineering	2,566	45	2,611	295	1	296	2,861	46	2,907	2,794	46	2,840
Total, Engineering	24,640	4,263	28,903	3,027	592	3,619	27,667	4,855	32,522	26,535	4,836	31,371

* The numbers and percentages unemployed have probably been affected to some extent by the withdrawal of men from the industrial field owing to the recent expansion of H.M. Forces, but the information necessary for making an estimate of this effect is not available.

INDUSTRY.	GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.									GREAT BRITAIN ONLY.		
	WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED (including Casuals).			TEMPORARY STOPPAGES.			TOTAL.			WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED, TEMPORARY STOPPAGES AND CASUALS.		
	Males.	Fe-males.	Total.	Males.	Fe-males.	Total.	Males.	Fe-males.	Total.	Males.	Fe-males.	Total.
Construction and Repair of Vehicles:—												
Motor Vehicles, Cycles and Aircraft	13,859	2,111	15,970	7,056	629	7,685	20,915	2,740	23,655	20,192	2,709	22,901
Carriages, Carts, etc.	993	136	1,129	92	12	104	1,085	148	1,233	1,015	148	1,163
Railway Carriages and Wagons, etc.	1,230	46	1,276	576	5	581	1,806	51	1,857	1,782	51	1,833
Total, Vehicles	16,082	2,293	18,375	7,724	646	8,370	23,806	2,939	26,745	22,989	2,908	25,897
Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing	17,014	297	17,311	966	36	1,002	17,980	333	18,313	17,016	330	17,346
Other Metal Industries:—												
Stove, Grate, Pipe, etc., and General Iron Founding	3,160	454	3,614	2,005	162	2,167	5,165	616	5,781	5,101	615	5,716
Electrical Wiring and Contracting	3,232	137	3,369	121	5	126	3,353	142	3,495	3,157	141	3,298
Electric Cable, Apparatus, Lamps, etc.	3,580	5,267	8,847	232	327	559	3,812	5,594	9,406	3,749	5,577	9,326
Hand Tools, Cutlery, Saws, Files	779	632	1,411	290	108	398	1,069	740	1,809	1,060	739	1,799
Bolts, Nuts, Screws, Rivets, Nails, etc.	471	635	1,106	77	73	150	548	708	1,256	539	702	1,241
Brass and Allied Metal Wares	554	485	1,039	107	92	199	661	577	1,238	635	572	1,207
Heating and Ventilating Apparatus	849	43	892	26	3	29	875	46	921	861	46	907
Watches, Clocks, Plate, Jewellery, etc.	1,163	904	2,067	390	223	613	1,553	1,127	2,680	1,539	1,123	2,662
Metal Industries not separately specified	7,019	5,102	12,121	1,623	1,678	3,301	8,642	6,780	15,422	8,340	6,758	15,098
Total, Other Metals	20,807	13,659	34,466	4,871	2,671	7,542	25,678	16,330	42,008	24,930	16,273	41,203
Textiles:—												
Cotton Preparing, Spinning, etc.	4,234	7,702	11,936	1,258	2,644	3,902	5,492	10,346	15,838	5,490	10,343	15,833
Cotton Manufacturing (Weaving, etc.)	3,250	11,684	14,934	909	2,707	3,616	4,159	14,391	18,550	4,159	14,381	18,540
Total, Cotton	7,484	19,386	26,870	2,167	5,351	7,518	9,651	24,737	34,388	9,649	24,724	34,373
Woolen and Worsted	2,103	3,447	5,550	1,184	2,228	3,412	3,287	5,675	8,962	3,221	5,583	8,804
Silk Spinning and Manufacture and Artificial Silk Weaving, etc.	497	1,532	2,029	518	1,261	1,779	1,015	2,793	3,808	1,014	2,773	3,787
Artificial Silk Yarn Manufacture	359	366	725	69	52	121	428	418	846	426	413	839
Linen	3,455	8,177	11,632	331	778	1,109	3,786	8,955	12,741	3,651	8,923	12,574
Jute	910	2,666	3,576	49	292	341	959	2,958	3,917	959	2,958	3,917
Hemp, Rope, Cord, Twine, etc.	437	1,248	1,685	39	220	259	476	1,468	1,944	474	1,461	1,935
Hosiery	506	2,545	3,051	268	1,104	1,372	774	3,649	4,423	747	3,593	4,340
Lace	202	338	540	556	548	1,104	758	886	1,644	757	885	1,642
Carpets	273	747	1,020	1,133	3,181	4,314	1,406	3,928	5,334	1,392	3,921	5,313
Other Textiles	938	2,517	3,455	134	661	795	1,072	3,178	4,250	1,067	3,1	

UNEMPLOYMENT AMONG BOYS AND GIRLS, UNDER 16 YEARS OF AGE, IN INSURED INDUSTRIES.

The Table below shows for each industry group, and for the principal industries, the numbers of insured boys and girls under 16 years of age recorded as unemployed in Great Britain, and in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, at 16th October, 1939.

Industry.	Great Britain.		Great Britain and Northern Ireland.	
	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.
Agricultural Scheme —				
Farming, Forestry, etc. ...	253	55	265	56
Market Gardening ...	127	121	137	123
Other Employments (including Private Gardening) ...	84	6	88	6
Total, Agricultural Scheme ...	464	182	490	185
Fishing ...	30	1	30	1
Mining —				
Coal Mining ...	275	8	275	8
All other Mining, etc. ...	74	4	76	4
Total, Mining ...	349	12	351	12
Non-Metallic Mining Products —				
Brick, Tile, Pipe, etc., Making ...	57	15	58	15
Pottery, Earthenware, etc. ...	181	15	184	15
Glass ...	52	81	52	81
Chemicals, Paints, Oils, etc. ...	59	64	65	64
Metal Manufacture ...	128	356	128	356
Engineering, etc.—	79	41	80	41
General Engineering; Engineers' Iron and Steel Founding ...	449	167	490	167
Other Engineering ...	168	70	168	70
Total, Engineering ...	617	237	658	237
Construction and Repair of Vehicles —				
Motor Vehicles, Cycles and Aircraft	507	123	540	124
Other Vehicles ...	61	12	62	12
Total, Vehicles ...	568	135	602	136
Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing ...	112	2	114	2
Other Metal Industries —				
Electric Cable, Apparatus, Lamps, etc.	248	322	248	322
All others ...	636	451	646	453
Total, Other Metal Industries ...	884	773	894	775
Textiles —				
Cotton Preparing, Spinning, etc. ...	37	41	37	41
Cotton Manufacturing (Weaving, etc.)	26	58	26	58
Total, Cotton ...	63	99	63	99
Woolen and Worsted ...	30	84	30	84
Linen ...	6	43	6	43
Hosiery ...	11	190	11	195
All other Textiles ...	108	456	129	465
Total, Textiles ...	218	877	299	986
Leather and Leather Goods ...	57	143	60	143
Clothing —				
Tailoring ...	111	629	114	645
Dressmaking and Millinery ...	34	805	34	805
Shirts, Collars, Underclothing, etc.	15	342	26	430
Boots, Shoes, Slippers and Clogs ...	113	117	117	117
Other Clothing ...	28	147	28	148
Total, Clothing ...	301	2,040	319	2,146
Food, Drink and Tobacco —				
Bread, Biscuits, Cakes, etc. ...	143	511	150	516
Cocoa, Chocolate and Sugar Confectionery ...	46	478	46	485
Tobacco, Cigars, Cigarettes and Snuff	6	27	6	38
All other Food, and Drink ...	184	565	195	563
Total, Food, Drink, etc. ...	379	1,581	397	1,607
Woodworking, etc. —				
Furniture Making, Upholstery, etc.	359	164	365	166
All other Woodworking ...	315	81	320	82
Total, Woodworking, etc. ...	674	245	685	248
Paper, Printing, etc. —				
Cardboard Boxes, Paper Bags and Stationery ...	55	271	56	273
Printing, Publishing and Bookbinding	484	776	500	793
Other Paper, Printing, etc. ...	36	185	36	186
Total, Paper, Printing, etc. ...	575	1,232	592	1,252
Building and Contracting —				
Building ...	813	44	826	44
Public Works Contracting, etc. ...	157	5	158	5
Total, Building and Contracting ...	970	49	984	49
Other Manufacturing Industries —				
Rubber ...	34	103	34	103
Scientific and Photographic Instruments and Apparatus ...	89	55	90	55
Toys, Games and Sports Requisites	74	210	77	210
All Others ...	34	48	34	50
Total, Other Manufacturing ...	231	416	235	418
Gas, Water and Electricity Supply ...	31	12	31	12
Transport and Communication ...	532	100	541	101
Distributive Trades ...	4,556	5,537	4,803	5,582
Commerce and Finance ...	232	215	236	216
Miscellaneous Trades and Services —				
Professional Services ...	207	515	213	516
Entertainments, Sport, etc. ...	208	529	215	529
Hotel, Public House, Restaurant, Boarding-House, Club, etc., Service	333	1,589	344	1,611
Laundry Services ...	188	856	191	842
Job Dyeing, Dry Cleaning, etc. ...	83	140	84	140
All other Industries and Services ...	492	572	505	578
Total, Miscellaneous ...	1,511	4,181	1,552	4,216
Total, General Scheme ...	13,383	18,360	13,950	18,711
Total, General and Agricultural Schemes ...	13,847	18,542	14,440	18,896

The figures above include those boys and girls whose unemployment books were in the "two-months' file" of lodged books, i.e., boys and girls who had registered as unemployed at some date within the previous two months and were not known to have found work, but were not maintaining registration as applicants for employment.

UNEMPLOYMENT FUND.

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

	Four weeks ended 28th Oct., 1939.	Five weeks ended 30th Sept., 1939.	Five weeks ended 29th Oct., 1938.
(1) General Account.			
Contributions received from:—			
Employers ...	1,837,000	2,038,000	2,025,000
Employed persons ...	1,845,000	2,026,000	2,061,000
Exchequer ...	1,839,000	2,031,000	2,034,000
Miscellaneous Receipts ...	160,000	9,000	56,000
Total Income ...	5,681,000	6,104,000	6,176,000
Benefit ...	2,949,000	2,596,000	4,847,000
Cost of Administration ...	483,000	607,000	762,000
Accrued Charge for Debt Service†	297,000	371,000	383,000
Miscellaneous Payments ...	32,000	40,000	42,000
Total Expenditure ...	3,761,000	3,614,000	6,034,000
Debt Outstanding†	77,082,000	77,082,000	81,530,000
(2) Agricultural Account.			
Contributions received from:—			
Employers ...	23,000	22,000	39,000
Employed persons ...	22,000	22,000	39,000
Exchequer ...	22,000	22,000	38,000
Miscellaneous Receipts ...	11,000	—	—
Total Income ...	78,000	66,000	116,000
Benefit ...	32,000	35,000	25,000
Cost of Administration ...	9,000	8,000	15,000
Miscellaneous Payments ...	—	—	5,000
Total Expenditure ...	41,000	43,000	45,000

UNEMPLOYMENT ALLOWANCES.

As from 1st April, 1937, the cost of Unemployment allowances in Great Britain is met from the Unemployment Assistance Fund which is reimbursed by the Exchequer.

As from 6th September, 1939, the class of persons to whom allowances may be paid under the Unemployment Assistance Act, 1934, has been extended by the provisions of the Unemployment Assistance (Prevention and Relief of Distress) Regulations, 1939 (see article on page 360 of the October, 1939, issue of this GAZETTE).

For the period of four weeks ended 28th October, 1939, expenditure on unemployment allowances (excluding the cost of administration) amounted to approximately £1,561,000† compared with £2,503,000 during the five weeks ended 30th September, 1939, and £3,240,000 during the five weeks ended 29th October, 1938.

Owing to the extension referred to above, the figures for September and October, 1939, are not comparable with those for October, 1938.

EMPLOYMENT OVERSEAS.

[N.B.—The following paragraphs include an abstract of such official and other information as is available with regard to the state of employment abroad, in order to indicate, as far as possible, the fluctuations in employment in each country from period to period. The bases of the statistics published in the various countries are, however, not the same as those of the statistics relating to this country; and therefore the figures quoted below cannot properly be used with those on pp. 387-388 to compare the actual level of employment in Great Britain and Northern Ireland with that in other countries.]

BELGIUM.§

RETURNS received by the National Employment and Unemployment Office from approved unemployment insurance funds with a total membership of 1,015,378, showed that 14.3 per cent. of these were totally unemployed in July, 1939, as compared with 14.2 per cent. in June, 1939, and 12.1 per cent. in July, 1938. In addition, 15.4 per cent. were employed intermittently in July, 1939, as compared with 14.5 per cent. in June, 1939, and 16.1 per cent. in July, 1938. In July, 1939, 16.5 per cent. of the aggregate possible working days were lost through unemployment; in the preceding month the percentage was 16.8, and in July, 1938, 15.6.

NETHERLANDS.¶

Unemployment showed an increase during September. Figures compiled by the State Department of Unemployment Insurance and Employment Exchanges show that, of 512,606 members of subsidised unemployment funds making returns for the week ended 30th September, 1939, 17.2 per cent. were unemployed during the whole week and 2.4 per cent. for less than 6 days. In the corresponding week of the preceding month the percentages were 16.6 and 2.3, and in the last week of September, 1938, 20.9 and 3.1. At the end of September, 1939, 267,753 applicants for work were registered at public Employment Exchanges, of whom 203,823 were unemployed; at the end of the previous month the corresponding totals were 260,434 and 191,308, and at the end of September, 1938, 318,947 and 301,730.

* A detailed account of the Fund is presented to Parliament annually (see H.C. 24 of 1939 for the period ended 31st March, 1938).

† Statutory provision was made for the repayment (including interest) of the debt outstanding on 1st July, 1934 (amounting to £105,780,000) by half-yearly payments of £2,500,000 commencing on 30th September, 1934. Under the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1938, an additional sum of £20,000,000 was repaid on 31st March, 1938, and thereafter the half-yearly payment was reduced to £2,006,259. A further sum of £3,000,000 was repaid on 31st March, 1939, and the half-yearly payment was reduced to £1,931,767.

‡ Includes adjustment.

§ *Revue du Travail*, October, 1939. Brussels.

¶ *Maandchrift van het Centraal Bureau voor de Statistiek*, 31st October, 1939. The Hague.

SWITZERLAND.*

Unemployment declined during September. At the end of that month 25,275 applications for employment (15.7 per thousand of the employed population according to the census of 1930) were registered at Employment Exchanges, as compared with 27,939 (16.8 per thousand) at the end of August, 1939, and 49,610 (34.5 per thousand) at the end of September, 1938. The monthly figures for 1939 are not fully comparable with those for 1938, owing to the exclusion from the statistics as from January, 1939, of applicants for work provided with employment, in their normal occupation, on relief works. Offers of situations, at the dates mentioned above, numbered 2,631, 2,633 and 1,939, respectively.

SCANDINAVIAN COUNTRIES.

Unemployment increased in Denmark in October, in Sweden during September, and in Norway during August.

Denmark.—According to returns received by the Danish Statistical Department from approved unemployment funds with a total membership of approximately 486,000, 16.0† per cent. of this membership were unemployed at the end of October, 1939, as compared with 12.5§ per cent. at the end of September, 1939, and 18.8 per cent. at the end of October, 1938.

Norway.—Returns furnished by ten trade unions with a total membership of 93,870 show that 12.1 per cent. of this membership were unemployed at the end of August, 1939, as compared with 11.8 per cent. at the end of July, 1939, and 16.4 per cent. at the end of August, 1938.

Sweden.—Of a total of approximately 678,000 members covered by the returns of the reporting trade unions, 6.1‡ per cent. were unemployed at the end of September, 1939, as compared with 4.8§ per cent. at the end of the previous month, and 7.5 per cent. at the end of September, 1938.

ÉIRE.**

Unemployment continued to increase during October. The number of persons on the live registers of the Employment Exchanges increased from 77,888 at 25th September to 81,719 at 28th October, 1939. The figures for both these dates were affected by the operation of two Orders†† issued under the Unemployment Assistance Act, 1933, the effect of which was to restrict the eligibility for unemployment assistance of certain classes of persons living in rural areas. At 31st October, 1938, when no such Orders were in force, the number of persons on the live registers was 91,280.

CANADA.††

Industrial employment showed decided improvement at the beginning of September. The total number of workpeople employed at 1st September, 1939, by 11,856 firms from which returns were received by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics was 1,165,631, as compared with 1,145,384 at the beginning of August, 1939. If the average number of workpeople employed by the reporting firms in the year 1926 be represented by 100, the index of employment for 1st September, 1939, was 119.6, as compared with 117.5 at 1st August, 1939, and 115.1 at 1st September, 1938.

At the end of September, 1939, 9.1 per cent. of the aggregate membership (approximately 242,000) of trade unions making returns were unemployed, as compared with 10.9 per cent. at the end of August, 1939, and 10.4 per cent. at the end of September, 1938.

UNITED STATES.§§

Employment increased during August. According to returns received by the Bureau of Labour Statistics from employers, covering over one-half of the aggregate number of wage-earners in manufacturing industries, the number of workpeople employed at the middle of August, 1939, showed an increase of approximately 3.1 per cent. as compared with the previous month. Aggregate weekly earnings in the establishments covered rose during the same period by about 6.5 per cent. If the average monthly index of employment in manufacturing industries for the three years 1923-1925 be taken as 100, the corresponding index for August, 1939, was 96.4, as compared with 93.5||| for the previous month, and 88.8||| for August, 1938.

At the end of August, 1939, 5,788,890 applicants for work were registered at the Public Employment Exchanges comprised in, or affiliated to, the United States Employment Service, a decline of 4.6 per cent., as compared with the previous month and of 28.4 per cent. as compared with August, 1938.

Reports received by the American Federation of Labour from affiliated trade unions in 24 cities showed that, in September, 1939, 11‡ per cent. of the membership of these unions covered by the returns were unemployed, as compared with 12 per cent. in August, 1939, and 16 per cent. in September, 1938.

* *La Vie Economique*, October, 1939. Berne.

† *Statistiske Efterretninger*, November, 1939. Copenhagen.

‡ Provisional figure.

§ Revised figure.

|| Information supplied by the Central Bureau of Statistics, Oslo.

||| Information supplied by the Ministry of Social Affairs, Stockholm.

** Information supplied by the Department of Industry and Commerce, Dublin.

†† The Orders came into force on 8th March and 7th June, 1939, and expired simultaneously on 31st October, 1939.

‡‡ *The September Employment Situation*, 1939, and information supplied by the Department of Labour, Ottawa.

§§ *Survey of Current Business*, October, 1939; *Employment Service News*, August-September, 1939; *American Federationist*, October, 1939; Washington; and *The Conference Board Economic Record*, 20th October, 1939; New York.

||| Revised series.

According to the estimates of the American Federation of Labour, the total number of unemployed persons in the United States in August, 1939, was 10,139,000, as compared with 10,305,000 in July, 1939, and 11,087,000 in August, 1938. The National Industrial Conference Board assesses the total number of unemployed persons in August, 1939, at 9,424,000, as compared with 9,852,000 in July, 1939, and 10,601,000 in August, 1938. Both these estimates include a considerable number of persons engaged on public relief work schemes.

RETAIL PRICES OVERSEAS.

N.B.—While the percentages given in the following Summary Tables are derived from the most authoritative sources of statistical information, certain differences in the nature and scope of the data used, in the methods of combining such data and in the periods for which the rise is measured, suggest the need for caution in drawing conclusions from a comparison between the figures for any two countries or cities. In every case, the percentage calculation is based on the cost of a fixed list of commodities taken in identical quantities.

I.—FOOD.

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

Country.	Percentage Increase as compared with July, 1914.*					Latest figures available.
	July, 1936.	July, 1937.	July, 1938.	July, 1939.	Rise.	
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND ...	Per cent. 29	Per cent. 40	Per cent. 46	Per cent. 39	Per cent. 54	1939. 1 Nov.
OTHER EUROPEAN COUNTRIES.						
Éire ...	45†	54†	59†	58†	58	Aug.
Finland†	79‡	870	865	887	901	Aug.
France (Paris) ...	362	500	588	661	665	Aug.
„ (other towns) ...	352‡	477‡	554‡	—	597	May
Germany ...	24	25	24	25	22	Oct.
Netherlands (Amsterdam) ...	19§	30	30	24§	28	Sept.
Norway ...	45	61	68	66	65	Aug.
Portugal	1,963	1,998	1,928	1,806	1,803	Aug.
Sweden	35	41	45	49	49	Aug.
Switzerland ...	20	31	29	32	36	Oct.
OTHER COUNTRIES.						
Australia†	27	3				

CHANGES IN RETAIL PRICES AND COST OF LIVING.

Summary of Index Figures for 1st November.

	Food	All Items
Average Increase since July, 1914	54%	69%
Average Increase since 30th September, 1939:—		
Index points	4	4
Per cent.	2½*	2½*

FOOD.

DURING October there was an increase in the retail prices of bacon, and a seasonal rise in the prices of eggs. There were also slight upward movements, on average, in the retail prices of cheese, butter, tea, meat, potatoes and milk. On the other hand, there was a reduction in the prices of fish (which had risen sharply in September), and the price of margarine showed some decline, on average, as a result of the introduction of a standard blend at 6d. per lb. There was little change, during October, in the prices of flour, bread and sugar.

The following Table compares the average retail prices in the United Kingdom generally at 1st November, 1939, as shown by the returns collected for the purpose of these statistics, with the corresponding prices at 1st and 30th September, 1939:—

Article.	Average Price (per lb. unless otherwise indicated—to the nearest ¼d.) at—			Percentage Inc. or Dec. (—) at 1st November, compared with		
	1st Nov.	30th Sept.	1st Sept.	30th Sept.	1st Sept.	
Beef, British—	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.			
Ribs	1 3	1 2½	1 2½	1	4	
Thin Flank	0 8½	0 8	0 7½	3	7	
Beef, Chilled or Frozen—						
Ribs	0 10½	0 10	0 9½	3	7	
Thin Flank	0 5½	0 5½	0 4½	4	11	
Mutton, British—						
Legs	1 4	1 4	1 3½	1	5	
Breast	0 8	0 7½	0 7½	3	8	
Mutton, Frozen—						
Legs	0 11	0 10½	0 10½	3	6	
Breast	0 4½	0 4½	0 4	5	13	
Bacon (streaky)†	1 6½	1 4½	1 3	12	22	
Fish	—	—	—	-10	16	
Flour ... per 7 lb.	1 1½	1 1½	1 1½	-1	3	
Bread ... per 4 lb.	0 8½	0 8½	0 8½	-1	3	
Tea	2 5	2 4	2 4	3	3	
Sugar (granulated) ...	0 4½	0 4½	0 3	1	48	
Milk ... per quart	0 7	0 6½	0 6½	2	3	
Butter—						
Fresh	1 6½	1 6½	1 4½	2	14	
Salt	1 6½	1 6	1 3½	3	22	
Cheese†	0 11	0 10½	0 10	5	9	
Margarine	0 6	0 6	0 6½	-8	-7	
Eggs (fresh) ... each	0 2½	0 2½	0 2	11	33	
Potatoes ... per 7 lb.	0 6½	0 6½	0 6½	2	3	

Of the average rise of 1½d. per lb., since 1st September, in the price of sugar, 1d. per lb. is due to the increased duty provided for by the recent Budget.

The following Table shows the average percentage increases or decreases in prices at 1st September, 30th September, and 1st November, 1939, respectively, as compared with July, 1914:—

Article.	Average Percentage Increase or Decrease (—) since July, 1914, at—		
	1st September.	30th September.	1st November.
Beef, British—			
Ribs	44	48	50
Thin Flank	15	20	23
Beef, Chilled or Frozen—			
Ribs	32	38	42
Thin Flank	1	7	12
Mutton, British—			
Legs	48	53	55
Breast	14	20	24
Mutton, Frozen—			
Legs	51	56	60
Breast	-3	4	10
Bacon (streaky)†	35	47	65
Fish	116	178	151
Flour	26	30	30
Bread	42	46	46
Tea	52	53	58
Sugar (granulated) ...	46	115	117
Milk	92	94	98
Butter—			
Fresh	13	27	29
Salt	7	27	31
Cheese†	16	21	26
Margarine	-3	-7	-5
Eggs (fresh)	58	88	110
Potatoes	33	35	38
All above articles (Weighted Average)	38	50	54

* A rise of 4 points on a total of 150 for food and 165 for "all items" (the figure for July, 1914, being 100) is equivalent to about 2½ per cent.
† Where this kind is seldom sold, the returns relate to another kind, locally representative.
‡ Mostly Canadian or New Zealand cheese, but in some districts the returns relate to another kind, locally representative.

On the basis of these figures, the average level of retail food prices at 1st November, 1939, showed a rise of about 2½ per cent. as compared with a month earlier (4 points on a total of 150, the figure for July, 1914, being 100), and of nearly 12 per cent. (16 points on a total of 138) since the beginning of September, 1939.

ITEMS OTHER THAN FOOD.

There has been no change since the beginning of September, 1939, in the general level of working-class rents (including rates). As compared with July, 1914, the average increase is estimated at about 62 per cent.

As regards clothing, information collected from representative retailers in a number of the principal towns indicates that at 1st November the prices of clothing of the kinds generally bought by working-class families averaged about 6 per cent. higher than at 30th September and about 13 per cent. higher than at 1st September. For men's suits and overcoats, the average increase during October was about 4 per cent.; for woollen materials, underclothing and hosiery the increase was about 7 per cent.; for cotton materials and hosiery it was about 8 per cent.; and for boots and shoes it was about 6 per cent. 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 an exact calculation over a long period, but it is estimated that at 1st November the average rise over the level of July, 1914, was about 135 per cent.

In the fuel and light group, the average level of coal prices was about 2 per cent. higher at 1st November than at 30th September, 3 per cent. higher than at 1st September, and 100 per cent. higher than in July, 1914. Prices of gas rose in some towns between 30th September and 1st November, but the change in the average price-level was slight; compared with July, 1914, the average increase was between 55 and 60 per cent. The prices of candles rose by about 6 per cent. during October, while those of lamp oil and matches showed little change, on the average. For the fuel and light group as a whole, the average level of prices at 1st November was about 2 per cent. higher than at 30th September, 3 per cent. higher than at 1st September, and between 85 and 90 per cent. higher than in July, 1914.

As regards other items included in these statistics, there were increases during October in the prices of domestic ironmongery, brushware and pottery, averaging about 4 per cent. The prices of soap, soda, newspapers, tobacco and cigarettes, and fares remained generally unchanged during the month. For the "miscellaneous" group of items, as a whole, the average level at 1st November was about 1 per cent. above that at 30th September, 4 per cent. above that at 1st September, and 85 to 90 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 November, 1939, is approximately 69 per cent. over the level of July, 1914, as compared with 65 per cent. at 30th September, 1939, and 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 increase in the cost of maintaining unchanged the standard of living prevailing in working-class families prior to August, 1914, no allowance being made for the effect of any changes in the standard of living that may have occurred since that date.

The rise of 4 points during October (i.e., from 165 to 169 when the figure for July, 1914, is taken as 100) is equivalent to about 2½ per cent., and the rise of 14 points since the beginning of September (i.e., from 155 to 169 when July, 1914, is taken as 100) is equivalent to about 9 per cent. Of the rise of 14 points since 1st September, between 1½ and 2 points are due to the recent increases in the taxes on sugar and tobacco.

SUMMARY TABLE: ALL ITEMS.

The following Table shows the average percentage increase, as compared with July, 1914, for all the items included in the statistics, at the beginning of each month, 1920 to 1939:—

Year.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1920	125	130	130	132	141	150	152	155	161	164	176	169
1921	165	151	141	133	128	119	119	122	120	110	103	99
1922	92	88	86	82	81	80	84	81	79	78	80	80
1923	78	77	76	74	70	69	69	71	73	75	75	77
1924	77	79	78	73	71	69	70	71	72	76	80	81
1925	80	79	79	75	73	72	73	73	74	76	76	77
1926	75	73	72	68	67	68	70	70	72	74	79	79
1927	75	72	71	65	64	63	66	64	65	67	69	69
1928	68	66	64	64	64	65	65	65	65	66	67	68
1929	67	65	66	62	61	60	61	63	64	65	67	67
1930	66	64	61	57	55	54	55	57	57	56	57	55
1931	53	52	50	47	45	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	58	58	56
1939	55	55	53	53	53	53	56	55	55	65	69	—

A detailed account of the method of compilation of these statistics, "The Cost of Living Index Number: Method of Compilation," is obtainable, price 3d. net (3½d. post free), from H.M. Stationery Office at any of the addresses shown on the cover of this GAZETTE.

TRADE DISPUTES IN OCTOBER.*

Number, Magnitude and Duration.—The number of disputes involving stoppages of work, reported to the Department as beginning in October in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, was 80, as compared with 72 in the previous month and 64 in October, 1938. In these 80 new disputes about 26,900 workpeople were directly involved, and 9,400 workpeople indirectly involved (i.e., thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, though not themselves parties to the disputes). In addition, about 1,400 workpeople were involved, either directly or indirectly, in 10 disputes which began before October and were still in progress at the beginning of that month. The number of new and old disputes was thus 90, involving 37,700 workpeople, and resulting in a loss, during October, estimated at 102,000 working days.

In the following Table is given an analysis, by groups of industries, of all disputes in progress in October:—

Industry Group.	Number of Disputes in progress in Month.			Number of Workpeople involved in all Disputes in progress in Month.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress in Month.
	Started before beginning of Month.	Started in Month.	Total.		
Mining and Quarrying ...	1	42	43	22,400	61,000
Metal, Engineering and Shipbuilding ...	2	13	15	8,300	18,000
Building, etc. ...	2	9	11	2,900	5,000
Other ...	5	16	21	4,100	18,000
Total, October, 1939...	10	80	90	37,700	102,000
Total, September, 1939...	8	72	80	23,700	73,000
Total, October, 1938 ...	11	64	75	23,200	90,000

Causes.—Of the 80 disputes beginning in October, 29, directly involving 9,600 workpeople, arose out of demands for advances in wages, and 11, directly involving 1,800 workpeople, on other wage questions; 4, directly involving 1,300 workpeople, on questions as to working hours; 16, directly involving 4,100 workpeople, on questions respecting the employment of particular classes or persons; 11, directly involving 3,400 workpeople, on other questions respecting working arrangements; and 7, directly involving 2,500 workpeople, on questions of trade union principle. Two disputes, directly involving 4,200 workpeople, were due to sympathetic action.

Results.—Final settlements of disputes which terminated during October have been effected in the case of 63 new disputes, directly involving 20,100 workpeople, and 9 old disputes, directly involving 1,500 workpeople. Of these new and old disputes, 17, directly involving 4,200 workpeople, were settled in favour of the workpeople; 44, directly involving 16,200 workpeople, were settled in favour of the employers; and 11, directly involving 1,200 workpeople, resulted in a compromise. In the case of 10 other disputes, directly involving 5,000 workpeople, work was resumed pending negotiations.

TOTALS FOR JANUARY-OCTOBER, 1939 AND 1938.†

Industry Group.	January to October, 1939.			January to October, 1938.		
	No. of Disputes beginning in period.	Number of Workpeople involved in all Disputes in progress.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress.	No. of Disputes beginning in period.	Number of Workpeople involved in all Disputes in progress.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress.
Fishing and Agriculture ...	7	1,000	41,000	—	—	—
Coal Mining ...	327	163,100†	451,000	305	151,600†	647,000
Other Mining and Quarrying ...	11	1,300	46,000	10	700	4,000
Brick, Pottery, Glass, Chemical, etc. ...	8	1,000	9,000	19	2,800	21,000
Engineering ...	52	28,300	156,000	37	21,700	106,000
Shipbuilding ...	34	4,100	35,000	26	2,900	29,000
Other Metal ...	70	13,600	83,000	47	8,200	72,000
Textile ...	62	8,100	96,000	38	6,500	75,000
Clothing ...	21	4,100	10,000	31	6,100	29,000
Food, Drink and Tobacco ...	11	1,200	10,000	18	4,000	12,000
Woodworking, Furniture, etc. ...	18	2,700	23,000	29	1,800	30,000
Building, etc. ...	112	33,700	126,000	94	12,000	103,000
Transport ...	28	10,700	51,000	42	12,300	36,000
Commerce, Distribution and Finance ...	6	700	1,000	16	2,000	10,000
Other ...	24	3,500	21,000	28	3,600	39,000
Total ...	791	283,100†	1,164,000	740	236,200†	1,213,000

PRINCIPAL DISPUTES INVOLVING STOPPAGES OF WORK DURING OCTOBER.

Occupations‡ and Locality.	Approximate Number of Workpeople Involved.		Date when Dispute		Cause or Object.	Result.
	Directly.	Indirectly.†	Began.	Ended.		
COAL MINING:— Underground and surface workpeople—near Pontefract (one colliery).	1,718	217	11 Oct.	14 Oct.	Against suspension of a workmen's inspector for breach of Coal Mines Act.	Work resumed on advice of trade union officials.
Colliery workpeople—Shotts, Lanarkshire (one colliery).	415	65	12 Oct.	13 Oct.	Refusal of management to take over hole-boring from workpeople.	Work resumed on conditions existing prior to stoppage.
Colliery workpeople—Shotts, Lanarkshire (certain collieries).	2,200	...	13 Oct.	13 Oct.	In sympathy with the workpeople involved in the above dispute.	Work resumed.
Surface and underground workpeople—near Pontefract (one colliery).	350	800	13 Oct.	13 Oct.	Objection of surface workers to closing of pit before normal finishing time.	Work resumed.
Colliery workpeople—near Prestwick, Ayrshire.	2,080	...	20 Oct.	21 Oct.	Dissatisfaction with amount of proposed increase in wages.	Work resumed.
TINPLATE MANUFACTURE:— Openers and other tinsplate workers—South Wales and Monmouthshire.	7,000	...	30 and 31 Oct.	4 Nov.	Claim on the part of openers for increase in wages.	Work resumed unconditionally.
BUILDING, ETC.:— Building trade operatives—near Blackpool (one firm).	200	...	30 Sept.	7 Oct.	For payment of 1s. 6d. per day expenses.	Work resumed on terms in operation prior to stoppage.
Labourers, navvies and bricklayers—Bishopston, Renfrewshire (one firm).	420	150	10 Oct.	10 Oct.	For guaranteed week of 44 hours and for increase in rates of wages.	Work resumed on terms in operation prior to stoppage.
Labourers and bricklayers—Bishopston, Renfrewshire (certain firms).	1,500	...	12 Oct.	13 Oct.	For increase in wages and for guaranteed week.	Work resumed on terms in operation prior to stoppage.
Labourers, etc.—Glasgow.	268	24	12 Oct.	13 Oct.	For increase in wages and for guaranteed 8-hour day.	Work resumed unconditionally.
TRANSPORT:— Platform staff, carmen, etc., employed by road transport firm—London.	492	808	3 Oct.	6 Oct.	Dispute respecting working hours, following the introduction of lighting	

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

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 October in Great Britain and Northern Ireland resulted in an increase estimated at about £26,000 in the weekly full-time wages of 612,300 workpeople and in a decrease of £2,300 in those of 39,800 workpeople.

The particulars are analysed by industry groups below:—

Industry Group.	Approximate Number of Workpeople affected by		Estimated Amount of Change in Weekly Wages	
	Increases.	Decreases.	Increases.	Decreases.
Mining and Quarrying ...	100,900	7,300	£ 20,000	£ 450
Engineering, Shipbuilding, and Other Metal ...	111,000	2,500	9,000	350
Textile ...	250,600	—	38,200	—
Other ...	149,800	30,000	18,700	1,500
TOTAL ...	612,300	39,800	85,900	2,300

In the mining and quarrying group there were increases in the percentage additions to basis rates for coal miners in Nottinghamshire, North Derbyshire and Warwickshire, and a decrease in the Forest of Dean, the changes being due to fluctuations in the proceeds of the industry as shown by the district ascertainment. Other workpeople whose wages were increased included ironstone miners and limestone quarrymen in Northamptonshire (excluding Corby), and those whose wages were reduced included iron ore miners and limestone quarrymen in Cumberland.

In the metal group the principal increase affected women and girls employed in engineering works in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, for whom there was a uniform advance of 2s. per week in the cost of living bonus for those 18 years of age and over, and 1s. per week for those aged 14 to 17. Other workpeople whose wages were increased included blastfurnacemen in Northamptonshire (excluding Corby), iron puddlers and millmen in the Midlands, South Lancashire and South Yorkshire, steel sheet millmen in various districts in Great Britain, and galvanisers in England and Wales. The decrease in this group affected blastfurnacemen in West Cumberland and North Lancashire.

In the textile group the workpeople principally affected by increases were those employed in the cotton spinning industry in Lancashire, Cheshire, Yorkshire and Derbyshire, for whom there was an increase equivalent to about 12.64 per cent. on current wages; and workpeople employed in the textile bleaching, dyeing, printing and finishing industries, for whom the increase amounted to about 6 per cent. on current rates in Yorkshire, and to 2s. 11d. per week for men on time rates and 1s. 8d. per week for women, in Lancashire and Scotland. Other workpeople whose wages were increased included jute workers in Great Britain (principally Dundee); those employed in the flax and hemp industry in Great Britain; and those engaged in the elastic web making industry in Leicester and Loughborough.

In the other industry groups the principal increases affected felt hat makers in various districts; workpeople employed in seed crushing, compound and provender manufacture in Great Britain; workpeople employed in the manufacture of heavy chemicals in various districts; paint, colour and varnish makers; glass bottle

makers in Yorkshire; workpeople employed in several branches of the leather trade in various districts; certain classes of railway workers in Northern Ireland; and qualified journeymen employed by electrical contractors in certain districts, whose wages were increased by 1d. or 1d. per hour as the result of a reorganisation of the grading scheme of the industry. The decrease in this group affected auxiliary workers employed by electrical contractors in the London district, and qualified journeymen similarly employed in most of the industrial areas.

Of the estimated total increase of £85,900 per week, £10,600 was due to the operation of sliding scales based on the cost of living; £21,500 was due to the operation of sliding scales based on selling prices or on the proceeds of the coal mining industry; £11,700 was due to arrangements made by joint standing bodies; and the remaining £42,100 was due to direct negotiation between employers and workpeople or their representatives.

Of the total decrease of £2,300 per week, about £800 was due to the operation of sliding scales based on selling prices or on the proceeds of the coal mining industry; and the remaining £1,500 was due to the operation of a cost of living sliding scale arranged by a joint standing body of employers and workpeople.

SUMMARY OF CHANGES REPORTED IN JANUARY-OCTOBER, 1939.

Industry Group.	Approximate Number of Workpeople affected by net		Estimated Net Amount of Change in Weekly Wages	
	Increases.	Decreases.	Increases.	Decreases.
Coal Mining ...	246,000	116,450	£ 13,010	£ 3,830
Other Mining and Quarrying ...	12,700	10,700	2,070	2,210
Brick, Pottery, Glass, Chemical, etc. ...	97,550	5,550	10,560	140
Iron and Steel ...	20,050	124,950	1,960	12,900
Engineering† ...	733,450	—	63,670	—
Shipbuilding ...	180,300	—	17,860	—
Other Metal ...	137,850	32,550	11,780	5,100
Textile ...	272,900	4,800	43,140	220
Clothing ...	600	—	60	—
Food, Drink, and Tobacco ...	61,100	—	30,310	—
Woodworking, Furniture, etc. ...	1,050	—	120	—
Paper, Printing, etc. ...	30,000	—	2,380	—
Building, Public Works ...	87,700	30,000	9,500	1,500
Contracting, etc. ...	—	—	—	—
Gas, Water, and Electricity Supply ...	2,450	3,800	250	220
Transport‡ ...	193,750	2,550	89,300	320
Public Administration ...	7,250	—	650	—
Services ...	43,100	150	8,700	10
Other ...	—	—	—	—
Total ...	2,127,800	331,500	305,320	26,450

In the corresponding ten months of 1938, there were net increases of £254,550 in the weekly full-time wages of 2,302,400 workpeople, and net decreases of £35,950 in those of 341,900 workpeople.

Hours of Labour.

In the industries covered by the Department's statistics* the changes reported during the ten completed months of 1939 are estimated to have affected about 375,000 workpeople who have had their hours reduced, on average, by a little over 3½ hours per week.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING OCTOBER.

Industry.	District.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change.
Agriculture	Shropshire ...	29 Oct.	Male workers ...	Increase in minimum rates of 6d. or 1s. per week. Minimum rates after change: 11s. 6d. per week at 14 and under 15 increasing to 3s. at 21 years and over.†
	Counties of Ayr and Bute. (Islands of Arran and Cumbrae only.)	30 Oct.	Female workers (except milkers and workers in casual or seasonal employment). Milkers ...	Increase of 1s. per week (22s. to 23s.) for workers 17 years of age and over.‡ Increases of 1s. 6d. and 1s. per week for milkings of 6 to 8 cows and fewer than 6 cows respectively. Minimum rates after change: 6 to 8 cows, 9s. per week; fewer than 6 cows, 6s. per week.‡ Scale of minimum weekly rates fixed of 12s. at 14 and under 15 years increasing to 3s. at 21 years and over.‡
Fishing	Aberdeen ...	9 Oct.	Porters discharging fish from trawlers and liners.	Increase of 1d. per cwt. Rates after change: trawlers—2½d. per cwt., liners—2½d. per cwt. subject to a minimum payment of 8s. per day.
Coal Mining	Nottinghamshire ...	1 Oct.	Workpeople employed in and about coal mines.	Increase of 19.08 per cent. on basis rates, making wages 74.35 per cent. above the basis rates.†
	Derbyshire (except South Derbyshire).	1 Oct.		Increase of 0.42 per cent. on basis rates, making wages 3.13 per cent. above the basis rates.†

* The particulars of numbers affected and amount of change in the weekly wages and hours of labour exclude changes affecting Government employees, agricultural labourers, 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 of short-time working, etc.

† In addition to the numbers quoted, wages stand at the same level as at the beginning of the year in the case of 156,000 workpeople whose wages have been increased and reduced by equal amounts during the year.

‡ Changes affecting workpeople employed in railway engineering workshops are included under "Engineering" and not under "Transport."

§ These increases took effect under an Order issued under the Agricultural Wages (Regulation) Act, 1924.

¶ These increases took effect under an Order issued under the Agricultural Wages (Regulation) (Scotland) Act, 1937.

‡ These increases took effect under an Order issued under the Agricultural Wages (Regulation) Act, 1937.

§ These increases took effect under an Order issued under the Agricultural Wages (Regulation) Act, 1937.

¶ These increases took effect under an Order issued under the Agricultural Wages (Regulation) Act, 1937.

‡ These increases took effect under an Order issued under the Agricultural Wages (Regulation) Act, 1937.

§ These increases took effect under an Order issued under the Agricultural Wages (Regulation) Act, 1937.

¶ These increases took effect under an Order issued under the Agricultural Wages (Regulation) Act, 1937.

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

Industry.	District.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change. (Decreases in italics.)
Coal Mining— <i>contd.</i>	Warwickshire ...	1 Oct.	Workpeople employed in and about coal mines.	Increase of 2 per cent. on basis rates, making wages 90 per cent. above the basis rates at the majority of the collieries.*
	South Staffordshire and East Worcestershire.	1st full working week in Sept.		Increase of 2 per cent. on basis rates, making wages 40 per cent. above the basis rates.†
	Forest of Dean ...	1 Oct.		Decrease of 1.34 per cent. on basis rates of 1919 (equivalent to 0.99 per cent. on standard rates of 1921) leaving the percentage 82.25 per cent. above the basis rates of 1919 (equivalent to 35 per cent. above the standard rates of 1921).‡
Other Mining and Quarrying.	Cumberland... ..	1st bargain day in Oct.	Workpeople employed in and about iron ore mines.	Decrease of 5d. per shift for those 18 years and over and of 2½d. per shift for those under 18 years: miners' minimum wage reduced from 9s. 5d. to 9s. 3d. per shift. Shift rates after change: shiftmen (first class or leading), 11s.; winding enginemen, joiners and blacksmiths, 10s. 9d.; mineral shot borers, 10s. 9d. plus 3d. per foot bored; pumping enginemen, loco. drivers and crane drivers, 10s. 3d.; underground leading labourers, 10s. 1d.; underground miners' bargain price, 10s. 9d.
	Northamptonshire (excluding Corby), Banbury and district Northamptonshire (excluding Corby).	Pay preceding 1st pay day in Nov.	Ironstone miners and quarrymen... Limestone quarrymen ...	Increase of 1.25 per cent. on standard rates, making wages 48.25 per cent. above the standard rates.
	West Cumberland ...	9 Oct.	Limestone quarrymen ...	Decrease of 5d. per shift for those 18 years and over and of 2½d. per shift for those under 18 years.
Glass Bottle Manufacture.	Yorkshire ...	Pay day in week ending 27 Oct.	Glass bottle makers ...	Increase under cost-of-living sliding-scale arrangements of 4s. per week for male adults and of 2s. for youths and females.
	Great Britain ...	2 Oct.	General workers employed in the heavy chemical and allied industries:— Adult male workers ...	Increase of ½d. per hour for men employed on daywork on a plain time basis, of ¾d. per hour for other timeworkers and of 5 per cent. on piece rates for pieceworkers. Minimum hourly rate after change for labourers, 1s. 2½d.
Adult female workers (except in the explosives group). Boys and youths (except in the explosives group). Girls (except in the explosives group). Adult females and juveniles (male and female) employed in the explosives group.			Increase of ½d. per hour for timeworkers (8½d. to 8½d.) and of 5 per cent. on piece rates for pieceworkers. Increases of ¼d. to ½d. per hour. Rates after change: 4½d. at 15 years increasing to 10½d. at 20 years. Increases of ¼d. to ½d. per hour. Rates after change: 4½d. at 15 years increasing to 7½d. at 20 years. Increases of varying amounts to secure greater uniformity within the group.	
Chemical, etc., Manufacture.	Great Britain ...	2 Oct.	Engineering workers† ...	Bonus on gross weekly earnings increased from 6½ to 10 per cent. Minimum weekly rates after change include: fitters, 70s. 6d.; boiler-makers, etc., 74s. 5d.; strikers, 59s. 9d.; plus 10 per cent. in each case.
	England and Wales (certain firms)**.	1st full pay after 26 Sept.	Workpeople employed in the manufacture of heavy chemicals (except those whose wages are regulated by movements in other industries).	Increase of 1d. per hour. Rate after change, 1s. 8d. plus 2½ per cent. on gross weekly earnings. Increases of ¼d. per hour for adult male workers and of ¼d. for women, girls and youths. Minimum rates after change for adult workers: shiftworkers, 1s. 4d.; labourers, 1s. 2½d.; women, 8½d.
Paint, Colour and Varnish Manufacture.	England and Wales	1st pay day following 16 Oct.	Male workers ...	Increase of 1d. per hour. Rate after change, 1s. 8d. plus 2½ per cent. on gross weekly earnings.
	West Cumberland and North Lancashire. South Staffordshire...	2nd full pay in Oct. 1st full pay period after 9 Oct.	Workpeople (excluding those engaged on maintenance work) employed at blastfurnaces.	Increase of 1.25 per cent. on standard rates, making wages 48.25 per cent. above the standard rates.
Pig Iron and Iron and Steel Manufacture.	Midlands and part of South Yorkshire and South Lancashire.	Pay preceding 1st pay day in Nov.	Workpeople (excluding those engaged on maintenance work) employed at iron puddling furnaces and iron and steel rolling mills and forges.	Increase of 2.5 per cent. on basis rates, making wages 62.5 per cent. above the basis rates.
	Barrow-in-Furness ...	9 Oct.	Wire and hoop millmen ...	Increase of 2.5 per cent. on basis rates, making wages 62.5 per cent. above the basis rates.
Engineering.	Various districts in Great Britain.‡‡	9 Oct.	Workpeople employed in steel sheet rolling mills:— Adult workers (except general labourers). Boys and youths ...	Increase of 2.5 per cent. on basis rates, making wages 67.5 per cent. above the basis rates. Increases of 2.5 per cent. on basis rates, making wages 75 per cent. above the basis rates for pry-ers, markers and scrap lads in the mill, and 72.5 per cent. for others.
	Great Britain and Northern Ireland.	Commencement of pay week in calendar week beginning 9 Oct.	Female workers employed in federated engineering establishments (except those whose wages are regulated by Orders under Trade Boards Acts, or by Agreements in other industries).	Cost of living bonus increased by 1s. per week for those aged 14 to 17 inclusive, and by 2s. for those 18 years of age and over.

* Flat-rate additions are also paid of 1s. per day to workers 21 years and over and of 6d. per day to other workers. The subsistence wage payable at the majority of the collieries to adult able-bodied underground workers and surface workers remained unaltered at 8s. 6d. and 8s. per shift respectively. At three collieries a lower percentage is payable: the percentage addition is 8s. at two collieries and 7s. at another.

† Apart from the percentage additions to basis rates, certain flat-rate additions per day or per shift, granted in January, 1936, are paid.

‡ Apart from the percentage additions to basis rates, certain flat-rate additions per day or per shift, granted in January, 1936, are paid to all workers, as well as "subsistence allowances" to adult day-wage workers for whom the basis rates plus the percentage additions do not yield certain specified amounts.

§ Under selling-price sliding-scale arrangements.

¶ These increases applied to workers employed by firms (other than the metal group) including lime workers at Buxton and Colwyn Bay, who are constituents of Imperial Chemical Industries, Ltd. They did not apply to those workers whose wages are governed by other specific arrangements or agreements. The rates quoted do not include any sums paid by way of service bonus. Further increases of ¼d. per hour for adult males, of ½d. per hour for adult females, of 4 per cent. for adult pieceworkers and of ¼d. to ½d. for juveniles are to operate as from 1st April, 1940.

‡ These increases applied to engineering workers and chemical plumbers employed by firms (other than the metal group) who are constituents of Imperial Chemical Industries, Ltd. In addition the rates quoted are subject to augmentation under the Company's discretionary schemes.

** These increases were the result of a decision of the Chemical Trade Joint Industrial Council, and did not apply to workpeople employed by constituent firms of Imperial Chemical Industries, Ltd., or by firms affiliated to the London Chemical Manufacturers' Convention. Further increases of similar amounts are to operate on the 1st full pay day in January, 1940.

‡‡ These increases affected firms affiliated to the National Joint Industrial Council for the Paint, Colour and Varnish Industry.

§§ This increase affected mainly the employees of firms who are members of the Sheet Trade Board, the principal districts affected being Staffordshire, Cheshire, Tees-side, South Wales and Monmouthshire and the Glasgow district. In the case of general labourers the minimum total wage remained unaltered at 50s. per normal week.

¶¶ This increase was made as a result of a joint recommendation dated 3rd October, 1939, between the Engineering and Allied Employers' National Federation on the one hand and the National Union of General and Municipal Workers and the Transport and General Workers' Union on the other.

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

Industry.	District.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change.
Engineering, Shipbuilding, and Ship-repairing.	Mansfield ...	1st pay day in Oct.	Fitters, turners and patternmakers	Increase of 1s. per week on basic rates. Rates after change: fitters and turners, 44s.; patternmakers, 49s.; plus in each case a bonus of 22s. for timeworkers.
	Norwich ...	Oct.	Labourers and semi-skilled men whose rates are based on the labourers' rate.	Increase of 6d. per week on basic rates. Rate after change: labourers, 29s. plus a bonus of 22s. for timeworkers.
	Grimsby* ...	5 Oct.	Workpeople employed in ship-repairing.	Increase of 2s. per week for timeworkers and 4 per cent. for pieceworkers.
Galvanising	England and Wales†	9 Oct.	Workpeople employed in galvanising processes (excluding the process of annealing):— Adult workers (except general labourers). Boys and youths ...	Increase† of 2.5 per cent. on basis rates making wages 67.5 per cent. above the basis rates. Increase† of 2.5 per cent. on basis rates, making wages 75 per cent. above the basis rates for pryler, markers and scrap lads in the mill, and 72.5 per cent. for others.
Shuttle-making	Lancashire and Yorkshire.	1st pay day in Oct.	Shuttle-makers ...	Increase‡ of 2 in the percentage addition to basis rates. Minimum daywork rate after change for journeymen: 1s. per hour plus 43 per cent. (1s. 5-16d. per hour).
			Apprentices ...	Increase‡ of 2 in the percentage addition to basis rates, making the percentages 43 above basic piece rates and 25‡ above basis time rates. Time rates after change: 9s. per week at 14 years, increasing to 21s. at 20 years, plus in each case 25‡ per cent.
Edge Tool Manufacture.	Sheffield ...	1st full pay period after 7 Aug. 20 Oct.	Adult workers employed in the light edge tool trade.	Increase in bonus of 2s. per week.
			Juveniles employed in the heavy edge tool trade.	Bonus granted of 1s. per week to those 14 and 15 years of age, for those 16 to 18 years and of 2s. per week for those 19 and 20 years. Rates after change (inclusive of bonus): 13s. at 14 years increasing to 32s. 6d. at 20 years.
File Manufacture.	Sheffield ...	Com-mencement of the pay period in the week beginning 2 Oct.	Workpeople employed in the file trade:— Datal workers (except grinders and hand cutters).	Increase in bonus of 2s. per week (20s. to 22s.) for males 21 years and over, and of 1s. 6d. (10s. to 11s. 6d.) for females 18 years and over.
			Pieceworkers (except grinders and hand cutters). Grinders (men and youths) ...	Deductions from the piecework price lists reduced from 5 to 2‡ per cent. for males 21 years and over and for girls under 18 years. Rates increased for females 18 years and over from list price plus 2‡ per cent. to list price plus 5 per cent. Deductions from the datal rates and piecework price lists reduced from 5 to 2‡ per cent.
Needle, Fish Hook and Fishing Tackle.	Redditch and district	1st pay in Oct.	Female workers employed in the needle, fish hook and fishing tackle industry.	Increase in minimum base rate of 1d. per hour for adult workers, of ½d. or ¼d. per hour for workers under 18 and corresponding increases for pieceworkers. Rates after change: at 18 years, 7d. per hour; 17 years, 5½d.; 16 years, 4½d.; 15 years, 3½d.; 14 years, 3d.
Frost Cog Manufacture.	Lye, Stourbridge and Old Hill.	14 Oct.	Frost cog makers ...	Increase of 7½ per cent. making wages 30 per cent. above the rates paid at August 31st, 1934.
Typefoundry	London ...	20 Oct.	Workpeople employed in type-foundries.	Increase of 3s. per week for male workers and 1s. 6d. for female workers. Rates after change: mould makers, 86s.; engineers and justifiers, 78s.; rubbers, 61s.; other workers, 66s.; females, 33s.
Cotton Spinning.	Lancashire, Cheshire, and Derbyshire.	Pay day in week commencing 30 Oct.	Card and blowing room operatives, workers in the ring and mule spinning rooms, reeler, beamers, winders, mill warpers, warehousemen, enginemen and firemen. Ring spinners and ring doublers ...	Increase of 22½ per cent. on standard piece price lists, which in the case of workers previously in receipt of list price plus 7½ per cent. is equivalent to an increase of 12.54 per cent. on current wages, and an increase of 12.64 per cent. on current wages in the case of workers for whom there are no standard price lists. Increase in the universal list for ring spinners from 73 to 78 per cent. plus the further increase of 22½ per cent. on the standard piece price list, with an additional 5 per cent. for ring doublers who are at present paid on ring spinning list standards.
			Piecers, creelers, etc. ...	Bonus increase, additional to the above increases, of 2s. 6d. per week in some cases and of 4s. in others.
Linen Manufacture.	Kirkcaldy and district.	9 Oct.	Tenters, dressers, lappers, calendermen and labourers.	Increase of 3 per cent. Minimum rate after change for labourers, 45s. 9d.‡
Jute Manufacture	Great Britain ...	27 Oct.	Workpeople employed in the jute industry. Male workers ...	Increase of 7½ per cent. on existing minimum rates. Increases in general minimum time rates of 9d. to 1s. 9d. per week for adults with smaller amounts for boys and youths, of 1s. 7d. in the piecework basis time rates for hosepipe weavers and of 1½d. to 2½d. per piece in the general minimum piece rates for canvas weavers.†
Flax and Hemp.	Great Britain ...	9 Oct.	Female workers ...	Increase in general minimum time rates of 10d. or 11d. per week for those 18 years and over, of 4d. to 8d. for juvenile workers, and of 11d. per week in the piecework basis time rates.‡
			Elastic web weavers and braid hands (male workers).	Bonus on earnings increased§ from 12s. to 13s. in the £.
Elastic Web Manufacture.	Leicester ...	27 Oct.	Female workers ...	Increase‡ of 1s. per week for those 18 years and over, and of ½d. to ¾d. for those under 18 years. Minimum weekly rate after change at 20 years and over, 30s.
			Workpeople employed in the dyeing and finishing trades.	Cost-of-living wage increased§ from 56 to 65 per cent. on basic rates for timeworkers, from 44‡ to 52 for pieceworkers (except pressers) and from 33‡ to 39 for hand pressers. Minimum weekly rates after change for timeworkers††: adult male process workers, 32s.; women 18 years and over, 20s., plus 65 per cent. in each case.
Textile Bleaching, Dyeing, Finishing, etc.	Lancashire, Cheshire and Derbyshire (majority of firms) and certain firms in Yorkshire; also Scotland.‡‡	1st pay day in Nov.††	Workpeople employed in the bleaching, dyeing, calico printing and finishing trades (except waste bleachers, machine calico printers, engravers, mechanics, firemen, etc.)	Cost-of-living wage increased§ from 17s. 11d. to 20s. 10d. per week for male timeworkers 21 years and over; from 17s. 4d. to 20s. 2d. for male pieceworkers 21 years and over; from 10s. 8d. to 12s. 4d. for women 18 years and over, in Lancashire, Cheshire and Derbyshire, and 21 years and over in Scotland; and by proportional amounts for juveniles. Minimum weekly rates after change for timeworkers††: Lancashire, etc.—men 21 years and over, 30s. plus 20s. 10d.; women 18 years and over, 20s. plus 12s. 4d.; Scotland—men 21 years and over, 27s. plus 20s. 10d.; women 21 years and over, 17s. plus 12s. 4d.

* This increase affected workpeople employed by members of the Grimsby Ship Repairers' Association.
 † This increase affected mainly the employees of firms who are members of the Galvanising Conciliation Board. In the case of general labourers the minimum total wage remained unaltered at 50s. per normal week.
 ‡ Under selling-price sliding-scale arrangements.
 § Under cost-of-living sliding-scale arrangements.
 ¶ For other workers the minimum rates are those fixed by the Flax and Hemp Trade Board.
 †† These increases took effect under an Order issued under the Trade Boards Acts. Full details of the minimum rates are contained in the Minister of Labour's Confirming Order, obtainable from H.M. Stationery Office.
 ††† This increase applied to workers employed by firms who are members of the Yorkshire Master Dyers' Committee, The Bradford Dyers' Association, and the Employers' Federation of Cotton Yarn Bleachers, Dyers and Sizers (certain firms). Except in a few cases in the Bradford area, the change did not apply in the dyeing and finishing departments of woollen and worsted manufacturers, who do their own dyeing and finishing.
 †††† In respect of the preceding pay period.
 ††††† Special temporary payments, ranging up to 3s. a week for men, and up to 1s. for women, are made, in addition, to certain timeworkers engaged in productive process work for which a system of collective piecework has not yet been introduced.
 †††††† This increase applied to workers employed by firms who are members of the Federation of Calico Printers, the Employers' Federation of Dyers and Finishers, the Employers' Federation of Bleachers, and the Employers' Federation of Cotton Yarn Bleachers, Dyers and Sizers (certain firms) and the Scottish Federation of Dyers and Bleachers (Piece Goods).

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING OCTOBER, 1939—continued.

Industry.	District.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change. (Decreases in italics).
Firemen, engine tenters, oilers and greasers and assistant firemen employed in bleaching, dyeing, etc. works.	Lancashire, Cheshire and Derbyshire (majority of firms) and certain firms in Yorkshire.	1st pay day in Nov.*	Firemen, engine tenters, oilers and greasers and assistant firemen employed in bleaching, dyeing, etc. works.	Increase† of 3s. 2d. per week. Minimum rate after change for firemen, 57s. 9d.
	Hebden Bridge ...	1st pay day in Nov.*	Workpeople employed in the fustian cutting, dyeing and finishing trades:— Timeworkers ...	Cost-of-living wage increased† from 17s. 11d. to 20s. 10d. per week for men 21 years and over; from 10s. 8d. to 12s. 4d. for women 18 years and over, and by proportional amounts for juveniles. Minimum weekly rates after change†: men 21 years and over, 31s. plus 20s. 10d.; women 18 years and over, 28s. 6d. plus 12s. 4d.
Textile Bleaching, Dyeing, Finishing, etc.—contd.	Middleton ...	1st pay day in Nov.*	Pieceworkers ...	Cost-of-living wage increased† from 51 to 58‡ for netherwood cutters; from 46 to 54 for hand cutters; from 39 to 45‡ for menders and from 43 to 50 for other pieceworkers.
			Workpeople employed in the dyeing and bleaching trades (except reelers).	Cost-of-living wage increased† from 56 to 65 per cent. for male dyers; from 17s. 11d. to 20s. 10d. per week for male polishers; from 10s. 8d. to 12s. 4d. for female polishers, and by proportional amounts for juveniles. Minimum weekly rates after change for timeworkers†: men 21 years and over—dyers, 32s. plus 65 per cent.; polishers, 30s. plus 20s. 10d.; women polishers, 23s. 6d. plus 12s. 4d.
Engravers, etc., employed in calico print works.	Lancashire, Cheshire, Derbyshire and Scotland.	1st pay day in Nov.*	Engravers employed in engraving works.	Cost-of-living wage increased† from 24s. 10d. to 27s. 6d. per week for men 21 years and over; from 15s. to 16s. 4d. for women, and by proportional amounts for youths.
			Timeworkers ...	Bonus increased † from 40 to 45 per cent. Minimum rates after change: 10½d. per hour plus 45 per cent.‡
Male pieceworkers ...	Denton, Stockport, Hyde, Bury, Falls-worth and Romiley districts, also Carlisle Atherstone and Bedworth.	6 Oct.	Pieceworkers ...	Bonus increased† from 45 to 50 per cent.
			Male pieceworkers ...	Bonus on list prices increased† from 25 to 27½ per cent.
Seed Crushing, Compound and Provender Manufacture.	Various districts in Great Britain.	1st pay day covering a full week in Oct.	Workpeople employed in seed crushing, compound and provender manufacture (except those whose wages are regulated by movements in other industries).	Increase in minimum weekly rates for general labourers of 3s. to 5s. with proportional increases for other classes of male workers, women and youths. Minimum weekly rates after change for labourers: seed crushing, 54s. to 60s., provender manufacture, 49s. to 60s., according to district.
			Whiskey Distilling	Belfast ...
Building	Enniskillen ...	31 Oct.	Joiners ...	Increase of 1d. per hour (1s. 3d. to 1s. 4d.).
			Qualified journeymen employed by electrical contractors.	Decrease† of 1d. per hour, together with a re-allocation of grades in accordance with the decision of the National Joint Council of the Electrical Contracting Industry resulting in net increases of ¼d. or 1d. per hour for districts now graded B2 and C. Rates after change: Grade A districts, 1s. 10½d.; Grade B, 1s. 7½d.; Grade B2, 1s. 7d.; Grade C, 1s. 6½d. Decrease† of 1d. per hour (1s. 6½d. to 1s. 5½d.).
Auxiliary workers employed by electrical contractors.	Certain undertakings in the South Midlands Area¶	1st complete pay week in Oct.	Manual workers (except those whose wages are regulated by movements in other industries).	Increase† of 9d. per week for Grade D Areas, of 8d. per week for Grades C and B Areas, and 7d. per week for Grade A Areas. Minimum weekly rates after change for labourers: Grade D Areas, 52s. 6d.; Grade C, 50s. 9d.; Grade B, 49s.; Grade A, 42s. 10d.
			Conciliation grades, station masters, goods agents, male and female clerical staff and supervisors.	Deduction from earnings based on the rates of pay in operation prior to May, 1931, reduced from 7½ per cent. to 5 per cent., and from 5 per cent. to 2½ per cent. where the earnings are 40s. per week or less in Group I railways, or 36s. per week or less in Group III railways.**
General labourers and road sweepers employed by the Corporation.	Dorchester ...	Week ending 5 Oct.	General labourers and road sweepers employed by the Corporation.	Increase of ¼d. per hour. Minimum rate after change for general yard and road labourers and road sweepers, 11½d. per hour.
			Workpeople employed in the tanning, currying and leather dressing industry.	Increase of ¼d. per hour for timeworkers and of 5 per cent. bonus on earnings for pieceworkers. Basic hourly rates after change for skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled male adult timeworkers respectively include: London, 1s. 5½d., 1s. 3½d., 1s. 2½d.; Scotland and Lancashire, 1s. 4½d., 1s. 2d.; Midlands, Bristol and West of England, 1s. 4½d., 1s. 2d.; Walsall (curriers), 1s. 5½d., 1s. 2½d., 1s. 2d. Women 20 years and over include: London (semi-skilled); 9½d.; Provinces, 9d.; Scotland, 8½d.
Workpeople employed in the hat leather trade.	Stockport, Ashton and Denton districts.	1st full working week in Oct.	Workpeople employed in the hat leather trade.	Increase of ¼d. per hour for timeworkers and of 5 per cent. bonus on earnings for pieceworkers. Basic hourly rates after change for skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled male adult timeworkers respectively: 1s. 4½d., 1s. 2½d., 1s. 2d.; women 20 years and over, 8½d.

* In respect of the preceding pay period.
 † Under cost-of-living sliding-scale arrangements.
 ‡ Special temporary payments, ranging up to 3s. a week for men, and up to 1s. for women, are made, in addition, to certain timeworkers engaged in productive process work for which a system of collective piecework has not yet been introduced.
 § This rate applies principally to men doing odd work for which no piece rate is provided. It does not apply to labourers, packers, etc., who are in receipt of the minimum rate fixed under the Trade Boards Acts.
 ¶ This change affected mainly workers employed by firms affiliated to the National Federated Electrical Association. The Grade A rate includes an increase of 5 per cent. on current rates granted in May, 1939. In the Mersey area within a radius of 10 miles of the Liverpool Landing Stage and including also Runcorn, St. Helens and Widnes an additional 1d. per hour is payable in lieu of travelling time, making a total hourly rate of 1s. 8½d. The districts in the various grades are as follows:—
 GRADE "A."—London—a radius of twelve miles from Charing Cross; and Watford.
 GRADE "B."—Mersey District including Birkenhead, Chester, Runcorn, Wallasey, Widnes and all Towns and Districts in Cheshire within a radius of twenty miles measured from Mold, Flintshire and that part of Flintshire north of the River Dee. Manchester, Ashton, Atherton, Blackburn, Blackpool, Bolton, Bury, Crewe, Dukinfield, Fleetwood, Hyde, Irlam, Leigh, Northwich, Oldham, Preston, Rochdale, Southport, Stockport, Warrington, Wigan, The Counties of Monmouthshire and Glamorganshire and the town of Llanelli. Tyneside, Darlington, Hartlepool, Middlesbrough, Stockton-on-Tees, Sunderland, West Riding of Yorkshire, Hull, Sheffield, Birmingham, Coventry, Sutton Coldfield, Walsall, Wolverhampton. Bristol and the district surrounding it starting at Avonmouth, thence follow coast line to Severn Beach, thence straight across to Pilling, and following around to Patchway, Winterbourne, Downend, Mangotsfield, Warmley, Bitton, Keynsham, Whitchurch, Dundry, Barrow Gurney, Flax Bourton, Failand, Fortbury and Portishead to the Coast. Places named to be included.
 GRADE "B2."—Northern Ireland. The following counties except such towns and districts as are specifically included in Grade "B," Bedfordshire, Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Cambridgeshire, Cheshire, Cumberland, Derbyshire, Durham, Essex (outside London), Hertfordshire (outside London), Huntingdonshire, Lancashire, Leicestershire, Lincolnshire, Middlesex (outside London), Norfolk, Northamptonshire, Northumberland, Nottinghamshire, Oxfordshire, Rutland, Staffordshire, Suffolk, Warwickshire, Westmorland, North and East Riding of Yorkshire; that part of Kent (outside London) north of a line drawn from Woldingham (Surrey) to Sittingbourne on the east. That part of Surrey (outside London) north of a straight line drawn from Sandhurst in the west to Woldingham in the east. That part of Worcestershire north of a straight line drawn from the county boundary at Far Forest on the west to Astwood Bank on the east and including Stourport.
 GRADE "C."—The whole of Wales with the exception of that part of the country specifically included in Grade "B." The counties of Cornwall, Devonshire, Dorset, Gloucestershire, Hampshire, Herefordshire, Kent (except such areas as are included in Grades "A" and "B2" above), Shropshire, Somersetshire (excluding Bristol and district as defined under Grade "B" above), Surrey (except such areas as are included in Grades "A" and "B2" above), Sussex, Wiltshire, Worcestershire (except that part defined above in "B2"), Isle of Sheppey, Isle of Man.
 ¶ The undertakings affected are mainly those affiliated to the South Midlands Joint Industrial Council for the Waterworks Undertakings Industry.
 ** An agreed scale of modified deductions is to apply in those cases where a 5 per cent. deduction from earnings of over 40s. per week in Group I railways or 36s. per week in Group III railways, would reduce these rates to a lower amount than a 2½ per cent. deduction from earnings below 40s. or 36s. per week respectively.

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

Industry.	District.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change.
Leather Manufacture (contd.)	England and Wales	Pay day in week ending 28 Oct.	Workpeople employed in the domestic section of the roller leather industry.	Increases of 1d. per hour for male adult timeworkers, youths 17 to 21 years and women 16 to 21 years, of 1d. for women over 21 years, and of 5 per cent. on piece prices for pieceworkers. Minimum basic rates after change: skilled dayworkers, 1s. 4½d. Lancashire, Cheshire and Wrexham—semi-skilled dayworkers, 1s. 2d. wet work; 1s. 1½d. dry work; other districts, 1s. 0½d., 1½d.; youths, 3½d. at under 16 increasing to 9½d. at 20-21 years; women 3½d. at under 16 increasing to 9d. at over 21 years when competent.
	Great Britain	Pay day in week ending 28 Oct.	Workpeople employed in leather belt manufacture.	Increase of 1d. per hour in basic time rates for adult timeworkers over 21 years, and of 5 per cent. on piecework rates. Rates after change: Provinces—skilled workers, 1s. 4½d., semi-skilled, 1s. 1½d. London—skilled, 1s. 4½d., semi-skilled, 1s. 2d. Cutters on daywork—during 6 months' probation, 1s. 5½d., after 6 months' probation, 1s. 6½d.
Wholesale Distribution.	Belfast	1 Oct.	Storemen employed by cement importers.	Increase of 3s. per week (52s. to 55s.).
Toy Manufacture.	Great Britain	16 Oct.	Male workers 21 years and over who are employed wholly or mainly on wood cutting machines in the toy manufacture trade (except those who set up, take down and sharpen cutters, etc.).	Increase of 2s. per week (52s. to 54s.).*
Entertainments.	North Staffordshire and district.†	2 Oct.	Workers employed in cinema theatres.	Scales of minimum weekly rates of wages adopted, according to class of theatre, involving increases of various amounts. Minimum weekly rates include: projectionists—chief, 52s. 6d. to 90s., others 22s. 6d. to 60s.; head attendants or foremen 45s. to 57s. 6d.; utility men, doormen or assistant foremen and boilermen, 40s. to 50s.; male attendants and receptionists—over 21 years of age, 42s. or 45s.; 20 to 21 years, 32s. 6d. to 37s. 6d.; under 20 years, 25s. 6d. to 30s.; cashiers, 20s. to 32s. 6d.; female attendants and usherettes, 17s. to 23s.‡

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN HOURS OF LABOUR REPORTED DURING OCTOBER.

Industry.	District.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change.
Felt Hat Making.	Great Britain	1 Oct.	Juvenile workers under 16 years of age.	Reduction in normal weekly hours of labour from 46½ or 48 to 44 consequent upon the provisions of the Factories Act, 1937, whereby the total weekly hours of young persons under 16 years of age are not to exceed 44.
Entertainments	North Staffordshire and district.†	2 Oct.	Workers employed in cinema theatres.	Normal working week adopted of 48 to 52 hours for projectionists of 48 to 54 for other males and of 48 for female staff.§

* This increase took effect under an Order issued under the Trade Boards Acts. Full details of the minimum rates are contained in the Minister of Labour's Confirming Order, obtainable from H.M. Stationery Office.
† Including theatres at Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent, Burslem, Tunstall, Longton, Fenton, Newcastle, Stafford, Stone, Congleton, Sandbach, Market Drayton and Uttoxeter.
‡ See also under "Changes in Hours of Labour."
§ See also under "Changes in Rates of Wages."

FATAL INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS.

THE number of workpeople, other than seamen*, in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, whose deaths from accidents in the course of their employment occurred or were reported in October†, was 261, as compared with 212‡ in the previous month, and with 179§ in October, 1938.

MINES AND QUARRIES.†	Under Coal Mines Acts:—	Under Quarries Act, 1933.	TOTAL, MINES AND QUARRIES
Underground	95	13	113
Surface	4	1	5
Metalliferous Mines	1	1	2
Quarries	13	1	14
TOTAL, MINES AND QUARRIES			113
FACTORIES.			
Clay, Stone, Cement, Pottery and Glass	5	119	124
Chemicals, Oils, Soap, etc.	6	119	125
Metal Extracting and Refining	3	119	122
Metal Conversion and Founding (including Rolling Mills and Tube Making)	8	119	127
Engineering, Locomotive Building, Boilermaking, etc.	15	119	134
Railway and Tramway Carriages, Motor and other Vehicles, and Aircraft Manufacture	7	119	126
Shipbuilding	11	119	130
Other Metal Trades	1	119	120
Cotton	2	119	121
Wool, Worsted, Shoddy	4	119	123
Other Textile Manufacture	3	119	122
Textile Printing, Bleaching and Dyeing	...	119	...
Tanning, Curryng, etc.	...	119	...
Food and Drink	4	119	123
General Woodwork and Furniture	6	119	125
TOTAL, FACTORIES ACT... 1937.			119
RAILWAY SERVICE.			
Brakemen, Goods Guards	2	29	31
Engine Drivers, Motormen	3	29	32
Firemen	4	29	33
Guards (Passenger)	...	29	...
Permanent Way Men	6	29	35
Porters	4	29	33
Shunters	5	29	34
Mechanics	...	29	...
Labourers	1	29	30
Other Grades	4	29	33
Contractors' Servants	...	29	...
TOTAL, RAILWAY SERVICE			29
Total (excluding Seamen)			261

* Statistics of fatal accidents to seamen are not available.
† For mines and quarries weekly returns are furnished, and the figures cover the 4 weeks ended 28th October, in comparison with the 4 weeks ended 30th September, and the 4 weeks ended 29th October, 1938.
‡ Revised figure.

INDUSTRIAL DISEASES.

THE Table below shows the number of cases* and deaths* in Great Britain and Northern Ireland reported during October, under the Factories Act, 1937, or under the Lead Paint (Protection against Poisoning) Act, 1926:—

I. Cases.	II. Deaths.
LEAD POISONING.	ANTHRAX.
Among Operatives engaged in—	Carbon Bisulphide ... 1
Smelting of Metals ... 1	Aniline ... 1
Plumbing and Soldering ... 1	TOTAL ... 2
Shipbreaking ... 1	
Printing ... 1	
Tinning of Metals ... 1	
Other Contact with Molten Lead ... 1	
White and Red Lead Works ... 1	
Pottery ... 1	
Vitreous Enamelling ... 1	
Electric Accumulator Works ... 1	
Paint and Colour Works ... 1	
India-rubber Works ... 1	
Coach and Car Painting ... 1	
Shipbuilding ... 1	
Other Industries ... 1	
Painting of Buildings ... 2	
TOTAL ... 4	
	OTHER POISONING
	Carbon Bisulphide ... 1
	Aniline ... 1
	TOTAL ... 2
	ANTHRAX.
	Wool ... 1
	Handling and Sorting of Hides and Skins ... 2
	TOTAL ... 3
	EPITHELIOMATOUS ULCERATION (SKIN CANCER)
	Pitch ... 6
	Oil ... 4
	TOTAL ... 10
	CHROME ULCERATION.
	Manufacture of Bichromates ... 1
	Dyeing and Finishing ... 1
	Chrome Tanning ... 1
	Chromium Plating ... 10
	Other Industries ... 1
	TOTAL ... 12
	Total, Cases ... 31
	II. Deaths.
	ANTHRAX.
	Handling and Sorting of Hides and Skins ... 1
	EPITHELIOMATOUS ULCERATION (SKIN CANCER)
	Oil ... 2
	Total, Deaths ... 3

* Cases include all attacks reported during the month, and not previously reported, so far as is known, during the preceding 12 months. Deaths include all fatal cases reported during the month, whether included (as cases) in previous returns or not.

PRICES AND WAGES IN THE IRON AND STEEL INDUSTRIES.

THE following Table shows the results of recent ascertainment of selling-prices of pig-iron and of manufactured iron, upon which are based changes in the rates of wages of certain classes of iron and steel and other workers in particular districts:—

Product and District.	Period covered by last Audit.	Average selling price per ton* according to last Audit.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) compared with	
			Previous Audit.*	A Year ago.*
Pig-Iron:	1939	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Cumberland	July-Sept.	101 10½	- 4 10½	-17 6½
Northamptonshire	July-Sept.	83 2½	+ 1 1½	- 8 5
North Staffordshire	July-Sept.	83 1½	- 0 0½	- 7 7
Manufactured Iron:	1939	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
West of Scotland	July-Aug.	251 5½	+ 3 6	-12 2½

In accordance with the provisions of the agreements under which wages are regulated, the ascertainment resulted in increases in the wages of blastfurnacemen, ironstone miners and quarrymen and limestone quarrymen in Northamptonshire (excluding Corby), and decreases in the wages of blastfurnacemen in West Cumberland and North Lancashire and of iron-ore miners and limestone quarrymen in Cumberland.

In the cases of blastfurnacemen in North Staffordshire and iron puddlers and millmen in the West of Scotland the ascertainment did not warrant a change in wages.

For details of the changes in wages, reference should be made to page 399 of this GAZETTE.

TRADE BOARDS ACTS AND HOLIDAYS WITH PAY ACT.

NOTICES OF PROPOSAL.

Hollow-ware Trade Board (Great Britain).

Proposal H. (31), dated 13th October, 1939, to vary minimum rates of wages for male and female workers. Objection period expires 13th December, 1939.

Rope, Twine and Net Trade Board (Great Britain).

Proposal R. (61), dated 3rd November, 1939, to vary minimum rates of wages and the Direction for holidays with pay. Objection period expires 31st December, 1939.

CONFIRMING ORDERS.

Paper Box Trade Board (Northern Ireland).

Order N.I.B. (20), dated 20th October, 1939, confirming the variation of certain general minimum time-rates and general overtime rates for male workers, and specifying 13th November, 1939, as the date from which such rates should become effective.

Order N.I.B. (21), dated 20th October, 1939, confirming a Direction for holidays with pay under the Holidays with Pay Act (Northern Ireland), 1938, and specifying 13th November, 1939, as the date from which the same shall become effective.

REGULATIONS.

Sugar, Confectionery and Food Preserving Trade Board (Great Britain).

Regulations dated 13th October, 1939 (S.R. & O. 1939, No. 1424) made by the Minister of Labour and National Service under Section 11 of the Trade Boards Act, 1909, with respect to the constitution and proceedings of the Trade Board.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

THE Home Secretary has made the following Regulations:—

The Net Mending (Overtime) Regulations, 1939, made on 19th October, 1939, for factories in which the business of mending or beating nets is carried on incidentally to the fishing industry, modifying the provisions of section 73 of the Act as to overtime to meet seasonal or other special pressure of work.

The Weekly Hours of Young Persons under sixteen in Factories (Printing and Bookbinding) Regulations, 1939, made on 21st October, 1939, under Section 71 (2) of the Act, for printing and bookbinding factories, fixing (as from 29th October, 1939) forty-five as the weekly maximum hours of work for young persons under sixteen.

Copies of the Regulations can be obtained from H.M. Stationery Office at any of the addresses shown on the cover of this GAZETTE.

* Stated to the nearest farthing.

ARTISTS AND DESIGNERS.

APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEE.

The Minister of Labour and National Service announces the appointment of a Committee, under the Chairmanship of Sir Hubert Llewellyn Smith, G.C.B., to consider and report what action can be taken to utilise the services of artists and designers whose ordinary means of livelihood have been cut off or seriously diminished by the war.

The members of the Committee are as follows:—Sir Kenneth Clark, K.C.B., Mr. P. H. Jowett, R.W.S., A.R.C.A., Dr. J. J. Mallon, C.H., Mr. Frank Pick, and Mr. Charles Tennyson, C.M.G. The Secretary of the Committee is Mr. R. E. Gomme, O.B.E., Ministry of Labour and National Service, Montagu House, Whitehall, S.W.1. The Committee has already made a preliminary survey of the position, and has presented this to the Minister in an Interim Report.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE STATUTORY COMMITTEE.

NOTICE OF REPORT ON UNEMPLOYMENT FUND.

In accordance with the provisions of Section 59 (3) of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1935, and Section 8 (1) of the Unemployment Insurance (Agriculture) Act, 1936, the Unemployment Insurance Statutory Committee give notice of their intention to make a report to the Minister of Labour and National Service, not later than the end of February, 1940, on the financial condition of the general account of the Unemployment Fund and of the agricultural account of that Fund on 31st December, 1939.

The Committee will take into consideration any representations made to them on this subject which are received on or before 2nd December, 1939. Representations should be addressed to the Secretary to the Unemployment Insurance Statutory Committee, Montagu House, Whitehall, London, S.W.1.

W. H. BEVERIDGE,
Chairman.

3rd November, 1939.

NATIONAL SERVICE (ARMED FORCES) ACT, 1939.

ADJUSTMENT OF CONTRACTS REGULATIONS, 1939.

THE Minister of Labour and National Service, by virtue of the powers conferred on him by section 14 of the National Service (Armed Forces) Act, 1939, the provisions of the Minister of National Service Order, 1939, and of all other powers in that behalf, made the above Regulations,* dated 16th October, the provisions of which are as shown below.

1.—(1) These Regulations may be cited as the National Service (Armed Forces) (Adjustment of Contracts) Regulations, 1939, and shall come into force on the date hereof.

(2) The Interpretation Act, 1889, applies to the interpretation of these Regulations as it applies to the interpretation of an Act of Parliament.

2. Where a contract of service or apprenticeship is in force between an employer and an employee when the employee is called up or deemed to be called up for service under the Act, then

(a) if an arrangement has been or is entered into between the parties to the contract, or if the contract makes provision for dealing with all or any of the obligations of the parties thereunder in respect of the period of service under the Act the provisions contained in paragraph (b) hereof shall apply only in so far as they are not inconsistent with the arrangement or provision so made as aforesaid;

(b) if no such arrangement has been or is entered into or no provision made by the contract or to the extent that any such arrangement or provision does not deal with the obligations hereinafter specified, then the parties to the contract shall in respect of the period of service under the Act be relieved of all their obligations under the contract which relate to the following matters, that is to say, the payment of remuneration, the performance of work, or the provision of work, maintenance (including medical or surgical treatment) or instruction.

3. Nothing in these Regulations shall—

(a) affect the operation of the provisions contained in any Order in Council made under section eleven of the Military Training Act, 1939, or under section four of the Reserve and Auxiliary Forces Act, 1939, or under section fifteen of the Act; or
(b) confer upon any employer authority to make any contract or arrangement with reference to the period of service under the Act which he is not authorised to make under any power already possessed by him.

* Statutory Rules and Orders, 1939. No. 1485. H.M. Stationery Office; price 1d. net. (1½d. post free).

ADJUSTMENT OF CONTRACTS (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS, 1939.

THESE Regulations* amend the National Service (Armed Forces) (Adjustment of Contracts) Regulations (see previous column). They were dated 3rd November, and contain the following provisions:—

1.—(1) These Regulations may be cited as the National Service (Armed Forces) (Adjustment of Contracts) (Amendment) Regulations, 1939, and shall come into force on the date hereof.

(2) The Interpretation Act, 1889, applies to the interpretation of these Regulations as it applies to the interpretation of an Act of Parliament.

2.—(1) Regulation 2 of the principal Regulations shall have effect as if—

(a) for the words "is in force" there were substituted the words "is or was in force;"

(b) for the words "is called up or deemed to be called up for service under the Act" there were substituted the words "is or was called from his civil employment for service connected with the present emergency;" and

(c) for the words "service under the Act" wherever those words occur there were substituted the words "that service."

(2) Regulation 3 of the principal Regulations shall have effect as if in paragraph (b) thereof for the words "under the Act" there were substituted the words "connected with the present emergency."

POSTPONEMENT CERTIFICATES REGULATIONS, 1939.

THE Minister of Labour and National Service, by virtue of the powers conferred on him by subsection (7) of section 6 of the National Service (Armed Forces) Act, 1939, and of the provisions of the Minister of National Service Order, 1939, and of all other powers enabling him in that behalf, has made the Postponement Certificates Regulations, 1939,† dated 24th October, the provisions of which are as shown below:—

1.—(1) These Regulations may be cited as the National Service (Armed Forces) (Postponement Certificates) Regulations, 1939, and shall come into force on the date hereof.

(2) The Interpretation Act, 1889, applies to the interpretation of these Regulations as it applies to the interpretation of an Act of Parliament.

2. In determining applications for the grant or renewal of a postponement certificate under the Act the principles to be applied and the circumstances to which regard is or is not to be had shall be as follows:—

(1) *Domestic position.*

In determining an application based on the domestic position of the applicant regard should be had to the circumstances in which members of the same household as the applicant or dependent persons living elsewhere than in the same household as the applicant will be placed in the event of the application being rejected rather than to the applicant's individual circumstances and such an application should be granted only if, owing to the existence of specific circumstances, the refusal of a certificate would be likely to cause hardship to members of the household other than the applicant or to dependent persons living elsewhere than in the same household as the applicant over and above that which the calling up of men for service in due course might normally be expected to cause.

(2) *Business responsibilities and interests.*

An application based on business responsibilities and interests should be granted only if the circumstances are such that the business in respect of which the responsibilities and interests arise cannot be carried on in the applicant's absence unless and until alternative arrangements have been made with respect to

* *Statutory Rules and Orders*, 1939, No. 1541. H.M. Stationery Office; price 1d. net (1½d. post free).

† *Statutory Rules and Orders*, 1939, No. 1616. H.M. Stationery Office; price 1d. net (1½d. post free).

the carrying on of the business in his absence and the necessary arrangements either for carrying on the business or for its disposal cannot immediately be made.

(3) *Individual circumstances and other cases.*

In determining an application based on individual circumstances or on grounds other than those above referred to, regard should be had to the circumstances in which the applicant will be placed in the event of the application being rejected and such an application should be granted only if, owing to the existence of specific circumstances, the refusal of a certificate would be likely to cause hardship to the applicant over and above that which the calling up of men for service in due course might normally be expected to cause.

3. The period for which a postponement certificate may be granted or renewed should as far as possible be adjusted to the time which the applicant might reasonably be expected to require in order to make alternative arrangements with respect to his domestic position or the carrying on or disposal of any business or to deal with any other relevant matter as the case may be, so however that—

(1) the period for which a certificate may be granted shall in no case exceed a period of six months, calculated from the date on which the applicant applied to the Minister for the certificate;

(2) the period for which a certificate may be renewed shall in no case exceed a period of six months, calculated from the end of the period for which it was granted or last renewed; and

(3) no certificate granted on the ground of business responsibilities and interests should be allowed to remain in force for longer than twelve months in all, and accordingly the maximum period for which such a certificate may be renewed must be ascertained by deducting from the said period of twelve months the period for which the certificate was originally granted and any other period or periods for which the certificate has since been renewed.

OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED

[NOTE.—The prices are net, and do not include postage.]

CHOICE OF CAREERS.—*Choice of Career Series: No. 2 (revised). Pharmacy.* Ministry of Labour. [S.O. publication; price 3d.]

INDUSTRIAL HEALTH RESEARCH BOARD.—*Nineteenth annual report of the Industrial Health Research Board to 30th June, 1939.* [S.O. publication; price 6d.]

LONDON CENTRAL BUSMEN.—*Report on the effects of working conditions upon the health of London Central Busmen. August 31st, 1939.* Ministry of Labour. [S.O. publication; price 1s.]

MINING.—(i) *Output and employment at metalliferous mines, quarries, etc., during the quarter ended 30th June, 1939.* Mines Department. [S.O. publication; price 4d.] (ii) *Statistical summary of output, and costs of production, proceeds and profits of the coal mining industry for the quarter ended 30th June, 1939.* Mines Department. [Cmd. 6104; price 1d.]

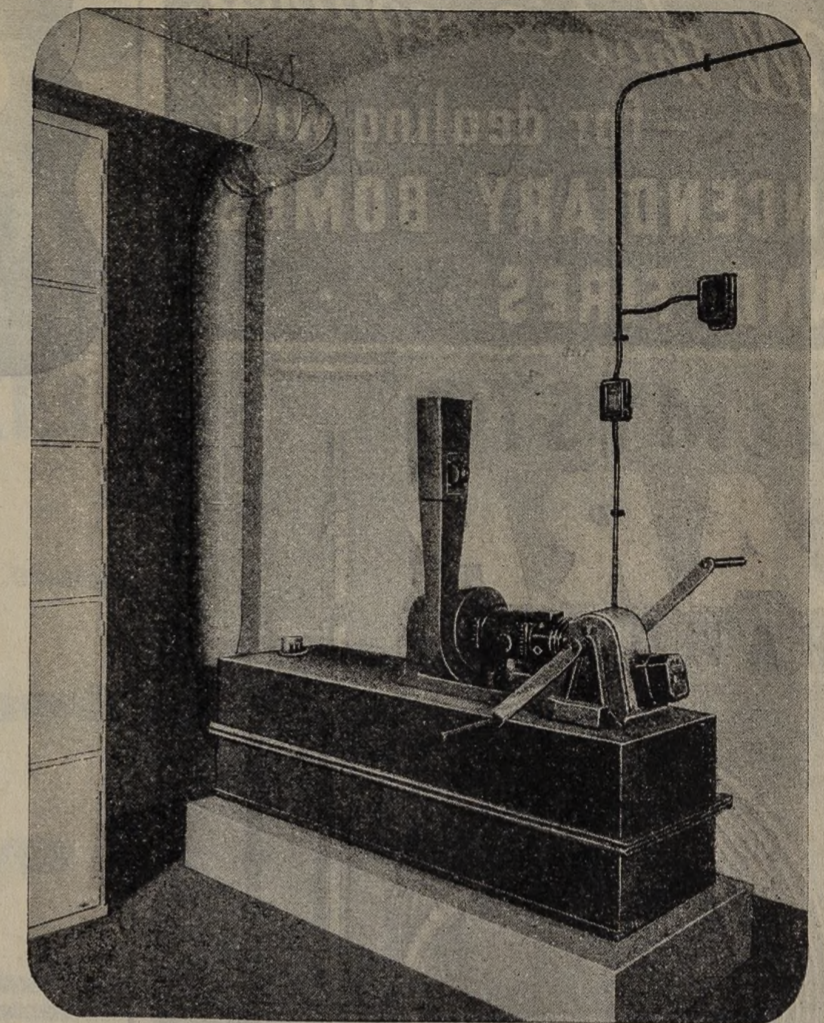
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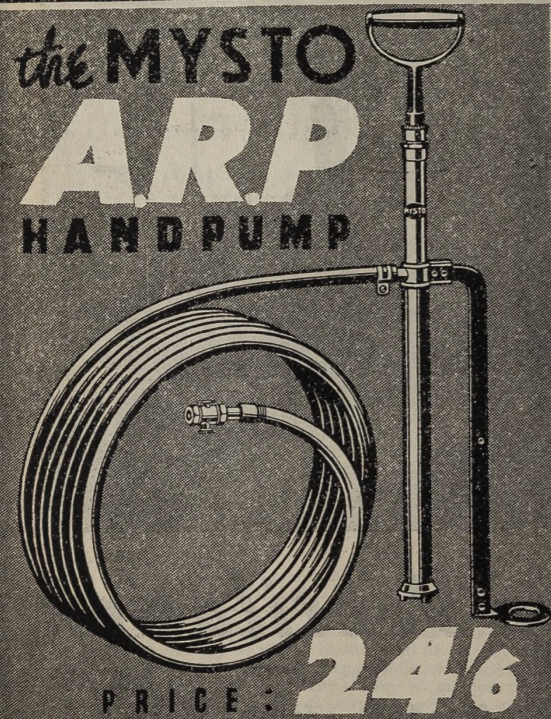


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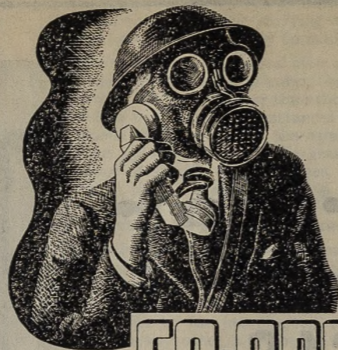
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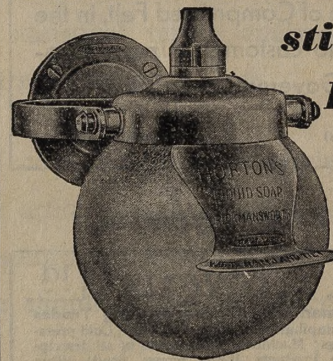
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