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

EMPLOYMENT.

DURING the first three weeks of January there was a continuous improvement in employment. In the fourth week, however, the effects of the railway dispute caused temporary stoppages of work at many of the coal mines, and at a considerable number of factories in industries using large quantities of coal or dependent on the railways for transport facilities.

Among workpeople insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts in Great Britain and Northern Ireland the percentage unemployed at 28th January (the ast full day of the railway stoppage) was 11.9, compared with 10.7 at 21st December, 1923, and with 11.5 at 26th November, 1923; at 22nd January, 1923, the corresponding percentage was 13.1. Among nembers of Trade Unions from which returns were received the percentage unemployed was 8.9 at the end of January, 1924, compared with 9.7 at the end of December, 1923. The total number of workpeople on the live registers of the Employment Exchanges at 21st January, 1924, in Great Britain and Northern reland, was approximately 1,253,000, of whom 925,000 vere men and 248,000 were women, the remainder being poys and girls; at 31st December, 1923, the total was ,289,000, of whom 954,000 were men and 264,000 were women.

At 28th January the total had risen to 1,322,000, but here was a marked improvement after the settlement of he railway dispute, and by 4th February it had fallen 0 1,248,000.

WAGES.

In the industries for which statistics are available the hanges in rates of wages reported as having taken effect January resulted in an aggregate increase of £88,000 n the weekly full-time wages of nearly 1,000,000 work-eople, and in a decrease of £25,000 in the weekly wages f over 480,000 workpeople.

Among the principal groups of workpeople who btained increases in wages were coal miners in York-tire and the East Midlands, the Forest of Dean, and cotland, whose wages were raised by amounts ranging com about $1\frac{1}{2}$ to $5\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on current rates. In the ailway service there was an increase of 1s. per week in he wages of many of the principal grades, under the peration of the cost-of-living sliding scale. Men emloyed in the gas industry received an increase of $\frac{1}{2}d$. per our or 4d. per shift, and there was an increase of 3d. er hour in the wages of men employed in the waterworks nd electricity supply industries in many districts. Other roups of workpeople whose wages were increased inuded those employed in the textile bleaching, printg, dyeing, etc., trades and in the seed crushing and I milling industries, electric cable makers, tube makers Scotland, bobbin and shuttle makers, cement makers, al tippers at the principal ports, coal porters in ondon, and warehouse workers at Manchester. ondon,

The principal reductions in rates of wages affected coal miners in Northumberland, Durham, and South Wales and Monmouthshire, the amount of decrease varying from under 1 to about $5\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on current rates; and blastfurnace workers in most districts in England and Wales, whose wages were reduced by amounts ranging from under 2 per cent. on current rates in Cumberland and North Staffordshire to over $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. in Cleveland.

Under the Trade Boards Acts there were increases in the minimum rates fixed for certain classes of workpeople employed in the brush and broom trade, and for men and certain classes of female workers in the coffin furniture and cerement making trade; other classes of female workers in the latter trade had their rates reduced, and the minimum rates fixed for female workers in the button trade were also reduced.

COST OF LIVING.

At 1st February the average level of retail prices of the commodities taken into account in the statistics prepared by the Ministry of Labour (including food, rent, clothing, fuel, light and miscellaneous items) was approximately 79 per cent. above that of July, 1914, as compared with 77 per cent. a month ago and a year ago. For food alone the corresponding percentage for 1st February was 77, as compared with 75 a month ago and 73 a year ago. The rise in the percentage between 1st January and 1st February was mainly due to increases in the prices of potatoes, sugar, meat and coal, which were only partly counterbalanced by reductions in the prices of eggs and bacon.

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

For further particulars and details of the statistics for 1st February reference should be made to the article on page 47.

TRADE DISPUTES.

The number of trade disputes involving stoppages of work, reported to the Department as beginning in January, was 37. In addition, 11 disputes which began before January were still in progress at the beginning of the month. The total number of workpeople involved in all disputes in January (including workpeople thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, but not themselves parties to the disputes) was approximately 83,000, as compared with 10,000 in the previous month, and 19,000 in January, 1923. The estimated aggregate duration of all disputes during January was about 629,000 working days, as compared with 83,000 days in December, 1923, and 117,000 days in January, 1923. The principal dispute was that involving railway enginemen, which was in progress from 21st to 29th January.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE. **REPORT BY NATIONAL CONFEDERATION OF EMPLOYERS' ORGANISATIONS.**

IN November, 1922, Sir Montague Barlow, then Minister of Labour, addressed a letter* to the National Confederation of Employers' Organisations and to the Trades Union Congress General Council inviting the co-operation of those bodies "in the consideration of the steps that might be taken with a view to the establishment of an improved system of Unemployment to the establishment of an improved system of Unemployment

A Report by the National Confederation of Employers' Organisations has now been received by the Minister of Labour, of which the following is a summary :---

Unemployment Insurance in Relation to Relief of Distress Generally.

The compulsory insurance scheme of the 1911 Act had its origin in the Majority Report of the Royal Commission on the Poor Law, issued in 1909, although it did not follow exactly on the lines of their recommendations.

The Royal Commission of 1905-9 found that there was a multi-plicity of agencies dealing with the class which was sometimes called able-bodied, sometimes unemployed, regardless of the fact that this class was not really a class at at all but a heterogeneous mass of men with no characteristic common to all of them, and that a similar confusion prevailed amongst the agencies them-selves. The Commission recommended that there should be in every district an organisation for insurance against unemployment and a Labour Exchange for bringing together those re-

ment and a Labour Exchange for bringing together those re-quiring work and employers requiring workpeople. Much of the unsatisfactoriness of the present arrangements for the relief of the unemployed arises primarily from the absence of any well-defined co-ordination between Unemployment Insur-ance and Poor Law Relief. In respect of both there have been, the mergeneice been donted emergeneice besty improvies to meet admittedly unprecedented emergencies, hasty improvisa-tions based on no common or settled principles. The National Confederation nevertheless expresses the opinion

The National Confederation nevertheless expresses the opinion that, whatever be the defects of the emergency measures, the experiment of compulsory Unemployment Insurance, as initiated in 1911, cannot be adjudged a failure in itself. On the contrary, experience since 1911 has proved that it is practicable, in normal times, to make provision, by way of insurance, for assisting the bona-fide workman over periods of temporary and unavoidable unemployment.

Unemployment Insurance by Industries.

The Confederation then turn to the suggestion that compulsory Unemployment Insurance should be developed along the line of each industry having its own separate scheme, which has been advocated as a measure of economy. It may well be, the National Confederation suggest, that economies can be effected in the administration of Unemployment Insurance, but, in their opinion, it is almost self-evident that a single administration of a uniform and general scheme ought to be much more economi-cal than the cost, direct and indirect, of the administration of schemes for separate industries.

They further consider that compulsory insurance by industries is, in any event, quite impracticable on any comprehensive scale, owing to demarcation difficulties between industries, movements from industry to industry, absence of organisation in certain cases, and the position of seasonal and casual workers.

From the financial point of seasonal and casual workers. From the financial point of view it would not be practicable for even every well-organised industry to have a workable scheme. The industries which depend upon world markets suffer severer fluctuations than home trades. An industry having severe trade fluctuations could not offer the advantages given in an industry with low fluctuations. Disparity between contributions or heading upper benefits would create unrest.

The segregation of industries has, in addition, grave objection The segregation of industries has, in addition, grave objection on the ground of general principle. Insurance is founded upon the principle of averaging. All industry is interdependent, though the incidence of depression and unemployment may fall very unequally. Unemployment Insurance if it is to be com-pulsory should be universal and uniform. The 1920 Act made provision by which industries could contract out of the national scheme. This right to contract out was, and still is, suspended under the Unemployment Insurance (No. 2) Act of 1921. Contracting out is open, the National Confederation consider, to the same objection as insurance by industry. Employers and workers in high risk industries should

industry. Employers and workers in high risk industries should not be saddled with the heavy burden it would involve if they

were left unaided by the low risk industries. The whole indus-trial population should stand together upon a uniform basis. In his Memorandum* the Minister of Labour embodied three alternative proposals, which, however, were not put forward as representing conclusions reached, but so that attention might be to "two main objects"— (a) linking the financial responsibility for paying benefit given to

(a) linking the innacial responsibility for paying benefit with the responsibility of finding employment, so as to give incentive for the reduction of unemployment.
(b) affording opportunity to industries of providing for their own unemployment in the hope that in the case of industries with average or less than average risks it will be possible to secure additional advantages for the worker. Jpon these "two main objects" the National Confederation meent as follows:—

Upon these comment as follows :--

• See the issue of this GAZETTE for December, 1922, page 472.

Object (a).-Unemployment Insurance is not a preventiv against unemployment. It is an expedient to make provisio against a normal risk of industrial life for the worker, just lack of orders and remuneration is a normal risk for the employe The real object to be achieved in the administration of the Insurance Fund is that benefit is only paid to the able and willin worker who is genuinely unemploved. The administering auth rity must have a much wider ambit than that of any individu trade. The machinery must be such also that the tendence of expansion or restriction in the employing possibilities industries are known and provided for.

Object (b).—In so far as employers and workmen in the lower risk industries may desire to make voluntary provision for advar-tages additional to those of the National Scheme. it should be by means of Supplementary Schemes, as contemplated in Section 20 of the 1920 Act of the 1920 Act

The National Confederation conclude this part of the Report with the following observations :--"It will at best be a very long time before the permanent post-war situation, from the point of view of employment and unemployment experience, can be ascertained in most of our industries. If Unemployment Insurance is in the interval to be restored to its appropriate place in the social services it can only be by developing it on the national basis of the 1920 Act. with such low risk industries as there are aiding the high risk in-dustries."

tries." 'One of the ideas underlying the suggestion of insurance b "One of the ideas underlying the suggestion of insurance b individual industries is raised in another form, viz.: Whether Unemployment Insurance should be on the basis of like contri-butions and benefits for all workers, or of higher contribution and higher benefits for the higher paid workers. . . It is the lack of opportunity on the part of unskilled and lower-pair workers to make provision for themselves that makes the ca on the State and the employer necessary. The compulsor scheme . . . should not discriminate between the workers."

National Scheme of Compulsory Unemployment Insurance

Under the Unemployment Insurance Act of 1920 the founda-tion was laid for a national compulsory scheme covering the industrial population on the basis of a flat rate of contributions and a flat rate of benefits, and with the necessary insurance safeguards of a fixed ratio of benefits to contributions and a

and a flat rate of benefits, and with the necessary insurance safeguards of a fixed ratio of benefits to contributions and a maximum number of benefits per year. In the severity of the industrial depression the insurance safeguards have been overridden by a series of emergency measures. During the 137 weeks from March, 1921, to October. 1923, these emergency measures, which started when the State Donation Scheme came to an end, have nermitted of benefits being drawn by the insured person for 110 weeks, irrespective of what contributions he may have paid, and even although he may not have paid any contributions. The total benefits paid out in these two and a half years have amounted to fully £128,000,000, and of that sum, the National Confederation estimate, the amount paid in respect of emergency measures was probably not less than £75,000,000. During the same period the sum spent by the Poor Law Authorities in respect of out door relief to insured workers and their dependents was prob ably not less than £25,000,000. The emergency payments from the Unemployment Insurance Fund have very materially re-lieved local rates. The effect of saddling the Insurance Fund with burdens which otherwise would have fallen on the Poor Law Authorities has been not to make those Authorities grateful for the help; rather the impression has been that they have a grievance because the Insurance Fund has not done more. Under the 1923 Act the permanent principles laid down in the 1920 Act will be freed from all emergency provisions as from October, 1924; and the present high rates of contribution will be reduced when the Fund is solvent. It is of the utmost im-portance that the framework of Unemployment Insurance should be re-established on its proper and permanent basis. If further emergency measures on a modified basis should prove to be, for

be re-established on its proper and permanent basis. If furth emergency measures on a modified basis should prove to be, fu a limited time, necessary, they should be in the form of a ad hoc State provision.

The Confederation say that it is only when the provisions of the 1920 Act are at work again, free of emergency measures that experience will be gained upon which full development ca be determined in the light of permanent conditions.

The Report makes the following further observations:-

State's Contribution.—Instead of its present share of a litt over one-fourth of the total contribution the State should pa the same rate as the employer and the worker when the Fu is solvent. This increase should allow improvement in t

the same rate as the employer and the worker when the fun-is solvent. This increase should allow improvement in the direction of increasing the number of weeks in any insurance year for which benefit will be paid. *Refunds to Insured (at the age of 60).*—That the worker' premium should be returned to him if the risk against which h is insured does not take place is an anomalous proposition. The refund provision should be abolished, and in so far as right have already been created these should be met by some othe compensatory advantage.

have already been created these should be met by some other compensatory advantage. The State as the sole administering authority.—One of the dangers of establishing Employment Exchanges or a voluntary basis was that skilled workers would not think it necessary to use the Exchanges, and there was therefore the risk of the system relaxing into purely distress machinery and not economic machinery. Under the 1911 Act and again in the 1920 Acconcurrent or partial administration by Trade Unions was provided for. As a result of the arrangement whereby Trade Unions administered the Insurance Fund, skilled men were kep aloof from the Employment Exchanges and the development and

February, 1924.

sefulness of the Exchange system was prejudiced and brought not disrepute. Both on financial grounds and in the interests f the efficiency and usefulness of the Employment Exchanges s the administrative machinery of the Insurance Fund, they hould be the sole administering authority. *Employment Exchanges.*—It may be that industry is not yet repared for the compulsory notification of vacancies to the Exchanges, or the compulsory registration of workers at the Exchanges, even although they are not in receipt of or qualified or insurance benefit. There is no reason, however, why firms hould not be obliged to intimate to the Employment Exchange, eithin so many days, the engagement of any workers they take in so many days, the engagement of any workers they take In the case of casual employment there would need to be a al arrangement.

pecial arrangement. Exchanges should, wherever it is practicable, have the more ntimate knowledge of industry, its conditions and its personnel hat specialised Exchanges can afford. The development of Employment Exchanges on specialised lines in large industrial entres would necessitate much better accommodation, but im-roved accommodation would permit of greater economy of staff. Local Administration.—Local Committees on their present Local Administration.—Local Committees on their present pasis cannot be given executive or administrative powers. The Vational Confederation question, however, whether this subject an be usefully discussed apart from the general question of the co-ordination of the local public authorities and social agen-ies, as contemplated in the 1909 Poor Law Commission's Report. Juveniles.—It was hoped that the system of Employment Exchanges would have the effect of enabling the Authorities to guide to some extent a new generation into the trades to guide to some extent a new generation into the trades hich are not overstocked and not declining."

The National Confederation point out that, in the matter of aveniles, there is still conflict of jurisdiction between the Edu-ation Authorities and the Employment Exchanges; and they appress the opinion that jurisdiction over juveniles should not be ivorced from the general scheme of unemployment machinery.

General.

On the general question of the amalgamation of Unemployment nsurance with one or more of the other social services, the

vices, but such co-ordination between Unemployment Insur-ce and Poor Law Relief as will prevent overlapping and conision, and will ensure that both thrift and charitable aid are reserved as part of the general scheme. The conclusions of the oyal Commission of 1909 should be reviewed again in the light the experience of Unemployment Insurance since 1911, and ore especially during the past three years."

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ASSISTANCE.

HE Inter-departmental Committee* appointed early last year by he late Mr. Bonar Law "to examine the existing arrangements he late Mr. Bonar Law "to examine the existing arrangements for the grant of assistance on account of sickness, unemploy-ment and destitution, from public funds and from the contri-butory schemes of health and unemployment insurance, with a view to securing the fullest co-ordination of administrative and executive action" has issued its Report. The enquiry mose out of correspondence between Mr. Bonar Law and Mr. Sidney Webb, M.P., in January, 1923, in which Mr. Webb had complained that many persons, especially ex-Service men, were ailing to obtain provision for their needs under the various chemes of public assistance at present in operation "by reason only of the gaps in and between the several schemes, and of

chemes of public assistance at present in operation "by reason only of the gaps in and between the several schemes, and of the imperfection of inter-departmental co-ordination." The Committee was strictly limited by its reference to a con-ideration of the practical administrative problem suggested by Mr. Webb's criticism. It has confined itself, therefore, to an avestigation of possible defects in the working of the machinery of various schemes of social service as they stand to-day, remedi-ble by administrative or aventive action; it has not evanined e by administrative or executive action; it has not examine merits of the various schemes or the adequacy of the pro-

able by administrative or executive action; it has not examined the merits of the various schemes or the adequacy of the pro-vision made under them; nor, where assistance is to a greater or less extent discretionary, has it examined the principles by which such assistance is withheld or granted. The Committee has considered the various schemes in the first place from the point of view of "gaps." It has reached the broad conclusion that these are for the most part not administra-tive "gaps" capable of being dealt with by administrative action, but are inherent in the statutory character of the services themselves. The Committee finds that there is, "generally "speaking, little or no ground for the view that the administra-tive arrangements of the several services do not carry out "the intentions of Parliament, or that persons are not receiving "the assistance contemplated by Parliament." It has, however, discovered some cases where there is a danger that failure of co-ordination may produce a "gap," and it has made specific frecommendations, which are set forth in full in the Report, for meeting this danger where it may occur. The Committee has considered, in the second place, cases of so-called "over-lapping," *i.e.*, cases where persons or households

* See the February, 1923, issue of this GAZETTE, page 42. † Cmd. 2011. H M. Stationery Office ; price 4s. net.

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may be obtaining assistance from two or more sources in excess of the measure contemplated by statute. Here again it has reached the conclusion that many of the allegations made as to the existence of widespread "overlapping" are due to lack of recognition of the extent to which duplication of provision by different agencies for the same form of need, or for different forms of need affecting various members of a single household, is permitted, and, indeed, in some cases contemplated, by the Statutes as they stand to-day. The Committee has, however, had some cases brought to its notice in which there appears to be a danger that inadequate administrative arrangements may be a danger that inadequate administrative arrangements may lead to grants of assistance in excessive measure, and it has made a number of recommendations for safeguarding public funds. in such such cases. Finally, the Committee has examined the possibility of im-

proving administrative co-ordination by the adoption of arrange-ments for the local registration of assistance by the Authorities concerned. It has rejected as impracticable any scheme of com-pulsory and universal registration of assistance; but at the same time it is impressed with the value of some limited voluntary schemes of registration now in operation, and it makes certain recommendations with a view to encouraging the initiation of limited schemes of registration on a voluntary basis, and to improving local administrative co-ordination generally.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE BILL.

UNEMPLOTMENT INSURANCE BILL.
A BILL to repeal proviso (2) to section 2 of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1923, was introduced in the House of Commons. by the Minister of Labour on the 13th February.
The effect of the proviso referred to is to impose a "gap" of three weeks without benefit on insured persons who have drawn uncovenanted benefit (*i.e.*, benefit beyond that due in respect of contributions) for twelve weeks. The Bill proposes to abolish this gap in benefit by repealing the proviso, as from 21st February, 1924.
In a Memorandum which accompanies the Bill it is stated that the financial effect of the Bill will be that an additional sum, estimated at about £600,000, will be paid in benefit out of the unemployment fund in the period up to October, 1924.

LACE, EMBROIDERY AND SILK INDUSTRIES **COMMITTEE:** FINAL REPORT.

THE Committee appointed to enquire into the causes of the unemployment in the machine-made lace and embroidery indus-tries, and in the silk industry, have issued their Final Report,* The Committee found themselves unable to arrive at unanimous

dealing with the silk industry. The Committee found themselves unable to arrive at unanimous conclusions. The chairman and one other member consider the dustry to be the general trade depression and consequent reduced purchasing power, and, in certain sections of the trade, the bounty on export conferred by depreciated currencies of export-ing countries; and they state that for various reasons which are set out in the Report, they are unable to recommend the proposal made to the Committee to impose import duties on (a) manufactured silks, (b) thrown silk, and (c) waste silk drafts or dressed silk. They state that it appears from their inquiries that, despite the general industrial depression, some firms and companies engaged in the silk industry have been at the same time run their businesses on a profitable basis, and that there appears to be no reason why the results accomplished by these firms and companies should not be attainable elsewhere. The other two members of the Committee consider the main cause of the present unemployment in the industry to be foreign competition, and that the British silk industry in general has not been able to compete with the large industries of Continental countries, most of which are aided by depreciated currencies. They recommend that duties should be imposed for at least five years on imports into this country of manufactured silks (includ-ing artificial silks), spun silk yarn and noil yarn, thrown silk, waste silk drafts or dressed silk, and made-up silk or artificial silk goods.

THE RAILWAY ENGINEMEN'S STRIKE.

THE RAILWAY ENGINEMEN'S STRIKE. THE progress of events, up to 14th January, following upon the refusal of the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen to accept the findings of the National Wages Board, was narrated in the January issue of this GAZETTE. On 17th January the Railway Companies issued a statement of their position. After referring to the composition of the National Wages Board, which includes representatives of the Railway Companies and of the Railway Trade Unions, together with outside representatives of employers, of the Trades Union Congress, and of the Co-operative Union, and pointing out that the decisions were signed by all members of the Board, the statement proceeded as follows :— "Decisions of the Board are not obligatory, but it is evident that if all parties signatory thereto are not prepared to carry them out, the whole machinery of negotiation established in the Act of 1921 at the joint

* H.M. Stationery Office; price 1s. 6d. net. The Interim Report (dealing with he machine-made lace and embroidery industries) was summarised in the becember, 1925, issue of this GAZETTE, page 434.

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instance of the men and the companies becomes unworkable. The Railway Companies had stated at the outset that they were prepared to abide by the decision, whatever it might be. The National Union of Railwaymen and the Railway Clerks' Asso-ciation have accepted the decision. The Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen refuse to accept it, although their representatives on the National Wages Board were signa-tories to it. In these circumstances the Railway Companies have no alternative but to apply the decision from the date fixed." The statement proceeded to say that nothing in the de-cision warranted the suggestion that its acceptance would lead to extensive de-grading and dismissal of staff, and gave particulars as to the reductions in the wages of drivers which would follow from the application of the decision. As regards the possibility from the application of the decision. As regards the possibility of cases of individual hardship it intimated that the companies were at all times prepared to look into such cases, and referred to the machinery which existed for bringing them before the management. Following this the Associated Society intimated that its members would cease work at midnight on the Sunday, 20th Lownery 20th January.

On 19th January negotiations took place between the General Council of the Trades Union Congress and the Railway Com-panies. The Council also had consultations with the Railway Unions concerned. As a result of the discussions the following memorandum was drawn up and submitted by the General Council to the Associated Society :--" The Companies are not prepared to defer the carrying out of the decisions of the National Wages Board, but provided the strike notice is withdrawn by the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen, the Companies give their assurance that an immediate meeting with the two Unions concerned shall take place with the view of considering and alleviating any hardships affecting individuals, or groups of individuals, arising out of the findings, which, after discussion, both sides are satisfied should be so alleviated;

any agreement arrived at to be applied immediately. "The Railway Companies give the further assurance that there will be no dismissals arising out of the application of the

The Executive Committee of the Associated Society decided that they could not withdraw the strike notices on these terms, and the strike began at midnight on 20th January.

During the progress of the dispute correspondence took place between the parties, but without result. On 23rd January the General Council of the Trades Union Congress met and con-sidered the position, and appointed a small committee to watch developments. Following consultations between this Committee and the parties concerned, negotiations were resumed which, with the essistance of the Committee resulted in a settlement with the assistance of the Committee, resulted in a settlement being effected early in the morning of 29th January. The terms of the settlement are as follows :

1. The Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Fire-men have asked whether the Railway Companies claim that the decisions of the National Wages Board must be regarded as obligatory upon all parties to the proceedings. The Railway Companies have never contended that the decisions are obliga-tory, but they maintain that, having taken into consideration all the circumstances of this particular case, they are justified in giving effect to the decisions of the Board.

2. It was represented that the immediate application of the full terms of the decision would involve serious hardships to certain sections of the men, particularly in connection with the clauses dealing with payments to drivers and firemen on the mileage basis, and the classification of drivers on shunting

engines and shed duties. The whole situation has been very fully discussed, and the Railway Companies are prepared to alleviate the two classes of cases specifically mentioned above, in the following manner :---

(a) Basis of Payment for Mileage Working.

From the date of the operation of the decision 130 miles shall

From the date of the operation of the decision 150 miles shall equal one day's pay. From the beginning of the first pay week in July, 1924, 140 miles shall equal one day's pay. From the beginning of the first pay week in January, 1925, 150 miles shall equal one day's pay, unless, in the interval, it is agreed otherwise at a meeting to be convened for the purpose. Payment for mileage in excess of the stipulated equivalent for a day's pay to be at the rate of one hour's pay for every 15 miles 15 miles.

(b) Classification of Drivers on Shunting, &c., Duties.

(b) Classification of Drivers on Shunting, dc., Duties. For the purpose of carrying out the provisions of Clause 2, Part (iii), of the summary of the Board's decisions relating to enginemen, it is agreed that if an engine driver in the shunting class in receipt of the maximum of 14s. per day, and before he is promoted to main line working, is required to work main line trains for an aggregate period of 313 days, either consecu-tively or intermittently, and is thereafter put back to shunting, or other duties in that class, he shall not be reduced in rate below 15s. per day; provided that the maximum rate of 14s. shall apply to any shunting, etc., duties performed during the qualifying period of 313 days, when worked intermittently. 3. The Railway Companies reaffirm their undertaking that there shall be no dismissals arising out of the application of the decision.

decision 4. The Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Fire-men undertake to bring the strike of their members to an end 5. All the men involved in the present dispute who present themselves for work within a reasonable time to be reinstated by the Companies at the earliest practicable moment without prejudice to their seniority position.

6. It is a condition of the settlement that all railwaymen shall work together amicably, and we hereby agree to use every en-deavour to secure this being done. Any proved breach of this condition will be a case for disciplinary action by the Railway Companies under Clause 72 of the Report of the Royal Com mission upon the Conciliation Scheme.

The total number of men employed on the railways who were directly or indirectly involved in the dispute was about 69,000. This number includes some of the enginemen members of the National Union of Railwaymen, notwithstanding instructions issued by that Union to its members not to join in the strike. In addition, large numbers of workpeople in coal mining and various other industries were temporarily rendered idle by the shortage of transport facilities.

OUTPUT, COSTS OF PRODUCTION AND PROCEEDS OF THE COAL MINING INDUSTRY.

PROCEEDS OF THE COAL MINING INDUSTRY. A STATISTICAL summary* of output and of the costs of produc-tion, proceeds and profits of the coal mining industry for the quarter ended 30th September, 1923, prepared by the Mines Department in continuation of similar statements for earlier dates, shows that at undertakings which produced about 95 per cent. of the total quantity of saleable coal raised during the quarter, 61,999,982 tons of coal were raised, of which 56,863,078 tons were disposable commercially. The net costs, after deduct-ing the proceeds of miners' coal, amounted to £53,566,626, equivalent to 18s. 10.09d. per ton, and the proceeds of commer-cial disposals to £56,463,071, equivalent to 19s. 10.31d. per ton. There was thus a credit balance of £2,896,445, or 1s. 0.22d. per ton. An analysis by districts shows that in Lancashire, North Staffordshire and Cheshire, North Wales, South Staffordshire and Salop and Cumberland, the costs exceeded the proceeds; in the Bristol coalfield the costs and the proceeds were almost equal, and in other districts there were credit balances ranging from 4.15d. per ton in Scotland to 2s. 0.87d. per ton in Durham. The number of workpeople employed was 1,108,259, the number

from 4.15d. per ton in Scotland to 2s. 0.87d. per ton in Durham. The number of workpeople employed was 1,108,259, the number of man-shifts worked was 71,196,686, and the number of man-shifts lost that could have been worked was 6,402,572. The average output per man-shift worked, based on the tonnage of saleable coal raised, was 17.42 cwts., the average for the districts ranging from 11.91 cwts. in the Bristol coalfield to 19.85 cwts. in Yorkshire and the East Midlands. The average earnings per man-shift worked were 10s. 7.20d., the district figures ranging from 7s. 7.97d. in South Staffordshire and Salop to 12s. 6.91d. in Koat in Kent

The following Table compares some of the more important figures in the return with those given in the returns for previous quarters in 1922 and 1923. The figures given relate in each case to Great Britain, and at each date to undertakings pro-ducing 94 or 95 per cent. of the total saleable coal raised in each period.

Quarter ended	Quarter ended Amount of saleable coal raised		it (+) bit (-) ance ton†	No. of workpeople employed	Output per man- shift worked	Earnings per man- shift worked
31st March, 1922 30th June, 1922 30th Sept., 1922 31st Dec., 1922 31st March, 1923 30th June, 1923 30th Sept., 1923	Tons 57,633,631 53,261,024 58,717,767 64,538,199 67,077,543 65,527,464 61,999,982	s. +1 -0 +1 +1 +2 +3 +1	d. 1.62 0.17 1.00 6.39 5.32 2.64 0.22	$\begin{array}{c} 1,020,207\\ 1,025,592\\ 1,027,853\\ 1,068,594\\ 1,087,733\\ 1,102,380\\ 1,108,259\end{array}$	Cwts. 18·23 17·80 17·94 18·10 18·25 17·90 17·42	8. d. 11 0.18 10 2.51 9 3.97 9 5.23 9 7.72 9 9.77 10 7.20

MEMBERSHIP, INCOME, EXPENDITURE, AND FUNDS OF REGISTERED TRADE UNIONS.

STATISTICS FOR 1922.

IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE for October, 1923, detailed IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE for October, 1923, detailed statistics were given of the total membership of Trade Unions in Great Britain and Northern Ireland at the end of 1922 and in previous years, including, in addition to Trade Unions of employees registered under the Trade Union Acts, other associa-tions of employees which, though not so registered, include among their objects the regulation of the conditions of employment of their members. The total number of all such societies, registered and unregistered, known to the Department at the end of 1922 was 1,190, and their total membership was approxi-metaly 5 580 000

mately 5,580,000. The Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies has now issued a statistical summary[±] of the membership, income, expenditure, and funds in 1922 and previous years of those Trade Unions

Cmd. 2043. H.M. Stationery Office. Price 2d.
Calculated on the quantity of coal disposable commercially.
"Statistical Summary, showing the operations of Registered Trade Unions for the years 1912. 1922." H.M. Stationery Office. Price 6d. net. The figures for 1922 are subject to revision in the Annual Report of the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies (Part C, Trade Unions), for the year 1922.

February, 1924.

reat Britain which were registered under the Trade Union

cts. Comparative figures for the years 1913, 1920, 1921 and 1922, stracted from this summary and adjusted to date, are given elow, the membership being shown to the nearest thousand, and he income, expenditure, and funds to the nearest £1,000. It hould be observed that the figures relate only to Great Britain, that registered Trade Unions of employers, as well as Unions

Hours i a I The de Thisses of or	mplores		101 90 1	Inions	and the second se	and the second	and a state of the state			
and that registered Trade Unions of er of workpeople and other employees, a The employers' Unions included, ho	are inc	inded 1	n The J	igures.	the second second second second		N	ot on the Ro	11.	
The employers Unions included, no proportion of the total; e.g., in 1927 a total membership of just over 53,00 £137,000, expenditure of £126,000, a	2 they	aggrega	ate inc	ome of	Local Authority.	On the Roll.	ment has been	According to present information employ	in cols. (2)	Total.
- The appendix	1913.	1920.	1921.	1922.	as method of semailal	EF La	prom sed.	only a small staff.	and (3).	parente Non
Unions on Register at end of Year*	616	656	621	607	ENGLAND. London*-	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Membership at end of Year	3,220	Thous 6,982	ands. 5,506	4,559	County Council	11		80 m - 581		1
Income :	4,107	Thousan 11,315	ads of £: 11,445	8,989	Metropolitan Boroughs Boards of Guardians	28 24	-1	Triant o il	3	28 28
From Ministry of Labour (Unemployment Insurance and Administration Expenses) From other sources	102 330	312 1,372	7,832 1,931	5,449 1,001	Totals	54	1	ad to the state	3	58
Expenditure :	507†	1,718†	15,150†	8,3591	County Councils County Boroughs	43 79	assesses	and quaista	7	50 79
Benefit	447 704 150	3,219 748 297	3,427 980 323	1,428 910 318	Town Councils Urban District Councils Rural District Councils	179 424 179	4 4 8	9 223 117	34 70 276	226 721 580
Funeral Benefit	522	723 185	861 160	817 268	Boards of Guardians	174	27	469	253 640	558 2,214
Payments from Political Fund Grants to Federations, Other Societies, etc. Management and Other Expenses	207 1,136	1,687‡ 4,363	721 4,504	494 3,857	WALES. County Councils	6	2	11700 07700	4	12
Total Funds: - At beginning of Year At end of Year <td>5.648 6,507</td> <td>15,917 15,975§</td> <td>15,869 10,950</td> <td>11,021 10,008</td> <td>County Boroughs Town Councils . Urban District Councils</td> <td>3 19 29</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>8</td> <td>3 27 61</td>	5.648 6,507	15,917 15,975§	15 ,8 69 10,950	11,021 10,008	County Boroughs Town Councils . Urban District Councils	3 19 29			8	3 27 61
In the following Table details an	ro give	en of t	he age	regate	Rural District Councils Boards of Guardians	13 12	5	27 12	23 23	68: 47
membership, income, expenditure, a of a number of different groups of	nd fur	ids in	1922 i	n each	Tctals	82	9	69	58	218
separate figures are published in the ship figures are given to the neare	est 1,00	mary. 00, and	The m	ember-	SCOTLAND. County Councils County District Committees	11 29			22 70 55	33 99 201
expenditure, and funds to the neares	st £1,0	00.	and the second	and a start	Town Councils	-78 13 6	4	924	23 31	960 37
internet and internet of		Expendi	ture.		Totals	137	4	988	201	1,330
Unions Mem-		Unem-	Other	Funds at	GRAND TOTALS .	1,351	41	1,526	902	3,820

	1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1		107		Expen	diture.	densio Suinti	
I when the protection in the second second	Group.	Unions on the Regis- ter.*	Mem- bership at end of 1922.	Income.	Unem- ploy- ment, Travel- ling,and Emigra- tion Benefit.	Other Ex- pendi- ture.	Funds at end of 1922.	
	lining and Quarrying letals, Machines, Im-	98	Thou- sands. 759	£1,000's. 2,030	£1,000's. 655	£1,000's. 8:3	£1,000's. 534	
1	plements, and Convey- ances	81 71	836 243	6,181 650	5,241 228	2,542 248	2,582 1,133	
HOU	aper-making, Printing, cc. uilding, Decorating, &c. ransport ommerce and Finance ther and General	21 31 28 30 154	130 38 8 563 215 1,372	580 1,527 1,306 386 2,641	285 758 220 92 880	224 977 917 310 1,895	425 777 2,309 247 1,854	
and the second se	Total	514 93	4,506 53	15,301 137	8,359	7,966 126	9,861 147	
	Grand Total	. 607	4,559	15,438	8,359	8,092	10,008	

EMPLOYMENT OF EX-SERVICE MEN.

INDUSTRIAL TRAINING

T 29th January, 1924, the number of men in training was 0,544, and the number awaiting training 4,742. Since 1st ugust, 1919, 80,181 men have terminated training.

NATIONAL SCHEME (KING'S ROLL). On the 31st January, 1924, the names of 28,474 employers ere entered upon the King's National Roll.

In some instances Returns were received from Unions removed from the dister during the year. The total number of Returns received for 1922 was

9. \dagger The expenditure on Unemployment, Travelling, and Emigration Benefit iowa in this Table (e.g., £8,359,000 in 1922), represents the total amount paid the Unions, including, in addition to the benefit chargeable to the funds of le Unions, the amounts disbursed by the Unions and recoverable from the Unistry of Labour under the Unemployment Insurance Acts. The total amount celvable each year from the Ministry of Labour on this account and in respect administration expenses (e.g., £5,449,000 in 1922), is shown under "Income." \ddagger This sum includes funds transferred to the Amalgamated Engineering mico, but not brought into account until 1921. See income "from other urces" in that year. § See preceding Note \ddagger .

The undertakings given by these employers under the provi-sions of the National Scheme for the Employment of Disabled Ex-Service Men cover approximately 330,000 disabled ex-Service

The following statement gives particulars of enrolment of local authorities in Great Britain :--

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

DURING the four weeks ended 26th January, 1924, eleven meet-ings of Joint Industrial Councils and Interim Industrial Re-construction Committees were reported to the Ministry of Labour

The Carpets Joint Industrial Council has reached an agree-The Carpets Joint Industrial Council has reached an agree-ment on a modified sliding scale; the modified agreement provides that when the cost of living figure falls below 60 per cent. advance on pre-war, no change shall be made on the bonus established when it reached 60 per cent. until the cost of living figure approaches 40 per cent. above pre-war, when the scale of bonus will be reconsidered.

of bonus will be reconsidered. Considerable interest in the health side of its work con-tinues to be shown by the Joint Industrial Council for the *Printing and Allied Trades*, and arrangements have been made for a further distribution of literature on matters relating to health, and for the continuance of investigations with regard to certain conditions of employment and their bearing upon the health of workpeople. The Council has raised by means of a Flag Day a sum of £4,500 for the War Orphans Fund of the Printers' Pension Corporation. The organisation of District Committees is being proceeded with. Attention is also being given to the question of apprenticeship in the industry.

given to the question of apprenticeship in the industry. At a meeting of the Negotiating Committee of the Clay In-terim Industrial Reconstruction Committee on 7th February a discussion took place on an application for an advance in wages made by the Workers' Side. No agreement was reached, and the matter will be referred to a full meeting of the Interim Industrial Reconstruction Committee on 20th February, when the question of wages will be further explored. The Com-mittee also gave attention to certain disputes brought to its notice by the Trade Union Side.

The Silk Joint Industrial Council adopted a report which had been drawn up in consultation with a representative of the Board of Education, dealing with the training of employees and technical examinations. The report has been circulated to constituent Associations and Unions for consideration.

* The Metropolitan Asylums Board is also on the Roll.

THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE.

February, 1924.

RETAIL PRICES OF CLOTHING, 1914-24.

THE statistics which are published each month in this GAZETTE dealing with changes in the cost of living of working-class families include particulars as to the retail prices of clothing. On the last day of each month forms of enquiry are posted from the Ministry of Labour to a large number of representa-tive outfitters, drapers and boot retailers in the principal towns. The retail prices quoted by each retailer at the previous en-quiry are entered on the forms before despatch and the retailer is asked to quote the current retail prices for the same article and quality as before, or for the most nearly corresponding article or quality.

guiry are entered on the forms before despatch and the retailer is asked to quote the current retail prices for the same article and quality as before, or for the most nearly corresponding article or quality.
The descriptions of goods which are taken into account in the compilation of the statistics are those most generally purchased by the working classes. The method of compilation adopted is to combute separately the percentage change for each quotation supplied by each retailer, to tabulate these percentages, and to combute steparately the percentages change for each quotation supplied by each retailer, to tabulate these percentages, and to combute steparately the percentages. The resultant average changes for the several articles are then collected into six groups, as follows:—(1) men's suits and overcosts, (2) woollen material for women's outer garments, (5) cotton underclothing material for women's outer garments, (5) cotton underclothing material for women's outer garments, (5) cotton underclothing material and hosiery, (6) boots. The percentage of the percentage changes for the difference in the relative importance of ready-made and bespoke clothing and of suits and overcosts.
The will be observed that some of the information collected rot the articles of clothing themselves, partly because for the former comparative prices could be obtained over a long period with a greater measure of accuracy and partly because for the former comparative prices could be obtained over a long period with a greater measure of the increase in the price of garments, allowance is made for the fact that the charges for making-up have not changed similarly. In computing the final percentage, representing the general increase in clothing up; in and the group (4), compared with 1 to each of the other four groups (2) and (4) are combined with that relating to the warget for the material, or course, closely representing the general groups are made of the warget for the fact that in some cases the garments are mad

ing, as far as possible, the comparability of the prices quoted for different dates. Subject, therefore, to the general qualification referred to above, the results of the investigations may be taken to be broadly representative of the general course of prices of

referred to above, the results of the investigations may be taken to be broadly representative of the general course of prices of the cheaper grades of clothing. The statistics show that there was a steady rise in the retail prices of clothing from the beginning of the war until the summer of 1917, followed by a more rapid rise until about the date of the Armistice. Thereafter prices remained stationary, on the whole, until the autumn of 1919, but subsequently rose again until the summer of 1920, when the maximum increase of about 330 per cent. above the pre-war level was recorded. In October, 1920, a decline set in, and during the twelve months, 1st October, 1920 to 1st October, 1921, the increase was reduced by one-half, the average percentage increase over the pre-war level at 1st October, 1921, being about 165 per cent. From that date until the late autumn of 1923 the general average per-centage continued to fall slowly—very slowly in 1923—and at 1st December, 1923, the average percentage increase, as compared with July, 1914, was about 120 per cent. During December, 1923, and January, 1924, however, there was a slight rise in the general level, mainly owing to increases in the prices of cotton goods, and at 1st February, 1924, the average increase was between 120 and 125 per cent. above the pre-war level. For each of the six groups into which the articles included in

For each of the six groups into which the articles included in the statistics are classified the average percentage increases at 1st February, 1924, as compared with July, 1914, were as

Percentage Increase.

As has been pointed out above, where materials for garm, are made up at home the increase in the cost of material clo represents the increase in the cost of the garment. Where materials are given out to be made up by dressmakers, etc.,

February, 1924.

The product and the observed that while the gammale. Where the materials are given out to be made up by dressmakers, etc., the charges to working-class customers average about one-and-a-half times the corresponding pre-war charges. Although the method of calculation is that of combining the percentage changes in the prices quoted by retailers from month to month and not that of averaging the prices quoted (the range of prices being so wide that the utilisation of average prices in this connection would be unsuitable for the purpose), it may be of interest to give an indication of the general ranges of prices which are included in the returns on which the percentages are based. Accordingly, the following Table has been prepared to show the general range of the price-quotations used for the purpose of the index-number. The quotations for materials are "per yard," for footwear "per pair," and for other articles "each." It should be observed that while the figures given include the majority of the quotations, other quotations were also important in particular cases. For example, some costume cloth was purchased by working-class families at prices as low as 1s, 0³/₄d. to 1s. 4d. in 1914, and at 1s. 11d. to 2s. 11d. in February, 1924.

	and the second of the second of the	and the second second second
Article.	of Grades	ges of Retail Prices Purchased class Families.
	July, 1914.	1st February, 1924.
ware all the state in and a little	BERIDGEN AND DEPOSIT	Tellar Boncike In
Men's Suits and Overcoats :	01- 70-	75 55
Ready-made Suits	218308.	358558.
Bespoke Suits	21s.—30s. 30s.—42s.	30s.—55s. 50s.—80s.
Overaceta	30s42s.	50s80s.
Woollen Material for Women's Outer	008008.	0.5005.
Garments :		Charles & Ballington
Costume Cloth	1s. 6d 7s.	3s. 11dEs. 11d.
Tweed	1828.	1s. 11d3s. 11d.
Serge	1828.	1s. 11d3s. 11d.
Frieze	1s. 6d3s.	2s. 11d5s. 11d.
Cashmere	1s. 6d2s.	3s. 6d4s. 11d.
Woollen Underclothing and Hosiery :	CONTRACTOR STREET	Service and a service of the loss
Men's Vests and Pants	2s. 6d2s. 11d.	4s. 6d7s. 11d.
" Merino Socks	61d1s.	ls.—ls. 6d.
Women's Vests	1s.—1s. 63d.	1s. 11d7s. 6d.
" Woollen Stockings	93d18. 03d.	1s. 6d2s. 6d.
Flannel	83d1s. 03d.	1s. 6d2s. 6d.
Cotton Material for Women's Outer Garments:		and the second se
	734 434	1014 1- 414
// and how	33d43d. 33d43d.	104d1s. 44d. 1s1s. 44d.
Gateen	33d43d.	18.—18. 42d. 18.—1s. 42d.
Drill	43d63d.	1s1s. 9.d.
Galatea	43d63d.	18.—18. 63d.
Cotton Underclothing and Hosiery :	140. 040.	10. 10. 04u.
Men's Cotton Socks	41d. 71d.	94d1s. 3d.
Women's Cotton Stockings	43d1s. 03d.	81d1s. 61d.
Calico, white	23d43d.	63d1s. 03d.
Longcloth	33d43d.	73d1s. 03d.
Shirting	33d43d.	103d1s. 43d.
Flannelette	33d 43d.	73d1s. 03d.
Boots:		10 00 00
Men's Heavy Boots	5s. 11d 8s. 11d.	12s. 6d16s. 11d.
" Light Boots	6s. 11d10s. 6d.	12s. 6d1fs. 11d.
Women's Boots	49. 11d 88. 11d.	10s. 6d
Cirle' Boots	3s. 11d. — 5s. 11d. 3s. 6d. — 5s. 11d.	78. 11d118. 6d.
GILIS BOOLS	os. ou os. 11d.	7s. 6d.—10s. 6d.
	A REAL PROPERTY AND A REAL	as a for the second of the

CO-OPERATIVE HOUSING SOCIETIES IN 1922.

THE following statistics as to the activities in 1922 and previous years of Co-operative Housing Societies* in Great Britain, registered under the Industrial and Provident Societies Acts, have been compiled by the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies from the Annual Returns furnished to his Office. In a previous articlet, relating to the year 1921, Housing Societies were classified as "Purchase" or "Tenancy "Socie-ties. Considerable difficulty has been experienced in continu-ing this classification, owing to the fact that some Societies both sell and let, and also to the probability that, in many cases, purchase instalments are treated in the Returns as rents. In these circumstances it is not thought that the division pro-In these circumstances it is not thought that the division pr duced any useful result, and it has accordingly been di continued

The returns obtained for 1922 show that there were 245 Housing Societies registered under the Industrial and Provident Societies Acts, or 19 less than in 1921. This decrease was due mainly to Societies having abandoned schemes for which they had been formed. At the end of 1922 the Societies had 12,746 members (of whom nearly 5,000 were returned as Tenants), and share, loan, and reserve capital amounting to £8,191,667. The aggregate amount received in rents was £469,804, and resulted in a net profit of £59,273, to which further reference is made below. Of the latter amount, £27,527 was allocated as Interest on Shares, or nearly 4 per cent. on the Share Capital. Fre-quently some part of the profits is applied to a fund out of which is defrayed the cost of tenants' repairs. The aggregate cost value of the land and buildings at the end of 1922 was returned at £8,205,009. The returns obtained for 1922 show that there were

• Particulars of Building Societies registered under the Building Societies Acts, and not included in this Article, are published in Part D of the Annual Report of the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies.

† See the April, 1923, issue of this GAZETTE, page 123.

The following Table shows the position of Housing Societies in reat Britain for the years 1918-1922 :--

CITCUTE AND THE REAL PARTY AND	-1622 A & B & B & B & B & B & B & B & B & B &	Advanter and a good	12263 JALES J	AL CLARKER SCHOOLS	and and a second second
Wheth the part of t	1918.	1919.	1920	1921.	1922.
Number of Societies Number of Members	109 8,322	144 9,044	246 11,021	264 12,573	245 12,746
Capital : Shares Loans Reserves Total	£ 516,646 3,149,032 44,035 3,709,713	£ 528,457 3,372,883 46,823 3,948,163	£ 615,369 5,580,331 29,085 6,224,785	£ 705,887 6,861,666 64,421 7,631,974	£ 727,649 7,387,703 76,315 8,191,667
Rents Receivable Profit (+) or loss (-) on	256,077	263,723	336,715	434,469	469,804
year before deduction of Interest on Shares	+ 19,517	+ 10,583	- 5,710	+11,467*	'+ 59,273

The high cost of repairs and the fluctuations in property The high cost of reparts and the internations in property alues, which were features of the immediate post-war period, sculted in heavy losses to some of the Societies. The profit gure for 1922, however, reflects the return of more stable onditions, although other factors also have contributed. Two Two onditions, although other factors also have contributed. Two of the more prominent may be mentioned : one Society (now a process of winding-up by Order of Court) had sustained a oss of nearly £10,000 in 1921, but for 1922 no satisfactory par-iculars of income and expenditure were available. Another had hown a loss of approximately £10,000 for 1921, occasioned by neavy depreciation and a loss on the realisation of property, but in 1922 sold most of its remaining property and returned a worft on the transaction ofit on the transaction.

RETAIL BESPOKE TAILORING TRADE IN NORTHERN IRELAND.

REPORT OF DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE

THE Departmental Committee appointed by the Minister of Labour for Northern Ireland, "to inquire into and advise the 'Minister of Labour upon the following matters in connection 'with the Retail Bespoke Tailoring Trade in Northern Ireland, 'viz., (a) Dilution of Labour, (b) Employment of day's wage 'men, and (c) Employment of Apprentices," have issued their Parori

Evidence was heard from the local Employers' Association and rom the Trade Unions concerned, and also from the National ederation of Master Tailors, the Scottish Federation of Merchant 'ailors, and the Liverpool Branch of the Amalgamated Society Tailors and Tailoresses.

d Tailors and Tailoresses.
The conclusions and recommendations summarised in the najority report (which was signed by the Chairman, Mr. Arthur Black, B.L., and five members of the Committee, three of whom vere independent persons), are as follows:—

That it is essential that in the very near future the employers in the retail bespoke tailoring trade in Belfast should be permitted to utilise a greater proportion of female labour than is at present allowed, and that, accordingly, the existing line of demarcation which governs the work permitted to be done by women should be reviewed at an early date.

date. 2. That, in the interests of workers in recognised work-shops, the acceptance by the employees of a scheme for additional dilution should be coupled with an undertaking by the employers that no work will be sent to outside firms. 3. That we are of opinion that training by day's wage men is likely to prove the most satisfactory system for the instruc-

tion of apprentices.

1913 AND 1923. The issue of the journal Wirtschaft and Statistik‡ for 1st January, 1924, gives the figures which appear below concerning the rates of wages and earnings of various classes of workers in Germany towards the end of last year. Part of the difficulty in assessing the value of present-day German wages lies in the fact that three values of the mark have to be taken into con-sideration : (1) the value of the paper mark, which is reduced to (2) the value of the pre-war mark, by an application of the national cost-of-living index number; and (3) the value of the so-called "gold mark," which is based on the official Berlin dollar quotation, and in which there is an increasing tendency to reckon wages. As "gold-mark" prices have hitherto been higher than pre-war mark prices, the "gold-mark" has neces-sarily had a lower purchasing power than that of the pre-war mark. It is to be presumed that, in the following comparisons of post-war with pre-war rates of wages and earnings, the Reich Statistical Office has taken these various factors into considera-tion. tion

Excludes a credit of £34,000 occasioned by a guarantor relieving a Society ta liability on bank overdraft. *Cmd. 21* (Northern Ireland): H.M. Stationery Office, 15, Donegall Square st, Belfast; price Is. net.

output and profits, and has proved a failure judged by the standard of workmanship in the towns where it has been introduced; and that its introduction in Northern Ireland would, therefore, lower the standard of the trade in the public

estimation.
3. That, as dilution would displace male labour and efficient female labour, and would intensify the sufferings of workers in the slack season, and as it would not cheapen the cost of production in the good class trade, we recommend that no change is advisable in the present system.
4. That the system of employing day's wage men is obsolete, and that a revival of the dual system with its inherent abuses would not be tolerated by the Trade Unions.
5. That the purchasing public should be protected by law against the description "tailor-made" being applied to ready made garments.

REPORT OF WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION (SILICOSIS) COMMITTEE.

THE Workmen's Compensation (Silicosis) Committee, who were appointed by the Home Secretary in February, 1923,* "(i) to "inquire into the working of the scheme for the refractories "industries under the Workmen's Compensation (Silicosis) "Act, 1918, and (ii) to advise upon any proposals for apply-ing the Act to other industries which may be referred to it by the Secretary of State," have presented their first Report.+

"by the Secretary of State," have presented their first Report.⁺ The scheme mentioned in the terms of reference applies to all workmen employed in the refractories industries, that is to say, in getting, handling, moving, breaking, crushing, grinding, or sieving material (e.g., ganister) containing not less than 60 per cent. of silica, and in the manipulation of such material in the manufacture of ganister or silica bricks, ganister pug, and other refractory materials (for lining fur-naces, etc.) containing not less than 80 per cent. of silica. The workmen employed in these industries are subject to a respiratory disease known as silicosis, due to the inhalation over varying periods of dust with a high silica content. Under the scheme mentioned above workmen engaged in these industries and affected by silicosis, or silicosis accom-panied by tuberculosis, are entitled to compensation from a general compensation fund, to which all the employers in these industries are required to subscribe. Up to the end of 1922, the total income of the fund had amounted to £54,760, and the total expenditure to £31,760; upwards of £18,200 had been paid in compensation under the scheme in respect of 170 claims. On the 31st December, 1922, the balance in hand to meet out-standing liabilities was £23,000; and 114 workmen were in receipt of weekly payments under the scheme. The Committee report that the scheme appears to have worked smoothly. There has been little dispute with employers as to its application, and there has been no objection on the part of the workers to submit to the required medical examina-tions. The Committee have, however, found certain important

to its application, and there has been no objection on the part of the workers to submit to the required medical examina-tions. The Committee have, however, found certain important defects in the provisions and administration of the scheme; and, to remedy these defects, they make certain proposals, which are set forth in full in the report. If these proposals are adopted, the Committee think the scheme should prove a satis-

adopted, the Committee think the scheme should prove a satis-factory system of compensation for the refractories industries, and should be a suitable basis on which to frame schemes for other and larger industries in which the disease occurs. Appendices to the Report contain (a) a copy of the scheme of compensation for the refractories industries; (b) particulars of receipts into and payments out of the compensation fund, for the four years 1919-22; and (c) a short, account of the measures taken in the Rand gold mines of South Africa to deal with the disease deal with the disease

WAGES IN GERMANY.

HOURLY RATES AND WEEKLY EARNINGS. 1913 AND 1923.

* See MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE for February, 1923 (p. 42). + Workmen's Compensation (Silicosis) Committee ; First Report. H.M. t Workmen's Compensation (Success) Committee; First ationery Office; price 2s. net. 1 The organ of the Reich (Federal) Statistical Office, Berlin.

Miners.—In November, 1923, the weighted average shift wage, including family allowances, in the five principal coal-mining districts was 3.49 pre-war marks for hewers and tram-mers and 2.97 pre-war marks for other underground workers, or about 56 and 67 per cent., respectively, of the pre-war (1913) wage. Surface workers received an average wage of 2.91 pre-war marks, or about 70 per cent. of the pre-war wage.* Wages were generally reckoned in paper marks. Building Workers.—On 1st December, 1923, the average hourly rate of wages was 0.62 "gold-mark" for bricklayers and carpenters and 0.54 "gold-mark" for labourers, or about 84 and 96 per cent., respectively, of the pre-war hourly rate. The average weekly earnings in November were 22.11 pre-war marks for skilled building workers and 19.91 pre-war marks for labourers, or about 59 and 68 per cent., respectively, of the pre-war weekly earnings. Thus, in the case of weekly earnings the comparison with the pre-war level is less favourable than in the case of hourly rates, a consequence, it may be presumed,

the comparison with the pre-war level is less favourable than in the case of hourly rates, a consequence, it may be presumed, of the shorter working week introduced after the war. *Woodworkers.*—On 1st December, 1923, the average hourly wage of adult woodworkers, reckoned by collective agreement in most centres in "gold-marks," was 0.59 "gold-mark" for skilled men and 0.51 "gold-mark" for labourers, or about 96 and 116 per cent., respectively, of the pre-war hourly wage. In November the average weekly earnings of skilled workers was 18.20 pre-war marks and of labourers 16.12 pre-war marks, or about 58 and 71 per cent., respectively, of the pre-war weekly earnings.

or about 58 and 71 per cent., respectively, of the pre-war weekly earnings. *Textile Workers.*—In the principal centres of this industry, with the exception of the occupied territories, wages are reckoned by collective agreements in "gold-marks." On 1st December, 1923, the average hourly wage of male skilled workers (spinners and weavers) was 0.38 "gold-mark" and of female skilled workers 0.28 "gold-mark," or about 83 and 93 per cent., respectively, of the pre-war hourly wage. The average weekly earnings in November, 1923, of a male skilled worker were 15.82 pre-war marks, and of a female skilled worker 10.94 pre-war weekly about 60 and 63 per cent., respectively, of the pre-war weekly

earnings. Summary.—In the following Table are shown the fluctuations in the value of weekly earnings, calculated on the basis of a full week's work at the rates fixed by collective agreements, for skilled and unskilled workers in the mining, building, wood, metal, textile, printing and other industries, including Govern-ment industrial establishments, during January to November, 1923. The average weekly earnings are computed in accordance with the average national cost-of-living index figure. No allow-ance has been made for unemployment or short time, and there is no indication that, in the calculation of the average weekly earnings, weight has been given to the relative importance of the numbers of workers employed in the different industries to which the average relates.

and a start of the second			SKILLED	WORKERS.	UNSKILLED WORKERS.		
Period to which figures relate.			es	Average Weekly Earnings.	Percentage of pre-war Earnings.	Average Weekly Earnings.	Percentage of pre-war Earnings.
al el al mongra d al elegent	1913.		1000 AN 1000	Pre-war Marks. 35.02	100	Pre-war Marks. 24·31	100
January February March Apil May June July August September October November	1923. 	•••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••		17.05 22:23 27:57 25:96 22:80 22:79 16:80 23:52 21:42 18:22 18:66	48.69 63.48 78.73 74.13 65.11 65.08 47.97 67.16 61.17 52.03 53.28	15.45 19.98 24.79 23.34 20.46 20.42 15.06 21.00 19.02 15.74 16.04	63-55 82-19 101-97 96-01 84-16 84-00 61-95 86-38 78-24 64-75 65-98

UNEMPLOYMENT IN GERMANY : NEW ORDER.†

THE German Minister of Labour has issued an Order, dated 18th January, 1924, which empowers the State Governments to authorise the issue by local authorities of loans or subsidies to enterprises working for profit that have completely or par-tially closed down, in order to enable them to start working accim

again. Loans can be obtained if the enterprise resumes work with at least twenty unemployed who have been in receipt of unemploy-ment relief for two weeks, and who would otherwise remain un-employed for a still longer period. Work must be provided of sufficient duration each week to prevent claims for short-time un-employment relief. Loans are to be reckoned in "gold marks," and are repayable within 90 days. For the first 30 days they are free of interest; for the remainder of the period they bear interest at half the Imperial Bank's discount rate for "gold mark" bills. The value of the "gold mark" is fixed at 12 of the official Berlin dollar quotation. Application for a loan must be made to the local authority (or union of such autho-rities), which will issue it on behalf of the State and the Reich.

* It is presumed that in this comparison with pre-war earnings allowance has been made for the shorter working shift introduced after the war. † Deutscher Keichsanzeiger, 24th January, 1924. See also MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE, November, 1923, page 4/2.

Subsidies will be granted only when they are to be used for the production of commodities of public utility for the Reich, the State or the local authority, etc., and when the use of these commodities, as, for instance, in connection with public relief works, will lead to an alleviation of the public relief. Such com-

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works, will lead to an alleviation of the public relief. Such com-modities must be delivered by the undertaker at cost price. Loans are, in principle, secured by the assignment of goods, but a bill accepted by a bank of good standing is also regarded as adequate security. The funds out of which the loans and subsidies are granted are drawn from the moneys voted by the Reichstag under the heading of unemployment relief. Neither loans nor subsidies may exceed in amount the sum which the workers employed would otherwise have received in unemployment relief over a period of four weeks. For the purpose of the calculation of the latter sum, the donation pay-able to an unemployed male worker over 21 years of age with two dependants may be taken as a basic flat rate. The Order remains in force until 31st March, 1924.

EXTENSION OF WORKING HOURS : BELGIUM*.

SINCE 1st May, 1923, Royal Decrees, bearing the dates shown below, have been issued in respect of the industries indicated in the following list, which are regarded as seasonal, and in which, therefore, an extension of working hours beyond eight a day is permissible, during the busy season, under Article 5 of the Belgian Eight-Hour Day Act of 14th June, 1921 :--

te of Decree.		Industry or Industries affected.
th May, 1923		(a) Manufacture and repair of motor-cars and bicycles. (b) Upholstery and
		decoration (Tapissiers-garnisseurs).
st Aug., 1923		Clothing and Allied Trades.
rd Aug., 1923	11.	Food trades (confectionery and ices,
aarun/		syrups, jams, preserved fruit, cheese, artificial ice, brewing).
th Jan., 1924	7	Flax-retting in streams.
th Jan., 1924		Biscuit, gingerbread, marzipan (masse. pain) making.
	C. webe	

In these industries, a maximum working day of nine hour is permitted during the busy season, subject to a reduction of hours during some other part of the year, which will bring th average working hours over the whole of the year down to eigh a day. Generally, the months during which the nine-hour day is permitted are specified, and a seven-hour day is fixed for a equivalent number of other months, which are also named if the Decree the Decree.

equivalent number of other months, which are also named in the Decree. Under the same section of the Act, by Decree dated 22nd May, 1923, persons employed in the non-mechanical manufac-ture of firearms are permitted to work 150 hours of overtime be-tween 1st April and 30th September, subject to a maximum working day of 10 hours and to an equivalent reduction of hours during 1st October to 31st March; and, by Decree dated 26th June, 1923, a 10-hour day is permitted in (a) building and public works, (b) surface quarrying, and (c) rural and mechani-cal brick-making industries, subject to an average eight-hour day spread over the whole year in the case of (a) and (b), and to an equivalent average, but with a specified distribution of hours, in the case of (c). In all these seasonal industries, where a Saturday half-holiday is granted, the daily maximum hours fixed may be exceeded by one hour on each of the first five days of the week. Under Article 6 of the Act, which deals with industries work-ing up perishable goods, a Decree dated 20th May, 1923, allows 50 hours of overtime per annum on the preparation of sardines, and 200 hours of overtime per annum (subject to a maximum 12-hour day and a restriction to the period 1st May to 31st Octo-ber) on fruit and vegetable preserving. Under Article 1 of the Act which provides for its avential

hour day and a restriction to the period 1st May to 31st Octo-ber) on fruit and vegetable preserving. Under Article 1 of the Act, which provides for its eventual application, with or without modifications, to commercial estab-lishments, *inter alia*, a Decree dated 17th August, 1923, permits the working of 150 hours of overtime *per annum*, subject to a maximum of two hours on any one day, by the office staff employed in banks and stockbrokers' offices; and, under the same Article, a Decree dated 10th October, 1923, fixes a 54-hour week for the staff working on the "tip" system in hotels, restaurants and public-houses, and 50 hours of overtime per annum, subject to a maximum of five hours in any one week, for the rest of the staff.

PROHIBITION OF WHITE PHOSPHORUS IN MATCH MANUFACTURE : CHINA.

THE Swiss Recueil des Lois Fédérales for 16th January, 1924 announces that the Chinese Legation at Berne, by a communit tion dated 6th December, 1923, has notified the adhesion China to the international convention of 26th September, 190 on the prohibition of the use of white (yellow) phosphorus in t match industry.

• Based on the texts of Decrees in the *Revue du Travail* and on the despatch from H M. Commercial Secretary, Brussels. For previous articles on the sam subject, see THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE for January, February, Ap-and May, 1923 (pages 9, 49, 124 and 162 respectively).

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

ummary:	Average	Increases	since	Jul	y, 1914
All Item	s include	d			79%
Food on	ly	•••			77%

FOOD.

DURING January there were substantial increases in the prices of potatoes. At the beginning of last month they averaged 61 per cent. above the level of July, 1914, and at 1st February they had risen to 116 per cent. above that level, the increase during the month having averaged 2³/₄d. per 7 lbs. Increases were also recorded in the average prices of meat and sugar, but these were relatively small. On the other hand, eggs were considerably cheaper at 1st February than a month earlier, and bacon also most somewhat cheaper s somewhat cheaper.

As a net result of all the changes recorded, the average in-crease over the level of July, 1914, in the retail prices (in Great Britain and Northern Ireland) of the articles of food included in these statistics rose to about 77 per cent. at 1st February, as compared with about 75 per cent. at 1st January.

Article.	otherw	Price (per rise indic ne nearest	Average Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) at 1st Feb., 1924 as compared with		
ATRICIO AL ALAS AND	July, 1914.	1st J 1n., 1924	lst Feb., 1924.	July, 1914.	lst Jan., 1924.
Contraction of the second	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. a.
Beef, British- Ribs Thin Flank	0 10 0 6 1	1 51 0 94	$ \begin{array}{ccc} 1 & 5\frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & 10 \end{array} $	$\begin{array}{c} + & 0 & 7\frac{1}{2} \\ + & 0 & 3\frac{1}{2} \end{array}$	+ 0 04
Beef, Chilled or Frozen- Ribs Thin Flank Mu'ton, British-	0 7± 0 4±	0 98 0 54	0 10 0 5‡	$\begin{array}{c} + & 0 & 2\frac{3}{4} \\ + & 0 & 0\frac{1}{2} \end{array}$	+ 0_ 04
Legs Breast	0 10 <u>1</u> 0 6 <u>1</u>	1 7 ³ 0 11	1 73 0 111 4	+ 0 9 ¹ / ₄ + 0 4 ³ / ₄	$+ 0 0^{1}_{4}$
Legs Breast Bacon (streaky)•	0 63 0 4 0 11‡	$ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	1 0 ¹ / ₄ 0 5 ¹ / ₄ 1 4 ¹ / ₄	$\begin{array}{c} + 0 & 5\frac{1}{2} \\ + 0 & 1\frac{1}{4} \\ + 0 & 5 \end{array}$	- 0 04
Flour per 7 lb. Bread per 4 lb. Tea Sugar (granulated) Milk per quart Butter-	0 101 0 53 1 61 0 2 0 31	1 237 0 85 2 65 0 63 0 7	1 2 ³ 0 8 ¹ / ₂ 2 6 ¹ / ₂ 0 7 0 7	$\begin{array}{c} + 0 & 4\frac{1}{4} \\ + 0 & 2\frac{3}{4} \\ + 1 & 0\frac{1}{4} \\ + 0 & 5 \\ + 0 & 3\frac{1}{2} \end{array}$	+ 0 04
Fresh Salt Unesset Eggs (fresh) each Potatoes per 7 lb.	$ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	2 2 ¹ / ₂ 2 1 1 3 ¹ / ₄ 0 3 ¹ / ₄ 0 7 ³ / ₄	2 2½ 2 1¼ 1 3¼ 0 6¾ 0 3 0 10½	$\begin{array}{c} + 1 & 0 \\ + 0 & 11 \\ + 0 & 0 \\ + 0 & 0 \\ + 0 & 13 \\ + 0 \\ + 0 \\ + \end{array}$	$+ \frac{1}{0} 0\frac{1}{4}$ $- \frac{1}{0} 0\frac{1}{4}$ $+ 0 2\frac{1}{4}$
	all a second	AND CARE CORE	100 C 100 C 10	And the second second	100 - 100 - 100 - 100 - 100 - 100 - 100 - 100 - 100 - 100 - 100 - 100 - 100 - 100 - 100 - 100 - 100 - 100 - 100

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

	1st Feb	Average Percentage Increase at 1st Feb., 1924, as compared with July, 1914.					
Article.	Large Towns (Popula- tions over 50,000).	Small Towns and Villages.	General Average,	figure fo 1st January 1924.			
ants. In the plane to	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cen			
Beef, British-	100 00 100 100	MAGE LAND	AS. DO	100			
Ribs	80 49	74 53	77 51	76 50			
Thin Flank	49	55	51	00			
Beef, Chilled or Frozen-	40	37	38	36			
Whin Mank	10	16	13	11			
Mutton, British	- State Frank	Woda addi	1 margaret	1 Santi			
Legs	90	91	91	90			
Breast	71	71	71	68			
Mutton, Frozen		a state of the second					
Legs	85	74	79	76			
Breast	29	29	29	27			
Bacon (streaky)*	48	44	46	48			
Fish	127	107	117	119			
Flour	36	43	39	39			
Bread	46	44	45	45			
Tea	66	68	67	67			
Sugar (granulated)	245	222	234	228			
MILK	98	98	98	98			
Butter-	A Standard State			Mastratel Cie			
Fresh	77	88	83	82			
Salt	75	78	77	76			
Cheeset	74	76	75	75			
Margarine	- 2	- 7	- 5	- 5			
Eggs (fresh)	153	134	143 116	61			
	139	95	116	61			
All above articles of Food (Weighted Percentage Increase).	80	75	77	75			

* If this kind is seldom dealt with in a locality, the returns quote the price of another kind locally representative. † The description of cheese specified for quotation is Canadian or American, out where such cheese is seldom sold in a locality the returns quote the price of another kind locally representative.

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THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE.

RENT, CLOTHING, FUEL AND LIGHT.

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

remaining one-fifth. As regards *clothing*, owing to the wide range of quotations, both now and before the war, to changes in qualities, and in stocks held by retailers, and to variations in the extent to which different articles and qualities have been affected by price changes, it is impossible to make an exact calculation of the increase in prices; but information as to the movements of prices of men's suits and overcoats, underclothing and hosiery, textile materials and boots, received from retailers in the prin-cipal towns, indicates that at 1st February the level of retail prices of articles in this group, taking goods of the kinds pur-chased by the working classes and so far as possible the same qualities of goods at each date, was slightly higher than a month ago, and between 120 and 125 per cent. higher than in July, 1914. The principal changes in January were increases in the prices of cotton goods. A special article dealing with the increase in the prices of clothing since 1914 appears on page 44 of this issue.

In the *fuel and light* group there were further increases in the prices of coal during January, and at 1st February the average retail price was about 100 per cent. above that of July, 1914. The average price of gas remained between 50 and 55 per cent. above the pre-war level. The prices of lamp oil, candles and matches showed no appreciable change during the month. Taking the fuel and light group as a whole, the average increase at 1st February was between 85 and 90 per cent. higher than in July 1914. 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 pre-war working-class family expenditure, allowance being also made for the increase in the prices of soap, soda, domestic iron-mongery, brushware and pottery, tobacco, fares and newspapers (averaging about 80 per cent.), the resultant general average increase for 1st February is approximately 79 per cent.* over the pre-war level, as compared with 77 per cent. a month earlier. The result of this calculation (in which the same quantities and, as far as possible, the same qualities of each item are taken for 1924 as for 1914) is to show the average increase in the cost of maintaining unchanged the pre-war standard of living of working-class families (i.e., the standard actually prevailing in working-class families before the war, irrespective of whether such standard was adequate or not). Owing to the variations in the amounts of increase in the prices of different commodities it is probable that economies or re-adjustments in expenditure have been effected in many families, especially in those cases where incomes have not increased so much as prices. On the other hand, it is probable that the standard of living has been raised in some families in which wages have been increased in greater proportion than prices. No allowance is made in the figures for any such alterations in the standard of living, as to which trustworthy statistics are not available. The result of this calculation (in which the same quantities trustworthy statistics are not available.

SUMMARY TABLE : 1915 TO 1924.

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

Average Percentage Increase since July, 1914-All Items. (Food, rent, clothing, fuel and light, &c.)

	10002	- and have		111111111	13 91453		1000	12.5.1.20	3 632	111334
Month (beginning of).	1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.
January February March April May June	10-15 15 15-20 15-20 20 25	35-40 35-40 40-45	70-75	90 90-95 95-100	120 120 115 110 105 105	125 130 130 132 141 150	165 151 141 133 128 119	92 88 86 82 81 80	78 77 76 74 70 69	77 79 — —
July August September October November December	25 25 25 30 30–35 35		80 30-85 75-80	110	105-110 115 115 120 125 125	152 155 161 164 176 169	119 122 120 110 103 99	84 81 79 78 80 80	69 71 73 75 75 75 77	11111

NOTE

A brief Statement of the method of compiling these statistics was given on page 236 of the July issue of this GAZETTE. A more detailed account was given in the issue of February, 1921.

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

February, 1924.

TRADE UNION PERCENTAGES of UNEMPLOYED.

TRADE UNIONS with a net membership of 1,126,559 in branches covered by the returns received reported 100,383 (or 8.9 per cent.) of their members as unemployed at the end of January, 1924, compared with 9.7 per cent. at the end of December, 1923, and 13.7 per cent. at the end of January, 1923.

Trade.	Member- ship of Unions reporting			Inc. (+) or Dec. (- in percentage Unemployed as compared with a		
in an	at end of Jap. 1924.	Num- ber.	Per- cent- age.	Month ago.	Year ago.	
Buildingt Coal Mining	120,545 140,912	4,984 1,222	4·1 0·9	+ 0.4	- 4·9 - 5·2	
building	357,443 48,898	61,396 4,277	17·1 8·7	$-\frac{1.6}{-1.7}$	- 7.9 - 2.2	
Cotton Woollen and Worsted Other	60,042 12,119 58,078	4,177 240 1,968	7.0 2.0 3.4	- 0.5 - 0.2 - 0.3	-0.6 + 0.9 - 0.9	
Printing, Bookbinding and Paper	99,019 26,389 44,485	4,977 2,235 2,010	50 8·5 4·5	+ 0.7 + 2.1 - 0.3	- 1·3 - 0·5 - 2·5	
Clothing:	76,183 42,966 5,579 1,188	3,188 .998 531 31	4 2 2·3 9·5 2·6	$ \begin{array}{r} -1.3 \\ -3.4 \\ +0.4 \\ +0.5 \\ 1.7 \end{array} $	-1.6 -1.5 +0.5 -0.1	
robaccos	28,000 4,713	6,950 1,199	24•8 25•4	-1.3 + 8.7	+ 5.4 - 5.9	
Total	1,126,559	100,383	8-9	- 0.8	- 4.8	

UNEMPLOYMENT IN INSURED TRADES.

The percentage unemployed among workpeople insured under the Unemployment Insurance Act in Great Britain and Northern reland was 11.9 per cent. (males 12.5 per cent., females 10.2 per cent.) at 28th January, 1924, as compared with 10.7 per cent. (males 11.2 per cent., females 9.1 per cent.) at 21st December, 1923, and 13.1 (males 14.6 per cent., females 9.0 per cent.) at 22nd January, 1923. Tables showing the numbers unemployed in the principal industries appear on pages 56 and 57. It should be noted that, at 28th January, employment in many industries was affected by the railway stoppage, which ended on 29th January.

SUMMARY OF EMPLOYERS' RETURNS.

(a) OERIAIN	MINING AT	D MIEIAL II	ADES.	
tember, but vie a	Workpeople	Jan.,	Inc. (+) o as compar	
Trade.	in the Returns for Jan., 1924.	1924.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Coal Mining	1,185,955 8,807 4,171	Days Worked per week by Mines. 5·17 4·75 5·95	Days. -0.51 -0.88 -0.62	Days. 0·39 0·70 +0·03
Pig Iron Tinplate and Steel Sheet Iron and Steel	- - 73,181	Furnaces in Blast 190 Mills Working 530 Shifts Worked (one week). 394,039	-7	Numbe + 7 + 30 Per cen -1.7

(b) OTHER TRADES.

A DO CONT.			of Worl		Total Wages Paid to all Workpeople.			
Trade.		Week	Inc. (Dec. (-		Week ended	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		
		26th Jan., 1924.	Month ago.	Year ago.	26th Jan., 1924.	Month ago.¶	Year ago.¶	
Textiles : Cotton - Woollen - Boot and Shoe Pottery - Brick	11111:	88,883 15,443 27,681 51,887 11,003 7,796	Per cent. + 02 + 06 + 01 + 17 - 00 - 04	Per cent. - 1.7 - 0.6 - 5.2 + 3.9 + 2.3 + 2.3 + 25.5	£ 153,108 30,700 50,200 117,628 20,152 17,077	Per cent. - 4.6 + 1.2 - 2.9 - 1.4 - 4.1 - 9.5	Per cent. - 0.9 - 4.9 -13.2 + 3.3 + 0.7 +20.9	
Total		202,693	+ 0.2	+ 0.3	388,865	- 3.2	- 0.9	

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

ainly cigar makers. I Comparison of earnings is affected by changes in rates of wages.

EMPLOYMENT IN JANUARY.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

DURING the first three weeks of January there was a continuous improvement in employment. In the fourth week, however, the effects of the railway dispute caused temporary stoppages of work at many of the coal mines, and at a considerable number of factories in industries using large quantities of coal, or dependent on railway facilities for the transport of their raw materials or finished products.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS.

Among members of Trade Unions from which returns were received, the percentage of unemployed was 8.9 at the end of January, 1924, compared with 9.7 at the end of December, 1923, and with 13.7 at the end of January, 1923. Among workpeople covered by the Unemployment Insurance Acts, numbering approximately 11,500,000, and working in practically every industry except agriculture and private domestic service, the percentage unemployed at 28th January, 1924, was 11.9, com-ared with 10.7 at 21st December, 1923, and 13.1 at the end of January, 1923. For males alone the percentage was 12.5 at 28th January, 1924, as compared with 11.2 at 21st December, 1923; for females the corresponding figures were 10.2 and 9.1. The number of workpeople on the Live Registers of the Employ-ment Exchanges at 21st January, 1924, was approximately 1,253,000, of whom men numbered 925,000 and women 248,000, the remainder being boys and girls. The corresponding total for 31st December, 1923, was 1,289,000, of whom 954,000 were men and 264,000 were women. At 28th January, the last full day of the railway stoppage, the total had risen to 1,322,000, but there was a marked improvement after the settlement of the dispute, and by 4th February it had fallen to 1,248,000, as compared with 1,445,000 at 5th February, 1923. (It should be noted that some unemployed persons—e.g., some of those who have not valid claims to unemployment benefit, or who are not insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts—do not register at the Employment Exchanges. Among members of Trade Unions from which returns were

EMPLOYMENT IN THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES.

EMPLOYMENT IN THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES. Mining and Quarrying.—At coal mines employment continued good on the whole, but at the end of the month it was adversely affected, especially in South Yorkshire, Nottinghamshire, Wales and Scotland, by transport difficulties caused by the railway dispute. The total number of wage-earners on the col-liery books at 26th January was 1,185,955, an increase of 4.5 per cent. as compared with January, 1923. At iron mines, employment in the Cleveland district, although better than in the previous month, was still bad; in other dis-tricts it continued moderate on the whole. As a result of the railway stoppage some mines were compelled to close down temporarily. At the mines covered by the returns there was an increase of 3.8 per cent. in the numbers employed as com-pared with December and of 8.8 per cent. as compared with January, 1923. The average number of days worked by the mines in the fortnight ended 26th January was 4.75, as com-pared with 5.63 in December and with 5.45 in January, 1923. At shale mines employment continued fair. At limestone quarries it was follow moder in the Durtice and Wardhel district to the total to the shale mines employment continued fair. At limestone quarries it pared with 5.65 in December and with 5.45 in January, 1923. At shale mines employment continued fair. At limestone quarries it was fairly good in the Buxton and Weardale districts, but in the Clitheroe district it declined to moderate as a result of the rail-way dispute. Employment continued fair at slate quarries in North Wales and good at granite quarries in the Aberdeen dis-trict

trict. Manufacture of Pig Iron, Iron and Steel, and Tinplate.— Employment in the pig iron industry continued moderate and showed a further slight improvement, but was adversely affected by the railway stoppage. Of a total of 487 furnaces, the number in blast at the end of January was 190, as compared with 204 at the end of December and 183 in January, 1923. The numbers employed showed an increase of 1.5 per cent. as compared with the previous month. At iron and steel works employment was moderate and showed an improvement, which employment was moderate and showed an improvement, which was interrupted, however, during the railway dispute. In the tinplate and steel sheet trade employment was good, but showed a decline on the previous month. Engineering, Shipbuilding and Other Metal Trades.—In the previous decline of the state of

a decline on the previous month. Engineering, Shipbuilding and Other Metal Trades.—In the engineering trades employment continued bad, the tendency to improvement being checked by the effects of the railway dis-pute. Although not so severely affected as some industries, it suffered to a certain extent from shortages of coal and materials. Employment in marine engineering continued to improve, and in the motor section it was fair, on the whole, and better than a month ago. The railway and electrical sections maintained their satisfactory positions, but textile engineering remained bad, with much short time. Employment in the shipbuilding and ship-repairing industries, though showing a further improve-ment, continued very bad, and conditions at the shipyards involved in the recent dispute had not yet become normal. In the other metal trades employment remained moderate on the whole. It was good, or fairly good, in the brasswork and hollow-ware trades; fair in the nut, bolt, nail, sheet metal, wire and stove and grate trades; and slack, or bad, in the metallic bedstead, lock and latch, cutlery and file, chain and anchor, harness furniture, and jewellery and plated-ware trades. *Textile Trades.*—In the cotton trade employment continued good in the Egyptian spinning section, but in the American

spinning section it was bad, and worse than in the previous month. In the weaving section employment generally was slack, but in some districts manufacturing fancy cloths it was reported as fairly good. A considerable amount of short time was again reported. Employment in the woollen and worsted trades con-tinued had but there was a further clicht impresent in tinued bad, but there was a further slight improvement in one

section. Employment in the hosiery trade was still slack. In the silk trade it continued moderate in the Eastern Counties; in the Macclesfield, Leek and Congleton districts it was still slack, but showed a tendency to improve. Employment in the lace trade continued bad, with much unemployment and short time working. In the jute trade employment continued to improve, and was good, and better than in January, 1923. In the linen trade in Ireland it showed a further improvement, and was good on the whole; in Scotland it continued depressed. Employment in the carpet trade continued good; in the textile bleaching, printing, dyeing, etc., trades it continued slack on the whole. *Clothing Trades.*—In the retail bespoke branch of the tailor.

dyeing, etc., trades it continued slack on the whole. Clothing Trades.—In the retail bespoke branch of the tailor. ing trades there was a seasonal decline, and employment was generally slack; in the wholesale bespoke and ready-made branches it was fair on the whole, and an improvement was reported in some centres. Employment was generally slack in the dressmaking and millinery trades; in the blouse and light underclothing trades in London it was good, and better than a month ago. Employment was slack in the corset trade, and also in the shirt and collar-making industry in the South-West of England. In the felt hat trade it continued bad, and short time was general. Employment in the boot and shoe trades was only moderate, but the improvement reported in the week before Christmas was fairly well maintained. In many districts, however, considerable short time was still reported. Leather Trades.—Employment in the tanning and currying

Leather Trades.—Employment in the tanning and currying section continued fair. In the portmanteau, trunk and fancy leather sections there was a decline on the whole, but at Bir-mingham employment continued good. With saddlery and har-ness makers it continued bad.

ness makers it continued bad. Building, Woodworking, etc.—Employment in the building trades continued fairly good with skilled operatives (other than painters), and slack or bad with unskilled workers. With painters there was a further seasonal decline, and employment was very bad. In the brick trade employment continued fair. In the furnishing trades employment showed a further de-cline, and was quiet, except at Birmingham, where it was fairly good. With coachbuilders it improved and was good; with millsawyers and woodcutting machinists it continued fairly good. good.

Paper Manufacture, Printing and Bookbinding.-In the paper Paper Manufacture, Printing and Bookbinding,—In the paper trade employment was moderate on the whole and showed a slight decline on the previous month; in some districts shortage of coal, due to the effects of the railway dispute, caused a par-tial stoppage. With letterpress printers employment was slack in London and fair in the provinces; it showed a decline on the previous month in most districts. With bookbinders it was moderate on the whole, and worse than a month ago.

Pottery and Glass.—In the pottery trades employment con-tinued slack on the whole, except in the tile and sanitary sec-tion, where it was again reported as good. In the glass trades employment showed a further decline, but continued moderate on the whole; with flint glass makers and cutters in the Stour-bridge and Edinburgh districts it continued good.

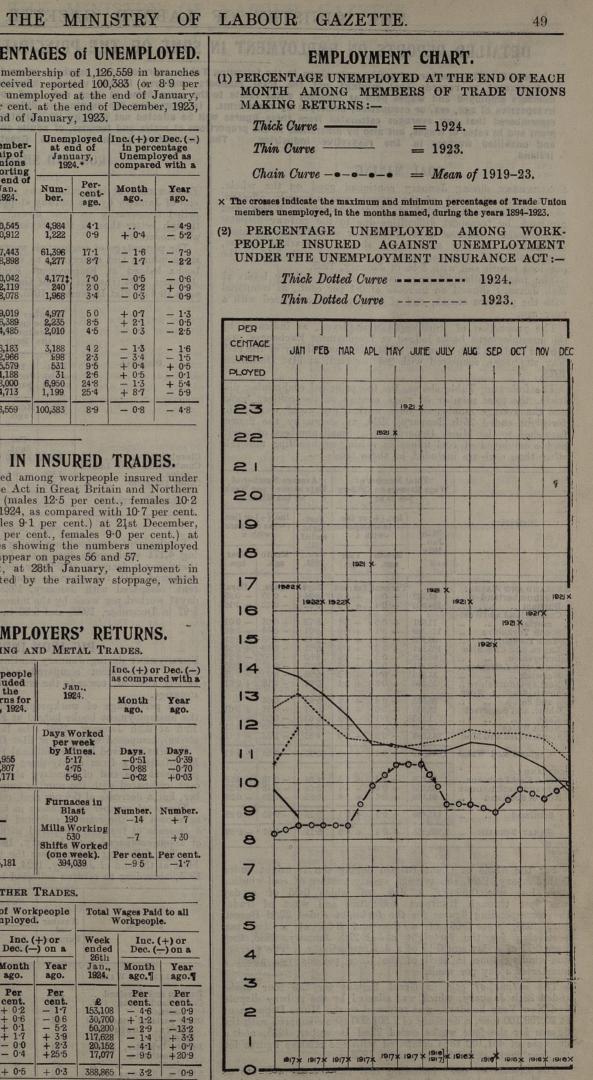
Agriculture and Fishing.—Owing to the unfavourable weather conditions, there was little demand for casual labour in agricul-ture in England and Wales, and unemployment increased among this class of worker. In Scotland the supply of labour was generally ample for immediate requirements. In the fishing in-dustry employment was fair on the whole. Dock Labour and Seamen.—Employment with dock labourers continued moderate on the whole. With seamen it continued poor.

poor

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

the second of					Second 5	Children and the	and the second	August 15	Entrance and the second
1 319	16.81	inter .	t.	NOL: 6		Percent	ages une	mploy	ed among
	End o	Date. f Mon	nth.)	24 24 24		Trade Uni making Ret			nsured rkpeople.*
1923.	1	Martin	-	-222	1.3	CON L.	the second	TELSE ST	LAND TADIO
January			1	80.	1	13.7	12 22		13.1
February		-	1.	2-102		13.1	2213		12.2
Tranh	1. 10 M. 89	128-7	Sec.	22	Contraction of the	12.3	27.5 . 25		11.5
Annil	1.1.1.1.1.1	and a second		25-	••	11.3	1		11.4
May	••		Sec.	10000	- Bess	11.3			11.2
	-		1.	-		- 11.1			11.3
June				258	••		Strate Real		11.5
					**	11-1	and the second second		
August						11.4	1.1.1.1.1.1		11.8
Septemb						11.3	a state		11.7
							100000		
				4 1. 1.			A. W. S. S. S. S.		
Decembe	er	-	1.1	aller and		9.7	and the		10.7
1924.			-		1000		1		
	and the second	1100.00	2.26	1 235	and the second	89	CALLED OF		119
October Novembe Decembe	er er			1000		10·9 10 5 9·7	of Pole		11.7 11.5 10.7

• The percentages, prior to June, 1923, for insured workpeople have bee revised in accordance with more complete information which has becom available as to the total number of insured workpeople.



NOTE

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

vious column. The figures for insured workpeople are briefly explained, and are analysed in detail, on pages 56 and 57.

DETAILED REPORTS ON EMPLOYMENT IN SOME OF THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES.

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

COAL MINING.

EMPLOYMENT during January continued good on the whole, but towards the end of the month was adversely affected, especially in South Yorkshire, Nottinghamshire, Wales, and Scotland, by transport difficulties due to the railway dispute The average number of days worked per week for the fortnight ended 26th January accordingly showed a marked decline, being only 5.17 days per week, as compared with 5.68 in the previous month and with 5.56 in January, 1923. The total number of wage earners on the colliery books at 26th January showed an increase of 0.1 per cent., as compared with the previous month, and of 4.5 per cent. compared with a year ago.

year ago.

The proportion of workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 4.6 per cent. at 28th January, 1924 (the last full day of the rail-way stoppage), compared with 2.4 per cent. at 21st December, 1923.

The following Table shows, for the principal coal-mining dis-tricts, the total number of wage earners on the colliery books and the average number of days worked per week* during the fortnight ended 26th January, 1924, as shown by the figures furnished to the Mines Department. Small numbers of work-people employed at coal mines in raising or handling minerals other than coal are included in these totals :--

	Wage Ea	al Numbe rners on Books at		Days w	Average Number of Days worked per Week by the Mines.*			
Districts.	26th Jan.,	(-) 85 C) or Dec. ompared th a	Fort- night ended	(-) as c) or Dec. compared th a		
	1924.	Month ago.	Year ago.	26th Jan., 1924.	Month ago.	Year ago.		
ENGLAND AND WALES: Northumberland Durham	64,242 174,805	Per cent + 0.2 + 0.4	Per cent + 5 ^{.6} + 5 ^{.9}	Days. 5·24 5·22	Days. - 0.10 - 0.22	Days. - 0.25 - J.16		
Cumberland and West- morland	11,961 113,769 69,926 105,584	+ 0.5 + 0.1 + 0.4 + 0.2	+ 3.1 + 6.9 + 4.8 + 0.9	5.72 5.01 5.48 5.51	+ 0.03 - 0.54 - 0.18 - 0.38	-0.01 -0.62 -0.21 +0.31		
Lancs. and Cheshire Derbyshire Notts. and Leicester Warwick North Staffordshire	65 925 66,261 21.819 35,175	+ 0.2 + 0.3 + 0.2 - 0.4 + 0.8	+ 0.9 + 4.0 + 4.7 + 1.0 + 2.1	5.51 5.50 5.20 5.95 5.67	$ \begin{array}{r} -0.38 \\ -0.30 \\ -0.37 \\ -0.02 \\ -0.15 \end{array} $	+ 0.31 - 0.24 - 0.33 - 0.01 + 0.01		
South Staffs.,† Worc. and Salop Glouc. and Somerset Kent North Wales	36,333 15,033 1,753 18,339	$ \begin{array}{c} + 0.8 \\ + 0.0 \\ - 6.1 \\ - 0.0 \end{array} $	+ 5.2 + 5.5 - 0.2 + 6.2	5·94 5·57 5·62 5·18	-0.04 -0.31 -0.08 -0.76	+ 0.01 + 0.25 - 0.51		
South Wales and Mon. England and Wales	243,594 1,044,519	-0.5 + 0.1	+ 4.0 + 4.5	4.53 5.17	-1.33 - 0.53	-1.17 -0.41		
SCOTLAND ; Mid & East Lothians Fife and Clackmannan Rest of Scotland	15,935 30,953 94,548	+ 0.3 + 0.0 + 0.4	+ 4·3 + 4·4 + 5·4	4·84 5·02 5·29	- 0.72 - 0.48 - 0.32	- 0.53 - 0.37 - 0.20		
Scotland	141,436	+ 0.3	+ 5.1	5.18	- 0.40	- 0.28		
GREAT BRITAIN _	1,185,955	+ 0.1	+ 4.5	5.17	- 0.51	- 0.39		

For the whole of Great Britain during the fortnight ended 26th January, 1924, the average weekly number of coal-winding days lost was 0.59 of a day, of which 0.53 of a day was lost through transport difficulties and want of trade; the corresponding figures for the fortnight ended 22nd Decem-ber, 1923, were 0.09 of a day and 0.05 of a day res-pectively; for the fortnight ended 27th January, 1923, they were 0.21 of a day and 0.17 of a day respectively. The average non-winding time in each of the three periods was about a guarter of a day per week. quarter of a day per week.

The output of coal in Great Britain for the four weeks ended 26th January, which was affected by the railway dispute and New Year holidays, was returned to the Mines Department at 20,788,100 tons, a decrease of 2,501,900 tons compared with the figures for the four weeks ended 22nd December, 1923, and a decrease of 431,100 tons compared with the relative figures for the four weeks ended 27th January, 1923.

The exports of coal, including coal shipped for the use of steamers engaged in the foreign trade, and the coal equivalent of coke and manufactured fuel, amounted in January, 1924, to 7,719,577 tons, compared with 8,094,311 tons in December, 1923.

• The figures in this and the following article show the number of days (allow-ance being made in all the calculations for short days) on which coal, iron &c., were got from the mines included in the returns. It is not necessarily implied that all the *persons* worked every day the mines were open. Mines not working are omitted in computing the average number of days worked. † Including Cannock Chase.

IRON AND SHALE MINING.

Iron Mining.

EMPLOYMENT at iron mines was adversely affected towards the end of January by the railway stoppage, some mines being com-pelled temporarily to close down. In Cleveland it was bad, though better than in the previous month; in other districts it

The percentage of workpeople unemployed in iron ore and ironstone mining and quarrying, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 32.7 on 28th January, 1924 (the last day of the railway dispute), as compared with 19-4 on 21st December, 1923.

	peopl Mine	ber of V e emp'og s includ e Retur	yed at ed in	Average No. of Days worked per week by the Mines.			
Districts.	Fort- night ended 26th	anight Dec.(-) as com- pared with a 26th Jap., Month Vean		Fort- n ght ended 26 h	Inc. (Dec. (-) pared	as com.	
- Pa - 74	Jan., 1924.			Jan., 1924.	Month ago.	Year ago.	
		Per cent.	Per	Days.	Days.	Days.	
Cleveland	4 046	+ 16.0	cent. + 23 8	5.01	- 0.41	+ 0.27	
shire	3.301 1, 460	$- 65 \\ - 0.3$	-50 + 82	4·26 5·17	- 1 54 - 0.53	- $1.74 0.58$	
ALL DISTRICTS	8,807	+ 3.8	+ 88	4.75	- 0.88	- 0.70	

Shale Mining.

Employment remained fair during January. At mines employ-ing 4,171 workpeople during the fortnight ended 26th January there was a decrease of 0.9 per cent. in the numbers employed compared with the previous month and a decrease of 4.8 per cent. compared with January, 1923. The average number of days* worked per week by the mines was 5.95 in January, 1924, 5.97 in December, 1923, and 5.92 in January, 1923.

PIG IRON INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT during January continued moderate and showed a slight improvement compared with December, but was ad-versely affected, towards the end of the month, by the railway

versely affected, towards the end of the month, by the railway stoppage. The percentage of workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 13.6 at 28th January, 1924 (the last full day of the railway strike), compared with 11.4 at 21st December, 1923. Returns received by the National Federation of Iron and Steel Manufacturers from eighty-three firms employing 21,451 work-people at the end of January showed an increase of 1.5 per cent. compared with the number employed at the end of Decem-ber, but a decrease of 0.4 per cent. compared with January, 1923. The total number of furnaces in blast at the end of January, as shown by the returns collected by the Federation, was 190, a decrease of fourteen compared with December, but an increase of seven compared with January, 1923. The following Table shows the total number of furnaces in blast at the end of January, 1924, December, 1923, and January, 1923, according to returns collected by the Federation :--

District.	Total Number		er of Fu	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Jan., on a		
dan William Street Stre	of Furnaces	Jan. 1924.	Dec. 1923.	Jan. 1923.	Month ago.	Year ago.
ENGLAND AND WALES.	- 180 X - 620	aonta ago,	1 456			
Durham and Cleveland Cumberland and W. Lancs.	115 46	48 12	47 12	39 17	+ 1	+ 9 - 5
Other parts of Lancs, and Yorks, including Sheffield.	38	16	17	15	- 10 and 8 a	+ 1
Derby, Leicester, Notts. and Northants.	73	39	39	34		+ 5
Lincolnshire Staffs, Shropshire, Worcester and War-	22 58	9 17	19 16	15 19	$ \begin{array}{c} -10 \\ + 1 \end{array} $	- 6 - 2
wick. South Wales and Mon- mouth.	33	5	10	8	- 5	- 3
Total England and Wales	385	146	160	147	-14	- 1
Scotland	102	44	44	36	100000	+ 8
Total	487	190	204	183	-14	+ 7

• See • footnote in previous column.

February, 1924. THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE.

The production of pig iron in January amounted to 636,600 ons, as compared with 626,900 tons in December, and 567,900 ons in January, 1923.

IRON AND STEEL WORKS.

EMPLOYMENT at iron and steel works during January was moderate on the whole. It showed a tendency to improve until the latter part of the month, when it was adversely affected by the railway dispute. After the termination of the dispute employment improved rapidly. The percentage of workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 23.2 per cent. on 28th January, the last full day of the railway stoppage, as compared with 17.1 per cent. on 21st December, 1923.

stoppage, as compared with 11 1 per cent. on first December, 1923. According to returns from firms employing 73,181 workpeople, the volume of employment during the week ended 26th January (as indicated by the number of workpeople employed at each works, combined with the number of shifts during which work was carried on in each case) decreased 9.5 per cent. as compared with a month ago and 1.7 per cent. as compared with a year ago. The average number of shifts during which the works were open in the week ended 26th January was 5.4, as compared with 5.4 in both December, 1923, and January, 1923. The following Table summarises the returns received from employers who furnished figures for the three periods under review. The marked decline in employment shown in the Table is due to the shortage of coal and other raw materials, and to the difficulty experienced in disposing of or storing the finished iron and steel products, resulting from the railway stoppage.

e f ga klingaren viri romer seneraldi find e e fostanoar e	emplo	Workpoyed by	firms	Aggregate number of Shifts.*			
a constinuenție se dirate	Week ended 26th Jan,	Dec. com	+) or (-) as pared h a	Week ended 26th Jan.	Inc. (Dec. (comp with	-) as ared	
in conduction and of a	1924.	Month ago.	Year ago.	1924.	Month ago.	Year ago.	
DEPARTMENTS.		Per cent.	Per cent.		Per cent.	Per cent.	
Open Hearth Melting Furnaces Puddling Forges Rolling Mills Forging and Pressing Founding Other Departments	9,172 2,393 25,502 3,137 8,271 7,616	$\begin{array}{r} + 1.4 \\ - 44.2 \\ - 16.6 \\ - 8.4 \\ + 0.1 \\ + 1.4 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} + & 9.8 \\ - & 47.4 \\ - & 10.4 \\ + & 15.8 \\ + & 11.6 \\ + & 4.6 \end{array}$	50,696 10,786 131,087 15,356 46,416 41,600	$ \begin{array}{r} - & 2.7 \\ - & 48.2 \\ - & 16.8 \\ - & 13.7 \\ + & 2.9 \\ + & 1.0 \\ \end{array} $	$\begin{array}{r} + & 5.5 \\ - & 48.1 \\ - & 8.6 \\ + & 15.5 \\ + & 15.0 \\ + & 7.7 \end{array}$	
Mechanics, Labourers, etc	17,090 .73,181	- 2.6 - 9.3	$\frac{+2\cdot 2}{-3\cdot 1}$	98,098 394,039	$\frac{-2.6}{-9.5}$	+ 2.0 - 1.7	
DISTRICTS. Northumberland, Dur- ham and Cleveland Sheffield and Rother- ham	14,112 18,695	- 4.7 - 5.2	- 0.8 + 8.2	77,885 98,915	- 3·1 - 5·3	- 0·1 + 10·9	
Leeds, Bradford, etc Cumberland, Lancs. and Cheshire Staffordshire Other Midland Counties Wales and Monmouth	2,213 6,497 7,768 4,086 7,197	$ \begin{array}{r} - 3.9 \\ - 24.0 \\ - 6.4 \\ - 6.6 \\ - 26.5 \\ \end{array} $	$ \begin{array}{r} + & 1.4 \\ - & 18.5 \\ - & 8.1 \\ - & 2.5 \\ - & 19.5 \end{array} $	12,256 33,254 41,923 22,053 40,136	- 4.5 - 28.5 - 5.6 - 6.5 - 25.6	$ \begin{array}{r} + & 4 \cdot 2 \\ - & 19 \cdot 7 \\ - & 5 \cdot 5 \\ + & 1 \cdot 9 \\ - & 19 \cdot 4 \end{array} $	
Total, England and Wales	60,565 12,613	- 10·8 - 1·5	$- \frac{4 \cdot 2}{+ 3 \cdot 1}$	326,422 67,617	-10.8 - 2.3	- 2·9 + 4·7	
TOTAL	73,181	- 9.3	- 3.1	394,039	- 9.5	- 1.7	

The production of steel ingots and castings, as returned to the National Federation of Iron and Steel Manufacturers, amounted in January to 690,100 tons, compared with 653,300 tons in December, 1923, and with 624,300 tons in January, 1923.

TINPLATE AND STEEL SHEET TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT in these trades continued good during January, but showed some decline as compared with the previous month. At a few works employment towards the end of the month was affected by the railway stoppage. At the end of the month 524 tinplate and sheet steel mills were reported to be in operation at the works for which infor-mation is available, as compared with 537 in December, 1923, and 500 in January, 1923. The percentage of workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the number of unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 8·1 on 28th January, 1924 (the last full day of the railway stoppage), compared with 3·6 on 21st December, 1923.

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

Ireland.

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

The milway,	Number	of Work	s Open	Number of Mills in Operation				
Works.	At end	Inc. ((+) or	At end	Inc. (+) or			
	of	Dec. (-	-) on a	of	Dec. (-) on a			
	Jan.,	Month	Year	Jan.,	Month	Year		
	1924.	ago.	ago.	1924.	ago.	ago.		
Tinplate	79	- 1	+ 5	408	- 2	+ 23		
Steel Sheet	14		+ 1	122	- 5	+ 7		
TOTAL	93	- 1	+ 6	530	- 7	+ 30		

The *exports* of tinned and galvanised plates and sheets in January, 1924, amounted to 106,513 tons, or 14,053 tons more than in December, 1923, and 12,100 tons more than in January, 1923.

ENGINEERING.

ENGINEERING. EMPLOYMENT in this industry remained bad during January, the tendency to improvement being checked, towards the end of the month, by the effects of the railway strike. Although not so severely affected as some industries, it suffered to a certain extent from shortages of coal and materials, and workpeople were stood off at various centres. In marine engineering em-ployment continued to improve; in the motor section it was fair, on the whole, and better than in the previous month; the railway and electrical sections maintained their satisfactory position; but in textile engineering employment remained bad, much short time continuing to be worked in this section. The following Table shows the numbers and percentages of insured workpeople unemployed at 28th January, 1924 (the last full day of the railway stoppage), and the increase or decrease as compared with 21st December, 1923:--

	Numl	er of Insu at 28		kpeople U ary, 1924.	Inemplo	yed	Inc. (+) or
Divisions.	Engi- neering, Engineers' Iron and Steel Founding.	Stove, Grate, Pipe, &c., and General Iron Founding	Electri- cal Engi- neering.	Marine Engi- neering and Marine Boiler Making.	Con- struc- tional Engi- neering.	TOTAL.	Dec. (-) as com- pared with 21st Dec., 1923.
London South Eastern South Western Midlands North Western Sootland Wales Northern Ireland	12,522 5,959 3,399 14,609 29,664 39,003 21,148 886 } 1,783	398 448 151 4,604 2,504 1,310 2,951 333 382	410 256 76 1,203 477 1,032 193 14 10	141 131 646 94 7,880 426 3,609 9 322	158 64 62 1,011 967 193 828 16 13	13,629 6,858 4,334 21,521 41,492 41,964 28,729 1,258 2,510	$\begin{array}{r} + & 999 \\ + & 473 \\ + & 246 \\ + & 1,106 \\ - & 1,534 \\ + & 3,170 \\ - & 62 \\ + & 287 \\ - & 327 \end{array}$
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN	} 128,973	13,081	3,671	13,258	3,312	162,295	+ 4,358
IRELAND.	1	1 Shabborn T	an marine	Currenterina	Sector Sector	and the state	
IRELAND. Males Females) 126,422 2,551 Percen	12,280 801 tage Unem	3,217 454	13,220 38 at 28th J	3,280 32 anuary,	158,419 3,876 1924.	+ 36/
Males	2,551	801 tage Unem Stove, Grate, Pine fro	454 ployed a Electri- cal Engi- neering.	38 at 28th J Marine Engi- neering and Marine	32 anuary, Con-	5,376 1924.	Inc. (+ or Dec. (- in per- centage as com- nered
Males Females	2,551 Percen Engi- neering, Engineers Iron and Steel	801 tage Unem Stove, Grate, Pipe, &c., and General Iron	454 ployed a Electri- cal Engi- neering.	Marine Engi- neering and Marine Boiler	32 anuary, Con- struc- tional Engi-	5,376 1924.	+ 36/ Inc. (+ or Dec. (- in per- centag: as com- pared with 21 kt Dec., 1923. + 0: +
Males Females Divisions. Divisions.	2,551 Percen neering, Engineers' Iron and Steel Founding. 13-2 13-8 9-5 15-7 20-7 22-8 11-3 21-5)	801 tage Unem Stove, Grate, Pipe, &c., and General Iron Founding. 9-9 12-9 11-5 13-7 21-2 16-8 14-1 16-8	454 pployed a Electri- cal Engi- neering. 6-0 3-3 2-8 8-8 8-3 6-5 9-5 4-0	at 28th J Marine Engi- neering and Marine Boiler Making. 27-6 3-7 10-3 5-4 27-4 15-3 20-6 18-0	32 anuary, Con- struc- tional Engi- neering. 9:5 8:0 11:5 18:2 14:0 10:7 13:5 4:2	5,376 1924. TOTAL. 12-6 11-7 9-3 13-9 21-1 22-8 20-6 11-8	+ 36% Inc. (+ or Dec. (- in per- centagy as com- pared with 21st Dec., 1923. + 0° + 0° + 0° + 0° + 0° + 0°

On the North-East Coast employment was still very bad, but the gradual revival was maintained, although handicapped by the effects of the railway strike. There was a noticeable improvement in marine engineering, and further improvement in this section was anticipated as shipbuilding work advances. In the locomotive section employment was fairly good. In the electrical section on the Tyne it was not so good as in the previous month. In Yorkshire employment continued bad, but

showed a further improvement, though affected by the railway dispute; it continued fair on railway work and good with printing machinery. In Lincolnshire it was bad and showed little change. In Lancashire and Cheshire in textile machinery works conditions were very bad, with much short time, and were rather worse than in the previous month. The railway, electrical and motor sections continued fairly well employed. General engineering was still depressed, though some improve-ment was shown, especially in the Manchester district.

ment was shown, especially in the Manchester district. At Birmingham general engineering was slack, and the motor section was not very active; foundry workers and pattern-makers were fairly well employed, however, and some improve-ment, on the whole, was reported. At Wolverhampton motor work was fairly good, and general engineering showed an im-provement. At Coventry the motor industry was reported as almost normal, makers of heavy cars, light cars and motor-cycles sharing in the general improvement. In the Notting-ham, Derby and Leicester districts employment remained quiet. The motor and cycle sections at Nottingham were a little busier, but employment for lace machinery builders was very bad. At Derby the locomotive section was fairly well employed, but motor work was irregular. Hosiery machine making at Leicester was reported as still good. Leicester was reported as still good.

In the Eastern Counties employment was still fair at Norwich In the Eastern Counties employment was still fair at Norwich and Ipswich, although there were indications of a decline in some departments; while at Colchester and Luton it remained bad. In the London district it continued moderate, on the whole; the improvement in the motor section was maintained, mostly on the heavier types of vehicles; in the electrical section some decline was reported; in general engineering there was a slight improvement, except in East London, where employment declined. In the Southern Counties conditions continued to im-prove; railway work remained good; motor work showed an improvement, especially at Bristol and Oxford. In South Wales employment continued slack, and was affected by the railway dispute. At Swansea, however, it was fair. dispute. At Swansea, however, it was fair.

Employment in Glasgow and the West of Scotland was still bad, but showed a slight improvement. In the East of Scot-land, also, a little improvement was experienced. At Belfast conditions were still bad.

WOOLLEN AND WORSTED TRADES.

THERE was a further slight improvement in employment in some sections of these trades during January.

The percentage of workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 9.2 on 28th January, 1924, as compared with 9.9 on the 21st December, 1923.

During January employment in the wool combing section of the trade remained bad; the great majority of the mills were reported to be working short time, but in two or three cases night shifts which had been suspended were resumed. In the wool sorting section there was no change. There was a slight improvement in the spinning section in all branches, but em-ployment in the Bradford and Huddersfield area with spinners of worsted yarns was only moderate. A slight improvement was reported in the manufacturing sections also, more especially in the dress goods trade of Bradford, Keighley and Silsden. No improvement, however, was reported in the fine cloth men's wear trade in the Bradford, Keighley, Leeds, Halifax and Hudders-field areas. field areas.

The woollen trade was better employed than a month earlier in the Huddersfield and Colne Valley district; a fair amount of overtime was worked, and there was some night work. The tweed trade of the Colne Valley and the Heavy Woollen District showed a continuous improvement, and there was also some improvement in the Morley district, in the Calder Vale and in the Leeds low woollen trade. In the blanket trade employment was reported as moderate; in the flannel trade of Rochdale, Saddleworth and Yeadon it was fair, although somewhat irregular.

In Scotland there was some improvement as compared with the previous month. At Galashiels employment was still slack, but better than in December; at the end of January certain tweed mills which had been running half-time or less were re-ported to be working five days a week, but a considerable amount of short time was still being worked by some firms.

The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished returns as to the numbers of workpeople employed and the total amount of wages paid in the three periods under review :-

WOOLLEN INDUSTRY.

		Number (orkpeop			Wages p Workpeo		
	Week ended	Inc. (Dec. (-	(+) or -) on a	Week ended	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on		
	26th Jan., 1924.	Month ago.	Year ago.	26th Jan., 1924.	Month ago.*	Year ago.•	
Departments.		Per cent.			Per cent.	Per cent.	
Wool Sorting Spinning Weaving Other Departments Not specified	396 3,576 6,156 4,576 739	+ 189 + 094 + 053 + 053	$\begin{array}{r} + 1.5 \\ + 0.3 \\ - 0.8 \\ - 0.7 \\ - 3.4 \end{array}$	£ 907 7,061 10,926 -10,130 1,676	$ \begin{array}{r} + & 0.8 \\ + & 1.9 \\ - & 0.3 \\ + & 1.7 \\ + & 4.9 \end{array} $	$\begin{array}{r} + & 0.2 \\ - & 2.6 \\ - & 4.8 \\ - & 5.3 \\ - & 14.3 \end{array}$	
TOTAL	15,443	15,443 + 0.6		30,700	+ 1.2	- 4.9	
Districts.	-	Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.	
Huddersfield District	1,394 1,808	- 6.2	- 1.1 + 5.9	3,168 4,135	+ 1.7 + 16	- 8.3 + 9.0	
Dewsbury and Batley District	1,715	+ 3.5	+ 5.7	3,603	- 2.7	+ 1.3	
Riding	1,633	+ 0.9	- 1.2	3,641	+ 5.5	+ 3.0	
Total, West Riding Scotland	6,550 4,128 4,765	+ 1.0 + 1.1 - 0.5	+ 2.5 - 6.8 + 1.1	14,547 7,531 8,622	+ 1.5 + 1.6 + 0.4	+ 1.5 - 13.8 - 6.3	
TOTAL	15,443	+ 0.6	- 0.6	30,700	+ 1.2	- 4.9	

	WORST	ed Ind	USTRY.				
ET TRADES.		umber o orkpeopl		Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.			
Shoer slow and in the	Week	nded		Week ended 26th	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		
Aline faith brick fire which doubt for the fire and doubt for the fire	26th Jan., 1924.	Month ago.	Year ago.	Jan., 1924.	Month ago.*	Year ago.*	
Departments. Wool Sorting and Combing Spinning Weaving Other Departments Not Specified TOTAL	3,670 14,417 4,567 3,211 1,816 27,681	Per cent. - 0.7 + 0.7 + 0.7 - 1.7 + 0.4 + 0.4	Per cent. - 8.9 - 2.9 - 7.6 - 1.8 - 13.3 - 5.2	£ 8,695 21,648 9,406 7,687 2,764 50,200	Per cent. - 42 - 2.7 - 0.4 - 2.2 - 10.4 - 2.9	Per cent. - 21.6 - 10.8 - 99 - 3.7 - 31.6 - 13.2	

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

	in a sum of the last	M M	Number of Workpeople.		Total	Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		Total Wagge phili ba 1 all Warkgeopha		umber orkpeop		Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	investor summer of	Week ended 26th		(+) or -) on a	Week	Inc. (Dec. (-	(+) or -) on a	Wask find (+) of ended Dec. (-) of Bub	Week	Inc. (Dec. (-	(+) or -) on a	Week	Inc. (Dec. (-	(+) or -) on a
	tera, with /	Jan., 1924.	Month ago.	Year ago.	26.h Jan., 1924.	Month ago.	Year ago.	1874- Month Year	26th Jan., 1924.	Month ago.	Year ago.	26th Jan., 1924.	Month ago.	Year ago.
TO	Districts. dford District ghley District	13,517 4,553	Fer cent. - 0.1	Per cent. - 5.7 - 2.0	£ 25,829 8,488	Per cent. - 4-2 - 0-0	Per cent. - 14.3 - '3.7	DISTRICTS. Ashton	3,773	Per cent. - 4.7	Per cent. - 3.3	£ 6,218	Per eent. -13.7	Per cent. - 7.0
Hal Hu Oth	fax District dersfield District er Parts of West iding	2,638 2,668 2,366	+ 0.8 + 1.3 - 0.3	$- \frac{8.1}{-13.5}$ + 4.5	4,019 4,538 3,980	- 8.0 - 0.3 - 3.3	-21.6 -26.8 -0.2	Hyde Oldham Bolton and Leigh Bury, Rochdale, Hey-	7,630 9,699 16,074	$- \frac{6 \cdot 1}{- 1 \cdot 6} + 3 \cdot 1$	$ \begin{array}{r} - 5.7 \\ - 2.3 \\ + 8.2 \end{array} $	12,724 17.984 26,890	- 7.9 - 3.7 - 0.6	+ 5.2 - 5.2 + 5.8
oth	Total, West Riding er Districts	25,742 1,939	+ 0.1 - 0.3	- 5.4 - 2.1	46,854 3,346	- 3·3 + 3·2	-13.7 - 5.4	wood, Walsden, and Todmorden Manchester Preston and Chorley	8,855 5,068 5,822	- 2.5 - 0.5 - 2.9	- 4.9 - 9.3 - 4.0	13,136 7,668 10,030	-12.1 - 0.4 - 7.1	- 6·3 - 12·4 - 6·2
a statement	ToTAL	in the	+ 0.1	-52	50,200	loving	<u>- 13·2</u> 13,980	Blackburn, Accrington and Darwen Burnley, Padiham, Colne and Nelson	9,958 11,848	+ 9.5 + 1.1	+ 0.5	18,867	+ 6.6	- 62 + 10.4 - 2.0
35 ex	per cent. of these ent, on the avera rsted section return	e work ge, of	people 7날 hou	were o urs in	n short that we	time	to the	Other Lancashire Towns	3,100 4,231 2,825	+ 0.1 - 0.1 - 1.9	-13.5 + 2.4 - 3.0	4,983 7,437 4,369	-4.9 -3.0 -2.0	-10.9 + 2.9 - 6.4
in	the same week show	wed that	it about	t 30 per	r cent. c	of these	work-	Total	88,883	+ 0.2	- 1.7	153,108	- 4.6	- 0.9

imports (less re-exports) of raw wool (sheep or lambs) .6,064,900 lbs. in January, 1924, compared with 27,081,600 n December, 1923, and 54,705,800 lbs. in January, 1923. exports of woollen and worsted yarns were 4,276,000 lbs., red with 3,246,600 lbs. in December, 1923, and 3,878,500

pared with 5,240,000 lbs. In December, 1925, and 5,070,000 in January, 1923. he *exports* of woollen and worsted tissues were 22,389,500 are yards, compared with 19,134,300 square yards in Decem-, 1923, and 22,063,500 square yards in January, 1923. he *exports* of blankets were 193,941 pairs, 180,857 pairs and 307 pairs in January, 1924, December, 1923, and January, respectively.

COTTON TRADE.

COTTON TRADE. DURING January employment in the cotton trade was bad on he whole and worse than in December. There was little change in the Egyptian spinning section, in which the operatives con-mued to be well employed, but in the American spinning section decline was reported. In the weaving section generally em-doyment was slack, although it was reported to be fairly good districts manufacturing fancy cloths. The percentage of workpeople unemployed, as indicated by he unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 57 on the 28th January, 1924, as compared with 12:0 on the bit December, 1923. Some part of this increase, however, is tributable to the effects of the railway stoppage. In the Oldham, Ashton and Stockport districts employment the spinning section showed little change as compared with month ago; some stoppages occurred owing to lack of coal ased by the railway strike. In the manufacturing section molyment was quiet, many weaving sheds being closed for aying periods; calico weavers were very slack, but employment a fairly good with weavers of towels, fustians and velvets. At Bolton, Leigh and Chorley employment continued good in spinning section; with weavers in the Bolton district it was ported as fair. In the Bury district employment was bad, worse that a month earlier; at Rochdale it was reported fair.

the principal weaving centres, including Blackburn, ley, Preston and Darwen, employment was slack. In Black-over 17,000 looms (nearly one-fifth of the total) were d to have been idle during the month. At Preston, although was much unemployment and short time working, employ-was reported as better than in December, 1923. In Darwen employment was reported as slightly better than a month but many looms were idle although the mills were running. e following Table summarises the information received from employers who furnished returns for the three periods review :-review :

1991 main 1991		umber o orkpeopl		Total	Wages paid to Workpeople.			
antina antina	Week ended 26th	nded		Week ended 26th	Inc. (Dec. (-	+) or -) on a		
	Jan., 1924.	Month ago.	Year ago.	Jan., 1924.	Month ago.	Yeur ago.		
DEPARTMENTS. oparing inning eaving her tepecified Total	11,855 22,378 37,119 8,597 8,934 88,883	$\begin{array}{c} \text{Per} \\ \text{cent.} \\ -2.5 \\ -1.5 \\ +1.9 \\ -0.4 \\ +1.5 \\ \hline +0.2 \end{array}$	Per cent. - 2.9 - 0.7 - 2.8 - 3.1 + 3.8 - 1.7	£ 19,000 37,375 60,605 19,510 16,618 153,108	Per cent. - 5.0 - 5.5 - 4.3 - 2.4 - 6.1 - 4.6	Per cent. - 2.8 - 15 + 1.3 - 4.4 - 0.9 - 0.9		

SHIPBUILDING.

EMPLOYMENT in the shipbuilding and ship-repairing industries remained very bad during January. It showed a further im-provement compared with the previous month, but conditions at the shipyards involved in the recent dispute had not yet become norma

On the North-East Coast employment was still very bad, but showed a slow general improvement as the work advanced in its stages. On the East Coast it continued bad. On the Thames it was bad, and showed a decline towards the end of the month. There was a considerable improvement at Southamp-ton, where the annual refitting and overhauling of a number of large liners was in progress, men being brought from Falmouth' and Cowes to assist in this work. Upon repair work at Swan-sea employment was good, but at Cardiff it steadily declined, and was bad. On the Mersey employment was slack on the whole, but rather better than during December. At Barrow it was still bad, though continuing to improve. still bad, though continuing to improve.

On the Clyde employment on new work remained very bad, but was better than during the previous month, with prospects of further improvement; an improvement on repair work was also reported. At Dundee and Aberdeen there was a slow im-provement. At Leith employment upon repair work showed con-siderable fluctuation. At Belfast employment continued bad.

The following Table shows the numbers and percentages of insured workpeople unemployed at 28th January, 1924, and the increase or decrease as compared with 21st December, 1923:—

Divisions.	Total number of insured workpeople unemployed at 28th Jan., 1924.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as com- pared with 21st Dec., 1923.	Percentage Unemployed at 28th Jan., 1924.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) In per- centage as compared with 21st Dec., 1923.
London South Eastern South Western Midlands North Eastern Scotland North Western Northern Ireland	4,546 1,231 5,090 151 29,000 10,946 25,029 4,073 6,895	$\begin{array}{r} + 542 \\ - 36 \\ - 1,096 \\ + 35 \\ - 2,240 \\ - 608 \\ - 3,530 \\ - 3,530 \\ + 552 \end{array}$	32·1 13·1 16·4 30·2 40·0 30·5 34·9 32·0 28·2	$\begin{array}{r} + & 3^{\cdot 8} \\ - & 3^{\cdot 5} \\ + & 7^{\cdot 0} \\ - & 3^{\cdot 1} \\ - & 1^{\cdot 7} \\ - & 4^{\cdot 9} \\ + & 2^{\cdot 1} \\ + & 2^{\cdot 2} \end{array}$
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND	86,966	- 6,111	31.9	- 2.3
Males	86,649	- 6,103	32.3	- 2.2
Females	317	- 8	7.9	- 0.2

February, 1924.

THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE.

Returns from firms employing nearly 78,000 workpeople showed that over one-quarter of the workpeople reported on were on short time to the extent of about seventeen hours, on the average, in the week ended 26th January.

The *imports* (less re-exports) of raw cotton (including cotton linters) were 212,003,000 lbs. in January, 1924, compared with 234,889,000 lbs. in the previous month and with 119,909,300 lbs. in January, 1923.

The *exports* of cotton yarn were 10,991,500 lbs. in January, 1924, compared with 11,136,500 lbs. in December, 1923, and 12,814,700 lbs. in January, 1923.

The *exports* of cotton piece goods were 353,965,900 square yards, as compared with 323,100,000 square yards in the previous month, and with 399,988,200 square yards in January, 1923.

BOOT AND SHOE INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT during January was again only moderate on the whole, but the improvement which was noticeable during the larger part of the previous month was fairly well maintained. In many districts a considerable amount of short time was still worked; but conditions were generally better than in January of last year. last year.

The percentage of workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 95 on 28th January, 1924, as compared with 9.8 on 21st De-cember, 1923.

In London employment was still bad, though slightly better than in the previous month. A further improvement occurred at Leicester, and employment was fair; there was less short time Leicester, and employment was fair; there was less short time working than in the previous month, and overtime was reported in a few cases. At Northampton, however, a considerable amount of short time was still worked, and employment remained only moderate. At Kettering there was no marked change as compared with December, and employment remained generally moderate, but at Desborough less time was lost and employment improved. In the Wellingborough, Higham and Rushden dis-tricts employment remained fair on the whole. Although short time was worked in a number of factories a few workpeople were on overtime during the month. At Hinckley a slight de-cline in employment was reported. There was practically no change at Leeds, but at Stafford employment again showed a slight upward movement. slight upward movement.

At Norwich factories were working fuller time during January, and employment was better on the whole than in December; but in the Bristol and Kingswood district employment was not so good, while at Street it was bad and worse than in the pre-vious month, practically all of the operatives being again on chert time. short time.

Employment was again bad at Arbroath, and at Maybole it declined to slack; short time working was fairly general in these districts. In other Scottish centres employment was fairly good, and in the Glasgow and Kilmarnock districts improvements were reported.

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

53

February, 1924.

Sotal Wages prid to will Workpropie.	Nun	nber of V people.	Vork-		Wages pa Workpeo			
Week Dog. (# 150-2	Week ended 26th	Inc. (- Dec. (-		Week ended 26th	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a			
Lines Lines	Jan., 1924.	Month ago.	Year ago.	Jan., 1924.	Month ago.	Year ago.		
England and Wales :-	1.488	Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.		
London - ···· Leicester - ····	2,027 8,124	+ 60 + 26	+ 1.9 + 1.4	4,606 20,819	+ 1.7 + 0.3	+ 0.1 + 0.3		
Leicester Country Dis- trict	2, 960 6, 948	+ 0.2 + 1.7	- 2·2 + 12·4	6,875 16,838	- 2.2 + 3.6	+ 4.5 + 12.4		
Northampton Country District Kettering Stafford and District	8,117 3,404 2,599	+ 1.4 - 0.2 + 1.4	+ 9.3 + 4.2 + 3.6	18,696 8,525 5,598	-3.9 -10.2 -0.4	+ 112 + 57 - 52		
Norwich and District Bristol, Kingswood and District	3,965 2,325 2,044	+ 8.4 - 5.0 + 4.2	-2.4 -0.8 +2.7	8,214 4,240 4,221	+ 8.8 - 21.2 - 4.1	+ 4.9 - 70 - 19		
Lancashire (mainly Rossendale Valley)	4,234	- 2.0	- 0.7	8,338	+ 3.0	- 13 0		
Birmingham and Dis- trict	1,011	- 0.3	- 2.3	2,037	- 4.9	- 3.3		
Other parts of England and Wales	1,552	+ 2.8	+ 8.2	3,075	- 0.3	+ 13.6		
England and Wales _	49,310	+ 1.7	+ 3.8	112,082	- 1.5	+ 30		
Scotland	2,577	+ 1.0	+ 5.9	5.546	+ 1.1	+ 10.1		
United Kingdom	51,887	+ 1.7	+ 3.9	117,628	- 1.4	+ 3.3		

Returns from firms employing 38,291 workpeople in the week ended 26th January showed that 30.3 per cent. of these work people worked short time in that week to the extent of about 14 hours each on an average.

The *exports* of boots and shoes in January, 1924, amounted to 95,155 dozen pairs, or 4,608 dozen pairs less than in December, 1923, but 21,944 dozen pairs more than in January, 1923.

PAPER MANUFACTURE, PRINTING, AND BOOKBINDING.

EMPLOYMENT in the paper trade was moderate, on the whole, and showed a slight decline on the previous month. In many districts the mills continued to work irregularly, and in some districts a shortage of coal, caused by the partial stoppage of the railways, adversely affected employment towards the end of the month. Employment generally continued bad in the wrapping section.

wrapping section. With letterpress printers employment was generally reported as slack in London and fair or moderate in the provinces, show-ing a decline on a month ago in most districts. Employment was again reported as very good with electrotypers and stereo-typers in London; it was also good with compositors, etc., at Leicester and Dundee, but slack at Newcastle and Aberdeen. In the lithographic printing trade employment mainly continued fair, but was still bad at Manchester, while there was a decline at Birmingham and Bristol. With bookbinders employment was moderate, on the whole, and worse than a month ago; at Edinburgh and Manchester it was reported as bad.

The percentage unemployed among workpeople covered by the Unemployment Insurance Acts in the printing and book-binding trades was 6.4 at 28th January, 1924, compared with 5.1 per cent. at 21st December, 1923. In the paper and paper board making industry the percentage was 13.6 at 28th January, compared with 8.6 at 21st December. In the cardboard box, paper bag and stationery trades the percentage was 7.9 at 28th January, compared with 6.4 at 21st December. The following Table summarises the returns received from Trade Unions :--

Trade Unions :

Alfanning Autolant a Lang Autolant a	No. of Members	Po Unemp	ercentag loyed at	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) on a		
and the state of t	of Unions at end of Jan., 1924.	Jan., 1924.	Dec., 1923.	Jau., 1923.	Month ago.	Year ag o.
Printing Bookbinding	77,875 14,507	4-5 5-6	4.0 3.5	6·4 7·2	+ 0.5 + 2. 1	-1.9 -1.6

BUILDING TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT in the building trade during January continued fairly good, on the whole, with skilled operatives (other than painters) and slack or bad with unskilled workers; in the paintpainters) and slack or bad with unskilled workers; in the paint-ing and decorating section of the trade there was a further seasonal decline, and employment was very bad. It was reported as very good with craftsmen (except painters) in the Bradford, Harrogate, Luton, West Middlesex, North-West and West Surrey, and Bournemouth districts, and as good at many other centres, a little overtime being worked in some cases; on the other hand, it was very quiet or very slack in a few districts, ncluding Grimsby, Coventry and Great Yarmouth, and at umber of centres irregular time was worked owing to bar yeather conditions.

As regards individual occupations employment remained very good generally with bricklayers, and good in most districts with masons and plasterers; it was fairly good, on the whole, with carpenters and joiners and fair with slaters, with whom a further slight seasonal decline was noticeable; in a considerable number of districts a shortage of one or more of the foregoin classes of skilled operatives was again reported, especially with bricklayers, plasterers and masons. Employment declined a little with plumbers, and was only moderate; it was very bad with painters, with whom there was a further considerable seasonal decline, and it continued very slack, on the whole, with builders' labourers.

The following Table shows the numbers and approximate per-centages* of workpeople insured under the Unemployment Insur-ance Acts who were unemployed at 28th January, 1924, and the increase or decrease in the percentage as compared with 21st December, 1923 :---

Occupations.	Total Number of Insured Workpeople Unemployed at 28th January, 1924.	Approximate Fercentage* Unemployed.	Increase (+) a Decrease (-) in percentage as compared with 21st December, 1923.
Carpenters	6,016 1,296 905 342 731 33,215 2,489 37,509 26,041	4·8 2·3 4·1 6·6 4·5 3·1 7·2 14·7 27·2	$\begin{array}{r} + \ 0.7 \\ + \ 0.3 \\ + \ 0.6 \\ + \ 1.2 \\ + \ 0.6 \\ + \ 4.4 \\ + \ 1.2 \\ + \ 1.1 \\ + \ 1.9 \end{array}$
Total	108,544	15.1	+ 1.5
Divisions. London	27,049 13,040 10,916 12,121 13,150 15,590 10,493 3,186 2,999	16.8 12.0 12.5 15.6 15.6 16.7 16.9 12.2 23.5	$\begin{array}{r} + 18 \\ + 16 \\ + 14 \\ + 18 \\ + 12 \\ + 16 \\ + 14 \\ + 13 \\ + 26 \end{array}$
Great Britain and Northern Ireland	108,544	15-1	+ 1.5
Males Females	108, 3 12 232	15·3 2·7	+ 1.6 + 0.7

BUILDING PLANS APPROVED.

RETURNS received from Local Authorities in 137 of the princip urban areas in Great Britain (except the London County Count area), with a total population of 15,004,000, show that i January, 1924, plans were passed for buildings of an estimate cost of £4,204,000, as compared with £4,239,500 in Decembe 1923, and £2,830,600 in January, 1923. Of the total for January, 1924, dwelling-houses accounted for £3,160,100; is tories and workshops for £152,500; shops, offices, warehous and other business premises for £251,500; and other building additions and alterations to existing buildings for £639,900.

BRICK TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT during January remained fair, and showed little change on the whole in comparison with December, but in sur-districts work slackened owing to bad weather. Employment the Peterborough, Birmingham and Wolverhampton distri-was fairly good. At Coventry employment improved.

The percentage of workpeople unemployed in the brick, pl tile, etc., trades, as indicated by the unemployment books lodg at Employment Exchanges on 28th January, 1924, was 10.0, compared with 8.4 on 21st December, 1923.

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

• Figures are not available as to the exact numbers of insured workper in each of the occupations shown in the first column of the Table, in the built industry. For the purpose of computing the percentages given in the tr applying ratios obtained from the exchange of unemployment books which place in 1922 to the total number of insured workers engaged in the built industry as shown by the 1925 exchange of books. The estimated number arrived at were given on page 20 of the January issue of this GAZETTS. In of the possibility that some change may have taken place since 1922, in there should be regarded as only approximate.

	and the second of the	and the seal of the	har and a second	Sterry and a se	alter and a set			A REAL PROPERTY AND INCOME.		
	Number of Workpeople			Total all	Wages I Workpe	Paid to ople.	UNEMPLOYMENT IN I	Number	of Seamen*	shipped in
Districts.	Week ended 26th Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a			Week	ended Dec. (-) on a		Principal Ports.	ta besteres	1 <u>0</u> 87880 851	(+) or
	Jan., 1924.	Month ago.	Year ago,	26th Jan., 1924.	Month ago.	Year ago.•	rincipal Forts.	Jan., 1924.		-) on a
orthern Counties, York-	1,800	Per cent. - 1.3	Per cent. +10.8	£ 4,073	Per cent. - 6.8	Per cent. +10.5	A who m list the present of	not neve of Pare	Month ago.	Year ago.
hire, Lancashire and heshire dlands and Eastern counties	4,511	- 0.6	+35.1	9,699	-11.3	+28.1	ENGLAND & WALES: Liverpool (including Birkenhead) Manchester†	11,127 873	+1,329 + 30	- 1,146 + 12
uth and South-West Counties and Wales her Districts	1,376 109	+ 0.9 + 2.8	+18·7 +21·1	3,043 262	-7.4 -7.1	+15 [.] 0 +17 [.] 5	London	7,861 5,765 1,197	$+ 764 \\ - 130 \\ + 69$	- 415 - 2,869 - 378
TOTAL	7,796	- 0.4	+25.5	17,077	- 9.5	+20 9	Middlesbrough Hull Grimsby	106 408 1,827	+ 11 - 180 + 432 - 27	-192 -133 +102
Returns from firms bout $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of e extent of 7 hour	these	workpe	ople w	orked s	short ti	me to	Bristol‡	875 1,027 2,855 981	$ \begin{array}{r} - & 27 \\ - & 145 \\ + & 337 \\ - & 54 \\ + & 292 \\ \end{array} $	- 19 - 57 - 340 - 272 - 33
ded 26th January.	- aroite Lacite						SCOTLAND: Leith Kirkcaldy, Methil and Grange-	321	- 62	- 254
n north states in the second s	i direl ; Lociation	trant in Annali	inite and a state of the state				Glasgow	201 2,161	+ 52 + 799	-227 + 649
	OTTEI		RADES			allowed a	NORTHERN IRELAND: Belfast	105	- 173	- 119
URING January, emplange as compared	with th	le prev	pottery ious m	trades onth, a	showed and ren	d little nained	TOTAL FOR ABOVE PORTS	37.692	+ 3,344	- 5,691

ack on the whole. In the china section there was a slight provement; in the tile and sanitary earthenware sections em-yment declined slightly, but was still good.

In Staffordshire, employment was again slack generally; at ristol it was still fair, but it was reported as good at Derby, and as fairly good at Worcester.

The percentage of workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the memployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges at 28th anuary, 1924, was 15·1, as compared with 14·6 at 21st Decem-. 1923.

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

Particular and the second s	A second and the second	Service (1)						
And MERIDIAN S		umber orkpeop		To'al Wages paid to all Workpeople.				
-	Week ended 26th	Inc. Dec. (-	(+) or -) on a	Week ended 26th	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a			
there is a second second	Jan, 1924.	Month ago.	Year ago.	Jan., 1924.	Month ago.	Year ago.*		
BRANCHES.		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.		
China Manufacture Earthenware Manufacture Other Branches (including	1,471 7,963	+ 1.4 - 0.1	- 0.9 + 1.7	3,043 14,417	- 6.0 - 2.5	+ 10.7 - 1.4		
unspecified)	1,569	- 1.0	+ 8.7	2,692	- 9.8	+ 1.8		
TOTAL	11,003	- 0.0	+ 2.3	20,152	- 4.1	+ 0.7		
DISTRICTS. Potteries Other Districts	8,279 2,724	+ 0.1 - 0.5	+ 3·2 - 0·3	14,599 5,553	- 3·2 - 6·5	+ 06 + 08		
TOTAL	11,003	- 0.0	+ 2.3	20,152	- 4.1	+ 0.7		

Returns from employers relating to short-time working showed hat of 7,657 workpeople employed, 2,091, or 27.3 per cent., were working on an average 15 hours less than full time in the week nded 26th January, 1924.

SEAMEN.

MPLOYMENT with seamen during January was poor on the hole, and at the majority of the ports considerable numbers f men failed to obtain engagements. Among insured work-cople in the shipping service the percentage unemployed at 8th January, 1924, was 21.8, compared with 21.1 at 21st becember, 1923.

ecember, 1923. On the Thames the demand for men was fairly good on the hole. It was quiet on the Tyne and very quiet on the ees and the Wear. Employment at Hull was fairly good in the first half of January, and declined afterwards. It was diet at Southampton and at Avonmouth, and very quiet on the whole at Bristol. The demand was fairly good at Newport, and fair at Cardiff until the latter part of January, when it eclined owing to the effect of the railway strike. Employment the foreign-going trade on the Mersey was moderate. The demand on the Clyde and at Leith was quiet. At Belfast it was poor, and became negligible at the end of the

fast it was poor, and became negligible at the end of the

The following Table shows the number of seamen shipped in ritish registered foreign-going vessels at the undermentioned orts of Great Britain and Northern Ireland during January :-tioned

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

THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE.

DOCK AND RIVERSIDE LABOUR.

EMPLOYMENT among dock labourers during January continued moderate on the whole. Work on coal shipments was seriously affected by the railway dispute, but otherwise employment showed little general change from the level of the previous month. Among insured workpeople in the canal, river, harbour and dock service, 26.3 per cent. were unemployed at 28th January, 1924 (the last day of the railway strike), compared with 22.5 per cent. at 21st December, 1923. London.—The following Table shows the average daily number of dock labourers employed at the docks and at the principal wharves in each week of the month :—

	Average Dai Docks an	Average Daily Number of Labourers employed in Docks and at Principal Wharves in London.										
	In	Docks.										
Period.	By the Port of London Authority or through Contractors.	By Ship- owners, etc.	Total.	At Wharves making Returns.	Total Docks and Principal Wharves.							
Week ended— 5th Jan., 1924 12th " 19th " 26th "	5,398 5,102 5,181 5,525	2,130 1,982 1 761 1,664	7,528 7,084 6,942 7,189	7,877 7,815 7,874 7,791	15,405 14,899 14,816 14,980							
Average for 4 weeks ended 26th Jan., 1924	} 5,302	1,884	7,186	7,839	15,025							
Average for Dec., 1923	5,249	2,121	7,370	8,208	15,578							
Average for Jan., 1923	5,224	2,772	7,996	8,219	16,215							
and the second s	and the second se	The second second second	The AVIA ST A	and the second second second second								

Tilbury.—The mean daily number of dock labourers employed in January was 971, as compared with 1,022 in the previous. month, and with 978 in January, 1923. *East Coast.*—Employment with coal trimmers on the Tyne and Wear was good, but showed a falling off at the end of the month. With other classes of workers it was fair on the whole. Em-ployment was fair at Blyth, and moderate at Hull and Grimsby. At other East Coast ports it continued to be slack on the whole. *Western and Southern Ports.*—At Liverpool employment was fair. The average weekly number of dock labourers registered at the Clearing Houses under the Liverpool Docks Scheme as employed in the five weeks ended 26th January was 15,211, compared with 15,773 in the four weeks ended 24th December, and with 14,956 in the corresponding period of 1923; the average weekly amount of wages paid to these men through the Clearing Houses was £34,415 in the four weeks ended 24th January, compared with £42,335 in the four weeks ended 24th December. At Manchester employment was fair. Temployment at the South Wales ports showed a decline. At Plymouth and other South Western ports it continued quiet, and at Southampton there was little change. *Scottish and Irish Ports.*—Employment at Glasgow was mode-rate, and worse than in December. At Leith and Aberdeen it was fair. At Dundee it was reported as exceptionally good owing to seasonal activity in the jute trade. At Belfast em-ployment continued fair.

* It will be understood that the numbers given are the numbers of separate engagements, and not of separate individuals † In the statistics given in previous issues of this GAZETTE; the figures for Manchester have been included with those for Liver-pool and district. ‡ ncluding Avonmouth and Portishead. § Including Barry and Penarth.

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UNEMPLOYMENT IN INSURED INDUSTRIES.

UNEMPLOTMENT IN I THE statistics here presented show, industry by industry, the numbers of persons insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts, and the number and percentage of such persons who were unemployed on 28th January, 1924. "Unemployed" as used in these statistics does not necessarily mean that the person is definitely without a job. Persons who on 28th January, 1924, were not at work because they were suspended, "stood off," "furloughed," or on systematic short time, are counted in the statistics as "unemployed." Under the Unemployment Insurance Acts, substantially all persons, except outworkers and persons employed in agriculture and private domestic service, must be insured against unemployment. Employees of local authorities, railways and certain other public utility undertakings, members of the police forces, and persons with rights under a statutory superannuation scheme may, in certain circumstances, be excepted. Persons employed otherwise than by way of manual labour at a rate of remuneration exceeding in value £250 per annum are excepted, as are also juveniles under sixteen years of age.

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

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

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

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

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

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

NUMBERS AND PERCENTAGES, UNEMPLOYE

and in the canal, river, harbour	Terman	Langer I	gional/			NU.	NUMBERS AND PERCENTAGES, UNEMPLOYED.						
INDUSTRY.	INSURI J (GREA	TED NUM D PERSO ULY, 1923 T BRITAII ERN IREI	NS AT	NUMBER OF UNEMPLOY- MENT BOOKS REMAINING LODGED AT 28TH JANUARY, 1924. (GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.)					nemploys Jary, 1924		INCREASE (+) OR DECREASE (-) AS COMPARED WITH 21ST DECEMBER, 1923. (GREAT BRUTAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.)		
Mumber of Leventron employed in Effectivel Where is London.	Suctors Suctors	1000 A.			-	01+1.00	and the second	1 1 30	Tot	al.		and and	
27 27 27 27 27 27 27 27 27 27 27 27 27 2	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Great Britain & North'rn Ireland.	Great Britain only.	Males.	Fem ales.	Total.
Fishing	23,600	530	24,130	4,321	105	4,426	18.3	19.8	18.3	17.9	+ 0.1	+ 2.3	+ 0.1
Mining:	1,258,650	8,200	1,266,850	57,778	555	53,333	- 4.6	6.8	4.6	4.6	+ 2.2	+ 1.9	+ 2.2
Iron Ore and Ironstone Mining and Quarrying	19,670 5,000 32,060 8,000 24,960	50 70 270 20 1,580	19,720 5,070 32,330 8,020 26,540	6,457 899 3,002 277 2,235	1 3 19 2 197	6,458 902 3,021 279 2,432	- 32.8 18.0 - 9.4 3.5 9.0	2.0 4.3 7.0 10.0 12.5	32:7 17:8 9:3 3:5 9:2	32.7 17.8 9.1 3.5 8.8	$ \begin{array}{r} +13.4 \\ -0.2 \\ +3.2 \\ +1.7 \\ +2.3 \\ \end{array} $	$ \begin{array}{r} - 4.0 \\ - 2.8 \\ + 0.3 \\ + 1.6 \\ \end{array} $	$ \begin{array}{r} + 13.3 \\ - 0.2 \\ + 3.1 \\ + 1.7 \\ + 2.3 \end{array} $
Digging	12,520	170	12,690	988	21	1,009	7.9	12:4	8.0	7.7	+ 1.4	- 0.5	+ 1.4
Coke Ovens and By-Product Works Artificial Stone and Concrete Manu-	15,070	200	15,270	825	29	854	- 5.5	14.5	23.7	0 5.6	+ 0.2	-60 + 16	+ 0.1
Cement, Limekilns and Whiting	10,090	660	10,750	2,470	80	2,550	24.5	12·1 9·4	11.3	23·8 11·1	+ 5.8 + 1.4	+ 3.1	
Works	16,080 54,340 35,759	620 7,500 36,380	16,700 61,840 72,130	1,835 5,147 4,739	58 1,035 6,149	1,893 6,182 10,888	9.5 13.3	13·8 16·9	10.0 15.1	9·9 15·1	+ 14 + 1.6 + 1.0	+ 31 + 21 - 01	+ 1.4 + 1.6 + 0.5
Glass (excluding Bottles, Optical and Scientific Glass) Manufacture Glass Bottle Making Amnunition, Explosives, Chemicals,	22,880 14,950	4,990 1,650	27,870 16,600	3,086 3,626	410 198	3,496 3,824	13·5 24·3	8·2 12·0	12·5 23·0	-12*5 22*8	+ 0.9 + 4.6	+ 1·3 + 4·2	+ 0.9 + 4.5
etc. :- Chemicals Manufacture Explosives Manufacture Difference Data and White	80,430 13,960	24,940 5,120	105,370 19,080	9,169 1,747	1, 694 565	10,863 2,312	11·4 12·5	6·8 11·0	10·3 12·1	10·3 12·1	+ 0.1 + 0.9	+ 0.4 + 0.2	+ 0.1 + 0.7
Paint, Varnish, Japan, Red and White Lead Manufacture	10,920	2,950	13,870	635	167	802	5-8	5-7	5.8	5.7	+ 12	+ 0.1	+ 1.0
Oil, Grease, Glue, Soap, Ink, Match, etc., Manufacture	57,530	21,620	79,150	4,728	1,976	6,704	8.2	9.1	8.5	8.4	+ 0.7	+ 2.5	+ 1.3
cesses :	29,310	240	29,550	4,000	8	4,008	13.6	3.3	13.6	13.6	+ 2.2	- 0.9	+ 2.2
Puddling Furnaces, Iron and Steel Rolling Mills	210,150	4,480	214,630	49,398	321	49,719	23-5	7.2	23.2	23.1	+ 6.2	+ 0.8	+ 6.1
Manufacture of Brass, Copper, Zinc, Tin, Lead, etc	38,510 25,860 23,930	4,000 4,330 1,450	42,510 30,190 25,350	5,151 2,089 4,252	474 368 198	5,625 2,457 4,450	13·4 8·1 17·8	11.9 8.5 13.7	13·2 8·1 17·6	13·3 8·1 17·5	+ 0.1 + 4.4 + 2.8	+ 1.0 + 5.1 + 1.2	+ 0.1 + 4.5 + 2.7
Wire, Wire Netting, Wire Rope Manufacture	20,650	3,940	24,590	2,258	321	2,579	10.9	8.1	10.2	10.5	+ 0.7	+ 0.5	+ 0.7
Engineering: Engineers' Iron and Steel Founding	635,260	39,660	674,920	126,422	2,551	128,973	19-9	6.4	19-1	19-1	+ 0.8	+ 0.7	+ 0.8
Stove, Grate, Pipe, etc., and General Iron Founding Electrical Engineering Marine Engineering and Marine	79,020 50,570	6,890 11,710	85,910 62,280	12,280 3,217	801 454	13,081 3,671	15·5 6·4	11.6 39	15·2 5·9	15:0 5:9	+ 0.5	$+ \frac{1.2}{- 0.2}$	+ 0.1 + 0.3
Boiler Making	65,760 22,940	1,110 840	66,870 23,780	13,220 3,280	38 32	13,258 3,312	20·1 14·3	3·4 3·8	19 8 13·9	21·2 13·9	- 2.5 + 2.2	- 0.2 + 0.2	- 2·4 + 2·1
Construction and Repair of Vehicles :	174,590	19,830	194,420	17,403	1,328	18,731	10.0	6.7	96	9.6	- 0.4	+ 0.2	- 0.4
Construction and Repair of Carriages, Carts, etc	25,540	2,400	27,940	3,879	238	4,117	15.2	9.9	14•7	14.6	+ 16	+ 1.9	+ 1.5
car Building	50,560	1,280	51,840	3,890	35	3,925	7.7	2.7	7-6	7.6	+ 2.5	- 0.2	+ 2.5

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tor sustration that "blandon much	UNEM	PLOYM	IENT	IN INS	SURED	INDUS	STRIES	6.—cont	2 A. 8 3 A	8.8000	6 min	STR	MIM
on the "live registers" sound	aort0 mi		er of p 105 Azo			NUL	IBERS AN	D PERCEN	TAGES UN	EMPLOYI			
INDUSTRY.	J (GREA	INSURED PERSONS AT			R OF UNER DOKS REM DOGED AT JANUARY, T BRITAIN IERN IREL	1924.	PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED AT 28TH JANUARY, 1924.				INCREASE (+) OR DECREASE (-) AS COMPARED WITH 21ST DECEMBER, 1923. (GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.)		
			162.	de . Trada de		the second		si di si Pinana k	Tota	al	100 trong		
rases Anversias Tonst anticolo anti- sector 28,077 1820,207 - 1620 1920 1236 71,255 - 15	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.		Great Britain & North'rn Ireland.	Great Britain only.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing	268,520	4,010	272,530	86,649	317	86,966	32.3	7.9	31 ·9	32.3	- 2.2	- 0.2	- 2.3
Electrical Wiring and Contracting Electrical Cable, Wire and Electric Lamp Manufacture	11,010 48,480	860 24,360	11,870 72,840	1,156 3,997	27 1,953	1,183 5,950	10·5 8·2	3·1 8·0	10·0 8·2	9·8 8·2	+ 1.3 + 0.3	+ 0.2 + 0.7 + 4.5	+ 1.2 + 0.5
Hand Tool, Cutlery, Saw, File Making Bolts, Nuts, Screws, Rivets, Nails,	22,760 17,510	7,340 12,730	30,100 30,240	3,943 2,512	1,035 1,793	4,978 4,305	17·3 14·3	14·1 14·1	16·5 14·2	16·6 14·2	$\begin{vmatrix} + & 0.3 \\ + & 1.8 \\ + & 1.2 \end{vmatrix}$	+ 4.5	+ 2.4
etc., Manufacture Brass and Allied Metal Wares Manu- facture	20,450	12,000 420	32,450 5,760	3,903 349	2,160 16	6,063 365	19·1 6·5	18.0	18 7	18 7 6.6	+ 0.6 + 2.3	+ 0.7 + 0.9	+ 0.7 + 2.2
Heating and Ventilating Engineering Watches, Clocks, Plate, Jewellery, etc., Manufacture	5,340 29,380	20,450	49,830	4,216	2,046	6,262	14.3	10.0	12.6	12.6	+ 3.5	1.2	+ 28 + 0.7
Other Metal Industries	107,180	60,310 365,280	167,490 576,290	11,879 29,726	7,422 60,739	19,301 90,465	11.1	12·3	11·5 15·7	11.5 15.7	+ 4.0	+ 3.5	+ 37
Woollen and Worsted Industry Silk Industry	119,630 14,320 25,700	153,700 23,820 56,370	273,330 38,140 82,070	11,060 1,332 3,461	14,195 2,554 6,012	25,255 3,886 9,473	9·2 9·3 13·5	9·2 10·7 10 7	9-2 10-2 11-5	9.2 10-2 12-9	$\begin{vmatrix} -1.0 \\ -0.2 \\ -1.9 \end{vmatrix}$	-06 + 10 - 42	$\begin{array}{c c} - & 0.7 \\ + & 0.6 \\ - & 3.6 \end{array}$
Jute Industry Jute Industry Hemp, Spinning and Weaving, Rope, Cord, Twine, etc., Making	14,190 7,620	27,340	41,530 20,160	1,792	2,033 1,959	3,825 2,815	12·6 11·2	7·4 15·6	9·2 14·0	9•2 12·8	- 1.2 + 0.5	-0.8 + 15	-0.9 + 1.2
Lace Industry	19,990 9,330 11,220	12,540 71,380 12,240 14,540	91,370 21,570	1,520 2,424 365	6,543 1,536 880	8,063 3,960 1,245	7.6 26.0 3.3	9·2 12·5 6·1	8.8 18.4 4.8	8.8 18.3 4.8	+ 0.1 + 3.4 - 0.2	+ 0.6	+ 0.4 + 1.9 + 0.7
Carpet Industry Other Textile Industries Textile, Bleaching, Printing, Dyeing,	13,480	29,940	25,760 43,420	1,794	4,423	6,217	13.3	14 8	14-3	13.8	+ 3.0	+ 0.5	+ 1.0
etc. Leather and Leather Goods :- Tanning, Currying and Leather Dress-	85,560	31,400	116,960	11,605	3,961	15,566	13.6	12.6	13-3	13.7	+ 0.2		+ 0.9
ing Saddlery, Harness and Other Leather Goods Manufacture	33,230	8,590	41,820 29,350	3,699	1,043 1,398	4,742 3,486	11.1	12.1	11.3	11·3 11·8	alv Case	4 11 E 13	+ 0.9
Clothing Trades :	65,910	120,300	186,210	10,574	16,434	27,008	16.0	1 Martin	14.5	14.4	P. Stinal	a state of the	+ 2.1
Dress and Mantle Making and Millinery Hat and Cap (including Straw Plait)	12,250	104,160	116,410	1,196	12,289	13,485	9.8	and the second	11-6	11.3	10000000	and the second	+ 2.3
Manufacture Blouses, Shirts, Collars, Undercloth- ing, etc., Making	13,810 6,640	20,830	34,640 67,520	2,244 387	1,782 5,045	4,026 5,432	16·2	8.3	11.6	11.6	Destroise	-2.3 - 0.8	- 0.8
Other Dress Industries Boot, Shoe, Slipper and Clog Trades Food, Drink and Tobacco :	12,470 93,620	20,470 50,230	32,940 143,850	1,569 10,704	2,957 2,992	4,526 13,696	12·6 11·4		· 13•7 9•5	13·7 9•4		$+ \frac{1.9}{- 1.2}$	+ 2.1 - 0.3
Bread, Biscuit, Cake, etc., Making	104,290 26,460	54 ,840 3,100	159,130 29,560	12,359 1,392	4,872 180	17,231 1,572	11 9 5·3		10·8 5·3	10.7 5.1		+ 0.9 + 0.4	+ 1.3 + 1.0
Cocoa, Chocolate and Sugar Confec- tionery	25,040 49,070	45,740 49.220	70,780 98,290	1,964	5,763 9,334 2,767	7,727	7.8	19.0	10.9	10.9	+ 0.9	+ 3.8 + 0.3 + 2.0	+ 2.4 + 0.6 + 0.8
Drink Industries	81,500 14,960	20,850 30,360	102,350 45,320	4,556	2,695	7,323 3,714	5.6	COLOD W	7.2	6*9 7-1	1947 - 1948 - 1948 - 1948 - 1948 - 1948 - 1948 - 1948 - 1948 - 1948 - 1948 - 1948 - 1948 - 1948 - 1948 - 1948 -	1 .2	1000 1000
Sawmilling, Furniture and Woodwork :	54,700 10,710	3,300 2,020	58,000 12,730	6,801 1,879	244 257	7,045 2,136	12-4		12-1 16·8	11-9	+ 2.9	1 + 0.8	$+ \frac{1 \cdot 2}{+ 2 \cdot 7}$ + 2 \cdot 2
Furniture Making, Upholstering, etc. Other Woodworking	. 76,540 20,610	17,810 6,840	94,350 27,450	7,403 2,796	1, 598 759	9,001 3,555	9·7 13·6			9.2 12.8	+ 2.1	+ 0.8 + 2.9 + 0.4	$+ \frac{2 \cdot 2}{+ 1 \cdot 8}$
Printing and Paper Trades : Paper and Paper Board Making Cardboard Boxes, Paper Bags and	40,440	16,120	56,560	5,684	1,986	7,670	14.1	1	1	13.0		The second likes	+ 5-0
Stationery Wall Paper Making and Paper Staining	19,740 3,510	35,900 1,270	55,640 4,780	1,238	3,113	268	6·5 4·8	and the second	S see	13.1 .5	1 drawland	There are an	a to the second
Stationery and Typewriting Requis- ites (not paper) . Printing, Publishing and Bookbinding	1,950 150,870	2,850 80,140	4,800 231,010	168 9,530	215 5,195	383 14,725	8.6					+ 3.5 + 1.5	+ 3.0 + 1.3
Building and Construction of Works :	708,640 126,900	8,480 860	717,120 127,760	108,312 25,523	232 20	108,544	15.3					$\frac{+0.7}{-0.4}$	+ 1.5 + 1.1
Other Manufacturing Industries :	33,140 10,440	24,760 1,880	57,900 12,320	4,09	3,235	7,244	12.1	13-1	12 5	12.	5 - 0.3	s + 0.2	- 0.1
Oilcloth, Linoleum, etc., Manufacture Brush and Broom Making Scientific and Photographic Instru-	4,930	4,060	8,990	495	492	987	10.0	12.1	11.0	11.0	- 0.3 + 0.2	2 + 1.1	- 1.3
ment and Apparatus Manufacture Musical Instrument Making Toys, Games and Sports Requisites	11,270 16,430	3,330	17,790 19,760	1,240	199	1,439	7:5	6.0	7.3	7.5	2 + 2.6	6 + 1.4	+ 2-5
Gas, Water, and Electricity Supply	6,580 168,940		12,220	Survey States	901 263	1,621 11,684	1	and the second	-	The Charles	a state of		and the state
Industries	182,240 105,810	10.540	192,780 110,360	13,476	555 146	14,031 4,041	7.4	3.2	3.7			221	+ 0.2
Tramway and Omnibus Service Other Road Fransport Shipping Service	142,770 112,050	4,470	147,240 117,900	3,895 24,536 25,239	149 478	24,685 25,717	17.2	3.3	16.8	16.	7 + 0.0	3 + 0.5	+ 0.7
Canal, River, Dock and Harbour Service Other Transport and Communication	191,790	1,850	193,640	50,752	143	50,895	1			and the second	A Contractor		a man
and Storage	23,450 756,430	2,850 505,150	26,300 1,261,580	A DECOMPT	301 30,946	4,526 87,375	7.8	6.1	6-9	6.	8 + 0.	7 + 1.4	+ 0.9
Miscellaneous Trades and Services :-	91,020 143,410	52,600 37,820	143,620 181,230	6,009 16,397	1,499 2,440	7,508 18,837	6.6	and the state	17	A TOTAL		and a sector	+ 06
Local Government	228,000	18,370	246,370 108,070	16,730 3,467	726 1,330 2,256	17,456 4,797	7.3	4·0 3·1	7.1	7.1	2 + 0.4	+ 0.1 + 0.3 + 0.3	+ 0.5
Hotel, Boarding House, Club Services Laundries, Dyeing, and Dry Cleaning	38,740 93,220 20,290	20,550 161,520 86,990	59,290 254,740 107,280	6,194 14,268 1,386	2,256 22,056 5,466 3,424	8,450 36,324 6,852	15.3	13·7 6·3	14·3 64	14:5	$\begin{vmatrix} 1 \\ -3 \\ + 0 \\ + 0 \\ \end{vmatrix}$	5 + 0.2	+ 0.6 + 0.1
Other Industries and Services	78,230	28,650	106,880	28,677	3,424	32,101	36.7	12.0	30.0	28-2		+ 0.8	+ 14
TOTAL	3,526,900	2,975,900	11,502,80	1,068,597	302.873	1,371.470	12.5	10.5	11.9	. 11.8	3 + 1:3	+ 1.1	+ 1.2

THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE.

February, 1924.

MINISTRY OF LABOUR EMPLOYMENT **EXCHANGES.***

THE number of persons remaining on the "live registers" of Employment-Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland -*i.e.*, of applications outstanding from workpeople—at 28th January, 1924, was 1,322,454,⁺ of whom 989,642 were men, 43,458 boys, 249,307 women, and 40,047 girls. Compared with 31st December, 1923, there was an increase of 33,632, due to the effects of the railway stoppage. In the men's and juveniles' departments there were increases of 35,445 and 12,707 respec-tively; while in the case of women there was a decrease of 14,520. During the four weeks ended 28th January the number of vacancies filled by Employment Exchanges was 86,149, of which 52,690 were for men, 19,405 for women, and 14,054 for juveniles. The following Table summarises the work of the Exchanges

The following Table summarises the work of the Exchanges during the period ended 28th January, 1924.

23- 20	Applica-	is a long.	hpplications outstand- ing at end of week.			
Week ended	tions by Employers.	Vacancies Filled.	Workpeople	From Employers.		
31st December, 1923	31,999	28,253	1,288,822	17,960		
7th January, 1924 14th """"""""""""""""""""""""""""""""""""	25,795 26,342 25,189 22,094	22,861 22,209 21,692 19,387	1,265,797 1,258,061 1,253,002 1,322,454	17,600 18,084 18,341 17,890		
Total (4 weeks)	98,420	86,149	-			

A detailed analysis of the figures in the above Table is not yet available, but statistics for the five weeks ended 7th January are dealt with below.

Applications from Workpeople.—The total number of 870,970 applications from workpeople during the five weeks ended 7th January showed a daily average of 32,258. Of this daily average, men accounted for 20,933, women for 8,590, and juveniles for 2,735.

Vacancies notified.—During the five weeks ended 7th January there were 109,293 vacancies notified, representing a daily average of 4,048. Of this daily average 2,477 were for men, 1,004 for women, and 567 for juveniles.

1,004 for women, and bot for juveniles. Vacancies Filled.—The total number of vacancies filled during the period was 96,108—a daily average of 3,560, as compared with 3,319 during the preceding statistical month. Of this daily average, men accounted for 2,327, women for 735, and juveniles for 498. The corresponding figures for the previous month were: men, 2,054; women, 714; and juveniles, 551.

Juveniles.—During the period 36,540 applications were re-ceived from boys, and 37,316 from girls. The number of vacancies notified for boys was 7,891, and 7,088 vacancies were filled. In the case of girls 7,413 vacancies were notified, and 6,356 were filled. Of the total vacancies filled by juveniles 20.9 per cent. were filled by applicants who obtained their first situation since leaving school.

Statistics relating to Building Trades (men) and to Domestic Service occupations (women) for the five weeks ended 7th January have been summarised under the principal occupations, and the outstanding features are dealt with below.

In the building trades 8,694 vacancies were notified for men and 7,693 vacancies were filled. The principal occupations con-cerned were:—Carpenters, 1,890 vacancies notified and 1,649 filled; bricklayers, 1,003 vacancies notified and 764 filled; painters, 2,180 vacancies notified and 2,109 filled; and builders' labourers, 1,357 vacancies notified and 1,251 placings.

The number of men on the "live register" in the building trades was 101,120⁺ at 7th January, compared with 88,732⁺ at 3rd December.

The number of vacancies notified for women in domestic service during the five weeks ended 7th January was 15,190. Of this number 5,730 were for resident domestic servants, 3,687 for non-resident domestic servants, 3,850 for charwomen, and 1,010 for waitresses; other domestic occupations accounting for

Of the 9,905 vacancies filled, 2,633 were placings in resident domestic service, 2,601 as non-resident, 3,215 as charwomen, and 783 as waitresses.

The total number of women remaining registered on 7th anuary for work in domestic service was 32,613, compared with 37.279 on 3rd December.

The figures above, except those in the first paragraph and the Table, are exclusive of dock labourers and coal porters. The number of casual jobs found for men in these occupations during the period of five weeks ended 7th January was 2,678.

* The figures relate to Great Britain and Northern Ireland. The figures for Great Britain alone, as already published in the Press, show that on 28th January, 1924, there were on the Live Registers 962,000 men, 240,000 women and 82,700 juveniles, compared with 927,000 men, 253,000 women, and 70,000 juveniles at 31st December, 1923.

t The figures exclude workpeople on systematic short time, but include work people "suspended" or "stood off."

The following Table shews for each of the Employment Exchange administrative areas and for the principal towns therein the number of persons remaining on the "live registers" at the Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland at 28th January, 1924. In certain cases, e.g., Bristol, Birmingham. Sheffield, Liverpool, Glasgow, etc., the figures cover more than one Exchange Area :--

	Area.			s remainin g 8th Januar		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared
	Alta.	Men.	Women.	Juveniles.	Total.	with 31st Dec., 1923.
	London South Eastern Division Brighton Chatham Ipawich Norwich Rest of South Eastern South Western Division Bristol	145,802 58,798 2,964 3,147 2,962 4,598 45,127 64,240 12,244	\$8,068 10,301 815 432 595 698 7,761 11,988 3,445	16,027 6,256 650 699 400 244 4,263 6,131 1,324	199,897 75,355 4,429 4,278 3,957 5,540 57,151 82,359 17,013	$\begin{array}{rrrrr} + & 10,574 \\ + & 1,449 \\ + & 434 \\ + & 139 \\ + & 301 \\ - & 214 \\ + & 789 \\ + & 789 \\ + & 5,917 \\ + & 1,017 \end{array}$
	Plymouth Portsmouth Reading Southampton Rest of South Western	5,009 6,274 1,E01 5,430 567 32,915	821 771 146 543 135 6,127	541 726 386 431 130 2,593	6,371 7,771 2,333 6,404 832 41,635	$ \begin{array}{r} + & 217 \\ - & 44 \\ + & 206 \\ - & 204 \\ + & 74 \\ + & 2,651 \end{array} $
	Midlands Division Birmingham Coventry Cradley Heath Derby Leicester Northampton Smethwick Stoke-on-Trent. Weals Bromwich Wolverhampton Rest of Midlands	$\begin{array}{c} 115,050\\ 26,978\\ 2,271\\ 4,630\\ 2,514\\ 1,544\\ 6,098\\ 3,130\\ 7,363\\ 4,483\\ 2,388\\ 5,605\\ 45,612\\ \end{array}$	\$6,651 9,295 411 1,012 568 1,047 497 2,373 1,232 5,060 758 430 1,914 12,054	8,661 1,513 279 294 93 162 323 423 330 857 165 343 3,825	$\begin{array}{c} 160,362\\ 37,786\\ 2,736\\ 5,921\\ 3,376\\ 3,574\\ 2,203\\ 8,794\\ 4,786\\ 12,763\\ 6,098\\ 2,983\\ 7,862\\ 61,491 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{rrrrr} + & 276 \\ - & 715 \\ - & 866 \\ + & 865 \\ + & 68 \\ + & 288 \\ + & 288 \\ + & 430 \\ - & 97 \\ - & 2,489 \\ + & 217 \\ + & 219 \\ + & 218 \\ + & 3,066 \end{array}$
	North Eastern Division Bansley Bradford Darlington Dewabury Doncaster Gateshead Grimsby Halifax Hatilepool Hudlersheld Hudlersheld Hudlesbrough Lincoln Middlesbrough Newcastle-on-Tyne Rotherham Sheffield Stockton-on-Tees Stockton-on-Tees Stockton-on-Tees Stockton-on-Tees Stockton-on-Tees Stockton-on-Tees Stockton-on-Tees Stockton-on-Tees Stockton-on-Tees Stockton-on-Tees Stockton-on-Tees Stockton-on-Tees Stockton-on-Tees Stockton-on-Tees Stockton-on-Tees Stockton-on-Tees Stockton-on-Tees Stockton-on-Tees	$\begin{array}{r} 135,131\\ 948\\ 948\\ 5,767\\ 2,078\\ 872\\ 362\\ 6,150\\ 3,047\\ 2,049\\ 7,444\\ 3,119\\ 10,686\\ 14,017\\ 3,556\\ 15,771\\ 2,111\\ 23,013\\ 5,581\\ 5,720\\ 11,313\\ 5,381\\ 5,720\\ 11,313\\ 2,136\\ 51,230\\ \end{array}$	29,275 256 3,499 212 290 243 719 312 934 298 2,303 1,249 2,781 2,781 2,781 2,781 2,781 2,65 2,860 480 202 878 331 3,841	13,044 88 303 180 118 3666 579 287 65 246 310 1,057 706 316 352 1,233 295 1,488 337 209 689 694 3,126	227,450 1,292 9,569 9,569 9,71 7,448 3,646 3,048 7,988 5,732 12,992 17,504 4,379 9,110 18,422 2,671 27,361 6,131 12,880 3,161 63,197	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$
	Nest of North Lastern Accrington Ashton-under-Lyne Barrow Birkenhead Birkenhead Birkenhead Birkenhead Birkenhead Burnley Burnley Burnley Burnley Burnley Burnley Chorley Chorley Burnley Burnley Burnley Burnley Burnley Burnley Burnley Burnley Burnley Burnley Burnley Burnley Burnley Burnley Burnley Manchester Nelson Rochdate Stockport Stockport Warington Burnley Burnley Clydebank Clydebank Burnley Clydebank Burnley Cardiff Belfast Swansea Northern Ireland Belfast Lurgan Newry Rest of Northern	198,636 2,292 3,805 5,225 4,839 4,359 1,191 6,547 4,134 2,011 1,285 43,590 23,528 1,634 13,776 3,800 5,084 -2,406 8,090 3,716 131,897 5,403 2,332 5,898 10,8226 61,1255 5,768 1,301 4,683 3,4661 6,535 1,224 4,683 6,535 1,224 2,727 49,599 2,7193 17,276 1,7,39 396 653 910 6,319	8,041 82,859 1,759 4900 6600 3,583 933 1,338 4,705 1,515 652 8,018 7,855 365 2,6632 4,005 3,069 3,069 4,055 3,6632 4,025 3,069 4,04 4,152 2,4,119 \$7,762 2,062 11,301 7000 218 9,323 8,575 8,5702 8,5702 8,5702 8,5702 8,5702 1,222 1,222 1,222 1,323 1,222 1,325 8,5702 8,5702 8,5702 1,222	18,825 240 398 681 443 441 441 441 441 441 441 441 441 411 245 337 166 135 3,518 2,231 222 781 4,784 10,165 5,061 283 111 480 2,399 3,579 573 83 224 211 480 2,399 3,579 573 833 224 211 480 2,444 2,451 17 20 15 160	300,320 4,291 6,177 6,396 5,942 8,383 2,369 9,176 33,692 2,072 55,126 33,614 2,675 20,115 6,687 9,649 9,069 3,069 13,650 7,718 80,009 46,993 2,768 7,718 80,009 169,824 6,913 2,768 7,718 80,009 169,824 6,993 2,768 7,7477 6,711 1,630 6,015 46,383 70,049 7,984 1,400 3,240 3,240 3,240 3,240 3,240 3,240 3,240	$\begin{array}{c} - & 541 \\ - & 16,058 \\ - & 653 \\ + & 797 \\ - & 154 \\ - & 804 \\ - & 904 \\ + & 67 \\ - & 1,023 \\ - & 1,163 \\ - & 1,213 \\ -$
State of the state	Total Gt. Britain and Northern Ireland	989,642	249,307	83,505	1,322,454	Far State

February, 1924.

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR.

wages of those engine drivers and firemen who receive "mileage allowance," however, were reduced as the result of an altera-tion in the mileage basis. Coal tippers, etc., at the principal ports also received an increase. Rates of Wages. **Kates of Wages.** In the industries covered by the Department's statistics,* the changes in rates of wages reported to have come into operation in January in Great Britain and Northern Ireland resulted in an aggregate increase of £88,000 in the weekly full-time wages of nearly 1,000,000 workpeople, and in <u>a</u> decrease of £25,000 in the weekly wages of over 480,000 workpeople. The groups of industries principally affected are as follows :--ports also received an increase. In the public utility services there was a general increase of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour or 4d. per shift (plus $12\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. in most cases) in the wages of workpeople employed in the gas industry, and workers employed in the waterworks and electricity supply industries also received an increase of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour in a large number of districts. In industries other than the above the principal increases effected computer matters, workpeople in the seed crushing and affected cement makers, workpeople in the seed crushing and oil milling industry, warehouse workers at Manchester, and coal porters in London. Under the Trade Boards Acts there were increases in the minimum rates fixed for certain classes of workers in the brush and broom trade, and decreases in those fixed for female workers in the button trade; in the coffin furniture and cerement making trade the minimum rates were increased for men and certain classes of female workers and reduced for other In the mining group the principal changes affected coal miners in certain districts, rates of wages being increased in Yorkshire and the East Midlands, the Forest of Dean, and Scotland by amounts ranging from about $1\frac{1}{2}$ to $5\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on current rates; and reduced in Northumberland, Durham, and South Wales and Monmouthshire by amounts ranging from under 1 to $5\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on current rates. Ironstone miners in Cleveland sustained a reduction of over $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on current rates. rates. In the metal group the reductions mainly affected blastfurnace workers, who sustained a decrease in most districts in England and Wales ranging from under 2 per cent. on current rates in Cumberland and North Staffordshire to over $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on current rates in Cleveland. Tron puddlers and millmen in the North of England received an increase of about $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on their current wages. There were also increases in the wages of tube makers in Scotland, electric cable makers and bobbin and shuttle makers

Group of Industries.	Appro: Number people af	ximate of Work- fected by	Amount o in Weekl	f Change y Wages.
the Lifestic grave	Increases.	Decreases.	Increases.	Decreas
Mining and Quarrying Metal Textile Transport Public Utility Service Other Total	495,000 33,000 85,000 202,000 116,000 65,000 996,000	436,500 27,000 300 4,700 1,300 13,500 433,300	£ 56,300 2,400 1,950 10,600 11,100 5,650 88,000	£ 20,00 - 3,10 5 40 25 1,50 25,30

men and certain classes of female workers and reduced for other classes of female workers. The increases taking effect in February, ten, amounting to f56,700 per week, took effect under sliding scales based on the proceeds of the industry or on selling prices; eighty, amounting to nearly £27,000 per week, took effect under cost of living sliding scales; thirty-one, amounting to £12,500 per week, were arranged by standing joint bodies of employers and workpeople (including £10,500 incorporated above under cost of living sliding scales); three, amounting to £750 per week, took effect under Trade Board Orders (including scales); and the remaining twelve cases, amounting to £2,300 per week, were arranged by arbitration or by direct protecteds of the industry or on selling prices; six, amounting to nearly £22,400 per week, took effect under arbitration or mediation; two, amounting to nearly £250 per week, under Trade Board Orders; and the remaining twelve cases, amounting to £4,000 per week, took effect under arbitration or mediation; two, amounting to nearly £250 per week, under Trade Board Orders; and the remaining twelve cases, amounting to £4,000 per week, took effect under arbitration or mediation; two, amounting to nearly £250 per week, under Trade Board Orders; and the remaining twelve cases, amounting to £4,000 per week, were arranged by direct negotiation between the parties. Reductions in wages preceded by disputes causing the parties. Reductions in wages preceded by disputes causing to page of work accounted for nearly £400 per week.

the makers in Social transformation of the textile group affected work-makers. The principal changes in the textile group affected work-people employed in the bleaching, printing, dyeing, etc., trades, who received small increases under cost of living sliding scales. In the transport group there was an increase of 1s. per week in the wages of many important grades of railwaymen; the

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

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. a (Decreases in italics.)
Fishing	Hull	l Jan.	FISHING. Crews of fish-carrying vessels	Decrease of 10s. per week for skippers, 7s. per week for mates and boatswains, 9s. per week for deck hands and cooks, 19s. per week for chief engineers, 18s. per week for second engineers, and 14s. per week for fire- men; and "trip money" for mates reduced by 10s. Rate after change for deck hands, cooks and firemen, 56s. per week plus 10s. "trip money" plus 4d. in the £ net for deck hands, 3d. in the £ net for cooks, and 2d. in the £ net for firemen,
Coal	Northumberland Durham Yorkshire and East Midland Areat Forest of Dean South Wales and Monmouthshire Scotland	1 Jan.	MINING AND QUARRYING. Workpeople employed in or about coal mines, other than those whose wages are regulated by movements in other industries.	 Decrease of 13.33 per cent. on standard base rates of 1879, leaving wages 124.85 per cent. above the standard of 1879, subject to lower-paid men receiving a subsistence wage of 6s. 9½d. per day (as previously fixed). Decrease of 4.25 per cent. on the standard base rates of 1879, leaving wages 120.40 per cent. above the standard of 1879, subject to lower-paid men receiving a subsistence wage of 6s. 8½d. per day (as previously fixed). Increase of 3.03 per cent. on standard base rates of 1911, making wages 55.661 per cent. above the standard of 1911. Increase of 2.24 per cent. on standard base rates of 1919, making wages 67.60 per cent. above the standard of 1911. Decrease of 0.66 per cent. on standard base rates of 1915, leaving wages at the minimum of 28 per cent. above the standard of 1915, leaving wages at the minimum of 28 per cent. above the standard of 1915, leaving wages at the subject to subsistence allowances previously prevent. Standard base rates of 1915, leaving wages 146.37 per cent. above the standard of 192, GAZETTE, and p. 295 of August, 1923, GAZETTE. Increase of 6.73 per cent. on the standard base rates of 1886, making wages 146.37 per cent. above the standard of 1886, subject to a subsistence allowance for surface workers, operative from 1 January, 1922. (See p. 80 of February, 1922, GAZETTE.)

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THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE.

[Based on Returns from Employers and Workpeople.]

Hours of Labour.

No important changes were reported in January.

• The particulars of numbers affected and amount of change in weekly wages exclude changes affecting Government employees, police, agricultural labourers domestic servants, shop assistants, and clerks, for which classes the information available is not sufficient to provide a basis for statistics. Where information is available, however, details of changes in the current rates of wages of agricultural labourers, shop assistants, and clerks are included in the list of principal changes reported. The statistics relate to full-time rates of wages, and do not take into account the effect of short-time working. † Viz., Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Cannock Chase and Warwickshire. ‡ In the case of West Yorkshire the surface workers' percentage addition to the 1911 standard from 1st January was 54 for the Eastern Area and 50.66 for the Western Area

THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE. February, 1924.

February, 1924.

ndustry.	Locality.	Date from which change	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change.			Date from which		D DURING JANUARY, 1924—(continued
tadine ⁿⁱ a rodin <u>na 1</u>	and an an an and the second second	took effect.	anitati ang ang 1	(Decreases in stalics.)	Industry	Locality.	change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)
	Dunham	Alter Cal	MINING AND QUARRYING-(d					OTHER METAL TRADES(con	tinued
ke and for the second s	Durham	Jan.	Cokemen and by-product	Decrease of 4.25 per cent. on standard base rates, leaving wages 120.40 per cent. above the standard, subject to lower paid men receiving a subsistence wage		Middlesex, Kent, Surrey, Essex,	3rd pay	The state of the second second second	The second se
nufacture	South Yorkshire Cleveland	28 Jan.	workers	of bs. 84d. per day (as previously fixed). Increase of 8.03 per cent. on standard base rates, making wages 55.66 per cent. above the standard.	tine to an	H e r t f or dshire, Buckinghamshire, and Berkshire*	day in Jan.		any. Increaset of 6d. per week on time rates. [‡] Rates at change:—13s. to 17s. 6d., plus service bonus if an
enisteret le 15 gertelate	topic at the principal	() (add From State	indusione miners	Decrease of 4.25 per cent. on standard base rates, leaving wages 120.40 per cent. above the standard, subject to lower paid men receiving a subsistence wage of 6s. 8½d. per day (as previously fixed). Increase of 8.03 per cent. on standard base rates, making wages 55.66 per cent. above the standard. Decrease of 5 per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 84.5 per cent. above the standard. Rates after change for labourers: (underground), 3s. 4d. to 3s. 8d. per shift; (surface), 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d. per shift; plus in each case 84.5 per cent.		(contd.)	an marine (Men 21 years and over, other than plumber jointers, join-	Increase† of 1s. 6d. per week on time rates. [‡] Ra after change: 45s. to 51s.
Iron	Furness District	13 Jan.	Iron ore miners and surface- men (except blacksmiths and	case 84.5 per cent. Decrease* of 2d. per shift in the bargain price for miners (9s. 1d. to 8s. 11d.); of 2½d. per shift in the minimum wage (8s. 4½d. to 8s. 2d.); of 1½d. per shift for surfacemen, and of ¾d. per shift for boys under 16 years.	anarran Alaran 19	Great Britain other than the	3rd pay day in	Youths 18 to 20 years	Increaset of 1s, 6d, per week on time rates + P.
lining {	Leicestershire and	23 Jan.	fitters whose wages are not regulated by sliding scale arrangements) Ironstone quarrymen	minimum wage (8s. 44d. to 8s. 2d.); of 14d. per shift for surfacemen, and of 3d. per shift for boys under 16 years.	Electric Cable Making	above counties*	Jan.	Women 18 years and over	after change: 33: to 39: 6d. Increaset of 3d. per week on time rates. Rates as change: 12: 9d. to 21: 9d. Increaset of 1s. per week on time rates. Rates a change: 26: 6d. to 30: 6d., plus service bonus if a Increaset of 6d. per week on time rates. Rates a change: 13: 10: 10: 10: 10: 10: 10: 10: 10: 10: 10
da sol has	parts of Lincoln- shire Northamptonshire	16 Jan.		Decrease* of 21 per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 20 per cent. above the standard of 1920. Decrease* of 51 per cent on stindard rates last	(contđ.)	for more from the	lst pay	Girls 14 to 17 years	Increase† of 6d. per week on time rates.‡ Rates a change :13s. to 17s. 6d., plus service bonus if an
Jane Stand	Banbury District		men Ironstone miners and quarry- men	wages 562 per cent. above the standard of 1920. Decrease* of 52 per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 563 per cent above the standard rates, leaving		Greater London Area	day after 1 Jan.	Plumber jointers, plumber join- ters' mates, jointers and join- ters' mates	New rates adopted for plumber-jointers' mates, joint and jointers' mates, resulting in an increase of 2 per hour for jointers, and of 1.25d, per hour
	South and West Durham Northamptonshire	Salara Car	Limestone quarrymen {	Decrease of 5 per cent. above the standard rates, leaving wages 84.5 per cent. above the standard. Decrease ^a of 51 per cent on standard.		Antological and the	The second second	a channe transition	New rates adopted for plumber-jointers' mates, join and jointers' mates, resulting in an increase of 2- per hour for jointers, and of 1.25d. per hour jointers' mates; the rate for plumber-jointers rem ing unchanged. Rates after change:-plum jointers, 1s. 83d.; plumber-jointers' mates, 1s. 4 jointers, 1s. 6.28d.; jointers' mates, 1s. 4.02d. Increaset of 1s. 11 ¹ / ₂ d. per week.
rrying	Thames and Med- way Districts	1 Jan.	Chalk quarry workers	Decrease [*] of 5½ per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 56½ per cent. above the standard of 1920. Decrease [*] of 5½ per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 56½ per cent. above the standard. Decrease [*] of 5½ per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 84.5 per cent. above the standard. Decrease [*] of 5½ per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 65½ per cent. above the standard of 1920. Increase of 3d. per hour to timeworkers and of 3s. for a full week to pieceworkers. Hourly rates after change for labourers: Grays area and Little and West Thurock area, 1s. 04d.; Kent area, 113d.	the pole i me	Various districts in Great Britain§	1 Jan.	Plumber jointers, jointers and jointers' mates	jointers, 1s. 6.28d.; jointers' mates, 1s. 4.02d. Increase† of 1s. 11 ¹ / ₂ d. per week.
	hanall escevil -	DDICK			Machine Knife and	Sheffield	1 Jan. (Jobbing grinders	Bonus reduced from 75 per cent. to 60 per cent. wh calculated on the net earnings, and from 50 per cent to 40 per cent. where calculated on the gross earning Bonus reduced from 60 per cent. to 50 per cent.
1	Works situated on	Varia and	POTTERY, GLASS, CHEMICAL,		Allied Trades	A CONTRACTOR IN ACCOUNT OF		Slacks machine grinders Hand grinders	Bonus reduced from 60 per cent. to 50 per cent. earnings.
ufacture {	South Bank of River Thames† Other districts in Great Britain†	After last pay week in Jan.	Workpeople employed in the cement trade (except brick- layers, joiners and other skilled tradesmen)	Increase of 4s. per week (of 48 hours) for adult male day, piece and shift workers, and of 2s. per week for youths under 18 years and for women. Increase of 2s. per week (of 48 hours) for adult male day, piece and shift workers, and of 1s. per week for youths under 18 years and for women.	and Salitane	England and Wales	lst pay day in Jan.	Workpeople employed in the bobbin making industry; also shuttlemakers employed by certain firms at Garston and Blackburn	New price list adopted. Increaset of 1s. per week for men and of 6d. per w for women. Rates after change: higher skilled n 64s. 6d.; lesser skilled men, 55s.; labourers, 4 women, 26s. per week.
	te en subban porce a fiert mader subfigu		AND STEEL SMELTING AND M	ANUFACTURE.	Manufacture of Textile	Yorkshire	lst pay		Addition of 53 per cent. previously paid, increased 57 per cent. Minimum daywork rate after chang 101d. per hour, plus 57 per cent. (or 1s. 4.485d.
	Cleveland and Durham	E CALL		Decrease of 103 per cent. on standard rates of 1919, leaving wages 272 per cent. above the standard (plus, in some cases, an output or input bonus). Minimum	Machinery Fittings	Lancashire	day in Jan.	Shuttlemakers	Addition of 53 per cent. previously paid, on rev list of 1920, increased† to 57 per cent. Minimum
1403 1010 .255	Tees-side West - Cumberland	2nd full	Cokemen and by-product workers Workpeople (excluding skilled craftsmen and bricklayers on	rate after change for scale labourers—6s. per shift plus 27½ per cent. Decrease* of 2½ per cent on standard rates, leaving wages 37½ per cent.§ above the standard, plus, in	minesent of the sector	Des de rel a de la	Pay day	Wool-comb, hackle and gill	work rate after change:1s. per hour, plus 57 cent. (or 1s. 6-84d. per hour). Decrease of 13d. per hour. Rates after chang
	and North Lan- cashire	pay in Jan.	at blastfurnaces	wages 374 per cent.§ above the standard, plus, in some cases, an output bonus. Minimum rates after change: general labourers, 4s. 10d. per shift, plus 374 per cent.; shift labourers, 5s. per shift, plus 374 per	in the state is	Bradford, Leeds, Halifax, Keighley and District	in week ending 12 Jan.¶	making (fallermen, circle re- pairers and finishers in shops)	circle repairers and finishers in shops, 1s. 8½d.; fai men in shops, 1s. 6½d.
10	North Stafford-	ingup	Blastfurnacemen	cent. Decrease* of 3 per cent. on standard rates, leaving waves 79.75 per cent above the standard plus of at	Farriery	North-East Coast District of Eng- land.**	1 Jan.	Farriers	Increase of ¹ / ₂ d. per hour. Rates after change :firen 1s. 5 ¹ / ₂ d.; doormen, 1s. 5d.
Iron Ifacture		d ay in Jan.	A state of the sta	rate make-up payment (varying according to tonnage) for keepers, helpers and slaggers. Minimum rate after change for yard labourers, 3s. 8d. per shift, plus	Cotton	Burnley	1st pay	TEXTILE TRADES. Cotton drawers and twisters	Total and for longing for the state
	South Stafford-	pay after	Blastfurnacemen	Decrease* of 5 per cent. on standard rates, leaving	Industry	/ Durincy	day in Jan.	(grey work)	Extra payments fixed for drawing fine setts with ends or over per inch in 60's twist and finer and • twisting fine setts over 140 ends per inch in pop and venetians and over 100 or 120 ends in other so
		14 Jan.	Discher	Rates after change:-general labourers, 5s. 1d. per shift, plus 31 per cent.; by-turn labourers, 5s. 3d. per shift, plus 31 per cent. Decrease [*] of 21 per cent. on standard rates of 1920,	1054	Bradford and Keighley	Pay day in week ending	Pinsetters employed in spinning and combing mills	Decrease of 12d, per hour (1s. 82d, to 1s. 62d.).
	N o t tinghamshire and parts of Der-		Blastfurnacemen	leaving wages 20 per cent. above the standard.	Woollen and Worsted Industry	Leicester	12 Jan.¶ 3, 4 or 5 Jan.	Workpeople employed in lambs' wool, and worsted yarn spin-	Bonus increased† from 31d. to 4d. in the shilling earnings. Minimum rates after change: timeworke
ALL STREET	byshire Northamptonshire	1 100 20		Minimum basis rates increased by 2½d. per shift, making rates 5s. 8½d. to 6s. 1½d. per shift, plus 20 per cent.	cinature the	week. Rutes after	at ist the	ning industry (excluding work- people such as engineers be- longing to Unions other than	men, 42s. 6d., plus 4d. in shilling; women, 25s. plus 4d. in shilling; pieceworkers, 25 per cent. al time rates.
The second of the second secon	South Wales and Monmouthshire	a war all say	Blastfurnacemen Blastfurnacemen	Decrease* of 5½ per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 56½ per cent. above the standard of 1920. Decrease* of 4 per cent., leaving wages 59% per cent.	a courfist	. 6d. : drawars-off. 5d eross colfers and	Long and a	the Workers' Union) Men and women	Flat rate bonus of 6s. 6d. per week for men and
1002.001	the Strength and a not		Iron puddlers	becrease of 52 per cent. On standard rates, leaving wages 562 per cent. above the standard of 1920. Decrease* of 4 per cent., leaving wages 593 per cent. above the standard. Minimum rate after change for labourers, 4s. 52d, per shift, plus 593 per cent. Increase* of 5 per cent. on standard rates, making wages 472 per cent. above the standard. Increase* of 5 per cent. on standard rates, making wages 45 per cent above the standard.	Hosiery Manufacture	Hawick	lst pay day in Jan.	Apprentices	per week respectively, the bonus of 30 per cent. base rates previously paid remaining unchange Flat rate bonus of 2s. 3d. per week increased 3s. 4 ¹ / ₂ d. per week, the bonus of 22 ¹ / ₂ per cent. on b
n and	North of England Barrow-in-Furness				and a second	Yorkshire (mainly)	to the to	Workpeople employed in the	"Cost of living" wage increased [†] from 79 per cent
teel Ifacture	South Wales and Monmouthshire	1. 66.08 10	Iron and steel workers	Increase [*] of 5 per cent. on standard rates, making wages 45 per cent. above the standard of 1919. Decrease [*] of 4 per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 593 per cent. above the standard. Minimum rate after change for labourers, 4s. 5½d. per shift, plus 593 per cent.	1360 - 1	and certain firms in Lancashire††	tina the so.	dyeing and finishing trades (except mechanics, etc., em- ployed on repair and main- tenance of plant)	80½ per cent. for timeworkers, from 63½ per cent 64½ per cent. for pieceworkers (except pressers), from 47½ per cent. to 48½ per cent. for pressers. A mum rates after change: timeworkers—Brad Dycers' Association. Ltd.—men 21 years and over.
		ng The ya	ENGINEERING AND SHIPBUI	In the second seco	Textile	er boar to rout	Pay	mahors, chairmakers, Im man	21 and over, 30s. 3d., plus 80½ per cent; women and over 18s plus 80½ per cent; women
Ship- pairing	Clyde District	1 Jan.	Ship scalers OTHER METAL TRADES.	Decrease of 1d. per hour (1s. to 11d.).	Bleaching, Printing, Dyeing, etc.	Lancashire (main- ly) and certain firms in York-	pay day	Workpeople employed in the bleaching, dyeing, calico print- ing and finishing trades (ex-	Males: "Cost of living" wage increased from 23s. to 24s. 5d. in Lancashire, Cheshire and Derbyshire, from 23s 11d to 24s. 5d. in Scotland, for worker
Tube ifacture	Glasgow, Airdrie and Coatbridge	21 Jan.	Article States	Increase of 2s. her week for men. 1s. 6d. per week for youths, and 9d. per week for boys.	and the second	shire, Cheshire and Derbyshire [‡] ; also Scotland	in Feb.	cept waste bleachers, machine calico printers, mechanics, etc. employed in repair and	years of age and over, and by smaller amounts
etric able	Middlesex, Kent, Surrey Essex	i and (Men 21 years and over, other than plumber jointers, join-	Increase** of 1s. 6d. per week on time rates. ^{††} Rates after change:-50s. 5 ¹ / ₂ d. to 56s. 4d.	•	to 10.	to st.	maintenance of plant)	those under 21. Females: "Cost of living" wage increased† from 14 to 14s. 6d. per week for workers 18 years of age over in Lancashire, Cheshire and Derbyshire, and workers 21 years and over in Scotland, and by sm amounts for workers under these age limits in memory districts
king	Hertfordshire, Buckinghamshire, and Berkshire	3rd pay day in Jan.	ters and jointers' mates Youths 18 to 20 years	Increase** of 1s. 21d, per week on time rates.†† Rates after change:	a strategies	and the set of the set of the set])	and the second s	respective districts.

The change took effect under an arrangement whereby wages fluctuate in correspondence with selling prices.
The increases took effect under an arrangement made by the National Joint Industrial Council for the Cement Manufacturing Industry.
Under the slicing scale arrangement previously in operation a reduction of 4½ per cent. on standard rates took effect on 6th January. From this d te, however, it was agreed that the selling price corresponding to the standard rates should be altered from 6is. 6d. to 67s. 6d. per ton, the effect of this alteration being a further reduction in wages of 6 per cent. on standard rates.
The above increase did not take effect as a result of the operation of the sliding scale based on selling prices. It is limited to a period of 3 calendar months.
The increases in time rates described took effect under an agreement made by the Joint Industrial Council for the Cale Making Industry.
The change took effect under an arrangement whereby wages fluctuate in correspondence with the Ministry of Labour index number of retail prices.

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The change took enect under an arrangement whereby wages interface in correspondence where the arrange of the pieceworkers.
§ Viz., Yorkshire, South Wales and Monmouthshire, West Midlands, West of England, East Midlands, East Coast, Home Counties, South Coast District, Devon and Cornwall, and Scotland.
| Excluding workpeople employed by certain firms at Blackburn and Garston.
* The change was made in respect of the pay preceding the date mentioned.
** Viz., Newcastle, North Shields, South Shields, Sunderland.
** The change applied to workers employed by firms who are members of the British Cotton and District Worsted Dyers' and Finishers' Association, Ltd. (Slubbing Section), the 'Leeds Dyers' and Finishers' Federation, the Yorkshire Indigo Scarlet and Colour Dyers' Ltd., the Leeds and District Worsted Dyers' and Finishers' Association, The Bradford Dyers' Association, Ltd., and the Employers' Federation of Cotton Yarn Bleachers, Dyers and Sizers (certain firms). At Hebden Bridge the increases for timeworkers, were similar to those in Lancashire (see above); for pieceworkers the "cost of living" wage was increased from 68 to 69 per cent. for netherwood cutters, the Employers' Federation of Dyers and Finishers.
* The change applied to workpeople employed by firms who are members of the Feieration of Callco Printers, the Employers' Federation of Dyers and Finishers, and from 58 to 59 per cent. for hand cutters, from 52 to 53 per cent. for members of the Fe eration of Callco 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).

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DRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES

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

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)	Industry.	Locality	Date from which change took effect.	
	in the second se		TEXTILE TRADES—(continued).	OTHER				PA
ta setali is constanti is ta setali i ta setali	West Riding of Yorkshire Bolton and Bury Districts		Mechanics employed in dye- works Mechanics employed in the tex- tile dyeing, bleaching, etc.,	Increase* to a rate of 64s. 8d. per week at Bradford, Leeds and Shipley, and to 63s. 8d. at other towns. "Cost of living" wage increased* from 23s. 10d. to 24s. 5d. per week. Total rate after change, 62s. 5d.	ther change	en week. Rates :	12 10. 1907, 436. 20. 2007 71	P
Textile Bleaching, Printing,	Certain towns in Lancashire† Lancashire, Che- shire, Derbyshire	Pay preced- ing 1st pay d*y	industry Mechanics employed in calico print works Engravers, etc., employed in calico print works:	"Cost of living" wage increased* from 23s. 10d. to 24s. 5d. per week. Total rate after change, 62s. 5d. "Cost of living" wage increased* from 32s. 6d. to 33s. 1d.	Printing	London	Pay day in week ending 5 Jan.	R
Dyeing, etc. (contd.)	and Scotland Lancashire, Che- shire, Derbyshire, Scotland and Bel- fast	in Feb.	Engravers Turners polishers and var- nishers Engravers employed in en- graving works	"Cost of living" wage increased* from 23s. 10d. to 24s. 5d. per week. "Cost of living" wage increased* from 29s. 6d. to 30s. 1d. per week for men, from 17s. 4d. to 17s. 8d. per week for women, from 18s. 11d. to 19s. 4d. per week for youths 18 to 21 years, and from 13s. 5d. to 13s. 8d. per week for youths 16 to 18 years.	time lands	nours 8. nor weak, taishu 1992 BF Teatson n 1997 Status 19 to 19 2019521 Jahon on	A Constanting of the second se	
and service	d and a sublice real bit I to have evalu- to be to be a sublice to be a sublice of	ing to the second	CLOTHING TRADES.	105. out. per week for youns to to to yours.	and a second sec	BUI Ambleside and Dis-	LDING A	4
Retail Bespoke	Leve west.	1st pay	Certain classes of female workers: Learrers	Decrease of 4d. or 1d. per hour. Minimum rates after change > 12d. during first year, increasing to 64d. during fourth year.	Building	trict York Colchester	1923 1 Jau.	Bu
bespoke	London‡	after 1 Jan.	Other than learners, with 4 years' employment in the trade Junior hands	 Decrease of ¹/₂d. per hour in the general minimum time rate (8d. to 7¹/₂d.). Increase of ¹/₄d. per hour in the minimum rate (8³/₃d. to 9d.). 	and Allied Trades	Welwyn Garden City Aberdeen Edinburgh and	2 Nov, 1923 1 Jan.	Bi Pa M
m que ba ti-		tion tall	Solemakers and seatsmen	Percentages of 5 and 7½ previously paid on the list of March, 1919, for solemakers and seatsmen respectively,		Glasgow London	1923 1 Jan.	As
Clogging	Jancashire (except Manchester)	lst pay day in Jan.	Men on weekly wages Branch managers (employed by Co-operative Societies)	withdrawn. Decrease of 48. 6d, per week in the minimum rate (62s. 6d. to 58s.). Decrease of 5s. per week in the minimum rate (67s. 6d, to 62s. 6d.).		to in diracts i Under the workes in the inter incomplete (ite, This is the in shart, ite the set is the st		Ce
Baking	the W. res reading the	1	FOOD, DRINK, AND TOBACCO	TRADES.	the second second	in chess is distant. Is, id. Is standed, therease	t: stokers botrets, terestoris	t dia Cite
and onfectionery	Pontypridd and Rhondda Valley	29 Dec.	Workpeople employed in the bread baking and confec- tionery trades	Increase* of 2s. 6d. per week for adult male workers, and of proportionate amounts for improvers and female workers. Rate after change for table hands: daywork, 65s.; nightwork, 70s. per week.	per Bene age: duant montine is th	rades and by M. fore, Recise after a di per much after d	ultitie at ultitie fai	Ce
eed Crushing and Oil Milling Industry	Great Britain§	1st full pay week in Jan.	All classes except those whose wages are regulated by move- ments in the engineering and other trades	Increase* of 1s. per week for men 21 and over, and of 6d. per week for youths and women.	arra arra bone arra observed	and ship ship sail out which for north of shi par weak for woodly that weak for	tar i mon	é
Tobacco	Great Britain	14 Jan.	Workpeople (other than appren- tices) employed in the cigar section of the tobacco trade	General minimum time rates, previously fixed under the Trade Boards Acts, for workers other than those who have not completed the first twelve months' em- ployment as learners to hand or mould cigar making extended to cover these learners. (See also p. 72.)	0.75 mm en oad forsene register with	tracisment" from 71 anticitation and robal assergers, 42a	1 Jar.	111 741 741 741 741 741
sette wild hus said hus to read		and and a and another the state	WOODWORKING AND FURNITU	a start the start of the start	rear custar and smarters 78. 784	an anal. Indes nes des scatterrees L miture collectors		Ce
10 19 19 19 11 1 	Hartlepools Bristol	1.Jan. 1st pay day in Dec.	Labourers employed in sawmills Woodcutting machinists and sawyers employed in sawmills and box and packing case shops	Increase of 1d. per hour (1s. to 1s. 1d.). Increase* of 2d. per hour (1s. 52d. to 1s. 6d.).	Railway	Great Britain	roadiana rofibac of Licha for	
Mill awing, etc.	a rate atter dans		Workpeople employed in saw- mills (pit prop):- Male workers 19 years of	Increase of 3s. per week. Rates after change: single	Service	Kiniman rates s. 56, 42, 49s 76	11:1 201/1 A.0015	2
âge, nort s	Bo'ness and South Alloa	25 Jan.	age and over	bench sawyers, 63s. 6d.; double bench sawyers and saw sharpers, 60s. 6d.; drawers-off, 56s.; mill loaders, mill and motor cross cutters and tallymen, 55s.; labourers, 54s.	ALL CLARE CAR	week. Rates after and selone collec welce works' labor	an as nounoide bito bra	Ra
ab ther could a starting to co increased	North East Coast¶	1 Jan.	Male workers under 19 years and female workers Cabinet makers, carvers, machinists, french polishers, and upholsterers	Increase of is. 6d. per week. Increase* of ¹ / ₂ d. per hour. Rates after change: french polichers and upholsterers. 1s. 7d.: others. 1s. 7d.	These and the second se	is to be fill not mail file all commen- add not nonli- met. Minimum weat		En
1 To get pool	Leeds, Bradford, Halifax, Keighley, and Brighouse	lst full pay in Jan.	Cabinet makers, chairmakers, carvers, machinists, uphol sterers, and french polishers Upholstresses	Increase* of ¹ / ₄ d. per hour (10d. to 10 ¹ / ₄ d.).	and a second sec	reach fairtean arrange reach far baarousere refuscoire Raros rea il bourses, for f	3rd jull	3
Anne Strager	York and Ripon	lst full pay in Jan.	ers, and upholsterers	Increase* of ½d. per hour (1s. 6d. to 1s. 6½d.).	the second	which a start the start start of the start o	pay week in Jan.	4.5 100
All division	Birmingham, West		Cabinet makers, chairmakers, woodcutting machinists, up- holsterers, and french poliabers	rate after change for skilled adults, 1s. 02d.	and a state of the	1. 174 : 15, 246, 247	1. 328.; (c 1:
Furniture Ianufacture	Bromwich, and Wolverhampton	1 or 2 Feb.	Female french polishers and upholstresses Pieceworkers	Increase* of id. per hour for adult workers, and of proportionate amounts for girls. Standard rate after change for adults, 9id. Percentage addition to pre-war piecework prices in creased* from 671 to 70.	Dock, Wharf, Riverside, etc., Labour	Various ports in England and Scot- land**	lst full pay week in Jan.	Coł
Por alignit	Birmingham and West Bromwich	Pay day in week ending	Carpet and blind fitters	Increase* of 1d. per hour (1s. 5d. to 1s. 51d.).	And Distance and	A Stantaspect respectively. 2	order Dete aven	
	Beith and Loch- winnoch	1 Feb.	Cabinet makers, chairmakers, carvers, french polishers, machinists, upholsterers, up-	women. Minimum rates after change: men, 18. 420	Class II. · Pr	esses running one main re- esses running one main re- in wages resulted from th try (see page 222 of GAZE took effect under an arra	el printing s	single

The change took effect under an arrangement whereby wages fluctuate in correspondence with the Ministry of Labour index number of retail prices.
 Including Tottington, Whitefield, Radcliffe, Walmersley, Entwistle, Ramsbottom, Accrington and Westhoughton.
 The change took effect under an agreement made between the London Employers' Association Ltd. and the Metropolitan Needlework Section of the Shell
 Assistants' Union.
 The increase took effect under an agreement arrived at by the Joint Industrial Council for the Seed Crushing and Compound Cake Manufacturing Industry.
 The provision previously in force which restricted the application of rates to apprentices indentured in the form prescribed by the Trade Board has also (with effect from 14th January, 1924) been extended to apprentices indentured in this or any other form approved by the Trade Board.
 Theluding Newcastle, North and South Shields, Sunderland, Gateshead, Middlesbrough, Stockton, West Hartlepool, and Darlington.

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Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)
PER, PRINTING AND ALLIEL	TRADES.
inters' assistants employed by master printers on letter- press, rotary and intaglio machines:	 Web magazine presses divided into three grades, according to the web width of the machines with two classes of machines* in each grade; and weekly rates of wages fixed as follows:— Varying from 83s. 6d. to 89s. 6d., according to grade and classification. Varying from 81s. to 87s., according to grade and classification. Weekly rates of wages adopted for daywork and nightwork as follows:—
Linotype assistants Proof pullers Reading department:	Daywork, 73s. 6d.; nightwork, 104s. 9d. Daywork, 73s. 6d., or 76s. 6d.; nightwork, 104s. 9d. or 110s. 3d.
Revisers Copyholders	Daywork, 70s.; nightwork, 101s. 3d. Daywork, 60s.; nightwork, 85s. 6d.
ALLIED TRADES (including	Works of Construction).
uilding trade operatives uilding trade operatives	Increase of $\frac{1}{2}d$, per hour for craftsmen (1s. $3\frac{1}{2}d$, to 1s. 4d.), and to a rate of 1s. per hour for labourers.† Increase of $\frac{1}{2}d$, per hour for craftsmen (1s. $6\frac{1}{2}d$, to 1s. 7d.) and $\frac{1}{2}d$, per hour for labourers (1s. 2d. to 1s. $2\frac{1}{2}d$.).†
ilding trade operatives ilding trade operatives inters	Increase of ½d. per hour. Rates after change: crafts- men, 1s. 4½d.; labourers, 1s. 0½d.† Rates adopted of 1s. 5½d. per hour for craftsmen and 1s. 1¼d. per hour for labourers.† Increase of 1d. per hour (1s. 4½d. to 1s. 5½d.).
pnumental masons phalte workers	Increase of 1d. per hour (1s. 44d. to 1s. 51d.). Increase of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: Edin- burgh, 1s. 7d.; Glasgow, 1s. 8d. Increaset of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: spreaders, 1s. 51d.; potmen and labourers, 1s. 21d.
TRANSPORT TRADES.	
rtain classes of railway ser- rants in traffic grades : Male workers 20 years of age and over§ Female workers rtain other classes of workers mployed by Railway Com-	Increase; of 1s. per week in those cases in which there remained a sliding scale bonus of 2s. per week or over prior to the last reduction in July, 1923.§ Increase; of 1s. per week to women in receipt of a war wage of 15s. per week, and of 6d. per week to girls in receipt of a war wage of 7s. 6d. per week.
anies: Men in receipt of a war wage	Increaset of 1s. per week.
of 27s. per week (canal workers, etc.) Female part-timers (char- women, cleaners, etc.) Gatekeepers (wives of Com-	Bonuses, previously paid, increased by 6d. per week on base rates up to 9s. 1Id., and by 9d. per week on base rates of 10s. and over, subject to maximum bonuses, varying with base rates from 3s. to 11s. 3d. per week. War wage increased from 3s. to 3s. 6d. per week.
panies' servants) rtain classes of workpeople mployed by Railway Com- anies at docks (including nen on hydraulic and steam bumping plant), on dredgers and hopper barges, tug boats, mall passenger and lake teamers, tenders and ferry boats!	Increase; of 1s. per week in those cases in which there remained a sliding scale bonus of 2s. per week or over prior to the last reduction in July, 1923.
ilway police (except uniform r detective inspectors)	Increase; of 1s. per week. Rates after change for constables: 62s. per week in first year, increasing to 72s. after ten years' service (plus 3s. extra if work- ing in London).
gine drivers and firemen:— Ien paid on a mileage basis	A day's pay to be reckoned as a travelling distance of 130 miles instead of 120 as previously, beyond which mileage payments are to accrue at the same rate as previously (viz., one hour's pay for every 15 miles of such encess.)
privers of shunting engines (not performing train miles or working with a brake van) and shed yard engines, and men engaged in prepar- ing or disposal of engines	Maximum rate of wages to be 14s. per day after 4 years' service instead of 15s. after 5 years' service, such alterations to be subject to the conditions that no men at present receiving 15s. per day shall suffer a reduction; that men with 5 years' service, if en- gaged on work other than shunting, etc., shall receive 15s. per day when so employed; and that after an aggregate period of 313 days (calculated from time a man reached the 14s. rate), either consecutively or intermittently, in working main line trains, the rate shall not be reduced below 15s. if and when the men are put back on to shunting, etc., duties.¶
al tippers, teemers, weighers, oistmen and boxmen	are put back on to shunting, etc., duties.¶ Increaset of 5 per cent., making wages 105 per cent. above pre-war tariffs and payments for incidentals, subject to the minimum wage of 60s. per week pre- viously in force.

gle colour. gle colour and one or two colours on wrapper or main reel single colour and set-off reel. of the districts concerned, under the Grading Scheme of the National Wages and Conditions Council for

1 This increase took effect under an arrangement whereby wages fluctuate in correspondence with the Ministry of Labour index number of retail prices.
1 This increase applied to a majority of the workpeople, other than engine drivers and firemen, shunters, and passenger and goods guards, and the majority of algnainen. Other classes, besides those mentioned above, to whom the increase did not apply, on account of the residuary sliding scale bonus (prior to July, 1923) being less than 2s, per week, included shed enginemen and their mates, ticket and excess luggage collectors, station and yard foremen, traffic regulators, carriage and wagon examiners, hydraulic enginemen and chargemen cleaners in loco sheds, motor-bus drivers, horse and motor-bus conductors, and fire brigade men.
8 The increase applied in the great majority of cases; the principal classes to whom it did not apply included mooring men at docks, engineers on small tugs, and engineers, engineers in boatswaiss and leading seamen on small passenger steamers, etc.
9 The above changes are in accordance with the terms of the findings of the National Wages Board, as modified subsequently by mutual agreement. In the case of men paid upon a mileage basis, it was agreed that a day's pay should be reckoned on a travelling distance of 140 miles from the first pay week in Jalv, and on 150 miles from the first pay week in January, 1925, unless in the interval it should be agreed upon otherwise.
** The increase applied to the principal coal exporting centres, including those on the North East Coast, and at Hull, Grimsby, Immingham, Leith, Methil, Burntisland, and Bo'ness. The increase did not apply to the Bristol Channel Ports.

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THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE.

February, 1924.

February, 1924.

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

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

Industry.	Locality	Date from which change took effect,	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)	Industry.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	
			TRANSPURT TRADES - (conti	nued).	a service of		hintin aba	N
Road	Isle of Man (Eastern Area)	lst pay day in	Carters and labourers	Increase [*] of 1s. per week. Rates after change: Eastern area, 43s.	and a second		not des	Wo b
Transport)	Scotland	Jan. 1 Jan.	Carters employed by railway contractors	Increase of 1s. per week. Rates after change: one-horse carters, 52s.; two-horse carters, 54s.	and the second	difficult offer present	The approx	
	MILLING ANTS OF	ar freight fi	PUBLIC UTILITY SERVICES.	a linet		the putces to a state	rister a	
Gas Undertakings	Great Britain†	l Jan.	Men, 18 years of age and over:	Increase* of 1d. per hour or 4d. per shift.\$	1. 4 10 - 31 9 	Valoy	Carlo and the second	
(Certain Districts in England	lst full pay in Jan.	Adult male workers	Increase* of ¹ / ₂ d. per hour.	Diss Tofation	in Barra	an interest an interest fiel	
Waterworks Undertakings	London	lst pay on or after 1 Jan.	Men, 18 years of age and over (excluding workpeople whose wages are regulated by move- ments in other trades)	Increase [*] of 1s. 11 ¹ / ₂ d. per week, raising the bonus to 25s. 5 ¹ / ₂ d. for men over 21 years of age, to 19s. 5 ¹ / ₂ d. for youths 18 to 21 years doing full men's work, and to 13s. 6 ¹ / ₂ d. for other youths 18 to 21 years of age. Rates after change: general labourers, 28s.; stokers, 32s. to 35s. per week, plus in each case bonuses as above.	Brush and Broom	Great Britain	1 Jan.	34
01 .[166]	Various Districts in Great Britain¶	1 Jar.	Adult male workers (except electrical fitters and wiremen in certain districts)**	Increase* of ¹ / ₂ d. per hour.	100	3 & Carling Strange	0.0	
et ine suit in	Great Britain	1 Jan.	Adult male workers employed in the electricity generating stations of railway companies (excluding electrical fitters,	Increase* of id. per hour. Rates after change in London: switchboard attendants up to 5,000 k.w. 1s. 7id.; 5,000 k.w. and over, 1s. 10id.; turbine mechanics, 1s. 7id.; drivers, 1s. 6d.; leading stokers,			10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 1	
Electricity Supply Undertakings	and the second s	and of the	etc., engaged in installation work and other craftsmen whose wages are regulated by movements in their own	is. 7d.; other stokers, 1s. 52d.; trimmers, 1s. 32d., plus in each case 1d. per hour for shift workers.	Wholesale Warehousing	Manchester	1 Jan.	We
same one	West Midlands	1 Jan.	trades) Youths under 21 years of age	Increase* of 1s. 4d. per week for youths 18 to 20 years of age and of 9d. for those 16 to 17 years.	and the second second	The second second	A REAL MARTIN	1:
and Series	East Midlands	3 Jan.	Adult male workers employed in Grade II, undertakings	New schedule of hourly rates adopted 7 for the Various classes of workpeople in Grade 2 Undertakings, result- ing in an increase in wages in the majority of cases. The new schedule includes the following rates.— Mechanical fitters is 4d to start is 5d, after ist	Coal, etc., Delivery	London	11 Jap.	Coa
Stati - Maillan a	norma anacis ei dann	nag al bi		month; electrical fitters, 1s. 5d. to start, 1s. 6d. after 1st month; stokers, 1st class, 1s. 3d.; 2nd class, 1s. 2d.; general labourers, 1s. 1d.	Cemeteries	London	4 Jan.	Ga
Omnibus Undertaking	London	1 Jan.	Official and control staff, drivers and conductors	War bonus previously granted increased* by 1s. per week for official grades, and by \d grades, per hour for drivers and conductors. Rates after change: drivers, 1st 6 months, 1s. 0\d, per hour, after 6 months, 1s. 2d, plus 7\d bonus;; conductors, 1st 6 months, 1s. 2d, pour, after 6 months, 11d, plus ⅆ, bonus.		ine and an and an an	anti anga	Fe
	Cumberland	1 Jan.	County Council employees (ex- cluding masons) in Highways and Bridges Departments	Increase [*] of 1s. 6d. per week for workpeople over 18		feet matananana a	dille a digit	d d
ber week on ber week on be reasination	Lavcaster	1 Jan.	General yard and road labourers, road sweepers and refuse collectors	Cost of living bonus increased [*] from 71 to 75 per cent. Rates after change: general yard and road labourers, 45s. 6d. per week; road sweepers, 42s.; refuse collec- tors, 43s. 9d	Button Making	Great Britain	7 Jan.	
aloor to	Dudley	Wk. ended 2 Jan.	Manual workers	Increase [*] of 1s. per week. Rates after change: labourers, 7s. 5½d. per day; scavengers and sweepers, 5s. 9½d. and 5s. 11½d.; refuse collectors, 7s. 7½d.	stod.	i ko setilentsettepe	norease a aptorne fa	
annie chaldwie wardt wardt dat	Peterborough	1 Jan.	Manual workers employed in non-trading and Waterworks	Increase* of 8d. per week. Rates after change: labourers, roadmen, scavengers and horse drivers, 43s, 11d.; refuse collectors, 45s. 11d. per week.		Licharde Sau //	100 - 100 -	
Non-Trading Depart- ments of	South Midland Area‡‡	lst full pay after 1 Jan.	Departments Able-bodied male manual workers	Increase* of Joth of the minimum basic rates recom- mended by the Provincial Joint Industrial Council in November, 1921, making the reduction now applicable to such rates 15ths. Minimum rates after change: Grade A1 areas. 478, 3d.: A2, 458, 7d.: B1, 448.; B2,		 betast Honsolt 1 tion of the sp for Portfund to the Sational N tabe Council 1 	aninus, 1920 Linus, 1920	We C
Local Authorities	Hastings	l Jan.	Manual workers employed in non-trading and Waterworks Departments	40s.; C1. 38s. 5d.; C2, 36s. 10d. per week.11 Increase* of 2s. per week. Rates after change: road labourers, sweepers and refuse collectors, 50s. 7d.; general yard and water works' labourers, 51s. 6d.;	in the same	Temporary selling		17 (12) 27 (12) 27 (12)
to entruisity of	Stepney	1 Jan.	Manual workers	pipe layers, 55s. 5d. per week. Decreasess of from 5d. to 8s. 9d. per week. Rates after change: scavengers, 64s. 2d.; carmen, dust collectors	and the second	C.I.S. fran IF engang goo of	and tall soft	Die S
norme Televisie and senter to a	West Ham	lst full pay in	Adult manual workers	and labourers, 66s. 8d. per week. Increase* of 1s. per week. Minimum weekly rates after change for adult male workers, 67s. per week.	Coffin Furniture and Cerement	Great Britain	-1 Jan.	
A ratio parts	Worthing	Jan. 3 Jan.	Manual workers employed in non-trading and Waterworks Departments	Increase* of 9d. per week for scavengers, and of 1s. per week for other workpeople. Rates after change: refuse collectors and labourers, 45s. 8d.; scavengers, 41s. 7d.; waterworks' labourers, 46s. 8d.; pipelayers,	Making	 exceeded for last the asiabilianceste withoutest. 	of shield at	1 200 Ne
and in animal and the states and the states and the states	Cornwall, Devon and Dorset	lst full pay in Jan.	Able - bodied male manual workers	56s. Increase* of 2s. per week. Scheduled minimum rates after change: Grade A areas, 54s.; B. 46s.; Bl, 42s. 6d.; C, 39s.; C1, 37s.; D, 34s. per week.	inter			

* The change took effect under an arrangement whereby wages fluctuate in correspondence with the Ministry of Labour index number of retail prices.
† The Undertakings affected are those which follow the wages agreements of the National Joint Industrial Council for the Gas Industry ; such undertakings include the great majority of the larger undertakings in England and Wales. In Scotland separate arrangements are made by the Glasgow and Dundee Corporation Undertakings, and these were not affected by the above increase.
‡ Excluding engineering and other craftsmen whose wages are regulated by movements in their own trades.
§ The amounts quoted are subject to the addition of a bonus of 12¹/₂ or 7¹/₃ per cent. in the case of timeworkers and pieceworkers respectively, 21 years of age and over, where such bonuses are in force.

over, where such bonuses are in force.
If the increase affected various Undertakings in the Northern Counties, Yorkshire, Lancashire, Cheshire and the Midlands which follow the wages agreements of the National Joint Industrial Council for the Waterworks Undertaking Industry, and also applied at Lincoln and Plymouth.
The Undertakings affected are those which follow the wages agreements of the National Joint Industrial Council for the Electricity Supply Industry in the following areas: --London; Yorkshire; West Midlands; East Midlands; East Coast; Home Counties; South Coast; West of England; South Wales and Monmouthshire; and Scotland. The reduction did not apply to the North East Coast, North Western, and Devon and Cornwall Areas.
** The increase did not generally apply to electrical fitters and wiremen in the London, West of England and East Coast Areas.
†† These rates were recommended by the East Midland Area District Council for the Electricity Supply Industry; they are subject to an increase of \$d\$, per hout (see entry for "Various Districts in Great Britain" above). It is understood that the rates have been adopted by the following Undertakings:--Kettering, Long.

* The change took effect under an arrangement whereby wages fluctuate in correspondence with the Ministry of Labour index number of retail prices. * The rates previously paid remain unchanged for those employed on all cocoa and all other "fibre" brooms and banisters of any length (except whisk and sava brooms and banisters) and Bass heads up to 12 in. stock, 39 knots round.

CHANGES IN WAGES TAKING EFFECT IN FEBRUARY, 1924.

The following groups of workpeople are affected by changes already reported as having been arranged to take effect in February — Increases - Building trade operatives in Great Britain; iron ore miners in Cumberland; labourers in Royal Dockyards; workpeople employed by Local Authorities in the West Riding of Yorkshire; and leather belt workers. Decreases—Steel-smelters and millmen and subsidiary classes in steelworks in various districts in England and Scotland; blastfurnace workers in the West of Scotland. Particulars of these changes will be given in the March GAZETTE.

THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE.

Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change.
orasses of workpeopie.	(Decreases in italics).
MISCELLANEOUS TRADES	note de la January (1983, Farthan arministration de la
orkpeople employed in the brush and broom trade:	Increase in the minimum rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts of the following amounts for the classes named respectively.
Male timeworkers 21 years and over, with 3 years' ex- perience in certain opera- tions, and those of all ages who have served at least 5 years' apprentice- ship in one or more of these operations	Increase* of 4d. per hour (1s. 13d. to 1s. 2d.).
All other male timeworkers	Increase [*] of $\frac{1}{4}d$. per hour for those $16\frac{1}{2}$ and under 17, 17 $\frac{1}{2}$ and under 18, 19 and under 21, the rates for other ages remaining unchanged. Minimum rates after change: under $14\frac{1}{2}$, $2\frac{1}{4}d$., increasing to 11d. at 21 and over.
Male and female piece- workers Female pan hands Female workers (other than pan hands and learners)	Increase [*] in the minimum piece rates of 1 [‡] per cent., leaving wages 20 per cent. below the list. Increase [*] of [‡] d. per hour for certain classes [†] . Increase [*] of [‡] d. per hour for those 16 [‡] and under 17, 17 [‡] and under 18, the rates for other time-workers remaining unchanged. Minimum time rates after change: under 14 [‡] , 2 [‡] d., increasing to 6 [‡] d. at 21 and over.
Female learners (other than pan setting learners) Apprentices and female pan	Increase [*] of ¹ / ₄ d, per hour during 3rd and 4th six months for those starting at 16 and under 21 years, and during 1st, 2nd, and 4th six months for those start- ing at 21 and over, the rates for other periods re- maining unchanged. Increase [*] proportionate to above.
setting learners orkpeople employed in whole- sale warehouses (clothing, mil- linery, cotton, etc.)	Increases* of from 3d. to 1s. 3d. per week for male workers, and of from 3d. to 6d. per week for female workers. Minimum rates after change: male workers, 14 years, 10s. 3d., increasing to 50s. 3d. at 23 years; female workers, 14 years, 9s. 9d., increasing to 292 fd. at 21 years, 14 years, 9s. 9d., increasing
al and coke loaders, carmen and trolleymen ardeners, gravediggers, etc., employed in certain non- municipal cemeteries	to 28s. 6d. at 21 years. Increase of 1 ¹ / ₂ d. per ton on all existing rates for load- ing and delivery. Tonnage rates after change for coal workers: loaders, 1s. 7 ¹ / ₂ d. large coal; 1s. 10 ¹ / ₂ d. small coal; deliverers, 1s. 7 ¹ / ₂ d.; trolleymen, 3s. 10 ¹ / ₂ d. (See Decision No. 867, on p. 72.) Increase* of 1s. 6d. per week for gravediggers, assist- ant gravediggers, and qualified gardeners, and of 1s. per week for gardeners' and general labourers. Rates after change: gravediggers, 63s., assistant gravediggers, 56s.; qualified gardeners, 57s.;
emale workers employed in the button making trade: Other than home-workers	gardeners' and general labourers, 52s. Decreases in the minimum rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts of the following amounts for the classes named respectively. (See also p. 72.) Decreases of \$d. per hour for those under 17 years, and \$d. per hour for those 17 years and over; also decrease of \$d. per hour in the piece- work basis time rate (8d. to 7\$d.). Minimum time rates after change: under 15 years, 2\$d., increasing to 6\$d. at 18 and over.
Homeworkers:- Employed in carding of linen buttons and metal trouser buttons	Decrease in the minimum piece rates of 6d. or 9d. per 100 gross of tuttons.
Other workers orkpeople employed in the coffin furniture and cerement making trade:	Decrease in the minimum piecework basis time rate of 3d. per hour (84d. to 74d.). Changes in the minimum rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts of the following amounts for the classes named respectively (See also p 34 of January GAZETTE) :
Coffin furniture section: Male timeworkers: Dressers, stampers, polishers or planish- ers (including wheelers)	stampers, Grade I. 61s. 5d., Grade II. 68s. 11d., Grade III. 74s. 11d.; polishers and planishers (includ- ing wheelers), Grade I. 62s. 11d., Grade II. 71s. 11d., Grade III. 76s. 11d.
Packers, rough ware- housers and despatch- ers	Increases* of 1s. to 2s. per week. Minimum rates after change at 21 years and over 49s. to 58s.
Male pieceworkers (21 years of age and over)	Minimum piecework basis time rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts at 12 ¹ / ₂ per cent. above the appro- priate minimum time rates.
Female workers: Polishers, heavy hand press workers and stampers Other classes	years' employment, 32s.
Cerement making section : Female folders, packers, warehousers, despatchers, etc.	Decreases of from 1d. to 1d. per hour.

TRADE DISPUTES.*

February, 1924.

February, 1924.

DISEASES OF OCCUPATIONS.*

DISEASES OF OCCUPATIONS." He total number of casest of poisoning and of anthrax in reat Britain and Northern Ireland reported under the Factory d Workshop Act during January, 1924, was 61. Three athst were reported during the month, one due to lead isoning in the pottery industry, one due to epitheliomatous beration (tar), and one due to anthrax in the handling and tring of hides and skins. In addition, eight cases of lead isoning (including two deaths) among house painters and mbers came to the knowledge of the Home Office during nuary, but notification of these cases is not obligatory. CASES OF LEAD POISONING. (b) CASES OF OTHER FORMS OF POISONING.

ASES OF LEAD POISONING.	Dergowing
ng Operatives engaged in-	POISONING.
ng Operatives eugaged in	Mercury Poisoning 1
nelting of Metals 2	Phosphorus Poisoning
umbing and Soldering	Arsenic Poisoning
ipbreaking 13	Toxic Jaundice—
inting 1	Arseniuretted Hydrogen
Thereb in the the -	Gas
nning of Metals	Benzine, etc., derivatives
ther Contact with	Epitheliomatous Ulcera-
Molten Lead 1	tion—
hite and Red Lead	Paraffin 1
Works	Pitch
ttery 4	Tar 1
treous Enamelling 1	Oil 6
	Chrome Ulceration—
ectric Accumulator	Manufacture of
Works 17	Bichromates 1
int and Colour Works 2	Dyeing and Finishing 1
diarubber Works	Chrome Tanning 1
	Other Industries 1
each and Car Painting 1	TOTAL OTHER FORMS OF -
ipbuilding 1	POISONING 13
int used in other In-	-
dustries 1	(c) CASES OF ANTHRAX-
	Wool 1
her Industries 2	Handling of Horsehair
	Handling and Sorting
LOF ABOVE 46	of Hides and Skins
	(Tanners, Fellmongers,
	&c.) 1
SE PAINTING AND	Other Industries
UMBING 8	
	TOTAL, ANTHRAX 2

FATAL INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS.

a number of workpeople, other than seamen, reported as an in the course of their employment in Great Britain and thern Ireland during January, 1924, was 232, as compared h 225 in the previous month, and with 196 a year ago. 225 in th

RAILWAY Guards ... ngine Drivers

ards (Passe anent Wa unters ... hanics Labourers ... Miscellaneous ontractors' S TOTAL, RAIL

nderground arface ...

TOTAL, MINI JARRIES over ACTORIES AN

Vool. Worste

her Textile

The fextile Blead Dyeing ... Metal Extrac Refining ... Metal Conversion ding Rolling Tube Making

tal Found

gineering and Machine

e previous month,	and with 196 a year ago.
SERVICE.	FACTORIES AND WORKSHOFS
nd Goods	(continued):
4	Boiler Making & Con-
5	structional Engineering
	Locomotives, Kailway &
iger)	Tramway Carriages,
y Men 7	Motors, Aircraft
1	Other Metal Trades
	Shipbuilding
	Wood
	Gas
8	Electric Generating Sta-
ervants	tions
	Clay, Stone, Glass, etc
WAY SERVICE 28	Chemicals, etc
1 a () 30 a 21 a 2 - a	Food and Drink
NES.	Paper, Printing, etc
	Tanning, Currying, etc
13	Rubber Trades
	Other Non-Textile Indus-
us 101	tries
	PLACES UNDER SS. 104-106.
20 feet deep 10	FACTORY ACT, 1901.
in the Cornerson	Carles
D WORKSHOPS.	Docks, Wharves, etc
2	Buildings 1
, & Shoddy 4	Warehouses and Railway
	Sidings
ching and	Mente at chopsed the
	TOTAL, FACTORIES AND
eting and	WORKSHOPS, AND
	PLACES 9.
ion, inclu-	Has an Working of Tram
Mills and	Use or Working of Tram-
g 8	ways

Total (excluding Sea-233 men)

Making .. ^B ised on Returns from the Home Office and from the Ministry of Labour for

bised on keturns from the Home Once and From the Annietry of Labour for Northern Ireland.
† Cases include all attacks reported to the Home Office during the month and but previously reported, so far as is known, during the preceding 12 months.
beaths include all fatal cases reported during the month, whether included (as cases) in previous returns or not.
‡ Cases of lead poisoning in shipbreaking (due to inhalation of lead fume renerated when cutting with an oxy-acetylene flame) have hitherto been included under "Plumbing and Soldering." The numbers of such cases reported during 1922 and 1923, respectively, were 17 and 38.
§ Of the four persons affected in the Pottery Industry two were females.
§ Based on Returns from the Home Office, the Mines Department, the Ministry of Transport, and the Ministry of Labour for Northern ireland.

Number, Magnitude and Duration .- The number of trade disputes involving a stoppage of work, reported to the Department as beginning in January in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, was 37, as compared with 12 in the previous month and 54 in January, 1923. In these new disputes about 79,000 workpeople were involved, either directly or indirectly (i.e., thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, though not themselves parties to the disputes). In addition, about 4,000 workpeople were involved, either directly or indirectly, in 11 disputes which began before January and were still in progress at the beginning of that month. The number of new and old disputes was thus 48, involving about

83,000 workpeople, and resulting in a loss during January of about 629,000 working days. The principal new dispute was that involving about 69,000 locomotive engine drivers, firemen and others on railways throughout Great Britain, and which was in progress from 21st to 29th January (see special article on progress 41 and 42). pages 41 and 42).

Causes.—Of the 37 disputes beginning in January, 7, directly involving 800 workpeople, arose out of demands for advances in wages; 7, directly involving 60,200 workpeople, out of proposed reductions in wages; 12, directly involving 4,800 workpeople, on other wages questions; 5, directly involving 2,200 workpeople, on details of working arrangements; and 6, directly involving 1,000 workpeople, on questions respecting the employment of particular classes or persons.

Results.—Settlements were effected in the case of 19 new disputes, directly involving 64,000 workpeople, and 5 old disputes, directly involving 1,000 workpeople. Of these new and old disputes, 7, directly involving 3,000 workpeople, were set-

tled in favour of the workpeople; 7, directly involving 1,000 workpeople, in favour of the employers; and 10, directly in. volving 61,000 workpeople, were compromised. In the case of 5 disputes, directly involving 1,000 workpeople, work was resumed pending negotiations. The following Table analyses the disputes in progress in January, in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, by groups of industries, and indicates the number of workpeople involved (whether directly or indirectly) at the establishments concerned, and the approximate time lost during the month in all disputes in progress :-in progress :

entre velo èvene entre è surre		er of Disp cess in Ja	Number of Work- people in-	Aggregate Duration inWorking			
Groups of Industries.	Started before 1st Jan.	before in Tota		volved in all Dis- putes in progress in Jan.	Il Dis- ites in gress in progress		
Mining & Quarrying	3	12	15	10,900	111,000		
Metal, Engineering and Shipbuilding	1	6	7	600	8,000		
Building	3	3	6	600	13,000		
Transport		6	6	69,900	487,000		
Other Trades	4	10	14	800-	10,000		
Total, Jan., 1924	11	37	48	82 800	629,000		
Total, Dec., 1923	12	12	24	10,300	83,000		
Total, Jan., 1923 _	17	54	71	19,000	117,000		

PRINCIPAL TRADE DISPUTES IN PROGRESS DURING JANUARY, 1924

Occupations and Locality. †		Number of Work- people Involved.		Date when Dispute		Cause or Object.†	Result.†	
		Directly.	Directly. Indi- rectly. †		Ended.	Constants and	Constantes a Tondon	
MINING AND QU	ARRYING :	2,0	 15 	1923. 4 Dec. 1924.	1924. 	Dispute respecting wages, alleged victimisation and other grievances.	No settlement reported.	
Coal miners, _ etc.	Swansea (nea:)	850		21 Jan.	- the	Dispute respecting rates of wages payable for coal cutting with a "conveyor."	No settlement reported.	
ground and	Gateshead (near)	2,5	500	21 Jan.	2 Feb.	Dispute as to amount of wages due to certain workmen.	Employers agreed to pay part of the amount in dispute.	
METAL, ENGINI BUILDING :	EERING, AND SHIP-	against a	Analysis and		a state	A CARLER AND A CARLER AND	A CALLER OF CALL PARTY OF A	
Table knife grinders-S	and butcher blade heffield.	300‡	5	7 Jan.	nel for an	Against proposed increase in rent charged by employers for use of working troughs.	No settlement reported.	
EUILDING :-		and a to	1	1 - to and	an error star	all the set from the set	wante finder deler one	
	sons. machinists, s, fitters, labourers, nd.	447	12	5 Jan.	2 Feb.	For advance in wages from 1 ¹ / ₂ d. per hour below London rate to ¹ / ₂ d. per hour below London rate.	Wages advanced to 1d. per hour below London rate; the ques- tion of the appropriate grade for Portland to be referred to	
			CETTIN	0	antitana a	Town Sumiture	the National Wages and Condi- tions Council for the Building	
TANSPORT :-		here the	the second	and the second	i sanst	presente stati	Industry.	
Coal heavers workers—Bi	and other dock rkenhead.	600	bec s	15 Jan.	15 Jan.	Dispute respecting rates of wages of coal heavers employed on	Temporary settlement effected.	
Locomotive e men, clear Great Brita		69.	.000	21 Jan.	29 Jan.	night work. (See special article	on pages 41 and 42.)	

• Disputes involving less than 10 workpeople, and those which lasted less than one day, have, as usual, been omitted from the statistics, except when the aggregation (i.e., number of workpeople multiplied by number of working days, allowing for workpeople replaced by others, etc.) exceeded 100 days. † The occupations printed in italics are those of workpeople "indirectly involved," i.e., thrown out of work at the establishments where the dispute occupred, but not themselves parties to the disputes. The statements of cause and result do not apply to these persons. ‡ The dispute was extended on 2nd February, the total number of grinders idle being about 800. § A number of table knife haft-rs, etc., have been rendered idle owing to this dispute.

BUILDING PLANS.

FIGURES showing the total estimated cost of buildings for which plans were approved in January in 137 of the principal urban areas in Great Britain, from which returns were received, are given on page 54. It is proposed that the detailed Table, giving statistics for various geographical areas, which has hitherto ap-peared in each issue of this GAZETTE, shall in future be pub-lished at quarterly intervals, beginning with the April GAZETTE.

ASSISTED PASSAGES UNDER THE EMPIRE SETTLEMENT ACT, 1922.

THE number of assisted passages granted during January, 1924, in connection with agreed schemes under the Empire Settlement Act, and the total number of such passages granted from the inception of these schemes, together with the number of de-partures during the same periods, are shown in the following Table :--

Contraction in the second		ted Pass Granted.		Departures.			
wateholiseers	Jan., 1924.	Jan Dec., 1922.	Jan Dec., 1923.	Jan., 1924.	Jan Dec., 1922.	Jan Dec., 1923.	
suisted Passage Schemes : To Australia	2 ,143 736	7,058 1,133	26,038• 6,538•	2,493 559	6,118 694	24,949 6,145	
", Canada : Dominion of Canada Province of Ontario	91 24		3,577 1,343•	82 32	=	3,519° 1,312	
finor Schemes	53	eg di ov	1,623*	11	roltol a	1,581	
TOTAL	3,047	8,191	39,119*	3,177	6,812	37,506*	

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

THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE.

POOR LAW RELIEF IN GREAT BRITAIN.

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

THE number of persons relieved on one day* in January, 1924, in the thirty-one selected areas named below was 908,894, or $7\cdot1$ per cent. more than in the previous month, and 5.6 per cent. less than in January, 1923. The numbers relieved at these three dates were equivalent, respectively, to rates of 514, 479 and 555§ per 10,000 of the estimated population.

In the twenty-five selected areas in England and Wales the number of persons relieved in January, 1924, was 749,988, or 480 per 10,000 of the estimated population. In the six areas in Scotland the number relieved was 158,906, or 768 per 10,000 of the estimated population.

Recipients of indoor relief in the thirty-one districts in January Recipients of indoor relief in the thirty-one districts in January numbered 129,095, or 2.2 per cent. more than in the previous month, and 2.1 per cent. more than in January of last year. Recipients of outdoor relief numbered 779,799, an in-crease of 8.0 per cent. on the previous month, and a decrease of 6.8 per cent. on a year ago.

of 6.8 per cent. on a year ago. . All except two districts showed increases in the number per 10,000 relieved in January, 1924, as compared with December, 1923; districts showing the most marked increases were Shef-field (94 per 10,000), Wolverhampton (79 per 10,000), Hull (73 per 10,000), Stockton and Tees (69 per 10,000), East London (67 per 10,000), and Birmingham (62 per 10,000). Compared with January, 1923, twenty-three districts showed decreases and seven showed increases. Considerable decreases were recorded in the districts of Coatbridge and Airdrie (411 per 10,000), Stockton and Tees (277 per 10,000), Sheffield (199 per 10,000), and Birmingham (198 per 10,000). The most marked increase was in West Ham (45 per 10,000).

· ·	of poor	r of pers law reli in Janu	lef on or	ne day.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in rate per 10,000 of Population as compared with a			
Selected Urban Areas.†	Indoor,	Out-	Total.	Rate per 10,000 of Esti-				
		door.		mated Popu- lation.	Month ago	Year ago.		
ENGLAND & WALES.	10		20	and and	and the first			
Metropolis. West District	9,615	9,230	18,845	229	+ 11	- 46		
North District	9,615 10,738	25,534	36 .272 5.930	357 445	+ 31 + 34	-42 -10		
Central District	2,6 19 10,5 92	3,311 56,011	66,603	1.037	+ 67	- 5		
South District	20,253	84,377	104,630	544	+ 29	- 65		
TOTAL, Metropolis	53,817	178,463	232,280	512	+ 32	- 46		
West Ham	4,373	76,471	80,844	1,072	+ 43	+ 45		
Other Districts. Newcastle District	2,679	34,142	36,821	745	+ 50	- 2		
Stockton and Tees Dis-	1,219	21,808	23,027	851	+ 69	-277		
Bolton, Oldham, etc.	4,171	8,052	12,223 14,120 43,979	153	+ 2	+ 13		
Wigan District	1,848	12,272 34,768	14,120	316 425	+ 23 + 52	-18 + 1		
Manchester District Liverpool District	9,211 10,139	58,559	68,698	567	+ 24	- 40		
Bradford District	1,789	4,512	6,301	169	- 4	- 25		
Halifax and Hudders-	1,305	3,446	4,751	124	+ 4			
field	2,545	10,435	12,980	265	+ 7	- 19		
Barnsley District Sheffield District	915	7,536	8,451	262 909	+ 6 + 94	- 53 -199		
Sheffield District	2,689 1,800	44,029 14,697	46,718 16,497	520	+ 73	- 12		
North Staffordshire	2,130	5,960	8,090	195	+ 12	- 24		
Nottingham District	2,130 2,187 1,268	10,268 2,718	12,455 3,986	267 167	+ 5 - 2	$+ \frac{1}{-33}$		
Leicester District Wolverhampton Dis-	1,200	1.1.1	The Printer of	- interest				
trict	3,359	27,599	30,958	426 565	+ 79 + 62	-65 -198		
Birmingham District Bristol District	7,412 2,477	46,023 14,922 13,527	53,435 17,399 15,975	423	+ 27	+ 13		
Cardiff and Swansea	2,448	13,527	15,975	339	+ 16	- 24		
TOTAL "Other Districts"	61,591	375.273	436,864	423	+ 35	- 50		
TOTAL, Districts in Eng- land and Wales	119,781	630,207	749,988	480	+ 34	- 44		
SCOTLAND. Glasgow District	5,277	99,870	105,147	1,083	+ 37	+ 39§		
Paisley & Greenock Dist.	5,277	17,654	18,429	959 446	+ 34 + 47	-80 + 30		
Edinburgh	1,551	17,340 3,464	18 891 4.236	192	+ 34	- 9		
Dundee and Dunfermline Aberdeen	547	4,999	5,546	348	+ 10	- 59		
Coatbridge and Airdrie	392	6,265	6,657	651	+ 30	-411		
COTAL for the above }	9,314	149,592	158,906	768	+ 36	- 135		
TOTAL for above 31 Dis- tricts in January, 1921	129,095	779,799	908,894	514	+ 35	- 41§		

• The figures for England and Wales relate to 26th January, and those for Scotland to 15th January.

† These urban areas include in the case of England and Wales more than one poor-law union, except in the Leicester, Birmingham, and West Ham districts and more than one parish in the case of Scotland, except in the Aberdeen and Edinburgh districts.

‡ Exclusive of casuals, of lunatics in Asylums, Registered Hospitals and Licensed Houses, and of persons receiving out-door medical relief only.

is The figures previously published for January, 1923, have been revised.

RETAIL PRICES OVERSEAS.

[N.B.-While the percentages given in the following Summary Tables are derived from the most authoritative sources of statis Tables are derived from the most authoritative sources of statis-tical information, certain differences in the nature and scope of the data used, in the methods of combining such data and in the periods for which the rise is measured, suggest the need for caution in drawing conclusions from a com-parison between the figures for any two countries. It is also to be observed that in every case the percentage calculation is based on the assumption that the standard of living is identical at the various periods compared.]

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

	Perce	ercentage Increase as compared with July, 1914.*						
Country.	July, 1920.	July, 1921.	July, 1922	July, 1923.	Latest figures available.			
		10. 3	1962 196		Rise.	Date		
aparted with Thermonites,	Per	Per	Per	Per	Per	000,00		
UNITED KINGDOM	cent. 158	cent. 120	cent.	cent. 62	cent.	Feb. '24		
	*** 100		00	04		reb. 24		
FOREIGN COUNTRIES. Austria (Vienna)		9,700†	328,600	1291000	1352600	Jan. '24		
Belgiumt -	359	310	281	359	406	Sept. '23		
Czechoslovakias _		1,246	1,330	821	803	Dec. '23		
Denmark	- 153	136	84	88	94	Jan, '24		
Finland	- 882	1,178	1,005	868	983	1 ec. '23		
France (Paris)§	273	206	197	221	265	Dec. '23		
,, (other towns) § Germany	STATISTICS STATISTICS	1,391	212 6.736	249 4650900	249	Aug. '23 Jan. '24		
Holland (The Hague)	= ::	113	80	60	65	Nov. '23		
" (Amsterdam)	_ 111	80	40	36	42	Nov. '23		
Train (Milan)	345	406	392	396	400	Dec. '23		
Norway	219	195	133	118	130	Jan. '24		
Poland (Warsaw)		45,555	129,711	2419623		Nov. '23		
Sweden§	_ 197	132	79	60	63	Jan. '24		
		110	57	64	67	Dec. '23		
E.S. THEFT AND STREET AND AND AND AND	- 115	45	39	44	47	Dec. '23		
BRITISH DOMINIONS, &C.	Saint The		The second	and a				
		61	48	E 4	56	Dec. '23		
	127	48	38	37	45	Jan. '24		
Twich Dage Otate	88	74	60	48	54	Jan. '24		
Mam Realand	67	64	85†		90	Oct. '23 Dec. '23		
Ponth Africa	- 97	39	16	42	47	Dec. '23 Dec. '23		

• Exceptions to this are: Belgium, in which comparison is with April, 1914; France (other towns), 3rd quarter of 1914; Germany, average, 1913-14; The Hague, January to July, 1914; Milan, January to June, 1914; Switzerland, June, 1914; Poland, January, 1914; Amsterdam, South Africa, average, 1914. † Figure for June. ‡ The increase shown are for families of the lowest income class; in Sept., the increase for all working-class families ranged from 404 to 408 per cent. § Fuel and lighting are also included in these figures. || Figure for August. ¶ 1,270,000,000,000-fold increase •• 531,485-fold increase

II.—ALL ITEMS. PERCENTAGE INCREASE IN THE VARIOUS COUNTRIES IN THE COST OF FOOD, TOGETHER WITH (SO FAR AS POSSIBLE) HOUSE-RENT, CLOTHING, FUEL AND LIGHT AND OTHER HOUSEHOLD REQUIRE-MENTS, AS COMPARED WITH JULY, 1914.†

		Percentage Increas with July,										
Country.		which Computa- tion is based.*	July, 1920.		July, 1922.	July, 1923.	Latest figure available.					
			1020.	1021.	10000	1020.	Rise.	Date.				
		515.18 25.08	Per	Per	Per	Per	Per	a mon alfacti				
UNITED KINGDOM FOREIGN COUNTRIES	-	A, B, C, D, E	cent. 152	cent. 119	cent. 84	cent 69	cent. 79	Feb. '2				
Austria (Vienna)	-	A, B, C, D, E		9 7008	264400	1090200	1173900	Jan. '2				
Belgium -	-	A, C, D, E	353	279	266	329	380	Jan. '2				
Bulgaria		A, D		1,512	2,368	2,289	2,150	Oct. '2.				
Denmark _	-	A, B, C, D, E	162	137	99	104	109	Jan. '2				
Finland		A, B, C, D, E	811	1,039	1,018	990	1,053	Dec. '2				
France (Paris)	•	A, B, C, D, E	263‡	195‡	189‡	231‡	245	4th Qtr. 1923				
Germany		A, B, C, D	at the second	Services.	5,282	3765000	T	4 Feb.'2				
Greece (Athens)		A, B, C, D, E		- Yester	516	933	1,195	Nov. '2				
Hungary		A, B, C, D, E		3,661	15,579	225,167	445,608					
Italy (Milan)		A, B, C, D, E	341	394	388	387	399	Dec. '2.				
Luxemburg		A, C, D	170.000	284	259	340	387	Jan. '2				
Norway		A, B, C, D, E	202§	202§	155§	1395	136	Dec. '2				
Poland (Warsaw)		A, B, C, D, E		25609		2093546		Nov. '2				
Spain (Madrid)	••	A, D	90‡	84	79	72	77	Nov. '2.				
" (Barcelona)		A,D	91‡	78	73	65	63	Nov. '2				
Sweden	••	A, B, C, D, E	170	136	90	74	76	Jan. '24				
Switzerland United States	••	A, D	1100		59	66	68	Dec. '2				
BRITISH DOMINIONS,		A, B, C, D, E	117§	801	67§	705	73	Dec. '2.				
Australia _		A, B	671	104	474	EC.4	FC	7-1 04-				
and the same provident from	••	and the second	Latin a started	46‡	43‡	55‡	56	3rd Qtr. 1.23				
Canada	-	A, B, D	90	52	46	46	50	Jan. 24				
Egypt (Cairo)		A, D		93	72	52	52	Nov. '2;				
India (Bombay)		A, B, C, D	89	77	65	53	58	Jan. '24				
Irish Free State		A, B, C, D, E			855	80	86	Oct. '2:				
New Zealand	••	A, B, D	49	57	44	45	48	Nov. '2				
South Africa		A, B, D, E	-	1.1.	35	30	33	Dec. '23				

*A=F00d; B=House-Kent; C=Clothing; D=Fuel and Light; E=Oth Miscellaneous Items. † Exceptions to this are: Yrance, Spain, Australi South Africa, in which comparison is with the average for 1914; Belgium, A 1914; Greece, March, 1914; Milan and New Zealand, January to June, 1 Egypt. Germany and Hungary, arerage, 1913-1914; Poland, January, Switzerland and Luxenburg, June, 1914; United States, 1913; Bulg average, 1901-1910. ‡ Figure for 3rd Quarter. § Figure for June. || Fi for May. ¶ 1,040,000,000,000-fold increase. ** 440,945-fold increase.

February, 1924.

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

Index Numbers of Comparative Real Wages, 1st December, 1923. (London=100.)

Occupation.	London.	Amsterdam.	Berlin.	Brussels.	Christiania.	Copenhagen	Madrid.	New York.	Ottawa.	Paris.	Prague.	Stockholm.	Sydney.	Vienna.	Warsaw.
BUILDING TRADES. Skilled :	12 2	a stra	17.7			R.			191.319				2.24	E.	
Mason Bricklayer Joiner Plumber Painter (General) Unskülled :	100 100 100 100 100 100	98 98 98 98 98 98 97	40 40 39 39 42	57 57 61 63 56 51	84 84 80 80 80 88	ALLER H	11111	1111	259 259 194 194 207 178	87 77 77 77 77 77 81	75 73 	96 96 96 96 89 112	31411	50 50 53 49 47 57	49 49 48 - 52
Labourer(General)	100	107	48	52	104	-	-	-	137	95	76	113	-	54	40
ENGINEERING TRADES.	1		12.02	1.		10		1000					100		
Skilled : Fitter	100	97	36	70	98	0			195	96	121	78		57	56
Ironmoulder (Hand)	100	84	1	70	98	140			192	102	106	78	ia		56
Patternmaker Turner Unskilled :	100 100 100	90 97	33 36	94 72	92 98	H	-	-	212 195	123	97	73 78	H	56 60	52 55
Labourer FURNITURE TRADES Skilled :	100	100	41	71	129	100	-		183	102	92	94	1013	51	56
Cabinetmaker PRINTING & BOOK- BINDING TRADES. Skilled :	100	77	30	60	80	- fear	-	-	136	85	79	81	-	39	-
Compositor (Book and Job) Hand Do. Machine Machine Minder Bookbinder	100 100 100 100	76 79 76 85	26 26 29	50 50 52 54	76 71 76 89	1931	1113	1111	173 160 158 187	59 	- 88 	75 77 75 76	1110	3 9 3 9 3 9	71 92 71 79
Average, 1st Dec., 1923	100	91	36	61	89	+	-	all.	189	861	89	87	1000	49	59‡
Do. 1st Nov., 1923 Do. 1st October, 1923 Do. 1st Sept., 1923 Do. 1st August, 1923 Do. 1st July, 1923 Do. 1st June, 1923 Do. 1st May, 1923 Do. 1st May, 1923 Do. 1st March, 1925 Do. 1st March, 1925 Do., 1914	100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100	92 100 99 100 99 100 99 102 103 66	575	58 60 59 57 62 64 65 70 70 61	89 94 92 94 90 87 86 93 93 92 77			215 220 217 319 	188 190 190 153 186 182 182 174 180 181	87 88 99 92 91 87 	90 90 74 77 65 67 67 68 69 84	86 86 84 88 86 84 85 85 87 74		49 51 50 50 50 50 47 43 44 47 69	73 60 91 91 91 76 98 101 85 93

The latest index-numbers for Berlin are based on wages r lating generally to dates between 21st and 26th November, an on prices relating to orders between 21st and 20th November, and on prices relating to 3rd December. The former were expressed in "gold-marks," the latter in milliards of paper marks. To reduce the prices to "gold-marks," they were divided by 1,000, the value of the "gold-mark" having been officially fixed at 1,000 milliard paper marks.

ELECTRICAL WORKERS' CERTIFICATES OF

ELECTRICAL WORKERS' CERTIFICATES OF Competence: New QUEENSLAND ACT. As Act passed in October, 1923, by the Government of Queens-iand, provides that from and after a date to be notified, no person other than a probationer or apprentice working under geulations shall carry on or engage or be employed or act in the calling of an electrical worker unless he is the holder of a certificate of competency. Such certificates are to be issued by a body entitled the Electrical Workers' Board, which is to con-sist of eight members appointed by the Governor-General, and nominated or elected by the following bodies one each by the dovernment, the electric authorities in the State, the Fire Under-witers' Association of Queensland, and the employers in the electrical industry in the State, and two each by the certificates and Branch of the Electrical Trade Unions of Australia. Two kinds of certificates are to be granted – namely (a), certi-ficates of competency to all candidates who, on examination, stisfy the Board that they possess the necessary practical and the Act were engaged in the electrical industry, and can satisfy the Board that they have been engaged as electrical workers for a least three years as journeymen, or who have served an analytic ship for a period to be fixed.

Eevised figure.
 Provisional figure.
 Based on prices and wages for the first two weeks of the month.

February, 1924.

EMPLOYMENT OVERSEAS.

INFLOTMENT OVERSEAS. [N.B.—The following paragraphs include an abstract of such official information as is available with regard to the state of employment abroad, in order to indicate, as far as possible, the fuctuations in employment in each country from period to period. The bases of the official statistics published in the various countries, are, however, not the same as those of the United Kingdom statistics, and therefore the figures quoted below cannot properly be used with those on pp. 48-49 to compare the actual level of employment in the United Kingdom with that in other countries. For further information on the subject of the bases of the unemployment statistics of the various countries see Report issued in 1922 by the International Labour Office under the title "Methods of Compiling Statistics of Unemployment." (Studies and Reports, Series C., No. 7.)]

FRANCE.*

FRANCE.* Unemployment in January.—The total number of unemployed remaining on the "live register" at the Employment Exchanges on 26th January, was 12,357 (8,345 men and 4,012 women). At the end of the preceding week the corresponding figure was 12,363, and on 27th January, 1923, 13,235. The total number of vacancies remaining unfilled on 26th January was 8,459 (4,549 for men and 3,910 for women), as against 7,576 at the end of the preceding week and 7,275 on 27th January, 1923. During the week ended 26th January the exchanges succeeded in placing 28,599 persons (23,249 men and 5,350 women) in situations, and, in addition, found employment for 2,076 foreign immigrants. According to the latest returns, 3 departmental and 17 muni-cipal unemployment funds were in operation throughout France on 31st January, the number of persons in receipt of out-of-work benefit through their agency being 1,228 (1,064 men and 164 women). This total is 128 above the figure for the preceding week, but is 1,448 below that for 1st February, 1923.

GERMANY.+

Employment in December[‡].—During December there were in-ications of a less precipitous worsening of the state of the about market than in recent months. The number of situacour market than in recent months. The number of situa-ns offered by employers again showed a slight increase, not holly attributable to Christmas and New Year activity. arthermore, important industrial centres reported the engage-ent of increased numbers of workers. Thus signs of the mmencement of a recovery were more clearly discernible than the preceding month. The state of the labour market as a hole was however, by no means uniform in character. in the preceding month. The state of the labour market as a schole was, however, by no means uniform in character. Unemployment among organised workers increased up to the nd of December. On the 29th of the month 34 Trade Unions naking returns reported that out of an aggregate membership f 4,624,928 there were 1,304,973 unemployed, or 28.2 per cent., s compared with 23.4 per cent. at the end of November, and ith 2.8 per cent. in December, 1922. Percentages for the principal Unions included in the above eturns are given in the following table:—

UNIONS. S. D.=Social-Democratic	Member- ship reporting	Percenat	tage Uner end of Mo	mployed onth.		
H. D.=Hirsch-Duncker (non- Social-Democratic) C=Christian	at end of Dec., 1923.	Dec., 1923.	Nov., 1923.	Dec., 1922.		
All Unions making Returns	4,624,928	28.2	23.4	2.8		
Building (S. D.)	430,000 44,000 1,272,000 118,000 531,000 115,000 115,000 91,000 91,000 446,000 65,000 69,000 351,000	67.3 70.4 53.3 26.0 54.2 12.3 10.2 29.8 24.1 26.8 23.9 25.4 32.4 23.0	39.6 62.4 45.8 24.0 56.1 13.8 14.8 54.4 22.6 30.1 7.9 26.5 21.7 22.4	6.6 6.5 9.7 0.8 0.3 2.9 2.2 2.6 3.5 4.2 1.9 8.0 2.7 1.9		
Food preparation (S. D.) Tobacco (S. D.) Factory workers (trade not	55,000 77,030 69,000	24·0 11·1 21·7	26 1 20 4 36 3	10·2 22·5		
Engine drivers and firemen	302,000	26 8	22.4	2.4		
Factory and transport work-	49,000	13 5	11.0	0.2		
Municipal and State workers	. 89,000	29 7	43.4	10		
(3. D.)	144,000	4.8	4.4	1.6		

On 1st December the number of unemployed in receipt of ut-of-work donation was 1,464,359, and on the 15th December 486,014; in the first half of January, 1924, there was a further ncrease from 1,528,082 on the 1st, to 1,555,961 on the 15th i the month. At the latest date 648,980 short-time workers ere also in receipt of donation. It is to be noted that these gures do not cover the occupied districts of Germany. Short-time was slightly less prevalent than in November. Ihirty Unions reporting on this point stated that, out of a total

Bulletin du Marché du Travail, 1st February, 1923. Paris. Reichs-Arbeitsblatt, 1st February, 1924. Berlin.

The report on employment in November was received too late for insertion e January issue of the MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE.

THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE.

of 4,030,000 members, 1,690,000, or 42 per cent., were partially unemployed in December, as against 47.3 per cent. in Novem-ber, and 8.7 per cent. in December, 1922. Returns from Employment Exchanges indicate some re-tardation in the decline previously reported. The total number of applications for work increased from 2,240,000 in November to 2,580,000 in December; on the other hand the offers of vacancies by employers increased from 248,531 to 274,127 in the same period. On the average there were 1,282 applica-tions for work to every 100 vacancies for men and 495 to every 100 for women, as against 1,141 and 554 respectively in the preceding month.

BELGIUM.*

BELGIUM.* Unemployment in November and December.—The latest figures available relate to December, but are provisional only. Returns received by the Ministry of Industry and Labour from 1,574 approved unemployment societies, with a total member-ship of 647,031, show that 23,450 of these were either wholly or partially unemployed at the end of the month. The total days lost through unemployment in December numbered 265,064, or 1.71 per cent. of the aggregate possible working days; in the preceding month the percentage was 1.05, and in December, 1922, 2.23. Bevised figures are given for Number in the pro-

1922, 2.25. Revised figures are given for November, in which month returns were received applying to 657,182 members of unem-ployment insurance societies. Of these 5,863, or 0.9 per cent., were totally unemployed, and 11,763 partially so, on the last working day of the month. The proportion totally unem-ployed in October was 0.6 per cent., and in November, 1922.

During December 13,335 applications for employment were re-ceived at Employment Exchanges, as compared with 13,100 in the preceding month. Vacancies notified by employers in De-cember numbered 8,979, as against 10,500 in November. There were thus on an average 149 applicants for each 100 situations registered as vacant, as compared with 125 in the preceding month

ITALY

Unemployment in October.—According to a report received from H.M. Commercial Secretary at Rome, 199,694 workpeople were reported to be totally unemployed on 31st October, as compared with 180,634 at the end of September and 321,011 on 31st October, 1922. In addition, 67,805 were partially unemployed at the latest date, 72,789 on 30th September and 86,427 on 31st October, 1922. On 31st October, 1923, the number of totally unemployed persons in receipt of benefit was 35,805, as compared with 40,055 on 30th September, and 80,273 on 31st October, 1922.

AUSTRIA.

Unemployment in December.—According to Statistische Nachrichten (the journal of the Austrian Department of Statistics) for 25th January, the number of persons in receipt of unem-ployment benefit in Austria was 95,069 at the end of December, as compared with 77,782 at the end of the preceding month, and 117,891 at the end of December, 1922.

HOLLAND.

HOLLAND. Unemployment in Jinuary.—H.M. Commercial Secretary at The Hague, in a despatch to the Department of Overseas Trade, reports that, according to figures supplied by the State Depart-ment of Unemployment Insurance, in the week ended 5th Jan-uary, out of 277,510 members of unemployment funds making returns, 49,605 (17.9 per cent.) were unemployed for six days in the week, and 11,811 (or 4.3 per cent.) for less than six days. In the corresponding week of the preceding month (ended 8th December) the percentages were respectively 12.9 and 3.2, and in the week ended 6th January, 1923, 14.0 and 3.5.

SWITZERLAND.+

SWITZERLAND.⁺ Unemployment in December.—According to figures compiled by the Swiss Federal Labour Office, the number of applicants for work remaining on the "live register" of Employment Exchanges at the end of December was 26,873, as compared with 27,029 at the end of the preceding month and with 53,463 at the end of December, 1922. Of these, 6,122 were employed on relief works, leaving 20,751 entirely without work. The 26,873 applicants included 5,609 normally occupied in the building trades, 3,078 in the metal, engineering and electrical trades, and 2,220 in the textile trades. In addition to the foregoing persons who were entirely without work, 12,800 were reported as partially unemployed, including 5,536 in the textile trades and 4,111 in the metal, engineering and electrical trades. Taking December as a whole, there were on an average 398 applications for each 100 vacant situations for men and 139 for each 100 for wome. In November the corresponding figures were 367 and 128 respectively.

NORWAY.

Unemployment in November.—According to information sup-plied through the courtesy of the Norwegian Central Bureau of Statistics 8.4 per cent. of members of trade unions reporting to the Bureau were unemployed at the end of November, as com-pared with 8.4 per cent. in the previous month and 10.6 per cent. in November, 1922.

* Revue du Travail, 31st January, 1924. Brussels. † Der Schweizerische Arbeitsmarkt, 15th January, 1924. Berne.

SWEDEN'.*

Unemployment in November.—Trade unions with an aggre-gate membership of 132,734 reported 12,110, or 9.1 per cent., as unemployed on the last day of November, as compared with 8.1 per cent. on 31st October and with 17.2 per cent. on 30th November, 1922. The following Table gives particulars for the principal unions included in the returns :--

The fail of the second in	Membership	Percent	age Unemployed.			
Unions.	reporting on 30th Nov., 1923.	30th Nov., 1923.	31st Oct., 1923.	30th Nov., 1922.		
All Unions making Returns	132,734	9.1	81	17 2		
PRINCIPAL UNIONS :- Iron and steel Engineering Engineering Clothing Boot, shoe and leather	7,327 6,106	6 1 10.7 2.0 7.5 3 6 8.8 3.2 19.4 15 6 3.4 2.9 6.8 14.5	5.0 10.7 1.7 7.1 3.4 8.3 3.1 15.2 11.9 2.9 1.8 6.8 15.2	18 0 25 0 28 8 89 63 106 20 23.7 24-1 82 2.7 85 23.7		

DENMARK.+

Unemployment in December.—Returns supplied to the Danish Statistical Department by trade unions and by the Central Employment Exchange show that, out of 248,997 workpeople, 16.0 per cent. were unemployed on 28th December last, as com-pared with 11.4 per cent. on 30th November and with 20.3 per cent. at the end of December, 1922.

UNITED STATES.‡

Employment in December.—The Federal Department of Labour publishes preliminary figures relating to the volume of employment in December, 1923, based on returns from 7,408 establishments in 52 manufacturing industries, covering 2,448,370 workpeople. These establishments in November reported 2,484,503 persons employed, and the December figures conse-quently indicate a net decrease amounting to 1.5 per cent. in numbers employed. The aggregate wages paid show for the same period a decrease of 1.7 per cent., and the average weekly

Sociala Meddelanden. No. 1, 1924. Stockholm
 Statistiske Efterretninger, 22nd January, 1924. Copenhagen.
 Employment in Selected Industries in December, 1923. Federal Bureau of bour Statistics, Washington, D.C.

LEGAL CASES, OFFICIAL NOTICES, &c.

LEGAL CASES AFFECTING LABOUR.

Trade Union Rates and Relief Work.

MEMBER OF UNION CHARGEABLE TO THE POOR LAW-REFUSAL OF Work Provided by Public Body-Prosecution under the VAGRANCY ACT.

In this case the King's Bench Divisional Court was called In this case the King's Bench Divisional Court was cance upon to decide whether a man—in this case a navvy, and a member of the National Union of Workers—who, having become chargeable to the Poor Law, refused work provided by a public body, because the wages were below the Trade Union rates, could be convicted under the Vagrancy Act as an idle and disorderly

person. In May, 1923, the navvy, Arthur Nice, was convicted "of being an idle and disorderly person in that he, on the 6th April, 1923, being a person able to work and wholly to maintain himself and his family, unlawfully and wilfully did refuse and neglect so to do, by which refusal and neglect himself and his family, whom he was then legally bound to maintain, became and then were chargeable to the common fund of the Lewisham Union." In March, 1923, in common with others, he received a circular letter from the Guardians stating that the Guardians had made arrangements with the Lewisham Borough Council whereby un-employed men might be afforded an opportunity of doing some employed men might be afforded an opportunity of doing some work instead of receiving assistance from the rates, the wages to be £2 6s. per week for 47 hours. Nice attended and worked on 27th, 28th and 29th March, in accordance with the offer con-tained in this letter, but on the 31st he declined to continue on the ground that £2 6s. was less than the current Trade Union rate of wages for such work. As a result he was unable to maintain himself, his wife and children, and they became charge-able to the Lewisham Union. At the Quarter Sessions Nice gave evidence that he was anxious to work, and stated that the sole reason for his refusal was that his Trade Union would not allow it, and that if he continued to work at this rate he would not be able to get employment in the future. A Trade Union official said that the Trade Union rate was £3 2s. 8d., and that if Nice worked for less he would have been reprimanded, fined or ex-pelled by his Union, and that in the future it would have been difficult for him to get work. The Court of Quarter Sessions was of opinion that by continuing to work after the 31st of March for £2 6s, a week Nice would have been losing a chance of bettering himself, and prejudicing his chances of employment

in the future. They accordingly allowed the appeal, and

in the future. They accordingly allowed the appeal, and quashed the conviction. On appeal by the Guardians, the Lord Chief Justice upheld the decision of the Quarter Sessions. During the hearing of the appeal in the Divisional Court, Mr. Justice Greer said he found it difficult to believe that a Trade Union would register a black mark against a member for the rest of his life because, in order to save his family from starvation, he worked for less wage than the Union minimum, especially when he was working for the very people who paid him relief from the rates. Mr. Justice Avory said it was unfortunate that some authoritative decision could not be come to as to the legality of the action of the Union in this case in preventing this man from working at a wage which would have enabled him to maintain his wife and family, and which he was willing to accept.—Lewisham. Guar-dians v. Nice. Divisional Court. 25th January, 1924.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACTS.

DECISIONS GIVEN BY THE UMPIRE.

DECISIONS GIVEN BY THE UMPIRE. VOLUMES containing the collected decisions of the Umpire, ap-pointed under Section 12 of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920, respecting disputed claims to benefit, are published by H.M. Stationery Office. Cases after No. 2000 are not published in volume form, but summaries of the decisions are printed in pamphlets issued at approximately fortnightly intervals. The pamphlets will be supplied post free, as and when issued, for an annual sub-scription of 7s. 6d., payable in advance. All applications should be made to H.M. Stationery Office or at any of the addresses shown on the front cover of this Gazette.

The following are recent decisions of general interest :-

CASE No. 6051, SECTION 8 (4).—No CONTRIBUTIONS DURING INSURANCE YEAR, 1921-1922—FAILURE TO PAY CONTRIBU-TIONS IN FOLLOWING YEAR DUE TO SICKNESS—DISQUAL FICATION NOT REMOVED.

The applicant, who had last been employed as an assistant driller for three years ending May, 1921, lodged a claim for benefit on 6th July, 1923. The claim was, however, di

February, 1924.

allowed under Section 8 (4) on the ground that the applicant had no contributions to his credit in respect of the Insurance Year 1921-1922. It was stated the applicant was unemployed rom May, 1921, to 10th April, 1922. From April, 1922, up to 20th April, 1923, he was in receipt of treatment allowance from the Ministry of Pensions and for the greater part of his time he was in hospital. He was finally certified as fit tor light work on 7th July, 1923. During the two Insurance Years, 1921-1922 and 1922-1923, therefore, the applicant had paid no unemployment insurance contributions. It was sub-ited that the non-payment of contributions during the Insuraid no unemployment insurance contributions. It was sub-itted that the non-payment of contributions during the Insur-nce Year 1921-1922 could not be regarded as being due to ckness, because the applicant was sick for only $3\frac{1}{2}$ months if that year. The applicant was, therefore, disqualified under ection 8 (4) for the Insurance Year 1922-1923, until 12 con-ributions had been paid during that year, but he had been revented from paying these 12 contributions, owing to sick-ess. The point at issue, therefore, was whether the failure pay the 12 contributions owing to sickness removed the isqualification under Section 8 (4).

squantization under by the Court of Referees that the claim for nefit should be allowed. The Court, after considering Section (4), were of opinion that the applicant was entitled to benefit from 7th July, 1923, the date on which he was certified as g fit for work

The Insurance Officer declined to accept the Court's recomdation. In his opinion Section 8 (4) was satisfied for the grance Year 1922-1923, but it was not satisfied for the vious Insurance Year, and, accordingly, the applicant could receive benefit until 12 further contributions had been paid. *ecision.*—"On the facts before me my decision is that the m for benefit should be disallowed.

No contributions were paid in respect of the applicant ing the Insurance Year 1921-1922, and I agree with the mance Officer that the non-payment of those contributions of shown to have been due to his being sick. He is accord-y disqualified until 12 contributions have been paid by The fact that the non-payment of the required subse-12 contributions was due to sickness does not remove the ualification.

SE NO. 6064, SECTION 7 (1) (iii).—SUITABLE EMPLOYMENT, REFUSAL OF—WORK AT A DISTANCE—REFUSAL TO ALLOW PAR-TICULARS TO BE SUBMITTED—ALLEGED MORE MEN NOTIFIED OF JOBS THAN COULD HAVE OBTAINED THE WORK.

he applicant, a collier, had been unemployed for about 12 The applicant, a collier, had been unemployed for about 12 onths, when on 3rd May, 1923, he refused an offer of piece-ork in a colliery about 115 miles from his home. The mini-um wage for the work was 8s. $5\frac{1}{2}d$. per day of 7 hours and he work was expected to be permanent. The applicant, a single man, refused the offer because the xchange was unable to give him the name of the colliery at hich the work was offered. He also alleged that there were boldgings to be had near the colliery. *Recommended* by the Court of Referees that the claim for enefit should be disallowed on the ground that the applicant ad not shown just cause for refusing the offer. The applicant's association appealed against the recommenda-

e applicant's association appealed against the recommenda-

of the Court of Referees and, at an oral hearing before Umpire, it was alleged on their behalf that at the colliery question there were, at the most, only two vacancies for , whereas the vacancies had been given such wide circula-that a number of men had been asked to accept the jobs, , of four men who were submitted, none was engaged by employer.

tained that the employers had notified vacancies for 12 There was no local labour available, and, accordingly,

ALLEGED BREACH OF APPRENTICESHIP AGREEMENT BY

January, 1924. (863.) MERIT ALLOWANCES—WITHDRAWAL BY LONDON, MIDLAND AND SCOTTISH RAILWAY—DECISION NO. 728, PARAGRAPH 29—INDIVI-DUAL CASES—EXERCISE OF DISCRETION OF MANAGEMENT.—The Amalgamated Engineering Union v. The London, Midland and Scottish Railway. Before the coming into operation of Decision No. 728, the men in question were paid the ordinary and cus-tomary rates for their respective occupations, but when the Decision was applied the company reduced them to the sche-duled rates of pay. The Union claimed that the men wcre protected by paragraph 29 of the Decision, as the reduction was a withdrawal of a "merit" allowance, which was not justified by the Decision, and should be restored. Following previous Decisions of the Court, the company have restored the merit rate to between 70 and 80 members of the Union at Crewe. According to the company's evidence the case of each of the men enumerated in the Union's list of men affected had been considered individually on its merits, and the management hold that each is doing the customary and ordinary duties of his urther information was obtained on this point, and it was en. There was no local labour available, and, accordingly, th the employers' consent, the vacancies were given a larger reulation. The particulars of a number of men were then bmitted to the employers, who selected 13 men from various calities, including four from the applicant's district. None the selected men accepted the jobs, and finally the employers ceided to engage only local labour as and when it became ailable. In this way 26 men were engaged, and at the time the report there were still vacancies for others. Decision.—" On the facts before me my decision is that the aim for benefit should be disallowed. " I am satisfied that the employment of which the applicant as notified was suitable. It must ordinarily happen that the umber of persons notified exceeds the number of vacancies, that not all those notified could get the employment if all pplied for it. I have no reason to suppose, however, that considered individually on its merits, and the management hold that each is doing the customary and ordinary duties of his occupation and is not recognised by the management as doing anything other than that. In regard to six smiths working on "heavy fires" at Crewe Old Works, the company stated that the men were still in receipt of their previous base rate of 48s. per week, and should the Union prove that the men were receiving less than that rate, they would be paid the higher rate retrospectively. The company's representative also under-took to investigate a complaint as to the method of remunera-tion of the turner at Rugby, included in the Union's list. *Decision.*—As was explained in Decision No. 814, regarding the procedure proper to be adopted in the exercise by the company of their right to review any special ratings, the Court took the view that a differentiation could properly be made between extra payments granted to individuals in respect of their indi-vidual qualifications or skill and an extra payment made to a group of workpeople. In the former case, the matter is one for settlement between the man concerned and the company; lied for it. I have no reason to suppose, however, that fication of these vacancies was made to an unreasonable ent, and as the applicant failed to apply, he does not satisfy that he was unable to obtain suitable employment." ⁶ No. 6127, Section 8 (1).—Trade Dispute—Apprentice Carpenter Suspended owing to Boilermakers' Lock-out EMPLOYERS. firm of shipbuilders reported that the applicant, an appren-carpenter, had been suspended on 23rd June, 1923, owing stoppage of work caused by a boilermakers' lock-out, which an on 30th April, 1923. he applicant stated that at the time of his suspension he completed four years out of his five years' apprenticeship. was told that he would be sent for when his services were

required

earnings a decrease of 0.2 per cent. Eighteen of the 52 indus-tries show increases in the number of workpeople employed in December, the industries showing the greatest increases being automobile tyres (7.2 per cent.) and cotton goods (2.2 per cent). The greatest decreases in employment were in sugar refining (24.7 per cent.), confectionery (12.2 per cent.), and in steam railroad car building and repairing (5.8 per cent.). The corresponding month of 1922, returns from 3,579 establish-ments in 43 industries show a net increase of 3.1 per cent in the number of workers employed, an increase of 10.6 per cent, in the aggregate wages paid, and one of 7.3 per cent. in average weekly earnings. Twenty of the 43 industries show increases in the number of workpeople employed. The pottery industry again shows a large increase, owing to the strike in 1922.

AUSTRALIA.*

Unemployment in the Fourth Quarter, 1923.—The percentage of members of trade unions unemployed in the fourth quarter of 1923 was 6.2, as compared with 7.4 in the preceding quarter and 8.6 in the fourth quarter of 1922.

CANADA.

Employment in Janary.⁺—For 1st January, 1924, returns were received by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics at Ottawa from 5,768 firms, with an aggregate pay-roll of 729,950. On 1st December, 1923, the same firms reported 787,531 employed. The total for 1st January thus shows a decrease of 57,581 persons, or 7.3 per cent. If the number 100 be assigned to the week ended 17th January, 1920, the index number of employment for 1st January, 1924, is 88.7, as compared with 95.7 for 1st December, 1923, and 86.3 for 1st January, 1923. The tendency during January in all industries except logging and retail trade, m which there were seasonal increases, was downward. The heaviest reductions were reported in manufacturing industries, largely due to temporary closing down for the holidays and for stocktaking.

stocktaking. Trade Union Unemployment at end of December.[‡]-At the

end of December 7.2 per cent. of the members of trade unions making returns were unemployed, as compared with 6.2 per cent. in the previous month and with 6.4 at the end of December, 1922.

* Information supplied through the courtesy of the Commonwealth High

† The January Employment Situation, 1924. Ottawa. † Information supplied through the courtesy of the Canadian Department of Labour, Ottawa.

Recommended by the Court of Referees that the claim for benefit should be disallowed on the ground that the applicant had lost employment owing to the lock-out. Leave to appeal was granted.

was granted. On appeal the applicant stated that the employers had not the right to suspend him. When he accepted employment he was guaranteed five years' work as an apprentice at a wage of £2 per week. *Decision.*—"On the facts before me my decision is that the claim for benefit should be disallowed. "I agree with the recommendation of the Court of Referees, that the applicant's loss of employment was due to a stoppage of work due to a trade dispute. It is suggested that the em-ployers broke their agreement with the applicant by discharging him. If this is so (and I express no opinion on the question), it does not alter the fact that the discharge was by reason of the trade dispute."

RECENT CONCILIATION AND ARBITRATION CASES.

INDUSTRIAL COURT DECISIONS.

FERRIES FLOATING STAFF-BIRKENHEAD CORPORATION-SLIDING SCALE AGREEMENT-INTERPRETATION AND APPLICATION-COST OF LIVING.-Birkenhead Town Council v. The National Sailors' and Firemen's Union. Decision.-The cardinal feature of the scheme under the sliding scale agreement is that 75 points are taken as the datum line or starting point, and the variations in wages, up or down, are always to be calculated as from 75. If there is a variation of 5 points from 75, an alteration will take place; if less than 5 points, no alteration will take place. For example, when the cost of living fell to 69 an alteration took place in the wages, as there had been a fall of full 5 points from 75; when the cost of living rose to 71 the wages required to be adjusted to the rate at which they stood when at 75, as at 71 there was no change of 5 points from 75. When the cost of living rose to 77, no adjustment was necessary under the Agreement, as there was no variation of 5 points above 75. Should the cost of living rise, for instance, to 79, there will still be no alteration in wages, as there will be no variation of 5 points about 75. Should, however, the cost of living rise to 80, there will be an alteration in wages, as there will have been a variation of full 5 points above 75. The examples may be multiplied, but these will be sufficient to show how the Agree-ment operates in practice. Issued 3rd January, 1924. (861.) FERRIES FLOATING STAFF-BIRKENHEAD CORPORATION-SLIDING

ment operates in practice. Issued ord January, 1924. (861.) WINDOW CLEANERS, EUSTON—DECISION NO. 728, SCHEDULE F, CONDITION 11—6' HEIGHT MONEY "—NORMAL AND CUSTOMARY DUTIES OF CLASS.—The National Union of Railwaymen v. The London, Midland and Scottish Railway. Decision.—Having regard to the circumstances and the duties of a window cleaner, it does not appear to the Court that the work in question is of an "exceptionally . . . dangerous character" within Condi-tion 11, and therefore the men concerned are not entitled to an extra payment. Issued 15th January, 1924. (862.)

BANK AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS-MEN ON RUNNING REPAIRS-RATE OF PAY—DECISION No. 728, SCHEDULE F, CONDITION 7.— The National Union of Railwaymen v. The London, Midland and Scottish Railway. *Decision*.—The Court find that, in terms of Condition 7 of Schedule F to Decision No. 728, the normal work was not suspended on the days in question, and that accordingly the claim has not been established. Issued 15th January, 1924. (863.)

February, 1924.

February, 1924.

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ACT, 1906.

N Order* under Section 8, sub-section 6, of the Workmen's ompensation Act, 1906, made by the Secretary of State for the Home Department, on the 16th January, extends the proions of Section 8 of the Act to cases of (1) inflammation, ration and malignant disease of the skin and subcutaneous ues due to exposure to X-rays or radio-active substances, and manganese poisoning. The Order came into force on 1st bruary.

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION (SILICOSIS) ACT. 1918.

HE Home Secretary has issued an Order⁺, dated 18th January, 124, amending the Scheme of Compensation for the Refrac-ries Industries under the Workmen's Compensation (Silicosis)

s Industries under the Workmen's Compensation (Sincosis) 1918. The effect of the Order is— to provide that the additional weekly allowance provided for ag the total incapacity under the Workmen's Compensa-(War Addition) Acts, 1917, and 1919, shall, notwith-ling the expiry of the said Acts, continue to be payable in act of total disablement in all cases where the workman has suspended from employment, or is certified to have been

ly disabled as from a date previous to 1st January, 1924, ng as he remains totally disabled; and to apply, subject to the conditions in the Scheme, certain isions of the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923, for fixing amount of compensation in cases of death or total disable-, to cases arising under the Scheme, except cases where the man was suprended from employment or certified to have orkman was suspended from employment or certified to have ben totally disabled as from a date previous to 1st January,

CENSUS OF PRODUCTION ORDER.

HE Board of Trade have made an Order[‡] under the Census Production Act, 1917, determining that a census of pro-action shall be taken in the year 1925, in respect of producn in the year 1924.

Statutory Rules and Orders, 1924 No. 30. H.M. Stationery Office ; price 1d. net Statutory Rules and Orders, 1924. No. 41. H.M. Stationery Office. Pr.ce 1d.

The Census of Production (1925), Order, 1923. H.M. Stationery Office; price

LIST OF NEW CONTRACTS, JANUARY, 1924. ADMIRALTY

(CIVIL ENGINEER-IN-CHIEF'S DEPARTMENT.) (CIVIL ENGINEER-IN-CHIEF'S DEPARTMENT.) Abinger, Surrey: Magnet House and Caretaker's Quarters, etc.: F. & H. F. Higgs, London, S.E.—Bedenham: Steel Rails: T. W. Ward, Ltd., Sheffield.—Chatham: Pitch Pine Timber: W. Crundall & Co., Dover.—Turnouts and Crossings: T. W. Ward, Ltd., Sheffield.—Water Tubing: Russell Bros. (Walsall), Ltd., Walsall.—Clyde: C.I. Pipes, etc.: Cochrane & Co., Ltd., Middlesbrough.—Clyde: C.I. Pipes, etc.: Cochrane & Co., Ltd., Middlesbrough.—Devonport: Creosoted Timber: Burt, Boulton & Haywood, Ltd., London, E.C.—Portsmouth: Pitch Pine: Com-mercial Timber Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—Steel Bars: Earl of Dudley Round Oak Works, Ltd., Brierley Hill, Staffs.—Shotley: Water Softening Plant: Boby & Co., London, E.C.

ADMIRALTY.

(CONTRACT AND PURCHASE.)

Accumulators: London Battery & Cable Co., Ltd., London, E.—Amplifiers: H. W. Sullivan, Ltd., London, E.—Anchors, Stockless: W. L. Byers & Co., Ltd., Sunderland.—Batteries: Chloride Electrical Storage Co., Manchester.—Beans, Haricot: White, Tomkins & Courage, Ltd., London, E.C.—Bevel Gear Cutting Machine: J. Holroyd & Co., Ltd., Milnrow, Rochdale.— Blocks, Malleable Cast Iron: Fellow Bros., Ltd., Cradley Heath; Ruston & Hornsby, Ltd. Grantham Bolts and Nuits Steel Ruston & Hornsby, Ltd., Grantham.—Bolts and Nuts, Steel (Black and Galvanised): C. Richards & Sons, Ltd., Darlaston; Stones Bros., Ltd., West Bromwich; Rivet, Bolt and Nut Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—Bolts and Nuts, Wrought Iron: C. Richards & Sons, Ltd., Darlaston; C. Richards & Sons, Ltd., Darlaston; ns, Ltd., Darlaston; Stones Bros., Ltd., West Bromwich; ilkes, Ltd., Darlaston.—Bow Cap Operating Fittings: Maclaggart, Scott. & Co., Ltd., Loanhead, Edinburgh.—Branch Breakers: Whipp & Bourne, Ltd., Manchester.—Brass Foundry:

in the latter case, the matter would appear to be one of collec-tive agreement or arrangement, as to which, before any altera-tion is made, negotiations between the parties should take place and, failing agreement, the question referred to the Court. In this connection, the Court note that the men's representa-tives at the hearing concurred in the view that the decision as to an individual man's skill and ability must rest ultimately with the management. The Court accept the company's statement that the cases of the men concerned have been considered on that the cases of the men concerned have been considered on their merits, and presume that due regard has been given to the views expressed by the Court in their several Decisions. If If the views expressed by the court in their several Decisions. If such be the case, the company would seem to have acted within their rights in so far as the men concerned fall to be dealt with as individuals. As to whether any of the men concerned may form groups of workpeople for which special rates were fixed by agreements or otherwise, the Court assume that this aspect of the case has been given full consideration by both parties; of the case has been given full consideration by both parties; if not, it would appear to the Court that the parties might properly consider the matter having regard to this aspect. Issued 18th January, 1924. (864.)

STEEL WORK ERECTORS-STEEL WORK ERECTION FOR ELEC-TRICITY POWER STATION, BARKING CREEK-DARLINGTON FIRM UNDERTAKING CONTRACT IN LONDON DISTRICT-RATE OF PAY AND UNDERTAKING CONTRACT IN LONDON DISTRICT—BATE OF PAY AND TRAVELLING ALLOWANCE—PRACTICE IN THE DISTRICT.—The Cleveland Bridge and Engineering Co., Ltd., v. The Iron and Steel Trades Confederation. *Decision.*—The Court find that the "steel work erectors" who have been employed on the company's contract at Barking Creek erecting steel work are entitled to back pay as from 3rd October, 1923, represented by the difference between 1s. 6½d. per hour, plus 2s. 3d. a day travelling allowance, and what they have actually received. Those men who have been employed since the said date on the above work and who are not "steel work erectors" are not entitled to be paid the rate of 1s. 6½d. per hour plus the travelling allowance. The fact that some employers refused to pay the rate to unqualified men tends to show that the practice of such payment is not universal or general. Issued 18th January, 1924. (865.) H.M. DOCKYARDS—OIL CARRYING VESSELS—ALLOWANCES FOR

H.M. DOCKYARDS-OIL CARRYING VESSELS-ALLOWANCES FOR H.M. DOCKYARDS—OIL CARRYING VESSELS—ALLOWANCES FOR REPAIR WORK ON VESSELS CARRYING OIL IN CARGO.—The Offi-cial side of the Shipbuilding Trade Joint Council for Govern-ment Departments v. the Trade Union Side. Decision.— All men working in H.M. Dockyards on repairs to vessels carry-ing oil in cargo shall be paid an allowance of 3d. per hour when working in the following places, viz., tanks, including shell working in the following places, viz., tanks, including shell and deck in connection therewith, cofferdams, hatches, oil pump room, tunnel and stokehold; and the claim in respect to work in all other parts of oil carrying vessels is not established. Effective from the beginning of the first full pay period follow-ing its date. Issued 22nd January, 1924. (866.)

COAL PORTERS-METROPOLITAN AREA-LOADING AND DELIVER-ING-CLAIM FOR ADVANCE IN WAGES .- The Society of Coal Merchants v. The Transport and General Workers' Union. Decision.—After considering all the facts and circumstances, and in particular the relation between the retail selling price and In particular the relation between the retail setting price and the tonnage rates for loading, etc., at different periods, the Court decided that loaders, carmen and trolleymen shall re-ceive an increase of 1½d. per ton upon all existing rates of wages for loading and delivery. The parties agreed that, in the event of an award being made, the terms thereof shall be retro-spective to the 11th January, 1924. Issued 28th January, 1924. (867)

AGREEMENTS NEGOTIATED BY OFFICERS OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR.

MINISIRY OF LABOUR. BUILDERS' LABOURERS : ARDROSSAN.—National Federation of Building Trades Operatives v. Contractors to the Ardrossan Housing Scheme. Difference : Refusal to pay the standard rate of wages to the builders' labourers employed on the Ardrossan Housing Scheme. Agreement : Having regard to the contracts in hand the representatives of the operatives agreed not to press for payment of what they deemed to be the standard rates payable to building trade labourers until the last Saturday of March, 1924; thereafter the Contractors agreed to pay the building trade labourers the wages laid down by the National Wages and Conditions Council. Agreed 7th January, 1924 (I.R. 1837/1923.) (I.R. 1837/1923.)

COAL PORTERS : METROPOLITAN AREA.-Transport and General Workers' Union v. Society of Coal Merchants. Difference: Application by the Union that loaders, carmen and trolleymen should receive an increase of 6d. per ton upon all current rates of wages for loading and delivery. Agreement: It was agreed that the matter should be referred to the Industrial Court^{*} for settlement. Signed 11th January, 1924. (I.R. 257/8, 1924.)

LOCK. LATCH AND KEY INDUSTRY : WILLENHALL .- Amalga-LOCK, LATCH AND KEY INDUSTRY: WILLENHALL.—Amalga-mated Lock Makers and Metal Workers' Trade Society v. Messrs. Samuel Parkes and Company, Willenhall. Difference: Claim by certain girls employed by the firm that they were not receiving the standard rate of wages prescribed for the trade by the Joint Industrial Council. Agreement: The firm would pay the rates specified in the agreement for the Lock, Latch and Key Industry. Agreed, 18th January, 1924. (I.R. 181/ 1924) pay t and F 1924.)

* For a summary of the decision of the Industrial Court, see above.

TRADE BOARDS ACTS, 1909 AND 1918.

ORDERS.

ORDERS confirming minimum rates of wages and the variation and cancellation of minimum rates of wages by the undermen-tioned Trade Boards have been made under Section 4 (2) of the Trade Boards Act, 1918:

Button-Making Trade Board (Great Britain)

Orders V. (12) and (13), dated 3rd January, 1924, confirming general minimum time-rates, piece-work basis time-rates and over-time rates (as varied), for female workers and general minimum piece-rates and a piece-work basis time-rate (as varied) for cer-tain classes of female home-workers, and specifying 7th January, 1924, as the date from which the rates as varied should become effective. effective

General minimum time-rates $-6\frac{1}{2}d$. per hour for female workers of 18 years of age and over, with lower rates for younger female

workers. Piece-work basis time-rates— $7\frac{1}{2}d$. per hour for all female workers (other than home-workers); $7\frac{3}{4}d$. per hour for all female home-workers, other than those employed on carding linen buttons and metal trousers buttons.

Tobacco Trade Board (Great Britain).

Orders N. (11) and (12), dated 7th January, 1924, confirmin general minimum time-rates and overtime rates for male and female learners to hand or mould cigar making during the first twelve months of employment, and general minimum time-rates, guaranteed time-rates, general minimum piece-rates and overtin rates (as varied) for male and female apprentices in the cig section of the trade (whether indentured in a form prescribe section of the trade (whether indentured in a form prescrib by the Trade Board or in such other form as may be approv by the Trade Board), and specifying 14th January, 1924, as t date from which the rates as fixed and as varied should become effective.

Chain Trade Board (Great Britain).

Chain Irade Board (Great Britain). Order C. (19), dated 21st January, 1924, confirming the can-cellation of the minimum rates of wages for making certain sizes of dollied or tommied chain and of hand-hammered chain from iron supplied by the employer and confirming minimum rates of wages for such work whether or not the iron is supplied by the employer, for periods (dependent on the cost of living figure) specified by the Trade Board, and specifying 1st Feb-ruary, 1924, as the date from which the cancellation shall take effect and the rates fixed shall become effective.

Copies of the Minister's Orders, setting out in detail the minimum rates of wages referred to above, may be obtained from H.M. Stationery Office, price 3d. each.

EMPLOYMENT IN DANGER BUILDINGS.

THE Home Secretary has issued an Order,* dated 18th January, 1924, declaring, in respect of the General Rules forbidding the employment in explosive and firework factories of a person under the age of 16 years in any danger building except in some process which is not in itself dangerous, that each of the following processes is a process which is not in itself dangerous :--dangerous

1) Filling tubes with wads for shot-gun cartridges.
(1) Filling tubes with wads for shot-gun cartridges.
(2) Wadding shot-gun cartridges. Provided that no explosive other than safety cartridges is present in the room or compartment at the time.
(3) Capping fog-signals. Provided that no explosive other than percussion caps is present in the room or compartment at the time.
(4) Assembling empty capped cartridge cases in plate

(4) Assenting empty capped carries and packing such varies (5) Finishing, bundling, wrapping and packing such varie ties of fireworks as are defined as "Shop Goods " or "Tor Fireworks" in the Order in Council (No. 16A) made under the said Act on the 11th day of May, 1906.

Provided that no loose explosive is present in the room or compartment at the time.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT, 1901.

NIGHT EMPLOYMENT OF YOUNG PERSONS IN CERTAIN PROCESSES.

THE Home Secretary has issued an Order,† under Section 3 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, directing that its special exception by which a male young person may be en-ployed during the night in certain factories shall extend, s far as regards young persons of the age of 16 years and upwards, to parts of other factories in which reverberator or regenerative furnaces are used in connection with 0 smelting of ores, (ii) metal rolling, (iii) forges, or (iv) mane facture of metal tubes or rods, and are necessarily kept is operation day and night in order to avoid waste of materia and fuel, subject to the conditions prescribed in sub-section (i) of the said section, and to certain further conditions, which are set forth in the new Order.

• Statutory Rules and Orders, 1924, No. 55. H.M. Stationery Office ; price † Statutory Rules and Orders, 1924, No. [54, H.M. Stationery Office; price 1d. net.

OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

CENSUS.-Census of England and Wales, 1921. (a) Counties of Cumberland and Westmorland. (b) County of Bedford. (c) County of Berkshire. (d) County of Buckingham. (e) County of Salop. (f) County of Hereford. (g) County of Oxford. (S.O. publications : price 10s., 6s., 7s. 6d., 6s. 6d., 7s. 6d., 6s., 7s. respectively.)

FISHING INDUSTRY.—Report of the Scottish Departmental Committee on trawling and policing of Scotch sea fisheries. Scottish Office. (S.O. publication : price 5s. 6d.)

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES.—Reports of the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies for the year ending 31st December, 1922. Part A. Appendix (N). List of Societies registered under the Friendly Societies Act at 31st December, 1922 (excluding branches of orders other than district branches), together with latest particulars as to members, funds and valuation. Sections I.-VIII. (S.O. publications : price 3s., 3s., 6d., 2s., 3s. 6d., 2s., 1s. 6d. and 1s. 6d. respectively.) 2s., 1s. 6d., and 1s 6d. respectively.)

28., 18. 6d., and 18 6d. respectively.)
MINING.—(1) Miners' Lamps Committee. (a) Report on the relighting of lamps underground. Memorandum No. 9. (b) Report on Testing for firedamp. Memorandum No. 10. Board of Trade, Mines Department. (S.O. publications: price 3d, and 1s. 6d. respectively. (2) Statistical summary of output, and of the cost of production, proceeds and profits of the coal mining industry for the quarter ended 30th September, 1923. Board of Trade, Mines Department. (Cmd. 2043: price 2d.) (See page 42.)

PENSIONS.—Sixth Annual Report of the Minister of Pensions, from 1st April, 1922, to 31st March, 1923. (H.C. 1: price 60

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE. - Report of the Committee on the co-ordination of administrative and executive arrangements for the grant of assistance from public funds on account of sickness, destitution and unemployment. (Cmd. 2011: price 4s.) See page 41.)

SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH.—Report of the Medical Research Council for the year 1922-3. (S.O. publication: price 3s. 6d.)

TRADE UNIONS.—Statistical summary showing the operations of registered trade unions for the years 1912-1922. Registry of Friendly Societies. (S.O. publication : price 6d.) (See page 42.)

UNEMPLOYMENT.—The silk industry. Lace, en silk industries Committee. Final Report. Bo (S.O. publication : price 1s. 6d.) (See page 41.) Lace, embroidery, and port. Board of Trade.

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION. — Workmen's Compensation (Silicosis) Committee. Departmental committee on compensa-tion for silicosis, dealing with the refractories industries (sili-cosis) scheme, 1919. First report. Home Office. (S.O. pub-lication : price 2s.) (See page 45.)

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS.

Bailey & Mackey, Ltd., Birmingham; Evered & Co., Ltd., Smeth-wick; J. P. Marrian & Co., Ltd., Birmingham; T. Pemberton & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham; Player & Mitchell, Birmingham; W. Rowley, Birmingham; E. Showell & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham; Tonks (Birmingham), Ltd., Birmingham; Winfields Rolling Mills, Ltd., Birmingham.—Brown Jean: The Dacca Twist Co., Manchester; Dyson & Co. (Farnworth), Ltd., Bolton; Union Mill Co., Manchester.—Buoys, Materials for: The Gas Accumu-lator Co. (United Kingdom), Ltd., Brentford.—Canvas Sail-cloth: Baxter Bros. & Co., Ltd., Dundee; Boase Spinning Co. (1920), Ltd., Dundee; Port Glasgow & Newark Sailcloth Co., Ltd., Port Glasgow; Richards, Ltd., Aberdeen; F. Webster & Sons, Arbroath.—Carpets and Rugs: Carpet Trades, Ltd., Kid-derminster; Brinton's, Ltd., Kidderminster; Tomkinson & Adam, Ltd., Port Glasgow; Richards, Ltd., Aberdeen; F. Webster & Sons, Arbroath.—Carpets and Rugs: Carpet Trades, Ltd., Kid-derminster; Brinton's, Ltd., Kidderminster; Tomkinson & Adam, Kidderminster.—Cells: London Battery & Cable Co., London, E.; Fuller's United Electric Works, Ltd., Chadwell Heath; Siemens Bros. & Co., Woolwich; Premier Accumulator Co., Northamp-ton.—Cocks, Asbestos Packed: W. N. Baines & Co., Ltd., Rotherham; Hayward, Tyler & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—Cocks, Gunmetal and Plated: H. Bisseker, Ltd., Birmingham; Hyde & Sons, Wolverhampton; Sir J. Laing & Sons, Ltd., Sunderland; Shipham & Co., Ltd., Hull; Smith Bros. & Co. (Hyson), Ltd., Nottingham.—Compressors, C.O. 2: J. & E. Hall, Ltd., Dart-ford, Kent.—Cupboards, Hot: Bertram Thomas, Manchester.— Damask Table Linen: Belfast Damask & Linen Co., Belfast; Wm. Ewart & Son, Ltd., Belfast; McCrum, Watson & Mercer, Ltd., Belfast; Ulster Weaving Co., Ltd., Belfast; York Street Flax Spinning Co., Ltd., Leyland, Lancashire.—Furnace, Anneal-ing: Dowson & Mason Gas Plant Co., Lvenshulme, Man-chester.—Gromets, Eyelets, etc.: H. Hipkiss & Co., Ltd., Bir-mingham; The North British Eyelet Co., Ltd., Cachdale.— Hammock Hooks: McWhirter, Roberts & Co., London, E.— Hoist, Auxiliary: Cowans, Sheldon & Co., Ltd., Carlisle.— Hoses, Flexible Metallic: The Interlock Metal Hose Co., London, N.; The United Flexible Metallic Tubing Co., Ltd., Ponders THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE. February, 1924

End.-Lard: C. & T. Harris (Calne), Ltd., Calne, Wilts.-Lathes, Motor-driven: J. Lang & Sons, Ltd., Johnstone, Glas-gow.—Lathes, Screwcutting, etc.: Denham's Engineering Co., Ltd., Holmfield, Halifax.—Lead Sheet and Pipe: A. D. Foulkes, Ltd., Birmingham; Locke, Blackett & Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Ltd., Birmingham; Locke, Blackett & Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on Tyne.—Liquid Metal Polish: Carr & Day & Martin, Ltd. Lyne.—Liquid Metal Poinsn: Carr & Day & Martin, Ltd., London, N.; Paton, Calvert & Co., Ltd., Liverpool. —Locomotive, Steam: Hawthorn, Leslie & Co., Ltd., New-eastle-on-Tyne.—Machines, Drilling: W. Asquith, Ltd., Halifax, Yorks.—Machine, Grinding: J. Holroyd & Co., Ltd., Milhrow, Rochdale.—Machines, Punching, Shearing, etc.: Craig & Donald, Ltd., Johnstone, Glasgow, Machines, Sewing, Singer, Son Rochdale.—Machines, Functing, Snearing, etc.: Craig & Donaid Ltd., Johnstone, Glasgow.—Machines, Sewing: Singer Sewing Machine Co., Ltd., Clydebank, Glasgow.—Marmalade: Lipton Ltd., London, N.; Chivers & Sons, Histon, Cambridge.—Moto Booster, 50 K.W. Control Gear, etc.: English Electric Co., Ltd. ewing Motor Booster, 50 K.W. Control Gear, etc.: English Electric Co., Ltd., Bradford.—Motor Generator, 160 K.W. and Starter and Switch-board: General Electric Co., Ltd., Witton, Birmingham.— Paints and Colours: Lewis Berger & Sons, Ltd., London, E.; Craig & Rose, Ltd., Leith; R. Gay & Co., Ltd., London, E.; Golden Valley Ochre & Oxide Co., Ltd., Wick, near Bristol; Goodlass, Wall & Co., Ltd., Liverpool; John Hare & Co., Bristol; T. Hinshelwood & Co., Ltd., Glasgow; Hoyle, Robson & Barnatt & Co. Barnett & Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne; R. Kearsley & Co., Ltd., Ripon; A. G. Soutter & Co., Ltd., London, E.; W. R. Todd & Son, I.d., Hull.—Paint, White Oxide of Zine: Locke, Lancaster & W. W. & R. Johnson & Sons, Ltd., London, E.— Peas, Split: B. Smith & Sons, London, E.C.—Porcelain China: J. Avasley & Sons, Longton; Bishop & Stonier, Ltd., Hanley, W. T. Copeland & Sons, Stoke-on-Trent; Crown Staffordshire W. 1. Coperand & Sons, Stoke-on-Frent; Crown Stanfordsmire Porcelain Co., Ltd., Fenton; A. B. Jones & Sons, Longton; Geo. Jones & Sons, Ltd., Stoke-on-Trent; R. H. & S. L. Plant, Ltd., Longton.—Pump, Electromersible: J. S. White & Co., Ltd., East Cowes, Isle of Wight.—Resistances: Bertram Thomas, Manchester.—Rice: Carbutt & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—Soda Ash: United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool.—Starters and Resisteho2_ Watford Electric & Mfg. Co., Ltd., Watford, Hertford -Stoneware Fittings: Doulton & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ances: Watford Electric & Mfg Co., Hathern Station Co., Ltd., Loughborough.—**Tea**: Kearley & Tonge, Ltd., London, E.C.; Lipton, Ltd., London, N.; Mc-Meekin & Co., London, E.C.—**Timber, English:** G. Randle & Son, Ltd., Bridgwater; East & Son, Ltd., Berkhamsted.—**Tin** and Japanned Wares: Ash Bros. & Heaton, Ltd., Birmingham; T. J. Bartlett, London; T. G. Blood, Birmingham; Bulpitt & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham; F. Francis & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.; Froggatt & Tyler, Ltd., Bilston; S. Gregson & Sons, Bury; M. J. Hart & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham; Lawden & Poole, Birmingham; H. Loveridge & Co., Ltd., Wolverhampton; Orme, Evans & Co., Ltd., Stamping Co., Ltd. Evans & Co., Ltd., Wolverhampton; Welsh Tinplate & Metal Stamping Co., Ltd., Llanelly.—Towels, Seamen's: Barlow & Jones, Ltd., Manchester.—Water Closets and Gear: Doulton & Co., Ltd., Paisley; R. Brown & Son, Ltd., Paisley; Shanks & Co., Ltd., Glasgow; J. Stone & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.-Winches, Electrically-driven: Cowans, Sheldon & Co., Ltd., Carlisle

WAR OFFICE.

Aluminium Ingot: British Aluminium Co., Ltd., London, E.C. —Asphalte Work: La Brea Asphalte Co., Ltd., Birmingham.— Bags, Tool: Barrow, Hepburn & Gale, London, S.E..—Baths, Sitz: T. G. Blood, Birmingham; Chatham & Son, Ltd., Wolverhampton; Orme, Evans & Co., Ltd., Wolverhampton; Henry Loveridge & Co., Ltd., Wolverhampton.—Boots: W. Nichols & Sons, Ltd., Kettering.—Boots, Special Chrome Leather: St. Crispin Productive Society, Ltd., Raunds.—Boxes, Pack: C. G. Bussey & Co., London, E.C..—Braid: G. Hattersley & Sons, Ltd., Keighley.—Cable, Electric: Western Electric Co., Ltd., London, W.C.—Cans, Petrol: J. F. Farwig & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.— Caps, Forage: L. Silberston, London, E.—Cellis, Electric: Edison & Swan Electric Co., Ltd., Ponders End; Fuller's United Electric Works, Ltd., Chadwell Heath; Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., Woolwich.—Cement, Portland: Beynon & Co., Ltd., Galmorgan; Board, J., & Co., Ltd., Bridgwater; British Standard Cement Co., Ltd., Rainham; Cement Marketing Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; East Anglian Cement Co., Ltd., Shepreth; Gillingham Portland Cement Co., Ltd., Gillingham; Ship Canal Portland Cement Mfgs., Ltd., Ellesmere Port; Smeed, Dean & Co., Ltd., Sittingbourne; Stephenson, R., & Son, Ltd., Burwell; Thames Portland Cement Co., Ltd., Rochester.—Chassis, Motor Van and Mechanical Pumps: Guy Motors, Ltd., Wolverhampton.—Cloth, Blue: J. Watkinson & Sons, Ltd., Holmfirth; P. Womersley & Sons, Pudsey.—Cloth, White: T. & Harper & Sons, Calveley, near Leeds; Whitworth & Co., Ltd., Lindenden Foot, Yorks.—Cloth, Silk: Ireland & Wishart, Ltd., Kirkcaldy; E. Wilman & Sons, Pudsey.—Cloth, White: T. & H. Harper & Sons, Calveley, near Cordage (Tarred): Dixon & Corbitt & R. S. Newall & Co., Ltd., Gateshead.—Corrugated Sheets: Burnell & Co., Ltd., Helesmere Port.—Cotton Waste, Colutnet: W. C. Jones, Ltd., Manchester. —Crucibles: Morgan Crucibles Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—Distemper: Gross, Sherwood & Heald, Ltd., Barking, E.—Dirill, Khaki: Fothergill & Harvey, Ltd., Little

Generators: Douglas Motors, Ltd., Bristol.—Lead, Pig: Brandie Goldschmidt, Ltd., Rotherhithe; British Metal Corporation, Lt London, E.C.—Lead, Sheet: Walkers, Parker & Co., Lt London, S.E.—Lighting and Starting Sets for Lorries: S. Smi & Son, Ltd., London, W.—Linoleum: Barry, Ostlere & Sheph Ltd., Kirkcaldy.—Linseed Oil: Younghusband, Barnes & London, S.E.-Machines, Drilling: Atlas Engineering Co., L. London, S.E.—Machines, Dirilling: Atlas Engineering Co., Ltd., Leeds.—Mattresses, Single: Bayswater Bedding Co., London, W. -Mop Heads: J. Warburton & Sons, Dewsbury.—Motor Bodies: E. & H. Hora, London, S.E.; Union Motor Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—Oil, Lubricating: How, F., & Co., London, E.—Pipes, Cast Iron: Cochrane & Co., Ltd., Middlesbrough-on-Tees. Pneumatic Covers and Tubes: Dunlop Rubber Co., Ltd., Bir. Pipes, Pneumatic Covers Non Stid: Dunlop Rubber Co., Ltd., Bir. mingham.—Pneumatic Covers, Non-Skid: Dunlop Rubber Ltd., Birmingham.—Power Units and Spares: Douglas Mo Bristol.—Pumps, Centrifugal: Drysdale & Co., Ltd., Glas. -Pump, Hydraulic (Electric): Hydraulic Eng. Co., Ltd., er.—Rags: E. Austin & Sons, Ltd., London, E.—Repairs to Ltd. Bristol gow.—Pump, Hydraulic (Electric): Hydraulic List. Condon, E.—Repairs to Chester.—Rags: E. Austin & Sons, Ltd., London, E.—Repairs to Locomotive: Peckett & Sons, Ltd., Bristol.—Repairs to Vessel: Locomotive: Ltd. Hull Benairs to Vessel: S. Hodge Hull.-Repairs to Vessel: S. Hodge Amos & Smith, Ltd., Amos & Smith, Ltd., Hull.—Repairs to Vessel: S. Hodge & Sons, Ltd., London, E.—Reins, Bearing: T. H. Crumpton & Co., Walsall.—Roofing Felt: Engert & Rolfe, Ltd., London, E.— Rubbers, Horse: Hoare, Marr & Co., London, E.—Sanitary Apparatus: Finch & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—Screws: Henry Cox Screw Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—Screws, Brass: British Screw Co., Ltd., Leeds.—Shalloon (dyed red): W. Bancroft & Screw Ltd. Helfers. Whitereith & Co., Ltd. Luddon Fe Screw Co., Ltd., Leeds.—Shalloon (dyed red): W. Bancroft & Sons, Ltd., Halifax; Whitworth & Co., Ltd., Huddenden Foot, Yorks.—Sheets: Ashton Bros. & Co., Ltd., Hudde, Cheshire.— Sheets, Barrack: T. McLaren & Sons, Kirkcaldy; W. Thompson & Son, Strathmiglo, Fife.—Shoes, Canvas: Adams Bros., Raunds; J. R. Brooks, Manchester; G. Knight, Finedon; Stead & Simp-son, Leicester.—Soles, Half: R. S. Lawrence & Co., London, N.; G. Looms, Market Harboro'.—Standards: Hobson & Sons, Ltd., London, S.E.—Steel (Carbon) Plates: Steel Co. of Scotland, Ltd., Glasgow.—Steel, Carbon: Vickers, Ltd., Sheffield.—Steel Wire Rope (Gal.): Edwin Ellis & Co., Ltd., London, E.—Stores for Heating Apparatus: National Radiator Co., Ltd., Hull.—Stove Leathers: Barrow, Hepburn & Gale, London, S.E.-Ste Heating Apparatus: National Radiator Co., Ltd., Hull. -Stove Piping: Potter & Co., London, E.C.—Tartan, Highland: D Ballantyne Bros. & Co., Ltd., Peebles.—Tents, Store (Canvas) Ballantyne Bros. & Co., Ltd., Peebles.—Tents, Store (Canvas):
T. Briggs, Ltd., London, E.C.; C. Groom, Ltd., London, E.C.Tents, Canvas: J. McIlwraith & Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—Transformers: Newton Bros., Ltd., Derby.—Tweed, Grey: S. Salter & Co., Ltd., Trowbridge.—Water Elevator: Boulton & Paul, Ltd., Norwich.—Web, Hemp: A. Hart & Son, Crewkerne.—Window
Glass: Pilkington Bros., Ltd., St. Helens, Lancs.—Works Services: Maintenance Works: Bury St. Edmunds: Laughton, W., Bedford. London Area: Roberts, C. P. & Co., Ltd., London, F. —Building Works and Services: Liverpool. Brookhill—Erection of C. & G. L. Desoer, Ltd., Liverpool. Brookhill—Erection Married Soldiers' Quarters: Edwards & Co., Whyteleafe, Surre Married Soldiers Quarters: Edwards & Co., Whytelate, Surf Norwich—Cavalry Barracks: H. C. Greengrass, Norwich.—Gree hill—Woolwich: Hipperson, F. R., Norwich. Sandhurst: E. Hughes, Wokingham. Bordon—Guadaloupe and Martinio Barracks: E. C. Hughes, Wokingham. Bordon—Quebec and Barracks: E. C. Hughes, Wokingham. Bordon—Quebec and S Lucia Barracks: E. C. Hughes, Wokingham. Warley Barracks F. Hutton & Son, Birch, near Colchester. Scarborough: Jara & Son, Scarborough. Nursery Camp—Married Soldiers' Qua ters: T. H. Jones, S. Farnborough, Hants. Lydd (Shed Nissens, Ltd., London, E.C. Devonport—Raglan Barracka Playfair Toole, Ltd., Southampton. Edinburgh—Leith Barracks: W. C. Robertson, Edinburgh. Glasgow—Maryhill Barracks: Sproul & Sons, Glasgow. Devonport: F. J. Stanbury, Plymout Didact Excluded Comp. A S Wheater London W (C. Didcot—Foxhall Camp: A. & S. Wheater, London, W.C. Installation: Oxford—Cowley Barracks, Electric Lighting: Alp Installation: Oxford—Cowley Barracks, Electric Lighting - M. Engineering Co., London, S.W. Preston—Fulwood Barrac Electric Lighting: Devereux, Moodie & Co., Newcastle-on-Ty Chatham Barracks—Electric Light: Drake & Gorham, Li London, S.W. Worcester—Norton Barracks, Electric Lighti A. E. Ludlow & Co., Manchester. Maidstone Barracks—Elect A. E. Ludlow & Co., Manchester. Maidstone Barracks.—Elect Light: Malcolm & Allan, Ltd., London, W.C. Perth—Quee Barracks, Electric Light: Munro & Miller, Ltd., Glasg Glencorse Barracks—Electric Light: Munro & Miller, Ltd., Glasg gow. Dunblane-Queen Victoria School, Electric Light: Pon ford & MacHardy, Dundee. Ayr Barracks-Electric Light: Ste & Wilson, Glasgow. Reading Barracks: G. E. Taylor & Co London, E.C.

AIR MINISTRY.

Aerial Lighthouses: Gas Accumulator Co., Ltd., Brentford-Aircraft: De Havilland Aircraft Co., Ltd., Edgware; Vickers Ltd., London, S.W.; Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Bristol, Handley Page, Ltd., London, N.W.; Westland Aircraft Works Yeovil; Gloucestershire Aircraft Co., Ltd., Cheltenhami Vickers, Ltd., London, S.W.; Blackburn Aeroplane & Motor Co., Leeds.—Aircraft (Reconditioning): Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Bristol.—Aircraft Spares: English Electric Co. Ltd., Bristol.—Aircraft Spares: English Electric Co. Ltd., London, W.C.; Blackburn Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Leeds Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Bristol; Vickers, Ltd., London S.W.; Fairey Aviation Co., Ltd., Hayes, Middlesex.—Airscrews: Airscrew Co., Weybridge; D. M. Davies, London, N.—Arms. **Training:** The Adamant Engineering Co., Ltd., Luton.—Attachments, L.F., for Amplifiers: H. W. Sullivan, Ltd., London E.C.—Balloons: C. G. Spencer and Sons, London, N.—Benzol: National Benzole Co., London, S.W.—Bomb Boxes: D. M. Davies, London, N.—Building Works Services: External Services (Bircham Newton): F. W. Shanks, Hunstanton. Ha Water and Heating Installation (Digby): The Brightside Four

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dry & Engineering Co.; Birmingham. Re-roofing Buildings (Henlow): G. Watters & Co., London, E.C. Guard House (Bircham Newton): Fisher & Sons, Fakenham, Norfolk. Fenc-ing and Gates (Harlescott): John Elwell, Ltd., Birmingham. Improvements to Accommodation (Feiixstowe): W. F. Cross Ltd., Feiixstowe. Erecting Shed (Aboukir): E. Wood & Co. Ltd., London, E.C.-Gable, Electric: The London Electric Wire Co. & Smiths, Ltd., London, E.C.—Canvas Packing, Messian: Jute Industries, Ltd., Dundee.—Cement: The Cement Marketing Ltd., London, E.C.-Condensers W/T: H. W. Sullivan, Ltd., London, E.C.; Telegraph Condenser Co., Ltd., Mortlake. Grankcases in Special Alloy: D. Napler & Son, Ltd., London, W.-D.C. Motors for Pumps: Electric Construction Co., Wolver-nampton.-Electric Fans: Nietropolitan-Vickers Electrical Export hampton.—Electric Fans: Metropolitan-Vickers Electrical Export Co., London, S. W.—Engine (AirGraft), Development work on: D. Napier & Son, Ltd., London, W.—Engine (AirGraft), Hepair or: Armstrong Siddeley Motors, Ltd., Coventry.—Engine (Air-Graft) spares: D. Napier & Son, Ltd., London, W.; Peter Hooker, Ltd., Walthamstow.—Engines (AirGraft): D. Napier & Son, Ltd., London, W.; The Bristol Aeropiane Co., Ltd., Bristol; Armstrong Siddeley Motors, Ltd., Coventry.—Engines (AirGraft); Kepair of: Rolfs Koyce, Ltd., Derby.—Engines (AirGraft); Hereire & Biackburne, Ltd., Booknam, Surrey.—Fan Megunators: Mansell & Ogan, Ltd., London, W.C.—Fen, Grey: Bowland Kawinson, Ltd., Waterloot, near Manchester.—Gas Watertoot, near Manchester.-Gas Kowland Rawlinson, Lta., Starter (Bristol): The Bristol Aeropiane Co., Ltd., Bristol.-Gas Starters: Rolls Royce, Ltd., Derby; Royal Aircraft Estab-Isnment, Farnborougn.—Generators: Newton Bros. (Derby), Ltd., London, S.W.; Small Electric Motors, Ltd., London, S.E.— Grease, Lubricating, Yellow: Silvertown Lubricants, Ltd., London, E.- Huse ripes (Ganvas): The William Rose Hose Co Ltd., Safford, Manchester.—Landing Ground Beacon Lignis: Gas Accumulator Co. (U.K.), Ltd., Brentford.—Lockers, Steet; Lockers and Mop Cupboards: Mulner Sate Co., London, E.C.— Magnetos: The British Thomson-Houston Co., Ltd., Coventry.-Master Tracings: Blackburn Aeroplanes Co., Ltd., Leeds.-Motor Alernators: Crompton & Co., Ltd., Chelmstord.-Pan-enromatic Finn: Wellington & Ward, London, W.C.-Petrol Liectric Generating Sets: Norman Engineering Co., Ltd., Leam ngton.-Flywood: Borst Bros., Lonaon, E.C.; Vickers, Ltd. ondon, S.W.-Timper, Imported Sweaish: Denny Mott & Dickson, Ltd., London, E.C.-Tubing, Gaivanised: Russell Bros. (Walsall), Ltd., Walsall.-Type Test on "Lion" Engine: D. apier & Son, Ltd., London, W.-Tyres (Rapson): Rapson Tyre Jack Co., Ltd., New Malden.—Vaives, W/T: General Electric o., Ltd., London, W.C.—Varnish, Nifro: Necol Industrial ollodions, London, S.W.—Wheels, Shields & Tyres: Palmer Tyre ., London, W.C.-Wheels for Beach Trolley: Avon Rul Co., London, N.W.—White Metal Ingot: Hoyt Metal Co., London, S.W.—Wings (Metal) for Aircraft: Fairey Aviation Co., Haves.

POST OFFICE.

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