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Wages, Retail Prices, Disputes, etc. in 1950

DURING 1950, weekly rates of wages showed an increase of about 4 per cent. on the average ; this compared with a rise of between 1½ and 2 per cent. in 1949, and 4 per cent. in 1948. On the basis of June, 1947 = 100, the index number of weekly rates of wages was 114 at the end of December, 1950, compared with 109 at the end of 1949, and 107 at the end of 1948. It is estimated that about 7,350,000 workers received an increase of about £2,020,000 a week during the year. The corresponding figures for 1949 and 1948 were 5,200,000 and £1,076,000 ; and 7,750,000 and £1,900,000, respectively. * There was little change in the normal weekly hours of work during 1950.

The average level of retail prices, as measured by the interim index, rose by about 3 per cent. during the year. This was largely due to increases in the average level of food prices, but prices of clothing and of many other articles also showed substantial increases.

Stoppages of work, arising from industrial disputes, resulted in a loss during 1950 of nearly 1,400,000 working days at establishments where the stoppages occurred. This figure was the lowest recorded since 1941. The number of workpeople involved in all disputes, viz., just over 300,000, was the lowest since 1940. The figure of workpeople involved represented about one per cent. of the total population in civil employment.

Rates of Wages

The index number showing the movement in weekly rates of wages rose by about 4 per cent. during 1950. For the first nine months of the year it showed no appreciable change, and at the end of September was only one point higher than at the end of December, 1949. During the

next three months, however, it rose by four points. The rise of 4 per cent. in 1950 compares with 1½ or 2 per cent. in 1949, 4 per cent. in 1948, and 5 per cent. in 1947.

The following Table shows the index numbers of weekly rates of wages (on the basis of 30th June, 1947=100) at the end of 1949 and of each month of 1950 :—

Date (end of month)	Men	Women	Juveniles	All Workers
1949				
December	109	112	113	109
1950				
January	109	113	113	110
February to August	109	113	114	110
September	110	114	114	110
October	110	114	115	111
November	113	114	117	113
December	113	116	118	114

Statistics which are regularly compiled by the Department as to the number of workpeople affected by changes in rates of wages, and the aggregate amount of the changes, show that 7,350,000 workpeople received a net increase of about £2,020,000 a week.* These figures relate to wage-earners and not to clerical or other salaried workers. They are based on the rates of wages for a full week and do not take account of variations in actual earnings arising from other factors, such as overtime or lost time. The changes are mainly those arranged by organisations of employers and workers. Changes arranged by individual employers, and those affecting unorganised groups of workpeople, are not in most cases reported to the Department.

* The figures for 1950 are preliminary and subject to revision.

The Table which follows shows the approximate number of workpeople affected by changes in rates of wages reported to the Department in 1949 and 1950, and the net amount of the change in their weekly rates of wages, in each of the principal groups of industries for which detailed statistics are available.*

Industry Group†	Approximate Number of separate Individuals reported as affected by Net Increases in Weekly Rates of Wages		Estimated Net Weekly Increase in Rates of Wages of all Workpeople affected	
	1950*	1949	1950*	1949
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing..	728,500	932,000	£ 201,000	£ 161,300
Mining and Quarrying	339,000	51,000	72,000	11,400
Treatment of Non-metalliferous Mining Products other than Coal	130,500	141,000	28,000	23,500
Chemicals and Allied Trades	58,500	173,000	14,200	38,300
Metal Manufacture	194,000	176,500	20,500	23,700
Engineering, Shipbuilding and Electrical Goods	1,822,000	201,000	821,600	34,200
Vehicles				
Metal Goods not elsewhere specified				
Textiles	322,500	603,500	76,500	149,100
Leather, Leather Goods and Fur	54,000	30,500	14,100	6,400
Clothing	140,500	132,500	25,300	23,400
Food, Drink and Tobacco	301,000	181,000	60,200	32,900
Manufactures of Wood and Cork	148,500	40,500	28,100	7,500
Paper and Printing	89,500	167,000	26,200	56,200
Other Manufacturing Industries	65,000	43,500	16,300	9,500
Building and Contracting	1,107,000	1,091,000	172,700	125,300
Gas, Electricity and Water	89,000	104,000	22,700	37,700
Transport and Communication	355,000	347,000	97,900	90,700
Distributive Trades	872,000	322,000	192,500	82,100
Public Administration	397,000	254,500	106,500	86,200
Miscellaneous Services	135,500	214,000	23,700	76,700
Total	7,349,000	5,205,500	2,020,000	1,076,100

Principal Changes in 1950

Of the total increase of about £2,020,000, more than two-thirds was accounted for by increases to workpeople employed in agriculture, engineering and allied industries, building and contracting, and the distributive trades.

Agriculture. The minimum rates of wages fixed under the Agricultural Wages Act for workers employed in agriculture in England and Wales were increased in November by 6s. a week generally for men and by 5s. for women. There was no change in the minimum rates in Scotland, but in Northern Ireland an increase of 6s. a week in the minimum rates for men came into operation on 1st January, 1951.

Engineering and Allied Industries. In the engineering and allied industries there was an increase in November of 11s. a week for skilled men on timework with a weekly remuneration of 117s. 2d. or less, including any additional emoluments such as lieu rates, compensatory rates or other bonus or merit rates commonly applied, and of such smaller amounts for those receiving between 117s. 2d. and 128s. 2d. as would bring their remuneration up to 128s. 2d. For unskilled men the increase was 8s. a week for those receiving 98s. or less, with smaller increases for those receiving up to 106s. For women the increase was 8s. 6d. for those receiving 70s. 7d. or less, with smaller increases for those receiving up to 79s. 1d. For payment-by-result workers piecework prices or times were adjusted, where necessary, so that an average worker would be able to earn at least 45 per cent. on the existing basic time rates, instead of 27½ per cent. as previously. In the shipbuilding and ship repairing industry the national uniform plain time rates were increased in November by 11s. a week for fully skilled men and by 8s. for semi-skilled and unskilled men.

Building and Contracting. In the building industry there were increases in February of ½d. an hour in the standard rates for craftsmen and labourers, resulting from the operation of sliding-scale arrangements based on the index of retail prices. At the same time an additional ¼d. an hour was given to labourers in all districts in Great Britain as a further stage in the adjustment of the labourers' rates from 80 per cent. of the craftsmen's rates to a fixed margin in each district of 5½d. an hour below the craftsmen's current or exceptional rate. The final stage in this adjustment took place in July, when labourers had an increase of ½d. or ¼d. an hour, according to district. In October a few districts in England and Wales were upgraded for wages purposes, and workers in these districts received an increase of 1d. or ½d. an hour. In civil engineering construction in Great Britain a sliding scale based on the index of retail prices was adopted, and adult workers received an increase in February of 1½d. or 1d. an hour, according to district. For journeymen employed in electrical installation there were increases in July of 2d. an hour in basic rates in London and of 1½d. in other areas.

Distributive Trades. In January statutory minimum remuneration became operative under the Wages Councils Act for workpeople employed in Great Britain in the retail drapery, outfitting and footwear trades, and in the retail furnishing and allied trades. Minimum rates had previously been agreed by Joint Industrial Councils for retail drapery, outfitting and footwear establishments in Great Britain, and for furnishing and allied establishments in England and Wales, and the statutory minimum rates showed

* The figures for 1950 are preliminary and subject to revision.
† The industries included in the Table have been classified in accordance with the Standard Industrial Classification prepared in 1948 for use in Government Statistical Departments. The figures for industry groups, therefore, are not strictly comparable with those published in previous years.

increases over these agreed rates. In the case of sales assistants in the retail drapery, etc., trades, the increases in the minimum rates amounted to 6s. a week for men and 5s. for women 24 years and over in the London area, 6s. 6d. for men and 5s. for women in certain provincial areas and 5s. and 4s., respectively, in all other areas. In February workpeople employed in retail meat distribution in England and Wales received increases which varied according to age, occupation and area of employment. For shop assistants and cashiers in general butchers' shops the increases given to male workers ranged from 1s. to 9s. a week and to female workers from 1s. to 5s. In April the statutory minimum rates fixed under the Wages Councils Act for men and women engaged in milk distribution in Scotland were increased by 4s. a week. For similar workers in England and Wales the statutory minimum rates were increased in December by 4s. for men and 3s. for women. In the wholesale grocery and provisions trade in England and Wales there were increases in minimum rates in July of 5s. a week for men and women. In September men employed by retail co-operative societies had increases varying from 4s. to 6s. a week, according to area, occupation and age, and women received 2s. 6d. For workpeople employed in the distribution, handling and storage of petroleum products there were increases varying, according to occupation, from 5s. to 8s. 4d. a week for men and from 4s. 2d. to 5s. 1d. for women. Transport and other workers employed in coal distribution also had increases during the year in various regions of England and Wales.

Other Industries or Services. There were increases in wage rates in a number of other industries or services, some particulars of which are given below.

In the coal mining industry the minimum weekly wages of adult workers were increased from October by 5s. a week, and the shift rates for day-rate workers were increased by 6d. a shift but not so as to raise any such rate to more than 23s. a shift underground or 21s. 4d. on the surface. In the pottery industry there were increases in April of 3s. 8d. or 2s. a week, according to occupation, in the minimum time rates for men in the lower paid groups and of 3s. 8d. for women in all occupations. In the pig iron and iron and steel manufacturing industries the flat-rate additions to wages, which fluctuate in accordance with movements in the index of retail prices, were increased during the year by about 3½d. a shift.

In hosiery manufacture in the Midlands the cost-of-living bonus was increased in February from 1s. 2d. to 1s. 3d. in the shilling on basic wages, representing an increase of about 4 per cent. on the current wages. For workpeople employed in textile bleaching, dyeing, printing and finishing in Lancashire and Yorkshire, etc., the special payments previously granted as an addition to the minimum time rates were increased in November by 2s. 6d. a week for men and women, and there was a further increase in the basic rates of 5s. a week for adult timeworkers paid at the minimum rates; workers on time rates higher than the minimum had increases of 4s. to 7s. 6d. a week. For pieceworkers there were increases of 4s. to 6s. a week, and for nightworkers there was an advance of 1½d. an hour in the night allowance. For workpeople employed in boot and shoe manufacture there were net increases during the year, under sliding-scale arrangements based on the index of retail prices, of 4s. a week in the day wage rates for men and of 3s. for women, with corresponding increases for pieceworkers.

In the baking industry in England and Wales, the general minimum time rates fixed under the Wages Councils Act were increased in November by 1d. an hour for men and by ¾d. for women. In the flour milling industry there were increases of 6s. a week for men and 5s. for women, with further increases of 2s. or 4s. a week for skilled and semi-skilled workers in certain mills following the abolition of a grading system for mills based on roller contact. These increases were agreed in September and made retrospective to May. For men and women employed in the manufacture, preparation and processing of food, and in cocoa, chocolate and confectionery manufacture, there were agreements made by the Joint Industrial Councils for these industries which advanced the minimum rates of wages in October and November, respectively, by 4s. a week. In tobacco manufacture the National Joint Negotiating Committee for the industry gave increases in minimum rates in October of 5s. 6d. or 5s. a week for men and of 5s. or 4s. 6d. for women.

In the furniture manufacturing industry there was an increase in March of ½d. an hour in the cost-of-living bonus for men, with a proportionate increase for women. At the same time the weekly remuneration of these workers was advanced as a result of an increase in their normal weekly working hours from 44 to 45. For workpeople employed in paper making and paper coating mills there were increases in August of 2d. an hour for male adult shift workers and of 1½d. for other shift workers and for all day workers.

In April national standard rates of wages for three categories of undertakings were adopted for adult labourers employed in gas supply undertakings, replacing the various regional grade rates previously in operation and resulting in increases of varying amounts according to area of employment. Dating from June there was an increase of 1½d. an hour in the standard rates of skilled and semi-skilled maintenance craftsmen. Workpeople employed in certain engineering, supplies and motor transport grades in the Post Office received increases, dating from June, of 1s. to 9s. a week, according to age and occupation. In the railway service there was increases in September varying from 6d. to 3s. 6d. a week for lower-paid workers employed by British Railways, and from 6d. to 4s. for those employed by London Transport. In October there were increases of varying amounts for operating and other wage grades employed by the Road Haulage Executive, which resulted from the adoption of standard rates of pay. In December the statutory minimum remuneration fixed under the Wages Councils Act for workers 21 years and over engaged in the

road haulage of goods by motor vehicles specified in "A" or "B" licences was advanced by 7s. a week. At the beginning of December there were increases of 5s. a week for men employed as manual workers in the non-trading services of local authorities in most districts in England and Wales, and of 6s. for roadmen employed by most of the County Councils in England and Wales.

Workpeople, other than canteen supervisors, managers, etc., employed in industrial and staff canteens received in April increases of 5s. a week for men and 2s. 6d. for women in the statutory minimum rates fixed under the Catering Wages Act. New minimum rates were also fixed for the London area at 2s. 6d. a week higher in all occupations than the rates operative for the remainder of Great Britain.

Industries in which there was no General Change in 1950

The principal industries or services in which no general increases in rates of wages were reported in 1950 were agriculture in Scotland and Northern Ireland, the building brick and allied trades in England and Wales, heavy chemicals manufacture, railway workshops, the road vehicle repair and repairing trade, cotton spinning and weaving, the wool textile industry in Yorkshire, ready-made and wholesale bespoke tailoring, wholesale mantle and costume making, dress making and women's light clothing manufacture, hat and cap making and millinery, shirtmaking, baking in Scotland, electricity supply, the port transport (dock labour) industry, tramway and omnibus services, merchant shipping, the retail food trades, the retail newsagency, tobacco and confectionery trades, the retail bookselling and stationery trades, cinema theatres, the catering trade (except industrial and staff canteens), laundries (except co-operative laundries), and hairdressing.

Method by which Changes in Wages were arranged

In the case of those workpeople who received increases at certain dates and sustained reductions at other dates in 1950, the figures in the Table in the first column on page 2 relate to the net amount of the change in the year. The gross total of all the increases granted was £2,040,300, and that of all the decreases was £20,300 a week, the net effect being an increase, as shown, of £2,020,000 a week. The following Table gives the aggregate amounts of the total increases and total decreases which were effected by various methods during 1950, together with percentages showing to what extent each method contributed to the total:—

Method	Aggregate Weekly Amount of Change in Rates of Wages effected by the Methods shown in first column			
	Increases		Decreases	
	Amount	Percentage of Total	Amount	Percentage of Total
Under Sliding Scales* based on the Index of Retail Prices ..	£ 154,000	7.5	£ 20,300	100.0
Arbitration and Mediation ..	152,500	7.5	—	—
By Other Methods:—				
Direct Negotiation, etc. ..	990,400	48.5	—	—
Joint Industrial Councils* ..	317,900	15.6	—	—
Other Standing Joint Councils, Conciliation Boards, etc., established by voluntary agreement* ..	32,000	1.6	—	—
Wages Councils and other Statutory Wages Boards* ..	393,500	19.3	—	—
Total	2,040,300	100.0	20,300	100.0

Changes in Rates of Wages in the years 1939-1950

The following Table shows the approximate numbers of workpeople whose rates of wages were increased or reduced (so far as reported) in each of the years from 1939 to 1950, and the net amount of increase or decrease in the weekly rates of wages:—

Year	Approximate Number of separate Individuals† reported as affected by		Estimated Net Weekly Amount of Change in Rates of Wages		Estimated Net Weekly Increase in Rates of Wages of the Workpeople affected
	Net Increases	Net Decreases	Increases	Decreases	
1939	6,150,000	65,800	£ 980,900	£ 8,500	£ 972,400
1940	8,780,000	—	2,633,000	—	2,633,000
1941	8,865,000	—	2,490,000	—	2,490,000
1942	6,707,000	400	1,708,000	50	1,707,950
1943	7,237,000	152,100	1,630,900	2,900	1,628,000
1944	8,587,000	300	1,958,000	500	1,957,500
1945	7,308,000	400	1,806,100	50	1,805,600
1946	7,980,000	—	2,901,300	—	2,901,300
1947	4,973,000	300	1,735,000	50	1,734,950
1948*	7,757,000	—	1,898,400	—	1,898,400
1949*	5,205,500	—	1,076,100	—	1,076,100
1950†	7,349,000	—	2,020,000	—	2,020,000

* Changes taking effect under sliding scales arranged by Joint Industrial Councils, other Standing Joint Councils, Conciliation Boards, or Wages Councils, etc., are included under "Sliding Scales".

† In addition to the workpeople for whom figures are given in this Table, there were 8,000 workpeople in 1939, 214,000 in 1942, 33,000 in 1943, 12,500 in 1945, 48,000 in 1946 and 183,000 in 1947 who were affected by increases and also by reductions of equal amount within the same year.

‡ The figures for 1950 are provisional and subject to revision. Also, the figures for 1948, 1949 and 1950 are not strictly comparable with those for earlier years, since particulars relating to Government employees and shop assistants were introduced for the first time in 1948.

In view of the limitations to which attention has been drawn in column two on page 1, the figures in the Table should not be regarded as affording more than a general indication of the movement in rates of wages in any year in comparison with that in other years, and special significance should not be attached to small differences in the amount of change as between one year and another. In particular, the fact that the changes reported relate mainly to organised employers and workers results in the figures being influenced, over a series of years, by fluctuation in the strength of the organisation or by the creation of new organisations such as Joint Industrial Councils and Wages Councils in certain industries. Further, the continual movement towards the negotiation of wage changes on a national basis since 1939 has tended to make the figures more comprehensive, for such changes do not escape notice, whereas, when separate arrangements are made in each locality, it is possible that some of the changes, especially among those affecting only the smaller districts, may not be reported. It should also be observed that during the war period the number of female workers in industry was above the normal and the number of male workers below normal; and, as the amounts of increases or decreases in the rates of wages of female workers are generally smaller than those agreed upon for males in the same industry, the aggregate amount of the changes in those years was lower than it would have been if the pre-war proportion of male and female employees had been maintained. Furthermore, the proportion of juvenile workers in industry has been continuously decreasing since 1939, and this has had the effect of enhancing the amount of the change per head for all workers combined.

The figures also reflect changes, as between one year and another, in the relative number of workpeople in different occupations or wage grades, in different districts and in different industries, as well as changes in the relative numbers of time and pieceworkers, and day and shift workers. None of these changes is reflected in the index numbers of weekly wage rates given on page one.

Hours of Labour

During 1950 there were very few changes in normal weekly hours of labour. About 108,000 workpeople had their normal hours of labour increased by one hour a week. For about 1,500 workpeople there was a decrease in normal working hours of either two or three hours a week. In 1949 the number of workpeople affected by reductions in hours was about 1,000,000, in 1948 600,000, in 1947 5,200,000, and in 1946 2,100,000.

The next Table shows the numbers of workpeople, in the industries for which statistics are regularly compiled by the Department,* whose hours were reported as changed in each of the years 1939 to 1950, and the aggregate net amount of the change.

Year	Approximate Number of Workpeople whose Normal Hours of Labour were		Aggregate Net Increase (+) or Decrease (—) in Weekly Hours
	Increased	Reduced	
1939	—	396,000	— 1,412,000
1940	54,000	193,000	— 633,000
1941	16,000	10,000	— 2,500
1942	4,000	10,000	+ 5,000
1943	8,000	141,000	+ 256,000
1944	3,000	—	+ 4,400
1945	—	22,000	— 42,000
1946	—	2,128,000	— 5,719,000
1947	—	5,223,000	— 18,429,000
1948*	—	616,000	— 1,834,000
1949*	3,500	1,017,000	— 1,471,000
1950*	108,500	1,500	+ 105,000

The increases during 1950 in the normal weekly hours of labour, i.e., the hours beyond which overtime rates become payable, took place in the following industries: furniture manufacture, orthopaedic and surgical appliance manufacture in England and Wales excluding Sheffield, pianoforte manufacture, bedding and mattress manufacture, window blind manufacture, and spring mattress and bedstead fittings manufacture. In these industries an increase in the normal working week from 44 to 45 hours was associated with an increase in the maximum annual holiday with pay from one to two weeks.

For home bakeries in Northern Ireland the normal weekly working hours were decreased from 48 to 45 or from 48 to 46, according to district.

Retail Prices

The interim index of retail prices (based on 17th June, 1947, taken as 100) was 116 at 12th December, 1950, compared with 113 at 13th December, 1949. Over one-half of this rise was due to an advance of about 5 per cent. in the average level of food prices during the year, the articles affected including fish, butter, eggs, bacon, rabbits and sausages. Prices of clothing rose by about 6 per cent., on average, during the year, and prices of many articles included in the group covering household durable goods showed substantial increases, including rugs and carpets, blankets, sheets, towels, and some kinds of curtain material. Other items covered by the index for which price increases were recorded included coal, gas, lamp oil, petrol, fares, and boot and shoe repairs. A few items showed decreases in price during the year, including certain kinds of vegetables, cooking apples, linoleum and felt base, and

* See footnote † in the previous column.

some kinds of soap and medical and toilet requisites. Taking the year 1950 as a whole, the average index figure was 114, i.e., the average level of retail prices was about 14 per cent. higher than when the index started in June, 1947. The average index figure for 1949 was 111.

The following Table shows, for each month in 1950, the index figures for each of the eight main groups of items included within the scope of the figures:—

Group	17th	14th	14th	18th	16th	13th
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June
Food	120	121	121	122	125	123
Rent and rates	100	100	100	101	101	101
Clothing	117	117	118	118	119	119
Fuel and light	115	115	115	115	116	114
Household durable goods	108	110	110	111	111	111
Miscellaneous goods	114	114	113	113	113	112
Services	106	106	106	107	108	108
Drink and tobacco	108	108	108	108	104	104
All items	113	113	113	114	114	114
	18th	15th	12th	17th	14th	12th
	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Food	122	121	122	125	125	125
Rent and rates	101	101	101	101	101	101
Clothing	119	120	121	122	123	124
Fuel and light	115	116	117	118	120	122
Household durable goods	113	113	113	114	116	117
Miscellaneous goods	113	113	113	113	113	113
Services	108	108	110	111	111	111
Drink and tobacco	104	104	104	104	104	104
All items	114	113	114	115	116	116

The rise in the index for the food group during the year was responsible for a rise of 2 points in the all items index. For all the remaining groups, taken together, the net effect of the changes in price level was equivalent to a rise of rather more than 1 point in the all items index.

Group I. Food. During 1950 the prices of many of the articles of food included in the index continued to be subject to control by Orders made by the Minister of Food, but fish, rabbits, apples, oranges, jam and marmalade were freed from price control during the year. The most important changes in retail food prices were increases in the average prices of butter, fish, bacon, eggs, rabbits and sausages. The maximum permitted price for butter was increased by 4d. per lb. on 23rd April and by a further 2d. per lb. on 10th September, the average price in December being about 33 per cent. higher than in December, 1949. The prices of fish were freed from control on 16th April, 1950, and rose immediately, the average price level at 18th April being about 25 per cent. above the level of prices charged under control. During the following month there was a decline of about 15 per cent. in the price level, but subsequently there were increases in each month until November, when prices fell slightly, though rising again in December. At 12th December the index for fish prices was nearly 50 per cent. higher than in December, 1949.

The average price of the kinds of bacon included in the index rose twice during the year, following alterations in the maximum permitted prices in the latter half of May and in September. As a result of these increases, the average price at the end of the year was nearly 13 per cent. higher than at the end of 1949. The prices of eggs were subject to marked seasonal movements during 1950, the maximum prices being reduced in March and again in June, but increased twice in July, and again in October: at the end of the year the average price was about 10 per cent. higher than in December, 1949. The average prices of pork and beef sausages were increased in November following alterations in the maximum permitted prices. Price control was removed from rabbits at the beginning of June, following a period when prices had been steadily falling below the maximum permitted level: for a short period prices continued to fall, but from August onwards prices moved upwards and by the end of the year the average level of prices was about 36 per cent. higher than a year earlier.

During the first six months of 1950 prices of potatoes of the 1949 crop remained subject to control and small seasonal increases occurred. In July, before the prices for the 1950 crop had become subject to price control, there was a temporary rise in the index for this item when new potatoes replaced the old crop; but the prices of the new crop were controlled from August onwards and thereafter the monthly price movements were not markedly different from those of a year earlier, although at the end of the year the average level of prices was slightly higher than in December, 1949. Over the year as a whole the prices of most other vegetables included in the index declined, but the prices of carrots were very much higher at the end of 1950 than a year earlier, and there was a small increase in the prices of tomatoes. From August the prices of cooking apples were much lower than in the earlier part of the year, and price control was removed from the home crop in August and from imported apples in November. The prices of oranges rose by about 90 per cent. following decontrol in May, but by December had fallen to a level only about 12 per cent. higher than a year earlier when the prices had been subject to control.

Increases in prices were recorded for a number of other articles of food, including biscuits, cakes, rolled oats and breakfast cereals, cocoa, chocolate, marmalade, custard powder and table salt.

As a result of all these changes the index figure for the food group rose from 120 in January to 125 by May, fell again to 121 by August, and rose again to 125 by October; to the nearest whole number the food index remained at this level until the end of the year.

Group II. Rent and Rates. The rents of almost all working-class dwellings let unfurnished, other than those owned by local authorities, continued to be subject to rent control throughout 1950. For the great majority of such dwellings the only changes in rents under this control are in respect of increases or decreases in local rates and water charges. Local rates were increased in many areas in April, although in some other rates were reduced. In a few areas also the net rents of dwellings owned by local authorities were increased. As a result of these changes the index figure for the rent and rates group rose by nearly 1 per cent., to 101, in April. During the remainder of the year the net rents of some other dwellings owned by local authorities were increased and in a few areas there were changes in local rates or in water charges, but the effect of these changes was small and the group index figure, expressed to the nearest whole number, remained at 101 until the end of the year.

Group III. Clothing. During the first eight months of 1950 there was a small but continuous rise in the average level of clothing prices and the index for the group rose by nearly 3 points or about 2½ per cent. during that period. During the last four months of the year prices continued to rise, but the rate of increase was accelerated and in this period the index figure rose by about 4 points. At the end of the year the general level of prices was about 6 per cent. higher than the level at the end of 1949.

All of the ten sections into which the clothing group is divided showed increases during the year. The largest increase was shown by the section for clothing materials, viz., about 21 per cent., largely due to a rise of about 46 per cent. in the prices of knitting wool and of about 18 per cent. for cotton material. The sections covering men's and children's underclothing also showed appreciable increases, viz., 13 per cent. for men's underclothing and 10 per cent. for children's underclothing; in these sections the largest increases were those for men's socks, vests and pants, boys' hose, and children's nursery squares. Although a few items of women's underclothing showed increases of between 5 and 10 per cent., the average rise for this section as a whole was small. The rise in the average level of prices for men's, women's and children's outer clothing was also small, although for a few of the items, including men's and women's overalls, men's and women's hats, and boys' jerseys, the increases were appreciable. During the year there was an average increase of about 9 per cent. in the prices for men's boots and shoes, about 6 per cent. for women's footwear, and nearly 8 per cent. for children's footwear.

Group IV. Fuel and Light. In this group the average level of prices exhibited some seasonal movements, but at the end of the year prices were about 6 per cent. higher, on the average, than in December, 1949. The average retail price of household coal, as measured by the index, rose by about 3 per cent. in May as a result of higher rail freight charges. In the following month a scheme, by which lower prices are charged in summer to be offset by higher prices in winter, resulted in a fall of rather more than 3 per cent. in the average level of prices. In July slightly higher tariffs took effect in London and the south of England and later in the year the summer reductions ceased in all areas and were replaced by prices correspondingly higher than those in operation before the summer reductions were made. As a result of these changes the average level of coal prices at the end of 1950 was about 8 per cent. higher than in December, 1949. During the same period the prices of coke rose by only about 2 per cent.

There were increases in the charges for gas in many areas during 1950 and at the end of the year the average level of charges was nearly 5 per cent. higher than the level in December, 1949. In the case of electricity there were various seasonal and other temporary movements in the charges, and at one period the average level was nearly 12 per cent. below that for December, 1949, but by the end of the year the average level of charges was approximately the same as in December, 1949. Prices of lamp oil rose during 1950, and at the end of the year the index for this item was about 10 per cent. higher than in December, 1949. In April the maximum permitted retail price for common paraffin wax candles was reduced by ½d. per lb., but early in December, 1950, the maximum was increased by 2d. per lb.* and at the end of the year prices averaged nearly 6 per cent. above the level at the beginning of the year.

Group V. Household Durable Goods. The items covered by this group are divided into five sections, viz., (1) certain representative articles of furniture, (2) a selection of household appliances and other articles, such as radio sets, sewing machines, electric irons, etc., (3) various types of floor coverings, (4) sheets, blankets, curtaining and towels, and (5) representative articles of hardware, pottery, glass, etc. Many of these articles are subject to purchase tax. The principal changes during 1950 occurred in the sections for floor coverings and drapery and soft furnishings. For the group as a whole the average level of prices rose by about 8 per cent. during the year and at mid-December, 1950, the group index was 117, compared with 108 at the corresponding date a year earlier.

In the section for floor coverings, the prices for linoleum and felt base fell slightly during 1950, but there were a number of large increases in the prices of carpets and rugs, which, at the end of the year, averaged roughly 50 per cent. above the prices at a year earlier. In the section covering drapery and soft furnishings the average prices of wool blankets and cotton sheets increased by over 50 per cent. and about 25 per cent., respectively, and the average price of hand towels rose by about 28 per cent.; there were smaller increases for curtain material and tea towels. In the section covering furniture the average level of prices rose by about 2½ per cent. during the year, the largest increases being for hair

* There was a further increase of ½d. per lb. early in January, 1951.

mattresses and settees. For the section covering household appliances, etc., prices rose, on the average, by about 2 per cent., the principal increases affecting vacuum cleaners and table mangles. The average level of prices of the items included in the section for hardware, pottery, glass, etc., rose, during 1950, by about 1½ per cent.; there were no important changes in this section, the largest increase being a rise of about 6 per cent. in the average price of garden forks.

Group VI. Miscellaneous Goods. The items covered by this group include soap, soda, polishes, cleaning powders, matches, medicines, various toilet requisites, newspapers, books and stationery. The index for this group varied between 112 and 114 during the year, but for most months, including December, it was 113, the same figure as for December, 1949. For the items in this group the principal change was an increase of nearly 30 per cent. in the price of writing paper. The average level of prices for the medicines and toilet requisites included in the index fell during 1950 by about 3 per cent., as a result of a reduction in the price of cosmetics and the removal of purchase tax from another item. There was also a small fall in the index for the section covering soap, soap powder and soap flakes.

Group VII. Services. The items included in this group are divided into four sections, covering (a) travel, (b) postage, etc., (c) entertainment and (d) miscellaneous other services. The principal change in the level of prices occurred in the travel section, in which the average price of petrol rose by about 37 per cent. during the year, mainly as a result of an increase of 9d. per gallon in the tax in April. Bus and other road passenger fares in a number of areas were increased at various times during the year and at 1st October new scales of rail and road passenger fares came into force in London and certain adjoining areas, resulting in a net rise on average. These various changes produced a rise of nearly 7 per cent. in the index for the travel section. In the remaining sections the principal change was a rise of about 13 per cent. in the index for charges for boot and shoe repairs, which showed some increase in every month of the year. There was an increase of about 5 per cent. in the index for charges for admission to cinemas and smaller increases in the charges for various other services covered by this group.

Group VIII. Drink and Tobacco. As a result of a change in the Customs and Excise duties in April, brewers were able to provide for a general increase in the average strength of beer without a corresponding increase in the price. In accordance with the principles laid down in 1947 for computing the retail prices index, the effect of this change in quality was to lower the index for beer prices; at the end of the year the index for this item was rather more than 7 per cent. lower than at a year earlier. There was also a small reduction in the average price charged for whisky sold by the nip. During 1950 the prices of a few brands of pipe tobacco were increased. As a result of all these changes, the index for the drink and tobacco group as a whole fell by about 3 per cent. during the year, and at 12th December, 1950, the group index, to the nearest whole number, was 104, compared with 108 a year earlier.

The price comparisons used in the compilation of the retail prices index relate to a fixed list of items, and steps are taken to ensure that, so far as possible, the index figures reflect real changes in price levels, but not changes which are attributable to variations in quality.

Industrial Disputes

Stoppages of work* arising from industrial disputes in the United Kingdom during 1950 resulted in a loss of about 1,388,000 working days at the establishments where the stoppages occurred. About one per cent. of the total population in civil employment were involved in these stoppages, and the loss of time for the workers involved averaged about six working days during the year. The total number of days lost during 1949 was about 1,807,000. Of the 1,388,000 working days lost during 1950, about 1,374,000 were lost through stoppages beginning in that year and about 14,000 through stoppages which had started in the previous year.

The aggregate number of workers involved in the stoppages was about 302,000†, of whom about 900 were involved in 1950 in stoppages which had begun in the previous year and continued into 1950. Of the total of 302,000 workers involved in all stoppages in progress in 1950, about 33,000 were indirectly involved (i.e., thrown out of work at the establishments where the stoppages occurred, but not themselves parties to the disputes). The total number of workers involved in all stoppages in progress in the previous year was about 434,000.

The number of stoppages reported to the Department as beginning in 1950 was 1,338, as compared with 1,426 in 1949.

Principal Disputes in 1950

The coal mining industry accounted for nearly one-third of the aggregate loss of time through stoppages in 1950, and about three-quarters of the loss at coal mines occurred in the Scottish coalfields. Some 170,000 days were lost by over 26,000 workers at various

* Stoppages of work due to disputes not connected with terms of employment or conditions of labour are excluded from the statistics. Stoppages which involved fewer than 10 workers, and those which lasted less than one day, are also excluded, unless the aggregate number of working days lost exceeded 100. The figures given for 1950 are preliminary and subject to revision.

† Some workers, largely in the coal mining industry, were involved in more than one stoppage in the year, and have therefore been counted more than once in the year's total. The net number of individuals involved in stoppages in progress during the year was approximately 240,000 in 1950, compared with approximately 350,000 in 1949. For coal mining alone the corresponding totals were approximately 90,000 and 200,000.

Scottish collieries during July in support of a demand for an increase in the wages of lower paid workers. Alleged delay in settling this claim led to a further stoppage of work during the latter part of September and the beginning of October, in which approximately 25,000 working days were lost and more than 8,000 workers were involved. Dissatisfaction with an award by the National Reference Tribunal for the industry relating to the wages of lower paid workers resulted in a third stoppage of work at a considerable number of Scottish collieries at the end of October and the beginning of November, affecting about 10,000 workers and resulting in the loss of about 32,000 working days.

Two stoppages in the printing industry were responsible for over one-seventh of the total time lost in 1950. Dissatisfaction arising from difficulties in securing resumption of negotiations regarding wages and subsequent dismissal of workers who refused to discontinue restrictive practices led to a stoppage of work in the London area for a fortnight at the end of August and beginning of September which affected about 3,600 compositors and resulted in the loss of nearly 35,000 working days. At the beginning of October the compositors were again involved in a similar dispute which lasted for a month and resulted in an estimated loss of 170,000 working days, about 11,000 workers in the printing and bookbinding industries being ultimately affected.

In the transport and distributive industries a stoppage during the second half of April by more than 14,000 stevedores, dockers and tally clerks in the London area, in protest against the expulsion by the Transport and General Workers' Union of three members on account of their activities in a previous strike and their refusal to observe the rules and constitution of the Union, accounted for a loss of about 100,000 working days. Some 35,000 days were lost in mid-September by more than 14,000 passenger service vehicle workers, also in the London area, in support of a claim for higher wages and in objection to the recruitment of additional women conductors. Dissatisfaction with alleged delay in negotiations on a claim for higher wages led to a stoppage of work towards the end of June which lasted till mid-July and involved about 5,000 meat transport drivers and mates, market porters, cold storage workers and warehousemen in a loss of 40,000 working days.

Stoppages in the engineering, shipbuilding, vehicles, iron and steel and other metal industries accounted for more than one-fifth of all the time lost in the year. There were no stoppages involving very large numbers of workers in this group of industries, but over 35,000 days were lost during February and March by about 1,500 workers, employed in motor vehicle manufacture, who objected to a shop steward being declared redundant.

During the same period a dispute in the fishing industry between trawler engine-room staffs and deck crews, regarding the allocation of payments for cod liver oil extraction, was responsible for the loss of about 35,000 working days and involved some 2,500 workers.

In the following Table, the stoppages of work due to industrial disputes in the United Kingdom in 1950 are classified by industry, and corresponding figures are given for 1949:—

Industry Group†	1950*			1949		
	Number of Stoppages beginning in 1950	Number of Workers involved in all Stoppages in 1950	Aggregate Number of Working Days lost in 1950 through all Stoppages in progress	Number of Stoppages beginning in 1949	Number of Workers involved in all Stoppages in progress in 1949	Aggregate Number of Working Days lost in 1949 through all Stoppages in progress
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing	3	3,800	43,000	5	1,900	11,000
Coal Mining ..	863	141,800‡	431,000	874	247,800‡	754,000
Other Mining and Quarrying ..	1	§		4	100	1,000
Treatment of Non-Metalliferous Mining Products ..	8	400	2,000	13	700	3,000
Chemicals and Allied Trades	3	1,000	6,000	6	500	2,000
Metal Manufacture	45	9,100	52,000	54	12,200	45,000
Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing	45	10,800	53,000	57	14,000	125,000
Engineering ..	66	15,400	50,000	71	10,900	52,000
Vehicles ..	53	24,200	132,000	46	11,700	60,000
Other Metal Industries ..	17	1,300	7,000	29	2,800	7,000
Textiles ..	15	1,100	4,000	27	7,300	68,000
Leather, etc. ..	1	100	1,000	4	600	13,000
Clothing ..	10	900	3,000	17	1,900	9,000
Food, Drink and Tobacco ..	10	1,600	27,000	11	1,100	3,000
Manufactures of Wood and Cork	19	1,800	16,000	15	4,200	26,000
Paper and Printing	7	14,900	205,000	7	900	5,000
Other Manufacturing Industries	7	1,500	3,000	16	2,800	17,000
Building and Contracting ..	70	13,800	63,000	54	9,700	31,000
Gas, Electricity and Water ..	6	4,100	42,000	9	6,100	36,000
Transport, etc. ..	67	46,000	187,000	85	94,800	533,000
Distributive Trades ..	7	6,400	40,000	8	500	2,000
Other Services ..	15	2,000	21,000	14	1,500	4,000
Total ..	1,338	302,000‡	1,388,000	1,426	434,000‡	1,807,000

* The figures for 1950 are provisional and subject to revision.

† The grouping of industries is based on the Standard Industrial Classification prepared for use in Government Statistical Departments. The figures for industry groups, therefore, are not strictly comparable with those published for 1948 and earlier years.

‡ See footnote † in previous column.

§ Less than 50.

|| Less than 500.

Disputes in Years 1933-1950

The next Table gives figures relating to stoppages of work through industrial disputes in each of the past 18 years. In the column showing the number of stoppages in each year, those stoppages which began in one year and continued into the next year have been included only in the year in which they began. As regards the numbers of workers involved and the loss in working days, however, separate particulars are given for stoppages which began in the year under review and for all stoppages in progress in the year, including those which began in the previous year.

Year	Number of Stoppages beginning in Year	Number of Workers* involved in Stoppages		Aggregate Number of Working Days Lost in Year in Stoppages		
		Beginning in Year		In progress in Year	Beginning in Year	In progress in Year
		Directly	Indirectly			
1933	357	000's	000's	000's	000's	
1934	471	114	22	138	1,019	
1935	553	109	25	134	955	
1936	818	230	41	279	1,849	
1937	1,129	241	75	322	1,726	
1938	875	388	209	610	3,132	
1939	940	211	63	275	1,329	
1940	922	246	91	337	1,352	
1941	1,251	225	74	299	938	
1942	1,303	297	63	361	1,076	
1943	1,785	349	107	457	1,527	
1944	2,194	454	103	559	1,805	
1945	2,293	716	105	826	3,687	
1946	2,205	447	84	532	2,827	
1947	1,721	405	121	529	2,138	
1948	1,759	489	131	623	2,389	
1949	1,426	325	100	426	1,935	
1950†	1,338	313	120	434	1,805	
		268	33	302	1,374	

The average yearly number of days lost during the period 1914 to 1918 was about 5,360,000. In the following three years the average was about 49,140,000. From 1922 to 1932 (omitting 1926, when 162,000,000 days were lost, mainly in the coal mining dispute and general strike), the yearly average was about 7,560,000. From 1933 onwards the number of days lost fell, and in the 18 years 1933 to 1950 the yearly total of days lost ranged from 940,000 to 3,710,000, the average being about 1,860,000. The average during the six war-years 1940-1945 was 1,980,000.

EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT

A review of employment and unemployment in 1950 will be given in next month's issue of this GAZETTE, when it is hoped that statistics of employment derived from the exchanges of National Insurance Cards in 1950 and 1949 will be available for publication.

* Workers involved in more than one stoppage in any year are counted more than once in the year's total (see note † in the first column on the previous page). Workers involved in a stoppage beginning in one year and continuing into another are counted in both years in the column showing the number of workers involved in stoppages in progress.

† The figures for 1950 are provisional and subject to revision.

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Fatal Industrial Accidents

The total number of workpeople (other than seamen) whose deaths from accidents in the course of their employment were reported in the United Kingdom during 1950 was 1,568. Of this total, 546 fatal accidents occurred at mines and quarries, 816 at factories and works and places covered by the Factories Act, and 206 in the railway service. The total number of fatal accidents to seamen serving on vessels registered in the United Kingdom which were reported during the year was 203.

A detailed analysis of these figures* is given below.

		Num-ber			Num-ber
Mines and Quarries			Works and Places under ss. 105, 107, 108, Factories Act, 1937		
Under Coal Mines Acts:			Docks, Wharves, Quays and Ships		54
Underground	448		Building Operations .. .		193
Surface	47		Works of Engineering Con-struction		46
Metalliferous Mines .. .	10		Warehouses		5
Quarries	41		TOTAL, FACTORIES ACT ..		816
TOTAL	546		Railway Service		
Factories			Brakemen, Goods Guards ..		9
Clay, Stone, Cement, Pottery and Glass	27		Engine Drivers, Motormen ..		12
Chemicals, Oils, Soap, etc. ..	51		Firemen		8
Metal Extracting and Refining ..	22		Guards (Passenger) .. .		1
Metal Conversion and Founding (including Rolling Mills and Tube Making)	93		Labourers		9
Engineering, Locomotive Build-ing, Boilermaking, etc. .. .	59		Mechanics		13
Railway and Tramway Carriages, Motor and other Vehicles and Aircraft Manufacture .. .	39		Permanent Way Men .. .		89
Shipbuilding	46		Porters		11
Other Metal Trades	10		Shunters		15
Cotton	12		Other Grades		34
Wool, Worsted, Shoddy .. .	12		Contractors' Servants .. .		5
Other Textile Manufacture .. .	11		TOTAL		206
Textile Printing, Bleaching and Dyeing	11		Total (excluding Seamen) ..		1,568
Tanning, Currying, etc. .. .	1		Seamen		
Food and Drink	35		Trading Vessels		160
General Woodwork and Furniture	29		Fishing Vessels		43
Paper, Printing, etc.	16		TOTAL		203
Rubber Trades	1		Total (including Seamen) ..		1,771
Gas Works	16				
Electrical Stations	16				
Other Industries	13				

Industrial Diseases

The total number of cases reported in the United Kingdom during 1950 under the Factories Act, 1937, or under the Lead Paint (Protection against Poisoning) Act, 1926, was 493, of which 13 were fatal.

During the year, 57 cases of lead poisoning were reported. Reported cases of anthrax numbered 37, of epitheliomatous ulceration 199, and of chrome ulceration 143. Deaths were reported in 13 of the cases of epitheliomatous ulceration. No deaths were reported during the year in the other groups.

A detailed analysis of these figures* is given below.

		Cases	Deaths			Cases	Deaths
Lead Poisoning				Anthrax			
Operatives engaged in:				Wool		4	—
Smelting of Metals	3	—	—	Handling of Herculair .. .		—	—
Plumbing and Soldering .. .	1	—	—	Handling and Sorting of Hides and Skins .. .		26	—
Shipbreaking	27	—	—	Other Industries .. .		7	—
Printing	—	—	—	TOTAL		37	—
Other Contact with Molten Lead	2	—	—	Epitheliomatous Ulceration (Skin Cancer)			
White and Red Lead Works	4	—	—	Pitch		104	1
Pottery	1	—	—	Tar		66	4
Vitreous Enamelling .. .	2	—	—	Paraffin		29	8
Electric Accumulator Works .. .	7	—	—	Oil		—	—
Paint and Colour Works .. .	2	—	—	TOTAL		199	13
Coach and Car Painting .. .	—	—	—	Chrome Ulceration			
Shipbuilding	1	—	—	Manufacture of Bichromates .. .		36	—
Paint used in other Industries	—	—	—	Dyeing and Finishing .. .		—	—
Other Industries	5	—	—	Chrome Tanning .. .		—	—
Painting of Buildings .. .	2	—	—	Chrome Plating .. .		100	—
TOTAL	57	—	—	Other Industries .. .		7	—
Other Poisoning				TOTAL		143	—
Mercurial	3	—	—	Grand Total		493	13
Arsenical	—	—	—				
Carbon Bisulphide .. .	—	—	—				
Aniline	6	—	—				
Chronic Benzene Poisoning ..	2	—	—				
Toxic Anaemia	—	—	—				
Toxic Jaundice	—	—	—				
Compressed Air Illness .. .	46	—	—				
TOTAL	57	—	—				

* All the figures in this article are provisional.

REVIEW OF THE MONTHLY STATISTICS

The following is a summary of the principal statistics of the month. Further details and analyses will be found on pages 16 to 34.

Employment

It is estimated that the number of persons in civil employment in Great Britain rose by 38,000 (all females) during November, the number at the end of the month being 22,511,000. The basic industries (mining, gas, electricity and water supply, transport, agriculture and fishing) showed a decrease of 8,000, manufacturing industries rose by 42,000, and other industries and services rose by 4,000. The total working population, including H.M. Forces, the unemployed, and men and women on release leave who had not taken up employment, is estimated to have increased by 55,000 from 23,503,000 to 23,558,000.

Unemployment

The number of persons registered as unemployed at Local Offices of the Ministry of Labour and National Service in Great Britain fell from 302,071 to 301,816 between 13th November and 11th December. There was a rise of 4,508 in the case of males and a fall of 4,763 in the case of females.

Rates of Wages

The index of weekly rates of wages, based on June, 1947 (taken as 100), was 114 at the end of December, as compared with 113

at the end of November. The changes in rates of wages reported to the Department during the month resulted in an aggregate increase estimated at £223,000 in the full-time wages of about 899,000 workpeople. The principal increases affected workpeople engaged in shipbuilding and ship repairing, boot and shoe manufacture, the road haulage of goods, milk distribution in England and Wales, the iron and steel industry, and female workers in the engineering and allied industries.

Retail Prices

At 12th December the interim index of retail prices, based on 17th June, 1947 (taken as 100), was 116, the same figure as at 14th November, compared with 113 at 13th December, 1949.

Industrial Disputes

The number of workers involved during December in stoppages of work arising from industrial disputes (including those thrown out of work at the establishments where the stoppages occurred) was over 9,000. The aggregate time lost during the month at the establishments where the stoppages occurred was about 28,000 working days. The number of stoppages which began in the month was 72 and, in addition, 11 stoppages which began before December were still in progress at the beginning of the month. The stoppage involving the greatest loss of time during the month was that of workers employed in motor body building at Hendon.

WAGES COUNCILS

Proposed Wages Councils for the Retail Bread and Flour Confectionery Distributive Trades

The Report* has recently been published of the Commission of Inquiry appointed by the Minister of Labour and National Service under the Wages Councils Act, 1945, to enquire into and report upon the question of the establishment of a Wages Council for workers employed in Great Britain in the wholesale or retail distribution or sale of bread or flour confectionery, and not already covered by a Wages Council or a Wages Board under the Catering Wages Act, 1943, and for their employers (see the issue of this GAZETTE for July, 1949, page 232).

The main groups of workers with whom the Commission were concerned were shop assistants, managers and managersesses, roundsmen and van salesmen employed on the retail side of the industry, and van salesmen and vanmen on the wholesale side. From the evidence submitted to the Commission it was estimated that roughly 100,000 workers came within the terms of reference, of whom not more than 15 per cent. were organised in trade unions. About two-thirds of those who were organised were employees of Co-operative Societies. It was also estimated that not less than 23,500 establishments came within the terms of reference, and that organisation among the employers varied from 60 to 90 per cent.

The Commission found that the only machinery set up by agreement between employers' and worker's organisations for regulating the remuneration and conditions of employment for distributive workers in the trade was the agreements applying to the employees of Co-operative Societies and a number of local and individual agreements. No evidence was submitted, either by the employers' associations or trade unions, suggesting that adequate negotiating machinery, covering the workers as a whole, was likely to be established in the near future. The Commission have, therefore, reached the conclusion that adequate negotiating machinery does not in fact exist for the trade as a whole.

After considering the evidence available, the Commission decided that, because of distinctive features affecting workers engaged in the wholesale distribution of bread and flour confectionery, the two groups, retail and wholesale, should be dealt with separately. The Commission are not satisfied that, as a result of the absence of adequate machinery such as is described in the Wages Councils Act, 1945, for regulating remuneration and conditions of employment, a reasonable standard of remuneration amongst these workers is not being or will not be maintained amongst workers engaged in wholesale distribution, who are mainly vanmen and van salesmen

operating "C" licensed vehicles. The Commission, therefore, make no recommendation for the wholesale group.

The Commission consider that insufficient evidence was submitted for them to say whether a reasonable standard of remuneration is at present being maintained among the retail workers concerned, but they have formed the view that to leave the remuneration of these workers to be determined solely by the market position would not, in certain circumstances, result in a reasonable standard being maintained. They are therefore of the opinion that, as a result of the non-existence of machinery for negotiating remuneration and conditions of employment, a reasonable standard of remuneration will not be maintained among retail workers.

After considering the possibility of including the workers concerned within the scope of the existing Baking or Retail Food Trades Wages Councils, and the differences between trade conditions in Scotland and in England and Wales, the Commission recommend that two new Wages Councils should be established for the retail bread and flour confectionery distributive trade, one for England and Wales and the other for Scotland. The Commission also recommend that the field of operation of the Central Co-ordinating Committee which has been established for the Retail Trades and Hairdressing Wages Councils (see the issue of this GAZETTE for March, 1949, page 91) should be varied so that it operates in connection also with the proposed new Wages Councils.

Appendices to the Report contain schedules setting out the classes of workers to whom it is proposed that the new Wages Councils should relate, and a list of the organisations which gave evidence before the Commission.

Reconstitution of Wages Councils

Articles published in the November, 1950, issue of this GAZETTE (page 369) and some earlier issues referred to the reconstitution of certain Wages Councils by Orders made by the Minister of Labour and National Service under the Wages Councils Act, 1945. On 20th December the Minister made a further Order under the Act in respect of the Lace Finishing Wages Council (Great Britain). This Order, which came into operation on 27th December, brings the constitution of the Council into conformity with the provisions relating to the constitution of Wages Councils contained in the Act.

Copies of the Order, which is entitled The Lace Finishing Wages Council (Great Britain) (Constitution) Order, 1950 (S.I. 1950 No. 2076), can be purchased from H.M. Stationery Office, price 1d. net (2d. post free).

CONTINUANCE OF TEMPORARY LEGISLATION

The Expiry Laws Continuance Act, 1950,† which received the Royal Assent on 15th December, provides for the continuance of certain Acts, and of the enactments amending or affecting these Acts, so far as they are in force and are temporary in their duration.

The Acts in question include the Aliens Restriction (Amendment) Act, 1919, the Cotton Manufacturing Industry (Temporary Provisions) Act, 1934, the Road Traffic Act, 1934, the Population (Statistics) Act, 1938, the Prevention of Violence (Temporary Provisions) Act, 1939, the Local Authorities Loans Act, 1945, the Education (Exemptions) (Scotland) Act, 1947, and the Tenancy of Shops (Scotland) Act, 1949. These Acts were due to expire on

31st December, 1950, and are continued, wholly or in part, until 31st December, 1951. The sections of the Cotton Manufacturing Industry (Temporary Provisions) Act, 1934, that are continued are those which make temporary provision for enabling statutory effect to be given, by an Order made by the Minister of Labour and National Service, to rates of wages agreed between organisations representative of a majority of the employers in the cotton manufacturing industry and of a majority of the workers in the industry in the class or classes affected (see the issues of this GAZETTE for May, July and August, 1934, pages 157, 231 and 271).

Other Acts concerned are the Licensing Planning (Temporary Provisions) Act, 1945, due to expire on 23rd February, 1951, and the Rent of Furnished Houses Control (Scotland) Act, 1943, and the Furnished Houses (Rent Control) Act, 1946, both due to expire on 31st March, 1951. These Acts are continued until 31st March, 1952.

* Ministry of Labour and National Service. Wages Councils Acts, 1945-1948. Report of a Commission of Inquiry on the Question of the Establishment of a Wages Council for the Wholesale and Retail Bread and Flour Confectionery Distributive Trades. H.M. Stationery Office; price 4d. net (5d. post free).

† 14 and 15 Geo 6. Ch. 1. H.M. Stationery Office; price 2d. net (3d. post free).

DURATION OF UNEMPLOYMENT, AGE AND TURNOVER AMONG THE UNEMPLOYED

Duration of Unemployment and Age of Unemployed

The regular monthly returns of unemployment which are published in this GAZETTE (see, for instance page 19) are supplemented periodically by other returns, one of which analyses the register of wholly unemployed persons according to age and the duration of their last spell of continuous unemployment. It is obtained every six months, and a detailed analysis for 11th December is given in the following Table*—

Duration of Unemployment in weeks	Age Groups					Total	Total numbers wholly unemployed at 12th June, 1950
	Under 18	18 and under 21	21 and under 41	41 and under 56	56 and over		
Males							
4 or less	3,206	4,500	33,146	20,654	11,421	72,927	67,073
Over 4 and up to 6	515	933	6,624	5,305	3,544	16,921	15,539
" 6 " " 8	303	657	4,757	4,297	2,999	13,013	11,453
" 8 " " 13	387	1,003	7,314	7,628	6,105	22,437	16,785
" 13 " " 26	279	798	6,228	7,312	6,620	21,237	25,100
" 26 " " 39	67	286	2,695	3,862	3,918	10,828	14,647
" 39 " " 52	32	144	1,628	2,978	3,162	7,944	8,506
" 52 " " 104	26	165	2,792	5,314	5,853	14,150	14,500
Over 104	—	90	2,662	7,022	8,442	18,216	18,810
Total, 11th Dec., 1950	4,815	8,576	67,846	64,372	52,064	197,673	—
Total, 12th June, 1950	5,355	10,425	67,635	60,711	48,287	—	192,413
Females							
4 or less	3,103	5,221	19,571	10,440	2,164	40,499	34,179
Over 4 and up to 6	556	1,166	5,002	3,243	701	10,668	7,624
" 6 " " 8	369	896	3,692	2,535	566	8,058	5,608
" 8 " " 13	461	1,373	5,971	4,420	1,047	13,272	8,335
" 13 " " 26	247	757	4,633	3,903	1,103	10,643	10,170
" 26 " " 39	58	298	1,595	1,491	396	3,733	5,289
" 39 " " 52	67	334	1,831	2,34	234	1,899	2,102
" 52 " " 104	14	86	755	1,236	451	2,542	2,015
Over 104	—	19	319	609	297	1,244	1,161
Total, 11th Dec., 1950	4,832	9,787	42,272	28,708	6,959	92,558	—
Total, 12th June, 1950	4,422	8,281	35,564	22,926	5,290	—	76,483
Total							
4 or less	6,309	9,721	52,717	31,094	13,585	113,426	101,252
Over 4 and up to 6	1,071	2,099	11,626	8,548	4,245	27,589	23,163
" 6 " " 8	672	1,553	8,449	6,832	3,565	21,071	17,061
" 8 " " 13	848	2,376	13,285	12,048	7,152	35,709	25,120
" 13 " " 26	526	1,555	10,861	11,215	7,723	31,880	35,270
" 26 " " 39	125	479	4,290	5,353	4,314	14,561	19,936
" 39 " " 52	56	220	3,362	3,809	3,396	9,843	10,608
" 52 " " 104	40	251	3,547	6,550	3,304	16,692	16,515
Over 104	—	109	2,981	7,631	8,739	19,460	19,971
Total, 11th Dec., 1950	9,647	18,363	110,118	93,080	59,023	290,231	—
Total, 12th June, 1950	9,777	18,706	103,199	83,637	53,577	—	268,896

The Table shows that just over 52,000, or 26 per cent., of the wholly unemployed men at 11th December were aged 56 and over, and that just over 64,000, or 32½ per cent., were aged 41–55. Thus, well over one-half of the total number were over 40 years of age. Among those who were under 41 years of age, the great majority had been continuously unemployed for less than 8 weeks and the number who had been on the registers for the whole year was very small. In the higher age-groups, on the other hand, there was a

* The figures exclude unemployed casual workers, persons temporarily stopped and registered severely disabled persons who are unlikely to obtain work other than under special conditions.

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much greater tendency for unemployment to persist, and there were 12,300 men in the age-group 41–55 and 14,300 in the age-group 56 and over who had been continuously on the registers for the whole year.

Among women, nearly one-half of the total were in the age-group 21–40. As regards duration of unemployment, the figures show similar features to those for men, but the numbers who had been unemployed for the whole year were very small, even in the higher age-groups.

The seasonal increase in unemployment in December compared with June is reflected in all age-groups in the Table for women, but for men the increase is confined to those aged 41 and over. Comparison between the last two columns in the Table shows that the number, both of men and of women, who became unemployed in the three months ended 11th December was greater than the number who became unemployed in the three months ended 12th June. On the other hand, the number of men who had been continuously unemployed for more than three months was considerably lower in December than in June, and among women there was a substantial reduction in the "6–12 months" category.

Turnover Among the Unemployed

The "duration of unemployment" analyses for successive quarterly dates can be used to show how many of those who were registered as unemployed at the beginning of a quarter had found work (or otherwise ceased to register) by the end of the quarter. This is done by comparing the number in, say, the 0–13 weeks category at one date with the number in the 13–26 weeks category three months later, and so on. An analysis on these lines is given in the Table below; the numbers who went off the register in the quarterly period September–December are expressed as percentages of the numbers on the register in September, and corresponding percentages are given for the preceding quarter and for the September–December, 1949, quarter.

The Table shows that 62 per cent. of the males and 76 per cent. of the females who were wholly unemployed at 11th September had found work or ceased to register within the next three months, compared with 61 per cent. for males and 78 per cent. for females in the preceding quarter. The figures indicate that young persons under 18 years are more readily absorbed into new employment than older persons; in fact, all except a few hundreds of the juveniles who were unemployed in September had found work by December.

Turnover among the Unemployed, September–December, 1950

Duration of Unemployment at 11th September, 1950 (in weeks)	Number at 11th Sept., 1950	Number remaining on register at 11th Dec., 1950	Reduction		Corresponding percentage reduction in the preceding quarter and the last quarter of 1949		
			Number	Per cent. of number at 11th Sept., 1950	June–Sept., 1950	Sept.–Dec., 1949	
Males under 18							
Up to 13	10,711	279	10,432	97	93	96	
Over 13 and up to 26	315	67	248	79	76	73	
" 26 " " 39	95	32	63	66	55	57	
Over 39	63	26	37	59	67	49	
Total	11,184	404	10,780	96	91	95	
Males 18 and over							
Up to 13	104,640	20,958	83,682	80	80	78	
Over 13 and up to 26	20,799	10,761	10,038	48	50	43	
" 26 " " 39	12,264	7,912	4,352	35	43	29	
Over 39	40,929	32,340	8,589	21	22	17	
Total	178,632	71,971	106,661	60	60	57	
Total—Males	189,816	72,375	117,441	62	61	59	
Females under 18							
Up to 13	9,483	247	9,236	97	94	97	
Over 13 and up to 26	252	58	194	77	69	75	
" 26 " " 39	75	24	51	68	65	54	
Over 39	48	14	34	69	58	48	
Total	9,858	343	9,515	97	92	96	
Females 18 and over							
Up to 13	57,456	10,396	47,060	82	84	84	
Over 13 and up to 26	8,034	3,675	4,359	54	65	51	
" 26 " " 39	3,429	1,875	1,554	45	61	45	
Over 39	5,327	3,772	1,555	29	37	29	
Total	74,246	19,718	54,528	73	77	76	
Total—Females	84,104	20,061	64,043	76	78	78	

WITHDRAWAL OF EMPLOYMENT RESTRICTIONS ON EUROPEAN VOLUNTEER WORKERS

Restrictions on the employment of certain European Volunteer Workers who have been in this country for at least three years were removed on 1st January, 1951, by the Aliens (Landing Conditions) Instrument, 1950. This Instrument was made on 8th December by the Secretary of State for Home Affairs under the Aliens Order, 1920. The workers concerned are (1) about 75,000 displaced persons who were recruited abroad, mainly from Germany and Austria, under the "Westward Ho" Scheme for work in under-manned industries and services in this country; and (2) about 2,500 female displaced persons of Estonian, Latvian and Lithuanian nationality brought here under the "Balt Cygnet" Scheme for domestic work in hospitals, sanatoria and similar institutions.

European Volunteer Workers who are eligible under these arrangements should report to the Police in the district in which they are registered for cancellation of restrictions on their employment, as and when they complete their three years' period. All should take with them their Police Registration Certificates and Travel Documents. Until this has been done, they will continue to require the permission of a Local Officer of the Ministry of Labour and National Service to leave their work or to take a job. Once the employment restrictions have been cancelled, they will be in the same position as British workers so far as freedom to choose their own employment is concerned. In some industries, however, the employment of foreign workers is either precluded or subject to certain conditions by industrial agreement. European Volunteer Workers are therefore warned that release under these arrangements does not necessarily mean that they will find every kind of employment open to them, and they are advised not to leave their present employment until they are certain of another job.

Copies of the Aliens (Landing Conditions) Instrument, 1950 (S.I. 1950 No. 1963), can be purchased from H.M. Stationery Office, price 1d. net (2d. post free).

DISABLED PERSONS IN GOVERNMENT EMPLOYMENT

The Financial Secretary to the Treasury has presented to Parliament a Statement,* prepared from returns furnished to the Treasury, showing the numbers of registered disabled persons in Government employment in Great Britain. The Statement is directly related to the terms of the Disabled Persons (Employment) Act, 1944, and the totals, therefore, differ slightly from those published in the quarterly returns of staff in Government Departments. The latter include home-based staff employed abroad and reserved and agency services in Northern Ireland and also reckon part-time staff on a somewhat different basis.

The following Table shows the numbers and percentages of registered disabled persons in Government employment as at 1st October, 1950, in relation to the total numbers of industrial and non-industrial employees:—

Employed Staff	Total Number of Employees	Total Number of Disabled Persons Employed	Percentage of Disabled Persons in Employed Staff	
			June–Sept., 1950	Sept.–Dec., 1949
Non-industrial	666,528	38,030	5.7	5.7
Industrial	389,452	21,121	5.4	5.4

In addition, of a total of 578 passenger electric lift attendants in Government employment, 407 or 70.4 per cent. were registered disabled persons. (Employment as a car park attendant or passenger electric lift attendant is designated employment for disabled persons under the Act.)

By the Disabled Persons (Standard Percentage) Order, 1946, the standard percentage for the purpose of the Act is 3 per cent. (see the issue of this GAZETTE for August, 1946, page 210).

REGISTRATIONS UNDER NATIONAL SERVICE ACTS

A further registration of men under the National Service Acts will be held on 3rd February. The obligation to register on that date applies to young men born between 1st January and 31st March, 1933, both dates inclusive, unless they are exempt from the operation of the Acts. Men are not exempt from registration because they may be eligible for deferment of call-up by reason of the nature of their employment, e.g., in coal mining or agriculture or as apprentices or learners. Such men if born within the dates specified above must register on the prescribed date.

Men who have a preference for a particular Service should say so when they register, but no guarantee can be given that they will be allocated to that Service. In particular, there is only a very limited number of vacancies in the Royal Navy for men not entering on a regular engagement.

* Disabled Persons in Government Employment. Statement showing the Numbers of Registered Disabled Persons in Government Employment in Great Britain on 1st October, 1950, compiled from Returns furnished to the Treasury, Cmd. 8099. H.M. Stationery Office; price 1d. net (2d. post free).

Any man registering for service in the Armed Forces who enters the coal mining industry for underground work before an enlistment notice is issued will not be called up so long as he remains satisfactorily employed in that work.

Each man who registers will be given a leaflet setting out the conditions under which deferment of call-up may be granted to an apprentice, or a young man in a similar position, or a student in full-time attendance at a technical class. If a man wishes to complete his apprenticeship or training before he is called up, he must make application for deferment on the appropriate form to be obtained at the time of his registration or as soon as possible afterwards.

The registration will take place at Local Offices of the Ministry of Labour and National Service; but seamen should, if possible, register at Mercantile Marine Offices. Young men who, although not yet required to register under these arrangements, wish for good reason to be registered when they become 18 may apply, when they reach that age, for registration at a Local Office of the Ministry.

This registration has been brought forward from 3rd March, the date previously announced, in order to meet the needs of H.M. Forces. The next registration, which had been arranged for 2nd June, will now take place on 5th May. The dates of the subsequent quarterly registrations in 1951 will be announced as soon as possible.

REINSTATEMENT IN CIVIL EMPLOYMENT ACT, 1950

The Reinstatement in Civil Employment Act, 1950,* which received the Royal Assent on 15th December, provides rights of reinstatement in civilian employment corresponding to those conferred by Part II of the National Service Act, 1948, in respect of the following persons: (1) Members of Reserve or Auxiliary Forces or Service Pensioners called out or recalled for whole-time service after 15th July, 1950; (2) commissioned officers who have, after 15th July, 1950, entered upon a period of whole-time service in pursuance of an obligation or undertaking (this does not apply to persons accepting permanent or short service commissions, or to periodical training); (3) volunteers in the Army as the result of enlistment for a period not exceeding eighteen months with a view to service in Korea; (4) national service men who between 15th July, 1950, and 1st October, 1950, voluntarily undertook up to six months' additional whole-time service; (5) men who are enlisted under the National Service Acts and receive a commission before completing the period for which they are called up and perform an equivalent period of whole-time service; (6) men liable to be called up who accept a commission and give whole-time service as a commissioned officer equivalent to whole-time service under the National Service Acts; (7) commissioned officers within class (5) or (6) who undertake, with a view to service in Korea, to serve whole-time as commissioned officers for a further period not exceeding twelve months immediately after the time when otherwise their whole-time service would have ended; and (8) members of Reserves of Women's Services and certain other women who at any time after 15th July, 1950, in response to a notice or request by the competent Service Authority, serve whole-time in the Women's Services.

Any persons requiring information or guidance about the Act may apply at any Local Office of the Ministry of Labour and National Service.

RESTORATION OF PRE-WAR TRADE PRACTICES ACT, 1950

The Restoration of Pre-War Trade Practices Act, 1950,† which amends the Restoration of Pre-War Trade Practices Act, 1942, in certain respects, received the Royal Assent on 15th December.

Under the provisions of the Act of 1942, employers were obliged, within two months of the end of the war period (a date which was to be appointed by Order by the Minister of Labour and National Service), to restore or permit the restoration of trade practices which obtained immediately before 3rd September, 1939, and to maintain them for 18 months (see the issues of this GAZETTE for January and March, 1942, pages 8 and 59). The new Act restricts the employers' obligation to restore such practices to those which were departed from during the period 3rd September, 1939, to 15th August, 1945. The Act further provides that the obligation to restore pre-war practices shall not arise until a date to be fixed by Order in Council on the recommendation of the Minister of Labour and National Service. The draft of the Order in Council will require to be approved by affirmative resolution of both Houses of Parliament.

The new Act also amends the provisions of the 1942 Act which imposed obligations on employers, in respect of undertakings which began to be carried on on and after 3rd September, 1939, to introduce the pre-war trade practices of undertakings carried on in circumstances most nearly analogous to those of the undertakings in question. These obligations are now restricted to undertakings which began to be carried on between the above-mentioned date and 15th August, 1945, and they are not to apply if the "analogous" undertakings departed from these pre-war trade practices for the first time after 15th August, 1945.

* 14 and 15 Geo. 6. Ch. 10. H.M. Stationery Office; price 4d. net (5d. post free).
† 14 and 15 Geo. 6. Ch. 6. H.M. Stationery Office; price 2d. net (3d. post free).

SPREADING THE ELECTRICITY LOAD

Load shedding during September, October and November of 1950 was considerably heavier and more extensive than in the corresponding months of 1949. Power cuts during these months resulted in considerable loss of production, damage to material and in some cases danger to life and limb in industry. The Electricity Sub-Committee of the National Joint Advisory Council, in which also representatives of the British Electricity Authority, the Ministry of Fuel and Power, the Treasury, and Regional Boards for Industry are included, have carried out a special review of the position and have made a report to the National Joint Advisory Council, which has been accepted by the Minister of Labour and National Service.

The Sub-Committee find that heavy load-shedding in recent months was the result of a combination of factors. There had been a heavy increase in the consumption of electricity, which was reflected in higher demand at peak periods. The average daily peak demand during the three months ended November, 1950, was some 1,200 megawatts greater than during the corresponding period last year. During September, October and November the weather was considerably colder than during the same period in 1949. Further, the percentage of the British Electricity Authority's total generating capacity which was out of service for various reasons during these months was considerably higher than had been anticipated, and the main cause of this was the increased incidence of break-down of plant.

The Sub-Committee feel keenly that industry is still bearing the main burden of load-spreading and that if further sacrifices are to be called for, it is essential that there should be a much more drastic approach to the commercial and the domestic consumer in order to secure greater economy in the use of electricity at peak periods. The Sub-Committee believe that the general public is not yet alive to the serious threat to national production, to employment and earnings and even to the physical safety of large numbers of workers, which is involved in continuing heavy load-shedding, and they recommend that there should be a forceful and aggressive publicity campaign utilising the press, films and broadcasting to bring home these facts.

Although further load-spreading by industry would not completely eliminate power cuts, the Sub-Committee believe that increased efforts in this direction would reduce the amount of shedding, and they recommend that Regional Boards for Industry should appeal to industry and commerce in their areas to put into operation the load-spreading measures which were in force last winter wherever this is considered practicable by the firms concerned, with the object of securing a reduction in the peak load approximating as nearly as possible to 20 per cent. The greatest possible use should be made of auxiliary plant.

On the question of a general resumption of Saturday morning work with a compensatory half-day off during the week, the Sub-Committee are not prepared to recommend such a course as a

ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACTS IN NORTHERN IRELAND DURING 1949

A Report* on the administration of the Factories Acts in Northern Ireland during 1949 has been presented by the Chief Inspector. The Report opens with a brief account of the application and scope of the Factories Acts (Northern Ireland), 1938 and 1949, and other legislation regulating employment in factories and other places. New provisions of importance contained in the Act of 1949 are those which extend, as from 1st September, 1949, the upper age limit from 16 to 18 years of young persons required to undergo medical examination on entering factory employment. Another new provision requires that seating facilities shall be provided, as from 1st September, 1951, for all employed persons who have reasonable opportunity for sitting during their employment without detriment to their work.

Numbers of Factories and Inspections

On 31st December, 1949, the number of factories and other places within the scope of the Acts registered with the Factory Department of the Ministry of Labour and National Insurance of Northern Ireland was 8,025, of which 5,147 were factories with power, 1,610 were factories without power and 1,268 were other places, e.g., electrical stations, docks, warehouses and building operations. In addition, there were 210 places within the scope of the Lead Paint (Protection against Poisoning) Act, 1927. It was estimated that at the beginning of June, 1949, the number of persons employed on factory operations was 182,000, and on building operations and works of engineering construction 29,700. During 1949, 5,982 factories were fully inspected and inspectors paid 7,847 visits to premises under the Acts. Reports on these inspections indicated an increasing measure of compliance with the regulations by most factory employers, particularly on safety matters. There was also an increasing tendency for occupiers of factories to seek the advice of the Inspectors on questions affecting the safety and health of their employees and also on proposed extensions or alterations to existing premises, new factories, lay-out of machinery, precautions in the use of dangerous machinery, and the introduction of processes likely to involve risks to health.

Health and Welfare

A general improvement in the standard of cleanliness, temperature and ventilation, lighting, sanitary accommodation, washing and other facilities was reported during the year. Fully planned colour schemes were beginning to make their appearance. It is

* Factories Acts (Northern Ireland), 1938 and 1949. Report of the Chief Inspector for the year 1949. Cmd. 286. H.M. Stationery Office, Belfast; price 2s. net (2s. 2d. post free).

measure to spread the load in industry. While they would not wish to preclude the adoption of this measure by such industrial establishments as might consider it practicable and desirable, they think that in most cases further load-spreading measures on the five normal working days would give more effective results. The Sub-Committee support proposals for warning industrial consumers of impending power cuts by means of short-wave radio transmissions by the Electricity Authorities and for broadcasting more detailed economy warnings by the B.B.C. In view of the fact that the problem of peak hour load-shedding is now clearly seen to be long-term, the Sub-Committee recommend that the possibility of the British Electricity Authority discriminating to a greater extent between different types of consumer when cuts have to be imposed should be looked at afresh. They also suggest the desirability of further restrictions on display lighting. (The display lighting of shop windows and signs has since been completely prohibited by Government Order as a general measure of fuel economy.)

JOINT CONSULTATION IN INDUSTRY

It has been announced that as from 31st January, 1951, Sir Richard Lloyd-Roberts, Kt., C.B.E., will relinquish the appointment which he took up in June, 1948, in charge of action for the development of joint consultation in industry and of the administration of the Personnel Management Advisory Service of the Ministry of Labour and National Service (see the issue of this GAZETTE for June, 1948, page 195).

Sir Richard Lloyd-Roberts served in the Ministry throughout the war as Under-Secretary for Personnel Management and Welfare Questions. In 1948, with the concurrence of the National Joint Advisory Council representing employers' organisations and trade unions, the Ministry assumed the responsibility for stimulating the extension and effective use of joint consultative machinery in industry, as a means of promoting good relations at the factory level. To assist the Ministry in this task, Sir Richard Lloyd-Roberts was invited to place his advice and experience once more at its disposal, and for the last two years and a half he has held a post created for a limited period for this specific purpose in the Industrial Relations Department of the Ministry. In addition, for the greater part of this period he has been responsible for the Headquarters' policy and administration of the Personnel Management Advisory Service, which continues to function as part of the Ministry's organisation.

RAILWAY WAGES COURT OF INQUIRY

The Minister of Labour and National Service has appointed a Court of Inquiry under the Industrial Courts Act, 1919, into the applications relating to wages and salaries made by the railway trade unions to the Railway Executive. The members of the Court are Mr. C. W. Guillebaud, C.B.E. (chairman), Col. H. C. Smith, C.B.E., D.L., J.P., M.Inst.C.E., Mr. A. J. Espley, O.B.E., J.P., M.P.S., Mr. Lincoln Evans, C.B.E., and Mr. J. Crawford, and the terms of reference are to inquire into the applications and to make recommendations.

pointed out that much can be done in this way to provide a suitable background for the avoidance of eye strain and giving the effect of enhanced space. The problem of overcrowding, particularly in the older established factories, presented some difficulties mainly because of the shortage of building materials and buildings. Efforts were being made, however, to effect improvements by revising the lay-out of equipment and processes.

Accidents

The number of reportable accidents, i.e., accidents which caused a fatality or which disabled a person for more than three days from earning full wages at the work at which he was employed, continued to show a steady decline. In 1949, the total of such accidents was 3,361 compared with 3,620 in 1948 and 4,230 in 1945. The number of fatal accidents, however, which was only 13 in 1945, rose from 17 in 1948 to 20 in 1949. It is estimated that the frequency rate of accidents in factories in 1949 was just under 16 per 1,000 persons employed. The corresponding rates for men, women, boys under 18 and girls under 18 years of age were 20, 9, 29 and 12, respectively. The higher rates for boys and girls, it is pointed out, emphasise the need for careful training and instruction of young persons entering factory employment. Of the total number of factory accidents, 28 per cent. were caused by handling of goods or materials and 24 per cent. by power driven machinery, other than lifting machinery. More than half of the accidents caused by power driven machines occurred in the textile trades and were probably of a minor character.

Included in the total of reported accidents during the year were 367 occurring on building operations and works of engineering construction, ten of which proved fatal, and 139 at docks and warehouses, one of which was fatal. In view of the additional safeguards needed for persons employed on building operations, the Ministry of Labour and National Insurance proposes to make new safety and welfare regulations.

Although the overall number of accidents appears to be falling, the Chief Inspector considers that further improvements could be effected by introducing instruction in safety matters as part of the preliminary training of every new entrant to a factory, by adequate supervision of young persons during their settling-in period, and by introducing some form of safety organisation in every factory.

Medical Supervision

During 1949 the number of young persons examined for certificates of fitness for employment in factories under the Factories Acts, 1938 and 1949, was 10,719 (4,111 males and 6,608 females).

These figures are higher than the corresponding figures for 1948 mainly, it is considered, because of the raising to 18 years of the upper age limit for examination. The number of young persons

MINING AND QUARRYING

Report of H.M. Chief Inspector of Mines for 1949

The Report* of H.M. Chief Inspector of Mines under the Coal Mines Act, 1911, for the year 1949 has been submitted to the Minister of Fuel and Power in accordance with the provisions of the Act.

Numbers of Mines and Inspections

During 1949 there were 1,689 mines at work under the Coal Mines Act of which 1,476 were coal mines; the remainder were stratified ironstone, oil shale and fireclay mines. The average number of persons employed at mines during 1949 is provisionally given as 746,045, and the number of man-shifts worked as 181.5 million, compared with 750,499 and 185.1 million respectively in 1948.

The total number of inspections made during the year was 31,486, including 21,893 below ground and 9,593 surface inspections. Of those below ground, 18,024 were made on day shifts, 2,251 on afternoon shifts and 1,618 on night shifts. The number of surface inspections on day, afternoon and night shifts were 8,264, 1,162 and 167 respectively. Complete inspections were made at 998 mines in 1949, compared with 953 in 1948. Statutory inspections made during the year by examiners appointed on behalf of workmen under the Coal Mines Act numbered 4,312 at 482 mines, compared with 3,713 inspections at 419 mines in the previous year.

Accidents

Accident figures at all mines under the Act have gradually improved during recent years. During the year under review 460 persons were killed and 2,180 were seriously injured, compared with 468 killed and 2,391 seriously injured in 1948. The 1949 figures were the lowest ever recorded, but the decline in the number of fatal accidents compared with the previous year was small, and, as it was associated with a decline in the number of man-shifts worked, the provisional death rate per 100,000 man-shifts remained the same as for 1948, viz., 0.25. There was a more significant drop of 10 per cent. in the number of serious injuries. Fatal accidents underground were 23 less than in 1948, but fatal surface accidents increased by 15. For the purpose of these figures a person was included as "killed" if he died as a result of the accident within a period of one year and one day from the date of the accident, and as "seriously injured" if (1) as the result of the accident he sustained any fracture of the head or of any limb, or any dislocation of a limb, or any serious personal injury, or (2) as the result of any accident involving any explosion of gas or coal dust or any explosive, or caused by electricity or by overwinding he sustained any personal injury.

The greatest single cause of accidents continued to be falls of ground, the next most important class being those occurring in connection with haulage. Compared with 1948, the number of deaths caused by falls of ground at the coal-face decreased by 19 and the number of serious injuries by 93. Deaths caused by falls of ground on roadways increased by 14, but serious injuries decreased by 20. The Report states that, despite encouraging improvements during the previous decade, accidents caused by falls of ground were still responsible for over one-half of the deaths and one-third of the serious injuries occurring annually at mines. Much time was therefore devoted by Inspectors during 1949 to the development and application of more efficient systems of support. Working conditions and operations in several mines in the different Divisions were closely studied, the resistances of supports were tested, and much attention was given to improving the appliances and the procedure used in withdrawing supports. In view of the specific good practices made compulsory by the Coal Mines (Support of Roof and Sides) General Regulations, 1947, disappointment is expressed at the number of accidents caused by falls of ground at roadheads and the modest reduction in the number of such accidents compared with the previous year. Reports on these accidents showed that many resulted from the instability of badly set supports, the withdrawal of supports by unsuitable methods preparatory to shifting conveyor machinery or for ripping, or delay in dressing the roof and sides and in securing them effectively by supports as soon as possible after the ripping had been taken down. In a few cases people were caught by falls as they were passing beneath a roof or sides from which the supports had been withdrawn. As the result of investigations and tests made during the year it was found that effective roof control was an aid to the reduction of airborne dust and also of fire damp emission.

Training

The Report records further progress during the year towards achieving a higher standard of training. Both on the surface and underground, the training facilities, equipment and conditions were improved. Nearly 24,700 persons received preliminary training. A decrease of about 17,000 compared with the total for 1948 was ascribed in part to the very small number of foreign workers recruited during the latter half of the year. The number of boys under 18 who were trained increased by 1,300. At the end of the year 56 Preliminary Training Schemes were in operation at

* Report of H.M. Chief Inspector of Mines under the Coal Mines Act, 1911, for the year 1949. Ministry of Fuel and Power. H.M. Stationery Office; price 1s. 6d. net (1s. 8d. post free).

rejected for factory employment was 105 (51 males and 54 females). The commonest cause of rejection was disease of the eyes and eyelids, from which 16 males and 12 females suffered.

Practical Training Centres and technical colleges or schools. Of these schemes 44 involved full-time courses of 16 weeks' duration; the trainees attended five days each week. Over 5,500 adults were trained at adult training centres, the duration of the courses being 112 hours. Over 16,600 persons received training at the coal-face in one or more operations, an increase of approximately 900 compared with 1948. About 6,500 of these were trained on fully reserved faces, and the remainder on parts of production longwall faces set aside for training. While undergoing training, or during the first six months of their employment at collieries, 47 adults and 25 juvenile trainees were injured, 14 fatally and 58 non-fatally. It was considered that 39 of these accidents could have been avoided by ordinary caution, while 20 others were due to carelessness or inattention on the part of the trainees. No fatal accidents occurred on fully reserved training faces.

Pneumoconiosis and Other Health Matters

Reference is made to the loss of man-power caused by pneumoconiosis, and to the importance of preventing dust from becoming airborne. The Chief Inspector considers that, after all practicable steps have been taken to reduce dust formation to a minimum, the dust which inevitably forms should be prevented from becoming airborne by (1) applying water, with or without a wetting agent, before or as the dust is liberated, (2) by enclosing the dust source in such a way that, whilst leaving a passage for the coal or stone, the dust laden air is cleaned by passing through a suitable filter, and (3) by reducing the free fall at transfer and loading points, etc. The Report briefly reviews the extent to which these methods are and should be applied, together with some of the problems arising from their application. Pneumoconiosis, it is stated, still remains the largest and most complex medical problem of the industry and no specific form of treatment has yet been discovered that may cure or tend to cure the disease.

Other matters concerning health which are dealt with in the Report are facilities for dealing with the sick and injured, the administration of morphia, medical examination of new entrants to coal mining employment, beat knee, dermatitis, nystagmus, spirochaetal jaundice, and sanitation. The Report contains an analysis of the numbers of certificates of disablement from miners' industrial diseases given under the Workmen's Compensation Acts during 1940-1948. Since July, 1948, cases of scheduled industrial disease are dealt with under the National Insurance (Industrial Injuries) (Prescribed Diseases) Regulations, 1948, and full figures for 1949 are not yet available.

Appendices to the Report contain statistical tables, graphs, diagrams and other relevant information.

Report of H.M. Inspectors of Mines and Quarries for 1939-1949

H.M. Chief Inspector of Mines and Quarries has submitted to the Minister of Fuel and Power a Report* covering the years 1939 to 1949 upon quarries under the Quarries Act, 1894, and mines under the Metalliferous Mines Regulation Acts, 1872 and 1875. The publication of annual reports, which was suspended during 1939-1949, will be recommenced with the year 1950, and the present Report therefore forms a link between the pre-war and post-war series.

The Report states that no new legislation applying particularly to quarries and metalliferous mines was enacted during the period under review, but that certain special rules were introduced, of which brief particulars are given.

Quarries

At the end of the war, quarry work was at a low ebb and recruitment of labour to replace those who had left the industry presented a difficult problem. To assist in overcoming the shortage of labour, mechanisation of the industry was rapidly increased. Generally, the introduction of mechanisation had the effect of reducing the number of accidents at quarries although at the same time bringing with it new types of machinery and traffic accidents. The number of deaths from all causes at quarries, which was 87 in 1939, fell year by year, as the number of quarry workers decreased, to a minimum of 21 in 1945, subsequently rising with the revival of quarrying to 47 in 1948 and 45 in 1949. Reportable injuries showed a similar trend, falling from 245 in 1939 to 83 in 1945 and then rising to 151 in 1948 and 123 in 1949.

Accidents caused by falls of ground were responsible for more than one-third of the total number of fatalities during the period 1939 to 1949. While it may not be an easy matter to alter methods of working granite, sandstone or freestone, it is considered that much could be done to reduce the accident rate at all descriptions of quarries by the use of ordinary care or common sense. The Report gives instances of fatal accidents which might have been avoided.

On the question of dust suppression at slate quarries and in slate splitting and dressing sheds, the Report refers to past research and to extensive scientific tests which were made in certain North

* Ministry of Fuel and Power. Report of H.M. Inspectors of Mines and Quarries under the Metalliferous Mines Regulation Act, 1872, and the Quarries Act, 1894, for the years 1939-1949. H.M. Stationery Office; price 1s. 6d. net (1s. 8d. post free).

Wales quarries in 1949 with a system of dust extraction by low velocity air currents applied close to the sources of production. These tests proved conclusively that it was possible to reduce the dust counts in the atmosphere to below the empirical figure deemed to be the border line in dealing with slate dusts. Steps were being taken to install dust suppression devices where necessary. Recommendations for improvements in welfare conditions at quarries which were made by various Committees and Working Parties during the period had received attention. Progress, however, was slow in view of difficulties caused by the geographical location of many quarries and variations in size, as well as the conservatism of the quarrymen themselves.

Metalliferous Mines

Owing to the suspension of supplies from abroad during the war, mining for ores of metals, which had been at a low ebb in 1939, improved in some types of mining, particularly in respect of tungsten ores, tin, lead, barytes, micaceous iron ore, manganese ores and gypsum. A shortage of skilled labour began to be evident in most mines towards the end of the war, and an attempt was made to relieve it by allowing men to enter the mines instead of the Forces and by employing Polish miners. After the war many metal ore mines had to be closed, but china-clay and slate mines, whose activities had been greatly reduced, recovered to about 50 per cent. of their former output.

The number of deaths from all causes at metalliferous mines fell from 17 in 1939 to 3 in 1945, rising to 10 in 1949. The numbers of reportable and serious injuries were 60 in 1939, 20 in 1945 and 17 in 1949.

Earnings in the Coal Mining Industry in the Third Quarter of 1950

The Statistical Statement of the costs of production, proceeds and profit or loss of collieries in Great Britain for the third quarter of 1950 has been published by the National Coal Board. The statistics relate to the mines worked by the Board and exclude those relating to mines licensed in accordance with Section 36 of the Coal Industry Nationalisation Act, which in the third quarter of 1950 produced 0.9 per cent. of the total quantity of saleable coal.

Earnings in the Third Quarter of 1950

	Underground	Surface	All Workers
Average Earnings (All Ages):	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
(i) Per Man-shift worked—			
Cash Earnings	36 11.4	24 0.6	33 9.2
Value of Allowances in Kind	1 5.1	1 2.1	1 4.4
Total	38 4.5	25 2.7	35 1.6
(ii) Per Wage-earner per Week—			
Cash Earnings	175 5	127 2	164 6
Value of Allowances in Kind	6 9	6 3	6 7
Total	182 2	133 5	171 1

Statistics of earnings are given in the Statement for each of the twenty wage districts in Great Britain. The average earnings in the quarter per man-shift worked, including the value of allowances in kind, for workers of all ages ranged from 31s. 2.9d. in Bristol and Somerset and 32s. 1.2d. in South Wales and Monmouthshire to 39s. 11.0d. in Leicestershire and 40s. 4.5d. in Nottinghamshire. The average earnings per wage-earner per week, including the value of allowances in kind, ranged from 154s. 10d. in Bristol and Somerset and 155s. 5d. in Lancashire and Cheshire to 194s. 1d. in South Derbyshire and 195s. 4d. in Leicestershire.

The estimated average earnings, including the value of allowances in kind, for all adult male workers in Great Britain during the quarter amounted to 36s. 7d. per man-shift worked and 178s. 7d. a week.

Similar figures for the second quarter of 1950 were given on page 336 of the issue of this GAZETTE for October. Comparison with figures relating to periods up to 31st December, 1948, is affected by the change in the basis for computing the average number of wage-earners, details of which were given on page 310 of the issue for September, 1949.

TIME RATES OF WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR

A Report entitled "Time Rates of Wages and Hours of Labour, 1st October, 1950," has been compiled by the Ministry of Labour and National Service.

The Report consists of a series of Tables showing, for the more important industries and occupations, the minimum, or standard, time rates of wages fixed by voluntary agreements made between organisations of employers and workpeople, or by Joint Industrial Councils or similar bodies, or by Statutory Orders under the Wages Councils Act, the Agricultural Wages Acts and the Catering Wages Act.

The extent to which rates of wages have been determined for different occupations within each industry varies considerably. In some industries the agreements or orders fix only a general minimum rate for men and women respectively. In others, rates are specified for a variety of occupations and in many cases for adults and for juveniles of different ages. It has not been found practicable to publish all the rates, but the Report contains those for men and women in most of the important industries and occupations for which minimum or standard time rates of wages have been fixed.

In addition to the time rates of wages, particulars are given of

the normal working hours, and, where available, of the basic rates for pieceworkers and the additional rates payable to shift workers and night workers. Brief particulars are also given of the arrangements, where they exist, for a guaranteed weekly wage.

Particulars of changes in rates of wages and hours of labour, which are regularly published in this GAZETTE, will enable a considerable amount of the information contained in the Tables to be kept up to date from month to month.

The report is obtainable from H.M. Stationery Office at any of the addresses shown on page 39 of this issue, or through any bookseller, price 4s. 6d. net (4s. 9d.) post free.

CENSUSES OF PRODUCTION AND OF DISTRIBUTION, 1951

On 30th November and 14th December, respectively, the Board of Trade made the Census of Production (1951) (Scope, Returns and Exempted Persons) Order, 1950, and the Census of Distribution (1951) (Scope, Returns and Exempted Persons) Order, 1950 (S.I. 1950 Nos. 1926 and 2036). These Orders, both of which were made under the Statistics of Trade Act, 1947, and came into operation on 30th December, describe the undertakings to which the Census of Production and the Census of Distribution and Other Services, to be taken in 1951, will relate.

The Census of Production will relate to all undertakings in the field of production, except those which are wholly or mainly engaged in building, open-cast coal mining or civil engineering contracting. The Census will extend to undertakings producing coal, gas, electricity and oil, but, if they furnish to the Ministry of Fuel and Power such information concerning the production of these commodities as is required of them by the Ministry, they will not be required to furnish it again in a return to the Board of Trade.

The Census of Distribution and Other Services, in so far as it relates to distribution, will cover all distributive undertakings, with the following exceptions: Statutory water undertakings in England and Wales, local water authorities in Scotland and any undertakings whose sole distributive activity is that of supplying piped water; undertakings whose distributive business consists only of the supply by wholesale of goods of their own production, and which have no separate wholesale selling organisation; undertakings whose distributive business consists solely in selling by auction second-hand goods other than scrap metal, rags and other industrial waste materials; and public houses.

In the field of other services the Census will cover the following services only: catering, except in residential establishments (including hospitals, nursing homes and similar establishments), public houses, schools and clubs; repairing articles for the general public; hairdressing, manicure and beauty culture; portrait photography; funeral direction and undertaking; warehousing for the trade, including bonded warehousing; and pawnbroking. The Census will relate to gas and electricity undertakings but will not cover the supply by them of gas or electricity, and they are therefore exempted from making returns in this Census in relation to gas or electricity supply. It will relate to the supply of other articles by these undertakings, but, if they furnish to the Ministry of Fuel and Power such information concerning those activities as is required of them by the Ministry, they will not be required to furnish it again in a return to the Board of Trade. Undertakings which, in addition to other distributive activities, supply piped water are exempted from the obligation to furnish returns in regard to their water supply activities.

Both Orders provide that the returns to be furnished in the Censuses may relate to all the matters set out in the Schedule to the Statistics of Trade Act, 1947. These matters include the nature of the undertaking; the persons employed, the nature of their employment, their remuneration and hours worked; output, sales and services provided; articles required and stocks; outgoings and capital expenditure; power used or generated; and fixed capital assets and plant (see the issue of this GAZETTE for September, 1947, page 293).

Copies of the Orders may be purchased from H.M. Stationery Office, price, No. 1926, 1d., No. 2036, 2d. net (2d. and 3d. post free).

GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC RESEARCH

The second Report of the Interdepartmental Committee on Social and Economic Research, which has recently been published as a Command Paper*, contains an account of the Committee's work during the two years ended July, 1950. The function of the Committee, whose members are drawn from the academic staffs of the Universities and from Government Departments, is to survey and advise upon research work in Government Departments, to consider the extent to which material collected by Departments is of potential value to research in the social sciences, to suggest new methods and areas of collection, and to advise on how the information gathered can be made available to research workers.

In their Report the Committee point out that Government Departments have become important sources of the raw material necessary for research in the social sciences. For these sources to become available for the progress of knowledge, it is necessary for the Departments to be aware of the importance of research to administration and of the potential research value of much of the information which they collect; it is also necessary for them to be able and willing to make reasonable provision for the needs of research when processing the material, and to be prepared, subject

* Report of the Interdepartmental Committee on Social and Economic Research. Cmd. 8091. H.M. Stationery Office; price 6d. net (7d. post free).

to necessary safeguards of confidentiality, to make such material available to research workers outside as well as inside the Government service. It has been the duty of the Committee to advise the Departments on these and related matters. The need for close collaboration between Government Departments and the Universities and research institutions is emphasised and the Committee express their willingness at any time to put Departments and outside workers in touch with each other.

In order to be able to advise Government Departments on the needs of research, the Committee have to survey the available material in some detail. The surveys are carried out through sub-committees, strengthened as necessary by the co-option of additional academic or other members with special knowledge. The object of the surveys is to ascertain what information is collected, the extent to which information of value to research is or could be published or made available, and whether any change in the methods of collection or treatment would benefit research workers. During the past two years the material in the Ministry of Education and the Board of Trade has been thus surveyed. In a brief account of the surveys, the Report outlines the policy and practice of the Ministry of Education in the field of educational research and the Ministry's relation to outside bodies engaged in it, the findings of the Committee's examination of the kind of information needed for research, and recommendations made on the content and form of the Ministry's administrative statistics. As regards the Board of Trade, a Department with a strong statistical organisation which assembles a wide range of information, an account is given of the method used in the survey and of recommendations made to the Board. Attention is drawn to the opinion of the Committee that the Patent Office contains material which would provide the starting point for interesting and useful research.

Reference is made to the *Guides to Official Sources*, which the Committee are preparing as a result of their surveys of Government Departments. A revised edition of the first of these Guides, on the labour statistics of the Ministry of Labour and National Service, contains an explanation of the changes in the series of man-power statistics consequent upon the introduction of the national insurance scheme (see the issue of this GAZETTE for November, page 373). The Committee record that they were given an opportunity of considering these changes.

Reference is also made in the Report to the preservation of documents of value to research, to the success which has attended the scheme for depositing copies of unpublished Government documents in selected University and other research libraries, to various matters affecting Departmental statistics and to the question whether statistics should be presented for conurbations, i.e., groupings of urban areas which would include several local government units.

A review of the Committee's first Report was published in the issue of the GAZETTE for November, 1948 (pages 382 and 383).

NATIONAL INSURANCE

Retrospective Payment of Contributions

On 5th December the Minister of National Insurance, in conjunction with the Treasury, made the National Insurance (Residence and Persons Abroad) Amendment (No. 2) Regulations, 1950 (S.I. 1950 No. 1946; price 2d. net 3d. post free), and the National Insurance (Contributions) Amendment (No. 2) Regulations, 1950 (S.I. 1950 No. 1947; price 3d. net 4d. post free). Preliminary drafts of these Regulations had been submitted to the National Insurance Advisory Committee (see the issue of this GAZETTE for September, page 306). The Committee approved both drafts, subject in one case to a recommendation for amendment, which was adopted. Apart from the amendment, which necessitated the recasting of the form of the Regulations affected, both sets of Regulations reproduce the provisions of the preliminary drafts submitted to the Committee. The Reports of the Committee have been published as House of Commons Papers Nos. 24 and 25 respectively, price 3d. net each (4d. post free).

The new Regulations amend the principal Regulations from 11th December and provide that persons who have been abroad since 5th July, 1948, and who were not already insured at that date will have varying periods after their return to Great Britain in which to pay national insurance contributions for the time they

BRUSSELS TREATY ORGANISATION

Committee of Experts on Conditions of Work and Social Policy

The Committee on Conditions of Work and Social Policy set up under Article II of the Brussels Treaty, which lays down the framework of social collaboration between the Western Union countries (Belgium, France, Luxembourg, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom), held their eighth session from 11th to 13th December in Brussels.

The Committee continued their consideration of means of establishing closer co-operation between the employment services of the five countries whereby a worker in any one of the countries who desires to obtain employment in another Brussels Treaty country may be assisted to do so, account being taken of the employment situation in each country. The five countries are now ready to put this scheme into operation and lists of vacancies are being regularly exchanged. In the sphere of social security, the five countries are seeking to harmonise to the greatest extent possible

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were abroad, depending on the length of time they have been abroad since 5th July, 1948. The Regulations also provide for varying periods within which persons who have been in prison may pay contributions if they wish. The maximum period of time allowed under the Regulations in each instance is about four years.

Proposed Agreement on Social Security with Western Germany

Preliminary discussions aimed at the conclusion as soon as possible of a reciprocal agreement on social security between Great Britain and the Federal Republic of Germany have been completed in London. The discussions took place between an official delegation from the Federal Republic and representatives of the British Ministry of National Insurance. Such an agreement would provide for equal treatment on social security matters of the nationals of the two countries and for linking the two schemes so that account could be taken of a person's insurance in the other country. After the scheme had come into force it would eventually be possible for the benefits of either country to be paid in certain circumstances in the other country.

the application of the various bilateral conventions concluded between them.

The Committee continued their examination of International Labour Recommendations and reviewed the progress made in the last twelve months in the ratification of International Labour Conventions. In that period fourteen further ratifications of these Conventions have been completed by the five countries and the procedure for the ratification of thirteen others has been begun. This progress reflects an increasing harmony between the five countries in matters of social policy.

The Committee have begun the study of the practice in the five countries in regard to joint consultation in industry, particularly at the level of the undertaking, with a view to enabling countries which have only recently introduced systems of joint consultation to profit from the experience acquired by the other countries. A meeting of the five factory inspectorates was arranged to consider common problems of industrial safety.

The next meeting of the Committee will be held in the Netherlands from 24th to 26th April, 1951.

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION

Third Session of Textiles Industrial Committee

The Third Session of the Textiles Industrial Committee of the International Labour Organisation was held in Lyons, France, from 28th November to 8th December. The meeting was attended by representatives from the following countries: the Argentine Republic, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Denmark, Egypt, Finland, France, India, Italy, Mexico, the Netherlands, Norway, Peru, Poland, the United Kingdom, the United States of America, Sweden and Switzerland. The Governing Body of the International Labour Office was represented by a tripartite delegation. Monsieur H. Hauck (France), the representative of the Government Group of the Governing Body, acted as Chairman of the Committee. The Session was also attended by observers from the German Federal Republic, from Japan and from certain international organisations of workers. The agenda of the Session included three items as follows:—

(1) A General Report.

(2) Disparities in textile wages between various countries and their effect on textile workers' standards of living.

(3) The safety of workers in the textile industry.

The Committee set up two Sub-Committees to deal with the second and third items of the agenda. With regard to the first item, the General Report prepared by the International Labour Office included action taken in the various countries on the resolutions adopted at the Second Session of the Committee (see the issue of this GAZETTE for December, 1948, page 415), steps taken by the Office with regard to the studies which the Committee had proposed, and an account of recent events and developments in the industry. During the course of a discussion of this Report, the Committee also considered studies on the textile industries in Japan and Western Germany which had been prepared by the International Labour Office and submitted to the Committee.

The Sub-Committee set up to consider the second item of the agenda adopted a memorandum which was submitted to and endorsed by the full Committee. The first part of this memorandum pointed out that improved statistics were needed for the proper measurement and comparison of textile wages in different countries. It also suggested that social services available to the workers should be taken into account when international comparisons of wages and standards of living were made. The difficulties inherent in statistical

comparisons of real wages were recognised in the second part of the memorandum, which suggested measures for obtaining fuller information on standards of living and conditions of life of textile workers in the various countries. The third part dealt with possible measures to raise and protect the living standards of the workers, particularly in the less-developed countries, and included among its suggestions improved working conditions, incentive payment schemes and the encouragement of collective bargaining.

The Sub-Committee set up to consider the third item of the agenda adopted three resolutions which were approved by the full Committee. The first resolution arose from a discussion as to the extent to which the "Model Code of Safety Regulations for Industrial Establishment for the Guidance of Governments and Industry" (published by the International Labour Office in 1949—see the issue of this GAZETTE for February, 1949, page 55) failed to meet the special requirements of the textile industry. In considering this question, the Sub-Committee had before them the views of a number of experts in different countries as to how the Model Code might be adapted to meet the needs of the textile industry. The resolution adopted by the Sub-Committee proposed that there should be a special committee of textiles experts to prepare supplementary safety provisions, as the Model Code did not fully cover the needs of all branches of the textile industry. Safety Committees, or the appointment of Safety Officers, were recommended by the second resolution, which also suggested the terms of reference of these Committees or Officers. The third resolution recommended that States-Members of the International Labour Organisation which have not yet established technically trained factory inspectorates should be urged to do so.

Other resolutions dealing with matters not specifically included in the agenda were adopted by the Committee. One of these stressed the need for countries producing raw materials to supply other countries "with adequate supplies at equitable prices", and expressed the desire that the resolution should be transmitted to the Governments concerned and to competent international bodies. Another resolution recommended the following subjects for possible inclusion on the agenda of the Fourth Session of the Committee, which, in accordance with the normal arrangements for Industrial Committees of the International Labour Organisation, is likely to be held in about two years time: (1) Labour management co-operation; (2) special problems affecting the employment of women; (3) holidays with pay; and (4) the guaranteed wage.

The conclusions of the Committee will be referred to the Governing Body of the International Labour Office, which will decide what action should be taken on them.

LABOUR OVERSEAS

Safety in Mines in the United States during 1948-49

In an article published in the issue of the *Monthly Labor Review* for September, 1950, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the United States Department of Labor gives some information about the activities of the United States Bureau of Mines with regard to safety in mines during the year ended June, 1949. The article is based largely on the Report of the Health and Safety Division of the Bureau for the fiscal year 1949.

The article says that the problem of safety in mines in the United States has been attacked by the Bureau from many directions, and that during 1948-49 the safety education programme was broadened and a record number of operating mines were inspected. The Bureau also continued its technical experiments, the testing of protective devices and equipment, assistance in disasters, and analytical investigation and studies. The successful adaptation of roof bolting as a remedy for roof collapse, and its installation in a number of coal mines, are considered to be the greatest technical advance in coal-mine safety during the year. Over 32,300 persons received safety training in mining and allied industries in 1948-49 of whom 2,500 were trained in mine rescue methods, and 29,800 in first-aid. Specialised training in accident prevention was also given to a number of supervisory officials, safety committeemen and other colliery workers.

The number of inspections made by the Coal Mines Inspection Branch of the Bureau of Mines during the year was about 6,670. Because of the high accident rate, special attention was given to small underground mines employing less than 25 workers each. Over 2,000 such mines were inspected and an excessive number of unusually hazardous conditions and practices was revealed. The work of the Branch is authorised by the Federal Coal Mine Inspection and Investigation Act, 1941, which applies to all mines operating in interstate commerce, but which confers no enforcement powers. Preliminary reports by Federal coal-mine inspectors on unsafe conditions and practices, after being posted in the mines, are transmitted to State mine inspection agencies, mine officials and district and national union headquarters, and the mine president is notified of disaster hazards which are indicated in the final report. The Bureau is, however, not in a position to determine the action taken by operators on these communications.

The National Bituminous-Coal Wage Agreement has adopted as minimum standards the Federal Mine Safety Code for bituminous-coal and lignite mines, and requires operators to comply with the recommendations of Federal coal-mine inspectors regarding

violations of the Code, subject to a right of appeal to a Joint Board of Review. The agreement for anthracite mines provides for periodic investigation of mines by Federal inspectors in accordance with the Bureau of Mines' Safety Standards for Anthracite Mines, and for the acceptance of these standards by operators, who are, however, entitled to a review by the Director of the Bureau if they so desire. The Bureau has no power to enforce compliance with the Federal Mine Safety Code. Under the terms of the agreement for bituminous mines, members of local unions are required to select a safety committee at each mine. The committee has authority to inspect any mine development or equipment, and the duty of reporting on any dangerous working conditions and making recommendations; it may also order the management to remove workers from an unsafe area in case of an emergency. The anthracite agreement also provides for local mine safety committees, with power to inspect and report on hazardous conditions.

In January, 1947, the Bureau of Mines, in co-operation with the United Mine Workers of America, inaugurated a training course, conducted by mine inspectors, for mine safety committeemen. A total of nearly 11,000 safety committeemen and other mine workers had completed the course by 30th June, 1949. Arrangements were being made to expand the programme in view of the increasing demands of committeemen in practically all the coal-producing States. During 1948-49 a number of mining engineers were employed to give instruction to supervisory officials regarding such matters as roof and coal falls, ventilation, handling and storage of explosives, use of electricity, transportation, explosions and fires, miscellaneous accidents, and other hazards identified with the safety codes. By the end of the period over 3,300 such officials had completed training.

Before the introduction of the Federal inspection of coal mines in 1941, fatality rates in all mines tended to increase, but subsequently this trend was reversed. In 1949 the fatality rate per million man-hours of exposure to risk was provisionally given as 0.91, compared with 1.11 in 1948 and 1.65 in 1940. The reduction is attributed to various causes, e.g., the discovery through Federal inspections of hazards which had previously been overlooked or ignored by management, labour and State mine inspectors, the publicising of unsafe conditions and practices, the inclusion in collective agreements of Federal safety codes specifying mandatory compliance, and provisions in union contracts establishing local mine safety committees with authority to inspect and recommend improvements to managements.

It is pointed out that, despite the recorded improvement in accident rates, much more must be done before the rates in coal

mines are in line with those in other major industries. The combined fatal and non-fatal injury frequency rate in 1948 per million man-hours was 57.43 for bituminous-coal and 76.60 for anthracite mines, compared with averages of 17.2 for all manufacturing industries, 36.7 for construction, 23.9 for miscellaneous transportation, and 17.1 for heat, light and power industries. Fatalities alone accounted for 2.0 per cent. of all disabling injuries in the bituminous industry and 1.2 per cent. in the anthracite industry, whereas in manufacturing industries fatalities and permanent total disabilities combined constituted only 0.4 per cent. of all cases.

Safety Provisions in Agreements in United States Industry

The Bureau of Labor Statistics of the United States Department of Labor have recently examined a sample of current collective agreements between labour and managements, with the object of ascertaining to what extent they contain clauses dealing with safety provisions. The result of the examination has been published in the September, 1950, issue of the *Monthly Labor Review*.

The number of agreements examined was 2,411, of which 51 per cent., covering 2½ million workers in 20 major manufacturing industries and 10 non-manufacturing groups, contained provisions designed to help reduce the risk of occupational hazards. Of the agreements relating to the manufacturing group, 56 per cent. contained such provisions, which were most common in the coal and petroleum products and in the transportation equipment industries. In each of these major industry groups more than 80 per cent. of the agreements surveyed contained safety clauses. Other industries in which more than half of the agreements contained safety clauses were those manufacturing chemical and allied products, paper and allied products, stone, clay and glass products, certain fabricated metal products, primary metals, machinery (other than electrical), rubber products, lumber and timber basic products, furniture and finished wood products, and leather and leather products. In the non-manufacturing groups, safety clauses were contained in 86 per cent. of the agreements relating to electric and gas utilities and 79 per cent. of those relating to mining and crude petroleum.

The agreements contained various types of safety clauses. In 28 per cent. of the cases provision was made for the establishment of joint safety committees. Such provisions were most frequently found in the rubber industry, mining and crude petroleum production, and the primary metals industries. In most of the agreements the functions of the joint committees were mainly of an advisory character. Committees were, for example, instructed to consider and make recommendations on any problems concerning the promotion of health and safety, to inspect plant for safety conditions and sanitary facilities, to investigate and analyse the causes of accidents, or to make recommendations for the installation of safety devices. Less frequently the committees were given executive powers. A few agreements vested in the joint committees power to settle disputes between employers and employees on matters involving safety. A small proportion did not specify the functions of the committees. Payment to committee members for time spent at meetings was provided in relatively few agreements, and was in some cases limited to time spent on plant inspections. A few agreements specified the maximum amount of time for which committee members would be paid. In about one-quarter of the agreements establishing joint safety committees the frequency of meetings was specified, monthly meetings being the most usual.

In order to analyse the range and variety of safety clauses, a sample of 329 agreements, excluding agreements providing for the establishment of joint safety committees, was examined. The provisions took the form of general safety clauses or clauses setting out the responsibilities and rights of managements, trade unions, and employees in maintaining safe working conditions. The commonest general type of safety provision was a simple statement of the intent of the management, or management and union, to eliminate health and safety hazards as far as possible. The most frequent type of provision dealing with the rights and responsibilities of employers required the installation of safety devices, such as guards on machines, fire-fighting equipment, etc. Other provisions required the employer to maintain sanitary and first-aid facilities, to supply protective wearing apparel, including such items as goggles, gas-masks, face shields, gloves and proofed clothing. The employees were required to observe the safety rules and in some agreements were given the right to refuse to work on unusually hazardous jobs.

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Numbers Employed in Great Britain : Industrial Analysis—continued

Industry	Males			Females			Total		
	Mid-1948	Oct. 1950	Nov. 1950	Mid-1948	Oct. 1950	Nov. 1950	Mid-1948	Oct. 1950	Nov. 1950
	Manufactures of Wood and Cork	218.9	234.4	235.2	51.1	54.4	55.1	270.0	288.8
Timber (Sawmilling, etc.)	76.2	75.8	75.9	10.7	10.4	10.5	86.9	86.2	86.4
Furniture and Upholstery	92.3	105.1	106.1	25.3	29.4	29.8	117.6	134.5	135.9
Shop and Office Fitting	15.7	17.7	17.3	3.1	3.1	3.2	18.8	20.8	20.5
Wooden Containers and Baskets	19.0	19.2	19.3	6.2	5.9	5.9	25.2	25.1	25.2
Miscellaneous Wood and Cork Manufactures	15.7	16.6	16.6	5.8	5.6	5.7	21.5	22.2	22.3
Paper and Printing	291.1	319.4	321.2	172.7	192.3	192.2	463.8	511.7	513.4
Paper and Board	54.8	59.4	59.9	18.3	19.9	20.1	73.1	79.3	80.0
Wallpaper	3.5	4.8	4.8	1.2	2.2	2.2	4.7	7.0	7.0
Cardboard Boxes, Cartons and Fibre-board Packing Cases	12.6	15.7	15.8	23.7	29.3	29.4	36.3	45.0	45.2
Manufactures of Paper and Board not elsewhere specified	15.0	17.4	17.5	21.4	24.5	24.3	36.4	41.9	41.8
Printing and Publishing of Newspapers and Periodicals	68.5	76.6	76.5	18.0	19.6	19.5	86.5	96.2	96.0
Other Printing and Publishing, Bookbinding, Engraving, etc.	136.7	145.5	146.7	90.1	96.8	96.7	226.8	242.3	243.4
Other Manufacturing Industries	141.0	144.0	145.1	101.0	107.4	107.8	242.0	251.4	252.9
Rubber	64.2	68.4	69.1	32.7	35.4	35.5	96.9	103.8	104.6
Linoleum, Leather Cloth, etc.	10.2	12.2	12.4	2.3	2.8	2.9	12.5	15.0	15.3
Brushes and Brooms	9.2	8.9	9.0	9.3	7.8	7.9	18.5	16.7	16.9
Toys, Games and Sports Requisites	10.8	11.8	11.7	16.1	20.7	20.3	26.9	32.5	32.0
Miscellaneous Stationers' Goods	4.5	4.6	4.6	6.1	6.8	6.8	10.6	11.4	11.4
Production and Printing of Cinematograph Films	8.0	4.0	3.8	2.5	1.3	1.3	10.5	5.3	5.1
Miscellaneous Manufacturing Industries	34.1	34.1	34.5	32.0	32.6	33.1	66.1	66.7	67.6
Building and Contracting	1,298.0	1,296.6	1,286.8	39.0	39.3	39.4	1,337.0	1,335.9	1,326.2
Building and Civil Engineering Contracting	1,236.7	1,231.7	1,221.7	32.7	32.7	32.7	1,269.4	1,264.4	1,254.4
Electric Wiring and Contracting	61.3	64.9	65.1	6.3	6.6	6.7	67.6	71.5	71.8
Gas, Electricity and Water	271.2	299.1	300.6	24.4	29.8	30.0	295.6	328.9	330.6
Gas	117.9	125.7	126.7	9.5	11.0	11.0	127.4	136.7	137.7
Electricity	126.7	145.4	145.9	13.5	17.4	17.6	140.2	162.8	163.5
Water	26.6	28.0	28.0	1.4	1.4	1.4	28.0	29.4	29.4
Transport and Communication	255.8	252.5	250.3	44.4	44.4	44.3	300.2	296.9	294.6
Tramway and Omnibus Service	28.6	24.2	23.3	2.3	2.1	2.0	30.9	26.3	25.3
Other Road Passenger Transport	181.8	190.9	191.3	11.8	13.5	13.6	193.6	204.4	204.9
Goods Transport by Road	1,145.3	1,207.4	1,208.7	992.0	1,104.3	1,130.8	2,137.3	2,311.7	2,339.5
Distributive Trades	1,145.3	1,207.4	1,208.7	992.0	1,104.3	1,130.8	2,137.3	2,311.7	2,339.5
Dealing in Coal, Builders' Materials, Grain and Agricultural Supplies (Wholesale or Retail)	103.4	109.0	109.9	27.3	29.5	29.5	130.7	138.5	139.4
Dealing in Other Industrial Materials and Machinery	72.9	75.9	75.6	24.7	26.4	26.9	97.6	102.3	102.5
Wholesale Distribution of Food and Drink	101.4	108.6	108.4	46.9	50.0	50.5	148.3	158.6	158.9
Retail Distribution of Food and Drink (exc. catering)	370.6	380.2	379.4	299.3	329.8	331.5	669.9	710.0	710.9
Wholesale Distribution of Non-Food Goods	147.7	158.2	158.1	95.2	105.9	107.1	242.9	264.1	265.2
Retail Distribution of Non-Food Goods	326.2	350.8	352.5	462.9	524.8	546.4	789.1	875.6	898.9
Retail Distribution of Confectionery, Tobacco and Newspapers	23.1	24.7	24.8	35.7	37.9	38.9	58.8	62.6	63.7
Miscellaneous Services	66.2	62.4	62.5	73.0	74.3	74.0	139.2	136.7	136.5
Theatres, Cinemas, Music Halls, Concerts, etc.	47.6	35.5	35.2	43.2	36.0	36.7	90.8	71.5	71.9
Sport, Other Recreations and Betting	227.5	221.1	216.2	507.5	463.3	452.8	735.0	684.4	669.0
Catering, Hotels, etc.	32.0	33.1	33.0	119.2	114.9	114.5	151.2	148.0	147.5
Laundries	11.9	11.3	11.2	29.6	27.6	27.2	41.5	38.9	38.4
Dry Cleaning, Job Dyeing, Carpet Beating, etc.									

Unemployment at 11th December, 1950

SUMMARY FOR GREAT BRITAIN

The numbers of persons registered as unemployed at 13th November and 11th December, 1950, were as follows:—

	Men 18 and over	Boys under 18	Women 18 and over	Girls under 18	Total
13th November	195,478	5,902	94,627	6,064	302,071
11th December	200,953	4,935	90,895	5,033	301,816

These figures include all unemployed persons on the registers of Employment Exchanges, with the exception of registered severely disabled persons who are unlikely to obtain work other than under special conditions.

It is estimated that the number of persons registered as unemployed at 11th December represented 1.4 per cent. of the total number of employees insured under the national insurance schemes. This was the same percentage as at 13th November.

The analysis of the figures for 11th December is as follows:—

Region	Wholly Unemployed (including Casuals)					Temporarily Stopped	Total
	Unemployed for not more than 2 weeks	Unemployed for more than 2 weeks but not more than 8 weeks	Unemployed for more than 8 weeks	Total	Total		
Men 18 and over	50,298	52,178	94,021	196,497	4,456	200,953	
Boys under 18	2,309	1,719	791	4,819	116	4,935	
Women 18 and over	24,037	31,436	32,529	88,002	2,893	90,895	
Girls under 18	2,179	1,854	804	4,837	196	5,033	
Total	78,823	87,187	128,145	294,155	7,661	301,816	

The total of 301,816 includes 46,446 married women.

The changes between 13th November and 11th December in each administrative Region were as follows:—

Region		Wholly Unemployed (including Casuals)					Temporarily Stopped	Total
		Unemployed for not more than 2 weeks	Unemployed for more than 2 weeks but not more than 8 weeks	Unemployed for more than 8 weeks	Total	Total		
London & South-Eastern	13th Nov.	22,391	17,989	14,105	54,485	399	54,884	
	11th Dec.	18,151	18,150	16,007	52,308	936	53,244	
Eastern	13th Nov.	4,137	3,914	3,465	11,516	82	11,598	
	11th Dec.	4,691	5,013	3,850	13,554	277	13,831	
Southern	13th Nov.	4,516	5,037	4,383	13,936	41	13,977	
	11th Dec.	4,847	4,633	5,419	14,899	79	14,978	
South-Western	13th Nov.	4,656	5,560	5,972	16,188	84	16,272	
	11th Dec.	3,991	5,312	6,944	16,247	152	16,399	
Midland	13th Nov.	4,018	2,057	2,423	8,498	165	8,663	
	11th Dec.	3,539	2,221	2,281	8,041	268	8,309	
North-Midland	13th Nov.	3,012	2,263	2,459	7,734	199	7,933	
	11th Dec.	2,671	3,371	2,533	8,575	373	8,948	
East and West Ridings	13th Nov.	4,828	4,362	6,843	16,033	570	16,603	
	11th Dec.	4,413	4,382	6,566	15,361	666	16,027	
North-Western	13th Nov.	12,602	13,056	18,330	43,988	699	44,687	
	11th Dec.	11,462	11,859	17,921	41,242	848	42,090	
Northern	13th Nov.	6,924	9,320	16,139	32,383	803	33,186	
	11th Dec.	6,678	8,887	16,913	32,478	1,248	33,726	
Scotland	13th Nov.	13,231	16,314	30,522	60,067	1,661	61,728	
	11th Dec.	14,019	15,897	30,982	60,898	2,216	63,114	
Wales	13th Nov.	5,435	8,389	18,167	31,991	549	32,540	
	11th Dec.	4,361	7,462	18,729	30,552	598	31,150	
Great Britain	13th Nov.	85,750	88,261	122,808	296,819	5,252	302,071	
	11th Dec.	78,823	87,187	128,145	294,155	7,661	301,816	

The following Table gives the numbers of persons registered as unemployed at 11th December, 1950, and the approximate percentage rates of unemployment in each Region:—

Region	Number of persons registered as unemployed at 11th December, 1950			Percentage rate of unemployment*		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
London and South-Eastern	36,353	16,891	53,244	1.1	0.9	1.0
Eastern	8,937	4,894	13,831	1.2	1.4	1.3
Southern	9,281	5,697	14,978	1.4	1.8	1.5
South-Western	10,646	5,753	16,399	1.4	1.6	1.5
Midland	5,657	2,652	8,309	0.4	0.4	0.4
North-Midland	4,892	4,056	8,948	0.5	0.9	0.6
East and West Ridings	11,409	4,618	16,027	0.9	0.8	0.9
North-Western	27,764	14,326	42,090	1.5	1.3	1.4
Northern	23,923	9,803	33,726	2.6	2.8	2.7
Scotland	45,814	17,300	63,114	3.2	2.4	2.9
Wales	21,212	9,938	31,150	3.0	4.0	3.3
Great Britain	205,888	95,928	301,816	1.5	1.4	1.4

NUMBERS UNEMPLOYED IN THE UNITED KINGDOM : REGIONAL ANALYSIS

The total number of unemployed persons on the registers of Employment Exchanges in the United Kingdom at 11th December, 1950, was 330,846, including 223,212 men, 5,943 boys, 96,225 women and 5,466 girls. Of the total, 322,837 (including 5,170 casual workers) were wholly unemployed and 8,009 temporarily stopped. The temporarily stopped are persons suspended from work on the understanding that they are shortly to return to their former employment.

The numbers of unemployed persons † on the registers in each Region at 11th December, 1950, are shown below.

Region	Men 18 years and over	Boys under 18 years	Women 18 years and over	Girls under 18 years	Total
London and South-Eastern	35,100	837	15,653	718	52,308
Eastern	8,606	207	4,490	251	13,554
Southern	9,055	215	5,316	313	14,899
South-Western	10,380	218	5,335	314	16,247
Midland	5,421	118	2,361	141	8,041
North-Midland	4,645	181	3,496	253	8,575
E. and W. Ridings	10,920	202	4,026	213	15,361
North-Western	26,701	667	13,504	370	41,242
Northern	22,491	469	8,946	572	32,478
Scotland	42,708	1,241	16,038	911	60,898
Wales	20,470	464	8,837	781	30,552
Great Britain	196,497	4,819	88,002	4,837	294,155
Northern Ireland	22,095	1,008	5,154	425	28,682
United Kingdom	218,592	5,827	93,156	5,262	322,837
Temporarily Stopped					
London and South-Eastern	407	9	500	20	936
Eastern	116	8	146	7	277
Southern	11	—	66	2	79
South-Western	46	2	92	12	152
Midland	114	4	149	1	268
North-Midland	60	6	279	28	373
E. and W. Ridings	273	14	366	13	666
North-Western	384	12			

NUMBERS UNEMPLOYED IN THE PRINCIPAL TOWNS

The Table below shows the total numbers of unemployed* persons on the registers of all Employment Exchanges and Youth Employment Offices in each administrative Region at 11th December, 1950, and the numbers of persons on the registers of the Exchanges and Offices situated in some of the principal towns in each Region, together with the increase or decrease compared with 13th November, 1950.

Regions and Principal Towns	Numbers of Persons on Registers at 11th December, 1950				Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Totals as compared with 13th November, 1950
	Men 18 and over	Women 18 and over	Juveniles under 18 years	Total	
London and South-Eastern	35,507	16,153	1,584	53,244	- 1,640
London (Administrative County)	15,280	5,276	315	20,871	- 1,033
Acton	120	42	13	175	- 37
Brentford and Chiswick	229	42	10	281	- 11
Brighton and Hove	1,913	938	53	2,904	- 37
Chatham	637	1,060	64	1,761	- 70
Croydon	709	231	12	952	+ 48
Dagenham	406	158	26	590	- 56
Ealing	224	95	18	337	- 41
East Ham	265	82	6	353	- 131
Enfield	104	57	14	175	- 39
Harrow and Wembley	532	313	18	863	+ 14
Hayes and Harlington	76	54	10	140	- 48
Hendon	379	138	10	527	- 52
Ilford	413	144	24	581	- 17
Leyton and Walthamstow	664	210	21	895	+ 21
Tottenham	404	144	12	560	- 96
West Ham	649	269	14	944	- 144
Willesden	327	57	14	398	- 79
Eastern	8,722	4,636	473	13,831	+ 2,233
Bedford	87	63	10	160	- 51
Cambridge	134	50	9	193	- 17
Ipswich	243	137	21	401	- 34
Luton	88	27	8	123	- 3
Norwich	773	132	7	912	+ 68
Southend-on-Sea	1,217	570	38	1,825	- 85
Watford	124	128	6	258	- 57
Southern	9,066	5,382	530	14,978	+ 1,001
Bournemouth	1,100	604	40	1,744	+ 132
Oxford	92	181	6	279	+ 12
Portsmouth (inc. Gosport)	1,928	1,854	78	3,860	- 487
Reading	385	160	17	562	- 1
Slough	89	61	4	154	- 26
Southampton	2,366	486	40	2,892	+ 1,404
South-Western	10,426	5,427	546	16,399	+ 127
Bristol (inc. Kingswood)	2,484	686	74	3,244	- 299
Exeter	338	273	7	618	+ 60
Gloucester	48	89	13	150	- 15
Plymouth	1,166	905	45	2,116	- 71
Swindon	96	95	14	205	- 49
Midland	5,535	2,510	264	8,309	- 354
Birmingham	1,275	406	61	1,742	- 377
Burton-on-Trent	21	51	3	75	-
Coventry	510	220	7	737	- 164
Oldbury	13	14	—	27	- 9
Smethwick	46	24	—	70	- 6
Stoke-on-Trent	796	77	10	883	+ 64
Walsall	205	63	25	293	+ 14
West Bromwich	19	21	4	44	- 57
Wolverhampton	332	136	3	471	- 69
Worcester	166	136	5	307	- 6
North-Midland	4,705	3,775	468	8,948	+ 1,015
Chesterfield	182	60	17	259	- 47
Derby	140	53	5	198	+ 21
Grimsby	1,246	364	134	1,744	- 41
Leicester	179	50	14	243	- 2
Lincoln	129	25	8	162	- 25
Mansfield	150	45	8	203	- 27
Northampton	84	44	7	135	+ 4
Nottingham	766	245	25	1,036	- 92
Peterborough	36	262	13	311	+ 122
Scunthorpe	39	161	53	253	+ 29
East and West Ridings	11,193	4,392	442	16,027	- 576
Barnsley	394	50	5	449	- 22
Bradford	555	77	16	648	- 23
Dewsbury	75	37	—	112	- 22
Doncaster	196	332	5	533	- 70
Halifax	59	46	—	105	+ 24
Huddersfield	124	28	—	152	- 16
Hull	3,816	888	41	4,745	- 280
Leeds	1,750	677	38	2,465	- 304
Rotherham	207	211	14	432	- 54
Sheffield	916	396	40	1,352	- 80
Wakefield	133	72	4	209	- 11
York	286	96	9	391	- 20
North-Western	27,085	13,949	1,056	42,090	- 2,597
Accrington	116	59	2	177	+ 6
Ashton-under-Lyne	174	17	1	192	- 33
Barrow	270	548	28	846	- 32
Birkenhead	846	623	25	1,494	- 141
Blackburn	81	26	7	114	- 46
Blackpool	2,448	1,736	72	4,256	+ 435
Bolton	447	101	10	558	- 10
Burnley	160	16	—	176	- 38
Bury	77	37	—	114	+ 36
Crewe	99	90	12	201	- 33
Liverpool (inc. Bootle)	11,265	4,107	441	15,813	- 1,624
Manchester (inc. Streitford)	2,344	990	69	3,403	- 659
Oldham (inc. Failsworth and Royton)	346	83	8	437	- 14
Preston	459	136	12	607	+ 10
Rochdale	94	52	2	148	- 12
St. Helens	523	578	32	1,133	+ 24
Salford (inc. Eccles and Pendlebury)	552	118	7	677	- 80
Stockport	313	256	8	577	+ 6
Wallasey	709	687	40	1,436	- 170
Warrington	208	225	9	442	- 68
Wigan	663	251	6	920	+ 33

* The figures exclude registered severely disabled persons who are unlikely to obtain work other than under special conditions. They include, however, some persons who are not available for employment away from home and others who for various reasons are not suitable for the types of vacancies current.

Regions and Principal Towns	Numbers of Persons on Registers at 11th December, 1950				Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Totals as compared with 13th November, 1950
	Men 18 and over	Women 18 and over	Juveniles under 18 years	Total	
Northern	23,430	9,218	1,078	33,726	+ 540
Carlisle	138	271	5	414	+ 42
Darlington	222	146	13	381	+ 20
Gateshead	1,377	405	34	1,816	- 21
Hartlepool	867	445	22	1,334	+ 78
Harrow and Hebburn	902	603	27	1,532	- 145
Middlesbrough (inc. South Bank)	678	543	36	1,257	- 111
Newcastle-upon-Tyne	3,870	1,377	79	5,326	- 60
South Shields	2,196	444	64	2,704	- 46
Stockton-on-Tees	429	469	12	910	- 57
Sunderland	2,701	947	106	3,754	+ 7
Walsend (inc. Willington Quay)	367	165	13	545	- 16
Scotland	44,549	16,365	2,200	63,114	+ 1,386
Aberdeen	1,920	445	39	2,404	- 2
Clydebank	343	130	20	493	- 37
Dunfermline	1,301	484	34	1,819	- 118
Edinburgh	3,302	692	100	4,094	- 282
Glasgow (inc. Rutherglen)	14,141	3,712	376	18,229	- 1,228
Greenock	1,511	1,185	123	2,819	+ 12
Motherwell and Wishaw	1,414	610	86	2,110	- 83
Paisley	654	318	14	986	- 100
Wales	20,735	9,088	1,327	31,150	- 1,390
Cardiff	2,120	468	61	2,649	- 284
Merthyr Tydfil	1,247	345	53	1,645	- 76
Newport	573	279	16	868	- 329
Rhondda	1,772	568	61	2,401	- 234
Swansea	960	754	43	1,757	+ 6
Northern Ireland	22,259	5,330	1,441	29,030	+ 5,012
Belfast	7,150	2,643	194	9,987	- 115
Londonderry	2,859	237	248	3,344	+ 313

NUMBERS UNEMPLOYED: 1939 to 1950

The Table below shows the average numbers of persons registered as unemployed in the years 1939 to 1949, and the numbers so registered in March, June, September and December, 1949, and in each of the months of 1950.

	Great Britain				Total	United Kingdom Total
	Wholly Unemployed (including casuals)	Temporarily Stopped	Total			
	Males	Females	Males	Females		
1939	934,332	258,088	137,192	78,347	1,407,959	1,480,324
1940	468,777	222,373	100,389	58,549	850,088	918,054
1941	105,973	97,701	29,275	27,476	260,425	299,273
1942	62,019	31,859	3,196	2,691	99,765	119,117
1943	47,191	20,574	795	733	69,293	85,538
1944	45,062	17,634	394	518	63,608	77,929
1945	86,273	53,004	549	584	140,410	159,977
1946	251,914	107,840	2,097	1,218	363,069	394,164
1947	234,895	78,576	102,738	51,960	468,349	498,323
1948	225,566	70,567	4,289	3,148	303,570	331,323
1949	223,219	76,913	4,752	3,081	307,965	337,997
14th Mar.	245,809	86,393	4,924	3,280	340,406	375,260
13th June	194,204	61,867	5,008	2,564	263,643	291,146
12th Sept.	195,986	66,261	3,391	2,228	267,866	293,850
5th Dec.	234,073	88,802	4,680	2,781	330,336	360,728
1950 -						
16th Jan.	258,033	105,916	4,738	3,579	372,266	403,883
13th Feb.	259,816	102,778	6,298	3,890	372,782	403,358
13th Mar.	241,218	97,406	5,737	2,922	347,283	377,504
17th Apr.	228,931	90,250	6,032	3,772	328,985	357,321
15th May	213,830	89,596	7,155	4,093	314,674	341,194
12th June	195,580	76,722	6,191	3,503	281,996	307,759
10th July	190,403	71,400	5,924	4,248	271,975	296,895
14th Aug.	197,635	81,581	3,695	5,400	288,311	312,890
11th Sept.	192,624	84,362	3,887	2,962	283,835	308,348
16th Oct.	201,870	95,530	4,213	2,450	304,063	327,032
13th Nov.	198,060	98,759	3,320	1,932	302,071	326,089
11th Dec.	201,316	92,839	4,572	3,089	301,816	330,846

DISABLED PERSONS (EMPLOYMENT) ACT

The number of persons registered under the Disabled Persons (Employment) Act, 1944, at 16th October, 1950 (the last date on which a count was taken), was 936,481, compared with 930,114 at 17th July, 1950.

The number of disabled persons on the register who were unemployed at 18th December, 1950, was 57,418, of whom 29,756 were males and 4,662 were females. The total included 28,925 persons who had served in H.M. Forces and 28,493 who had not served. An analysis of these figures is given in the Table below.

	Males	Females	Total
Suitable for ordinary employment:			
Ex-Service	25,296	198	25,494
Others	19,825	3,916	23,741
Total	45,121	4,114	49,235
Classified as unlikely to obtain employment other than under special conditions:			
Ex-Service	3,424	7	3,431
Others	4,211	541	4,752
Total	7,635	548	8,183
Grand Total	52,756	4,662	57,418

* The averages for 1947 exclude the numbers stood off during the fuel crisis early in the year who did not register as unemployed at Employment Exchanges.

Numbers Unemployed: Industrial Analysis—continued

Industry	Great Britain							United Kingdom (all classes)		
	Wholly unemployed (including casuals)		Temporarily stopped		Total			Males	Females	Total
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Total			
Leather, Leather Goods and Fur ..	433	209	38	2	471	211	682	493	226	719
Leather (Tanning and Dressing) and Fellmongery ..	247	76	9	1	256	77	333	267	83	350
Leather Goods ..	129	113	1	—	130	113	243	134	121	255
Fur ..	57	20	28	1	85	21	106	92	22	114
Clothing ..	2,472	2,946	516	877	2,988	3,823	6,811	3,204	4,304	7,508
Tailoring ..	1,450	1,442	307	1,749	3,490	1,821	1,869	1,821	1,869	3,690
Dressmaking ..	159	730	5	352	164	1,082	1,246	168	1,195	1,363
Overalls, Shirts, Underwear, etc. ..	50	296	1	9	51	305	356	66	499	565
Hats, Caps and Millinery ..	42	57	23	73	65	130	195	72	130	202
Dress Industries not elsewhere specified ..	59	172	15	11	74	183	257	87	235	322
Manufacture of Boots, Shoes, Slippers and Clogs (exc. rubber) ..	209	210	157	124	366	334	700	382	335	717
Repair of Boots and Shoes ..	503	39	24	1	527	40	567	608	41	649
Food, Drink and Tobacco ..	6,062	5,778	29	158	6,091	5,936	12,027	6,610	6,568	13,178
Grain Milling ..	225	107	—	1	225	108	333	258	112	370
Bread and Flour Confectionery ..	1,709	1,120	10	5	1,719	1,125	2,844	1,868	1,171	3,039
Biscuits ..	168	336	—	1	168	337	505	169	354	523
Meat and Meat Products ..	227	208	6	—	233	208	441	264	213	477
Milk Products ..	444	292	3	25	447	317	764	501	338	839
Sugar and Glucose ..	164	108	2	—	166	108	274	183	118	301
Cocoa, Chocolate and Sugar Confectionery ..	217	369	—	6	217	375	592	231	381	612
Preserving of Fruit and Vegetables ..	422	1,309	1	44	423	1,353	1,776	505	1,648	2,153
Food Industries not elsewhere specified ..	1,080	1,036	4	62	1,084	1,098	2,182	1,116	1,119	2,235
Brewing and Malting ..	447	254	1	1	448	255	703	456	255	711
Wholesale Bottling ..	114	154	—	1	114	155	269	145	161	306
Other Drink Industries ..	470	302	2	11	472	313	785	329	352	681
Tobacco ..	375	183	—	1	375	184	559	391	369	760
Manufactures of Wood and Cork ..	2,725	635	122	44	2,847	679	3,526	3,224	693	3,917
Timber (Sawmilling, etc.) ..	1,013	176	93	13	1,106	189	1,295	1,304	192	1,496
Furniture and Upholstery ..	1,088	291	25	24	1,113	315	1,428	1,192	320	1,512
Shop and Office Fitting ..	166	23	—	—	166	23	189	177	24	201
Wooden Containers and Baskets ..	278	92	1	5	279	97	376	348	100	448
Miscellaneous Wood and Cork Manufactures ..	180	53	2	—	183	55	238	203	57	260
Paper and Printing ..	1,631	1,077	7	45	1,638	1,122	2,760	1,723	1,176	2,899
Paper and Board ..	360	183	—	13	360	196	556	393	201	594
Wallpaper ..	13	20	—	1	13	21	34	13	21	34
Cardboard Boxes, Cartons and Fibre-board Packing Cases ..	128	200	—	11	128	211	339	138	242	380
Manufactures of Paper and Board not elsewhere specified ..	86	170	—	1	86	171	257	90	172	262
Printing and Publishing of Newspapers and Periodicals ..	387	72	4	4	391	76	467	414	79	493
Other Printing and Publishing, Bookbinding, Engraving, etc. ..	657	432	3	15	660	447	1,107	675	461	1,136
Other Manufacturing Industries ..	1,814	1,504	27	92	1,841	1,596	3,437	1,958	1,615	3,573
Rubber ..	488	334	1	2	489	336	825	509	336	845
Linoleum, Leather Cloth, etc. ..	94	24	—	—	94	24	118	102	26	128
Brushes and Brooms ..	73	74	4	3	77	76	153	85	76	161
Toys, Games and Sports Requisites ..	234	439	18	70	252	509	761	263	517	780
Miscellaneous Stationery Goods ..	50	97	1	1	51	98	149	84	98	152
Production and Printing of Cinematograph Films ..	347	40	1	—	348	40	388	350	40	390
Miscellaneous Manufacturing Industries ..	528	497	2	16	530	513	1,043	595	522	1,117
Building and Contracting ..	39,189	319	600	4	39,789	323	40,112	44,646	345	44,991
Building ..	27,588	212	449	1	28,037	213	28,250	31,674	229	31,903
Electric Wiring and Contracting ..	729	43	2	—	731	43	774	799	47	846
Civil Engineering Contracting ..	10,872	64	149	3	11,021	67	11,088	12,173	69	12,242
Gas, Electricity and Water Supply ..	1,962	122	11	—	1,973	122	2,095	2,179	129	2,308
Gas ..	989	37	4	—	993	37	1,030	1,054	39	1,093
Electricity ..	713	83	4	—	717	83	800	842	88	930
Water ..	260	2	3	—	263	2	265	283	2	285
Transport and Communication ..	20,024	1,860	233	25	20,257	1,885	22,142	22,591	1,933	24,524
Railways ..	2,853	303	2	2	2,855	305	3,160	3,115	348	3,463
Tramway and Omnibus Service ..	1,720	635	17	2	1,737	637	2,374	2,453	643	2,569
Other Road Passenger Transport ..	713	26	7	—	720	26	746	815	27	842
Goods Transport by Road ..	2,005	87	—	—	2,023	87	2,110	2,190	91	2,281
Sea Transport ..	6,747	125	154	11	6,901	136	7,037	7,238	142	7,380
Port, River and Canal Transport ..	2,082	24	15	—	2,097	24	2,121	3,181	25	3,206
Harbour, Dock, Canal, Conservancy, etc., Service ..	707	9	7	—	714	9	723	742	11	753
Air Transport ..	213	44	—	—	213	44	257	218	45	263
Postal, Telegraph and Wireless Communication ..	2,167	513	6	10	2,173	523	2,696	2,358	540	2,878
Other Transport and Communication ..	308	49	3	—	311	49	360	322	49	371
Storage ..	509	45	4	—	513	45	558	528	45	573
Distributive Trades ..	14,015	10,717	91	198	14,106	10,915	25,021	15,843	11,558	27,401
Dealing in Coal, Builders' Materials, Grain and Agricultural Supplies (Wholesale or Retail) ..	1,616	205	9	44	1,625	249	1,874	1,898	267	2,165
Dealing in other Industrial Materials and Machinery ..	1,426	223	16	1	1,442	224	1,666	1,663	242	1,905
Wholesale Distribution of Food and Drink ..	1,332	480	7	21	1,339	501	1,840	1,590	565	2,155
Retail Distribution of Food and Drink (exc. catering) ..	3,817	3,533	33	48	3,850	3,581	7,431	4,407	3,777	8,184
Wholesale Distribution of Non-Food Goods ..	1,656	589	9	8	1,665	597	2,262	1,759	638	2,397
Retail Distribution of Non-Food Goods ..	3,855	5,246	15	75	3,870	5,321	9,191	4,163	5,575	9,738
Retail Distribution of Confectionery, Tobacco and Newspapers ..	313	441	2	1	315	442	757	363	494	857
Insurance, Banking and Finance ..	1,311	636	14	6	1,325	642	1,967	1,439	671	2,110
Public Administration ..	16,605	4,436	179	50	16,784	4,486	21,270	18,135	4,700	22,835
National Government Service ..	7,369	2,819	21	27	7,390	2,846	10,236	8,102	3,032	11,134
Local Government Service ..	9,236	1,617	158	23	9,394	1,640	11,034	10,033	1,668	11,701
Professional Services ..	3,614	5,782	13	25	3,627	5,807	9,434	3,823	6,098	9,921
Accountancy ..	194	92	—	—	196	92	288	206	95	301
Education ..	828	1,366	5	8	833	1,374	2,207	872	1,458	2,330
Law ..	106	155	—	1	106	156	262	111	169	280
Medical and Dental Services ..	1,146	3,809	4	11	1,150	3,820	4,970	1,220	3,998	5,218
Religion ..	137	55	1	—	138	55	152	62	214	286
Other Professional and Business Services ..	1,203	305	1	5	1,204	310	1,514	1,262	316	1,578
Miscellaneous Services ..	22,529	31,642	134	556	22,663	32,198	54,861	23,783	33,713	57,496
Theatres, Cinemas, Music Halls, Concerts, etc. ..	3,115	1,869	16	104	3,131	1,973	5,104	3,253	2,030	5,283
Sport, Other Recreations and Betting ..	3,492	1,101	34	20	3,526	1,121	4,647	3,736	1,160	4,896
Catering, Hotels, etc. ..	12,201	20,319	34	278	12,235	20,597	32,832	12,764	21,345	34,109
Laundries ..	475	1,627	3	29	478	1,656	2,134	501	1,754	2,255
Dry Cleaning, Job Dyeing, Carpet Beating, etc. ..	190	400	11	11	190	411	601	425	631	856
Hairdressing and Manicure ..	303	457	—	22	315	479	794	353	508	861
Private Domestic Service (Resident) ..	259	1,940	—	5	259	1,945	2,204	2,677	2,170	4,437
Private Domestic Service (Non-Resident) ..	946	3,331	13	60	959	3,391	4,350	1,013	3,671	4,684
Other Services ..	1,548	598	22	27	1,570	625	2,195	1,690	650	2,340
Ex-Service Personnel not Classified by Industry ..	3,209	445	—	—	3,209	445	3,654	3,401	458	3,859
Other Persons not Classified by Industry ..	8,699	5,738	—	—	8,699	5,738	14,437	9,231	6,153	15,384
GRAND TOTAL*	201,316	92,839	4,572	3,089	205,888	95,928	301,816	229,155	101,691	330,846

* The totals include unemployed casual workers (3,643 males and 281 females in Great Britain and 4,883 males and 287 females in the United Kingdom).

Placing Work of the Employment Exchanges

The Table below shows for the four-week periods ended 25th October and 22nd November, 1950, the numbers of vacancies filled by Employment Exchanges and other Local Offices of the Ministry of Labour and National Service in Great Britain, together with the numbers remaining unfilled at the end of each period. The figures include placings, etc., by the Youth Employment Offices of certain Local Authorities.

	Four weeks ended 25th October, 1950		Four weeks ended 22nd November, 1950		Total Number of Placings, 22nd Dec., 1949, to 22nd Nov., 1950 (48 weeks)
	Placings	Vacancies Unfilled	Placings	Vacancies Unfilled	
Men aged 18 and over ..	116,139	145,812	108,329	142,684	1,634,147
Boys under 18 ..	12,978	49,207	10,766	51,729	203,813
Women aged 18 and over ..	60,669	96,516	54,760	92,149	756,090
Girls under 18 ..	12,015	62,208	10,311	64,178	200,265
Total ..	201,801	353,743	184,166	350,740	2,794,315

The figures of vacancies filled relate only to those vacancies which were filled by applicants submitted by Employment Exchanges, i.e., they do not include engagements of workpeople by employers that were made without the assistance of Employment

Exchanges. The figures are therefore not comparable with the percentage rates of engagements given in the "Labour Turnover" Table on the next page which relate to engagements of all kinds during the period in question.

The figures of vacancies unfilled represent the number of vacancies notified by employers to Employment Exchanges and remaining unfilled at the specified dates. They do not purport to represent the total number of vacancies which require to be filled, and they in fact fall short of the total number for several reasons. In the first place, it is probable that some employers do not notify their vacancies to Employment Exchanges and prefer to rely on other methods for finding the workpeople whom they require. Secondly, employers who do use the Employment Exchange system may, in certain circumstances (e.g., when they require large numbers of additional workpeople, or where labour of the kind they require is scarce), have a "Standing Order" with the Employment Exchange to submit all suitable applicants to them without "notifying" any specific number of vacancies, and the vacancies remaining unfilled in such cases will not be included in the figures. Nevertheless comparison of the figures for various dates provides some indication of the change in the demand for labour.

The Table below shows the numbers of vacancies filled during the four weeks ended 22nd November, 1950, in each of the industry "Orders" of the Standard Industrial Classification and in certain selected industries within the Orders, together with cumulative totals for the period 22nd December, 1949, to 22nd November, 1950.

Industry Group	Placings during four weeks ended 22nd November, 1950					Total Number of Placings, 22nd December, 1949, to 22nd November, 1950 (48 weeks)				
	Men 18 and over	Boys under 18	Women 18 and over	Girls under 18	Total	Men 18 and over	Boys under 18	Women 18 and over	Girls under 18	Total
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing ..	2,185	267	1,150	34	3,636	30,496	5,819	16,223	848	53,386
Mining and Quarrying ..	1,626	334	31	9	2,000	22,				

Labour Turnover

The Table below shows labour turnover rates (per 100 employees) in the manufacturing industries during the four-week* period ended 28th October, 1950, with separate figures for males and females. The figures are based on information given by employers with more than 10 employees on returns which they render every month to the Ministry of Labour and National Service. Each return shows (a) the numbers of males and females on the pay-roll at the date of the return and also (b) at the date of the previous return, and an additional item shows (c) the numbers on the pay-roll at the later of the two dates who were not on the pay-roll at the earlier date. The figures in item (c) are adopted as representing engagements during the period, and the figures of discharges and other losses are obtained by adding the numbers engaged during the period to the numbers on the pay-roll at the beginning of the period and deducting from the figures thus obtained the numbers on the pay-roll at the end of the period. It must be borne in mind, however, that the figures of engagements obtained in the way indicated above do not

include persons engaged during the period who were discharged or otherwise left their employment before the end of the same period, and the percentage rates both of engagements and of discharges, etc., in the Table below accordingly understate, to some extent, the total intake and wastage during the period. In spite of this limitation, however, the figures enable comparisons to be made between the turnover rates of different industries and also between the figures for consecutive months for the same industry, in the latter case after allowance is made for any difference in the length of period covered. It is also important to note that the figures for any industry represent the aggregated totals of the numbers engaged and discharged by all firms rendering returns in the industry. Some of the persons who were discharged or left their employments during the period were probably engaged by other firms in the same industry and the net numbers of engagements and losses of an industry, considered as one unit, will be less in every case than the sum of the figures for the individual firms.

Labour Turnover Rates in Manufacturing Industries

Industry	Number of Engagements per 100 employed at beginning of period			Number of Discharges and other Losses per 100 employed at beginning of period		
	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.
	(a)	(b)	(c)	(a)	(b)	(c)
Treatment of Non-Metalliferous Mining Products other than Coal	3.3	4.5	3.6	3.4	3.9	3.5
Bricks and Fireclay Goods	3.0	5.1	3.2	4.2	4.1	4.2
China and Earthenware (including glazed tiles)	2.6	4.1	3.4	2.5	3.2	2.8
Glass (other than containers)	3.3	4.8	3.7	2.7	5.0	3.3
Glass Containers	3.6	4.4	3.8	3.1	4.8	3.5
Cement	1.9	2.1	2.0	1.7	2.5	1.7
Other Non-Metalliferous Mining Manufactures	4.3	5.8	4.5	3.9	5.0	4.0
Chemicals and Allied Trades	2.4	4.5	3.0	2.1	3.3	2.5
Coke Ovens and By-Product Works	1.2	0.4	1.2	1.4	1.2	1.4
Chemicals and Dyes	2.6	3.2	2.7	2.3	3.0	2.5
Pharmaceutical Preparations, etc.	2.7	6.2	4.8	2.1	4.1	3.3
Explosives and Fireworks	2.4	3.7	2.9	1.3	1.7	1.4
Paint and Varnish	2.4	4.2	3.0	2.0	3.6	2.5
Soap, Candles, Polishes, etc.	2.0	5.6	3.6	1.8	3.6	2.6
Mineral Oil Refining	2.1	1.8	2.1	1.7	2.9	1.9
Other Oils, Greases, Glue, etc.	2.4	4.7	2.9	3.3	3.8	3.4
Metal Manufacture	2.5	3.8	2.7	2.3	3.3	2.4
Blast Furnaces	1.4	1.7	1.4	2.0	1.7	2.0
Iron and Steel Melting, Rolling, etc.	1.8	3.1	1.9	1.7	2.8	1.8
Iron Foundries	3.3	3.7	3.4	2.9	3.9	3.0
Thinplate Manufacture	1.8	3.9	2.1	2.1	4.3	2.4
Steel Sheet Manufacture	1.5	2.1	1.6	1.7	3.0	1.8
Iron and Steel Tubes	2.6	4.0	2.8	2.4	2.4	2.4
Non-Ferrous Metals Smelting, etc.	3.7	4.6	3.9	3.0	3.6	3.1
Engineering and Electrical Goods	2.9	5.5	3.5	2.4	4.0	2.8
Marine Engineering	2.7	2.2	2.7	2.3	1.8	2.3
Agricultural Machinery	3.5	3.8	3.5	3.1	3.5	3.1
Boilers and Boiler-house Plant	2.7	3.8	2.8	2.0	6.1	2.4
Machine Tools	3.2	6.4	3.7	2.7	4.8	3.0
Stationary Engines	2.8	4.9	3.1	2.6	3.3	2.7
Textile Machinery and Accessories	2.6	4.1	2.8	2.1	4.1	2.4
Ordnance and Small Arms	1.6	4.4	2.2	0.9	2.1	1.2
Constructional Engineering	3.5	3.2	3.5	3.3	2.9	3.2
Other Non-Electrical Engineering	2.8	4.5	3.0	2.4	3.5	2.6
Electrical Machinery	2.5	4.1	2.9	2.2	3.6	2.5
Electrical Wires and Cables	2.9	5.6	3.9	1.8	3.5	2.4
Telegraph and Telephone Apparatus	2.0	3.1	2.4	2.1	3.5	2.6
Wireless Apparatus	5.3	9.8	7.5	2.9	5.6	4.2
Wireless Valves and Electric Lamps	6.4	5.1	2.3	4.5	3.5	3.5
Batteries and Accumulators	2.7	7.0	4.5	2.4	4.8	3.4
Other Electrical Goods	3.7	6.5	4.9	2.6	4.1	3.3
Vehicles	2.5	4.3	2.7	2.2	3.7	2.4
Manufacture of Motor Vehicles, etc.	2.6	4.3	2.9	2.4	3.9	2.6
Motor Repairs and Garages	2.7	4.0	2.8	2.5	3.1	2.6
Manufacture and Repair of Aircraft	2.1	3.7	2.4	1.7	2.6	1.9
Manufacture of Motor Vehicle Accessories	4.2	5.3	4.5	3.2	4.4	3.5
Railway Locomotive Shops	0.9	2.5	0.9	1.0	0.4	1.0
Other Locomotive Manufacture	2.1	3.0	2.1	2.2	3.7	2.3
Railway Carriages and Wagons	1.4	1.6	1.4	1.4	3.3	1.5
Carts, Perambulators, etc.	4.7	7.2	5.5	4.1	5.5	4.6
Metal Goods, not Elsewhere Specified	3.6	6.2	4.5	3.0	4.6	3.6
Tools and Cutlery	2.9	5.0	3.7	2.4	4.1	3.0
Bolts, Nuts, Screws, Nails, etc.	3.5	5.0	4.2	2.7	4.7	3.6
Iron and Steel Forgings	3.3	4.7	3.5	2.8	3.8	3.0
Wire and Wire Manufactures	2.7	4.6	3.2	2.3	3.4	2.6
Hollow-ware	3.3	6.5	5.0	3.7	4.9	4.4
Brass Manufactures	3.6	6.5	4.6	2.8	4.8	3.6
Other Metal Industries	4.0	6.8	5.0	3.3	4.6	3.8
Precision Instruments, Jewellery, etc.	2.6	4.8	3.4	2.3	3.3	2.7
Scientific, Surgical, etc., Instruments	2.4	4.6	3.2	2.4	3.5	2.8
Watches and Clocks	3.3	5.0	4.1	2.2	2.8	2.5
Jewellery, Plate, etc.	2.5	5.2	3.7	2.1	3.1	2.5
Musical Instruments	3.8	6.0	4.2	2.2	3.9	2.5

* The figures relating to September which appeared in the December issue of this GAZETTE covered a five-week period. Note.—Establishments whose industrial classification has changed during the period as a result of a change in their activities are excluded from these calculations. (a) Per 100 males employed. (b) Per 100 females employed. (c) Per 100 employees (males and females).

Work of Appointments Department

The particulars given below, which relate to the work of the Appointments Department of the Ministry of Labour and National Service, are in continuation of those published in previous issues.

Technical and Scientific Register

The Technical and Scientific Register operates centrally on a national basis from York House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2 (Telephone number, Temple Bar 8020), but it also has a representative in Scotland at the Glasgow District Appointments Office, 450 Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow, C.2 (Telephone number, Glasgow Douglas 7161).

The total number of persons enrolled on the Technical and Scientific Register at 11th December, 1950, was 5,254* ; this figure included 3,837 registrants who were already in work but desired a change of employment, and 1,417 registrants who were unemployed.

The numbers of vacancies notified, filled, etc., between 14th November and 11th December (4 weeks) are shown below.

Vacancies outstanding at 14th November	3,173
notified during period	427
filled during period	226
cancelled or withdrawn	371
outstanding at 11th December	3,003

Appointments Register

The Appointments Register is concerned with the placing of persons having professional, administrative, managerial or executive experience or qualifications, and those having technical qualifications not appropriate to the Technical and Scientific Register.

The following Table shows the numbers of registrations at each of the Offices:—

Appointments Office	In Employment		Unemployed	
	Men	Women	Men	Women
London	4,673	517	4,310	531
Bristol	689	62	430	42
Birmingham	1,208	47	330	32
Nottingham	620	39	154	28
Leeds	769	53	216	34
Liverpool	720	49	220	37
Manchester	1,364	67	339	36
Newcastle	753	53	193	36
Edinburgh	539	86	244	71
Glasgow	867	103	212	60
Cardiff	272	23	155	42
Total†	12,474	1,099	6,803	969

During the period 14th November to 11th December, 1950, there were new registrations by 1,672 men and 297 women, and during the same period the registrations of 2,506 men and 465 women lapsed.

The Table below shows the numbers of vacancies (other than those for nurses and midwives) notified, filled, etc., between 14th November and 11th December, 1950.

Vacancies outstanding at 14th November	Men	Women
notified during period	2,216	220
cancelled or withdrawn during period	967	97
filled during period	514	54
unfilled at 11th December	365	50
	2,304	213

Unemployment Benefit

For the period of thirteen weeks ended 30th December, 1950, expenditure on unemployment benefit in Great Britain (excluding the cost of administration) amounted to approximately £4,188,000. During the thirteen weeks ended 30th September, 1950, the corresponding figure was £3,890,000 and during the fourteen weeks ended 31st December, 1949, it was £5,054,000.

National Assistance

From 5th July, 1948, with the coming into operation of the National Assistance Act, the local Offices of the Ministry of Labour and National Service undertook the payment of national assistance to persons who were required to register for employment and who were entitled to national assistance. The amount of national assistance thus paid during the thirteen weeks ended 30th December, 1950, was approximately £1,430,000. The corresponding amount paid during the fourteen weeks ended 30th September, 1950, was £1,430,000 and during the thirteen weeks ended 24th December, 1949, it was approximately £1,150,000.

* This figure includes 904 registrants who were also registered at District Appointments Offices and 171 unemployed registrants who were also registered at Employment Exchanges.

† Excluding 141 persons registered for overseas employment only and 2,644 whose registrations had been referred to the Local Offices for assistance in placing. Registrations of nurses and midwives are also excluded.

‡ This column includes vacancies for which employers were willing to accept either men or women.

Comparison of the figures for the quarters ended 30th December and 30th September, 1950, with those for the earlier quarter is affected by the increases in the scale rates which came into force on 12th June, 1950, under the National Assistance (Determination of Need) Amendment Regulations, 1950.

Insured Persons Absent from Work owing to Sickness or Industrial Injury

The Table below shows the numbers of insured persons in the various Regions of England, in Scotland and Wales, and in Great Britain as a whole, who were absent from work owing to sickness or industrial injury on 19th December and 21st November, 1950, with the corresponding figures for 20th December and 15th November, 1949. The statistics have been compiled by the Ministry of National Insurance from claims to sickness or industrial injury benefit under the National Insurance Act, 1946, and the National Insurance (Industrial Injuries) Act, 1946, respectively.

Region	Thousands							
	Sickness				Industrial Injury			
	19th Dec., 1950	21st Nov., 1950	20th Dec., 1949	15th Nov., 1949	19th Dec., 1950	21st Nov., 1950	20th Dec., 1949	15th Nov., 1949
London and South-Eastern:								
London and Middlesex	90.4	97.0	89.7	105.1	3.6	3.8	4.0	4.3
Remainder	68.0	71.2	68.1	78.2	3.0	3.2	2.9	3.1
Eastern	40.7	41.8	39.6	43.8	1.9	2.0	2.0	2.2
Southern	34.0	34.9	32.9	34.9	1.4	1.5	1.6	1.5
South-Western	49.3	50.7	47.6	50.8	2.2	2.3	2.0	2.1
Midland	74.1	77.5	74.8	80.6	4.3	4.5	4.6	5.0
North-Midland	55.2	57.7	54.0	59.3	5.1	5.4	5.3	5.8
East and West Ridings	79.2	84.3	80.7	86.7	7.7	8.4	7.5	8.7
North-Western	141.0	153.4	145.4	157.6	6.5	7.7	6.5	7.5
Northern	64.3	63.9	58.5	63.2	7.6	8.6	7.5	8.1
Scotland	108.2	109.6	103.8	106.6	7.3	8.0	7.4	8.5
Wales	55.4	58.3	52.9	56.6	7.0	7.7	6.9	7.7
Total, Great Britain	859.9	900.3	848.0	923.4	57.5	63.2	58.3	64.3

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Employment in the Coal Mining Industry in November

The statistics given below in respect of employment, etc., in the coal mining industry in November have been compiled by the Ministry of Fuel and Power from information provided by the National Coal Board.

The average weekly number of wage-earners on the colliery books in Great Britain during the four weeks ended 25th November was 686,500, compared with 687,700 for the four weeks ended 28th October and 708,600 for the four weeks ended 26th November, 1949.

The total numbers who were effectively employed were 634,200 in November, 632,100 in October and 654,600 in November, 1949; these figures exclude wage-earners who were absent for any reason (including holidays) for the whole of any week. The Table below shows the numbers of wage-earners on the colliery books in the various Districts in November, together with the increase or decrease* in each case compared with October, 1950, and November, 1949.

Average Numbers of Wage-earners on Colliery Books—Analysis by Districts

District†	Average numbers of wage-earners on colliery books during 4 weeks ended 25th November, 1950	Increase (+) or decrease (–) compared with the average for	
		4 weeks ended 28th October, 1950	4 weeks ended 26th November, 1949
Northumberland	43,000	..	+ 200
Cumberland	5,700	+ 100	– 100
Durham	106,800	– 300	– 2,800
South and West Yorkshire	133,600	– 200	– 4,700
North Derbyshire	36,100	– ..	– 800
Nottinghamshire	43,800	– 100	– 1,300
South Derbyshire and Leicestershire	14,600	– ..	– 200
Lancashire and Cheshire	47,700	– 100	– 2,800
North Wales	8,400	– ..	– 200
North Staffordshire	18,500	– 100	– 1,600
Cannock Chase	15,900	– 100	– 1,300
South Staffordshire, Worcester-shire and Shropshire	5,300	– ..	– 300
Warwickshire	14,800	– 200	– 1,000
South Wales and Monmouth-shire	99,700	– ..	– 3,600
Forest of Dean, Bristol and Somerset	6,000	– 100	– 800
Kent	6,000	– ..	– ..
England and Wales	605,900	– 1,100	– 21,300
Fife and Clackmannan	23,200	– ..	+ 700
The Lothians	12,400	– ..	+ 200
Central West	16,700	– 100	– 1,000
Central East	12,900	– 100	– 400
Ayrshire, etc.	15,400	+ 100	– 300
Scotland	80,600	– 100	– 800
Great Britain	686,500	– 1,200	– 22,100

It is provisionally estimated that during the four weeks of November about 4,520 persons were recruited to the industry, while the total number of persons who left the industry was about 4,850; the number on the colliery books thus showed a net decrease of 330. During the four weeks of October there was a net decrease of 3,160.

The average number of shifts worked per week by coal-face workers who were effectively employed was 5.04 in November, 5.02 in October and 5.05 in November, 1949. The corresponding figures for all workers who were effectively employed were 5.40, 5.38 and 5.39.

With regard to absenteeism in the coal mining industry, separate figures are compiled in respect of (a) voluntary absenteeism (absences for which no satisfactory reason is given) and (b) involuntary absenteeism (absences due mainly to sickness). The figures for November and October, 1950, and November, 1949, which are given in the next Table, represent the numbers of shifts lost through absenteeism, expressed as percentages of the total number of shifts that could have been worked.

Percentages of Shifts lost through Absenteeism

	November, 1950	October, 1950	November, 1949
Coal Face Workers :			
Voluntary	6.03	6.55	6.44
Involuntary	7.32	7.61	7.42
All Workers :			
Voluntary	4.52	4.87	4.88
Involuntary	6.52	6.72	6.57

For face-workers the output per man-shift worked was 3.18 tons in November, compared with 3.14 tons in the previous month and 3.12 tons in November, 1949.

The output per man-shift calculated on the basis of all workers was 1.22 tons in November; for October, 1950, and November, 1949, the figures were 1.21 tons and 1.21 tons, respectively.

* "No change" is indicated by three dots.
† As from 1st January, 1950, the districts shown conform to the organisation of the National Coal Board.

Employment Overseas

AUSTRALIA

According to information received by the Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics, the number of persons employed in factories in August was 1.4 per cent. higher than in the previous month and 6.2 per cent. higher than in August, 1949.

CANADA

Returns received by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics from employers in industries other than agriculture and private domestic service indicate that the total number of workpeople in employment at 1st October, in the establishments covered by the returns, was 1.5 per cent. higher than at the beginning of the previous month and 3.6 per cent. higher than at 1st October, 1949. The number of persons employed in manufacturing industries at 1st October was 1.5 per cent. higher than at the beginning of the previous month and 3.3 per cent. higher than at 1st October, 1949.

Returns rendered by trade unions with a total membership of nearly 570,700 showed that the percentage rate of unemployment among their members at the end of June was 3.1, compared with 4.4 at the end of March and 1.8 at the end of June, 1949.

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

According to the general index of employment compiled by the Office of Census and Statistics, the number employed in manufacturing, transportation and mining (other than alluvial gold diggings) in July was 1.0 per cent. lower than in the previous month but 0.6 per cent. higher than in July, 1949.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

The number of civilians in employment as wage or salary earners in industries other than agriculture and domestic service in October is estimated by the Department of Labor to have been approximately 45,769,000. This was 0.2 per cent. higher than the figure for the previous month and 7.4 per cent. higher than for October, 1949. The index figure of wage-earners' employment in manufacturing industries (base, average of 1939 = 100) showed increases of 0.4 per cent. in October compared with the previous month and of 14.9 per cent. compared with October, 1949.

The Bureau of the Census estimate that the total number of unemployed persons at the middle of October was about 1,940,000, compared with 2,341,000 at the middle of the previous month and 3,576,000 at the middle of October, 1949.

FRANCE

The number of persons registered as applicants for employment at the beginning of December was 144,672, of whom 46,678 were wholly unemployed persons in receipt of assistance. The corresponding figures were 138,479 and 45,235 in the previous month and 149,022 and 43,423 in December, 1949.

GERMANY

In the Federal Republic the number unemployed at the end of November was 1,316,165, compared with 1,230,171 at the end of the previous month and 1,383,832 at the end of November, 1949. In the Western Sectors of Berlin the corresponding figures at the same dates were 279,326, 278,177 and 267,240.

IRISH REPUBLIC

The number of unemployed persons on the live register of Employment Exchanges at 30th December was 61,534, compared with 55,993 at 25th November and 66,385 at 31st December, 1949.

ITALY

The number registered for employment at the end of October was 1,740,480, of whom 1,090,714 were wholly unemployed with a previous history of employment, and the remainder were young persons, etc., registering for first employment or employed persons seeking other employment. At the end of the previous month, the number registered for employment was 1,664,820, including 1,034,412 wholly unemployed, and at the end of October, 1949, it was 1,741,019, including 1,161,422 wholly unemployed.

SPAIN

The number of persons registered as unemployed was 162,767 at the end of August, compared with 154,232 at the end of the previous month and 160,289 at the end of August, 1949.

SWITZERLAND

The number of registered applicants for employment at the end of October who were wholly unemployed was 3,232 or 2.2 per thousand of the employed population (exclusive of apprentices) according to the census of 1941, compared with 2,797 or 1.9 per thousand at the end of the previous month and 6,414 or 4.3 per thousand at the end of October, 1949.

WAGES, DISPUTES, RETAIL PRICES

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Changes in Rates of Wages and Hours of Labour

RATES OF WAGES

Changes in December

In the industries covered by the Department's statistics,* the changes in the rates of wages reported to have come into operation in the United Kingdom during December resulted in an aggregate increase estimated at approximately £223,000 in the weekly full-time wages of about 899,000 workpeople.

The principal increases affected workpeople engaged in shipbuilding and ship repairing, boot and shoe manufacture, the road haulage of goods, milk distribution in England and Wales, the iron and steel industry, and female workers in the engineering and allied industries. Others receiving increases included roadmen employed by County Councils in England and Wales, and workers employed in the manufacture of carpets, glass containers, wire rope and iron and steel wire, drugs and fine chemicals, and in the corn trade.

In the shipbuilding and ship repairing industry the basis plain time rates and the national war bonus were consolidated, and the national uniform plain time rates were increased by 11s. a week for fully skilled men and by 8s. for semi-skilled and unskilled men. These increases were agreed in December and made retrospective to the middle of November. In the boot and shoe manufacturing industry there were increases, payable under sliding-scale arrangements based on the index of retail prices, of 4s. a week in the day wage rates for men, of 3s. for women and of 5 per cent. in the basic statement prices for pieceworkers. The statutory minimum remuneration fixed under the Wages Councils Act for workpeople 21 years and over engaged in the road haulage of goods, including furniture warehousing and removing, was increased by 7s. a week. For workpeople engaged in milk distribution in England and Wales there were increases in the general minimum time rates fixed under the Wages Councils Act of 4s. a week for men and of 3s. for women. In the iron and steel industry there were small increases payable under sliding-scale arrangements based on the index of retail prices. In the engineering and allied industries there were increases, retrospective to November, of 8s. 6d. a week for women on timework with a weekly remuneration, including any additional emoluments, of 70s. 7d. or less, and of such smaller amounts for women whose remuneration was over 70s. 7d. but under 79s. 1d. as would bring their remuneration up to 79s. 1d. For payment-by-result workers piece prices or times

were adjusted, where necessary, so that an average worker would be able to earn at least 45 per cent. on the existing basic time rates, instead of 27½ per cent. as hitherto.

Roadmen employed by most of the County Councils in England and Wales received an increase of 6s. a week. In the carpet manufacturing industry the cost-of-living bonus on time rates and on the gross earnings of pieceworkers was increased from 12½ per cent. to 15 per cent. For workpeople employed in glass container manufacture there were increases of 2½d. an hour for men and of 1½d. for women. In wire rope and iron and steel wire manufacture, there were increases of 10s. 6d. a week in the minimum base rate for men on non-productive work with a minimum rate, including war addition, of 89s. 6d. a week, and of amounts varying from 8s. for men on productive work with base rates of 95s. or less to 2s. for those with base rates of 110s. or over. The minimum time rates of men and women employed in the manufacture of drugs and fine chemicals were advanced by 6s. and 4s. a week, respectively. In the corn trade, mill and other manual workers had increases in minimum rates of 6s. a week for men and 4s. for women, drivers of horse-drawn vehicles had 6s., and other adult transport workers 7s.

Of the total increase of £223,000, about £130,000 resulted from direct negotiations between employers and workpeople or their representatives; about £39,000 was the result of Orders made under the Wages Councils Act; about £33,000 resulted from arrangements made by Joint Industrial Councils or other joint standing bodies established by voluntary agreement; and most of the remainder was the result of the operation of sliding scales based on the index of retail prices.

HOURS OF LABOUR

A change in hours of labour which came into operation in December affected workers employed in the manufacture of spring mattresses and bedstead fittings. Their normal working week was increased from 44 to 45 hours and this increase in hours was associated with an increase in the maximum annual holiday with pay from one to two weeks.

CHANGES IN WAGES AND HOURS IN 1950

A special article dealing with these changes is published on pages 1 to 3 of this issue of the GAZETTE.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING DECEMBER

Industry	District	Date from which Change took effect	Classes of Workpeople	Particulars of Change
Mining and Quarrying	Cleveland	4 Dec.	Ironstone miners	Flat-rate additions to wages, previously granted, increased† by 1.2d. a shift (4s. 9.6d. to 4s. 10.8d.) for men and youths 18 years of age and over, and by 0.6d. (2s. 4.8d. to 2s. 5.4d.) for boys under 18.‡
	North Lincolnshire	3 Dec.	Ironstone miners and quarrymen	Flat-rate additions to wages, previously granted, increased† by 1.2d. a shift (7s. 1.2d.) for men, by 0.9d. (5s. 3d. to 5s. 3.9d.) for youths 18 and under 21 years, and by 0.6d. (3s. 6d. to 3s. 6.6d.) for boys under 18.
	Notts., Leics., parts of Lincs., Northants, and Banbury	3 Dec.	Ironstone miners and quarrymen and limestone quarrymen	Flat-rate additions to wages, previously granted, increased† by 1.25d. a shift (6s. 8d. to 6s. 9.25d.) for men, by 0.9375d. (4s. 11.9375d. to 4s. 12.875d.) for youths 18 and under 21 years, and by 0.625d. (3s. 4d. to 3s. 4.625d.) for boys under 18.‡
	Cumberland	25 Dec.	Iron-ore miners	Cost-of-living net addition to wages, previously granted, increased† by 1d. a shift (3s. 7d. to 3s. 8d.) for men and youths 18 years and over, and by ½d. (1s. 9½d. to 1s. 10d.) for boys.‡
	West Cumberland	25 Dec.	Limestone quarrymen	Cost-of-living net addition to wages, previously granted, increased† by 1d. a shift (3s. 6d. to 3s. 7d.) for men and youths 18 years and over, and by ½d. (1s. 9d. to 1s. 9½d.) for boys.‡
Glass Container Manufacture	South and West Durham	4 Dec.	Limestone quarrymen	Flat-rate additions to wages, previously granted, increased† by 1d. a shift (3s. 8d. to 3s. 9d.) for men and youths 18 years and over, and by ½d. (1s. 10d. to 1s. 10½d.) for boys under 18.**
	Great Britain	8 Dec.	Men, youths, boys, women and girls except those whose wages are regulated by movements in other industries	Increases of 2½d. an hour for men 21 years and over, and of 1½d. for all other workers. Minimum hourly rates after change for day workers: London district—the rates payable in other districts plus 1½d. an hour for workers 18 years and over and 1d. for those under 18; other districts—men 21 years and over, founders, gas makers and furnacemen 2s. 4½d. or 2s. 5½d., according to melting capacity of furnace, boilermen or stokers and batch mixers 2s. 5d., sorters 2s. 4½d., lister or similar truck drivers 2s. 4d., general labourers 2s. 3½d., youths and boys 1s. at 15, rising to 1s. 1½d. at 20 and under 21; women and girls 10½d. at 15, rising to 1s. 6½d. at 21 and over.
Pressed Glass Manufacture	Gateshead and Sunderland	First full pay week in Dec.	Men, youths, boys, women and girls	Increases of 1½d. an hour for men 21 years and over (½d. for packers with less than 12 months' service), of ¾d. to 1½d., according to age, for youths and boys, of 1d. for female workers 19 years and over and of ½d. or ¾d., according to age, for younger workers. Minimum basic hourly rates after change: men—packers 2s. 5½d. (with less than 12 months' service 2s. 3½d.), teaizers 2s. 4½d., lehrmen, sorters and batch house labourers 2s. 3½d., crane and truck drivers 2s. 3½d., general labourers and pot fillers 2s. 2½d., youths and boys 10½d. at 15 years, rising to 1s. 10½d. at 20 years; women—sorters and lehr hands 1s. 7d., other workers 9d. at 15 years, rising to 1s. 6d. at 21 years.††

* The particulars of numbers affected by changes in rates of wages and working hours, and of the amount of change in weekly wages and hours of labour, exclude changes affecting clerical workers, for whom the information available is not sufficient to form a basis for statistics. The estimates of the effects of the changes on weekly wages are based on normal conditions of employment and do not take into account the effect either of short time or of overtime.

† Under sliding-scale arrangements based on the official index of retail prices.
‡ Wages are subject to further flat-rate additions (not subject to sliding-scale arrangements) totalling 3s. 8d. a shift, plus 9d. to dotal workers whose base rate is less than 8s. 1½d. a shift, for men and youths 18 years and over, with proportional additions for youths and boys, or additions varying at different mines on tonnage rates.

§ Wages are subject to further flat-rate additions (not subject to sliding-scale arrangements) of 1s. a shift for men, of 9d. for youths 18 and under 21 years, and 6d. for boys.
|| Wages are subject to further ad hoc additions of 1s. 6d. a shift for men and 9d. for youths and boys.
¶ War bonus, previously granted, of 4s. 1d. a shift for men and youths 18 years and over, and of 2s. 0½d. for boys, remained unchanged.
** Wages are subject to further flat-rate additions (not subject to sliding-scale arrangements) of 1s. a shift for men and youths 18 years and over, and of 6d. for boys.
†† In addition to the rates quoted, shift allowances of 1d. and 1½d. an hour are payable to all workers employed on a two-shift or three-shift system, respectively, and an allowance of 2d. an hour is payable to men on permanent night shifts.

Principal Changes in Rates of Wages Reported during December—continued

Industry	District	Date from which change took effect	Classes of Workpeople	Particulars of Change
Asbestos Cement Manufacture	Great Britain	3 Dec.	Men, youths, boys, women and girls	Increases of 2d. an hour in minimum rates for men, of 1½d. for women, and of proportionate amounts for juveniles. Minimum hourly rates after change: men—Group I 2s. 6d., Group II 2s. 5d., Group III 2s. 4d.; women—1s. 9d., 1s. 8½d., 1s. 7½d.
Slag and Tar-macadam Manufacture	Great Britain	4 Dec.	do.	Increase of 1½d. an hour. Minimum basic rates after change, including any sliding-scale, cost-of-living, or good time-keeping bonus: adult labourers 2s. 5d. an hour, plant unit attendants 2s. 6d., tar mixer attendants 2s. 7d.
Coke Manufacture	Cumberland, South Durham, Cleveland, Lincolnshire and Northants. (certain firms)	3 Dec.	Workpeople employed at coke oven plants attached to blast furnaces	Flat-rate additions to wages, previously granted, increased* by 1-2d. a shift (7s. to 7s. 1-2d. for shift rated workers) or by 0-17d. an hour (11-45d. to 11-62d. for hourly rated workers) for men and for women and youths employed on men's work, by 0-9d. a shift (5s. 3d. to 5s. 3-9d.) or by 0-12d. an hour (8-59d. to 8-71d.) for youths 18 and under 21 years and for women employed on youths' work, and by 0-6d. a shift (3s. 6d. to 3s. 6-6d.) or by 0-08d. an hour (5-73d. to 5-81d.) for boys and for girls doing boys' work.
Drug and Fine Chemical Manufacture	Great Britain	First full pay week beginning on or after 1 Dec.	Men, youths, boys, women and girls	Increases of 6s. a week in minimum time rates for men 21 years and over, of 4s. for women 21 and over, and of proportional amounts for younger workers. Minimum time rates after change: men 21 years and over—Class I 114s., a week, Class II 109s., Class III 104s.; women 21 years and over—Class I 80s., Class II 74s.; youths and boys 45s. at 15, rising to 90s. at 20; girls 42s. to 70s. In the London area (within a radius of 15 miles from Charing Cross) rates are 4s. a week higher for adult males and 2s. for adult females and juveniles.
Boot and Floor Polish Manufacture	Great Britain	15 Dec.	Men, youths, boys, women and girls	Increases in general minimum time rates of 1½d. an hour for men 21 years and over and women 18 or over, of 1d. to 1½d., according to age, for youths and boys, and of 1d. or 1½d. for girls; increase of 1½d. an hour in piecework basis time rates for all male and female workers. Rates after change: general minimum time rates—men 21 years and over 2s. 3½d. an hour, youths and boys 11d. at under 16, rising to 1s. 11d. at 20 and under 21, women 18 years and over 1s. 7d., girls 9½d. at under 16, rising to 1s. 3½d. at 17 and under 18; piecework basis time rates—male workers 2s. 6d. an hour, female workers 1s. 8½d.†
Seed Crushing, and Compound Food and Provender Manufacture	Great Britain	25 Sept.	Men, women and juveniles	Increases of 6s. a week in minimum rates for adult male workers, and of proportional amounts for women and juveniles. Minimum rates after change: adult male general labourers, Grade 1 areas 106s., a week, Grade 2 104s., Grade 3 102s., Grade 4 100s.; women 18 years and over, employed in the sack shop, packing small bags, sweeping, etc., receive two-thirds of the appropriate minimum rate for men.
Pig Iron Manufacture	England and Wales	3 Dec.	Workpeople employed at blastfurnaces, except those whose wages are regulated by movements in other industries	Flat-rate additions to wages, previously granted, increased* by 1-2d. a shift (7s. to 7s. 1-2d. for shift rated workers) or by 0-17d. an hour (11-45d. to 11-62d. for hourly rated workers) for men and for women and youths employed on men's work, by 0-9d. a shift (5s. 3d. to 5s. 3-9d.) or by 0-12d. an hour (8-59d. to 8-71d.) for youths 18 and under 21 years and for women employed on youths' work, and by 0-6d. a shift (3s. 6d. to 3s. 6-6d.) or by 0-08d. an hour (5-73d. to 5-81d.) for boys and for girls doing boys' work.
	West of Scotland	Pay period beginning nearest 1 Dec.	Workpeople employed at certain blastfurnaces, excluding those engaged on maintenance work	Flat-rate addition to wages, previously granted, increased* by 1d. a shift (6s. 8d. to 6s. 9d.) for men, with usual proportions for youths.
Iron and Steel Manufacture	Great Britain‡	4 Dec.	Workpeople employed at steel sheet rolling mills	Flat-rate additions to wages, previously granted, increased* by 1-2d. a shift (7s. to 7s. 1-2d.) for men and women 21 years and over, by 0-9d. (5s. 3d. to 5s. 3-9d.) for youths and girls 18 and under 21 years, and by 0-6d. (3s. 6d. to 3s. 6-6d.) for those under 18.
	Great Britain§	3 Dec.	Workpeople employed in steel melting shops (melters, pitmen, slagmen, ladlemen, furnace helpers, gas producermen, semi-skilled workers and labourers, etc.)	Flat-rate additions to wages, previously granted, increased* by 1-2d. a shift (7s. to 7s. 1-2d. for shift-rated workers) or by 0-17d. an hour (11-45d. to 11-62d. for hourly rated workers) for men and women, by 0-9d. a shift (5s. 3d. to 5s. 3-9d.) or by 0-12d. an hour (8-59d. to 8-71d.) for youths and girls 18 and under 21 years, and by 0-6d. a shift (3s. 6d. to 3s. 6-6d.) or by 0-08d. an hour (5-73d. to 5-81d.) for those under 18.
	Great Britain¶	do.	Workpeople employed at steel rolling mills	do.
	North-East Coast	do.	Iron puddlers and millmen and semi-skilled workers, labourers, etc., employed at iron puddling furnaces and rolling mills	do.
	Great Britain§	do.	Maintenance craftsmen employed on coke oven and blastfurnace plants, in steel melting shops, and in steel rolling mills	Flat-rate additions to wages, previously granted, increased* by 1-2d. a shift (7s. to 7s. 1-2d. for shift rated workers) or by 0-17d. an hour (11-45d. to 11-62d. for hourly rated workers).
	South-West Wales	do.	Workpeople employed in Siemens steel manufacture, except bricklayers and carpenters	Flat-rate additions to wages, previously granted, increased* by 1-2d. a shift (6s. to 6s. 1-2d.) for men and for women employed on men's work, by 0-8d. (4s. to 4s. 0-8d.) for youths 18 and under 21 years, and by 0-6d. (3s. to 3s. 0-6d.) for youths under 18 years.
	Midlands and parts of South Yorks. and South Lancs.	Sunday preceding first pay day in Jan.	Workpeople employed at iron puddling furnaces and iron and steel rolling mills and forges, other than those engaged on maintenance work	Flat-rate additions to wages, previously granted, increased* by 1-2d. a shift (7s. 3-6d. to 7s. 4-8d.) for men and women 21 years and over, by 0-9d. (5s. 5-7d. to 5s. 6-6d.) for workers 18 and under 21, and by 0-6d. (3s. 7-8d. to 3s. 8-4d.) for those under 18.
Tinplate Manufacture	South Wales, Monmouthshire and Gloucestershire	3 Dec.	Men, youths, women and juveniles (except apprentices)	Flat-rate additions to wages, previously granted, increased* by 1-2d. a shift (7s. to 7s. 1-2d.) for men and for women engaged specifically to replace male labour, by 0-8d. (4s. 8d. to 4s. 8-8d.) for youths 18 and under 21 years and for women 18 years and over, and by 0-6d. (3s. 6d. to 3s. 6-6d.) for workers under 18.
Tube Manufacture	Newport and Landore	do.	Men, youths and boys	Cost-of-living bonus increased* by 1-16d. a shift (6s. 8-04d. to 6s. 9-2d.) for men, and by 0-58d. (3s. 4-02d. to 3s. 4-6d.) for youths and boys.
Galvanising	England and Wales	4 Dec.	Galvanisers and ancillary workers employed at steel sheet works, other than those engaged in the process of annealing	Flat-rate additions to wages, previously granted, increased* by 1-2d. a shift (7s. to 7s. 1-2d.) for men and women 21 years and over, by 0-9d. (5s. 3d. to 5s. 3-9d.) for youths and girls 18 and under 21 years, and by 0-6d. (3s. 6d. to 3s. 6-6d.) for those under 18.
Brassworking and Founding	Yorkshire	Beginning of first full pay period following 13 Nov.	Men, youths and boys	New minimum consolidated time rates adopted, in conformity with the provisions of the national agreement in the engineering industry, dated 28th November, 1950; piecework prices to be such as will enable a worker of average ability to earn at least 45 per cent. on the existing basic rates, instead of 27½ per cent. as hitherto. Minimum consolidated time rates after change include: moulders 124s. 8d. a week, coremakers (male), brass finishers (apprentice trained), buffers and polishers, turret and capstan lathe operators (setting up own work and engaged upon short runs, etc.) 118s., machine moulders (operating machines) 117s. 7d. or 114s. 7d., brass finishers (unqualified), assemblers, turret and capstan lathe operators (setting up own work) 113s. 4d., furnacemen (responsible) 112s. 2d., fettlers and dressers 108s. 11d., shapers, millers and machinists, turret and capstan lathe operators (not setting up own work) 108s. 5d., foundry labourers 104s. 9d., packers, despatchers and testers 102s. 10d., labourers (other than foundry) and warehousemen 100s. 6d.

* Under sliding-scale arrangements based on the official index of retail prices.

† These increases took effect under an Order issued under the Wages Councils Act. See page 437 of the December, 1950, issue of this GAZETTE.

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

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

¶ According to factory practice a machine moulder may be regarded as related to the skilled worker or to the unskilled worker and will accordingly receive an increase of 11s. or 8s. a week.

Principal Changes in Rates of Wages Reported during December—continued

Industry	District	Date from which change took effect	Classes of Workpeople	Particulars of Change
Engineering and Allied Industries	United Kingdom	Beginning of first full pay period following 13 Nov.*	Women and girls employed in the engineering and allied industries,† other than those whose wages are regulated by the Wages Councils Acts, by agreements relating to other industries, or solely by reference to the wages of male labour— Timeworkers	National minimum time rates, consisting of basic rates, national bonus and timeworkers' special bonus, increased by 8s. 6d. a week to a consolidated minimum time rate of 75s. for a 44-hour week for women 21 years and over, by 8s. 6d. for workers 18 to 20 years, by 5s. 6d. at age 17, 4s. 6d. at 16 and 3s. 6d. at 15; increases of 8s. 6d. a week for women with a weekly remuneration for 44 hours of 70s. 7d. or less including additional emoluments (such as lieu rates, compensatory rates or other bonuses, or merit rates commonly applied), of such less amounts for women whose remuneration is over 70s. 7d. but under 79s. 1d. as will bring their remuneration to 79s. 1d., and of proportional amounts for younger workers.‡
			Payment-by-result workers	Piece prices or times to be such as to enable a worker of average ability to earn at least 45 per cent. on the existing basic rates (including basic rates increased because of merit or grade), instead of 27½ per cent. on basic rates as hitherto, with new minimum piece work standards of 80s. a week for workers 21 years and over, and of proportional amounts for younger workers; pieceworkers' national bonus of 26s. 3d. a week for women to be replaced by a payment of 7-16d. for each hour worked, with corresponding adjustments for younger workers.‡
Engineering	Swansea, Llanelly, Port Talbot and Neath	4 Dec.	Workpeople employed in engineering works and foundries— Timeworkers	Increases of 2½d. an hour for skilled adult workers, of 1½d. for all other adult workers whose wages are based on the labourers' rate, and of proportionate amounts for apprentices and juveniles. Minimum rates after change, including compensating bonus: craftsmen 3s. 0½d. an hour, labourers 2s. 5½d.
			Payment-by-result workers	Increases of 2½d. an hour for the actual clock hours worked by craftsmen, with appropriate overtime gains, and of 1½d. for labourers and workers whose wages are based on the labourers' rate.
Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing	All federated shipbuilding and ship-repairing centres in the United Kingdom	Beginning of first full pay week following 13 Nov.‡	Workpeople employed on time-work in the shipbuilding and ship-repairing industry, except skilled engineers and others whose wages are regulated by movements in other industries— Men	Basis plain time rates and national war bonus consolidated in new inclusive plain time rates, incorporating increases of 11s. a week for fully skilled workers 21 years and over who have completed their apprenticeship, and of 8s. for semi-skilled and unskilled workers 21 years and over. New inclusive national uniform plain time rates for men on new work include: fully skilled classes 120s. a week, holders-on 117s. 6d., blacksmiths' strikers 103s., redleaders 104s., staggers erecting and dismantling staging 106s., unskilled classes 100s., crane-men operating tower, gantry or floating cranes 113s., operating electric overhead travelling cranes 107s. 6d., operating all other cranes 110s. 6d., spare or emergency crane-men when not operating cranes 107s. 6d. For repair work, except in the case of crane-men, the new national inclusive rates are 3s. higher, and in the River Thames ship-repairing district the existing general differential applies.¶
			Women brought into the industry under relaxation or dilution arrangements, french polishers and upholstresses	Basis plain time rates and national war bonus consolidated, and national plain time rates increased by such amounts as will bring rates up to the following amounts: shipbuilding and ship-repairing classes 21 years and over—during first eight months of service 75s. a week (new work), 76s. 6d. (repair work); thereafter—skilled classes, (a) not in receipt of full time rates of displaced male labour 96s. (new work), 98s. 5d. (repair work), (b) in receipt of full time rate of displaced male worker 120s. (new work), 125s. (repair work); semi-skilled classes (a) 90s. (new work), 92s. 8d. (repair work), (b) full time rate of displaced male worker; unskilled classes (a) 90s. (new work), 92s. 8d. (repair work), (b) 100s. (new work), 103s. (repair work); french polishers and upholstresses, who have served an apprenticeship of 5 years, 21 years and over 96s. (new work), 98s. 5d. (repair work); all women under 21 years 35s. at 16, rising to 75s. at 20 (new work), and 36s. 6d. to 76s. 6d. (repair work).¶
			Male apprentices under 21 years	Basis plain time rates and national war bonus consolidated, and national plain time rates increased by amounts varying, according to year of apprenticeship, from 9s. 3d. a week to 12s. 9d. Inclusive national uniform plain time rates after change: 35s. a week on new work during first year of apprenticeship, rising to 75s. in fifth year. For repair work the rates are 1s. 6d. higher.¶
			Other youths and boys	Basis plain time rates and national war bonus consolidated, and national plain time rates increased by amounts varying, according to age, from 9s. 3d. a week to 12s. 9d. Inclusive national uniform plain time rates after change 30s. a week on new work at 15 years, rising to 75s. at 20. For repair work the rates are 1s. 6d. higher.¶
Wire Rope and Iron and Steel Wire Manufacture	Great Britain	First full pay week commencing on or after 20 Nov.	Men, youths, boys, women and girls	Increases of 10s. 6d. a week in minimum basic rates for men on non-productive work with a minimum rate including war addition of 88s. 6d., of amounts varying from 8s. for men on productive work with base rates of 95s. or less, to 2s. for those with base rates of 110s. or over, and of proportional amounts for women and juveniles. Base time rates after change include: men 21 years and over engaged in splicing and socketing, closing and testing (rope) 108s. a week, stranding, crane driving, testing (wire) 103s., winding 101s.; minimum rate for other productive workers and for non-productive workers 100s.; women 21 years and over minimum rate for productive and non-productive workers 68s. 9d.
Spring Mattress and Bedstead Fittings Manufacture	Great Britain	Beginning of first pay week after 10 Dec.	Men, youths, boys, women and girls.	New cost-of-living bonus adopted of 8½d. an hour in place of bonuses previously in operation, resulting in an increase of 1d. an hour for men, and in proportionate increases for women and juveniles; weekly remuneration of timeworkers and workers on systems of payment-by-results advanced by increase in normal weekly working hours from 44 to 45. Current minimum time rates after change for London and provincial districts, respectively, include: journeymen 21 years or over 2s. 11d. an hour, 2s. 9d., labourers, porters, etc., 2s. 5½d., 2s. 4d.; journeywomen 19 years and over 1s. 11½d., 1s. 10d., women labourers, porters, etc., 1s. 7½d., 1s. 6½d.¶

* These increases were agreed in December and had retrospective effect to the date shown.

† Workpeople in the allied industries include those employed in non-ferrous metal manufacture and rolling, drop forging, and the hollow-ware, spring, tube and wire trades. In addition, the increases applied to workpeople employed by federated firms in railway carriage and wagon building, constructional engineering, sheet metal working, gas meter making, scale, beam and weighing machine making and the manufacture of plastic material and finished articles.

‡ Existing individual merit rates are to be maintained. In the case of payment-by-result workers premiums for overtime, nightshift and work done on holidays are to be calculated on the new consolidated time rates.

§ These increases, which apply also to a number of workpeople employed in boat building and boat repairing, were agreed in December, and had retrospective effect to the date shown.

¶ Allowances which are in the nature of merit payments and not related to speed of output, and allowances under national agreements to skilled workers on plant maintenance are to continue as an addition to the new inclusive plain time rates. Allowances hitherto calculated as a percentage or proportion of time rates are to be paid on a rate per hour basis, the money value of existing allowances being calculated to the nearest ¼d. per hour up or down, except that oilship repair allowances for all classes where at present calculated as a percentage or proportion of time rates are to be paid for all hours worked at fixed rates per hour (9d. or 4½d. for adult skilled workers and 6d. or 3d. for adult semi-skilled and unskilled workers). Pieceworkers, lien workers or other payment-by-result workers do not receive any advance under the agreement, but the employers undertake to review piecework prices, etc., where the average payments for a normal week of 44 hours are less than 17s. 6d. in the case of skilled men and 15s. in the case of semi-skilled and unskilled men above the new inclusive national uniform plain time rate for the class of workers concerned.

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

Principal Changes in Rates of Wages Reported during December—continued

Industry	District	Date from which Change took effect	Classes of Workpeople	Particulars of Change
Spring Manufacture	Birmingham, Wolverhampton and Stafford district	Beginning of first full pay period following 13 Nov.	Men, youths and boys	New minimum consolidated time rates adopted, in conformity with the provisions of the national agreement for the engineering industry, dated 28th November, 1950; piecework prices to be such as to enable a worker of average ability to earn at least 45 per cent. on the existing basic rates, instead of 27½ per cent. as hitherto. Minimum consolidated rates after change include: men 21 years and over—fully skilled engineering toolmakers 119s. 0d. a week; Group C workers 114s. 6d., Group B 112s. 8d., Group A 108s. 11d., general hands 104s. 3d., labourers 100s. 6d.
Mechanical Cloth Manufacture	Bury and district	First full pay week in Dec.	Workpeople employed in the manufacture of cloth (woven felt and cotton filter cloth) used for mechanical purposes	Increase* of 1 per cent. (13 per cent. to 14 per cent.) in the percentage addition to basic wage rates.
Carpet Manufacture	Great Britain	First pay day in Dec.	Men, youths, boys, women and girls	Cost-of-living bonus increased* from 12½ per cent. to 15 per cent. on time rates and on gross earnings of pieceworkers. Minimum rates after change, inclusive of cost-of-living bonus, include: males 21 years of age and over—dry beamers, packers, backsizers and starchers, card men (jacquard, wilton and gripper), fur cutters, with 6 months' experience in any of the jobs 103s. 6d. a week, wet beamers or dressers with 12 months' experience 115s., croppers and shearers with 6 months' experience 103s. 6d., 109s. 3d. or 115s., according to width of machine, other male workers 21 years and over 96s. 7d.; females—card cutters, with 18 months' experience, and 18 years of age 57s. 6d., 19 years 65s. 6d., 20 years 74s. 9d., other female workers 18 years 54s., 19 years 58s. 7d., 20 years 64s. 5d.
Asbestos Textile Manufacture	Great Britain	11 Dec.	Men and women	Increases of ½d. an hour in minimum rates for men and of ¼d. for women to bring the minimum rates up to the rates actually paid; minimum rates further increased by 2d. an hour for men 21 years and over and for women 18 years or over. Minimum time rates after change: men 21 years and over 2s. 4½d. an hour; women 18 years or over 1s. 9½d.
Fellmongering	England and Wales	First full pay week after 4 Dec.	Men, women and juveniles handling foreign skins	Increases of 2d. or 2½d. an hour, according to occupation, in basic time rates for men 21 years and over, and of approximately 7½ per cent. in piecework rates; new time rates adopted for youths and female workers. Basic time rates after change: men 21 years and over—skilled 2s. 7d. an hour, semi-skilled (wet) 2s. 5d., (dry) 2s. 4d., youths 1s. an hour at 15 years, rising to 2s. at 20, females 1s. 1d. at 16, rising to 1s. 8½d. at 20.
Boot and Shoe Manufacture	Great Britain (except Rossendale Valley)	First pay day in Dec.	Timeworkers	Increases* of 4s. a week in day wage rates for men 21 years and over, of 3s. for women 20 years and over, and of proportional amounts for younger workers. Minimum weekly rates after change: male workers 37s. at 15, rising to 108s. at 21 and over, female workers 37s. at 15, rising to 78s. at 20 and over.
			Pieceworkers	Increase* of 5 per cent. on basic statement prices, making a total addition of 52½ per cent. for male workers and 62½ per cent. for female workers.
Industries Ancillary to Boot and Shoe Manufacture†	do.	do.	Timeworkers	Increases* of 4s. a week in day wage rates for men 21 years and over, of 3s. for women 20 years and over, and of proportional amounts for younger workers. Minimum weekly rates after change: male workers 37s. at 15, rising to 108s. at 21 and over, female workers 37s. at 15, rising to 78s. at 20 and over.
			Pieceworkers	Increase* of 5 per cent. on basic statement prices.
Corn Trade	Great Britain	First pay day following 11 Dec.	Mill and other manual workers (except transport workers)	Increases of 6s. a week in minimum rates for men 21 years and over, of 4s. for women 18 years and over, and of proportional amounts for younger workers. Minimum rates after change include: men 21 years and over—London 108s. a week, Grade "A" areas 106s., Grade "B" 103s., Grade "C" 100s.; women 18 years and over, two-thirds of the appropriate adult male rate.
			Transport workers	Increases of 7s. a week in minimum rates for adult drivers, statutory attendants and mates of "C" licensed vehicles, of 6s. for drivers of horse-drawn vehicles, and of proportional amounts for younger workers. Minimum rates after change include: drivers 21 years and over of "C" licensed vehicles (other than drivers of steam wagons or tractors), London area 111s. to 126s. a week, according to carrying capacity of vehicles, Grade 1 areas 106s. to 121s., Grade 2 areas 102s. to 117s., statutory attendants and mates (except mates on steam wagons) 108s., 105s., 101s.; drivers of steam wagons or tractors in the London area 118s. to 126s., according to carrying capacity of vehicle, mates 110s.; drivers of 1-horse vehicles, London area 110s., Grade "A" 108s., Grade "B" 105s., Grade "C" 102s., teamsmen 111s., 109s., 106s., 103s.
Baking	Southern Counties of England	Pay day in week commencing 3 Sept.	Workpeople employed by co-operative societies.	Increases of 5s. 6d. a week in minimum rates for men 21 years and over, of 3s. for women 21 and over, and of proportional amounts for younger workers. Minimum rates after change: male workers—foremen confectioners and foremen bakers Area "A" 123s. 3d. a week, Area "B" 127s. 3d., first hands 114s. 5d., 118s. 5d., single hands 114s. 4d., 118s. 4d., second hands, dough-makers, and confectionery mixers 112s. 4d., 116s. 4d., ovenmen 112s. 3d., 116s. 3d., confectioners or table hands 21 years or over 106s. 5d., 110s. 6d., stokers 101s. 6d., 105s. 6d., charge hands (packing and despatch dept.) appropriate age rate plus 1½d. an hour, other male workers Area "A" 35s. at 15 and under 16, rising to 99s. 6d. at 21 and over, Area "B" 39s. to 103s. 6d.; female workers—forewomen 83s., 87s., charge hands (other than packing and despatch dept.) 80s., 84s., single hand 78s., 82s., confectioners 21 and over 76s. 80s., 20 and under 21 60s., 64s., 19 and under 20 56s., 60s., charge hands (packing and despatch dept.) appropriate age rate plus 1d. an hour, other female workers Area "A" 35s. at 15 and under 16, rising to 70s. at 21 and over, Area "B" 39s. to 74s.‡
	Leicester and District	22 Nov.	Men, youths, boys, women and girls	Increases of 3s. 10d. a week in minimum rates for men 21 years and over, of 2s. 10½d. for women 21 and over, and of proportional amounts for younger workers. Minimum rates after change include: male workers—foremen confectioners and foremen bakers 121s. 7d. a week, first hands and single hands (confectioners) 115s. 10d., (bakers) 113s. 10s., second hands 114s. 10d., 112s. 10d., table hands 108s. 10d., 106s. 10d., other male workers 21 and over 98s. 10d.; female workers—forewomen 88s. 10½d., single hands 81s. 10½d., confectioners 21 and over 77s. 10½d., other female workers 21 and over 71s. 10½d.
Brewing	East Midlands	13 Oct.‡	Men, youths, boys, women and girls	Increases of 5s. 6d. a week in minimum rates for adult male workers, of 3s. 9d. for adult female workers, and of proportional amounts for juveniles. Minimum rates after change include: men 21 years and over—inside workers 110s. a week, motor drivers 120s., two-horse drivers 116s., one-horse drivers and drivers' mates 112s.; women 20 years and over 67s. 9d.
Sawmilling	Scotland	Pay day in week ending 23 Sept.	Labourers	New uniform minimum rate adopted of 2s. 3½d. an hour, resulting in increases of ½d. to 1½d. an hour, according to district.
	Liverpool and district.	First pay day after 1 Dec.	Woodcutting machinists and sawyers	Increase of 1d. an hour (2s. 10d. to 2s. 11d.), with a further payment of ½d. an hour as compensation for loss of overtime privilege.¶
			Labourers	Increase of ½d. an hour (2s. 3½d. to 2s. 4d.) with a further payment of ½d. an hour as compensation for loss of overtime privilege.¶
	Widnes	do.	Woodcutting machinists	Increase of 1d. an hour (2s. 10d. to 2s. 11d.).¶

* Under sliding-scale arrangements based on the official index of retail prices.

† The industries concerned are cut sole, last and upper pattern, stiffener, toe puff, built heel and wood heel manufacturing and wood heel processing.

‡ These increases apply to workpeople employed by co-operative societies affiliated to the Southern Sectional Wages Board of the Co-operative Union Ltd.

§ These rates became operative from 1st December, with retrospective effect to the date shown, and are to remain in operation until 31st December, 1951. The districts affected are Nottingham, Kimberley, Derby and Mansfield district.

¶ These increases have been agreed subject to the area being brought within the national wages agreement for the sawmilling industry; the rates are to remain in force for at least twelve months.

Principal Changes in Rates of Wages Reported during December—continued

Industry	District	Date from which Change took effect	Classes of Workpeople	Particulars of Change
Printing	Scotland	Pay day of week commencing 5 Nov.	Certain classes of workpeople employed on the production of morning and evening newspapers	Increases of 4s. 3d. a week for day work and of 5s. 9d. for nightwork. Rates after change: Grade 1 (Glasgow and Edinburgh)—Class 1 workers (brake and tension hands) day work 139s. 9d., night work 147s. 3d., Class 2 (oilers, strikers, etc.) 135s. 9d., 143s. 3d., Class 3 (fly reel and general hands) 129s. 9d., 137s. 3d., packers, despatchers, etc. 133s. 9d., 141s. 3d.; Grade 2 (Aberdeen, Greenock and Paisley)—Class 1 136s. 3d., 143s. 9d., Class 2 132s. 3d., 139s. 9d., Class 3 126s. 3d., 133s. 9d., packers, etc., 130s. 3d., 137s. 9d.
Rubber Floor Laying	Great Britain	First full pay period following 12 Nov.	Skilled layers and labourers	Increase of 2½d. an hour for skilled layers, and of 1½d. for labourers. Minimum rates after change: skilled layers 2s. 10d. an hour, labourers 2s. 5½d.*
Cinematograph Film Production	United Kingdom	First pay day in Dec.	Technical workers whose normal salaries do not exceed £19 10s. a week, and learners, employed in producing newsreels	Cost-of-living bonus increased† by 6d. a week (31s. to 31s. 6d.) at 21 years and over, and by 4d. (20s. 8d. to 21s.) at under 21.
	Great Britain	First pay day in Dec.	Laboratory workers, including technical and clerical workers and certain other workers, employed in film printing and processing laboratories	Cost-of-living bonus increased† by 6d. a week (31s. to 31s. 6d.) at 21 years and over, and by 4d. (20s. 8d. to 21s.) at under 21.
Railway Service	Northern Ireland	First full pay period following 20 July‡	Certain workpeople employed in conciliation grades by the Great Northern Railway (Ireland)	Increases of 2s. 6d. a week for workers 20 years and over, and of 1s. 3d. for younger workers. Rates after change include: traffic staff—porters 83s. to 88s. a week, according to grade and area, parcel porters 87s. 6d. to 93s. 6d., head porters 90s. to 93s. 6d.; goods department staff—porters 85s. to 94s., platelayers 85s. to 91s. 6d.; locomotive department staff—shed labourers, ash fillers, barmen, sandmen, etc., 88s. 6d. to 95s.
Road Passenger Transport	Great Britain	Pay week commencing 1 Dec.	Maintenance craftsmen employed by municipal tramways, trolley bus and omnibus undertakings	National standard rates of wages for a 44-hour week adopted, as follows: Group I undertakings 3s. 1d. an hour, Group II 3s., Group III 2s. 11d.
Road Haulage (Goods)	Great Britain	22 Dec.	Drivers and mates of mechanically propelled vehicles, foremen, removal packers and porters employed in furniture warehousing and removing, statutory attendants and other road haulage workers	Statutory minimum remuneration increased by 7s. a week for all workers 21 years and over and for certain younger workers to whom adult rates apply, by 3s. 6d. at under 18 years to 6s. at 20 and under 21 for drivers of vehicles of 1 ton or less carrying capacity, by 3s. 6d. for statutory attendants under 18 years, and by 2s. 6d. at under 16 years to 6s. at 20 and under 21 for other road haulage workers. Minimum rates after change include: drivers 21 years and over of vehicles of 1 ton or less carrying capacity, London area 111s. a week, Grade 1 areas 106s., Grade 2 areas 102s.; drivers (all ages) of vehicles of over 1 ton and up to and including 5 tons carrying capacity 114s., 109s., 105s., over 5 tons and up to 8 tons 118s., 113s., 109s., over 8 tons and up to 12 tons 122s., 117s., 113s., over 12 tons 126s., 121s., 117s.; drivers of steam wagons or tractors (other than tractors not exceeding 2 tons unladen weight used exclusively for furniture removal work) up to and including 8 tons, London area 118s., over 8 tons and up to 12 tons 122s., over 12 tons 126s.; mates (all ages) on steam wagons, London area 110s.; furniture warehousing and removing—foremen 113s., 108s. 6d., 106s. 6d., removal packers 108s., 105s. 6d., 103s. 6d., porters 106s., 103s. 6d., 101s.; other road haulage workers 21 years and over 108s., 105s., 101s.; workers employed on carriage of indivisible loads—over 6 tons and up to and including 10 tons carrying capacity, London area drivers 126s., mates 108s., over 10 tons and up to 16 tons 133s., 108s., over 16 tons and up to 20 tons 139s., 110s., over 20 tons and up to 25 tons 144s., 114s., over 25 tons and up to 45 tons 149s., 114s., over 45 tons and up to 8 tons 113s., over 8 tons and up to 4s. less than London rates, mates 3s. less than London rates, heavy brakemen and steersmen, London area 124s., Grade 1 and 2 areas 121s.¶
	Liverpool, Bootle, Birkenhead and Wallasey	22 Dec. or first full pay period thereafter	Drivers, etc., of mechanically propelled vehicles employed on local haulage work in various industries (within a radius of 10 miles from Liverpool and Birkenhead Town Halls) and on journey work outside the above radius	Increase of 7s. a week of 44 hours for permanent workers and of corresponding amounts for casual workers. Rates after change for permanent men engaged on local haulage work: drivers of vehicles of carrying capacity of 1 ton and under 106s. a week, over 1 ton and up to 2 tons 109s., over 2 tons and up to 5 tons 111s., over 5 tons and up to 8 tons 113s., over 8 tons and up to 12 tons 117s., over 12 tons 121s., secondmen 107s., stand trailermen 109s., trailermen 100s.; workpeople engaged on journey work: drivers of vehicles of 1 ton and under, and of over 1 ton and up to 2 tons 106s., over 2 tons and up to 5 tons 109s., over 5 tons and up to 8 tons 113s., over 8 tons and up to 12 tons 117s., over 12 tons 121s., secondmen 105s.
	Bristol	22 Dec.	Horse carters employed on traffic and coal work	Increases of 7s. a week of 44 hours for seniors and 3s. 6d. for juniors in permanent employment, and of corresponding amounts for casual workers. Rates after change for permanent workers: seniors—teamsmen 111s., one-horse drivers 104s., juniors 56s. 6d. or 63s. according to type of vehicle or district.
	Bristol	22 Dec.	Drivers of mechanically propelled vehicles operating under "C" licences, and horse carmen, horse keepers, stable and forage men	Increases of 7s. a week for horse drivers, horse keepers, forage men, and drivers, 21 years and over, of mechanically propelled vehicles, and of 3s. 6d. at under 18 to 6s. at 20 and under 21 for drivers of vehicles of 1 ton carrying capacity or less. Rates after change: one-horse drivers 108s. a week, two-horse drivers 112s. 6d., horse keepers 110s., stable and forage men 108s.; the rates for workers operating under "C" licences are the current wages fixed for Grade 1 areas by the Road Haulage Wages Council.
General Waste Materials Reclamation	Northern Ireland	28 Dec.	Men, youths and boys	Increases in general minimum time rates of 1d. an hour or 3s. 8d. a week for men 21 years and over and for youths 18 and under 21 years, and of ½d. or 1s. 10d. for youths and boys under 18 years; increases of 1d. an hour (2s. 2½d. to 2s. 3½d.) in piece-work basis time rate. General minimum time rates after change: men 21 years and over 2s. 2½d. an hour or 97s. 2d. a week of 44 hours, youths and boys 1s. 0½d. or 45s. 10d. at under 16 years, rising to 1s. 10d. or 80s. 8d. at 18 and under 21; burner cutters 21 years and over to be paid 1½d. an hour above minimum rates, whilst so employed.¶
Milk Distribution	England and Wales	24 Dec.	Men, youths, boys, women and girls	Increases in general minimum time rates of 4s. a week for men 21 years or over, of 3s. for women 21 years or over, of 3s. for male workers and 2s. 6d. for female workers 18 to 20, and of 2s. for male workers and 1s. 6d. for female workers under 18. General minimum time rates after change: male workers—foremen, area A 105s. a week, area B 110s. 6d., area C 117s., sterilizers 21 years or over 100s. 6d., 103s. 6d., 107s. 6d., clerks, A 36s. at under 16 years, rising to 100s. 6d. at 21 or over, B 37s. to 103s. 6d., C 41s. to 107s. 6d., roundsmen, A 38s. 6d. to 96s., B 41s. to 98s. 6d., C 47s. to 102s. 6d., shop assistants, assistant roundsmen, pasteurizers, assistant sterilizers, other workers, A 36s. to 96s., B 37s. to 98s. 6d., C 41s. to 102s. 6d.; female workers—roundswomen, A 44s. 6d. at under 18 years, rising to 78s. 6d. at 21 or over, B 45s. 6d. to 79s. 6d., C 54s. to 87s., clerks, A 34s. 6d. at under 16 to 72s. 6d. at 21 or over, B 35s. 6d. to 73s., C 39s. 6d. to 79s. 6d., other workers, A 34s. to 73s., B 35s. 6d. to 74s. 6d., C 39s. to 78s. 6d.**

* This entry is in substitution of the entry on page 432 of the December, 1950, issue of this GAZETTE.

† Under sliding-scale arrangements based on the official index of retail prices.

‡ Including boiler attendants, storemen, transport mechanics, transport drivers, charge-hand cleaners, cleaners, commissionaires, doormen and gatemen, charge-hand painters, painters' mates, carpenters, carpenters' mates and general labourers.

§ These increases were the result of an award made in November by the National Arbitration Tribunal (Northern Ireland), with retrospective effect to the date shown.

¶ These increases took effect under an Order issued under the Wages Councils Act. See page 37. In the London area rates in respect of vehicles of over 1 ton and up to and including 8 tons carrying capacity are 1s. a week higher for drivers in employment as such on 8th June, 1932, who have remained in the service of the same employer.

** These increases took effect under an Order issued under the Wages Councils Act (Northern Ireland). See page 37. The rates for female workers remain unchanged.

*** These increases took effect under an Order issued under the Wages Councils Act. See page 37.

Principal Changes in Rates of Wages Reported during December—*continued*

Industry	District	Date from which Change took effect	Classes of Workpeople	Particulars of Change
Local Authority Services	England and Wales (various regions)	Beginning of first full pay period following 1 Dec.	Roadmen employed by County Councils	Increase of 6s. a week. Minimum basic rates after change: London area 110s. a week, zone A areas 103s., zone B areas 100s.*
Laundries	Great Britain	First pay day following 4 Dec.	Workpeople employed in co-operative laundries	Increases of 4s. 6d. a week for adult male workers, of 3s. for adult female workers, and of proportional amounts for younger workers. Rates after change include: men 21 years and over—London 112s. 6d. a week, Provinces 104s. 6d.; women—London (21 and over) 79s., Provinces (20 and over) 73s.
	Northern Ireland	28 Dec.	Men, youths and boys	Increases of 1½d. an hour in general minimum time rates for men 21 years and over, and of ½d. to 1½d., according to age, for youths and boys. General minimum time rates after change: men 21 years and over 2s. 1½d. an hour, youths and boys 10d. at under 16, rising to 1s. 9½d. at 20.†
			Women and girls	Increases of 1d. an hour in general minimum time rates for women 20 years and over, and of ½d. to 1d., according to age, for younger workers; increase of 1d. an hour (1s. 4d. to 1s. 5d.) in piecework basis time rate. General minimum time rates after change: during 1st six months of employment—women 20 years and over 1s. 4d. an hour, girls 7½d. at under 15 years, rising to 1s. 2½d. at 19; after first six months—women 1s. 4½d. an hour, girls 8d. to 1s. 3½d.†

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN HOURS OF LABOUR REPORTED DURING DECEMBER

Industry	District	Date	Classes of Workpeople	Particulars of Change
Spring Mattress and Bedstead Fittings Manufacture	Great Britain	11 Dec.	Men, youths, boys, women and girls	Normal weekly working hours increased from 44 to 45.‡

* This increase was the result of a decision of the National Joint Regional Council for County Council Roadmen, and applies to those authorities affiliated to the constituent Regional Councils. It does not apply to the County Councils of Cheshire, Durham, Lancashire, Middlesex, Warwickshire and the West Riding of Yorkshire, nor to workpeople within the scope of the Glamorgan Regional Council.

† These increases took effect under an Order issued under the Wages Councils Act (Northern Ireland). See page 37.
‡ The increase in the normal working week is associated with an increase in the maximum annual holiday with pay from one to two weeks. See also under "Changes in Rates of Wages". An employer may, at his discretion, give notice to any worker or group of workers that in any particular week or weeks the normal working week is to be 44 hours only.

Index of Rates of Wages

The index figure of rates of wages measures the movement, from month to month, in the level of full-time weekly rates of wages in the principal industries and services in the United Kingdom compared with the level at 30th June, 1947, taken as 100. The industries and services covered by the index and the method of calculation were described on page 41 of the issue of this GAZETTE for February, 1948. The index is based on the recognised rates of wages fixed by collective agreements between organisations of employers and workpeople, arbitration awards or statutory orders. The percentage increases in the various industries are combined in accordance with the relative importance of the industries, as measured by the total wages bill in 1946. The index does not reflect changes in earnings due to such factors as alterations in working hours, or in piece-work earnings due to variations in output or the introduction of new machinery, etc.

Where necessary the figures have been revised to include changes arranged with retrospective effect or reported too late for inclusion in the current figures.

The figures, on the basis of 30th June, 1947=100, are shown in the next column.

Date (end of month)	Men	Women	Juveniles	All Workers
1947				
June	100	100	100	100
September .. .	101	101	102	101
December .. .	103	103	106	103
1948				
March	105	106	108	105
June	105	107	108	106
September .. .	106	108	109	106
December .. .	107	109	110	107
1949				
March	108	110	111	108
June	108	111	112	109
September .. .	108	111	112	109
December .. .	109	112	113	109
1950				
January .. .	109	113	113	110
February .. .	109	113	114	110
March	109	113	114	110
April	109	113	114	110
May	109	113	114	110
June	109	113	114	110
July	109	113	114	110
August	109	113	114	110
September .. .	110	114	114	110
October .. .	110	114	115	111
November .. .	113	114	117	113
December .. .	113	116	118	114

Cancer Registration in England and Wales

AN ENQUIRY INTO TREATMENT AND ITS RESULTS

By PERCY M. STOCKS

Cancer kills in a single year nearly as many people as our army lost in officers and men in World War II. The object of the registration and follow up scheme described in this booklet by the Chief Medical Statistician of the General Register Office is to get much more exact information than we now have about the results of treatment.

(Studies in Population and Medical Subjects: No. 3).

2s. By post 2s. 2d.

The first two issues in the series were:—

Regional and Local Differences in Cancer Death Rates. (No. 1) 1s. (1s. 2d.)

Sickness in the Population of England and Wales. (No. 2) 1s. (1s. 2d.)

H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE

AT THE ADDRESSES SHOWN ON PAGE 39 OR THROUGH ANY BOOKSELLER

Industrial Disputes

DISPUTES IN DECEMBER

The number of stoppages of work* arising from industrial disputes in the United Kingdom, reported to the Department as beginning in December, was 72. In addition, 11 stoppages which began before December were still in progress at the beginning of that month. The approximate number of workers involved, during December, in these 83 stoppages, including workers thrown out of work at the establishments where the stoppages occurred, though not themselves parties to the disputes, is estimated at over 9,000. The aggregate number of working days lost at the establishments concerned, during December, was about 28,000.

The following Table gives an analysis, by groups of industries, of stoppages of work in December due to industrial disputes:—

Industry Group†	Number of Stoppages in progress in Month			Number of Workers involved in all Stoppages in progress in Month	Aggregate Number of Working Days lost in all Stoppages in progress in Month
	Started before beginning of Month	Started in Month	Total		
Coal Mining .. .	4	46	50	3,600	6,000
Engineering .. .	—	6	6	1,600	6,000
Vehicles .. .	3	5	8	2,000	11,000
Transport, etc. .. .	1	5	6	1,000	3,000
All remaining industries and services .. .	3	10	13	900	2,000
Total, Dec., 1950	11	72	83	9,100	28,000
<i>Total, Nov., 1950 .. .</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>101</i>	<i>112</i>	<i>20,300</i>	<i>69,000</i>
<i>Total, Dec., 1949 .. .</i>	<i>15</i>	<i>74</i>	<i>89</i>	<i>14,800</i>	<i>68,000</i>

Of the total of 28,000 days lost in December, 17,000 were lost by 7,300 workers involved in stoppages which began in that month. Of these workers, 6,400 were directly involved and 900 indirectly involved (*i.e.*, thrown out of work at the establishments where the stoppages occurred but not themselves parties to the disputes). The number of days lost in December also included 11,000 days lost by 1,800 workers through stoppages which had continued from the previous month.

PRINCIPAL DISPUTES DURING DECEMBER

Industry, Occupations and Locality	Approximate Number of Workers involved		Date when Stoppage		Cause or Object	Result
	Directly	Indirectly‡	Began	Ended		
ENGINEERING:— Engineers, labourers and other workers employed in general engineering—Deptford (one firm)	890	—	12 Dec.	18 Dec.	Workers' objection to the proposed extension of time and motion study to certain sections of the machine shops and allegation that their trade union representatives had not been consulted	Work resumed and works conference held at which agreement was reached for a temporary postponement of time and motion study pending further discussion.
MOTOR VEHICLE MANUFACTURE:— Bodymakers, trimmers, wood machinists, metal workers, painters, coach finishers and tool makers employed in motor body building—Hendon (one firm)	900	—	19 Oct.	15 Dec.	Demand for withdrawal of notices of dismissal given to redundant workers and allegation that the management had failed to provide for continuity of employment	Agreement reached for full resumption of work on 18th December, including redundant workers, and for the holding of a works conference that day to discuss redundancy.
ROAD PASSENGER TRANSPORT:— Motor omnibus drivers, conductors, cleaners and fitters employed on public service vehicles—Bridgend and Port Talbot (one firm)	540	—	23 Dec.	23 Dec.	Dispute respecting the interpretation of an agreement regarding revised duty rosters for Christmas week	Work resumed. Workers operated the revised rosters.

* Stoppages of work due to disputes not connected with terms of employment or conditions of labour are excluded from the statistics. Stoppages involving fewer than 10 workers, and those which lasted less than one day, are also excluded, unless the aggregate number of working days lost exceeded 100. The figures for the month under review are provisional and subject to revision: those for earlier months have been revised where necessary in accordance with the most recent information.

† The grouping of industries is based on the Standard Industrial Classification prepared for use in Government Statistical Departments. The figures for industry groups are not strictly comparable with those published for earlier years.

‡ Thrown out of work at the establishments where the stoppages occurred, but not themselves parties to the disputes.

Industrial Lung Diseases of Iron and Steel Foundry Workers

In recent years, says the foreword to this report, there has been a quickening of interest in the health and welfare of iron and steel foundry workers. This has found practical expression in these investigations which it is hoped will throw light on the incidence of these diseases, and their relation to different types of work. Thus, valuable data is obtained which may result in lowering the incidence rate and improving treatment.

Price 21s. By post 22s.

H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE

U.K. Index of Retail Prices

FIGURES FOR 12th DECEMBER, 1950

At 12th December the retail prices index was 116 (prices at 17th June, 1947 = 100), the same figure as at 14th November, compared with 113 at 13th December, 1949.

The interim index of retail prices measures, for the United Kingdom, the average changes, month by month, in the prices of the goods and services which entered into working-class expenditure before the war, the goods and services covered being those recorded in family budgets collected during 1937-38. The index started from 17th June, 1947 (taken as = 100), and measures the changes in the prices of these goods and services from that date. As some goods and services are much more important than others, the relative changes, since 17th June, 1947, in the price levels of the various items included are combined by the use of "weights". These "weights" represent the proportions in which these items entered into working-class expenditure in 1937-38, adjusted to take account of the broad changes in prices between 1937-38 and mid-June, 1947.

The price comparisons used in compiling the index figures relate to a fixed list of items, and steps are taken to ensure that, so far as possible, the index figures reflect real changes in price levels but not changes in the prices quoted which are attributable to variations in quality.

The following Table shows the indices at 12th December, 1950, for each of the main groups of items and for all the groups combined, together with the relative weights which are used in combining the group indices into a single "all items" index:—

GROUP	INDEX FIGURE FOR 12th DECEMBER, 1950	WEIGHT
I. Food	125 (125.4)	348
II. Rent and rates	101 (101.5)	88
III. Clothing	124 (124.3)	97
IV. Fuel and light	122 (121.9)	65
V. Household durable goods	117 (117.0)	71
VI. Miscellaneous goods	113 (113.3)	35
VII. Services	111 (111.1)	79
VIII. Drink and tobacco	104 (104.1)	217
All items	116 (116.2)	1,000

The group indices, as calculated to the nearest first place of decimals, are shown in brackets in the above Table because these are the figures to which the weights have been applied for the purpose of computing the "all items" index. These decimal figures are shown only in order that, if desired, calculations may be made of the effect of combining particular groups and excluding others.* The information available as to price changes, however, is such that no precise significance can be attributed to the decimals, and for any other purpose, therefore, the figures should be used to the nearest whole number.

Food

Between 14th November and 12th December prices for fish rose by an average of about 8 per cent. The average prices of rabbits, apples, potatoes and some other vegetables were also increased. There were small reductions in the average prices for oranges, tomatoes and onions. As a result of these changes the average level of food prices rose by about one-half of 1 per cent., but there was no change in the index figure for the group when expressed to the nearest whole number, which remained at 125.

Clothing

Between 14th November and 12th December increases were reported in the prices of many of the items included in the clothing group. The largest of these increases were chiefly in respect of woollen goods, and included men's socks, woollen coating material and knitting wool, but there were also appreciable increases for cotton material, some kinds of shirts, sanitary towels, nursery squares and fully-fashioned rayon hose. For the clothing group as a whole the average level of prices rose by nearly 1 per cent. and the index figure, expressed to the nearest whole number, was 124 at 12th December, compared with 123 at 14th November.

Fuel and Light

The average retail price of coal rose by about 2 per cent., during the month under review, as a result of higher winter prices in London and the south of England, which came into force on 1st December and raised the price in those areas above the level of the prices charged before the summer reductions took effect. The average price of candles rose by rather more than 11 per cent., following an increase of 2d. per lb. in the maximum permitted price. For the fuel and light group as a whole the average level of prices rose by nearly 2 per cent. during the month and, expressed to the nearest whole number, the index figure at 12th December was 122, compared with 120 at 14th November.

Household Durable Goods

The principal change in the level of prices of the articles included in the group covering household durable goods was a further increase of nearly 12 per cent. in the average price of blankets. There were smaller increases in the average prices of many other articles, including sheets, curtain material, household buckets, kettles and saucepans. For this group as a whole the average level of prices rose by rather more than one-half of 1 per cent. and the index figure at 12th December was 117, compared with 116 at 14th November.

* The combination of any two or more group indices is effected by multiplying the respective indices by their corresponding weights and dividing the sum of the resulting products by the sum of the weights used.

† There was a further increase of 1d. per lb. early in January, 1951.

Other Groups

In the four remaining groups, covering rent and rates, miscellaneous goods, services, and drink and tobacco, respectively, there was little change in the average level of prices during the month under review, the only significant changes being increases in the prices of a few kinds of pipe tobacco. The index figures for these groups, expressed to the nearest whole number, were 101, 113, 111 and 104, respectively, each of these figures being the same as at a month earlier.

FIGURES FOR 1947-50

The Table below shows the index figures for "all items" and for food from June, 1947, onwards. The figures normally relate to the Tuesday nearest to the 15th of each month.

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
All items												
1947	—	—	—	—	100	101	100	101	101	103	104	104
1948	104	106	106	108	108	110	108	108	108	108	109	109
1949	109	109	109	109	111	111	111	111	112	112	112	113
1950	113	113	113	114	114	114	114	113	114	115	116	116
Food												
1947	—	—	—	—	100	101	99	100	101	103	103	103
1948	104	108	109	109	108	113	108	107	107	108	108	108
1949	108	109	108	108	114	115	116	116	117	119	119	120
1950	120	121	121	122	125	123	122	121	122	125	125	125

An article reviewing the changes in retail prices during the year 1950 appears on pages 3 to 5.

A full description of the method of construction and calculation of the index, "Interim Index of Retail Prices: Method of Construction and Calculation," is obtainable, price 6d. net (7d. post free), from H.M. Stationery Office, at the addresses shown on page 39 of this GAZETTE.

Retail Prices Overseas

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

Country	Base of Index* and Month for which Index Figure is given	Index Figure	Rise (+) or Fall (-) of Index Figure (in Index Points) compared with	
			Month before	Year before
European Countries				
Belgium	1936-38 = 100			
All Items*	Oct., 1950	395	+ 3	+ 19
Food		373	+ 2	+ 15
France (Paris)	1938 = 100			
All Items*	Oct., 1950	2,043	+ 34	+ 142
Germany (British and United States Zones)	1938 = 100			
All Items	Oct., 1950	149	+ 1	- 6
Food		150	+ 1	- 10
Irish Republic	Mid-Aug., 1947 = 100			
All Items*	Mid-Nov., 1950	102	+ 2	+ 2
Food		98	+ 2	Nil
Norway	1949 = 100			
All Items	Sept., 1950 (middle)	108.3	+ 3.5	+ 7.9
Food		115.0	+ 6.6	+ 14.2
Sweden	1935 = 100			
All Items	Sept., 1950	172†	Nil†	+ 2
Food		186	+ 2†	+ 3
Other Countries				
Canada	1935-39 = 100			
All Items	Nov., 1950 (beginning)	170.7	Nil	+ 9.0
Food		218.6	- 1.5	+ 15.3
Israel (Tel Aviv and Haifa)	Aug., 1939 = 100			
All Items*	July, 1950	317	Nil	- 26
Food		369	Nil	- 42
Jamaica (Kingston)	Aug., 1939 = 100			
All Items	Aug., 1950	254.99	- 0.65	+ 13.61
Food		253.50	- 2.56	+ 20.18
Kenya (Nairobi)	Aug., 1939 = 100			
All Items*	Aug., 1950 (end)	201	+ 3‡	+ 16
Food		211	+ 2‡	+ 23
Rhodesia, Northern	Aug., 1939 = 100			
All Items	Sept., 1950	155	Nil	+ 6
Food		179	+ 2	+ 9
Rhodesia, Southern	Aug., 1939 = 100			
All Items	Oct., 1950	167	+ 1	+ 14
Food		203	+ 2	+ 34
South Africa, Union (9 urban areas)	1938 = 100			
All Items	Aug., 1950	158.7	- 1.1	+ 5.4
Food		170.2	- 3.1	+ 8.5
Trinidad	1935 = 100			
All Items	Nov., 1950 (beginning)	233	Nil	+ 5
Food		267	Nil	+ 5
United States	1935-39 = 100			
All Items	Oct., 1950	174.8	+ 1.0	+ 6.3
Food		209.0	+ 0.5	+ 8.4

* The items of expenditure on which the "all-items" figures are based are food, house-rent, clothing, fuel and light, and other or miscellaneous items, except in the case of Belgium (food, clothing, fuel and light, and miscellaneous items), the Irish Republic (food, house-rent, clothing, and fuel and light), Israel (food, house-rent, clothing and household, etc., items), and Kenya (food, clothing, and household, etc., items).

† Miscellaneous items include direct taxation. If direct taxation is excluded, the figure was 168, an increase of one point compared with the previous quarter, and of one point compared with September, 1949.

‡ The index is quarterly and comparison is with the previous quarter.

§ The index is bi-monthly and comparison is with the previous bi-monthly period.

MISCELLANEOUS STATISTICS

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Fatal Industrial Accidents

The number of workpeople (other than seamen) in the United Kingdom whose deaths from accidents in the course of their employment were reported in December was 116, compared with 155 (revised figure) in the previous month and 134 in December, 1949. In the case of seamen employed in ships registered in the United Kingdom, 6 fatal accidents were reported in December, compared with 11 in the previous month and 8 in December, 1949. Detailed figures are given below for December, 1950. A summary for the year appears on page 6.

Mines and Quarries*	Factories—continued
Under Coal Mines Acts : Underground 24	Electrical Stations 2
Surface 7	Other Industries
Metalliferous Mines 1	WORKS AND PLACES UNDER SS. 105, 107, 108, FACTORIES ACT, 1937
Quarries 2	Docks, Wharves, Quays and Ships 7
TOTAL, MINES & QUARRIES 34	Building Operations 10
	Works of Engineering Construction 3
	Warehouses

Factories

Clay, Stone, Cement, Pottery and Glass 1	TOTAL, FACTORIES ACT 60
Chemicals, Oils, Soap, etc. 4	
Metal Extracting and Refining 2	Railway Service
Metal Conversion and Founding (including Rolling Mills and Tube Making) 10	Brakemen, Goods Guards 2
Engineering, Locomotive Building, Boilermaking, etc. 3	Engine Drivers, Motor-men
Railway and Tramway Carriages, Motor and Other Vehicles and Aircraft Manufacture 7	Firemen
Shipbuilding 1	Guards (Passenger)
Other Metal Trades 1	Labourers 1
Cotton 3	Mechanics 1
Wool, Worsted, Shoddy	Permanent Way Men 10
Other Textile Manufacture	Porters 1
Textile Printing, Bleaching and Dyeing	Shunters 3
Tanning, Currying, etc. 2	Other Grades 4
Food and Drink	Contractors' Servants
General Woodwork and Furniture	TOTAL, RAILWAY SERVICE 22
Paper, Printing, etc. 3	Total (excluding Seamen) 116
Gas Works 1	
	Seamen
	Trading Vessels 6
	Fishing Vessels
	TOTAL, SEAMEN 6
	Total (including Seamen) 122

Industrial Diseases

The numbers of cases and deaths† in the United Kingdom reported during December, under the Factories Act, 1937, or the Lead Paint (Protection against Poisoning) Act, 1926, are shown below. A summary for the year appears on page 6.

I. Cases	I. Cases—continued
Lead Poisoning	Epitheliomatous Ulceration (Skin Cancer)
Operatives engaged in : Smelting of Metals	Pitch 5
Shipbreaking 18	Tar
Paint and Colour Works	Oil 2
Other Industries	TOTAL 7
TOTAL 18	
	Other Poisoning
Chronic Benzene Poisoning 1	Chromic Ulceration
Compressed Air Illness 1	Manuf. of Bichromates 1
TOTAL 2	Chromium Plating 9
	Other Industries
	TOTAL 10
Anthrax	Total, Cases 40
Handling and Sorting of Hides and Skins 1	
Other Industries 2	II. Deaths
TOTAL 3	NIL

* For mines and quarries, weekly returns are furnished and the figures cover the 4 weeks ended 30th December, 1950, in comparison with the 5 weeks ended 2nd December, 1950, and the 5 weeks ended 31st December, 1949.

† Deaths comprise all fatal cases reported during the month; they have also been included (as cases) in the same or previous returns.

Further Education and Training

The figures below show the progress made under the Further Education and Training Scheme (a) during December, and (b) during the period since the inception of the Scheme in April, 1943, up to 31st December, 1950.

	Men	Women	Total
December, 1950			
Number of applications for assistance made	155	4	159
Number of awards made by—			
Ministry of Labour and National Service	67	—	67
Ministry of Education	58	2	60
Other award-making Departments	11	1	12
Total awards	136	3	139
Number of applications rejected	107	7	114
Applications transferred to other training schemes or withdrawn	81	—	81
Cumulative totals, April, 1943, to end of December, 1950			
Number of applications for assistance made	201,589	15,231	216,820
Number of awards made by—			
Ministry of Labour and National Service	43,790	1,318	45,108
Ministry of Education	78,646	6,184	84,830
Other award-making Departments	18,054	1,841	19,895
Total awards	140,490	9,343	149,833
Number of applications rejected	37,366	3,146	40,512
Applications transferred to other training schemes or withdrawn	22,297	2,701	24,998
Cases under consideration at end of period	1,436	41	1,477

Vocational and Disabled Training

The statistics of the Vocational and Disabled Training Schemes given below continue those published in previous issues of this GAZETTE (see last month's issue, page 435). They relate to the four weeks ended 13th November.

Statistics for four weeks ended 13th November, 1950

	Males	Females	Total
Applicants admitted to training during period :			
Able-bodied	210	17	227
Disabled	403	58	461
Total	613	75	688
Number of persons in training at end of period at :			
Government Training Centres—			
Able-bodied	1,164	74	1,238
Disabled	1,339	98	1,437
Technical and Commercial Colleges—			
Able-bodied	217	99	316
Disabled	413	243	656
Employers' Establishments—			
Able-bodied	220	5	225
Disabled	372	4	376
Residential (Disabled) Centres and Voluntary Organisations	436	84	520
Total	4,161	607	4,768
Trainees placed in employment during period :			
Able-bodied	222	24	246
Disabled	289	43	332
Total	511	67	578

Industrial Rehabilitation

The statistics given below show the numbers of men and women admitted to courses at the Industrial Rehabilitation Units operated by the Ministry of Labour and National Service during the four weeks ended 11th December, the numbers in attendance at the end of, and the numbers who completed courses during the period.

	Men	Women	Total
Persons admitted to courses during period	684	55	739
Persons in attendance at courses at end of period	1,221	95	1,316
Persons who completed courses during period	547	21	568

Since the Units were established by the Ministry of Labour and National Service up to 11th December, 1950, the total number of persons admitted to industrial rehabilitation courses was 19,144.

ARBITRATION AWARDS, NOTICES, ORDERS, ETC.

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Conditions of Employment and National Arbitration Orders

National Arbitration Tribunal Awards

During December the National Arbitration Tribunal issued 19 awards, Nos. 1564 to 1582.* Five of the awards are summarised below; the others related to individual employers.

Award No. 1566 (6th December).—Parties: Firms represented by the Employers' Side of the National Joint Standing Committee for the Glove Manufacturing Industry, and members of trade unions constituting the Trade Union Side of the Committee in their employment. **Claim:** For a second week's holiday with pay. **Award:** The Tribunal awarded two weeks' annual paid holiday from 1951 onwards.

Award No. 1568 (8th December).—Parties: Members of the Hawick Hosiery Manufacturers' Association and William Lockie and Co. Ltd., and members of the National Union of General and Municipal Workers in their employment. **Claim:** For an additional week's holiday with pay. **Award:** The Tribunal noted that a claim for additional holidays with pay was about to be submitted in respect of hosiery workers in England, who form the great bulk of the workers in the hosiery industry. In these circumstances the Tribunal found that the claim before them, affecting a small proportion of the industry only, had not at present been established.

Award No. 1573 (18th December).—Parties: Employers represented on the Employers' Side of the National Joint Industrial Council for the Wire and Wire Rope Industries, and members of trade unions represented on the Trade Union Side of the Council in their employment. **Claim:** For an additional week's annual holiday with pay. **Award:** The Tribunal awarded two weeks' annual holiday with pay from 1951 onwards.

Award No. 1574 (18th December).—Parties: Members of Associations federated with the Engineering and Allied Employers' National Federation, and members of the National Union of Packing Case Makers (Wood and Tin), Box Makers, Sawyers and Mill Workers in their employment. **Claim:** That the Tribunal's **Award No. 686** (see the issue of this GAZETTE for February, 1945, page 41), should apply to all members of the Union employed on packing and making boxes and packing cases or wooden containers in federated engineering establishments. **Award:** The Tribunal found against the claim as stated but awarded that the rates of wages agreed upon by the Joint Industrial Council of the Wood Box, Packing Case and Wooden Container Industry should be paid to skilled packing case makers who are capable of making all types and sizes of cases, boxes, crates and skids involving measuring up and deciding the required shape and dimensions, construction of case, fitting internal fixtures and securing. The Tribunal referred back to the parties for settlement by negotiation the rates of wages for semi-skilled workers and "new starts".

Award No. 1580 (29th December).—Parties: Members of the United Kingdom Fellmongers' Association, and members of the Amalgamated Society of Leather Workers and Kindred Trades in their employment. **Claim:** That the basic time work rates for adult male and female workers and for juveniles should be brought into line with those in the leather producing industry. **Award:** The Tribunal awarded that the wages of adult male workers should be increased by 2d. an hour for skilled and unskilled workers and by 2½d. an hour for semi-skilled workers; that the wages of adult female workers should be increased by 2d. an hour; and that proportionate increases should be made in the wages of juvenile workers.

National Arbitration Tribunal (Northern Ireland) Awards

Since the last issue of this GAZETTE was prepared the National Arbitration Tribunal (Northern Ireland) issued two awards, neither of which related to a substantial part of an industry.

Civil Service Arbitration Tribunal

During December the Civil Service Arbitration Tribunal issued six awards, Nos. 132 to 137.* These awards are summarised below.

Award No. 132 (12th December).—Parties: Institution of Professional Civil Servants and Forestry Commission. **Claim:** For new scales of pay for Forest and Estate Officer grades in the Forestry Commission. **Award:** The Tribunal awarded, with effect from 1st July, 1950, the following London male scales:—District Officer Grade II: £350 at ages 21 and 22, £375 at 23, £400 at 24, £475 at 25, £500 at 26, and thereafter by increments of £25 a year to £750. District Officer Grade I: £750 by £25 to £1,000. Divisional Officer: £1,050 by £35 to £1,270. Conservator: £1,320 by £50 to £1,520.

Award No. 133 (19th December).—Parties: Civil Service Clerical Association and the Lords Commissioners of H.M. Treasury. **Claim:** For revised scales of pay for clerical officers with effect from 1st June, 1950. **Award:** The Tribunal awarded with effect

from 1st October, 1950, the following scales of pay for clerical officers subject to normal provincial arrangements:—Male: £150 at age 16 by £20 to £350 by £15 to £500. Female: £150 at age 16 by £20 to £210 by £15 to £300 by £10 to £400.

Award No. 134 (18th December).—Parties: Institution of Professional Civil Servants and Post Office. **Claim:** For revised salary scales operative from 1st January, 1946, for deck and engineer officers serving in Post Office cable ships. **Award:** The Tribunal awarded that as from 1st December, 1947, the following salary scales should be paid to the officers concerned, with an additional allowance for those serving in "Monarch":—Commander, £965 by £30 to £1,145; Chief Officer, £730 by £25 to £880; Second Officer, £585 by £25 to £710; Third Officer, £440 by £20 to £600; Fourth Officer, £440 by £20 to £600; Chief Engineer, £695 by £25 to £795; Second Engineer £560 by £25 to £660; Third Engineer, £405 by £20 to £565; Fourth Engineer, £405 by £20 to £565; Electrical Engineer, £405 by £20 to £565; Fifth Engineer, £395 by £15 to £500; Assistant Electrical Engineer, £395 by £15 to £500. The additional allowance for those serving in "Monarch" is:—Commander, £150; Chief Officer, £100; Second Officer, £70; Third Officer, £50; Fourth Officer, £40; Chief Engineer, £100; Second Engineer, £70; Third Engineer, £50; Fourth Engineer and Electrical Engineer, £40.

Award No. 135 (27th December).—Parties: Civil Service Legal Society and the Lords Commissioners of H.M. Treasury. **Claim:** For revised salary scales for Legal Assistants and Senior Legal Assistants with effect from 1st June, 1950. **Award:** The Tribunal awarded as from 1st October, 1950, the following salary scales for male established officers working in offices within the London postal area:—Legal Assistants: (a) during probation £600 at age 26 (with an addition of £25 for each year of age above 26 on entry up to a maximum of £700); (b) on confirmation of appointment £800 (with deduction of £25 for each year of age under 30 on confirmation of appointment) by annual increments of £30 to £1,070. Senior Legal Assistants: £1,150 by annual increments of £40 to £1,230, thereafter by annual increments of £50 to £1,500.

Award No. 136 (27th December).—Parties: Civil Service Alliance and the Lords Commissioners of H.M. Treasury. **Claim:** For revised scales of pay of established shorthand typists, established typists and clerical assistants (men and women). **Award:** The Tribunal awarded the following scales of weekly pay:—Shorthand typists: 68s. at age 16, rising to 114s. at 25 and thereafter by increments of 4s. to 130s. Typists: 60s. at age 16, rising to 96s. at 25 and thereafter by increments of 4s. to 112s. and 3s. to 115s. Clerical assistants, male: 114s., rising by increments of 4s. to 142s. and 3s. to 145s. Clerical assistants, female: 55s. at age 16, rising to 94s. at 25 and thereafter by increments of 4s. to 114s. and 2s. to 116s. The scales awarded, which are London scales, are to operate from 1st October, 1950, in respect of shorthand typists, typists and female clerical assistants and from 1st January, 1951, in respect of male clerical assistants.

Award No. 137 (27th December).—Parties: National Association of Women Civil Servants and the Lords Commissioners of H.M. Treasury. **Claim:** For revised scale of pay for established qualified women copy typists. **Award:** The Tribunal awarded as from 1st October, 1950, the same scale of pay as set out for typists in **Award No. 136** (see above).

Industrial Courts Act, 1919, and Conciliation Act, 1896

Industrial Court Awards

During December the Industrial Court issued seven awards, Nos. 2282 to 2288. Six of these are summarised below; the remaining one related to an individual undertaking.

Award No. 2282 (4th December).—Parties: Trade Union Side and Official Side of the Shipbuilding Trade Joint Council for Government Departments. **Claim:** That as from 11th January, 1949, the basic rate for non-craft male grades employed at Caerwent should be increased to 99s. 6d. a week. **Counter-Claim:** That the basis of payment for overtime working at Caerwent should be altered to coincide with the normal practice recognised by the Miscellaneous Trades Joint Council. **Award:** The Court found against the claim and counter-claim and awarded accordingly. The Court noted "that if the Trade Union Side could advance a claim for the retention of the rate on an 'M' rate basis the Official Side would be prepared to examine the claim".

Award No. 2283 (4th December).—Parties: Trade Union Side and Official Side of the Shipbuilding Trade Joint Council for Government Departments. **Claim:** That the minimum rates for lithographic draughtsmen, photo draughtsmen, male (camera) operators and intaglio etchers employed at the Admiralty Hydrographic Supplies Establishment, Taunton, be increased to £8 5s. and that the existing merit range of 40s. be increased to 50s. **Award:** The Court awarded, with effect from the beginning of the

first full pay week following 4th December, that the Admiralty Hydrographic Supplies Establishment house minimum should be 20s. a week in excess of the standard minimum rates (London and Taunton) for the grades concerned, in substitution of the present 7s. 6d. paid in recognition of the general character of the work performed and in substitution of a similar amount, namely 7s. 6d., being part of the present 20s. paid to locally entered lithographic draughtsmen in recognition of the particular skill required for the best work on litho plates. The Court further awarded that the merit range should be increased from 40s. to 50s. and that those employees at present in receipt of merit money should receive an increase of 25 per cent. of their merit money.

Award No. 2284 (5th December).—Parties: Employees' Side and Employers' Side of the National Joint Industrial Council for the Basket Making Industry. **Claim:** For the variation of agreements relating to holidays to provide for two weeks' holidays with pay. **Award:** The Court found in favour of the claim and awarded accordingly.

Award No. 2285 (8th December).—Parties: Staff Side and Management Side of the Whitley Council for the Health Services (Great Britain) Medical Council "C". **Claim:** For revised salary scales and conditions of service for medical officers employed by local authorities. **Award:** The Court awarded revised scales of salary for Assistant Medical Officers, Senior Medical Officers and Medical Officers of Health employed in the Public Health Service in England, Wales and Scotland, the salary scales for Deputy Medical Officers of Health, for Divisional or Area Medical Officers and for Officers holding mixed appointments to be determined by joint negotiation and agreement between the parties. In the event of the parties failing to agree on this matter within a period of two months, permission was given for it to be submitted to the Court for determination. The award also dealt with the remuneration of part-time Medical Officers of Health, Medical Officers of Health holding combined appointments, assimilation, sick pay, teaching duties and transfers. The award operates from and including 1st October, 1950.

Award No. 2286 (11th December).—Parties: Employers' Side and Employees' Side of the National Joint Council for Civil Air Transport (Supervisory Engineering and Technical National Sectional Panel). **Claim:** For motor transport foremen employed by Airways Corporations to be paid shift premiums when employed on shift work. **Award:** The Court found against the claim and awarded accordingly.

Award No. 2287 (15th December).—Parties: Employees' Side and Employers' Side of the National Joint Industrial Council for the Glass Processing Industry. **Claim:** For two weeks' annual holiday with pay. **Award:** The Court found in favour of the claim and awarded accordingly.

Single Arbitrators and ad hoc Boards of Arbitration

During December an Independent Tribunal appointed under the Industrial Courts Act, 1919, considered claims made by the workpeople's side of the National Joint Industrial Council for the Road Passenger Transport Industry concerning increased wages for road passenger transport workers, and an additional rate for permanent night work. The Tribunal awarded an increase in wage rates but found against the claim in respect of permanent night work.

No awards were issued by Single Arbitrators appointed under the Industrial Courts Act, 1919.

Wages Councils Acts, 1945-1948

Notices of Proposal

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

Baking Wages Council (Scotland).—Proposal BKS (20), dated 5th December, for fixing revised general minimum time rates for male and female workers.

Aerated Waters Wages Council (England and Wales).—Proposal A.(40), dated 19th December, for the allowance of six customary holidays with pay to all full-time workers (other than driver-salesmen, delivery workers or mates) in addition to the days of annual holiday already allowable.

Boot and Shoe Repairing Wages Council (Great Britain).—Proposal D(99), dated 19th December, relating to the increase of the annual holiday from ten to twelve days and fixing payment for such holidays.

Tin Box Wages Council (Great Britain).—Proposal X.(37), dated 29th December, relating to the increase of the annual holiday from six to twelve days and fixing payment for such holidays.

Sack and Bag Wages Council (Great Britain).—Proposal S.B.(30), dated 29th December, relating to the allowance of six customary holidays with pay in addition to days of annual holiday already allowable.

Further information concerning any of the above proposals may be obtained from the Secretary of the Council in question, at Ebury Bridge House, Ebury Bridge Road, London, S.W.1.

Wages Regulation Orders

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

The Road Haulage Wages Council Wages Regulation Order, 1950. S.I. 1950 No. 1942 (R.H.(36)), dated 4th December and effective

from 22nd December. This Order prescribes revised minimum rates for workers in relation to whom the Council operates.—See page 31.

The Milk Distributive Wages Council (England and Wales) Wages Regulation Order, 1950: S.I. 1950 No. 1950 (M.D.(60)), dated 5th December and effective from 24th December. This Order prescribes revised general minimum time rates for workers in relation to whom the Council operates.—See page 31.

The Hairdressing Undertakings Wages Council (Great Britain) Wages Regulation Order, 1950: S.I. 1950 No. 1982 (H.U.(6)), dated 8th December and effective from 8th January. This Order increases the general minimum time rates payable to certain workers, amends the provisions relating to guaranteed weekly remuneration and excludes from statutory minimum remuneration workers employed on work in connection with the production of cinematograph films.

The Aerated Waters Wages Council (England and Wales) Wages Regulation Order, 1950: S.I. 1950 No. 2002 (A.(39)), dated 12th December and effective from 1st January. This Order prescribes revised general minimum time rates and piece work basis time rates for workers other than driver-salesmen, delivery workers and mates.

The Boot and Shoe Repairing Wages Council (Great Britain) Wages Regulation (No. 2) Order, 1950: S.I. 1950 No. 1992 (D(100)), dated 11th December and effective from 1st January. This Order prescribes the general minimum time rates and guaranteed time rates for workers in relation to whom the Council operates, and includes revised rates for certain workers.

The Tin Box Wages Council (Great Britain) Wages Regulation Order, 1950: S.I. 1950 No. 2073 (X.(36)), dated 19th December and effective from 8th January. This Order prescribes revised general minimum time rates and piece work basis time rates payable to workers in relation to whom the Council operates.

The Laundry Wages Council (Great Britain) Wages Regulation Order, 1950: S.I. 1950 No. 2090 (W.(65)), dated 20th December and effective from 10th January. This Order prescribes revised general minimum time rates and piece work basis time rates for workers in relation to whom the Council operates.

Wages Councils Act (Northern Ireland), 1945

Notices of Proposal

During December notices of intention to submit to the Ministry of Labour and National Insurance wages regulation proposals were given by the following Wages Councils:—

Paper Box Wages Council (Northern Ireland).—Proposal N.I.B. (N.44), dated 1st December, relating to the fixing of revised general minimum time rates for male and female workers and piece work basis time rates and general minimum piece rate for female workers.

Aerated Waters Wages Council (Northern Ireland).—Proposal N.I.A. (N.35), dated 1st December, relating to the fixing of revised general minimum time rates for male and female workers.

Boot and Shoe Repairing Wages Council (Northern Ireland).—Proposal N.I.B.S. (N.60), dated 8th December, relating to the fixing of revised general minimum time rates and piece work basis time rates for male and female workers, and proposal N.I.B.S. (N.61), dated 8th December, for requiring certain additional customary holidays to be allowed and for fixing payment for such holidays.

Further information concerning any of the above proposals may be obtained from the Secretary of the Council concerned, at Tyrone House, Ormeau Avenue, Belfast.

Wages Regulation Orders

During December the Ministry of Labour and National Insurance made the following Wages Regulation Orders* giving effect to the proposals made by the Wages Councils concerned.

The General Waste Materials Reclamation Wages Council (Northern Ireland) Wages Regulation Order, 1950 (N.I.W.R. (N.35)), dated 14th December, and effective from 28th December. This Order prescribes increases in general minimum time rates and piece work basis time rate for male workers.—See page 31.

The Laundry Wages Council (Northern Ireland) Wages Regulation Order, 1950 (N.I.L. (N.40)), dated 14th December and effective from 28th December. This Order prescribes increases in general minimum time rates for male and female workers, and piece work basis time rate for female workers.—See page 32.

The Baking Wages Council (Northern Ireland) Wages Regulation (Holidays) Order, 1950 (N.I.Bk. (N.131)), dated 18th December and effective from 29th December. This Order prescribes the customary and annual holidays to be allowed to workers and fixes payment for all such holidays.

Catering Wages Act, 1943

Wages Regulation Order

During December the Minister of Labour and National Service made the following Wages Regulation Order* giving effect to the proposals made to him by the Wages Board concerned:—

The Wages Regulation (Licensed Residential Establishment and Licensed Restaurant) (Amendment) Order, 1950: S.I. 1950 No. 2077 (L.R. (10)), dated 20th December and effective from 8th January. This Order excludes certain workers in managerial grades from the statutory minimum remuneration fixed by the current Order, S.I. 1949 No. 908 (Order L.R.(7)).

* See footnote * in second column on page 39.

* See footnote * in second column on page 39.

* See footnote * in second column on page 39.

Decisions of the Commissioner under the National Insurance Acts, 1946-1949

The Commissioner is a judicial Authority independent of the Ministry of National Insurance, appointed by the Crown (see Section 43 of the National Insurance Act, 1946, and Section 42 of the National Insurance (Industrial Injuries) Act, 1946). His decisions* are final.

Appeals to the Commissioner under the National Insurance Acts may be made by an Insurance Officer, or by an association of which the claimant is a member, or by the claimant himself with the leave of the Local Tribunal or the Commissioner, or without such leave if the decision of the Tribunal was not unanimous.

Appeals to the Commissioner under the Industrial Injuries Acts may be made by an Insurance Officer, or by a person whose right to benefit is or may be, under the Fourth Schedule to the 1946 Act, affected by the decision, or by an association of which the claimant or the deceased was a member or by the claimant himself. No appeal may be made without the leave of the Tribunal or of the Commissioner.

Recent decisions of general interest are set out below.

Case No. C.U.544/50 (4th December)

Section 24 (1) of National Insurance Act, 1946: Whether claimant, who lived apart from his wife, wholly or mainly maintained her: While in employment, he made her weekly payments under Court Order of 20s. for herself and 15s. for three of her four children: Since wife contributed to family fund more than half unit cost of her own maintenance, Insurance Officer contended that, in accordance with well-established principle of family fund system, she could not be regarded as mainly maintained by someone else. Commissioner rules that that principle is applicable where contributors are living together as one family and are maintained by family fund or where contributors live apart and no Court Order or legally binding agreement is involved: Where, however, contributors live apart and contribution under Court Order or legally binding agreement from non-resident exceeds half unit cost of maintenance of resident, resident is to be regarded as mainly maintained by non-resident. Claim allowed.

"My decision is that from and including 5th December, 1949, the claimant is entitled to an increase in the weekly rate of unemployment benefit in respect of his wife.

"The claimant, who is living apart from his wife, has been ordered by a Court of Summary Jurisdiction under the Married Women Maintenance Acts, 1895 and 1920, to pay to his wife the weekly sum of 20s. 'for her use' and the weekly sum of 5s. each 'for the maintenance of [three] children'. The claimant complied with this Order while he was in employment, during which time the family fund out of which the wife and four children were maintained was as follows: Wife's earnings, 16s.; Family allowance for three children, 15s.; Claimant's payments, £1 15s.; Amount paid to wife by National Assistance Board, £1 5s. 6d.; Total £4 11s. 6d. (The claimant was not ordered to contribute to the maintenance of the fourth child.) The unit cost of the wife's maintenance was therefore 30s. 6d. a week. If the claimant's total contribution of 35s. a week is treated as part of the general family fund and therefore as contributed to the maintenance of the children as well as of his wife the claimant's contribution to his wife's maintenance would only be 11s. 8d. which is less than half the unit cost of her maintenance. (The claimant states that the furniture in the family home is his and that this fact was taken into account by the Magistrates in making their order. As I am allowing the claim on another ground it is unnecessary to decide whether in a case in which the claimant is not living in the family home some addition ought to be made to his contribution in respect of the use of his furniture by the family. In any event no addition which could reasonably be made in respect of this claimant's furniture would bring his contribution up to half the unit cost of his wife's maintenance.)

"The Local Insurance Officer held that the claimant's total payment of 35s. must be treated as contributed to the family fund generally and disallowed the claim. On appeal the Local Tribunal held that as the Court had ordered the claimant to pay 20s. to his wife for her use he must be deemed to have contributed the whole of that sum to her maintenance. As that sum was more than half the unit cost of the maintenance of the claimant's wife they allowed the appeal.

"The principle that allocations in Court Orders should be neglected and the whole sum paid under those Orders treated as contributed to the family fund generally was laid down by the *Umpire in Umpire's Decision 12616/31*. This was a departure from the *Umpire's* previous rulings. In view of the general importance of the question I thought it necessary to consider whether *Umpire's Decision 12616/31* should be applied in decisions under the National Insurance Act, 1946, and regulation 5(1) of the National Insurance (General Benefit) Regulations, 1948 [S.I. 1948 No. 1278]. The principle that payments made under a Court Order should be allocated in accordance with that Order has been adopted both by the *Umpire* and the Commissioner in considering whether a wife is unable to obtain financial assistance from her husband. See *Umpire's Decision 411/47* (reported), *Decisions C.U. 102/48* (reported) and *C.S.212/49* (not reported). I can see no logical justification for adopting a different principle when the question is whether a husband is mainly maintaining his wife.

"The Insurance Officer now concerned with the case submits that it has always been a cardinal principle of the family fund system that in no circumstances can a person who is himself

* Selected decisions of the Commissioner are published periodically in pamphlets in the following series: Series "U"—decisions on unemployment benefit; Series "P"—decisions on retirement pensions; Series "S"—decisions on sickness benefit; Series "G"—decisions on guardian's allowance, maternity benefit, death grant and widow's benefit; Series "I"—decisions on all benefits and on all other questions arising under the Industrial Injuries Acts. Application and enquiries should be addressed to H.M. Stationery Office at any of the addresses shown in the second column on page 39.

contributing more than half the cost of his own maintenance be regarded as mainly maintained by someone else; in other words that person's own maintenance is regarded as a first charge on his own earnings. He submits that on this principle the present claim should fail since the wife's earnings amount to more than half the unit cost of her maintenance. I agree that a contributor to the family fund whose contribution exceeds half the unit cost of his own maintenance cannot be held to be mainly maintained by another contributor to that fund where both contributors are living together as one family and are maintained by the family fund. The same result will usually follow where one contributor is non-resident if his contribution is not allocated to the maintenance of the resident contributor by a Court Order or legally binding agreement. Where however the contribution is so allocated to the main maintenance of a resident the position is different. The resident's earnings must be taken into account in ascertaining the unit cost of his maintenance but if the non-resident's contribution exceeds half that unit cost I think that the principle stated in *Decision C.S.638/49* (reported) is applicable and that the requirements of regulation 5(1)(b) of the National Insurance (General Benefit) Regulations, 1948 [S.I. 1948 No. 1278] are satisfied (*cf. Umpire's Decision 1357/38*). Even where there is no express allocation of the non-resident's contribution (either legally binding or voluntary) there may be cases where it would be right to treat his contribution as allocated to one resident only: e.g., where the contribution is made by a non-resident husband whose wife is living with her own relatives or friends with whose maintenance the husband is not concerned, it would usually be right to treat the husband's contribution as made for the maintenance of the wife only.

"The Insurance Officer points out that the adoption of the above-mentioned principle might result in depriving a wife of industrial death benefit in respect of the death of her father, whose contribution to the family fund might have exceeded that of the non-resident husband or of depriving the father during his lifetime of an increase of benefit in respect of the wife as an adult dependant. These particular results do not seem to be anomalous; other apparent anomalies can be considered when they arise. The appeal is not allowed."

Case No. C.I.443/50 (19th December)

Section 14 of National Insurance (Industrial Injuries) Act, 1946, as amended by National Insurance (Industrial Injuries) Act, 1948: Whether claimant was entitled to increase in rate of his disablement pension on account of special hardship: Claimant, 29 year old tool room fitter, suffered industrial accident on 2nd March, 1950: For first eight weeks after his return to duty on 9th May, 1950, he was unable to work overtime because of disability resulting from accident and his weekly earnings were therefore reduced by £1 4s. Tribunal consisting of Commissioner and two Deputy Commissioners rules that difference between pre-accident and post-accident earnings is not criterion by which claims for special hardship allowance must be judged: Test is "If person cannot obtain employment in his regular field of labour because (as result of relevant loss of faculty) he is unable to fulfil all ordinary requirements of employers in that field of labour, he is incapable of following his regular occupation within meaning of Section 14:" Applying this test, Tribunal holds that claimant was capable of following his regular occupation: His inability to work overtime was only temporary. Claim disallowed.

"Our decision is that the claimant is not entitled to any increase in the weekly rate of his disablement pension under Section 14 (as amended) of the National Insurance (Industrial Injuries) Act, 1946.

"The claimant, who is aged 29, was incapacitated as a result of injury by industrial accident on 2nd March, 1950, when he injured his right foot while working as a tool room fitter in a large steel works. Injury benefit was paid to him until 8th May, 1950. He returned to work on 9th May, 1950, and claimed disablement benefit. The degree of his disablement was assessed at 20 per cent. (provisional) for the four months from 9th May to 8th September, 1950, and was re-assessed at 10 per cent. (final) for the three months from 9th September, to 8th December, 1950.

"The claimant bases his claim on the ground that when he returned to work on 9th May, 1950, he found himself unable to work overtime, which was an essential and necessary part of his occupation. He has stated that his disability gradually decreased during the first eight weeks of his re-employment, and that when he resumed work after his summer holiday (which began on 2nd July, 1950) he was able to do his normal amount of overtime. It follows that from 2nd July, 1950, onwards he was not incapable of following his regular occupation, and therefore no claim for special hardship allowance arises after 2nd July, 1950. The only period with which this claim is concerned is the eight weeks from 9th May (when he re-started work after his accident) to and including 1st July, 1950 (when his inability to work overtime came to an end). The Insurance Officer referred the question whether the claimant was entitled to an increase in the weekly rate of disablement pension, and if so for what period and at what rate, for decision by the Local Appeal Tribunal. The Tribunal decided unanimously against the claimant. It is from this decision that the claimant now appeals to the Commissioner.

"This appeal was one of a number of appeals, all raising variations of the same problem, which were heard in succession by us. The problem may be stated in general terms thus:—Can a person who after an industrial accident resumes employment in his old occupation, but finds that as the result of his injury he cannot work as fast, or as efficiently, or for such long hours as formerly, be said to be incapable of following his regular occupation? In the present case, the claimant stated, and we accept, that before he was engaged as a tool room fitter he was interviewed by the departmental manager and the labour manager, both of whom asked whether he would work overtime, and pointed out that it was the only basis on which he would get the job. The claimant was not told how much overtime was required, but he agreed to the

terms. He started work on 19th January, 1948, and until his accident on 2nd March, 1950, he constantly worked overtime. It was the task of the claimant's tool shop to keep the production departments supplied with tools, for which purpose overtime had often to be worked, lest production should be held up.

"After the injury to his right foot on 2nd March, 1950, the claimant was off work for nearly ten weeks. When he re-started, he found that a day's work without overtime was as much as he could do. By the end of the day's work his foot ached and he was limping. As his foot improved, he gradually began to do overtime again. The under-manager several times asked whether he could work overtime but the claimant was incapable of his normal pre-accident amount of overtime for at least eight weeks after re-starting. His average pre-accident earnings were said to have been £9 a week. For the first eight weeks after re-starting work (the claim period) his average earnings were said to have been £7 16s. a week. The difference of £1 4s. a week was due to the claimant's inability to work overtime, and it would entitle the claimant to a special hardship allowance of £1 a week, if any were legally payable.

"It is clear, in our view that the question whether a man is capable of following his regular occupation cannot be answered by looking merely at his pre-accident and his post-accident earnings. It is the occupations before and after the accident which have to be compared.

"Where there is a radical change in the nature of the employment, for example from coal cutter to surface worker or from one recognised occupational grade to another, no difficulty arises, and a difference in wages may sometimes be an indication that there is a material change in grade. The difficulty arises where a person returns to the same occupation as before the accident, but follows it more slowly, or for fewer hours, or less productively, or omits some parts of the occupation which he used to perform.

"Counsel for the Insurance Officer and counsel for the claimant in the present case were in substantial agreement on the nature of the test to be applied in such cases. In our judgment, the test may be expressed thus. If a person cannot obtain employment in his regular field of labour because (as the result of the relevant loss of faculty) he is unable to fulfil all the ordinary requirements of employers in that field of labour, he is incapable of following his regular occupation within the meaning of Section 14. The matter may be illustrated thus. If a person obtains employment in his old job only through charity or because he has an exceptional employer, he should be regarded as incapable of following his regular occupation. On the other hand, if a person is able to do his old job except that as a result of the relevant loss of faculty he cannot work overtime, he should not be regarded as incapable of following his regular occupation, unless as a result of this inability he cannot comply with the ordinary requirements of employers in his regular field of labour.

"On applying the foregoing test to the present case we are of opinion that the claimant was not incapable after his resumption of work of following his regular occupation. It seems from the evidence that he was recognised by his employers as a competent and efficient workman and his re-engagement was in no sense an act of charity. His inability to work overtime was a passing phase and only lasted a few weeks. His employers were ready to put up with a temporary inconvenience and were prepared to give him back his old job and to wait until he was completely fit. We have no reason to doubt that other employers would have been equally ready to engage him. In our view therefore, by the time that the claimant re-started work he could comply with the ordinary requirements of employers in his regular field of labour. The claimant's appeal accordingly fails, and must be dismissed."

STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

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

The Lace Finishing Wages Council (Great Britain) (Constitution) Order, 1950 (S.I. 1950 No. 2076), made on 20th December by the Minister of Labour and National Service under the Wages Councils Act, 1945.—See page 7.

The Road Haulage Wages Council Wages Regulation Order, 1950 (S.I. 1950 No. 1942); price 3d. net, 4d. post free, dated 4th December; *The Milk Distributive Wages Council (England and Wales) Wages Regulation Order, 1950 (S.I. 1950 No. 1950)*; price 2d. net, 3d. post free, dated 5th December; *The Hairdressing Undertakings Wages Council (Great Britain) Wages Regulation Order, 1950 (S.I. 1950 No. 1982)*; price 2d. net, 3d. post free, dated 8th December; *The Boot and Shoe Repairing Wages Council (Great Britain) Wages Regulation (No. 2) Order, 1950 (S.I. 1950 No. 1992)*; price 3d. net, 4d. post free, dated 11th December; *The Aerated Waters Wages Council (England and Wales) Wages Regulation Order, 1950 (S.I. 1950 No. 2002)*; price 2d. net, 3d. post free, dated 12th December; *The Tin Box Wages Council (Great Britain) Wages Regulation Order, 1950 (S.I. 1950 No. 2073)*; price 2d. net, 3d. post free, dated 19th December; *The Laundry Wages Council (Great Britain) Wages Regulation Order, 1950 (S.I. 1950 No. 2090)*; price 3d. net, 4d. post free, dated 20th December. These Orders were made by the Minister of Labour and National Service under the Wages Councils Act, 1945.—See page 37.

* See footnote * in next column.

The Wages Regulation (Licensed Residential Establishment and Licensed Restaurant) (Amendment) Order, 1950 (S.I. 1950 No. 2077), made on 20th December by the Minister of Labour and National Service under the Catering Wages Act, 1943.—See page 37.

The Aliens (Landing Conditions) Instrument, 1950 (S.I. 1950 No. 1963), made on 8th December by the Secretary of State for Home Affairs under the Aliens Order, 1920.—See page 9.

The National Insurance (Residence and Persons Abroad) Amendment (No. 2) Regulations, 1950 (S.I. 1950 No. 1946); price 2d. net, 3d. post free; *The National Insurance (Contributions) Amendment (No. 2) Regulations, 1950 (S.I. 1950 No. 1947)*; price 3d. net, 4d. post free. These Regulations were made on 5th December by the Minister of National Insurance, in conjunction with the Treasury, under the National Insurance Act, 1946.—See page 13.

The Census of Production (1951) (Scope, Returns and Exempted Persons) Order, 1950 (S.I. 1950 No. 1926), dated 30th November; *The Census of Distribution (1951) (Scope, Returns and Exempted Persons) Order, 1950 (S.I. 1950 No. 2036)*; price 2d. net, 3d. post free, dated 14th December. These Orders were made by the Board of Trade under the Statistics of Trade Act, 1947.—See page 12.

OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED*

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

Disabled Persons.—*Statement Showing the Numbers of Registered Disabled Persons in Government Employment in Great Britain on 1st October, 1950, compiled from Returns furnished to the Treasury.* Cmd. 8099. Treasury. Price 1d. (2d.).—See page 9.

Factories Acts (Northern Ireland).—*Report of the Chief Inspector for the year 1949.* Cmd. 286. Ministry of Labour and National Insurance. Price 2s. (2s. 2d.).—See page 10.

Mining and Quarrying.—(i) *Quarterly Statistical Statement of the Cost of Production, Proceeds and Profits or Loss of Collieries for the third quarter of 1950.* National Coal Board. Price 3d. (4d.). (ii) *Report of H.M. Chief Inspector of Mines for the year 1949.* Ministry of Fuel and Power. Price 1s. 6d. (1s. 8d.). (iii) *Report of H.M. Inspectors of Mines and Quarries for the years 1939-49.* Ministry of Fuel and Power. Price 1s. 6d. (1s. 8d.).—See pages 11 and 12.

National Insurance.—*Reports of the National Insurance Advisory Committee.* (i) *National Insurance (Residence and Persons Abroad) Amendment (No. 2) Regulations, 1950.* (ii) *National Insurance (Contributions) Amendment (No. 2) Regulations, 1950.* House of Commons Papers Nos. 24 and 25 (Session 1950-51). Ministry of National Insurance. Price 3d. net each (4d. post free).—See page 13.

Social and Economic Research.—*Report of the Interdepartmental Committee on Social and Economic Research.* Cmd. 8091. Treasury. Price 6d. (7d.).—See pages 12 and 13.

Wages and Working Hours.—*Time Rates of Wages and Hours of Labour, 1st October, 1950.* Ministry of Labour and National Service. Price 4s. 6d. (4s. 9d.).—See page 12.

Wages Councils.—*Report of a Commission of Inquiry on the Question of the Establishment of a Wages Council for the Wholesale and Retail Bread and Flour Confectionery Distributive Trades.* Ministry of Labour and National Service. Price 4d. (5d.).—See page 7.

* Copies of official publications (including Orders, Regulations, etc.) referred to in this GAZETTE may be purchased from H.M. Stationery Office at any of the addresses shown below, or through any bookseller.

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