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

EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT.

EMPLOYMENT in February showed an improvement as compared with a month before, and was much better than in February, 1933.

Among workpeople insured against unemployment in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the percentage unemployed was 18·2 at 19th February, 1934, as compared with 18·7 at 22nd January, 1934, and 22·7 at 20th February, 1933. For males alone the percentage at 19th February, 1934, was 21·0, and for females 10·7. At 22nd January, 1934, the corresponding percentages were 21·6 and 11·0, and at 20th February, 1933, they were 25·9 and 14·0.

Insured Persons in work in Great Britain.—It is estimated that at 19th February, 1934, there were approximately 9,941,000 insured persons aged 16-64 in employment in Great Britain. This was 67,000 more than a month before, and 625,000 more than a year before.

Numbers Unemployed (excluding Persons normally in Casual Employment).—At 19th February, 1934, there were 1,881,532 persons on the registers of Employment Exchanges in Great Britain who were out of a situation. This was 62,494 less than a month before, and 359,636 less than a year before. The total on 19th February, 1934, included 1,553,342 men, 53,466 boys, 231,085 women and 43,639 girls. It was made up of 575,618 insured persons with claims for insurance benefit, 950,427 applicants for transitional payments, 211,765 other insured persons not in receipt of benefit or transitional payments, and 143,722 uninsured persons.

Numbers Temporarily Stopped.—At 19th February, 1934, there were registered as unemployed in Great Britain 236,826 men, 4,810 boys, 95,302 women and 3,959 girls who were on short time or otherwise suspended from work on the understanding that they were shortly to return to their former employment. The total of 340,897 was 14,343 less than a month before, and 171,690 less than a year before. It included 289,417 insured persons with claims for insurance benefit, 23,699 applicants for transitional payments, and 27,781 persons not in receipt of benefit or transitional payments.

Numbers Unemployed normally in Casual Employment.—At 19th February, 1934, there were on the registers in Great Britain 93,614 men, 92 boys, 1,759 women and 15 girls who normally seek a livelihood by means of jobs of short duration; these are largely employed in dock and harbour service. The total of 95,480 was 5,678 more than a month before, but 7,403 less than a year before. It included 67,876 insured persons with claims for insurance benefit, 26,730 applicants for transitional payments, and 874 persons not in receipt of benefit or transitional payments.

Industries in which Principal Variations occurred.—The improvement during the month was most marked in building and public works contracting, the clothing trades, boot and shoe manufacture, and pottery manu-

facture. There was also some improvement in a considerable number of other industries, including iron and steel manufacture, engineering, shipbuilding and ship repairing, vehicle building, stone quarrying, and shipping service.

On the other hand, there was a decline in employment in dock and harbour service, and in the jute, tinplate, and glass bottle industries; and there was also a small net decline in the coalmining industry, due to an increase in the numbers temporarily stopped in the North-Eastern area.

As compared with a year ago, employment showed an improvement in nearly all industries.

WAGES.

In the industries for which statistics are regularly compiled by the Department, the changes in rates of wages reported to have come into operation in February resulted in an increase of about £4,110 in the weekly full-time wages of 49,000 workpeople, and in a decrease of £850 in those of 15,600 workpeople.

The majority of workers affected by increases in wages in February were building trade operatives in certain areas which were re-classified under the national wages grading scheme for the industry. Other workpeople whose wages were increased included brickmakers in the Peterborough district, men employed in steel sheet rolling mills, silk dyers at Macclesfield, and manual workers in the non-trading departments of several local authorities. The principal group of workpeople whose wages were reduced consisted of men employed at iron puddling furnaces and iron and steel rolling mills and forges in the Midlands.

COST OF LIVING.

At 1st March the average level of retail prices of the commodities taken into account in the statistics compiled by the Ministry of Labour (including food, rent, clothing, fuel and light, and miscellaneous items) was approximately 40 per cent. above the level of July, 1914, as compared with 41 per cent. at 1st February, 1934, and with 39 per cent. at 1st March, 1933. For food alone the corresponding percentages at these three dates were 20, 22 and 19, respectively.

These statistics are designed to indicate the average increase in the cost of maintaining unchanged the pre-war standard of living of working-class families. Accordingly, the changes in the prices of the various articles included are combined proportionately to the relative importance of those items in pre-war working-class family expenditure, no allowance being made for any changes in the standard of living.

TRADE DISPUTES.

The number of trade disputes involving stoppages of work reported to the Department as beginning in February was 45. In addition, 11 disputes which began before February were still in progress at the beginning of the month. The number of workpeople involved in all disputes in February (including workpeople thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, though not themselves parties to the disputes) was about 9,000, and the aggregate duration of all disputes in February was about 44,000 working days.

EMPLOYMENT IN GREAT BRITAIN AND IN OVERSEA COUNTRIES, 1929-1933.

IN a review of recent changes in the state of employment in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, published in the January issue of this GAZETTE, statistics were given which showed that, after three years of severe depression, there was a marked improvement in employment during 1933. Among persons insured against unemployment in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the proportions recorded as unemployed, which had risen from an average of 10.4 per cent. in 1929 to 16.1 per cent. in 1930, 21.3 per cent. in 1931, and 22.1 per cent. in 1932, declined to an average of 19.9 per cent. in 1933; at 18th December, 1933, the corresponding percentage was 17.6, as compared with 21.7 at 19th December, 1932. The total number of unemployed persons on the registers of the Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland fell from 2,796,000 at 19th December, 1932, to 2,287,000 at 18th December, 1933; and the estimated number of insured persons in employment in Great Britain rose from 9,440,000 to 10,008,000 between those two dates.

In the Tables below, the employment and unemployment statistics for some of the principal countries overseas for which data are available, together with those for Great Britain and Northern Ireland, are summarised, in order to provide an indication of the relative changes in the state of employment in these countries during the same period. In view of the differences in the scope and basis of the statistics for different countries, no precise comparisons are possible. Some important countries have no satisfactory indices of changes in the numbers of persons actually in employment, and such indices as exist differ widely in their scope and basis. Statistics of unemployment, relating either to the numbers of unemployed persons registered at the public Employment Exchanges, or to the percentages unemployed among persons insured against unemployment or among members of certain groups of trade unions which are in a position to supply such information, are available for a large number of countries. These statistics also are compiled on widely varying bases, and they can rarely be used as an indication of the total volume of unemployment, especially in countries with no comprehensive scheme of insurance against unemployment. The incentives to unemployed persons to register at the Employment Exchanges and the conditions of registration vary in different countries; and there are marked disparities between the classes of workers and the proportions of the employed population covered by the unemployment insurance statistics and by the trade union returns. The figures given below, however, may generally be taken as providing a broad indication of the nature and direction of the changes in the amount of unemployment in each country over the periods covered, subject to the qualification that an equivalent percentage increase or decrease in the unemployment figures for any two countries does not necessarily denote an equal percentage increase or decrease in the whole volume of unemployment.

UNEMPLOYMENT IN 1929-1933.

In the first Table below, figures are given showing, for some of the principal countries, (a) the average numbers of persons registered at the public Employment Exchanges as unemployed in each of the years 1929 to 1933, and (b) the average proportions unemployed among those groups of workers* in respect of whom such particulars are available; the approximate numbers of workpeople within these groups, at the most recent date for which information is available, are shown in italic type in the first column of the Table.

Country.	1929.	1930.	1931.	1932.	1933.
	(A) AVERAGE NUMBER OF UNEMPLOYED PERSONS REGISTERED AT EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES. (Nearest thousand : 000's omitted.)				
Gt. Britain and N. Ireland ...	1,267	1,975	2,723	2,813	2,588
Germany ...	1,915	3,139	4,573	5,580	4,733
France ...	10	14	75	308	307
Netherlands ...	64†	74	138	271	323
Italy ...	301	425	734	1,006	1,019
Austria ...	192	243	300	378	406
Switzerland ...	8	13	24	54	68
Czechoslovakia ...	42	105	291	554	738
Poland ...	129	227	300	256	250
(B) PERCENTAGES UNEMPLOYED AMONG WORKPEOPLE INSURED AGAINST UNEMPLOYMENT, OR AMONG MEMBERS OF TRADE UNIONS.*					
Gt. Britain and N. Ireland (12,883,000)	10.4	16.1	21.3	22.1	19.9
Belgium ... (1,017,000)	1.3	3.6	10.9	19.0	16.7‡
Denmark ... (832,000)	15.3	13.7	18.0	31.7	28.9
Norway ... (50,000)	15.4	16.6	22.3	30.8	32.9‡
Sweden ... (394,000)	10.2	11.9	16.8	22.4	23.2
Australia ... (417,000)	11.1	19.3	27.4	29.0	25.1
Canada ... (147,000)	5.7	11.0	16.9	22.0	22.3
United States (620,000)	12	21	26	32	31

* For Great Britain and Northern Ireland the figures relate to the percentages unemployed among persons insured against unemployment; for Belgium to unemployed members of unemployment insurance societies; for other countries to unemployed members of trade unions for which particulars are available.
† The figure for 1929 includes persons in employment registered as applicants for other work: if these were excluded, the figure would probably be about 50,000.
‡ Average of January to November.

In all the countries dealt with in this Table, the figures show large increases in unemployment between 1929 and 1932. The highest ratios of increase, in relation to the numbers unemployed in 1929, were in France, Belgium and Czechoslovakia; in each of these countries, however, there was little unemployment in 1929. In 14 of the 16 countries for which figures are given, the average amount of unemployment increased year by year throughout this period, the only exceptions being Denmark, where the percentage of trade union members unemployed was slightly lower, on average, in 1930 than in 1929, and Poland, where the total number of registered unemployed was lower in 1932 than in 1931.

In Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Germany, France, Poland, Belgium, Denmark, Australia, and the United States, the decline in employment was arrested in 1933, the figures for that year showing a reduction in the average amount of unemployment as compared with 1932. In other countries, however, including the Netherlands, Italy, Austria, Czechoslovakia, Switzerland, Norway, Sweden, and Canada, the increase in the volume of unemployment continued after 1932, the average for 1933 being higher than that for 1932 or for any previous year.

The comparability of the figures for Great Britain and Northern Ireland, given in the foregoing Table, is to some extent affected as the result of legislative and administrative changes, e.g., in the conditions governing the receipt of unemployment benefit, etc., which led to increases in 1930, and reductions in 1932, in the numbers of persons registered at Employment Exchanges. The figures for Germany were also reduced in 1932, as a result of restrictions on the payment of unemployment benefit, etc., and further reduced in 1933, by the exclusion from the registers of persons engaged on voluntary service schemes, etc. (and possibly also by the exclusion of certain classes of workers from unemployment insurance). The figures for Italy were probably reduced by improved methods of enumeration adopted in 1933; and changes in legislation or administration may also have affected the figures for some other countries. The effects of these changes are largely eliminated in the statistics relating to the numbers in employment, which are given below.

EMPLOYMENT IN 1929-33.

Statistics showing the changes in the numbers of workers in employment are compiled for a number of countries. The following Table summarises the available information on this subject for eight of the principal countries for which such statistics are published. For Great Britain, the figures relate to the estimated numbers in employment among workers covered by the Unemployment Insurance Acts; for Germany, to the numbers employed among members of sickness insurance funds; and for Czechoslovakia, to the numbers employed among persons insured under the social insurance scheme. For Italy, Poland, the United States, Canada, and Japan, the index numbers given are based on the total numbers of workpeople employed in a wide variety of manufacturing industries, (together with some other groups of industries in the case of Canada and Poland), as shown by monthly returns supplied by large numbers of employers; the numbers of workpeople covered by these returns, at the latest date for which particulars are available, were 671,000 in Italy, 518,000 in Poland, 3,125,000 in the United States, 821,000 in Canada, and 756,000 in Japan.

Country.	1929.	1930.	1931.	1932.	1933.
	NUMBERS OF INSURED WORKERS IN EMPLOYMENT. (Nearest thousand : 000's omitted.)				
Great Britain ...	10,220	9,797	9,421	9,348	9,680
Germany ...	17,870	16,515	14,420	12,518	13,070
Czechoslovakia ...	2,506	2,446	2,313	2,069	1,900*
INDEX NUMBERS OF EMPLOYMENT.†					
Italy ...	95.4	88.7	77.5	67.2	68.2
Poland ...	111.7	97.0	82.5	70.7	70.4
United States ...	97.5	84.7	72.2	60.1	64.6
Canada ...	119.2	112.6	101.7	86.4	84.2
Japan ...	91.1	82.0	74.4	74.7	80.8‡

For all the eight countries the figures show a decline in the numbers in employment year by year from 1929 to 1932, except in the case of Japan, where the average for 1932 was slightly above that for 1931. In Great Britain, Germany, Italy, the United States, and Japan, there was an improvement in 1933; but in Czechoslovakia, Poland and Canada the average for that year was below the average for 1932. A comparison of the figures for 1929 with those for 1933 reveals marked variations, in different countries, in the extent of the decline in employment between those two years: whilst the reduction in Great Britain was little more than 5 per cent., it was about 11 per cent. in Japan, 24 per cent. in Czechoslovakia, 27 per cent. in Germany, 29 per cent. in Italy and Canada, 34 per cent. in the United States, and 37 per cent. in Poland. For France, similar statistics are not available for the whole period; but official enquiries covering undertakings employing an aggregate of considerably over 2 million workpeople showed a reduction of approximately 21 per cent. in the numbers employed in 1933 as compared with 1930.

When all reasonable allowance is made for the effect on the comparability of these figures of the variations in the scope and basis of the statistics for the different countries, it remains apparent that the reduction in the average level of employment in 1933, as compared

* Average of January to November.
† The index numbers are computed on the basis of figures for the year 1925 taken as = 100, except in the case of Poland, the figures for which are based on those for the year 1927 taken as = 100.
‡ Average of January to September.

with that of 1929, was much smaller in Great Britain than in the other countries represented in the Table. It should be noted, however, that in some of those countries employment in 1929 was at a relatively high level.

UNEMPLOYMENT IN 1933.

The following Table, in which the unemployment figures for the 16 countries included in the first Table above are averaged for the fourth quarter of 1932 and for each of the four quarters of 1933, provides more detailed information as to the changes in the state of employment in those countries during that period:—

Country.	1932.	1933.			
	Fourth Quarter.	First Quarter.	Second Quarter.	Third Quarter.	Fourth Quarter.
(A) AVERAGE NUMBERS OF UNEMPLOYED PERSONS REGISTERED AT EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES. (Nearest thousand : 000's omitted.)					
Gt. Britain and N. Ireland ...	2,828	2,921	2,643	2,460	2,330
Germany ...	5,413	5,871	5,076	4,146	3,840
France ...	295	357	312	262	298
Netherlands ...	315	375	294	281	342
Italy ...	1,042	1,179	970	873	1,054
Austria ...	410	471	399	365	388
Switzerland ...	69	90	57	50	74
Czechoslovakia ...	630	890	733	630	700
Poland ...	183	275	241	208	274
(B) PERCENTAGES UNEMPLOYED AMONG WORKPEOPLE INSURED AGAINST UNEMPLOYMENT, OR AMONG MEMBERS OF TRADE UNIONS.*					
Gt. Britain and N. Ireland ...	21.9	22.5	20.4	19.0	17.9
Belgium ...	17.9	21.1	16.3	13.7	15.2†
Denmark ...	36.6	40.6	24.9	21.3	28.8
Norway ...	35.1	39.3	31.3	28.4	32.4‡
Sweden ...	25.7	28.4	21.9	19.4	23.2
Australia ...	28.1	26.5	25.7	25.1	23.0
Canada ...	23.4	25.0	23.4	20.3	20.4
United States ...	32.3	34.3	32.3	30.3	28.0

In some countries, including Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Germany, Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Australia, Canada, and the United States, the figures for the last quarter of 1933 showed a reduction in unemployment as compared with the corresponding period of 1932. On the other hand, in France, the Netherlands, Italy, Switzerland, Czechoslovakia, and Poland, the amount of unemployment in the last quarter of 1933 was greater, on average, than in the corresponding period of the previous year.

It should be observed that the figures for Germany for July, 1933, and subsequent dates, exclude persons employed on voluntary service schemes, who are included in the figures for earlier dates. Owing partly to this difference in the basis of the statistics, and partly to the operation of other factors which have affected their comparability, these figures over-state the extent of the improvement in employment in Germany during the period covered by the Table; more exact information as to the changes in employment in that country will be found in a further Table which is given below. In Italy also, it is probable that improvements in the methods of enumerating the unemployed, which were introduced in July, 1933, had the effect of reducing the numbers registered as unemployed.

EMPLOYMENT IN 1933.

For the principal countries for which statistics of changes in the volume of employment are compiled, the averages of the figures for the same five quarterly periods are given in the following Table: figures for Japan are not yet available for the last quarter of 1933. The scope of these statistics has been explained above, in the paragraph before the Table in the second column on page 80.

Country.	1932.	1933.			
	Fourth Quarter.	First Quarter.	Second Quarter.	Third Quarter.	Fourth Quarter.
NUMBERS OF INSURED WORKERS IN EMPLOYMENT. (Nearest thousand : 000's omitted.)					
Great Britain ...	9,396	9,332	9,621	9,806	9,963
Germany ...	12,532	11,738	13,061	13,691	13,790
Czechoslovakia ...	2,016	1,682	1,963	2,014	1,964§
INDEX NUMBERS OF EMPLOYMENT. (1926 = 100.)||					
Italy ...	67.4	66.3	67.8	69.6	68.9
Poland ...	71.1	64.7	70.0	72.8	74.0
United States ...	59.2	56.4	59.2	70.9	71.8
Canada ...	82.1	76.6	80.9	88.7	90.6

* See footnote * in the first column on page 80.
† Average for October and November; for 1932, the corresponding figure was 17.5.
‡ Average for October and November; for 1932, the corresponding figure was 32.9.
§ Average of October and November; for 1932, the corresponding figure was 2,091,000.
|| Except for Poland, for which the basis is 1927 = 100.

So far as indicated by these figures, there were considerable increases in the volume of employment, between the last quarter of 1932 and the corresponding quarter of 1933, in Great Britain, Germany, the United States, and Canada, and small increases in Italy and Poland. In Japan, for which figures are not yet available for the fourth quarter of 1933, the index of employment for the third quarter of that year was 10 per cent. above that for the third quarter of 1932. On the other hand, in Czechoslovakia there was a reduction in employment between these two periods. In France, the results of official enquiries covering undertakings employing over 2 million workpeople showed a slight reduction in employment in the last quarter of 1933 as compared with the corresponding period of 1932.

The general conclusion to which the foregoing statistics point is that, in all the principal overseas countries for which figures are available, as in Great Britain, there was a heavy fall in the volume of employment between 1929 and 1932. In Great Britain and in some other countries, there was a considerable improvement in 1933, but in many countries the decline continued during that year. Notwithstanding the recovery which took place in some countries, the average level of employment in 1933 was lower, in every country for which data are published, than in 1929. The significance of a comparison with 1929 depends, of course, on the relative level of employment in that year; in some countries, e.g., France, Belgium and Czechoslovakia, employment in 1929 was at a higher level than in Great Britain. Subject to this qualification, it is worthy of remark that the reduction, during this period, of about 5 per cent. in the total number of insured persons in employment in Great Britain was much less than the reduction in employment recorded by the statistics for any of the principal other countries for which information is available.

INSTRUCTION FOR UNEMPLOYED BOYS AND GIRLS IN SCOTLAND.

THE National Advisory Council for Juvenile Employment (Scotland) were asked by the Minister of Labour in June, 1932, to review the operation of the scheme of approved courses of instruction for boys and girls which were recommended in the Council's first and third Reports. They presented an interim Report in November, 1932, and have now presented their final Report.*

The recommendations of the Council are in close agreement with those of the corresponding Council for England and Wales, published in their fifth Report,† and summarised in last month's issue of this GAZETTE (page 43). They recommend the continuation of the same three types of courses of instruction—Junior Instruction Centres, Junior Instruction Classes, and (where the numbers are insufficient to justify the establishment of either Centres or Classes) attendance at existing educational institutions. Junior Instruction Centres are self-contained courses of instruction established in areas where the numbers of unemployed boys and girls are considerable. Junior Instruction Classes are separate classes for unemployed boys and girls, but conducted in conjunction with some existing institution, in areas where there are not enough unemployed boys and girls to justify the establishment of a self-contained Centre.

Attention is drawn in the Report to the following points:—

Junior Instruction Classes.—No such classes have hitherto been established in Scotland. Where the number of boys and girls unemployed has not been large enough to justify the opening of a Centre, it has not been large enough for a Class either; and the boys and girls unemployed, and available for attendance, in such areas have been accommodated in evening continuation classes. The provisions of the Unemployment Bill now before Parliament, however, will probably alter the position, and make it necessary to establish Junior Instruction Classes. The Council therefore recommend that it should be permissible for a Local Education Authority to establish such a Class, with a grant from the Ministry, in areas where there are not enough unemployed boys and girls to justify the establishment of a self-contained Centre, but where there are, within a radius of five miles, at least 25 persons between the ages of 14 and 18 who have been out of work for twelve consecutive working days and may be required to attend.

Special Instruction Courses.—In Scotland (as in England and Wales) boys and girls with special educational or industrial qualifications may be required to attend existing educational institutions providing special instruction suited to their individual requirements, rather than the ordinary Junior Instruction Centres or Classes. In fact, however, there is only one area where it has been possible to take advantage of these special arrangements and to require attendance; in other areas it is the practice of the Ministry to excuse the attendance of boys and girls with these special qualifications at the Junior Instruction Centres or Classes, so long as they continue in attendance at some other suitable course. The Council make certain recommendations intended to facilitate the attendance of such boys and girls, with a grant from the Ministry, at Special Instruction Courses. They also recommend that boys and girls who wish to attend at some alternative course of a genuinely educational character should continue to be excused attendance at an approved course, but that no payment in respect of their attendance at the alternative course should be made by the Ministry.

* National Advisory Council for Juvenile Employment (Scotland): Seventh Report. Provision of Courses of Instruction for Unemployed Boys and Girls. H.M. Stationery Office; price 3d. net (3½d. post-free).
† H.M. Stationery Office; price 4d. net (4½d. post-free).

CHARTS ILLUSTRATING LABOUR STATISTICS.

A special Supplement which is included with the present issue of this GAZETTE contains a selection of charts, etc., illustrating some of the principal official statistics relating to labour conditions. Explanatory notes with regard to each of these charts are given below.

Changes in Working-Class Cost of Living.

The first chart shows the general movement of working-class cost of living and retail prices of food in Great Britain and Northern Ireland since 1914. The curves are based on the Ministry of Labour cost-of-living index-numbers for "All Items" and for "Food only," which are compiled for the purpose of indicating the fluctuations in the cost of maintaining unchanged the pre-war standard of living of working-class families; the figures are published each month in this GAZETTE (see, e.g., page 109 of the present issue).

Changes in Money Wages and in "Real" Wages.

This chart shows the average movement of weekly rates of wages and of "real" wages in Great Britain and Northern Ireland in the past fourteen years, the average levels at the end of each month in the years 1920-1933 being expressed as a percentage of the average level in 1924.

A detailed account of the nature of the information used in arriving at the figures relating to rates of wages utilised for the purpose of this chart was given in an article on "Relative Levels of Rates of Wages," on pages 40 to 42 of last month's issue of this GAZETTE. Briefly it may be said that the figures refer to workers of unchanged grade, and almost wholly to those industries or sections of industries in which organised arrangements exist for the negotiation of changes in rates of wages on a collective basis, and that they relate to rates of wages for a full week and not to actual earnings.

The figures serving as a basis for the "real" wages curve are calculated by combining the foregoing figures relating to rates of wages with the Ministry of Labour cost-of-living index-numbers.

Profit-Sharing.

This diagram is based on the statistics contained in the articles on Profit-sharing and Co-partnership which have appeared annually in this GAZETTE (see, for example, pages 198 to 201 of the June, 1933, issue of this GAZETTE). It shows the number of employees participating in profit-sharing and co-partnership schemes reported to the Department as being operated by firms in Great Britain and Northern Ireland in the years 1910 to 1932. The figures illustrated are exclusive of profit-sharing and co-partnership schemes of co-operative societies, for which statistics are not available for the whole of the period covered.

Persons on the Registers of Employment Exchanges in Great Britain.

The figures on which this chart is based relate to the total number of persons (whether insured against unemployment or not, and including short-time workers and others temporarily stopped from the service of their employers, not actually at work on the dates to which the returns relate), registered as unemployed at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain at the end of each month in the period 1921-33. The figures are communicated regularly to the Press, and published monthly in this GAZETTE (see, for example, page 97 of this issue). In the chart separate curves are given for those wholly unemployed, including casuals, and for those temporarily stopped. The comparability of the statistics has been affected at various periods by changes in the conditions for the receipt of benefit, but these changes have not been of sufficient magnitude to alter the general trend of the figures.

Persons Insured against Unemployment in Great Britain.

This diagram shows the estimated number of persons, aged 16 to 64 inclusive, insured against unemployment in Great Britain from June, 1923, to the end of 1933, divided into four sections, representing respectively the numbers in employment, the numbers directly involved in trade disputes, the numbers recorded as unemployed and the numbers absent from work through sickness or other temporary reasons except holidays. The section representing absences through sickness and other forms of unrecorded non-employment (except holidays) has been based on a uniform allowance of 3½ per cent. of the numbers insured. The numbers unemployed include not only those wholly unemployed but also those temporarily stopped who were not at work on the day of the count. Persons aged 65 and over ceased to be insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts as from 2nd January, 1928, and their estimated numbers have therefore been excluded from the totals for earlier years. The diagram does not include persons employed in agriculture or private domestic service, or other classes excepted from unemployment insurance. The detailed figures will be found in the issues of this GAZETTE for November, 1933 (page 401), and January, 1934 (page 8).

Unemployment in Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

A chart is given showing the fluctuations in the percentages unemployed (a) in the period 1912-1933 among workpeople insured against unemployment under the Unemployment Insurance Acts, and (b) in the period 1900-1926 among the members of certain trade unions.

As regards insured workpeople, statistics showing the percentages unemployed are published regularly in this GAZETTE (see, for example, page 89 of the present issue), and figures for the earlier years covered by the chart will be found in the *Eighteenth* and *Twentieth Abstracts of Labour Statistics*. It should be noted, in connection with these figures, that under the original National Insurance Act, which came into operation in 1912, unemployment

insurance applied only to certain industries, and to about 2½ million workpeople. In July, 1916, the scope of unemployment insurance was extended to include workpeople employed on munitions work and in certain other industries, and this extension brought the total number insured up to about 3¼ millions at the end of 1916. In 1920, unemployment insurance was extended to substantially all industries, except private domestic service and agriculture; and at July, 1933, the number of workpeople covered in Great Britain and Northern Ireland was 12,883,000. Persons aged 65 and over ceased to be insured as from 2nd January, 1928.

As regards unemployment among members of trade unions, returns were regularly collected by the Department from certain unions (mainly of skilled workers) which paid out-of-work benefit to their members, and the percentages unemployed as shown by these returns were published monthly in this GAZETTE until the end of 1926, when the series was discontinued. The figures will be found in the *Twentieth Abstract of Labour Statistics*.

Claimants for Unemployment Benefit and Transitional Payments.

For the period October, 1929, to October, 1931, this chart indicates separately the number of claimants for standard and transitional benefit respectively. From November, 1931, the curves relate to the number of claimants for "insurance benefit" and "transitional payments" respectively. The classes on "standard" and "transitional" benefit were defined in the text introducing the relevant Tables published each month in this GAZETTE (see, for example, page 440 of the November, 1931, issue). From November, 1931, transitional benefit was discontinued, and additional conditions for the receipt of "insurance benefit" were introduced. Persons not entitled to "insurance benefit" may apply for "transitional payments"; but all such applications are referred to local Public Assistance Authorities, or to Commissioners in certain areas, for determination of the amount to be paid, having regard to the needs of the applicant. A fuller definition of these two classes is given in the text, on page 102 of this issue, introducing the Table analysing the insured unemployed on the registers of Employment Exchanges. The changes in the conditions have also affected the numbers of insured non-claimants on the registers, for whom a separate curve is given.

The figures relate to Great Britain. Those for October, 1929, February, 1930, and May, 1930, were obtained from sample inquiries, the results of which were published in the issues of this GAZETTE for January, 1930, and October, 1930 (pages 9 and 358 respectively). For subsequent dates the figures have been published regularly in this GAZETTE as indicated above.

Insured Workers in Employment in the main Industry Groups.

This diagram indicates for June of each year from 1923 to 1933 inclusive the numbers of insured workpeople in Great Britain and Northern Ireland in employment in five main industry groups, viz., mining and quarrying, manufacturing, building and contracting, transport and distribution, and other industries and services. The diagram is based on the figures published on pages 458 and 459 of the December, 1933, issue of this GAZETTE, representing for each of the groups in question, the difference between the estimated numbers of insured workpeople and the numbers recorded as unemployed at the end of June of each year. In the mining and quarrying group a column for the year 1926 has been omitted, since the general stoppage in the coal mining industry was then in progress. It will be seen from the diagram that this stoppage had some effect on the manufacturing group, and probably also on the transport and distribution group.

Total Passenger Movement—Outward and Inward Balances from and to the United Kingdom.

This diagram is based on statistics prepared by the Board of Trade, and shows for the years 1901-1933 (excepting the war period) the net balance of passengers travelling between the United Kingdom and the rest of the world, i.e., the difference between the total number of passengers leaving the United Kingdom and the total number entering in each of these years. The diagram provides a rough indication of the balance of migration from (or into) the United Kingdom. The figures on which the diagram is based will be found in a separate article on page 83.

Trade Disputes.

Statistics are regularly compiled by the Ministry of Labour, based on returns obtained from the employers, or their associations, and from the trade unions concerned, as to the numbers of workpeople involved in trade disputes causing stoppages of work, and as to the numbers of working days lost owing to disputes at establishments where the disputes occurred. Statistics for February, 1934, will be found on page 108 of this issue of the GAZETTE.

The diagram contained in the Supplement, showing the aggregate number of working days lost in the disputes reported in the years 1901-1933, in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, is based on the statistics so compiled. The actual figures for these years (up to 1932) were published, together with other statistics on this subject, in the May, 1933, issue of this GAZETTE; and preliminary figures for the year 1933 were given on pages 6 and 7 of the issue for January, 1934.

Trade Unions.

The curves illustrating the changes in the membership of trade unions in Great Britain and Northern Ireland are based on the statistics given in an article in the October, 1933, issue of this GAZETTE (page 361). The figures relate to the total membership of all employees' societies—including those of salaried and professional workers, as well as those of manual wage-earners—known to include among their functions that of negotiating with employers with the object of regulating conditions of employment. All such societies with headquarters in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, whether registered under the Trade Union Acts or not, are included.

THE SUPPLY OF AGRICULTURAL LABOUR IN 1933.

THE WORK OF THE EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES.

The arrangements made in previous years to organise the supply of labour for agricultural employment (as described in the issue of this GAZETTE for May, 1933, page 163) were continued and extended in 1933.

There was a very definite expansion in the use by farmers and growers of the special facilities provided by the Employment Exchanges, and in the number of agricultural workers looking to the Exchanges for opportunities of employment; the number of engagements for agricultural employment through the Exchanges was nearly double that of the previous year, and treble that of 1931.

The co-operation effected in the last two or three years with the National Farmers' Union and its local branches, to bring to the notice of farmers the services provided by the Exchanges and to obtain information regarding the special labour requirements of agricultural districts, was extended in 1933. Many opportunities were afforded to local officers of the Ministry to meet farmers at meetings of the Union's members.

Publicity.—To bring to the notice of employers in agriculture the special arrangements made to help them to obtain the types of workers they required, considerable attention was paid to publicity. Over 11,000 posters relating to the various crops were exhibited in rural areas, and at agricultural shows, markets, and hiring fairs throughout the country. In addition, some 60,000 letters describing the Employment Exchange service provided for them were issued to farmers and growers, and about 80,000 descriptive folders were printed for issue with the letters or in other ways. Farmers were invited to notify their vacancies for agricultural workers on postcards which were enclosed with the letters.

Considerable Press publicity was given to the Ministry's activities in relation to agricultural employment. Articles describing the Exchange service were published in the *National Farmers' Union Record* and in the *British Sugar Beet Review*; and both national and local newspapers published accounts of this work.

These methods of bringing the Exchange service to the notice of employers were, however, only supplementary to personal canvass of employers, which was effected wherever possible. Opportunities of establishing personal co-operation with employers were also secured at agricultural shows, markets, and fairs, at the more important of which stands were provided at which the Ministry's officers were in attendance to explain the facilities offered, to accept particulars of employers' requirements, and to maintain registers of workpeople available for employment.

Demand for and availability of workpeople.—Statistics compiled by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries and by the Department of Agriculture for Scotland show that in 1933 the number of regular workpeople employed on 4th June on holdings of over one acre in Great Britain was approximately 692,000, which was slightly fewer than in the previous year. At the same date, the number of casual workers in employment was recorded as approximately 136,000, which represented an increase of about 22,000.

Though increased use was made of the Exchange service both by employers and by workpeople, a number of factors contributed to lessen opportunities of employment. The continued depression in agriculture, and the exceptionally fine summer, tended to reduce the demand for both regular and seasonal workers, particularly in the later months of the season. Poor crops were soon harvested, and growers were enabled to spread the gathering of better crops over longer periods. Domestic staffs, local women and children, and persons in other employment, notably miners, were often employed outside their normal working hours. Itinerant labour, gypsies, vagrants, and Irishmen were in many districts available for agricultural work. There are indications, however, that the practice of direct engagement of itinerant labour is declining, and that employers are realising the advantages of engaging their workpeople through the Exchanges.

Mobile officers were again appointed in suitable areas to help in the supply of labour in districts remote from the Exchanges, and in the transfer of workpeople to districts where the local supplies were inadequate.

Special note was again made at all Exchanges in or near rural areas, in advance of the agricultural seasons, of workers with experience of or suitable for each branch of agricultural work. Efforts were made to secure the registration of agricultural workers who did not ordinarily attend the Exchanges, and to organise supplies of workpeople in parties or gangs to meet farmers' and growers' requirements. Personal enquiry was directed to ascertaining the numbers of workpeople required locally, and advance arrangements were made to facilitate the transfer of surplus workpeople to districts where their services were required.

An innovation in 1933 which met with considerable success was the establishment, in selected villages at some distance from Exchanges, of temporary premises at which local workpeople could register for employment. The mobile officers visited these premises at regular intervals. This convenience for registration for agricultural work was increasingly utilised as the season progressed by local workers who were not always in touch with the nearest Exchange, and made it possible to meet local demands for labour which could not so easily have been satisfied by the nearest Exchanges.

Numbers of workpeople placed in employment.—Notwithstanding the adverse factors referred to, the number of workpeople engaged for agricultural employment through the Exchanges was considerably higher than in 1932. Work was found for over 72,000 workpeople, including 32,093 men, 32,259 women, 4,283 boys, and 3,725 girls. The increase in the case of adults compared with 1932 was 30,781, or

approximately 90 per cent. The increase in the number of boys and girls placed was 1,700. In addition, 2,192 vacancies for gardeners and 3,968 for gardeners' labourers were filled by Exchanges.

Fruit Picking.—Where fruit is grown on a large scale, much of the additional labour employed is of the itinerant class, or is engaged through gangers who receive a payment for each worker supplied. However, 4,579 workpeople were engaged through the Exchanges for fruit picking, compared with 3,926 in 1932. In certain areas, growers who in previous years had mainly relied upon itinerant labour, or had engaged workers directly from thickly populated industrial areas, gave the Exchanges the opportunity of supplying their requirements; and the success of the arrangements made suggests that these employers will not readily revert to their former methods of labour engagement. In several areas, arrangements were made for the transfer of workers over considerable distances, e.g., from Yorkshire to Cambridgeshire and Hampshire. In some instances, the workpeople were accommodated in camps organised by the Agricultural Camps Committee. Where large parties of workpeople were involved care was taken to see that adequate and suitable accommodation was available, particularly when the growers required women workers.

Pea Pulling.—During the year, 40,350 workers (including about 30,000 women and 6,000 juveniles) were engaged for pea pulling through the Exchanges, compared with 13,032 in 1932. There was an increase in the acreage on which peas were grown; the canning of peas in this country is a growing industry, and has given an impetus to this branch of agriculture. The engagement of workpeople frequently depends on the day-to-day condition of crops and on market prices. Frequently, only short notice of growers' requirements of labour was given, and arrangements had to be made in advance for parties of workers to be available in anticipation of requirements. There was an appreciable extension of the use of Exchanges in the engagement of this type of labour. In certain areas, growers found from experience that it was more convenient to notify their requirements to Exchanges, instead of, or in addition to, using the "open fields" system (throwing open their fields to any who cared to work there).

PASSENGER MOVEMENT FROM AND TO THE UNITED KINGDOM.

The issue of the *Board of Trade Journal* for 8th March, 1934, contains a statistical article on the passenger movement from and to the United Kingdom in 1933, with comparisons with earlier years. From figures given in the statistics, in conjunction with similar figures previously published, the following statement has been prepared showing the net balance of passenger movement (total British and alien) between the United Kingdom and other countries, excluding, from 1923, the passenger movement between the Irish Free State and all other countries:—

Net Outward Balance.		Net Outward Balance.	
1901	48,845	1921	125,189
1902	78,592	1922	100,946
1903	134,781	1923	186,184
1904	127,592	1924	75,018
1905	146,736	1925	83,950
1906	193,373	1926	115,989
1907	227,931	1927	75,444
1908	67,756	1928	58,381
1909	118,790	1929	63,345
1910	207,416		
1911	241,151		
1912	241,734		
1913	203,611	1930	7,511
1919	152,836	1931	85,010
1920	167,862	1932	68,810
		1933	40,825

These figures form the basis of a diagram in the Supplement presented with the present issue of this GAZETTE.

The figures show that, in the ten years 1901-10, there was an average outward balance of 135,181; with a maximum of 227,931 in 1907, and a minimum of 48,845 in 1901. Then followed three years of high emigration, so that the average outward balance for the years 1911-13 was 228,832. After the war, and until 1929 inclusive, the outward balance showed less extreme fluctuations, the maximum being 186,184 (in 1923) and the minimum 58,381 (in 1928); the average for these eleven years was 109,559, or less than half the average outward balance in the three years immediately before the war. Finally, during the last four years, there has been an actual net inward balance in each year—a small inward balance in 1930, and large inward balances in 1931, 1932 and 1933.

Balance outward to or inward from non-European countries.—Figures are not yet available for 1933 as to the numbers of British and of alien passengers respectively between the United Kingdom and the Continent, so that it is not yet possible to show the extent to which the net inward balance from all countries in 1933 resulted from movements of British and of alien passengers respectively. As regards places out of Europe, however, the inward balance of British passengers was 28,839 in 1933, as compared with 48,906 in 1932 and with 35,249 in 1931, and with an outward balance of 23,540 in 1930. In 1933 the total inward balance (of British and alien passengers) from places out of Europe was 26,682, as compared with 54,625 in 1932 and with 42,711 in 1931, and with a total outward balance of 37,623 in 1930. Apart from the war period, 1931 was the first year in respect of which an inward balance of British passengers from non-European countries was recorded since complete returns of incoming passengers first became available in 1876.

BUILDING PLANS APPROVED BY LOCAL AUTHORITIES.

STATISTICS FOR DWELLING-HOUSES, 1924-33.

In an article published in last month's issue of this GAZETTE (page 46) statistics were given relating to the estimated total cost of buildings for which plans were approved, in each of the years 1924 to 1933, by Local Authorities in 146 of the principal towns in Great Britain from which returns are regularly obtained. The figures for 1933 showed substantial increases on those for any previous year during the period covered by the statistics. For all classes of buildings taken together, the total for 1933 was 26 per cent. above that for 1932, and 25 per cent. above the annual average for the period 1924-32.

For dwelling-houses an even greater increase was shown, the total for 1933 being 33 per cent. above that for 1932, and 45 per cent. above the annual average for 1924-32. As such an increase might result either from an increase in the number of houses for which plans were approved, or from the inclusion, in the totals for 1933, of a higher proportion of the larger and more costly types of houses, the information given in the returns received has been analysed, in order to determine the extent to which each of these factors has operated.

The following Table shows the estimated total cost of the dwelling-houses for which plans were approved, in the 146 towns for which information is available, in each of the years 1924-33, the number of dwelling-houses included, and the average cost of the houses to which the figures relate. It should be observed that the term "dwelling-house" may, for the purpose of these statistics, apply either to a self contained house, or to a flat, or to a tenement in a large block of dwellings; and that information is not available as to the extent to which these various types of dwellings are represented in the totals.

Year.	Estimated Total Cost of Dwelling Houses for which plans were approved in the 146 towns.		Number of Dwelling Houses included.	Average Cost per Dwelling House included.
	£000.	£		
1924 ...	37,667	56,538	666	666
1925 ...	45,358	67,541	672	672
1926 ...	46,209	73,762	626	626
1927 ...	39,889	63,159	632	632
1928 ...	40,124	64,542	622	622
1929 ...	44,260	70,669	626	626
1930 ...	46,764	79,996	585	585
1931 ...	40,492	70,003	578	578
1932 ...	46,888	90,546	518	518
1933 ...	62,308	118,672	525	525

It will be seen that the increases, during the past two years, in the aggregate cost of dwellings for which plans were approved in the 146 towns covered by the figures were due, not to any increase in the average cost per dwelling, but to marked increases in the number of dwellings covered, which was over 90,000 in 1932 and nearly 119,000 in 1933, as compared with 70,000 in 1931, and an annual average of rather more than 68,000 in the period 1924-31. Whilst a decline in the average cost of the houses included was to be expected in view of the reductions in wholesale prices and in building costs, it should be noted that the figures of average cost shown in the Table may also be affected by changes in the classes of houses represented; these figures, therefore, should not be regarded as a measure of the changes, during the period covered, in the prices for similar types of houses.

In the following Table the figures for the years 1932 and 1933 are analysed by districts, in order to provide some indication of the extent to which different areas contributed to the increase, between these two years, in the number of plans approved. It should be borne in mind that the particulars relate only to those towns and urban areas, within each district, which are covered by the 146 Local Authorities from whom regular returns are received.

District and Aggregate Population (in thousands) at Census of 1931 of 146 Towns to which the figures relate.	Estimated Total Cost.		Number of Dwelling Houses.		Average Cost per Dwelling.	
	1932.	1933.	1932.	1933.	1932.	1933.
	£000.	£000.	£	£	£	£
ENGLAND AND WALES:—						
Northern Counties (966)	2,072	3,414	3,710	6,850	558	498
Yorkshire ... (2,462)	6,020	8,339	13,271	18,522	454	450
Lancs. and Cheshire (3,069)	6,160	8,163	14,618	17,765	421	459
North and West-Midland Counties ... (3,157)	6,314	9,885	12,442	20,231	507	489
South Midland and Eastern Counties (678)	2,177	3,845	3,347	6,939	650	554
Outer London* ... (2,616)	11,559	17,249	17,263	26,899	670	641
South-Eastern Counties ... (1,115)	3,446	5,328	5,096	9,035	676	590
South-Western Counties (452)	1,146	938	1,710	1,288	670	728
Wales and Mon. ... (821)	656	884	1,125	1,571	583	563
SCOTLAND ... (2,234)	7,338	4,263	17,964	9,572	408	445
TOTAL (17,570)	46,888	62,308	90,546	118,672	518	525

The numbers of dwellings for which plans were approved, in the towns covered by the returns, showed increases, in 1933, in every district except Scotland and the South-Western Counties of England. In Scotland, however, the number for 1932 was abnormally high in comparison with previous years. The variations in the average cost per dwelling in different districts, as shown by these figures, may of course be partly due to variations in the sizes and types of dwellings for which plans were passed.

* Particulars are not available for the London County Council area.

POOR RELIEF: FOURTH QUARTER OF 1933.

ENGLAND AND WALES.

ACCORDING to a statement* issued by the Ministry of Health, the total number of persons† in receipt of poor relief (domiciliary and institutional) in England and Wales at the end of December, 1933, was 1,368,972. This compares with 1,279,717 at the end of September, 1933, and with 1,340,638 at the end of December, 1932.

It is stated in the return that, after the first week of the quarter, there was a continuous increase in the number of persons in receipt of relief until Christmas week, when the numbers decreased by approximately 10,000. The statement adds that it is clear from information available that the increase during the quarter in certain areas was due to the making of small allowances, presumably for the winter months, to large numbers of persons in receipt of unemployment benefit (or transitional payments), or of other regular income.

The statement also gives total figures for the various administrative counties and county boroughs. Between December, 1932, and 30th December, 1933, 40 of the administrative counties, and 72 of the county boroughs, showed increases in the total numbers in receipt of relief; while 22 of the administrative counties, and 11 of the county boroughs, showed reductions.

The totals given above include large numbers returned as persons who would ordinarily be employed. Nearly all the relief given to these persons is domiciliary (i.e., given to them while resident in their own homes). The following Table gives figures for persons in receipt of domiciliary relief in England and Wales at the end of December, 1933, with comparative totals for September, 1933, and for December, 1932. It should be noted that these figures represent averages of the numbers in receipt of relief on each Saturday of the respective months.

Classes of persons in receipt of domiciliary relief.†	England and Wales.	
	Numbers.	Numbers per 10,000 of the estimated population.
1. (a)—Unemployed persons insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts ...	92,034	23
(b)—Wives and dependent children of above persons ...	209,805	52
2. (a)—Unemployed persons not insured, but registered at an Employment Exchange ...	44,173	11
(b)—Wives and dependent children of above persons ...	71,602	18
3. Other persons ordinarily engaged in some regular occupation, and their dependants...	177,054	44
4. Totals of above three classes:—		
December, 1933 ...	594,668	148
September, 1933 ...	519,918	129
December, 1932 ...	600,920	140
5. All other persons:—		
December, 1933 ...	581,250	145
September, 1933 ...	568,976	142
December, 1932 ...	562,204	141
6. Totals (all persons):—		
December, 1933 ...	1,175,918	293
September, 1933 ...	1,088,894	271
December, 1932 ...	1,122,224	281

SCOTLAND.

The following Table shows the numbers of persons§ in receipt of outdoor relief in Scotland, on the 15th of each month, in the fourth quarter of 1933. The corresponding total figures for each month in the third quarter of 1933 and the fourth quarter of 1932 are also given:—

Classes of persons in receipt of outdoor relief.‡	First month.	Second month.	Third month.
	1. (a) Unemployed persons insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts ...	32,262	33,132	33,890
(b) Wives and dependent children ...	60,968	62,061	62,986
2. (a) Unemployed persons not insured but registered at Employment Exchanges ...	9,736	10,406	10,872
(b) Wives and dependent children ...	9,531	10,095	11,016
3. Other persons ordinarily engaged in some regular occupation:—			
I. (a) Able-bodied unemployed ...	3,203	3,532	3,910
(b) Wives and dependent children ...	4,468	5,425	6,043
II. (a) Other persons ...	15,436	16,006	16,493
(b) Wives and dependent children ...	37,811	38,583	40,138
4. Totals of above three classes:—			
Fourth quarter, 1933 ...	173,415	179,340	185,348
Third quarter, 1933 ...	166,666	170,723	168,668
Fourth quarter, 1932 ...	140,276	150,512	156,624
5. All other persons:—			
Fourth quarter, 1933 ...	102,126	102,904	104,160
Third quarter, 1933 ...	101,611	102,683	102,065
Fourth quarter, 1932 ...	95,385	96,960	98,202
6. Totals (all persons):—			
Fourth quarter, 1933 ...	275,541	282,244	289,508
Third quarter, 1933 ...	268,277	273,406	270,733
Fourth quarter, 1932 ...	235,661	247,472	254,826

* Statement showing the Number of Persons in receipt of Poor Relief in England and Wales in the Quarter ending December, 1933. H.M. Stationery Office; price 6d. net (7d. post-free).

† Excluding persons in receipt of domiciliary medical relief only, and casuals, who numbered 16,375 and 13,509, respectively, at the end of December, 1933. Rate-aided patients in mental hospitals are also excluded.

‡ Excluding lunatics, mental defectives, persons in receipt of outdoor medical relief only, and casuals.

MINERS' WELFARE FUND AND NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME: REPORT FOR 1933.

MINERS' WELFARE FUND.

THE Mines Department have issued the twelfth annual Report of the Miners' Welfare Committee, for the year 1933, together with the seventh annual Report of the Miners' Welfare National Scholarship Committee, for the twelve months ending 31st October, 1933.*

The Secretary for Mines announced in the House of Commons on 5th April, 1933, that the Government had decided to introduce legislation to reduce the amount of the levy on the output of coal mines from 1d. to ½d. a ton, and to extend the duration of the levy for twenty years.† He also stated that the Government would consider, in the amending Bill, how far effect could be given to a recommendation of the Departmental Committee of Inquiry into the Administration of the Miners' Welfare Fund‡ that the reduction of the levy to ½d. a ton should begin with the levy in respect of the output of the year 1932, which would normally have been payable, at the full 1d. rate, before 31st March, 1933. The uncertainty as to the rate of levy that would ultimately be payable led to a substantial reduction in the contributions paid into the Fund in 1933, which amounted to only £427,211, as compared with £794,396 in 1932, and with £945,684 in 1931.

In view of the announcement of the Government's intentions, the Committee decided, as a measure of precaution, to allocate in 1933 not more than half of the estimated proceeds of the levy on the output of 1932, calculated at the 1d. rate.

In addition to the levy on output, a levy on royalties is also payable, under the Mining Industry Act, 1926, the proceeds of which, supplemented by contributions from the output levy are devoted to the provision of pithead baths, including accommodation for drying the men's working clothes.

The total receipts from the proceeds of the levy on output, from the initiation of the Fund in 1920 to 31st December, 1933, amounted to £11,314,889; to which must be added interest to the amount of £938,450, making a total of £12,253,339. Four-fifths of the levy is earmarked for the respective districts in which it is raised, while the remaining fifth forms the General Fund, used principally for the purposes of education and research; though considerable sums have been appropriated for the provision of pithead baths.

District Funds.—The following Table shows the allocation of the district funds (i) during the year 1933, and (ii) from the inception of the scheme up to 31st December, 1933:—

Description.	Number of Schemes to end of year 1933.	Total Amount allocated.	
		In 1933.	To end of year 1933.
Recreation (institutes and halls, recreation grounds and children's playgrounds, swimming baths, boys' clubs and camps, &c.) ...	1,340	284,868	4,810,174
Health:—			
Convalescent homes and funds ...	34	36,070	2,523,079
Hospitals ...	83	70,221	374,032
Ambulances ...	82	12,717	115,733
District nursing ...	47	6,905	60,782
Aged miners' homes ...	2	13,840	47,200
Special medical treatment and appliances ...	18	6,209	83,898
Pit Welfare:—			
Baths ...	73	139,369	371,344
Baths canteens ...	64	12,759	60,695
Other pit schemes ...	46	2,913	24,527
Education:—			
Mining only ...	30	533	39,161
General ...	330	6,735	72,417
Administration expenses ...	—	9,634	107,691
Total ...	2,149	602,773	8,691,713

The amounts expended on recreation in 1933 are analysed in detail in the Report as follows: Institutes and halls, £139,376; recreation grounds (excluding children's playgrounds), £108,956; children's playgrounds, £12,241; swimming baths, £10,052; boys' clubs and camp, £9,984; other purposes (including recurrent expenditure), £4,259. The grants for convalescent homes and funds include grants for the provision and endowment of convalescent homes for miners and for the improvement of such homes; and grants in aid of the endowments of local convalescent funds, to enable miners to go to other convalescent homes.

Of the total granted for all purposes in 1933, South Wales received the largest amount (£106,479), followed by South Yorkshire (£87,258), Durham (£78,505), Derbyshire (£49,584), Lanarkshire (£49,410), and Fife and Clackmannan (£45,410).

General Fund.—The following Table shows the allocations from the General Fund during the year 1933, and from the inception of the scheme to 31st December, 1933:—

Purposes for which allocated.	In 1933.	Total to end of 1933.
Research regarding safety and health problems under the Safety in Mines Research Board ...	£ 46,089	£ 802,433
Education:—		
Mining education ...	24,770	714,861
Miners' Welfare National Scholarship Endowment Fund ...	—	160,000
General education, other expenses ...	970	12,782
Other purposes (including administration expenses) ...	16,070	81,938
Transferred to Baths Fund (see below) ...	16,000	460,920
Total ...	103,899	2,232,934

Pithead Baths Fund.—This Fund receives (i) the revenue from the levy on royalties, imposed by the Mining Industry Act, 1926; (ii) (since 1926) the interest on the invested balances of the levy on output; (iii) an annual grant from the General Fund, out of the output levy; and (iv) interest on its own invested resources. The grants from this Fund in 1933 amounted to £392,560, and the total amount granted up to 31st December, 1933, was £2,665,397. [For a statement as to the total number of mines provided with pit-head baths, see following article.]

MINERS' WELFARE NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND.

The total number of applications for scholarships, for competition in the year ended 31st October, 1933, was 652, or 71 less than in the previous year. About one-fifth of the applicants (128) were workers in and about coal mines, and 524 were sons or daughters of such workers. The number of scholarships finally awarded was three to mine workers, and eight to children of mine workers.

PIT-HEAD BATHS AT COAL MINES.

In answer to a question in the House of Commons on 6th March, asking as to the number of mines with and without pit-head baths, and the estimated cost of providing such baths at all mines, the Secretary for Mines made the following statement:—

"At the end of 1933, 159 mines, employing about 190,000 wage-earners, had been provided with pit-head baths. In addition, building had been commenced or grants made for baths at 48 mines, employing about 58,000 wage-earners, making a total of 207 mines, with 248,000 wage-earners. There remain some 532,000 wage-earners without pit-head baths. To provide all these with baths, including canteens, would cost between 7½ and 8 million pounds. . . . There are a number of cases of small mines, or mines with only a short life ahead, where the construction of pit-head baths would not be a reasonable proposition. Apart from these cases, I estimate that approximately £7,125,000, the total which will be made available during the next nineteen years under the Bill now before the House,* will be sufficient to complete the programme."

ROAD AND RAIL TRAFFIC ACT, 1933. JOINT BOARD (ENGLAND AND WALES).

SECTION 32 of the Road and Rail Traffic Act, 1933,† requires the observance of fair wages and conditions, in the case of drivers or statutory attendants of vehicles engaged in the road haulage industry, as one of the conditions for holding a licence. The section directs the Industrial Court, in administering the fair wages provision, to have regard to any decision of a Joint Industrial Council, Conciliation Board, or other similar body. An undertaking was given by the Government during the passage of the Act that the Minister of Labour would consult with the organisations of employers and employees with a view to the establishment of such a body.

After seeking the advice of persons with expert knowledge of the circumstances of the industry, the Minister took steps to ascertain the views of the employers' and employees' organisations; and it was agreed that a Joint Board for England and Wales, with an independent chairman, should be constituted.

The following representatives have been nominated by the employers' and employees' organisations to be members of the Board, the first meeting of which took place on 16th March:—

Employers.—Messrs. A. H. Amor, F. G. Bristow, C.B.E., H. P. Currie, G. H. P. Dalgleish, W. Edwards, J. France, W. F. French, C. H. Hurst, H. J. Lloyd, J. S. Nicholl, S. C. Parkin, E. W. Rudd, E. F. Topham, J. H. Turner and W. C. Venn.

Workers.—Messrs. E. Bevin, J. Bowman, S. Brooks, J. E. Corrin, A. N. Denaro, Ald. J. Donovan, J. Donovan, J. C. Francis, J. Henson, T. Keeling, A. A. Robertson, G. Russell, J. Tarbit, J. W. Walker and G. G. Witcher.

It is contemplated that the Joint Board will deal, not only with wages, but also with hours and working conditions and other subjects, such as the promotion of safety on the roads, the health and comfort of the men employed, and the efficiency of the industry.

* The Mining Industry (Welfare Fund) Bill. H.C. 76. H.M. Stationery Office; price 1s. net (1½d. post free).
† 23 and 24 Geo. 5, ch. 53. H.M. Stationery Office; price 1s. net (1½d. post free). A notice of this Act appeared in the issue of this GAZETTE for December, 1933, page 439.

EMPLOYMENT IN FEBRUARY.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

EMPLOYMENT in February showed an improvement as compared with a month before, and was much better than in February, 1933. The improvement during the month was most marked in building and public works contracting, the clothing trades, boot and shoe manufacture, and pottery manufacture. There was also some improvement in a considerable number of other industries, including iron and steel manufacture, engineering, shipbuilding and ship-repairing, vehicle building, stone quarrying, and shipping service.

On the other hand, there was a decline in employment in dock and harbour service, and in the jute, tinplate, and glass bottle industries; there was also a small net decline in the coal mining industry, due to an increase in the numbers temporarily stopped in the North-Eastern area.

The improvement during the month was general, except in the North Eastern area of England, where there was little change. In London and the South Eastern Counties employment was fair. In the South-West and Midlands it was moderate. In the North of England and in Scotland it was bad, while in Wales it was very bad. In Northern Ireland it was bad.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS.

Among the workpeople, numbering approximately 12,883,000, insured against unemployment in Great Britain and Northern Ireland and working in practically every industry except agriculture and private domestic service, the percentage unemployed at 19th February, 1934 (including those temporarily stopped as well as those wholly unemployed) was 18.2, as compared with 18.7 at 22nd January, 1934, and with 22.7 at 20th February, 1933. The percentage wholly unemployed at 19th February, 1934, was 15.5, as compared with 15.9 at 22nd January, 1934; while the percentage temporarily stopped was 2.7, as compared with 2.8. For males alone, the percentage at 19th February, 1934, was 21.0 and for females, 10.7; at 22nd January, 1934, the corresponding percentages were 21.6 and 11.0.

At 19th February, 1934, the number of persons on the Registers of Employment Exchanges in Great Britain was 1,881,532 wholly unemployed, 340,897 temporarily stopped and 95,480 normally in casual employment, making a total of 2,317,909. This was 71,159 less than a month before, and 538,729 less than a year before. The total included 1,883,782 men, 58,368 boys, 328,146 women and 47,613 girls.

The persons on the Registers included 932,911 insured persons with claims for insurance benefit (consisting of those who (a) had paid at least 30 contributions during the preceding two years; (b) had received less than 156 days' benefit in their current benefit years; and (c) if 156 days' benefit had become payable in a previous benefit year ending on or after 12th November, 1931, had paid at least 10 contributions since the 156th day of benefit); 1,000,856 insured persons with applications for transitional payments; 240,420 insured persons not in receipt of insurance benefit or transitional payments, and 143,722 uninsured persons.

In Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the total number of persons on the Registers of Employment Exchanges at 19th February, 1934, was 2,383,663.

Mining and Quarrying.—In the coal mining industry employment continued bad, and showed a slight net decline at 19th February as compared with 22nd January, mainly owing to an increase in the numbers temporarily stopped in the North Eastern area. The total number of wage earners on the colliery books at 24th February, 1934, showed an increase of 0.6 per cent. as compared with 27th January, 1934, but a decrease of 0.4 per cent. as compared with 25th February, 1933. The average number of days worked per week in the fortnight ended 24th February, 1934, was 5.04, a decrease of 0.05 of a day as compared with the fortnight ended 27th January, 1934, but an increase of 0.22 of a day as compared with the fortnight ended 25th February, 1933.

In the iron mining industry employment showed a further slight improvement, but was still bad. In the West Lothian shale mines it continued fair. In the limestone quarries in the Cleveland and Clitheroe areas employment was still slack; it continued fair in the Buxton area. In the slate quarries in North Wales employment remained fairly good. At china clay quarries it continued fair, and at tin mines it remained bad. At the East of Scotland whinstone quarries employment was still very bad.

Pig Iron, Iron and Steel and Tinplate.—In the pig iron industry employment continued to improve but was still bad. The number of furnaces in blast at the end of February was 90, compared with 85 at the end of January, and 63 at the end of February, 1933.

In the iron and steel industry employment remained bad, but showed a slight improvement. The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed was 29.0 at 19th February, 1934, compared with 29.7 at 22nd January, 1934, and 44.0 at 20th February, 1933.

In the tinplate industry employment continued to decline and was very bad. It declined also in steel sheet manufacture and was bad.

Engineering, Shipbuilding and Metal Industries.—In the engineering industry employment showed a slight general improvement, but continued slack on the whole. The improvement was most marked in constructional engineering, but employment in that section, and in marine engineering, remained very bad. It continued very slack in general engineering, and fair in electrical engineering and motor vehicle manufacture. In cycle and aircraft manufacture employment

remained good or fairly good; in textile engineering it improved, but was still very slack on the whole.

In shipbuilding and ship-repairing employment remained very bad, although showing an improvement on the whole, as compared with the previous month; the improvement was most pronounced in Scotland and Northern Ireland, but there was a slight decline in some districts, notably in North East and South West England.

In the other metal trades employment showed a slight improvement in some sections, and was fair to moderate on the whole. It was fair in the hollow-ware, sheet metal, wire manufacturing, brasswork, cutlery, file, needle and fishing tackle, jewellery and plated ware, and nut, bolt, nail, rivet, etc., trades; moderate in the ironfounding (other than engineers' ironfounding), and tube trades; and slack in the edge tool, and chain and anchor trades.

Textile Industries.—In the cotton industry employment continued bad, and showed a slight decline in the preparing and spinning departments; in the manufacturing section there was little change, on the whole, though the positions varied in different districts. The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed in the industry as a whole was 21.9 at 19th February, 1934, as compared with 21.8 at 22nd January, 1934, and 24.4 at 20th February, 1933.

In the wool textile industry employment showed little general change in the worsted section, and a slight improvement in the woollen section. The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed was 10.9 at 19th February, 1934, compared with 11.2 at 22nd January, 1934, and 19.7 at 20th February, 1933. In the carpet industry employment generally continued good.

Employment in the hosiery trade showed little change and was good on the whole. In the lace trade it showed a slight improvement and was fair. In the silk and artificial silk industries employment showed little general change; in silk manufacture it was slack, and in artificial silk yarn manufacture it remained fair. In the linen industry there was little change, and employment was slack. In the jute industry it showed a decline and was very bad. In the textile bleaching, printing, dyeing, etc., trades employment showed little change and remained very slack, with much short time working.

Clothing Industries.—Employment in the retail bespoke and ready made and wholesale bespoke branches of the tailoring trade showed an improvement, and was moderate on the whole. In the dress-making and millinery trade there was an improvement, and employment generally was fair. There was also an improvement in the shirt and collar trade, and employment was fair to moderate. In the corset trade employment was fairly good; in the glove trade it remained fair. In the hat trade employment continued to improve and was fair on the whole.

In the boot and shoe industry employment showed an improvement in most districts. The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed was 16.9 at 19th February, 1934, as compared with 19.4 at 22nd January, 1934, and 19.5 at 20th February, 1933.

Leather Trades.—Employment showed a slight improvement and was moderate on the whole.

Building, Woodworking, etc.—In the building industry employment showed a general improvement, but remained slack on the whole. As regards individual occupations, employment continued moderate with bricklayers and plasterers, slack with carpenters and plumbers, and bad with other classes of operatives; there was an improvement with all classes, which was most marked with painters. In brick manufacture employment showed a slight improvement, but continued moderate on the whole.

Employment in the furnishing trades and with millers and coachbuilders showed a slight improvement, but was still slack generally.

Paper Manufacture, Printing and Bookbinding.—Employment in the paper making industry improved slightly and continued good generally. With letterpress printers it showed a further slight improvement and continued fair on the whole. With electrotypers and stereotypers employment was good generally. With lithographic printers it showed a slight improvement and was moderate. With lithographic artists it continued fair to moderate. With bookbinders it showed a further slight decline but remained fair generally.

Pottery and Glass.—In the pottery industry employment in North Staffordshire, although still slack on the whole, showed an improvement. At Bristol employment continued good; at Worcester it remained fairly good, while at Derby it was moderate.

In the glass trades employment in the bottle-making section showed a decline and was very slack; in other sections it showed a slight improvement and was moderate on the whole.

Fishing.—Employment with fishermen showed an improvement, but was still bad on the whole.

Dock Labourers and Seamen.—Employment with dock labourers continued to decline and remained slack generally. With seamen it was still very slack on the whole.

SUMMARY OF EMPLOYERS' RETURNS.

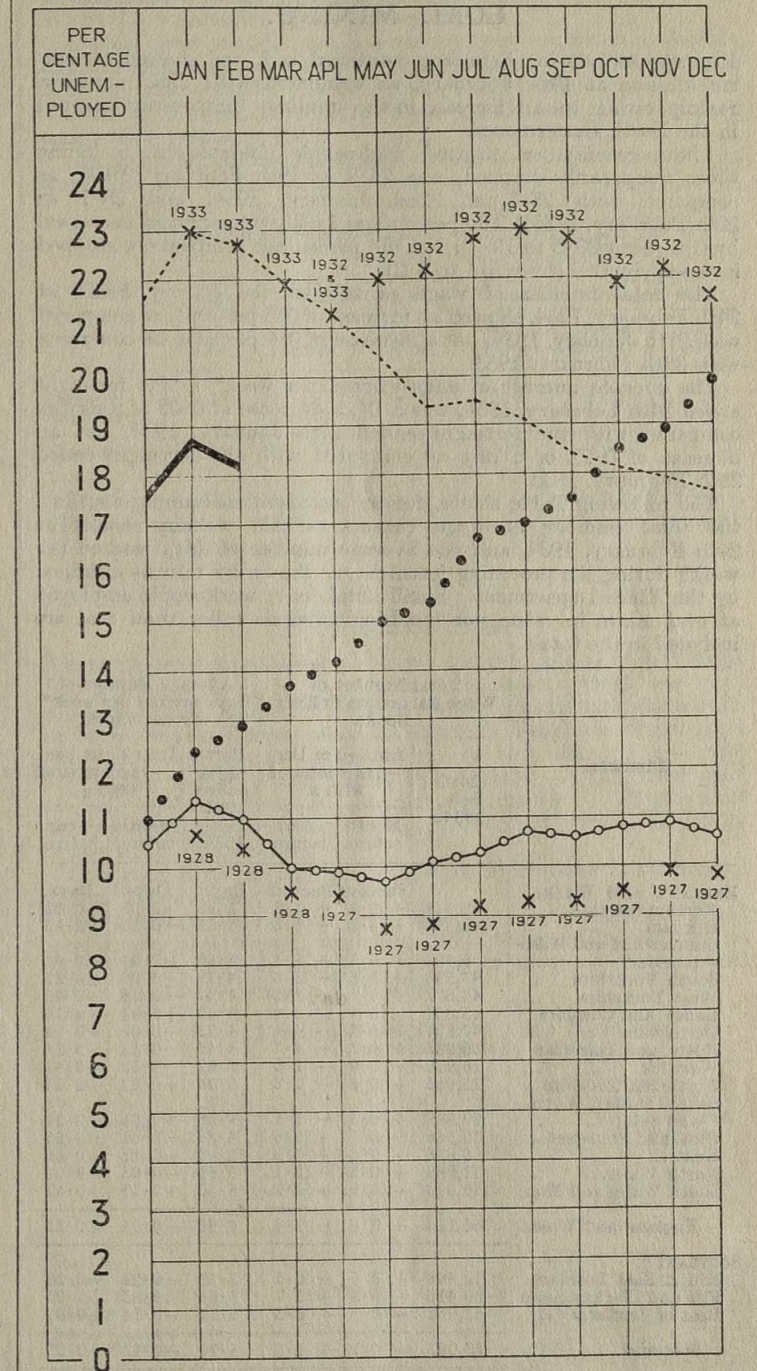
In Tables which appear on subsequent pages of this GAZETTE detailed statistics bearing on the state of employment during February are given, based on information obtained from employers or employers' associations in certain industries. In the following Tables some of the principal features of these statistics are briefly summarised (a) for certain mining and metal industries, and (b) for

UNEMPLOYMENT CHART.*

PERCENTAGES UNEMPLOYED AMONG WORKPEOPLE INSURED AGAINST UNEMPLOYMENT IN GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND:—

Plain Curve - - - - - = 1934.
Broken Curve - - - - - = 1933.
Dotted Curve - - - - - = 1930.
Chain Curve - - - - - = Mean for 1924-29†.

* The crosses indicate the minimum and maximum monthly percentages unemployed during the years 1924-1933†.



NEW ENTRANTS INTO UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE.‡
FEBRUARY, 1934.

Area.	Males and Females.				Total.	
	Men.	Boys.	Women.	Girls.	Numbers.	Percentage of numbers insured at July, 1933.
London ...	2,534	3,301	1,993	2,969	10,797	0.45
South-Eastern ...	1,479	1,690	767	1,258	5,194	0.51
South-Western ...	947	1,426	580	1,064	4,017	0.44
Midlands ...	1,110	2,854	784	2,384	7,132	0.37
North-Eastern ...	1,221	2,713	604	2,346	6,884	0.31
North-Western ...	1,111	1,972	537	1,610	5,230	0.39
Scotland ...	1,111	1,972	537	1,610	5,230	0.39
Wales... ..	515	1,092	249	398	2,254	0.36
GREAT BRITAIN ...	10,085	18,310	6,299	14,160	48,854	0.39

* See footnote † in previous column.
† Excluding the period April, 1926, to March, 1927.
‡ The figures now include men to whom unemployment books have been issued on discharge from H.M. Forces, who were excluded from the figures published for dates prior to January, 1934.

various other industries:—

(a) CERTAIN MINING AND METAL INDUSTRIES.

Industry.	Workpeople included in the Returns for February, 1934.	February, 1934.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a	
		Month before.	Year before.	Month before.	Year before.
Coal Mining ...	790,047	5.04	5.04	- 0.05	+ 0.22
Iron " ...	5,807	5.63	5.63	+ 0.08	+ 0.57
Shale " ...	2,054	5.92	5.92	- 0.08	- 0.05
Pig Iron ...	—	Days Worked per week by Mines.	Days.	Number.	Number.
Tinplate and Steel Sheet	—	90	19	+ 5	+ 27
Iron and Steel ...	57,797	Furnaces in Blast.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
		Mills working.	+ 0.3	+ 29.2	+ 29.2
		Shifts Worked (one week).			
		316,900			

(b) OTHER INDUSTRIES.

Industry.	Number of Workpeople Employed.		Total Wages Paid to all Workpeople.	
	Week ended 24th Feb., 1934.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month before.	Week ended 24th Feb., 1934.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month before.
Textiles:—		Per cent.	£	Per cent.
Cotton ...	62,823	- 2.0	100,558	- 2.4
Woolen ...	53,975	+ 2.0	105,369	+ 2.9
Worsted ...	76,510	- 0.5	131,338	- 1.2
Carpet ...	9,940	+ 0.6	18,660	+ 0.3
Boot and Shoe ...	61,222	+ 1.7	126,716	+ 4.0
Pottery ...	9,860	+ 0.4	17,307	+ 6.0
Brick ...	10,917	+ 0.5	28,524	+ 3.1

UNEMPLOYMENT SUMMARY BY DISTRICTS.

The following Table shows for each of the main areas into which the country is divided for the purposes of the administration of the Unemployment Insurance Acts, the proportions unemployed among insured workpeople and the number of unemployed persons (insured and uninsured) on the registers of Employment Exchanges, etc.:—

Divisions.	Percentages unemployed amongst Insured Workpeople at 19th February, 1934.			Unemployed Persons on Registers of Employment Exchanges at 19th February, 1934.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with	
	Males.	Females.	Total.		a month before.	a year before.
London ...	13.2	6.2	10.9	254,533	- 16,388	- 86,101
South-Eastern ...	12.1	7.0	10.9	116,964	9,133	- 46,589
South-Western ...	17.1	8.5	15.2	145,699	- 7,510	- 25,026
Midlands ...	15.9	8.4	13.7	258,403	- 12,975	- 120,431
North-Eastern ...	26.0	10.3	22.5	485,816	- 272	- 138,157
North-Western ...	24.4	11.6	21.8	480,452	- 13,868	- 76,265
Scotland ...	29.4	14.7	25.3	359,939	- 5,195	- 38,801
Wales ...	35.7	17.2	33.8	216,103	- 5,758	- 7,359
Northern Ireland	31.0	17.8	26.0	65,754	- 2,385	- 9,932
Special Schemes...	3.7	0.7	2.7	—	—	—
Total ...	21.0	10.7	18.2	2,383,663	- 73,544	- 548,661

UNEMPLOYMENT DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS.

The following Table shows, month by month from February, 1933, the percentages unemployed among insured workpeople, and the number of unemployed persons on the registers of Employment Exchanges, etc., in Great Britain and Northern Ireland:—

Date.	Males and Females.			Total.	Number of Unemployed Persons (Insured and Uninsured) registered at Employment Exchanges, etc.
	Wholly Unemployed and Casuals.	Temporarily stopped.	Total.		
1933.					
20 February ...	25.9	14.0	18.6	4.1	2,932,324
20 March ...	25.1	13.7	18.0	3.9	2,850,903
24 April ...	24.3	13.2	17.1	4.2	2,770,980
22 May ...	23.6	12.0	16.5	3.9	2,653,852
26 June ...	22.7	10.8	15.8	3.6	2,503,898
24 July ...	22.7	10.9	15.5	4.0	2,507,215
21 August ...	22.4	10.5	15.3	3.8	2,474,062
25 September ...	21.6	10.0	15.3	3.1	2,398,718
23 October ...	21.4	9.5	15.3	2.8	2,359,763
20 November ...	21.1	9.4	15.3	2.6	2,341,693
18 December ...	20.8	9.0	15.1	2.5	2,287,466
1934.					
22 January ...	21.6	11.0	15.9	2.8	2,457,207
19 February ...	21.0	10.7	15.5	2.7	2,383,663

* Comparison of earnings is affected by changes in rates of wages.
† Up to and including June, 1933, these percentages, and those used for the purpose of the Chart in the next column, are revised figures calculated on the basis of the estimated numbers insured at the dates referred to; those for later months are based on the estimated numbers insured at July, 1933, and are subject to slight revision when information becomes available as to the changes in the insured population since that date.

DETAILED REPORTS ON EMPLOYMENT IN SOME OF THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES.

NOTE.—The numbers of workpeople employed given in the following Tables represent the numbers covered by the returns received and not the total numbers employed in the various industries. In the comparisons of numbers employed and wages paid at different dates the figures relate to the same firms at each date, and cover all the wage-earners, irrespective of age, sex, or occupation, employed by these firms. In comparing the earnings in different industries, it should be remembered that any averages calculated from these figures will be affected not only by the variations in the state of employment and in rates of wages, but also by differences in the proportions of males to females, of adults to juveniles, and of skilled to unskilled workers in the respective industries. In connection with the comparative percentage rates of unemployment among insured persons given in the following articles, attention is drawn to the last paragraph of the text at the head of the Table on page 98 giving the numbers unemployed in insured industries.

COAL MINING.

EMPLOYMENT during February continued bad, and showed a slight net decline at 19th February, as compared with 22nd January, mainly owing to an increase in the numbers temporarily stopped in the North Eastern area.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, was 25.9 at 19th February, 1934, as compared with 25.6 at 22nd January, 1934, and 28.7 at 20th February, 1933. The percentage wholly unemployed decreased by 0.6 (from 20.3 to 19.7), but the percentage temporarily stopped increased by 0.9 (from 5.3 to 6.2).

The total number of wage earners on the colliery books at 24th February, 1934, showed an increase of 0.6 per cent. as compared with 27th January, 1934, but a decrease of 0.4 per cent. as compared with 25th February, 1933.

The average number of days worked per week* in the fortnight ended 24th February, 1934, was 5.04, a decrease of 0.05 of a day as compared with the fortnight ended 27th January, 1934, but an increase of 0.22 of a day as compared with the fortnight ended 25th February, 1933.

The following Table shows, for the principal coalmining districts, the total number of wage earners on the colliery books at 24th February, 1934, and the average number of days worked per week* during the preceding fortnight, as shown by returns obtained by the Mines Department. Small numbers of workpeople employed at coal mines in raising or handling minerals other than coal are included in the totals.

Districts.	Total Number of Wage Earners on Colliery Books.		Average Number of Days worked per week* by the Mines.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a	
	24th Feb., 1934.	Month before.	Year before.	24th Feb., 1934.	Month before.	Year before.	24th Feb., 1934.	Month before.
ENGLAND AND WALES:								
Northumberland ...	42,318	+ 0.4	+ 1.6	5.42	- 0.05	- 0.02		
Durham ...	109,110	+ 1.2	+ 5.3	5.04	- 0.19	+ 0.43		
Cumberland and Westmorland ...	6,792	+ 0.3	+ 5.1	5.50	- 0.04	+ 0.01		
South Yorkshire ...	97,598	+ 0.5	- 3.6	4.79	- 0.09	+ 0.22		
West Yorkshire ...	95,971	+ 0.5	- 2.5	4.37	- 0.26	- 0.40		
Lancs. and Cheshire ...	63,851	- 0.4	- 2.6	4.95	+ 0.02	+ 0.10		
Derbyshire ...	47,827	+ 0.4	- 4.1	4.22	- 0.08	+ 0.18		
Notts. and Leicester ...	55,982	+ 0.2	- 4.7	4.49	- 0.12	+ 0.14		
Warwick ...	16,936	- 0.0	- 2.0	5.67	+ 0.12	+ 0.41		
North Staffordshire ...	23,083	+ 0.6	+ 1.8	5.04	+ 0.07	+ 0.24		
South Staffs, Worcs. and Salop ...	29,669	+ 0.5	- 1.5	4.99	+ 0.01	+ 0.21		
Glos. and Somerset ...	9,586	+ 0.1	+ 2.6	4.88	- 0.01	+ 0.07		
Kent ...	6,826	+ 0.8	+ 6.9	5.43	- 0.12	+ 0.05		
North Wales ...	11,066	+ 0.5	- 12.1	5.65	- 0.03	+ 0.06		
South Wales and Mon. ...	140,399	+ 0.9	+ 1.2	5.32	+ 0.17	+ 0.41		
England and Wales	706,114	+ 0.6	- 0.6	4.96	- 0.04	+ 0.25		
SCOTLAND:								
Mid & East Lothians ...	12,468	+ 0.5	- 0.3	5.62	- 0.21	- 0.19		
Fife and Clackmannan ...	20,413	+ 0.3	+ 5.7	5.68	- 0.03	+ 0.01		
Rest of Scotland ...	51,052	+ 0.9	+ 0.3	5.72	- 0.14	+ 0.07		
Scotland ...	83,933	+ 0.7	+ 1.5	5.70	- 0.12	+ 0.02		
GREAT BRITAIN ...	790,047	+ 0.6	- 0.4	5.04	- 0.05	+ 0.22		

The average number of coal-winding days lost in Great Britain during the fortnight ended 24th February, 1934, was 0.75 of a day per week, of which 0.71 of a day was due to want of trade. The figure for the fortnight ended 27th January, 1934, was 0.71 of a day per week, of which 0.65 of a day was due to want of trade; the corresponding figures for the fortnight ended 25th February, 1933, were 0.98 and 0.83 of a day per week, respectively. The average non-winding time, for each of the three periods under review, was about one-fifth of a day per week.

The output of coal in Great Britain for the four weeks ended 24th February, 1934, was reported to the Mines Department as 19,104,300 tons, as compared with 18,662,200 tons in the four weeks ended 27th January, 1934, and 18,247,200 tons in the four weeks ended 25th February, 1933.

The numbers and percentages unemployed among insured workpeople in the respective areas at 19th February, 1934, and the increases or decreases as compared with 22nd January, 1934, and 20th February, 1933, are shown in the following Table:—

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

Area.	Insured Persons Recorded as Unemployed at 19th February, 1934.				Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Total Percentages as compared with a	
	Numbers.	Percentages.	Wholly Unemployed (incl. Casuals).	Temporarily stopped.	Month before.	Year before.
Great Britain ...	201,410	64,096	19.7	6.2	25.9	+ 0.3
England and Wales ...	174,662	62,398	19.3	6.8	26.1	+ 0.4
Scotland ...	26,748	1,698	22.8	1.5	24.3	- 0.7
Principal Districts in England and Wales:—						
Northumberland ...	9,045	360	17.7	0.7	18.4	- 0.4
Durham ...	34,981	4,608	24.2	3.2	27.4	+ 1.2
Cumberland and Westmorland ...	3,713	177	33.7	1.6	35.3	- 0.9
Yorkshire ...	25,824	19,617	14.9	11.3	26.2	+ 4.6
Lancashire and Cheshire ...	14,858	5,675	17.5	6.8	24.3	- 0.6
Derbyshire ...	7,193	3,428	11.2	5.4	16.6	+ 1.3
Notts. and Leicestershire ...	9,279	4,300	14.6	6.8	21.4	+ 0.3
Warwickshire ...	1,137	28	8.7	0.3	9.0	- 0.1
Staffs., Worcester and Salop ...	7,848	2,536	11.5	3.7	15.2	- 1.6
Glos. and Somerset ...	1,225	1,966	10.9	17.6	28.5	- 1.9
Kent ...	388	96	5.6	1.4	7.0	- 0.3
Wales and Monmouth ...	57,864	19,596	27.1	9.2	36.3	- 2.0

The export of coal, including that shipped for the use of steamers engaged in the foreign trade and the coal equivalent of coke and manufactured fuel, amounted to 4,790,400 tons in February, 1934, as compared with 4,639,700 tons in January, 1934, and with 4,367,800 tons in February, 1933.

IRON AND SHALE MINING.

IRON MINING.

EMPLOYMENT showed a further slight improvement during February, but was still bad. The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, in the iron ore and ironstone mining industry was 29.3 at 19th February, 1934, as compared with 30.7 at 22nd January, 1934, and 51.2 at 20th February, 1933.

The following Table summarises the information received from employers who furnished returns for the three periods:—

Districts.	Number of Workpeople employed at Mines included in the Returns.		Average No. of Days worked per week by the Mines.*		
	Fort-night ended 24th Feb., 1934.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a	Fort-night ended 24th Feb., 1934.	Month before.	Year before.
Cleveland ...	2,500	+ 9.6	5.62	+ 0.15	+ 1.37
Cumberland and Lancashire ...	1,689	- 4.5	5.76	+ 0.01	+ 0.04
Other Districts ...	1,618	+ 2.0	5.51	+ 0.06	+ 0.77
ALL DISTRICTS	5,807	+ 3.1	5.63	+ 0.08	+ 0.67

SHALE MINING.

The number of workpeople employed at the West Lothian mines during the fortnight ended 24th February, 1934, by firms making returns, was 2,054, a decrease of 0.2 per cent. as compared with January, 1934, but an increase of 6.9 per cent. as compared with February, 1933. The average number of days worked per week* by the mines making returns was 5.92 in February, 1934, as compared with 6.00 in January, 1934, and 5.97 in February, 1933.

PIG IRON INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT during February continued to improve, but still remained bad. It was much better than a year ago. The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, was 29.6 at 19th February, 1934, compared with 32.1 at 22nd January, 1934, and 42.3 at 20th February, 1933.

* See footnote * in previous column.

According to information received from the National Federation of Iron and Steel Manufacturers, 90 furnaces were in operation at the end of February, 1934, compared with 85 at the end of January, 1934, and 63 at the end of February, 1933.

In the case of 69 firms employing 12,329 workpeople at the end of February, 1934, there was an increase of 2.3 per cent. in the numbers employed compared with January, 1934, and an increase of 31.8 per cent. compared with February, 1933.

The following Table shows the number of furnaces in operation at the end of February, 1934, January, 1934, and February, 1933:—

Districts.	Total Number of Furnaces.	Number of Furnaces in Blast.			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Feb., 1934.	Jan., 1934.	Feb., 1933.	Month before.	Year before.
ENGLAND AND WALES.						
Durham and Cleveland ...	87	24	22	15	+ 2	+ 9
Cumberland and W.Lancs ...	36	6	6	6	...	...
Parts of Lancs. and Yorks. (including Sheffield) and North Wales ...	24	9	7	8	+ 2	+ 1
Derby, Leicester, Notts. and Northants ...	42	17	17	15	...	+ 2
Lincolnshire ...	23	11	12	7	- 1	+ 4
Staffs., Shropshire, Worcs. and Warwick ...	35	6	7	7	- 1	- 1
South Wales and Mon. ...	20	4	4	3	...	+ 1
England and Wales	267	77	75	61	+ 2	+ 16
SCOTLAND ...	77	13	10	2	+ 3	+ 11
GREAT BRITAIN ...	344	90	85	63	+ 5	+ 27

The production of pig iron in February, 1934, amounted to 414,400 tons, compared with 441,300 tons in January, 1934, and 270,800 tons in February, 1933.

IRON AND STEEL MANUFACTURE.

EMPLOYMENT during February remained bad, but showed a slight improvement as compared with January. It was much better than a year ago. The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, was 29.0 at 19th February, 1934, as compared with 29.7 at 22nd January, 1934, and 44.0 at 20th February, 1933.

At certain firms, employing 57,797 workpeople, from which returns were received for the week ended 24th February, 1934, the volume of employment in that week (as indicated by the number of shifts* during which work was carried on in each department) increased by 0.3 per cent. as compared with the week ended 27th January, 1934, and by 29.2 per cent. as compared with the week ended 25th February, 1933. The average number of shifts during which the works were open was 5.5 in the week ended 24th February, 1934, the same as in January, 1934, compared with 5.1 in February, 1933. The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished returns for the three periods:—

DEPARTMENTS.	Number of Workpeople employed by Firms making returns.		Aggregate number of Shifts.*	
	Week ended 24th Feb., 1934.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a	Week ended 24th Feb., 1934.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a
Open Hearth Melting Furnaces ...	6,300	+ 6.8	37,201	+ 7.1
Puddling Furnaces ...	1,005	- 23.7	4,581	- 22.7
Rolling Mills ...	20,986	+ 2.4	109,716	+ 0.9
Forging & Pressing ...	1,150	+ 0.9	6,103	+ 1.7
Founding ...	6,104	+ 2.5	33,366	+ 1.2
Other Departments	10,430	- 2.0	57,877	- 1.7
Mechanics, Labourers ...	11,822	+ 0.3	68,056	+ 0.2
TOTAL ...	57,797	+ 1.0	316,900	+ 0.3

* The figures relate to the number of shifts during which the works were in operation, taken in conjunction with the number of men employed. No account is taken of time lost by individuals owing to absentism, etc., and it is not intended to imply that the number of shifts shown were actually worked by all the men employed. Works closed are omitted in computing the average number of shifts.

The production of steel ingots and castings, as shown in returns from the National Federation of Iron and Steel Manufacturers, amounted to 707,500 tons in February, 1934, as compared with 711,000 tons in January, 1934, and 482,700 tons in February, 1933.

TINPLATE AND STEEL SHEET INDUSTRIES.

In the tinplate industry employment continued to decline and was very bad. The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, was 40.3 at 19th February, 1934, as compared with 35.8 at 22nd January, 1934, and 35.2 at 20th February, 1933. In the week ended 24th February, 1934, 294 mills were in operation at works for which information was available, as compared with 310 in the week ended 27th January, 1934, and 311 in the week ended 25th February, 1933.

In steel sheet manufacture also employment continued to decline, and was bad. In the week ended 24th February, 1934, 84 mills were in operation at works for which information was available, as compared with 87 in the week ended 27th January, 1934, and 61 in the week ended 25th February, 1933.

The following Table shows the number of mills in operation at works covered by the returns:—

Works.	Number of Works Open.		Number of Mills in Operation.	
	Week ended 24th Feb., 1934.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	Week ended 24th Feb., 1934.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a
Tinplate ...	54	- 1	294	- 16
Steel Sheet ...	7	- 1	84	- 3
TOTAL ...	61	- 2	378	- 19

The exports of tinned and galvanised plates and sheets in February, 1934, amounted to 42,080 tons, or 6,001 tons less than in January, 1934, and 12,907 tons less than in February, 1933.

ENGINEERING.

EMPLOYMENT during January showed a slight general improvement but continued slack, on the whole. The improvement was most marked in constructional engineering; but employment in that section and in marine engineering remained very bad. Employment remained very slack in general engineering; it was fair in electrical engineering and in motor vehicle manufacture; it continued good or fairly good in cycle and aircraft manufacture. Employment improved also in textile engineering, but was still very slack, on the whole, in that department.

Compared with a year ago employment showed a substantial general improvement.

The following Table shows the numbers and percentages of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, at 19th February, 1934, and the increase or decrease as compared with a month before and a year before:—

Division.	Numbers of Insured Workpeople Unemployed at 19th February, 1934.						Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a	
	General Engineering, Inc. & Steel Founding.	Electrical Engineering.	Marine Engineering, etc.	Constructional Engineering.	Motor Vehicles, Cycles, and Aircraft.	TOTAL.	Month before.	Year before.
London ...	7,335	1,313	221	592	3,597	13,058	- 709	- 8,387
South-Eastern ...	3,867	717	237	210	1,866	6,897	- 543	- 6,799
South-Western ...	3,171	290	606	192	2,508	6,767	- 252	- 4,921
Midlands ...	9,439	2,394	94	1,428	10,332	23,587	- 1,077	- 24,582
North-Eastern ...	25,462	1,631	7,836	2,839	2,047	39,015	- 899	- 21,881
North-Western ...	31,061	3,455	369	806	3,901	39,592	- 1,717	- 19,773
Scotland ...	18,514	515	6,262	2,137	2,029	29,457	+ 1,835	- 15,299
Wales ...	1,617	120	68	214	676	2,695	+ 16	+ 645
Northern Ireland ...	1,545	131	1,982	210	377	4,245	- 198	- 2,169
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND	102,011	10,566	17,675	7,828	27,333	165,413	- 7,214	- 104,356

On the North-East Coast there was a slight improvement in marine and general engineering, but employment in those sections was still very bad. In Yorkshire and Lincolnshire employment in general engineering showed a slight improvement at some centres but continued very bad generally. In Lancashire and Cheshire there was some improvement in general engineering, but employment

remained very bad; it improved, on the whole, in textile engineering, but was still slack. In the Birmingham, Wolverhampton and Coventry district employment in general engineering and in motor vehicle manufacture continued fair; it remained generally good in the cycle section and fair in electrical engineering. Employment in the Nottingham, Derby and Leicester district remained fair or moderate on the whole. There was a slight improvement in London and the Southern Counties, and employment continued fair to fairly good; it remained good at the principal centres of aircraft manufacture.

In Scotland employment was still very bad; it declined a little in marine engineering, but showed some improvement in general engineering. Employment was again very bad in Wales and in Northern Ireland.

SHIPBUILDING AND SHIP-REPAIRING.

EMPLOYMENT remained very bad during February, although showing an improvement, on the whole, as compared with the previous month; the improvement was most pronounced in Scotland and Northern Ireland, but there was a slight decline in some districts, notably in North-Eastern and South-Western England.

The following Table shows the numbers and percentages of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, at 19th February, 1934, and the increase or decrease as compared with 22nd January, 1934, and 20th February, 1933.

In considering the comparisons with a year ago, given in the Table, it is necessary to bear in mind that there was a substantial decline between 1932 and 1933 in the total number of insured workpeople in the shipbuilding and ship-repairing classification; the decline affected all areas except South-West England. When this is taken into account the figures indicate that between February, 1933, and February, 1934, there was a slight decline in employment in Wales, but that in other areas there was an improvement, which was most pronounced in Northern and South-West England, and in Scotland and Northern Ireland.

Division.	Total Numbers of Insured Workpeople employed at 19th Feb., 1934.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Numbers Unemployed as compared with a		Percentage Unemployed at 19th February, 1934.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Percentage Unemployed as compared with a	
		Month before.	Year before.		Month before.	Year before.
London ...	2,724	- 205	- 390	31.9	- 2.4	- 3.1
South-Eastern ...	1,006	+ 44	- 358	14.8	+ 0.7	- 4.8
South-Western ...	5,542	+ 292	- 334	23.7	+ 1.2	- 3.8
Midlands ...	127	+ 11	- 65	39.7	+ 3.4	- 34.1
North-Eastern ...	32,658	+ 704	- 7,087	69.6	+ 1.5	- 7.6
North-Western ...	11,485	+ 106	- 3,551	48.0	- 0.4	- 10.1
Scotland ...	28,593	- 1,656	- 8,567	63.5	- 3.7	- 10.9
Wales ...	3,840	+ 126	- 621	65.6	+ 2.1	- 2.0
Northern Ireland ...	5,470	- 434	- 3,056	64.1	- 5.1	- 17.2
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND ...	91,445	- 1,224	- 24,029	54.0	- 0.7	- 9.5

COTTON INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT during February continued bad, and showed a slight decline in the preparing and spinning departments; in the manufacturing section there was little change, on the whole, though the position varied in different districts.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed in the industry as a whole, including those temporarily stopped, was 21.9 at 19th February, 1934, as compared with 21.8 at 22nd January, 1934, and with 24.4 at 20th February, 1933. The corresponding percentages in the preparing and spinning section were 21.4, 21.0, and 25.7, and in the manufacturing section 22.3, 22.4, and 23.2.

At Ashton-under-Lyne the doubling mills were working intermittently, and there was a decline in all the other principal departments, especially in the American spinning section, in which several mills were stopped for varying periods during the month. At Stockport employment in the spinning department was bad: short time working increased, and some large mills were closed for the greater part of the month; short time was also largely worked in doubling mills. At Hyde unsystematic short time was again reported in all departments. At Glossop there was more unemployment during February than for some time past.

At Oldham employment in the spinning department continued very bad, though slightly better than in January: there were numerous total or partial stoppages at various mills; in the weaving department also employment continued to be very bad, especially with operatives engaged on velvets, fustians and sheetings. At Middleton employment in the mills spinning Egyptian cotton continued to be regular, but in the mills spinning American cotton there was an increase in short-time working. At Royton there was a slight decline. At Shaw there was much under-employment in the American spinning section.

At Bolton there was a slight decline; employment was reported as moderate with cardroom workers and as bad with spinners and weavers. At Leigh employment with spinners declined and was bad. A slight improvement was reported at Bury, though short time working was still prevalent in the spinning department. At Rochdale and at Heywood there was a further decline.

At Preston a steady improvement was reported, especially in the manufacturing department; at several of the principal firms all

the looms were running, and it was estimated that 75 per cent. of the machinery at the remaining mills was in operation. At Chorley there was a continued shortage of operatives for fancy weaving. At Blackburn there was a considerable amount of short time in the manufacturing department, affecting the preparatory workers as well as the weavers; there was some improvement, however, at a few mills. At Accrington and at Great Harwood employment in the weaving department showed an improvement. At Darwen employment remained very bad. At Burnley and at Padiham employment was bad, and showed a further decline; it was worse also than a year ago. At Colne there was little change; the demand for fancy weavers continued. At Nelson there was a further decline; many of the operatives were suspended indefinitely, and a majority of those who were working were running only three-quarters, or less, of their normal number of looms. Employment in the Rossendale Valley continued to be very bad.

In Yorkshire employment, with few exceptions, was very slack. At Todmorden there was a further decline in the spinning department, and employment in the weaving department was worse than for some considerable time. At Huddersfield employment in the doubling mills was described as fairly steady.

The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished returns:—

DEPARTMENTS.	Number of Workpeople.		Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 24th Feb., 1934.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month before.	Week ended 24th Feb., 1934.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month before.	
				£	Per cent.
Preparing ...	10,593	- 2.4	16,316	- 2.1	+ 6.2
Spinning ...	22,742	- 1.9	33,382	- 2.9	+ 6.3
Weaving ...	22,667	- 1.8	36,070	- 1.9	+ 6.4
Other ...	6,821	- 2.1	14,790	- 2.9	+ 0.9
TOTAL ...	62,823	- 2.0	100,558	- 2.4	+ 0.6
DISTRICTS.					
Ashton ...	4,666	- 13.4	6,921	- 11.3	- 9.1
Stockport, Glossop and Hyde ...	5,744	- 9.0	8,577	- 10.8	- 0.4
Oldham ...	8,172	- 0.7	14,054	+ 0.1	+ 11.4
Bolton and Leigh ...	12,278	+ 0.2	19,330	- 1.4	+ 1.2
Bury, Rochdale, Heywood, and Todmorden	6,583	+ 3.2	11,009	+ 2.0	+ 5.0
Manchester ...	3,053	- 8.0	4,701	- 8.1	+ 6.0
Preston and Chorley ...	4,625	- 1.8	7,317	- 1.7	+ 2.8
Blackburn, Accrington and Darwen ...	4,119	+ 0.0	6,747	- 0.1	- 6.0
Burnley and Padiham ...	3,210	- 4.8	5,741	- 3.9	- 15.1
Colne and Nelson ...	2,411	- 0.8	5,041	+ 0.1	+ 1.8
Other Lancashire Towns	2,929	+ 9.7	3,561	+ 11.7	+ 6.0
Yorkshire Towns ...	2,464	+ 10.5	3,692	+ 3.7	+ 8.9
Other Districts ...	2,569	- 3.8	3,867	- 3.2	+ 5.8
TOTAL ...	62,823	- 2.0	100,558	- 2.4	+ 0.6

Returns from firms employing 61,200 workpeople in the week ended 24th February showed that 8 per cent. were on short time in that week, losing 13 hours each on the average.

The following Table shows the number of men and of women (other than casuals) on the registers of 56 Employment Exchanges in the principal cotton trade centres in Lancashire and Cheshire at 19th February, 1934:—

Department.	Numbers (excluding casuals) on the Registers at 19th February, 1934.					
	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.		
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.
Card and Blowing Room ...	1,854	4,301	6,155	860	4,773	5,633
Spinning ...	10,703	3,182	13,885	6,703	3,928	10,631
Beaming, Winding and Warping ...	1,672	5,109	6,781	1,435	7,162	8,597
Weaving ...	7,739	18,103	25,842	2,045	6,888	8,933
Other Processes	1,194	218	1,412	261	191	452
Total ...	23,162	30,913	54,075	11,304	22,942	34,246

The following Table shows the increases and decreases as compared with 22nd January, 1934:—

Department.	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.			Total.
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
Card and Blowing Room ...	- 36	- 36	- 72	+ 19	+ 604	+ 585	+ 513
Spinning ...	- 6	+ 87	+ 81	+ 613	- 74	+ 539	+ 620
Beaming, Winding and Warping ...	- 61	- 174	- 235	- 57	- 21	- 78	- 313
Weaving ...	+ 5	- 106	- 101	+ 120	+ 109	+ 229	+ 128
Other Processes ...	- 42	- 27	- 69	+ 8	- 105	- 97	- 166
Total ...	- 140	- 256	- 396	+ 665	+ 513	+ 1,178	+ 782

The imports (less re-exports) of raw cotton (including cotton linters) were 131,116,800 lbs. in February, 1934, compared with 131,555,400 lbs. in January, 1934, and with 100,624,600 lbs. in February, 1933.

The exports of cotton yarn were 11,315,500 lbs. in February, 1934 compared with 12,767,900 lbs. in January, 1934, and with 11,885,600 lbs. in February, 1933.

The exports of cotton piece-goods in February, 1934, were 168,187,000 square yards, compared with 179,078,000 square yards in the previous month, and 194,561,000 square yards in February, 1933.

WOOL TEXTILE INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT showed little general change in the worsted section, and a slight improvement in the woollen section, as compared with January. In the carpet section employment continued good. Compared with a year ago there was an improvement in all the principal sections of the industry, especially in the woollen and in the carpet sections. There was an unsatisfied demand for certain classes of workers, particularly weavers, in several districts.

The percentage of insured workpeople recorded as unemployed in the woollen and worsted industries (including those temporarily stopped) was 10.9 at 19th February, 1934, as compared with 11.2 at 22nd January, 1934, and with 19.7 at 20th February, 1933. In the carpet section the percentages unemployed were 6.3 at 19th February, 1934, 5.8 at 22nd January, 1934, and 14.2 at 20th February, 1933.

Worsted Section.—There was a further slight decline in the wool-combing and spinning departments, but a slight improvement in the weaving department. On the whole, there was little change.

At Bradford there was a further slight decline in the wool-combing department; but employment, on the whole, remained good or fairly good with all classes of workers. There continued to be a shortage of skilled weavers. At Shipley there was a slight increase in intermittent short time in the woolcombing department, but employment continued good in the other departments, with a continued demand for juvenile learners in the spinning and twisting departments. In the Keighley, Haworth, and Silsden districts there was little general change; there continued to be a demand for weavers and menders in the manufacturing department. At Huddersfield under-employment continued to be reported in the fine worsted section, but the operatives in other sections were somewhat better employed. At Halifax some short time was reported, and some large firms had discontinued night shifts; on the other hand, several firms were exceptionally busy, and a demand for weavers and menders was reported. At Leeds there was little change.

Returns from employers for the week ended 24th February showed that, in the worsted section as a whole, 18½ per cent. of the workpeople covered by the returns were on short time* in that week, losing 10 hours each on the average, while 21½ per cent. were on overtime, to the extent of 7 hours each on the average.

With woollsorters, employment continued good; it was not quite so good as in January, but better than a year ago. With wool-combers there was a slight improvement in the carding crossbred section, but a slight decline in the merino and preparing sections. In the sorting, combing, and preparing departments, taken as a whole, returns from employers for the week ended 24th February showed that 17½ per cent. were on short time, losing 12 hours each on the average; while 18 per cent. were on overtime, to the extent of nearly 8 hours each on the average.

In the worsted spinning department employment continued good, but showed a slight decline. Employers' returns for the week ended 24th February showed that 16½ per cent. of the operatives covered by the returns were on short time, losing about 10½ hours each on the average; while 24 per cent. were on overtime, to the extent of 6½ hours each on the average.

In the worsted weaving department employment continued good, and was slightly better than in January. About 18½ per cent. of the operatives covered by the employers' returns were on short time*, losing 8½ hours each on the average; while 25 per cent. were on overtime, to the extent of 8 hours each on the average.

Woollen Section.—In this section employment showed a slight improvement in most of the principal districts. Employers' returns for the week ended 24th February showed that 18 per cent. of the workpeople in the spinning department, and 26 per cent. of those in the weaving department, were on short time during that week, losing 8 and 9 hours each on the average, respectively. The corresponding overtime figures were 32 per cent. and 8 hours (spinning), and 21 per cent. and 5½ hours (weaving). In the woollen section as a whole, short time was worked by 20 per cent. of the operatives, who lost about 9 hours each on the average; while overtime was worked by 23 per cent., to the extent of 7 hours each on the average.

At Huddersfield and in the Colne Valley employment continued good; overtime and night work were fairly frequent, and a shortage of juvenile labour (pieceners), and of skilled women workers, was reported. In the Heavy Woollen District (Dewsbury, Batley, etc.) employment showed an improvement, and was good; an acute shortage of weavers was reported. Employment in the rag and shoddy trade showed a seasonal slackness at Dewsbury, but a slight improvement at Batley. At Leeds, Morley, Otley, and Guiseley employment continued good.

* The figures given in this article as to short time do not take into account* in the case of the weaving departments, other forms of under-employment, such as "playing for warps," or tending one instead of two looms.

In the blanket and rug trade in Yorkshire employment showed a decline, and was rather slack generally; at Hebden Bridge, however, all the firms were reported to be on full time. At Witney employment was not quite so good as it had been in recent months.

At Stockport employment with woollen workers continued fairly good. At Rochdale mills were working to full capacity; at Saddleworth practically all the mills were working full time, but some firms had part of their machinery stopped.

In the West of England employment continued good at most of the principal centres.

In Scotland a slight improvement was reported on the whole; but there was little change in the tweed trade, which remained slack generally: about 70 per cent. of the members of the principal trade union in the tweed trade were still on short time. Employment in the tweed trade at Dumfries, however, remained good. An improvement was reported at Alloa.

Carpet Section.—Employment generally continued good, and was much better than a year ago. At Kidderminster employment was good, except in the Wilton section, in which irregular hours were again reported; some overtime was reported in the Axminster section. In Yorkshire and in Scotland employment on the whole continued good.

Returns from employers for the week ended 24th February showed that only 5 per cent. of the operatives covered by the returns were on short time, losing 17 hours each on the average; while 14 per cent. were on overtime, to the extent of 7 hours each on the average.

The following Table summarises the returns received from employers:—

Departments:	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 24th Feb., 1934.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a month before.	Index figure, (Jan., 1926 = 100.)	Week ended 24th Feb., 1934.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a month before.	Index figure, (Jan., 1926 = 100.)
WORSTED SECTION:						
Wool Sorting and Combing ...	10,187	+ 4.3	93.7	22,832	- 2.4	75.7
Spinning ...	38,203	- 2.1	92.4	53,603	- 2.2	82.2
Weaving ...	16,954	+ 0.6	86.6	31,452	+ 2.4	78.8
Other Depts. ...	9,486	- 0.3	95.2	20,480	- 1.0	77.1
Not specified ...	1,580	- 0.9	95.2	2,971	- 9.6	65.2
Total—Worsted	76,510	- 0.5	91.1	131,338	- 1.2	79.3
WOOLLEN SECTION:						
Wool Sorting ...	919	- 4.0	69.1	1,942	- 2.8	70.3
Spinning ...	12,911	+ 3.0	92.9	26,839	+ 5.2	98.4
Weaving ...	22,307	+ 2.5	97.0	38,591	+ 2.4	95.7
Other Depts. ...	15,912	+ 0.8	90.7	34,108	+ 2.3	90.0
Not specified ...	1,926	+ 3.9	82.6	3,889	+ 2.4	84.3
Total—Woollen	53,975	+ 2.0	92.9	105,369	+ 2.9	93.2
CARPET SECTION...	9,940	+ 0.6	122.5	18,660	+ 0.3	124.6
Total—Wool Textile Industry ...	140,425	+ 0.6	93.5	255,367	+ 0.6	87.3
Districts:†						
WORSTED SECTION:						
Bradford ...	33,579	+ 0.7	92.0	60,586	- 1.5	76.1
Huddersfield ...	8,218	+ 0.5	92.3	14,807	+ 0.6	77.0
Halifax ...	8,222	- 2.6	80.7	12,359	- 5.1	68.0
Leeds ...	8,303	- 2.0	94.0	14,055	+ 0.5	89.1
Keighley ...	7,600	+ 0.3	93.1	12,910	+ 0.6	92.4
Heavy Woollen (Dewsbury, Batley, etc.) ...	3,301	- 7.4	100.3	4,498	- 7.8	89.8
Total, West Riding ...	69,223	- 0.5	91.0	119,215	- 1.4	78.5
West of England and Midlands ...	4,891	- 0.6	91.3	8,340	+ 1.6	80.4
Lancashire ...	485	- 1.8	166.3	810	+ 6.5	141.5
Scotland... ..	1,911	+ 1.9	86.5	2,973	+ 4.0	108.3
Total—Worsted	76,510	- 0.5	91.1	131,338	- 1.2	79.3
WOOLLEN SECTION:						
Huddersfield ...	12,726	+ 2.4	96.6	28,285	+ 2.8	93.7
Heavy Woollen (Dewsbury, Batley, etc.) ...	10,073	+ 7.5	88.1	18,483	+ 8.4	92.3
Leeds ...	8,271	+ 2.3	112.6	17,599	+ 3.4	119.1
Halifax and Calder Vale ...	2,452	+ 1.5	96.1	5,266	+ 2.7	87.9
Bradford ...	1,198	- 5.1	98.3	2,529	- 9.1	86.8
Total, West Riding ...	34,720	+ 3.5	98.3	72,162	+ 3.9	100.2
Lancashire ...	4,522	+ 0.4	91.4	8,973	+ 0.9	93.1
West of England, Midlands and Wales ...	3,840	- 0.4	89.6	6,841	+ 2.0	98.0
Scotland ...	10,893	- 0.7	81.0	17,393	+ 1.7	72.0
Total—Woollen	5					

The following Tables show, by districts and by departments, the percentage increases and decreases in the numbers employed in the week ended 24th February, 1934, by those firms who supplied returns for the purpose of the foregoing Table (excluding the carpet section), as compared with the week ended 27th January, 1934:—

Department.	Percentage Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in numbers employed as compared with previous month. (... signifies "no change"; - without a figure, signifies "few or no workpeople returned.")			
	Wool Sorting and Combing.	Spinning.	Weaving.	All Depts. (including not specified).
WORSTED SECTION:				
Bradford ...	+ 5.5	- 1.2	...	+ 0.6
Huddersfield ...	+ 2.1	- 0.0	+ 2.8	- 3.0
Hallifax ...	- 8.1	- 3.5	+ 2.6	+ 0.9
Leeds ...	...	- 3.8	0.7	- 2.0
Keighley ...	+ 0.2	- 0.4	+ 1.9	+ 1.0
Heavy Woollen (Dewsbury, Batley, etc.) ...	...	- 9.4	...	- 0.8
Total, West Riding ...	+ 4.4	- 2.4	+ 0.8	- 0.5
West of England and Midlands ...	+ 4.4	- 0.6	- 2.9	- 0.5
Lancashire ...	...	+ 2.8	...	+ 1.3
Scotland ...	...	+ 2.8	...	+ 1.9
TOTAL ...	+ 4.3	- 2.1	+ 0.6	- 0.3

Department.	Percentage Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in numbers employed as compared with previous month. (... signifies "no change")			
	Spinning.	Weaving.	Other Depts.	All Depts. (including not specified).
WOOLLEN SECTION:				
Huddersfield ...	+ 4.5	+ 1.7	+ 1.6	+ 2.4
Heavy Woollen (Dewsbury, Batley, etc.) ...	+ 7.6	+ 13.0	+ 2.1	+ 7.5
Leeds ...	+ 3.5	+ 1.6	+ 3.3	+ 2.3
Hallifax and Calder Vale ...	+ 2.0	+ 1.7	+ 0.9	+ 1.5
Bradford ...	...	- 1.3	- 2.1	- 5.1
Total, West Riding ...	+ 4.7	+ 4.4	+ 2.9	+ 3.6
Lancashire ...	+ 0.5	- 1.8	- 1.4	+ 0.4
West of England, Midlands and Wales ...	- 1.0	- 0.5	+ 0.1	- 0.4
Scotland ...	- 0.6	- 0.7	- 1.0	- 0.7
TOTAL ...	+ 3.0	+ 2.5	+ 0.8	+ 2.0

The following Table shows the number of men and of women (other than casuals) on the registers of 17 Employment Exchanges in the principal wool textile trade centres at 19th February, 1934:—

Department.	Numbers (excluding Casuals) on the Registers at 19th February, 1934.					
	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.		
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.
Wool Sorting ...	51	1	52	40	3	43
Wool Washing and Preparing ...	495	134	629	263	84	347
Wool Combing ...	298	185	483	646	345	991
Wool Carding ...	348	46	394	272	42	314
Woolen Spinning ...	210	24	234	197	77	274
Worsted Drawing and Spinning ...	399	506	905	258	1,560	1,818
Woolen Winding and Winding ...	88	7	95	240	72	312
Worsted Winding and Winding ...	46	92	138	165	564	729
Woolen Weaving ...	75	165	240	273	1,070	1,343
Worsted Weaving ...	96	56	152	74	728	802
Other Processes ...	1,003	31	1,034	689	103	792
Total ...	3,109	1,247	4,356	3,117	4,648	7,765

The following Table shows the increases and decreases as compared with 22nd January, 1934:—

Department.	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.			Total.
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
Wool Sorting ...	+ 10	- 5	+ 5	- 9	+ 3	- 6	- 1
Wool Washing and Preparing ...	- 49	- 18	- 67	- 42	- 30	- 72	- 139
Wool Combing ...	- 21	- 8	- 29	+ 302	+ 151	+ 453	+ 424
Wool Carding ...	- 206	- 13	- 219	94	- 39	- 133	- 352
Woolen Spinning ...	- 148	- 16	- 164	- 171	- 9	- 180	- 344
Worsted Drawing and Spinning ...	- 41	+ 27	- 14	+ 65	+ 436	+ 501	+ 487
Woolen Winding and Winding ...	+ 10	+ 1	+ 11	- 15	+ 1	- 14	- 3
Worsted Winding and Winding ...	- 23	+ 6	- 17	+ 82	+ 127	+ 209	+ 192
Woolen Weaving ...	- 38	- 33	- 71	- 15	- 568	- 583	- 654
Worsted Weaving ...	+ 1	- 13	- 12	- 13	+ 152	+ 139	+ 127
Other Processes ...	- 137	- 9	- 146	- 98	+ 20	- 78	- 224
Total ...	- 642	- 81	- 723	- 8	+ 244	+ 236	- 487

The imports (less re-exports) of raw wool (sheep's or lambs') were 83,021,000 lbs. in February, 1934, compared with 127,766,000 lbs. in the previous month and 65,812,000 lbs. in February, 1933.

The exports of woollen and worsted yarns in February, 1934, were 3,098,100 lbs. compared with 4,015,800 lbs. in January, 1934, and with 3,002,900 lbs. in February, 1933.

The exports of woollen and worsted tissues in February, 1934, were 9,516,000 square yards, compared with 9,920,000 square yards in the previous month, and with 8,487,000 square yards in February, 1933.

The exports of blankets were 2,574 cwts., 2,472 cwts., and 2,039 cwts., in February, 1934, January, 1934, and February, 1933, respectively.

BOOT AND SHOE INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT showed an improvement in most districts in February, and was better than a year ago. Short time continued, however, to be largely worked in many districts.

The percentage of insured workpeople recorded as unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, was 16.9 at 19th February, 1934, as compared with 19.4 at 22nd January, 1934, and with 19.5 at 20th February, 1933.

The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who supplied returns for the three periods:—

Districts.	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 24th Feb., 1934.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month before.	Year before.	Week ended 24th Feb., 1934.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month before.	Year before.
England and Wales:—						
London ...	1,817	+ 4.4	+ 3.7	3,801	+ 7.3	+ 4.7
Leicester ...	10,219	+ 4.2	+ 7.5	22,415	+ 6.7	+ 9.2
Leicester Country District ...	4,041	- 0.2	+ 7.4	8,759	- 3.9	+ 5.6
Northampton ...	7,333	+ 1.6	+ 1.1	16,535	+ 9.4	+ 8.7
Higham, Rushden and District ...	5,791	+ 1.2	+ 0.5	12,277	+ 3.2	- 4.3
Kettering and District ...	5,329	- 0.4	- 1.8	11,715	+ 0.4	- 5.2
Rest of Northants ...	1,224	- 0.7	+ 1.0	2,478	- 0.4	+ 0.0
Stafford and District ...	2,589	+ 1.3	+ 3.5	5,191	+ 2.6	+ 16.0
Norwich and District ...	6,199	+ 1.6	+ 12.4	12,462	+ 7.8	+ 18.0
Bristol, Kingswood and District ...	1,179	+ 0.5	+ 5.3	1,876	+ 3.5	+ 7.0
Leeds and District ...	1,676	+ 0.5	+ 5.3	3,330	- 2.5	+ 21.4
Lancashire (mainly Rossendale Valley) ...	6,599	+ 3.0	+ 16.4	11,944	+ 5.2	+ 19.1
Birmingham and District ...	867	+ 0.7	+ 0.7	1,552	- 8.4	- 4.8
Other parts of England and Wales ...	4,342	+ 0.5	+ 8.8	8,134	+ 4.1	+ 8.6
England and Wales ...	59,205	+ 1.7	+ 5.9	122,469	+ 4.2	+ 7.4
Scotland ...	2,017	+ 0.3	+ 1.8	4,247	- 1.3	+ 3.6
Great Britain ...	61,222	+ 1.7	+ 5.7	126,716	+ 4.0	+ 7.3

Returns from firms employing about 60,150 workpeople in the week ended 24th February indicated that 39 per cent. of these workpeople were on short time in that week, losing about 8 hours each on the average; while about 9½ per cent. were on overtime, to the extent of 4 hours each on the average.

Employment in London showed an improvement on the whole, and was moderate; some firms in North London were well employed. There was a good demand for women workers in North and East London. At Leicester employment improved during the month; it was good with women workers, but only moderate with male workers; nearly 50 per cent. of the workpeople covered by the employers' returns for the week ended 24th February were on short time, losing about 7 hours each on the average. There was little change in the Leicester country district, and employment was moderate or slack; the employers' returns for the week ended 24th February, however, showed a considerable amount of overtime as well as of short time.

At Northampton employment improved, and a demand for boys and girls leaving school was again reported; but more than 57 per cent. of the workpeople covered by the employers' returns for the week ended 24th February were on short time, losing about 6 hours each on the average. Employment at Higham and Rushden, Kettering and Wellingborough showed little change, and was slack; more than 30 per cent. of the workpeople covered by the employers' returns for the week ended 24th February were on short time in the Higham and Rushden district, and more than 40 per cent. in the Kettering district. Employment in the other Northamptonshire centres was slack generally, with much short time.

Employment at Stafford showed a slight improvement; there was less short time working, though employers' returns for the week ended 24th February still showed two-thirds of the workpeople as on short time, losing 5 hours each on the average. Employment at Norwich showed a further improvement, and was good, with considerably more overtime than short time working. There was a definite shortage of skilled female operatives, and a scheme for training unskilled girls has been agreed upon by the Norwich Shoe Trade Arbitration Board, to operate for six months.

Employment in the Bristol and Kingswood district showed little change, and was slack; short time was very prevalent. At Leeds also employment showed little change; employment was bad, with much short time working.

In the Lancashire slipper industry there was some improvement, though short time was still largely worked. At Bury, employment remained good.

Employment showed little general change in Scotland. It was good at Kilmarnock and at Glasgow, but bad at Edinburgh and at Maybole.

The following Table shows the number of men and of women (other than casuals) on the registers of 53 Employment Exchanges in the principal centres of the boot and shoe industry at 19th February, 1934:—

Department.	Numbers (excluding Casuals) on the Registers at 19th February, 1934.					
	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.		
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.
Boot and Shoe Manufacture:						
Preparing Department ...	194	28	222	117	33	150
Rough Stuff Department ...	551	26	577	362	6	368
Clothing Department ...	888	10	898	968	1	969
Closing Department ...	39	694	733	30	1,025	1,055
Making Department ...	2,762	42	2,804	2,270	49	2,319
Finishing Department ...	1,758	375	2,133	1,272	237	1,509
Slipper Making ...	326	131	457	903	730	1,633
Clog Making ...	34	1	35	5	1	6
Repairing and Hand Sewn Work ...	880	1	881	78	—	78
TOTAL ...	7,432	1,308	8,740	6,005	2,082	8,087

The following Table shows the increases and decreases as compared with 22nd January, 1934:—

Department.	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.			Total.
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
Boot and Shoe Manufacture:							
Preparing Department ...	- 11	- 8	- 19	- 746	- 18	- 764	- 783
Rough Stuff Department ...	+ 47	...	+ 47	- 157	- 17	- 174	- 127
Clothing Department ...	- 96	+ 3	- 93	- 744	- 6	- 750	- 843
Closing Department ...	- 22	- 140	- 162	+ 5	- 749	- 744	- 906
Making Department ...	- 183	- 18	- 201	- 350	- 28	- 378	- 213
Finishing Department ...	- 51	- 110	- 161	- 2	- 153	- 155	- 316
Slipper Making ...	- 20	- 6	- 26	- 236	- 245	- 481	- 507
Clog Making ...	...	...	...	- 3	- 1	- 4	- 4
Repairing and Hand Sewn Work ...	- 199	- 2	- 201	- 14	- 2	- 16	- 217
TOTAL ...	- 169	- 281	- 450	- 2,247	- 1,219	- 3,466	- 3,916

The exports of boots, shoes and slippers (not rubber) in February, 1934, amounted to 43,340 dozen pairs, as compared with 34,712 dozen pairs in January, 1934, and with 36,494 dozen pairs in February, 1933.

POTTERY INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT in North Staffordshire, although still slack on the whole, showed an improvement. It was much better than in February, 1933. At Bristol employment continued good; at Worcester it remained fairly good, while at Derby it was moderate.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, was 21.3 at 19th February, 1934, as compared with 24.7 at 22nd January, 1934, and 33.5 at 20th February, 1933.

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

Branches.	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 24th Feb., 1934.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month before.	Year before.	Week ended 24th Feb., 1934.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month before.	Year before.
BRANCHES.						
China Manufacture ...	1,779	+ 1.2	+ 8.5	3,000	+ 2.4	+ 10.5
Earthenware Manufacture ...	6,254	- 0.3	+ 5.5	10,944	+ 7.6	+ 19.2
Other Branches (including unspecified) ...	1,847	+ 2.2	+ 22.6	3,363	+ 4.1	+ 27.7
TOTAL ...	9,880	+ 0.4	+ 8.9	17,307	+ 6.0	+ 19.1
DISTRICTS.						
North Staffordshire ...	7,757	+ 0.5	+ 10.1	12,361	+ 6.3	+ 20.6
Other Districts ...	2,123	- 0.0	+ 4.7	4,946	+ 5.2	+ 15.5
TOTAL ...	9,880	+ 0.4	+ 8.9	17,307	+ 6.0	+ 19.1

Returns from employers relative to short-time working showed that, of 9,724 workpeople employed by firms making returns, 2,328, or nearly 24 per cent., were working on an average 11½ hours less than full time in the week ended 24th February, 1934; on the other hand 529, or nearly 5½ per cent., were working overtime to the extent of nearly 7 hours each on the average.

BRICK INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT during February showed a slight improvement, but continued moderate on the whole. In the Peterborough district it continued very good.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, was 15.0 at 19th February, 1934, as compared with 15.8 at 22nd January, 1934, and 25.9 at 20th February, 1933.

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

Districts.	Number of Workpeople.		Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.			
	Week ended 24th Feb., 1934.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month before.	Week ended 24th Feb., 1934.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month before.*		
	Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.		
Northern Counties, Yorkshire, Lancashire and Cheshire ...	1,683	+ 0.3	+ 12.7	4,172	- 0.1	+ 16.0
Midlands and Eastern Counties ...	7,386	+ 0.4	+ 28.8	19,964	+ 3.3	+ 42.4
South and South-West Counties and Wales ...	1,662	+ 0.5	- 0.1	3,935	+ 5.2	+ 9.2
Scotland ...	186	+ 4.5	+ 5.1	453	+ 8.4	+ 14.4
TOTAL ...	10,917	+ 0.5	+ 20.4	28,524	+ 3.1	+ 31.9

Returns from employers relative to short-time working, exclusive of time lost on account of bad weather, showed that, of 10,879 workpeople employed by firms furnishing information, about 7 per cent. were working on an average 13½ hours less than full time in the week ended 24th February, 1934. On the other hand 4, per cent. were working overtime to the extent of about 5 hours each on the average.

BUILDING.

PAPER MANUFACTURE, PRINTING, AND BOOKBINDING.

EMPLOYMENT in the paper-making industry during February continued good generally, and improved slightly as compared with the previous month; it was also better than during February, 1933.

In the letterpress printing industry employment showed a further slight improvement and continued fair on the whole. It was again reported as slack in London and at Leicester, Newcastle-on-Tyne and Glasgow; fair at Bristol, Liverpool and Manchester; fairly good at Derby; and good at St. Albans and Watford and a few of the smaller centres.

Employment in the lithographic printing industry showed a slight improvement compared with January, and was moderate on the whole; it was better than in February, 1933. In London and at Birmingham, Liverpool and Manchester it was reported as bad; but it was again described as fair at Glasgow and at some of the smaller towns.

Employment in the bookbinding industry continued to decline slightly, but remained fair generally.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, in the paper and paper-board industries was 7.4 at 19th February, 1934, compared with 7.9 at 22nd January, 1934, and 11.0 at 20th February, 1933.

The following Table summarises the returns received from certain trade unions which furnished information as to the extent of unemployment amongst their members:—

Table with columns: No. of Members of Unions at end of February, 1934, Percentage Unemployed at end of Feb., Jan., Feb., 1933, Increase (+) or Decrease (-) on a Month before, Year before.

DOCK AND RIVERSIDE LABOUR.

EMPLOYMENT during February was slack generally, and worse than in the previous month.

Among insured workpeople in the dock, harbour, river and canal service, 35.0 per cent. were unemployed at 19th February, 1934, as compared with 32.5 per cent. at 22nd January, 1934, and with 36.4 per cent. at 20th February, 1933.

In river, canal, etc., service the percentage unemployed among insured workpeople at 19th February, 1934, was 15.0, as compared with 14.8 at 22nd January, 1934. In docks, wharves, and lighterage, the corresponding figures were 38.3 at 19th February, 1934, and 35.3 at 22nd January, 1934.

London.—Employment was moderate and worse than in January. The following Table shows the average daily number of dock labourers employed at docks and wharves in respect of which returns were received.

Table showing Average Daily Number of Labourers employed in Docks and at Principal Wharves in London, broken down by Period, In Docks, and At Wharves and Principal Wharves.

Tilbury.—The average number of dock labourers employed during February was 715, compared with 836 in January, and with 664 in February, 1933.

East Coast.—Employment at most of the North-East Coast ports remained slack. It fluctuated considerably at Middlesbrough, and it continued bad at the Hartlepoons; there was a slight improvement in the West Hartlepool area towards the end of the month.

Mersey.—Employment at Liverpool was moderate and not so good as in January. At Garston it remained slack, but at Manchester and Salford it improved and was generally good.

The average weekly number of dock labourers registered at the clearing houses under the Liverpool Docks Scheme as employed in the four weeks ended 23rd February, 1934, was 11,337, compared with 11,844 in January, 1934, and with 10,241 in February, 1933.

Other Ports in England and Wales.—Employment at Avonmouth was moderate. At Swansea it remained fair with coal trimmers. It continued poor at Penarth, except amongst coal trimmers and tippers.

Scottish and Irish Ports.—Employment at Glasgow improved slightly, but remained generally moderate. At Dundee there was a decline during the latter part of the month.

SEAMEN.

EMPLOYMENT among seamen during February was still very slack on the whole. The demand for men was very quiet, and ample supplies of all ratings were available at the majority of ports.

Among insured workers in the shipping service the percentage unemployed at 19th February, 1934, was 32.1, compared with 34.1 at 22nd January, 1934, and 34.1 at 20th February, 1933.

The demand for men on the Thames was moderate in the first week of the month and slack subsequently. On the Tyne there was a poor demand on the whole; on the Wear the demand was slack, more particularly in the second week of the month.

The following Table shows the number of seamen* shipped in British registered foreign-going vessels at the undermentioned ports of Great Britain and Northern Ireland during February:—

Table showing Number of Seamen* shipped in British registered foreign-going vessels at Principal Ports, broken down by Port, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month before, Year before, and Two Months ended.

* It will be understood that the numbers given are the numbers of separate engagements, and not of separate individuals.

COMPOSITION OF UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS: GREAT BRITAIN.

On page 98 an explanation is given of the unemployment statistics published in the Press, and in this GAZETTE. The following Table gives an analysis relating to the 19th February, 1934, of the composition of these statistics.

Table showing Composition of Unemployment Statistics: Great Britain, broken down by Sex and Age Group (Men, Boys, Women, Girls, Total).

NUMBERS ON THE REGISTERS OF EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES.*

ANALYSIS OF FIGURES FOR 19TH FEBRUARY, 1934, AND 22ND JANUARY, 1934.

Table showing Numbers on the Registers of Employment Exchanges, broken down by Area, Persons normally in Regular Employment, Persons normally in Casual Employment, and Total.

VACANCIES NOTIFIED TO, AND FILLED BY, EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES.*

(GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.)

Table showing Vacancies Notified and Filled by Employment Exchanges, broken down by Area, Period, and Vacancies Filled.

* The term "Employment Exchange," as used in this connection, includes Ministry of Labour Employment Exchanges and Branch Employment Offices, and also Juvenile Employment Bureaux under the control of Local Education Authorities which are exercising powers under Sec. 107 of the Education Act, 1921, and Sec. 6 of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1923.

NUMBERS ON THE REGISTERS IN THE PRINCIPAL TOWNS.

The following Table shows for each of the Employment Exchange administrative areas in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and for the principal towns therein, the number of unemployed persons registered at Employment Exchanges on 19th February, 1934.

Large table showing Numbers on the Registers in the Principal Towns, broken down by Area, Sex, and Age Group, with Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in totals as compared with 22nd Jan., 1934, and 20th Feb., 1933.

[Percentage rates of unemployment for each of 749 towns in Great Britain are given in the monthly "Local Unemployment Index."]

UNEMPLOYMENT IN INSURED INDUSTRIES.

THE statistics here presented show, industry by industry, the estimated number of persons insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts, the number and percentage of such persons who were unemployed on 19th February, 1934, and the increase or decrease at that date in the total percentages unemployed compared with a month earlier, a year before, and two years before, respectively.

The Unemployment Insurance Acts provide, subject to certain exceptions, for the compulsory insurance against unemployment of substantially all employed persons. The principal classes of persons who are excepted from such compulsory insurance are juveniles under 16 years of age and (since 2nd January, 1928) persons aged 65 and over, persons employed otherwise than by way of manual labour at a rate of remuneration exceeding in value £250 per annum, persons employed in agriculture and private domestic service, and outworkers. Persons employed by local public authorities, railways and certain other public utility undertakings, members of the police forces, and persons with rights under a statutory superannuation scheme may, in certain circumstances, also be excepted.

An unemployment book, on which is recorded, *inter alia*, the industry in which he is employed, is issued to every insured person, and this book must be lodged at an Employment Exchange whenever the insured person to whom it relates makes a claim for unemployment benefit, or, without claiming benefit, ceases to be employed in an insured trade. The book must be removed and deposited with the employer for stamping as soon as employment in an insured trade is resumed.

The files of "lodged" books at the Employment Exchanges thus furnish for each industrial group a record of the unemployment of insured persons. In arriving at this figure the books of those persons who are known to be working in an uninsured trade, or to be sick or deceased, or who are known to have emigrated or gone abroad, are of course excluded. In cases where information on these points is lacking the books remain in the "lodged" files, and

are included in the statistics of unemployment, for a period of two months from the date on which the insured person was last in touch with the Employment Exchange.

The numbers unemployed given in the following Table relate only to persons insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts. They include insured persons who are maintaining registration at Employment Exchanges, together with those whose unemployment books remain lodged in the "two months" file referred to above. The figures given on page 97 relating to persons registered at Employment Exchanges include uninsured as well as insured persons who are maintaining registration for employment, but not insured persons whose books are in the two months file.

A Table showing the composition of the two series of figures is given on page 97.

Insured persons who are disqualified for the receipt of unemployment benefit under the trade dispute disqualification are not included in the numbers unemployed, unless they are definitely maintaining registration for other employment.

The estimated numbers of insured persons in each industry are computed once a year, in November, on the basis of information obtained at the annual exchange of unemployment books. The figures relate to the beginning of July, and similar statistics are not available for other dates in the year. In considering the comparative percentage figures for individual industries* given in the following Table, and in the articles on specific industries on earlier pages of this GAZETTE, it should be borne in mind that the percentage rates of unemployment at each date in 1934 have been calculated on the basis of the estimated numbers of insured persons at the beginning of July, 1933; while the figures for February, 1933, and 1932, are calculated on the basis of the estimated numbers insured at July, 1932, and 1931, respectively. In an industry in which a relatively large change occurs during one or more years in the estimated number of insured workpeople, this change may have an important effect on the relative percentage rates of unemployment.

NUMBER OF INSURED PERSONS RECORDED AS UNEMPLOYED AT 19th FEBRUARY, 1934.

INDUSTRY.	GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.									GREAT BRITAIN ONLY.		
	WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED (including Casuals).			TEMPORARY STOPPAGES.			TOTAL.			WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED, TEMPORARY STOPPAGES, AND CASUALS.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Fishing	7,844	252	8,096	106	15	121	7,950	267	8,217	7,906	267	8,173
Mining:—												
Coal Mining	200,953	488	201,441	64,044	52	64,096	264,997	540	265,537	264,966	540	265,506
Iron Ore and Ironstone Mining, etc.	2,975	2	2,977	305	—	305	3,280	2	3,282	3,241	2	3,243
Lead, Tin and Copper Mining ...	1,179	3	1,182	52	—	52	1,231	3	1,234	1,231	3	1,234
Stone Quarrying and Mining ...	9,776	19	9,795	2,824	—	2,824	12,609	19	12,628	11,695	19	11,714
Slate Quarrying and Mining ...	890	—	890	120	—	120	1,010	—	1,010	1,006	—	1,006
Mining and Quarrying not separately specified	1,970	130	2,100	1,154	10	1,164	3,124	140	3,264	3,079	140	3,219
Clay, Sand, Gravel and Chalk Pits	2,681	19	2,700	480	10	490	3,161	29	3,190	3,083	29	3,112
Non-Metallic Mining Products:—												
Coke Ovens and By-Product Works	2,468	16	2,484	241	2	243	2,709	18	2,727	2,709	18	2,727
Artificial Stone and Concrete ...	3,948	84	4,032	1,228	30	1,258	5,178	120	5,298	5,097	120	5,217
Cement, Limekilns and Whiting ...	2,207	58	2,265	759	4	763	2,966	62	3,028	2,849	61	2,910
Brick, Tile, Pipe, etc., Making ...	10,306	555	10,861	2,340	217	2,557	12,646	772	13,418	12,393	771	13,164
Pottery, Earthenware, etc. ...	4,686	2,934	7,620	3,352	5,153	8,505	8,038	8,067	16,125	8,006	8,085	16,091
Glass Trades:—												
Glass (excluding Bottles and Scientific Glass)	3,073	397	3,470	661	82	743	3,734	479	4,213	3,730	478	4,208
Glass Bottles	3,113	175	3,288	1,022	35	1,057	4,135	210	4,345	4,131	210	4,341
Chemicals, etc.:—												
Chemicals	9,994	1,164	11,158	676	266	942	10,670	1,430	12,100	10,616	1,429	12,045
Explosives	709	310	1,019	55	55	110	764	365	1,129	764	365	1,129
Paint, Varnish, Red and White Leads	1,457	242	1,699	83	13	96	1,540	255	1,795	1,540	255	1,795
Oil, Glue, Soap, Ink, Matches, etc.	6,409	1,102	7,511	1,332	182	1,514	7,741	1,284	9,025	7,698	1,261	8,959
Metal Manufacture:—												
Pig Iron (Blast Furnaces)	4,065	5	4,070	717	6	723	4,782	11	4,793	4,780	11	4,791
Steel Melting and Iron Puddling, Iron and Steel Rolling and Forging	29,182	211	29,393	18,314	78	18,392	47,496	289	47,785	47,494	289	47,783
Brass, Copper, Zinc, Tin, Lead, etc.	4,301	149	4,450	1,192	35	1,227	5,483	184	5,667	5,472	184	5,656
Tin Plates	4,186	275	4,461	7,146	518	7,664	11,332	793	12,125	11,332	793	12,125
Iron and Steel Tubes	4,500	58	4,558	2,970	12	2,982	7,470	70	7,540	7,469	70	7,539
Wire, Wire Netting, Wire Ropes ...	2,252	201	2,453	1,038	110	1,148	3,290	311	3,601	3,290	311	3,601
Engineering, etc.:—												
General Engineering; Engineers' Iron and Steel Founding	83,372	2,005	85,377	15,928	706	16,634	99,300	2,711	102,011	97,770	2,696	100,466
Electrical Engineering	8,031	853	8,884	1,439	243	1,682	9,470	1,096	10,566	9,346	1,089	10,435
Marine Engineering, etc.	16,420	48	16,468	1,201	6	1,207	17,621	54	17,675	15,639	54	15,693
Constructional Engineering	6,541	47	6,588	1,232	8	1,240	7,773	55	7,828	7,563	55	7,618
Construction and Repair of Vehicles:—												
Motor Vehicles, Cycles and Aircraft Carriages, Carts, etc.	22,619	852	23,471	3,642	220	3,862	26,261	1,072	27,333	25,890	1,066	26,956
Railway Carriages, Wagons and Tramcars	2,502	249	2,751	264	31	295	2,766	280	3,046	2,692	280	2,972
Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing ...	5,584	42	5,626	1,043	2	1,045	6,627	44	6,671	6,619	44	6,663
Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing ...	88,565	251	88,816	2,599	30	2,629	91,164	281	91,445	85,706	269	85,975

* See, however, footnote † on page 101, as to the general percentages for all industries combined.

INDUSTRY.	GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.									GREAT BRITAIN ONLY.		
	WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED (including Casuals).			TEMPORARY STOPPAGES.			TOTAL.			WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED, TEMPORARY STOPPAGES AND CASUALS.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Metal Trades:—												
Stove, Grate, Pipe, etc., and General Iron Founding	10,551	369	10,920	3,881	154	4,035	14,432	523	14,955	14,361	523	14,884
Electrical Wiring and Contracting ...	4,188	80	4,268	356	5	361	4,544	85	4,629	4,427	84	4,511
Electric Cable, Apparatus, Lamps, etc.	8,120	4,706	12,826	1,206	1,768	2,974	9,326	6,474	15,800	9,311	6,474	15,785
Hand Tools, Cutlery, Saws, Files ...	4,613	892	5,505	2,345	499	2,844	6,958	1,391	8,349	6,947	1,388	8,335
Bolts, Nuts, Screws, Rivets, Nails, etc.	1,962	516	2,478	845	152	997	2,807	668	3,475	2,804	667	3,471
Brass and Allied Metal Wares ...	1,789	387	2,176	382	133	515	2,171	520	2,691	2,171	520	2,691
Heating and Ventilating Apparatus	1,197	13	1,210	207	5	212	1,404	18	1,422	1,398	18	1,416
Watches, Clocks, Plate, Jewellery, etc.	1,138	1,138	2,276	971	713	1,684	3,240	1,851	5,091	3,223	1,849	5,072
Metal Industries not separately specified	16,239	4,114	20,353	4,344	1,722	6,066	20,583	5,836	26,419	20,333	5,828	26,161
Textile Trades:—												
Cotton Preparing, Spinning, etc. ...	16,424	12,360	28,784	9,694	13,663	23,357	26,118	26,023	52,141	26,118	26,023	52,141
Cotton Manufacturing (Weaving, etc.)	12,795	27,178	39,973	4,606	12,614	17,220	17,401	39,792	57,193	17,383	39,790	57,173
Total Cotton	29,219	39,538	68,757	14,300	26,277	40,577	43,519	65,915	109,334	43,501	65,813	109,314
Woolen and Worsted	7,110	3,665	10,775	5,894	8,418	14,312	13,004	12,083	25,087	12,907	12,031	24,938
Silk Manufacture and Artificial Silk Weaving	1,528	1,111	2,639	1,612	3,189	4,801	3,140	4,300	7,440	3,138	4,290	7,428
Artificial Silk Yarn	1,232	537	1,769	512	364	876	1,744	901	2,645	1,744	901	2,645
Linen	4,643	6,187	10,830	683	1,410	2,093	5,326	7,597	12,923	5,326	7,597	12,923
Jute	3,247	4,913	8,160	429	1,693	2,122	3,676	6,606	10,282	3,676	6,606	10,282
Hemp, Rope, Cord, Twine, etc. ...	1,149	1,298	2,447	250	635	785	1,399	1,833	3,232	1,227	1,505	2,732
Hosiery	1,446	3,098	4,544	1,410	5,356	6,766	2,856	8,454	11,310	2,824	8,294	11,118
Lace	458	353	811	706	438	1,144	1,164	791	1,955	1,164	791	1,955
Carpets	481	478	959	376	413	789	891	1,748	2,639	891	1,748	2,639
Textiles not separately specified ...	1,658	2,344	4,002	375	1,349	1,724	2,033	3,693	5,726	1,836	2,831	4,667
Textile Bleaching, Printing, Dyeing, etc.	8,766	2,945	11,711	10,069	3,013	13,082	18,835	5,958	24,793	17,600	4,507	22,107
Leather and Leather Goods:—												
Tanning, Currying and Dressing ...	3,823	976	4,799	1,038	341	1,379	4,861	1,317	6,178	4,858	1,317	6,175
Leather Goods	1,537	1,074	2,611	289	374	663	1,826	1,448	3,274	1,804	1,441	3,245
Clothing Trades:—												
Tailoring	11,146	8,048	19,194	1,944	6,846	8,790	13,090	14,894	27,984	12,431	14,527	26,958
Dress Making and Millinery	1,020	5,051	6,071	73	2,254	2,327	1,093	7,305	8,398	1,075	6,872	7,947
Hats and Caps (including Straw Plait)	1,386	1,044	2,430	512	991	1,503	1,898	2,035	3,933	1,898	2,035	3,933
Shirts, Collars, Underclothing, etc.	930	4,695	5,625	67	2,732	2,799	997	7,427	8,424	755	3,256	4,011
Dress Industries not separately specified	864	666	1,530	170	535	705	1,034	1,201	2,235	1,017	1,197	2,214
Boots, Shoes, Slippers and Clogs ...	11,245	2,403	13,648	7,550	2,758	10,308	18,795	5,161	23,956	18,542	5,	

GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.

Table with columns: INDUSTRY, ESTIMATED NUMBER OF INSURED PERSONS AT JULY, 1933., PERCENTAGES UNEMPLOYED AT 19TH FEBRUARY, 1934., INCREASE (+) OR DECREASE (-) IN TOTAL PERCENTAGES* AS COMPARED WITH, GREAT BRITAIN ONLY. TOTAL PERCENTAGE AT 19TH FEB., 1934.

For notes see page 101.

Table with columns: INDUSTRY, ESTIMATED NUMBER OF INSURED PERSONS AT JULY, 1933., PERCENTAGES UNEMPLOYED AT 19TH FEBRUARY, 1934., WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED (Including Casuals), TEMPORARY STOPPAGES, TOTAL, INCREASE (+) OR DECREASE (-) IN TOTAL PERCENTAGES* AS COMPARED WITH, GREAT BRITAIN ONLY. TOTAL PERCENTAGE AT 19TH FEB., 1934.

* See last paragraph of text on page 98. † For 22nd February 1932, separate figures for each of the two sections are not available. ‡ The percentages for all industries and services combined for February, 1933, and February, 1932, used for these comparisons, are the revised figures based on the estimated numbers insured at those dates.

NUMBERS OF INSURED WORKPEOPLE UNEMPLOYED. PROPORTIONS IN VARIOUS INDUSTRY GROUPS.

Table with columns: Industry Group, Males, Females, Number Wholly Unemployed, Percentage of Stoppage, Total, Number Wholly Unemployed, Percentage of Stoppage, Total.

PRINCIPAL VARIATIONS IN NUMBERS UNEMPLOYED.

The following Table indicates for Great Britain and Northern Ireland the industries in which the numbers of insured persons recorded as unemployed at 19th February, 1934, differed from the figures for 22nd January, 1934, to the extent of 1,000 or more:-

Table with columns: Industry, Increase (+) or decrease (-) in Numbers recorded as Unemployed at 19th February, 1934, as compared with 22nd January, 1934., Males, Females, Total.

JUVENILE UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS.

NUMBERS OF JUVENILES AGED 14 AND UNDER 18 ON THE REGISTERS OF EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES AND JUVENILE EMPLOYMENT BUREAUX AT 19TH FEBRUARY, 1934.

Division.	Boys.			Girls.		
	Insured 16 and under 18.	Uninsured 14 and under 18.	Total.	Insured 16 and under 18.	Uninsured 14 and under 18.	Total.
	London ...	2,504	2,867	5,371	1,818	2,270	4,088
South-Eastern ...	1,536	1,635	3,171	1,379	1,920	3,299
South-Western ...	1,737	2,565	4,302	1,302	2,867	4,169
Midlands ...	1,910	1,772	3,682	1,547	1,658	3,205
North-Eastern ...	4,958	7,479	12,437	3,149	7,088	10,237
North-Western ...	5,224	5,862	11,086	4,038	5,147	9,185
Scotland ...	4,476	7,574	12,050	3,444	6,330	9,774
Wales ...	2,794	3,475	6,269	1,033	2,623	3,656
Great Britain ...	25,139	33,229	58,368	17,710	29,903	47,613

JUVENILES PLACED IN EMPLOYMENT. FOUR WEEKS ENDED 19TH FEBRUARY, 1934.

Division.	Number of Vacancies Filled.			Juvenciles placed in first situation since leaving School.		
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
	South-Eastern ...	6,665	5,491	12,156	1,665	1,359	3,024
South-Western ...	1,089	923	2,012	415	330	745
Midlands ...	2,117	2,159	4,276	881	1,075	1,956
North-Eastern ...	2,391	2,149	4,540	858	753	1,611
North-Western ...	2,469	2,509	4,978	1,007	916	1,923
Scotland ...	1,138	1,356	2,494	500	582	1,082
Wales ...	365	328	693	151	168	319
Great Britain ...	16,234	14,915	31,149	5,477	5,183	10,660

PERCENTAGE RATES OF UNEMPLOYMENT* AMONG INSURED JUVENILES AGED 16 AND 17.

Division.	Estimated numbers insured at July, 1933.		Percentages Unemployed at 19th February, 1934.					
	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.			Girls.		
	Wholly employed.	Temporarily stopped.	Wholly unemployed.	Temporarily stopped.	Total.	Wholly unemployed.	Temporarily stopped.	Total.
London ...	100,390	91,550	3.1	0.0	3.1	2.6	0.1	2.7
South-Eastern ...	46,130	32,090	3.6	0.1	3.7	4.8	0.3	5.1
South-Western ...	38,560	26,210	4.3	0.6	4.9	5.1	0.9	6.0
Midlands ...	79,090	66,350	1.6	1.0	2.6	1.5	1.2	2.7
North-Eastern ...	85,550	54,010	5.1	1.2	6.3	5.6	1.3	6.9
North-Western ...	74,880	67,840	6.5	1.5	8.0	7.8	1.9	9.7
Scotland ...	52,230	43,100	8.8	0.8	9.6	7.8	1.5	9.3
Wales ...	28,170	8,850	5.9	4.6	10.5	12.9	1.6	14.5
Special Schemes ...	2,400	2,300	0.6	—	0.6	0.5	—	0.5
Great Britain ...	507,400	392,300	4.6	0.9	5.5	4.4	1.0	5.4

JUVENILES IN ATTENDANCE AT APPROVED COURSES OF INSTRUCTION.

Division.	Average Daily Attendance.						Total No. of Separate Individuals who have attended since April 1st, 1933.	Total No. of J.I. Centres and other Educational Institutions.
	Week ended 21.2.34.							
	Junior Instruction Centres and Classes.							
	Claimants.		Non-Claimants.		Total.			
	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.		
London ...	410	185	2	—	412	185	8,482	
S.-Eastern ...	401	228	20	—	421	228	4,414	
S.-Western ...	285	145	43	40	328	185	3,624	
Midlands ...	318	181	64	14	382	195	6,889	
N.-Eastern ...	1,239	533	2,168	217	3,407	750	22,563	
N.-Western ...	1,627	831	491	295	2,118	1,126	25,265	
Scotland ...	1,347	893	1,467	311	2,814	1,204	18,033	
Wales ...	745	125	1,683	381	2,428	506	11,824	
Great Britain ...	6,372	3,121	5,938	1,286	12,310	4,407	101,094	

There were 73 Junior Instruction Centres for boys, 27 for girls, and 26 mixed Centres open in Great Britain during the week. In addition, there were 14 Junior Instruction Classes for boys, 3 for girls, and 3 mixed. The number of other Institutions to which unemployed juveniles were admitted was 145 for boys, 129 for girls, and 227 mixed. The attendances at these Institutions are mainly in the evening.

* Based on the numbers of juvenile unemployment books lodged at local offices, which exceed the numbers of insured juveniles on the Register.

PERIODS OF REGISTERED UNEMPLOYMENT.

ANALYSIS IN RESPECT OF PERSONS APPLYING FOR INSURANCE BENEFIT OR TRANSITIONAL PAYMENTS.

The following Table gives an analysis, according to the length of their last spell of registered unemployment, of persons applying for insurance benefit or transitional payments who were on the registers of Employment Exchanges in Great Britain at 19th February, 1934. While the figures give an indication of the extent to which these persons have had recent employment, they do not purport to show in every case the extent to which they have experienced unemployment over an extended period. Of the persons who had been on the register for extended periods, a proportion, which will increase as the period on the register increases, will have had one or more short spells of employment, lasting not more than three days each. The persons who had been on the register for less than three months included 340,897 temporarily stopped, 95,480 normally in casual employment, and 639,123 wholly unemployed. Of the wholly unemployed claimants who had been on the register for less than three months, 258,484 (or 13.7 per cent. of all the wholly unemployed on the register) had been on the register less than four weeks, 202,894 (or 10.8 per cent.) four weeks but less than eight weeks, and 177,745 (or 9.4 per cent.) eight weeks but less than thirteen weeks.

—	Persons who had been on the Register					
	Less than 3 months.	3 months but less than 6 months.	6 months but less than 9 months.	9 months but less than 12 months.	12 months or more.	Total.
	Men ...	856,485	218,969	123,421	89,090	418,926	1,706,891
Boys ...	12,949	1,883	205	14	13	15,064
Women ...	197,070	33,371	10,241	6,003	18,368	265,053
Girls ...	8,996	741	64	4	2	9,807
Total ...	1,075,500	254,964	133,931	95,111	437,309	1,996,815

—	PERCENTAGES.					
	Less than 3 months.	3 months but less than 6 months.	6 months but less than 9 months.	9 months but less than 12 months.	12 months or more.	Total.
	Men ...	50.2	12.8	7.2	5.2	24.6	100.0
Boys ...	85.9	12.5	1.4	0.1	0.1	100.0
Women ...	74.3	12.6	3.9	2.3	6.9	100.0
Girls ...	91.7	7.6	0.7	0.0	0.0	100.0
Total ...	53.8	12.8	6.7	4.8	21.9	100.0

INSURED UNEMPLOYED. POSITION UNDER PROVISIONS AS TO INSURANCE BENEFIT AND TRANSITIONAL PAYMENTS.

The following Table gives an analysis of the numbers of insured persons on the registers of Employment Exchanges in Great Britain at 19th February, 1934, relative to their title to insurance benefit and the provisions of the Unemployment Insurance (National Economy) (No. 2) Order, 1931, which deals with transitional payments.

The First Statutory Condition requires the payment of not less than 30 contributions in the preceding two years. In cases where this condition is satisfied, insured persons may receive insurance benefit, subject to the fulfilment of the statutory conditions, for not more than 156 days in a benefit year; but in cases where benefit has been drawn for 156 days in a benefit year ending on or after the 12th November, 1931, insurance benefit does not become payable until 10 contributions have been paid after the 156th day of benefit. In cases where benefit has been received for 156 days in a benefit year, or where the 10 contributions rule is not satisfied, and in all cases in which the First Statutory Condition is not fulfilled, adults, but not boys and girls, may make application for transitional payments; and if the special transitional conditions are fulfilled, all such applications are referred to Public Assistance Authorities, or to Commissioners in certain areas, for determination of the amount of payment to be made having regard to the needs of the applicant.

In item 4 in the Table relating to adults, the term "insured non-claimants" includes all those adults on the register whose claims had been disallowed on the ground that they were not normally insurable and would not normally seek to obtain a livelihood by means of insurable employment, together with those who had not made claims for insurance benefit or transitional payments.

The Table shows that of the 1,499,563 wholly unemployed insured men on the register at 19th February, 1934, there were 454,127 with claims to insurance benefit, and 896,760 with applications for transitional payments; while 148,676 were either not entitled to benefit or payments, or had claims under consideration. The corresponding figures for the 236,826 men temporarily stopped were 195,909, 20,468 and 20,449 respectively.

Among the 204,274 wholly unemployed insured women, 106,782 had claims for insurance benefit, 53,667 were applicants for transitional payments, and 43,825 either were not entitled to benefit or payments or had claims under consideration. The corresponding figures for 95,302 women temporarily stopped were 86,127, 3,231 and 5,944 respectively.

ADULTS (AGES 18 TO 64, INCLUSIVE).

—	Section of Register.	Men.	Women.
1. Claims for Insurance Benefit	Wholly Unemployed	454,127	106,782
	Temporarily Stopped	195,909	86,127
	Casuals ...	66,272	1,502
	Total ...	716,308	194,411
2. Applications for Transitional Payments.	Wholly Unemployed	896,760	53,667
	Temporarily Stopped	20,468	3,231
	Casuals ...	26,503	227
	Total ...	943,731	57,125
3. Total applications for Transitional Payments:—	(a) Authorised for payment	880,907	46,257
	(b) Needs of applicant held by Local Authorities not to justify payment...	62,824	10,868
	Total ...	943,731	57,125
4. Insured Non-claimants ...	Wholly Unemployed	123,112	36,282
5. Position under First Statutory Condition not determined.	Wholly Unemployed	25,564	7,543
	Temporarily Stopped	20,449	5,944
	Casuals ...	839	30
	Total ...	46,852	13,517
6. Total Insured Adults on Register.	Wholly Unemployed	1,499,563	204,274
	Temporarily Stopped	236,826	95,302
	Casuals ...	93,614	1,759
	Total ...	1,830,003	301,335

JUVENILES (AGES 16 AND 17 YEARS).

—	Section of Register.	Boys.	Girls.
1. Claims for Insurance Benefit	Wholly Unemployed	9,351	5,358
	Temporarily Stopped	3,919	3,462
	Casuals ...	88	14
	Total ...	13,358	8,834
2. Not entitled to Insurance Benefit:—	(a) First Statutory Condition not satisfied ...	9,394	7,687
	(b) First Statutory Condition satisfied ...	681	216
	Total ...	10,075	7,903
3. Position under First Statutory Condition not determined.	Wholly Unemployed	811	475
	Temporarily Stopped	891	497
	Casuals ...	4	1
	Total ...	1,706	973
4. Total Insured Juveniles on Register.	Wholly Unemployed	20,237	13,736
	Temporarily Stopped	4,810	3,959
	Casuals ...	92	15
	Total ...	25,139	17,710

APPLICATIONS FOR TRANSITIONAL PAYMENTS.

DETERMINATIONS OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE AUTHORITIES.

The following Table gives the number of determinations made by Public Assistance Authorities (and, in the case of Rotherham County Borough and the Administrative County of Durham, the Commissioners appointed by the Minister of Labour) on applications for transitional payments submitted to them during the period 8th January, 1934, to 3rd February, 1934, analysed so as to show separately the determinations given on initial applications on the one hand and renewed and revised determinations on the other:—

Nature of Determination.	Men.		Women.		Total.	
	Initial Applications.	Renewals and Revisions.	Initial Applications.	Renewals and Revisions.	Initial Applications.	Renewals and Revisions.
Transitional payment allowed at—						
Maximum benefit rates ...	27,416	280,945	2,768	13,130	30,184	294,075
Lower rates ...	18,555	184,637	1,996	10,218	20,551	194,855
Needs of applicants held not to justify payment ...	7,152	13,751	2,002	2,025	9,154	15,776
Total ...	53,123	479,333	6,766	25,373	59,889	504,706

ADJUDICATIONS UNDER STATUTORY CONDITIONS FOR INSURANCE BENEFIT AND TRANSITIONAL PAYMENTS.

PERIOD 1ST TO 28TH FEBRUARY, 1934. GREAT BRITAIN.

The following Table gives, for the period from 1st to 28th February, 1934, inclusive, an analysis of the decisions of Courts of Referees and of the Umpire on claims for insurance benefit and transitional payments, the number of cases disallowed by Insurance Officers under the trade dispute disqualification, and the number of appeals against such disallowances dealt with by Courts of Referees:—

A.—Decisions of Courts of Referees.

Ground on which referred.	Claims Allowed.		Total.
	Claims Allowed.	Claims Disallowed.	
Contributions conditions* ...	Men ... 139 Women ... 19 Juveniles ... 13	258 60 270	397 79 283
Not normally insurable and/or will not normally seek to obtain livelihood by means of insurable employment ...	Men ... 5,441 Women ... 980	6,660 1,503	12,101 2,483
Anomalies Regulations†:—	Class (b) ... Men ... 205 Women ... 92 Juveniles ... 1	597 537 8	802 629 9
Class (c) ...	Men ... 42 Women ... 26 Juveniles ... 6	46 68 6	88 94 12
Class (d) ...	1,143	2,642	3,785
Employment left voluntarily without just cause ...	Men ... 1,444 Women ... 1,175 Juveniles ... 217	2,365 2,605 602	3,809 3,780 819
Employment lost through misconduct ...	Men ... 1,262 Women ... 573 Juveniles ... 142	2,076 931 494	3,338 1,504 636
Failure or refusal to apply for or accept suitable employment, or failure to carry out written directions ...	Men ... 217 Women ... 438 Juveniles ... 50	430 1,458 329	647 1,896 379
Not unemployed ...	Men ... 375 Women ... 58 Juveniles ... 6	1,824 749 155	2,199 807 161
Not capable of work, or not available for work ...	Men ... 182 Women ... 197 Juveniles ... 8	447 868 47	629 1,065 55
Other grounds ...	Men ... 252 Women ... 70 Juveniles ... 62	1,865 734 513	2,117 804 575
Total ...	Men ... 9,559 Women ... 4,771 Juveniles ... 505	16,568 12,155 2,424	26,127 16,926 2,929
Grand Total ...	14,835	31,147	45,982

B.—Trade Dispute Cases.†

—	Claims Allowed.	Claims Disallowed.	Total.
Cases dealt with by Insurance Officers ...	145	395	540
Appeals against disallowances by Insurance Officers dealt with by Courts of Referees ...	Men ... 3 Women ... — Juveniles ... —	26 4 1	29 4 1
Total Appeals ...	3	31	34

C.—Decisions by Umpire.†

—	Claims Allowed.	Claims Disallowed.	Total.
Appeals by Insurance Officers ...	174	177	351
Appeals by Associations ...	69	129	198
Appeals by Claimants ...	125	325	450
Total ...	368	631	999

* In the case of juveniles the condition in question was the full first statutory condition, viz., the payment of 30 contributions in the preceding two years. For men and women the figures relate mainly to applications for transitional payments, referred on the ground that less than 8 contributions had been paid in the past two years and less than 30 at any time.
† See note * in first column on page 104. There were no cases under Class (a).
‡ See note † in first column on page 101.

CUMULATIVE FIGURES: 1ST MARCH, 1933, TO 28TH FEBRUARY, 1934.

	Claims Allowed.	Claims Dis-allowed.	Total.
Decisions of Courts of Referees.			
Contributions conditions	1,774	7,664	9,438
Not normally insurable and/or will not normally seek to obtain livelihood by means of insurable employment	86,781	105,474	192,255
Anomalies Regulations*	5,831	19,450	25,281
Class (a)	832	1,719	2,551
Class (b)	16,343	39,111	55,454
Employment left voluntarily without just cause	33,318	64,324	97,642
Employment lost through misconduct	24,100	39,629	63,729
Failure or refusal to apply for or accept suitable employment, or failure to carry out written directions	9,026	29,811	38,837
Not unemployed	5,703	36,332	42,035
Not capable of work, or not available for work	5,030	20,088	25,118
Other grounds	7,856	52,227	60,083
Total	196,594	415,829	612,423
Trade Dispute Cases.†			
Cases dealt with by Insurance Officers	2,560	3,275	5,835
Appeals against disallowances by Insurance Officers dealt with by Courts of Referees... ..	588	917	1,505
Decisions by Umpire †			
Appeals by Insurance Officers	2,855	3,601	6,456
Appeals by Employers	1,002	2,041	3,043
Appeals by Claimants	1,316	4,078	5,394
Total	5,173	9,720	14,893

UNEMPLOYMENT FUND. GREAT BRITAIN.

The following Table shows, approximately, the income and expenditure of the Fund for the periods of four weeks ended 24th February, 1934, 27th January, 1934, and 25th February, 1933:—

	Four weeks ended 24th February, 1934.	Four weeks ended 27th January, 1934.	Four weeks ended 25th February, 1933.
I. Insurance Account.			
Contributions received from:—	£	£	£
Employers	1,644,000	1,525,000	1,499,000
Employed persons	1,600,000	1,489,000	1,447,000
Exchequer ("Equal thirds")	1,619,000	1,503,000	1,474,000
Miscellaneous Receipts	2,000	2,000	2,000
Total Income	4,865,000	4,519,000	4,422,000
Deficiency Grant payable by Exchequer§	—	—	198,000
Total Expenditure	3,821,000	3,792,000	4,620,000
Treasury Advances Outstanding||	108,420,000	109,500,000	115,000,000
II. Transitional Payments Account.			
Transitional Payments and Cost of Administration thereof¶	3,840,000	4,040,000	4,575,000

* Class (a). Persons who habitually work for less than a full week, and by the practice of the trade in which they are employed nevertheless receive earnings or similar payments of an amount greater than the normal earnings for a full week of persons following the same occupation in the same district. There were no cases under class (a).

Class (b). Persons whose normal employment is employment for portions of the year only in occupations which are of a seasonal nature.
Class (c). Persons whose normal employment is employment in an occupation in which their services are not normally required for more than two days in the week or who owing to personal circumstances are not normally employed for more than two days in the week.

Class (d). Married women who, since marriage or in any prescribed period subsequent to marriage, have had less than the prescribed number of contributions paid in respect of them. This class does not include married women whose husbands are incapacitated from work or are unemployed and not in receipt of benefit.

† The figures may include a number of test cases, and the total number of individuals affected by such decisions may be considerably in excess of the figures shown in the Table.

‡ A detailed account of the Fund is presented to Parliament annually. (See House of Commons Paper No. 13 of 1934 for the period ended 31st March, 1933.)

§ The payment of Deficiency Grant by the Exchequer commenced in March, 1932, on the exhaustion of the statutory borrowing powers of the Fund; prior to this the deficiency of the Fund was met by Treasury advances.

|| Since 1st November, 1933, out of the surplus accrued on insurance account during the current financial year, repayment of debt has been effected as the various items of the debt fall due for repayment.

¶ The cost of transitional payments (including their administration) is repaid in full to the Fund by the Exchequer.

POOR RELIEF IN FEBRUARY.

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

The number of persons* relieved on one day† in February in the forty-seven selected areas named below was 859,110, or 0.1 per cent. less than in the previous month, but 1.8 per cent. more than in February, 1933. The numbers relieved at these three dates were equivalent, respectively, to rates of 516, 516 and 505 per 10,000 of the estimated population.

In the forty-three selected areas in England and Wales the number of persons relieved in February was 687,410, a decrease of 0.8 per cent. as compared with a month earlier, but an increase of 0.1 per cent. as compared with February, 1933. In the four areas in Scotland the number relieved was 171,700, or 3.1 per cent. more than in the previous month, and 9.1 per cent. more than in February, 1933.

Recipients of indoor relief in the forty-seven areas in February numbered 94,244, or 0.2 per cent. more than in the previous month, but 4.7 per cent. less than a year ago. Recipients of outdoor relief numbered 764,866, or 0.1 per cent. less than in the previous month, but 2.6 per cent. more than in February, 1933.

Of the forty-seven areas, twenty-five showed decreases in the number per 10,000 relieved in February, as compared with January, including Southampton (195 per 10,000); seventeen showed increases; while in five areas there was no change. Compared with February, 1933, thirty-two areas showed increases, including Glasgow (161 per 10,000), Oldham (109 per 10,000), and Gateshead (97 per 10,000); the other fifteen showed decreases, including Southampton (212 per 10,000), Edinburgh (135 per 10,000), and Derby (130 per 10,000).

County	Number of persons* in receipt of Poor Relief on one day† in February, 1934.			Rate per 10,000 of estimated Population.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in rate per 10,000 of Population as compared with a	
	Indoor.	Outdoor.	Total.		Month ago.	Year ago.
ENGLAND AND WALES.						
County of London	32,545	96,210	128,755	295	- 2	- 37
Birkenhead	875	7,804	8,679	588	- 8	+ 94
Birmingham	4,649	17,694	22,343	221	- 5	- 12
Blackburn	794	5,489	6,283	514	+ 6	+ 4
Bolton	933	4,024	4,957	279	- 1	+ 21
Bradford	1,164	10,148	11,312	382	...	+ 19
Brighton	1,055	2,501	3,556	244	- 2	+ 7
Bristol	2,171	12,346	14,517	359	- 2	- 30
Burnley	441	3,256	3,697	380	+ 7	+ 56
Cardiff	1,414	23,716	25,130	1,129	- 3	- 72
Coventry	456	1,816	2,272	126	- 3	- 7
Croydon	785	4,409	5,194	219	- 17	- 30
Derby	579	5,985	6,564	461	- 19	- 130
East Ham	660	4,365	5,025	355	- 4	+ 21
Gateshead	685	9,666	10,351	845	+ 21	+ 97
Huddersfield	542	2,069	2,611	229	- 6	- 6
Kingston-upon-Hull	1,806	19,381	21,187	666	- 19	- 31
Leeds	3,035	19,472	22,507	464	- 1	+ 54
Leicester	891	5,018	5,909	245	+ 2	- 2
Liverpool	6,052	78,352	84,404	982	+ 10	+ 91
Manchester	3,619	57,288	60,907	798	+ 3	+ 42
Middlesbrough	438	5,325	5,763	412	...	+ 58
Newcastle-on-Tyne	516	21,891	22,407	800	+ 1	+ 43
Nottingham	825	11,059	11,884	939	- 4	+ 40
Norwich	2,010	13,332	15,342	567	- 6	+ 28
Oldham	982	4,229	5,211	375	+ 18	+ 109
Plymouth	528	6,983	7,511	360	+ 7	+ 23
Portsmouth	1,279	5,342	6,621	183	+ 2	+ 6
Preston	534	1,802	2,336	197	+ 4	+ 35
St. Helens	465	1,681	2,146	171	+ 9	- 1
Sheffield	1,607	8,683	10,290	467	+ 13	+ 68
Sheffield	1,765	59,073	60,838	1,186	- 20	- 26
Southampton	1,377	4,408	5,785	326	- 195	- 212
South-on-Sea	287	3,547	3,834	318	- 8	+ 18
South Shields	799	3,580	4,379	384	+ 4	+ 27
Stockport	570	1,980	2,550	201	+ 4	+ 13
Stoke-on-Trent	1,843	9,042	10,885	394	- 5	+ 11
Sunderland	895	12,430	13,325	708	+ 9	+ 90
Swansea	540	7,007	7,547	458	- 3	+ 9
Wallasey	263	1,559	1,822	188	...	+ 22
Walsall	562	3,738	4,300	411	- 1	- 41
West Ham	2,383	18,367	20,750	717	- 8	+ 6
Wolverhampton	573	2,751	3,324	249	...	+ 21
Total for the above County Boroughs	54,047	504,608	558,655	537	- 5	+ 18
Total, County of London and 42 Selected County Boroughs	86,592	600,818	687,410	466	- 4	+ 2
SCOTLAND.						
Glasgow	5,523	129,335	134,858	1,219	+ 49	+ 161
Edinburgh	815	19,956	20,771	466	- 14	- 135
Dundee	860	7,100	7,960	449	+ 15	+ 60
Aberdeen	454	7,657	8,111	481	+ 2	+ 88
Total for the above Scottish Burghs	7,652	164,048	171,700	905	+ 27	+ 76
Total for above 47 areas	94,244	764,866	859,110	516	...	+ 11

* The figures include dependants, but exclude persons in receipt of outdoor medical relief only, and casuals. In England and Wales, rate-aided patients in mental hospitals, and in Scotland, lunatics and mental defectives, are also excluded.

† 17th February in London, 24th February in the rest of England and Wales, and 15th February in Scotland.

EMPLOYMENT OVERSEAS.

[N.B.—The following paragraphs include an abstract of such official information as is available with regard to the state of employment abroad, in order to indicate, as far as possible, the fluctuations in employment in each country from period to period. The bases of the official statistics published in the various countries are, however, not the same as those of the statistics relating to this country: and therefore the figures quoted below cannot properly be used with those on pp. 88-89 to compare the actual level of employment in Great Britain and Northern Ireland with that of other countries.]

GERMANY.*

UNEMPLOYMENT showed a further decrease during February, partly due to seasonal causes.

The total number of persons reported by the Employment Exchanges as unemployed at 28th February, 1934, was 3,373,778 (provisional figure), as compared with 3,772,792 reported for the end of January. The total for the end of February, 1933, was 6,000,958, but this is not strictly comparable with the foregoing totals.

At 28th February, 1934, 419,077 persons were in receipt of standard unemployment benefit and 1,083,289 in receipt of emergency benefit, giving a total of 1,502,366 (provisional figures), as compared with 1,711,498 at the end of January, and 2,455,428 at the end of February, 1933.

The total number of unemployed given above includes 1,188,863 able-bodied persons (provisional figure) who were in receipt of poor relief at 28th February, 1934, as compared with 1,317,490 at the end of January, and 2,378,844 at the end of February, 1933.

Of 5,255,184 members of the German Labour Front covered by returns, 25.4 per cent. were recorded as unemployed at the end of January, 1934, as compared with 24.7 per cent. at the end of the previous month.

FRANCE.†

Unemployment continued to increase during February.

The total number of persons on the registers of the Employment Exchanges at the end of the month (3rd March) was 382,862 (305,405 men and 77,457 women). At the end of January the corresponding total was 367,212 (revised figure), and at the end of February, 1933, 369,021.

At the beginning of February, 1934, the number of persons employed in mining, industrial, transport, and commercial undertakings covered by the special official monthly investigation showed a decline of 0.84 per cent. as compared with February, 1933. The percentage of workpeople in these undertakings on short time to such an extent as to bring their weekly hours below 48 was 40.33, as compared with 41.40 at the beginning of February, 1933. At 1st February, 1934, 21.36 per cent. were working more than 40 and less than 48 hours, and 18.97 per cent. 40 hours or less a week.

HOLLAND.‡

Unemployment increased sharply during December, mainly owing to seasonal causes. According to figures compiled by the State Department of Unemployment Insurance and Employment Exchanges, out of 598,012 members of subsidised unemployment funds making returns for the week ended 30th December, 1933, 35.7 per cent. were unemployed during the whole week and 5.2 per cent. for less than six days. In the corresponding week of the preceding month the percentages were 24.5 and 5.0 respectively; and in the last week of December, 1932, 31.5 and 5.8. At the end of December, 1933, 416,823 applicants were registered at public Employment Exchanges, of whom 394,135 were unemployed.

SWITZERLAND.§

Unemployment continued to increase during January. At the end of the month 99,147 applications for employment were registered at Employment Exchanges, as compared with 94,967 at the end of December and 101,111 at the end of January, 1933. Offers of situations at the dates mentioned above numbered 1,821, 1,307 and 1,347 respectively.

Returns from 195 unemployment insurance funds show that, out of an aggregate of 533,218 members, 15.8 per cent. were wholly unemployed and 7.1 per cent. partially so at the end of December, 1933, as compared respectively with 7.3 per cent. and 6.9 per cent. at the end of September, 1933, and 13.3 per cent. and 11.9 per cent. at the end of December, 1932.

ITALY.||

Unemployment increased during January. According to statistics furnished to the Ministry of Corporations by Employment Exchanges, 1,158,418 workpeople were registered as out of work at the end of the month, as compared with 1,132,257 at the end of December, 1933. The total for the end of January, 1933, was 1,225,470, but this is not strictly comparable with the foregoing totals.

AUSTRIA.¶

Unemployment showed a further increase during January. The total number of persons in receipt of benefit at the end of the month was 357,291 (140,710 in Vienna), an increase of 6.4 per cent. as compared with December, but a decrease of 10.2 per cent. as compared with January, 1933.

* Statistical Supplement to the Reichsarbeitsblatt, 5th March, 1934, and Reichs-Arbeitsmarkt-Anzeiger, 9th March, 1934, Berlin.

† Bulletin du Marché du Travail, 2nd and 9th March, 1934, Paris.

‡ Maandbericht van het Centraal Bureau voor de Statistiek, 31st January, 1934, The Hague.

§ La Vie Economique, February, 1934, Berne.

¶ Bollettino Mensile di Statistica, February, 1934.

|| Statistische Nachrichten, 27th February, 1934, Vienna.

HUNGARY.*

Unemployment decreased during December. The number of applications for work registered at Employment Exchanges at the end of the month was 55,523, as compared with 60,929 at the end of November, and 75,288 at the end of December, 1932.

POLAND.†

Unemployment again increased during December. The number of applicants registered at Employment Exchanges at the end of the month was 342,622, as compared with 265,197 at the end of November and 220,245 at the end of December, 1932.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA.‡

Unemployment continued to increase during February. The total number of persons remaining on the registers of the Employment Exchanges at the end of the month was 848,000, as compared with 835,650 (preliminary figures), in January and 920,182 in February 1933.

SCANDINAVIAN COUNTRIES.

Unemployment decreased in Denmark and Sweden but increased in Norway during January.

Denmark.—Particulars supplied to the Danish Statistical Department by unemployment insurance societies show that, out of 356,847 organised workpeople covered by the returns, 34.4 per cent. were unemployed at the end of January, 1934, as compared with 37.5 per cent. at the end of December and 43.5 per cent. at the end of January, 1933.

Norway.—Out of 23,611 members of trade unions making returns, 35.6 per cent. were unemployed at the end of January, 1934, as compared with 33.7 per cent. at the end of December and 33.5 per cent. at the end of January, 1933.

Sweden.—The percentage of members of trade unions making returns who were unemployed at the end of January, 1934, was 24.1, as compared with 27.1 at the end of December and 28.8 at the end of January, 1933.

JAPAN.**

Unemployment decreased during September—the latest date for which figures are available. According to official estimates, 400,118 workpeople (5.45 per cent. of the estimated total number of industrial wage-earners covered by the returns) were unemployed, as compared with 413,649 in August and 505,969 in September, 1932.

UNITED STATES.††

According to returns received by the Federal Bureau of Labour Statistics from 17,805 representative establishments in 89 of the principal manufacturing industries, covering about 50 per cent. of the total wage-earners employed in all manufacturing industries, 3,077,478 workpeople were on their pay-rolls at or near 15th January 1934, a decrease of 1.1 per cent. as compared with the previous month. Aggregate earnings in these establishments during the same period showed a decrease of 0.8 per cent. If the average monthly index of employment in manufacturing industries in 1926 be taken as 100, the corresponding figure for January, 1934, was 69.3 as compared with 70.1 in December and 56.6 in January, 1933. It is officially estimated that, in 89 manufacturing industries, and in 16 important non-manufacturing industries (for each of which separate indexes of employment are compiled), 2,000,000 more persons were at work in January, 1934, than in March, 1933.

Among members of trade unions in 24 cities affiliated to the American Federation of Labour, 28 per cent. (preliminary figure) were reported to be unemployed in January, 1934, as compared with 29 per cent. in December and 35 per cent. in January, 1933.

IRISH FREE STATE.†††

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

Rates of Wages.

In the industries covered by the Department's statistics* the changes in rates of wages reported to have come into operation in February in Great Britain and Northern Ireland resulted in an aggregate increase of about £4,110 in the weekly full-time wages of 49,000 workpeople, and in a decrease of £850 in those of 15,600 workpeople.

The groups of industries principally affected were as shown below :-

Table showing industry groups, approximate number of workpeople affected, and estimated amount of change in weekly wages (Increases and Decreases).

The increases in the metal group affected the more highly-paid workers engaged in steel sheet rolling and in galvanising processes, and consisted in both cases of advances of 2½ in the percentage additions paid on basis rates.

In the building group the increases were the result of a re-classification, under the wages grading scheme of the National Joint Council for the Building Industry, of a large number of localities, mainly small towns in the Eastern, Southern and South-Western counties, and consisted in the majority of cases of advances of ½d. per hour to craftsmen and ¼d. per hour to labourers.

Workpeople in other industrial groups whose wages were increased included brickmakers in the Peterborough district, for whom the increase amounted to ¼d. per hour; silk dyers at Macclesfield, whose weekly wages were increased by 3d. and 2d. for men and women respectively; County Council employees in Northumberland and Derbyshire, and Corporation employees in Bristol, for all of whom the increases consisted of restorations of reductions made in 1931 or 1932; and certain other corporation employees whose wages usually move in correspondence with building trade wages.

Of the estimated total increase of £4,110 per week, about £3,050

was the result of the decision of a standing joint body of employers and workpeople (viz., the National Joint Council for the Building Industry); about £320 took effect under sliding scales based upon selling prices of the manufactured article; and the remainder was mostly due to direct negotiation between the parties or to independent action on the part of the employers.

Of the estimated total decrease of £850 per week, nearly £700 took effect under sliding scales based upon selling prices of the manufactured article, and about £90 under cost-of-living sliding scales.

SUMMARY OF CHANGES REPORTED IN JANUARY-FEBRUARY, 1934.

Summary table showing industry groups, approximate number of workpeople affected by net, and estimated net amount of change in weekly wages (Increases and Decreases).

In the corresponding two months of 1933, there were net increases of £300 in the weekly full-time wages of 5,950 workpeople, and net decreases of £54,000 in those of 674,500 workpeople.

Hours of Labour.

The principal changes in hours of labour consisted of reductions in the weekly number of hours beyond which statutory overtime rates become payable for agricultural workers in Bedfordshire, Huntingdonshire and Cambridgeshire. There was also a reduction in the weekly hours of road workers employed by the Derbyshire County Council.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING FEBRUARY, 1934.

Main table of principal changes in rates of wages, listing industry, district, date of change, classes of workpeople, and particulars of change (decreases in italics).

* The particulars of numbers affected and amount of change in weekly wages exclude changes affecting Government employees, agricultural labourers, shop assistants and clerks, for which classes the information available is not sufficient to form a basis for statistics.

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

‡ The percentage addition to basis rates warranted by the selling-price sliding-scale for the period November, 1933 to January, 1934 was 7, but by mutual arrangement the percentage addition remained at 12½.

§ This increase took effect following re-classification under the Grading Scheme of the National Joint Council for the Building Industry, by which the stone yards at Box, Corsham and Chippenham, which were previously graded as B2, are now graded as B1.

¶ Under selling-price sliding-scale arrangements.

** This increase affected mainly the employees of firms who are members of the Sheet Trade Board, the principal districts affected being Staffordshire, Cheshire, Tees-side, South Wales and Monmouthshire and the Glasgow District.

†† This increase affected mainly the employees of firms who are members of the Galvanising Conciliation Board.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING FEBRUARY, 1934 (continued).

Continuation of the principal changes in rates of wages table, listing industry, district, date of change, classes of workpeople, and particulars of change (decreases in italics).

CHANGES IN HOURS OF LABOUR REPORTED DURING FEBRUARY, 1934.

Table of changes in hours of labour, listing industry, district, date of change, classes of workpeople, and particulars of change.

* Under cost-of-living sliding-scale arrangements. † In respect of the preceding pay period. ‡ The grade rates authorised by the National Joint Council for the Building Industry remain unchanged and are, for craftsmen and labourers respectively, as follows: Grade A, 1s. 5½d., 1s. 1½d.; A1, 1s. 5d., 1s. 1d.; A2, 1s. 4½d., 1s. 1d.; A3, 1s. 4d., 1s.; B, 1s. 3½d., 11½d.; B1, 1s. 3d., 11½d.; B2, 1s. 2½d., 11d.; B3, 1s. 2d., 10½d.; C, 1s. 1½d., 10½d.; C1, 1s. 1d., 9½d. Under the Grading Scheme of the Council certain towns have been re-classified with effect from 1 February, 1934, and a list of these towns is given below. The re-gradings resulted at Flint, Mold and Northop in a decrease in scheduled rates of ½d. per hour and at the remaining towns in increases in scheduled rates of from ½d. to 1½d. per hour for craftsmen and of from ¼d. to 1½d. per hour for labourers.

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

¶ This increase, which is in accordance with the terms of a resolution dated 30th January, 1934, takes effect as from the commencement of the pay week immediately following 31st July, 1933, and restores the reductions of similar amounts made at that date (see page 345 of this GAZETTE for September, 1933).

TRADE DISPUTES IN FEBRUARY.*

Number, Magnitude and Duration.—The number of disputes involving stoppages of work reported to the Department as beginning in February in Great Britain and Northern Ireland was 45, as compared with 32 in the previous month, and 28 in February, 1933. In these new disputes about 6,600 workpeople were directly involved and 1,100 workpeople indirectly involved (i.e., thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, though not themselves parties to the disputes). In addition, about 1,300 workpeople were involved, either directly or indirectly, in 11 disputes which began before February and were still in progress at the beginning of that month. The number of new and old disputes was thus 56, involving about 9,000 workpeople, and resulting in a loss, during February, estimated at about 44,000 working days. Of the 9,000 workpeople involved in these disputes, about 3,500 were employed in the mining and quarrying industries and 2,700 in the textile industries.

In the following Table is given an analysis of the disputes in progress in February, showing by groups of industries the number of workpeople involved at the establishments concerned, and the approximate time lost during the month; corresponding totals for a month earlier and for February, 1933, are shown for comparison:—

Industry Group.	Number of Disputes in progress in Month.			Number of Work-people involved in all Disputes in progress in Month.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress in Month.
	Started before beginning of Month.	Started in Month.	Total.		
Mining and Quarrying ...	1	11	12	3,500	8,000
Pottery, etc. ...	...	...	1	400	3,000
Metal, Engineering and Shipbuilding ...	3	10	13	700	2,000
Textile ...	1	10	11	2,700	20,000
Transport ...	...	4	4	1,000	4,000
Other ...	5	10	15	700	7,000
Total, February, 1934	11	45	56	9,000	44,000
Total, January, 1934	9	32	41	8,700	41,000
Total, February, 1933	9	28	37	11,400	106,000

Causes.—Of the 45 disputes beginning in February, 6, directly involving 800 workpeople, arose out of demands for advances in wages; 5, directly involving 500 workpeople, out of proposed wage reductions; 11, directly involving 2,100 workpeople, on other wage questions; 12, directly involving 1,300 workpeople, on questions

respecting the employment of particular classes or persons; 4, directly involving 900 workpeople, on questions of trade union principle; and 7, directly involving 1,000 workpeople, on other questions.

Results.—Settlements were effected in the case of 32 new disputes, directly involving 5,500 workpeople, and 9 old disputes, directly involving 400 workpeople. Of these new and old disputes, 15, directly involving 2,300 workpeople, were settled in favour of the workpeople; 14, directly involving 1,400 workpeople, were settled in favour of the employers; and 12, directly involving 2,200 workpeople, were compromised. In the case of 4 disputes, directly involving 300 workpeople, work was resumed pending negotiations.

TOTALS FOR THE FIRST TWO MONTHS OF 1934 AND 1933.

The following Table summarises the figures for Great Britain and Northern Ireland for the first two months of 1934, as compared with the corresponding period of 1933:—

Industry Group.	January and February, 1934.			January and February, 1933.		
	No. of Disputes beginning in period.	No. of Work-people involved in all Disputes in progress.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress.	No. of Disputes beginning in period.	No. of Work-people involved in all Disputes in progress.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress.
Coal Mining ...	19	8,300	26,000	21	11,100	61,000
Other Mining and Quarrying ...	2	100	1,000	1	300	8,000
Engineering and Shipbuilding ...	9	500	2,000	6	400	1,000
Other Metal ...	7	400	2,000	6	600	1,000
Textile ...	13	4,200	29,000	4	1,000	21,000
Clothing ...	2	200	2,000	2	400	1,000
Woodworking, Furniture, etc. Building, Public Works Contracting, etc. ...	7	300	4,000	3	200	2,000
Transport ...	6	1,200	5,000	6	16,300	116,000
Other ...	5	900	13,000	2	200	5,000
Total ...	77	16,400	85,000	54	30,700	221,000

PRINCIPAL DISPUTES INVOLVING STOPPAGES OF WORK DURING FEBRUARY.

Occupations and Locality.	Approximate Number of Work-people Involved.		Date when Dispute Began, Ended.		Cause or Object.	Result.
	Directly.	Indirectly.†	Began.	Ended.		
COAL MINING:— Underground workers and surface workers—near Glasgow (one firm).	650	143	14 Feb. 1934.	15 Feb. 1934.	Dissatisfaction with working conditions offered to a section of underground workers.	Work resumed.
POTTERY INDUSTRY:— Pottery workers—Glasgow (one firm).	350‡		15 Jan.	8 Feb.	Dissatisfaction with conditions of employment and other alleged grievances.	Firm closed down.
TEXTILE INDUSTRIES:— Workpeople in jute spinning department, preparatory workers, weavers, finishers, etc.—Dundee (one firm).	133	685	26 Jan.	21 Feb.‡	Refusal of spinners to work the double-frame principle on new automatic spinning frames.	Single spinning to be continued, and modifications made as to working methods and rates of pay.
Artificial silk spinners, viscose makers, twistors, etc., reelers and sorters—near Warrington (one firm).	320	260	1 Feb.‡	2 Feb.	Against proposed reduction of 10 per cent. in rates of pay.	Reduction accepted; position to be reviewed in three months time.
Workpeople employed in linen thread manufacture—Johnstone (one firm).	227	204	27 Feb.	7 Mar.	Reorganisation of work in spinning department.	Work resumed pending negotiations.
TRANSPORT:— Dock workers—Liverpool	500		3 Feb.	13 Feb.	Against the introduction of new unloading machinery for discharging sugar cargoes from certain vessels; and for revised terms of employment in regard to work on sugar cargoes.	Work resumed. Matters at issue subsequently referred to Dock Labour Joint Committee, which negotiated a new agreement covering bonus payments on output. Question of use of new machinery to be dealt with later.
RUBBER INDUSTRY:— Rubber spreaders, wet mixers, polishers, etc.—Manchester (one firm).	63	167	6 Feb.‡	...	Demand for negotiations on the workpeople's behalf to be conducted through their trade union in place of the Works Council; and for a revision of present conditions.	No settlement reported.‡

* Disputes involving less than 10 workpeople, and those which lasted less than one day, have, as usual, been omitted from the statistics, except when the aggregate duration (i.e., number of workpeople multiplied by number of working days, allowing for workpeople replaced by others, etc.) exceeded 100 days.
† The occupations printed in italics are those of workpeople indirectly involved, i.e., thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred but not themselves parties to the disputes. The statements of cause and result do not apply to these persons.
‡ Estimated number.
§ Work was resumed on 26th February.
¶ The stoppage took place at the beginning of the night shift on the previous day.
‡ It is reported that work was resumed early in March, vacancies on account of the dispute being filled by the firm where necessary.

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

Summary: Average Increases since July, 1914.

All Items included 40%
Food only 20%

FOOD.

At 1st March, 1934, the average level of retail prices of food in Great Britain and Northern Ireland showed a further slight decline. The downward movement as compared with a month earlier was chiefly due to a seasonal fall in the prices of eggs, and to a reduction in the price of milk in certain areas. There was a slight advance in the average price of bacon, while the remaining articles included in the statistics showed very little change.

As a net result of all the changes recorded, the average increase over the level of July, 1914, in the retail prices of the articles of food included in these statistics was 20 per cent. at 1st March, 1934, as compared with 22 per cent. at 1st February, 1934, and 19 per cent. at 1st March, 1933.

In the following Table is given a comparison of retail prices in July, 1914, and at 1st February, 1934, and 1st March, 1934:—

Article.	Average Price (per lb. unless otherwise indicated— to the nearest 1/4d.)			Average Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) at 1st Mar., 1934, as compared with	
	July, 1914.	1st Feb., 1934.	1st Mar., 1934.	July, 1914.	1st Feb., 1934.
Beef, British—	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	d.	d.
Ribs ...	0 10	1 2	1 2	+ 4	...
Thin Flank ...	0 6½	0 7½	0 7½	+ 1	...
Beef, Chilled or Frozen—					
Ribs ...	0 7½	0 9	0 9	+ 1½	...
Thin Flank ...	0 4½	0 4½	0 4½	- 0½	...
Mutton, British—					
Legs ...	0 10½	1 2½	1 2½	+ 4½	...
Breast ...	0 6½	0 7½	0 7½	+ 0½	...
Mutton, Frozen—					
Legs ...	0 6½	0 9½	0 9½	+ 2½	...
Breast ...	0 4	0 3½	0 3½	- 0½	...
Bacon (streaky)*	0 11½	1 1½	1 2	+ 0½	...
Flour ... per 7 lb.	0 10½	1 0	1 0	+ 1½	...
Bread ... per 4 lb.	0 5½	0 7½	0 7½	+ 1½	...
Tea ...	1 6½	1 10½	1 10½	+ 4½	+ 0½
Sugar (granulated) ...	0 2	0 2½	0 2½	+ 0½	...
Milk ... per quart	0 3½	0 6½	0 6½	+ 2½	- 0½
Butter—					
Fresh ...	1 2½	1 1½	1 1½	- 1½	...
Salt ...	1 2½	0 11½	0 11½	- 3	...
Cheese† ...	0 8½	0 9½	0 9	+ 0½	- 0½
Margarine ...	0 7	0 5½	0 5½	- 1½	...
Eggs (fresh) ... each	0 1½	0 1½	0 1½	+ 0½	- 0½
Potatoes ... per 7 lb.	0 4½	0 5½	0 5½	+ 0½	...

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

Article.	Average Percentage Increase or Decrease (-) at 1st March, 1934, as compared with July, 1914.			Corresponding General Average for 1st Feb., 1934.
	Large Towns (Populations over 50,000).	Small Towns and Villages.	General Average.	
Beef, British—	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Ribs ...	40	40	40	40
Thin Flank ...	11	13	12	13
Beef, Chilled or Frozen—				
Ribs ...	23	26	24	25
Thin Flank ...	- 7	- 1	- 4	- 3
Mutton, British—				
Legs ...	39	41	40	40
Breast ...	14	13	13	13
Mutton, Frozen—				
Legs ...	42	35	39	38
Breast ...	- 7	- 1	- 4	- 4
Bacon (streaky)*	25	25	25	22
Flour ...	120	95	107	108
Bread ...	13	14	13	14
Tea ...	28	28	28	28
Sugar ...	19	28	23	22
Sugar (granulated) ...	17	12	14	16
Milk ...	73	87	80	86
Butter—				
Fresh ...	- 14	- 4	- 9	- 9
Salt ...	- 23	- 20	- 21	- 22
Cheese† ...	2	4	3	5
Margarine ...	- 19	- 19	- 19	- 18
Eggs (fresh) ...	19	7	13	35
Potatoes ...	17	- 4	6	7
All above articles of Food (Weighted Percentage Increase) ...	20	20	20	22

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

RENT, CLOTHING, FUEL AND LIGHT.

As regards rents, inquiries which have been made into the changes which have taken effect under the Rent and Mortgage Interest Restrictions Acts indicate that the average increase in the controlled rents (including rates) of working-class dwellings between July, 1914, and 1st March, 1934, was approximately 49 per cent. When decontrolled rents are also included, the combined average increase, as compared with July, 1914, in controlled and decontrolled working-class rents (including rates) is approximately 56 per cent. This latter figure has been utilised in calculating the final percentage increase shown below for "all items."

As regards clothing, owing to the wide range of quotations, both now and before the war, to changes in qualities and in stocks held by retailers, and to variations in the extent to which different articles and qualities have been affected by price changes, it is impossible to make an exact calculation of the increase in prices; but information as to the movements of prices of men's suits and overcoats, woollen and cotton materials, underclothing and hosiery, boots and shoes, received from retailers in the principal towns, indicates that at 1st March, the level of retail prices of articles in this group, taking goods of the kinds purchased by the working classes, and so far as possible the same qualities of goods at each date, was about 85 per cent. higher than in July, 1914.

In the fuel and light group the prices of coal at 1st March were on the average over 80 per cent. above the level of July, 1914. The average price of gas remained between 45 and 50 per cent. above the pre-war level. For the fuel and light group as a whole (including coal, gas, oil, candles and matches) the average increase at 1st March, as compared with July, 1914, was between 70 and 75 per cent.

ALL ITEMS.

If the average increases in the cost of all the foregoing items are combined in accordance with their relative importance in pre-war working-class family expenditure, allowance being also made for the increase in the prices of soap, soda, domestic ironmongery, brushware and pottery, tobacco, fares and newspapers (averaging between 70 and 75 per cent.), the resultant general average increase for 1st March, 1934, is approximately 40 per cent. over the level of July, 1914, as compared with 41 per cent. at 1st February, 1934, and 39 per cent. at 1st March, 1933.

The result of this calculation (in which the same quantities and, as far as possible, the same qualities of each item are taken now as in 1914) is to show the average increase in the cost of maintaining unchanged the pre-war standard of living of working-class families (i.e., the standard actually prevailing in working-class families before the war, irrespective of whether such standard was adequate or not). In view of the variations in the amounts of increase in the prices of different commodities it is probable that economies or readjustments in expenditure have been effected in many families, especially in those cases where incomes have not increased so much as prices. On the other hand, the standard of living has doubtless risen in many cases in which wages have been increased in greater proportion than prices. No allowance is made in the figures for any such alterations in the standard of living, as to which trustworthy statistics are not available.

SUMMARY TABLE: 1920 to 1934.

The following Table shows the average percentage increase, as compared with July, 1914, for all the items included in the statistics, at the beginning of each month, 1920 to 1934:—

Average Percentage Increase since July, 1914—All Items. (Food, rent, clothing, fuel and light, etc.)

Year.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1920	125	130	130	132	141	150	152	155	161	164	176	169
1921	165	151	141	133	128	119	119	122	120	110	103	99
1922	92	88	86	82	81	80	84	81	79	78	80	80
1923	78	77	76	74	70	69	69	71	73	75	75	77
1924	80	79	79	75	73	72	73	73	74	76	76	77
1925	75	73	72	68	67	68	70	70	72	74	79	79
1926	75	72	71	65	64	63	66	64	65	67	69	69
1927	68	66	64	64	64	65	65	65	65	66	67	68
1928	67	65	66	62	61	60	61	63	64	65	67	67
1929	67	65	66	62	61	60	61	63	64	65	67	67
1930	66	64	61	57	55	54	55	57	57	56	57	55
1931	63	52	50	47	47	45	47	45	45	45	46	48
1932	47	47	46	44	43	42	43	41	41	43	43	43
1933	42	41	39	37	36	36	38	39	41	41	43	43
1934	42	41	40									

NOTE.

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

RETAIL PRICES OVERSEAS.

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

I.—FOOD.

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

Country.	Percentage Increase as compared with July, 1914.*				Latest figures available.	
	July, 1930.	July, 1931.	July, 1932.	July, 1933.	Rise.	Date.
GRAND BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND ...	41	30	25	18	20	1 Mar. 1934.
FOREIGN COUNTRIES						
Austria (Vienna) ...	19	10	10	4	2	Feb. '33
Czechoslovakia ...	32	18	9	6	0	Nov. '33
Egypt (Cairo)† ...	32	16	8	1	-3††	Nov. '33
Finland ...	837	718	756	777	750	Jan. '33
France (Paris) ...	506	525	449	408	415	Feb. '33
France (other towns) ...	518**	508**	431**	392**	404	Nov. '33
Germany ...	46	30	14	11	14	Jan. '33
Holland (Amsterdam) ...	52‡	41‡	19‡	17‡	28	Dec. '33
Italy ...	407	342	318	295	303	Jan. '33
Norway ...	51	40	34	32	29	Dec. '33
Spain (Madrid)† ...	80	43	79	80	80	Aug. '33
Spain (Barcelona)† ...	72	77	71	...	65	May, '33
Sweden† ...	40	30	28	23	22	Jan. '33
Switzerland ...	52	40	24	16	17	Jan. '33
United States ...	44	19	1	5	6	30 Jan. '33
BRITISH DOMINIONS, &C.						
Australia ...	47	25	23	18**	18	Dec., '33
Canada ...	49	10	-8††	-5††	0	Jan. '33
India (Bombay): Native families ...	36	0	2	-5††	-15††	Feb. '33
Irish Free State ...	56	43**	34**	29**	40	Nov., '33
New Zealand ...	43	18‡	8	4	7	Jan. '33
South Africa ...	9	4	-6††	-2††	3	Jan. '33

II.—ALL ITEMS.

PERCENTAGE INCREASE IN THE VARIOUS COUNTRIES IN THE COST OF FOOD, TOGETHER WITH (SO FAR AS POSSIBLE) HOUSE-RENT, CLOTHING, FUEL AND LIGHT, AND OTHER HOUSEHOLD REQUIREMENTS, AS COMPARED WITH JULY, 1914.*

Country.	Items on which Computation is based.†	Percentage Increase as compared with July, 1914.*				Latest figures available.	
		July, 1930.	July, 1931.	July, 1932.	July, 1933.	Rise.	Date.
GRAND BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND ...	A,B,C,D,E	55	47	43	38	40	1 Mar. 1934.
FOREIGN COUNTRIES							
Austria (Vienna) ...	A,B,C,D,E	12	7	8	5	5	Feb. '33
Belgium ...	A,C,D,E	769	689	608	595	587	Feb. '33
Czechoslovakia (Prague) ...	A,B,C,D,E	12	7	2	2	0	Dec., '33
Denmark ...	A,B,C,D,E	65	54	54	60	62	Jan. '33
Egypt (Cairo) ...	A,B,C,D,E	48	34	23	24	22	Dec., '33
Finland ...	A,B,C,D,E	1,008	904	894	883	859	Jan. '33
France (Paris) ...	A,B,C,D,E	492‡	465‡	417‡	426	4th Qr., '33	
France (other towns) ...	A,B,C,D,E	49	37	22	19	21	Jan. '33
Germany ...	A,B,C,D,E	62‡	54‡	41‡	37‡	43	Dec., '33
Holland (Amsterdam) ...	A,B,C,D,E	...	...	...	...	250	July, '33
Italy ...	A,B,C,D,E	...	...	...	...	...	Dec., '33
" (Milan) ...	A,B,C,D,E	431	386	365	347	350	Dec., '33
" (Rome) ...	A,B,C,D,E	400	352	336	314	310	Oct., '33
Norway ...	A,B,C,D,E	61	52	49	48	46	Dec., '33
Sweden ...	A,B,C,D,E	64	58	56	53	53	Jan. '33
Switzerland ...	A,B,C,D,E	59	50	38	31	31	Jan. '33
United States ...	A,B,C,D,E	67‡	50‡	36‡	28‡	35	Dec., '33
BRITISH DOMINIONS, &C.							
Australia ...	A,B,C,D,E	41‡	25‡	20‡	...	18	3rd Qr., '33
Canada ...	A,B,C,D,E	56	37	25	20	23	Jan. '33
India (Bombay): Native families ...	A,B,C,D,E	39	8	9	3	-4††	Feb. '33
Irish Free State ...	A,B,C,D,E	68	57**	53**	49**	52	Feb. '33
New Zealand ...	A,B,C,D,E	58	45‡	31**	27	27	Jan. '33
South Africa ...	A,B,C,D,E	28	22	17	14	16	Jan. '33

* Exceptions to this are: Egypt, January, 1913 to July, 1914; France (other towns), August, 1914; Italy (all items), Milan and Rome, January to June, 1914; Switzerland, June, 1914; Spain, South Africa, France (Paris, all items), 1914; Germany, average, 1913-1914; Amsterdam, 1911-1913; Belgium, April, 1914; Italy (food), United States, Canada, 1913; Australia (all items), November, 1914. The Australian percentages for all items are weighted averages for the six capital cities. The percentages are calculated, in Austria and Czechoslovakia, on prices converted to their gold values, and, in the other countries, on prices in the ordinary currency.
 † Fuel and light are also included in these figures.
 ‡ New series.
 § Figure for June.
 ¶ A = Food; B = House-Rent; C = Clothing; D = Fuel and Light; E = Other or Miscellaneous Items.
 ** Figure for August. †† Decrease.

FATAL INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS.

THE number of workpeople, other than seamen, in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, whose deaths from accidents in the course of their employment occurred or were reported in February was 167, as compared with 168* in the previous month and with 147* in February, 1933. Fatal accidents to seamen reported in February numbered 28, as compared with 38 in the previous month and with 39 in February, 1933.

RAILWAY SERVICE.		Factories and Workshops (continued).	
Brakemen, Goods Guards	1	Shipbuilding	5
Engine Drivers, Motormen	1	Other Metal Trades	4
Firemen	...	Cotton	...
Guards (Passenger)	...	Wool, Worsted, Shoddy	...
Permanent Way Men	6	Other Textile Manufacture	...
Porters	...	Textile Printing, Bleaching and Dyeing	...
Shunters	...	Tanning, Cuirying, etc.	2
Mechanics	...	Food and Drink	5
Labourers	2	General Woodwork and Furniture	7
Other Grades	8	Paper, Printing, etc.	1
Contractors' Servants	...	Rubber Trades	2
		Gas Works	...
TOTAL, RAILWAY SERVICE	20	Electric Generating Stations	...
		Other Industries	4
MINES.			
Underground	60	PLACES UNDER SS. 104-106, FACTORY ACT, 1901.	
Surface	5	Docks, Wharves, etc.	8
TOTAL, MINES	65	Buildings	6
		Warehouses and Railway Sidings	1
QUARRIES over 20 feet deep	5	TOTAL, FACTORY ACTS	77
		Total (excluding Seamen)	167
Factories and Workshops.		SEAMEN.	
Clay, Stone, Cement, Pottery and Glass	4	Trading Vessels, Steam and Motor	15
Chemicals, Oils, Soap, etc.	11	Fishing Vessels, Sailing	1
Metal Extracting and Refining	3	Motor	12
Metal Conversion and Founding (including Rolling Mills and Tube Making)	8	TOTAL, SEAMEN	28
Engineering, Locomotive Building, Boilermaking, etc.	2	Total (including Seamen)	195
Railway and Tramway Carriages, Motor and other Vehicles, and Aircraft Manufacture	3		

INDUSTRIAL DISEASES.

THE total number of cases† of poisoning, anthrax, and epitheliomatous and chrome ulceration in Great Britain and Northern Ireland reported during February under the Factory and Workshop Act, or under the Lead Paint (Protection against Poisoning) Act, was 41; the total number of deaths‡ reported was 5.

I. Cases.

I. Cases (continued).	
(a) LEAD POISONING.	(c) CHROME ULCERATION.
Among Operatives engaged in—	Chrome Tanning
Plumbing and Soldering	...
Shipbreaking	...
Pottery	...
Vitreous Enamelling	...
Electric Accumulator Works	...
Paint and Colour Works	...
Other Industries	...
Painting of Buildings	...
TOTAL	15
(b) OTHER POISONING	II. Deaths.
Arsenical	LEAD POISONING.
Aniline	Plumbing and Soldering
	...
TOTAL	Pottery
	...
(c) ANTHRAX.	TOTAL
Wool	...
Handling and Sorting of Hides and Skins	...
TOTAL	...
(d) EPITHELIOMATOUS ULCERATION (SKIN CANCER).	OTHER POISONING.
Pitch	Chronic Benzene
Oil	...
TOTAL	...
	EPITHELIOMATOUS ULCERATION (SKIN CANCER).
	Oil
TOTAL	...
	Total, Deaths
	...

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

PRICES AND WAGES IN THE IRON AND STEEL INDUSTRIES.

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

Product and District.	Period covered by last Audit.	Average selling price* per ton, according to last Audit.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) of last Audit* on	
			Previous Audit.	A year ago.
Pig Iron:				
Cleveland	1933. Oct.-Dec.	s. d. 52 4‡	+ 0 9‡	+ 1 5‡
Cumberland	Nov.-Dec.	61 0‡	- 0 1‡	+ 0 2‡
(Hematite mixed numbers)				
Lincolnshire	Oct.-Dec.	49 8‡	- 0 1‡	- 0 4‡
Nottinghamshire	Oct.-Dec.	53 9	+ 0 2	+ 0 5‡
North Staffordshire	Oct.-Dec.	53 4‡	+ 0 1‡	+ 0 1‡
Northamptonshire	Oct.-Dec.	48 7‡	+ 0 1‡	+ 1 3‡
West of Scotland	Oct.-Dec.	62 8	- 0 5	- 3 0
Manufactured Iron:				
North of England	Nov.-Dec.	173 10	+ 3 4	- 1 4‡
West of Scotland				
(Rounds, flats, squares, angles, hoops, tees and rods)	Nov.-Dec.	195 1‡	+ 0 5‡	- 1 4‡
Steel:				
South-West Wales	Oct.-Dec.	88 0‡	- 1 10‡	- 2 0‡

In accordance with the provisions of the agreements under which wages are regulated†, the ascertainment resulted in an increase in the wages of iron puddlers and millmen in the North of England, and in a reduction in the wages of the higher-paid blastfurnacemen in West Cumberland and North Lancashire. There was also an increase in the wages of blastfurnacemen in Cleveland and Durham, consequent on a temporary adjustment of the sliding-scale agreement.

In the case of iron puddlers and millmen in the West of Scotland, and blastfurnacemen, iron-stone miners and limestone quarrymen in Northamptonshire, the change in the ascertained price was insufficient to warrant a change in wages; whilst for blastfurnacemen in the West of Scotland and Siemens steel workers in South-West Wales the reduction in price did not involve any reduction in wages, since the latter had already reached the minimum provided for in the agreement.

There was also no change in the wages of blastfurnacemen, iron-stone miners and quarrymen in North Lincolnshire, blastfurnacemen in Nottinghamshire, and blastfurnacemen in North Staffordshire, whose wages have for some time past been maintained at a level higher than that warranted by the price ascertainment.

Details of the changes in wages referred to were given on pages 68 and 69 of the February issue of this GAZETTE.

LEGAL CASES AFFECTING LABOUR.

Trade Boards Acts, 1909-1918.

MILK DISTRIBUTIVE TRADE (ENGLAND AND WALES).

A company and its agent were charged with underpaying six male workers, and both were fined £2 on each of four charges, a total of £16. Two charges were withdrawn. Costs of £3 were awarded.—*Rez v. The Meadowland Milk, Ltd., and Sidney Wallis Ireland.* Cardiff Police Court. 2nd February, 1934.

An employer was charged with underpaying one male worker, failing to keep adequate records, and failing to post the Trade Board notice. He was fined £7 on the charge of underpayment, and 15s. on each of the other charges, with £3 3s. costs.—*Rez v. H. G. Welch.* South-Western Police Court. 9th February, 1934.

An employer was charged with underpaying two male workers and failing to keep adequate records. He was fined £1 on each of the underpayment charges, and 10s. on that relating to records, with 11s. costs. Arrears of wages amounting to £66 9s. 5d. were ordered to be paid.—*Rez v. John Fuller.* Norwich Police Court. 14th February, 1934.

INDUSTRIAL COURTS ACT, 1919, AND CONCILIATION ACT, 1926.

Recent Proceedings.

INDUSTRIAL COURT DECISIONS.

RAILWAY SHOPMEN: PLUMBER: CIVIL ENGINEER'S DEPARTMENT. LONDON AND NORTH-EASTERN RAILWAY, DERBY.—The National Union of Railwaymen submitted to the Court a claim in respect of a plumber who was employed in re-glazing parts of the roof of Annesley locomotive shed on 25th, 26th, 27th and 28th October, 1932, for extra payment under Clause 11, Schedule F of Industrial Court Decision No. 728, on the ground that the work was of an exceptionally dirty character. The Court decided that, having regard to all the circumstances, no extra payment falls to be made.—*Award No. 1579; dated 5th February, 1934.*

NIGHT TELEPHONISTS AND CALL OFFICE ATTENDANTS: PART-TIME NIGHT TELEPHONISTS: POST OFFICE.—A claim was submitted to the Court by the National Guild of Telephonists that the scales of pay of night telephonists, call office attendants and part-time night telephonists employed in the Post Office and stationed in inner London, outer London and the provinces, should be increased. The Guild based their claim mainly on the responsible nature of the work performed and the telephone developments of recent years which, they contended, called for increased skill and efficiency on the part of the operator. The claim was opposed by the Postmaster-General, on whose behalf it was contended that the claim, if acceded to, would disturb the relativities established under an award of 1927 between the pay of night telephonists and the pay of sorting clerks and telegraphists, as well as that of female day telephonists. It was agreed that since 1927 there have been changes in the character of the duties, due to the growing conversion of Exchanges from manual to automatic working, and the introduction of new services such as personal call facilities; but it was contended on behalf of the Postmaster-General that the bulk of the work in manual Exchanges shows no change, that the special and difficult duties are performed by a limited number of operators, that the alterations and developments are counterbalanced by technical improvements, and that, as a whole, the work is not performed under greater difficulty or strain than in 1927. The Court decided against the claim.—*Award No. 1580; dated 6th February, 1934.*

BOARD FOR MINING EXAMINATIONS.

Examinations for Certificates of Competency as Managers and Under-Managers of Mines and for Certificates of Qualification as Surveyors of Mines.

THE written parts of examinations for first and second class certificates of competency as managers and under-managers of mines will be held on 23rd and 24th May, 1934, at Edinburgh, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Sheffield, Wigan, Cardiff and Birmingham. The oral parts of the examinations, to be attended only by those candidates who qualify in the written tests, will be held in the same centres on 17th July, 1934.

The written part of an examination for certificates of qualification as surveyors of mines will be held in the same centres on 24th May, 1934.

The necessary forms are now available, and applications should be made not later than 16th April, 1934. In order that the appropriate forms may be sent, candidates should state whether they have already sat at one of the Board's examinations.

Letters should be addressed to the Secretary, Board for Mining Examinations, Mines Department, Cromwell House, Dean Stanley Street, Millbank, London, S.W.1.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT, 1901.

Horizontal Milling Machines (Amendment) Regulation.

THE Home Secretary, on 27th February, 1934, made a Regulation* under section 79 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, amending exemption (ii) of the Horizontal Milling Machines Regulations, 1928.

The exemption, as amended, provides that Regulation 3 of the Regulations of 1928 [which relates to the fencing of the cutters of horizontal milling machines] shall not apply to any milling cutter "when used for (a) making tools, jigs, or gauges for use in the factory, or (b) similarly accurate operations where, during the actual cutting process, all those parts of the machine which control the relative positions of the work and the cutter can be manipulated by the operator at his unrestricted discretion."

The Regulation, which is in accordance with the draft issued on 23rd January, 1934,† may be cited as the Horizontal Milling Machines (Amendment) Regulation, 1934, and will come into force on 1st April, 1934.

* Stated to the nearest farthing.
 † See the article on Adjustment of Wages by Sliding Scale Arrangements (Selling Price Sliding Scales) in the issue of this GAZETTE for April, 1933, page 122.

* Statutory Rules and Orders, 1934, No. 207. H.M. Stationery Office; price 1d. net (1½d. post free).
 † See the issue of this GAZETTE for February, 1934, page 74.

OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

[NOTE.—The prices are net, and, except where otherwise stated, do not include postage.]

AGRICULTURAL OUTPUT.—*The agricultural output of Scotland, 1930. Report on certain statistical inquiries made in connection with the Census of Production, relating to the output of agricultural produce.* (Cmd. 4496; price 1s. 3d.)

PART VIII (employment in agriculture) includes particulars as to number of workers employed, distribution of labour, and labour employed in fruit-picking.

CENSUS.—*Census of England and Wales, 1931. County of Somerset, Part II.* (S.O. publication; price 1s. 3d.)

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES.—*Report of the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies for the year 1932. Part 2. Friendly societies.* (S.O. publication; price 2s.)

HOUSING.—(i) *Housing conditions and respiratory disease. Morbidity in a poor-class quarter, and in a rehousing area in Glasgow.* January, 1934. Special Report Series, No. 192. Medical Research Council. (S.O. publication; price 9d.) (ii) *Housing Act, 1930. Particulars of slum clearance programmes furnished by local authorities.* Ministry of Health. (Cmd. 4535; price 3d.)

INDUSTRIAL HEALTH.—*Report of the Medical Research Council for the year 1932-1933. Committee of the Privy Council for Medical Research.* (Cmd. 4503; price 2s. 6d.)

Contains a section on industrial health.

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONFERENCE.—*International Labour Conference, Seventeenth Session, Geneva, June 8-30, 1933. Report to the Minister of Labour by the delegates of H.M. Government in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.* Ministry of Labour. (S.O. publication; price 9d.)

JUNIOR INSTRUCTION CENTRES, &C.—*National Advisory Council for Juvenile Employment (Scotland). Seventh Report. Provision of courses of instruction for unemployed boys and girls.* Ministry of Labour. (S.O. publication; price 3d.); see page 61 of this GAZETTE.

MINING.—*Miners' Welfare Fund. Twelfth Annual Report of the Miners' Welfare Committee for the year 1933, and seventh Annual Report of the Miners' Welfare Scholarship Selection Committee.* Mines Department. (S.O. publication; price 1s. 6d.); see page 85 of this GAZETTE.

POOR RELIEF.—*Statement showing the number of persons in receipt of poor relief in England and Wales in the quarter ending in December, 1933, with some particulars as to the number of "unemployed" persons in receipt of such relief.* Ministry of Health. (S.O. publication; price 6d.); see page 84 of this GAZETTE.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE.—*Unemployment Insurance Acts, 1920 to 1933. Selected decisions given by the Umpire on claims for benefit during the month of January, 1934. U.I. Code 8B. Pamphlet 1/1934.* Ministry of Labour. (S.O. publication; price 2d.)

VITAL STATISTICS.—*Registrar-General of Births, Deaths and Marriages for England and Wales. Decennial supplement, England and Wales, 1921. Part III. Estimates of population; statistics of marriages, births and deaths, 1911-1920.* (S.O. publication; price 30s.)

WIDOWS', ORPHANS' AND OLD AGE PENSIONS.—*Widows', Orphans' and Old Age Contributory Pensions Acts, 1925 to 1932. Accounts of the Treasury Pensions Account, the Pensions Account, and the Pensions (Scotland) Account, established pursuant to Sections ii (2), ii (1), and 45 (2), respectively of the Widows', Orphans' and Old Age Contributory Pensions Act, 1925, showing the receipts and payments during the year ended 31st March, 1933; together with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.* (H.C. 22; price 2d.)

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS

LIST OF NEW CONTRACTS, FEBRUARY, 1934.

ADMIRALTY.

(Civil Engineer-in-Chief's Department.)

Crombie : Borings : Andrew Kyle, Ltd., Galston. **Portsmouth :** Canteen Block Erection : John Hunt, Ltd., Gosport. **Milford Haven :** Construction of Road : Watson & Horrocks, Ltd., Bridgend, Glam. **Devonport :** Completion of Machine Shop : A. N. Coles (Contractors), Ltd., Plymouth. **Dredging :** Tilbury Contracting & Dredging Co., Ltd., London, S.W. **H.M. Naval Establishments Abroad :** Cement : Gillingham Portland Cement Co., Ltd., Gillingham, Kent.

(Contract and Purchase Department.)

Alternators, Motor Generator : Small Electric Motors, Ltd., Beckenham. **—Anchors, Stockless :** S. Taylor & Sons (Brierley Hill), Ltd., Brierley Hill. **—Boots, Tea :** Adams Bros. (Raunds), Ltd., Raunds. **—Boxes, Ammunition :** Watt Torrance, Ltd., Glasgow. **—Brass Strips, High Tension :** Manganese Bronze & Brass Co., Ltd., Ipswich. **—Brushes, Shaving :** T. W. Culmer & Sons, London, N. **—Brushes, Steel Wire :** C. Topham & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; W. Riddell Coulsland & Co., Ltd., Glasgow; A. E. & W. Greenslade, Ltd., Bristol; C. H. Leng & Sons, Birmingham; Wm. Turner, Hemel Hempstead; Mechanical Appliances Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; N. Greening & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.; J. & R. Whyte, Glasgow. **—Bunting :** Wm. Bancroft & Sons of Halifax, Ltd., Halifax. **—Cable, Chain and Gear :** Brown, Lenox & Co., Ltd., Pontypridd; Laird & Son, Ltd., Irvine; R. Sykes & Son, Ltd., Cradley Heath; J. G. Walker & Sons,

Ltd., Tipton; H. Wood & Co., Ltd., Saltney; Woodhouse Bros., Cradley Heath. **—Cable, Electric :** Hackbridge Cable Co., Ltd., Hackbridge; Siemens Electric Lamps & Supplies, Ltd., London, S.E. **—Caisson Hauling Chains, Parts for :** Cowans Sheldon & Co., Ltd., Carlisle. **—China, Porcelain :** Crown Staffordshire Porcelain Co., Ltd., Stoke-on-Trent. **—Cleaning Cloth, Cotton :** Healey Wood Mill Co., Ltd., Burnley. **—Clothing, Oilskin :** M. Barr & Co., Ltd., Glasgow; H. E. Walters, London, S.E.; Chamberlins, Ltd., Norwich; E. Macbean & Co., Ltd., Glasgow. **—Coats, Waterproof, for Chief Petty Officers :** J. Weinberg & Sons (1927), Ltd., Manchester; Johnson & Sons, Ltd., Great Yarmouth; Zambrene, Ltd., London, E.C.; G. Glanfield & Sons, London, E. **—Cocks, Asbestos-Packed :** W. N. Baines & Co., Ltd., Rotherham; Hayward-Tyler & Co., Ltd., Luton; Smith Bros. & Co. (Hyson), Ltd., Nottingham. **—Coolers, Motor, Retubing of :** Laurence, Scott & Electromotors, Ltd., Norwich. **—Cranes, Overhead Electric Travelling :** Sir William Arrol & Co., Ltd., Glasgow. **—Cutters, Motor :** Clare Lallow, Cowes. **—Deflection Calculators :** Vickers-Armstrongs, Ltd., York. **—Drill, Brown :** Howe & Coates, Ltd., Manchester; E. Clegg & Son, Ltd., Littleborough. **—Duck, Flax :** A. Blyth & Co., Kirkcaldy; Baxter Bros. & Co., Ltd., Dundee; Thos. McLaren & Sons, Kirkcaldy. **—Engine, Motor-Boat :** Ruston Lister Marine Co., Ltd., Dursley. **—Fans, Electrically-Driven :** Small Electric Motors, Ltd., Beckenham; General Electric Co., Ltd., Birmingham. **—Fenders, Hazel Rod :** Thomas Benjamin & Co., Liverpool. **—Fireheart Gear :** Carron Company, Falkirk; H. Wilson & Co., Ltd., Liverpool; Smith & Wellstood, Ltd., Bonnybridge; W. Green & Co. (Ecclesfield), Ltd., Ecclesfield; Moorwoods, Ltd., Sheffield. **—Flags :** Adam & Lane & Neeve, Ltd., London, E.; W. Cookshaw, Ltd., Leeds; Kirk Hall & Co., Leeds; E. Riley & Co., Ltd., Leeds; A. Smart & Sons, Ltd., London, S.E. **—Flour :** Joseph Rank, Ltd., London, E.C. **—Glass, Table :** Thos. Webb & Corbett, Ltd., Stourbridge; John Walsh Walsh, Ltd., Birmingham. **—Gloves, Leather :** E. W. C. French, Ltd., Taunton; North of England Chamis Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne; Chas. Ockwell & Co., Cricklade; G. Waddington & Son, Ltd., Hull. **—Hoses, Flexible Metallic :** Power Flexible Tubing Co., Ltd., London, N. **—Ingot, Copper :** Brandeis, Goldschmidt & Co., London, E.C.; H. Gardner & Co., Ltd., London, E.C. **—Keys, Signalling and Lantern :** Engineering & Lighting Equipment Co., Ltd., St. Albans; Telford, Grier, Mackay & Co., Ltd., Glasgow. **—Lamps, Electric Incandescent :** General Electric Co., Ltd., London, W.; Wembley, Lemington and Chesterfield. **—Lathe, Combination Turret :** H. W. Ward & Co., Ltd., Selly Oak. **—Launches, Armoured Motor, for R.A.F. :** British Power Boat Co., Hythe, Hants. **—Lead, Red :** Librex Lead Co., Ltd., Bootle; Walkers Parker & Co., Ltd., Chester. **—Linen, Sheeting :** York Street Flax Spinning Co. (London), Ltd., Belfast; A. Blyth & Co., Kirkcaldy. **—Linoleum, etc. :** Barry, Ostlere & Shepherd, Ltd., Kirkcaldy; Michael Nairn & Co., Ltd., Kirkcaldy. **—Locks and Lock Furniture—Locks :** Banks & Rushton, Willenhall; J. & E. Bates & Sons, Ltd., Wolverhampton; J. Parkes & Sons, Ltd., Willenhall; W. M. Pinson, Willenhall; J. Spink & Son, Wolverhampton; Walsall Locks & Cart Gear, Ltd., Walsall; J. Worrall & Sons, Willenhall. **—Keys :** Banks & Rushton, Willenhall; J. & E. Bates & Sons, Ltd., Wolverhampton; W. M. Pinson, Willenhall; Walsall Locks & Cart Gear, Ltd., Walsall. **—Machine, Milling, Double Spindle Profile :** Greenwood & Batley, Ltd., Leeds. **—Machine, Testing, Horizontal Cordage :** Samuel Denison & Son, Ltd., Leeds. **—Mattresses, Coir and Covers :** Davis's Feather Mills, Ltd., London, E.; F. Lane, Ltd., London, E.C. **—Milk, Condensed, Unsweetened :** Nestlé & Anglo-Swiss Condensed Milk Co., Ltd., London, E.C. **—Oil Paste, White Lead :** Brimsdown Lead Co., Ltd., Liverpool; Champion Druce & Co., Ltd., London, N.; Librex Lead Co., Ltd., Bootle; Walkers Parker & Co., Ltd., Chester. **—Overcoats, Seamers :** J. Compton, Sons & Webb, Ltd., London, E.; John Hammond & Co. (1922), Ltd., Newcastle, Staffs.; James Smith & Co. (Derby), Ltd., Derby. **—Plywood :** Aeronautical & Panel Plywood Co., Ltd., London, E.; Tucker Armoured Plywood Co., Ltd., Crayford. **—Pressure Gauges :** Budenberg Gauge Co., Ltd., Manchester; Ogden & Lawson, Workington; George Salter & Co., Ltd., West Bromwich; Hattersley (Ormskirk), Ltd., Ormskirk; Dewrance & Co., London, S.E.; J. Clayton & Co., Ltd., Sherwood. **—Projectors, Searchlight :** Laurence, Scott & Electromotors, Ltd., Norwich. **—Pumps, Motor-Driven Portable :** Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., Reading. **—Radiators, Electric :** Edison Swan Electric Co., Ltd., Ponders End. **—Radio Frequency, Generators, Insulators, Receivers, etc. :** Marconi's Wireless Telegraph Co., Ltd., Chelmsford. **—Rolls, Bending and Straightening :** Craig & Donald, Ltd., Johnstone. **—Scarves, Black Silk :** Brocklehurst-Whiston Amalgamated, Ltd., Macclesfield; Josiah Smale & Son, Ltd., Macclesfield. **—Screws, etc. :** Butler, Spragg & Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Thos. Eaves, Ltd., Birmingham; Guest, Keen & Nettelfolds, Birmingham. **—Screws, Terminals; Phosphor Bronze, etc. :** Butler, Spragg & Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Davis & Timmins, Ltd., London, N.; Thos. Eaves, Ltd., Birmingham; Thos. Haddon & Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Plessey Co., Ltd., Hford. **—Serge, Blue :** J. Berry & Sons, Ltd., Ashburton; James Casson, Ltd., Elland; Reuben Gaunt & Sons, Ltd., Farsley; A. W. Hainsworth & Sons, Ltd., Farsley; J. Hoyle & Son, Ltd., Longwood; T. & J. Tinker, Ltd., Holmfirth. **—Shackles, Lugless :** Brown, Lenox & Co., Ltd., Pontypridd; Carron Company, Falkirk. **—Shirts, Soft, White :** Henry Bannerman & Sons, Ltd., Hale, Cheshire; Johnson & Sons, Ltd., Great Yarmouth; Salisbury Manufacturing Co., London, E.C. **—Shoes, Brown Canvas :** J. Horrell & Sons, Ltd., Raunds. **—Spare Parts for Searchlights, etc. :** Chadburn's (Ship) Telegraph Co., Ltd., Bootle, Lancs.; Laurence, Scott & Electromotors, Ltd., Norwich; London Electric Firm, Croydon. **—Threads :** Pymore Mill Co., Ltd., Bridport; Wm. Paton, Ltd., Johnstone; W. & J. Knox, Ltd., Kilbirnie; Wm. Barbour & Sons, Ltd., Lisburn; H. Campbell & Co., Ltd., Belfast. **—Tiles, White, Vitri-fied Unglazed and Glazed :** Campbell Tile Co., Ltd., Stoke-on-Trent; Malkin Tiles (Burslem), Ltd., Stoke-on-Trent; Mansfield Tiles, Ltd., Church Gresley; Maw & Co., Ltd., Jackfield; Minton Hollins & Co., Ltd., Stoke-on-Trent; Richards Tiles, Ltd., Stoke-on-Trent; Gibbons

Hinton & Co., Ltd., Brierley Hill. **—Tin in Bar :** Vivian, Younger & Bond, Ltd., London, E.C. **—Tin in Block :** Vivian, Younger & Bond, Ltd., London, E.C. **—Tools, Engineers' and Shipbuilders' Tools :** S. Osborn & Co., Ltd., Sheffield. **—Travellers, Overhead Electric :** Sir William Arrol & Co., Ltd., Glasgow. **—Twine :** Port Glasgow & Newark Sailcloth Co., Ltd., Port Glasgow; Wrights Ropes, Ltd., Birmingham; J. Holmes & Sons, Ltd., East Ardsley; Stephens Bros. & Martin, Ltd., Bristol. **—Welding Reactors :** Mawdsleys, Ltd., Dursley. **—Welding Resistances :** Allen West & Co., Ltd., Brighton. **—Wood Goods, Manufactured :** Burley & Sons, Ltd., Liverpool; R. Burley & Sons, Ltd., Glasgow; Dyne & Evens, Ltd., London, E.; East & Son, Ltd., Berkhamsted; J. H. Ellis & Sons, Ltd., Sheffield; F. E. R. Lawes, Eastleigh, Hants.; Midland Saw & Tool Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Rudders & Paynes, Ltd., Birmingham; Staveley Wood Turning Co., Staveley, Kendal; Henry Workman, Ltd., Woodchester. **—Zinc Sheets, etc. :** Locke, Lancaster & W. W. & R. Johnson & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.; F. Braby & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; London Zinc Mills, Ltd., London, N.

WAR OFFICE.

Aluminium Ingot : British Aluminium Co., Ltd., Warrington; Tysely Metal Works, Ltd., Birmingham. **—Badges, Embroidered :** Hobson & Sons (London), Ltd., London, S.E. **—Blankets, Brown :** Rawden, Briggs & Co., Ltd., Dewsbury; T. & D. Lee & Sons, Ltd., Dewsbury; Wormalds & Walker, Ltd., Dewsbury. **—Blankets, Saddle :** Wormalds & Walker, Ltd., Dewsbury. **—Bottles, Water :** Anglo Enamelware, Ltd., Stourport. **—Box Connectors, Cable :** W. Otway & Co., Ltd., London, W. **—Boxes, Wooden :** Vickers-Armstrongs, Ltd., Dartford. **—Brass Bar :** I.C.I. Metals, Ltd., Birmingham. **—Brass, Foundry :** Manley & Regulus, Ltd., Wolverhampton. **—Brushes, Horse :** C. H. Leng & Sons, Birmingham. **—Calcium Chloride, etc. :** I.C.I., Ltd., Fleetwood and Widnes. **—Carbons :** General Electric Co., Ltd., Winton. **—Cases, Palliase, Tent :** Hampton & Sons, London, S.W. **—Cases, Wood, Packing :** T. E. Dingwall, Ltd., London, E.C.; A. H. Tytherleigh, London, S.E. **—Casks, Vat :** W. Ryan & Co., London, E. **—Cement, Portland :** Warren Cement Works, Ltd., Hartlepool; Gardner & Greenfields, Glasgow; J. & W. Henderson, Ltd., Edinburgh; Cement Marketing Co., Ltd., London, S.W.; Broad & Co., Ltd., Rochester; Contract Works & Supply Co., Kirton; T. Beynon & Co., Ltd., Aberthaw; Oxford & Shipton Cement, Ltd., Shipton-on-Cherwell; Eastwoods, Ltd., Barrington. **—Chemical Apparatus :** Baird & Tatlock (London), Ltd., London, E.C. **—Cloth, Blue :** J. D. Johnstone, Ltd., Leeds. **—Cloth, Box, Drab :** P. Womersley & Sons, Leeds. **—Clothing, Full-dress :** J. Compton, Sons & Webb, Ltd., London, E.; Hobson & Sons (London), Ltd., London, E.; Rego Clothiers, Ltd., London, E.; Milns, Cartwright, Reynolds, Ltd., London, E.; G. Glanfield & Son, Ltd., London, E.; J. Hammond & Co. (1922), Ltd., Newcastle, Staffs. **—Clothing, Service Dress :** Rego Clothiers Ltd., London, N.; S. Schneiders & Son, London, E.; H. Lotery & Co., Ltd., London, E.; Milns, Cartwright, Reynolds, Ltd., London, E.; J. Compton, Sons & Webb, Ltd., London, E., and Swindon; J. Hammond & Co. (1922), Ltd., Newcastle, Staffs.; L. Silbertson & Sons, London, E. **—Compressor Sets :** Reavell & Co., Ltd., Ipswich. **—Cordage :** Dixon & Corbitt, Ltd., Gateshead; R. Hood, Haggie & Son, Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne. **—Covers, Waterproof :** T. Briggs (London), Ltd., London, N. **—Curtains, Sandfly :** T. Briggs (London), Ltd., London, N. **—Dowlas, Tan and Undyed :** D. & R. Duke, Brechin; Boase Spinning Co. (1920), Ltd., Kirkcaldy. **—Drill Clothing :** J. Hammond & Co. (1922), Ltd., Newcastle, Staffs.; J. Compton, Sons & Webb, Ltd., Swindon, and London, E.; Johnson & Sons, Ltd., Gt. Yarmouth; H. Lotery & Co., Ltd., London, E.; Milns, Cartwright, Reynolds, Ltd., London, E.; T. Briggs (London), Ltd., London, E. **—Drilling Rings :** English Drilling Equipment Co., Ltd., London, S.W. **—Duck, Linen :** Boase Spinning Co. (1920), Ltd., Dundee; Baxter Bros., Ltd., Dundee; D. & R. Duke, Brechin. **—Emery Cloth :** T. Goldsworthy & Sons, Ltd., Manchester. **—Harness, Saddlery, etc. :** Barrow, Hepburn & Gale, Ltd., London, S.E.; Nobes & Hunt, Ltd., London, S.E.; M. Harvey & Co., Ltd., Walsall. **—Hessian packing :** David Smith & Sons, Ltd., Alyth; John Lawson, Jr., & Co., Ltd., Forfar; Jute Industries, Ltd., Dundee. **—Hides :** S. E. Norris & Co., Ltd., London, E.; D. Mason & Sons, Ltd., Walsall. **—Iron, Pig :** Barrow Hæmatite Steel Co., Ltd., Barrow. **—Lathes :** J. Lang & Sons, Ltd., Johnstone. **—Lead, Pig :** Hy. Gardner & Co., Ltd., London, E.C. **—Linoleum, Brown :** Barry, Ostlere & Shepherd, Ltd., Kirkcaldy; M. Nairn & Co., Ltd., Kirkcaldy. **—Mess Tins :** Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society, Ltd., Govan. **—Metal Rod :** I.C.I. Metals, Ltd., Birmingham. **—Milling Machine :** J. Parkinson & Sons, Ltd., Shipley. **—Mop Heads :** T. M. Cleaves & Son, Cradley. **—Nails, Horse-shoe :** F. W. Burris & Sons, Ltd., Bristol. **—Pipes, Hose, Canvas :** Wm. Rose Hose Co., Ltd., Salford; F. Reddaway & Co., Ltd., Pendleton; G. Angus & Co., Ltd., Bentham. **—Rags, Cotton :** W. C. Jones, Ltd., Manchester. **—Roofing, Felt :** Ruberoid Co., Ltd., Brimsdown. **—Rugs, Horse :** C. Groom, Ltd., London, E.C.; E. H. P. (Hadleigh), Ltd., Hadleigh. **—Shaping Machines :** Butler Machine Tool Co. Ltd., Halifax. **—Sheets, Ground :** Ioco Rubber & Waterproofing Co., Ltd., Glasgow; G. MacLellan & Co., Ltd., Glasgow. **—Shoes, Horse :** Guest & Co. (Halesowen), Ltd., Birmingham; Wm. Cooke & Co., Ltd., Sheffield. **—Sleepers and Timbers :** Christie's Wharf, Ltd., London, S.E. **—Stable Fittings :** Wilmer & Sons, Ltd., London, E.; S. J. & E. Fellows, Ltd., Wolverhampton. **—Steel, Mild, etc. :** Colvilles, Ltd., Motherwell. **—Stoves, Soyer :** S. J. & E. Fellows, Ltd., Wolverhampton. **—Vertical Forming Machine :** Taylor & Challen, Ltd., Birmingham. **—Water and Oil Cooling Unit :** Spiral Tube & Components Co., Birmingham. **—Works Services :** Building : Catterick—Vehicle Shed, Oil and Paint Store : G. Dougill & Sons, Darlington. Chiseldon—Artificers' Work : Canning & Sergeant, Wokingham; Didcot—Repairs to Concrete Floors : Boshers (Cholsey), Ltd., Cholsey; Gosport—Bathroom in Married Soldiers' Quarters : G. V. Northcott, Alverstoke; Larkhill—

Reconditioning Quarters : James & Crockerell, Durrington; Lichfield—Reconstruction of Garrison Institute : J. H. Fryer, Ltd., Derby; Perham Down—Sergeants' Mess : W. E. Chivers & Sons, Devizes; Plymouth—Dining Room Block : Stansell & Son, Taunton; Portland—Improvements to Cookhouse : Stewart & Co., Twickenham; Salisbury—Alterations to Shops : W. E. Chivers & Sons, Ltd., Devizes; Tilthead—Cookhouse, Bathroom, &c. : James & Crockerell, Durrington; Weedon—Renewal of Roof : Bosworth & Wakeford, Daventry; Woolwich—Sergeants' Mess : Arthur E. Guest, Ltd., London, N.W.; Reconstruction of Buildings : Thomas & Edge, Ltd., London, S.E.; Reconstruction of Officers' Quarters : F. J. Logan & Co., London, W.C.; Married Soldiers' Quarters : Harris (Contractors), Ltd., Hounslow.

AIR MINISTRY.

Acid, Sulphuric : Imperial Chemical Industries, Ltd., London, S.W. **—Aircraft :** Handley Page, Ltd., London, N.W. **—Aircraft Conversion :** Westland Aircraft Works, Yeovil. **—Aircraft Modification :** Fairey Aviation Co., Ltd., Hayes; Vickers (Aviation), Ltd., Weybridge. **—Aircraft Spares :** Armstrong Whitworth Aircraft, Ltd., Coventry; Blackburn Aeroplane & Motor Co., Ltd., Brough; Fairey Aviation Co., Ltd., Hayes; Hawker Aircraft, Ltd., Kingston-on-Thames; De Havilland Aircraft Co., Ltd., London, N.W.; A. V. Roe & Co., Ltd., Manchester; Supermarine Aviation Works (Vickers), Ltd., Southampton; Vickers (Aviation), Ltd., Weybridge; Westland Aircraft Works, Yeovil. **—Aircscrews :** A. V. Roe & Co., Ltd., Manchester. **—Autogiros (Ten) :** Cierva Autogiro Co., Ltd., London, W.C. **—Balloons, Rubber :** Rubber Novelities, Ltd., Manchester. **—Bitumen :** Asiatic Petroleum Co., Ltd., London, E.C. **—Buildings and Works Services :** Aeroplane Sheds—North Coates : Tees Side Bridge & Eng. Works, Ltd., Middlesbrough. **Artificers' Works—**Abbots Inch, Leslie Kirk, Ltd., Glasgow; Altrincham : Fearnley & Son, Ltd., Salford; Abingdon, Milton and Oxford : J. E. Harper & Son, Ltd., Birmingham; Castle Bromwich : Maddock & Walford, Birmingham; Catterick : F. Perks & Sons, Ltd., Long Eaton; Gosport and Lee-on-Solent : F. J. Privett, Southsea; Grantham : Read Bros., Grantham; Hendon : F. Troy & Co., Ltd., London, N.W.; Henlow : H. Lacy & Sons, Luton; Mount Batten : Pearn Bros., Ltd., Plymouth; Peterborough : W. Jellings, Peterborough; Sutton Bridge and Holbeach : Campion & Penny, Ltd., Holbeach; Usworth : J. Stokoe, New Washington; Wittering : Roberts Bros., Stamford. **Steel Windows—**Dhbban : Crittall Mfg. Co., Ltd., London, W.C. **Aviation and Petrol Installations—**Mildenhall—Simmons & Hawker, London, E.C. **Steelwork, Shed—**Singapore : Brownlie & Murray, Ltd., Glasgow. **Cars, Hillman Saloon :** Rootes, Ltd., London, W. **—Course-Setting Bomb Sights :** Barr & Stroud, Ltd., Glasgow; R. B. Pullin & Co., Ltd., London, W. **—Crane, Lorry :** Ransome & Rapier, Ltd., Ipswich. **—Cylinders, Air :** Siebe Gorman & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. **—Deflector Bags :** B.S.A. Guns, Ltd., Birmingham. **—Duralumin, Sheets and Tubes :** J. Booth & Co. (1915), Ltd., Birmingham. **—Electric Light Fittings :** General Electric Co., Ltd., London, W.C. **—Engines, Aero :** Armstrong Siddeley Motors, Ltd., Coventry; Bristol Aero Co., Ltd., Bristol. **—Engines, Aero, Installation :** Hawker Aircraft, Kingston-on-Thames. **—Engines, Aero, Rebuilding and Testing :** Armstrong Siddeley Motors, Ltd., Coventry; Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Bristol. **—Engines, Aero, Spares :** Armstrong Siddeley Motors, Ltd., Coventry; Bristol Aero Co., Ltd., Bristol; D. Napier & Son, Ltd., London, W.; Rolls-Royce, Ltd., London, W. **—Engines, Aero, Repair of Magnetos :** British Thomson Houston Co., Ltd., Coventry. **—Ethylene Glycol :** Imperial Chemical Industries, Ltd., London, S.W. **—Fuel, Aviation, Anglo-American Oil Co., Ltd., London, W.C. —Fuel, Aviation, Gibraltar :** Asiatic Petroleum Co., Ltd., London, E.C. **—Indicators, Wind Direction :** Adam, Lane & Neeve, Ltd., London, E. **—Marine Engine Spares :** British Power Boat Co., Southampton. **—Radiators :** Excelsior Motor Radiator Co., Ltd., Leeds; J. Marston, Ltd., Wolverhampton; Serck Radiators, Ltd., Birmingham. **—Rangefinders :** Cooke, Troughton & Simms, Ltd., York. **—Regulators, Voltage :** Johnson & Phillips, Ltd., London, S.E. **—Ring Mountings :** Barr & Stroud, Ltd., Glasgow; Vickers Armstrongs, Ltd., London, S.W. **—Spray Insecticide :** Morris Little & Son, London, W.C. **—Stockings, Khaki :** Johnson & Sons, Ltd., Great Yarmouth. **—Swivels, Quick Attachment :** Arrow Aircraft (Leeds), Ltd., Leeds. **—Suits, Aviation :** G. Glanfield & Son, Ltd., London, E. **—Targets, Sleeve :** Geo. Parnall & Co., Bristol; Westland Aircraft Works, Yeovil. **—Timber :** Cox, Long & Co., Ltd., London, E.C. **—Uniforms :** L. Silberston & Sons, London, E.

POST OFFICE.

Apparatus, Telephonic : Automatic Electric Co., Ltd., Liverpool; Ericsson Telephones, Ltd., Beeston; General Electric Co., Ltd., Coventry; Hall Telephone Accessories (1928), Ltd., London, N.W.; Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; Standard Telephones & Cables, Ltd., London, E. **—Apparatus, Testing and Protective :** Phoenix Telephone & Electric Works, Ltd., London, N.W. **—Apparatus, Wireless :** General Electric Co., Ltd., London, W.; Standard Telephones & Cables, Ltd., London, E. **—Batteries for Postmen's Lamps :** Ever Ready Co. (Gt. Britain), Ltd., London, N. **—Bodies, Motor :** Nicholls & Sons, Ltd., Bedford; Ransomes, Sims & Jefferies, Ltd., Ipswich. **—Bolts, Arm :** Thomas William Lench, Ltd., Birmingham. **—Boots :** Adams Bros. (Raunds), Ltd., Raunds; John Horrell & Son, Ltd., Raunds. **—Boxes, Cardboard :** E. J. Bradstreet & Sons (No. 2), Ltd., London, E.C. **—Cable :** Connollys (Blackley), Ltd., Manchester; General Electric Co., Ltd., Southampton; Hackbridge Cable Co., Ltd., Hackbridge; Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; United Telephone Cables, Ltd., Dagenham. **—Canvas :** Jute Industries, Ltd., Dundee. **—Cases, Leather :** Barrow, Hepburn & Gale, Ltd., London, S.E. **—Chassis :** Mandslay Motor Co., Ltd., Coventry; Morris Commercial Cars, Ltd., Birmingham. **—Cloth for Uniform Clothing :** A. W. Hainsworth & Sons, Ltd., Leeds; John D. Johnstone, Ltd., Leeds. **—Clothing, Uniform :** D. Gurteen & Sons, Ltd., Haverhill; Johnson & Sons, Ltd., Gt. Yarmouth;

Milns, Cartwright, Reynolds, Ltd., London, E.; "Wescot" Overall Mfg. Co., Ltd., Egham.—**Coils, Loading**: General Electric Co., Ltd., Salford; Siemens Brothers & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; Standard Telephones & Cables, Ltd., London, E.—**Conduit and Conduit Fittings**: F. C. Blackwell & Co., Ltd., Liverpool.—**Cords, Telephone**: British Insulated Cables, Ltd., Helsby; General Electric Co., Ltd., Coventry; London Electric Wire Co., and Smiths, Ltd., London, E.; Phoenix Telephone & Electric Works, Ltd., London, N.W.; Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; Standard Telephones & Cables, Ltd., London, E.—**Elements, Depolarising, Leclanché**: Atlas Carbon & Battery Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; British Insulated Cables, Ltd., Helsby; Fuller Accumulator Co. (1926), Ltd., Chadwell Heath; India Rubber, Gutta Percha & Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Lead Sheet and Strip**: British Lead Mills, Ltd., Welwyn.—**Oil, Lubricating**: Anglo-American Oil Co., Ltd., Purfleet.—**Pillars, Cast Iron**: Carron Company, Carron.—**Rails, Chrome Steel**: Cargo Fleet Iron Co., Ltd., Middlesbrough.—**Reconditioning, etc., Clocks for Boxes, E.L.**: Venner Time Switches, Ltd., New Malden.—**Rectifiers**: Edison Swan Electric Co., Ltd., Ponder's End.—**Screws, Coach**: Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Darlaston.—**Sleeves, Lead**: Lead Pipes, Ltd., Elland; George Farmiloe & Sons, Ltd., London, E.—**String, Twine, etc.**: Belfast Ropework Co., Ltd. (Northern Ireland), Belfast.—**Tractor, Cable**: Scammell Lorries, Ltd., Watford.—**Wire, Switchboard**: Concordia Electric Wire Co., Ltd., New Sawley; Standard Telephones & Cables, Ltd., London, E.—**Zincs, Rod, Leclanché**: Eyre Smelting Co., Ltd., London, S.W.; Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.

Armoured Cable Laying: Exeter—Exmouth: Norwest Construction Co., Ltd., Liverpool.—**Cable, Manufacture, Supply, Drawing-in and Jointing**: Aberdeen—Elgin (Huntly—Elgin Section); Aberdeen—Elgin (Aberdeen—Junction—Inverurie Section): United Telephone Cables, Ltd., London, W.C.—**Cable, Manufacture and Supply**: Aberdeen—Ellon: United Telephone Cables, Ltd., London, W.C.—**Cabling, Loading Coils and Terminations**: Brighton—Worthing No. 2 Cabling: Pirelli-General Cable Works, Ltd., Southampton.—**Cable, Testing and Balancing and the Supply, Installation and Jointing of Loading Coil Cases**: London—Birmingham No. 2 Cable (London—Buckingham Section); Birmingham—Nantwich: Pirelli-General Cable Works, Ltd., Southampton.—**Conduit Laying, etc.**: Maghull—Liverpool—Ormskirk New By-Pass; Leicester—Coalville: W. P. & P. G. Hayes, Ltd., Warrington; Eltham—New Exchange: J. E. Billings & Co., Ltd., London, S.W.; Exeter—Exmouth: J. F. Hodge Birmingham; St. Pancras, etc.: O. C. Summers, London, N.; Watford, etc.: Hodge Bros. (Contra.), Ltd., Birmingham.—**Telegram Conveyors**: C.T.O. (4th Floor) G.P.O. (West), E.C.1: Sovex, Limited, London, S.E.—**Telephone Exchange Equipment**: City (London) (Power Plant); Girton (Cambridge) (New Auto Exchange); Lochgilphead (New Auto Exchange): Standard Telephone and Cables, Ltd., London, N.; Tandem (Holborn) Auto Exchange (Auto Switching Equipment): Automatic Electric Co., Ltd., London, W.C. Prestwich (Manchester) (Power Plant): Automatic Electric Co., Ltd., London, W.C. Sub-Contractors: Alton Battery Co., Ltd., Alton, Hants, for Batteries; Electric Construction Co., Ltd., London, W.C., for Motor Generators. Plympton (Plymouth) (New Auto Exchange); Central, City, London Wall, Metropolitan and National (London Area) (Manual Equipment): Automatic Electric Co., Ltd., London, W.C. Co-operative Wholesale Society, London, E.: Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd. (R.A.T. Section), London, E.C. Hanley, Multi-Exchange Area (Re-ring Facilities); Reliance Sub-Tandem (London) (Installation of Auto Switching Plant): General Electric Co., Ltd., Stoke, Coventry. Uplands (Purley) (New Auto Exchange); Derwent (London) (New Auto Exchange): Ericsson Telephones, Ltd., London, W.C.—**Telephonic Repeater Equipment**: Liverpool; Leeds: Standard Telephones & Cables, Ltd., London, N. Bristol: General Electric Co., Ltd., Stoke, Coventry.

H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE.

Paper: Golden Valley Paper Mills, Ltd., Bitton; Portals, Ltd., Whitechurch.—**India Rubber Stamps**: H. Savage, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Printing, Ruling, Binding, etc.**: Group 655 (1934) Jobwork Printing: Foy-Allom (Printers), Ltd., London, N. Group 656 (1934) Jobwork Printing: Wymans London Printing Co., Ltd., London, W.C. National Mark Labels Nos. 22 and 23: Fosh & Cross, Ltd., London, E. Unemployment Insurance Books: Mackie & Co., Ltd., Warrington. Advice Notes T.P.1063B: McCorquodale & Co., Ltd., Wolverton. 4,000 Books "S.O. Book 122": Advice Notes T.P. 1063B: Waterlow & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Toilet Rolls**: British Patent Perforated Paper Co., Ltd., London, E.

H.M. OFFICE OF WORKS.

Building Works: Battersea Post Office—Alterations: F. Troy & Co., Ltd., London, N.W. Blandford Post Office and County Court—Erection: E. E. Boughton, Poole. Bovington Camp Post Office—Provision of New Timber Building: A. E. Jukes & Son, Ltd., Southampton. Bristol Station Sorting Office—Boundary Walls, Paths, &c.: W. Cowlin & Son, Ltd., Bristol. Brixton Telephone Exchange—Steel Casements: Humphries, Jackson & Ambler, Ltd., Manchester. Cambridge Sorting Office and Garage—Erection: F. Hutton & Son, Colchester. Catford Branch Post Office—Alterations: Limpus & Son, Ltd., Kingston-on-Thames. Great Yarmouth Post Office Engineering Garage—Erection: E. Moore & Son, Ltd., Great Yarmouth. Houses of Parliament—Scaffold Boards: Denny, Mott & Dickson, Ltd., London, E.C. Ilford Employment Exchange—Erection: F. Hutton & Son, Colchester. Kensington Gardens Refreshment Pavilion—Joinery: Galbraith Bros., Ltd., London,

S.E. Lytham (Lanes.) Telephone Exchange—Erection: T. Croft & Sons, Ltd., Preston. Maidstone Employment Exchange—Erection: W. W. Martin, Ramsgate. Mount Pleasant Letter Office (Fittings Contract No. 11)—Racking: J. Gerrard & Son, Ltd., Manchester. Plympton (Plymouth) Telephone Exchange—Erection: A. N. Coles (Contractors), Ltd., Plymouth. Plymstock (Plymouth) Telephone Exchange—Erection: Building & Public Works Construction Co., Ltd., Swindon. Pontypridd Post Office and Telephone Exchange—Erection: F. J. Thomas & Sons, Ltd., Cardiff. Reading Head Post Office—Enlargement and Sorting Office Extension: Harris (Contractors), Ltd., Hounslow. Science Museum, South Kensington—Erection of Office Block: Galbraith Bros., Ltd., London, S.E. Southampton Foreign Bag Centre—Erection: James Drewitt & Son, Bournemouth. Taunton Telephone Exchange—Erection: W. Potter & Sons, Taunton. Writing—London Maintenance Services: C. A. Geyton, London, N.—**Painting Services**: Eastbourne Head Post Office—Internal and External Painting: F. Troy & Co., Ltd., London, N.W. Mount Pleasant Post Office—Internal Painting and Cleaning: A. Bagnall & Sons, Ltd., London, W.—**Miscellaneous**: Ankle Boots: Adams Bros. (Raunds), Ltd., Wellingborough; Tebbutt & Hall Bros., Ltd., Raunds. Cabinets, Steel Vertical Filing: Roneo, Ltd., London, E.C.; Art Metal Construction Co., London, S.W. Chairs, Typists: Tan Sad Chair Co. (1931), Ltd., London, E.C. Chairs, W.4: Owen Haines & Son, High Wycombe; A. & F. Howland (Wycombe), Ltd., High Wycombe. Corduroy Trousers: Redman Bros. (J. R. Redman, Ltd.), Hebden Bridge. Cupboards, Steel: Roneo, Ltd., London, E.C. Notice Boards: Mann, Egerton & Co., Ltd., Norwich.

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES.

Ankle Boots: J. Horrell & Son, Ltd., Raunds.—**Antiriflection White Metal**: J. Stone & Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Bayer "205"**: Bayer Products, Ltd., London, W.C.—**Belts, etc.**: Barrow, Hepburn & Gale & Co., London, S.E.—**Cells for Nife Alkaline Batteries**: Batteries, Ltd., Redditch.—**Cement**: Cement Marketing Co., London, S.W.—**C.I. Pipes, etc.**: Stanton Ironworks Co., Ltd., Nottingham.—**Coal**: Mitchell Cotts & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; Watts, Watts & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Commer Chassis**: Rootes, Ltd., London, W.—**Condensing Plant**: Worthington, Simpson, Ltd., Newark.—**Copper Wire**: R. Johnson & Nephew, Ltd., Manchester; Shropshire Iron Co., Ltd., Wellington.—**Copper Wire, etc.**: Whitecross Co., Ltd., Warrington.—**Dental Instruments, etc.**: Amalgamated Dental Co., London, W.—**Drill, Cotton**: E. Spinner & Co., Manchester.—**Dynamite and Detonators**: Nobel's Industries, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Electrical Spares**: Crompton-Kye Lamp Sales, Ltd., London, W.C.—**Flannel, Drab Union**: J. Schofield & Sons (Buckley), Ltd., Rochdale.—**Fuel**: Elder Dempster Lines, Ltd., London, E.C.; D. L. Flack & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Greatcoats**: J. Compton, Sons & Webb, Ltd., London, E.—**Ironwork for Highsided Wagons**: Birmingham Rly. Carriage & Wagon Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Linotype Composing Machine**: Linotype & Machinery, Ltd., London, W.C.—**Microscope Equipment**: W. Watson & Sons, Ltd., London, W.C.—**Milling Machine**: Craven Bros. (Manchester), Ltd., Stockport.—**M.S. Angles, etc.**: P. & W. Maclellan, Ltd., Glasgow.—**Oil Dock Piling Plant**: Southgate Pile Driver Co., London, E.C.—**Paint**: Nobel Chemical Finishes, Ltd., Slough.—**Petrol**: Shell Co. of West Africa, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Printing Machines**: Dawson, Payne & Elliott, Ltd., Otley.—**Rail Car Chassis and Fittings**: D. Wickham & Co., Ltd., Ware.—**Rails and Fishplates**: Cargo Fleet Iron Co., Ltd., Middlesbrough.—**Raking Pile Frames**: British Steel Piling Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Rice Mill and Accessories**: Lewis Grant, Dysart.—**Safes**: J. Tann, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Steel Cylinder Piers**: Sir Wm. Arrol & Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—**Steel Pipes**: South Durham Steel & Iron Co., Ltd., Middlesbrough.—**Steel Pipes, Tees, etc.**: Stewarts & Lloyds, Ltd., Glasgow.—**Steelwork for Shed**: Tees Side Bridge & Engg. Works, Ltd., Middlesbrough.—**Switchgear for Power Station**: British Thomson Houston Co., Ltd., London, W.C.—**Tank Locomotive**: Nasmyth, Wilson & Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Telephone Apparatus**: General Electric Co., Ltd., Coventry.—**Telephone Cable**: Standard Telephones & Cables, Ltd., London, N.—**Telephone Switchboard and Apparatus**: Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Tool and Cutter Grinding Machine**: Churchill Machine Tool Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Tunics**: Hobson & Sons, Ltd., London, S.E.—**Tunics and Shorts**: T. Briggs (London), Ltd., London, E.C.—**Well Drilling Plant and Equipment**: English Drilling Equipment Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**W.I. Piles, etc.**: Horseley Bridge & T. Piggott, Ltd., Tipton.—**X-ray Equipment**: Schall & Sons, London, W.

METROPOLITAN POLICE.

Enamelled Iron Badges and Plates: Wildman & Meguyer (1933) Ltd., Birmingham.

NOTICE.

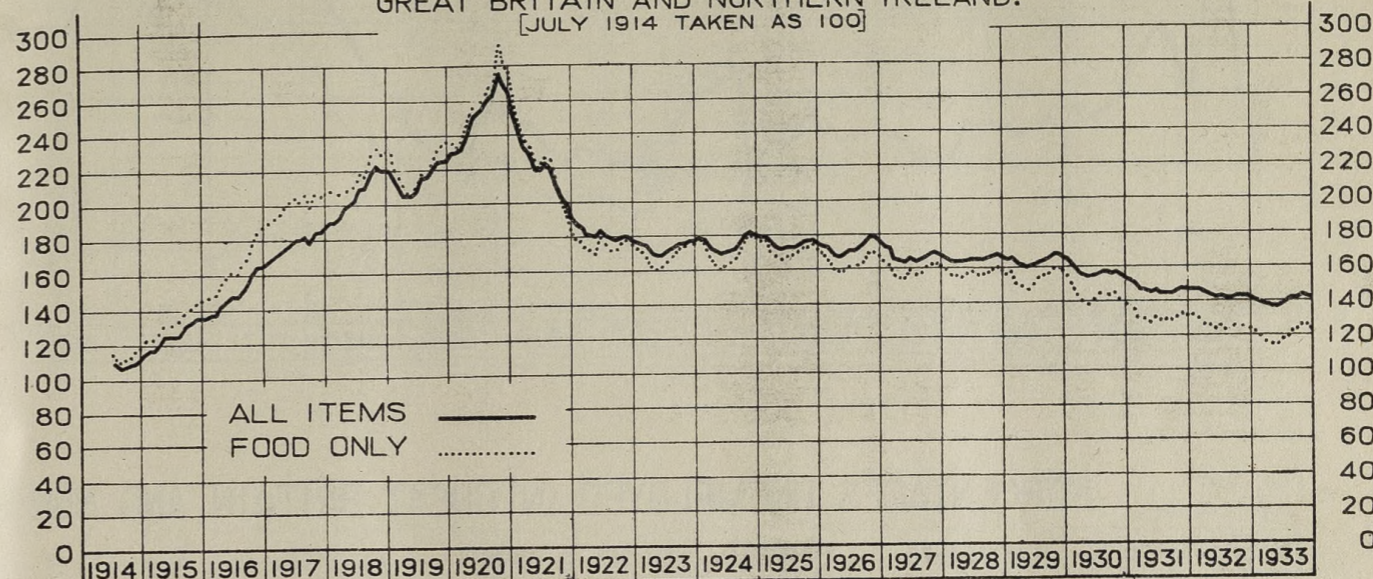
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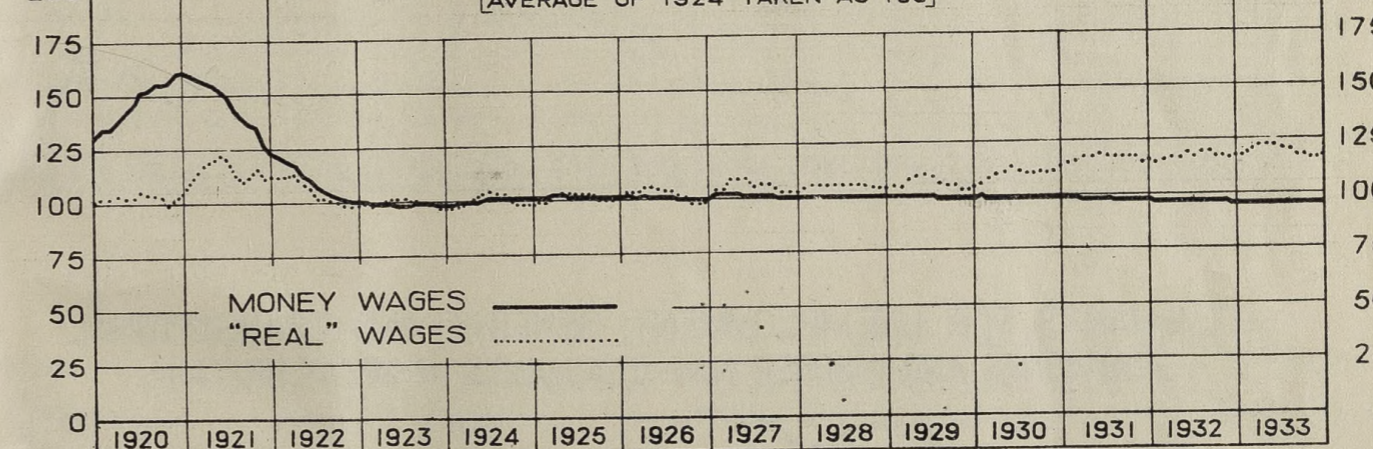
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[FOR NOTES AND EXPLANATIONS OF DIAGRAMS SEE "MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE" FOR MARCH, 1934.]

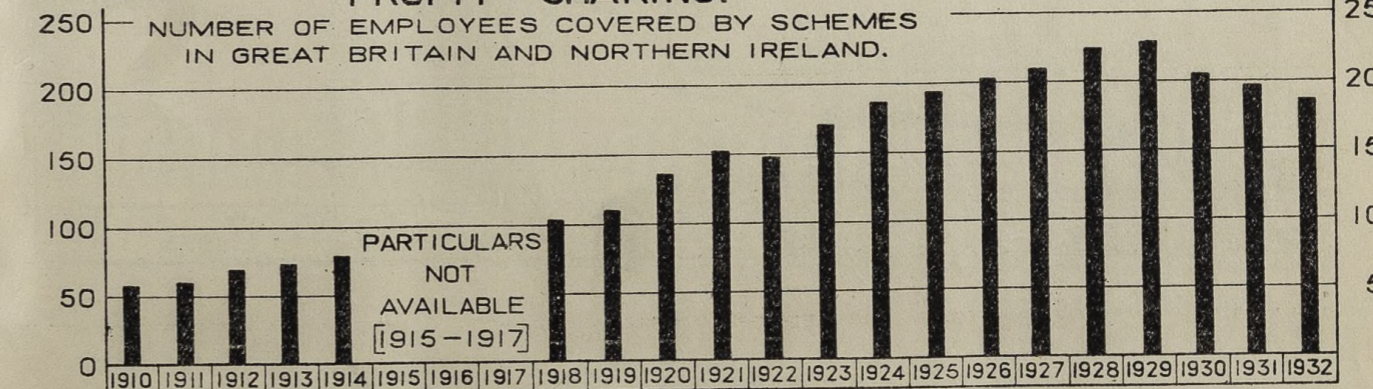
CHANGES IN WORKING-CLASS COST OF LIVING. GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND. [JULY 1914 TAKEN AS 100]

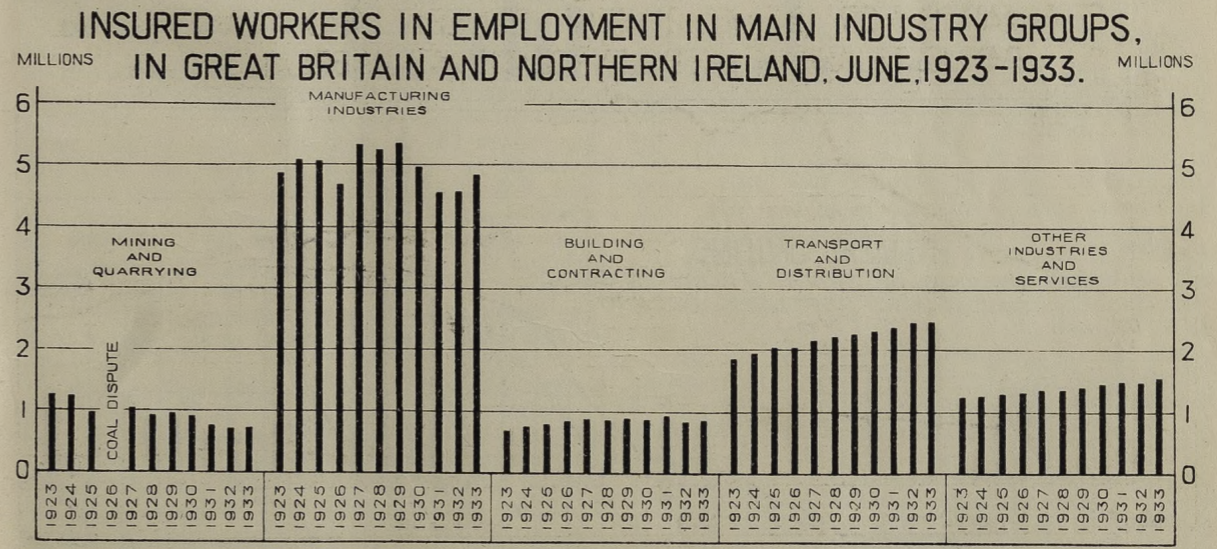
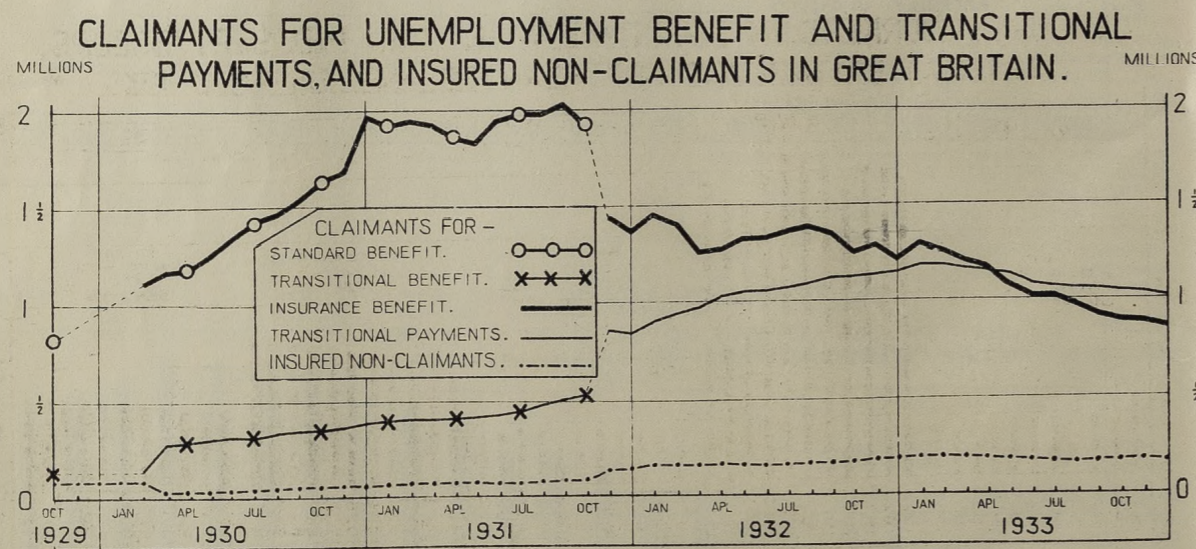
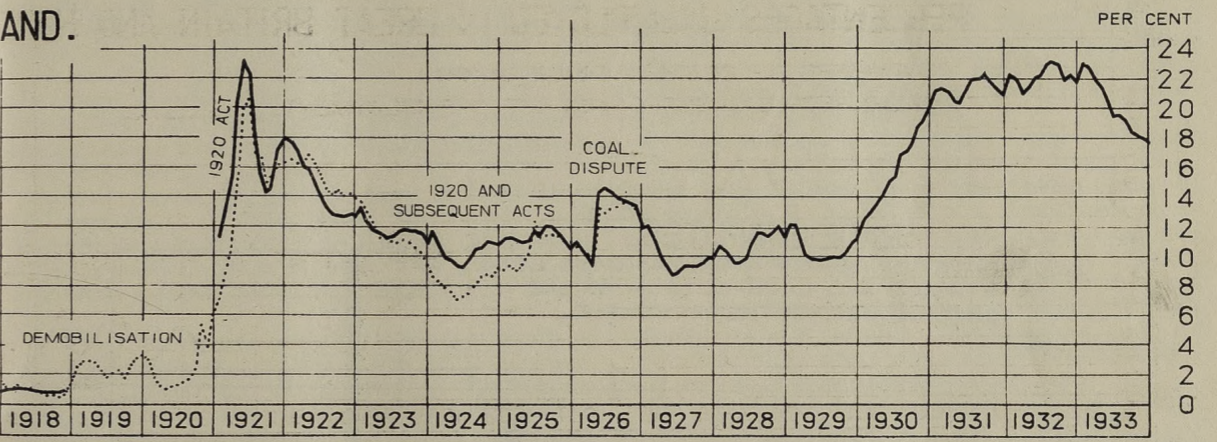
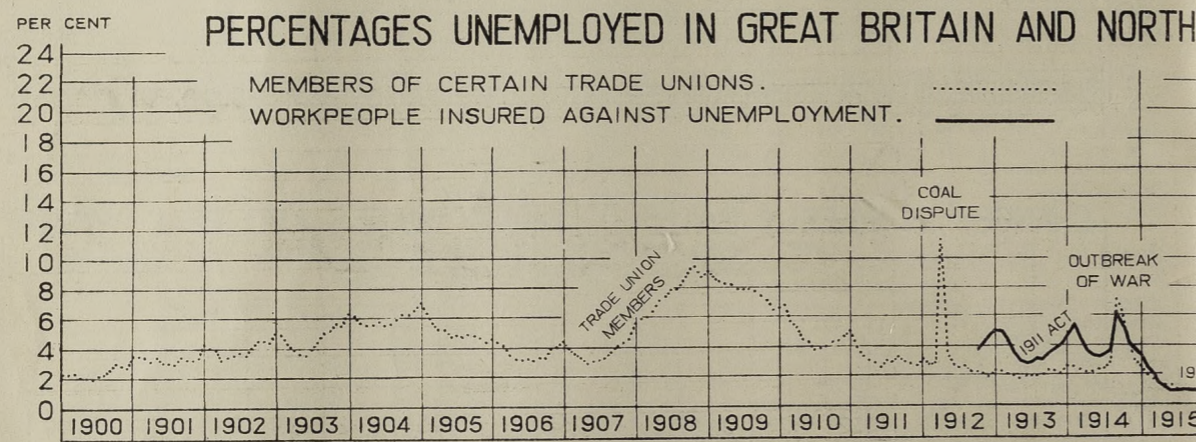
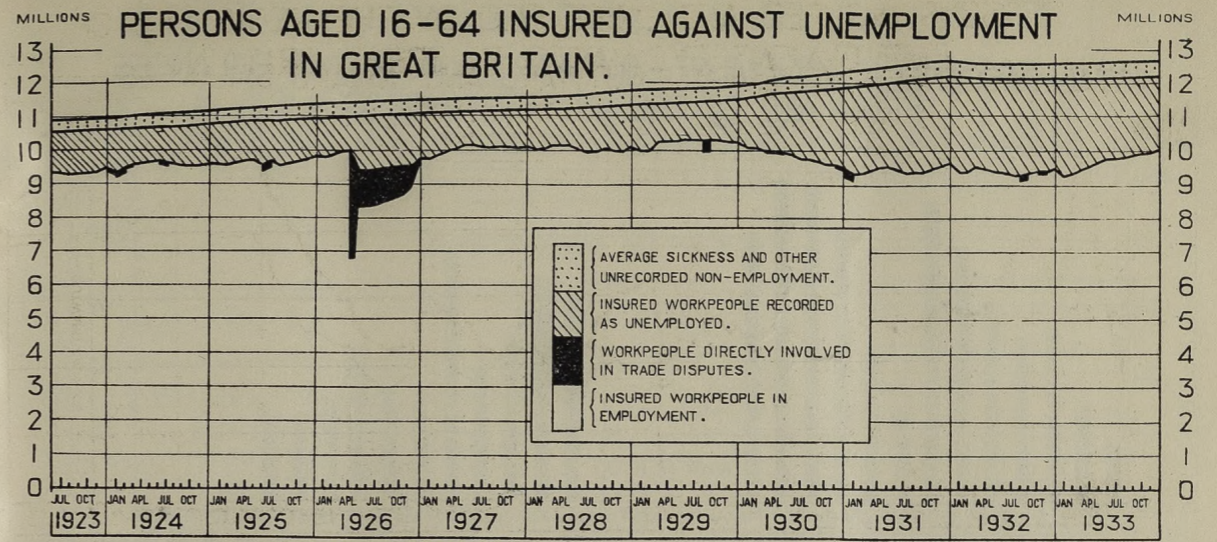
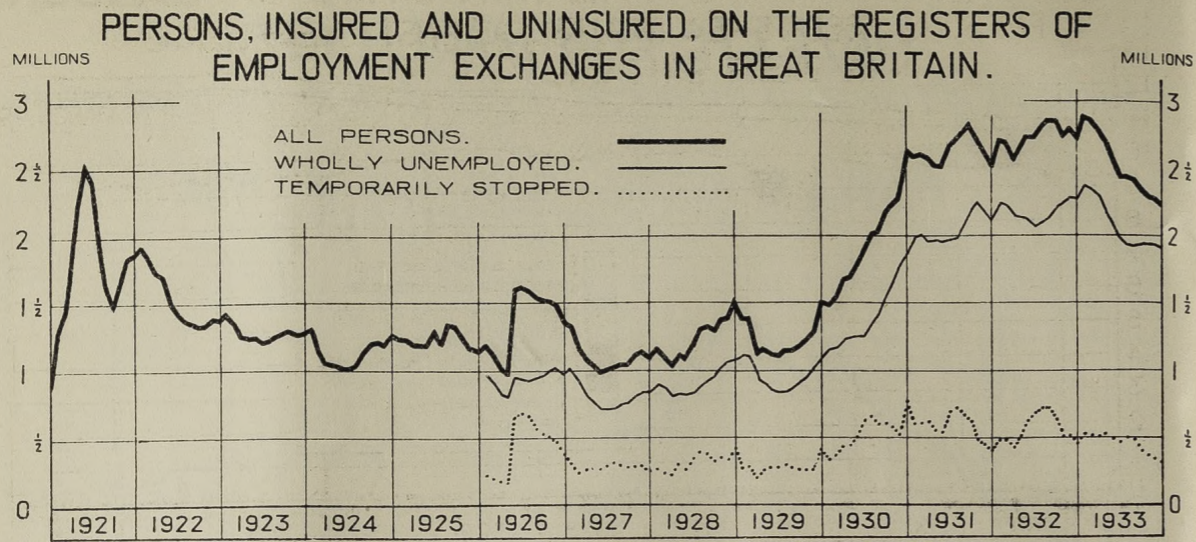


CHANGES IN WEEKLY RATES OF MONEY WAGES AND "REAL" WAGES. GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND. [AVERAGE OF 1924 TAKEN AS 100]



PROFIT - SHARING.





TOTAL PASSENGER MOVEMENT—OUTWARD AND INWARD BALANCES FROM AND TO THE UNITED KINGDOM.

