

THE PACKING TRADE

INTRODUCTORY

This trade comprises firms whose business consisted wholly or mainly in the packing and making-up of textile goods for other firms. The term "making-up" refers, not to the putting together of finished goods, such as articles of clothing, from their materials, but to the making-up of consignments of goods in different lengths, folds or shapes, or with special tickets, tapes, parcelling, etc., as may be required for various destinations or customers.

The value of packing work carried out by manufacturing firms on their own products was included in the selling value of the products.

Tables VI and VIII are not included for this trade.

Table I A.—General summary

Particulars	1935	1930	1924
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Value of work done (Gross output)	1,175	1,556	3,090
Cost of materials, fuel and electricity used	426	669	1,428
Amount paid for work given out	6	—	—
Net output	743	887	1,662
	No.	No.	No.
Average number of persons employed	4,990	5,424	7,959
	£	£	£
Net output per person employed	149	164	209
	No.	No.	No.
Number of returns	105	100	148
Number of establishments	123	135	*

*Not available.

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

Particulars	1935	1930	1924
	No.	No.	No.
Number of returns received	111	109	129
Average number of persons employed:—			
Males	575	604	535
Females	123	168	54
Total	698	772	589
Number of firms not making returns	—	20	20

In 1924 the value of the gross output of the small firms making returns was 6·2 per cent. of the total.

Table II.—Size of establishments in 1935

Size of establishment (average number employed)	Number of establishments	Gross output	Net output	Number of persons employed	Net output per person employed
	No.	£'000	£'000	No.	£
11-24	58	245	153	1,007	152
25-49	39	306	199	1,377	145
50-99	14	232	144	1,013	142
100 and over	12	392	247	1,593	155
TOTAL	123	1,175	743	4,990	149

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

Area*	Number of establishments†	Gross output	Net output	Average number of persons employed	Net output per person employed	
	No.	£'000	£'000	No.	£	
3	1935	31	144	88	678	130
	1930	26	175	97	804	120
2	1935	84	955	596	3,899	153
	1930	8	76	59	413	142
Total	1935	92	1,031	655	4,312	152
	1930	74	1,381	790	4,620	171
TOTAL	1935	123	1,175	743	4,990	149
	1930	100	1,556	887	5,424	164

* For particulars see page xviii.

† Number of returns for 1930.

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

Table V.—Output

Kind of work done	1935		1930
	Amount received	Entries	Amount received
	£'000	No.	£'000
Packing (including making-up)	1,200	111	1,585

The figures shown above include amounts of £31,000 for 1935 and £36,000 for 1930 recorded in respect of similar work by firms whose returns were made on schedules for other trades and are not, therefore, included in Table I A.

Table VII.—Volume of Production, 1924-1935

Output	1924	1930	1935
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Value of output as returned	3,117	1,585	1,200
Estimated value at 1935 prices*	1,800	1,300	1,200
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Value of output as a percentage of 1935	150	108	100

* In the absence of particulars of the quantities of goods handled, these estimates are based on changes in prices of materials used and other costs.

Table IX.—Other output of the Packing Trade

The value of the gross output of the firms whose returns were made on schedules for the Packing Trade was £1,175,000 in 1935 and £1,556,000 in 1930, of which £1,169,000 in 1935 and £1,549,000 in 1930 consisted of output included in Table V, the balance of £6,000 in 1935 and £7,000 in 1930 representing other work done.

MATERIALS AND FUEL

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

Kind of materials, etc.	1935		1930
	Quantity	Cost	Cost
	Th. cwts.	£'000	£'000
Jute piece-goods	67	669
Iron and steel hoop and strip	35.1	23	
Paper and board of all kinds	79.5	80	
Cordage and twine	2.5	10	
Fuel and electricity used for all purposes :—	Th. tons		
Coal	2.2	3	
Coke	4.7	6	
Purchased electricity	Th. B.T.U. (Kw.-hrs.)	18	669
All other purchased materials and fuel ... ..	...	219
TOTAL	426	669

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

Kind of fuel	1935	1930
	Th. tons	Th. tons
Coal	2.2	3.3
Coke	4.7	3.8
	Th. B.T.U. (Kw.-hrs.)	Th. B.T.U. (Kw.-hrs.)
Electricity :—		
Generated in same works	—	112
Purchased	1,833	2,019
Total electricity consumed	1,833	2,131

EMPLOYMENT

Table XI A.—Average numbers employed

Persons employed	Males		Females		Total	
	Under 18	All ages	Under 18	All ages	Under 18	All ages
	Operatives (average for the year) ...	210	2,830	270	1,353	480	4,183
Administrative, technical and clerical staff* ...	59	567	36	240	95	807
TOTAL ...	269	3,397	306	1,593	575	4,990
	269	3,772	314	1,652	583	5,424

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

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

Mid week of*	Operatives employed		Monthly index†	
	1930	1935	1930	1935
	January ...	1,822	2,216	125.4	99.5
February ...	1,786	2,271	122.9	101.9
March ...	1,800	2,246	123.9	100.8
April ...	1,677	2,239	115.4	100.5
May ...	1,657	2,237	114.1	100.4
June ...	1,658	2,207	114.1	99.0
July ...	1,630	2,274	112.2	102.0
August ...	1,517	2,188	104.4	98.2
September ...	1,426	2,215	98.2	99.4
October ...	1,445	2,214	99.5	99.4
November ...	1,424	2,224	98.0	99.8
December ...	1,375	2,208	94.6	99.1
Average for the twelve months ...	1,601	2,228	110.2	100.0
Proportion of total operatives represented ...	34.73	53.26	...	...

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

† Based on the estimated average for the year 1935.

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

Year	Operatives	Administrative, technical and clerical staff	Total
1924 ...	7,137	771	7,908
1930 ...	4,610	814	5,424
1935 ...	4,183	807	4,990

WAGES

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

The aggregate amount of wages paid by firms furnishing returns of wages was £276,000 in 1935 representing 62.2 per cent. of the net output of these firms, the corresponding figures for 1930 being £324,000 and 71.4 per cent. The figures for these firms given below indicate the size of the sample and the extent to which it is representative.

Firms furnishing returns of wages	1935		1930*	
	Aggregate	Proportion of trade	Aggregate	Proportion of trade
	£'000	Per cent.	£'000	Per cent.
Gross output...	712	60.6	800	54.2
Net output ...	443	59.7	454	54.3
Operative staff employed:—				
During mid-week of October:—				
Males ...	1,638	59.1	†	†
Females ...	764	57.5		
Total ...	2,402	58.6	2,211	49.5
Average of the year ...	2,450	58.6	2,634‡	59.9
Administrative, technical and clerical staff employed ...	466	57.7	†	†
Number of establishments...	56	45.5	...	...

* Great Britain only, separate particulars in respect of Northern Ireland not being available for publication.

† Not recorded separately.

‡ Corrected figure.

COUNTRY TABLES (1935)

Note.—The figures given in the following tables relate only to firms whose returns were made on schedules for the Packing Trade. Owing to the possible disclosure of information relating to individual firms, separate particulars for England and Wales and for Scotland cannot be given.

Table I.—General summary

Particulars	Unit	Great Britain	Northern Ireland
Value of work done (Gross output)	£'000	1,122	53
Cost of materials, fuel and electricity used	"	416	10
Amount paid for work given out	"	6	—
Net output... ..	"	700	43
Average number of persons employed	No.	4,647	343
Net output per person employed	£	151	124
Number of returns	No.	99	6
Number of establishments	"	117	6

Table II.—Output

Kind of output	Great Britain	Northern Ireland
	£'000	£'000
Packing (including making-up) and other work done	1,122	53

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

Kind of materials, etc.	Great Britain		Northern Ireland	
	Quantity	Cost	Quantity	Cost
	Th. cwts.	£'000	Th. cwts.	£'000
Jute piece-goods ... ..	...	67	—	—
Iron and steel hoop and strip	33.3	22	1.8	1
Paper and board of all kinds	76.3	77	3.2	3
Cordage and twine	2.1	9	0.4	1
Fuel and electricity used for all purposes :—				
Coal	Th. tons		—	—
	2.2	3	—	—
Coke	4.7	6	—	—
	Th. B.T.U.		Th. B.T.U.	
	(Kw.-hrs.)		(Kw.-hrs.)	
Purchased electricity	1,786	18	47	*
All other purchased materials and fuel ... ..	...	214	...	5
TOTAL ... ..	...	416	...	10

* Less than £500.

Table III B.—Consumption of electricity

Electricity consumed	Great Britain	Northern Ireland
	Th. B.T.U. (Kw.-hrs.)	Th. B.T.U. (Kw.-hrs.)
Purchased	1,786	47

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

Persons employed	Males		Females		Total	
	Under 18	All ages	Under 18	All ages	Under 18	All ages
Great Britain :—						
Operatives	196	2,704	213	1,136	409	3,840
Administrative, etc.*	58	532	34	192	92	724
TOTAL	254	3,236	247	1,328	501	4,564
Northern Ireland :—						
Operatives	10	67	52	193	62	260
Administrative, etc.*	1	35	2	48	3	83
TOTAL	11	102	54	241	65	343

* Administrative, technical and clerical staff.

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

Week ended	Males and females	
	Great Britain	Northern Ireland
January 19	3,947	248
February 16	4,068	257
March 16	3,934	258
April 13	3,934	261
May 18	3,868	277
June 15	3,881	272
July 13	3,989	264
August 17	3,895	239
September 14	3,908	249
October 12	3,840	260
November 16	3,876	274
December 14	3,937	255
Average for the twelve months	3,923	260

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

Particulars	Great Britain	Northern Ireland
	No.	No.
Number of returns received	154	21
Average number of persons employed :—		
Males	74 ¹	102
Females	210	28
Total	95 ¹	130

Table IV A.—Numbers employed in week ended 12th October, 1933

Particulars	Great Britain		Northern Ireland	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
Total	108	100	20	2
Administrative, etc.	85	4	1	2
Operatives	23	96	19	0

¹ Administrative, technical and clerical staff.

Table IV B.—Operatives employed in one week in each month of 1933

Month	Great Britain	Northern Ireland
January	2,047	257
February	1,602	227
March	2,032	201
April	3,014	277
May	3,262	272
June	3,281	264
July	3,019	230
August	3,202	243
September	3,002	231
October	2,870	227
November	2,870	227
December	2,937	227
Average for the twelve months	2,872	220