



BOARD OF TRADE

FINAL REPORT
on the
CENSUS OF PRODUCTION
FOR 1948

Volume 4

Trade N

BATTERIES AND ACCUMULATORS

*Presented by the Board of Trade to Parliament
in pursuance of the Statistics of Trade Act, 1947
(10 & 11 Geo. 6, Ch. 39, Sec. 7).*



LONDON : HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

1952

TWO SHILLINGS NET

1752
 In interpreting the data in the following tables, it is essential to bear in mind not only the qualifications mentioned in this report but also the general explanations and qualifications contained in the separate booklet published in this series by H.M. Stationery Office entitled "Final Reports of the Census of Production for 1948: Introductory Notes", price 2s 0d. NET

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* Not applicable to this trade

BATTERIES AND ACCUMULATORS TRADE

THIS REPORT on the Batteries and Accumulators Trade relates to establishments engaged wholly or mainly in the manufacture of dry batteries, including radio and flash lamp batteries, and accumulators for all purposes.

This trade corresponds to minimum list heading 75 in the Standard Industrial Classification.

Establishments in this trade in Northern Ireland are excluded in 1948 and included in 1946; no production was recorded there in this trade for 1937 or 1935.

ENGINEERING, SHIPBUILDING AND ELECTRICAL GOODS
BATTERIES AND ACCUMULATORS TRADE

Summary

Larger establishments

TABLE 1

	1948 (a)	1946 (b)	1937 (b)	1935 (b)
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Gross output (production)	20,972	15,188	6,967	6,175
Cost of materials and fuel used	11,982	7,639	3,901	2,993
Payment for work done on materials given out	13	75	2	1
Net output	8,978	7,474	3,064	3,181
Wages and salaries of persons employed	4,652	3,843	..	..
	No.	No.	No.	No.
Average number of persons employed	15,926(c)	14,803	11,532	11,435
Net output per person employed	£ 564	£ 505	£ 266	£ 278
Stocks at end of year	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Finished products and work in progress	2,444	1,336	359(d)	264(d)
Materials and fuel	2,547	1,814	..	..
	No.	No.	No.	No.
Number of establishments	59	..	..	46

(a) Great Britain only.

(b) United Kingdom.

(c) For an estimate of the total number of persons employed in this trade see Table 3.

(d) Work in progress only.

The values of gross output and of materials and fuel used are derived in the following way:-

	1948	1946	1937	1935
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Output of firms in this trade				
Total value of sales (1948 and 1946) or production (1937 and 1935)				
Principal products (see Table 8)	18,239	15,150	6,295	5,784
Other output (see Table 10)	2,434		664	363
Adjustment for changes in stocks and work in progress	+ 540(a)	+ 38	+ 8(b)	+ 28(b)
Less payment for transport by other firms	21,213	15,188	6,967	6,175
	241			
Gross output (production)	20,972	15,188	6,967	6,175
Materials and fuel used by firms in this trade				
Purchases (see Table 13)	12,301	7,415	3,901	2,993
Adjustment for changes in stocks	- 320(a)	+ 224		
Materials and fuel used	11,982	7,639	3,901	2,993

(a) See Table 14.

(b) Work in progress only.

Summary, 1948

Small firms in Great Britain

TABLE 2

Number of returns	138
Average number of persons employed (a)	
Males	530
Females	72
Total	602

(a) Including working proprietors.

Estimated average employment, 1948

All firms in Great Britain

TABLE 3

As returned by firms	
Employing on average more than ten persons (a)	15,926
Employing on average ten persons or less (b)	602
	16,528
Estimated average employment in firms not making satisfactory returns	40
Estimated average employment in all firms	16,568

(a) See Tables 1 and 15.

(b) See Table 2.

Analysis by size, 1948

Larger establishments in Great Britain

TABLE 4

Average number employed	Establishments	Gross output	Net output	Persons employed	Remuneration			Net output per person employed
					Wages	Salaries	Total	
	No.	£'000	£'000	No.	£'000	£'000	£'000	£
11-24	13	398	157	220	47	26	73	712
25-49	12	761	285	430	90	40	130	665
50-99	8	596	244	530	109	43	152	461
100-199	8	1,726	585	1,225	269	92	361	478
200-299	4	1,493	584	982	207	74	281	595
300-399	3	1,264	579	1,114	243	87	330	519
500 and over	11	14,734	6,543	11,425	2,371	934	3,305	573
Total	59	20,972	8,978	15,926	3,355	1,297	4,652	564

Analysis by standard region, 1948

Larger establishments in Great Britain

TABLE 5

Region	Establishments	Gross output	Net output		Persons employed	Remuneration		
			Value	Percentage of total		Wages	Salaries	Total
England	No.	£'000	£'000		No.	£'000	£'000	£'000
East and West Ridings of Yorkshire	3	113	37	0.4	71	16	4	19
North Midland; and Eastern	3	1,057	452	5.0	574	134	73	207
London and South Eastern	25	6,067	2,636	29.4	5,499	1,125	383	1,508
Southern; and South Western	5	510	173	1.9	300	63	22	85
Midland; and North Western	17	12,041	5,171	57.6	8,273	1,807	747	2,554
Northern	6	1,184	509	5.7	1,209	210	68	279
Scotland	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wales	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Great Britain	59	20,972	8,978	100.0	15,926	3,355	1,297	4,652

Analysis according to specialisation within the trade, 1948

Larger establishments in Great Britain

TABLE 6

	Establishments	Gross output	Sales of characteristic products	Net output	Persons employed	Remuneration			Net output per person employed
						Wages	Salaries	Total	
Specialist producers of	No.	£'000	£'000	£'000	No.	£'000	£'000	£'000	£
Accumulators and parts	32	13,155	11,622	5,486	7,197	1,646	802	2,448	762
Primary batteries or cells and parts	27	7,817	6,545	3,492	8,729	1,710	495	2,204	400
Total	59	20,972		8,978	15,926	3,355	1,297	4,652	564

TABLE 7 - Total make of intermediate products: Larger establishments

This table is not applicable to the trade.

Sales (or production) of the principal products of the trade, including sales (or production) of these products by establishments classified to other trades

TABLE 8

Larger establishments

	1948 (a) Sales			1937 (b) Production		1935 (b) Production
	Quantity	Value	Entries	Quantity	Value	Value
Th. batteries		£'000	No.	Thous.	£'000	£'000
Accumulators						
Complete						
Portable						
For motor vehicle starting, lighting and ignition	2,436 Th. cells	7,843	29	875	1,237	1,391(c)
For traction	280 Th. batteries	1,455	11			
For radio	781 Th. cells	365	14	2,168	629	814(c)
Other	345	502	12			
Stationary	220	739	13	129	387	673(c)
Other	120	850	9				..	182
Parts (e)	Th. cwts.				(d)	(d)
For portable accumulators						
For motor vehicle starting, lighting and ignition	135.8	931	21			
For traction	..	329				
For radio	3.6	50	9			
For other portable accumulators	10.0	46	10	..	743	(d)
For stationary accumulators	73.1	613	8			
For other accumulators	..	70				
Batteries and/or cells, primary	Th. cells	Th. cwts.				
For radio and for flashlight cases, cycle lamps and all other lighting purposes	204,525 632,430	169.0	1,317	..	4,247	..
For telephone, telegraph and signalling purposes	1,825 133	29.3	171			
For all other purposes	..	..	42	10	104,560	2,676
Unclassified	6,600 205	8.3	92			
Parts, other than carbons (e)	..	..	79	..	774	3,548
	..	..	289	..	..	..
	..	..	469	..	95	..
	..	..	226	16	..	..

TABLE 8 (contd.)

	1948 (a) Sales		1937 (b) Production		1935 (b) Production
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Value
Waste products, other than scrap metals.	..	£'000	No.	..	£'000
Repair and maintenance work for customers (f)		65	14		33
Total		21,901	..		6,751
Less sales (or production) in other trades (see Table 9)		3,662	..		456
Total principal products of this trade sold or made by establishments in the trade		18,239	40		6,295

(a) Great Britain only.

(b) United Kingdom.

(c) Including parts.

(d) Not recorded separately.

(e) Excluding the output of battery and cell cases made by establishments classified to other trades.

(f) Amount charged in 1948; value of work done exclusive of the value of goods made and recorded as output in 1937 and 1935.

Sales (or production) of principal products of the trade
by establishments classified to other trades

Larger establishments

TABLE 9

	1948 (a) Sales		1937 (b) Production	1935 (b) Production
	Value	Entries	Value	Value
	£'000	No.	£'000	£'000
Accumulators, complete and parts	3,193	..	99	62
Batteries and/or cells, primary				
Complete	385	..	301	613
Parts, other than carbons and battery and cell cases	80	9	56	
Repair and maintenance work for customers	5(c)	..	-	-
Total	3,662	..	456	675

(a) Great Britain only.

(b) United Kingdom.

(c) Amount charged.

DS 13294/1

Sales (or production) in the trade of other
than principal products

Larger establishments

TABLE 10

	1948 (a) Sales	1937 (b) Production	1935 (b) Production
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Electric lighting appliances, accessories and fittings, and parts thereof (except batteries)	1,175	423	248
Other electrical goods	368	171	46
Other goods	591	22	35
Scrap metals sold			
Lead	119 (c)	23	12
Other	145		
Work done, other than repair and maintenance work for customers (d)	35	25	22
Total	2,434	664	363

(a) Great Britain only.

(b) United Kingdom.

(c) So far as recorded separately.

(d) Amount charged in 1948; value of work done exclusive of the value of goods made and recorded as output in 1937 and 1935.

DS 13294/1

Analysis of sales, 1948

Larger establishments in Great Britain

TABLE 11

	Sales	Percentage of total sales
	£'000	
Sales (or transfers) to other organisations under the same control		
Productive works	1,302	6.3
Selling organisations, including retail shops, etc.	3,018	14.7
Total sales (or transfers) to other organisations under the same control	4,320	21.0
Sales to independent buyers		
Exports invoiced directly overseas	2,079	10.1
Exports invoiced to Crown Agents and purchasing houses in this country of individual firms and governments abroad	678	3.3
His Majesty's Government and Local Authorities (other than productive establishments)	1,777	8.6
Manufacturers, repairers, builders, mines, public utilities, and transport and other productive undertakings	5,050	24.5
Wholesalers, merchants and other agents for resale	3,966(a)	19.3
Retailers, including multiple shops, caterers and N.A.A.F.I., for resale	2,361	11.5
Other businesses (including farmers) and institutions of all kinds	295	1.4
Members of the public, including employees	51	0.2
Total sales to independent buyers	16,257	79.0
Total	20,578	100.0

(a) Of this total £3,825,000 was recorded as divided between £130,000 for export and £3,695,000, for other sales.

Production, exports and imports of certain principal products (a)

TABLE 12

	Production (b) (c)		Exports (d)		Retained imports (e)
	Th. batteries	£'000	Th. batteries	£'000	£'000
Accumulators, complete					
Portable					
For motor vehicle starting, lighting and ignition	1948	2,436	7,843	542	1,685
For traction	1948	Th. cells 280	1,455	Th. cells 16	124
Total for motor vehicle starting, lighting and ignition, and for traction	{ 1948	9,298		1,810	32
	{ 1937	1,237		215(f)	7(f)
Other portable					
For radio	1948	Th. batteries 781	365	Th. batteries 59	51
Other descriptions	1948	Th. cells 345	502	Th. cells 199	462
Other accumulators, except stationary	1948	120	850	15	36
Total other portable accumulators and other accumulators (except stationary)	{ 1948	1,717		549	4
	{ 1937	629		172(f)	3(f)
Stationary	{ 1948	220	739	61	431
	{ 1937	..	569	..	210(f)
Parts of accumulators	{ 1948	Th. cwts. 375.0 (g)	3,063(h)	Th. cwts. 58.9	670
	{ 1937	..	743(h)	..	(1)
Total accumulators and parts	{ 1948		14,817(h)		3,459
	{ 1937		3,178(h)		597
Batteries and/or cells, primary, complete					
For radio and for flashlight cases, cycle lamps and all other lighting purposes	1948	Th. cells 836,955	5,564	Th. cells 63,404	591

TABLE 12 (contd.)

	Production (b)(c)		Exports (d)		Retained imports (e)	
	Th. cells.	£'000	Th. cells.	£'000	£'000	
Batteries and/or cells, primary, complete (contd.)						
For telephone, telegraph and signalling purposes	1948	2,380 (g)	240	1,805	65	..
For all other purposes	1948	7,617 (g)	220	4,496	64	..
Total batteries and/or cells primary, complete	{ 1948	..	6,313 (i)	69,705	720	9
	{ 1937	..	3,450	..	192	8
		Th. cwts.		Th. cwts.		
Parts (other than carbons) of batteries and/or cells, primary	{ 1948	95.0 (g)	895 (h)	15.9	130	3
	{ 1937	..	95 (h)	..	76	39

(a) Figures of sales (or production) refer only to larger establishments in Great Britain (1948) or the United Kingdom (1937). All recorded exports from and imports into the United Kingdom are given in the table. The figures therefore are not strictly comparable.

(b) Sales in 1948 and production for sale in 1937.

(c) Including sales (or production) by establishments classified to other trades.

(d) Valued f.o.b.

(e) Valued c.i.f.

(f) Including parts.

(g) Partly estimated.

(h) Excluding the output of battery and cell cases made by establishments classified to other trades.

(i) Not recorded separately.

(j) Including unclassified output.

Purchased materials and fuel

Larger establishments

TABLE 13

	1948 (a)		1937 (b)		1935 (b)	
	Materials and fuel purchased		Usage of purchased materials and fuel			
	Quantity	Cost	Quantity	Cost	Quantity	Cost
	Th. cwts.	£'000	Th. cwts.	£'000	Th. cwts.	£'000
Materials						
Alloy steel in all forms, except finished parts	2.3	20	16.7	26(c)	9.3	12(c)
Iron and non-alloy steel, in all forms, except finished parts	28.7	75				
Brass (including all alloys of copper other than nickel alloys) in all forms, except finished parts	3.1	27	12.2	46	13.0	64(d)
Copper in all forms, except finished parts	7.3	57	2.0	10	2.5	11(d)
Lead and alloys of lead						
Pig, ingots, blocks, bars, slabs and cakes	419.6	1,976	468.5	555	506.0	359(f)
Sheet	4.2	24	4.2	7		
Solder	5.3	97	..	(e)		
Other descriptions	361.9	1,275	..	(e)		
Ceramics, including porcelain	{ 1.1	15	..	6(g)	..	7(g)
	{ ..	6				
Paper (excluding packing and wrapping)	62.9	119	4.9	6	5.3	6
Rubber (including hard rubber) in all forms, including finished parts (c)	..	371	2.0	20	3.8	27
Battery carbons	..	299	..	238	..	(e)
Packing materials	..	572	..	94	..	(e)
Zinc and alloys of zinc, including finished parts	{ 166.8	656	..	..	..	..
	{ ..	735				
Glass in all forms	{ 38.0	164	..	..	..	..
	{ ..	38				
Paint, enamel and varnish	{ 1.1	9	..	(e)	..	(e)
	{ Th. galls.	27.0				
Bitumen and bitumastic compound	Th. cwts.	84.1	..	..	..	..
Insulated wires	..	67	..	..	..	..
Plastic materials in all forms, including finished parts	{ 5.6	36	..	..	..	..
	{ ..	48				

TABLE 13 (contd.)

	1948 (a)		1937 (b)		1935 (b)	
	Materials and fuel purchased		Usage of purchased materials and fuel			
	Quantity	Cost	Quantity	Cost	Quantity	Cost
	Th. cu. ft.	£'000		£'000		£'000
Materials (contd.)						
Timber (excluding veneers and timber used for making into cases, etc., or for repairing returnable cases)						
Hardwood	34.5	37	..			
Softwood	0.6	52				
Plywood	34.1	2				
Purchased components, not elsewhere specified	..	2,403	..	2,769	..	2,418(h)
Replacement parts for firms' machinery	..	189				
Consumable tools bought as replacement	..	45				
All other purchased materials	..	2,390				
Fuel and electricity	Th. tons		Th. tons		Th. tons	
Coal	30.1	96	17.6	18	17.4	17
Coke	7.1	28	6.0	10	5.3	8
Electricity purchased	Th. B. T. U. (kW. hrs.)		Th. B. T. U. (kW. hrs.)		Th. B. T. U. (kW. hrs.)	
Electricity obtained from other works under the same ownership	45,223	180	24,719	70	19,843	60
Motor spirit (petrol) and deriv. fuel	Th. galls. 262	25	Th. galls. ..	(e)	Th. galls. ..	(e)
Other oil fuel (including creosote/pitch mixtures)	265	11	253	5(1)	234	4(1)
Gas purchased	Th. therms 1,734	71				
Gas obtained from other works under the same ownership	-	-	..	21	..	(e)
All other purchased fuel	..	1				
Total		12,301		3,901		2,993

- (a) Great Britain only.
(b) United Kingdom.
(c) So far as recorded separately.
(d) Described as "in all forms".
(e) Not recorded separately.
(f) Described as "Lead (in all forms)".
(g) Porcelain only.
(h) Including fuel not specified separately.
(i) Described as "Heavy fuel oil".

Stocks of finished products and work in progress and stocks of materials and fuel, 1948

Larger establishments in Great Britain

TABLE 14

	At beginning of year		At end of year	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
		£'000		£'000
Finished products	..	1,035	..	1,339
Work in progress		869		1,106
Total finished products and work in progress		1,904		2,444
Materials and fuel	Th. cwts.		Th. cwts.	
Alloys steel in all forms, except finished parts	..	3	..	16
Iron and non-alloy steel in all forms, except finished parts	14.5	32	8.8	22
Brass (including all alloys of copper other than nickel alloys) in all forms, except finished parts	7.7	33	4.6	23
Copper in all forms, except finished parts	2.2	16	2.9	22
Lead and alloys of lead in all forms	71.9	261	100.9	359
Other descriptions of materials and fuel	..	62	..	119
Total materials and fuel		1,820		1,980
		2,227		2,547

Employment and remuneration (a)

Larger establishments

TABLE 15

	Average number of operatives			Administrative, technical and clerical employees (b)			Total		
	1948(c)	1937(d)	1935(d)	1948(c)	1937(d)	1935(d)	1948(c)	1937(d)	1935(d)
Males									
Under 18	212	412	366	86	156	138	298	568	504
All ages	6,533	4,576	4,668	1,795	1,454	1,339	8,328	6,030	6,007
Females									
Under 18	781	1,076	725	233	197	112	1,014	1,273	837
All ages	6,310	4,592	4,671	1,286	910	757	7,596	5,502	5,428
Total									
Under 18	993	1,488	1,091	319	353	250	1,312	1,841	1,341
All ages	12,843	9,168	9,339	3,081(c)	2,364	2,096	15,924 (c) (d) (e)	11,532	11,435
Total remuneration	£'000 3,355	..	..	£'000 1,297	..	..	£'000 4,652	..	..

(a) Excluded employees. The following numbers were employed at establishments in this trade but are not included in the table or in any other report (e.g., employees in a separate selling or transport organisation for which separate accounts are kept):-

Canteen workers	12 males	201 females
Other workers	92 males	32 females

(b) Number at September 25, 1948, October 16, 1937, and October 12, 1935.

(c) Great Britain only.

(d) United Kingdom.

(e) There were, in addition, 2 male working proprietors in 1948. Working proprietors are included in the 1937 and 1935 figures.

(f) The employers' share of contributions to all National Insurance Schemes payable during the year in respect of these workers amounted to £122,000.

(g) The following persons (included in this total) were employed on special work by establishments employing 100 or more persons:-

	Operatives	Administrative, technical and clerical employees
Transport of goods outside the premises	80	
Maintenance and repair of firms' buildings, but not plant	39	
Research work not directly connected with current production however charged	*	35

* Negligible.

Wages and salaries paid, 1948 (a)

Larger establishments in Great Britain

TABLE 16

	Amount paid by all establishments	Establishments making returns for the calendar year					
		Amount paid	Percentage of annual remuneration paid in				
			First quarter	Second quarter	Third quarter	Fourth quarter	Year
Wages and salaries of	£'000	£'000					
Operatives	3,355	1,254	24.9	24.3	23.8	27.1	100.0
Administrative, technical and clerical employees	1,297	673	27.7	25.7	21.9	24.8	100.0
Total	4,652	1,927	25.9	24.8	23.1	26.3	100.0

(a) Including bonus and commission payments.

TABLE 17 - Payments for work done on materials given out, 1948

Larger establishments in Great Britain

The total amount paid for work done on materials given out was £13,000.

Payments for certain services, 1948
Larger establishments in Great Britain

TABLE 18

	Amount paid
	£'000
Repair and maintenance	
Of buildings	55
Of plant, machinery and vehicles	278
Hire of plant, machinery and vehicles	3
Advertising and market research	
Advertising in newspapers, magazines and periodicals	75
Other advertising services (poster display, despatch of circulars, etc.) and market research	47
Unclassified	53
Payments made for research work	
To research associations, universities, institutions, academic bodies and similar agencies	-
To other commercial concerns	4
Postage, telephone, telegrams and cables	47
Commercial insurance premiums	64
Rates (excluding water rates) payable in the year	20

Plant, machinery and vehicles acquired and disposed of, 1948
Larger establishments in Great Britain

TABLE 19

	Acquisitions		Disposals
	New	Second-hand	
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Plant and machinery	381	28	24
Vehicles	31	4	8
Total	412	32	32

Capital expenditure on building work and changes in occupation of buildings and land, 1948
Larger establishments in Great Britain

TABLE 20

	£'000	£'000
1. Capital expenditure on building work (a)		58
2. Existing buildings and land (b)		
(1) Capital cost of freeholds bought	67	
Estimated capital value of		
(ii) Rented property newly occupied in the year (c)	30	
(iii) Leasehold buildings and land newly occupied in the year	14	
Total of heading 2		111
Total of headings 1 and 2		169
3. Existing buildings and land relinquished (d)		
(1) Selling value of freeholds sold	82	
(ii) Estimated value of other properties relinquished	14	
Total of heading 3		96
4. Headings 1 and 2 less heading 3		73

(a) Excluding site value which, where appropriate, is included in heading 2(1).

(b) The figures do not reflect changes in ownership of previously occupied land and buildings.

(c) Property which is occupied under an agreement for the payment of rent without the purchase of a lease or the payment of a premium.

(d) Including property destroyed or abandoned.

BATTERIES AND ACCUMULATORS TRADE

1948

Note - Owing to the risk of disclosure of information relating to individual firms, separate particulars for larger establishments in Scotland cannot be given. There were no larger establishments in Wales in the register for this trade.

TABLE 21 - Summary: Larger establishments

See Table 1.

Summary

Small firms

TABLE 22

	England	Wales	Scotland	Great Britain
Number of returns	133	1	4	138
Average number of persons employed (a)				
Males	513	3	14	530
Females	68	-	4	72
Total	581	3	18	602

(a) Including working proprietors.

Sales in the trade

Larger establishments

TABLE 23

	Great Britain
	£'000
Principal products	
Accumulators, complete and parts	11,624
Batteries and/or cells, primary	
Complete	5,929
Parts, other than carbons	616
Waste products other than scrap metals	10
Repair and maintenance work for customers	60 (a)
Total principal products	18,239
Other output	
Electric lighting appliances, accessories and fittings, and parts thereof (except batteries)	1,175
Other electrical goods	368
Other goods	591
Scrap metals sold	
Lead	119 (b)
Other	145
Work done, other than repair and maintenance work for customers	35 (a)
Total	20,673

(a) Amount charged.

(b) So far as recorded separately.

TABLE 24 - Purchased materials and fuel: Larger establishments

See Table 13.

TABLE 25 - Employment and remuneration: Larger establishments

See Table 15.

Monthly index of employment of operatives: Larger establishments
(average employment in 1948 = 100)

TABLE 26

Month	Monthly index (a)	Month	Monthly index (a)
	Great Britain		Great Britain
1948		1948	
January	103.3	August	98.8
February	102.9	September	97.4
March	100.1	October	100.4
April	99.3	November	102.4
May	98.2	December	103.4
June	98.4	Percentage employment in this trade covered by the index	29.6
July	97.5		

(a) The index numbers are calculated from the number of operatives employed in one week in each month returned by larger establishments that made returns for the calendar year 1948. The question of man-hours worked in this trade will be dealt with in a later summary volume.

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1952

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PRINTED IN GREAT BRITAIN

S.O. Code No. 51-312-4-14