

BOARD OF TRADE

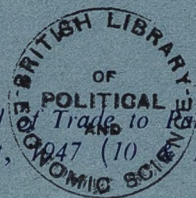
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*The Report on the
Census of Production
for 1954*

Volume 6: Industry I

ROPE, TWINE AND NET

Presented by the Board of Trade to Parliament in pursuance of the
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The Report on the Census of Production for 1954

VOLUME 6, INDUSTRY I

ROPE, TWINE AND NET

THIS REPORT on the Rope, Twine and Net Industry relates to establishments engaged wholly or mainly in the spinning of hard hemp yarn and the manufacture of ropes, cordage, twine and nets of hemp, cotton, jute, etc.

This industry corresponds to minimum list heading 117 in the Standard Industrial Classification.

LIST OF TABLES

Table No.	Title	Page	Table No.	Title	Page
1	Industry summary: estimates for the industry as a whole	6/I/3	6	Sales of principal products of the industry by establishments classified to other industries	6/I/6
2	Summary of returns received	6/I/3	7	Sales in the industry of other than principal products	6/I/7
3	Analysis by size, 1954	6/I/4	8	Total make of intermediate products	6/I/7
4	Analysis according to specialisation within the industry, 1954	6/I/4	9	Purchases of materials and fuel, 1954	6/I/7
5	Sales of principal products of the industry, including sales of these products by establishments classified to other industries	6/I/5	10	Average number of employees and wages, salaries and superannuation payments	6/I/9
			11	Employment in a specified week	6/I/9

IMPORTANT NOTES and definitions appear on the next page. In interpreting the data in the tables, it is essential to bear these in mind.

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The following notes describe terms in general use in the tables of the report. More detailed explanations of the terms used and a description of the scope and method of taking the census are given in the separate booklet entitled 'The Report on the Census of Production for 1954 - Introductory Notes' (price 1s. 6d. net).

Industrial Classification: Establishments are classified to industries according to the nature of their output and, as far as possible, in conformity with the Standard Industrial Classification. Certain products are identified as the principal products of individual industries, the principal products for a given industry being of a similar nature or commonly associated in production. The principle of classification normally followed is that an establishment is classified to an industry if its output of the principal products of that industry accounted for a greater proportion of the value of its output than did its output of the principal products of any other industry.

Specialist producers normally comprise those establishments 50 per cent. or more of whose total output by value is accounted for by the characteristic products of the specialist group.

Intermediate products: For some industries figures are given showing the total quantities made during the year of intermediate products, i.e., products which may be further processed in the establishments in which they are produced.

Larger establishments: The information given in the report relates mainly to larger establishments, i.e., establishments of firms employing on the average more than 10 persons. In most cases an establishment comprises the whole of the premises under the same ownership or management at a particular address (e.g., a mine or factory). Offices, warehouses, laboratories and other ancillary places of business situated apart from the producing works are not regarded as separate establishments and are included in the return for the works.

Small firms are those employing on the average 10 or fewer persons.

The estimates for the industry as a whole given in Table 1 are normally obtained by increasing the other items shown in the same proportion as total employment.

Gross output (production) is the total value of goods made and other work done during the year; it is obtained by adjusting the value of sales and work done during the year for changes in the value of stocks of products on hand for sale and work in progress.

Net output is the amount left after deducting from the value of gross output the aggregate of the cost of materials and fuel used, the amount paid for work given out and, for 1951 and 1954, any transport payments made. This represents the value added to materials by the process of production, and constitutes the fund from which wages, salaries, rents; rates and taxes, advertising and other selling expenses and all other similar charges have to be met, as well as depreciation and profits.

Sales means sales during the year of goods made in the establishment covered by the return or made on commission for it, whether produced in the year or not. The value of sales is the net selling value, i.e., the amount charged to customers, whether on an ex-works or delivered basis, and net of any trade discounts, agents' commissions, allowances for returnable cases, purchase tax, etc. For goods charged on a delivered basis to customers overseas, firms were required to give the f.o.b. value.

Materials and fuel: The total cost of materials and fuel purchased includes all purchases during the year of materials for use in production, and of fuel (includ-

ing oil, gas and electricity) for all purposes: packing materials, including the full cost of returnable cases when first purchased; workshop and office materials; water charges; materials for repairs to buildings, plant and vehicles when carried out by firms' own work-people included in their returns; consumable tools; and parts for machinery purchased as replacements. Purchases of goods for merchanting are excluded. The cost of materials and fuel used, given in Table 2, is obtained by adjusting purchases for changes during the year in the value of stocks.

Stocks: Firms were required to give stocks of materials and fuel, products on hand for sale, and work in progress, at income tax values.

Customs and Excise Duty paid on materials purchased is normally included in the cost of materials. Finished goods are similarly valued as they were sold, duty-paid or duty-free. The net amount of any duty paid is deducted in arriving at net output.

Employment: Total employment includes working proprietors, administrative, technical and clerical employees, and operatives, but excludes outworkers, canteen employees and persons engaged in merchanting or any other activity not covered by a firm's return, who are shown separately as excluded employees. Employees are persons on the pay-roll (i.e., persons whose National Insurance cards were held by employers), whether employed full-time or part-time.

Working proprietors are proprietors of businesses other than limited companies, together with members of their families who worked in the business without receiving fixed wages or salaries. Any persons working less than half the normal hours are excluded. For Northern Ireland directors of limited companies (other than those paid by fee only) are also included.

Administrative, technical and clerical employees include directors, other than those paid by fee only (except in Northern Ireland); managers, superintendents and works foremen; research, experimental, development, technical and design employees (other than operatives); draughtsmen and tracers; travellers; and office (including works office) employees.

Operatives include all other classes of employees, i.e., broadly speaking, all manual workers.

Outworkers are persons employed by the firm who work on materials supplied by the firm in their own homes.

Wages and salaries include all overtime payments, bonuses and commissions without any deductions for income tax, insurances, contributory pensions etc. They exclude payments to working proprietors.

Capital expenditure includes expenditure on new building work, and on plant, machinery and vehicles, charged to capital account during the year, including any transport and installation costs involved. It includes expenditure in respect of establishments in Great Britain which had not begun production before the end of the year (which has not previously been included in the Census of Production reports for individual industries).

Symbols used:

.. for not available
- for nil or negligible (less than half the final digit shown).

Where figures are rounded, e.g., given to the nearest £ thousand, there may be apparent slight discrepancies between the sums of constituent items and the totals shown. In some cases, figures have been combined with others of a similar nature where publication of separate details might disclose information relating to an individual undertaking.

Industry summary

Estimates for the industry as a whole

TABLE 1

	United Kingdom			Scotland 1954	Wales 1954
	1948	1951	1954		
	£ million	£ million	£ million	£ million	£ million
Gross output (production)	22.6	39.1	27.7	5.50	0.27
Net output	7.4	10.9	8.7	1.67	0.07
Total stocks and work in progress					
At beginning of year	+ 3.7	+ 6.0	+ 5.3	+ 0.99	+ 0.04
Change during year	- 0.5	- 2.6	- 0.2	- 0.01	- 0.01
Capital expenditure less disposals (a)	0.4	0.4	0.6	0.05	-
Wages and salaries	3.6	4.1	4.5	0.85	0.04
Total employment (including working proprietors)	Thousands 16.1	Thousands 15.6	Thousands 14.9	Thousands 2.88	Thousands 0.14

(a) Capital expenditure on new building work, plant, machinery and vehicles, less amounts received for plant, machinery and vehicles disposed of. There was no expenditure at establishments not yet in production during 1951 or 1954.

Summary of returns received

TABLE 2

	Unit	Great Britain 1948	United Kingdom	
			1951	1954
FIRMS EMPLOYING ON AVERAGE MORE THAN 10 PERSONS				
Number of establishments	No.	163	146	145
Total value of sales and work done	£'000	18,615	35,875	25,930
Products on hand for sale	"	1,378	2,629	2,666
and work in progress	" +	405	1,309	372
Gross output (production) (a)	"	18,805	37,184	26,301
Purchases of materials and fuel	"	12,583	27,305	17,109
Stocks of materials and fuel	"	1,691	3,040	2,326
Cost of materials and fuel used	" +	1	1,192	200
Payment for work done on materials given out	"	12,582	26,113	17,309
Payment for transport (b)	"	57	86	66
	"	215	581	657
Net output	"	6,166	10,404	8,269
Average number of employees	{ operatives No. { others	11,986	13,148	12,407
Total employment (d)	"	1,429 (c)	1,653	1,693
Net output per person employed (d)	"	13,449	14,825	14,121
	£	458	702	586
Wages and salaries	{ of operatives £'000 { of others	2,368	3,030	3,387
	"	602	874	925
Capital expenditure	"			
New building work	"	89	93	113
Plant and machinery	{ acquisitions " { disposals	234	267	439
	"	31	32	24
Vehicles	{ acquisitions " { disposals	33	60	65
	"	7	15	21
FIRMS EMPLOYING ON AVERAGE 10 OR FEWER PERSONS				
Number of returns	No.	115	121 (e)	121
Total employment, including working proprietors	"	591	707 (e)	685

(a) For the year 1948 gross output excludes payments for transport services outwards on finished goods sold. For subsequent years gross output includes payments to other firms and undertakings and to firms' own separate transport organisations for transport services.

(b) Payments to other firms and undertakings and to firms' own separate transport organisations. For the year 1948 payments cover only transport outwards of finished goods sold. For subsequent years they cover payments for transport of both finished goods sold and materials and fuel purchased.

(c) Number in week ended September 25, 1948.

(d) Excluding outworkers and including working proprietors.

(e) Excluding Northern Ireland. No information about small firms was collected in Northern Ireland for 1951.

TABLE 3

Average number employed (a)	Establishments	Gross output	Net output	Employees		Wages and salaries		Capital expenditure (b)	Net output per person employed (a)
				Operatives	Others	Operatives	Others		
	Number	£'000	£'000	Number	Number	£'000	£'000	£'000	£
11 - 24	39	881	325	619	66	151	34	13	470
25 - 49	45	2,141	773	1,401	163	361	95	46	493
50 - 99	29	3,805	1,246	1,885	232	520	146	95	586
100 - 199	19	5,243	1,597	2,530	354	732	200	158	554
200 - 299	5	3,069	973	1,054	197	333	102	74	778
300 - 499	4	2,987	847	1,353	173	391	93	32	555
500 and over	4	8,176	2,510	3,565	508	899	255	199	613
Total	145	26,301	8,269	12,407	1,693	3,387	925	618	586

(a) Excluding outworkers and including working proprietors.

(b) Capital expenditure on new building work and on acquisition of plant, machinery and vehicles.

Analysis according to specialisation within the industry, 1954

Larger establishments in the United Kingdom

TABLE 4

	Unit	Specialist producers of			Remainder of the industry	Total
		Cordage, cables, ropes and twine (including hard hemp spinning)	Nets and other manufacture of cordage			
			With cordage manufacture	Without cordage manufacture		
Number of establishments	No.	95	18	25	7	145
Total value of sales and work done	£'000	22,819	1,557	1,384	169	25,930
Sales of characteristic products	..	21,219	1,235	1,330	..	23,784
Products on hand for sale and work in progress	{ at beginning of year	..	2,333	166	5	2,666
	{ change during year	..	+ 349	+ 25	- 3	+ 372
Gross output (production)	..	23,168	1,583	1,381	170	26,301
Purchases of materials and fuel	..	15,109	971	952	77	17,109
Stocks of materials and fuel	{ at beginning of year	..	1,889	298	72	2,326
	{ change during year	..	- 155	- 27	- 1	- 200
Cost of materials and fuel used	..	15,264	998	953	94	17,309
Payment for work done on materials given out	..	60	4	2	-	66
Payment for transport	..	620	21	8	9	657
Net output	..	7,224	560	418	68	8,269
Average number of employees	{ operatives	No.	10,128	1,000	1,073	206
	{ others	..	1,474	116	85	18
Total employment (a)	..	11,619	1,119	1,159	224	14,121
Net output per person employed (a)	£	622	500	361	302	586
Wages and salaries	{ of operatives	£'000	2,846	248	243	50
	{ of others	..	819	60	37	9
Capital expenditure	..	95	15	1	3	113
New building work	..	392	35	8	3	439
Plant and machinery	{ acquisitions	..	23	-	-	24
	{ disposals	..	62	2	1	65
Vehicles	{ acquisitions	..	20	1	-	21
	{ disposals

(a) Excluding outworkers and including working proprietors.

(84423)

Sales of the principal products of the industry, including sales of these products by establishments classified to other industries

Larger establishments in the United Kingdom

TABLE 5

	1951		1954		
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Entries
	Th.cwt.	£'000	Th.cwt.	£'000	Number
Hard hemp line and tow yarn	15.4	184	37.6	265	10
Cordage, cables, ropes and twine of textile materials					
Under ¼ inch diameter					
Binder, reaper and baler twine or hemp	396.8	4,870	554.9	3,798	13
Other twine					
Of hard hemp	217.8	2,994	290.9	2,587	21
Of soft hemp	96.4	1,987	68.2	1,205	40
Of cotton	86.1	2,454	82.1	1,780	30
Of jute	40.2	606	25.7	288	27
Of other fibres including mixtures	6.6	156	7.2	143	25
			..	157	
Total twine	843.9	13,067	1,028.9	9,800	..
			..	157	
Ropes, cords and lines					
Of hard hemp	173.5	2,121	83.5	685	18
			..	172	
Of soft hemp	13.2	322	16.0	349	37
Of cotton	23.0	785	24.0	760	38
	..	185	..	186	
Of jute	20.2	259	30.4	345	27
Of synthetic fibres (nylon, etc.)	(a)	(a)	3.1	309	12
Of other fibres including mixtures	39.8	210	8.3	97	14
	..	176	..	69	
Total ropes cords and lines under ¼ inch diameter	269.6	3,698	165.3	2,545	..
	..	361	..	427	
Twine, ropes, cords and lines of jute, unclassified	35.1	391	36.7	381	..
Of ¼ inch diameter and over					
Of hard hemp	818.9	10,110	742.6	6,432	27
Of soft hemp	29.1	608	15.0	269	23
Of cotton	30.4	1,173	17.3	513	24
			..	214	
Of jute	67.2	575	64.8	372	27
Of synthetic fibres (nylon, etc.)	2.5	263(b)	4.3	401	13
Of other fibres including mixtures	35.1	324	34.6	206	21
	..	82	..	277	
Total cordage, etc., of ¼ inch diameter and over	983.1	13,053	878.7	8,194	..
	..	82	..	491	
Manufactures of cordage					
Nets and netting					
Of hard hemp	70.7	1,446	50.6	1,030	32
Of soft hemp	10.2	431	8.8	412	9
Of cotton	18.3	1,408	14.1	1,118	21
			..	216	
Of flax	3.6	425	1.3	151	..

(84423)

TABLE 5 (contd.)

	1951		1954		Entries Number
	Quantity Th.cwt.	Value £'000	Quantity Th.cwt.	Value £'000	
Manufactures of cordage (contd.)					
Nets and netting (contd.)					
Of synthetic fibres (nylon, etc.)	7.4	222	1.6	278	11
Of other fibres including mixtures			2.0	54	7
Total nets and netting	110.2	3,932	78.4	3,043	..
Other manufactures of cordage	2.7	145	..	217	10
Waste products sold	..	292	..	90	66
Work done for the trade or on commission (c)	..	266	..	136	33
Total		35,881		25,994	..
Sales in other industries (see Table 6)		1,796		1,359	..
Principal products of this industry sold by establishments in the industry		34,084		24,635	123

(a) Not recorded separately.

(b) So far as recorded separately. Includes cordage, etc., under ¼ inch diameter.

(c) Amount charged.

Sales of principal products of the industry by establishments
classified to other industries
Larger establishments in the United Kingdom

TABLE 6

	1954			Principal industries in which produced (a)
	Quantity Th.cwt.	Value £'000	Entries Number	
Cordage, cables, ropes and twine of textile materials				
Under ¼ inch diameter				
Twine	4.1	144	7	6B, 6G
Ropes, cords and lines	5.7	56	..	6B, 6G, 6N
Twine, ropes, cords and lines of jute, unclassified	36.7	381	..	6H
Of ¼ inch diameter and over	6.1	31	..	6H, 6M
Manufactures of cordage				
Nets and netting	7.2	433	5	4A, 6G, 6N, 11E
Other manufactures of cordage	..	76	..	6N
Work done for the trade or on commission (b)	..	7	..	
Total		1,359	..	

(a) The volume number and industry references given are to the industries shown in the list at the back of this report.

(b) Amount charged.

Sales in the industry of other than principal products
Larger establishments in the United Kingdom

TABLE 7

	1954	
	Quantity Th.cwt.	Value £'000
Soft hemp line and tow yarn	19.3	240
Made-up canvas goods, bags, etc.	..	150
Other textile manufactures (including cotton yarn)	..	596
Other goods	..	309
Total		1,295

TABLE 8 - Total make of intermediate products: larger establishments in the United Kingdom

The total quantities of line and tow yarn of hard hemp made in the industry in 1951 and 1954 were 1,274.3 Th.cwt. and 1,675.8 Th.cwt. respectively. No production was recorded in other industries.

Purchases of materials and fuel, 1954
Larger establishments in the United Kingdom

TABLE 9

	Quantity	Cost
	Th. tons	£'000
Materials		
Hard hemp		
Manila	17.5	1,741
Empire sisal	68.3	6,192
Other hard hems	1.0	91
Tow or codilla	0.9	54
Soft hemp		
True hemp	1.3	249
Indian hemp	2.9	244
Tow or codilla	0.2	25
Raw jute	1.1	94
	Th.cwt.	
Hard hemp yarn	11.9	86
Soft hemp yarn	28.1	389
Flax yarn (line or tow)	6.8	95
	Th.lb.	
Cotton yarn	15,460	2,513
	Th.cwt.	
Jute yarn	96.3	878
	Th.lb.	
Synthetic yarn (nylon, etc.)	1,129	523

TABLE 9 (contd.)

	Quantity	Cost
	Th.cwt.	£'000
Materials (contd.)		
Twine purchased for use in the manufacture of nets, hammocks, etc.	33.6	372
Of hard hemp	1.1	29
Of soft hemp	8.5	267
Of cotton	..	405
Of linen, ramie or seagrass	1.5	105
Of other	..	22
New cordage and ropes	27.1	277
Packing materials	..	126
Jute piece goods	..	105
Other
Batch oils	Th.gal. 1,877	232
Other	..	105
Replacement parts for machinery, plant and vehicles and accessories and consumable tools bought as replacement	..	309
All other purchased materials	..	1,163
Fuel and electricity	Th.tons	
Coal	31.8	130
Coke	2.8	15
Other	..	7
Liquid fuel (including creosote/pitch mixtures)	Th.gal.	
For use in internal combustion engines		
Motor spirit (petrol) for use in road vehicles and deriv. fuel	121	25
Other	83	5
For burning in furnaces, boilers, kilns, etc.	57	3
Gas purchased	Th.therms	
From Gas Boards	150	9
From other sources, including other departments of the same firms	-	-
Electricity purchased (a)	Th.kWh.	
All other purchased fuel	35,951	222
All other purchased fuel	..	2
Total cost		17,109

(a) The total quantity of electricity generated in firms' own establishments in this industry in 1954 was 1,400 Th.kWh.

Average number of employees and wages, salaries and superannuation payments (a)

Larger establishments in the United Kingdom

TABLE 10

	1951	1954
Average number of employees	Number	Number
Operatives	13,148	12,407
Administrative, technical and clerical employees	1,653	1,693
Total	14,801	14,100
Wages and salaries paid to	£'000	£'000
Operatives	3,030	3,387
Administrative, technical and clerical employees	874	925
Total	3,904	4,312
Wages and salaries per head	£	£
Operatives	231	273
Administrative, technical and clerical employees	529	546
Superannuation and other pension funds for employees and dependents (b)		£'000
Employers' contributions	..	69
Employees covered	..	Number 1,492
Pension, etc., payments to former employees and dependents (b)	..	£'000 13

(a) The following persons, not mentioned above, were also employed by larger establishments in this industry. ("Other workers" includes, for example, employees engaged in merchanting).

	1951	1954
Canteen workers	Number	Number
Male	3	3
Female	106	90
Total	109	93
Other workers		
Male	134	143
Female	27	50
Total	161	193
Total excluded employees	270	286

Outworkers. The firms in this industry employed 8 male and 1,568 female outworkers in 1951 and 28 male and 1,449 female outworkers in 1954, the amounts paid to them being £104,000 and £97,000 respectively.

(b) The figures given relate to larger establishments in Great Britain only.

Employment in a specified week (a)

Larger establishments in the United Kingdom

TABLE 11

	1951			1954		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
Working proprietors	24	-	24	20	1	21
Operatives	4,554	9,049	13,603	4,024	8,451	12,475
Administrative, technical and clerical employees	966	666	1,632	920	746	1,666
Total employees	5,520	9,715	15,235	4,944	9,197	14,141

(a) Week ended September 22, 1951, or October 30, 1954.

LIST OF INDUSTRY REPORTS

VOLUME 1

- A. Coal Mines
- B. Non-Metalliferous Mines and Quarries (other than Coal, Salt and Slate)
- C. Salt Mines, Brine Pits and Salt Works
- D. Slate Quarries and Mines
- E. Metalliferous Mines and Quarries
- F. Brick and Fireclay
- G. China and Earthenware
- H. Glass Containers
- I. Glass (other than Containers)
- J. Cement
- K. Abrasives
- L. Building Materials
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- L. Ink
- M. Match
- N. Mineral Oil Refining
- O. Oils and Greases
- P. Seed Crushing and Oil Refining
- Q. Glue, Gum, Paste and Allied Industries
- R. Plastics Materials

VOLUME 3

- A. Blast Furnaces
- B. Iron and Steel (Melting and Rolling)
- C. Iron Foundries
- D. Steel Sheets
- E. Tinplate
- F. Wrought Iron and Steel Tubes
- G. Non-Ferrous Metals (Smelting, Rolling, etc.)
- H. Scrap Metal Processing
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- J. Motor Vehicles and Cycles (Repairing)
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- C. Chain, Nail, Screw and Miscellaneous Forgings
- D. Wire and Wire Manufactures
- E. Hardware, Hollow-ware, Metal Furniture and Sheet Metal
- F. Brass Manufactures
- G. Needles, Pins, Fish Hooks and Metal Smallwares
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- I. Watch and Clock
- J. Jewellery and Plate
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- L. Musical Instruments

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- D. Rayon, Nylon, etc. Production
- E. Rayon, Nylon, etc. Weaving, and Silk
- F. Flax Processing
- G. Linen and Soft Hemp
- H. Jute
- I. Rope, Twine and Net
- J. Hosiery and Other Knitted Goods
- K. Lace
- L. Carpets
- M. Narrow Fabrics
- N. Canvas Goods and Sacks
- O. Textile Converting
- P. Made-up Household Textiles
- Q. Textile Finishing
- R. Textile Packing

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- D. Leather (Tanning and Dressing)
- E. Fellmongery
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- I. Hats, Caps and Millinery
- J. Glove
- K. Umbrella and Walking Stick
- L. Boot and Shoe

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- B. Bread and Flour Confectionery
- C. Biscuit
- D. Bacon Curing and Sausage

VOLUME 8 (contd.)

- E. Preserved Meat
- F. Milk Products
- G. Ice Cream
- H. Sugar and Glucose
- I. Cocoa, Chocolate and Sugar Confectionery
- J. Preserved Fruit and Vegetables

VOLUME 9

- A. Margarine
- B. Fish Curing
- C. Cattle, Dog and Poultry Foods
- D. Vinegar and Other Condiments
- E. Starch
- F. Ice
- G. Miscellaneous Preserved Foods
- H. Brewing and Malting
- I. Wholesale Bottling
- J. Spirit Distilling
- K. Spirit Rectifying and Compounding
- L. Soft Drinks, British Wines and Cider
- M. Tobacco

VOLUME 10

- A. Timber
- B. Furniture and Upholstery
- C. Soft Furnishings
- D. Shop and Office Fitting
- E. Wooden Containers and Baskets
- F. Paper and Board
- G. Wallpaper
- H. Cardboard Box, Carton and Fibre-board Packing Case
- I. Manufactured Stationery, Paper Bag and Kindred Industries
- J. Newspaper and Periodical Printing and Publishing
- K. Printing and Publishing, Bookbinding, Engraving, etc.

VOLUME 11

- A. Rubber
- B. Linoleum, Leathercloth and Allied Industries
- C. Brushes and Brooms
- D. Toys and Games
- E. Sports Requisites
- F. Miscellaneous Stationers' Goods
- G. Cinematograph Film Production
- H. Cinematograph Film Printing
- I. Plastic Goods and Fancy Articles
- J. Incandescent Mantles

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- A. Building and Contracting
- B. Local Authorities (Building and Civil Engineering)
- C. Railways (Civil Engineering)
- D. Tramway, Trolley Bus and Omnibus Undertakings (Civil Engineering)
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