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Summary of the Monthly Statistics

Full details on pages

Employment

The estimated total number of employees in employment in Great Britain in mid-January was 23,107,000. This was 197,000 less than in December. The main decreases were in the distributive trades, manufacturing industries and agriculture. 131-134

Unemployment

There were 328,200 persons registered as wholly unemployed in Great Britain on 14th February and 11,100 registered as temporarily stopped from work; a total of 339,400 (1.4 per cent. of all employees). Between 10th January and 14th February unemployment fell by 10,000 with decreases in nearly all industries and services. The number of school-leavers registered as unemployed fell by 1,000. The number unemployed for more than eight weeks was 174,000—53 per cent. of the wholly unemployed. Excluding school-leavers the numbers wholly unemployed fell by 9,000 to 326,000; the seasonally adjusted number fell by 8,000 to 277,000. 135-138

Unfilled Vacancies

There were 373,000 unfilled vacancies on 9th February, 27,000 more than on 5th January. 139

Overtime and Short-time

In the week ended 15th January 1966 the estimated number of operatives working overtime in the manufacturing industries was 2,107,000 and the estimated number on short-time was 38,000. 131

Rates of Wages

The indices of weekly rates of wages and of hourly rates of wages at 28th February (January 1956 = 100) were, respectively, 151.3 and 165.4, compared with 151.2 and 165.0 (revised figure) at 31st January. 144-150

Retail Prices

The retail prices index at 22nd February (January 1962 = 100) was 114.4, compared with 114.3 at 18th January. The index for the food group was 112.8, compared with 113.0 the previous month. 151

Stoppages of Work

About 53,800 workers were involved in February in stoppages of work due to industrial disputes: they lost about 183,000 working days. 152

REVISED EMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES: GREAT BRITAIN 1964 AND 1965

In the February issue of this GAZETTE (page 77), it was announced that the method of compilation of the mid-year employment estimates for Great Britain was being changed and that the compilation of the estimates for 1965 and comparable revised estimates for 1964 had not been completed in time for publication in that issue.

Revised employment estimates of the total numbers of male and female employees in Great Britain at mid-1964 and mid-1965 are now given in Table 1 below, together with corresponding estimates of the numbers of employees in employment. Between June 1964 and June 1965, there was an estimated increase of about 208,000 employees—78,000 males and 130,000 females. Over this period, as there were reductions in the numbers registered as unemployed, the estimated number in civil employment increased by about 255,000—111,000 males and 144,000 females.

Table 1.—Employees in Great Britain

	June 1964	June 1965	Increase 1964 to 1965
Employees (including unemployed)			
Total	23,209	23,417	208
of which			
Males	14,851	14,929	78
Females	8,358	8,488	130
Employees in employment			
Total	22,892	23,147	255
of which			
Males	14,611	14,722	111
Females	8,281	8,425	144

These mid-year estimates of employees are obtained by adding together:

- estimates of employees with National Insurance cards, based on counts of cards exchanged,
- numbers of those civil servants who are insured but do not have such cards, and
- numbers of wholly unemployed persons registered at Employment Exchanges and Youth Employment Offices, not covered by the estimates at (a) above.

As explained below, the estimates of employees with insurance cards, (a) above, take account of cards exchanged up to the end of the following November. The estimates of employees include all registered wholly unemployed persons and part-time, seasonal and other occasional workers (as full units) even though they may not all be at work or in employment at mid-year. Analyses of the mid-1964 and 1965 estimates by Region and by industry are given on pages 114 to 121.

Normally at this stage the mid-1964 estimates published in the February 1965 issue of this GAZETTE would not be altered further. However, for the reasons outlined below, those estimates (together with the estimates for the years 1959 to 1963) have now been revised; the revised estimates are comparable with those for mid-1965 given in this issue.

The estimates of "employees in employment" are derived from the overall estimates of employees by deducting the numbers of persons registered as wholly unemployed at mid-June. The estimates of employees in employment in an industry group are obtained from the total estimates of employees classified to the industry by deducting the number of persons registered as wholly unemployed at mid-June whose last employment was in the industry.

A summary by broad industry groups of the estimates of employees in employment at June 1964, June 1965 and subsequent months to January 1966 is given in Table 3 on page 112. Detailed estimates, by industry, for the months of June 1965, November 1965, December 1965 and January 1966 are given on pages 132 and 133.

The estimates for months after June 1965 take account of the new mid-1965 estimates and, as usual, are provisional. The previously published provisional monthly estimates for July 1964 to November 1965 were based on the mid-1964 estimates published in the February 1965 issue of this GAZETTE. These provisional estimates have now been revised to take account of the new mid-year estimates for 1964 and 1965 and revised estimates for months June 1964 to October 1965 are available, on request, from the Director of Statistics (Stats. C.1.), Ministry of Labour, Orphanage Road, Watford, Herts.

Reasons for the revisions

The mid-year estimates of employees with cards are based on the numbers of National Insurance cards due for exchange on the first Monday in June. Although most of these cards are exchanged fairly promptly, substantial numbers are exchanged late. About 98 per cent. are usually exchanged within three months and well over 99 per cent. within six months.

Before 1959, the mid-year estimates took account of the cards exchanged up to the end of November. The relatively small number which had not then been exchanged was estimated; any error in this estimate was comparatively trivial. From 1959, the method was changed in order to make it possible to produce preliminary mid-year estimates of the totals earlier, without waiting for counts of cards exchanged more than three months after the due date. The estimates were based solely on the cards exchanged up to the end of August, on the assumption that the proportions of cards exchanged more belatedly remained unchanged from year to year. For the years 1959 to 1964, this assumption was proved to be justified, but it is now apparent that, in 1965, there was a substantial change. In 1965, the number of cards exchanged in June, July and August was abnormally low, and the method of estimation used for the years 1959 to 1964 therefore underestimates the number of employees in June 1965. It has accordingly become necessary to revert to the earlier method of estimation, taking account of cards exchanged up to the end of November. These methods of compilation of the estimates are described in more detail later in this article.

The estimates of the numbers of employees obtained by the two alternative methods differ; nevertheless, from 1959 to 1964, there was little difference between the two sets of estimates of the changes from year to year obtained by the two methods. However, because of the marked changes from quarter to quarter since 1964 in the incidence of belated exchanges of cards, the two methods give two very different estimates of the increase between 1964 and 1965. The method which takes account of cards exchanged up to the end of November is more reliable.

The decision to revert to the earlier method means that the estimates for the period 1959 to 1964 have had to be re-calculated, and so a considerable volume of reprocessing of data has been necessary.

The revised mid-year estimates of employees in employment are given in Table 2 below.

Table 2.—Employees in Employment in Great Britain

	Males	Females	Total
1959	13,984	7,581	21,565
1960	14,199	7,837	22,036
1961	14,379	7,994	22,373
1962	14,480	8,093	22,572
1963	14,486	8,116	22,603
1964	14,611	8,281	22,892
1965	14,722	8,425	23,147

Methods of compilation

Each National Insurance card bears the person's reference number with a suffix letter, either A, B, C or D. The annual exchanges of cards are staggered and, for example, the B cards (i.e., those with suffix letter B) are due for exchange on the first Monday in June. As already mentioned, substantial numbers of cards are exchanged belatedly.

Equal numbers of A, B, C and D cards have been issued, and studies have confirmed that the cards in current circulation bear these suffix letters in practically equal proportions. Thus, if the number of B cards due for exchange on the first Monday in June were known, the total number of employees with cards at that date could be estimated by multiplying this number of cards by four. In practice however, owing to the belated exchanges of cards, this number does not become known exactly until one year later when all the cards have been exchanged. It would not be practicable to wait so long, nor is it necessary to do so because a sufficiently reliable estimate of the number can be made earlier. Relatively few cards are exchanged more than six months after the due date,

and sufficiently reliable estimates of these very belated exchanges can be made.

An important stage in compiling estimates of the total numbers of employees in June is to estimate the numbers of B cards then due for exchange. Before 1959, the method of estimation took account of B cards exchanged in the six months up to the end of November. It assumed that the number still outstanding at the end of November would be the same as the number of B cards which, in the previous round, were exchanged after the end of November.

The method used for the years 1959 to 1964 took account of B cards exchanged in June, July and August and also of A, C and D cards exchanged belatedly in these months. It assumed that this number of A, C and D cards exchanged was a reliable estimate of the number of B cards which were still outstanding at the end of August and which would be exchanged later. After the first few years of the present National Insurance scheme, the pattern of belated exchanges of cards had become relatively stable, and so this assumption was accepted as reasonable. The mid-year estimates of employees with cards obtained by this method thus depended solely on the numbers of cards exchanged in the three months June, July and August and took no account of counts of cards exchanged in other months.

The numbers of cards exchanged in other quarters are known. The numbers exchanged in March, April and May and in September, October and November 1965 indicated that the pattern of card exchanges in 1965 was abnormal and that the number of cards exchanged in June, July and August was an unsatisfactory estimate of the number of B cards due for exchange in June. In 1965, the total number of all cards exchanged in June, July and August was low for two reasons.

First, the number of B cards then exchanged was relatively low, and the number exchanged belatedly in the following three months was correspondingly high. This may have been due to the fact that, for the first time, the August Bank Holiday was at the end of the month. Secondly, a relatively high number of A cards due for exchange at the beginning of March were exchanged within three months, and the number exchanged in June, July and August was correspondingly low. This may have been because, in 1965, there were 14 weeks between the first Monday in March and the first Monday in June (Whit Monday). The variations in belated exchanges are shown by the following figures of cards exchanged between three and six months late and of cards exchanged more than three months late. About 89,000 B cards were exchanged in September, October and November, but only about 49,000 A cards were exchanged in June, July and August. About 120,000 B cards were exchanged more than three months late in the 12 months December 1964 to November 1965, but only 70,000 A, C and D cards were exchanged belatedly in June, July and August. This difference of 50,000, when multiplied by four, results in a difference of about 200,000 between the estimates of the total numbers of employees in June 1965 obtained by the two methods, compared with differences of about 75,000 in the years 1959 to 1964. The more reliable estimate is the higher one which takes account of the B cards exchanged within six months from the due date.

Changes in coverage

The estimates of the total numbers of employees given in this article differ slightly in coverage from those published hitherto (for example on page 59 of the February 1965 issue of this GAZETTE).

They now include:—

(a) under National Government Service (M.L.H.901), about 12,000 civil servants stationed outside the United Kingdom who are insured but do not hold insurance cards. They are analogous to employees employed in other industries who remain insured whilst stationed overseas and whose cards are exchanged by their employers in Great Britain. Civil servants stationed in Northern Ireland are included in the employment estimates for Northern Ireland.

(b) persons registered as wholly unemployed at Employment Exchanges and Youth Employment Offices at mid-June other than those with cards covered by the estimates of employees based on card exchanges. This group of persons consists of those, other than ex-service personnel, shown in the monthly analyses of the registered unemployed in this GAZETTE as "other persons not classified by industry". They include new entrants or re-entrants to the working population seeking employment and registered as unemployed; for example, young persons seeking or awaiting their first jobs

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after completing their education, immigrants, married women and other persons who have had a prolonged spell outside the working population and so do not hold a current National Insurance card. There were about 28,000 persons in this group in June 1965 and about 34,000 in 1964. Members of H.M. Forces, on discharge, are issued with National Insurance cards and so ex-service personnel are covered by the general estimates of employees based on card exchanges. Those who are registered at Employment Exchanges are included in the monthly unemployment statistics after completion of their release leave and are shown as "ex-service personnel, not classified by industry" in the published analyses.

They now exclude:—

(c) some merchant seamen, viz., those not included in the estimates of employees in the sea-transport industry (M.L.H. 704) derived from the counts of insurance cards exchanged. Where the insurance cards are not held at company offices in Great Britain, the exchanges of cards of seamen on long voyages tend to be abnormal; their insurance contributions may be paid under special arrangements. Although it is known that estimates of employees in this industry derived, as for other industries, from the card counts understate the number of employees in sea transport, it is no longer considered possible to make reliable estimates of the shortfall. Hitherto an addition was made, for example, of about 31,000 at June 1964 but this was probably an overestimate.

Analyses by Region and by industry

Information about the regional and industrial distributions of National Insurance cards is available from annual returns (form C.F.205) rendered voluntarily to the Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance by most employers of five or more employees. These returns give the total number of cards held by each of these employers at the beginning of June and also the number which are B cards. They cover nearly 19½ million employees. There are also arrangements under which information is obtained about some (but not all) who are employed in areas other than the area in which the return is rendered. The regional and industrial distributions of the 725,000 civil servants without cards and of the unemployed not classified by industry are known. From these sources, information is available for over 20 million employees.

Each insurance card exchanged in June, July and August (but not in other months) is classified by:—

(a) the industry (Minimum List Heading of the Standard Industrial Classification) in which the employee is employed or, if not in employment, the industry, if any, in which he was last employed; and

(b) the area in which the card is exchanged or, if the employee is known to be employed in another area, it is allocated to that area.

This provides information about some employees not covered by the B cards on the C.F.205 returns. These are assumed to be a representative 1-in-4 sample. However, there still remain a relatively small number of employees included in the total mid-year estimates whose regional and industrial distributions are not known. These have been allocated pro-rata by Region and industry on the assumption that they are distributed in precisely the same way as those employees with cards for which regional and industry estimates are available. The numbers involved were only 6,000 males and 37,000 females in 1964 but, because of the low number of cards exchanged in June, July and August 1965, 81,000 males and 102,000 females have been allocated in this way in 1965.

This problem arises from belated exchanges of cards which probably vary from industry to industry and from Region to Region. As no account is taken of these variations, where the proportion of cards exchanged belatedly is below average the employee estimates will be slightly over-estimated, and where the proportion is above average the estimates will be slightly underestimated. These small unavoidable errors will normally have little effect on changes from year to year. The errors will, however, have been larger in 1965 owing to the abnormal timing of the exchanges of cards. The possibility of reducing these small errors further is being examined.

The estimates are given in hundreds but this does not imply that they are reliable to this degree of precision. The margin of error of an estimate may be a relatively high percentage of the estimate, particularly where the estimate is under 10,000. Estimates of under 1,000 are subject to substantial margins of error, and so they are not given in the published analyses on pages 114 to 121 except for S.I.C. Order totals.

(For Table 3 see overleaf)

Table 3.—Employees in Employment in Great Britain: Broad Industrial Analysis (Thousands)

Table with 10 columns for months from Mid-June 1964 to Mid-Jan. 1966 and multiple rows for various industry and service categories, including Total employees in employment.

Note.—Each figure is rounded to the nearest 1,000 and some rounded totals may differ from the sum of the rounded components. * Estimates in these columns are subject to revision...

(Analyses of mid-1964 and mid-1965 estimates of employees (employed and unemployed) are given on pages 114 to 121)

APPLICATIONS FOR THE EMPLOYMENT OF FOREIGN WORKERS

During 1965, 68,723 applications were made for permission to employ foreign workers in Great Britain, an increase of 7,961 over the number made in 1964.

The following table analyses by industrial or occupational groups the number of applications granted and refused in 1965 and 1964.

Table with 6 columns for 1965 and 1964 (Applications made, No. granted, No. refused) and rows for industrial or occupational groups like Resident domestic service, Nurses, etc.

The basic conditions which have to be satisfied before permission is given to an employer to engage a foreign worker (other than a student employee for whom special conditions apply) are that the employment is reasonable and necessary, that no suitable labour is available in the country, and that the wages and conditions offered

are not less favourable than those commonly accorded to British employees for similar work in the district concerned.

Nearly half the applications granted were for work in resident domestic employment, nursing and in the hotel and catering industry. In 1965, as in the previous year, the number granted for industry and commerce (including professional and scientific services) increased substantially and covered professors and teachers coming to universities and schools as well as skilled and semi-skilled workers in short supply in this country.

The nationalities of the workers in respect of whom permission for employment was given during 1965 and 1964 were as follows:—

Table with 3 columns for Nationality and years 1965 and 1964, listing various nationalities like Austrian, Belgian, Danish, etc.

In addition to the figures given above, 215 Italian men and women were recruited in 1965 under the official arrangement agreed with the Italian Government for the bulk recruitment of workers. This Scheme operates outside the individual permit system and the majority of the workers thus recruited went to the hotel and catering industry.

NUMBERS EMPLOYED BY LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND IN POLICE FORCES: JUNE 1965

Monthly analyses of employment published in this GAZETTE (see, for example, page 112 of this issue) give separate figures for "local government service". Those figures relate to local government service as defined in the Standard Industrial Classification...

The figures cover (a) all employees of the councils of all counties, boroughs (county, London and municipal), urban districts and rural districts in England and Wales and of counties and burghs (large and small) in Scotland, and (b) members of the police forces (including the Metropolitan Police). The figures for the police forces have been obtained from the Home Office and the Scottish Home and Health Department.

The figures represent the total numbers on the pay-rolls at 19th June 1965 including those temporarily absent through sickness, holidays or other causes. All persons with a normal full-time engagement are included in the columns headed "full-time" and the persons in the columns headed "part-time" are those engaged on a part-time basis whose employment ordinarily involves service for not more than 30 hours a week.

The co-operation of local authorities, however, makes it possible to publish full details in respect of the mid-June of each year. The authorities complete a return at that time showing the numbers employed in each of the main departments and services, and figures for June 1964 obtained from this source were published on page 416 of the October 1964 issue of this GAZETTE.

The figures for construction in the table represent, broadly, workpeople employed in separate building or civil engineering departments engaged on the building of houses, the construction of roads, sewers, etc. Persons engaged on ordinary maintenance work are included in the figures for "all other local authority departments".

In April 1965 the Greater London Council came into being. It replaced the former London County Council, the former administrative county of Middlesex, parts of Essex, Kent, Hertfordshire and Surrey and the county boroughs of Croydon, East Ham and West Ham. The former boroughs (metropolitan and municipal) and urban district councils contained within the area of the Greater London Council were amalgamated and re-arranged to form 32 London Boroughs, which control all local authority services within these areas except for those which are specifically the responsibility of the Greater London Council.

A qualification that must be borne in mind is that some of the part-time employees of a local authority (e.g., teachers and lecturers at evening classes and technical colleges) are engaged during the daytime in the service of other employers or are working on their own account, and there is, therefore, some overlap between the figures in the table and those for other industries. The extent of the overlap of all kinds is known to be about 62,000. Since some of the overlap may be between two adjoining local authorities there may, in fact, be some duplication within the table itself, but the extent of this duplication is likely to be small.

In comparing the figures with those for previous years, the re-organisation mentioned above should be borne in mind, although it is unlikely to have introduced any significant discontinuity for either England or Great Britain.

Large multi-section table showing numbers employed by local authorities and in police forces for June 1965, broken down by Department or Service, Males/Females, Full-time/Part-time, and Total males and females. Sections include England, Scotland, Wales, and Great Britain.

ESTIMATED NUMBERS OF EMPLOYEES (EMPLOYED AND UNEMPLOYED) IN GREAT BRITAIN AND THE UNITED KINGDOM AT JUNE 1964

(Revised March 1966)

(Thousands)

Table with 10 columns for Great Britain and United Kingdom, split into Males and Females, with sub-columns for Under 18 and Total all ages, and a Total column for each gender.

Note.—Owing to roundings the components may not necessarily add to the totals. * Under 1,000.

ESTIMATED NUMBERS OF EMPLOYEES (EMPLOYED AND UNEMPLOYED) IN GREAT BRITAIN AND THE UNITED KINGDOM AT JUNE 1964—continued

(Revised March 1966)

(Thousands)

Table with 10 columns for Great Britain and United Kingdom, split into Males and Females, with sub-columns for Under 18 and Total all ages, and a Total column for each gender, listing various industries.

Note.—Owing to roundings the components may not necessarily add to the totals. * Under 1,000.

† Includes about 12,000 civil servants working outside United Kingdom.

ESTIMATED NUMBERS OF EMPLOYEES (EMPLOYED AND UNEMPLOYED) AT JUNE 1965: REGIONAL ANALYSIS

Table with columns for Region (London and S.E., Eastern and Southern, South Western, West Midlands, East Midlands, Yorks. and Humber-side, North Western, Northern), Scotland, Wales, and Great Britain. Rows include Men aged 18 and over, Boys aged under 18, Women aged 18 and over, Girls aged under 18, GRAND TOTAL, and various industry categories like Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, Mining and quarrying, Food, drink and tobacco, Chemicals, Metal manufacture, Engineering, Shipbuilding, Vehicles, Textiles, etc.

Note.—Owing to roundings the components may not necessarily add to the totals. * Under 1,000. † Includes about 12,000 civil servants working outside United Kingdom.

ESTIMATED NUMBERS OF EMPLOYEES (EMPLOYED AND UNEMPLOYED) AT JUNE 1965: REGIONAL ANALYSIS—continued

Table with columns for Region (London and S.E., Eastern and Southern, South Western, West Midlands, East Midlands, Yorks. and Humber-side, North Western, Northern), Scotland, Wales, and Great Britain. Rows include Textiles—continued (Made-up textiles, Textile finishing, etc.), Leather, leather goods and fur, Clothing and footwear, Bricks, pottery, glass, cement, etc., Paper, printing and publishing, Other manufacturing industries, Construction, Gas, electricity and water, Transport and communication, Distributive trades, Insurance, banking and finance, Professional and scientific services, Miscellaneous services, Public administration, and Persons not classified by industry. GRAND TOTAL is also provided.

Note.—Owing to roundings the components may not necessarily add to the totals. * Under 1,000. † Includes about 12,000 civil servants working outside United Kingdom.

RETAIL PRICES IN 1965

During 1965 the average level of retail prices, as measured by the Index of Retail Prices, rose by nearly 4½ per cent., compared with rises of about 4½ per cent. in 1964, nearly 2 per cent. in 1963, and rather more than 2½ per cent. in 1962. The average index for the 12 months ended in January 1966 was rather more than 4½ per cent. higher than the average for the previous 12 months.

The following table shows the percentage changes between mid-January 1965 and mid-January 1966 in the index for each of the ten component groups of items, and the effects of these changes on the "all-items" index.

Expenditure group	Change in group index between January 1965 and January 1966	Effect on "all-items" index of change in group index between January 1965 and January 1966
	Per cent.	Per cent.
Food	+ 2.4	+ 0.8
Alcoholic drink	+ 10.3	+ 0.8
Tobacco	+ 6.5	+ 0.7
Housing	+ 4.3	+ 0.3
Fuel and light	+ 1.5	+ 0.1
Durable household goods	+ 2.0	+ 0.2
Clothing and footwear	+ 5.0	+ 0.5
Transport and vehicles	+ 1.5	+ 0.1
Miscellaneous goods	+ 7.7	+ 0.4
Services		
All items	+ 4.4	+ 4.4

Food prices in mid-January 1966, taken as a whole, were nearly 2½ per cent. higher than in mid-January 1965. During the same period the average level of retail prices for the items included in all the other expenditure groups, taken together, rose by about 5 per cent. The largest increase was 10½ per cent. in the tobacco group. Five groups showed increases ranging from 7½ per cent. to 4½ per cent. They were 7½ per cent. in services and in alcoholic drink, 6½ per cent. in housing, and 5 and 4½ per cent., respectively, in the transport and vehicles and fuel and light groups. In the three remaining groups, clothing and footwear, durable household goods, and miscellaneous goods, there were increases of not more than 2 per cent.

Taking the average level of prices at mid-January 1962 as 100, the "all-items" index, which stood at 109.5 at mid-January 1965, rose to 114.3 at mid-January 1966. The index remained unchanged between January and February but rose in March when there were increases in the prices of many items. In April there was a rise of 2.1, much the largest in any single month. This sharp rise in the index resulted from increases in the prices of cigarettes and tobacco and alcoholic drink, higher local rates and water charges, increases in the cost of motor vehicle licences and increases, largely seasonal, in the prices of tomatoes, partly offset by seasonal reductions in the prices of household coal. There were further rises in the index in May and June. In May the rise in the index was due to increases in the prices of a number of items, including potatoes, partly offset by a fall in the average price of eggs. The rise in June was due mainly to increases in the average prices of eggs, beef and some vegetables, partly offset by a fall in the average price of potatoes. The index was unchanged in July, but there was a further small rise in August, when higher prices for eggs and milk and higher charges for radio and television licences were only partly offset by lower prices for fresh vegetables. In September and October there was little overall movement, but in November there was a rise of 0.5, due mainly to increases, largely seasonal, in the prices of household coal and eggs. In December increases, largely seasonal, in the prices of eggs, were mainly responsible for a further rise, also of 0.5. Between December and January there were increases in the prices of fresh vegetables and in the costs of travel, and reductions in the prices of eggs, and the index showed a small rise.

Details for individual groups

Group I—Food. Milk was the only item of food subject to price control in 1965. The index for the food group as a whole fell between January and February but rose in March. A sharp rise in April was followed by smaller rises in May and June and a fall in July. There was little change in the index in August and further small falls in September and October. A rise in November was followed by a sharper rise in December and a small fall in January 1966, when the group index was about 2½ per cent. higher than in January 1965.

There was a rise of rather less than 8½ per cent. over the year in the average level of prices of food the prices of which are subject to seasonal fluctuations, viz., fresh milk, eggs, potatoes and other fresh vegetables, apples and pears, fish and home-killed mutton and lamb. The average level of prices of items, prices of which are affected by changes in

import prices, viz., bacon, cooked ham, butter, cheese and chilled beef, fell by 1 per cent. Prices of other items of food rose by nearly 1 per cent.

The average level of prices for the sub-group covering bread, flour, cereals, biscuits and cake rose by rather less than 1½ per cent. over the year. The average price of bread showed very little change in most months but rose slightly in January 1966. There were fluctuations but little overall change in the average prices of the other items included in the sub-group.

The average level of prices for beef and mutton and lamb, taken together, rose in the summer months and despite some falls in later months was higher in January 1966 than a year earlier. Mutton and lamb prices showed little change over the year. Bacon and pork prices fell from February to May, rose in December, and fell again in January 1966, showing little change over the year. The average price of ham also showed little overall change. At mid-January 1966 the average level of prices of meat and bacon, taken together, was slightly more than 1 per cent. higher than in January 1965.

There was a fall in the average level of prices of fish in February but there were rises in April, November and January when the index was 5 per cent. above the January 1965 level.

The price of butter fell in several months, particularly May, and was lower in January 1966 than in the previous year. There was, however, some rise over the year in the average prices of margarine and of lard. For the sub-group covering butter, margarine, lard and cooking fat, the average level of prices fell by 3½ per cent. during the year.

The maximum permitted prices of ordinary grades of milk were raised on 1st August. The average level of egg prices, after a fall in May, rose in each succeeding month of 1965, substantially in August, November and December and, despite a sharp fall between December 1965 and January 1966, was markedly higher in January than a year earlier. There was little change over the year in the average price of cheese. The average level of prices of milk, cheese and eggs, taken together, was 11½ per cent. higher in January 1966 than a year earlier.

There was little change over the year in the sub-group covering tea, coffee, cocoa, soft drinks, etc., taken together, and the average level of prices rose by rather less than one-half of 1 per cent.

The average price of sugar fell in May and in several other months and was lower in January 1966 than a year earlier. The average level of prices of jam and marmalade, of sweets and chocolates, and of ice cream showed little change over the year. The index for the sub-group covering sugar, preserves and confectionery fell by slightly more than 2 per cent. between January 1965 and January 1966.

The index for potatoes rose sharply in May and fell in June, July and August, and despite some small rises from September onwards, was lower in mid-January 1966 than in mid-January 1965. Rises in March and April, after a fall in February, in the average price of tomatoes were more than offset by falls in most succeeding months and the average price of tomatoes was substantially lower in mid-January 1966 than a year earlier. The average level of prices of other vegetables showed some variation from month to month but was higher in January 1966 than a year earlier. For potatoes, tomatoes and other vegetables, taken together, the average level of prices fell by slightly more than 1 per cent. over the year.

The average level of prices of fresh, dried and canned fruit, taken together, rose from February to June, fell from August to October, but rose again in the next three months and in January 1966 the index was slightly more than 8 per cent. higher than a year earlier. The most marked increase over the year was in the average price of apples, both cooking and dessert.

The prices of some items included in the "other food" sub-group, particularly canned soup and meat and vegetable extracts, showed a rise over the year, and the sub-group index was rather more than 2½ per cent. higher in January 1966 than in January 1965.

Group II—Alcoholic drink. The principal changes in the prices of beer, spirits and wines resulted from increases in customs and excise duties which came into operation on 7th April. The average level of prices of the alcoholic drink group as a whole rose by rather less than 7½ per cent. between mid-January 1965 and mid-January 1966.

Group III—Tobacco. Prices of cigarettes and tobacco were raised following increases in customs and excise duties which came into operation on 7th April. As a result of these

increases the index rose in April and remained for the rest of the year at rather less than 10½ per cent. above the January 1965 figure.

Group IV—Housing. There was a continuing rise throughout the year in the average level of rents of privately owned and local authority dwellings let unfurnished. Local rates were increased in April in most areas in England and Wales and there were also increases in most areas in Scotland later in the year. There was some rise also over the year in the average level of charges for repairs and maintenance. As a result of these changes the average level of housing costs rose by 6½ per cent. during the year.

Group V—Fuel and light. The index for the fuel and light group rose in February and March but fell sharply in April, when there were seasonal reductions in the prices of household coal. There were rises in each succeeding month until November, and these were particularly marked in September and November owing to increases, largely seasonal, in prices of household coal and coke. At mid-January 1966 the index for the fuel and light group as a whole was rather less than 4½ per cent. higher than a year earlier. The coal and coke sub-group showed a rise of 2 per cent. Mainly as a result of an appreciable rise in the average level of charges for electricity, the index for the "other fuel and light" sub-group rose by rather less than 6 per cent. between mid-January 1965 and mid-January 1966. There was a small rise in the average level of charges for gas and almost no change in the average price of paraffin.

Group VI—Durable household goods. The items priced in this group are divided into three sub-groups, viz., (1) certain representative articles of furniture, floor coverings and soft furnishings; (2) radio and television sets and a selection of household appliances such as washing machines, refrigerators, gas and electric cookers and fires, vacuum cleaners and sewing machines; and (3) representative articles of pottery, glass and hardware. Taking the group as a whole, the average level of prices rose by about 1½ per cent. over the year between January 1965 and January 1966.

In the furniture, floor coverings and soft furnishings sub-group, the average level of prices rose by slightly more than 2 per cent. There was very little change in the radio, television and other household appliances sub-group, but a rise of slightly more than 3 per cent. in the sub-group covering pottery, glassware and hardware.

Group VII—Clothing and footwear. The prices of most kinds of clothing showed increases in February followed by slight increases in most other months and the index for the clothing and footwear group, as a whole, was 2 per cent. higher in mid-January 1966 than in mid-January 1965. The rise in the average level of prices was largest in the men's underclothing and footwear sub-groups, but was under 3 per cent. in these sub-groups.

Group VIII—Transport and vehicles. This group is divided into two sub-groups covering (1) motoring and cycling and (2) fares. The index for the group as a whole rose by 5 per cent. over the year.

The average level of prices of second-hand cars rose in the months of March, April and May and, although there were falls during the period July to October, it was a little higher in January 1966 than in January 1965. The cost of motor vehicle licences was raised in April and there was a rise over the year in the average level of charges for the repair and maintenance of motor vehicles. Petrol prices fell in April and showed a slight reduction over the year. The index for the sub-group covering motoring and cycling rose by rather less than 4 per cent. between January 1965 and January 1966. The index for the fares sub-group, covering both road and rail passenger transport, showed a rise in most months of the year and was slightly more than 8 per cent. higher in January 1966 than a year earlier. The largest monthly rises in the sub-group index occurred in February 1965, mainly as a result of increases in some rail fares, and in January 1966, when there were increases, mainly in the London area, in both road and rail fares.

Group IX—Miscellaneous goods. The items priced in this group are divided into three sub-groups, viz., (1) books, newspapers and periodicals; (2) medicines, toilet requisites, soap, cleaning materials, matches, etc.; and (3) stationery, travel and sports goods, toys, photographic and optical goods, etc. The index for the group as a whole rose by 1½ per cent. over the year.

The most important single change in this group was the abolition of the National Health Service prescription charge as from 1st February 1965. Mainly as a result of this change the index for the sub-group medicines, toilet requisites, soap, cleaning materials, matches, etc., fell by slightly more than 2 per cent. between January 1965 and January 1966.

Higher prices for a number of morning and evening newspapers were mainly responsible for a rise of rather less than 5 per cent. over the year in the average level of prices of books, newspapers and periodicals, taken together. Small price increases for a number of items contributed to a rise of rather more than 3½ per cent. in the index for the stationery, travel and sports goods, toys, photographic and optical goods, etc. sub-group.

Group X—Services. This group is divided into three sub-groups covering (1) postage, telephone, etc. charges; (2) entertainment; and (3) other services. The index for the services group as a whole rose in every month of the year and was rather more than 7½ per cent. higher in mid-January 1966 than a year earlier.

As a result of a rise in May in the average level of postal charges, the index for the postage and telephones sub-group rose by slightly more than 11 per cent. There were increases from 1st August in the charges for radio and for radio and television receiving licences and rises during the year in the average levels of charges for admission to cinemas, football matches and dance halls; the index for the entertainment sub-group rose by slightly more than 8 per cent. over the year. The average levels of charges for services such as hairdressing, laundering and dry cleaning and watch repairing rose in every month except January 1966 and in that month were 6½ per cent. higher than in January 1965.

Analysis of changes in section indices

Each group in the index is made up of a number of sections, 92 in all, with an aggregate weight of 1,000. The following table analyses the percentage changes in the section indices between mid-January 1965 and mid-January 1966, and also gives the contribution, in "all-items" points, of the changes in each range shown to the change in the total index.

There were increases in over four-fifths of the 92 index sections, covering over 85 per cent. of the total weight. Of these, 42 showed rises of 3 per cent. or more and together accounted for nearly all the rise in the "all-items" figure.

Percentage change in section index between January 1965 and January 1966	Number of sections	Aggregate base date weight of sections	Aggregate effect of changes on index ("all-items" points)
Per cent.			
+ 30 but less than 40	1	10	+0.4
+ 20 but less than 30	1	3	+0.1
+ 10 but less than 20	4	90	+1.1
+ 5 but less than 10	18	306	+2.5
+ 4 but less than 5	8	53	+0.3
+ 3 but less than 4	10	76	+0.3
+ 2 but less than 3	9	87	+0.2
+ 1 but less than 2	10	122	+0.2
+ less than 1	14	113	+0.1
All increases	75	860	+5.2
No change	3	11	—
All decreases	14	129	-0.4
- less than 2	10	100	-0.1
- 5 but less than 10	3	24	-0.2
- 10 but less than 20	1	5	-0.1

In the table below the changes in the section indices between mid-January 1965 and mid-January 1966 are analysed according to the magnitude of their effect on the "all-items" index.

Effect on all-items index of change in section index ("all-items" points)	Number of sections	Aggregate base date weight of sections	Aggregate effect of changes on index ("all-items" points)
+ 0.5 or more	1	67	+0.8
+ 0.4 but less than 0.5	1	10	+0.4
+ 0.3 but less than 0.4	3	134	+1.1
+ 0.2 but less than 0.3	2	46	+0.5
+ 0.1 but less than 0.2	6	86	+0.8
+ 0.05 but less than 0.1	10	146	+0.7
+ less than 0.05	52	371	+0.9
All increases	75	860	+5.2
No change	3	11	—
All decreases	14	129	-0.4
- less than 0.05	10	100	-0.1
- 0.05 but less than 0.1	3	24	-0.2
- 0.1 but less than 0.2	1	5	-0.1

(continued overleaf)

Retail Prices in 1965—continued

"All-items" and group indices from January 1965 to January 1966

The table below shows, for each month from January 1965 to January 1966, the index figure for "all-items" and for each of the ten main groups of items, with the average level of prices at 16th January 1962 taken as 100. In addition, indices are given for three sub-divisions of the food group, (1) items the prices of which are

subject to seasonal fluctuations, viz., fresh milk, eggs, potatoes and other fresh vegetables, apples and pears, fish, and home-killed mutton and lamb, (2) items the prices of which have been affected considerably by changes in import prices since 1956, viz., bacon, cooked ham, butter, cheese and chilled beef, and (3) other items. An index is also given for all groups, other than the food group, combined.

Group	1965													1966
	12th Jan.	16th Feb.	16th Mar.	13th April	18th May	15th June	13th July	17th Aug.	14th Sept.	12th Oct.	16th Nov.	14th Dec.	18th Jan.	
Food (see sub-division below)	110.3	109.9	110.4	111.6	111.9	112.5	112.0	112.1	111.7	111.4	112.2	113.3	113.0	
Alcoholic drink	110.9	111.8	111.3	118.7	119.0	119.0	119.0	119.0	119.0	119.1	119.0	119.0	119.0	
Tobacco	109.5	109.5	109.5	120.8	120.8	120.8	120.8	120.8	120.8	120.8	120.8	120.8	120.8	
Housing	116.1	116.2	116.5	120.7	121.0	121.2	121.6	121.7	121.9	122.5	122.8	123.6	123.7	
Fuel and light	114.8	115.1	115.7	110.5	111.2	112.1	112.2	112.7	115.2	115.4	119.6	119.6	119.7	
Durable household goods	104.0	104.2	104.4	104.6	104.7	104.8	104.9	105.0	105.1	105.4	105.4	105.4	105.6	
Clothing and footwear	106.0	106.4	106.6	106.7	106.8	106.9	107.0	107.2	107.4	107.6	107.7	107.9	108.1	
Transport and vehicles	103.9	104.2	104.6	106.8	107.4	107.6	107.6	107.6	107.6	107.6	107.7	107.8	109.1	
Miscellaneous goods	109.0	107.4	107.9	108.6	109.0	109.0	109.2	109.3	109.4	109.6	109.7	109.7	110.6	
Services	108.3	108.5	109.6	110.1	111.9	112.4	113.0	114.9	115.4	115.6	116.2	116.5	116.6	
All items	109.5	109.5	109.9	112.0	112.4	112.7	112.7	112.9	113.0	113.1	113.6	114.1	114.3	
Food: Items, prices of which fluctuate seasonally	103.0	102.1	104.1	108.1	109.9	111.2	108.6	108.3	106.8	106.0	109.4	112.8	111.6	
Items, prices of which are affected by import prices	119.7	118.3	117.6	117.1	116.3	117.1	117.1	118.2	118.4	118.5	118.1	119.1	118.5	
Other items	111.7	111.7	111.8	112.1	112.0	112.5	112.6	112.6	112.6	112.5	112.4	112.5	112.7	
All groups other than food	109.2	109.3	109.6	112.2	112.6	112.8	112.9	113.2	113.6	113.8	114.3	114.4	114.8	

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INDEX OF RETAIL PRICES: ANNUAL REVISION OF WEIGHTS

Weights to be used in 1966

In their Report on Revision of the Index of Retail Prices,* the Cost of Living Advisory Committee recommended that the weighting pattern of the index should be revised annually in January on the basis of the information obtained from the Family Expenditure Survey in respect of "index" households† for the three years ended in the previous June.

Accordingly a new index was introduced at the beginning of 1962 with weights based on the average expenditure in respect of index households for the three years ended June 1961, re-priced at January 1962 prices. In calculating the index during 1966 the weighting pattern to be used is based on the expenditure of index households during the three years ended June 1965, re-priced at January 1966 prices. These weights are given below. They are used to combine percentage changes in prices each month compared with prices in January 1966.

In order to express the index figures so computed in 1966 on January 1962 taken as 100—the reference base of the index—the index figures for each sub-group, major group and all-items are linked by simple multiplication to the corresponding index figures for January 1966. It is a necessary consequence of the use of changing weights that the all-items index figure for any month after January 1963, with January 1962 taken as 100, cannot be calculated by combining the separate group indices expressed as percentages of January 1962 by any single set of weights.

The weights to be used in calculating the Index of Retail Prices from February 1966 to January 1967 are as follows:

FOOD

Bread	19
Flour	2
Other cereals	5
Biscuits	8
Cakes, buns, pastries, etc.	11
Beef	23
Mutton and lamb	11
Pork	6
Bacon	10
Ham (cooked)	3
Sausages, pies, canned meat and other meat products, offal and poultry	23
Fish, fresh, dried, canned	10
Butter	10
Margarine	3
Lard, other cooking fat	2
Cheese	5
Eggs	14
Milk, fresh	26
Milk, canned, dried, etc.	3
Tea	8
Coffee, cocoa, proprietary drinks	3
Soft drinks	6
Sugar	6
Jam, marmalade, honey, etc.	2
Potatoes	10
Tomatoes	4
Other fresh vegetables and canned, dried, etc., vegetables	12
Fruit, fresh, canned, dried, etc.	16
Sweets and chocolates	19
Ice cream	4
Other foods	9
Food for animals	5
Total, Food	298

ALCOHOLIC DRINK

Beer, etc.	44
Spirits, wines, etc.	23
Total, Alcoholic drink	67

TOBACCO

Cigarettes	68
Tobacco	9
Total, Tobacco	77

HOUSING

Rent, including owner-occupiers' rental equivalent	61
Rates and water charges	33
Charges for repairs, maintenance, etc.	9
Materials for home repairs, decorations, etc.	10
Total, Housing	113

FUEL AND LIGHT

Coal	22
Coke	3
Gas	11
Electricity	25
Oil and other fuel and light	3
Total, Fuel and light	64

DURABLE HOUSEHOLD GOODS

Furniture	13
Radio, television, etc.	7
Other household appliances	14
Floor coverings	8
Soft furnishings	6
Chinaware, glassware, etc.	2
Hardware, ironmongery, etc.	7
Total, Durable household goods	57

CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR

Men's outer clothing	15
Men's underclothing	6
Women's outer clothing	20
Women's underclothing	5
Children's outer clothing	9
Children's underclothing	2
Hose	6
Gloves, haberdashery, hats, etc.	8
Clothing materials	2
Men's footwear	6
Women's footwear	8
Children's footwear	4
Total, Clothing and footwear	91

TRANSPORT AND VEHICLES

Purchase of motor vehicles	37
Maintenance of motor vehicles	11
Petrol and oil	23
Motor licences	6
Motor insurance	6
Cycles and other vehicles	2
Rail transport	8
Bus, etc. transport	23
Total, Transport and vehicles	116

MISCELLANEOUS GOODS

Books	2
Newspapers and periodicals	14
Writing paper and other stationers' goods	3
Medicines and surgical, etc., goods	4
Toilet requisites	9
Soap and other detergents	7
Soda, polishes, etc.	4
Other household goods	2
Travel and sports goods, leather goods, jewellery, etc.	9
Photographic and optical goods	3
Toys	4
Total, Miscellaneous goods	61

SERVICES

Postage, etc.	4
Telephone, telegrams, etc.	3
Television and radio licences, and set rentals	11
Other entertainment	11
Domestic help	5
Hairdressing	8
Boot and shoe repairing	3
Laundry	3
Dry cleaning and miscellaneous services	8
Total, Services	56

TOTAL, ALL ITEMS .. 1,000

* Cost of Living Advisory Committee: Report on Revision of the Index of Retail Prices. Cmd. 1657. Her Majesty's Stationery Office, price 1s. 6d. (1s. 9d. including postage).

† Index households are all households other than (a) those the head of which had a recorded gross income of £25 a week or more in 1958, £30 a week or more in 1959, 1960, 1961 and 1962, £35 a week or more in 1963 and 1964 and £40 a week or more in 1965, and (b) those in which at least three-quarters of the total income was derived from National Insurance retirement or similar pensions and/or National Assistance paid in supplementation or instead of such pensions.

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STATISTICS ON INCOMES, PRICES, EMPLOYMENT AND PRODUCTION

No. 16—March 1966

The March issue of the quarterly publication "Statistics on Incomes, Prices, Employment and Production" has recently been published and is obtainable from Her Majesty's Stationery Office or through any bookseller, price 20s. (20s. 9d. including postage).

Prepared by the Ministry of Labour in collaboration with other Government Departments, principally the Board of Trade and the Central Statistical Office, the bulletin's purpose is to make available, in convenient form, factual information which will assist those engaged in negotiation or arbitration to examine the particular cases before them in relation to the wider implications of the decisions to be made. It includes information on wage rates, earnings (including salary earnings), hours of work and other conditions of employment, manpower, prices, production, profits and other relevant subjects.

The present issue includes the results of the third annual enquiry (May 1965) into occupations of employees in manufacturing industries; the results of the May 1964 enquiry were published in No. 12 issue (March 1965).

The section on company profits, dividends, assets, etc., prepared by the Board of Trade, includes detailed balance sheet summaries and separate statements of sources and uses of funds of quoted companies whose accounts for 1965 had been received by the Board of Trade by 31st December 1965 (with comparable figures for 1964). These tables replace those showing appropriation of income, balance sheet summary and sources and uses of funds of quoted companies included in previous issues and reflect a revised system of analysing company accounts introduced at the end of 1964.

A full Technical Appendix is provided in this issue; it will be required for reference when using the further editions of the bulletin to be published in 1966 which will record only amendments and additions.

INDUSTRIAL TRAINING BOARDS

The Minister of Labour has recently made Orders under the Industrial Training Act 1964 establishing three further industrial training boards. They are the Industrial Training (Man-made Fibres Producing Industry Board) Order 1966, S.I. 1966 No. 143, operative from 23rd February; the Industrial Training (Carpet Board) Order 1966, S.I. 1966 No. 245, operative from 18th March; and the Industrial Training (Knitting, Lace and Net Industry Board) Order 1966, S.I. 1966 No. 246, also operative from 18th March. Copies of the Orders may be obtained from Her Majesty's Stationery Office, price 9d. each (1s. including postage).

The Minister has announced the names of those who have accepted his invitation to become members of the Boards. They are:

MAN-MADE FIBRES PRODUCING INDUSTRY TRAINING BOARD

Chairman

Mr. P. S. Rendall, M.B.E., formerly Deputy Chairman and Managing Director of Courtaulds Ltd., 47 Kenilworth Road, Leamington Spa, Warwickshire.

Employer Members

Mr. R. J. Kerr-Muir, O.B.E., M.A., B.Sc. (Oxon.), T.D., Director, Courtaulds Ltd., Foleshill Road, Coventry.
Mr. J. R. Pickup, B.Sc., Senior Education and Training Officer, Courtaulds Ltd., Foleshill Road, Coventry.
Mr. M. Roberts, B.A. (Oxon.), Training Manager, I.C.I. Fibres Ltd., Hookstone Road, Harrogate.
Mr. C. I. Rutherford, M.A. (Cantab.), Director, I.C.I. Fibres Ltd., Hookstone Road, Harrogate.
Mr. R. E. H. Sheridan, Director, Chemstrand Ltd., 101 Vaughan Way, Leicester.

Employee Members

Mr. E. Clayton, Electrical Trades Union, 314 Norwich Road, Ipswich, Suffolk.
Mr. R. Davis, Transport and General Workers' Union, Transport House, Smith Square, London S.W.1.
Mr. W. Lapworth, Transport and General Workers' Union, 77-79 Much Park Street, Coventry.
Mr. H. A. Ray, J.P., Transport and General Workers' Union, Transport House, Smith Square, London S.W.1.
Mr. R. E. Tallon, Amalgamated Engineering Union, 110 Peckham Road, London S.E.15.

Educational Members

Dr. T. Heap, Ph.D., M.Sc., F.R.I.C., A.M.B.I.M., Principal, Derby and District College of Technology, Kedleston Road, Derby.
Mr. E. D. Mason, M.A., Director of Education, Education Offices, Woodlands Road, Middlesbrough.
Mr. W. W. Wilkinson, A.T.I., Senior Lecturer, Department of Science, Coventry Technical College, Butts, Coventry.

CARPET INDUSTRY TRAINING BOARD

Chairman

Mr. J. B. Ransome F.C.A., Fuller, Jenks, Wise and Co., 55-61 Moorgate, London E.C.2.

Employer Members

Mr. M. D. Aykroyd, Managing Director, T. F. Firth and Sons Ltd., Clifton Mills, Brighouse, Yorkshire.
Mr. J. P. Crump, D.F.C., Managing Director, Velmar Textiles Ltd., Batley, Yorkshire.
Mr. E. S. Hammett, C.Eng., M.I.Mech.E., M.I.Prod.E., Chairman and Managing Director, Lancaster Carpets Ltd., West Denton Street, Manchester.
Mr. D. Macphee, Joint Managing Director, Wm. C. Gray and Sons Ltd., Newton Carpet Works, Ayr, Scotland.
Mr. D. H. Naylor, Director, T. and A. Naylor Ltd., Kidderminster.
Mr. A. B. Marsden-Smedley, Director, Carpet Trades Ltd., Kidderminster.

Employee Members

Mr. K. Atkinson, District Secretary, National Union of Dyers, Bleachers and Textile Workers, Textile Hall, Westgate, Bradford, Yorkshire.
Mr. W. Liddle, President, Scottish Carpet Trade and Factory Workers' Union, 71 Carlton Place, Glasgow C.5.
Mr. W. McGonigal, Vice President, Scottish Carpet Trade and Factory Workers' Union, 71 Carlton Place, Glasgow C.5.
Miss Hilda D. Pickles, General Secretary, Northern Carpet Trades Union, 9 St. James's Street, Halifax, Yorkshire.
Mr. W. E. Timmins, District Organiser, General and Municipal Workers' Union, 10 Pershore Street, Birmingham 5.
Mr. C. S. Yarsley, J.P., General Secretary, Power Loom Carpet Weavers' and Textile Workers' Association, Callows Lane, Kidderminster.

Educational Members

Mr. J. C. Brooke, M.A., Chief Education Officer, County Education Office, Castle Street, Worcester.
Mr. F. Elliott, B.Sc., M.Ed., Principal, Dewsbury and Batley Technical and Art College, Halifax Road, Dewsbury, Yorks.
Mr. J. C. Furniss, A.T.I., A.R.T.C.S., H.N.C., Head of Textile Department, Kidderminster College of Further Education, Kidderminster.
Mr. T. Johnson Walker, F.E.C.A., D.A.(Edin.), Principal, Glasgow College of Printing, North Frederick Street, Glasgow C.1.

KNITTING, LACE AND NET INDUSTRY TRAINING BOARD

Chairman

Mr. H. Veasey, formerly Chairman and Managing Director of Jonee Woollies Ltd, Nottingham, The Pines, Uppingham Road, Bushby, Leicester.

Employer Members

Mr. K. Gayton, J.P., Director, H. T. H. Peck Ltd., West Bridge, Leicester.
Mr. W. A. Mactaggart, C.B.E., J.P., Chairman and Managing Director, Pringle of Scotland Ltd., Hawick, Scotland.
Mr. F. A. Paine, C.B.E., Managing Director, W. F. Paine Ltd., Brighton Road Factory, Godalming, Surrey.
Mr. D. F. Paling, F.T.I., Director of Primary Production, Jersey-Kapwood Ltd., Forest Mills, Alfreton Road, Nottingham.
Mr. D. Babington-Smith, Director, I. and R. Morley Ltd., 11 Hanover Street, London W.1.
Mr. J. A. Walker, Managing Director, J. B. Walker and Co. Ltd., 35/37 St. Mary's Gate, Nottingham.
Mr. H. G. Wingrove, Director, W. E. Saxby (Nottingham) Ltd., Bar Lane, Basford, Nottingham.

Employee Members

Mr. W. Auld, President, British Lace Operatives Federation, 1 Marsh Road, The Park, Nottingham.
Mr. W. Bee, President, National Federation of Hosiery Dyers and Finishers, Boot and Shoe Trade Hall, Earl Street, Leicester.
Counc. G. E. Dearing, M.B.E., J.P., General President, National Union of Hosiery Workers, 55 New Walk, Leicester.
Mr. H. L. Gibson, J.P., General Secretary, National Union of Hosiery Workers, 55 New Walk, Leicester.
Mr. A. Green, Ilkerston District Secretary, National Union of Hosiery Workers, 2 Mundy Street, Heanor, Derbyshire.
Miss Elizabeth H. G. McIntyre, Workpeople's Secretary, Joint Negotiating Committee for the Scottish Hosiery Trade, 13 Sandyford Place, Glasgow C.3.
Mr. P. Pendergast, Leicester District Secretary, National Union of Hosiery Workers, 55 New Walk, Leicester.

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Mr. R. Innes, A.T.I., Lecturer in Knitting Technology, Derby and District College of Technology, Derby.

(93771)

DISABLED PERSONS IN GOVERNMENT EMPLOYMENT

The table below shows the numbers and percentages of registered disabled persons in Government employment on 1st October 1965 in relation to the total numbers of non-industrial and industrial employees. Comparable figures for 1st October 1964 were published in the issue of this GAZETTE for March 1965 (page 125).

Employed staff	Total number of employees	Total number of disabled persons employed	Percentage of disabled persons in employed staff
Non-industrial	691,334	21,619½	3.1
Industrial	334,109	11,371½	3.4

Under the provisions of the Disabled Persons (Employment) Acts, 1944 and 1958, all employers with 20 or more workers are required to employ a quota of registered disabled persons, at present 3 per cent. of total staff, and Government Departments, although not bound by them, have accepted the obligations of these Acts.

In addition, 473 or 94.6 per cent. of a total of 500 passenger electric lift attendants in Government employment were registered disabled persons. Employment as a car park attendant or as a passenger electric lift attendant is designated employment for registered disabled persons under the Acts.

This information, which was compiled from returns furnished to the Treasury, is directly related to the terms of the Disabled Persons (Employment) Acts, 1944 and 1958, and the totals, therefore, differ slightly from those in the published figures of staff employed in Government Departments. The latter returns include home-based staff employed abroad and reserved and agency services in Northern Ireland; they also reckon part-time staff on a somewhat different basis.

SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELFARE

Fire Fighting in Factories

Every year there are several factory fires each causing more than £100,000 worth of damage and usually at least one fire in which direct damage exceeds £1,000,000. These large and costly fires are those which are brought to the attention of newspaper readers and television audiences in reports, photographs or film because of their spectacular nature, but it is in fact the large number of smaller fires which in aggregate cost most and cause most damage.

These assertions are made in a Ministry of Labour booklet "Fire Fighting in Factories", recently published. The booklet, No. 10 in the Safety, Health and Welfare New Series, is obtainable from Her Majesty's Stationery Office or through any bookseller, price 2s. (2s. 5d. including postage).

Nearly all fires start in a small way and develop slowly at first, which means that if suitable fire-fighting equipment is at hand they can be put out before any serious damage is done.

Section 51 of the Factories Act 1961 requires that in every factory appropriate means for fighting fire must be provided and maintained, and that it should be so placed as to be readily available for use. Section 38 of the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963 makes a similar requirement for the premises covered by that Act.

The booklet is a guide which every factory should have and make available to all responsible for fire fighting and training. It stresses that, although an early attack on a fire can prevent or reduce material losses, no saving of this kind can compare in importance with human safety.

It adds: "Employed persons should be allowed to use fire-fighting appliances only as long as it is completely safe for them to do so. Although an experienced works fire brigade may be competent to fight large fires, other people should be warned of the dangers and instructed that their function should be strictly limited to the first-aid fighting of fires in their early stages."

The booklet also points out that in many cases insurers allow discount on fire insurance premiums where fire-extinguishing appliances are installed, provided that the equipment conforms to their standards.

It brings up to date a previous booklet published four years ago which has been in great demand. The revised publication describes the dangers in first-aid fire fighting, the nature and types of fire risks, fire-fighting agents, types of equipment, recommended standards of fire-fighting, the installation and maintenance of equipment and training in the use of portable appliances and fire detector systems.

NATIONAL INSURANCE

Workmen's Compensation

Two new schemes, which affect workers whose disablement arises out of employment before 1948, have recently been made by the Minister of Pensions and National Insurance. Introduced to implement the Workmen's Compensation and Benefit (Amendment) Act 1965 and operative from 1st March, they are the Workmen's Compensation (Supplementation) Scheme 1966 and the Pneumoconiosis, Byssinosis and Miscellaneous Diseases Benefit Scheme 1966. The relevant Statutory Instruments are S.I. 1966 No. 165

A** 3

INDICES OF TOTAL WEEKLY HOURS WORKED AND OF AVERAGE HOURS WORKED BY OPERATIVES IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

Indices have been calculated (1) of the total weekly hours worked and (2) of average hours worked by operatives in manufacturing industries in one week in each month. Both indices have been compiled for manufacturing industry as a whole (excluding ship-building and ship repairing) and also for broad industrial groups within manufacturing industries, but the figures for these groups are likely to be less reliable. A full account of the method of calculation was published on pages 305 to 307 of the August 1962 issue of this GAZETTE.

The index of total hours worked in Table I has been calculated by multiplying an estimate of numbers of operatives at work in a specific week each month by an estimate for the same week of average numbers of hours worked by operatives. In the calculation

account is taken of overtime and short-time working, sickness, holidays and of women operatives who work part-time. The figures of average weekly hours worked per head by full-time operatives, estimated as part of the calculation, are given in index form in Table II.

From May 1961 onwards, indices have been calculated for one week in each month, but prior to that date they could be compiled only for one week in February, April, May, August, October and November. The reference base used in the tables published in this GAZETTE, up to and including September 1963, was the average of these six months in 1958 taken equal to 100. As estimates for all months of the year are now available, the indices are calculated on the reference base:—12 monthly average for 1962 = 100.

Table I.—Index of Total Weekly Hours Worked (Average 1962 = 100)

Table with 7 columns: Year, All manufacturing industries, Engineering, electrical goods, metal goods, Vehicles, Textiles, leather, clothing, Food, drink, tobacco, Other manufacturing. Rows include years from 1956 to 1966.

Table II.—Index of Average Hours Worked per Head (Average 1962 = 100)

Table with 7 columns: Year, All manufacturing industries, Engineering, electrical goods, metal goods, Vehicles, Textiles, leather, clothing, Food, drink, tobacco, Other manufacturing. Rows include years from 1956 to 1966.

Index for All Manufacturing Industries from 1958

Table with 8 columns: Month, 1958, 1959, 1960, 1961, 1962, 1963, 1964, 1965. Rows include months from January to December.

Index for All Manufacturing Industries from 1958

Table with 8 columns: Month, 1958, 1959, 1960, 1961, 1962, 1963, 1964, 1965. Rows include months from January to December.

* The index of total weekly hours worked for all months from July 1963 has been revised to take account of the employment estimates based on the mid-1964 and mid-1965 count of National Insurance cards, as calculated by the revised method (see page 110 of this GAZETTE). Both the index of total weekly hours worked and the index of average hours worked per head for months from May 1965 onwards have been revised to take account of the results of the October 1965 enquiry into the hours of work of manual workers. Figures for dates after June 1965 are subject to further revision in the light of information to be derived from the count of National Insurance cards in mid-1966. The figures from November 1965 may also be subject to revision when the results of the April 1966 enquiry into the hours of work of manual workers are available.

Ministry of Labour—H.M. Factory Inspectorate

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Unemployment at 14th February 1966

SUMMARY FOR GREAT BRITAIN

The numbers registered as unemployed in Great Britain at 14th February 1966 were:—

Table with 5 columns: Category, Men 18 years and over, Boys under 18 years, Women 18 years and over, Girls under 18 years, Total. Rows include Wholly unemployed, Temporarily stopped, Total, and Change since 10th January 1966.

At 14th February 32,261 married women were registered as unemployed.

Excluding persons under 18 years of age who had not been in insured employment, the number of persons registered as wholly unemployed on 14th February was 326,450 consisting of 256,113 males and 70,337 females. The seasonally adjusted total was 277 thousand, to the nearest thousand (see page 137).

NUMBERS UNEMPLOYED: 1955 to 1966

The following table shows the annual average numbers registered as unemployed in Great Britain and the United Kingdom from 1955 to 1965, and the numbers registered in March, June, September and December 1965 and January and February 1966.

Table with 6 main columns: Year, Great Britain (Wholly unemployed, Temporarily stopped, Total), United Kingdom total. Rows include years from 1955 to 1966.

DURATION OF UNEMPLOYMENT

The following table analyses the wholly unemployed* in Great Britain at 14th February 1966 according to duration of unemployment.

Table with 6 columns: Duration in weeks, Men 18 years and over, Boys under 18 years, Women 18 years and over, Girls under 18 years, Total. Rows include categories from One or less to Over 8.

REGIONAL ANALYSIS: UNITED KINGDOM

The following tables show the numbers unemployed, the rates of unemployment† and the numbers wholly unemployed, excluding "school-leavers", in each Region of England and in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland at 14th February 1966.

Table with 11 columns: Region, Men 18 years and over, Boys under 18 years, Women 18 years and over, Girls under 18 years, Total, Rate of unemployment, Wholly unemployed (excluding school-leavers), Total unemployed. Rows include regions from South East to United Kingdom.

Table with 13 columns: Region, Percentage rate of unemployment, Duration of unemployment: wholly unemployed* (Males, Females), Wholly unemployed excluding "school-leavers", Change since 10th Jan. 1966. Rows include regions from London and South Eastern to Northern Ireland.

* Including unemployed casual workers, see footnote † on page 138. † The temporarily stopped are persons suspended from work on the understanding that they are shortly to return to their former employment. ‡ Number registered as unemployed expressed as a percentage of the estimated total number of employees (employed and unemployed). †† See page 161 of the April 1965 issue of this GAZETTE for details of changes in regional organisation. Midlands Region comprises the two Economic Planning Regions—West Midlands (former Midland Standard Region) and East Midlands. The numbers unemployed in the former Administrative Regions of the Ministry of Labour at 14th February 1966 were:—

Small table showing numbers and change since 10th Jan. 1966 for London and South Eastern, Eastern and Southern, Midlands, Yorkshire and Lincolnshire, Wales.

Further statistics relating to numbers unemployed and placing work for the former Regions are available on application to Statistics Department, Stats.C.1, Ministry of Labour, Orphanage Road, Watford, Herts.

NUMBERS UNEMPLOYED IN PRINCIPAL TOWNS AND DEVELOPMENT DISTRICTS

The following table shows, for some principal towns and all areas designated as Development Districts under the Local Employment Act 1960, the numbers of persons registered as unemployed at Employment Exchanges and Youth Employment Offices on 14th February 1966 and the percentage rates of unemployment.

Table with 7 columns: Men 18 and over, Women 18 and over, Boys and girls under 18, Total, Temporarily stopped (inc. in total), Percentage rate of unemployment*

Principal Towns (by Region)

Main table of unemployment data for principal towns, organized by region: London and South Eastern, Eastern and Southern, South Western, East Midlands, West Midlands, Yorkshire and Humberside, North Western, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland.

Development Districts (by Region)

Table of unemployment data for development districts, organized by region: South Western, Yorkshire and Humberside, East Midlands, West Midlands, North Western, Yorkshire and Humberside.

An explanation of the method of calculation of local percentage rates of unemployment was given on pages 134-135 of the April 1960 issue of this GAZETTE. The percentage rate of unemployment relates to the total number registered as unemployed, wholly unemployed and temporarily stopped combined.

Table with 7 columns: Men 18 and over, Women 18 and over, Boys and girls under 18, Total, Temporarily stopped (inc. in total), Percentage rate of unemployment*

Development Districts (by Region)—continued

Main table of unemployment data for development districts, organized by region: North Western, Yorkshire and Humberside, East Midlands, West Midlands, North Western, Yorkshire and Humberside.

(Continued on next page)

Numbers Unemployed in Principal Towns and Development Districts—continued

Table with 7 columns: Men 18 and over, Women 18 and over, Boys and girls under 18, Total, Temporarily stopped (inc. in total), Percentage rate of unemployment*

Development Districts (by Region)—continued

Table of unemployment data for development districts, organized by region: Wales, Yorkshire and Humberside, East Midlands, West Midlands, North Western, Yorkshire and Humberside.

* See footnote * on previous page.

SEASONAL VARIATIONS IN UNEMPLOYMENT

The actual and seasonally adjusted figures given below continue the monthly series commenced in the September 1965 (pages 382 to 386), October 1965 (pages 444 to 447) and January 1966 (pages 26 to 29) issues of the GAZETTE.

Wholly Unemployed (excluding school-leavers) Males and Females

Actual Numbers and Numbers Adjusted for Normal Seasonal Variations (Thousands)

Table of seasonal variations in unemployment, showing actual and adjusted numbers for various regions and industries.

* Where no figure is available the sign .. has been used. † The sign ... denotes "no change". ‡ Each series is adjusted separately and then rounded so that the sums of the regional, sex and industry figures may differ from the corresponding Great Britain overall figure.

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Employment in the Coal Mining Industry in January

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

The following table relates to both National Coal Board mines (which account for over 99 per cent. of employment in the industry) and licensed mines. The figures for the latest month are provisional and figures for earlier months have been revised where necessary.

Average Numbers of Wage-earners on Colliery Books (All Mines)—Analysis by Divisions

Division of the National Coal Board	Average numbers of wage-earners on colliery books during 4 weeks ended 22nd Jan. 1966	Increase (+) or decrease (-) compared with the average for	
		5 weeks ended 25th Dec. 1965	4 weeks ended 23rd Jan. 1965
Northumberland and Durham	86,500	— 600	— 9,300
Yorkshire	102,000	— 300	— 5,200
North Western	34,700	— 300	— 3,100
East Midlands	78,900	— 300	— 4,900
West Midlands	32,300	— 200	— 3,100
South Western	63,300	— 600	— 8,800
South Eastern	4,700	Nil	— 300
England and Wales	402,400	— 2,300	— 34,700
Scotland	46,300	— 300	— 4,300
Great Britain	448,700	— 2,600	— 39,000

The following figures of recruitment, wastage, absence and output relate to National Coal Board mines only.

It is provisionally estimated that during the four weeks of January about 1,800 persons were recruited to, and about 4,300 persons left, National Coal Board mines: the numbers on the colliery books thus showed a net decrease of 2,500, compared with a net decrease of 2,400 during the five weeks of the previous month.

For absence, separate figures are compiled in respect of voluntary absence, for which no satisfactory reason is given, and involuntary absence due mainly to sickness. The figures in the table below represent the numbers of non-appearances, expressed as percentages of the total numbers of possible appearances, in a five-day week.

Absence Percentage (N.C.B. Mines)

	January 1966	December 1965	January 1965
Coal-face workers:			
Voluntary	7.96	6.98	8.20
Involuntary	12.28	10.89	10.47
All workers:			
Voluntary	6.39	5.64	6.54
Involuntary	12.86	11.65	10.84

The output per man-shift of face-workers at National Coal Board mines was 112.18 cwt. in January, compared with 111.83 cwt. in the previous month and 105.46 cwt. in January 1965. The output per man-shift calculated on the basis of all workers was 36.56 cwt. in January; for December 1965 and January 1965 it was 37.06 cwt. and 35.55 cwt., respectively.

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Insured Persons Absent from Work owing to Sickness or Industrial Injury

The usual monthly table published on page 88 of the February issue of this GAZETTE, with details relating to 18th January 1966 and comparable figures for the previous month and year, was the last in the present series.

Owing to recent changes in the medical certification rules (see fourth paragraph of "Statutory Instruments" on page 104 of the February issue of this GAZETTE) it has been found necessary to introduce a new method of estimating the numbers of insured persons absent from work owing to sickness or industrial injury.

The first table in the new series, which will relate to the first Tuesday in March 1966, has not been prepared in time for insertion in this issue of the GAZETTE.

Employment of Women and Young Persons: Special Exemption Orders

The Factories Act 1961 and related legislation place restrictions on the employment of women and young persons (under 18 years of age) in factories and some other workplaces. However, section 117 of the Factories Act 1961 enables the Minister, subject to certain conditions, to grant exemptions from these restrictions in the case of women and young persons aged 16 or over, by making special exemption orders in respect of employment in particular factories. The following table shows the numbers of women and young persons, as specified in the occupiers' applications, covered by Special Exemption Orders current on 28th February 1966, according to the type of employment permitted.*

Type of employment permitted by the Orders	Women 18 years and over	Boys over 16 but under 18 years	Girls over 16 but under 18 years	Total
Extended hours†	19,853	1,158	2,869	23,880
Double day shifts‡	28,374	1,552	2,228	32,154
Long spells	8,120	326	1,123	9,569
Night shifts	4,449	1,143	—	5,592
Part-time work§	9,673	—	1	9,674
Saturday afternoon work	1,183	85	55	1,323
Sunday work	7,742	471	174	8,387
Miscellaneous	4,552	280	119	4,951
Total	83,946	5,015	6,569	95,530

Disabled Persons (Employment) Acts, 1944 & 1958

The number of persons registered under the Disabled Persons (Employment) Acts, 1944 and 1958, at 19th April 1965 (the last date on which a count was taken) was 658,925, compared with 655,878 at 20th April 1964.

The number of disabled persons on the Register who were unemployed at 14th February 1966 was 47,355, of whom 41,525 were males and 5,830 were females. An analysis of these figures is given in the table below.

	Males	Females	Total
Suitable for ordinary employment	35,444	5,027	40,471
Severely disabled persons classified as unlikely to obtain employment other than under special conditions	6,081	803	6,884
Total	41,525	5,830	47,355

The number of placings of registered disabled persons in ordinary employment during the five weeks ended 9th February 1966 was 7,640, including 6,212 men, 1,237 women and 191 young persons. In addition there were 147 placings of registered disabled persons in sheltered employment.

* The numbers of workers actually employed on the schemes of hours permitted by these Orders may, of course, vary from time to time.
 † "Extended hours" are those worked in excess of the limitations imposed by the Factories Act in respect of daily hours or overtime.
 ‡ Includes 8,430 persons employed on shift systems involving work on Sundays, or on Saturday afternoons, but not included under those headings.
 § Part-time work outside the hours of employment allowed by the Factories Act.
 || These persons are excluded from the statistics of unemployed persons on the registers of Employment Exchanges given in the tables on pages 135 to 138.

Fatal Industrial Accidents

The following table shows the number of fatal industrial accidents reported in February 1966 with comparable figures for the previous month. The figures are provisional. The figures for seamen relate to those employed in ships registered in the United Kingdom. All other figures relate to Great Britain.

	January 1966	February 1966
Places under the Factories Act	44	54
Mines and quarries*	15	32
Seamen	12†	7‡
Railway service	10	7

Detailed figures for process groups are given below for February 1966. The figures under the heading "Factories Act" are based on the Factory Inspectorate Process Classification—see "Guide to Statistics collected by H.M. Factory Inspectorate" published by Her Majesty's Stationery Office, price 4s. (4s. 5d. including postage). The figures are provisional.

Factories Act	Number of Accidents
Textile and connected processes	1
Clay, pottery, cement, etc.	1
Metal extraction, refining and conversion	3
Metal casting	2
Metal rolling, drawing, extrusion and forging	1
Miscellaneous metal processes	1
Shipbuilding and repairing	1
Constructional engineering, boiler making	3
Locomotive and railway equipment	—
Non-rail vehicles and aircraft	1
Other machine and metal manufacture and repair	2
Electrical engineering	1
Woodworking processes	3
Miscellaneous chemical manufacture, paint, oil refining, soap	7
Coal gas, coke ovens, patent fuel	—
Wearing apparel	—
Paper and printing	1
Milling	—
Food	2
Drink	—
Electricity generation	—
Rubber	—
Other factory processes	—

Works and Places under s.s. 125 and 127 of Factories Act 1961	Number of Accidents
Building operations	10
Works of engineering construction	8
Docks and warehouses	6
TOTAL, FACTORIES ACT	54

Mines and quarries*	Railway service
Coal mines:	Brakemen and goods guards
Underground	—
Surface	—
Other stratified mines	Engine drivers and motormen
Miscellaneous mines	—
Quarries	Firemen
	—
TOTAL, MINES AND QUARRIES	Labourers
32	—
	Mechanics
	—
	Passenger guards
	—
	Permanent-way men
	—
	Porters
	—
	Shunters
	—
	Other grades
	—
	Contractors' servants
	—
	TOTAL, RAILWAY SERVICE
	7

Industrial Diseases

The number of cases and deaths in Great Britain reported during February 1966 under the Factories Act 1961 are shown below. The figures are provisional.

I. Cases	II. Deaths
Lead poisoning	6
Epitheliomatous ulceration	6
Chrome ulceration	5
TOTAL, CASES	17
	Nil.

Industrial Rehabilitation

The statistics given below of courses at Industrial Rehabilitation Units of the Ministry of Labour and at rehabilitation centres operated by voluntary blind welfare organisations relate to the four weeks ended 24th January 1966.

	Men	Women	Total
Number of persons admitted to courses during period	888	89	977
Number of persons in attendance at courses at end of period	1,426	153	1,579
Number of persons who completed courses during period	648	76	724
Number of persons whose courses terminated prematurely (for medical or other reasons) during period	129	9	138

Up to 24th January 1966 the total number of persons admitted to these courses was 180,341, including 5,216 blind persons.

* For mines and quarries weekly returns are obtained, and the figures cover the 5 weeks ended 29th January 1966 and the 4 weeks ended 26th February 1966.
 † Includes 3 deaths from a tug in collision.
 ‡ Includes 2 deaths from a tug in collision.

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS HANDBOOK

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Changes in Rates of Wages Coming into Operation during February—continued

Table with columns: Industry, District (see also note at beginning of table), Date from which change took effect, Classes of workers, Particulars of change. Rows include Rope, twine and net making; Narrow fabrics manufacture; Linen and cotton handkerchief and household goods and linen piece goods manufacture; Ostrich and fancy feather and artificial flower trade; Glass processing; Exhibition industry; Building and civil engineering construction; Heating, ventilating and domestic engineering; Thermal insulation; Electricity supply; Dock labour; Retail bread and flour confectionery trade.

* See also under "Changes in Hours of Work".
† These increases took effect under an Order made under the Wages Councils Act.
‡ The Order also provides for a further adjustment in hourly rates, in conjunction with a reduction in normal weekly hours from 41½ to 40, to take effect from 1st September 1966.
§ Under sliding-scale arrangements based on the official index of retail prices.
¶ These increases took effect under an order made under the Wages Councils Act (Northern Ireland).
¶¶ It has also been agreed that from 27th February 1967, there will be further increases of 6d. an hour for craftsmen and 4d. for adult mates and from 26th February 1968 increases of 7d. an hour for craftsmen and 6d. for adult mates.

Changes in Rates of Wages Coming into Operation during February—continued

Table with columns: Industry, District (see also note at beginning of table), Date from which change took effect, Classes of workers, Particulars of change. Rows include Petroleum distribution; Milk distribution; Retail bread and flour confectionery trade; Retail bespoke tailoring; Cinematograph film production; Health services.

* See also under "Changes in Hours of Work".
† These increases took effect under an Order made under the Wages Councils Act.
‡ These increases took effect under an Order made under the Wages Councils Act (Northern Ireland).
§ Under sliding-scale arrangement based on the official index of retail prices.

CHANGES IN HOURS OF WORK COMING INTO OPERATION DURING FEBRUARY

Industry	District (see also note at beginning of table)	Date from which change took effect	Classes of workers	Particulars of change
Ball clay	North and South Devon and Dorset (12)	1 Jan.	Male workers	Normal weekly hours reduced from 42 to 40.*
Baking	England and Wales (20)	First pay week commencing on or after 9 Jan.	All workers covered by national agreement for master bakers	Normal weekly hours reduced from 42 to 40.*
Lock, latch and key making	England (65)	First full pay week following 1 Feb.	All workers	Normal weekly hours reduced from 41 to 40½.*
Rope, twine and net making	Great Britain (88) (260)	28 Jan.	All workers	Normal weekly hours reduced from 42½ to 41½.†
Hosiery manufacture	Midlands (91)	3 Jan.	Employees working under systems of single shift or double shift who normally work 4½ hours or more	Standard working week reduced from 42½ to 41½ hours.*‡
Narrow fabrics manufacture	Great Britain (94)	31 Jan.	All workers	Normal weekly hours reduced from 42½ to 41½.*
Linen and cotton handkerchief and household goods and linen piece goods manufacture	Northern Ireland (96) (259)	22 Feb.	All workers	Normal weekly hours reduced from 43 to 42.*§
Railway service (British Railways)	Great Britain (184-185)	28 Feb.	Conciliation staff	Normal weekly hours reduced from 42 to 40.
Railway service (London Transport Board)	London (186-187)	28 Feb.	Conciliation staff	Normal weekly hours reduced from 42 to 40.
Petroleum distribution	United Kingdom (206-207)	7 Feb.	All workers covered by the agreement between the Employers' Panel of the Oil Companies' Conciliation Committee (comprising Shell-Mex and B.P. Ltd., Stevinson Hardy and Co. Ltd., Curran Oils, Aero Petroleum Co. Ltd.) and the Transport and General Workers Union. Petrofina (Great Britain) Ltd. have entered into a separate but similar agreement with the Transport and General Workers Union	Normal weekly hours reduced from 41 to 40 (49 to 48 for watchmen and watchmen/operators).*
River authorities	England and Wales (256)	28 Feb.	Male workers	Normal weekly hours reduced from 42 to 40.
Health services	Great Britain (228-229)	Beginning of first full pay period following 1 Feb.	Domestic and similar grades of staff and ancillary workers	Normal weekly hours reduced from 42 to 40.
		Beginning of first full pay period following 1 Feb.	Building trade craftsmen and labourers employed in hospitals, etc.	Normal weekly hours reduced from 42 to 40.*
		Beginning of first full pay period following 1 Feb.	Orthopaedic appliance grades	Normal weekly hours reduced from 42 to 40.*

* See also under "Changes in Rates of Wages".

† These changes took effect under an Order made under the Wages Councils Act.

‡ It has also been agreed that the standard working week will be further reduced from 41½ to 40 hours with a further compensatory increase of 3 per cent. on basic earnings on 31st October 1966. These changes were the result of an Industrial Court award.

§ This change took effect under an Order made under the Wages Councils Act (Northern Ireland).

Time Rates of Wages and Hours of Work

1st April 1965

Minimum, or standard, time rates of wages and general conditions of employment of wage-earners in the great majority of industries have been fixed by voluntary collective agreements between organisations of employers and workpeople or by statutory orders under the Wages Councils Acts and the Agricultural Wages Acts. In this volume, particulars are given of the minimum, or standard, rates of wages and normal weekly hours fixed by these agreements and orders for the more important industries and occupations. The source of the information is given in each case.

A revised edition relating to 1st April 1966 is in course of preparation and will be published in the summer at a date to be announced later.

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INDEX OF RETAIL PRICES

INDEX FOR 22nd FEBRUARY 1966

ALL ITEMS (16th January 1962 = 100) ... 114.4

At 22nd February the official retail prices index was 114.4 (prices at 16th January 1962 = 100), compared with 114.3 at 18th January and 109.5 at 16th February 1965.

The index of retail prices measures the change from month to month in the average level of prices of the commodities and services purchased by the great majority of households in the United Kingdom, including practically all wage earners and most small and medium salary earners. The index is not calculated in terms of money but in percentage form, the average level of prices at the base date being represented by 100. Some goods and services are relatively much more important than others and the percentage changes in the price levels of the various items since the base date are combined by the use of "weights". The index figures for each month are first calculated with prices at 18th January 1966 taken as 100, using the weights given on page 125 of this GAZETTE which are derived from the Family Expenditure Surveys made in 1962-65, adjusted to correspond with the level of prices ruling in January 1966. The index numbers in this series are then linked back to 16th January 1962 by multiplying each by the corresponding index for 18th January 1966 on the base 16th January 1962 = 100 and dividing the result by 100.

Following are the indices for 22nd February on the base 16th January 1962 = 100 for three sub-divisions of the food group:

- (1) Items prices of which are affected by seasonal variations (viz., fresh milk, eggs, potatoes and other fresh vegetables, apples and pears, fish and home-killed mutton and lamb) ... 109.8
- (2) Items prices of which are affected by changes in import prices (viz., bacon, cooked ham, butter, cheese and chilled beef) ... 118.8
- (3) Other items ... 113.1

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN THE MONTH

Food

A marked reduction in the average price of eggs was largely offset by increases in the average prices of tomatoes and other fresh vegetables and bread. The index for foods the prices of which are affected by seasonal variations fell by about 1½ per cent. to 109.8, compared with 111.6 in the previous month. The index for the food group as a whole fell slightly to 112.8, compared with 113.0 in January.

Fuel and light

Mainly as a result of increases in prices of household coal and gas in some areas, the index for the fuel and light group as a whole rose by rather less than one-half of 1 per cent. to 120.1, compared with 119.7 in January.

Other groups

In the remaining eight groups there was little change in the general level of prices.

DETAILED FIGURES FOR 22nd FEBRUARY 1966

(Prices at 16th January 1962 = 100)

The following table shows, for various groups and sub-groups, the indices at 22nd February 1966 on the base 16th January 1962 = 100.

GROUP AND SUB-GROUP	INDEX FIGURE FOR 22nd FEBRUARY 1966 (16th January 1962 = 100)
I. Food:	
Bread, flour, cereals, biscuits and cakes	115
Meat and bacon	118
Fish	115
Butter, margarine, lard and cooking fat	111
Milk, cheese and eggs	111
Tea, coffee, cocoa, soft drinks, etc.	105
Sugar, preserves and confectionery	119
Vegetables, fresh, dried and canned	113
Fruit, fresh, dried and canned	93
Other food	111
Total—Food	112.8
II. Alcoholic drink	119.0
III. Tobacco	120.8
IV. Housing	123.9
V. Fuel and light:	
Coal and coke	121
Other fuel and light	119
Total—Fuel and light	120.1
VI. Durable household goods:	
Furniture, floor coverings and soft furnishings	112
Radio, television and other household appliances	98
Pottery, glassware and hardware	108
Total—Durable household goods	105.7
VII. Clothing and footwear:	
Men's outer clothing	112
Men's underclothing	111
Women's outer clothing	108
Women's underclothing	109
Children's clothing	107
Other clothing, including hose, haberdashery, hats and materials	104
Footwear	111
Total—Clothing and footwear	108.4
VIII. Transport and vehicles:	
Motoring and cycling	102
Fares	125
Total—Transport and vehicles	109.2
IX. Miscellaneous goods:	
Books, newspapers and periodicals	128
Medicines, toilet requisites, soap, cleaning materials, matches, etc.	103
Stationery, travel and sports goods, toys, photographic and optical goods, etc.	109
Total—Miscellaneous goods	110.9
X. Services:	
Postage and telephones	114
Entertainment	114
Other services, including domestic help, hairdressing, boot and shoe repairing, laundering and dry cleaning	120
Total—Services	116.9
ALL ITEMS	114.4

ALL ITEMS INDICES, JANUARY 1956 TO FEBRUARY 1966

The following tables show the index figure for "all items" for (Table A) each month from January 1956 to December 1962, taking the average level of prices at 17th January 1956 as 100, and (Table B) each month from January 1962 onwards, taking the average level of prices at 16th January 1962 as 100. The figure normally relates to a Tuesday near the middle of the month.

TABLE A.—17th January 1956 = 100

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1956	100	100	101	103	103	102	102	102	102	103	103	103
1957	104	104	104	104	105	106	107	106	106	107	108	108
1958	108	108	108	110	109	110	109	108	108	109	110	110
1959	110	110	110	109	109	109	109	109	109	109	110	110
1960	110	110	110	110	110	111	110	110	110	111	112	112
1961	112	112	113	113	114	115	115	116	115	116	117	117
1962	117	118	118	120	120	121	120	119	119	119	120	120

TABLE B.—16th January 1962 = 100

Month	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966
January	100.0	102.7	104.7	109.5	
February	100.1	103.6	104.8	109.5	114.3
March	100.5	103.7	105.2	109.9	114.4
April	101.9	104.0	106.1	112.0	
May	102.2	103.9	107.0	112.4	
June	102.9	103.9	107.4	112.7	
July	102.5	103.3	107.4	112.7	
August	101.6	103.0	107.8	112.9	
September	101.5	103.3	107.8	113.0	
October	101.4	103.7	107.9	113.1	
November	101.8	104.0	108.8	113.6	
December	102.3	104.2	109.2	114.1	

The figures in Table B can be linked with those in Table A to produce a continuous series of figures showing the change in the level of prices compared with the level at 17th January 1956. The procedure is to multiply the figures in Table B by the index for 16th January 1962 with prices at 17th January 1956 taken as 100, viz., 117.5, and divide by 100.

DESCRIPTION OF THE INDEX

A full description of the index, entitled "Method of Construction and Calculation of the Index of Retail Prices" (No. 6 in the Series "Studies in Official Statistics") may be obtained from Her Majesty's Stationery Office, price 3s. (3s. 5d. including postage).

RETAIL PRICES OVERSEAS

The usual summary of the latest information received relating to changes in retail prices in overseas countries is given on page 142.

STOPPAGES OF WORK—INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES

STOPPAGES OF WORK IN FEBRUARY

The number of stoppages of work* due to industrial disputes in the United Kingdom, beginning in February, which came to the notice of the Ministry, was 178. In addition, 37 stoppages which began before February were still in progress at the beginning of the month. The approximate number of workers involved during February at the establishments where these 215 stoppages occurred is estimated at 53,800. This total includes 22,800 workers involved in stoppages which had continued from the previous month. Of the 31,000 workers involved in stoppages which began in February, 23,900 were directly involved and 7,100 indirectly involved (i.e., thrown out of work at the establishments where the stoppages occurred, but not themselves parties to the disputes).

The aggregate of 183,000 working days lost during February includes 94,000 days lost through stoppages which had continued from the previous month.

The following table gives an analysis by groups of industries of stoppages of work in February due to industrial disputes:—

Industry group	Number of stoppages			Stoppages in progress in month	
	Started before beginning of month	Started in month	Total	Workers involved	Working days lost
Coal mining	2	49	51	2,700	6,000
Engineering	15	25	40	15,900	69,000
Motor vehicles and cycles	3	20	23	18,600	59,000
Construction	8	22	30	3,100	11,000
Port and inland water transport	2	4	6	4,400	13,000
All remaining industries and services	7	58	65	9,100	25,000
Total, February 1966	37	178	215	53,800	183,000
Total, January 1966	14	207	221	65,900	146,000
Total, February 1965	34	246	280	155,300	372,000

Causes of stoppages

The following table classifies stoppages beginning in February according to the principal cause of each stoppage:—

Principal cause	Number of stoppages	Number of workers directly involved
Wages—claims for increases	53	5,700
—other wage disputes	35	3,600
Hours of work	3	500
Employment of particular classes or persons	36	7,200
Other working arrangements, rules and discipline	46	5,400
Trade union status	4	1,200
Sympathetic action	1	300
Total	178	23,900

PRINCIPAL STOPPAGES OF WORK DURING FEBRUARY

Industry, occupations and locality	Approximate number of workers involved		Date when stoppage		Cause or object	Remarks
	Directly	Indirectly	Began	Ended		
ENGINEERING:— Draughtsmen and tracers employed in the manufacture of industrial engines—Leicester (one firm)	280	—	1 Jan.	1 Mar.	Against the use of self-employed and contract draughtsmen when the run-down of certain works programmes was causing fear of redundancy	Work resumed. Agreement reached that self-employed draughtsmen would not be used in future.
Arc welders and other production workers employed in the manufacture of agricultural machinery—Kilmarnock (one firm)	95	1,330	27 Jan.	14 Feb.	Claim for an increase in wages for arc welders	Work resumed. Agreement subsequently reached on an increase of 1d. an hour in the piecework base rate.
Drillers, press operators, other production workers and assemblers employed in the manufacture of electrical machinery—Stafford (one firm)	5,035	140	31 Jan.	3 Mar.	Claims by drillers and press operators for increases in their basic piecework rates	Work resumed, the drillers accepting an increase of 3d. an hour and the press operators' claim to be pursued under normal procedure.
MOTOR VEHICLES:— Semi-skilled machine operators, testers and assemblers and skilled operators employed in the manufacture of motor vehicle components and other engineering products—Liverpool (two firms)	1,450	210	9 Feb.	25 Feb.	Claim for an increase in piecework rates	Work resumed on pre-stoppage terms and conditions pending negotiations.
DOCKS:— Dock workers—Hull	3,435	—	7 Jan.**	—	Against alleged delays in negotiating higher local piecework prices and an increase in the fall-back rate	No settlement reported.

* The statistics relate to stoppages of work due to disputes connected with terms of employment or conditions of labour. They exclude stoppages involving fewer than ten workers, and those which lasted less than one day, except any in which the aggregate number of working days lost exceeded 100. The figures for the month under review are provisional and subject to revision; those for earlier months have been revised where necessary in accordance with the most recent information. The figures have been rounded to the nearest 100 workers and 1,000 working days; the sums of the constituent items may not, therefore, agree with the totals shown.
† Less than 50 workers or 500 working days.
‡ One stoppage of work involved workers in more than one industry group, but has been counted as only one stoppage in the total for all industries taken together.
§ The occupations printed in italics are those of workers indirectly involved, i.e., thrown out of work at the establishments where stoppages occurred but not themselves parties to the disputes.
|| The number of workers indirectly involved rose from about 160 on 28th January to over 1,300 by 8th February.
¶ About 35 drillers and press operators withdrew their labour on 31st January. On 22nd February about 5,000 other production workers ceased work in support of the workers originally involved.
** One-day token stoppages took place on 7th, 12th, 18th, 25th January and 4th, 8th, 14th and 24th February.

ARBITRATION AWARDS, NOTICES, ORDERS, ETC.

Industrial Courts Act 1919 and Conciliation Act 1896

Industrial Court Awards

During February the Industrial Court issued four awards, Nos. 3088 to 3091*. Award No. 3090 is summarised below. Awards Nos. 3088 and 3089 did not relate to a substantial part of an industry, and Award No. 3091 was referred to the Court under section 8 of the Terms and Conditions of Employment Act 1959.

Award No. 3090 (25th February).—Parties: Staff Side and Management Side of the Ancillary Staffs Council of the Whitley Councils for the Health Services (Great Britain). **Claim:** For increased pay for staff within the purview of the Ancillary Staffs Council who are employed in the London Zone as defined in that Council's agreement. **Award:** The Court were not satisfied that the anomalies and difficulties put forward by the Staff Side can properly be remedied in the manner proposed in their claim; the Court therefore found that the claim had not been established and awarded accordingly.

Single Arbitrators and Boards of Arbitration

During February four awards were issued by single arbitrators appointed under section 2(2) (b) of the Industrial Courts Act 1919.

An award was also issued by three arbitrators appointed under the same section of the Act to settle a demarcation difference between two Unions.

Civil Service Arbitration Tribunal

During February the Civil Service Arbitration Tribunal issued one award, No. 464*, which is summarised below.

Award No. 464 (9th February).—Parties: Union of Post Office Workers and Post Office. **Claim:** That the weekly conditioned hours of work of Postal and Telegraph Officers employed in the London pay area be reduced from 42 gross to 41 gross with effect from such a future date as would allow six weeks for the preparation and introduction of revised duty schedules. **Award:** The Tribunal found that the claim had not been established and awarded accordingly.

Wages Councils Act 1959

Notices of Proposals

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

Keg and Drum Wages Council (Great Britain).—Proposal K.D. (79), dated 4th February, for revising the general minimum and piecework basis time rates for male and female workers, for reducing from 42 to 41 in 1966 and to 40 from 1st January 1967 the number of hours to be worked per week before overtime is payable, and for increasing by one the number of days of annual holiday to be allowed to a worker during the holiday season in 1967 and thereafter.

Retail Newsagency, Tobacco and Confectionery Trades Wages Council (Scotland).—Proposal R.N.T.S. (31), dated 15th February, for fixing revised statutory minimum remuneration for male and female workers.

Further information regarding either of the above proposals may be obtained from the Secretary of the Council concerned, at Ebury Bridge House, Ebury Bridge Road, London S.W.1.

Wages Regulation Orders

During February the Minister of Labour made the following Wages Regulation Orders*:

The Wages Regulation (Retail Furnishing and Allied Trades) (Amendment) Order 1966: S.I. 1966 No. 168, dated 17th February and operative from 28th March. This Order fixes revised statutory minimum remuneration for male and female workers.

The Wages Regulation (Hairdressing) (Amendment) Order 1966: S.I. 1966 No. 175, dated 21st February and operative from 4th April. This Order fixes revised statutory minimum remuneration for male and female workers and reduces by one year the age at which certain workers receive the full adult rate.

* Copies of official publications (including Orders, Regulations, etc.) referred to in this GAZETTE may be purchased from Her Majesty's Stationery Office at any of addresses shown on page 154 or through any bookseller.

Wages Councils Act (Northern Ireland) 1945

Notices of Proposals

No notices of proposal were issued during February.

Wages Regulation Orders

During February the Ministry of Health and Social Services made the following Wages Regulation Orders* giving effect to the proposals made by the Wages Councils concerned:—

The General Waste Materials Reclamation Wages Regulation (Amendment) Order (Northern Ireland) 1966: S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1966 No. 28, dated 7th February and operative from 15th February. This Order prescribes revised statutory minimum remuneration for female workers.

The Linen and Cotton Handkerchief and Household Goods and Linen Piece Goods Wages Regulation (Amendment) Order (Northern Ireland) 1966: S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1966 No. 31, dated 14th February and operative from 22nd February. This Order prescribes revised statutory minimum remuneration and a reduction in working hours for female workers.

OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED*

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

Accidents.—Accidents at factories, docks, building operations and works of engineering construction. How they are caused and how to prevent them. No. 66. January 1966. Ministry of Labour. Price 2s. (2s. 6d.).

Careers.—Choice of Careers. No. 60. *Engineering Draughtsman.* Price 1s. 6d. (1s. 11d.); No. 28. *Local Government Service.* 3rd Edition 1966. Price 1s. 6d. (1s. 11d.). Ministry of Labour.

(continued overleaf)

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