

THE FILM PRINTING TRADE.

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Introductory.*

The tables on pages 444 and 445 are based on returns received from firms in Great Britain whose business in 1924 consisted wholly or mainly in the developing and printing of films for cinematograph purposes. This trade was included within the scope of the Census of Production for the first time in 1924 and comparative figures are, therefore, not available for earlier years. The number of separate returns received was 27. Five firms to which schedules were sent did not furnish returns, but it is estimated that they did not employ more than 20 persons in all and that their total net output did not exceed £6,000.

Summary of results.—The following table shows the main results of the Census of 1924 :—

Particulars.	Unit.	1924.
Value of goods made and work done (Gross output)	£'000	686
Cost of materials used	"	504
Net output	"	182
Average number of persons employed	No.	631
Net output per person employed	£	289
Mechanical power available :—		
Electric motors driven by purchased electricity	H.P.	267

* See also the Notes on pages vii to xv.

Production.

Detailed information regarding the output of the Film Printing Trade will be found in Table II on page 444.

Amount of output.—The following table shows the value and the quantity of the chief classes of cinematograph films printed and developed in 1924, distinguishing between the output of such goods returned on schedules for the Film Printing Trade and that returned on schedules for other trades.

Kind of goods.	1924.					
	Returned on schedules for the Film Printing Trade.		Returned on schedules for other trades.		Total.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	Th.linear feet.*	£'000.	Th.linear feet.*	£'000.	Th.linear feet.*	£'000.
Positives printed :—						
From British made negatives	54,206	268	7,674	44	61,880	312
From imported negatives ..	68,469	341	6,888	39	75,357	380
From British and imported negatives not separately distinguished	11,836	56	—	—	11,836	56
TOTAL—POSITIVES PRINTED	134,511	665	14,562	83	149,073	748

* Of the standard width of 1·378 inches (35 millimetres).

In addition to the output shewn above the firms that made their returns on schedules for the Film Printing Trade reported that they received the sum of £21,000 for negative developing, celluloid recovery and other work.

The output of this trade is substantially free from duplication.

Cost of materials.—The cost of materials used by firms that made their returns on schedules for the Film Printing Trade was returned as £504,000 in 1924.

Net output.—The net output in 1924 of the firms that made their returns on schedules for the Film Printing Trade (whose gross output was valued at £686,000) was £182,000, that sum representing the total amount by which the value, as delivered, of the aggregate output exceeded the cost, as purchased, of the materials used.

The net output per head of persons employed in the censal year 1924 was £289.

Exports and imports.—The retained imports of exposed positive films (whether developed or not) in 1924 amounted to 32,052,000 linear feet and the exports to 23,913,000 linear feet.

Employment.

The detailed information relating to employment in 1924 is summarised in Table III on page 445. The following table shows the average numbers employed in that year; the average numbers of operatives of each sex have been divided between the two age-groups in the proportions shown by the data relating to the week ended 18th October.

Average number.	Males.		Females.		Males and females.	
	Under 18.	All ages.	Under 18.	All ages.	Under 18.	All ages.
1924.						
Operatives	27	310	18	232	45	542
Administrative, etc. ..	2	61	5	28	7	89
TOTAL	29	371	23	260	52	631

The numbers of operatives recorded month by month in 1924 fell from 23 above the average, in January, to 20 below the average, in December (see Table IIIB, page 445).

Mechanical Power.

No prime movers or electric generators were recorded in the Film Printing Trade in 1924. The total capacity of electric motors was returned as 267 horse-power, all driven by purchased electricity. Of this total, motors with a capacity of 9 horse-power were reported as being in reserve or idle.

TABLES.

I.—Summary of results.

Note.—No production was recorded in Northern Ireland.

Particulars.	Unit.	Great Britain.*
Value of goods made and work done (Gross output) ..	£'000	686
Cost of materials used	"	504
Net output	"	182
Average number of persons employed	No.	631
Net output per person employed	£	289
Mechanical power available :—		
Electric motors driven by purchased electricity ..	H.P.	267

* In order to avoid the possible disclosure of information relating to individual firms, figures are given only for Great Britain as a whole.

II.—Production.

Kind of goods made and work done.	Great Britain.*	
	Quantity.	Value.
	Th. linear feet. †	£'000
Positives printed :—		
From British-made negatives	54,206	268
From imported negatives	68,469	341
From British and imported negatives not separately distinguished	11,836	56
TOTAL—Positives printed	134,511	665
Negative developing, celluloid recovery and other work done	21
TOTAL VALUE OF GOODS MADE AND WORK DONE (GROSS OUTPUT)	686

* See footnote to Table I.

† Of the standard width of 1.378 inches (35 millimetres).

III.—Employment.

A.—NUMBERS EMPLOYED IN WEEK ENDED 18TH OCTOBER, 1924.

Kind of staff.	Males.		Females.		Males and females.	
	Under 18.	All ages.	Under 18.	All ages.	Under 18.	All ages.
Great Britain* :—						
Operatives	26	301	18	232	44	533
Administrative, technical and clerical staff	2	61	5	28	7	89
TOTAL	28	362	23	260	51	622

* See footnote to Table I.

B.—OPERATIVES EMPLOYED IN ONE WEEK IN EACH MONTH OF 1924.

Great Britain*. (Annual average : Males 310 ; Females 232 ; Total 542.)

Week ended.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Week ended.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Jan. 12th ..	321	244	565	July 19th ..	310	229	539
Feb. 16th ..	323	235	558	Aug. 16th ..	308	224	532
Mar. 15th ..	320	236	556	Sept. 13th ..	308	231	539
April 12th ..	317	231	548	Oct. 18th ..	301	232	533
May 17th ..	313	241	554	Nov. 15th ..	300	230	530
June 21st ..	306	226	532	Dec. 13th ..	294	228	522

* See footnote to Table I.

IV.—Mechanical Power.

No prime movers or electric generators were recorded in the Film Printing Trade. The total capacity of electric motors was returned as 267 horse-power (258 horse-power ordinarily in use and 9 horse-power in reserve or idle), all driven by purchased electricity.