

THE GLOVE TRADE.

Note.—For information regarding the scope of the Census, instructions given to firms for making returns, and definitions of the terms used in this report, reference should be made to the Introductory Notes on pages v to xviii.

Introductory.

This trade comprises firms that were engaged wholly or mainly in the manufacture of leather gloves and fabric gloves.

The following table shows the main results of the Censuses of 1930 and 1924 in respect of firms in Great Britain that employed an average of more than 10 persons, the figures for 1924 including particulars relating to one firm in Scotland. No production was recorded for Scotland in 1930, and the summary table (I) and the tables showing details of power equipment (IV) and consumption of fuel (V) are not appended to this report. The whole of this information is available in the tables given in the report itself. No output of gloves was returned in either year for Northern Ireland.

Knitted gloves of wool and other textile materials (other than fabric gloves) are dealt with in the report on the Hosiery Trade (see page 169).

Particulars.	Unit.	1930.	1924.
Value of goods made and work done (Gross output)	£'000.	2,940	2,219
Cost of materials used	„	1,664	1,205
Paid for work given out to other firms	„	19	6
Net output	„	1,257	1,008
Average number of persons employed (excluding outworkers)	No.	7,270	5,548
Net output per person employed (excluding outworkers)	£	173	182
Mechanical power available :—			
Prime movers	H.P.	1,012	1,979
Electric motors driven by purchased electricity...	„	1,236	460
Number of returns	No.	120	86
Number of establishments	„	144	*

* Not available.

Deficiencies in 1930 aggregates.—The aggregate number of persons employed in 1930 by firms that stated that they employed not more than ten persons on the average was 311, the corresponding figure for 1924 being 208. The value of the gross output of the small firms in 1924 was £94,000, and particulars of the principal classes of goods included in this figure are given below :—

	£'000.
Gloves of leather	75 (25,000 doz. prs.)
Fabric gloves of cotton or of which the chief value is cotton	3 (2,000 doz. prs.)
Knitted gloves of wool or of which the chief value is wool	4 (3,000 doz. prs.)
Other goods made and work done for the trade	12
Total	94

In addition, 8 firms to which schedules were sent at the 1930 Census, and 17 at that of 1924, furnished no information; these firms either had small businesses or had ceased productive operations before the end of the censal year.

Size of firms.—In the following table the main particulars recorded at the Census of 1930 are grouped according to the average numbers of persons shown in the returns :—

Size of firm (average numbers employed).	No. of returns.	Gross output.	Net output	Average number of persons employed (excluding outworkers).	Net output per person employed.
		£'000.	£'000.		£
11- 24 ...	45	314	146	678	215
25- 49 ...	28	481	184	1,037	178
50- 99 ...	23	643	265	1,620	164
100-199 ...	20	1,067	489	2,598	188
200 and over ...	4	435	173	1,337	129
TOTAL ...	120	2,940	1,257	7,270	173

Regional distribution.—In the following table the results recorded at the Censuses of 1930 and 1924 are grouped according to the principal areas* of Great Britain in which firms in this trade are situated :—

* For particulars see page xviii.

Area.	No. of returns.	Gross output.	Net output.	Average number of persons employed (excluding outworkers).	Net output per person employed.
		£'000.	£'000.		£
1 ...	{ 1930 4 1924 4	35 56	18 30	88 222	205 135
2 ...	{ 1930 11 1924 6	175 51	67 20	526 196	127 102
5 ...	{ 1930 17 1924 9	627 452	260 183	1,905 1,009	137 181
6 ...	{ 1930 88 1924* 67	2,103 1,660	912 775	4,751 4,121	192 188
TOTAL { 1930 1924	120 86	2,940 2,219	1,257 1,008	7,270 5,548	173 182

* Including Scotland in this year.

Production.

Principal products.—The following table shows the quantity and value of gloves made in 1930 and 1924 :—

Kind of gloves.	1930.						1924.	
	Returned on schedules for						Total.	
	The Glove Trade.			All trades.				
	Quantity.	Value.	Entries	Quantity.	Value.	Entries.	Quantity.	Value.
	Th. doz. pairs.	£'000.	No.	Th. doz. pairs.	£'000.	No.	Th. doz. pairs.	£'000.
Gloves of leather and of leather and fur, lined or unlined:—*								
Table-cut ...	804	2,535.	104	808	2,547	109	} 553	1,904
Block-cut ...	61	96	19	61	96	19		
TOTAL — Leather, etc., gloves ...	865	2,631	...	869	2,643	...	553	1,904
Fabric gloves :—								
Of cotton or of which the chief value is cotton	141	130	21	167	144	24	136	143
Of other textile materials ...	79	73	7	81	74	9	66	88
Gloves for household, sporting, etc., purposes (not included elsewhere) ...	15	22	11	38	30	12	4	10
	†	10	1	†	12	2	†	2
TOTAL VALUE	...	2,866	...	...	2,903	...	...	2,147

* Including in 1924 only gloves described as of leather.

† Quantity not stated.

Work done for the trade.—The total amount recorded as received for work done for the trade in 1930 was £26,000, the corresponding total for 1924 being £46,000.

Prices.—The average selling values of certain types of gloves in 1930 and 1924, as calculated from the Census returns, are shown in the following table. It should be borne in mind that these comparisons do not take account of any changes that may have occurred since the earlier year in the quality or type of goods included under the specified descriptions.

Kind of gloves.	Average value.		1930 as a percentage of 1924.
	1930.	1924.	
	Shillings per doz. pairs.	Shillings per doz. pairs.	Per cent.
Gloves of leather and of leather and fur, lined or unlined	60·8	68·8	88·4
Fabric gloves :—			
Of cotton or of which the chief value is cotton	17·3	21·1	82·0
Of other textile materials	18·3	26·4	69·3

Volume of production in 1930 and 1924.—The following table compares the volume of production of gloves in 1930 and 1924 :—

Kind of gloves.	Total production.			1930 as a percentage of 1924.
	1930.	1924.		
	As returned.	As returned.	At 1930 average values.	
Gloves of leather and of leather and fur, lined or unlined	£'000.	£'000.	£'000.	Per cent.
	2,643	1,904	1,683	157
Fabric gloves :—				
Of cotton or of which the chief value is cotton	144	143	117	123
Of other textile materials	74	88	61	121
Gloves for household, sporting, etc. purposes (not included under other headings)	42	12	11*	382
TOTAL	2,903	2,147	1,872	155

* Based on average values of all other items in the table.

Production, exports and imports.—The following table shows, in relation to production, the quantities of the principal classes of gloves exported from the United Kingdom in 1930 and 1924, together with the quantities imported and retained. As regards the

1930 figures of production, the slight deficiencies referred to on page 438 of this report should be borne in mind; the figures for 1924 include the output of the small firms.

Kind of gloves.	Production.	Exports.	Proportion of production exported.	Retained imports.	Available for use in the United Kingdom.	Share of home market held by British products.
	Th. doz. pairs.	Th. doz. pairs.	Per cent.	Th. doz. pairs.	Th. doz. pairs.	Per cent.
Gloves of leather and of leather and fur, lined or unlined	869	49	5·6	497	1,317	62·3
Gloves of leather	580	41	7·0	851	1,390	38·8
Fabric gloves :—						
Of cotton	167	21	12·6	602	748	19·5
Of other textile materials	138	59	42·8	817	894	8·8
	81	7	8·6	86	160	46·2
	66	29	43·9	25	62	59·7

A Safeguarding of Industries duty was imposed on imported fabric gloves and gloves of leather and fur on December 22nd, 1925, and continued in operation until December 21st, 1930, when the duty expired. During 1930, imported gloves of natural and artificial silk were subject to the Customs duties on silk manufactures imposed by the Finance Act of 1925. The figures for imports and exports exclude gloves sent by parcel post, except as regards imports during 1930 for the period during which duty was payable.

Other products.—In addition to the output shown in the table of principal products on page 439, the following goods were produced in 1930 and 1924 by firms that made their returns on schedules for the Glove Trade. These goods are dealt with in the reports on those trades in which the principal output was recorded.

Kind of goods.	1930.	1924.
	Value.	Value.
	£'000.	£'000.
Skins, dressed	15	70*
Leather sports goods	2	—
Other manufactures of leather	10	23
Gloves of wool or of which the chief value is wool	19	34
Other goods made... ..	—	24
TOTAL	46	151

* Including some undressed skins.

Waste.—Sales of waste products recorded by firms in the Glove Trade amounted to £2,000 in 1930. No sales of waste were returned for 1924.

Employment and Wages.

Employment.—The following table shows the average numbers of persons employed in 1930 and 1924 :—

Persons employed.	Males.		Females.		Total.	
	Under 18.	All ages.	Under 18.	All ages.	Under 18.	All ages.
1930.						
Operatives (average for the year)	369	2,490	1,372	4,266	1,741	6,756
Administrative, technical and clerical staff (as at 18th October)	11	323	27	191	38	514
TOTAL	380	2,813	1,399	4,497	1,779	7,270
1924.						
Operatives (average for the year)	197	2,080	870	3,126	1,067	5,206
Administrative, technical and clerical staff (as at 18th October)	11	231	23	111	34	342
TOTAL	208	2,311	893	3,237	1,101	5,548
Average number of outworkers :						
1930	61		5,905		5,966	
1924	18		5,054		5,072	

Wages.—The available information as to the amount of wages paid in 1930 and 1924 is given on pages 376-7.

Power.

The following table shows the capacity of prime movers, electric generators and electric motors ordinarily in use and in reserve or idle in 1930 and 1924 :—

Power equipment.	1930.			1924.		
	Ordinarily in use.	In reserve or idle.	Total.	Ordinarily in use.	In reserve or idle.	Total.
	H.P.	H.P.	H.P.	H.P.	H.P.	H.P.
PRIME MOVERS.						
Reciprocating steam engines	63	10	73	288	213	501
Steam turbines	22	—	22	—	6	6
Internal combustion engines :—						
Gas	431	91	522	1,117	190	1,307
Petrol, kerosene or other light oils	154	6	160	119	18	137
Heavy oils	194	—	194	10	—	10
Water engines	41	—	41	16	—	16
Other prime movers ...	—	—	—	—	2	2
TOTAL	905	107	1,012	1,550	429	1,979
	Kw.	Kw.	Kw.	Kw.	Kw.	Kw.
ELECTRIC GENERATORS.						
Driven by						
Reciprocating steam engines	—	—	—	60	35	95
Internal combustion engines :—						
Gas	102	31	133	235	27	262
Petrol, kerosene or other light oils	7	—	7	3	—	3
Heavy oils	28	—	28	5	—	5
TOTAL	137	31	168	303	62	365
	H.P.	H.P.	H.P.	H.P.	H.P.	H.P.
ELECTRIC MOTORS.						
Driven by						
Electricity generated in same works ...	85	16	101	171	30	201
Electricity generated in other works under same ownership	36	—	36	—	—	—
Purchased electricity	1,132	104	1,236	414	46	460
TOTAL	1,253	120	1,373	585	76	661

Consumption of fuel.

The following table shows the quantities of coal, coke and electricity recorded as used in 1930 :—

Kind of fuel used.	For power (driving engines).	For other purposes (so far as recorded).	For power and other purposes, not separately distinguished.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Coal	1,060	2,778*	74
Coke	—	369*	—
			B.T.U. (Kw.-hrs.) '000.
Electricity used for all purposes :—			
Generated in same works			104
Generated in other works under same ownership			39
Purchased			796
TOTAL—Electricity			939

* These figures were recorded by firms representing 95·1 per cent. of the net output of the whole trade.

TABLES.

Note.—The following particulars relate throughout to England and Wales, no production being recorded in Scotland.

I.—Summary of results (see page 437).

II.—Production.

Goods sold or added to stock and work done.	Quantity.	Selling value.
	Th. doz. prs.	£'000.
Gloves of leather and of leather and fur, lined or unlined :—		
Table-cut	804	2,535
Block-cut	61	96
TOTAL—Leather, etc., gloves	865	2,631
Fabric gloves :—		
Of cotton or of which the chief value is cotton ...	141	130
Of other textile materials	79	73
Gloves for household, sporting, etc., purposes (not included elsewhere)	{ 15	22
	{ *	10
Gloves of wool or of which the chief value is wool...	15	19
TOTAL VALUE—Gloves ... ..	...	2,885
Skins dressed ... ..	...	15
Leather sports goods ... ..	...	2
Other manufactures of leather ... ..	...	10
Waste sold ... ..	...	2
TOTAL VALUE OF GOODS MADE ... ..	...	2,914
Work done for the trade ... ..	...	26†
TOTAL VALUE OF GOODS MADE AND WORK DONE (GROSS OUTPUT) ... ..	...	2,940

* Quantity not stated.

† Amount received for work done.

III.—Employment.

A.—NUMBERS EMPLOYED IN WEEK ENDED 18TH OCTOBER, 1930
(EXCLUDING OUTWORKERS).

Persons employed (excluding outworkers).	Males.		Females.		Males and females.	
	Under 18.	All ages.	Under 18.	All ages.	Under 18.	All ages.
Operatives	365	2,457	1,353	4,210	1,718	6,667
Administrative, technical and clerical staff	11	323	27	191	38	514
TOTAL	376	2,780	1,380	4,401	1,756	7,181

B.—OPERATIVES (EXCLUDING OUTWORKERS) EMPLOYED IN ONE WEEK
IN EACH MONTH OF 1930.

Week ended	Males and females.	Week ended	Males and females.
January 18th ...	6,885	July 19th ...	6,908
February 15th ...	6,780	August 16th ...	6,615
March 15th ...	6,783	September 13th ...	6,618
April 12th ...	6,892	October 18th ...	6,667
May 17th ...	6,983	November 15th ...	6,535
June 21st ...	6,944	December 13th ...	6,460
AVERAGE FOR THE 12 MONTHS			6,756

C.—NUMBERS OF OUTWORKERS AT TWO SPECIFIED PERIODS IN 1930.

January.			July.		
Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
64	5,730	5,794	58	6,079	6,137

IV.—Power (see page 443).

V.—Consumption of fuel (see page 444).