

THE Board of Trade LABOUR GAZETTE.

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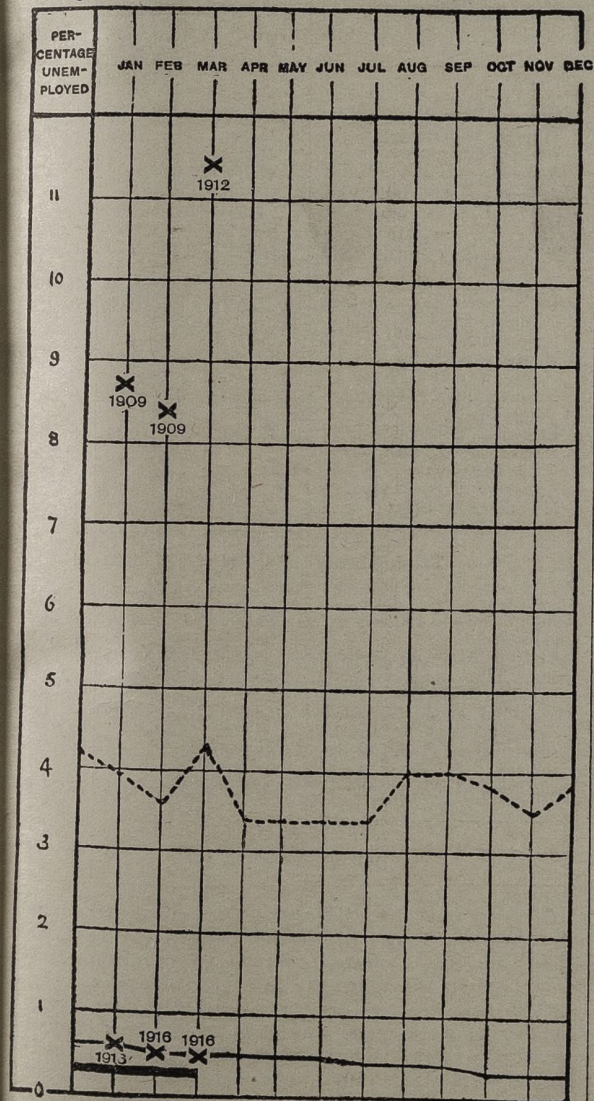
[PRICE ONE PENNY.]

EMPLOYMENT CHART.

SHOWING PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED OF MEMBERS OF TRADE UNIONS MAKING RETURNS.

— Thick Curve = 1917. — Thin Curve = 1916.
..... Dotted Curve = Mean of 1907-16.

× The crosses indicate the maximum and minimum percentages of unemployed, in the months named, during the years 1907-16.



NOTE TO CHART.

The above Chart is based solely on Returns furnished direct to the Department of Labour Statistics by various Trade Unions which pay unemployed benefit to their members. Persons on strike or locked out, sick or superannuated, are excluded from the figures.

THE LABOUR MARKET IN MARCH.

NEARLY all the principal industries continued fully employed in March, and much overtime was worked.

Employment in coal mining was good except in Northumberland, where it was dull, and in Durham and Fifehire, where it was only fair. It continued very good in iron mines, and good at shale, tin, and lead mines. At quarries employment was fairly good on the whole.

In the pig iron industry employment continued good, and at iron and steel works very good; both industries showed an improvement as compared with a month ago. The engineering and shipbuilding trades were still extremely busy, and much overtime was worked. In the tinsplate trade short time was still worked owing to the restricted supply of steel bars; the steel sheet trade, however, showed an improvement. Most of the other metal trades continued to be well employed, and much overtime was worked by brass and sheet metal workers.

In the cotton trade employment continued good in the spinning section and fair in the weaving branch. The woollen and worsted trades were very busy. In the linen trade employment remained good in Scotland, and was fair on the whole in Ireland. Employment in the hosiery, jute, bleaching, calico printing and dyeing trades was good; in the silk and carpet trades it continued fairly good. In the lace trade employment was very good in the plain net branch, fairly good in the curtain branch, and bad in the levers section.

The boot and shoe trades were very active. In the leather industry employment was good generally; it improved with saddle and harness makers, but some short time was still being worked at Walsall. It continued fair in ready-made tailoring and in the shirt and collar and wholesale mantle, costume and blouse trades. Employment was good in the corset trade, and fairly good in the felt hat trade; with silk hatters it continued bad.

Building operations and brickmaking were hindered somewhat by bad weather, but otherwise the men remaining in the trades were generally well employed. In mill sawing and coachbuilding employment continued good; in the furnishing trades and with coopers it was fairly good. Employment was good in the printing and paper trades, and very good with much overtime in bookbinding. In the glass trades employment continued good generally. It was also good on the whole in the pottery trade, though short time was still worked by makers of tiles and sanitary ware. It continued good in the food preparation trades, and much overtime was worked in some branches. Agricultural operations were hindered by unfavourable weather. Employment with dock labourers showed a decline, and was only moderate; with fishermen it showed little change. The number of seamen shipped at the principal ports showed increases as compared with both February, 1917, and March, 1916.

TRADE UNION PERCENTAGES OF UNEMPLOYED.

Trade.	Membership at end of March, 1917, exclusive of those serving with H.M. Forces.	Unemployed at end of March, 1917.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in percentage Unemployed as compared with a	
		Number.	Percentage.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Building*	68,680	319	0.5	+ 0.1	- 1.0
Coal Mining†	117,249	12	0.0	...	...
Iron and Steel	37,495	212	0.6	...	- 0.2
Engineering	274,402	345	0.1	...	- 0.2
Shipbuilding	76,114	215	0.3	+ 0.1	...
Miscellaneous Metal	41,521	27	0.1	...	...
Textiles† :-					
Cotton	80,693	626	0.8	- 0.2	- 0.3
Woolen & Worsted	7,768	2	0.0	...	- 0.1
Other	58,321	79	0.1	...	- 0.2
Printing, Bookbinding and Paper	48,338	221	0.5	+ 0.1	- 0.9
Furnishing	13,614	199	1.5	+ 0.6	- 0.9
Woodworking	26,167	77	0.3	- 0.1	- 0.5
Clothing	75,937	46	0.1	...	...
Leather	3,706	35	0.9	- 1.8	- 0.4
Glass	625	1	0.1	+ 0.1	- 0.3
Pottery	10,200	8	0.1	...	...
Tobacco	2,073	11	0.5	- 0.6	...
Total	942,903	2,435	0.3	...	- 0.2

EMPLOYERS' RETURNS: MINING AND METAL TRADES.

Trade.	Workpeople included in the Returns for March, 1917.	March, 1917.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a	
		Days worked per week by Mines.	Days.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Coal Mining	536,429	5.38	- 0.05	- 0.33	- 0.33
Iron	14,306	5.94	+ 0.05	+ 0.27	+ 0.27
Shale	3,211	5.90	- 0.12	- 0.03	- 0.03
Pig Iron	28,000	296	+ 6	+ 32	+ 32
Tinplate and Steel Sheet	21,390	310	+ 3	- 176	- 176
Iron and Steel	114,849	661,405	+ 1.2	+ 7.1	+ 7.1

EMPLOYERS' RETURNS: TEXTILE AND OTHER TRADES.

Trade.	Workpeople.		Wages.	
	Week ended 24th Mar., 1917.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Week ended 24th Mar., 1917.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.
Textiles :-				
Cotton	138,402	- 0.7	167,772	+ 0.5
Woolen	20,644	- 0.1	27,732	+ 1.8
Worsted	33,677	- 0.3	40,479	+ 2.2
Linen	37,854	+ 0.6	31,210	+ 2.2
Jute	13,101	+ 0.1	15,296	+ 1.2
Hosiery	21,782	- 0.4	23,172	+ 2.3
Lace	7,394	- 0.2	8,823	+ 0.7
Other Textiles	13,345	- 1.5	14,306	+ 3.2
Bleaching, &c.	24,484	- 0.2	45,691	+ 0.7
Total, Textiles	310,683	- 0.4	374,481	+ 1.2
Boot and Shoe	56,193	- 1.4	78,357	- 0.9
Shirt and Collar	15,442	- 0.8	13,427	+ 2.1
Ready-made tailoring	27,264	+ 0.2	28,706	+ 2.7
Printing and Bookbinding	16,512	- 0.8	23,833	+ 0.1
Pottery	15,877	+ 0.7	20,444	+ 1.1
Glass	9,988	+ 1.4	18,338	+ 3.8
Brick	5,566	+ 0.0	9,330	+ 4.5
Cement	5,792	- 2.4	11,205	+ 1.7
Food Preparation	48,410	- 1.8	59,148	- 2.4
Grand Total	511,727	- 0.6	637,269	+ 0.7

* This percentage is based mainly on Returns relating to carpenters and plumbers.
† In the mining and textile industries a contraction in the demand for labour is more generally met by short-time working.

UNEMPLOYMENT IN "INSURED" TRADES.

(1) Workpeople insured under the National Insurance Act, 1911.

Trade.	Number Insured, exclusive of those serving with H.M. Forces	Unemployed at end of March, 1917.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in percentage Unemployed on a	
		Number.	Percentage.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Building	449,000	3,637	0.81	- 0.35	- 0.63
Construction of Works	95,000	363	0.38	- 0.02	- 0.04
Shipbuilding	223,000	677	0.30	+ 0.04	- 0.15
Engineering and Iron-founding	1,119,000	6,844	0.61	+ 0.06	+ 0.16
Construction of Vehicles	177,000	656	0.37	- 0.05	- 0.25
Sawmilling	9,000	27	0.30	- 0.10	- 0.48
Other Insured Workpeople	43,000	43	0.10	- 0.02	- 0.13
All Insured Workpeople	2,115,000	12,247	0.58	- 0.04	- 0.16

(2) Workpeople insured under the National Insurance (Part II.) (Munition Workers) Act, 1916.

Trade.	Numbers Insured exclusive of those serving with H.M. Forces.	Unemployed at end of March, 1917.		Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in percentage Unemployed on a month ago.
		Number	Percentage	
Metal Trades :-				
Iron and Steel Manufacture	136,000	288	0.21	+ 0.04
Tinplate Manufacture	14,000	11	0.08	+ 0.01
Wire Manufacture	21,000	65	0.31	...
Anchors, Chains, Nails, Bolts, Nuts, Rivets, Screws	22,000	92	0.42	- 0.09
Brass	21,000	47	0.22	- 0.01
Copper, Tin, Lead, Zinc and other Metals	30,000	106	0.35	+ 0.07
Hardware and Hollow-ware Tools (excluding Machine Tools), Files, Saws, Implements, Cutlery	82,000	572	0.70	+ 0.02
Watches, Clocks, Plate, Jewellery	21,000	59	0.28	+ 0.06
Needles, Pins, Typefoundry, Dies, &c.	12,000	33	0.27	- 0.05
Electrical, Scientific, Mathematical, Optical, Surgical Instruments, Appliances and Apparatus	8,000	18	0.22	+ 0.03
Miscellaneous Metal	47,000	287	0.61	+ 0.09
Miscellaneous Metal	7,000	52	0.74	+ 0.24
Total—Metals	421,000	1,630	0.39	+ 0.04
Ammunition and Explosives	221,000	2,684	1.21	+ 0.17
Chemicals	88,000	467	0.53	+ 0.07
Leather and Leather Goods	86,000	374	0.43	- 0.04
Brick, Tile, and Artificial Building Materials	26,000	100	0.38	+ 0.01
Sawmilling, Machined Wood-work and Wooden Cases*	66,000	780	1.18	- 0.03
Rubber and Manufactures thereof	40,000	382	0.95	+ 0.07
Other Insured Workpeople	141,000	2,406	1.71	+ 0.15
All Insured Workpeople	1,089,000	8,823	0.81	+ 0.07

Changes in Rates of Wages.—The changes (including war bonuses) reported to the Department as taking effect in March affected over 80,000 workpeople, and amounted in the aggregate to a net increase of nearly £6,500 per week. The change affecting the largest number of workpeople was an increased war bonus to pottery workers in North Staffordshire. Important increases were also granted in the latter part of March to engineers on the North-East Coast and iron and steel workers in South Wales, but being dated to take effect before March, are excluded from the foregoing figures.

Trade Disputes.—The number of disputes beginning in March was 29, and the total number of workpeople involved in all disputes in progress was 28,916, as compared with 11,165 in the previous month, and 58,388 in March, 1916. The estimated total aggregate duration of all disputes during the month was 202,000 days, as compared with 43,300 days in February, 1917, and 327,300 days in March, 1916.

* Excluding those insured under the National Insurance Act, 1911.

THE EXTENSION OF THE EMPLOYMENT OF WOMEN.

The figures in the following Tables are based on returns made by employers to the Industrial (War Inquiries) Branch of the Board of Trade; they relate to employed persons only, excluding home workers, and the persons employed are classified according to the nature of the employer's business.

The position as regards the employment of females is summed up in the following Table, which shows: (a) the expansion in the employment of women since July, 1914; (b) the extent to which women are directly replacing men, according to the returns made by employers.

JANUARY, 1917.

Trade.	Estimated number of females employed in July, 1914.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in the Employment of Females since July, 1914.		Direct Replacement of Men by Women.	
		Numbers.	Percentage of those employed in July, 1914.	Numbers.	Percentage of those employed in July, 1914.
Industries*	2,172,000	+ 423,000	+ 19.5	376,000	17.2
Government establishments†	2,000	+ 147,000	+ 6,947.5	139,000	6,620.0
Agriculture in Great Britain (Permanent Labour)	80,000	- 14,000	- 17.6	23,000	28.2
Transport	19,000	+ 51,000	+ 268.8	52,000	271.8
Finance and Banking	9,500	+ 43,000	+ 452.2	42,000	442.9
Commerce	496,000	+ 274,000	+ 55.3	278,000	56.1
Professions	67,500	+ 18,000	+ 27.5	17,000	25.1
Hotels, Theatres, Public Houses, Cinemas, &c.	176,000	+ 10,000	+ 5.4	31,000	17.4
Civil Service	66,000	+ 76,000	+ 115.0	73,000	110.6
Local Government	184,000	+ 44,000	+ 23.8	40,000	21.6
TOTAL	3,272,000	+ 1,072,000	+ 32.8	1,071,000	32.7

Since the war about 1,072,000 women, or 32.8 per cent. of the numbers employed in July, 1914, have been drawn into the various occupations shown in the Table. This figure makes no allowance for a displacement of women, estimated at about 300,000, from domestic service and from very small workshops and workrooms in the dressmaking trade; it also excludes an increase in the number of women employed in connection with the nursing of soldiers and sailors, which is estimated at 37,000. Allowing for both these factors, it is estimated that the net increase since July, 1914, in the number of women regularly engaged in occupations outside their own homes is approximately 809,000. The increase since October, 1916, in the total number of women employed in the Table given above is 95,000, which is roughly equal to the increase during the previous three months.

In industrial occupations there has been an increase since October, 1916, amounting to some 29,000, as compared with 32,000 between July, 1916, and October. In the metal and chemical trades alone there has been an increase since October of 43,000, leaving a decrease of 14,000 for all other trades; this corresponds to a decrease of 10,000 in other industries between July, 1916, and October. In both periods this contraction is accounted for primarily by a decrease in the numbers employed in the clothing and textile trades, the decrease since October in these industries being respectively 17,000 and 5,000, as against 15,000 and 6,000 during the previous quarter. The decrease in the clothing trades is mainly due to a drop of 8,000 in dressmaking, but there has also been a contraction in all other branches except in the boot and shoe industry, in which the employment of women continues to grow steadily, the numbers now employed in this industry being 12,500 above the pre-war level, whereas the numbers employed in the whole group is 32,000 below that level. In the textile trades, in spite of the continuous decline during the last six months, there are still 25,000 more women employed than in July, 1914. Between July, 1916, and October there had also been a decrease in the numbers employed in the

* Including Controlled Firms, but excluding all kinds of Government Establishments.
† Including Arsenals, Dockyards, and National Shell Filling and Projectile Factories.
‡ Estimated figure. § Decrease due to variation in season.

pared with 11,165 in the previous month, and 58,388 in March, 1916. The estimated total aggregate duration of all disputes during the month was 202,000 days, as compared with 43,300 days in February, 1917, and 327,300 days in March, 1916.

Employment Exchanges.—The average weekly number of vacancies notified to all Employment Exchanges for the four weeks ended 9th March was 44,608, as compared with 42,004 in the previous four weeks, and with 35,337 in the four weeks ended 10th March, 1916. The average weekly number of vacancies filled for the same periods was 35,824, 33,856, and 27,417 respectively.

NATIONAL SERVICE.

A NEW SCHEME.

The War Cabinet have approved a new scheme submitted by the Director General of National Service, after consultation with his Labour Advisory Committee, for supplementing his general appeal for National Service Volunteers.

The special object of the new scheme is to obtain from the less essential industries a sufficient number of suitable substitutes to take the places of men who must be released for military purposes from the more essential industries. Committees of employers and employed in the various trades affected are being formed for the purpose of arranging what men shall be released from their respective trades in order to provide the necessary numbers of suitable men, and to arrange for their transfer to the places in which they are required through the Substitution Officers of the National Service Department. Arrangements have been made to ensure that these Officers will be kept closely in touch with all the other Departments concerned with Substitution.

The main feature of the scheme is that it places upon those concerned in the trade itself the responsibility of finding the men required with the least possible injury to the trade or hardship to the man.

The men to be transferred will not be required to enrol as National Service Volunteers. They will be invited to fill specific vacancies in work of National importance, but they will receive the same subsistence allowances and other benefits as are given, in similar circumstances, to National Service Volunteers.

As a result of the recent inquiry conducted by members of the War Cabinet, it has been settled that new arrangements for the enrolment and allocation of National Service Volunteers are to come into operation at the end of this month. Under the present arrangement, volunteers are enrolled by the National Service Department and allocated to their work by the Employment Exchanges Department of the Ministry of Labour, and as it has been found that this division of authority and machinery is not conducive to efficiency, it has been decided, with the assent and approval of the two Ministries, that on and after the 1st May, 1917, the allocation as well as the enrolment of National Service Volunteers will rest with the National Service Department, who will, wherever possible, provide suitable men to fill any vacancies, in work of National importance, which cannot be filled by discharged soldiers or from other sources of Labour registered at the Employment Exchanges.

OUTPUT OF COAL IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.

According to a White Paper* which has recently been issued by the Board of Trade, it is estimated that 255,846,000 tons of coal were raised at mines in the United Kingdom in 1916, as compared with 253,179,000 tons in 1915 and 265,643,000 tons in 1914. The output in 1916 was thus 1.1 per cent. greater than in 1915 and 3.7 per cent. less than in 1914. In the summer quarter (July-September) the production was 3.2 per cent. greater in 1916 than in 1915; in each of the other quarters the change in production in 1916, as compared with 1915, was less than 1 per cent.

* H.C. 51 of 1917. Price 1d.

paper and printing trades, but the figures for women in these trades during the last three months have remained stationary. On the other hand, there has been a slight decrease in the numbers employed in the food trades, although between July, 1916, and October that figure had increased by 7,000. The number now employed, however, is still 41,000 greater than the number employed in July, 1914.

It was pointed out in the article that appeared in the January number of the LABOUR GAZETTE that the decrease in the number of women employed in industries such as the clothing and textile trades had been accompanied by an increase in shortage of women's labour. This still remains true, as is shown by the following Table:—

Occupations.	Percentage of Firms reporting a shortage of Female Labour.		Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in the Number of Women Employed since July, 1914.
	Oct., 1916.	Jan., 1917.	
INDUSTRIAL OCCUPATIONS.			
Metal Trades	5	5	+ 270,000
Chemical Trades	3	4	+ 45,000
Textile Trades	40	42	+ 25,000
Clothing Trades	21	23	- 32,000
Food Trades	7	7	+ 41,000
Paper and Printing Trades	19	22	- 5,000
Wood Trades	8	7	+ 19,000
All Industrial Firms making returns, including some in trades not specified above	10	11	+ 423,000

The number of women employed in Government establishments has increased between October, 1916, and January by 29,000, as compared with an increase of 33,000 during the previous quarter. The Ministry of Munitions Establishments have drawn in an additional 26,000 women, of whom 8,000 are employed in the National Filling Factories. The largest proportionate increase has, however, been in Admiralty Dockyards, the number of women employed increasing from 4,000 to 6,500. This constant increase in the number of women employed on munition work in Government establishments is responsible, in part at least, for the shortage of female labour for the textile and clothing trades and other occupations in which women are normally employed.

In commercial occupations there has been an increase since October of 32,000 in the numbers of women employed as compared with 25,000 between July, 1916, and October. It appears, therefore, that there has been a certain increase in the rate of expansion in commerce which was not found in industry. In spite of this there does not appear to have been any increase in the shortage of women for commercial occupations, the percentage of firms reporting a shortage being 9 per cent. both in October, 1916, and January, 1917. The shortage is noticeably greater in the group which covers drapers, haberdashers and clothiers, the proportion of firms reporting a shortage being 22 per cent. This rather suggests that in commerce as in industry it is the groups in which women's employment is on the whole most common in normal times which find it most difficult to obtain women.

The actual increase in the number of women engaged in the various occupations is no guide to the number of women who are being employed to replace men. For example, it is common to find a firm working with a reduced staff replacing men with some of its existing female staff without engaging fresh women; while, on the other hand, a firm with a pressure of work on hand may be employing a large number of extra women without using any of them as substitutes for men. According to the returns received, about 1,071,000 women are directly replacing men; the largest number are to be found in industrial and commercial occupations. Compared, however, with the numbers usually employed, replacement has been most common in the case of Government establishments, the Civil Service, banking and finance, and transport. In industrial occupations there has been an increase since October, 1916, of 53,000 in the numbers of women replacing men; so that the number of women replacing men is increasing more rapidly than the total number of women employed.

This increase in the extent of substitution is found even in industries which are employing fewer women than they were three months ago. In the textile trades the number of women stated to be replacing men has increased by 8,000 since October, 1916; and in the clothing trades by 3,000; and in the food trades by 6,000. In commercial occupations the increase in the number of women acting as substitutes for men was 33,000, both between July, 1916, and October, and between October and January; it appears, therefore, that there is less disproportion between the rate of increase in the numbers of women employed and the number of women acting as substitutes in commerce than in industry, which is doubtless due to the fact that there is more scope for re-organisation in industrial than in commercial occupations.

Attention is drawn to additional pamphlets concerning the substitution of women in industry for enlisted men issued by the Board of Trade and the Home Office. (A list of the industries dealt with by Numbers 1 to 19 of the pamphlets was published in the LABOUR GAZETTE for March, page 93.)

- No. 20. Oil seed and feeding cake industry.
21. Glass bottle and flint glass trades.
22. Gas works.
23. Leather trade: Case and fancy leather.
24. Municipal services.
25. Light clothing.
26. The brush trade.

The object of the pamphlets is to make available for manufacturers all over the country the fullest information as to the processes in which, and the methods by which, temporary substitution of women for enlisted men is already being successfully carried out in the trades specified. The pamphlets also give particulars of any arrangements made between the trade associations of employers and operatives in regard to the question; and any adaptation of the Factory Act requirements in regard to hours or other matters which the Home Office are authorising in order to facilitate the employment of women.

Copies of a booklet containing Numbers 1 to 19 of the pamphlets can be obtained on application to the Officer in Charge, H.M. Stationery Office, Underwood Street, Shepherdess Walk, City Road, London, N.1; the Chief Inspector of Factories, Home Office, London, S.W.1; or to the Employment Department, Ministry of Labour, Queen Anne's Chambers, London, S.W.1.

Copies of any of the pamphlets separately can be obtained from the District Inspector of Factories or the local Employment Exchange Manager.

UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS IN ITALY.

GOVERNMENT SUBSIDIES DURING THE WAR.

THE *Bollettino dell' Ufficio del Lavoro* (the journal of the Italian Department of Labour) publishes, in its issue for 1st February, details of disbursements made by the Government by way of subsidies to various organisations that provide unemployment benefits to their members. The amounts granted in 1914-15 varied from £1,040 (to the Federation of Book Producers) to £1 (to a Basket-makers' Club). The amounts granted in the first half of 1916 showed less disparity, the largest grant (£312) being made again to the Federation above named.

Periodical subsidies are granted or lent in pursuance of a Vice-regal Decree dated 6th April, 1916, and are to be continued for the period of the war. Trade Unions, Benefit Clubs and Co-operative Societies which provide unemployment benefit for their members are to receive grants not exceeding £6,000 in the aggregate. Next, Labour Exchanges, in respect of their work in the province in which they are situated and in adjacent provinces, are to receive grants not exceeding a total of £1,200. Finally, a sum of £20,000 is allocated as subsidies (with contingent liability to repayment) to Italians in enemy countries

who, though entitled to receive benefits from their clubs, are unable to get them.

In regard to grants to organisations providing unemployment benefit, a Ministerial Order, dated 21st May, 1916, lays down several stipulations. The sum granted by the Government is to be allocated:—

- (1) To societies which had, before 1st January, 1916, adopted a scale of unemployment benefit;
- (2) To societies which have since then adopted such a scale, and which in 1914 and 1915 sustained serious financial losses owing to special grants made to unemployed members;
- (3) To societies which have not fixed a scale of benefits, but which made grants in 1914 and 1915 to unemployed members.

The Government grants allocated to societies in the first category may not, as a rule, exceed either one-third of the total unemployment benefits paid by any society or the quota of half a lira (4½d.) for every day of unemployment in respect of which benefit has been paid. The amounts allocated will be reduced (a) for societies whose rules do not exclude claims to benefit for the first week of unemployment; and also (b) for those which pay benefit for more than 90 days of unemployment in a year. Should the benefit paid by any society to an unemployed member exceed 2.50 lire (2s.) a day, no Government grant will be allocated.

As regards the societies in categories 2 and 3 (see above), the maximum allocations of grant must not, as a rule, exceed one-third of their extra expenditure in 1914-15. A grant will be made when it appears that a society has lost capital or has been obliged to reduce its benefits.

Special commissioners (consisting partly of officials and partly of representatives of benefit societies, &c.) are to be entrusted with the administration of the grants, subject to the control of the competent Minister.

Societies applying for grants must submit their accounts to Government auditors.

The Department of Labour, in its official journal dated 1st February, 1917, issues directions to societies desirous of applying for grants, and specifies the conditions that must be complied with.

In regard to grants to Labour Exchanges, a Ministerial Order of the same date as the one already summarised (21st May, 1916) defines the classes of Exchanges to which grants may be made, and lays down various stipulations. The Exchanges that may participate in grants include: (a) provincial and communal organisations; (b) societies founded jointly by employers and workmen; (c) special departments of Trade Unions, whether recognised or not by Employers' Associations; (d) offices established by benefit societies and other organisations. In fixing the amounts to be allocated, special regard is to be paid to the expenditure of each Exchange; its financial needs in proportion to its income; the ratio, during the war, of situations applied for to situations filled; the gratuitous nature of the service; the extent of the district served; and the grants made towards travelling expenses.

Special grants may be made to encourage the establishment of new Labour Exchanges.

The allocation of grants to Labour Exchanges is entrusted to the Permanent Labour Commission, which is authorised to delegate some of its functions.

EMPLOYMENT IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES AND IN THE BRITISH DOMINIONS.

GERMANY.*

February, 1917.

The following is the general conclusion arrived at by the German Department of Labour Statistics as to the course of employment in Germany during February:—

"During February no change of any considerable kind took place in the state of the labour market as

a whole in comparison with recent months. Compared with February, 1916, there was a further increase in activity, although not everywhere of uniform extent.

"In mining and smelting there was the same intense demand as that recorded in recent months, but taking the mining industry as a whole, in comparison with February, 1916, there was no increase of activity. On the other hand, the metal trades and the engineering trades in many cases reported greater activity than in February, 1916, and the same statement holds good in regard to the electrical industry. In the chemical trades as a whole employment continued at the same level as in January, and was also, in varying degree, better than in February, 1916. The food, drink, and tobacco group of trades showed, on the whole, a decline in employment."

Returns from Trade Unions.—Returns relating to employment in February were furnished by thirty-six Trade Unions, the membership covered being 813,584. Of these 12,797, or 1.6 per cent., were out of work at the end of the month, as compared with 1.7 in the preceding month and 2.8 in February, 1916.

Unions.	Membership reported on at end of month.	Percentage of Membership reported as Unemployed at end of month.		
		February, 1917.	January, 1917.	February, 1916.
All Unions making Returns...	813,584	1.6	1.7	2.8
PRINCIPAL UNIONS:				
Building trade operatives ...	56,428	2.5	3.9	1.8
Painters	6,831	2.3	3.7	1.8
Glass workers	5,565	1.6	0.4	0.4
Metal workers (Soc. Dem.) ...	268,514	0.4	0.4	0.4
Engineers and metal workers (Hirsch-Duncker) ...	15,531	0.5	0.4	0.4
Metal workers (Christian) ...	24,118	0.3	0.4	0.4
Textile workers (Soc. Dem.) ...	56,244	10.2	10.0	10.0
Hat makers	7,964	8.0	8.0	8.0
Boot and shoe makers	16,225	2.2	1.6	1.6
Transport workers	57,584	0.4	0.4	0.4
Printers (book and job)	27,496	0.1	0.1	0.1
Printers and lithographers (Soc. Dem.)	6,240	0.2	0.1	0.1
Lithographers	6,003	1.2	1.1	1.1
Bookbinders	16,256	2.3	2.5	2.5
Saddlers and bag makers	7,058	0.4	0.6	0.6
Leather workers (Soc. Dem.) ...	5,091	7.2	6.8	6.8
Wood workers (Soc. Dem.)	70,320	1.0	1.1	2.2
Porcelain workers	4,176	10.4	10.0	9.7
Bakers	7,399	1.9	1.5	2.5
Brewery & corn-mill workers ...	17,199	0.5	0.4	0.6
Engine-drivers and firemen	5,081	0.5	0.5	0.8
Factory workers, irrespective of trade (Soc. Dem.)	79,964	0.6	0.6	1.4
State and municipal workers ...	25,842	0.4	0.6	0.6

Among male members of the unions reporting the percentage unemployed at the end of February was 0.8, as compared with 0.9 in the preceding month, and with 1.5 in February, 1916; among female members the percentages for these months were 4.7, 4.7 and 8.8 respectively.

Returns from Labour Exchanges.—Returns relating to the operations of Labour Exchanges during February show that the proportion of applications for employment per 100 situations offered to men increased slightly in February as compared with January, though it stood below the figure for February, 1916, whilst as regards vacancies for women, the proportion of applications showed a decrease as compared with the figures for both these periods.

	Applications for employment for every 100 situations vacant.		
	February, 1917.	January, 1917.	February, 1916.
Males	62	61	86
Females	112	115	167

Returns from Employers of Labour.—Returns relating to 240 industrial firms show a total of 239,325 workpeople employed on the last day of February, as compared with 233,448 on the last day of January, an increase of 5,877, or 2.5 per cent. For a comparison between February, 1917, and February, 1916, returns from 257 firms are available. These employed 288,045 persons at the end of the month under review

* Reichsarbeitsblatt March, 1917.

and 230,655 at the end of February, 1916, an increase of 24.9 per cent.

A comparison with February, 1914, based upon returns from 161 firms, also gives an increase—amounting to 8.9 per cent.—in the number of workpeople employed.

HOLLAND.*

Employment in January.—Returns relating to employment in January were received by the Dutch Government Statistical Office from Trade Unions and municipal unemployment funds with a total insured membership of 116,257. The percentage of such members out of work during the month was 9.5, as compared with 6.8 in the preceding month, and with 9.8 in January, 1916:—

Group of Trades.	Number of Members insured against Unemployment in Jan., 1917.	Percentage actually Unemployed.			Average Days Lost per Member Unemployed.		
		Jan., 1917.	Dec., 1916.	Jan., 1916.	Jan., 1917.	Dec., 1916.	Jan., 1916.
All Unions paying Unemployment Benefit and Municipal Unemployment Funds making Returns	116,257	9.5	6.8	9.8	4.3	4.3	5.3
do., excluding Diamond Workers	105,154	7.7	6.1	6.0	3.7	3.5	4.8
Working in diamonds, &c.	11,103	26.9	24.4	46.6	5.9	5.9	5.9
Lithography, &c.	11,203	0.5	0.4	1.5	5.5	5.4	4.1
Trades (including printing)	21,562	15.9	9.1	16.8	5.3	5.2	5.4
Engineering and building	16,051	3.2	2.5	3.1	3.9	3.7	4.5
Textile, &c.	7,223	18.1	8.9	5.1	1.0	1.4	1.8
Food, drink, and tobacco	19,418	10.2	9.1	0.5	2.3	2.2	3.9
Printing, &c.	5,130	1.7	1.5	4.3	5.4	5.1	4.8
Wool, silk, &c.	2,704	0.2	0.3	0.2	5.4	5.8	5.2

A comparison between January, 1917, and the preceding month yields slightly different results when based upon data furnished by Trade Unions only (irrespective of whether they pay unemployment benefit or not) and when further limited to returns received from Unions making returns for both months. On this basis the percentage of unemployment is found to be 9.6 in January, as compared with 7.4 in December. Among the members of these Unions the average number of working days lost owing to unemployment was in January 7.1 per cent. and in December 5.5 per cent. of the total number of days that might have been worked in the respective months.

NORWAY †

Employment in February.—The following Table shows the percentage of members reported unemployed at the end of February in certain Trade Unions making returns to the Statistical Office of the Norwegian Department of Labour, comparative figures being added for the previous month and for February, 1916:—

Group of Trades.	Membership.			Percentage Unemployed.		
	Feb. 28th, 1917.	Jan. 31st, 1917.	Feb. 29th, 1916.	Feb. 28th, 1917.	Jan. 31st, 1917.	Feb. 29th, 1916.
Bricklayers and masons (Christiania)	804	811	777	6.2	9.2	5.8
Carpenters, &c.	1,913	1,845	1,392	1.7	0.4	3.1
Painters (Christiania)	449	437	379	15.1	17.6	16.9
Metalworkers	9,445	9,380	9,263	0.7	0.3	0.8
Boot and shoe makers	833	879	975	0.2	0.6	0.2
Printers	2,230	2,203	2,206	1.3	0.7	1.4
Bookbinders (Christiania)	731	732	660	1.4	1.4	1.7
Cabinetmakers	655	650	625	0.5	...	...
Bakers (Christiania)	479	480	436	6.1	6.2	4.8
TOTAL	17,592	17,426	16,713	1.6	1.4	1.8

* Maandscrift van het Centraal Bureau voor de Statistiek, 28th February, 1917.

† Information supplied through the courtesy of the Norwegian Department of Labour, Commerce, Industries and Fisheries.

DENMARK.*

Employment in January.—According to returns supplied to the Danish Statistical Office, 9.4 per cent. of the 151,500 members of the Trade Unions reporting were unemployed at the end of January. The corresponding figure for the previous month was 5.8 per cent., while that for January, 1916, it was 10.5 per cent. The average time lost through unemployment in January was 1.7 days per member.

SWEDEN.

Employment, October-December, 1916.—The issue of *Sociala Meddelanden* (the journal of the Swedish Department for Social Affairs) for February, 1917, gives the following particulars as to unemployment among members of Swedish Trade Unions at the beginning of October, November and December respectively:—

Unions.	Membership reporting at Dec. 1st, 1916.	Percentage Unemployed on 1st of Month.		
		October, 1916.	November, 1916.	December, 1916.
All Unions making Returns	71,169	2.2	2.3	2.2
PRINCIPAL UNIONS:—				
Stoneworkers	1,464	10.9	9.8	11.7
Bricklayers and masons	1,655	1.8	3.5	5.7
Painters	1,035	0.1	2.1	8.1
Blasfurnacemen, &c.	5,341	0.2	0.1	0.2
Foundrymen	2,447	0.7	0.8	0.3
Tinplate workers, &c.	1,475	1.0	2.3	6.6
Engineering operatives	22,152	1.4	1.1	1.1
Textile workers	1,149	3.0	11.8	1.4
Boot, shoe and leather workers	2,068	0.5	0.4	0.4
Brewery workers	1,464	1.2	0.8	1.2
Sawmill workers	5,896	0.2	0.7	1.2
Woodworkers	5,151	0.7	1.4	1.2
General workers and factory operatives (trades not distinguished)	10,569	6.1	5.7	3.7

CANADA †

"Industry was generally active during January, and a number of trades which had shown some slackening during the holiday season were again in full operation. In a number of instances, however, manufacturers were adversely affected by coal shortage and delay in the delivery of materials, owing largely to lack of motive power and a labour shortage on the railways; a large number of passenger trains were discontinued in an attempt to relieve the situation. Activity prevailed at the Atlantic winter ports, and longshoremen were well employed. Metal mining showed no diminution from the active conditions of the previous month, but in coal mining outputs were considerably reduced owing to labour troubles in the Crow's Nest Pass district, and while output was well maintained in Nova Scotia mines, collieries were not able to carry out their orders. Building operations for the season were well maintained, and there was activity at a number of points in the construction of factory extensions and commercial buildings. Lumbering was active, an abundance of snow in most districts improving haulage. Agriculture and fishing remained seasonably quiet. The removal of snow by municipalities, and ice cutting, engaged a considerable body of unskilled labour, but in many cases men were secured for this work with difficulty."

UNITED STATES. ‡

Employment in January.—The following tables, giving comparisons as to the volume of employment in representative establishments in certain industries, (a) between January, 1917, and the preceding month, and (b) between January, 1917, and the corresponding month of 1916, are summarised from returns furnished to the United States Bureau of Labour Statistics:—

* Statistiske Efterretninger, 24th March, 1917. Danish Statistical Department.

† The Labour Gazette, February, 1917. Issued by the Canadian Department of Labour, Ottawa.

‡ Monthly Review of the United States Bureau of Labour Statistics, February, 1917. Washington.

(a) Comparison of January, 1917, and December, 1916.

Industry.	Number of Establishments Reporting.	Number of Workpeople.			Earnings.*		
		Dec., 1916.	Jan., 1917.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-).	Dec., 1916.	Jan., 1917.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-).
Iron and steel	101	183,279	188,160	+ 2.7	1,549,969	1,633,054	+ 5.4
Car building and repairing	36	54,067	53,374	- 1.3	388,288	375,150	- 3.4
Automobile manufacturing	35	103,061	103,829	+ 0.7	442,556	430,815	- 2.7
Cotton manufacturing	51	53,028	52,789	- 0.5	115,102	113,882	- 1.1
Cotton finishing	18	15,596	15,335	- 1.7	44,267	43,078	- 2.7
Hosiery & underwear	55	27,277	27,046	- 0.8	62,042	60,604	- 2.3
Woolen	59	40,190	41,223	+ 2.6	110,801	114,202	+ 3.1
Silk	43	18,038	18,067	+ 0.1	90,788	90,238	- 0.6
Men's ready-made clothing	37	25,922	25,563	- 1.7	79,465	77,410	- 2.6
Boots and shoes	70	42,277	42,553	+ 0.7	128,149	129,110	+ 0.7
Cigar making	51	18,073	17,661	- 2.3	45,688	44,330	- 3.0
Leather manufacturing	23	12,680	12,638	- 0.3	40,624	38,642	- 4.9
Paper making	41	17,848	18,077	+ 1.3	56,112	55,818	- 0.5

In six of the thirteen industries there were more workpeople on the pay-roll in January, 1917, than in December, 1916, while in seven industries there was a decrease in the number. The figures for cigar manufacturing are somewhat affected by two strikes, one occurring in December, 1916, and one in January, 1917. The number of workpeople involved in these two disputes was greater in December, 1916, than in January, 1917. Less wages were received by workpeople in January, 1917, than in December, 1916, in ten of the industries. The greatest decrease reported (4.9 per cent.) occurred in leather manufacturing.

In three industries more wages were paid to workpeople in January, 1917, than in December, 1916, the greatest increase (5.4 per cent.) being in the iron and steel industry.

(b) Comparison of January, 1917, and January, 1916.

Industry.	Number of Establishments Reporting.	Number of Workpeople.			Earnings.*		
		Jan., 1916.	Jan., 1917.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-).	Jan., 1916.	Jan., 1917.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-).
Iron and steel	101	156,184	194,467	+ 24.5	1,029,419	1,686,150	+ 63.8
Car building and repairing	35	43,318	48,303	+ 11.6	253,256	314,339	+ 36.0
Automobile manufacturing	41	77,728	103,526	+ 33.2	315,173	430,975	+ 36.7
Cotton manufacturing	55	54,532	54,582	+ 0.1	97,336	118,766	+ 22.0
Cotton finishing	18	14,549	15,335	+ 5.4	33,628	43,078	+ 28.1
Hosiery & underwear	60	32,803	34,265	+ 4.5	62,315	74,242	+ 19.1
Woolen	45	41,899	43,045	+ 2.7	95,836	119,459	+ 24.6
Silk	48	21,734	21,579	- 0.7	94,032	107,218	+ 14.0
Men's ready-made clothing	38	23,929	25,563	+ 6.9	66,565	77,757	+ 16.8
Boots and shoes	69	60,406	64,531	+ 6.8	164,329	191,348	+ 16.4
Cigar making	53	18,551	17,969	- 3.1	40,439	45,045	+ 11.4
Leather manufacturing	26	12,553	15,541	+ 23.8	31,310	44,168	+ 41.1
Paper making	46	18,415	21,748	+ 18.1	49,079	66,412	+ 35.3

In eleven of the thirteen industries the number of persons on the pay-roll was greater in January, 1917, than in January, 1916. The greatest increase shown (33.2 per cent.) was in automobile manufacturing. The two industries showing a decrease were silk manufacturing and cigar making. The figures relating to the latter are slightly affected by a strike occurring in January, 1917, in one establishment. In the boot and shoe manufacturing the figures show somewhat the influence of a total stoppage in one establishment in January, 1916, owing to a fire. The amount of money paid to workpeople in January, 1917, was greater than in January, 1916, in each of the thirteen industries, the greatest increase reported (63.8 per cent.) being in the iron and steel industry.

New York State. †

Employment in February.—"Manufacturing activity in New York State in February was slightly greater than in January. An increase of less than 1 per cent. in number of employees and of 1 per cent. in amount

* These figures represent the aggregate wages bill for two weeks in the case of the iron and steel, car building and silk industries, and for one week in other cases. † The Labour Market in February. Issued by the Bureau of Statistics and Information, New York State Department of Labour. Albany.

of wages paid was reported. The more or less general observance of a holiday during the pay-roll period included in this report had some effect on the volume of wages. Six of the groups reported increases both in employees and in wages, while two groups only reported decreases in both respects. The changes of most importance were increases of 3 per cent. in employees and 9 per cent. in wages in the clothing group, and a decrease (negligible in amount) in employees and of more than 1 per cent. in wages in the metals, machinery and conveyances group. The latter is much the largest of the groups, both in employees and wages, and clothing is the second largest; hence these two groups have large weight in the returns. With the exception of December, 1916, activity in all the groups combined was greater, however, than in any other month since these returns have been received, beginning in June, 1914.

"As compared with February of last year, there was an increase of 8 per cent. in number of employees and 20 per cent. in volume of wages. As compared with February, two years ago, the increases were 29 and 58 per cent. respectively.

"The average earnings for one week of all employees, including females, were in February 15.31 dollars (£3 4s.), as against 15.26 dollars (£3 3s. 7d.) in January. The average earnings for one week in February, one year ago, were 13.77 dollars (£2 17s. 5d.), and in February, two years ago, 12.41 dollars (£2 11s. 9d.)."

COURSE OF RETAIL PRICES OF FOOD.

In the following paragraphs relating to the course of retail prices in this and other countries the latest available statistics are given in every case, but it will be observed that while the returns for this country relate to 31st March, those for the other countries relate to various earlier dates. As prices in all countries are moving upward, this difference of date is important, and should be borne in mind in making comparisons as between one country and another.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Retail prices of food advanced between 1 and 2 per cent. during March. The greatest rise recorded was in respect of margarine, the price of which was about 9 per cent.—nearly 1d. per lb.—dearer on 31st March than a month earlier. Bread rose in price by 7 per cent., or about 3/4d. per 4 lb., and cheese by 5 per cent., or nearly 1d. per lb., during the month. The prices of butcher's meat advanced from 2 to 4 per cent., according to description, while bacon averaged 3 per cent. dearer. Fish prices showed a rise of about 5 per cent. The prices of flour and tea advanced between 2 and 3 per cent., while those of sugar, milk, butter and potatoes remained practically unchanged. In regard to the last-named, it may be pointed out that the prices relate to the 31st March, thus excluding the rise from 1 1/4d. to 1 3/4d. per lb. permitted after that date by the Food Controller's Order. A substantial fall was shown in the price of eggs, amounting on the average to 21 per cent.

COMPARISON WITH A YEAR AGO.

As compared with 1st April, 1916, retail food prices showed an advance of about 32 per cent. Potatoes were more than twice the price of a year ago. The price of cheese had risen 50 per cent., and that of butter and bacon over 32 per cent. The increase in the price of meat averaged nearly 30 per cent. in the case of the better cuts, and over 35 per cent. in that of the inferior cuts. Flour, bread, eggs and margarine were from 25 to 30 per cent. dearer, while advances of from 20 to 22 per cent. were recorded for granulated sugar, milk and fish. The price of tea showed an increase of 9 per cent.

COMPARISON WITH JULY, 1914.

In the following Table is given a percentage comparison of the level of prices at 31st March, 1917, in relation to the "normal" figures of July, 1914:—

Article.	Percentage Increase from July, 1914, to 31st March, 1917.		
	Large Towns (populations over 50,000).	Small Towns and Villages.	United Kingdom.
Beef, British—	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Ribs	80	77	78
Thin Flank	120	97	105
Beef, Chilled or Frozen—			
Ribs	107	99	103
Thin Flank	145	120	132
Mutton, British—			
Legs	73	71	72
Breast	133	94	113
Mutton, Frozen—			
Legs	111	102	106
Breast	167	147	157
Bacon (streaky)	81	74	78
Fish	133	110	132
Flour	96	104	100
Bread	99	87	93
Tea	65	60	63
Sugar (granulated)	174	169	172
Milk	62	58	60
Butter—			
Fresh	78	81	80
Salt	73	79	78
Cheese	117	117	117
Margarine	50	48	49
Eggs (fresh)	73	66	72
Potatoes	132	103	117
ALL ABOVE ARTICLES (WEIGHTED PERCENTAGE INCREASE)	99	90	94

At 31st March, 1917, the prices of meat showed increases over those for July, 1914, ranging from about 72 per cent. for British legs of mutton to 157 per cent. for frozen breasts of mutton, the advances in average price ranging from 6½d. to 7½d. per lb., according to cut. Bacon was nearly 80 per cent., or 8½d. per lb., dearer. The prices of sugar, potatoes, fish and cheese had considerably more than doubled in comparison with those for July, 1914, but in regard to sugar increased duty accounts for 1½d. of the rise of 3½d. per lb.

Flour was 100 per cent. and bread over 90 per cent. dearer than in July, 1914. Butter and eggs had advanced between 70 and 80 per cent. The price of tea was over 60 per cent. higher, but 7d. of the average advance of 11½d. per lb. is due to increased taxation. Milk was 60 per cent., and margarine about 50 per cent., dearer than in July, 1914.

In arriving at the general percentage increase in the above Table the several articles are weighted in accordance with the proportionate expenditure on them in pre-war family budgets, no allowance being made for the considerable economies resulting from changes in dietary which have been widely effected since the beginning of the war, especially in those families in which the total income has not been increased by advances in rates of wages, greater regularity of employment, increased output, or the working of overtime. As an illustration of the possible extent of economies in this direction, it may be stated that if eggs were omitted from the dietary, margarine substituted for butter, and the consumption of sugar and fish reduced to one-half of that prevailing before the war, the general percentage increase since July, 1914, instead of being 94 would be 61.

With reference to other items of expenditure, there have been substantial increases, except with regard to rents, but the average advance has not been so great as with food. The increase from July, 1914, to 31st March, 1917, in the cost of all the items ordinarily entering into working-class family expenditure, including food, rent, clothing, fuel and light, &c., may be estimated at over 65 per cent., taking the same quantities and descriptions of the various items at each date and eliminating advances arising from increased taxation.

BERLIN.

No particulars regarding the movement of retail prices of food in Berlin can be given this month, as official figures have not been received for a later date than those published in the January issue of the BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE.

VIENNA.

According to the official journal *Warenpreisberichte*, retail food prices in January showed a slight increase as compared with the preceding month. Two only of

the articles comprised in the table below (viz. butter and eggs) were stated to have undergone any change in price, but these were sufficiently important to raise the level of food prices as a whole by 1·7 per cent. As compared with July, 1914, retail food prices in January were 171·7 per cent. higher.

In the absence of data as to the relative importance of the various foods in household consumption in Vienna, it is assumed, in computing the general percentages, that the same standard exists there as in Berlin.

For all the articles comprised in this Table, except milk, butter, margarine and eggs, the prices recorded are the official maximum prices fixed by law.

Article.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Prices in January, 1917, as compared with	
	December, 1916.	July, 1914.
	Per cent.	Per cent.
Beef	No change	+ 335·6
Veal	No change	+ 173·3
Pork	No change	+ 232·2
Bacon	No change	+ 400·0
Lard	No change	+ 403·3
Milk	No change	+ 80·7
Butter	+ 3·4	+ 233·3
Margarine	No change	+ 430·0
Flour, wheat	No change	+ 179·1
Bread, rye	No change	+ 68·8
Eggs	+ 25·0	+ 471·4
Potatoes	No change	- 25·0
Sugar	No change	+ 34·9
ALL ABOVE ARTICLES (WEIGHTED PERCENTAGE INCREASE)	+ 1·7	+ 171·7

ITALY.

The statistical data showing the extent of the rise in the cost of necessaries of life in Italy, which are published from time to time in the BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE under the general heading "Course of Retail Prices of Food," are not available this month.

*Milan.**—The following Table shows the influence of the rise in prices on a typical household budget in the chief industrial city of Italy, viz., Milan, the computation being based upon the food consumption of a working-class family consisting of two adults and three children, at the average retail prices current in the first half of 1914 and in the month of January of the present year respectively:—

Article.	Increase in Cost of Identical Quantities Jan., 1917, as compared with Jan. to June, 1914.	Article.	Increase in Cost of Identical Quantities Jan., 1917, as compared with Jan. to June, 1914.
	Per cent.		Per cent.
Bread	21·3	Butter	35·4
Flour, maize	88·0	Olive oil	25·0
Rice	65·0	Sugar	89·0
Paste (macaroni, &c.)	36·4	Coffee	37·5
Beef	130·0	Milk	16·7
Pork, fresh	200·0	Wine	144·9
Sausages, &c.	50·0	Haricot beans	80·0
Eggs	145·0	Potatoes	130·8
Bacon	97·6		
Cheese	34·4		
		ALL FOODS COMBINED	70·0

The rise in the cost of food alone in January, 1917, as compared with the first half of 1914, was thus 70 per cent. Other items of household expenditure which are stated to have increased considerably during the war period are coke (353 per cent.), gas (85 per cent.), clothing (50 per cent.), and footwear (67 per cent.).

CANADA.†

The cost of food in Canada in January, measured by the weekly expenditure of a family, as computed from returns of retail prices in about sixty towns in the Dominion, showed an increase of 1·6 per cent. as com-

* *Bollettino Municipale Mensile, Città di Milano*, 31st January, 1917. (Monthly journal of the municipality of Milan.)

† *The Labour Gazette*, February, 1917. Issued by the Canadian Department of Labour, Ottawa.

pared with the previous month, and of 38·5 per cent. as compared with July, 1914.

Taking the total family expenditure—food, fuel, lighting, rent, &c.—the January figures show an increase of 0·8 per cent. as compared with the previous month, and of 16·2 per cent. over July, 1914.

The difference in the extent of the rise since July, 1914, between food alone on the one hand, and the total family expenditure on the other, is due to the fact that while food, fuel and lighting have become dearer, there has been a reduction of 16·1 per cent. in house rent.

AUSTRALIA.*

During the month of December the index number representing the average retail price of food in the thirty principal towns of the Australian Commonwealth showed a decrease of 0·4 per cent. as compared with the preceding month, but was 25·3 per cent. above that for July, 1914. In obtaining these figures account is taken of the extent to which each of the various articles of food entering into the computation of the index numbers is consumed throughout the Commonwealth, and also of the respective populations of the thirty towns.

NEW ZEALAND.†

The index number of retail prices of articles of food in December, based on returns relating to 25 representative towns in New Zealand, shows on the whole an increase of 2·1 per cent. as compared with the preceding month, and of 25·2 per cent. as compared with July, 1914. Advances took place in December in all three groups of commodities comprised, viz., groceries, dairy produce and meat.

UNITED STATES.‡

Between 15th December, 1916, and 15th January, 1917, a rise of about 1 per cent. took place in retail food prices as a whole in the United States, and on the latter date the general level was a little over 24 per cent. above that of July, 1914. The figures are based on returns from forty-five of the principal industrial towns of the United States.

Article.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Average Price on 15th Jan., 1917, as compared with		Article.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Average Price on 15th Jan., 1917, as compared with	
	15th Dec., 1916.	15th July, 1914.		15th Dec., 1916.	15th July, 1914.
	Per cent.	Per cent.		Per cent.	Per cent.
Beef—			Cheese	+ 1	\$
Sirloin steak	+ 3	+ 3	Milk, fresh	- 1	+ 10
Round steak	+ 3	+ 2	Bread	No change	||
Rib roast	+ 3	+ 4	Flour, wheat	+ 2	+ 75
Chuck roast	+ 3	+ 1	Meal, maize	+ 3	+ 33
Plate boiling beef	+ 3	+ 4	Rice	No change	\$
Pork chops	+ 6	+ 5	Potatoes	+ 13	+ 46
Bacon, smoked	No change	+ 6	Onions	+ 21	\$
Ham, smoked	- 1	+ 12	Beans, navy	+ 1	\$
Lard, pure	+ 6	+ 39	Prunes	+ 1	\$
Hens	+ 6	+ 15	Raisins, seeded	+ 1	\$
Salmon, tinned	+ 1	\$	Sugar, granulated	- 4	+ 54
Eggs, strictly fresh	+ 3	+ 83	Coffee	No change	\$
Butter, creamery	+ 1	+ 31	Tea	No change	\$
			TOTAL (WEIGHTED AVERAGE)	+ 1	+ 24

FOOD CONTROL ORDERS.

SINCE the last issue of the BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE, Orders of which outlines are given below have been made by the Food Controller.

The *Food (Conditions of Sale) Order*, 1917, which came into force on 23rd March, provides that, except under the authority of the Food Controller, no person shall in connection with a sale or proposed sale of any article of food impose or attempt to impose any condition relating to the purchase of any other article.

* *Labour Bulletin*, No. 60, December, 1916. Issued by the Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics, Labour and Industrial Branch, Melbourne.

† *Journal of the (New Zealand) Department of Labour*, January, 1917. Wellington, N.Z.

‡ *Monthly Review of the United States Bureau of Labour Statistics*, March, 1917. Washington.

§ Not included in the official prices statistics at this date.

|| Not included in the official prices statistics at this date. The earliest month in 1914 with which a comparison can be made is September. The rise in bread prices since that date amounts to 35 per cent.

The *Food Hoarding Order*, 1917, provides that, except under the authority of the Food Controller, no person shall, after 9th April, acquire any article of food so that the quantity of such article in his possession or under his control at any one time exceeds the quantity required for ordinary use and consumption in his household or establishment. It is an offence for dealers to sell articles where they have reason to believe the amount permitted to the purchaser will thereby be exceeded. The Order excludes home-made articles of food.

The *Public Meals Order*, 1917, which came into force on 15th April, regulates meals in inns, hotels, restaurants, refreshment houses, clubs, boarding-houses (except where the number of bedrooms does not exceed ten), and other places of refreshment open to the general public. It does not apply, however, to places where no meal is served, the total charge for which (exclusive of the usual charges for beverages) exceeds 1s. 3d., provided certain notices are exhibited. The Order prescribes one meatless day in every week, that no potatoes shall be served or eaten except on meatless days and Fridays, and limits the quantities of meat, flour, bread and sugar to be used. The *Regulation of Meals Order*, 1916, is revoked.

The *Tea (Nett Weight) Order*, 1917, requires that after 1st July, 1917, tea sold retail in quantities of 2 ozs. or more must be sold by nett weight and in ounces or pounds or in multiples of ounces or pounds, and that any weight stated on any packet of tea must be the true nett weight.

The *Swedes (Prices) Order*, 1917, dated 21st March, 1917, fixes the maximum price of swedes, including the cost of bags or other packages, at 1½d. per lb.

The *Sugar (Restriction) Order*, 1917, prescribes the quantity of sugar to be used for manufacturing purposes, but does not apply to the use of sugar in the manufacture of jam, marmalade or condensed milk.

The *Intoxicating Liquor (Output and Delivery) Order*, 1917, restricts the output of beer and limits the quantity of wines and spirits to be taken out of bond.

The *Malt (Restriction) No. 2 Order*, 1917, dated 12th April, 1917, makes it illegal, except under licence, to manufacture any further malt, to sell or deliver malt, or for anyone other than a brewer for sale to use malt for any purpose. The effect of this Order is to prevent home-brewing, and it will apply also to the manufacture of any non-alcoholic liquors containing malt.

Other Orders recently issued by the Food Controller are the *Seed Potatoes (Prices) Order* (No. 2), the *Malt (Restriction on Shipping) Order*, the *Freshwater Fish Order*, the *Manufacture of Flour and Bread Order* (No. 3), and the *Oats and Potatoes (Ireland) Order*.

JUVENILE EDUCATION.

The final Report* of the Departmental Committee on Juvenile Education in relation to employment after the war has recently been issued. The terms of reference were: "To consider what steps should be taken to make provision for the education and instruction of children and young persons after the war, regard being had particularly to the interests of those

- (1) who have been abnormally employed during the war;
- (2) who cannot immediately find advantageous employment;
- (3) who require special training for employment."

Evidence was taken from a large number of employers, trade union officials, teachers, social workers, Government officials and other sources, including a large amount of information from Local Education Authorities with powers under the Choice of Employment Act and from the juvenile branches of the Labour Exchanges on the subject of the changes caused by the war in the conditions of juvenile employment. A special memorandum dealing with the rural side of the problem is appended to the Report, contributed by one of the members of the Committee.

Investigation showed that the problem before the Committee was not fundamentally a war-time problem, but the long-standing problem of the juvenile wage-earner aggravated and emphasised by war-time conditions. This problem in different forms has been referred to various Committees from time to time, such as the Committee on Partial Exemption from School Attendance and the Consultative Committee on Attendance at Continuation Schools, but it still remains, to a large extent, unsolved. In the opinion of the present Committee the solution lies not only in certain reforms of our educational system, but in a complete change of temper and outlook on the part of the people of this country as to what they mean to make of their boys and girls. The conception of the juvenile as primarily a wage-earner must be replaced by the conception of the juvenile as primarily the workman and the citizen in training. The two main educational reforms recommended by the Committee, for which early legislation is considered necessary, are briefly as follow:—

- (a) To establish a uniform Elementary School leaving age of 14, which entails the abolition of all exemptions, total or partial, from compulsory attendance below that age.
- (b) To require attendance for not less than 8 hours a week, or 320 hours a year, at Day Continuation Classes between the ages of 14 and 18.

These suggested reforms are dealt with separately in the Report, but it is emphasised that they are really integral parts of the one reform, and that juvenile education, to be effective, must be continuous and progressive throughout both the full-time and the part-time stage—at whatever age the child leaves the Elementary School, there should be no gap between elementary and continuation teaching.

The first proposal indicated above had the support of the great majority of the witnesses, and the Committee are strongly of opinion that a uniform minimum leaving age of 14 ought now to be enforced by statute, both in town and country. It is true that the statutory leaving age is already 14, but the ways in which earlier exemption can be obtained are so numerous, and in many localities are so freely taken advantage of, that the effective leaving age often approximates rather to 13 than to 14. No precise statistics exist to show how many children do, in fact, remain at school until they are 14, but broadly speaking the effective leaving age approximates to 14 in London and in 105 other areas with an aggregate population of about 14 millions, in 63 areas with a population of 6 millions it approximates to 13, and in the remaining 150 areas with a population of 16 millions the average leaving age is somewhere between 13 and 14. The main determining factor is the nature of the by-laws adopted by the locality, and the enforcement of a uniform school leaving age of 14 will entail the sweeping away of the whole system of attendance by-laws and the difficulties due to local option. The Committee further recommended that any new educational legislation of this kind should override the Factory Acts in so far as they are inconsistent with its provisions, and thus abolish the system of half-time exemption below the age of 14, which step they regard as imperative at the earliest possible moment. At the present time there are about 20,000 half-timers in Lancashire, 11,000 in the West Riding, and 4,000 elsewhere. Of these about 26,000 entered upon half-time employment at the age of 12 and 9,000 at the age of 13. The Report states that even within the textile industries, which are practically the only occupations much affected, there is, and always has been, a strong body of opinion in favour of the change, and the special provisions for agricultural half-time have been little utilised and would not be missed.

The second main proposal, which contemplates Continuation Classes for all up to the age of 18, is discussed at some length. It is shown that before the war there was little public education after the Elementary School leaving age. In 1911-12 there were about 2,700,000 juveniles between 14 and 18, and of these about 2,200,000, or 81·5 per cent., were enrolled neither in day nor in evening schools. The Report points out

that there are, of course, no substitutes for a sound early education, but that such education, when it terminates at 14, or even at 15, leaves the child with intellect and character still unformed at perhaps the most critical stage of his development. The Committee are of opinion that compulsory Continuation Classes will carry on the moral and disciplinary influence of the Elementary School, will conduce to a far higher standard of physical well-being, will increase the industrial efficiency of the mass of the population, and will give those able to profit by it full opportunity for the foundation of a valuable technical training.

The principal recommendations in connection with the carrying out of this part of the scheme are as follows:—

- (1) The Local Education Authority in each area shall be under statutory obligation to provide Day Continuation Classes, and all young persons between 14 and 18 (with certain strictly defined exceptions) shall be obliged to attend such classes for not less than eight hours a week for forty weeks in the year.
- (2) All employers of young persons under 18 shall be required to give the necessary facilities for attendance at such classes, which must be held between the hours of 8 a.m. and 7 p.m.
- (3) That in suitable cases the young persons be liable to a penalty for non-attendance; and that the parent or the employer be also liable in so far as any act or omission on his part is the cause of failure in attendance.
- (4) That the curriculum of the Continuation Classes include general, practical, and technical instruction, and that provision be made for continuous physical training and for medical inspection, and for clinical treatment where necessary, up to the age of 18.
- (5) That the system of Continuation Classes come normally into operation on an appointed day as early as possible after the end of the war.
- (6) That during the first year from the establishment of this system the obligation to attend classes extend to those young persons only who are under 15, during the second year to those only who are under 16, during the third year to those only who are under 17, and subsequently to all those who are under 18.

With a view to compensating for the abnormal employment of children and their early withdrawal from school during the war, it is further recommended that the obligation to attend Continuation Classes be extended to children who are under 14 when the Act comes into operation, although they may already have left the day school, and that the attention of the Local Education Authorities be drawn to the possibility in certain cases of providing special full-time courses for children who have been abnormally employed.

As regards the possible dislocation of juvenile employment after the war, the Report states that the Committee have no means of estimating the extent of the probable shortage of employment, but even if there is no general shortage of work there must be a great deal of dislocation while juveniles are moving from one job to another. They therefore recommend (1) that the system of Juvenile Employment Bureaux be strengthened and extended before the termination of the war, and that further financial assistance be given to Local Education Authorities for their maintenance; and (2) that in areas where there is a probability of juvenile unemployment, teachers and other suitable persons explain to children and their parents the difficulties of obtaining work and the advantages of prolonged attendance at school.

With regard to the cost of the proposals the Committee state that only a very rough estimate can be given, seeing that the buildings factor and the staff factor will ultimately govern the question. Assuming, however, that the cost of an Elementary School place remains much at its present figure, the cost of converting all half-timers into full-timers and keeping at school all children up to the age of 14 may be put at anything

from £1,000,000 to £1,250,000. The cost of Continuation Classes will, of course, depend upon the extent to which they can be made universal. On the perhaps somewhat improbable assumption that all juveniles between 14 and 18 not otherwise educated will come within their operation by 1921, it is estimated that the country would then have about 2,600,000 pupils to deal with, and these would require about 32,000 full-time teachers. The gross maintenance cost on such a basis is put at anything from 6 millions to 8 millions a year, in addition to the 1 million or thereabouts now spent upon evening classes for juveniles. The Committee recommend that the State grants in aid of present as well as future expenditure on education be simplified and very substantially increased.

CHILD MORTALITY.

A REPORT* on Child Mortality in England and Wales for the period 1911-14 has recently been issued as a supplement to the 45th Annual Report of the Local Government Board for 1915-16.

This volume contains an analysis of the incidence and causation of deaths occurring in England and Wales during infancy and in the next four years of life, with special reference to the deaths at these ages in the 245 chief provincial towns and in the 29 metropolitan boroughs.

The statistics show that the death-rate in England and Wales in 1911-14 for children under 5 years was 164 per 1,000 births, the corresponding rate for London, great towns, smaller towns and rural districts being 164, 188, 167, and 125 respectively. In four of the metropolitan boroughs, in 27 large towns and in 27 smaller towns the rate exceeded 200 per 1,000. The rate, moreover, showed a wide range, being three times as high in some areas as in others. In the metropolitan boroughs it varied from 112 in Hampstead to 241 in Shoreditch; and while in Bournemouth, Southend-on-Sea, Hastings, Eastbourne and Bath the rate ranged between 109 and 114, in Burnley, Wigan and Middlesbrough it was over 250.

Thus it is evident that the centres of excessive child mortality are generally those in which the chief industries of the country are carried on. A great reduction in the rate has, however, already been secured in some of the chief industrial centres, and the figures show great variations in towns having the same or closely allied industries.

The causes which contribute towards an excessive child mortality are dealt with in a special section of the Report. They include poverty, carelessness or neglect of mothers, often induced by alcoholism or by overwork, lack of medical care and nursing, overcrowding, defective sanitation, and the industrial employment of married women. Among these, overcrowding is shown to have an important determining influence. As a rule, child mortality is heavier in the larger than in the smaller towns, but there is no necessary connection between the size of a town and the amount of loss of child life. The true test of overcrowding is the population per room. In this connection the Report gives tables showing the forty great towns and the forty smaller towns which have the highest and the lowest child mortality, and their relative conditions as to overcrowding. With some exceptions these figures show that in the towns, both large and small, in which the child mortality was low, the proportion of overcrowded tenements was low. Further, in the towns, both large and small, having a high child mortality there is usually a high proportion of overcrowded tenements. The statistics, however, do not show an exact correlation between the degree of overcrowding in these towns and the child mortality rate, and, further, such large towns as Preston, Manchester, Rhondda and Nottingham, and smaller towns as Stalybridge, Ashton-under-Lyne, Chorley, and Hyde show an excessive child mortality rate without a high proportion of overcrowding.

The lack of exact relation referred to above between overcrowding and excessive child mortality is due largely to differences in the associated sanitary conditions. Overcrowding, combined with lack of cleanliness and ventilation, implies chronic exposure to a stuffy, dusty atmosphere with excessive changes of temperature; it also implies that food is stored under unsatisfactory conditions, while in tenement dwellings the storage of house refuse as well as of food in and close to the living-room adds to the possibilities of mischief. Poverty is, of course, responsible for some of these conditions, but, as pointed out in the Report, if the conditions were improved the evils of poverty would be reduced.

As regards the connection between the industrial employment of married women and an excessive child mortality, the general conclusion arrived at is that the effects of this factor are concealed very frequently by the preponderant action of other adverse sanitary and social influences. The statistics show that although child mortality is very excessive in many textile towns, such as Burnley, Wigan, Ashton-under-Lyne, and Farnworth, in which there is a high proportion of occupied married women, it is as excessive in some towns in which married women are seldom employed industrially, such as Ince-in-Makerfield, Middlesbrough, St. Helens and Barnsley.

It would appear that even in the most backward of the towns and boroughs much saving of child life has already been secured. It is estimated that if the average experience of the years 1901-10 had continued, the number of deaths at ages 0-5 in the four years 1911-14 would have been nearly 719,000, or 144,000 more than the 575,000 deaths which actually occurred.

But there is evidently still a large mass of preventable mortality. The Report states that in every area a very high proportion of the total present mortality can be obviated, and it is suggested that the reduction of this evil to one-half of its present size within the next few years is well within the range of administrative action.

INDUSTRIAL CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES IN 1915.

The following particulars relating to industrial co-operative societies in the United Kingdom are based upon returns made direct to the Department, supplemented by information supplied by the Co-operative Union and the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies.

DISTRIBUTION AND PRODUCTION. General Summary.

At the end of 1915 there were at work in the United Kingdom 1,498 industrial co-operative distributive and productive societies with an aggregate membership of 3,306,319, a total share, loan and reserve capital of £70,336,849, a total trade (distributive and productive) of £198,234,187,* and a total profit—before deduction of interest on share capital—of £16,967,949.

This is a decrease on 1914 of 26 societies (partly due to amalgamations), but an increase of 210,005 in membership, £5,533,778 in capital, £33,646,667 in trade, and £1,826,989 in profit.

The total number of persons directly employed by the societies was 148,827,* and the total amount of wages paid during the year £9,635,468.

While some of the societies are engaged only in distribution and some only in production, others are engaged in both distributive and productive operations. In the following statistics, however, distribution and production are dealt with separately.

DISTRIBUTION.

At the end of 1915, 1,374 retail and two wholesale industrial societies were engaged in distribution. These societies had an aggregate membership of 3,267,321, a total share, loan, and reserve capital of £63,332,749,†

* These figures are exclusive of the number and wages of persons employed in agriculture by industrial distributive societies and of the sales and transfers of agricultural produce by the societies, which will be dealt with in a later report.
† The figures include the capital used in the productive departments of retail societies, and the profit upon the productions of these societies, the amounts not being available separately. The capital used in the productive departments of the wholesale societies, £4,601,805, and the profit, £374,245, are not included.

sales amounting to £157,538,144, and a profit on distribution—before deducting interest on share capital—of £16,267,291, while the total number of persons directly employed in distribution by the societies was 87,351, and the total wages paid £5,530,181.

Year.	Retail Societies.		Wholesale Societies.	
	Number.	Sales.	Sales of English Society.	Sales of Scottish Society.
1905 ...	1,452	61,086,991	20,785,489	6,939,738
1906 ...	1,441	63,353,772	22,510,035	7,140,183
1907 ...	1,432	68,109,376	24,786,568	7,603,460
1908 ...	1,418	69,785,738	24,902,812	7,531,126
1909 ...	1,430	70,423,359	25,675,938	7,457,136
1910 ...	1,421	71,861,383	26,567,833	7,738,159
1911 ...	1,403	74,812,469	27,892,590	7,851,080
1912 ...	1,392	78,878,658	29,732,154	8,391,255
1913 ...	1,382	83,607,043	31,371,976	8,964,034
1914 ...	1,385	87,979,898	34,910,813	9,425,384
1915 ...	1,374	103,073,321	43,101,747	11,363,076

Of the total profit of £16,267,291, a sum of £14,971,692 was made by the retail societies and £1,295,599 by the two wholesale societies. In the case of the retail societies the greater part of the profit was distributed to the members as a dividend on purchases, at an average rate of 2s. 3½d. in the £1 in England and Wales, 3s. in Scotland, and 1s. 2½d. in Ireland, the average for the United Kingdom being 2s. 4½d. Compared with 1914 these rates of dividend show a decrease of 1½d. in England and Wales, 2d. in Scotland, and 1½d. for the United Kingdom, no change being shown in Ireland. Non-members usually receive dividends at one-half these rates.

The English and the Scottish wholesale societies paid to members a dividend on purchases of 6d. and 9d. in the £1 respectively.

In addition to the above societies, there were also at work in 1915 two societies, one a co-operative cab society in England, with 22 members, a capital of £1,281, a trade of £7,519, and profit of £157, and the other a co-operative motor society in Ireland, with a membership of 17, a capital of £890, trade amounting to £812, and a profit of £88.

Profit-sharing with Employees.—Of the total 1,374 retail societies, 160, employing 15,866 persons and paying wages amounting to £945,063 in their distributive departments, allotted out of the profits a total of £40,587 to their employees as a bonus on wages, this being equal to 4·3 per cent.

PRODUCTION.

In 1915 there were 1,118 industrial co-operative societies of various types engaged in production, consisting of 996 retail and two wholesale societies having productive departments, and of 120 associations for production only, consisting of 3 cornmilling societies, 37 breadbaking and other consumers' societies, and 80 associations of workers. The total number of persons employed by these societies was 61,438, the amount of wages paid during the year was £4,104,219, and the value of productions £40,687,712. Of the 61,438 persons employed in production, 50·9 per cent. were men, 30·8 per cent. women, and 18·3 per cent. were young persons under 18 years of age.

Year.	Associations of Consumers.					Grand Total of all Societies.
	Productive Departments of Distributive Societies.		Productive Societies.		Association of Workers.	
	Retail Societies.	Wholesale Societies.	Corn-milling Societies.	Baking & other Consumers' Societies.		
1905 ...	6,268,110	5,854,355	1,378,328	689,546	1,105,166	15,295,505
1906 ...	6,675,646	6,804,924	965,018	700,603	1,203,659	16,349,850
1907 ...	8,277,974	8,102,980	954,733	762,949	1,319,117	19,417,753
1908 ...	11,085,095	8,464,021	1,048,403	883,670	1,285,796	22,743,985
1909 ...	12,034,137	9,993,923	1,111,563	908,823	1,246,879	24,293,324
1910 ...	12,624,996	9,399,283	1,019,569	992,940	1,382,125	25,478,913
1911 ...	12,731,408	9,615,748	1,024,331	1,020,301	1,440,357	25,832,845
1912 ...	13,691,188	10,030,583	1,113,729	1,137,575	1,580,309	28,153,374
1913 ...	14,550,246	11,211,882	1,008,579	1,270,579	1,732,337	29,768,623
1914 ...	15,551,185	12,608,101	1,035,044	1,291,950	1,778,664	32,264,914
1915 ...	19,123,388	17,350,906	304,616	1,508,872	2,399,930	40,687,712

* In the case of the retail and wholesale societies the productions are usually transferred to the distributive departments.

The total value of productions has increased in ten years by £25,392,207, the greatest increase (205 per cent.) being shown by the productive departments of the retail societies. The productive departments of the wholesale societies show an increase of 196·4 per cent., the baking and other consumers' societies an increase of 118·8 per cent., and the associations of workers 117·1 per cent.

Cornmilling societies alone show a decrease (77·9 per cent.), this being largely due to the fact that in 1906 and 1915 several of the mills were absorbed by the English Wholesale Society.

The following Table analyses by groups of industries the number of persons employed, the amount of wages paid and the amount of sales and transfers of productions in 1915:—

Groups of Industries.	Associations of Consumers.			Associations of Workers.		
	No. of Employees.	Wages paid during 1915.	Sales and Transfers of Productions.	No. of Employees.	Wages paid during 1915.	Sales and Transfers of Productions.
Food and Tobacco...	15,873	1,245,952	30,196,474	161	12,978	112,690
Clothing ...	23,382	1,312,391	3,969,514	4,177	249,140	1,269,264
Soap, Candles and Starch	1,985	105,622	1,428,464	—	—	—
Textiles ...	2,232	118,960	657,705	1,708	104,493	680,408
Building, Quarrying and Woodworking	5,047	489,606	1,161,308	294	21,620	52,943
Printing	2,181	140,253	385,194	1,037	78,260	207,426
Metal Engineering and Shipbuilding	732	55,056	194,020	418	26,028	61,332
Other Industries ...	2,534	110,832	292,103	67	3,028	12,867
Totals, 1915 ...	53,576	3,608,672	33,281,782	7,862	495,547	2,399,930
Totals, 1914 ...	53,923	3,298,703	30,456,280	8,172	444,867	1,778,664

A total profit of £700,413 was made upon industrial production by societies other than retail societies, the profits of the productive departments of the latter being merged in their general profit, and therefore not separately ascertainable.

Of this total, £374,245 was made by the wholesale societies, £11,419 by the cornmilling societies, £153,041 by breadmaking and other consumers' societies, and £161,708 by the associations of workers.

Profit-sharing with Employees.—Of the 1,118 societies engaged in industrial production, 130, employing 11,075 persons in production, with wages amounting to £742,114, allotted a sum of £48,698* to these employees as a bonus on wages, this being equal to about 6½ per cent. Of the total amount, £9,906 was allotted by 90 retail distributive societies, £3,990 by 4 consumers' productive societies, and £29,802 by 36 associations of workers.†

Associations of workers: Share of employees in the membership, capital and management.—Seventy-one of the associations of workers for production, with sales amounting to £2,345,088, or 97·7 per cent. of the total sales of the 80 associations at work in 1915, made returns showing the extent to which their employees and others shared in the membership, capital and management of the associations.

The returns show that the total membership of the 71 associations was 22,700, of whom 4,655, or 20·5 per cent., consisted of employees, 14,143, or 62·3 per cent., of other individuals, and 3,902, or 17·2 per cent., of other societies. Of 7,569 persons employed by the associations, 4,655, or 61·5 per cent., were members of the associations employing them.

Of the £770,042 share and loan capital, £123,952, or 16·1 per cent., belonged to employees, £284,614, or 37·0 per cent., to other individuals, and £302,727, or 39·3 per cent., to other societies. The remaining £58,749, or 7·6 per cent., consisted of loans from non-members, including bank overdrafts. The total number of directors or committeemen of the associations was 653, of whom 257, or 39·3 per cent., were employees of the associations, 263, or 40·3 per cent., were other individual members, and 133, or 20·4 per cent., were representatives of other (shareholding) societies.

* In addition to this, a sum of £2,479 was allotted by the Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society as a bonus on wages to its employees up to 6th February, 1915, at which date the bonus system was abolished.
† Twenty-one of these societies and 4 additional societies (3 in England and 1 in Scotland) allotted in addition £5,242 to Provident Funds for the benefit of their employees.

REPORTS ON EMPLOYMENT IN THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES OF THE UNITED KINGDOM DURING MARCH.

COAL MINING.

EMPLOYMENT during March was dull in Northumberland and only fair in Durham and Fifeshire, but continued good in every other district. On the whole, it showed a decline as compared with either a month ago or a year ago. There was an increase of 27,608 (or 5·4 per cent.) in the number of workpeople employed compared with a year ago.

Of the 536,429 workpeople included in the returns for March, 1917, 249,069 (or 46·4 per cent.) were employed at pits working twelve days* during the fortnight to which the returns relate, while a further 139,952 (or 26·1 per cent.) were employed at pits working eleven but less than twelve days.

District.	No. of Workpeople employed in March, 1917, at the Collieries included in the Table.	Average number of days worked per week by the Collieries in Fortnight ended			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Mar., 1917, on a	
		Mar. 24th, 1917.	Feb. 24th, 1917.	Mar. 26th, 1916.	Month ago.	Year ago.
		Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.
ENGLAND AND WALES.						
Northumberland ...	42,206	3·68	4·24	5·47	- 0·56	- 1·79
Durham ...	88,227	4·36	4·95	5·57	- 0·69	- 0·71
Cumberland ...	7,433	5·70	5·82	5·83	- 0·12	- 0·13
South Yorkshire ...	62,046	5·88	5·86	5·83	+ 0·02	+ 0·05
West Yorkshire ...	21,402	5·93	5·93	5·66	+ 0·13	+ 0·27
Lancashire and Cheshire	51,632	5·92	5·79	5·81	+ 0·12	+ 0·08
Derbyshire ...	33,125	5·82	5·74	5·85	+ 0·08	- 0·03
Nottingham and Leicester	35,074	5·71	5·69	5·63	+ 0·02	+ 0·18
Staffordshire ...	29,449	5·81	5·73	5·75	+ 0·08	+ 0·06
Warwick, Worcester, and Salop	8,449	5·84	5·68	5·86	+ 0·16	- 0·02
Hampshire and Somerset	6,250	5·93	5·93	5·97	...	- 0·04
North Wales ...	9,539	5·98	5·96	5·91	+ 0·02	+ 0·07
South Wales and Mon. ...	93,766	5·55	5·52	5·88	+ 0·03	- 0·33
ENGLAND AND WALES ...	488,998	5·43	5·46	5·74	- 0·03	- 0·31
SCOTLAND.						
West Scotland ...	19,556	5·21	5·39	5·44	- 0·18	- 0·23
The Lothians ...	1,952	5·58	5·45	5·48	+ 0·13	+ 0·10
Fife ...	25,476	4·54	4·91	5·51	- 0·37	- 0·97
SCOTLAND ...	46,984	4·86	5·13	5·48	- 0·27	- 0·62
IRELAND ...	447	5·23	5·66	5·03	- 0·43	+ 0·20
UNITED KINGDOM ...	536,429	5·38	5·43	5·71	- 0·05	- 0·33

The following Table shows the numbers employed and the average number of days worked distributed according to the principal kind of coal raised at the pits at which the workpeople were engaged:—

Description of Coal.	No. of Workpeople employed in March, 1917, at the Collieries included in the Table.	Average number of days worked per week by the Pits in Fortnight ended			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Mar., 1917, on a	
		Mar. 24th, 1917.	Feb. 24th, 1917.	Mar. 26th, 1916.	Month ago.	Year ago.
		Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.
Anthracite ...	7,472	4·89	4·75	5·05	+ 0·14	- 0·16
Coking ...	28,547	5·72	5·72	5·77	...	- 0·05
Gas ...	33,149	4·59	4·77	5·55	- 0·18	- 0·96
House ...	50,768	5·60	5·49	5·67	+ 0·11	- 0·07
Steam ...	181,112	5·34	5·44	5·80	- 0·10	- 0·46
Mixed ...	235,331	5·45	5·48	5·69	- 0·03	- 0·24
ALL DESCRIPTIONS ...	536,429	5·38	5·43	5·71	- 0·05	- 0·33

IRON, SHALE, AND OTHER MINING, AND QUARRYING.

At iron mines employment continued very good, and was much better than a year ago. It continued good at shale, tin, and lead mines, and fairly good on the whole at quarries.

* The figures in this article and the following only show the number of days (allowance being made in all the calculations for short days) on which coal, iron ore or shale was got and drawn from the mines or open works included in the returns. It is not necessarily implied that all the persons employed worked every day that the mines or works were open.

MINING.

Iron.—Returns received for each of the three periods named below, relating to the same mines and open works in each case, show that 14,306 workpeople were employed at mines included in these Returns in March, 1917, an increase of 81 (or 0·6 per cent.) compared with February, and of 895 (or 6·7 per cent.) compared with a year ago.

District.	Workpeople employed in Mar., 1917, at Mines included in the Returns.	Average number of days* worked per week by Mines in Fortnight ended			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Mar., 1917, on a	
		24th Mar., 1917.	24th Feb., 1917.	25th Mar., 1916.	Month ago.	Year ago.
		Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.
Cleveland ...	6,078	5·92	5·87	5·43	+ 0·05	+ 0·49
Cumberland and Lancashire	4,815	5·94	5·90	5·94	+ 0·01	...
Scotland ...	718	6·00	5·93	5·72	+ 0·07	+ 0·28
Other Districts ...	2,695	5·96	5·89	5·67	+ 0·07	+ 0·29
ALL DISTRICTS ...	14,306	5·94	5·89	5·67	+ 0·05	+ 0·27

Shale.—The returns received show that 3,211 workpeople were employed in the fortnight ended 24th March, 1917, at mines which worked on the average 5·90 days per week, compared with 3,205 workpeople in February at mines which worked 6·02 days, and with 3,097 workpeople in March, 1916, at mines which worked 5·93 days per week.

Tin.—Labour was again scarce, and there was practically no unemployment.

Lead.—Employment continued good in Flintshire and Darley Dale and very good in Weardale.

QUARRYING.

State.—Employment continued fair in North Wales and fairly good with an improvement at Delabole.

Granite.—In Leicestershire employment was good. It continued good in Cornwall and South Devon.

Limestone.—Employment continued good generally in limestone quarries in Weardale, Cleveland, South Durham, and in the Buxton district; it was quiet and showed a decline in the Plymouth district.

Other Stone.—Employment continued good in the basalt quarries at Clee Hill; it was quiet in the Bakewell chert quarries. In the Rowsley district employment was good in grindstone, but bad in building stone quarries.

Settmaking.—Employment was good in Leicestershire, quiet in the Clee Hill district, fair at Glasgow, moderate at Bonawe, and dull at Kilsyth.

China Clay.—Employment was moderate at St. Austell and continued good at Shaugh and Lee Moor.

PIG IRON INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT continued good, and showed an improvement as compared with either a month ago or a year ago. Shortage of labour was reported.

District.	Number of Furnaces, included in the Returns, in Blast at end of			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in March, 1917, on a	
	Mar., 1917.	Feb., 1917.	Mar., 1916.	Month ago.	Year ago.

ENGLAND AND WALES:					
Cleveland ...	77	75	69	+ 2	+ 8
Cumberland and Lanes ...	32	30	29	+ 2	+ 3
S. and S.W. Yorks. ...	13	13	11	...	+ 2
Derby and Nottingham ...	28	28	27	...	+ 1
Leicester, Lincoln and Northampton	28	28	27	...	+ 1
Staffs and Worcester ...	30	30	29	...	+ 1
S. Wales and Monmouth...	13	10	11	+ 3	+ 2
Other districts ...	5	5	5	...	...
ENGLAND AND WALES ...	226	219	208	+ 7	+ 18
SCOTLAND ...	70	71	56	- 1	+ 14
TOTAL ...	296	290	264	+ 6	+ 32

* See note * in previous column.

IRON AND STEEL WORKS.

EMPLOYMENT at iron and steel works continued very good and showed an improvement as compared with either a month ago or a year ago. Shortage of labour was again reported from every district.

SUMMARY OF EMPLOYERS' RETURNS.

Division.	No. of Workpeople employed by firms making returns.		Aggregate number of Shifts worked.		Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Mar., 1917, on a	
	Week ended 24th Mar., 1917.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a		Week ended 24th Mar., 1917.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
		Per cent.	Per cent.		Per cent.	Per cent.
DEPARTMENTS.						
Open Hearth Melting Furnaces ...	11,546	+ 1.8	+ 13.3	68,632	+ 2.3	+ 12.7
Crucible Furnaces ...	627	- 2.5	+ 8.7	3,724	- 0.1	+ 8.4
Bessemer Converters ...	1,881	+ 0.3	+ 23.4	10,156	- 4.0	+ 17.5
Puddling Forges ...	7,029	+ 1.5	+ 3.8	37,673	+ 5.3	+ 5.0
Rolling Mills ...	32,291	+ 1.3	+ 6.8	176,393	+ 1.4	+ 7.1
Forging and Pressing ...	5,247	+ 1.3	+ 10.4	30,207	+ 0.6	+ 9.4
Founding ...	16,615	+ 0.3	- 0.6	99,183	+ 0.3	- 8.0
Other Departments ...	15,199	- 0.2	+ 7.7	88,776	+ 0.1	+ 7.7
Mechanics, Labourers ...	24,414	+ 0.5	+ 15.8	146,661	+ 1.1	+ 16.2
TOTAL ...	114,849	+ 0.8	+ 8.4	661,405	+ 1.2	+ 7.1
DISTRICTS.						
Northumberland & Durham ...	13,304	+ 1.0	+ 8.3	75,687	+ 1.2	+ 6.9
Cleveland ...	19,941	+ 0.0	+ 13.6	64,615	+ 0.8	+ 13.1
Sheffield and Rotherham ...	30,184	+ 1.1	+ 6.0	177,496	+ 1.5	+ 0.9
Leeds, Bradford, &c. ...	3,690	+ 1.7	- 3.5	20,800	+ 1.3	- 4.2
Cumberland, Lancashire & Cheshire ...	9,089	- 0.8	+ 10.2	51,729	+ 0.1	+ 11.9
Staffordshire ...	8,758	+ 2.2	+ 2.9	43,295	+ 4.4	+ 4.2
Other Midland Counties ...	5,035	- 0.2	+ 10.5	28,794	+ 0.5	+ 11.2
Wales and Monmouth ...	13,856	+ 0.2	+ 7.9	76,772	- 0.2	+ 8.4
TOTAL, England & Wales ...	94,857	+ 0.7	+ 7.3	544,188	+ 1.2	+ 5.7
Scotland ...	19,992	+ 1.4	+ 13.7	117,217	+ 1.2	+ 14.1
TOTAL ...	114,849	+ 0.8	+ 8.4	661,405	+ 1.2	+ 7.1

ENGINEERING TRADES.

THESE trades continued to be extremely busy during March, and a large amount of overtime was worked.

Trade Unions with 274,402 members (mostly in skilled occupations) reported 0.1 per cent. unemployed at the end of March, compared with 0.1 per cent. in February and 0.3 per cent. a year ago.

The following Table shows the number of workpeople (skilled and unskilled) in these trades who were insured against unemployment under Part II. of the National Insurance Act :-

Division.	Number Insured.	Percentage of Unemployment Books lodged at			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Mar., 1917, on a	
		30th Mar., 1917.	23rd Feb., 1917.	31st Mar., 1916.	Month ago.	Year ago.
London ...	132,537	1.62	1.33	1.19	+ 0.29	+ 0.43
Northern Counties ...	98,882	0.27	0.22	0.14	+ 0.05	+ 0.13
North-Western ...	206,175	0.75	0.69	0.46	+ 0.06	+ 0.29
Yorkshire ...	141,457	0.37	0.37	0.29	...	+ 0.08
East Midlands ...	74,079	0.44	0.44	0.38	...	+ 0.06
West Midlands ...	142,717	0.40	0.42	0.45	- 0.02	- 0.05
Eastern and S.E. Counties ...	73,155	0.44	0.41	0.24	+ 0.03	+ 0.20
South-Western ...	41,722	0.34	0.35	0.43	- 0.01	- 0.09
Wales ...	21,985	0.37	0.41	0.14	- 0.04	+ 0.23
Scotland ...	164,306	0.35	0.33	0.23	+ 0.02	+ 0.12
Ireland ...	21,530	1.55	1.37	1.84	+ 0.18	- 0.29
UNITED KINGDOM ...	1,118,545	0.61	0.55	0.45	+ 0.06	+ 0.16

The general state of employment as described above applied, with few exceptions, to all districts and to all occupations. Certain branches of the textile engineering trade, however, remained slack, and in some cases short time was worked in this trade.

SHIPBUILDING TRADES.

WORK continued at high pressure, with overtime in operation to a large extent, very few workpeople being unemployed in any district.

Trade Unions of iron and steel shipbuilders and shipwrights with 76,114 members reported 0.3 per cent. unemployed at the end of March, compared with 0.2 per cent. in February and January, and with 0.3 per cent. a year ago.

The following Table shows the number of workpeople (skilled and unskilled) in these trades who were insured against unemployment under Part II. of the National Insurance Act :-

Division.	Number Insured.	Percentage of Unemployment Books lodged at			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Mar., 1917, on a	
		30th Mar., 1917.	23rd Feb., 1917.	31st Mar., 1916.	Month ago.	Year ago.
London ...	9,643	0.96	0.90	1.70	+ 0.06	- 0.74
Northern Counties ...	53,105	0.27	0.17	0.14	+ 0.10	+ 0.13
North-Western ...	30,497	0.25	0.22	0.17	+ 0.03	+ 0.08
Yorkshire ...	5,952	0.30	0.30	0.29	...	+ 0.01
East Midlands ...	1,914	0.63	0.78	1.12	- 0.15	- 0.49
West Midlands ...	610	0.16	0.33	...	- 0.17	+ 0.16
Eastern and S.E. Counties ...	5,716	0.33	0.28	0.42	+ 0.07	- 0.09
South-Western ...	18,818	0.23	0.28	0.71	- 0.05	- 0.48
Wales ...	11,037	0.37	0.31	0.15	+ 0.06	+ 0.22
Scotland ...	69,231	0.08	0.07	0.09	+ 0.01	- 0.01
Ireland ...	16,378	1.07	0.87	2.58	+ 0.20	- 1.51
UNITED KINGDOM ...	222,901	0.30	0.26	0.45	+ 0.04	- 0.15

On the Clyde employment with joiners was even better than a month ago, but a number of riveting squads were paid off owing to work not being sufficiently advanced for riveting. On the Tyne and Wear employment continued good except at one large works, where it declined with riveters, caulkers, and platers. Repair work at Middlesbrough and Hartlepool was only moderate on the whole. At Swansea employment was reported as having slightly declined, and a decline was also reported with joiners at Cardiff.

TINPLATE AND STEEL AND GALVANISED SHEET TRADE.

THE following Table shows the number of tinplate and steel sheet mills in operation at the end of March, 1917, at the works covered by the returns :-

Works.	Number of Works open.			Number of Mills in operation.		
	At end of March, 1917.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		At end of March, 1917.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
Tinplate ...	74	...	- 1	252	...	- 148
Steel Sheet ...	11	+ 1	- 1	58	+ 3	- 28
TOTAL ...	85	+ 1	- 2	310	+ 3	- 176

TINPLATE.

The number of mills working at the end of March showed no change compared with the previous month, but a decrease of 148 compared with March, 1916. Much short time continued to be worked owing to the restriction in the supply of steel bars.

STEEL AND GALVANISED SHEETS.

The number of mills working at the end of March showed an increase of 3 as compared with February, but a decrease of 28 on a year ago. Employment at sheet mills showed an improvement on account of Government orders.

MISCELLANEOUS METAL TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT continued good in most of these trades, especially with brass, cutlery and sheet metal workers; much overtime was worked by brass and sheet metal workers.

Trade Unions with 41,521 members reported 0.1 per cent. unemployed at the end of March, February and January, 1917, and March, 1916.

Brasswork.—Brassworkers were exceptionally busy, and a large amount of overtime was worked.

Nuts, Bolts, Nails, &c.—Nut, bolt, &c., workers continued well employed on the Tyne and at Birmingham, Smethwick and Darlaston, and very busy at Blackheath and Halesowen. Employment was very good with shoe rivet and wire nail makers at Birmingham.

Cutlery, Tools, Bits, Stirrups, &c.—The Sheffield cutlery trades were very busy. Employment with edge tool makers was fair at Birmingham; it was good and

WOOLLEN AND WORSTED TRADES.

WOOLLEN TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT continued very good, but in many cases machinery was standing idle owing to the shortage of labour.

SUMMARY OF EMPLOYERS' RETURNS.

DEPARTMENTS.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended 24th Mar., 1917.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 24th Mar., 1917.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Wool Sorting ...	495	- 1.2	- 2.0	498	+ 1.3	+ 12.2
Spinning ...	5,162	- 0.1	- 1.9	7,425	+ 1.0	+ 12.5
Weaving ...	7,756	- 0.3	- 3.6	9,350	+ 2.1	+ 13.2
Other Departments ...	5,468	+ 0.2	- 1.6	7,899	+ 2.8	+ 15.0
Not specified ...	1,763	- 0.5	- 6.4	2,360	- 0.3	+ 8.7
TOTAL ...	20,644	- 0.1	- 2.9	27,732	+ 1.8	+ 13.1
DISTRICTS.						
Huddersfield District ...	3,012	- 0.7	- 3.0	4,871	- 1.6	+ 13.6
Leeds District ...	2,032	+ 1.3	- 5.6	3,005	+ 1.0	+ 23.3
Dewsbury & Batley District ...	2,196	+ 0.7	- 4.2	3,331	+ 0.5	+ 15.7
Other Parts of West Riding ...	2,249	- 1.5	- 2.8	3,254	- 1.2	+ 12.8
TOTAL, WEST RIDING ...	9,489	- 0.1	- 3.8	14,461	- 0.5	+ 15.0
Scotland ...	4,722	- 0.1	- 2.7	5,713	+ 1.4	+ 12.0
Other Districts ...	6,433	- 0.1	- 1.6	7,558	+ 6.7	+ 9.0
TOTAL ...	20,644	- 0.1	- 2.9	27,732	+ 1.8	+ 13.1

There was much activity in the Huddersfield, Dewsbury and Batley and Leeds districts, and all the mills were fully employed except in cases where machinery was standing for want of operatives. The flannel mills in the Stockport and Rochdale districts were working at full pressure on Government contracts, and in Scotland also employment continued very good.

WORSTED TRADE.

In this trade also employment continued very brisk, and labour was in great demand.

SUMMARY OF EMPLOYERS' RETURNS.

DEPARTMENTS.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended 24th Mar., 1917.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 24th Mar., 1917.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Preparing ...	15,780	- 1.6	- 6.0	18,848	- 0.1	+ 10.0
Spinning ...	30,196	- 0.8	- 3.9	37,331	+ 0.1	+ 11.5
Weaving ...	68,592	- 0.6	- 9.7	78,836	+ 1.4	- 4.0
Other ...	12,114	+ 0.6	- 7.7	17,587	+ 0.4	+ 1.6
Not specified ...	11,720	- 0.5	- 8.5	15,170	- 1.0	+ 0.4
TOTAL ...	138,402	- 0.7	- 7.8	167,772	+ 0.5	+ 1.6
DISTRICTS.						
Ashton ...	7,734	- 1.0	- 10.3	9,478	+ 0.9	+ 1.7
Stockport, Glossop and Hyde ...	10,015	- 0.0	- 7.7	12,412	+ 0.3	+ 6.7
Oldham ...	10,982	- 0.9	- 8.0	15,163	+ 1.0	+ 8.5
Bolton and Leigh ...	20,265	- 0.2	- 3.0	22,832	+ 1.6	+ 8.5
Bury, Rochdale, Heywood, Walsden and Todmorden ...	11,315	- 1.0	- 8.9	13,888	- 0.8	+ 1.6
Manchester ...	10,624	- 0.1	- 7.5	12,048	+ 0.6	+ 2.5
Preston and Chorley ...	9,265	- 0.1	- 5.3	10,731	+ 1.0	+ 6.8
Blackburn, Accrington and Darwen ...	22,412	- 2.4	- 12.7	26,922	- 1.7	- 7.6
Burnley, Padiham, Colne and Nelson ...	18,712	+ 0.4	- 8.3	25,924	+ 1.1	- 4.1
Other Lancashire Towns ...	4,761	- 0.7	- 11.0	5,032	+ 1.4	+ 1.7
Yorkshire Towns ...	5,730	- 0.3	- 5.7	6,296	+ 1.5	+ 6.1
Other Districts ...	6,607	- 0.7	- 0.6	7,046	+ 1.4	+ 5.4
TOTAL ...	138,402	- 0.7	- 7.8	167,772	+ 0.5	+ 1.6
DISTRICTS.						
Bradford District ...	17,583	- 0.6	- 5.2	21,952	+ 1.4	+ 18.4
Keighley District ...	5,901	+ 1.4	+ 0.6	6,639	+ 4.7	+ 18.0
Halifax District ...	2,215	+ 0.0	- 3.1	2,270	- 0.4	+ 13.6
Huddersfield District ...	3,353	...	- 1.3	4,467	+ 2.7	+ 22.5
Other Parts of West Riding ...	2,369	- 2.1	+ 8.4	2,795	+ 3.3	+ 33.2
TOTAL, WEST RIDING ...	31,421	- 0.3	- 2.7	38,123	+ 2.2	+ 19.5
Other Districts ...	2,256	- 1.5	- 4.2	2,356	+ 2.2	+ 14.7
TOTAL ...	33,677	- 0.3	- 2.8	40,479	+ 2.2	+ 19.2

In all departments in the Bradford district employment was very good. In the Keighley, Halifax and Huddersfield districts there was also much activity, and employment everywhere was even better than a year ago.

LINEN TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT in Ireland was fair on the whole and above the level of a year ago. In Scotland employment continued good. The supply of labour was insufficient, especially in Scotland.

showed an improvement at Wednesbury. At Walsall it was fair with bit and stirrup makers, and quiet with saddle, &c., furniture makers.

Tubes.—Employment with tube makers in the Midlands was good, with a scarcity of skilled labour.

Chains, Anchors, &c.—At Cradley Heath employment was fairly good with cable chain and good with block chain makers. Motor chain makers continued well employed at Walsall. Employment was again good with anchor smiths at Cradley Heath, and with anvil, &c., makers at Dudley, and fair with axle and spring makers at Wednesbury.

Sheet Metal Workers.—Employment was again very good, and a large amount of overtime continued to be worked.

Wire.—Wire workers continued fully employed, and there was a shortage of labour and materials in some centres.

Locks, Hollow-ware, &c.—Employment continued fair in the lock trade at Wolverhampton. There was an improvement in the Midland galvanised hollow-ware trade; in the cast iron hollow-ware trade it was good; in the tin and enamelled ware trades employment was fairly good at Wolverhampton, but showed a decline as compared with February.

Stoves, Grates, &c.—Employment was fairly good on the whole, and better than a month ago.

COTTON TRADE.

DURING March employment continued good in the spinning and carding departments, and fair on the whole in the weaving branch. The shortage of labour became more acute.

SUMMARY OF EMPLOYERS' RETURNS.

DEPARTMENTS.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended 24th Mar., 1917.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 24th Mar., 1917.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Preparing ...	15,780					

SUMMARY OF EMPLOYERS' RETURNS.

DEPARTMENTS.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended 24th Mar., 1917.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 24th Mar., 1917.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
Preparing ...	5,604	+ 1.2	+ 0.6	4,284	- 0.1	+ 16.7
Spinning ...	11,473	+ 0.5	+ 0.2	7,621	+ 1.2	+ 19.0
Weaving ...	12,249	+ 1.0	- 2.7	10,859	+ 5.0	+ 16.0
Other ...	5,528	- 0.1	- 1.4	5,992	+ 0.8	+ 11.8
Not specified...	3,000	- 0.3	- 1.0	2,454	+ 0.7	+ 15.7
TOTAL ...	37,854	+ 0.6	- 1.0	31,210	+ 2.2	+ 15.9
DISTRICTS.						
Belfast ...	17,728	+ 0.7	+ 0.0	14,273	+ 3.4	+ 20.9
Other places in Ireland ...	10,316	+ 0.8	+ 3.0	7,709	+ 0.6	+ 19.4
TOTAL IRELAND ...	28,044	+ 0.8	+ 1.1	21,982	+ 2.4	+ 20.3
Other Districts.						
Fifehire ...	4,330	+ 0.4	- 8.6	3,731	+ 1.0	- 0.1
Other places in Scotland ...	5,030	+ 0.1	- 3.8	5,093	+ 2.4	+ 15.0
TOTAL SCOTLAND ...	9,360	+ 0.2	- 6.1	8,824	+ 1.8	+ 8.1
England ...	450	- 0.9	- 15.7	396	- 2.5	- 17.3
UNITED KINGDOM ...	37,854	+ 0.6	- 1.0	31,210	+ 2.2	+ 15.9

In the Belfast district employment showed little change compared with a month ago, and short time was still worked by a number of mills. Flax dressers reported employment as good, while with flax roughers, yarn spinners, weavers and winders it was fair.

At Dunfermline and Brechin employment continued good.

JUTE TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT, which was mainly on Government work, continued good in Dundee and the surrounding districts. The supply of men and women workers was generally reported as insufficient.

SUMMARY OF EMPLOYERS' RETURNS.

DEPARTMENTS.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended 24th Mar., 1917.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 24th Mar., 1917.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
Preparing ...	3,039	+ 0.9	+ 0.9	3,343	+ 1.6	+ 11.2
Spinning ...	3,616	+ 0.1	- 0.7	3,781	+ 1.6	+ 10.6
Weaving ...	4,612	- 0.1	- 0.6	5,454	+ 0.7	+ 10.1
Other ...	1,834	- 0.5	- 4.4	2,718	+ 1.1	+ 10.0
TOTAL ...	13,101	+ 0.1	- 0.9	15,296	+ 1.2	+ 10.4

HOSIERY TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT in all the principal districts continued good and showed little change compared with March, 1916; manufacturers were hampered by the shortage of labour and by the difficulty in obtaining yarn.

SUMMARY OF EMPLOYERS' RETURNS.

District.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended 24th Mar., 1917.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 24th Mar., 1917.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
Leicester ...	11,821	- 0.2	- 2.3	13,190	+ 2.8	+ 2.8
Leicester Country District...	1,516	- 1.6	- 3.3	1,621	+ 1.2	+ 2.3
Notts and Derbyshire ...	4,492	- 1.0	- 6.5	4,352	+ 1.4	- 2.4
Scotland ...	3,319	- 0.5	- 3.3	3,502	+ 2.0	+ 9.5
Other Districts ...	634	+ 5.1	+ 8.4	597	- 0.4	+ 2.8
TOTAL, UNITED KINGDOM ...	21,782	- 0.4	- 3.2	23,172	+ 2.3	+ 2.7

* Comparison of earnings with a year ago is affected by advances in rates of wages and war bonuses.

LACE TRADE.

THERE was little change in this trade compared with a month ago, but employment on the whole was not so good as a year ago; it was bad in the levers section, fairly good in the curtain branch, and very good in the plain net branch. The supply of labour was insufficient.

SUMMARY OF EMPLOYERS' RETURNS.

BRANCHES.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended 24th Mar., 1917.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 24th Mar., 1917.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
Lavers... ..	1,703	- 1.7	- 12.6	2,186	+ 0.0	- 9.1
Curtain	1,739	+ 0.4	- 18.4	2,313	+ 0.7	- 12.9
Plain Net	2,881	+ 0.3	- 2.2	3,324	+ 0.9	+ 6.3
Others... ..	1,011	- 0.4	- 7.6	1,000	+ 1.0	+ 3.7
TOTAL	7,394	- 0.2	- 9.8	8,823	+ 0.7	- 3.6
DISTRICTS.						
Nottingham City ...	2,501	- 0.2	- 10.4	2,733	- 0.4	- 2.2
Long Eaton and other out-lying Districts	915	- 1.2	- 12.9	1,299	- 0.5	- 12.7
Other English Districts ...	2,606	+ 0.7	- 1.4	3,066	+ 3.4	+ 5.3
Scotland	1,372	- 1.2	- 19.8	1,734	- 1.5	- 11.9
TOTAL	7,394	- 0.2	- 9.8	8,823	+ 0.7	- 3.6

SILK TRADE.

In this trade employment continued fairly good. The supply of labour was not equal to the demand.

SUMMARY OF EMPLOYERS' RETURNS.

BRANCHES.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended 24th Mar., 1917.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 24th Mar., 1917.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
Throwing	1,112	- 0.6	- 5.9	647	+ 2.5	+ 5.9
Spinning	2,610	- 0.8	+ 1.0	2,927	+ 4.5	+ 16.8
Weaving	2,638	+ 1.4	- 5.1	2,373	+ 2.8	+ 6.6
Other	1,559	- 0.6	- 3.5	1,686	+ 2.6	+ 12.4
Not specified...	304	+ 0.7	- 0.3	309	+ 4.4	+ 20.7
TOTAL	8,223	+ 0.0	- 2.9	7,942	+ 3.4	+ 11.9
DISTRICTS.						
Lancashire and W. Riding of Yorkshire	2,702	- 0.1	- 2.7	3,178	+ 3.3	+ 16.7
Macclesfield, Congleton and District	2,022	- 0.3	- 2.6	2,011	+ 4.0	+ 8.9
Eastern Counties	1,840	+ 0.7	- 1.0	1,488	+ 3.0	+ 12.1
Other Districts, including Scotland	1,659	- 0.1	- 5.6	1,265	+ 3.3	+ 5.2
TOTAL	8,223	+ 0.0	- 2.9	7,942	+ 3.4	+ 11.9

In the Macclesfield district, and at Norwich and Yarmouth, employment was good except with weavers at Macclesfield and pickers at Leek, with whom employment was only fair. In the West Riding employment was fairly good, while at Halstead, Braintree, and Sudbury it continued fair.

CARPET TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT continued fairly good, but there was a considerable shortage of labour.

Returns from firms employing 5,122 workpeople in the week ended 24th March and paying £6,364 in wages showed a decrease of 3.8 per cent. in the number employed and an increase of 2.9 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago, there was a decrease of 16.9 per cent. in numbers and an increase of 1.8 per cent. in wages.

At Kidderminster and in the West Riding employment was fairly good; a number of the operatives in the latter district were making heavy blankets or overcoatings. In Scotland there was a marked decline in numbers compared with a year ago, but those still in the trade were well employed.

* Comparison of earnings with a year ago is affected by advances in rates of wages and war bonuses.

BLEACHING, PRINTING, DYEING AND FINISHING.

EMPLOYMENT in these trades continued good, with a considerable shortage of labour.

SUMMARY OF EMPLOYERS' RETURNS.

TRADES:	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended 24th Mar., 1917.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 24th Mar., 1917.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
Bleaching	2,710	+ 0.9	- 0.9	3,834	+ 0.4	+ 13.7
Printing	612	- 1.6	+ 1.7	1,186	+ 1.7	+ 21.9
Dyeing	12,166	- 0.2	- 5.0	26,314	+ 0.7	+ 13.2
Trimming, Finishing and other Departments	6,901	- 0.3	- 0.5	10,901	- 0.3	+ 18.3
Not specified	2,095	- 1.2	- 1.9	3,426	+ 4.4	+ 13.9
TOTAL	24,484	- 0.2	- 2.9	45,691	+ 0.7	+ 14.7
DISTRICTS:						
Yorkshire	12,392	- 0.1	- 4.8	26,718	+ 0.2	+ 13.2
Lancashire	7,556	- 0.5	+ 0.6	12,528	+ 0.7	+ 19.3
Scotland	1,771	- 0.5	- 4.9	2,339	+ 1.1	+ 13.8
Ireland	696	- 3.2	- 4.1	671	- 0.9	+ 6.3
Other Districts	2,069	+ 1.5	- 1.5	3,435	+ 5.2	+ 13.1
TOTAL	24,484	- 0.2	- 2.9	45,691	+ 0.7	+ 14.7

Employment in the bleaching trade continued good in Lancashire and at Basford, where the hosiery section was exceptionally busy.

With machine calico printers and engravers in England employment was good, but a large proportion have enlisted, especially engravers; in Scotland it was good with printers and with engravers.

Woolen, worsted and cotton dyers in Yorkshire and Lancashire, silk dyers in the Macclesfield district, and lace and hosiery dyers in the Nottingham district all continued well employed. A large amount of overtime was worked by the woolen and worsted dyers.

In the trimming and finishing trades at Leicester employment continued fairly good, while at Basford it was fair. At Dundee employment was good with calender workers.

BOOT AND SHOE TRADE.

In all the principal districts great activity continued, largely on Government contracts, and employment was quite up to the level of a year ago, when it was also very good.

SUMMARY OF EMPLOYERS' RETURNS.

District.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended 24th March, 1917.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 24th March, 1917.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
ENGLAND AND WALES, London	1,911	- 1.7	- 7.1	3,055	+ 1.3	+ 6.1
Leicester	11,067	- 1.0	- 2.6	16,850	- 1.2	+ 5.7
Leicester Country District	2,579	- 2.3	- 2.6	3,516	- 3.3	+ 8.4
Northampton	8,906	- 3.7	- 5.0	13,386	- 1.1	+ 12.3
Northampton Country District	7,901	- 0.4	- 6.9	10,901	- 1.5	+ 5.4
Kettering	2,980	- 1.4	- 5.3	4,241	+ 0.5	+ 7.9
Stafford and District ...	2,503	- 1.0	- 4.3	3,211	- 1.7	+ 4.7
Norwich and District ...	3,876	- 0.5	- 4.2	4,662	+ 1.0	+ 4.7
Bristol and District ...	1,228	- 1.6	- 5.7	1,516	- 0.7	+ 4.5
Kingswood	1,231	- 2.1	- 4.4	1,812	- 0.1	+ 11.2
Leeds and District	1,948	- 0.8	- 6.8	2,803	+ 1.1	+ 7.1
Lancashire (mainly Rossendale Valley)	3,684	- 1.6	+ 1.3	4,615	- 4.1	+ 8.0
Birmingham and District	897	- 0.9	+ 0.1	1,050	- 1.8	+ 11.1
Other parts of England and Wales	1,924	- 0.6	+ 2.6	2,187	+ 0.9	+ 18.0
ENGLAND AND WALES ...	62,650	- 1.5	- 4.0	73,868	- 1.0	+ 7.7
SCOTLAND	2,962	+ 1.2	+ 0.5	3,899	+ 1.8	+ 7.6
IRELAND	581	+ 0.2	+ 5.4	560	+ 4.1	+ 22.3
UNITED KINGDOM ...	56,193	- 1.4	- 3.7	78,367	- 0.9	+ 7.8

* Comparison of earnings with a year ago is affected by war bonuses and increases in rates of wages.

LEATHER TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT continued good on the whole, with a scarcity of men, and in many districts overtime was worked. There was an improvement in the saddle and harness trades, some overtime being worked, though a number of men at Walsall were still on short time.

Trade Unions with 3,706 members reported 0.9 per cent. as unemployed at the end of March, compared with 2.7 per cent. in February and 1.3 per cent. a year ago.

TAILORING TRADE. BESPOKE.

London.—Employment during March showed an improvement, partly due to Army work, and was better than a year ago. Returns from firms paying £7,328 in wages to their workpeople (indoor and outdoor workers) during the four weeks ended 24th March showed an increase of 11.5 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago and of 17.6 per cent. compared with a year ago.

Other Centres.—At Liverpool employment continued quiet, and was about the same as a year ago; at Sheffield and Belfast it was good, while at Edinburgh and Cork it was reported as fair.

READY-MADE.

In this branch employment continued fair, but was not so good as in March, 1916. The supply of cutters and machinists was insufficient.

SUMMARY OF EMPLOYERS' RETURNS: READY-MADE TRADE.

District.	Indoor Workpeople.					
	Number Employed.			Earnings.		
	Week ended 24th Mar., 1917.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 24th Mar., 1917.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Leeds	6,780	+ 0.7	- 15.0	7,750	+ 4.9	+ 1.0
Manchester	2,744	+ 2.7	- 14.3	3,342	+ 5.4	+ 1.7
Other places in Yorkshire, Lancs. and Cheshire	3,727	+ 0.6	- 15.6	3,514	+ 4.5	- 3.1
Bristol	937	+ 2.7	- 9.7	875	+ 16.4	+ 14.7
North and West Midland Counties (excluding Bristol)	2,970	- 1.3	- 9.8	2,558	- 5.3	- 11.5
South Midland and Eastern Counties	2,880	+ 0.5	- 6.3	2,721	+ 9.5	+ 6.5
London	3,343	- 3.1	- 14.0	4,224	- 0.9	- 10.8
Glasgow	1,711	+ 1.1	- 14.7	1,971	+ 5.6	+ 6.7
Rest of United Kingdom ...	2,206	- 0.5	- 7.6	1,721	- 10.8	- 6.3
TOTAL, UNITED KINGDOM ...	27,264	+ 0.2	- 12.7	28,706	+ 2.7	- 1.8

SHIRT AND COLLAR TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT on the whole continued fair, and the supply of male cutters and women machinists was insufficient, especially in London and Manchester.

SUMMARY OF EMPLOYERS' RETURNS.

District.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended 24th Mar., 1917.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 24th Mar., 1917.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
		Per				

HAT TRADE.

Silk.—Employment in this branch continued bad.
Felt.—In this branch employment on the whole was fairly good, and better than a year ago for those still in the trade. Short time was reported at Denton and Stockport, due partly to the labour shortage.

**OTHER CLOTHING TRADES.
 DRESSMAKING AND MILLINERY.**

EMPLOYMENT with dressmakers in retail firms in London continued fair. Returns from firms, chiefly in the West End, employing 1,258 dressmakers in the week ended 24th March showed no change in the number employed compared with a month ago, and a decrease of 9.2 per cent. compared with a year ago. With court and private dressmakers and with milliners in the West End employment showed an improvement.

**WHOLESALE MANTLE, COSTUME, BLOUSE, ETC.,
 TRADES.**

In this section employment continued fair. Firms in London employing 4,494 workpeople on their premises (in addition to outworkers) in the week ended 24th March showed an increase of 0.4 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and a decrease of 7.8 per cent. compared with a year ago.

At Manchester, returns from firms employing 4,555 workpeople in the week ended 24th March showed an increase of 0.5 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and a decrease of 8.4 per cent. compared with a year ago.

At Glasgow, returns from firms employing 1,839 workpeople in the week ended 24th March showed a decrease of 0.5 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and of 16.5 per cent. compared with a year ago.

CORSET TRADE.

Employment continued good. Firms (mainly in England) employing 6,011 workpeople in their factories in the week ended 24th March showed a decrease of 1.1 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and of 6.7 per cent. compared with a year ago.

BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION OF WORKS.

MEN remaining in the building trade were generally well employed, partly owing to Government requirements, though private building work (except repairs) continued slack, and outdoor work was somewhat delayed by bad weather.

The following Table shows the general percentage of State-insured workpeople unemployed in all building occupations :—

Occupations.	Number Insured at end of March, 1917.	Percentage Unemployed at end of March.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
			Month ago.	Year ago.
Carpenters ...	95,239	0.61	+ 0.07	- 0.60
Bricklayers ...	42,277	0.70	- 0.26	- 0.77
Masons ...	22,146	1.25	- 0.56	- 1.16
Plasterers ...	11,313	1.56	- 1.52	- 2.94
Painters ...	73,305	1.19	- 1.73	- 0.63
Plumbers ...	26,302	0.32	+ 0.07	- 0.60
Other skilled occupations ...	30,484	0.67	+ 0.03	- 0.27
Navvies ...	80,534	0.42	+ 0.01	...
Labourers ...	163,118	0.74	- 0.02	- 0.26
ALL OCCUPATIONS ...	514,718	0.74	- 0.29	- 0.52

For London the general percentage unemployed was 1.4, compared with 1.8 a month ago and 2.2 a year ago. For Ireland the corresponding figures were 4.1, 5.7, and 6.8. For the remaining nine districts the highest percentages unemployed were in the Eastern and South-Eastern Counties (0.6) and the South-Western Counties (0.6), while the lowest percentages were in the Northern Counties (0.1), Yorkshire (0.2), the West Midlands (0.2), and Scotland (0.2). Compared with a month ago, one of these nine districts showed no change and the others showed a slight decrease; compared with a year ago, there was a decrease in the percentage unemployed in every district.

WOODWORKING AND FURNISHING TRADES.

Mill Sawing and Machining.—Employment continued good generally, showing little change compared with either a month ago or a year ago. Overtime, largely on Government orders, was again reported at a number of centres, especially in Scotland.

The percentage unemployed at the end of March among workpeople engaged in saw-milling and insured against unemployment under Part II. of the National Insurance Act was 0.3, compared with 0.4 in the previous month and 0.8 in March, 1916.

Furnishing.—Employment showed, on the whole, a decline on the previous month except with upholsterers; it was considerably better than a year ago. Cabinet makers were still well employed, and overtime, largely on Government orders, was reported at Glasgow and other centres. With upholsterers employment was fair in the West End of London and at Glasgow; elsewhere it was good on the whole. With french polishers employment was fair but not so good as a month ago in London and Glasgow, and good at Edinburgh.

Coach Building.—Employment continued good generally and was better than a year ago. Employment was very good in London, Manchester and Glasgow; it was fair at Liverpool, Edinburgh, Saltley and Wolverhampton, and very quiet at Belfast.

Coopers.—Employment was fairly good, showing a decline on a month ago. It was again fair at Burton-on-Trent. Overtime was worked in several centres, and a scarcity of labour was experienced.

Miscellaneous.—*Brushmakers* were fully employed generally, and much overtime was reported. *Wheelwrights and smiths* continued well employed. With *packing-case makers* employment was good; overtime was general, and there was a scarcity of labour. With *skip and basket makers* employment continued exceptionally good in London, Oldham and Leicester.

BRICK AND CEMENT TRADES.

BRICK TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT continued fairly good for those remaining in the industry, though some time was lost owing to inclement weather. There was again a general scarcity of labour.

SUMMARY OF EMPLOYERS' RETURNS.

District.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended 24th Mar., 1917.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Year ago.	Week ended 24th Mar., 1917.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Year ago.
Northern Counties, Yorkshire, Lancashire, and Cheshire	2,680	- 0.9	+ 2.3	4,854	+ 4.7	+ 25.3
Midlands and Eastern Counties	1,417	+ 1.2	- 11.8	2,081	+ 5.5	+ 2.9
S. and S.W. Counties and Wales	810	- 1.1	- 17.2	1,345	+ 5.6	+ 5.5
Scotland	497	+ 1.8	+ 3.3	826	- 1.2	+ 10.1
Other Districts	162	+ 4.6	- 37.7	221	+ 5.7	- 22.2
TOTAL	5,566	+ 0.0	- 6.2	9,330	+ 4.5	+ 13.7

Employment continued very good in the Stourbridge district. It was slack in the Eastern Counties, in North Wales, and in the Bridgwater district.

CEMENT TRADE.

There was a continued shortage of all kinds of adult male labour, and female and juvenile labour was being extensively employed. Overtime was again largely worked in the Thames and Medway district, but unfavourable weather hindered outdoor employment in some cases.

Returns from firms employing 5,792 workpeople in the week ended 24th March showed a decrease of 2.4 per cent. in the number employed and an increase of 1.7 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago there was a decrease of 12.5 per cent. in the number employed, and of 1.5 per cent. in the wages paid.

PRINTING, BOOKBINDING AND PAPER TRADES.

PRINTING TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT continued good for those remaining in these trades, practically no short time being reported. In London employment was very good, partly owing to Government printing orders; hardly a Trade Union member was unemployed, and much overtime was worked in the letterpress section. At Dublin and Belfast, however, a number of men were out of employment.

The following Table summarises returns received from Trade Unions :—

Districts.	No. of Members of Unions at end of March, 1917.	Percentage Unemployed at end of			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		March, 1917.	Feb., 1917.	March, 1916.	Month ago.	Year ago.
London ...	18,541	0.0	0.0	1.4	...	- 1.4
Northern Counties and Yorkshire	3,981	0.4	0.1	0.7	+ 0.3	- 0.3
Lancashire and Cheshire	5,221	0.5	0.3	1.6	+ 0.2	- 1.1
East Midland and Eastern Counties	1,769	0.3	0.2	1.0	+ 0.1	- 0.7
West Midlands	2,255	0.2	0.2	1.0	...	- 0.8
S. and S.-W. Counties and Wales	2,773	0.3	0.5	0.9	...	- 0.6
Scotland	3,547	0.3	0.1	2.3	+ 0.2	- 2.0
Ireland	2,059	4.9	5.1	7.7	- 0.2	- 2.8
UNITED KINGDOM	40,146	0.4	0.4	1.6	...	- 1.2

The following Table summarises returns received from employers :—

Districts.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended 24th March, 1917.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 24th March, 1917.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.*
London ...	2,885	- 1.1	- 10.3	6,091	- 2.6	+ 0.5
Northern Counties and Yorkshire	928	- 2.7	- 17.7	1,403	+ 1.5	+ 6.3
Lancashire and Cheshire	1,742	+ 0.2	- 9.8	2,803	+ 0.8	- 1.3
Midland and Eastern Counties	1,597	+ 0.4	- 11.0	2,337	+ 3.0	- 2.5
Scotland	1,081	...	- 13.5	1,670	+ 2.5	- 0.8
Other Districts	1,534	- 1.7	- 12.4	2,067	+ 0.8	- 5.3
UNITED KINGDOM	9,767	- 0.8	- 11.8	16,371	- 0.2	- 1.8

BOOKBINDING TRADES.

Employment was very good, with a shortage of men, and a large amount of overtime was worked.

The following Table summarises returns received from employers :—

Districts.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended 24th Mar., 1917.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 24th Mar., 1917.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.*
London ...	1,931	- 1.1	- 9.6	2,721	+ 0.4	+ 4.5
Northern Counties and Yorkshire	563	- 2.4	- 18.8	594	+ 2.1	- 5.1
Lancashire and Cheshire	1,364	- 0.4	- 11.1	1,287	+ 1.6	+ 2.5
Midland and Eastern Counties	748	- 0.1	- 9.6	706	+ 0.1	- 1.9
Scotland	1,539	+ 0.2	- 19.0	1,628	+ 2.1	+ 1.8
Other Districts	600	- 4.3	- 14.0	526	- 1.3	- 11.1
UNITED KINGDOM	6,745	- 1.0	- 13.4	7,462	+ 0.9	+ 0.9

The following Table summarises the returns from Trade Unions :—

Districts.	No. of Members of Unions at end of Mar., 1917.	Percentage Unemployed at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) on a	
		Mar., 1917.	Feb., 1917.	Mar., 1916.	Month ago.	Year ago.
London ...	2,541	0.0	0.2	0.4	- 0.2	- 0.4
Other Districts ...	2,113	0.4	0.4	0.7	...	- 0.3
UNITED KINGDOM	4,654	0.2	0.3	0.5	- 0.1	- 0.3

* Comparison of earnings with a year ago is affected by increases in rates of wages and war bonuses.

PAPER TRADES.

Employment was good, with a shortage of men.

SUMMARY OF EMPLOYERS' RETURNS.

Districts.	Workpeople paid Wages in last week of March, 1917.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.
MACHINE-MADE PAPER AND MILLED BOARDS:		Per cent.	Per cent.
Northern Counties	3,347	+ 0.2	- 8.9
Midlands, Wales, and Ireland	1,118	+ 0.1	- 6.8
Southern Counties	5,280	- 0.1	+ 3.9
Scotland	2,801	- 3.4	- 17.4
TOTAL MACHINE-MADE PAPER, &c.	12,546	- 0.7	- 6.0
Hand-made Paper	686	+ 2.1	- 1.0
TOTAL	13,232	- 0.6	- 5.8

POTTERY TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT continued good generally, showing little change on the previous month. Short time was still worked by makers of tiles and sanitary ware; but overtime, due largely to the shortage of labour, was reported in other departments.

SUMMARY OF EMPLOYERS' RETURNS.

Districts.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended 24th March, 1917.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 24th March, 1917.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.*
BRANCHES.		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
China Manufacture	1,832	+ 0.1	- 2.9	2,624	+ 4.7	+ 19.7
Earthenware Manufacture	11,326	+ 0.7	- 1.6	14,774	+ 0.4	+ 13.4
Other Branches (including unspecified)	2,719	+ 1.5	- 13.8	3,046	+ 1.8	- 6.9
TOTAL	15,877	+ 0.7	- 4.1	20,444	+ 1.1	+ 10.6
DISTRICTS.						
Potteries	11,810	+ 0.8	- 4.7	13,659	+ 2.0	+ 6.8
Other Districts	4,067	+ 0.6	- 2.3	6,785	- 0.7	+ 19.1
TOTAL	15,877	+ 0.7	- 4.1	20,444	+ 1.1	+ 10.6

GLASS TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT continued good generally, with a scarcity of labour.

SUMMARY OF EMPLOYERS' RETURNS.

Districts.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended 24th Mar., 1917.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 24th Mar., 1917.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.*
BRANCHES.		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Glass Bottle	7,586	+ 2.2	+ 0.3	14,632	+ 4.8	+ 11.3
Flint Glass Ware (not Bottles)	1,497	- 1.1	- 0.3	2,395	+ 0.4	+ 11.7
Other Branches	905	- 1.5	- 3.6	1,311	- 1.1	+ 2.7
TOTAL	9,988	+ 1.4	- 0.2	18,338	+ 3.8	+ 10.7
DISTRICTS.						
North of England	851	+ 0.7	- 1.2	1,660	+ 2.3	+ 3.7
Yorkshire	4,996	+ 1.7	- 3.3	9,313	+ 5.3	+ 10.4
Lancashire	1,114	+ 2.0	+ 7.6	1,746	+ 1.4	+ 9.6
Worcestershire and Warwickshire	640	- 1.7	- 6.6	1,066	+ 1.3	+ 10.0
Scotland	1,073	+ 1.6	+ 1.2	2,063	+ 0.6	+ 14.0
Other parts of the United Kingdom	1,311	+ 1.2	+ 8.7	2,490	+ 4.6	+ 15.2
TOTAL	9,988	+ 1.4	- 0.2	18,338	+ 3.8	+ 10.7

Employment in the glass bottle trade remained good, especially in the "medical" section, but some workpeople were temporarily idle owing to stoppages for furnace repairs, or to the scarcity of lads. With flint-glass makers in the Midlands, pressed-glass makers on the Tyne and Wear, and sheet- and plate-glass workers at St. Helens employment continued good.

* Comparison of earnings with a year ago is affected by increases in rates of wages and war bonuses.

FOOD PREPARATION TRADES

EMPLOYMENT in these trades continued good, with a scarcity of labour, and a considerable amount of overtime was worked. The sugar confectionery trades were, however, affected by the restricted supply of sugar, and in these trades short time was worked in some cases.

SUMMARY OF EMPLOYERS' RETURNS.

Trade.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended 24th Mar., 1917.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 24th Mar., 1917.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.*
Sugar Refining, &c. ...	3,585	+ 0.6	+ 10.9	7,071	+ 2.6	+ 20.3
Cocoa, Chocolate, and Sugar Confectionery	24,133	- 3.1	- 21.1	28,129	- 7.3	- 11.2
Biscuits, Cakes, &c. ...	7,830	- 1.3	- 3.8	8,806	+ 2.0	+ 17.2
Jams, Marmalade, &c. ...	7,365	+ 1.4	+ 9.3	8,181	+ 5.3	+ 26.9
Bacon and Preserved Meats	4,739	- 2.5	- 2.6	5,881	+ 0.2	+ 11.0
Pickles and Sauces, &c. ...	758	...	- 5.3	774	+ 3.1	+ 12.7
TOTAL ...	48,410	- 1.8	- 10.0	59,148	- 2.4	+ 2.3

AGRICULTURE.†

England and Wales.—Unfavourable weather during March hindered operations in the field, although a good deal was done in preparing the land for crops. Some sowing was done in certain districts, and in others a commencement was made with potato-planting. The supply of labour was very deficient, but the situation was relieved by the temporary release of men from the Army and by the employment of women.

Scotland.—There was a recurrence of wintry weather at the beginning of March. In the second half of the month the weather was open and was generally dry, except in the northern counties. Much progress was made with ploughing in most parts, and with oat-sowing in the earlier districts; a certain amount of potato-planting has also been done. Work is, however, in arrear almost everywhere, particularly on the higher ground. There was but little change in the general supply of labour, the permanent staff on farms being almost everywhere reduced to the minimum. The immediate requirements of farmers have been met by the temporary release of skilled ploughmen from the Army, while labour was economised by the use of tractors and multiple ploughs where available.

DOCK AND RIVERSIDE LABOUR.

EMPLOYMENT was moderate in London and Liverpool and continued slack at the East Coast and Scottish ports. There was a general decline on a month ago and a year ago.

Period.	Average Daily Number of Labourers employed in Docks and at Principal Wharves in London.				
	In Docks.			At 110 Wharves making Returns.	Total Docks and Principal Wharves.
	By the Port of London Authority or through Contractors.	By Ship-owners, &c.	Total.		
Week ended Mar. 3rd	6,730	2,730	9,460	6,824	16,284
" " " 10th	6,321	2,995	9,316	6,443	15,759
" " " 17th	6,508	3,419	9,927	6,338	16,265
" " " 24th	6,553	2,515	9,068	6,590	15,658
" " " 31st	6,402	2,073	8,475	6,480	14,955
Average for 5 weeks ended 31st Mar., 1917	6,503	2,746	9,249	6,535	15,784
Average for Feb., 1917	6,860	2,450	9,310	6,756	16,066
" " Mar., 1916	7,211	2,667	9,878	7,806	17,684

* Comparison of earnings with a year ago is affected by increases in rates of wages and war bonuses.
† Based on information supplied by the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries and the Board of Agriculture for Scotland.

London.—Employment generally was moderate, not so good as a month ago, and much worse than a year ago.

Tilbury.—The mean daily number employed at the docks during March was 1,938, compared with 2,114 in February and 2,093 in March, 1916.

East Coast.—Employment on the Tyne and at Blyth was moderate, and on the Tyne showed a decline compared with a month ago. It was fairly good at Hartlepool and good at Middlesbrough and Stockton. Employment continued very slack at Hull, Grimsby and Goole, and slack generally at the East Anglian ports.

Southern and Western Ports.—Employment was good at Plymouth, and fair but worse than a year ago at Bristol and Gloucester. It was slack at Swansea, and moderate and worse than a month ago at Liverpool.

Scottish and Irish Ports.—Employment continued very slack at Glasgow, and was slack and had declined at Ayr, Troon and Dundee. It was good at Belfast, fair at Limerick, bad at Londonderry, Cork and Waterford.

FISHING INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT showed little change, on the whole, compared with the previous month.

East and South Coasts.—Employment continued moderate at Hartlepool and good at Hull, Grimsby and Scarborough. At Yarmouth fishing operations remained practically suspended. Employment was slack and showed a decline at Brightlingsea. Off the coasts of Devon and Cornwall employment was adversely affected by the weather.

Scotland.—There was an improvement at Dundee. Employment was only fair at Arbroath and Montrose. It was good and better than a month ago at Aberdeen, moderate at Peterhead and Macduff, and bad at Fraserburgh.

The total value of fish landed from fishing vessels in the United Kingdom during March was £892,702, showing an increase of £139,486 as compared with March, 1916.

SEAMEN.

THE total number of seamen shipped at the principal ports in March exceeded the number shipped in the previous month by nearly 5,000, and was more than 1,000 in excess of the number shipped in March, 1916. For the three months ended March the total for this year was practically the same as that for last year.

Principal Ports.	Number of Seamen* shipped in				
	March, 1917.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Three months ended	
		Month ago.	Year ago.	March, 1916.	March, 1917.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in 1917.
ENGLAND AND WALES:					
<i>East Coast—</i>					
Tyne Ports ...	1,698	- 292	+ 57	5,202	5,253 + 51
Sunderland ...	141	- 66	- 15	768	520 - 246
Middlesbrough ...	222	- 188	- 191	1,149	1,069 - 80
Hull ...	1,021	+ 148	+ 69	3,011	2,999 - 12
Grimsby ...	9	- 33	- 17	109	125 + 16
<i>Bristol Channel—</i>					
Bristol † ...	842	+ 177	- 442	3,053	2,472 - 581
Newport, Mon. ...	1,356	+ 235	+ 571	2,472	3,645 + 1,173
Cardiff † ...	5,265	+ 1,304	+ 1,074	12,401	14,228 + 1,827
Swansea ...	244	+ 120	+ 83	654	659 + 5
<i>Other Ports—</i>					
Liverpool ...	11,812	+ 3,273	+ 1,807	31,683	33,106 + 1,423
London ...	6,072	+ 57	- 603	21,267	19,015 - 2,252
Southampton ...	495	- 237	- 303	2,747	2,070 - 677
SCOTLAND:					
Leith ...	382	+ 33	+ 168	1,615	991 - 624
Kirkcaldy, Methil and Grangemouth ...	20	+ 19	+ 17	152	81 - 71
Glasgow ...	2,065	+ 78	- 1,313	8,073	7,376 - 697
IRELAND:					
Dublin ...	85	+ 6	+ 79	211	253 + 42
Belfast ...	241	+ 106	+ 137	379	591 + 212
TOTAL ...	31,970	+ 4,740	+ 1,176	94,894	94,453 - 441

* It will be understood that the numbers given are the numbers of separate engagements, and not of separate individuals.
† Including Avonmouth and Portishead. ‡ Including Barry and Penarth.

STATISTICAL TABLES.

TRADE DISPUTES.*

[Based on Returns from Employers and Workpeople.]

(a) DISPUTES IN MARCH.

Number and Magnitude.—The number of disputes beginning in March was 29, as compared with 27 in the previous month, and 44 in March, 1916. In these new disputes 21,417 workpeople were directly, and 6,921 indirectly involved; and these figures, when added to the number of workpeople involved in disputes which began before March and were still in progress at the beginning of the month, give a total of 28,916 workpeople involved in disputes in March, 1917, as compared with 11,165 in February, 1917, and 58,388 in March, 1916.

New disputes in March, 1917.—In the following Table the new disputes for March are summarised by trades affected:—

Groups of Trades.	No. of Disputes.	No. of Workpeople involved.		
		Directly.	Indirectly.	Total.
Building ...	3	185	...	185
Coal Mining ...	2	73	1,211	1,284
Engineering ...	5	19,114	5,500	24,614
Shipbuilding ...	2	646	...	646
Textile ...	4	784	167	951
Clothing ...	1	31	21	52
Miscellaneous and Public Authorities	12	584	29	613
TOTAL, MARCH, 1917 ...	29	21,417	6,921	28,338
TOTAL, FEBRUARY, 1917 ...	27	8,772	1,636	10,408
TOTAL, MARCH, 1916 ...	44	58,661	659	59,320

Causes.—Of the 29 new disputes, 17, directly involving 13,377 workpeople, arose on demands for advances in wages; 2, directly involving 6,028 workpeople, against proposed reductions in wages; 7, directly involving 1,477 workpeople, on questions affecting the employment of particular classes or persons; one, directly involving 39 workpeople, on a question of

working arrangements; and 2, directly involving 496 workpeople, on questions of trade union principle.

Results.—During the month settlements were effected in the case of 16 new disputes, directly involving 13,954 workpeople, and 2 old disputes, directly involving 51 workpeople. Of these new and old disputes, one, directly involving 400 workpeople, was decided in favour of the workpeople, 9, directly involving 1,025 workpeople, in favour of the employers, and 8, directly involving 12,580 workpeople, were compromised. In the case of 5 other disputes, directly involving 6,798 workpeople, work was resumed pending further negotiations.

Aggregate Duration.—The number of working days lost in March by disputes which began or were settled in that month amounted to 192,400. In addition, 9,600 working days were lost owing to disputes which began before March and were still in progress at the end of the month. Thus the total aggregate duration in March of all disputes, new and old, was 202,000 days, as compared with 43,300 days in February, 1917, and 327,300 days in March, 1916.

(b) DISPUTES IN THE FIRST THREE MONTHS OF 1916 AND 1917.†

Groups of Trades.	Jan. to March, 1916.			Jan. to March, 1917.		
	No. of Disputes.	Number of Workpeople involved.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress.	No. of Disputes.	Number of Workpeople involved.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress.
Building...	15	1,563	9,700	10	873	7,700
Mining and Quarrying	8	7,629	19,800	6	4,300	14,000
Engineering ...	21	7,538	75,600	12	26,626	177,500
Shipbuilding ...	3	246	300	5	1,900	8,500
Other Metal ...	12	1,986	4,700	1	2,776	4,000
Textile ...	14	82,232	217,200	14	7,952	29,900
Clothing ...	6	1,288	11,700	5	1,112	25,600
Transport ...	13	16,144	51,700	2	172	600
Other Trades ...	38	10,455	167,900	25	1,495	11,600
TOTAL ...	130	79,041	558,600	80	46,676	278,500

(c) PRINCIPAL DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN IN MARCH.

Occupations and Locality.‡	Number of Workpeople involved.		Date when Dispute began.	Duration in Working Days.	Cause or Object.‡	Result.‡
	Directly.	Indirectly.‡				
BUILDING:— Painters—Southport ...	150	...	10th Mar.	4	For advance in wages ...	Advance of 1d. per hour granted as from 7th April.
COAL MINING:— Winding engine-men and other workpeople (underground and surface).—Working-ton	5	782	19th Mar.	1	Objection to appointment by manager of a certain engine-man to vacancy on pumping engine	Conciliation Board ratified manager's appointment.
ENGINEERING:— Fitters, turners, machinemen, &c.—Tyne	12,000	3,500	19th Mar.	6	For advance in wages ...	Advance of 2s. per week granted on the North-East Coast as from first full pay in February in addition to the general advance granted in all districts as from 1st April (see pp. 155 & 156).
Fitters, turners, machinemen, &c., labourers, &c.—Barrow-in-Furness	8,000§	...	21st Mar.	12	Alleged cutting of time allowances for work done under premium bonus system	Work resumed pending consideration of grievances.
Fitters, turners, railway waggon builders, &c.—Walsley (near)	650§	...	30th Mar.	2	For extra pay for night work...	Work resumed pending arbitration.
Fitters, turners, machinemen, labourers, &c.—Rochdale	405	...	22nd Mar.	...	Against introduction of female labour on work not for Government	No settlement reported.
SHIPBUILDING:— Fitters—Belfast ...	600	...	22nd Mar.	2	Against employment of boiler-makers on work claimed by fitters	Work resumed.
TEXTILE:— Cotton weavers, &c.—Bolton ...	400	160	13th Mar.	5	Refusal to work with non-unionists	Non-unionists joined Union or found other employment.

DISPUTES STILL IN PROGRESS.—15 disputes, involving about 1,100 workpeople, were in progress at the time of going to press.

* Disputes involving less than 10 workpeople, and those which lasted less than one day, have, as usual, been omitted from the statistics, except when the aggregate duration (i.e. number of workpeople multiplied by number of working days, allowing for workpeople replaced by others, &c.) exceeded 100 days.
† In making up the totals for the several months of the year the figures have been amended in accordance with the most recent information.
‡ The occupations printed in italics are those of workpeople "indirectly involved" (i.e. thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, but not themselves parties to the disputes). The statements of cause and result do not apply to these persons.
§ Estimated.

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR.*

[Based on Returns from Employers and Workpeople.]

The changes in rates of wages (including war bonuses) reported to the Department as taking effect in March affected over 80,000 workpeople, and amounted in the aggregate to a net increase of nearly £6,500 per week.

The industry in which the largest number of workpeople was affected by a change in wages in March was the pottery industry, in which increased war bonuses were granted to workpeople in North Staffordshire. Fairly numerous increases were reported in the building and printing trades. In addition to the foregoing, important increases were granted under arbitration awards issued in the latter part of March to engineers on the North-East Coast and iron and steel workers in South Wales. These are described in the detailed Table below, but being antedated to take effect previous to March are not included in the figures quoted above. There was a seasonal decrease in the wages of coal miners in Somerset.

Changes in January-March.—The total number of workpeople affected by the changes in wages which have been reported to the Department as taking effect during the three months ended 31st March, 1917, was over 1,500,000. Practically all of these have received net in-

creases, the only important exception being coal miners in Northumberland. The net effect of all the changes was a total weekly increase of nearly £120,000 per week. It will be noticed that up to the end of March the textile and coal mining industries had accounted for by far the largest number of workpeople covered by the changes reported to the Department.

The extent to which the different groups of industries have contributed to the totals is shown below:—

Table with 3 columns: Group of Trades, No. of Workpeople affected, Amount of Net Increase per week. Rows include Building, Coal Mining, Iron and other Mining, Quarrying, Pig Iron Manufacture, Iron and Steel Manufacture, Engineering and Shipbuilding, Other Metal, Textile, Clothing, Transport, Printing, Paper, &c., Glass, Brick, Pottery, Chemical, &c., Other Trades, Local Authority Services, and a TOTAL row.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR TAKING EFFECT IN MARCH, 1917.

Main table with 5 columns: Trade, Locality, Date from which change took effect, Occupations, Particulars of Change. It is divided into sections for Northern Counties, Yorkshire and Lancashire, Other English Districts, Scotland, Iron Mining, Quarrying, Pig Iron, Iron and Steel, Engineering, Ship-repairing, and Gas Meter Making.

* Exclusive of agricultural labourers, seamen, railway servants, police and government employees. † War bonuses and "war increases" have been so described where possible, but the information available is not, in all cases, sufficient to distinguish between these and increases not thus limited. ‡ Including Newcastle, Gateshead, Sunderland, Hebburn, Jarrow, N. and S. Shields, Wallsend, and Blyth. § Including Middlesbrough, Stockton, Thornaby, and the Hartlepoons. ¶ See also under "Change in Hours of Labour." By an award of the Committee on Production issued 30th March this increase was dated back to take effect from 1st January. By an award of the Committee on Production issued 29th March this increase was dated back to take effect from the first full pay in February.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR TAKING EFFECT IN MARCH, 1917—(continued).

Table with 5 columns: Trade, Locality, Date from which change took effect, Occupations, Particulars of Change. It is divided into sections for Increases in Rates of Wages, and War Bonuses (continued), and Decrease in Rates of Wages.

Decrease in Rates of Wages.

Change in Hours of Labour.

* War bonuses and "war increases" have been so described where possible, but the information available is not, in all cases, sufficient to distinguish between these and war increases not thus limited. Increases and War Bonuses taking Effect in April.—Various important changes have been arranged to take place, including the following:— Iron and Steel.—Increases of 3d. per ton to puddlers and of 2½ per cent. to millmen in the North of England, the Midlands and the West of Scotland. Engineering and Shipbuilding.—A general increase of 5s. per week to men, 2s. 6d. per week to boys, 3d. or 1d. per hour (4s. per week if on men's work) to women, and ½d. or ¼d. per hour (2s. per week if on men's work) to girls. Railway Service.—Additional war bonuses of 5s. per week to men, 2s. 6d. per week to women and boys, and 1s. 3d. per week to girls under eighteen. Other Transport Trades.—An increase of 1s. per day to dock labourers at Liverpool; additional war bonuses to carters in London of 6s. per week to men and 3s. per week to boys. Linen.—Increases to linen workers in the North of Ireland of 3s. per week to men and of 2s. to other workers. Fuller details relating to the above will be published in the May issue of the LABOUR GAZETTE.

RETAIL PRICES OF BREAD.

THE following information with regard to the prices of bread is derived from two main sources: (1) Master Bakers' Associations, and (2) Co-operative Societies. Returns are also received from the local correspondents of the Department in industrial districts.

(1) Master Bakers' Associations, &c.

Returns received from over 100 of the principal Master Bakers' Associations and from other sources, except Co-operative Societies, are summarised in the following Tables.

District.	Mean Predominant Price per 4 lb. on		
	2nd April, 1917.		
	d.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) compared with	
A month ago.		A year ago.	
London	11½	+ ¼	+ 2½
Northern Counties & Yorkshire ...	11¼	+ ¼	+ 2¼
Lancashire & Cheshire	11	+ ¼	+ 2¼
Midlands	10¾	+ ¼	+ 2¼
Eastern Counties	10¾	+ ¼	+ 2¼
South Eastern Counties	10¾	+ ¼	+ 2¼
South Western Counties & Wales ...	10¾	+ ¼	+ 2
Scotland	11¼	+ ¼	+ 2½
GREAT BRITAIN	11¼	+ ¼	+ 2½

Of the prices at which bread was sold in each of the following towns, the predominant price was as under:—

Place.	Predominant Price per 4 lb. on 2nd April, 1917.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with		Last Change.	
		a		Date.	Amount per 4 lb.
		Month ago.	Year ago.		
London	d. 11 to 12	+ ¼	+ 2½	Mar., '17	+ ¼
Birmingham	11	+ ¼	+ 2½	Mar., '17	+ ¼
Bristol	11	+ ¼	+ 2½	Feb., '17	+ ¼
Cardiff	11	+ ¼	+ 2	Feb., '17	+ ¼
Derby	11	+ 1	+ 2	Mar., '17	+ 1
Hull	11	+ ¼	+ 2½	Mar., '17	+ ¼
Ipswich	11	+ ¼	+ 2½	Mar., '17	+ ¼
Leicester	10	+ 2	+ 2	Dec., '16	+ 1
Liverpool	12	+ 1	+ 3½	Mar., '17	+ 1
Manchester	11*, 11½†	+ ¼	+ 2½	Mar., '17	+ ¼
Middlesbrough	12	+ 1	+ 3	Mar., '17	+ 1
Norwich	10	+ ¼	+ 3	Jan., '17	+ ¼
Nottingham	11	+ ¼	+ 3	Mar., '17	+ ¼
Portsmouth	11	+ ¼	+ 2	Mar., '17	+ ¼
Southampton	11*, 11½†	+ ¼	+ 2½	Mar., '17	+ ¼
Stoke-on-Trent	11	+ 1	+ 2½	Mar., '17	+ 1
Wolverhampton	11	+ ¼	+ 2½	Mar., '17	+ ¼
Aberdeen	10¾	+ ¼	+ 2½	Mar., '17	+ ¼
Dundee	11 & 12	+ 1	+ 3	Mar., '17	+ 1
Edinburgh	11½	+ 1	+ 2½	Mar., '17	+ 1
Glasgow	11	+ ¼	+ 2½	Mar., '17	+ ¼
Belfast	11	+ ¼	+ 2½	Mar., '17	+ ¼
Dublin	10½*, 11†	+ ¼	+ 2	Mar., '17	+ ¼

(2) Co-operative Societies.

The following Table summarises the Returns received from 340 Co-operative Societies:—

District.	Mean Predominant Price per 4 lb. on		
	2nd April, 1917.		
	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) compared with		
	A month ago.	A year ago.	
ENGLAND AND WALES...	10½	+ ½	+ 1¼
London and Suburbs	10¾, 11†	+ ½	+ 2
Northern Counties and Yorks.	11½	+ 1	+ 2
Lancashire and Cheshire	11	+ ¼	+ 2
N. Midland Counties	10	+ ¼	+ 1½
W. do. do.	10¾	+ ¼	+ 1½
S. do. do.	10	+ ¼	+ 1¼
Eastern Counties	10¾	+ ¼	+ 2
South Eastern Counties	10¾	+ ¼	+ 1¼
South Western Counties and Wales	10	+ ¼	+ 1½
SCOTLAND	10¾	+ ¼	+ 1¼
Northern Counties	10¾	+ ¼	+ 2
Eastern Counties	10¾	+ ¼	+ 1½
Lancashire	10¾	+ ¼	+ 1½
Other Southern Counties	10¾	+ ¼	+ 2
GREAT BRITAIN	10¾	+ ½	+ 1¼

* Counter.

† Delivered.

DISEASES OF OCCUPATIONS

IN FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

(Cases include all attacks, fatal or otherwise, reported to the Home Office during the month, and not previously reported, so far as is known, during the preceding 12 months. Deaths include all fatal cases reported during the month, whether included (as cases) in previous returns or not.)

THE total number of cases of poisoning and of anthrax reported to the Home Office under the Factory and Workshop Act during March, 1917, was 70, of which 32 were due to lead poisoning, 2 to mercurial poisoning, 1 to arsenic poisoning, 23 to toxic jaundice, and 12 to anthrax. One death due to lead poisoning, 1 to arsenic poisoning, 4 to toxic jaundice, and 3 to anthrax were also reported. In addition 5 cases of lead poisoning (including 2 deaths) among house painters and plumbers came to the knowledge of the Home Office, but notification of these is not obligatory.

During the three months ended March, 1917, the total number of cases of poisoning and of anthrax reported under the Factory and Workshop Act was 213, compared with 123 in the corresponding period of 1916. The number of deaths in 1917 was 20, as compared with 12 in 1916. In addition 16 cases of lead poisoning (including 6 deaths) among house painters and plumbers came to the knowledge of the Home Office during the three months ended March, 1917, compared with 27 (including 3 deaths) during the corresponding period of 1916.

ANALYSIS BY INDUSTRIES.

Industry.	Cases.			Deaths.		
	Month of Mar., 1917.	Three months ended		Month of Mar., 1917.	Three months ended	
		Mar., 1917.	Mar., 1916.		Mar., 1917.	Mar., 1916.
LEAD POISONING.						
AMONG OPERATIVES ENGAGED IN—	9	17	9	—	—	—
Smelting of Metals	—	—	—	—	—	—
Brass Works	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sheet Lead and Lead Piping ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Plumbing and Soldering ...	3	15	5	—	—	—
Printing	1	1	2	1	1	—
File Cutting	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tinning of Metals	—	—	—	—	—	—
White Lead Works	1	3	7	—	—	—
Red and Yellow Lead Works ...	2	5	4	—	—	—
Pottery*	2	7	5	—	—	—
Glass Cutting and Polishing ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Vitreous Enamelling	1	1	—	—	—	—
Electrical Accumulator Works ...	5	9	15	—	—	—
Paint and Colour Works	—	2	4	—	—	—
Coach and Car Painting	—	4	6	—	—	—
Shipbuilding	1	1	6	—	—	—
Paint used in other Industries ...	—	3	4	—	—	—
Other Industries	7	18	7	—	—	—
TOTAL IN FACTORIES & WORKSHOPS	32	87	77	1	1	—
HOUSE PAINTING AND PLUMBING...	5	16	27	2	6	3
OTHER FORMS OF POISONING.						
MERCURIAL POISONING—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Barometer and Thermometer Making	—	—	—	—	—	—
Furriers' Processes	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Industries	2	5	7	—	—	—
TOTAL	2	5	7	—	—	—
PHOSPHOROUS POISONING	—	—	1	—	—	—
ARSENIC POISONING—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paints, Colours, and Extrac-tion of Arsenic	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Industries	1	2	—	1	2	—
TOTAL ARSENIC POISONING	1	2	—	1	2	—
TOTAL TOXIC JAUNDICE ...	23	83	12	4	12	5
TOTAL "OTHER FORMS OF POISONING" ...	26	90	20	5	14	5
ANTHRAX.						
Wool	9	19	18	2	3	4
Handling of Horsehair	—	—	5	—	—	2
Handling and Sorting of Hides and Skins (Tanners, Foll-mongers, &c.)	2	15	3	1	2	1
Other Industries	1	2	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ANTHRAX	12	36	26	3	5	7
TOTAL REPORTED UNDER FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT	70	213	123	9	20	12
GRAND TOTAL	75	229	150	11	26	15

* Of the 2 persons affected in the Pottery Industry 1 was a female.

FATAL INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS.

CASES REPORTED IN MARCH, 1917.

[Based on Home Office and Board of Trade Returns.]

THE number of workpeople reported as killed in the course of their employment in March, 1917, was 286, a decrease of 25 on a month ago and an increase of 2 on a year ago. The mean number in March during the five years 1912-16 was 232, the maximum being 284 and the minimum 152.

Fatal accidents in the railway service during March, 1917, numbered 36, compared with 39 in February, 1917, and 48 in March, 1916.

The total number of fatal accidents at mines was 109, an increase of 16 on a month ago and of 17 on a year ago. There were 4 fatal accidents at quarries, compared with 7 a month ago and 8 a year ago.

The total number of fatal accidents reported under the Factory and Workshop Act in March, 1917, was 134, a decrease of 36 on February, 1917, and an increase of 1 on March, 1916.

During the three months ended March, 1917, the total number of workpeople reported as killed in the course of their employment was 914, as compared with 864, an increase of 50 on the corresponding period of 1916.

The Table shows the number of workpeople reported as killed in the course of their employment during February and March, 1917, and March, 1916.

Trade.	Number of Workpeople killed during			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Mar., 1917, on a	
	Mar., 1917.	Feb., 1917.	Mar., 1916.	Month ago.	Year ago.
RAILWAY SERVICE—					
Brakemen and Goods Guards ...	2	4	5	- 2	- 3
Engine Drivers	2	4	2	- 2	- 1
Firemen	1	—	—	+ 1	—
Guards (Passenger)	—	—	1	—	- 1
Permanent Way Men	6	16	12	- 10	- 6
Porters	8	7	4	+ 1	+ 4
Shunters	3	—	6	+ 3	- 3
Mechanics	4	—	—	+ 4	+ 4
Labourers	2	—	4	+ 2	- 2
Miscellaneous	8	7	11	+ 1	- 3
Contractors' Servants	—	1	1	- 1	- 1
TOTAL, RAILWAY SERVICE	36	39	48	- 3	- 12
MINES—					
Underground	109	83	79	+ 17	+ 21
Surface	9	10	13	- 1	- 4
TOTAL, MINES	109	93	92	+ 16	+ 17
QUARRIES OVER 20 FEET DEEP ...	4	7	8	- 3	- 4
FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS—					
Textile—					
Cotton	5	8	8	- 3	- 3
Wool and Worsted	—	3	1	- 3	- 1
Other Textiles	—	—	—	—	- 1
Non-Textile—					
Extraction of Metals	9	4	6	+ 5	+ 3
Founding and Conversion of Metals	10	22	16	- 12	- 6
Marine and Locomotive Engineering	4	5	2	- 1	+ 2
Ship and Boat Building ...	18	11	10	+ 7	+ 8
Gas	7	7	3	—	+ 4
Wood	3	4	—	- 1	+ 2
Clay, Stone, &c.	—	2	2	- 2	- 2
Chemicals	8	10	9	- 2	- 1
Laundries	—	—	—	—	—
Food	6	6	4	—	+ 2
Drink	2	3	1	- 1	+ 1
Paper, Printing, &c.	4	3	1	+ 1	+ 3
Other Non-Textile Industries	36	60	38	- 24	- 2
TOTAL, FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS	112	148	103	- 36	+ 9
ACCIDENTS REPORTED UNDER FACTORY ACT, SS. 104-5.					
Docks, Wharves, and Quays	15	10	14	+ 5	+ 1
Warehouses	1	6	4	- 5	- 3
Buildings to which Act applies	6	6	12	—	- 6
TOTAL UNDER FACTORY ACT, SS. 104-5.	22	22	30	—	- 8
Accidents reported under Notice of Accidents Act, 1894	3	2	3	+ 1	—
TOTAL	286	311	284	- 25	+ 2

SLIDING SCALE CHANGES IN WAGES.

Product and District.	Price according to last Audit.*		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) of last Audit on	
	Period covered by last Audit.	Average selling price per ton.	Previous Audit.	A Year ago.
COAL. (Average of all classes of coal at pit's mouth.)	1917	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Northumberland	Dec., 1916—Feb., 1917.	15 11¼	- 1 8	+ 2 0¼
PIG IRON.				
Cleveland	Jan.—Mar.	89 8¾	+ 0 8½	+ 16 9½
MANUFACTURED IRON. (Rails, plates, bars and angles.)				
North of England	Jan.—Feb.	267 10½	+ 2 3½	+ 53 6
Midlands	Jan.—Feb.	300 8¼	+ 7 0¼	+ 56 8½
(Bars, angles, tees, sheets, plates, hoops, strips, &c.)				
West of Scotland	Jan.—Feb.	233 1	+ 4 3¼	+ 57 5¼
(Rounds, squares, flats, tees, angles, hoops and rods.)				

Coal.—In connection with the ascertainment of the average selling price of Northumberland coal, wages will remain unaltered at 120 per cent. above the standard of 1879.

Pig Iron.—In Cleveland wages of blastfurnacemen will be increased by ¾ per cent., making wages 72·00 per cent. above the standard. There were no transactions in Cumberland.

Manufactured Iron.—In all three districts the wages of puddlers will be increased by 3d. per ton, and those of millmen by 2½ per cent.

All the above increases come into force in April.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE IN MARCH.† INSURANCE CLAIMS AND PAYMENTS.

THE number of claims to unemployment benefit made at Employment Exchanges and other local offices of the Unemployment Fund during each of the five weeks ended 30th March, 1917, was 2,048, 2,044, 2,089, 2,044, and 1,986; a total of 10,211 claims, of which 6,785 were made in the trades insured under the National Insurance (Unemployment) Act, 1911, and 3,426 were made in the trades insured under the National Insurance (Part II.) (Munition Workers)

MINISTRY OF LABOUR EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES.*

FOUR WEEKS ENDED 9th MARCH, 1917.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

EXCLUDING cases in which persons were re-registered on again becoming unemployed, there were on the Registers of the Ministry of Labour Employment Exchanges (381 in number), at some time or other during the period, 464,190 workpeople† (men 154,482, women 254,693‡, boys 24,765, and girls 30,250), as compared with 442,709 in the previous four weeks, and 389,858 in the four weeks ended 10th March, 1916.

The number of vacancies filled was 143,294, a daily average of 5,971, compared with 5,643 in the previous four weeks and 4,569 in the four weeks ended 10th March, 1916.

The total number of workpeople remaining on the Registers on 9th March was 152,519, as compared with 159,921 on 9th February, 1917, and 135,362 on 10th March, 1916. These comprise workers in professional, commercial and clerical, as well as in industrial occupations.

	Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
On Registers at beginning of period	68,415	77,173	5,943	8,390	159,921
Registrations during period	89,319	181,362	19,230	22,217	312,128
Individuals registered	36,065	177,495	18,340	21,871	302,771
Re-registrations	3,284	3,867	390	346	7,887
On Registers at end of period	60,803	77,138	5,894	8,634	152,519
Vacancies notified during period	73,399	81,459	12,012	11,563	178,433
Vacancies filled during period	52,394	71,945	9,673	9,262	143,294
Applicants placed in other districts	14,670	24,476	1,588	1,674	42,808

In the following Table are shown, for men and women, the proportion of vacancies filled to vacancies notified, and of vacancies filled to registrations (including those on the Registers at the beginning of the period), in the principal groups of trades:—

Trades.	Proportion of Vacancies filled to Vacancies notified.		Proportion of Vacancies filled to Registrations.	
	Men.	Women.	Men.	Women.
Insured Trades—	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
V Building, Construction of Works, Sawmilling, and Cabinet-making	71.1	96.0	44.7	78.9
Engineering, Shipbuilding and Construction of Vehicles	79.4	96.4	50.5	79.2
Chemicals, Explosives, &c.	97.0	94.2	68.1	27.1
Uninsured Trades—				
Textiles	58.8	72.9	16.5	34.0
Dress	23.3	78.0	1.6	17.6
Transport	67.3	87.7	24.8	22.0
Agriculture	30.0	42.3	10.4	9.1
Paper, Prints, &c.	42.3	89.2	7.0	35.7
Food, Tobacco, Drink and Lodging	47.4	85.1	10.2	34.0
Commercial and Clerical	57.6	81.9	9.5	16.4
Domestic	47.2	71.6	15.2	29.9
General Labourers	80.5	97.2	20.4	3.6
ALL TRADES	71.4	88.3	33.2	27.8

The average daily number of registrations and vacancies filled for the periods stated are shown below:—

Department.	Registrations in Period ended			Vacancies filled in Period ended		
	9th Mar., 1917.	9th Feb., 1917.	10th Mar., 1916.	9th Mar., 1917.	9th Feb., 1917.	10th Mar., 1916.
Men	3,723	4,455	4,002	2,183	2,141	2,132
Women	7,557	6,987	5,577	2,990	2,715	1,698
Boys	801	804	713	403	397	384
Girls	926	912	810	386	390	355
TOTAL	13,007	13,158	11,102	5,971	5,643	4,569

* Year ago figures for insured and uninsured trades in this article relate to trades now insured or uninsured as the case may be.

† Excluding workmen in certain occupations of a more or less casual nature (i.e. dock labourers and cloth porters); these are dealt with in the last paragraph.

‡ Of the women on the Registers 12.0 per cent. were known to be in employment, and a further 14.0 per cent. were reported never to have been in employment.

INSURED TRADES.*

The number of individuals registered during the period was 146,603 (men 51,357, women 88,566, boys 3,762, and girls 2,918). Excluding 2,354 cases in which persons were re-registered on again becoming unemployed during the period, the total number of individual workpeople on the Registers was 216,702 (men 77,769, women 129,934, boys 4,887, and girls 4,112).

Of the registrations among men, 40.6 per cent. were in building and construction of works, 36.2 per cent. in engineering, and 5.6 per cent. in shipbuilding, while of the women registered, 16.5 per cent. were in engineering and 75.3 per cent. in ammunition and explosives.

The number of vacancies notified to the Exchanges during the period was 108,944. Building and construction of works account for 41.1 per cent. of the total vacancies notified for men, engineering for 33.7 per cent., and shipbuilding for 5.6 per cent.

The number of vacancies filled was 94,330. Of the vacancies filled for men 38.5 per cent. were in building and construction of works, 35.1 in engineering, and 5.2 in shipbuilding, while of the total vacancies filled for women 54.0 per cent. were in ammunition and explosives.

The number of workpeople remaining on the Registers at 9th March was 63,904, as compared with 70,044 on 9th February and 58,448 on 10th March, 1916.

UNINSURED TRADES.

The number of individuals registered during the period was 157,668 (men 34,708, women 88,929, boys 15,079, and girls 18,953). Excluding 5,533 cases in which persons were re-registered on again becoming unemployed, the total number of individual workpeople on the Register at some time or other during the period was 247,488 (men 76,713, women 124,759, boys 19,878, and girls 26,138).

Among men, 28.0 per cent. of the total registrations were in the transport trades and 31.1 per cent. were for general labourers; while of the women registered, 29.7 per cent. were in domestic offices or services. Commercial and clerical occupations accounted for 10.0 per cent. of the registrations among men, and 12.3 per cent. among women.

The number of vacancies notified during the period was 69,489. Of the vacancies notified for men, 30.3 per cent. were in the transport, &c., trades, and 19.4 per cent. were for general labourers. Among women, 51.8 per cent. of the vacancies notified were in domestic offices or services, and 7.0 per cent. in the textile trades.

The number of vacancies filled was 48,964. Of the vacancies filled for men, 35.1 per cent. were in the transport, &c., trades, and 26.9 per cent. were stated to be for general labourers; 48.8 per cent. of the vacancies filled for women were in domestic offices or services.

Of the vacancies filled, 4,740 were known to be for less than a week's employment, while of the 13,423 vacancies filled by boys and girls, 3,980, or 29.6 per cent., were filled by applicants who obtained their first situations since leaving school.

The number of workpeople on the Register at 9th March was 88,615 (men 39,274, women 37,184, boys 4,757, and girls 7,400), as compared with 89,877 on 9th February, 1917, and 76,914 on 10th March, 1916.

CASUAL EMPLOYMENT.

The number of men who obtained employment through the Exchanges was 1,315, and the number of casual jobs found for them was 3,998, a daily average of 167, compared with 105 in the preceding four weeks and 133 in the four weeks ended 10th March, 1916. During the period there was also 825 cases in which men were given employment through the Clearing House system for dock labourers at Liverpool.

* The figures for these trades relate to workpeople who are insured against unemployment under the provisions of Part II. of the National Insurance Act, 1911, or of the National Insurance (Part II.) (Munition Workers) Act, 1916.

REGISTRATIONS AND VACANCIES FILLED IN THE FOUR WEEKS ENDED 9th MARCH, 1917.

A.—INSURED TRADES.

OCCUPATION GROUPS.*	ADULTS.				JUVENILES.			
	REGISTRATIONS.			VACAN- CIES.	REGISTRATIONS.			VACAN- CIES.
	On Register at Beginning of Period.	Registrations during Period.†	On Register at End of Period.		On Register at Beginning of Period.	Registrations during Period.†	On Register at End of Period.	
Building:—								
Carpenters, Joiners, &c.	1,359	3,590	1,259	2,398	11	35	12	26
Bricklayers	998	1,679	680	1,116	1	—	—	—
Masons	593	517	398	59	—	2	—	—
Plasterers	536	541	301	136	—	—	—	—
Painters, Decorators, &c.	3,637	3,170	2,263	1,148	2	6	2	10
Plumbers, Glaziers	442	471	355	267	4	19	4	19
Other skilled occupations	200	112	93	28	—	—	—	4
Labourers	1,783	5,659	1,690	3,514	18	—	22	135
Works of Construction	1,537	5,771	1,646	6,434	5	25	6	23
Sawmilling	644	856	566	407	28	104	26	198
Shipbuilding:—								
Platers, Riveters	259	1,133	252	822	8	43	6	28
Shipwrights	47	227	51	141	—	12	—	13
Labourers	412	1,578	360	1,076	55	146	50	101
Engineering:—								
Moulders (Iron and Steel)	264	593	238	305	3	30	12	31
Smiths	235	490	213	264	3	18	4	25
Erectors, Fitters, Turners	1,726	5,511	1,610	4,054	238	943	226	888
Metal Machinists	852	2,257	824	1,101	100	385	98	503
Wiremen	274	572	302	298	15	64	28	50
Other skilled occupations	1,804	2,185	1,240	1,104	59	117	34	173
Labourers	2,730	7,526	2,435	6,649	100	449	111	430
Construction of Vehicles	512	785	400	370	15	45	15	53
Cabinet Making, &c.	376	315	353	45	2	—	—	6
Miscellaneous Metal Trades	693	1,696	587	1,751	58	237	72	195
Precious Metals, &c.	285	207	80	22	6	27	12	34
Bricks and Cement	74	115	68	93	2	7	4	5
Chemicals, &c.	402	633	364	1,390	13	54	22	49
Rubber and Waterproof Goods	172	198	153	142	3	10	4	54
Ammunition and Explosives	2,801	3,953	1,900	3,925	374	884	347	347
Leather Boots and Shoes	372	240	327	126	11	43	12	35
Leather—Excluding Boots and Shoes	257	235	231	77	3	21	6	26
TOTAL MALES	26,376	52,806	21,529	39,262	1,137	3,830	1,137	3,266
TOTAL FEMALES †	41,355	89,372	39,954	49,556	1,176	2,948	1,294	2,246
GRAND TOTAL	67,731	142,178	61,483	88,818	2,313	6,778	2,421	5,512

B.—UNINSURED TRADES.

OCCUPATION GROUPS.	ADULTS.									JUVENILES.					
	On Register at Beginning of Period.			Registrations during Period.†			On Register at End of Period.			Vacancies Filled during Period.			Vacancies Filled during Period.		
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Mining and Quarrying	532	151	683	611	33	644	487	31	521	390	15	405	19	7	26
Textile:—															
Cotton	1,674	476	2,150	584	1,452	2,036	1,585	444	2,029	280	657	937	72	93	171
Wool and Worsted	154	165	319	239	460	699	169	126	295	136	197	333	53	66	119
Silk, Flax, Linen, &c.	681	467	1,148	329	1,416	1,745	622	425	1,047	189	657	846	121	315	436
Dress:—															
Tailors	1,087	375	1,462	411	1,238	1,669	1,023	422	1,445	23	243	266	21	113	134
Dressmakers and Milliners	308	308	—	725	725	—	2	272	—	—	174	174	—	147	147
Seamstresses	—	601	601	—	1,543	1,543	—	531	531	—	496	496	—	168	168
Others	575	372	947	212	1,609	1,821	520	493	1,013	14	291	305	13	59	72
Conveyance of Men, Goods, &c.:—															
On Railways	396	241	637	316	581	897	358	331	689	304	264	568	92	2	94
On Roads, Seas, Rivers, &c.	7,985	1,721	9,706	9,901	4,362	14,263	7,507	1,890	9,397	4,304	1,252	5,556	1,839	949	2,828
Agriculture	2,050	720	2,770	1,319	1,895	3,215	1,961	1,060	3,024	349	237	586	68	23	91
Paper, Prints, Books and Stationery	1,087	257	1,344	363	717	1,080	1,042	179	1,221	102	347	449	153	42	195
Wood, Furniture, Fittings, &c.	87	103	190	54	129	183	74	81	158	16	48	64	42	25	67
Pottery and Glass	274	450	724	132	249	381	206	105	311	98	86	184	42	40	82
Food, Tobacco, Drink and Lodging:—															
Bread and Biscuit, &c., Makers	400	101	504	201	218	419	388	97	485	40	208	248	48	78	126
Waiters	421	616	1,037	222	1,627	1,849	410	651	1,061	40	453	493	15	47	62
Others (Jam, Cocoa, Tobacco, &c., manufacture)	731	390	1,121	321	1,082	1,403	624	333	957	155	712	867	73	274	345
Brushes, Brooms, &c.	91	11	102	31	48	79	77	26	103	15	24	39	20	53	73
Gas, Water, Electrical Supply and Sanitary Service	192	47	239	141	111	252	168	42	210	297	110	407	14	2	16
Commercial and Clerical	7,126	5,623	12,749	3,657	11,359	15,016	6,735	6,300	13,035	1,020	2,782				

PAUPERISM IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.

[Data supplied by the Local Government Boards in England, Scotland and Ireland.]

The number of paupers relieved in one day in March, 1917, in the 35 selected areas named below, corresponded to a rate of 149 per 10,000 of population, showing a decrease of 1 per 10,000 on a month ago and of 13 per 10,000 on a year ago.

Compared with a month ago the total number of paupers relieved decreased by 1,784 (or 0.6 per cent.). The number of indoor paupers decreased by 1,160 (or 0.8 per cent.), while the number of outdoor paupers decreased by 624 (or 0.4 per cent.). The most marked changes were decreases of 8 per 10,000 in the Central Metropolitan district, 4 per 10,000 in the Aberdeen district, and an increase of 4 per 10,000 in the Dublin district.

Compared with March, 1916, the total number of paupers decreased by 21,104 (or 7.1 per cent.). The number of indoor paupers decreased by 6,800 (or 4.8 per cent.). The number of outdoor paupers decreased by 14,304 (or 9.2 per cent.). There was an increase of 15 per 10,000 in the Dublin district, but a decline in every other district. The most marked decreases in the rate per 10,000 of population were in the Stockton and Tees district (32) and in the Paisley and Greenock district (29).

Selected Urban Areas.*	Paupers on one day in March, 1917.			Rate per 10,000 of Estimated Population.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in rate compared with a	
	In-door.	Out-door.	TOTAL.		Month ago.	Year ago.
ENGLAND & WALES.†						
Metropolis.						
West District ...	9,792	1,590	11,382	140	- 1	- 8
North District ...	12,062	5,238	17,300	172	- 3	- 16
Central District ...	3,613	1,228	4,841	347	- 8	- 14
East District ...	11,311	4,103	15,414	233	- 2	- 13
South District ...	19,393	10,676	30,069	158	- 2	- 15
TOTAL, Metropolis ...	56,171	22,835	79,006	175	- 2	- 13
West Ham ...	4,019	9,364	13,383	173		- 15
Other Districts.						
Newcastle District ...	2,034	3,486	5,520	113	+ 1	- 8
Stockton & Tees District ...	1,064	2,569	3,633	142	+ 1	- 32
Bolton, Oldham, &c. ...	3,676	2,745	6,421	78	- 2	- 10
Wigan District ...	1,834	4,469	6,303	142	+ 3	- 2
Manchester District ...	8,401	4,854	13,255	128	- 1	- 12
Liverpool District ...	9,686	9,733	19,419	169	- 1	- 13
Bradford District ...	1,850	1,340	3,170	85	- 1	- 9
Halifax & Huddersfield ...	1,027	1,986	3,013	78	- 1	- 14
Leeds District ...	2,263	2,367	4,630	96	- 2	- 15
Barnsley District ...	759	2,662	3,421	117	+ 2	- 1
Sheffield District ...	2,639	2,522	5,161	103	- 2	- 20
Hull District ...	1,731	5,027	6,758	211	- 1	- 6
North Staffordshire ...	1,939	4,301	6,240	152	- 1	- 14
Nottingham District ...	1,940	3,438	5,378	114	- 1	- 9
Leicester District ...	1,270	2,190	3,460	146	- 3	- 17
Wolverhampton District ...	3,308	5,100	8,408	120	- 3	- 18
Birmingham District ...	6,476	3,343	9,819	115	- 1	- 11
Bristol District ...	2,601	3,120	5,721	145	- 2	- 17
Cardiff & Swansea ...	2,141	4,862	7,003	154	- 3	- 13
TOTAL, "Other Districts" ...	56,674	70,404	127,078	126	- 1	- 12
SCOTLAND.†						
Glasgow District ...	3,177	16,171	19,348	202	- 1	- 17
Paisley & Greenock District ...	702	2,044	2,746	142	- 1	- 29
Edinburgh & Leith District ...	1,313	4,736	6,049	150	- 1	- 6
Dundee and Dunfermline ...	616	1,930	2,546	127	+ 2	- 4
Aberdeen ...	418	2,402	2,820	167	- 4	- 22
Coatbridge and Airdrie ...	304	1,288	1,592	153	+ 2	- 20
TOTAL for the above Scottish Districts ...	6,530	28,571	35,101	173		- 15
IRELAND.‡						
Dublin District ...	5,828	5,512	11,340	274	+ 4	+ 15
Belfast District ...	2,702	816	3,518	81	- 1	...
Cork, Waterford and Limerick District ...	3,274	3,830	7,104	266	+ 2	- 20
Galway District ...	300	140	440	128	+ 1	- 2
TOTAL for the above Irish Districts ...	12,104	10,298	22,402	199	+ 2	+ 2
Total for above 35 Districts in Mar., 1917	135,498	141,472	276,970	149	- 1	- 13

* These urban areas include in the case of England and Wales and Ireland more than one poor-law union, except in the Leicester, Birmingham, West Ham, Belfast and Galway districts; and more than one parish in the case of Scotland, except in the Aberdeen district.

† Exclusive of Vagrants, of Patients in the Fever and Small-pox Hospitals of the Metropolitan Asylums Boards, and of Lunatics in Asylums, Registered Hospitals and Licensed Houses.

‡ Excluding Casuals, but including persons maintained in Institutions for the Blind, Deaf and Dumb, &c., who are classified as not able-bodied.

BUILDING PLANS.

RETURNS received by the Department from 94 of the principal urban districts in the United Kingdom (exclusive of the County of London), giving the estimated cost of the buildings for which plans were passed during the first quarter of 1917, show that there was a net decrease of £475,362 (or 22.2 per cent.), as compared with the corresponding period of 1916.

The population of the districts included in the Returns is over 12,000,000.

District and Population at Census of 1911.	Dwelling Houses.	Factories and Workshops.	Shops, Offices, Warehouses and other business premises.	Churches, Schools and Public Buildings.	Other Buildings, Additions and Alterations.	TOTAL.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Outer London (1,680,000)	56,690	45,035	8,040	22,888	55,081	187,734
Northern Counties (725,000)	6,845	30,525	9,081	2,890	10,837	60,178
Yorkshire (1,645,000)	101,770	347,728	91,100	35,223	71,203	647,024
Lancashire & Cheshire (2,375,000)	59,595	121,258	15,227	13,020	109,876	318,976
Midlands (2,045,000)	33,310	260,726	38,701	5,950	101,585	440,272
Other Districts in England (1,075,000)	25,620	50	2,440	5,750	25,484	59,344
Wales & Mon. (430,000)	9,250	15,000	250	...	5,770	30,270
Scotland (1,830,000)	48,370	120,547	18,895	11,380	59,536	258,728
Ireland (825,000)	29,480	1,630	79,910	4,000	22,550	137,570
TOTAL ...	370,930	942,499	263,644	101,101	461,922	2,140,096
First Quarter of 1917.						
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Outer London (1,680,000)	...	80,970	3,620	...	46,749	131,339
Northern Counties (725,000)	...	11,490	70	30,000	9,316	50,876
Yorkshire (1,645,000)	6,400	443,364	12,650	...	52,086	514,500
Lancashire & Cheshire (2,375,000)	3,060	49,720	9,100	2,130	81,177	145,187
Midlands (2,045,000)	91,158	349,990	10,750	2,948	81,776	536,622
Other Districts in England (1,075,000)	17,175	6,495	290	...	7,271	31,231
Wales & Mon. (430,000)	250	1,500	200	3,000	2,805	7,755
Scotland (1,830,000)	920	127,856	2,950	...	24,993	156,719
Ireland (825,000)	26,315	4,500	18,580	...	41,110	90,505
TOTAL ...	145,278	1,075,885	58,210	38,078	347,283	1,664,734

Compared with the corresponding period of 1916 there was an increase in the value in factories and workshops (14.2 per cent.), but a decrease in all other classes, the most marked being in shops and other business premises (77.9 per cent.). There was an increase in the Midlands district (21.9 per cent.), but every other district showed a decrease, which was most noticeable in Wales and Monmouthshire (74.4 per cent.) and Lancashire and Cheshire (54.5 per cent.).

The following Table shows for each class of building and for each district the increase or decrease in the quarter ended March, 1917, compared with the corresponding period of 1916 :-

CLASS OF BUILDING:	Increase (+) or Decrease (-).	
	Amount.	Per cent.
Dwelling Houses...	- 225,652	- 60.3
Factories and Workshops...	+ 133,386	+ 14.2
Shops and Other Business Premises...	- 205,434	- 77.9
Churches, Schools and Public Buildings...	- 63,023	- 62.3
Other Buildings, Additions and Alterations...	- 114,639	- 24.8
TOTAL ...	- 475,362	- 22.2
DISTRICTS:	Increase (+) or Decrease (-).	
	Amount.	Per cent.
Outer London ...	- 56,395	- 30.0
Northern Counties ...	- 9,302	- 15.5
Yorkshire ...	- 132,524	- 20.5
Lancashire and Cheshire ...	- 173,789	- 54.5
Midlands ...	+ 96,350	+ 21.9
Other Districts in England ...	- 28,113	- 47.4
Wales and Monmouthshire ...	- 22,515	- 74.4
Scotland ...	- 102,009	- 39.4
Ireland ...	- 47,065	- 34.2
TOTAL ...	- 475,362	- 22.2

LEGAL CASES, OFFICIAL NOTICES, &c.

LEGAL CASES AFFECTING LABOUR.

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ACT.

ACCIDENT "ARISING OUT OF" EMPLOYMENT: INJURY BY FALL OF WALL: WALL NOT ON EMPLOYER'S PREMISES: PROXIMATE CAUSE.

A workman injured by accident is not entitled to compensation under the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1906, unless the accident was one "arising out of" as well as "in the course of" the employment.

A woman in the ordinary course of her employment was at work in a shed, when a wall in the course of erection upon the adjacent premises collapsed and fell upon the shed, injuring the woman. The wall was not the property of her employer, nor on his premises, nor had he any interest in it. She claimed compensation, and the only question in dispute was whether the accident was one arising out of her employment. She obtained an award in her favour from the Sheriff-Substitute, but on appeal to the Court of Session this award was set aside, and the claimant then appealed to the House of Lords. This appeal was successful, and the award in the woman's favour was confirmed.

The House of Lords held that in order that an accident may be said to arise out of employment it is not necessary to prove that the character of the employment has actively contributed to its occurrence. There were many kinds of accidents which occurred in the course of employment which did not in any sense arise out of the employment, as there might be no reason why such an accident might happen to a man in one situation rather than another. But when a man was ordered to work under a particular roof and that roof fell upon him, the accident did not properly fall within that category. The particular roof could only fall in one place, and the presence in that place of the person injured was entirely due to his employment. The Act excluded the necessity of looking for remote causes, and the question in a case like the present was usually the simple one: Had the accident arisen because the claimant was employed in the particular spot in which the roof fell? If so, the accident had arisen out of the employment, and there was no need to go back and search for the cause of the roof falling. Only the proximate cause should be regarded under the Act, and it was immaterial whether the cause of the roof falling was some defect in itself, or the collapse of a neighbouring wall, or a stroke of lightning. It was enough that by the terms of her employment the claimant had to work in this particular shed, and that she was, while so working, injured by an accident to the roof of that shed. Against such an accident her employer was an insurer under the Act.—*Thom v. Sinclair*.—House of Lords.—8th March, 1917.

contention, and made an award of £300 compensation. The defendants appealed.

The Court of Appeal allowed the appeal, and fixed the amount of compensation at £259. They held that as a matter of law more was needed to justify the conclusion arrived at by the County Court Judge, and there was no evidence to support the conclusion as a matter of fact. And even if there had been such evidence, the service would have been "substantially continuous" within the decision in *Jones v. Ocean Coal Co.* It was apparent on the whole that the learned County Court Judge had acted upon a wrong view of the law, and his award could not stand.—*Price v. Guest, Keen & Nettles, Ltd.*—Court of Appeal.—2nd March, 1917.

ACCIDENT "IN THE COURSE OF" EMPLOYMENT: WORKMAN EMPLOYED ON SHIP IN DOCK: FALL FROM QUAY WHEN LEAVING DOCK PREMISES.

A carpenter was employed by a company of engineers and ship repairers in November, 1915, on a ship lying in dock. About 8 p.m. he and another man left work together to go home. They reached the quay and proceeded towards the gates, not walking together. After going a little way the other man heard a splash and a shout, but he took no notice, thinking that his companion was close behind him. Shortly afterwards the body of the carpenter was found in the water.

A claim for compensation by the widow was disallowed by the County Court judge on the ground that the accident did not arise "in the course of" the employment of the deceased, as once having got safely on to the quay his work for that day had ended and he had no more right to compensation than any workman would have who was knocked down in the street while walking home after his day's work. The widow appealed, and the Court of Appeal reversed the decision of the County Court judge. The employers then appealed to the House of Lords.

The House of Lords upheld the Court of Appeal, holding that as the accident happened at a place where the workman had no right to be except under the permission given to his employers by the dock authorities, his employment continued until he had passed out of the dock gates and reached a public road. Therefore the accident did happen in the course of the employment of the deceased, and the widow was entitled to compensation.—*John Stewart & Son (1912), Limited, v. Longhurst*.—House of Lords.—23rd March, 1917.

RECENT CONCILIATION AND ARBITRATION CASES.

CASES UNDER THE CONCILIATION ACT, 1896, AND THE MUNITIONS OF WAR ACTS, 1915 AND 1916.

WARPERS, HUDDERSFIELD AND DISTRICT.—A difference relative to the war bonus to be paid to the workpeople having arisen between the Huddersfield and District Woollen Manufacturers' Association and the Huddersfield and District Warpers' Association, the matter was referred to Sir George Askwith for settlement. He issued his award on 30th March, allowing to the workpeople concerned grants similar to those awarded in a finding issued by him on 23rd January last in the case of the Woollen and Worsted Trades Federation, General Union of Textile Workers, and other Trade Unions.

BOTTLE MAKERS, YORKSHIRE.—A difference having arisen between the Yorkshire Flint-glass Bottle Manufacturers' Association and the National Glass Bottle Makers' Society in connection with an application for an advance of wages made by the Society on behalf of their members employed by firms in the Association, Mr. Charles Doughty was appointed arbitrator to determine the matter, and in his award issued on 24th February decided that the wages of bottle makers should be 45s. 6d. per week for a week's work of 14 moves and 3s. 3d. per move overwork, and the wages of bottle blowers 43s. 2d. for a week's work of 14 moves and 3s. 1d. per move overwork.

MOULDERS, LUPTON & PLACE, LTD., BURNLEY.—An application for an advance of wages was made by the Ironfounders' Society on behalf of their members in the firm's employ as moulders, and Mr. Charles Doughty was appointed arbitrator to determine the matter. The application made was for the payment of the Bradford standard rate for moulders, and at the hearing it was amicably settled between the parties that this rate should be paid, and on the 24th February the arbitrator declared this agreement to be his award.

EMPLOYEES OF MESSRS. HUNT BROS., CASTLEFORD.—Mr. Charles Doughty, the arbitrator appointed to determine an application for an advance of wages made by the Workers' Union on behalf of their members employed by the firm, issued his award on the 28th February, granting an advance of 1d. per ton and a war bonus of 8d. per day for a full day's work, as from the beginning of the first full pay week after the 7th February.

CHEMICAL WORKERS, MORRIS & GRIFFIN, NEWPORT, MON.—The National Union of General Workers made an application for an advance of wages on behalf of their members in the firm's employ, and the matter was referred to Mr. Charles Doughty for arbitration. In his award of the 1st March Mr.

FATAL ACCIDENT: BASIS OF COMPUTATION OF COMPENSATION: CONTINUOUS EMPLOYMENT: VOLUNTARY ABSENCE: STRIKE.

When death results from an injury by accident to a workman in circumstances giving his dependants a right to compensation under the Act, then, when the dependants were wholly dependent on his earnings, the amount of compensation is a sum equal to the earnings of the deceased in the employment of the same employer during the three years next preceding the injury, or the sum of £150, whichever of those sums is the greater, but not exceeding in any case £300. If, however, the period of the workman's employment by such employer has been less than the said three years, then the amount of his earnings during those three years are to be deemed to be 156 times his average weekly earnings during the period of his actual employment under that employer.

A miner who had been in the employment of the same colliery company for many years was killed by accident in March, 1916, in circumstances entitling his dependants to the maximum compensation. The company admitted their liability to pay compensation, but disputed the amount thereof. The deceased had in 1910 been a party to a Conciliation Board agreement by which the rates of wages in the colliery were fixed to the end of March, 1915, and thenceforth until either party gave three months' notice terminating it. On 1st April, 1915, notice terminating the agreement on 30th June was given by the workmen. The men, however, continued to work till 14th July. A strike then began, but owing to the intervention of Mr. Lloyd George, it only lasted till 22nd July, when the men went back to work under a provisional agreement. In September, 1915, a final agreement was reached, to take effect as from 15th July preceding. The deceased was working under this agreement at the time of his fatal accident.

At the hearing of the dependants' claim in the County Court the question was whether the week's strike constituted a break in the continuity of the employment. If it did the compensation was £300, as the wages under the new agreement were higher than the previous wages, and 156 times the average weekly earnings for the time during which the new agreement had been in force exceeded £300. If, however, the strike did not constitute a break in the continuity of the deceased's employment, then the compensation amounted to £259, which was the amount of his earnings in the three years next preceding the accident.

The County Court Judge decided in favour of the former

Doughty granted a war bonus of 8d. a day to all semi-skilled and unskilled men and to the electrician and to women who have been continuously employed by the firm since the 1st January, 1917. Women who have recently received advances (other than individual advances for special work) will receive only so much as will make these advances up to 8d. per day or 4s. per week. The arbitrator also gave to boys a bonus of 4d. per day, and confirmed the rates now being paid to men working the bone flour mill and the concentrator plant, and found that the 10 per cent. increase should continue to be paid as hitherto.

LEAD AND PHOSPHOR BRONZE MOULDERS, THE MOND NICKEL Co., LTD., CLYDACH.—An application for an advance of wages having been made by the Friendly Society of Ironfounders and the Associated Society of Moulders on behalf of the lead and phosphor bronze moulders in the company's employ, Mr. Charles Doughty was appointed arbitrator to determine the matter, and issued his award on the 3rd March, deciding that the rate of the men concerned shall be advanced by 5s. a week as from 1st April, 1917.

EMPLOYEES, THE CARDIFF AND DISTRICT MASTER BAKERS' ASSOCIATION.—A difference having arisen between the Amalgamated Union of Operative Bakers and Confectioners and the above Association respecting an application for an advance of wages and for the abolition of night work made by the Union on behalf of their members employed by firms in the Association, Mr. Charles Doughty was appointed arbitrator to determine the matter, and issued his award on the 3rd March, deciding that the wages of first hands shall be raised to a minimum of 46s. per week, second hands to a minimum of 41s., and table hands to 40s. per week, these advances to be regarded as war wages, and to be paid at the first pay day in March. The arbitrator decided that in all other respects the working agreement, which took effect from 12th July, 1916, shall continue in force.

BOILER WELDERS, FITTERS, MACHINISTS, &C., HARTLEY & SUGDEN, LTD., LUMLEY, SON & WOOD, LTD., AND GRAHAM & FLEMING, HALIFAX.—The Workers' Union having made an application for an advance of wages on behalf of their members employed by the above firms, Mr. Charles Doughty was appointed arbitrator to determine the matter, and in his award of the 3rd March granted an advance of 12½ per cent. to boiler welders, in the case of those employed by Messrs. Lumley, Son & Wood and Messrs. Graham & Fleming, the advance to be conditional upon a week's work of at least 48 hours. On and after the 1st April a further increase of 5 per cent. is to be paid to these men on the same conditions. The award also granted to boiler fitters, machinists, strikers, testers and youths of 18 years and over (except those who received the district advance of 3s. a week recently granted to engineers and labourers) an advance of 1s. per week, and a sum of 5s. in lieu of retrospective payment, and after the 1st April a further advance of 5s. a week will be paid to those grades of labour. The arbitrator also decided that the minimum wage for machinists, testers and strikers shall be 2s. above that of the labourers, and that the minimum rate for boiler fitters (not including casting fitters) shall be 38s. per week after two years' experience. All the advances are to be considered as war wages, and the advance of 1s. per week to boiler fitters, &c., is to take effect from the beginning of the first full pay week after the 18th February. On the 1st April boys are to receive advances that will represent an increase of 2s. 6d. over their rates of 1916.

EMPLOYEES OF MESSRS. JACKSON, MCCONNAN & TEMPLE, LTD., MESSRS. GARNOCK, BIBBY & Co., LTD., MESSRS. MICHAEL HUTCHINSON & Co., LTD., LIVERPOOL.—An application for an advance of wages was made by the National Warehouse and General Workers' Union on behalf of their members employed by the above firms, and Mr. Charles Doughty was appointed arbitrator to determine the matter. At the hearing an amicable settlement was arrived at between the parties giving certain advances and bonuses to be calculated from the 9th March, and on the 13th March the arbitrator declared this agreement to be his award.

EMPLOYEES OF MESSRS. JOSEPH MORTON, LTD., AND MESSRS. OATES & GREEN, LTD., OF HALIFAX; MESSRS. SHARRATT & SONS, LTD., MESSRS. E. LUTY & SON, MESSRS. HAWKYARD & SON, MESSRS. THE ELLAND FIRE BRICK Co., AND MESSRS. WILKINSON & SONS, OF ELLAND.—A difference arose between the above-named firms and the Workers' Union respecting an application for an advance of wages and for overtime rates, made on behalf of their members employed by the firms, and Mr. Charles Doughty was appointed arbitrator to determine the matter. At the hearing on the 11th March the matter was amicably settled, which settlement the arbitrator declared to be his award, the advances given to be calculated from the 8th March, 1917.

EMPLOYEES, THE ASHGROVE SANITARY PIPE Co., ELLAND.—A difference having arisen between the Ashgrove Sanitary Pipe Co. and the Workers' Union respecting an application for an advance of wages, and for overtime rates, Mr. Charles Doughty was appointed arbitrator. At the hearing on the 13th March a settlement was arrived at, and this settlement having the arbitrator's approval, he declared it to be his award in the matter.

ROCKMEN, MESSRS. RAYNES & Co., LLYSFAEN.—Mr. Charles Doughty was appointed arbitrator to determine a difference existing between the National Union of General Workers and Messrs. Raynes & Co., Llysfaen, with reference to the employ-

ment of certain rockmen in the firm's quarry. At the hearing on the 14th March the firm expressed their readiness to provide for or pay for the drilling of pieces of rock of 50 tons or more in weight, and a scheme to carry out this arrangement being established, the arbitrator made no further award in the matter.

METAL CASTERS, DELTA METAL Co., LTD., BIRMINGHAM.—A difference having arisen relative to an application for an advance of wages and for overtime rates between the firm and the casters in their employ, Mr. Charles Doughty was appointed to act as arbitrator in the matter, and issued his award on the 17th March, granting a further advance of 10d. per day's work as from the 1st March, and fixing the rates for overtime.

STOKERS, &C., THE MIDLAND ELECTRIC CORPORATION FOR POWER DISTRIBUTION, LTD.—A difference existing between the Midland Electric Corporation for Power Distribution, Ltd., and the stokers, ashmen and coal unloaders in their employ respecting an application for an advance of wages, Mr. Charles Doughty was appointed arbitrator to determine the matter, and issued his award on the 19th March, giving (1) a war wage advance of 5s. per week to the stokers and ashmen, and (2) an increase of ½d. per ton to the coal unloaders, in addition to a new war wage of 5s. per week, in lieu of the present war bonus of 7s. per week. These advances shall be paid on and after the pay day for the first full pay in April, the men concerned shall receive the 5s. per full ordinary week, calculated as from, and including, the first day of April, 1917.

GRINDERS, LEY'S MALLEABLE CASTINGS Co., LTD., DERBY.—Mr. Charles Doughty was appointed arbitrator to determine a difference that had arisen between the firm and the grinders in their employ in connection with an application for an advance of wages made by the grinders. At the hearing an amicable settlement was arrived at fixing the conditions of payment of clippers and gaugers as from the 12th March, and giving an additional war bonus of 5s. a week for a week of 53 hours as from the 1st April. On the 19th March the arbitrator declared this agreement to be his award.

BUILDERS' LABOURERS, VAL DE TRAVERS PAVING Co., LTD., BIRMINGHAM.—The Navvies, Builders' Labourers and General Workers' Union having made applications for an increased war bonus, for an advance of wages, and for alterations in working conditions on behalf of their members in the firm's employ, the matter was referred to Mr. Charles Doughty for arbitration. At the hearing on the 16th March an agreement was arrived at between the parties, giving advances and making certain alterations in working conditions, as set out in the new rules attached to the award, which rules the arbitrator on the 19th March declared to be his award.

WIRE ROPE WORKERS, MESSRS. R. S. NEWALL & SON, LTD., W. B. BROWN & Co., LTD., GARNOCK, BIBBY & Co., LTD., WIRE ROPE WORKS.—Mr. Charles Doughty was appointed arbitrator to determine a difference which had arisen between the above-named firms and the National Warehouse and General Workers' Union respecting an application for an advance of wages and for certain alterations in working conditions made by the Union on behalf of their members employed in the wire rope works of the firms, and issued his award on the 22nd March, giving certain advances to the men, boys and youths concerned, these advances to be calculated from 9th March, 1917. The case of women and girls was not considered, their wages being regulated by orders made by the Ministry of Munitions.

CARPENTERS AND JOINERS, CROSBY & Co., LTD., FARNHAM.—A difference having arisen between the firm and the Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners relative to an application for an advance of wages and for increased overtime rates made by the Society on behalf of their members, the matter was referred to Mr. W. A. Willis for arbitration. The arbitrator, in his award issued on the 2nd March, decided that the rate of pay shall be raised to 8½d. per hour as from and including the 12th February, 1917, and that in lieu of the existing war bonus an extra ½d. per hour shall be paid, conditionally on good time-keeping. The arbitrator also fixed the rate of overtime at time and a quarter.

WOODWORKERS, THE BRITISH CAUDRON Co., LTD., CRICKLEWOOD.—A difference having arisen between the company and the London District Committee of the Aircraft Industry relative to the rate of wages payable to woodworkers in the company's employ for overtime worked on the August Bank Holiday, 1916, the matter was referred to Mr. W. Addington Willis for settlement. Mr. Willis issued his award on the 5th March, finding that the rate payable was the same as that paid for the ordinary working hours of the Bank Holiday, namely the double time rate, irrespective of any reduction relative to extra rates of pay agreed upon for the day following the Bank Holiday.

LABOURERS, MESSRS. CROSBY & Co., LTD., FARNHAM.—The Workers' Union having made an application for an advance of wages and overtime rates on behalf of labourers employed by the firm, Mr. W. A. Willis was appointed arbitrator, and by his award of the 6th March granted a war wage advance of 4d. per day to the men concerned of over 18 years of age, conditional upon the full number of hours (including overtime hours) being worked, but decided that in all other respects the claim had not been established.

EMPLOYEES OF THE BRITISH GREGOIRE AGENCY, LTD., LONDON.—A difference having arisen between the firm and the Workers' Union respecting an application for an advance of 3s. per week

made by the latter on behalf of their members employed by the firm, the matter was referred to the arbitration of Mr. W. A. Willis. The arbitrator issued his award on the 9th March, granting a war wage advance of 3s. per week to time-workers only.

EMPLOYEES, MESSRS. KROLL & Co., CAMDEN TOWN.—Mr. W. Addington Willis was appointed arbitrator to determine a difference which had arisen between Messrs. Kroll & Co. and the National Union of General Workers respecting an application for an advance of 3s. per week made by the Union on behalf of their members in the firm's employ, and issued his award on the 12th March, giving a war wage advance of 3s. per week to time-workers only.

MOULDERS, THE BRIGHTSIDE FOUNDRY AND ENGINEERING Co., LTD.—Differences arose between the Sheffield and District Engineering Trades Employers' Association and the Ironfounders' Society respecting the working of piece-work on certain classes of work by members of the above-mentioned firm. Mr. W. W. Mackenzie, K.C., was appointed arbitrator, and issued his award on the 10th March, deciding that the rule whereby, in making ingot-moulds, piece-work is limited to moulds not exceeding four tons in weight, be suspended in the several shops of the firm, and that there be no limit to the weight of such moulds when made by piece-work. The arbitrator also declared that the evidence respecting piece-work at the Wicker Works (apart from ingot-moulds) did not satisfy him that any alteration was necessary, and he therefore made no order on that claim.

ELECTRICAL WORKERS, LONDON.—The Electrical Trades Union having made an application for an advance of wages on behalf of electrical wiremen, fitters and their assistants employed by firms in the National Federated Electrical Association, Mr. W. W. Mackenzie, K.C., was appointed arbitrator, and in his award of the 17th March gave a war wage advance of 1d. per hour to the wiremen and fitters as from the 1st April, with a pro rata advance to their assistants.

FITTERS AND HELPERS, G. N. HADEN & SONS, TROWBRIDGE.—A difference arose between the firm and the National Union of Operative Heating and Domestic Engineers in connection with an offer made by the firm to pay a bonus allowance on time saved on certain contracts at their Birmingham branch. The men accepted the offer with reference to certain jobs, but the Union objected to the scheme on various grounds, and the matter was referred to Mr. W. W. Mackenzie, K.C., for arbitration. In his award of the 19th March the arbitrator found that the bonus scheme may be put into operation at the Birmingham branch of the firm on certain conditions as set out in the award.

CABINETMAKERS, CHAIRMAKERS, MACHINISTS, LONDON.—Mr. W. W. Mackenzie, K.C., was appointed arbitrator to determine an application for an advance of 2d. per hour made by the National Amalgamated Furnishing Trades Association on behalf of the above grades of workers employed by firms in the Cabinet Trades Federation, and in his award of the 19th March granted a further war bonus of 1d. per hour to the workers concerned.

EMPLOYEES OF SPRING VALE DYE WORKS, LTD., WATERFOOT.—Mr. W. W. Mackenzie, K.C., was appointed arbitrator to determine a difference that had arisen between the firm and the Operative Bleachers, Dyers and Finishers' Association in connection with a claim made by the Association for a war wage of 10s. per week to male workers of 18 years and upwards, and 6s. 7½d. per week to female workers and male workers under 18. In his award of the 28th March the arbitrator found that this claim had been satisfied. The Union also alleged that the firm had not allowed their workers the war wages awarded in the dyeing and kindred industries on 22nd July, 1916, and claimed payment of these respective wages, but the arbitrator found that this claim had not been established. The award also fixed the rates for overtime.

CROSS CHANNEL SEAMEN AND FIREMEN, SOUTHAMPTON.—Sir William Robinson having been appointed arbitrator to determine a difference that had arisen between the Admiralty and the British Seafarers' Union respecting an application for an advance of wages of 5s. a week made on behalf of members of the Union engaged as Cross Channel Able Bodied Seamen and Firemen, in his award of 21st February granted to the men concerned a war wage advance of 3s. per week.

SHIP PAINTERS AND DECORATORS, PORT OF LONDON.—Application for an advance of wages of 3d. an hour, and certain alterations of working rules, having been made to the Master Painters' Association by the National Amalgamated Society of House and Ship Painters and Decorators on behalf of their members employed by firms in the Association, the matter was referred to Sir William Robinson for settlement, and on the 28th February he issued his award giving a war wage advance of ½d. an hour to the men, with proportionate advance to boys and apprentices, and allowing certain alterations in the working rules.

EMPLOYEES, MESSRS. THE NEW EXPLOSIVES Co., LONDON.—A difference having arisen between Messrs. The New Explosives Company and the National Union of General Workers respecting an application for an advance of wages made by the Union on behalf of their members in the company's employ, Sir William Robinson was appointed arbitrator to determine the matter, and issued his award on the 1st March, giving an advance of 3s. per week on the present 3s. war bonus already paid to the men concerned of over 21 years of age, with an

additional 6d. for Sunday work, with a proportionate increase to youths and boys, these advances to come into operation as from the 1st day of January, 1917. He also decided that the said bonus should be divided into three instalments of 2s. each, payable in three periods of two days each.

GAS WORKERS, SOUTH SHIELDS AND JARROW GAS WORKS.—Sir W. Robinson was appointed arbitrator to determine a difference that had arisen between the Company and the National Union of General Workers in connection with the wages and working hours and rules of members of the Union employed at the Company's South Shields and Jarrow Works, and issued his award on the 4th March, fixing the wages of the men concerned, and making certain alterations in working conditions.

LABOURERS AND BRICKLAYERS, WIGAN COAL AND IRON Co., LTD., WIGAN.—Application for an advance of wages having been made by the labourers in the employ of Messrs. The Wigan Coal and Iron Company, Ltd., and also by the Operative Bricklayers' Society on behalf of their members in the Company's employ, Sir William Robinson was appointed to arbitrate on the matter, and issued his award on 23rd March, granting an additional war bonus of 1d. per hour, payable from 1st May.

BRICKLAYERS, PARTINGTON STEEL Co., LTD., IRLAM.—Sir William Robinson was appointed arbitrator to determine an application for an advance of wages of 1d. per hour made by the Operative Bricklayers' Society on behalf of their members in the firm's employ, and in his award of 23rd March granted the 1d. an hour advance as war bonus as from the 1st May, when the present bonus of 3s. per week is to become merged in the new bonus of 1d. per hour.

WAGON REPAIRERS, SOUTH WALES.—Application for an advance of wages and for extra payments for wagons engaged on nitre cake traffic having been made to the Wagon Repairers' Association by the Amalgamated Society of Railway Vehicle Builders, Wheelwrights, Carpenters and Mechanics on behalf of their members in the employ of firms belonging to the Association, Sir William Robinson was appointed to hear and decide the difference. On 27th March he issued his award, directing that the existing war bonus should be raised in the case of the men concerned rated at £1 per week and upwards whether day or piece work by 2s. per week, and in the case of employees rated at under £1 a week by 1s., the advances to be retrospective as from the first pay day in January, 1917, not allowing any further increase in respect of overtime worked, but ordering a deduction to be made pro rata as agreed upon in the event of the loss of ten or more hours on the full working week. He also awarded an extra payment of 5s. per wagon in respect of wagons repaired at out stations, and a 40 per cent. increase on the existing rates for wagons repaired in works, certain time limits having been fixed, and he further ordered the provision by the employers of certain working requirements.

OMNIBUS DRIVERS AND CONDUCTORS, THOMAS TILLING, LTD., PECKHAM.—The London and Provincial Union of Licensed Vehicle Workers made an application that their members employed by the firm should receive the same rates of pay and work under the same conditions of service as those employed by the London General Omnibus Co., Ltd., and the matter was referred to Mr. H. Courthope-Munroe, K.C., for arbitration. In his award of the 2nd March Mr. Munroe fixed the rates of wages, hours of work and terms of employment of the workers concerned as set out in the schedule to the award.

COAL TIPPERS, THE CARDIFF RAILWAY Co.—A difference having arisen between the Cardiff Railway Co. and the National Union of Railwaymen respecting an application for an advance of 25 per cent. made by the Union on behalf of certain coal tippers in the Company's employ, Mr. H. Courthope-Munroe, K.C., was appointed arbitrator to determine the matter, and issued his award on the 6th March, giving a war wage advance of 12 per cent. (exclusive of the present war bonus of 10s. per week), this advance to come into operation as from the first full pay in February, 1917.

AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS, NORFOLK.—A difference having arisen between the Farmers' Federation, Ltd., Norfolk, and the National Agricultural Labourers and Rural Workers' Union in respect of an application made by the latter that the weekly wage of their members should be further advanced to 30s., Mr. H. Courthope-Munroe, K.C., was appointed arbitrator to determine the matter, and in his award issued on the 12th March decided that the weekly wage of the able-bodied agricultural labourer in Norfolk shall be advanced to 25s. as agreed to by the Farmers' Federation, this increase to be payable in each case as from the time when the summer hours shall have first been worked this year.

AMMUNITION BOX MAKERS, BLACKBURN.—A difference having arisen between the Blackburn Building Trades Employers' Association and the National Union of General Workers respecting an application for an advance of wages made by the latter on behalf of their members employed on the manufacture of ammunition boxes by firms in the Association, the matter was referred to the arbitration of Mr. H. Courthope-Munroe, K.C., who issued his award on the 14th March, fixing certain advanced rates of pay, but disallowing the claim made in regard to overtime and holidays.

ELECTRICAL WORKERS, MANCHESTER CORPORATION.—The Electrical Trades Union having made an application for an advance

of wages on behalf of certain of their members employed by the Corporation as sub-station attendants and battery attendants, Mr. H. Courthope-Munroe, K.C., was appointed arbitrator to determine the matter, and in his award of the 22nd March decided that the claim made had not been established.

EMPLOYEES, THE LEIGH AND DISTRICT MASTER BUILDERS' ASSOCIATION.—Mr. H. Courthope-Munroe, K.C., was appointed arbitrator to determine a difference which had arisen between the Leigh and District Master Builders' Association and the Operative Bricklayers' Society respecting an application for an advance of wages made by the Society on behalf of certain of their members employed by firms in the Association, and issued his award on the 24th March giving a war wage advance of 1½d. per hour to the workmen concerned as from the 1st May, 1917.

EMPLOYEES, THE CHILWORTH GUNPOWDER CO., LTD., CHILWORTH.—A difference having arisen between Messrs. The Chilworth Co., Ltd., and certain employees in their engineering shop respecting an application for an advance of wages, the matter was referred to Mr. Ernest Page, K.C., for arbitration. The arbitrator issued his award on the 7th March giving a war bonus of ¼d. per hour to the fitters and ¼d. per hour to the labourers and apprentices, these advances to operate from the 1st January, 1917, but made no alteration in overtime payment. He also declared that the claim for payment for "riding time" had not been established.

ENGINEERS AND CREWS, HOPPERS, STEAM TUG, DREDGER, L.S.W. RY. CO.—Differences having arisen between the company on the one hand and the Amalgamated Society of Engineers representing the engineers, and the British Seafarers' Union representing the rest of the crews employed on 5 hoppers and a steam tug and a dredger, in connection with an application for an advance of wages and for certain alterations in working conditions, the matter was referred to Mr. Ernest Page, K.C., for arbitration. In his award of the 20th March Mr. Page granted to each of the men concerned a war bonus of 2s. per week, and fixed the rates of special allowances to be made to the different classes of workers, all advances to date from 4th January.

EMPLOYEES OF MESSRS. HEWLETT & BLONDEAU, LTD., LEA-GRAVE.—A difference having arisen between the firm and the Amalgamated Society of Engineers in connection with an application made by the Society for the reinstatement of one of their members who had ceased to be employed by the firm on the expiration of a notice to leave in seven days, Mr. Ernest Page, K.C., was appointed arbitrator to determine the matter, and issued his award on the 21st March, deciding that the claim made by the Society had not been established.

TRANSPORT WORKERS, THE LONDON, BRIGHTON & SOUTH COAST RAILWAY CO.—A difference having arisen between the London, Brighton and South Coast Railway Co. and the transport workers at the company's Newhaven wharfs respecting the wages of the latter, Mr. Ernest Page, K.C., was appointed arbitrator to determine the matter, and issued his award on the 27th March deciding that (1) the hourly wages of all the workers concerned shall be increased by 1d. per hour, and (2) on Sundays, Christmas Days and Good Fridays the rates shall be increased from time and a quarter to time and a half, but making no other alteration in the rates paid on Bank Holidays. This award shall come into operation as from the beginning of the work of the first shift on Monday, the 5th March, 1917.

IRON SHIFTERS, SIR RAYLTON DIXON & CO., MIDDLESBROUGH-TERR.—Mr. Walter Dodd, the arbitrator appointed to determine a difference that had arisen between Sir Raylton Dixon & Co. and the National Amalgamated Union of Labour respecting an application for an advance of wages made by the Union on behalf of the iron shifters in the firm's employ, issued his award on the 28th March, deciding that the system under which the men work could not be termed piece-work in the true sense, and that, therefore, the men had established their claim, and are entitled to receive the extra 3s. per week granted by the Committee on Production to time-workers.

EMPLOYEES OF MESSRS. JAMES CHADWICK (IRONFOUNDERS), LTD., BOLTON.—A difference having arisen between the firm and the Friendly Society of Ironfounders relative to the price paid for the making of trench bombs to their members in the firm's employ, Mr. Walter Dodd was appointed to act as arbitrator. On the 23rd March he issued his award, granting 4½d. per bomb for one of the periods in dispute and 4d. per bomb for the other, and deciding that for future orders the price per similar bomb shall be 4½d., the moulders to do the work without the assistance of labourers.

EMPLOYEES, MESSRS. RICHARDSON, WESTGARTH & CO., LTD., HARTLEPOOL.—A difference having arisen between Messrs. Richardson, Westgarth & Co., Ltd., Hartlepool, and the Amalgamated Society of Engineers (in connection with the wages of men employed in the fitting of dummy strips in cylinders and glands in turbines), Mr. Walter Dodd was appointed to make a local inquiry into and report on the matter in question. He heard the parties on the 22nd March, and having regard to the award of the 11th October, 1916, of the Committee on Production, and to the fact that the fitters working on dummy strips are not termed bladders, he is of opinion they are not entitled to claim the extra advance awarded.

EMPLOYEES OF GAS WORKS, MARYPORT URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.—Application for an all-round advance of wages of

5s. per week having been made to the above District Council, Mr. W. H. Stoker, K.C., was appointed to arbitrate on the matter. On 21st March he issued his award, granting a war wage advance of 7s. per week to all the men concerned, in lieu of the existing bonuses of which they were in receipt, in the case of the labourers the advance to be payable from the beginning of the first full pay following 17th March, and a lump sum of £1 5s. to be given in addition in lieu of any retrospective payment.

BOOT AND SHOE OPERATIVES, A. & W. FLATAU, LTD., TOTTENHAM.—The National Union of Boot and Shoe Operatives having made an application for the payment of a war bonus to the day and piece-work operatives employed by the firm on both army and civil work, Mr. Alderman T. Smith was appointed arbitrator to determine the matter. As a result of the hearing on the 8th March it was mutually agreed that war bonuses varying from 3s. 6d. to 6s. should be paid, according to the age and wages of the workers concerned, and in proportion to the time actually worked. The award of the 8th June, 1915, and the agreement of the 30th November, 1916, are to be cancelled as from the 1st March, 1917, and the foregoing war bonus is to be substituted therefor. On the 12th March the arbitrator declared this agreement to be his award.

BOILER MAKERS, ABERDEEN.—A difference having arisen between the Aberdeen Shipbuilders' Association and the Boiler Makers, Iron and Steel Shipbuilders' Society relative to certain claims for advances of wages made by the latter on behalf of their members employed by firms in the Association, the matter was referred to the arbitration of Sir Thomas Munro. The arbitrator, in his award issued on the 7th March, granted a war wage increase of 1½d. per hour to men employed in boiler shops, but disallowed the claim for an increase to men employed in shipyards. With regard to "dirty money," Sir Thomas Munro decided that the Society's claims for 1s. per day extra to their members engaged on boiler repair work and on ship repair work had been established.

DOCKERS, GREENOCK.—The Master Stevedores having agreed to grant an advance of 1d. per hour in wages to members of the Greenock and District Dockers' Union, subject to arrangements being made by which the discharge and loading of ships is expedited to the greatest possible extent, Sir Thomas Munro was appointed arbitrator to determine the date from which the advance shall be granted, and in his award of the 8th March decided that it shall commence from the 1st February and shall be regarded as war wages, and made arrangements to date from the 12th March for expediting the loading and discharge of ships. Certain questions having arisen out of the award, a supplementary award was issued by Sir Thomas Munro on the 31st March.

SUGAR PORTERS, GREENOCK.—Sir Thomas Munro was appointed to act as arbitrator in the matter of a difference that arose between the Scottish Sugar Association and the Greenock Sugar Porters and General Labourers' Society relative to the terms and conditions of employment of members of the Society when engaged in the service of the employers. On 8th March he issued his award, giving a war wage advance of 1d. per hour and a sliding scale bonus varying according to the work performed per hour, and arranging for the adoption of certain specified rules and alterations in working conditions. In the matter of extra payment in respect of the discharge of "dirty cargoes," Sir Thomas reserved consideration.

SCARFERS, TURNERS-UP, & CO., THE SCOTTISH TUBE CO., LTD., COATBRIDGE.—The Workers' Union made an application to the firm that their members in the firm's employ should be granted an increase of ¼d. per ten hours' shift, or that the number of tubes which they require to produce each shift in order to entitle them to "pluck" should be reduced by 20 per cent. The claim was referred to Sir Thomas Munro for arbitration, who, in his award of the 15th March, granted a war wage advance of 4d. per shift, to apply to both time and pluck rates as from the 1st January.

UNSKILLED AND SEMI-SKILLED WORKERS, ENGINEERING WORKS, ARBROATH.—Mr. Condie Sandeman, K.C., was appointed arbitrator to determine an application for an advance of wages made by the Workers' Union on behalf of semi-skilled and unskilled workers employed by firms in the Arbroath Engineering Employers' Association, and in his award of the 7th March granted an advance of 2s. 6d. per week to the workers concerned as from the 31st January.

BLACKSMITHS, BARCLAY, CURLE & CO., LTD., WESTYARD, GLASGOW.—The Associated Blacksmiths and Ironworkers' Society having made an application for an advance of overtime rates on behalf of the blacksmiths employed by the firm, Mr. Condie Sandeman, K.C., was appointed arbitrator to determine the matter, and in his award of the 28th March granted an increase of 1s. 1½d. per hour overtime on week days and of 2s. 3d. per hour on Sunday as from the 1st January.

CEMENT PLANT WORKERS, GLASGOW IRON AND STEEL CO., LTD.—The Workers' Union having made an application for an advance of wages and piece-work prices on behalf of their members employed by the firm as cement plant workers, the matter was referred to Mr. Condie Sandeman, K.C., for arbitration. In his award of the 28th March, Mr. Sandeman granted an advance of 9d. per shift to men time-workers, 4½d. per shift to women time-workers, and of 10 per cent. to the women piece-workers, all to date from the 1st January.

EMPLOYEES OF MESSRS. SIR WILLIAM ARROL & CO., LTD., GLASGOW.—A difference having arisen between Messrs. Sir

William Arrol & Co., Ltd., and the bricklayers' labourers, erectors, erectors' helpers and general labourers employed by the firm at yards of Messrs. William Beardmore & Co., Ltd., Dalnair, respecting an application for (1) payment of travelling expenses, and (2) alterations in working conditions, Mr. Condie Sandeman, K.C., was appointed arbitrator to determine the matter, and issued his award on the 28th March, deciding that the men had established their first claim only.

EMPLOYEES, MESSRS. DOULTON & CO., LTD., PAISLEY.—A difference arose between Messrs. Doulton & Co., Paisley, and the Scottish Brassmoulders' Union respecting an application for an advance of wages to piece-workers made by the Union on behalf of their members in the firm's employ. Mr. Condie Sandeman, K.C., was appointed arbitrator, and issued his award on the 29th March, giving an advance of 1d. per box to the odd-side workers, and ¼d. per box to the plate-workers, this award to date from 29th November, 1916.

IRON DRESSERS, R. & A. MAIN, LTD., FALKIRK.—A difference having arisen between the firm and the contractor for the work of the firm's dressing shop on the one hand, and the General Ironfitters' Association on the other, in connection with the wages paid to men employed in the dressing shop, the matter was referred to Sheriff A. O. M. Mackenzie, K.C., for arbitration, and in his award of 14th March the arbitrator granted a war wage advance of 6d. per day to the men concerned as from the 29th December, 1916, payable by the contractor.

EMPLOYEES, SCOTTISH CO-OPERATIVE WHOLESALE SOCIETY, LTD.—Professor Sir Richard Lodge was appointed arbitrator to determine a difference which had arisen between the Management of the Grangemouth Soap Works of the Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society, Ltd., and the Amalgamated Union of Co-operative and Commercial Employees and Allied Workers in connection with an application for an advance of wages made by the Union on behalf of their members employed at the soap works, and issued his award on the 20th March, giving a war wage advance of 2s. per week to adult male workers, and of 1s. per week to junior male and female workers, these advances to be paid to piece-workers as well as to time-workers.

EMPLOYEES, MESSRS. THE BRITISH ALUMINIUM CO., LTD. (LARNE).—A difference having arisen between Messrs. The British Aluminium Co., Ltd., and the National Amalgamated Union of Labour respecting an application for an increase of wages made by the Union on behalf of their members employed by the firm at Larne Harbour, Professor Sir Richard Lodge was appointed arbitrator to determine the matter, and issued his award on the 20th March, giving to the day labourers concerned an advance of ¼d. per hour on the minimum rate of 5d. fixed by Mr. F. H. Keen's award of the 19th June, 1916. The arbitrator also awarded an advance of 1s. per week on the war bonus currently paid to all employees, but made no other alteration in the terms of Mr. Keen's award.

SHIPCONSTRUCTORS AND SHIPWRIGHTS, RODGER & CO., GREENOCK.—Sir Richard Lodge was appointed arbitrator to determine a difference that had arisen between the firm and the Shipconstructors and Shipwrights' Association in connection with an application made by the Association for (1) time and a half for the first four days of the July holiday, and (2) three weeks' payment of the advance granted by a finding of the Committee on Production of the 21st August to shipyard workers that had not been paid by the firm until three weeks after the date of the finding. In his award of the 26th February, Sir Richard found that the first claim had not been established, but that the men were entitled to the additional pay for the three weeks following the issue of the finding of the Committee.

EMPLOYEES OF MESSRS. PICKERING & CO., LTD., WISHAW.—Sir Richard Lodge was appointed arbitrator to determine an application for an advance of wages of 4s. per week on day rates and of 25 per cent. on piece rates made by the Amalgamated Society of Railway Vehicle Builders, Wheelwrights, Carpenters and Mechanics on behalf of their members in the firm's employ, and issued his award on the 6th March, granting the 4s. advance on day rates, but deciding that the claim with regard to piece rates had not been established.

CAULKERS, WILLIAM BEARDMORE & CO., LTD., DALMUIR.—Mr. James Macdonald was appointed arbitrator to determine a claim made by the Boiler-makers and Iron and Steel Shipbuilders' Society for time and a half rate to be paid to caulkers in the firm's employ when engaged on water testing. The arbitrator issued his award on the 16th March, deciding that the claim has been established.

WOOD CUTTING MACHINISTS, R. J. PICKERING & CO., LTD., WISHAW.—A difference having arisen between the firm and the Amalgamated Society of Wood Cutting Machinists with regard to certain claims made by the latter on behalf of their members in the firm's employ, the matter was referred to the arbitration of Sheriff A. J. Louttit-Laing. The arbitrator issued his award on the 7th March, granting the following war wage advances: (1) an advance on time rates of ¼d. per hour to members in the carriage saw-milling department; (2) an advance on time rates of 3s. per week to those in the wagon saw-milling department; (3) an advance of 5 per cent. on piece rates to members in both the above departments; (4) an advance of 1s. 6d. per week to apprentices. The first, second and fourth findings shall be operative from the first pay day

following 1st January, 1917, and the third finding shall be operative in connection with all contracts entered into on and after the 22nd February, 1917.

BUILDING TRADES, EDINBURGH AND DISTRICT.—Differences having arisen between the Edinburgh, Leith and District Building Trades Association on the one hand, and the Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners, the Operative Masons' Association, the Operative Bricklayers' Society and the Navvies, Builders' Labourers and General Labourers' Union on the other, in connection with an application for a war bonus of 2d. per hour made by the Unions on behalf of their members employed by firms in the Association, Sheriff A. J. Louttit-Laing was appointed arbitrator to determine the matter, and by his award of the 7th March granted a war bonus of ¼d. per hour, as from the 1st January last, to members of the Unions in the employ of such of the firms concerned as are engaged on munitions work as defined in the Munitions of War Acts.

EMPLOYEES OF THE DUBLIN DOCKYARD CO., LTD.—The Boiler-makers and Iron and Steel Shipbuilders' Society having made an application for an advance of wages on behalf of their members employed by the company, the matter was referred to Mr. James Andrews for arbitration. The claim first made was for an advance of from 2s. to 5s. per hundred rivets on the present list rates, but at the hearing the Society withdrew this application and substituted therefor an application for an increase of 10 per cent. on the existing Clyde official price list rates, and in his award of the 2nd March the arbitrator found that the wages of the men concerned should be subject to such increases, if any, as may have been, or may be, awarded by the Court for members of the Society employed in the Clyde district.

WOMEN MUNITION WORKERS.—The Minister of Labour has referred to the Special Arbitration Tribunal constituted under Sections 6 and 8 of the Munitions of War (Amendment) Act, 1916, claims made (1) by the Workers' Union on behalf of their members employed by Messrs. Components, Ltd., Birmingham, (2) by the National Union of General Workers to Messrs. Brunner, Mond & Co., Northwich, (3) by the National Federation of Women Workers to the General Electric Co., Ltd., Wilton, and (4) by the cartridge case workers at the Birtley Works to Messrs. Sir W. G. Armstrong, Whitworth & Co., Ltd.

COMMITTEE ON PRODUCTION.

The Committee appointed by His Majesty's Government to inquire into the best steps to be taken to ensure the fullest productive power of employees in engineering and shipbuilding establishments, and whose reference was subsequently extended to deal with the avoidance of stoppages on work for Government purposes (see LABOUR GAZETTE for March, 1915, p. 83, and August, 1915, p. 280), have issued decisions on further cases referred to them. The following are summaries of the Committee's findings issued during March:—

ENGINEERING AND FOUNDRY TRADES (ISSUED 1ST MARCH).—This finding is in respect of applications for advances of wages made to the Engineering Employers' Federation by the following Societies on behalf of their members employed in federated shops and foundries, viz., Amalgamated Society of Engineers; Steam Engine Makers' Society; United Machine Workers' Association; United Kingdom Society of Amalgamated Smiths and Strikers; United Journeymen Brassfounders, Turners, Fitters, &c., Association; National Brassworkers and Metal Mechanics; Electrical Trades' Union; Associated Blacksmiths and Ironworkers' Society; Society of Amalgamated Toolmakers; United Patternmakers' Association; Scientific Instrument Makers' Society; Friendly Society of Ironfounders; Amalgamated Society of Coremakers; Iron, Steel and Metal Dressers' Trade Society; Amalgamated Machine, Engine and Iron Grinders and Glaziers' Society; National Amalgamated Union of Enginemakers, Firemen, Mechanics, Motormen and Electrical Workers; Dock, Wharf, Riverside and General Workers' Union; National Amalgamated Union of Labour; National Union of General Workers; and Workers' Union. The Committee's decision is that from the 1st April, 1917, the men concerned shall receive a war wage advance of 5s. per week; in addition, such advance on time rates necessary to make a total advance of not less than 12s. per week since the beginning of the war; boys and youths shall be paid 2s. 6d. per full ordinary week. In the case of piece-workers, premium bonus workers and other men working on systems of payment by results, an advance of 5s. per week shall be given.

The undermentioned Unions having since signed the memorandum of agreement similar findings have been issued in respect of applications made to the Engineering Employers' Federation by (1) the Amalgamated Moulders' Union, (2) the National Society of Coppersmiths, Braziers and Metal Workers, (3) the Boiler-makers and Iron and Steel Shipbuilders' Society, (4) the National Amalgamated Sheet Metal Workers and Braziers and the General Union of Braziers and Sheet Metal Workers, (5) National Amalgamated Labourers' Union of Great Britain and Ireland, (6) British Steel Smelters, Mill, Iron, Tinplate and Kindred Trades Association, (7) Winding and General Engineers' Society, (8) Northern United Enginemakers' Association, (9) Amalgamated Society of Gas, Municipal and General Workers, (10) General Ironfitters' Association, (11) Sheet Iron Workers and Light Platers' Society, (12) Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners, (13) Amalgamated Society of Wood-cutting Machinists. In the case of

these two last-named Unions the finding is stated not to apply in those cases in which it has been the practice to regulate the wages of the men concerned by the movements in the wages of men of a similar class employed in trades other than the engineering trade.

ENGINEERING, FOUNDRY AND SHIPBUILDING TRADES, CARDIFF, & C. (ISSUED 22ND MARCH).—A finding on the lines of the general findings dated 1st March was issued also in respect of applications made to the Engineers and Shipbuilders' Employers' Association (Cardiff, Barry and Penarth districts) by the following Societies on behalf of their members:—Boilermakers, Iron and Steel Shipbuilders' Society; Amalgamated Society of Engineers; Steam Engine Makers' Society; Friendly Society of Ironfounders; Iron, Steel and Metal Dressers' Trade Society; United Operative Plumbers and Domestic Engineers' Association; Amalgamated Society and General Union of Carpenters and Joiners; National Amalgamated Labourers' Union; Dock, Wharf, Riverside and General Workers' Union; Platers' Helpers and Drillers' Society; and Smiths' Hammermen's Society. The finding is also in respect of applications made to the Cardiff and District Master Ironfounders' Association by the Amalgamated Society of Engineers; Steam Engine Makers' Society; Friendly Society of Ironfounders; and Iron, Steel and Metal Dressers' Trade Society. The claim made by the Amalgamated Society of Engineers for extra rates for work on or in connection with neutral ships was found not to have been established.

ENGINEERING TRADES (SEMI-SKILLED AND UNSKILLED WORKERS), CHELMSFORD (ISSUED 28TH MARCH).—Applications for advances of wages of 1½d. per hour were made by the Workers' Union to Messrs. Crompton & Co., Ltd., Messrs. The Hoffmann Manufacturing Co., Ltd., and Messrs. The National Steam Car Co., Ltd., all of Chelmsford, and the matter was referred to the Committee for decision. The finding of the Committee is that an offer made by Messrs. Crompton & Co., Ltd., to increase the wages of men rated below 25s. per week to a minimum of 25s. per week, the existing bonus of 10 per cent. on gross earnings to remain, should be accepted, and should also apply in the case of the other two firms concerned, the advances to come into operation as from the 1st April; and in addition it is understood that the men will receive as from the 1st April the amounts awarded by the finding of the Committee of the 1st March for the engineering and foundry trades.

LABOURERS, ENGINEERING TRADES, BEDFORD (ISSUED 22ND MARCH).—Application for an advance of wages having been made to the Bedford District Engineering Employers' Association by the Workers' Union, the matter was referred to the Committee. In their finding the Committee granted a war wage advance on the lines of the general finding dated 1st March.

ENGINEERING TRADES, NORTH-EAST COAST (ISSUED 29TH MARCH).—In respect of a claim made to the North-east Coast Engineering Trades Employers' Association by the Amalgamated Society of Engineers and Allied Trades, the Committee awarded an advance of 2s. per week on time rates and a proportionate advance on piece prices, as from the beginning of the first full pay in February, to be independent of and distinct from the general advance given under the finding of 1st March.

SHIPBUILDING TRADES (PLUMBERS) NORTH-EAST COAST (ISSUED 30TH MARCH).—A finding on similar lines to that dated the 1st March for shipbuilding trades was issued in respect of applications made to the Tyne Shipbuilders' Association, Wear Shipbuilders' Association, and Tees and Hartlepool Shipbuilders' Association by the United Operative Plumbers and Domestic Engineers' Association, with the addition that the plumbers concerned in this case shall be given an advance of 1s. per week, independent of and distinct from the general advance above awarded.

STEELWORKERS, SCOTLAND (ISSUED 22ND MARCH).—In respect of applications made to the Scottish Steel Makers' Wages Association by the Amalgamated Society of Engineers, Boilermakers and Iron and Steel Shipbuilders' Society, Electrical Trades Union, Associated Blacksmiths and Ironworkers' Society, British Rollturners' Trade Society, Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners, and Operative Bricklayers' Society, the Committee granted a war wage advance of 5s. per week to men and of 2s. 6d. to boys as from the 1st April, the advance to be paid also to piece-workers, premium bonus workers, and other men working on systems of payment by results, over and above the week's earnings, and to be counted in the calculation of overtime allowances.

Similar findings were issued in respect of applications for advances of wages made to the West of Scotland Iron and Steel Founders' Association by the National Union of General Workers, National Amalgamated Union of Labour, and the Workers' Union; to the North-west Engineering Trades Employers' Association and to the Scottish Brassfounders and Finishers Employers' Association by the Associated Iron, Steel and Brass Dressers of Scotland; to the West of Scotland Iron and Steel Founders' Association, the Ayrshire Founders' Association, the Scottish Steel Founders' Wages Association, and to Messrs. McKenzie & Moncur, Ltd., Edinburgh, by the Associated Iron, Steel and Brass Dressers of Scotland; to the Dundee Association of Engineers and Ironfounders by the Associated Iron, Steel and Brass Dressers of Scotland; to the National Light Ironfounders' Federation by the National Union of General Workers and the Workers' Union; to the Scottish Steel Founders' Wages Association by the British Steel Smelters, Mill, Iron, Tinplate and Kindred Trades

Association and the Amalgamated Society of Steel and Iron Workers; to the Kirkealdy and District Engineering Masters' Association by the Associated Iron, Steel and Brass Dressers of Scotland; to the Scottish Employers' Federation of Iron and Steel Founders, the Scottish Steel Founders' Wages Association, and the National Light Castings Ironfounders' Federation, by the Associated Ironmoulders of Scotland and the Central Ironmoulders' Association.

ENGINEERING AND FOUNDRY TRADES, IRELAND (ISSUED 22ND MARCH).—Applications for advances of wages were made to the Belfast Employers' Association and the Dublin Employers' Association by the following Societies, viz.:—The Amalgamated Society of Engineers; Steam Engine Makers' Society; United Machine Workers' Association; U.K. Society of Smiths and Strikers; United Journeymen Brassfounders, Turners, Fitters, &c., Association; National Brassworkers and Metal Mechanics; Electrical Trades Union; Associated Blacksmiths and Ironworkers' Society; Society of Amalgamated Toolmakers; United Patternmakers' Association; Scientific Instrument Makers' Society; National Society of Coppermiths, Braziers and Metal Workers; Friendly Society of Ironfounders; Amalgamated Moulders' Union; Amalgamated Society of Coremakers; Iron, Steel and Metal Dressers' Trade Society; Amalgamated Machine, Engine and Iron Grinders and Glaziers' Society; National Amalgamated Union of Enginemen, Firemen, Mechanics, Motormen and Electrical Workers; Dock, Wharf, Riverside and General Workers' Union; National Amalgamated Union of Labour; National Union of General Workers, and the Workers' Union; and the Committee granted a war wage advance of 5s. per full week to men and of 2s. 6d. to boys as from the 1st April, the advance to be paid to piece-workers, premium bonus workers, and other men working on system of payment by results, over and above the week's earnings, and to be counted in the calculation of overtime allowances.

Similar findings were issued in respect of applications made to the Belfast Employers' Association and the Dublin Employers' Association by the Boilermakers and Iron and Steel Shipbuilders' Society, the National Amalgamated Sheet Metal Workers and Braziers, and General Union of Braziers and Sheet Metal Workers; to the Belfast and North of Ireland Ironfounders' Association by the Friendly Society of Ironfounders, Amalgamated Society of Coremakers, National Amalgamated Union of Labour, National Union of General Workers, and the Workers' Union; to the Electrical Contractors' Association of Belfast by the Electrical Trades Union; to Messrs. Musgrave & Co., Ltd., Belfast, by the Amalgamated Society of Engineers, the Friendly Society of Ironfounders, and by Unions affiliated to the Belfast District Committee of the Federation of Engineering and Shipbuilding Trades of the United Kingdom; and to the Londonderry Ironfounders' Association by the Friendly Society of Ironfounders.

TOOL SETTERS, MESSRS. SIR W. G. ARMSTRONG, WHITWORTH & CO., ALEXANDRIA (ISSUED 12TH MARCH).—A claim was made by tool setters as to a bonus dependent on the percentage overtime rates earned by piece-work operators in the shell and fuse departments of the above firm. The scheme for this bonus appears to have been established on the basis that earnings would be substantially increased, but without any definite undertaking as to amount. The finding of the Committee is that the margin allowed to the tool setters concerned should not be less than 25 per cent. on their time rates.

MESSRS. THE STAVELEY COAL & IRON CO., LTD., NEAR CHESTERFIELD (ISSUED 14TH MARCH).—A difference having arisen between Messrs. The Staveley Coal and Iron Co., Ltd., near Chesterfield, and the National Amalgamated Union of Labour relative to a claim of the Society for the payment of time and a quarter to their members employed in the controlled portion of the firm's works for work done on Bank Holiday, 1916, the matter was referred to the Committee for decision, and their finding is that in view of the terms of the statements issued by the Minister of Munitions the claim has been established for the payment of a quarter, over and above ordinary rates, for all hours worked on the 7th August, 1916, and also (when payment at special rates was not made for work done on Whit Monday) the 8th August.

MESSRS. WILLIAM CUBITT & CO., LONDON, W.C. (ISSUED 15TH MARCH).—In respect of a difference that had arisen between Messrs. William Cubitt & Co., London, W.C., and the London, Erith, Southall and Kingston District Allied Engineering Trades' Joint Committee relative to a claim of the latter that the firm should apply to the workpeople in their employ the terms of a finding of this Committee of the 7th November, 1916, made in respect of the engineering trade of the above districts, the finding of the Committee is that the claim has not been established.

MESSRS. S. G. BROWN, LTD., LONDON, W. (ISSUED 15TH MARCH).—A difference arose between Messrs. S. G. Brown, Ltd., London, W., and the London, Erith, Southall and Kingston District Allied Engineering Trades' Joint Committee relative to a claim of the latter that the firm should apply to the workpeople in their employ the terms of the finding of this Committee of the 7th November, 1916, made in respect of the engineering trade of the above districts, and the matter was referred to the Committee for decision. The finding of the Committee is that the claim has not been established.

MESSRS. J. COLLIS & SONS, LONDON, W.C. (ISSUED 17TH MARCH).—A difference having arisen between Messrs. J. Collis & Sons, London, W.C., and the London, Erith, Southall and

Kingston District Allied Engineering Trades' Joint Committee relative to a claim of the Joint Committee that the firm should apply to the workpeople in their employ the terms of a finding of this Committee of 7th November, 1916, made in respect of the engineering trades of the above districts, the Committee's finding is that the claim has been established.

H.M. FACTORIES, AVONMOUTH AND HENBURY (ISSUED 29TH MARCH).—Differences having arisen between the employees engaged on constructional work at the above factories and the contractors, agents for the Ministry of Munitions, the matter was referred to the Committee, whose finding was that the wages of the men concerned shall be increased by ½d. per hour as from the 13th March, such increase to be regarded as war wages; that the claims for travelling time from Bristol and for subsistence allowance for men sent to the works from a distance had not been established; that the claim for cheap week-end tickets was a matter being dealt with by the Ministry of Munitions; that the weekly bonus or allowance to labourers should be increased to 3s. per week, and that the rates for overtime should be time and a half after ordinary working hours, and double time for Sundays.

BOILERMAKERS, MESSRS. COLTNESS IRON CO., LTD., NEWMAINS (ISSUED 22ND MARCH).—A difference having arisen between the Scottish Ironmasters' Association and the Boilermakers and Iron and Steel Shipbuilders' Society relative to an application for an advance of wages made by the Society on behalf of their members employed by Messrs. Coltness Iron Co., Ltd., Newmains, the finding of the Committee is that, for the purpose of adjustment of wages to the present date, the boiler-makers in question should receive an advance of ½d. per hour as from the beginning of the first full pay following the 4th August, 1916, on the rates existing at that date, and should not follow the award given to the blacksmiths in October, 1916.

FOUNDRY WORKERS, MESSRS. STEWARTS & LLOYDS, LTD., COATBRIDGE (ISSUED 22ND MARCH).—Application for an advance of wages and for payment at the rate of time and a quarter for work done after 54 hours per week was made to Messrs. Stewarts & Lloyds, Ltd., by the Workers' Union on behalf of semi-skilled workers and labourers employed at the firm's Sun Foundry, Coatbridge. The Committee's finding is:—(1) As regards the claim for an advance of wages, the claim shall be determined by the award being issued by the Committee in respect of the general applications made on behalf of semi-skilled workers and labourers to the Scottish Steel Founders' Wages Association, of which Association Messrs. Stewarts and Lloyds, Ltd., are members; (2) as regards the claim for an alteration of the rate of payment for overtime, the Committee award no change in the present rate of payment.

SHIPWRIGHTS, LEITH (REPAIRS: OIL-CARRYING VESSELS) (ISSUED 22ND MARCH).—In respect of a difference that had arisen between the East of Scotland Association of Engineers and Ironfounders and the Shipwrights and Shipconstructors' Association relative to a claim made by the latter Association on behalf of their shipwright members in the employ of Messrs. Ramage & Ferguson, Ltd., for the payment of 1d. per hour extra when repairing the lifeboats of a certain oil-carrying vessel, having regard to the finding of this Committee of the 10th November, 1915, the finding of the Committee is that the claim for the 1d. per hour extra on the work in question has been established.

BOILERMAKERS, MESSRS. HURST, NELSON & CO., LTD., MOTHERWELL (ISSUED 22ND MARCH).—A difference having arisen between the firm and the Boilermakers and Iron and Steel Shipbuilders' Society in connection with the wages of certain members of the Society employed by the firm, the matter was referred to the Committee for decision. The Committee found that from and after the 25th September on such occasions when men were put upon simple time-work, those men who have not received an advance of or exceeding ½d. per hour for time-work should receive ½d. per hour for the hours worked on such time-work, and that from and after 25th September the time rates on which a system of payment to boiler-makers now in use by this firm is based (so far as such rates may not since September have already been advanced by ½d. or more per hour) should be advanced by ½d. per hour, the advance to be regarded as war wages.

TRADESMEN, MESSRS. NOBEL'S EXPLOSIVES CO., ARDEER (ISSUED 27TH MARCH).—A claim for a war bonus was made to the firm by the toolmakers, blacksmiths, plumbers, tinsmiths and sheet iron workers, electricians and joiners employed at the firm's factory at Ardeer, and the Committee's finding was that the claim had not been established.

MESSRS. RICHARD SMITH'S EXECUTORS, LTD., GLASGOW (ISSUED 27TH MARCH).—The National Union of General Workers made an application for an advance of wages on behalf of their members in the firm's employ, and on the matter being referred to the Committee for decision their finding was that the men concerned should receive 1s. per week war wage advance as from the 1st March, and as from the 1st April a further advance of 5s. per week, the advances to count in the calculation of overtime allowances.

PIG IRON TRADE, SCOTLAND (ISSUED 27TH MARCH).—Applications were made to the Scottish Ironmasters' Association by the Amalgamated Society of Iron and Steel Workers of Great Britain for an increase of earnings in the pig iron trade to

spare men when labouring and a full percentage on basis rates to all workmen who had not received such percentage. The Committee's finding is that it is not practicable to adjust the claims by a percentage on basis rates at all works, and thereby to alter an arrangement existing for many years. With regard to the second claim, the Committee are of opinion that from and after the first full pay in April, at works not paying percentage on the base rate, the minimum should be raised to 5s., and on such minimum of 5s. the usual rise at such firms for each 5 per cent. of the 15 per cent. advance given to tonnage men, &c., by the finding of the Committee of the 19th October last should be given, the war bonus of 6d. per shift to be undisturbed.

TURBO ENGINEMEN, MESSRS. WILLIAM DIXON, LTD., GOVAN IRON WORKS (ISSUED 27TH MARCH).—A difference arose between the firm and the Amalgamated Society of Steel and Iron Workers of Great Britain in connection with an application for an advance of 25 per cent. on the base rates, with time and a half and double time for week-end work, made on behalf of the turbo enginemen employed at the above works, and the Committee's finding was that there should be an advance of 15 per cent. on the base rates, but that the claim for week-end work had not been established.

MESSRS. HARLAND & WOOLFF, LTD., AND MESSRS. WORKMAN, CLARK & CO., LTD., BELFAST (ENGINEERS AND CARPENTERS AND JOINERS) (ISSUED 22ND MARCH).—The Amalgamated Society of Engineers and the Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners made applications for certain adjustments of wages on behalf of their members employed by the above firms, and on the matter being referred to the Committee their finding was that the claims had not been established.

FLAX WORKERS, IRELAND (ISSUED 28TH MARCH).—Applications for advances of wages were made to the Flax Spinners' Association, Ltd., by the Flax Roughers and Yarn Spinners' Trade Union, Flax Dressers and Linen Workers' Trade Union, and Textile Operatives' Society of Ireland, and the matter was referred to the Committee for settlement. The Committee granted a war wage advance of 3s. per week to the men concerned, and of 2s. per week to women, young persons and children.

IRON AND STEEL MAKERS, SOUTH WALES AND MONMOUTHSHIRE (ISSUED 30TH MARCH).—Differences having arisen between the South Wales' and Monmouthshire Iron and Steel Makers' Association and the Amalgamated Association of Iron and Steel Workers and Mechanics of South Wales and Monmouthshire, they were referred to the Committee for determination. The Committee found that wages shall be advanced or reduced at the rate of ½ per cent. for every 1s. advance or reduction in the combined average nett selling price above the previous maximum of £6 10s. of steel rails 201 lbs. per yard and upwards and steel tin bars on trucks at the makers' works, and that the percentage to be paid in respect of the ascertained price of £10 12s. 207d. now before the Committee shall be determined in accordance with such scale.

NATIONAL INSURANCE (UNEMPLOYMENT) ACTS, 1911 to 1916.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE.

Application to the Umpire.

In pursuance of Regulations made by the Board of Trade and dated 26th day of March, 1912, notice is hereby given that the Umpire (Unemployment Insurance) has received application for a decision as to whether contributions are payable or not in respect of the following classes of persons:—

494x. Workmen described as jewellery setters. (This may involve reconsideration of decisions 1792 and 2001x.)

Decisions by the Umpire.

Pursuant to paragraph (5) of the Unemployment Insurance (Umpire) Regulations, the Minister of Labour hereby gives Notice of the following decisions by the Umpire on questions whether contributions are payable:—

A. The Umpire has decided that contributions are payable in respect of:—

2145x. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly in recovering and reconverting soda, etc., from the spent liquors resulting from paper manufacture.

2146x. Workmen (other than those insurable under Part II. of the National Insurance Act, 1911) who are employed wholly or mainly in workshops of Railway Companies and engaged in repairing platelayers' tools, signal rodding, points, rails, metal parts of bridges or other metal work.

2147x. Workmen employed in the manufacture of card clothing including foundations containing rubber or leather, but not including weaving or anterior processes, whether the card clothing is intended for use in munitions work or not.

2148x. Workmen who are employed in an establishment carrying on any trade insured under the National Insurance (Part II.) (Munition Workers) Act, 1916; and who are engaged in cleaning locomotives or other vehicles which are used mainly on the premises of the establishment. (Application 492.)

2152x. Workmen (other than those already insurable under

Part II. of the National Insurance Act, 1911) engaged in the manufacture of metal springs of any kind.

2153x. Workmen engaged in making metal name plates and metal letters for fixing on buildings.

2154x. Workmen engaged in cutting down old wooden cases, and remaking into cases of a different size.

2159x. Workmen (other than those already insurable under Part II. of the National Insurance Act, 1911) engaged in the manufacture or repair of anchors, chains, chain couplings and miscellaneous chain attachments of metal.

2161x. Workmen engaged in the repair of biscuit tins, oil and colour tins, &c.

2165x. Workmen engaged in the manufacture (including cold rolling, galvanising) of flexible metallic tubing, including workmen engaged in preparing rubber for, or making rubber parts of, such tubing.

2166x. Tinsmiths engaged in the manufacture of navigation and other lanterns.

2168x. Workmen engaged in making tin cases for billiard cues.

2169x. Workmen engaged in the manufacture of speedometers.

2170x. Workmen (other than those already insurable under Part II. of the National Insurance Act, 1911) engaged wholly or mainly in the manufacture of iron, steel or other metal hardware and hollow-ware.

2173x. Workmen engaged in making branding wires for coopers.

2174x. Workmen (other than those already insurable under Part II. of the National Insurance Act, 1911) engaged in the repair, including sharpening, of metal hand tools.

2176x. Workmen engaged in the manufacture of rubber tyres and elastic air tubes for motors, cycles or other vehicles.

2177x. Workmen engaged in making sheet, pipe or pig lead, in rolling lead, or in making lead pipes.

B. The Empire has decided that contributions are not payable in respect of:—

2149. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly in the work of driving, tending or minding steam cranes and locomotives or stoking boilers in connection with quarrying stone.

2150. Persons engaged in making umbrella sticks by hand.

2151. Workmen engaged in making mattresses of straw, hair, wool or flock, unless they are intended for use in war.

2155. Workmen engaged in fixing name plates and letters on buildings.

2156. Workmen employed as engine tenters or as stokers in connection with uninsured trades.

2157. Persons employed wholly or mainly as draughtsmen, tracers, office attendants, office messengers, commissionaires, clerks, typists.

2158. Overlookers, chargehands, storekeepers, warehousemen, when not employed wholly or mainly by way of manual labour.

2160. Workmen employed by a town council and engaged in sweeping streets, emptying ashpits, or as attendants at a refuse destructor.

2167. Workmen (other than those covered by Decision A1865x BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE for October, 1916) engaged in the manufacture of lead pencils which are not intended for use in war.

2171. Workmen (other than those described in Decision A2033x BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE for November, 1916) engaged in the manufacture of organs.

2172. Workmen engaged in the manufacture by hand of toys other than makers of metal, leather or rubber toys or parts of toys.

2175. Workmen (other than those engaged in machine woodwork) engaged in the manufacture of violins.

Note.—Decisions in which the Empire has decided that contributions are payable under the National Insurance (Part II.) (Munition Workers) Act, 1916, are indicated by the letter X at the end of the number, e.g., 1554x. Contributions under these decisions are payable as from the 4th September, 1916.

Where no reference is given to an Application, the question has been decided by the Empire, without notice, as a matter not admitting of reasonable doubt, in accordance with paragraph (2) of the Unemployment Insurance (Empire) Regulations.

Decisions relating to individual workmen which raise no question of general interest, or which merely apply a principle laid down in a previous decision, are not published.

TRADE BOARDS ACT, 1909.

LACE FINISHING TRADE.

PROPOSAL TO VARY AND TO FIX MINIMUM RATES OF WAGES.

The Lace Finishing Trade Board gave notice on 31st March that they propose to vary the minimum time-rate of wages for workers other than learners from 2½d. to 3½d. per hour, and also to increase the minimum time-rates for learners.

The Trade Board have also given notice that they propose to vary certain of the general minimum piece-rates at present

in operation, and to fix general minimum piece-rates for Cross-band Cutting and for Straight Snicking or Slotting.

Further information respecting the proposed variation of minimum rates may be obtained by persons affected from the Secretary of the Lace Finishing Trade Board, Old Serjeants' Inn Chambers, 5, Chancery Lane, London, W.C. 2.

TAILORING TRADE.

IRELAND.

ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW TRADE BOARD.

The Minister of Labour has established a new Trade Board for those branches of the Readymade and Wholesale Bespoke Tailoring Trade in Ireland which are engaged in making garments to be worn by male persons, and for those branches of the Bespoke Tailoring Trade in Ireland which are engaged in making garments to be worn by male persons and in which at least three persons or two female persons (in both cases exclusive of cutters) are engaged in making one garment, in the place of the Board whose term of office has expired. The Trade Board consists of three appointed members, namely, Mr. Ernest Aves, Mr. Dominic J. Daly, and the Hon. Ethel Macnaghten, together with ten members representing employers in the trade and ten members representing workers in the trade. The representatives of employers and the representatives of workers have been chosen by the Minister of Labour after considering names supplied by employers and workers respectively.

The Trade Board has been established for the period of four years commencing 23rd March, 1917, and thereafter until dissolved by order of the Minister of Labour. Mr. Ernest Aves has been appointed Chairman of the Trade Board, and Mr. G. T. Reid, Old Serjeants' Inn Chambers, 5, Chancery Lane, London, W.C. 2, has been appointed Secretary.

HAMMERED AND DOLLIED OR TOMMIED CHAIN TRADE.

GREAT BRITAIN.

ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW TRADE BOARD.

The Minister of Labour has established a new Trade Board in Great Britain for the Hammered and Dollied or Tommied Chain-making Trade, in the place of the Board whose term of office has expired. The Trade Board consists of three appointed members, namely, Mr. Ernest Aves, Mr. Alderman Thomas Smith, J.P., and Mrs. Margrieta Beer, together with six representatives of employers in the trade and six representatives of workers in the trade. Five of the representatives of employers have been elected by employers who are occupiers of factories and are not habitually engaged in sub-contracting; one representative of employers has been chosen by the Minister of Labour to represent sub-contracting employers. The six representatives of workers have been chosen by the Minister of Labour after considering names supplied by workers in the trade.

The Trade Board has been established for the period of four years commencing 3rd April, 1917, and thereafter until dissolved by order of the Minister of Labour. Mr. Ernest Aves has been appointed Chairman of the Trade Board, and Mr. G. T. Reid, Old Serjeants' Inn Chambers, 5, Chancery Lane, London, W.C. 2, has been appointed Secretary.

APPOINTMENT OF CERTIFYING SURGEONS.
MARCH, 1917.

District.	Certifying Surgeon.	Place and time for examination.*
Altrincham (Cheshire)	Dr. H. G. Cooper, 43, Manchester Road, Broadheath, Altrincham	Week-days, 9-10 a.m.
Clebury Mortimer (Salop)	Dr. F. J. Newland, Beaconsfield House, Clebury Mortimer	Surgery, Tuesday, 9-10 a.m.
Morrison (Gloucester)	Dr. C. Kemp, The Elms, Morrison	Week-days, 9.30-10.30 a.m.
Rickmansworth (Herts)	Dr. A. E. Clarke, The Old House, Rickmansworth	Wednesday, 9-10 a.m.
Woodstock (Oxford)	Dr. J. A. H. Mogg, Old Bank House, Woodstock	Surgery, Market Street, Woodstock, Wednesday, 9-10 a.m.

NOTE.—Except where otherwise stated, the place of examination is at the residence of the Certifying Surgeon.

* Of young persons and children from factories and workshops in which less than five are employed.

BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL.

The Board of Trade Journal is published weekly and is the principal medium through which commercial intelligence collected by the Department of Commercial Intelligence, and intended for general information, is conveyed to the public. The Journal may be obtained through the same sources as the Labour Gazette (see front page of cover), price 3d. per copy, exclusive of postage, or 15s. 2d. per annum, post free in the United Kingdom; the rate for places abroad, inclusive of postage, being 19s. 6d.

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SUPPLEMENT

TO THE

Board of Trade Labour Gazette

for APRIL, 1917.

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS.

List of New Contracts, March, 1917.

WAR OFFICE.

Accountments, Leather: H. R. Aulton & Co., Warwick Works, Walsall; W. Brock & Co., Ltd., Weston St., Bermondsey, S.E.; F. Bryan, 195/7, Long Lane, S.E.; S. Clarke & Co., Bowling Green Lane, Farringdon Rd., E.C.; J. Cliff & Co., Forster St., Walsall; B. Crook & Sons, Fitzwilliam St., Huddersfield; Davies Bros., Lower Forster St., Walsall; Gough & Co., Ltd., Hockley, Birmingham; J. Hanlon & Son, Ltd., Rose Place, Liverpool; D. B. Harris & Son, Ltd., Newhall St., Birmingham; Harwood & Sons, Glebe St., Walsall; G. W. Hathaway, Bradford Lane, Walsall; Hathaway, Son & Co., Walsingham St., Walsall; E. Hawley & Co., Dudley St., Walsall; Heath, Machin & Co., Teddesley St., Walsall; Hepburn, Gale & Ross, Ltd., Grange Mills, Bermondsey, S.E.; M. & A. Hess, Golden Lane, E.C.; J. A. Jacobs & Co., Ltd., Tariff Rd., Tottenham, N.; Leatheries, Ltd., Sampson Rd., North, Birmingham; J. W. Mackintosh & Co., Crimscott St., Bermondsey, S.E.; F. McMullan & Co., Bermondsey St., S.E.; Martins-Birmingham, Ltd., Granville St., Birmingham; D. Power & Sons, Ltd., Plume Works, Walsall; Pulley & Powell, Caroline St., Birmingham; R. & J. Pullman, Ltd., Westbrook Mills, Godalming; M. A. Risk & Sons, Spear St., Manchester; R. W. Stiby, 41/5, Old St., E.C.; T. Thomason & Co., Shrub Hill, Worcester; J. Vicary & Sons, Newton Abbot, Devon; W. Walker & Sons, Ltd., Manchester Rd., Bolton; Wallace & Co., Ltd., Bucknall St., W.C.; Whitehouse & Hartley, Navigation St., Walsall; C. Wincer & Co., Brace St., Walsall; A. Wood, South St., Walsall.—**Accountments, Web:** Hepburn, Gale & Ross, Ltd., Grange Mills, Bermondsey, S.E.; Mills Equipment Co., Ltd., Fountayne Rd., Tottenham, N.; Waring & Gillow, Ltd., Oxford St., W.; M. Wright & Sons, Ltd., Quorn Mills, Loughborough.—**Apparatus, Breathing:** Siebe, Gorman & Co., Ltd., Westminster Bridge Rd., S.W.—**Apparatus, Drain Cleaning:** F. Bird & Co., Horton Rd., West Drayton, Middlesex; Cakebread, Robey & Co., Caroba Works, Wood Green, N.; M. Jacobs, Young & Co., Ltd., Borough High St., S.E.—**Apparatus, Hot Water Supply:** H. J. Cash & Co., Ltd., Caxton House, Westminster, S.W.—**Apparatus, Water Sterilizing:** F. W. Brackett & Co., Ltd., Hythe Bridge Ironworks, Colchester; C. Richardson, Tachbrook St., Pimlico, S.W.—**Aprons, Cooks:** A. B. Dobell & Co., Ltd., Castle St., Finsbury, E.C.—**Asbestos Millboard, Sheet, &c.:** Bell's United Asbestos Co., Ltd., Harefield, Middlesex; British Asbestos Co., Ltd., 132, Commercial St., E.; Turner Bros. Asbestos Co., Ltd., Spotland, Rochdale.—**Badges, Embroidered, &c.:** Armand & Co. (1914), Ltd., Bolsover St., Gt. Portland St., W.; W. H. Grant & Co., Livingstone Mill, Foleshill, Coventry; G. Kenning & Son, Little Britain, E.C.; J. Magna & Co., Ltd., Barnsdale Rd., Paddington, W.; H. Moreau, Cazenove Works, Stoke Newington, N.; T. Muddiman, 189, Dalston Lane, Hackney, N.E.; Pipe & McGill, Ltd., Maiden Lane, Strand, W.C.; S. Schneiders & Son, Durdward St., E.; H. Spencer & Co., Earl St., Coventry.—**Badges, Metal:** P. G. Allday & Co., Northwood St., Birmingham; H. Baller & Co., Hockley, Birmingham; Bent & Parker, Ltd., Northwood St., Birmingham; Bliss Bros., Ladywood, Birmingham; T. W. Broughton & Co., Ltd., Nechells, Birmingham; Buttons, Ltd., Portland St., Birmingham; W. J. Dingley, Warstone Lane, Birmingham; W. Dowler & Sons, Ltd., Graham St. Works, Birmingham; S. M. Emanuel & Co., Witton, Birmingham; A. Fenwick, Ltd., Vyse St., Birmingham; Firmin & Sons, Ltd., Aston, Birmingham; Hague & McKenzie, Barr St., Birmingham; H. Jenkins & Sons, Ltd., Vittoria St., Birmingham; Jennens & Co., Ltd., Deritend, Birmingham; Mappin & Webb, Ltd., The Royal Works, Sheffield; Smith & Wright, Ltd., Brearley St., Birmingham; Thornby Stamping Co., Ltd., Caroline St., Birmingham; Vaughtons, Ltd., Livery St., Birmingham; C. Wilson, Ludgate Hill, Birmingham; F. E. Woodward, Albion St., Birmingham.—**Bags, Canvas and Jute:** Green Bros., Hailsham, Sussex; Hampton & Sons, Ltd., Belvedere Rd., Lambeth, S.E.; Low & Bonar, Ltd., King St., Dundee; R. G. Paget & Son, Albion Rd., Stoke Newington, N.; W. Peters & Sons, Well St., London Docks, E.—**Bags, Leather:**

War Office—continued.

Cole Bros., Floral St., Covent Garden, W.C.; J. & A. Hillman, Ltd., Castle Leather Works, Dudley.—**Bandages, Horse:** J. Smith & Co., Greetland, Halifax.—**Bands, Flannel:** Bryce & Weston, Rainville Rd., Hammersmith, W.; E. J. Caldico & Co., Hanover St., Peckham, S.E.; Carmalt, Lang & Co., Ltd., Corporation St., Birmingham; Lawry & Porter, Buttesland St., N.; R. H. & S. Rogers, Ltd., Bolina Rd., Rotherhithe, S.E.; Rothesay Manufacturing Co., Victoria Rd., Surbiton, Surrey.—**Barrows:** Acme Patent Ladder Co., Summerley St., Earlsfield, S.W.; J. Barnes & Sons, North St., Brighton; Boulton & Paul, Ltd., Rose Lane Works, Norwich; J. Boys & Son, Ltd., Junction Sawmills, Walsall; Brown & Woods, Ltd., Silent St. Works, Ipswich; R. Butler & Sons, Hailsham, Sussex; H. C. Cleaver, Ltd., Park Royal, Willesden, N.W.; Crewe & Co., 324, Gray's Inn Rd., W.C.; Davidson Aviation Co., Ltd., 231, Hammer-smith Rd., W.; F. Davis & Co., Ashford, Kent; Hoods & Bodies, Ltd., Northampton Grove, Canonbury, N.; Hoskins Bros., Riverside, Newbury; Lunn Bros., Brockenhurst, Hants; Maythorn & Son, Ltd., Biggleswade, Beds; Newport Ladder & Barrow Co., Caerleon Rd., Newport, Mon.; C. R. Pettit & Son, Bridge St., Thrapston; W. J. Philpott, Waddon New Rd., Croydon; Pool & Sons, Hartley Wintney; S. Rawlinson & Sons, Audley Range, Blackburn; W. Ridley & Sons, Abbey St., Reading; G. W. Riley, Ltd., Rustic Works, Herne Hill, S.E.; Star Engineering Co., Ltd., Frederick St., Wolverhampton; W. H. Thomas & Sons, Ltd., Salop Rd., Oswestry; J. H. Williams & Co., Kiddrow Lane, Burnley; Wrinch & Sons, Ltd., St. Lawrence Works, Ipswich.—**Baskets:** J. Dove, St. Andrew Sq., Glasgow.—**Baths, Sitz and Long:** J. Bolding & Sons, Ltd., Grosvenor Works, Davies St., W.; H. Loveridge & Co., Ltd., Merridale Works, Wolverhampton; Orme, Evans & Co., Ltd., Elgin Works, Wolverhampton; R. & W. Wilson & Sons, Ltd., Bermondsey St., S.E.—**Bedding:** Flex Sanitary Bedding Co., Gainsborough Works, Hackney Wick, N.E.; C. Fox, 223/7, Harrow Rd., W.; R. P. Gorman & Co., Hope St., Belfast; Hoskins & Sewell, Ltd., Eagle Wharf Rd., N.; F. Hunter & Co., Alfred St., Belfast; Josselson & Beskin, 18, Jewin St., E.C.; H. D. Lomax & Co., Ardwick, Manchester; Maple & Co., Ltd., Tottenham Court Rd., W.; J. G. Matthews, Cumberland Park, Willesden Junction, N.W.; W. S. Minchin, Ladbroke Rd., Notting Hill, W.; W. & C. Nightingale, Dean St., Soho, W.; Oetzmann & Co., Ltd., Hampstead Rd., N.W.; W. F. Pattison & Son, Waterside, Brightlingsea; Rundle, Roger & Brock, Ltd., Kinterbury St., Plymouth.—**Bedsteads, Folding:** Atlas Bedstead Co. (Stephen Wilkes & Sons, Ltd.), Atlas Works, Bilston; Peyton, Hoyland & Barber, Ltd., Bordesley Works, Birmingham; Smith & Cartwright Bedstead Co., Ltd., Balsall Heath, Birmingham.—**Belt, Composite (Term Contract):** Hepburn, Gale & Ross, Ltd., Church Rd., Mitcham, Surrey.—**Belt, Leather:** Harbord & Poole, Millstream Leather Works, Dockhead, S.E.; S. E. Norris & Co., St. Paul's Works, Shadwell, E.; J. White & Sons, Ltd., Bingley, Yorks.—**Blankets:** Atkinson & Co., New Park St., Mills, Leeds; T. Barlow & Sons, Bridge Mills, Bury; Blackwood, Morton & Sons, Ltd., Burnside Works, Kilmarnock; J. S. Booth & Sons, Ltd., Castle Bank Mills, Wakefield; Cook, Sons & Co., Ltd., Liversedge, Yorks; H. Dickinson, Northumberland St., Huddersfield; Dodgson & Hargreaves, Ltd., Hunslet Mills, Leeds; J. Fenton & Sons, Ltd., Batley, Yorks; J. Glover, Ltd., Ossett, Yorks; W. C. Gray & Sons, Newton Carpet Works, Ay; H. Hamer & Sons, Ravensthorpe, Dewsbury; T. Hardman & Sons, Ltd., Fernhill Mills, Bury; Heckmondwike Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Wellington Mills, Heckmondwike; Hepworths & Haley, Ltd., New Wakefield Mills, Dewsbury; W. Holton & Sons, Ltd., Birstall, Leeds; J. Hoyle & Son, Longwood, Huddersfield; W. Laidlaw, Cumledge Mills, Duns; D. Lee & Sons, Earlsheaton, Dewsbury; T. Lee & Sons, Bank Top Mills, Dewsbury; T. & A. Naylor, Ltd., Kidderminster; Newsome & Spedding, Ltd., Aldams Mill, Dewsbury; A. Preston & Sons, Earlsheaton, Dewsbury; Priestley Bros., Grove Mills, Halifax; Smith Bros. & Co., Forbes Place, Paisley; H. Smith, Long

War Office—continued.

Cleckheaton; Co-operative Wholesale Society, Ltd., Hare Hills Mills, Littleborough; J. Crowther & Sons, Milnsbridge, Huddersfield; E. Denison, Yeadon, Leeds; Farnhill & Hirst, Ltd., Delph, Oldham; G. Garnett & Sons, Ltd., Apperley Bridge, Yorks; M. Greenlees & Son, Ltd., George St., Paisley; W. Hastings & Sons, Ltd., Crawford St., Rochdale; T. Heap & Sons, Ltd., Haugh, New Hey, Rochdale; Henllan Woollen Mills, Ltd., Henllan, S. Wales; R. C. Higgins & Co., Rutherglen, Glasgow; J. Ives & Co., Yeadon, Leeds; Kelsall & Kemp, Ltd., The Butts, Rochdale; J. Kenworthy & Son, Ltd., Tame Bridge, Dobcross, Oldham; J. F. & C. Kenworthy, Ltd., Upper Mill, Oldham; Kershaw Bros., Ltd., Sladen Mills, Littleborough; G. Lawton & Sons, Ltd., Micklehurst, Mossley, Manchester; J. Lee & Sons, Ltd., Bankfield Mills, Rochdale; T. B. McLennan & Sons, Forbes Place, Paisley; D. & H. Mallalieu, Ltd., Delph, Yorks; W. Radcliffe & Sons, Ltd., Greenfield, Yorks; J. Shires & Sons, Ltd., Milnsbridge, Huddersfield.—Flarelights, Acetylene: Acetylene Corporation of Gt. Britain, Ltd., Esher St., Westminster, S.W.; Imperial Light, Ltd., Battersea, S.W.; A. C. Wells & Co., Midland Rd., St. Pancras, N.W.—Forges and Bellows: W. Careless, Cartwright St., Wolverhampton.—Frames, Wood, Packs: H. Lebus, Tottenham Hale, N.—Galvanised Ware: Darlaston Galvanised Hollow Ware Co., Ltd., Booth St., Darlaston; Davies Bros. & Co., Ltd., Crown Works, Wolverhampton; J. & J. Harriman & Co., Middle Row, Wolverhampton; G. A. Harvey & Co. (London), Ltd., Greenwich Metal Works, Woolwich Rd., S.E.; Hill, Pritchard & Hill, Lye, Stourbridge; T. Hill (Exors. of), Lye Galvanising Works, Stourbridge; Holt & Willets, Lye, Stourbridge; Homer, Short & Homer, Lye, Stourbridge; Ludlow Bros. (1913), Ltd., Palmer St., Birmingham; National Galvanisers, Ltd., Pallion New Rd., Sunderland; J. & P. Round, Lye, Stourbridge; Sargeant, Turner & Sons, Ltd., Lye, Stourbridge; Walls, Ltd., Fazeley St., Birmingham.—Gauze, Wire: N. Greening & Sons, Ltd., Britannia Works, Warrington; T. Locker & Co., Ltd., Ellesmere Wire Works, Warrington; J. Nicholls & Son, Ltd., Cheapside, Birmingham; W. Riddell & Co., Springfield Rd., Glasgow; J. & R. Whyte, Craigpark St., Glasgow.—Generating Sets: A. Lyon & Wrench, Ltd., Willesden Junction, N.W.; Smart & Brown, Erith, Kent.—Gloves, Boxing: F. H. Ayres, Ltd., Aldersgate St., E.C.; J. Lillywhite, Frowd & Co., Ltd., Newington Causeway, S.E.; Spencer, Heath & George, Ltd., Domingo St., City Rd., E.C.—Gloves, Leather, &c.: J. P. Boulton & Co., Ltd., Westbury, Wilts; F. E. Brooks, St. John's Churchyard, Glastonbury; F. Bryan, Long Lane, S.E.; Dent, Alicroft & Co., Wood St., E.C.; T. Ensor & Son, Milborne Port, Somerset; Goodman & Wagstaff, Woodley, Stockport; W. Sykes, Ltd., Horbury, Yorks; A. L. Thomas, Ltd., Sunnyside Rd., Worcester; Whitby Bros., Ltd., 31, Middle St., Yeovil.—Goggles: Miller & Co., Little Sutton St., Goswell Rd., E.C.; F. A. Mousley, Priest Bridge, Barnes, S.W.—Grease, Lubricating: Prices' Co., Ltd., Belvedere, Kent.—Grindery, Boot: A. H. Allen, Overstone Rd., Northampton; W. Greese & Co., Ltd., South Bond St., Leicester; Mobbs & Lewis, Ltd., Carrington Foundry, Kettering; Robinson Bros. (Kettering), Ltd., Champion Last Works, Kettering.—Grindery, Boot (Term Contracts): R. Ashton & Co., Cheap-side Nail Works, Birmingham; Moffatt Bros., London Rd., Glasgow.—Grindstones and Spindles: W. W. Bowman, Ackworth, Yorks; J. H. Harrison, Maling St., Newcastle-on-Tyne; J. Hughes & Sons, Church Row, Limchouse, E.—Handles and Helves: R. Burley & Sons, Ltd., Govan, Glasgow; Burley & Sons, Ltd., Bootle, Liverpool; R. Charnley & Sons, Canal Head, Ulverston; R. Groom, Sons & Co., Ltd., Wellington, Shropshire; J. H. Hartley, Station Rd., Wigton, Cumberland; H. Lebus, Tottenham Hale, Middlesex; J. Nicholls & Sons, All Saints' Rd., Wolverhampton; Rudders & Paynes, Ltd., Chester St., Birmingham; Staveley Wood Turning Co., Staveley, Kendal; W. M. Winton & Co., Ltd., Chatham St., Walworth, S.E.—Handles, Troughs, &c., Grindstone: Alldays & Onions Pneumatic Engineering Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Cannon Iron Foundries, Ltd., Deepfields, Bilston; Falkirk Iron Co., Ltd., Falkirk; Mennell Bros., North St., York.—Harness and Saddlery: H. R. Aulton & Co., Littleton St., Walsall; G. Bates, 139, Lichfield Rd., Walsall; S. Beebe & Sons, Ltd., Persehouse St., Walsall; W. Bennett, Lower Rushall St., Walsall; Bliss & Co., Ltd., Sun St., Finsbury, E.C.; Brace, Windle Blyth & Co., Ltd., Goodall St., Walsall; Bromsgrove Guild, Bromsgrove, Worcester; W. Brookes & Sons, Ltd., Leicester St., Walsall; Butler Bros., Park St., Walsall; Champion & Wilton, Oxford St., W.; J. Cliff & Co., Forster St., Walsall; B. Cope & Sons, Ltd., Bloxwich, Walsall; T. H. Crumpton & Co., Stafford St., Walsall; A. Davis & Co., Eagle St., Southampton Row, W.C.; R. Devsburys & Sons, Freer St., Walsall; Fairbanks, Lavender & Son, Eldon St., Walsall; A. J. Garnett, 50, Goswell Rd., E.C.; W. & H. Gidden, Ltd., Streatham St., Bloomsbury, W.C.; Goodwin & Co., Lower Hall Lane, Walsall; D. B. Harris & Son, Ltd., Newhall St., Birmingham; Hart, Son, Peard & Co., Ltd., Grosvenor Works, Birmingham; M. Harvey & Co., Ltd., Bath St., Walsall; Harwood & Sons, Glebe St., Walsall; J. H. Hawkins & Co., Ltd., Station St., Walsall; Heath, Machin & Co., Teddesley St., Walsall; Hepburn, Gale & Ross, Ltd., Grange Mills, Bermondsey, S.E.; Humphries, Jackson & Ambler, Ltd., Cornbrook, Manchester; S. Hunter & Co., Duncalfe St., Walsall; T. Icke & Son, Heath Leather Works, West Bromwich; C. J. Inley & Co., Bridge St., Walsall; E. Jeffries & Sons, Ltd., Mountrath St., Walsall; J. Leckie & Co., London Saddlery Works, Walsall; R. Ling & Son, Christ St., Poplar, E.; McDougall & Son, Upper Thames St., E.C.; J. W. Mackintosh & Co., Ltd., Crimscoot St., Bermondsey, S.E.; T. Marshall, Rochdale, Ltd., Manchester; T. Marshall, Upper Forster St., Walsall; Martins Birmingham, Ltd., Granville St., Birmingham; D. Mason &

War Office—continued.

Sons, Ltd., Bath Row, Birmingham; Middlemore & Lamplugh, Ltd., Marsh St., Walsall; J. More & Co., Wolverhampton St., Walsall; F. Nicholls, Ablewell St., Walsall; E. & A. Noirit, Darwall St., Walsall; F. Oldaker & Co., Duke St., Grosvenor Sq., W.; W. Overton, Ltd., Station St., Walsall; J. Parfield & Co., Walsingham St., Walsall; E. J. Parkes & Co., Holtshill Lane, Walsall; E. J. Pearson & Sons, Ltd., St. John St., E.C.; D. Power & Sons, Ltd., Plume Works, Walsall; Rawle & Son, Blackfriars Rd., S.E.; Sheldon & Sons, Ltd., Corporation St., Walsall; H. Simons, Bloxwich, Walsall; J. W. Singer & Sons, Ltd., Frome, Somerset; W. C. Swain, Bradford Place, Walsall; H. R. Taylor, Digbeth, Walsall; R. E. Thacker, Green Lane, Walsall; H. A. Turner & Co., Ltd., Blackstock Rd., Finsbury Park, N.; Whippy, Steggall Co., North Audley St., W.; Whitehouse & Hartley, Navigation St., Walsall; C. Wincer & Co., Brace St., Walsall; A. Wood, South St., Walsall.—Haversacks: Cranfield & Carter, Riverside, Burnham-on-Crouch, Essex.—Headresses: Dunhills, Ltd., Euston Rd., N.W.; Hall & Phillips, Abbey Mills, Nuneaton; W. A. Hatton, Ltd., Atherstone; Hobson & Sons, High St. Factory, Woolwich, S.E.; Leathercutters, Ltd., Poland St., Oxford St., W.; Tautz & Co., Grafton St., New Bond St., W.; Vero & Everitt, Ltd., Atherstone; Wilson & Stafford, Ltd., Atherstone.—Heads, Broom, Bass: G. Bacon & Co., Ltd., John St., Bradford; C. Baker, Gt. Dover St., S.E.; R. Benson & Sons, Ltd., Fazeley St., Birmingham; F. R. Bradbeer, Commercial Rd., Exeter; C. H. Briggs & Co., Ltd., Spring St., Hull; Brushes, Ltd., "Kra" Brush Works, Oldham; D. Burrow & Sons, Ltd., Whitehouse St., Leeds; M. A. Cook & Sons, Brush Works, Bletchley; Co-operative Bass Dressers, Ltd., Charles St., Stepey, E.; T. C. Cooper, Brewery St., Hanley; F. Coxson & Sons, Tiviot Dale, Stockport; E. Green & Co., John St., Pendleton, Lanes; E. A. & W. Greenslade, Thomas St., Bristol; J. Harley, Coleham Brush Factory, Shrewsbury; Hollingworth & Pickard, Rutland Rd., Sheffield; Incorporated Association for the Welfare of the Blind, Tottenham Court Rd., W.; H. W. Jones & Sons, Ltd., Gt. Dover St., S.E.; P. Jones, Borough Brush Works, Leigh; G. B. Kent & Sons, Victoria Park, N.E.; W. Kilmister & Co., Broadgate, Lincoln; Lee & James, Ltd., Moseley St., Birmingham; S. Ludbrook & Co., Ltd., Harford St., Mile End, E.; A. Martin & Son, Aston, Birmingham; S. D. Page & Sons, Ltd., Hayhill, Norwich; J. Mason & Sons, Blandford St. and Acton, W.; Northampton and County Association for the Blind, Gray St., Northampton; D. Matthew & Son, Ltd., Tariff Rd., Tottenham, N.; J. Palmer, Ltd., Somers Rd. North, Portsmouth; J. Pritchett & Son, Gt. Dover St., S.E.; S. Pyne & Sons, Fore St., Exeter; Ratcliffe & Co., Ash Lane, Hough Green, Widnes; A. Reid & Sons, Tabard St., S.E.; Richmond National Institution for the Industrious Blind, Upper Sackville St., Dublin; Royal Glasgow Asylum for the Blind, Castle St., Glasgow; Royal Institution for the Blind, North Parade, Bradford; Sharman Bros., George St., Wellington; Singleton, Flint & Co., Newland Works, Lincoln; South London Brush Co., Ltd., Gt. Dover St., S.E.; F. Smith & Co., 169a, High St., Borough, S.E.; W. M. Strachan & Co., Ltd., Douglas, I.O.M.; Ulster Brush Co., Ltd., Victoria St., Belfast; United Institution for the Blind, Deaf and Dumb, Albion St., Leeds; W. H. Woles & Sons, Ltd., Stonehouse, Glos; Vale & Bradnack, Green Lane, Walsall; S. D. Warren & Co., Stanhope St., Euston Rd., N.W.; W. White, Son & Co., Mansfield St., Kingsland Rd., N.E.; J. Wilson, Lister St., Halifax.—Heads, Broom, Bass (Term Contract): R. J. Clarke & Co., Causeway Lane, Leicester.—Heads, Brush, Sweeping: G. B. Kent & Sons, Ltd., Farringdon Rd., E.C.; Miller & Co., 33, Abbey St., Accrington; J. Root & Son, Wood Green Brush Works, New Southgate, N.; W. M. Strachan & Co., Douglas, I.O.M.—Heads, Brush, Sweeping (Term Contract): Vale & Bradnack, Green Lane, Walsall.—Heads, Maul: W. H. Beal, Sharp St., Hull; E. Cattley & Co., Ltd., Skeldergate, York; R. Corben & Son, West Borough, Maidstone; C. Jennings & Co., Ltd., Pennywell Rd., Bristol; J. Nicholls & Sons, All Saints' Rd., Wolverhampton; Waring & Gillow, Ltd., Hammer-smith, W.—Hides: J. & F. J. Baker & Co., Ltd., Colyton, Devon; H. Gilling & Sons, Barnet, Herts; Hepburn, Gale & Ross, Ltd., 239, Long Lane, S.E.; J. Isle & Son, Hamerton Works, Horncastle; S. E. Norris & Co., St. Paul's Leather Works, Shadwell, E.; J. Vassie, Tan Works, Lanark.—Hollow-ware: Beech Hill & Co., Ltd., Guns Lane Foundry, West Bromwich; Hill Top Foundry Co., West Bromwich; Isons & Co., Ltd., Albion Works, West Bromwich; J. & J. Siddons, Ltd., West Bromwich.—Hooks, Bill: W. Gilpin, Senr., & Co., Ltd., Church-bridge, Cannock; Hale Bros., Moorfields Works, Sheffield; I. Nash & Sons, Ltd., Wollaston Mills, Stourbridge; C. Whitehouse & Sons, Ltd., Cannock Edge Tool Works, Cannock.—Hoops, Wood: G. Dickie & Son, Chester St. Saw Mills, Birken-head; Maple & Co., Ltd., Tottenham Court Rd., W.—Hose, Rubber, &c.: Ancoats Vale Rubber Co., Ltd., Palmerston St., Ancoats, Manchester; Avon India Rubber Co., Ltd., Melsham, Wilts; C. Macintosh & Co., Ltd., 22/3, Jewin St., E.C.; New Liverpool Rubber Co., Ltd., 232, Vauxhall St., Liverpool.—Hosiery (including Drawers, Jerseys, Socks, Gloves, &c.): A. Anderson & Co., Ltd., High St. West, Sunderland; Allen & Bastick, Newark St., Leicester; Allen, Solly & Co., Ltd., Brookfield, Arnold, Notts; H. E. Allsopp & Co. (Leicester), Ltd., Great Central St., Leicester; R. N. Anderson & Co., East Wall, Londonderry; Armstrong, Bradbury & Co., Walthamstow, E.; Atkins Bros., Hinckley; Barrie & Kersell, Annfield Mills, Hawick; H. Bates & Co., Ltd., South Wigston, Leicester; A. Baum, Ltd., Southgate St., Leicester; Beale & Herbert, Ltd., Causeway Lane, Leicester; Bedford Bros., John St., Hinckley; T. Billson & Sons, Ltd., Church Gate, Leicester; Bird & Yeomans, Earl Shilton, Hinckley; Blackrock Hosiery Co., Ltd., Blackrock

War Office—continued.

Co. Dublin; Bolesworth & Jennings, Mill Hill Hosiery Works, Hinckley; Bo'sness Hosiery Co., Ltd., Bo'sness, N.B.; G. Bott & Son, Trinity Lane, Hinckley; J. Bradshaw & Co., Erskine St., Leicester; G. Braund, Ltd., Woodgate, Loughborough; G. Brettle & Co., Belper, Derbyshire; H. N. Brocks, Mawneys Rd., Romford; S. Brocklehurst, Bond St., Hinckley; T. Bromley & Son, Clarence St., Leicester; J. D. Broughton & Sons, Wigston, Leicester; J. Brown & Co. (Lanark), Ltd., Cartland Works, Lanark; J. Browning, Bridgend Hosiery Works, Stewarton, N.B.; E. W. Bryan, Gt. Central St., Leicester; J. S. Bryce & Co., Greenside Hosiery Factory, Lanark; F. Caldwell & Co., Ltd., Loughborough; Carmalt, Lang & Co., Ltd., Corporation St., Birmingham; J. F. Carnall & Sons, Red Cross St., Leicester; H. Carrier & Sons, Ltd., Bath St., Ilkeston; Cartwright & Warners, Ltd., Queen's Rd., Loughborough; Central Committee on Women's Employment for Leinster, Munster and Connaught, Lower Baggot St., Dublin; Clark & Co., Green-side, Edinburgh; J. Clarke & Co. (Arnold), Ltd., Arnold, Nottingham; Cooper Bros. (Nottingham), Ltd., Haydn Rd. Works, Nottingham; Cooper & Roe, Roden St., Nottingham; Co-operative Wholesale Society, Ltd., Huthwaite, Notts; N. Corah & Sons, St. Margaret's Works, Leicester; J. & J. Cryer, Ltd., Littleborough, Manchester; A. Cunningham, Ltd., Holm Factory, Stewarton, N.B.; R. Currie & Son, Milburn Factory, Selkirk; A. Davenport, Hinckley; S. Davis & Sons, Canal St. Mills, Derby; Dickens, Anmitage & Co., Ltd., Rutland St., Leicester; Dix, Watson & Co., Ltd., Priory Works, Acton, W.; Dixon & Moore, South Bond St., Leicester; H. L. Driver, Ltd., King St., Leicester; Drysdale, Murray & Co., Tillicoultry, N.B.; Dublin Shirt Manufacturing Co., High St., Dublin; Eagle Hosiery Manufacturing Co., Avenue Rd., Acton, W.; H. Edgar & Co., Colwich, Nottingham; Elder & Watson, Dunlop St. Hosiery Works, Strathaven, N.B.; F. Ellis & Co., Chancery St., Leicester; T. Ensoh & Sons, Milborne Port, Somerset; Fraser, Frasers & Co., Lovat Works, Kilmarnock; Freeman & West, Syston, Leicester; Garton & Smith, Syston, Leicester; J. L. Gibson & Co., Maxwelltown Factory, Dumfries, N.B.; W. Gibson & Son, Ltd., Thurland St., Nottingham; J. Glazebrook & Co., Countesthorpe, Leicester; Gordon & Co., Spring Gardens, Aberdeen; Grove Manufacturing Co., Wellington Rd., Dewsbury; Gunn & Co., Wheat St., Leicester; B. Haigh & Co., New Malden, Surrey; J. Haines & Co., Western Rd., Leicester; A. Hall & Co., High St., Stewarton; Hall & Earl, Braunstone Gate, Leicester; W. Hall & Co., Reddans Works, Stewarton, N.B.; Hanford & Miller, Long Whatton, Loughborough; F. W. Harmer & Co., St. Andrew's Works, Norwich; Harrott & Co., Ltd., Rose St., Aberdeen; J. Hearth & Co., Newark St., Leicester; J. Henderson & Co., Victoria Rd., Hawick; A. E. Hill, Frederick St., Wigston, Leicester; Hill, Jones & Co., Spencer St., Hinckley; J. Hinckley & Co., Ltd., Willow St., Leicester; Hoare & Co., John St. Factory, Londonderry; W. Holmes & Son, Wigston Magna, Leicester; Hosiery Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Ballot Rd., Irvine, N.B.; W. & H. Howe, Curzon Works, Leicester; Hubbard & Kenning, Woodboy St. Works, Leicester; R. Hunt, Wellington St., Leicester; A. P. Innes & Co., Victoria Rd., Hawick; Johnson & Sons, Ltd., Gt. Yarmouth; Jones, Evans & Co., Ltd., Newtown, North Wales; A. Kemp, Dover St., Leicester; C. Kennedy & Co., The Glenies, Co. Donegal; R. H. Kerr & Co., Ltd., Peel St., Glasgow; T. Kerr, Wellington St., Kilmarnock; Kilgour & Walker, Ltd., Berryden Mills, Aberdeen; Kilsyth Hosiery Co., Kilsyth, Glasgow; Kirky-in-Ashfield Manufacturers, Ltd., Prospect St., East Kirby, Notts; A. Knight & Co., Thoroton St., Nottingham; Krenkow & Almond, Burley's Lane, Leicester; Lacey, Woolley & Co., Ltd., Shephed, Loughborough; Lake & Co., New Malden, Surrey; Lanark Hosiery Co., Ltd., Furrowfield, Lanark; Lawrie & Co., Ltd., Birstall St. Works, Leicester; Leicester Manufacturing Co., Church Gate, Leicester; C. Lewin, Wigston, Leicester; J. B. Lewis & Sons, Ltd., Haydn Rd., Nottingham; W. Lockie & Co., Westfield Works, Hawick; R. H. Lowe & Co., Ltd., Fountain St., Manchester; Lyle & Scott, Ltd., Lothian St., Hawick; A. Macdougall & Co., Ltd., Linneville Factory, Lanark; J. Macfarlane & Co., Candleriggs, Glasgow; J. & D. McGeorge, Nithsdale Factory, Dumfries; D. Macrae & Sons, Avenue St., Stewarton, N.B.; R. Makin, Greenfield Works, Alva; Moore, Eady & Murcott-Goodie, Ltd., Granby St., Leicester; R. Moore, Ltd., Alma St. Mill, Blackburn; I. & R. Morley, Wood St., E.C.; T. Morley & Son, High Cross St., Leicester; Munro & Co., Ltd., Restalrig Factory, Edinburgh; J. Nairn & Son, Annick Bank Works, Stewarton; National Shirt Manufacturing Co., John Gate, Bradford; Nottingham Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Loughborough; J. Partridge & Son, Mansfield St., Leicester; T. Paton & Co., Falfield St., Port Eglinton, Glasgow; D. Payne & Sons, Ltd., Hinckley; G. Peck, Wellington St., Leicester; P. Peerless & Co., Temple Bar, Dublin; J. & N. Phillips & Co., Ltd., Miller St., Manchester; J. Pick & Sons, Wimbledon Pool, Lorrimer & Tabberer, King St., Leicester; J. Raynor & Sons, Hucknall Torkard, Notts; Riddleston & Herbert, Albion Hill, Leicester; Roberts, Francis & Co., Cowcross St., E.C.; R. Rowley & Co., Ltd., Queen St., Leicester; Russell & Co., Robertland Mill, Stewarton, N.B.; Salmon & Welch, Gt. Central St., Leicester; Scotia Knitting Co., Ltd., Edison Rd., Crouch End, N.; P. Scott & Co., Ltd., Hawick; Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society, Ltd., Morrison St., Glasgow; Shakespeare Knitting Works, Lavender Hill, S.W.; Simpkin, Son & Emery, Upper Bond St., Hinckley; J. Skelton & Son, St. George's Mill, Norwich; J. Smedley, Ltd., Matlock, Derbyshire; A. Smith, Brown & Co., Ltd., Howard Mills, Tannock St., Kilmarnock; C. Smith & Bros., Charles St., Leicester; S. Smith, King

War Office—continued.

Richard's Rd., Leicester; T. J. Smith & Nephew, Ltd., Queen St., Hull; Smith's Hosiery Manufacturing Co., Dorning St., Wigan; J. Spencer & Sons, Wellington St., Leicester; Stevenson & Co., Regent Factory, Newtownards; Stewarton Hosiery Co., High St., Stewarton, N.B.; St. Martin's Underwear Co., Millstone Lane, Leicester; Strathbogie Woollen Co., Bogle Bridge Mills, Huntly; Strathclyde Hosiery Co., Ltd., South Frederick St., Glasgow; S. D. Stretton & Sons, Ltd., Southgate St., Leicester; F. & E. Tarratt, Watling St., Leicester; Temple-crone Co-operative Agricultural Society, Ltd., Dungloe, Co. Donegal; Thornton & Mawby, Ltd., Duke St., Leicester; J. Toon & Sons, Earl Shilton, Hinckley; Trafford Hosiery Co., Trafford Rd., Leicester; Turner & Jarvis, Ltd., Lower Brown St., Leicester; W. Tyler, Sons & Co., King St., Leicester; R. Walker & Sons, Ltd., Rutland St., Leicester; J. Wayne & Co., Abbey St., Leicester; West Lothian Hosiery Factory Ltd., Bathgate, N.B.; Woodford & Wormleighton, Langton St., Leicester; Wooding & Teasdale, Church Gate, Leicester; Wynne & Sons, Wynnstay Works, Leicester; A. Yates & Co., Millstone Lane, Leicester; A. S. Yates, Fosse Rd. North, Leicester.—Huts, Sectional (Term Contract): W. Smith & Co. (Crosshills), Ltd., Crosshills, Keighley.—Instruments, Musical: H. Band & Co., Plough Yard, Brentford; H. Gibbs & Son, Mitcham, Surrey; Hawkes & Son, Ashbrook Rd., Highgate, N.—Instruments, Veterinary, Repairs of (Term Contract): S. Maw, Son & Sons, Aldersgate St., E.C.—Ironwork for Forms and Tables: Bayliss, Jones & Bayliss, Ltd., Victoria Works, Wolverhampton; Douglass Bros., Ltd., Globe Iron Works, Blaydon-on-Tyne; W. Miller & Sons, Ltd., Monmore Green, Wolverhampton; Wrinch & Sons, Ltd., St. Lawrence Works, Ipswich.—Joinery: Austins (East Ham & Ilford), Ltd., Barking, W.; J. Tarrant, Byfleet.—Knives, Clasp: I. & J. Barber, Wheelton St., Sheffield; W. & S. Butcher, Ltd., Eyre Lane, Sheffield; J. Clarke & Sons, Ltd., Mowbray St., Sheffield; Crossland Bros., Carver St., Sheffield; J. McClary & Sons, Ltd., Milton St., Sheffield.—Lamps, Electric: British Thomson-Houston Co., Ltd., 77, Upper Thames St., E.C.; Edison & Swan United Electric Light Co., Ltd., Ponders End, N.; General Electric Co., Ltd., 67, Queen Victoria St., E.C.; Siemens Bros. Dynamo Works, Ltd., 38/9, Upper Thames St., E.C.—Lamps, Oil, and Parts: Blanchard Lamps (British), Ltd., Farringdon Rd., E.C.; Reform Lighting Co., Ltd., Bermondsey St., S.E.; Sherwoods, Ltd., Granville St., Birmingham.—Leathers, Chamois: J. S. Deed & Sons, Ltd., Mitcham, Surrey; A. G. Jones & Co., Ltd., Slack Lane, Derby; Pocock Bros., 235, Southwark Bridge Rd., S.E.; W. J. Turney & Co., Ltd., Mill Lane, Stourbridge.—Leggings, Leather: F. C. Chamberlain & Co., Palk Rd., Wellington; M. & A. Hess, Golden Lane, E.C.; L. Lilley, Elsdon Works, Wellington; S. Quelch & Son, Queen St., Oxford; R. Thompson & Co., Ltd., Park Rd., Wellington.—Linen, Black, &c.: A. Blyth & Co., Hawkley-muir Factory, Kirkcaldy; W. M. Kirk & Partners, Ltd., Donegal St., Belfast; T. McLaren & Sons, Parkhead Factory, Kirkcaldy; R. Stocks & Co., Links St., Kirkcaldy.—Linoleum: Linoleum Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Staines.—Machines, Boring, Accessories for: Ingersoll-Rand Co., 165, Queen Victoria St., E.C.—Machines, Horse-Clipping, and Parts: Barton-Gillette Horse Clipping & Sheep Shearing Co., Queen's Rd., Reading; Brown's Clipper Co., Ltd., Chard Works, Summer Row, Birmingham; Cooper-Stewart Engineering Co., Ltd., Broad St., Bloomsbury, W.C.—Machines, &c., Weighing: W. & T. Avery, Ltd., Soho Foundry, Birmingham; Fairbanks Co., Cato St., Birmingham; J. Hall & Son, Farm St., Birmingham.—Mallets: R. Corben & Son, Westborough, Maidstone; J. Jacques & Son, Ltd., Kirby St., E.C.; Maxime & Co., Ltd., Featherstone St., E.C.; J. Nicholls & Sons, All Saints' Rd., Wolverhampton; Rawlings & Sons, Aston, Birmingham; J. Reynolds, Prospect Works, Chesham, Bucks; C. Webber, Bonhay Rd., Exeter; F. Williams, Adam St., New Kent Rd., S.E.—Mattresses, Spring: E. H. Holme, Caledonian Rd., Holloway, N.; J. Nesbit-Evans & Co., Adderley St., Birmingham; J. & J. Taunton, Ltd., Sherbourne Rd., Birmingham; Wales, Ltd., Oozells St., Birmingham.—Medicines: Abel & Co., Union St., Southwark, S.E.; Beasdale, Ltd., Colliergate, York; Boots' Pure Drug Co., Ltd., Station St., Nottingham; British Drug Houses, Ltd., Graham St., City Rd., N.; Brook, Parker & Co., Ltd., Nelson St., Bradford; Burgoyne, Burbidges & Co., Ltd., East Ham, Essex; Burroughs Wellcome & Co., Dartford; W. B. Cartwright, Ltd., Rawdon, Leeds; G. Curling, Wyman & Co., Bunhill Row, E.C.; Davies, Sons & Co., Bridge St., Derby; Evans, Sons, Lescher & Webb, Ltd., Bartholomew Close, E.C.; C. R. Harker, Stag & Morgan, Ltd., Devon Wharf, Mile End, E.; Hough, Hoseason & Co., Ltd., Holland St., Pendleton; Howards & Sons, Ltd., Ilford, E.; Johnson & Sons (Mfg. Chemists), Ltd., Cross St., Finsbury, E.C.; T. Kerfoot & Co., Bardsley Vale Mills, Bardsley, Lanes; H. & T. Kirby & Co., Ltd., Willesden Green, N.W.; Matthews & Wilson, Ltd., Mill St., Dockhead, S.E.; May & Baker, Ltd., Battersea, S.W.; Menley & James, Ltd., Coldharbour Lane, Camberwell, S.E.; Parke, Davis & Co., Heston Mills, Hounslow; Pickard, Ives & Rankin, Ltd., Notting Hill, W.; Pierson, Morrell & Co., Leicester Rd., New Barnet; Prices' Co., Ltd., Belvedere, Kent; Reynolds & Branson, Ltd., Briggate, Leeds; Southall Bros. & Barclay, Ltd., Lower Priory, Birmingham; Standard Tablet & Pill Co., Ltd., Goldstone Chemical Works, Hove; United Alkali Co., Ltd., Cunard Building, Liverpool; Whiffen & Sons, Ltd., Lombard Rd., Battersea, S.W.; Willows, Francis, Butler & Thompson, Ltd., Aldersgate St., E.C.—Medicines (Term Contract): Howards & Sons, Ltd., Ilford, E.—Metal Work for Harness, &c.: J. T. Bednall, George St., Walsall; J. Birch & Son, Ltd., Lower Brook St., Walsall; B. Cope & Sons, Ltd., Portland St., Walsall; R. Cooper & Son, Ltd., Aston New Town, Birmingham; J. Cradock & Son, Ltd., Caldmore Bit Works,

War Office—continued.

Walsall; R. Craddock & Sons, 27, Wisemore, Walsall; J. Dewsbury & Son, Ltd., Littleton St., Walsall; F. Eglington, Bridge-man St., Walsall; H. Frost & Co., Ltd., Fieldgate, Walsall; J. H. Hawkins & Co., Ltd., Station St., Walsall; J. & J. Wiggan, Ltd., Old Hall Works, Bloxwich.—**Methylated Spirit:** W. T. Alexander, Chase St., Red Bank, Manchester; B. Biggs & Co., Blondin Works, Bow, E.; S. Bowley & Son, Wellington Works, Battersea Bridge, S.W.; Bristol Distillery Co., Ltd., Cheese Lane, Bristol; J. Burrrough & Co., Ltd., Cale Distillery, Hutton Rd., Lambeth, S.E.; Davis Bros., Ltd., South Hackney, E.; Jones & Co., Copperfield Rd., Bow, E.; S. Thornley, Ltd., Slaney St., Birmingham; J. & J. Vickers & Co., Ltd., Lillie Bridge Mews, S.W.; Waters & Co., Ltd., Bateman's Row, E.C.—**Methylated Spirit, Solidified:** Tommy's Cooker Co., Ltd., 32, Brewery Rd., N.—**Mixture, Furnace:** Morgan Crucible Co., Ltd., Church Rd., Battersea, S.W.—**Nails, Tacks, &c.:** D. Bennie & Sons, Ltd., Petershill Rd., Glasgow; J. Capewell & Sons, Dewsbury Rd., Leeds; Carlyle, Chirm & Co., Ltd., Handsworth, Birmingham; Clyde Nail Co., Ltd., Newton, Glasgow; Cordes (Doss Works), Ltd., Newport, Mon.; W. Galloway & Co., Tyne Nail Works, Gateshead-on-Tyne; R. Green, Ltd., Cokeland Works, Cradley Heath; Hadley & Shorthouse, Ltd., Eyre St., Birmingham; J. Haywood & Co., Smethwick, Birmingham; J. & J. Ingham & Co., Ltd., Hunstlet, Leeds; Kynoch, Ltd., Witton, Birmingham; J. I. Parkes, Ltd., Eagle Works, Smethwick; J. Reynolds & Sons, Ltd., Newtown Row, Birmingham; C. & E. Roberts, Hunstlet, Leeds; J. Roberts & Son, Ltd., East St., Leeds; J. Sadler, Ltd., Spring Hill, Birmingham; J. Shortland & Co., Park St., Wishaw, N.B.; J. & W. Somerville, St. Ninian's, Stirling; J. Summers & Sons, Ltd., Globe Iron Works, Stalybridge; D. Willetts, Ltd., Reliance Works, Cradley Heath; J. Williams & Co. (Wishaw), Ltd., Wishaw, N.B.—**Needles:** J. Smith & Son (Redditch), Ltd., Astwood Bank, Redditch.—**Nets, Hay:** W. Edwards & Son, Bridport.—**Netting, Mosquito:** T. Adams, Ltd., Stoney Lane, Nottingham; G. Broadhead, Boulevard Works, Nottingham; Carey & Sons, Ltd., 45, Broad St., Nottingham; W. E. & F. Dobson, Ltd., Queen's Rd., Nottingham; H. Mallet & Sons, St. Mary's Gate, Nottingham.—**Netting, Wire:** F. W. Ayres, Ltd., 111, Aldersgate St., E.C.; Barnards, Ltd., Norfolk Iron Works, Norwich; Boulton & Paul, Ltd., Rose Lane Works, Norwich; R. Johnson, Clapham & Morris, Ltd., Newton Heath, Manchester; J. Lysaght, Ltd., St. Vincent's Ironworks, Bristol; S. Ramsey & Co., St. John St., E.C.; Rylands Bros., Ltd., Warrington; The Whitecross Co., Ltd., Warrington.—**Oars:** E. Ayling & Sons, Riverside, Putney, S.W.; Chandler, Lindsay & Co., Upper East Smithfield, E.—**Oils:** Anglo-American Oil Co., Ltd., Purfleet, Essex; A. Brown & Co., Camomile St. Chambers, E.C.; Broxburn Oil Co., Ltd., Broxburn, N.B.; Hanger, Watson & Harris, Ltd., Stoneferry Works, Hull; F. How & Co., Trogan Wharf, Stratford, E.; Premier Oil Extracting Mills, Ltd., Stoneferry, Hull; Prices' Co., Ltd., Belvedere, Kent; Pumpherson Oil Co., Ltd., Pumpherson, Uphall, N.B.; J. L. Seaton & Co., Ltd., Sculcoates, Hull; Vacuum Oil Co., Ltd., Birkenhead; Young's Paraffin Light and Mineral Oil Co., Ltd., Addiewell and Uphall, N.B.; Youngusband, Barnes & Co., Lower King and Queen Wharf, Rotherhithe, S.E.—**Oils (Term Contracts):** Anglo-American Oil Co., Ltd., Purfleet, Essex; Prices' Co., Ltd., Belvedere, Kent; Taylor & Son, Forth St., Liverpool; Thompson Bros., Millwall, E.; E. Vaughan & Co., Ltd., Legge St., Birmingham.—**Oilstones:** T. Hazen & Co., Bishopsgate Avenue, E.C.; A. B. Salmen, Ltd., West Ham Lane, Stratford, E.—**Paint:** H. W. Cox & Co., Ltd., 159, Gt. Portland St., W.; Wilkinson, Heywood & Clarke, Ltd., Storer's Wharf, Poplar, E.—**Para Quilt:** Lawson & Co. (Bristol), Ltd., St. Philips, Bristol.—**Pipes, Hose, Canvas:** S. Briggs & Co., Ltd., Burton-on-Trent; W. Rose Hose Co., Ltd., Salford, Manchester; J. Stone & Co., Ltd., Deptford, S.E.; Woodhouse & Co., Ltd., Hexthorpe Brass & Iron Works, Doncaster.—**Piping and Fittings, Metal:** Holwell Iron Co., Ltd., Asfordby, Melton Mowbray; J. Russell & Co., Ltd., Wednesbury; Scottish Tube Co., Ltd., Rutherglen, Glasgow; E. Smith, Ltd., Brunswick Tube Works, Wednesbury; Stewarts & Lloyds, Ltd., Coatbridge.—**Plant, Disinfecting:** Manlove, Allott & Co., Ltd., Bloomsgrave Works, Nottingham.—**Poles, &c., Ash:** A. Bailey, Stone, Staffs; Barker Bros. (Shrewsbury), Ltd., Smithfield Rd., Shrewsbury; J. C. Edge & Co., Ltd., Craven Arms, Salop; R. Groom, Sons & Co., Ltd., Wellington, Salop; A. Isherwood & Co., Ltd., Wem, Salop; R. Mulford, Greywell, Odiham, Hants; J. Remer & Co., Widnes.—**Poles, Tents, &c.:** H. E. Ambrose, Gwydir St., Cambridge; W. E. Chivers & Sons, Sheep St., Devises; Clegg Bros., Blakey St. Sawmills, Burnley; Cutlans Steam Joinery Works, Elthorne Rd., Hornsey Rise, N.; Davey & Armitage, Elmer Avenue, Southend-on-Sea; Ekins & Co., Ltd., Gt. Northern Works, Hertford; J. Glanville, Coborn Rd., Bow, E.; A. Heaton & Co., Ltd., Parkhill Rd., Hampstead, N.W.; C. Jennings & Co., Ltd., Pennywell Rd., Bristol; H. Lebus, Tottenham Hale, Middlesex; Maple & Co., Ltd., Tottenham Court Rd., W.; E. Pollard & Co., Ltd., Aylesbury St., Clerkenwell, E.C.; Rippers, Ltd., Castle Headingham, Essex.—**Polish, Metal:** E. Day & Sons, Ltd., Rusholme, Manchester; Household Specialities Co., Ltd., Parkgate, Rotherham.—**Pugarees:** F. Steiner & Co., Ltd., York St., Manchester.—**Pumping Sets and Parts:** Boving & Co., Imperial House, 56, Kingsway, W.C.; Four Oak Spraying Machine Co., Sutton Coldfield, Birmingham; Hattersley & Davidson, Ltd., Norfolk St., Sheffield; Moorwoods, Ltd., Bury; Shand, Mason & Co., Upper Ground St., S.E.; G. & W. Purser, Ltd., Palmer St., Birmingham.—**Puttees:** Astrachans, Ltd., Albert Mills, Leeds Rd., Bradford; R. Brearley & Sons, Ltd., Batley, Yorks; Fox Bros. & Co., Ltd., Wellington;

War Office—continued.

G. Glanfield & Son, Ltd., Brick Lane, E.; Hall, Tankard & Co., Batley, Yorks; Whitworth & Co., Ltd., Luddenden Foot, Yorks.—**Railway Plant:** District Iron and Steel Co., Ltd., Smethwick; Ropeways, Ltd., Eldon Street House, E.C.—**Ranges and Stoves, &c.:** Albion Iron Co. (London), Ltd., Belper and Falkirk; Bradley & Co., Ltd., Albion Works, Bilston; Dobbie, Forbes & Co., Larbert; Forth and Clyde and Sunnyside Iron Cos., Ltd., Falkirk; Jones & Campbell, Ltd., Torwood Foundry, Larbert, N.B.; R. & A. Main, Ltd., Angel Rd., Upper Edmonton, N.; O'Brien, Thomas & Co., Rotherham; Stirlingshire Iron and Stove Co., Ltd., Bonny-side Foundry, Bonnybridge; Walker Bros., Ltd., Staffordshire Galvanising Works, Walsall.—**Razors:** J. Clarke & Son, Ltd., Mowbray Works, Sheffield; Norton Co-operative Cutlery Society, Ltd., Norton Hammer, Woodseats, Sheffield.—**Razors (Term Contracts):** J. Allen & Sons, Ltd., Rockingham St., Sheffield; Atkinson Bros., Ltd., Milton Works, Sheffield; I. & J. Barber, Wheel-don St., Sheffield; Baum Bros. (Sheffield), Ltd., Nursery St., Sheffield; Brookes & Crookes, Ltd., St. Philip's Rd., Sheffield; W. & S. Butcher, Ltd., Arundel St., Sheffield; G. Butler & Co., Ltd., Trinity Works, Sheffield; Carr, Wild & Co., Ltd., Egerton St., Sheffield; J. Clarke & Sons, Ltd., Mowbray St., Sheffield; E. M. Dickinson, Ltd., Arundel St., Sheffield; T. Ellin & Co., Ltd., Sylvester Works, Sheffield; J. Elliot & Sons, Hollis Croft, Sheffield; J. Fenton & Sons, Sykes Works, Sheffield; J. Gibbins & Sons, Ltd., Moore St., Sheffield; S. Hibbert & Son, Ltd., Charlotte St., Sheffield; W. R. Humphreys & Co., Ltd., Denby St., Sheffield; Maleham & Yeomans, Bowdon St., Sheffield; Mappin & Webb, Ltd., Norfolk St., Sheffield; J. Milner & Co., Matilda St., Sheffield; S. Pearson & Co., Eldon St., Sheffield; J. & W. Pitchford, Shude Lane, Sheffield; F. Revitt, Kenyon Alley, Sheffield; F. Reynolds, Gell St., Sheffield; H. Robinson & Co., Young St., Sheffield; J. Rodgers, Clun St., Sheffield; J. Sellers & Sons, Arundel St., Sheffield; H. M. Slater, Arundel St., Sheffield; Southern & Richardson, Ltd., Doncaster St., Sheffield; W. Temporal, Broomspring Lane, Sheffield; T. Turner & Co., Suffolk Works, Sheffield; Wheatley Bros., Ltd., Wheatheaf Works, Sheffield; A. Wilson & Son, Bowdon St., Sheffield; T. Wilson, Granville St., Sheffield; B. Worth & Sons, Arundel St., Sheffield.—**Refrigerators:** F. R. Martin & Co., Manor Rd. Works, Streatham Common, S.W.—**Rests, Tripod:** E. Pollard & Co., Ltd., Aylesbury St., Clerkenwell, E.C.—**Rivets, &c., Copper:** J. Stone & Co., Ltd., Deptford, S.E.—**Rope, Wire:** Glaholm & Robson, Ltd., 55, Hendon Rd., Sunderland; J. Shaw, Ltd., Soho St., Sheffield; Warrington Wire Rope Works, Ltd., Warrington and Liverpool; Wilkin's Wire Rope Co., Ltd., Eastwood, Nottingham.—**Ropes, Heel:** T. H. Crumpton & Co., Stafford St., Walsall; S. Peace, Whittimere St., Walsall; R. E. Thacker, Green Lane, Walsall.—**Rubber-proofed Goods:** Broadhurst & Co., Ltd., Gibbon St., Manchester; Campbell, Achnach & Co., Ltd., Commerce St., Glasgow; I. Frankenberg & Sons, Ltd., Salford, Manchester; Leyland and Birmingham Rubber Co., Ltd., Leyland, Preston; C. Macintosh & Co., Ltd., Cambridge St., Manchester; J. Mandelberg & Co., Ltd., Pendleton, Manchester; D. Moseley & Sons, Ltd., Ardwick, Manchester; Northern Rubber Co., Ltd., Retford, Notts; Premier Waterproof and Rubber Co., Ltd., Dantzic St., Manchester; R. W. Stewart & Co., Elgin St., Dunfermline.—**Rubber-proofed Goods (Term Contracts):** Cohen & Wilks, Cheetham, Manchester; Goldstone, Davies & Co., Ltd., Strangeways, Manchester; I. Kindler & Co., Shudehill, Manchester; L. Mistovski & Co., Ltd., Salford, Manchester.—**Screws, &c., Drive:** W. & S. S. Allen, Crosley, Bilston; British Screw Co., Kirkstall Rd., Leeds; Cross Bros., Ltd., Cardiff; Roofing Fittings, Ltd., Oldbury, Birmingham.—**Sewings:** Ainsworth & Sons, Ltd., Cleator Mills, Cleator; Barbour & Sons, Ltd., Hilden, Lisburn, Ireland; Brough, Nicholson & Hall, Ltd., Leek; H. Campbell & Co., Ltd., Mossley, Belfast; Cardigan Thread Mills Co., North Evington, Leicester; Finlayson, Bousfield & Co., Ltd., Johnstone, Renfrewshire; J. Harris & Sons, Ltd., Derwent Mills, Cockerham; F. W. Hayes & Co., Ltd., Seapatrik Mills, Banbridge, Ireland; Leek Silk Twist Mfg. Society, Ltd., Nelson Mills, Leek; W. Milner & Sons, Ltd., Union St., Leek; Watson & Co. (Leek), Ltd., London Mills, Leek.—**Sheets, Cotton:** Ashton Bros. & Co., Ltd., 29, Portland St., Manchester; Barlow & Jones, Ltd., 2, Portland St., Manchester; R. Haworth & Co., Ltd., Dale St., Manchester; Hollins Mill Co., Ltd., 5, Portland St., Manchester; Hoyle & Smith, Ltd., 2, Canal St., Manchester; T. Johnson & Sons, Marsden Sq., Manchester; E. Lees & Co., Ltd., Major St., Manchester; J. Parkyn & Co., Mosley St., Manchester; G. I. Sidebottom & Co., Ltd., Chorlton St., Manchester; J. G. Stutter & Co., Charlotte St., Manchester; Willocks & Sons, Dale St., Manchester.—**Sheets, Corrugated, Steel:** Baldwin, Ltd., Orchard Place, Blackwall, E.; Birmingham Corrugated Iron Co., Ltd., Widnes; J. Lysaght, Ltd., St. Vincent's Iron-works, Bristol; Neath Steel Sheet and Galvanising Co., Ltd., Neath, Glam.—**Shelters, Corrugated, Steel:** F. Braby & Co., Ltd., Petershill Rd., Glasgow; J. Summers & Sons, Ltd., Shotton, Chester.—**Shelters, Sectional (Term Contract):** J. Gerrard & Sons, Ltd., Swinton, Manchester.—**Shirts and Collars, Flannel:** Bertish, Mothersill & Co., Ltd., Sun Court, Golden Lane, E.C.; H. N. Brock, Mawney's Rd., Romford; Bryce & Weston, Clarendon Factory, Londonderry; W. H. L. Cameron, Long Acre St., Macclesfield; Chamberlain & Co., Ltd., Cleveland St., Fitzroy Sq., W.; Henllan Woollen Mills, Ltd., Henllan, S. Wales; Henry & Co., Fann St., Aldersgate St., E.C.; W. Neilson & Co., Gallowgate, Glasgow; Smethurst & Holden, Ltd., Salford, Manchester; United Welsh Mills, The Hayes, Cardiff; Welch, Margetson & Co., Ltd., Long Lane, Bermondsey, S.E.—**Shirts, Flannel (Term Contracts):** Albion Shirt and Clothing Mfg. Co., Ltd., Gt. Bridgewater St., Manchester; W. Baker, The Newark, Leicester; Barnett & Wilson, Dutton St., Manchester; A. G. Bateman, Mosley St., Manchester; Belvoir Mfg. Co., Belvoir

War Office—continued.

St., Leicester; Bertish, Mothersill & Co., Ltd., Sun Court, Golden Lane, E.C.; G. Brenner, Gt. Sutton St., E.C.; H. N. Brock, Mawney's Rd., Romford; E. R. Buck & Sons, Poynton, Stockport; J. Burrows, Hyde Rd., West Gorton, Manchester; E. J. Caldwell & Co., Rye Works, Hanover St., Peckham, S.E.; Central Committee on Women's Employment, Gloucester House, Piccadilly, W.; E. Collier & Son, Little Lever St., Manchester; Connacht Mfg. Co., Corn Market, Sligo; J. Cowen & Co., Vestry St., City Rd., E.C.; Crouch, Son & Co., Windmill Lane, Stratford, E.; W. J. Crouch & Co., Leytonstone Rd., Stratford, E.; Cuthbertson, Kerr & Co., Hutcheson St., Glasgow; Dearden Bros., West Ham Lane, Stratford, E.; S. M. De Carle & Co., Hare Court, Aldersgate St., E.C.; J. Desmond & Co., Claudy, Londonderry; Dixon & Co., John Gate, Bradford; Dublin Shirt Mfg. Co., High St., Dublin; J. W. Frost & Son, Ltd., 110/12, Middlesex St., E.; Gaston de Roubaix & Co., Eagle St., Southampton Row, W.C.; H. T. Greenlaw & Co., Ltd., Hatfield St., E.C.; Grove Mfg. Co., Wellington Rd., Dewsbury; J. F. Haig & Co., Ltd., Bedford St., Belfast; R. E. Hallett & Co., Bridge St., Manchester; J. Hamilton & Co., John St., Londonderry; Harrison & Co., Perseverance Mills, Cleckheaton; J. Hemingway & Co., Drewton St., Bradford; Hoare & Co., 94, Clerkenwell Rd., E.C.; Hogg & Mitchell, Strand Factory, Londonderry; A. Hudson & Co., Ltd., Water Lane, Leeds; Irish Committee for Women's Employment, Lower Baggot St., Dublin; W. Jamieson & Co., Sunbeam Factory, Londonderry; Jones & Co., Katherine Rd., Forest Gate, E.; J. Jones (Cardiff), Ltd., New St., Cardiff; P. Jones, Ltd., Newtown, N. Wales; S. M. Kennedy & Co., Gt. James St., Londonderry; Kettering Corset Mfrs., Ltd., Rutland Works, Kettering; Lawry & Porter, Ltd., Bishop St., Londonderry; Leinster Bros. & Staveacre, Bellevue Factory, Londonderry; W. Lilly & Co., Gaythorn, Manchester; H. Lloyd & Sons, Ltd., Church St., Manchester; J. Macfarlane & Co., Candleriggs, Glasgow; McGlashan, Sons & Co., Ltd., Dunlop St., Glasgow; McIntyre, Hogg, Marsh & Co., Ltd., Tipping St., Ardwick, Manchester; J. McLaughlin & Co., Bunclara, Londonderry; A. Mills & Co., Strand Rd., Londonderry; D. A. Mooney & Co., Foyle St., Londonderry; Moore Bros., Strand Rd., Londonderry; R. Moore, Ltd., Alma St. Mill, Blackburn; National Mfg. Co., John Gate, Bradford; R. Neely & Co., North Edward St. Factory, Londonderry; C. H. Nicholls, Pickford St., Macclesfield; R. Nimmon & Co., Ltd., Strand Rd., Londonderry; Paisley Co-operative Mfg. Society, Ltd., Neilston Rd., Paisley; P. Peerless & Co., Temple Bar, Dublin; Pettigrew & Stephens, Ltd., Sauchiehall St., Glasgow; Porter & Co., Carlisle Rd., Londonderry; Premier Blouse Co., Ltd., Ash Rd., Stratford, E.; N. Ramsden & Sons, Ltd., Hope Mill, Tonge, Bolton; A. Rice & Co., St. Thomas, Exeter; E. Richards & Co., William St., Londonderry; Robinson & Cleaver, Ltd., Donegal Place, Belfast; R. H. & S. Rogers, Ltd., Coleraine, Ireland; H. Savage & Co., Chiswell St., E.C.; S. Schneiders & Son, Durward St., E.; Sindall Bros. & Co., John Campbell Rd., Dalston, N.E.; Smethurst & Holden, Ltd., Salford, Manchester; Stollery, Fifield & Mantle, Bayer St., Golden Lane, E.C.; W. Sugden & Son, Water Lane Mills, Cleckheaton; L. Sussman, Duke St., Bishops-gate, E.; J. Sweeney & Co., Foyle St., Londonderry; J. & G. Taylor, Cornhill, Ilminster; Thorpe & Co., Ltd., Scotch St., Carlisle; Tillie & Henderson, Foyle Factory, Londonderry; W. Turpin, Bartholomew Close, E.C.; Walton Bros., Darnley Works, Hackney, N.E.; W. Watson & Co., Upper Abbey, Dublin; Welch, Margetson & Co., Ltd., Carlisle Rd., Londonderry; Wilkie & Kennedy, Ltd., Osborne St., Glasgow; S. Wilson, John St., Londonderry; W. Wolstencroft & Co., Ardwick Green, Manchester; Worsley Mfg. Co., Walkden, Manchester; E. Wright and Co., Beresford St., Woolwich, S.E.; Young & Rochester, Ebrington Factory, Londonderry.—**Shoes, Horse:** B. Baker, Lye, Stourbridge; V. Brodhurst & Co., High St., Bloxwich; Essex Forge Co., Ltd., Ongar Rd., Brentwood; Guest & Co., Halesowen, Birmingham.—**Shovels, Stoking, &c.:** E. & W. Lucas, Ltd., Dronfield Forge & Shovel Works, Sheffield; J. Sankey & Sons, Ltd., Albert St. Works, Bilston, Staffs; Teuton & Co., Ltd., Upper Thames St., E.C.—**Shutters, Folding:** Maple & Co., Ltd., Tottenham Court Rd., W.; Waring & Gillow, Ltd., 181, Oxford St., W.—**Slings, Stretcher:** County Screen Co., Ltd., Bury New Rd., Manchester; D. T. Jackson & Co., Ltd., Tooley St., S.E.; Maple & Co., Ltd., Tottenham Court Rd., W.—**Slippers, Leather:** W. C. Webster & Son, Muspole St., Norwich.—**Soap:** J. Kay & Sons, Britannia Works, Ramsbottom; J. Knight, Ltd., Royal Primrose Soap Works, Silvertown, E.—**Soles, &c., Boot:** J. Cockerill & Sons, Gt. John St., Lancaster; A. & W. Flatau & Co., Ltd., The Hale, Tottenham, N.; F. Kennell & Co., Beatrice Rd., Leicester; R. S. Lawrence & Co., Fore St., Upper Edmonton, N.; G. Looms, Cross St. Works, Market Harborough; Perkins & Bird, Irthingborough, Northampton; Pym, Seymour & Harding, Ltd., Pelham Works, Nottingham.—**Solution, Viscose:** Viscose Development Co., Ltd., Pembroke Rd., Bromley, Kent.—**Staples, Fencing:** Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Rogerstone, Newport, Mon; R. Johnson & Nephew, Ltd., Bradford Iron Works, Manchester; B. Priest & Sons, Ltd., Providence Works, Old Hill; Rylands Bros., Ltd., Warrington; S. Tromans & Sons, Meredith St., Cradley Bridge Works, Darlston.—**Stoppers, Cork, Waterbottle:** Beach Bros., Sedge Mead Works, Dover; Edinburgh Cork Importing Co., Ltd., Albert St., Edinburgh.—**Stoves, Oil and Parts:** A. Kenrick & Sons, Ltd., West Bromwich; J. Harper & Co., Ltd., Albion Works, Willenhall, Staffs; Howes & Burley, Ltd., Hollow Head, Birmingham; Parkinson & W. & B. Cowan, Ltd., Bell Barn Rd., Birmingham.—**Stoves, Oil (Term Contract):** Parkinson & W. & B. Cowan, Ltd., Bell Barn Rd., Birmingham.—**Stoves, Soyer's:** Bratt Colbran & Co., Lower Oxgate

War Office—continued.

Lane, Cricklewood, N.W.; Eagle Range & Grate Co., Catherine Lane, Aston Cross, Birmingham; Falkirk Iron Co., Ltd., Falkirk; S. J. & E. Fellows, Ltd., Vulcan Works, Wolverhampton; Forth & Clyde & Sunnyside Iron Cos., Ltd., Falkirk; W. Goodyear & Sons, Ltd., Churchfield Mills, Dudley; Griffiths & Browett, Ltd., Bradford St., Birmingham; Orme, Evans & Co., Ltd., Elgin Works, Wolverhampton; Park Foundry Co., Ltd., Belper, Derby; Stirlingshire Iron & Stove Co., Ltd., Bonny-side Foundry, Bonny-bridge, N.B.—**Strappings, Leather:** Baltic Leather Goods Co., Graham St. E., Glasgow; T. Cundall, Bermondsey St., S.E.; J. S. Deed & Sons, Ltd., Middlesex Leather Works, Arthur St., W.C.; George & Co., 21a, Noel St., Soho, W.; S. H. & W. Hart, Tower Bridge Rd., S.E.; Hepburn, Gale & Ross, Ltd., Long Lane, S.E.; G. Pearce & Co., Belvedere Rd., Lambeth, S.E.; R. Thackray & Sons, Newlay, Bramley, Leeds.—**Straps, Gum Boot:** S. Clarke & Co., Bowling Green Lane, Farringdon Rd., E.C.; J. Hanlon & Son, Ltd., Rose Leather Works, Liverpool; G. W. Hathaway, Bradford Lane, Walsall; Hepburn, Gale & Ross, Ltd., Grange Mills, Bermondsey, S.E.; E. O. Robathan, Bath Rd., Walsall; T. Thomasson & Co., Shrub Hill, Worcester; T. J. Weeks & Sons, Ltd., Clarence Rd., Lower Clapton, N.E.—**Stretchers, Ambulance:** H. Lebus, Tottenham Hale, Middlesex; Maple & Co., Ltd., Stanhope St., W.; J. P. Phibbs, North Strand, Dublin; E. Pollard & Co., Ltd., Aylesbury St., Clerkenwell, E.C.; J. Potter & Co., Ltd., Fish St., North Wall, Dublin; J. Ward, Ltd., Star Works, Cubitt Town, E.—**Strings, Bugle:** Dalton, Barton & Co., Ltd., St. Nicholas Mill, Coventry.—**Surgical Dressings (Term Contract):** S. Maw, Son & Sons, Aldersgate St., E.C.—**Surgical Materials:** H. M. Blewett & Son, Rhodeswell Rd., Limehouse, E.; A. Berton, Ltd., Tabernacle St., E.C.; Cuxson, Gerard & Co., Ltd., Oldbury, Birmingham; Platts Mill Co., Ltd., Platt Bridge, Wigan; T. J. Smith & Nephew, Ltd., Neptune St., Hull; Southall Bros. & Barclay, Ltd., Saltley, Birmingham.—**Switches:** Kerr, Stuart & Co., Ltd., Stoke-on-Trent; W. Sanders & Co., Falcon Electrical Works, Wednesbury; Sperry & Co., Ltd., Moorsom St. Works, Birmingham; Wandsworth Electrical Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Ludgate Hill, Birmingham; W. White & Co., Sise Lane, Queen Victoria St., E.C.—**Tape:** M. Bond & Co., Alreaw Mills, Ashbourne, Derbyshire; A. Green, Ltd., New Normanton Mills, Derby; G. H. Wheatcroft & Co., Haarlem and Speedwell Mills, Wirksworth.—**Tapes, Tracing:** T. Briggs (London), Ltd., Southgate Rd., N.; T. French & Sons, Lower Moss Lane Mills, Manchester; Waring & Gillow, Ltd., Oxford St., W.; Woods, Sons & Co., Lucas St., Commercial Rd., E.; G. J. Young & Co., Ltd., Paul's Row, High Wycombe.—**Targets, Instructional:** Eyre & Spottiswoode, Ltd., Downs Park Rd., Hackney, N.E.—**Tents:** T. Black & Co., Palmerston Buildings, Greenock; T. Briggs (London), Ltd., Southgate Rd., N.; J. A. Cooper, West St., Bedminster, Bristol; Crompton & Thompson, Ltd., Denmark St., E.; T. Dobbin & Co., Emmett St., Poplar, E.; J. Edgington & Co., Ltd., 108, Old Kent Rd., S.E.; H. & T. C. Godfrey, Moulsham St., Chelmsford; C. Groom, Ltd., Dod St., Limehouse, E.; Lane & Neeve, Ltd., Britannia Works, Millwall, E.; J. McIlwraith & Co., Ltd., Broomloan Works, Govan, Glasgow; Maple & Co., Ltd., Tottenham Court Rd., W.; J. Meed, Nightingale Rd., Horsham, Sussex; N. E. E. Minty, Cherwell St., Oxford; Piggott Bros. & Co., Ltd., Booth St., Spitalfields, E., and Gt. Yarmouth; J. Putnam, Aylesbury; S. W. Silver & Co. and B. Edgington, Ltd., Queen Elizabeth St., Horselydown, S.E.; Sly, Dibble & Co., Ltd., Cable St., E.; J. Smith & Co., (London, E.), Ltd., Glengall Rd., Millwall, E.; W. Smith, 207, High St., Poplar, E.; Waring & Gillow, Oxford St., W.; G. J. Young & Co., Ltd., Easton St., High Wycombe.—**Terminals &c., Electrical:** Automatic Standard Screw Co., Ltd., Charles St., Halifax; Davis & Timmins, Ltd., York Rd., King's Cross, N.; Croggon & Co., Ltd., Upper Thames St., E.C.; F. Giles & Sons, Scholefield St., Birmingham; L. Herve, Clerkenwell Rd., E.C.; Houghton-Butcher Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Clifford Rd., Walthamstow, N.E.; Ingram & Kemp, Ltd., Newtown Row, Birmingham; Sperry & Co., Moorsom St. Works, Birmingham; C. J. Thurstfield & Co., Ltd., Clement St., Birmingham.—**Tinware:** Bartlett & Digby, Blackfriars Rd., S.E.; G. F. E. Bartlett, 89/91, Harrow Rd., W.; E. Bibb & Sons, Moseley Rd., Birmingham; T. G. Blood, William St. North, Birmingham; F. C. Booth & Co., Ltd., Camden St., Birmingham; Bulpitt & Sons, Ltd., Camden St., Birmingham; C. Collins, Ltd., St. Paul's Sq., Birmingham; H. Davies & Sons, Kenyon St., Manchester; C. Eastgate & Son, Ashford St., Birmingham; Excel Co., Ltd., Carpenter's Rd., Stratford, E.; Farmer & Chapman, Ltd., Caledonian Works, Bilston; T. Fildes, Collyhurst, Manchester; F. Francis & Sons, Ltd., Trundley's Rd., Deptford, S.E.; W. T. French & Son, Ladywood, Birmingham; Granville Tin Plate Co., Cumberland St., Birmingham; Hancock & Corfield, Ltd., Mitcham, Surrey; H. J. Hookham & Sons, Ltd., Charles Henry St., Birmingham; Linley & Co., Eliot St., Birmingham; London Tin Plate and Metal Stamping Co., 384, Old St., E.C.; H. Loveridge & Co., Ltd., Merridale Works, Wolverhampton; H. Miller & Co., Ltd., Aston Brook St., Birmingham; Newton, Shakespeare & Co., Ltd., Garrison Lane, Birmingham; J. & R. Oldfield, Ltd., Mill Lane, Birmingham; Orme, Evans & Co., Ltd., Elgin Works, Wolverhampton; Parkinson & W. & B. Cowan, Ltd., Bell Barn Rd., Birmingham; G. W. Pearce & Sons, Ltd., Chester St., Birmingham; Pinson & Evans, Ltd., Dudley Rd., Wolverhampton; Rippingille's Albion Lamp Co., Ltd., Aston Rd. North, Birmingham; Walters (Wolverhampton), Ltd., Melbourne St., Wolverhampton; Welford & Son, Commercial Rd., Limehouse, E.; T. Wilkes & Sons, Drayton Works, Wolverhampton; G. Wilson, Foleshill Rd., Coventry.—**Tools:** Alldays & Onions Pneumatic Engineering Co., Ltd., Gt. Western Works, Birmingham; Angular Hole Drilling

War Office—continued.

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Daniell, Ltd., Edward St. Parade, Birmingham; Douglas Bros., Ltd., Globe Iron Works, Blaydon-on-Tyne; Drabble & Sanderson, Ebenezer Works, Sheffield; M. Eadon & Sons, Ltd., President Works, Sheffield; T. R. Elin, Footprint Works, Sheffield; J. Evans & Sons, Ltd., Highfield Tool Works, Heeley, Sheffield; T. J. Gardner, Marsh St., Bristol; C. Garlick & Sons, Lynx Works, Sheffield; W. Gilpin, Senr., & Co., Ltd., Churchbridge, Cannock; W. Grady & Son, Fitzwilliam St., Sheffield; R. Green, Ltd., Cokelard Works, Cradley Heath; E. A. & W. Greenslade, Thomas St., Bristol; C. & J. Hampton, Ltd., Attercliffe, Sheffield; Hewitt Bros., Acme Engineering Works, King's Cross Rd., W.C.; Highgate Tool Co., Ltd., Angelina St., Birmingham; Hope Works Co., Shaw Rd., Dudley; C. Howarth & Co., Eldon St., Sheffield; W. Hunt & Sons, The Brades, Ltd., Brades Steel Works, Birmingham; Sir J. Jonas Colver & Co., Ltd., Sheffield; T. 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Rock & Sons, Beecher Works, Cradley, Staffs; Sanderson Bros. & Newbold, Ltd., Newhall Rd., Sheffield; F. & H. Shaw & Bro., Alfreton, Derby; R. T. Shelly, Ltd., Aston Brook St., Birmingham; Slack, Sellars & Co., Ltd., Townhead Works, Sheffield; I. & D. Smallwood, Leopold St., Birmingham; J. H. Smith, Roway Works, Oldbury; R. Sorby & Sons, Ltd., Trafalgar St., Sheffield; Spear & Jackson, Ltd., Aetna Works, Sheffield; Steel Nut & J. Hampton, Ltd., Wednesbury; J. H. Swift & Sons, Ltd., Penistone Rd., Sheffield; Taylor Bros., Adelaide Works, Sheffield; C. Taylor's Sheffield Tools, Ltd., Bishop St., Sheffield; Tyzack & Holmes, Cavendish St., Sheffield; J. Tyzack & Son, Ltd., Valley Rd., Heeley, Sheffield; W. Tyzack, Sons & Turner, Ltd., Little London Works, Sheffield; T. Wales & Sons, Ltd., Queen's Rd., Sheffield; Wardsend Steel Co., Wadsley Bridge, Sheffield; J. Wilkinson, Junr. (Dudley), Ltd., Freebodies Works, Dudley; J. 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Nash & Sons, Ltd., Wollaston Mills, Stourbridge; J. Potts & Son, Old Hill, Staffs; C. Thomas & Co., Ltd., Aston Manor, Birmingham; G. Wolfe & Sons, Ltd., West Lothian Works, Bathgate; Yardley & Co. (Stourbridge), Ltd., Stamber Mills, Stourbridge.—**Towels**: Barker & Co., Ltd., Springfield Towel Works, Stockport; Barlow & Jones, Ltd., 2, Portland St., Manchester; Isherwood Bros. (Radcliffe), Ltd., Spider Mill, Radcliffe, Manchester; J. Johnson, Hodgkinson & Pearson, Ltd., 105/7, Portland St., Manchester; J. Smith, Hargreaves & Co., Ltd., 11, Fountain St., Manchester; W. T. Taylor & Co., Ltd., Horwich, Bolton.—**Unions, Hose**: E. Deane & Beal, Ltd., Old Kent Rd., S.E.; Hartcliffe, Lee & Malkin, Ltd., St. Simon St., Salford, Manchester; Maynell & Sons, Ltd., Montrose St., Wolverhampton.—**Valises and Bags, Tent**: W. S. Cox, Redcliffe St., Bristol; Crompton & Tompson, Ltd., Denmark St., E.; J. Dean, High St., Putney, S.W.; C. Groom, Ltd., Dod St., Weston St., E.; J. 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War Office—continued.

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H.M. Stationery Office—continued.

Rissen, Ltd., Clerkenwell House, Clerkenwell Green, E.C. Printing, Binding, &c., 1,250,000 Army Form Index Cards; printing, &c., 250,000 Pads, Army Form: Johnson, Riddle & Co., 32, Southwark Bridge Rd., S.E. Printing, Binding, Ruling, &c., 3,500 Books "S257"; 1,500 Books; printing, binding, &c., 19,000 copies "Bound Volumes": J. Truscott & Sons, Ltd., Tonbridge. Printing, &c., 150,000 W. S. Cert. Books; 250,000 Books, Form "No. 58": Hazell, Watson & Viney, Ltd., 4/6, Kirby St., Hatter Garden, E.C. Printing, Binding, &c., 8,000 Books, Army Form: Hood & Co., Ltd., St. Bride Works, Borough Rd., Middlesbrough. Printing, &c., 750,000 W. S. Cert. Books: S. J. Frazer & Co., 84/6, Tabernacle St., Finsbury, E.C. Printing, &c., 500,000 W. S. Cert. Books; 11,000 Books, Army Form; 105,000 Army Books; printing, binding, ruling, &c., 600 Army Books: Waterlow & Sons, Ltd., Paul St., Finsbury, E.C. Printing, &c., 100,000 W. S. Cert. Books: Waterlow, Bros. & Layton, Ltd., Broken Wharf, Upper Thames St., E.C. Printing, &c., 500,000 W. S. Cert. Books: Raukin Bros., Trenchard St., Bristol. Printing, &c., 8,000 Books, Army Form; 3,400 Pads "R365. M.F.3": Charles & Sons, 4, Emerson St., E.C. Printing, &c., 13,000 Books, Army Form; 28,000 Books, Army Form; Goddard, Walker & Brown, Suffolk Buildings, Silver St., Hull. Printing, &c., 500,000 Books "List of Principal Streets in London": Hayman, Christy & Lilly, Ltd., 113/117, Farringdon St., E.C. Printing, &c., 250,000 Books, Form No. 58: Howard & Jones, Ltd., Bury St., St. Mary Axe, E.C. Printing, &c., 60,000 Contract Ledgers, "M.F.1.1.": Barclay & Fry, Ltd., The Grove, Southwark St., S.E. Printing, Binding, &c., 50,000 "Ships' Blue Books": J. Line & Sons, Southall Mills, Southall. Printing, binding, &c., 19,000 copies Bound Volumes; 22,500 copies "Infantry Machine-Gun Training"; 20,000 copies "Infantry Training, 1914": T. N. Egleton & Sons, The Broadway Bindery, Waltham Green, S.W. Printing, &c., 6,000 books in 2 sorts, Army Form: Drake, Driver & Leaver, Ltd., Rosebery Avenue, E.C. Printing, binding, ruling, &c., 2,500 books, "S560"; 600 Check & Pay Books; printing, binding, &c., 75,000 Army Books: Burrup, Mathieson & Sprague, Ltd., 114, Southwark St., S.E. Printing, &c., 50,000 pads, Army Form: The Hills Press, Holmside, Sunderland. Printing, &c., 100,000 pads, Army Form: The Educational Publishing Co., Ltd., Trade St., Cardiff. Printing, &c., 100,000 pads, Army Form: Cartwright & Rattray, Caxton Press, Mary St., Hyde. Printing, &c., 20,000 books, Army Form: J. Worrall, Ltd., Central Works, Oldham. Making 3,000 Loose Leaf Binders, 14½ in. by 9 in.: Moore's Modern Methods, Ltd., 12, St. Bride St., E.C. Printing, &c., 16,000 "Tide Tables" for U.K. (Part I): Wightman & Co., Ltd., 104, Regency St., S.W. Printing, binding, ruling, &c., 600 Ledgers: Clements, Newling & Co., Ltd., Chiswell St., E.C. Printing, binding, &c., 2,100,000 Army Forms; 20,000 copies "Infantry Training, 1914"; 22,500 "Infantry Machine-Gun Training"; Suttley & Silverlock, Ltd., 92, Blackfriars Rd., S.E., and Newcomen St., S.E. Printing, &c., 45,000 pads, Army Form; 10,000 pads, "Postmasters, No. 119"; McAra & Whiteman, Ltd., Peartree St., Goswell Rd., E.C. Printing, binding, &c., 7,000 copies Handbook of "6-in. B. L. Gun Mark 7 &c."; Fisher Bookbinding Co., Ltd., Herne Hill, S.E. Printing, binding, &c., 8,000 Sargisson Training; 20,000 "Infantry Training, 1914": Davison Clark & Co., 16-20, Underwood St., S.E. Printing, binding, &c., 20,000 copies "Infantry Training, 1914": Leighton & Hodge, Ltd., 16, New St. Sq., E.C. Printing, binding, &c., 40,000 copies "Infantry Training, 1914": A. Straker & Sons (Smith Bros., Ltd.), 4, Carmelite St., E.C. Printing, binding, &c., 60,000 copies "Infantry Training, 1914": Key & Whiting, Ltd., Canonbury Rd., N. Printing, &c., 500,000 War Savings Cert. Books: Harrison, Jehring & Co., Ltd., 11, Emerald St., W.C. Printing 1,000,000 "D.R. 17": Cassell & Co., Ltd., La Belle Sauvage, E.C. Printing, &c., 60,000 books, Army Form: W. S. Cowell, Ltd., Butter Market, Ipswich. Printing, &c., 16,000 Tide Tables, Part II.: The Courier Press, Leamington. Printing, &c., 1,000,000 N.S.V.W.: W. H. Smith & Sons, Stamford St., S.E.—**Stores and Miscellaneous**: Envelopes of Various Descriptions: J. Dickinson & Co., Ltd., Hemel Hempstead, Herts; Thorburn, Bain & Co., Ltd., Broadwell, Stamford St., S.E.; Chapman & Co., Grove Mills, Balham, S.W.; J. Spicer & Sons, Ltd., 50, Upper Thames St., E.C.—**Carbons**: Silkate, Ltd., 273, Union St., Blackfriars, S.E.; Cooke's, Micrograph Co., Ltd., 29, Mitre St., E.C.; Ellams Duplicator Co., Ltd., 18a, Gt. Allie St., Aldgate.—**Cards**: J. Spicer & Sons, Ltd., Red Cross St., S.E.; J. Dickinson & Co., Ltd., Hemel Hempstead, Herts; Kenrick & Jefferson, Ltd., Miltigrath Works, West Bromwich; Fordham & Co., Tudor Works, Hackney; Spicer Bros., Ltd., New Bridge St., E.C.; Spalding & Hodge, Ltd., Drury House, Drury Lane, W.C.—**Labels**: Cooper, Dennison & Walkden, Ltd., Verney Rd., S.E.

INDIA OFFICE: STORE DEPARTMENT.

Brackets: Bullers, Ltd., 6, Laurence Pountney Hill, E.C.—**Cable**: Callender's Cable, &c., Co., Hamilton House, Victoria Embankment, E.C.—**Cells**: Siemens Bros. & Co., Woolwich, S.E.—**Cloth**: British Fulviusin Co., Newton St., Manchester.—**Dyes**: Levinstein & Co., Blackley, Manchester; British Dyes, Ltd., King's House, Kingsway, W.C.—**Dynamo**: Lancashire Dynamo, &c., Co., Trafford Park, Manchester.—**Insulators**: Bullers, Ltd., 6, Laurence Pountney Hill, E.C.; Taylor, Tunnicliff & Co., Eastwood, Hanley.—**Paper**: Hollingworth & Co., Maidstone.—**Stalks**: Bullers, Ltd., 6, Laurence Pountney Hill, E.C.—**Steel Sheets**: J. Lysaght, Ltd., 36, Gracechurch St., E.C.—**Telephones**:

India Office, Store Department—continued.

Peel Conner Telephone Works, Ltd., Midland Bank Chambers, Queen Victoria St., E.C.—**Thread**: Barbour & Sons, Lisburn.—**Wire**: T. Bolton & Sons, Oakamoor Works, Cheadle; F. Smith & Co., Caledonia Works, Halifax; Dorman, Long & Co., Middlesbrough; R. Johnson & Nephew, Bradford Ironworks, Manchester; Rylands Bros., Warrington; Shropshire Iron Co., Hadley, Salop.

H.M. OFFICE OF WORKS.

Building Works, &c.: Australia House, Strand, W.C., Partitions, &c.: Dove Bros., Ltd., Cloudeley Place, Islington, N. Charles Street, Haymarket, Erection of Temporary Accommodation for War Office Intelligence Department: Hall, Beddall & Co., Pitfield Wharf, S.E. Chelsea, Erection of a Canteen for Ministry of Pensions: Herbert Hann, 40, High St., Colliers Wood, Merton, S.W. Liverpool and District, Ordinary Works and Repairs: John Williams, 70, Collingwood St., Liverpool. London District, Erection of Semi-Permanent Huts: Joseph Dorey & Co., Ltd., Brentford, W.; J. Wallis & Co., Troy Mills, West Hyde, Rickmansworth; Alfred Hunt, Hoddesdon, Herts; Walter Lawrence & Son, 19, Finsbury Square, E.C. Portugal Street, W.C., Erection of Additional Storey to North and West Blocks, Postal Censor's Office: Higgs & Hill, Ltd., Crown Works, South Lambeth Rd., S.W. Sheffield, Ordinary Works and Repairs: Ash, Son & Biggin, Ltd., 25, Union Lane, Furnival St., Moorhead, Sheffield. Windsor District, Ordinary Works and Repairs: Hollis & Sons, 59, St. Leonards Rd., Windsor. Smiths, &c., Works: Wellman Bros. & Co., 42, Peaseod St., Windsor.—**Engineering Services**: Chelsea, Duke of York's School, Installation of Heating and Hot Water Service at Temporary Building for Pensions Department: W. Watkin & Son, 243a, High Rd., Wood Green, N.—**Furniture**: Chairs: B. North & Sons, 90, City Rd., E.C. Cases of Pigeonholes: Arthur Foulds, Spencer Works, St. John's Hill, S.W.; J. Gerrard & Sons, Ltd., Swinton, Manchester. Forms: The Waltham Cross Joinery Co., High Rd., Waltham Cross, N. Presses (Stationery): Higgs & Hill, Ltd., Crown Works, South Lambeth Rd., S.E. Screens (Draught): W. Bonfield, 20, Hankinson Rd., Winton, Bournemouth. Tables, Folding: Rippers, Ltd., Castle Hedingham, Essex. Tables, Folding: Trestle: Davies Bros. (Walthamstow), Ltd., Blackhorse Lane, Walthamstow, N.E.; George Blay, New Malden, S.W. Tables, Trestle: Forster, Brotherton & Co., Ltd., Bridge End Saw Mills, Stockton-on-Tees; The Midland Joinery Works, Snow Hill, Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire. Tables, Writing: John Walsh, Ltd., 44/64, High St., Sheffield; Richard Stone & Sons, Ltd., Crown Works, Wellington, Salop.—**Miscellaneous**: Central London Parks, Supply of Horses and Harness, Drivers, Carts and Vans: Phillips, Mills & Co., Ltd., Bridge Wharf, 16, Wellington Rd., Battersea, S.W. Greenwich Park, Supply of Horses and Harness, Drivers, Carts and Vans: F. & H. J. Weston, Octavius St., Deptford, S.E. London and District (Whitehall "A" Section), Chimney Sweeping: Phillips & Lewis, 89, Lillington St., Vauxhall Bridge Rd., S.W. London and District (Whitehall "B" Section), Chimney Sweeping: E. F. Duffin, 49, Crowndale Rd., Camden Town, N.W. London and District (North and South Sections), Window Cleaning: Great Metropolitan Window Cleaning Co., Ltd., 75, Kinnerston St., Knightsbridge, S.W.

POST OFFICE.

Apparatus, Telephonic: British L. M. Ericsson Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Beeston, Notts; Peel Conner Telephone Works, Ltd., Salford, Manchester; Walters Electrical Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Kensal Rd., W.10; Western Electric Co., Ltd., North Woolwich, E.16.—**Arm-Grips for Wood Poles**: Bayliss, Jones & Bayliss, Ltd., Northampton; Bullers, Ltd., Tipton, Staffs.—**Arms, Wood**: British Australian Timber Co., Ltd., Silvertown, E.16; T. Gabriel & Sons & Burtons, Lambeth, S.E.1; W. F. Holloway & Bros., Liverpool.—**Bodies and Covers for Insulators**: Taylor, Tunnicliff & Co., Ltd., Stoke-on-Trent.—**Boxes, Packing**: Priddy & Hale, Ltd., Rotherhithe, S.E.16.—**Cable, Submarine**: Telegraph Construction and Maintenance Co., Ltd., Greenwich, S.E.10.—**Cable, Telegraphic**: British Insulated & Helsby Cables, Ltd., Helsby, Cheshire, and Prescott; Henley's Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., North Woolwich, E.16; Johnson & Phillips, Ltd., Charlton, S.E.7; St. Helen's Cable & Rubber Co., Ltd., Warrington; Telegraph Construction & Maintenance Co., Ltd., Wharf Rd., N.1; Union Cable Co., Ltd., Dagenham Dock, Essex.—**Cable, Telephonic**: Peel Conner Telephone Works, Ltd., Salford, Manchester; Western Electric Co., Ltd., North Woolwich, E.16.—**Cases, Packing**: W. Bridgewater & Sons, Birmingham.—**Castings, Brass**: A. D. Foulkes, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Chloride of Manganese**: Thomas & Strachan, Liverpool.—**Clothing, Uniform**: J. Compton & Sons, Ltd., Old Ford, E.3, and Swindon, Wilts; J. Hammond & Co., Ltd., Newcastle, Staffs, Crewe and Nantwich; H. Lotery & Co., Ltd., St. Mary St., E.1; Myers & Co., Cambridge Rd., E.2; C. & J. Webb, Ltd., Burdett Rd., E.14.—**Coating Castings with Ebonite**: India Rubber, Gutta Percha & Telegraph Works, Co., Ltd., Silvertown, E.16.—**Cords, Telephone**: British Insulated & Helsby Cables, Ltd., Helsby, Cheshire; Western Electric Co., Ltd., North Woolwich, E.16.—**Creosoting**: A. Bruce & Co., Leven, Fife.—**Drums, Wire**: Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., Woolwich, S.E.18.—**Forms for War Savings Certificates**: Harrison & Sons, St. Martin's Lane, W.C.2; Waterlow & Sons, Ltd., Finsbury, E.C.2.—**Manganese**: S. G. Bailey & Co., Ltd., Stroud, Glos.—**Mouthpieces, Telephone**: Crystalate Manufacturing Co., Ltd.,

Post Office—continued.

Tonbridge.—**Paper, Telegraph:** Colley's Patents, Ltd., Bermondsey, S.E.1; W. Joynson & Son, St. Mary Cray, Kent; Reid Bros. Engineers Ltd., Wharf Rd., N.1; Waterlow & Sons, Ltd., Old Ford E.3, and Peckham Grove, S.E.15.—**Rings, Felt:** Bullers, Ltd., Tipton, Staffs.—**Rods, Pruning:** Cakebread, Robey & Co., Wood Green, N.22.—**Solder:** E. Austin & Sons, Hackney Wick, E.9.—**Spindles, Insulator:** Bullers, Ltd., Tipton, Staffs.—**Telephones:** Peel Conner Telephone Works, Ltd., Salford, Manchester.—**Wax, Sealing:** Waterston & Sons, Ltd., Edinburgh.—**Wire, Bronze:** Shropshire Iron Co., Ltd., Hadley, Salop.—**Conveyance of Mails:** Bryant & Sons, Ripon.

H.M. PRISON COMMISSION.

Bacon: J. F. Percival, Ltd., Valentine Place, Blackfriars Rd., S.E.—**Belts, &c., Materials for:** North, Taylor & Son, 10/11, Station St., Walsall; Pocock Bros., 235, Southwark Bridge Rd., S.E.—**Boards, &c., for Brushmaking:** J. Griffin, 270, Tabard St., S.E.; Pryke & Palmer, 40/41, Upper Thames St., E.C.—**Boots and Shoes:** Adams Bros., Raunds, Wellingborough; Wilkins & Denton, Ltd., 298/304, Bishopsgate, E.C.—**Brushmaking Materials:** W. Barbour & Sons, Ltd., Hilden, Lisburn, Ireland; J. Clark, Abbey Lane, Stratford, E.; The Colonial Produce Co., Ltd., 81, Great Tower St., E.C.; J. Griffin, 270, Tabard St., S.E.; J. Hamilton & Co., Ltd., Hull; Pryke & Palmer, 40/41, Upper Thames St., E.C.; Shaws, Ltd., 86, Miller St., Manchester; S. Toye & Co., 18, Heneage Lane, E.C.—**Butter, Cheese and Margarine:** J. F. Percival, Ltd., Valentine Place, Blackfriars Rd., S.E.—**Caps, Uniform:** Milns, Cartwright, Reynolds & Co., Ltd., 69/72, Hatfield St., S.E.—**Coats, Waterproof:** Milns, Cartwright, Reynolds & Co., Ltd., 69/72, Hatfield St., S.E.—**Cotton Materials:** Barlow & Jones, Ltd., 2, Portland St., Manchester; J. Johnson, 2a, China Lane, Piccadilly, Manchester; Milns, Cartwright, Reynolds & Co., Ltd., 69/72, Hatfield St., Southwark, S.E.; J. Thomas & Co., Ltd., 3, Chepstow St., Manchester; Woods, Sons & Co., 62/3, Queen St., E.C.—**Earthenware, Leadless Glaze:** Mintons, Ltd., Stoke-on-Trent.—**Gas Mantles:** Plaissetty Manufacturing Co., Parkfield Works, Leyton, E.—**Grindery:** W. Barbour & Sons, Ltd., 41, Royal Avenue, Belfast; Lindsay, Thompson & Co., Ltd., Linen Thread Mills, Belfast; Pocock Bros., 235, Southwark Bridge Rd., S.E.; Pryke & Palmer, 40/41, Upper Thames St., E.C.—**Haberdashery, &c.:** Ainsworth & Sons, Ltd., Cleator, Cumberland; W. Barbour & Sons, Ltd., Hilden, Lisburn, Ireland; R. H. Barker & Co., Rutland Mills, Wakefield; J. Bond (London), Ltd., 75, Southgate Rd., N.; J. Grove & Sons, Ltd., Bloomfield Works, Halesowen; Milns, Cartwright, Reynolds & Co., Ltd., 69/72, Hatfield St., Southwark, S.E.; J. F. Percival, Ltd., Valentine Place, Blackfriars Rd., S.E.; Newey Bros., Ltd., 105, Brearley St., Birmingham; A. Shrimpton & Sons, Ltd., Britannia Works, Redditch.—**Hemp, Jute and Linen Materials:** W. Ewart & Sons, Ltd., 9, Bedford St., Belfast; Milns, Cartwright, Reynolds & Co., Ltd., 69/72, Hatfield St., Southwark, S.E.; Stevenson & Son, Ltd., Dungannon, Co. Tyrone; Woods, Sons & Co., 62/3, Queen St., E.C.; The York Street Flax Spinning Co., Ltd., Belfast.—**Ironmongery:** Pryke & Palmer, 40/41, Upper Thames St., E.C.—**Leather:** Handford, Greatrex & Co., Whittimere St., Walsall; Pocock Bros., 235, Southwark Bridge Rd., S.E.—**Mailbag Canvas:** The Boase Spinning Co., Ltd., Dundee; T. Briggs (London), Ltd., 2, Budge Row, E.C.; Lamb & Scott, Ltd., Brechin; Richards, Ltd., Broadford Works, Aberdeen; W. Ritchie & Son, 3, East India Avenue, E.C.—**Mailbag Sundries:** Ainsworth & Sons, Ltd., Cleator, Cumberland; Barton & Sons,

H.M. Prison Commission—continued.

Ltd., Beehive Works, Walsall; Bodill, Parker & Co., Ltd., Gt. Hampton Row, Birmingham; T. Briggs (London), Ltd., 2, Budge Row, E.C.; J. Dewsbury & Son, Ltd., Littleton St., Walsall; J. H. Hawkins & Co., Ltd., 16, Station St., Walsall; W. J. Knox, Ltd., Kilbirnie, Ayrshire; H. Moseley & Sons, Bath St. Works, Walsall; Newey Bros., Ltd., 105, Brearley St., Birmingham; H. W. Walker, 2, Fenchurch Avenue, E.C.—**Oatmeal:** G. T. Cox & Sons, Ltd., King William St., E.C.; A. E. Taylor, Albert Rd., Dalston, E.—**Oilman's Stores:** Pryke & Palmer, 40/41, Upper Thames St., E.C.—**Rope, Twine, &c.:** T. Briggs (London), Ltd., 2, Budge Row, E.C.; J. T. Davis, Ltd., Coborn Rd., Bow, E.; T. S. Donne & Sons, Castle Cary, Somerset.—**Soap:** Price's Patent Candle Co., Ltd., Belmont Works, Battersea, S.W.; J. Watson & Sons, Ltd., Whitehall Rd., Leeds.—**Tin Plates:** Brooker, Dore & Co., 5, Fenchurch St., E.C.; C. Hatton & Co., 107, Upper Thames St., E.C.—**Tools, &c.:** Baxendale & Co., Ltd., Miller St., Manchester; Pryke & Palmer, 40/41, Upper Thames St., E.C.; H. Woolley & Sons, Birmingham Rd., Redditch.—**Uniform Cloths:** Colbeck Bros., Ltd., Alverthorpe Mills, Wakefield; W. & T. Huggan, Bramley, Leeds; Strachan & Co., Ltd., Lodgemoor Mills, Stroud, Glos.; P. Womersley & Sons, Waterloo Mills, Pudsey, Leeds.—**Uniform, Making Up:** Milns, Cartwright, Reynolds & Co., 69/72, Hatfield St., S.E.—**Weaving Gear:** Baxter & Thrippleton, Kirkstall, Leeds; Milner & Firth, Ltd., Manor Mills, Yeadon.—**Weaving Materials, Cotton, &c.:** T. Briggs (London), Ltd., 2, Budge Row, E.C.; Cox Bros., Ltd., Dundee; Hoare, Marr & Co., 26/7, Budge Row, E.C.; Hollick Bros. & Abbott, Ltd., 26, Martin's Lane, E.C.—**Weaving Materials, Woolen:** W. Walker & Sons, Ltd., Kiln Mill, Watergate, Dewsbury.

METROPOLITAN POLICE.

Oilskin Capes and other Waterproof Articles for one year from 1st July, 1917: Abbott, Anderson & Abbott, Ltd., Dod St., Limehouse, E.14; Macbean & Co., Ltd., 123, Howard St., Glasgow.—**Hydraulic Power for Lifts at New Scotland Yard (Supply by Meter):** London Hydraulic Power Co., Hatfield St., S.E.1.

COMMISSIONERS OF PUBLIC WORKS, IRELAND.

Bedding, Supplies of: Millar & Beatty, Ltd., 13 and 14, Grafton St., Dublin.—**Carpets, Linoleum, &c., Supplies of:** Millar & Beatty, Ltd., 13 and 14, Grafton St., Dublin.—**Electrical Works and Supplies:** J. F. Keatinge & Sons, Ltd., 42, Grafton St., Dublin.—**Gasfitting and Ironmongery Supplies, Sligo District:** Francis Nelson, 42, Castle St., Sligo.

ROYAL IRISH CONSTABULARY.

Badges and Chevrons: Pipe & McGill, Ltd., 27, Maiden Lane, Strand, W.C.—**Blankets:** Hepworths & Haley, Ltd., New Wakefield Mills, Dewsbury.—**Sheets:** Todd, Burns & Co., Ltd., 47, Mary St., Dublin.

H.M. CUSTOMS AND EXCISE.

To Supply Coal for London Launches during the year ending 31st March, 1918: Wm. Cory & Son, Ltd., 52, Mark Lane, E.C.