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EMPLOYMENT, WAGES, COST OF LIVING, AND TRADE DISPUTES IN JULY.

EMPLOYMENT.

EMPLOYMENT in July remained bad on the whole, and a large number of works remained closed or were only partially working owing to the continued effect of the coal stoppage. The industries most seriously affected were those dependent upon large supplies of coal, *e.g.*, pig-iron, iron and steel, tinplate and pottery manufacture, as well as engineering and shipbuilding, but in the tinplate, engineering and shipbuilding industries there was a slight recovery during July. In the building trades and in agriculture employment was generally good with skilled workers. In the tailoring trade there was a seasonal decline.

Among the workpeople (numbering approximately 11,900,000) insured against unemployment under the Unemployment Insurance Acts, in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the percentage unemployed at 26th July, 1926, was 14·6,* as compared with 14·7* at 21st June, 1926, and 11·2 at 27th July, 1925. Among the members of those trade unions from which returns were received, the percentage unemployed was 13·2 at the end of July, 1926, compared with 12·9 at the end of June, 1926, and with 11·2 at the end of July, 1925. The total number of applicants for employment registered at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland at 26th July, 1926, was approximately 1,664,000, of whom 1,226,000 were men and 344,000 were women, the remainder being boys and girls; at 28th June, 1926, it was 1,699,000, of whom 1,262,000 were men and 346,000 were women; and at 27th July, 1925, it was 1,262,000, of whom 948,000 were men and 246,000 were women. The figures relating to June, 1926, and July, 1926, are exclusive of workpeople in the coal-mining industry who ceased work on account of the dispute.

WAGES.

In the industries for which statistics are regularly compiled by the Department, the changes in rates of wages reported to have come into operation during July resulted in a reduction of £21,700 in the weekly full-time wages of about 310,000 workpeople, and in an increase of £4,400 in those of 130,000 workpeople.

The largest group of workpeople whose wages were reduced were railway traffic workers, various classes of whom sustained a reduction of 1s. per week. Other important bodies of workpeople who sustained reductions included wire-drawers, bobbin makers, men employed by electrical contractors, iron miners in Cumber-

* These percentages include coal mining, those miners who were not disqualified for benefit under the Unemployment Insurance Acts by reason of the dispute being taken as unemployed for the purpose of the percentage, but not those who ceased work owing to the dispute. In other industries (excluding coal mining) the percentage of unemployment at 26th July was 15·3, the same percentage as at 21st June.

land, workpeople employed in the seed-crushing and oil-milling industry, coal tippers, men employed by waterworks and electricity undertakings in various districts, and workpeople employed in the non-trading services of various local authorities in Lancashire and Cheshire.

Increases in wages affected principally workpeople in the textile bleaching, dyeing, etc. industries in Yorkshire, Lancashire and Scotland, iron miners and blast-furnacemen in Cleveland, iron and steel workers in South Wales, and electric cable makers.

During the first seven months of 1926 the changes reported to the Department, in the industries for which statistics have been compiled, have resulted in net increases amounting to £12,900 in the weekly full-time wages of 106,000 workpeople, and in net reductions of £84,000 in those of 925,000 workpeople.

COST OF LIVING.

At 31st July the average level of retail prices of all the commodities taken into account in the statistics compiled by the Ministry of Labour (including food, rent, clothing, fuel, light and miscellaneous items) was approximately 70 per cent. above that of July, 1914, as compared with 70 per cent. a month ago and 73 per cent. a year ago. The corresponding figures for food alone were 61, 61 and 68 respectively.

The only important movements in retail prices during July were increases in the prices of coal and eggs and decreases in those of potatoes.

These statistics are designed to indicate the average increase in the cost of maintaining unchanged the pre-war standard of living of working-class families, and accordingly, in making the calculations, the changes in the prices of the various items included are combined in proportions corresponding with the relative importance of those items in pre-war working-class family expenditure.

TRADE DISPUTES.

The general stoppage of work in the coal-mining industry, which began on 1st May, continued throughout July and involved over one million workpeople in that industry in a loss of about 23 million working days in July. The aggregate number of working days lost by workpeople taking part in this dispute was about 66 million up to the end of July. A special article on the subject of this dispute appears on pages 280-3 of this issue of the GAZETTE.

Apart from the coal-mining dispute, the number of trade disputes, involving stoppages of work, reported to the Department as beginning in July was 10; in addition, 14 disputes which began before July were still in progress at the beginning of the month. The total number of workpeople involved in these 24 disputes (including those thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, though not themselves parties to the disputes) was about 2,000, and the estimated aggregate duration of such disputes during July was about 18,000 working days.

COAL-MINING INDUSTRY DISPUTE.

On 30th June, 1925, the Mining Association of Great Britain gave notice to the Miners' Federation of Great Britain of the termination at midnight on 31st July, of the Wages Agreement between the parties dated 18th June, 1924, and on 1st July they presented to the Miners' Federation their proposals for a new Wages Agreement, these proposals involving terms less favourable than those previously in operation. Subsequently, owing to the rejection of these proposals by the Miners' Federation and the consequent deadlock which threatened to take place, a Court of Inquiry under the Industrial Courts Act was appointed under the Chairmanship of the Rt. Hon. H. P. Macmillan, K.C., M.A., LL.D. As a result of the Report presented by this Court and after further negotiations, the Government announced that they had decided to appoint a Royal Commission to enquire into and report upon the economic position of the Coal Industry and the conditions affecting it, which should report before May, 1926; and in the meantime to assist the industry by filling, by means of a subvention, the gap which lay between the level of wages provided by the minimum provisions of the National Wages Agreement of 1924, and the lower level of wages which would result from the colliery owners' proposals of 1st July, 1925.* The Royal Commission was appointed accordingly by Royal Warrant of 5th September, 1925, and sat under the Chairmanship of the Rt. Hon. Sir Herbert Samuel, G.B.E. Its report (Cmd. 2600) was issued on the 6th March, 1926.†

On 24th March, the Prime Minister met representatives of the owners and of the miners and informed them that the Government would be prepared to undertake such measures as might be required of the State to give effect to the recommendations of the Report, provided that those engaged in the industry would agree to accept those recommendations and carry on the industry on that basis. He also stated that though the subsidy which had been granted to the industry would cease on 30th April, he would be willing, provided an agreement could be reached by 1st May, to consider the question of temporary assistance in order to ease the position in certain districts, where considerable sacrifices would be required. The following list of the recommendations of the Report involving Government action was issued after the meeting:—

- (1) Further assistance by Government in the investigation of processes of low-temperature carbonisation.
- (2) Establishment of a National Fuel and Power Council.
- (3) Provision for research to be largely extended by the industry with the support of the State.
- (4) The promotion of desirable amalgamations by provision for compulsory transfer of interests under existing leases where desirable amalgamations are prevented by the dissent of some of the parties or their unreasonable claims.
- (5) The State purchase of royalties.
- (6) Provision for a contribution to the Welfare Fund from royalties.
- (7) The granting of power to local authorities to engage in the retail sale of coal.
- (8) The establishment of a Standing Joint Committee of the Ministry of Transport and Mines Department to promote measures to secure the adoption of larger mineral wagons on the railways and a greater concentration of ownership of wagons.
- (9) Statutory provision for profit sharing schemes providing for the distribution to workmen of shares in coal-mining undertakings.
- (10) Provision for such modification in the law governing hours of labour as the owners and men might agree.
- (11) Provision by the Government of facilities for the transfer of displaced labour and the provision of funds for this purpose.
- (12) Consideration of the regulations governing the qualifications of mine managers.
- (13) Provision for compulsory pit-head baths to be financed from the Welfare Fund.
- (14) The establishment of Joint Pit Committees.

Subsequently there were several meetings between representatives of the owners and the miners and on 1st April the owners issued a statement embodying their attitude with regard to the recommendations of the Royal Commission. In general they expressed their willingness "to conform to such measures as Parliament might enact" and stated that so far as the recommendations which called for action by the owners were concerned, their desire was to do their utmost to give effect to the objects aimed at, if a settlement by agreement could thereby be reached. As regards the recommendation in the report that "they should not refuse to engage in discussion on a national footing," they stated that although they had strongly pressed upon the Commission as a point of fundamental importance their view that it was in the best interests of the industry that negotiations should be conducted on a purely district basis, they agreed to accept the recommendation. They stated that accordingly they had already invited the miners' representatives to meet them nationally with a view to the formulation of a National Wages Agreement. They suggested that the two sides should proceed at once to consider the general principles to be incorporated in the Agreement, which would include the ratio between profits and wages, the details of the method of ascertainment and the definition of proceeds and of the items of

costs of production. They further accepted the principle of a minimum percentage on basis rates in each district and proposed that the amount of this percentage and the amount of subsistence wages for lower-paid men should be referred to District Associations, but were prepared to agree that the amounts of the minimum percentages settled in the various districts should be submitted to the National Conference for approval. While remaining convinced that the return to longer working hours was imperative to restore prosperity to the industry, in face of the emphatic declarations of the miners' representatives against this, they were anxious to consider with the miners the recommendations that working time should be defined by the week instead of by the day and that greater flexibility might be provided in the working hours.

The miners did not at once make any formal declaration of their attitude towards the recommendations of the Report, but on 1st April the Executive of the Miners' Federation issued a statement in which they complained that the owners had refused to disclose their intentions regarding wages. "The refusal of the Owners to consider the fixation of a National Minimum Percentage and their insistence upon all wages being the concern of the districts themselves have constituted an almost insurmountable obstacle to an amicable settlement. . . . With the present inadequate wages of the mine workers, the Federation cannot be expected to consent to any further lowering thereof, or to the limitation of the functions of the National Board, or the abolition of the National Minimum Percentage."

On 9th April a delegate meeting of the Miners' Federation was held, at which it was announced that as a result of meetings which had been held between representatives of the Miners' Federation and the Industrial Committee of the Trades Union Congress General Council, the following resolution had been passed by that body:—

"That having discussed with the representatives of the Miners' Federation the present position in the Mining Industry with special reference to the views of the Miners on the Coal Owners' statement of their attitude in regard to the Report of the Royal Commission, this Industrial Committee reaffirms its previous declaration in support of the Miners' efforts to obtain an equitable settlement of outstanding difficulties. The Industrial Committee is of opinion that negotiations between the Mining Association and the Miners' Federation should be continued without delay in order to obtain a clear understanding with regard to the Report of the Royal Commission to reduce points of difference to the smallest possible dimensions. This Committee holds itself available to assist in any way possible to reach a satisfactory settlement."

At this delegate meeting of the Miners' Federation the following resolution was carried unanimously:—

- (a) that no assent be given to any proposal for increasing the length of the working day;
- (b) that the principle of a national wage agreement with a national minimum percentage be firmly adhered to;
- (c) that, inasmuch as wages are already too low, we cannot assent to any proposals for reducing wages;

these recommendations to be remitted to the districts for their immediate consideration and decision, after which a further delegate conference be called as speedily as possible for the purpose of arriving at a final decision."

On 13th April there was a further meeting between representatives of the owners and the miners at which the miners presented a statement setting forth their attitude towards various recommendations in the Report. They welcomed "the statement of the Commission that all practicable means for improving the organisation of the industry must be adopted as speedily as possible. They have asked both the Government and the Owners that schemes or plans to this effect shall be laid before them, but have so far received no definite answer." As regards the making of a new Wages Agreement they stated that "the Miners entirely disagreed with the suggestion that the minimum percentage should be settled in the districts," and their views in so far as accorded with those of the Commission. But they considered that "no useful purpose would be served by referring the question to the districts to frame proposals, as, in their view, the national bodies are fully competent to deal with the matter on a uniform basis and should do so without delay." As regards amalgamations they thought the recommendations of the Commission "not sufficiently definite in character to achieve the object aimed at." Otherwise they were largely in agreement with the recommendations; and as regards other main points under discussion their attitude was that expressed in the resolutions quoted above.

No progress was made towards an agreement and on the following day the owners issued a statement to the effect that the owners in the districts would proceed to invite the workers' organisations in the districts to consider with them the amounts of minimum percentages and subsistence wages. As no agreement had been reached as to the terms on which the mines would be operated after the termination of the subsidy on 30th April, the mine owners, on 15th April, posted notices at the majority of the collieries intimating the termination of the existing agreement on 30th April, but announcing that work would be available immediately on terms which had yet to be negotiated, but which would be published before that date.

In the meantime the Industrial Committee of the Trades Union Congress General Council had passed a resolution protesting against the owners' action "in abandoning national negotiations and in attempting to open negotiations with the districts" and reiterating its previous declaration "to render the miners the fullest support in resisting the degradation of their standard of life, and in obtaining an equitable settlement of the case with regard to wages, hours and national agreements." This resolution was reported to the

Prime Minister. On 14th April the National Federation of Colliery Enginemen had taken a decision that during any stoppage which might follow, the conditions which they should observe would be:—

- (a) no reduction in wages or lengthening of working hours;
- (b) no person employed during the stoppage to perform duties other than those performed prior to the stoppage;
- (c) no lowering or raising of "black-legs";
- (d) no raising of minerals other than for safety purposes;
- (e) the affiliated associations in the districts to agree with their respective coal owners on the above lines.

On 15th April the Prime Minister met the Executive of the Miners' Federation, who informed him that a deadlock had been reached. He undertook to get into touch with the owners and thereafter was associated with the discussions until they were terminated on 2nd May just before the general stoppage.

On 22nd April as the result of the efforts of the Prime Minister there was a further meeting between representatives of owners and miners, which resulted once more in a breakdown, owing to the fact that while the owners were prepared to discuss a national agreement to determine only the general principles for the regulation of the wages in the industry, the miners were not prepared to leave to district settlements the question of the minimum percentage to be paid. The owners undertook to furnish the miners with the terms which they had by now framed regarding working conditions after 30th April. On 23rd April the Prime Minister met the Central Committee of the Mining Association and the Executive Committee of the Miners' Federation, when a full statement was made to him by both sides, and Mr. Evan Williams on behalf of the Mining Association made some reference to the new terms prepared by the owners, and to the serious reductions that were regarded as inevitable so long as the Seven Hour Act was in force. On the suggestion of the Prime Minister a negotiating committee of nine a side was appointed; later the Prime Minister had separate meetings with the two sides of the committee appointed, but no further progress was made.

On 26th April the Industrial Committee of the Trades Union Congress General Council met the Prime Minister, the Minister of Labour and the Secretary for Mines, to urge that steps might be taken to bring the parties together for a resumption of negotiations on a national basis, and as a result of the Prime Minister's further efforts he was able, on 30th April, to transmit to the miners an offer on a national basis by the owners, in a letter, the text of which was follows:—

"Dear Mr. Smith,—I am communicating with you by letter because it is important to save time.

I have now received from the coalowners the offer which, as I told you last night, they have been considering in conjunction with their district representatives. The offer is as follows, namely, a uniform national minimum of 20 per cent. over 1914 standard on a uniform eight-hour basis, with corresponding hours for surface men. (The representatives of North Wales do not wish to stand out of the National Agreement, but feel that the pits in that area would be unable to work on this minimum.)

In putting before you this proposal from the coalowners I would remind you that, as I explained to you yesterday, it is contemplated that the 1919 (Seven Hours) Act should remain on the Statute-Book, and that there should be legislation providing temporarily for the working of the additional hours. The Government would set up a Commission not later than 31st December, 1929, to advise whether as a result of reorganisation or better trade, or both, the condition of the coal industry has improved to an extent that makes a reversion to the standard hours justifiable.

There would, of course, be a national agreement on the lines of the owners' draft which has already been submitted to you, amended, however, to provide for a national minimum.

I should like to hear from you what is your considered view upon this proposal.

It will be seen that a uniform national minimum is possible if there is for the time being a modification of the present hours. If, however, a temporary modification of hours is ruled out, the owners do not feel able to put forward proposals which differ from those which they have already submitted. They are, however, prepared to negotiate the matter with you, in the first place nationally in accordance with the Report.

There would, of course, be the National Agreement as already indicated. The Government has already intimated its general acceptance of the Report of the Royal Commission provided it was accepted also by the mineowners and the miners; and although unfortunately there has not been on the part of the mineowners and the miners the same unqualified acceptance, the Government desire nevertheless to reaffirm their willingness to give effect to such of the proposals in the Report as we believe will be of benefit to the industry. In particular, the Government propose in any case at once to arrange an authoritative inquiry into the best method of following up the recommendations of the Commission with regard to selling organisations and amalgamations.

If the proposals now before you are not acceptable, I should be glad to receive from you any counter proposal, and I am holding myself available to meet you again as soon as you let me know that you are ready for further discussion.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Mr. Pugh.

Yours very truly,

(Signed) STANLEY BALDWIN."

On the same day, 30th April, the Miners replied that the proposals could not be accepted: they once more stated their views on the question of extended hours, their objections being that the present hours were long enough to supply all the coal for which a market could be found and were as long as the men should be expected to

pursue such a dangerous and arduous calling; that the extended hours would merely increase the unemployed; that to increase hours would be to invite similar measures on the part of foreign competitors; and that such a proposal was contrary to the findings of the Royal Commission. As to counter proposals, they repeated that they would be willing to co-operate to the fullest extent with the Government and the Owners in instituting such reorganisation as was recommended by the Commission, but until such reorganisation brought greater prosperity to the industry, the Miners should not be called upon to surrender any of their inadequate wages or conditions. They also intimated that a statement of proposals submitted by the Trades Union Congress, a copy of which they enclosed, afforded a reasonable basis of negotiations and settlement. These proposals included the suspension of notices, to allow further inquiry, and the continuance of the subsidy for a fortnight.

The same day the Prime Minister received the Trades Union Congress Committee and after an examination of the proposals of the Trades Union Congress, he put the following question to Mr. Pugh as representing that body: "Will the Trades Union Congress Committee obtain assurances that if further time were available for negotiation the Miners' representatives would enter into those negotiations, accepting the Commission's recommendations on this point printed at the top of page 236 of the Report?" The passage in the Report referred to was to the effect that if the present hours were to be retained "we think a revision of the minimum percentage addition to the standard rates of wages fixed in 1924, at a time of temporary prosperity, is indispensable." In reply the Miners' Federation stated that they were not prepared to accept a reduction in wages as a preliminary to the reorganisation of the industry, but that they would be prepared "to give full consideration to all the difficulties connected with the industry when the scheme for such reorganisation has been initiated by the Government." Questioned as to the meaning of the word "initiated," Mr. Herbert Smith, on behalf of the Miners' Federation, made it clear that the miners would not accept any reduction in wages during the interim period while reorganisation was being considered, and only when reorganisation had been carried out, if it was found still to be necessary.

These negotiations took place on the eve of the expiry of the owners' notices, and on the following day, Saturday, 1st May, the stoppage of work in the coal mines began, about 1,050,000 workpeople ceasing work. On this day also the General Council made their announcement as to a general strike to take place after midnight on 3rd May, if a settlement of the dispute had not then been reached (see LABOUR GAZETTE, July, page 240). On the same day, the following letter was addressed to the Prime Minister by Mr. Citrine, Acting Secretary of the Trades Union Congress General Council:—

"Dear Sir,—I have to advise you that the Executive Committee of the Trades Union Congress, including the Miners' Federation of Great Britain, have decided to hand over to the General Council of the Trades Union Congress the conduct of the Dispute and all the negotiations in connection therewith will be undertaken by the General Council. I am directed to say that the General Council will hold themselves available at any moment should the Government desire to discuss the matter further."

As a result of the above letter, further negotiations continued on Saturday evening, 1st May, and Sunday, 2nd May, between the Government and the Executive Committee, but these came to an abrupt conclusion owing to the action taken to carry out the threat of the General Strike and to certain overt acts constituting interference with the freedom of the Press. (See MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE, July, 1926, page 240, Article: "The General Strike.")

The General Strike began on 4th May; on 12th May the Prime Minister was informed by the Trades Union Congress Committee that the General Strike had been called off. In the meantime there had been no discussion regarding the mining dispute so far as the Government and the Owners were concerned. On 12th May, the following letter was addressed by Sir Herbert Samuel (who had had unofficial discussions with the Industrial Committee) to Mr. Pugh:—

"Dear Mr. Pugh,—As the outcome of conversations which I have had with your Council, I attach a memorandum embodying the conclusions which have been reached. I have made it clear to your Council from the outset that I have been acting entirely on my own initiative, have received no authority from the Government, and can give no assurances on their behalf. I am of an opinion that the proposals embodied in the memorandum are suitable for adoption and are likely to promote a settlement of the differences in the Coal Industry. I shall strongly recommend their acceptance by the Government when the negotiations are renewed."

The text of the memorandum was as follows:—

"1. The negotiations upon the conditions of the coal industry should be resumed, the subsidy being renewed for such reasonable period as may be required for that purpose.

2. Any negotiations are unlikely to be successful unless they provide for means of settling disputes in the industry other than conferences between the Mine Owners and the Miners alone. A National Wages Board should, therefore, be established which would include representatives of those two parties, with a neutral element and an independent chairman. The proposals in this direction tentatively made in the Report of the Royal Commission should be pressed, and the powers of the proposed Board enlarged.

3. The parties to the Board should be entitled to raise before it any points they consider relevant to the issue under discussion, and the Board should be required to take such points into consideration.

* For a summary of the report of the Court of Inquiry and the Memorandum dated August 4th, 1925, see the MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE for August, 1925, page 256.

† For a summary see the MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE for March, 1926, page 80.

4. There should be no revision of the previous wage rates unless there are sufficient assurances that the measures of reorganisation proposed by the Committee will be effectively adopted. A Committee should be established as proposed by the Prime Minister, on which representatives of the men should be included, whose duty it should be to co-operate with the Government in the preparation of the legislative and administrative measures that are required. The same Committee, or, alternatively, the National Wages Board, should assure itself that the necessary steps, so far as they relate to matters within the industry, are not being neglected or unduly postponed.

5. After these points have been agreed and the Mines National Wages Board has considered every practicable means of meeting such immediate financial difficulties as exist, it may, if that course is found to be absolutely necessary, proceed to the preparation of a wage agreement.

6. Any such agreement should—

(i) If practicable, be on simpler lines than those hitherto followed.

(ii) Not adversely affect in any way the wages of the lowest-paid men.

(iii) Fix reasonable figures below which the wage of no class of labour, for a normal customary week's work, should be reduced in any circumstances.

(iv) In the event of any new adjustments being made, should provide for the revision of such adjustments by the Wages Board from time to time if the facts warrant that course.

7. Measures should be adopted to prevent the recruitment of new workers, over the age of 18 years, into the industry, if unemployed miners are available.

8. Workers who are displaced as a consequence of closing of uneconomic collieries should be provided for by—

(a) The transfer of such men as may be mobile, with the Government assistance that may be required, as recommended in the Report of the Royal Commission.

(b) The maintenance, for such period as may be fixed, of those who cannot be so transferred, and for whom alternative employment cannot be found; this maintenance to comprise an addition to the existing rate of unemployment pay under the Unemployment Insurance Act of such amount as may be agreed. A contribution should be made by the Treasury to cover the additional sums so disbursed.

(c) The rapid construction of new houses to accommodate transferred workers. The Trades Union Congress will facilitate this by consultation and co-operation with all those who are concerned.

Mr. Pugh and Mr. Citrine replied, on the same day (12th May), on behalf of the General Council that they concurred in the opinion that the memorandum offered a basis upon which negotiations upon conditions in the Coal Industry could be renewed and that they were taking steps to terminate the General Strike accordingly. They assumed that during the resumed negotiations the subsidy would be renewed and the lock-out notices withdrawn.

At the close of a meeting of the Miners' Executive on 12th May the following official statement, which was the Miners' reply to the proposals put before them by the Trades Union Congress, was made by Mr. A. J. Cook:—"In view of the statement made by the Trades Union Congress of draft proposals received after they had met Sir Herbert Samuel, the Miners' Executive discussed the same on 11th May and passed the following resolution:—

"The Miners' Executive have given careful and patient consideration to the draft proposals prepared by the Trades Union Congress Negotiating Committee, endorsed by the General Council, as representing what they call the best terms that can be obtained to settle the present crisis in the Coal Industry. The Miners' Executive regret the fact that no opportunity for consideration was afforded to the accredited representatives of the Miners' Federation on the negotiating committee in the preparation of the draft or in the discussions of 11th May leading thereto. At best the proposals imply a reduction of wages rates for a large number of mine-workers, which is contrary to the declaration of the Miners' Federation and which they believe their fellow trade unionists are assisting them to resist. They regret, therefore, whilst having regard to the grave issues involved, that they must reject the proposals. Moreover, if such proposals are submitted as a means to call off the General Strike, such a step must be taken on the sole responsibility of the General Council of the Trades Union Congress."

The Prime Minister had made it clear all along that immediately on the calling off of the General Strike he would be willing to continue negotiations as regards the mining dispute with a view to reaching a settlement, and accordingly on 15th May (following upon meetings he had had on the previous days with representatives of the Owners and the Miners) he sent to Mr. Evan Williams and Mr. Herbert Smith, representing the Mining Association and the Miners' Federation respectively, "proposals which, in the opinion of H.M. Government, should provide a reasonable basis for the settlement of the dispute. . . on the lines of the Royal Commission's Report," the text of which was as follows:—

"1. In accordance with the recommendations of the Royal Commission all practicable means for improving the organisation of the industry and increasing its efficiency shall be adopted.

2. The Government shall take the following immediate action:—

(a) Introduce and endeavour to pass this session—

(1) A Bill to give effect to the proposals of the Commission regarding amalgamations;

(2) A Bill to provide for a welfare levy on royalty owners, and to further the establishment of pithead baths

(3) A Bill to restrict recruitment in mines.

(4) A Bill to set up for the Coal Mining Industry a National Wages Board on the lines of the Railway Wages Board.

(b) Set up the proposed National Fuel and Power Council which will contain representatives of Labour.

(c) Set up the proposed Wagon Committee.

(d) Appoint a Committee to investigate the question of selling syndicates.

(e) Appoint a Committee to examine the profit-sharing proposals of the Commission and family allowances.

(f) Prepare a scheme for the establishment of Pit Committees.

(g) Prepare plans for the assistance of men displaced from pits.

(h) Set up a Committee on Housing in Colliery Districts.

3. *Coal Advisory Committee.*—Before any legislation is introduced, or Committee set up, or other definite step taken by the Government towards giving effect to any of the recommendations of the Commission, a full statement of the step proposed shall be laid before the Coal Advisory Committee of the Secretary for Mines. It shall also be the duty of the Advisory Committee to review from time to time the progress made in giving effect to the recommendations of the Commission, and to make recommendations on the subject. In the event of any recommendations made by the Committee not being adopted by the Secretary for Mines, he shall lay them before Parliament, together with a statement of his reasons for not adopting them.

4. Apart from any expenditure that may be necessary under 2 (g) the Government will provide further financial assistance to the industry to the amount of approximately £3,000,000.

5. For a period not exceeding — weeks:—

(1) The miners will accept a reduction of — per cent. in minimum wages (other than subsistence rates) in all districts.

(2) The owners will bear wages equivalent to one hundred per cent. of ascertained net proceeds (in January-March) so far as necessary to maintain those wages.

(3) The Government will fill the gap with a subsidy to be debited against the £3,000,000 aforesaid.

6. In the meantime—

(1) A Board shall be set up consisting of three representatives of the coal owners and three representatives of the miners, with an independent chairman.

(2) The Board shall frame a national wages and hours agreement governing the principles on which the general wage rates should be ascertained in each district, and shall also decide the minimum percentage on basis, taking into consideration the state and prospects of trade, the reorganisation proposals of the Commission, and other relevant factors.

(3) Subsistence wages shall not be reduced in any district where they at present yield 45s. per week or less for a full customary week.

(4) The Board shall decide also what the districts shall be.

(5) The Board shall issue its decision within three weeks.

(6) In the event of disagreement in respect of wages the decision shall rest with the independent chairman.

7. If the parties agree that it is advisable that some temporary modification should be made in the statutory hours of work, the Government will propose the necessary legislation forthwith and give facilities for its immediate passage.

8. Any balance of the £3,000,000 aforesaid will be available for a "tapering" subsidy after the period referred to in paragraph 5, or such other purpose as may be agreed upon between the Government, the Mining Association and Miners' Federation.

9. The provisional undertakings made by the Government in this memorandum are conditional on the acceptance of its terms by the other parties."

These proposals were considered by the Central Committee of the Mining Association and by the Miners' Federation delegate conference, and in each case the proposals were referred to the districts for consideration. Both sides rejected them. On 20th May, the Miners' delegate conference passed a resolution in the following terms:—

"We are largely in agreement with the legislative and administrative proposals set forth and are prepared to render every assistance possible to ensure their success but see no reason why such measures should be first reviewed by the Coal Advisory Committee. We are unable to recommend the miners to accept his (i.e., the Prime Minister's) proposal for a reduction in their wages, which admittedly do not at present provide for a decent standard of living. We further object to the proposal that a board with an independent chairman shall be empowered to abolish the national minimum and enforce varying minima throughout the districts."

On 21st May the Mining Association gave their answer in a statement in which they said that "there is only one way in which the drastic reduction in the cost of production of coal which the situation demands can be secured without involving hardships for certain of the workmen, particularly in the large exporting districts; that is by the restoration of the eight hour day. The reductions in wage rates which would then suffice to bridge the remaining gap would

not exceed about 10 per cent. when wages are at the minimum in the worst placed district, and even this sacrifice would be more apparent than real since it would result in fuller employment and higher actual earnings

"The industry requires freedom and stability in its operations as conditions essential to its prosperity and the initiating of policies, either legislative or administrative, such as are contemplated in certain of the recommendations of the Royal Commission must inevitably have the effect of restricting its operations and increasing the difficulty of a restoration to sound economic conditions based upon the interests of the community. The Coal Owners are convinced that the proposals submitted to them on 14th May, calculated as they are to limit freedom of administration, will not be helpful in securing the ultimate result that is aimed at, namely the increased efficiency of the industry. Indeed it must be stated emphatically that it will be impossible to continue the conduct of the industry under private enterprise unless it is accorded the same freedom from political interference as is enjoyed by other industries."

In his reply to the Miners' Federation the Prime Minister said that "the Government have never concealed the fact that there are recommendations in the Report that they only accept with reluctance and could not have accepted except in the hope of a general settlement. This hope has been disappointed. In these circumstances it must be clearly understood that the Government regain their freedom for all purposes and no longer hold themselves bound by the terms of an offer which has been rejected. In particular, in view of the great and growing burden imposed on the national finances by the General Strike, and the present stoppage in the coal mining industry, it will be impossible for the Government to hold open beyond the end of the present month, the offer of any further subsidy." In the course of his answer to the Mining Association, he stated that he profoundly disagreed with the Association "in attributing the troubles of the industry to 'political interference.' The Government have, in many instances, made it clear that they do not desire to interfere in trade disputes in which there is an indication that the parties are able and willing to settle those disputes for themselves. But he would point out that what is called 'political interference' in the Mining industry has been entirely due to the incapacity, now again so conspicuously shown, of that industry, unlike other industries, to settle its disputes for itself."

Following on the rejection by both sides of the Prime Minister's proposals, the miners had a meeting with the owners on 8th June, at which they repeated their stipulations, but no definite move was made until 15th June, when the Prime Minister announced that the Government proposed to introduce legislation, suspending for a period the Coal Mines Acts which restricted work in the mines to seven hours a day, in order to allow negotiations to take place on a wider basis and to make it permissible for an eight-hour day to be worked, should it be found desirable, and also legislation embodying certain recommendations of the Commission. Two bills were accordingly formally presented to Parliament on 21st June under the titles of the Coal Mines Bill and the Mining Industry Bill respectively. The former Bill dealt with hours, and the latter included provision for—

1. An extension of the Mines (Working Facilities) Act with a view to increasing facilities for working coal;
2. Facilities for the reorganisation of the industry by means of amalgamations and absorptions;
3. A welfare levy on mineral royalties and wayleaves for the provision of washing and drying accommodation at all coal mines;
4. Prohibiting the entry of any person over the age of 18 into the industry who had not previously worked as a miner, except by consent of the Minister of Labour.
5. Empowering any coal-mining company to establish a profit-sharing scheme.

The Coal Mines Bill received the Royal assent on 7th July and the Mining Industry Bill, with certain modifications, on 4th August. (For summaries, see MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE, July, 1926, p. 242, and the next column of the current issue.) Concurrently it was announced that the Government were taking steps by administrative action to put into operation other recommendations of the Royal Commission, including the setting up of a Committee to enquire into and report upon the desirability and practicability of developing co-operative selling in the coal-mining industry. On 2nd July the Trades Union Congress General Council issued a manifesto stating that the Council had decided to concentrate upon resistance to the Government policy, especially as regards the extension of hours.

In view of the promised legislation with regard to hours, between 3rd and 9th July the majority of the collieries announced the terms that would be available to men under the eight-hour day. In general they were such as to have the effect of guaranteeing to the men for three months wages roughly similar to those received under the previous agreement, except that now eight hours would be worked instead of seven. But in Northumberland and Durham there was a reduction of roughly 10 per cent. and in Warwickshire and Cannock the new terms for eight hours were rather better than the previous terms for seven. In all cases, the division of the proceeds of the industry was to be 87 per cent. to wages as against 13 to profits. The Yorkshire owners at first offered 85 to 15, but at the instance of the Government came into line with the other districts. After three months it was contemplated that wages should be based on ascertained in the usual way, subject to a minimum equivalent to that in force under the 1921 agreement. These terms constituted a definite offer by the owners, but the immediate effect as regards the return of men to work was small.

On 19th July a letter was addressed to the Prime Minister by the Bishop of Lichfield, stating that some representatives of the Christian Churches and others, who believed that the solution of the coal problem lay in the adoption of the Royal Commission's Report in its entirety, had conferred with three officials of the Miners' Federation and arrived at agreed suggestions for the termination of the coal dispute which they considered represented an advance on anything which the Miners' Federation had been willing to agree to before. The Memorandum embodying the suggestions which was enclosed contained the following points:—

"I. Immediate resumption of work on conditions obtaining on April 30th, 1926, including hours and wages. The settlement, when arrived at, shall be on the basis of a national agreement.

II. A national settlement to be reached within a short defined period, not exceeding four months. In order to carry through Clause I, financial assistance to be granted by the Government during the defined period, under a scheme to be drawn up by the Commissioners who prepared the Report. The Commissioners shall be reappointed for this, and for the other purposes mentioned in the following clauses.

III. The terms of the reorganisation scheme and the reference to wages in the Report to be worked out in detail by the Commissioners, and the results to be incorporated by them, as far as may be necessary, in a Parliamentary Bill or Bills.

IV. Those parts of the reorganisation scheme capable of early application to be put into operation at the earliest moment practicable.

V. The Government to give assurance that those parts of the Report which require legislative sanction shall be placed on the Statute-book at the earliest possible moment.

VI. At the end of the defined period, if disagreements should still exist, a Joint Board, consisting of representatives of both parties, shall appoint an independent chairman whose award in settlement of these disagreements shall be accepted by both parties."

On 19th July, the Prime Minister met the representatives of the Churches and in his reply pointed out that any proposals which involved a further subsidy could hardly be regarded as in complete agreement with the terms of the Report, and announced that he could not consent to any further financial assistance for the industry by way of a subsidy in aid of wages. On 30th July, the proposals were submitted to a delegate conference of the Miners' Federation, and it was decided by a large majority to refer them to the districts, with a recommendation that they be agreed to. The reference to the districts resulted, however, in the rejection of the proposals, and at a meeting of the Miners' Federation Executive, held on 10th August, it was decided to convene a further national delegate conference on 16th August.

MINING INDUSTRY ACT, 1926.

THE Mining Industry Act, 1926, received the Royal Assent on the 4th August.

Part I of the Act (Sections 1-12) contains provisions for facilitating the re-organisation of the coal-mining industry. The first subsection of Section 1 provides that where the owners of two or more undertakings consisting of or comprising coal mines agree to amalgamate their undertakings either wholly or partially they may prepare a scheme of amalgamation and submit it to the Board of Trade; and the second subsection similarly empowers the owners of any such undertaking, or of two or more such undertakings which have agreed to amalgamate, to prepare and submit to the Board of Trade a scheme for the total or partial absorption of one or more other such undertakings which are unwilling to amalgamate, or to agree to the proposed terms of amalgamation. Sections 2-5 set forth the permissible contents of such schemes, and deal with other consequential matters.

Under Section 6 the Board of Trade are to consider schemes submitted to them, and, if satisfied that a *prima facie* case has been made out for any scheme, to refer the matter to the Railway and Canal Commission; while Section 7 provides that the Railway and Canal Commission shall hear any objections to the scheme, and thereafter may either confirm the scheme, with or without modifications, or may refuse to confirm. A scheme confirmed by the Commission becomes binding on all persons.

Section 12 empowers the Board of Trade to assist in formulating or settling the terms of an amalgamation scheme, if it appears to them that it is the general wish of the owners of any undertakings that they should do so. The Board of Trade are to make a report upon the operation of this part of the Act at the end of two years.

Part II of the Act (Section 13) deals with working facilities. It extends, in the case of coal, the powers contained in the Mines (Working Facilities and Support) Act, 1923, by removing the two main limitations in that Act, viz., (1) that an applicant for a right to work coal must already have an interest in that coal, or in adjoining coal, and (2) that there must be a danger of the coal being left permanently unworked. Subsection (2) authorises a person to apply to the Railway and Canal Commission, under the principal Act, to be freed from restrictive conditions, prejudicial to the economical working of any coal, contained in his mining lease or otherwise.

Part III (Sections 14-17) provides for the raising of a new levy (called the royalties welfare levy) of 5 per cent. on the rental value of rights to work coal and of mineral wayleaves. The proceeds

of the royalties welfare fund are to be paid over to the welfare fund* established under the Mining Industry Act, 1920, but are to be kept in a separate account. The proceeds may be applied for any of the purposes for which the welfare fund is applicable; but the Miners' Welfare Committee, which is responsible for the distribution of the fund, is required to appropriate the whole of the proceeds of the royalties welfare levy in each year, until the Board of Trade shall otherwise direct, for the purpose of providing accommodation and facilities for workmen taking baths and drying clothes.

Part IV (Section 18) deals with recruitment. It provides that the Minister of Labour may, after consultation with associations of employers and workmen in the coal mining industry, make regulations for securing that, in the recruitment of persons over 18 years for employment in the industry, preference shall be given (up to 31st December, 1929) to those who were so employed during the week ended the 30th April last. There is to be no restriction however, on the employment of an ex-service man in receipt of a disability pension.

Part V (Section 19) limits further assessments and claims for coal mines excess payments under the Coal Mines Control Agreement of 1918, or for coal levy under the Coal Mines (Emergency) Act, 1920 and 1921.

Part VI (Sections 20-26) deals with miscellaneous and general points. Section 20 empowers any company, being the owner of an undertaking consisting of or comprising coal mines, to establish a profit-sharing scheme. Section 21 empowers the Board of Trade to make regulations providing for the constitution of a joint committee, consisting of representatives of the owners and management of a mine and of the workers employed thereat, if at any time after the expiration of two years from the commencement of the Act the Board are satisfied that no adequate opportunity has been afforded by the owner, agent and manager of the mine for the establishment of machinery for mutual discussion between the parties of matters of common interest in regard to the working of the mine. The functions of any such joint committee do not include any powers in relation to control or "management" (as defined in the Mining Industry Act, 1920). Section 23 requires any person, before sinking a shaft or borehole intended to reach a depth of more than 100 feet, to inform the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, and to give that Department certain facilities.

EARNINGS AND HOURS IN THE IRON AND STEEL AND CERTAIN OTHER METAL INDUSTRIES.†

In the following Tables particulars are given of the earnings and hours of labour of workpeople in the iron and steel and certain other metal industries in 1924 as shown by the returns received from employers in response to the general Enquiry instituted by the Ministry of Labour last year. The details supplied on the returns relate to four dates in 1924, viz., the weeks ended 19th January, 12th April, 12th July and 18th October. The figures published below are preliminary, and may be subject to slight revision when later returns are included. Details for the remainder of the metal industries will be given in a subsequent issue of this GAZETTE. For an explanation of the scope and nature of the Enquiry reference should be made to the article on page 196 of the June issue.

I.—NUMBER OF RETURNS RECEIVED AND NUMBER OF WORKPEOPLE COVERED.

The number of returns received, giving information regarding earnings, and the average number of workpeople covered as shown by the average of the numbers in the four weeks specified above, in this group of industries, are as shown below.

Industry.	Number of		Industry.	Number of	
	Returns received.	Work-people covered‡		Returns received.	Work-people covered‡
Pig-iron ...	83	28,752	Wrought-iron and steel tubes ...	76	19,723
Smelting, rolling, etc. of iron and steel ...	377	155,730	Light castings ...	203	20,308
Tinplate ...	70	22,507	Hollow-ware ...	64	5,192
Smelting, rolling and casting of non-ferrous metals ...	331	28,954	Wire drawing, weaving, etc. ...	277	20,399
Brass foundry and finishing ...	742	27,622	Anchor and chain ...	83	2,719
Bedstead ...	39	2,358	Screw, nail, nut, bolt and rivet ...	164	14,671
Sheet metal ...	1,334	45,652	Needles, pins, fish-hooks, etc. ...	107	5,976
			All the above	3,950	400,563

* For particulars of this Fund, see the March, 1926, issue of this GAZETTE (page 83).
 † Particulars relating to the Textile Industries were given in the June issue of this GAZETTE, and to the Pottery, Brick, Glass, Chemical, etc. Industries in the July issue.
 ‡ Averages of the numbers employed in the four weeks.

The following Table shows the total number of workpeople employed by firms which have made returns as to earnings, in each of the four specified weeks of 1924, together with the proportions of males and females employed, as shown by the average of the numbers in the four weeks:—

Industry.	Number of workpeople employed in the week ended				Proportion of	
	19th Jan.	12th Apr.	12th July.	18th Oct.	Males.	Females.
Pig-iron ...	30,213	28,796	28,792	27,209	Per cent. 99.8	Per cent. 0.2
Smelting, rolling, etc. of iron and steel ...	158,807	157,962	155,047	151,104	99.0	1.0
Tinplate ...	22,267	22,474	22,611	22,675	85.5	14.5
Smelting, rolling and casting of non-ferrous metals ...	28,470	29,120	28,954	29,273	94.5	5.5
Brass foundry and finishing ...	26,307	27,646	28,170	28,365	80.6	19.4
Bedstead ...	2,222	2,353	2,446	2,411	74.6	25.4
Sheet metal ...	44,469	45,791	46,162	46,186	63.8	36.2
Wrought-iron and steel tubes ...	19,269	19,690	19,924	20,009	98.2	1.8
Light castings ...	19,601	20,032	20,487	21,112	91.5	8.5
Hollow-ware ...	5,167	5,008	5,166	5,426	65.5	34.5
Wire-drawing, weaving, etc. ...	20,683	20,562	20,244	20,106	86.0	14.0
Anchor and chain ...	2,606	2,787	2,746	2,739	91.6	8.4
Screw, nail, nut, bolt and rivet ...	14,538	14,708	14,768	14,672	56.3	43.7
Needles, pins, fish-hooks, etc. ...	6,038	6,144	5,939	5,784	34.0	66.0

II.—AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS.

The following Table shows the average weekly earnings, in each of the four specified weeks, of the workpeople employed by the firms making returns, together with the average earnings of males and of females, as shown by those returns which gave separate particulars. Owing to the fact that certain firms were unable to separate the wages paid to males and females respectively, the numbers of males and females for whom particulars are given separately in Sections (B) and (C) of the Table add to less than the total numbers given in Section (A) of the Table.

The relative levels of average earnings shown for different industries are, of course, affected by the variations in the proportions of males and females, and of adults and juveniles employed.

Industry.	Number of Work-people covered.*	Average earnings in the week ended				Average of the Earnings in the four weeks.
		19th Jan.	12th Apr.	12th July.	18th Oct.	
Pig-iron ...	28,752	s. 6 5	s. 6 3	s. 6 3	s. 6 2	s. 6 3
Smelting, rolling, etc. of iron and steel ...	155,730	62 3	62 10	60 3	60 6	61 5
Tinplate ...	22,507	66 11	68 10	64 7	65 3	66 5
Smelting, rolling and casting of non-ferrous metals ...	28,954	56 1	57 2	56 2	57 0	56 7
Brass foundry and finishing ...	27,622	42 4	44 7	44 9	44 8	44 1
Bedstead ...	2,358	47 1	50 7	48 8	48 8	48 9
Sheet metal ...	45,652	43 1	44 5	44 1	44 2	43 11
Wrought-iron and steel tubes ...	19,723	52 9	54 9	53 11	53 1	53 8
Light castings ...	20,308	46 10	48 3	48 8	49 5	48 4
Hollow-ware ...	5,192	38 10	39 11	39 11	40 5	39 9
Wire drawing, weaving, etc. ...	20,399	52 6	51 11	49 7	50 9	51 3
Anchor and chain ...	2,719	44 11	45 0	45 0	45 5	45 1
Screw, nail, nut, bolt and rivet ...	14,671	35 8	36 3	36 5	35 4	35 11
Needles, pins, fish-hooks, etc. ...	5,976	32 4	32 11	32 3	33 4	32 9

(A) ALL WORKPEOPLE.

(B) MALES.

Industry.	Number of Work-people covered.*	Average earnings in the week ended					Average of the Earnings in the four weeks.
		19th Jan.	12th Apr.	12th July.	18th Oct.	Per cent.	
Pig-iron ...	28,466	s. 6 5	s. 6 3	s. 6 3	s. 6 2	s. 6 3	
Smelting, rolling, etc. of iron and steel ...	151,382	62 9	63 6	60 9	61 0	62 0	
Tinplate ...	22,883	73 9	75 11	72 7	72 2	73 7	
Smelting, rolling and casting of non-ferrous metals ...	24,441	57 11	59 3	58 0	59 1	58 7	
Brass foundry and finishing ...	16,792	49 1	50 11	51 2	51 7	50 7	
Bedstead ...	1,163	54 2	58 11	56 8	56 7	56 7	
Sheet metal ...	26,424	54 2	56 2	55 8	55 9	55 5	
Wrought-iron and steel tubes ...	18,395	53 11	56 0	54 4	54 3	54 7	
Light castings ...	16,459	50 1	51 7	51 11	52 10	51 8	
Hollow-ware ...	1,818	50 3	50 7	51 8	52 0	51 2	
Wire drawing, weaving, etc. ...	15,926	57 10	57 2	54 4	55 11	56 4	
Anchor and chain ...	1,426	55 8	56 3	54 0	55 9	55 5	
Screw, nail, nut, bolt and rivet ...	5,602	45 3	45 9	46 6	44 0	45 5	
Needles, pins, fish-hooks, etc. ...	1,515	51 6	53 2	50 4	50 11	51 6	

* Averages of the numbers employed in the four weeks.

Industry.	Number of Work-people covered.*	Average earnings in the week ended				Average of the Earnings in the four weeks.
		19th Jan.	12th Apr.	12th July.	18th Oct.	
Pig-iron ...	57	s. 19 5	s. 18 3	s. 18 11	s. 18 11	s. 18 11
Smelting, rolling, etc. of iron and steel ...	1,506	23 6	24 0	23 6	23 1	23 7
Tinplate ...	2,181	27 4	26 8	26 0	26 3	26 6
Smelting, rolling and casting of non-ferrous metals ...	1,416	25 8	25 9	25 8	24 11	25 6
Brass foundry and finishing ...	4,041	24 3	24 10	24 7	26 4	25 0
Bedstead ...	397	25 5	27 4	27 9	26 6	26 10
Sheet metal ...	14,962	24 11	25 3	25 1	25 9	25 3
Wrought-iron and steel tubes ...	344	23 9	24 7	22 10	25 2	24 1
Light castings ...	1,520	18 5	19 3	19 7	20 0	19 4
Hollow-ware ...	957	23 11	24 7	24 5	24 6	24 4
Wire drawing, weaving, etc. ...	2,584	25 9	23 9	23 4	23 11	24 2
Anchor and chain ...	131	19 4	20 2	19 0	19 5	19 6
Screw, nail, nut, bolt and rivet ...	4,348	21 5	22 4	22 2	21 10	21 11
Needles, pins, fish-hooks, etc. ...	2,937	22 4	22 11	21 10	23 5	22 7

III.—NORMAL HOURS OF LABOUR.

(A) ALL WORKPEOPLE.

The following Table shows the proportion of the workpeople, employed by firms making returns on this subject, whose normal weekly hours, exclusive of mealtimes, in the week ended 18th October, 1924, fell within the limits stated, and the average normal hours.

Industry.	Number of Work-people covered.	Percentage of employees whose normal weekly hours were						Average weekly normal hours.
		44 or less.	44½ to 46½.	47	47½ to 47¾.	48	Over 48.	
Pig-iron ...	28,240	Per cent. 11.1	Per cent. 0.7	Per cent. 31.3	Per cent. ...	Per cent. 5.1	Per cent. 51.8	49.9
Smelting, rolling, etc. of iron and steel ...	150,683	50.8	3.6	42.1	0.2	2.0	1.3	44.2
Tinplate ...	22,332	66.3	2.2	37.4	3.2	0.9	...	43.4
Smelting, rolling and casting of non-ferrous metals ...	29,352	7.6	3.8	63.7	3.1	7.8	14.0	47.4
Brass foundry and finishing ...	28,317	0.7	2.1	90.9	1.6	2.5	2.2	47.1
Bedstead ...	2,387	0.9	6.1	29.4	8.8	29.0	25.8	48.4
Sheet metal ...	46,166	6.5	5.1	61.8	2.4	19.1	5.1	47.1
Wrought-iron and steel tubes ...	18,247	18.7	...	78.7	...	1.9	0.7	46.0
Light castings ...	21,074	0.9	1.9	90.8	3.3	1.8	1.3	47.0
Hollow-ware ...	5,434	1.3	9.1	85.2	0.4	3.8	0.2	46.9
Wire drawing, weaving, etc. ...	20,294	4.7	5.3	77.9	1.4	4.8	5.9	47.1
Anchor and chain ...	2,516	8.5	4.4	77.3	1.2	6.7	1.9	46.5
Screw, nail, nut, bolt and rivet ...	14,545	0.8	7.4	85.7	2.0	1.1	3.0	47.0
Needles, pins, fish-hooks, etc. ...	5,784	3.6	2.6	75.9	1.4	10.8	5.7	47.1

(B) SHIFT-WORKERS AND DAY-WORKERS.

In certain of the industries included in this group an appreciable proportion of the workpeople were employed on shift-work systems. The following Table shows, for a normal week in October, 1924, the number of shift-workers covered by the returns for these industries, the number of day-workers employed by the firms who also employed shift-workers, and the total number of day-workers covered by all the returns received. Particulars are also given of the numbers working under 3-shift or 2-shift systems.

Industry.	Number of Shift-workers covered.	Number of Day-workers employed by Firms who also employed Shift-workers.	Total Number of Day-workers covered.	Number of Shift-workers working on	
				3-shift System.	2-shift System.
Pig-iron ...	14,790	12,797	13,450	14,728	62
Smelting, rolling, etc. of iron and steel ...	76,791	54,693	73,892	73,304	3,487
Tinplate ...	12,171	9,888	10,161	11,612	36
Smelting, rolling and casting of non-ferrous metals ...	5,104	7,533	24,248	4,016	1,088
Wrought-iron and steel tubes ...	3,872	1,731	14,375	1,390	2,482
Light castings ...	1,903	3,843	18,391	966	937

* Averages of the numbers employed in the four weeks.
 † Except in the case of those shift-workers for whom no definite meal interval was agreed upon.
 ‡ The great majority of the employees in this group were shift-workers. Employees working 40 hours or under per week accounted for over 17 per cent. of the total number covered by the returns in both "smelting, rolling, etc. of iron and steel," and in the tinplate industry.

In the tinplate industry, in addition to the numbers shown as working on 3-shift and 2-shift systems, 523 were employed on a system of 4 shifts in each 24 hours.

The following Table shows the proportion of operatives working shifts of different duration and the proportion working various numbers of shifts per week.

Industry.	Percentage of Shift-workers working on Shifts of			Percentage of Shift-workers working on average per Week			
	8 Hours.	12 Hours.	Other.	7 Shifts.	6 Shifts.	5½ or 5 Shifts.	5 Shifts.
Pig-iron ...	Per cent. 97.6	Per cent. ...	Per cent. 2.4	Per cent. 97.7	Per cent. 0.2	Per cent. 0.8	Per cent. 1.3
Smelting, rolling, etc. of iron and steel ...	96.8	0.2	3.0	1.8	16.6	77.2	4.4
Tinplate ...	95.4	...	4.6	...	0.3	93.0	2.7
Smelting, rolling and casting of non-ferrous metals ...	74.6	1.3	24.1	42.1	17.4	33.4	4.5
Wrought-iron and steel tubes ...	35.9	...	64.1	...	...	48.3	51.7
Wire drawing, weaving, etc. ...	28.4	2.0	69.6	7.4	4.7	69.1	18.8

The duration of the shift referred to in the first three columns is that operative on Monday to Friday. In some cases shorter or longer shifts were worked at the week-end.

The workers shown as working 6 shifts per week include those on a system of 6 morning, 6 afternoon and 5 night shifts or 6 morning, 5 afternoon and 6 night shifts, and those on 5½ or 5½ shifts include those working 6 morning and 5 afternoon shifts and also 6 morning, 5 afternoon and 5 night shifts.

The following Table shows the proportion of shift-workers whose normal weekly hours fell within certain groups, and also the average normal weekly hours of shift-workers and day-workers:—

Industry.	Percentage of Shift-workers whose normal Weekly Hours were					Shift-Workers.	Day-Workers.
	40 or less.	Over 40 and up to 44.	Over 44 and up to 48.	Over 48 and up to 56.	Over 56.		
Pig-iron ...	Per cent. 1.2	Per cent. 0.8	Per cent. 0.2	Per cent. 97.8	Per cent. ...	Hours 53.0	Hours 46.6
Smelting, rolling, etc. of iron and steel ...	33.5	56.3	8.1	1.8	0.3	41.8	46.7
Tinplate ...	31.2	68.8	...	...	...	40.6	46.8
Smelting, rolling and casting of non-ferrous metals ...	13.7	18.6	20.9	45.0	1.8	48.4	47.2
Wrought-iron and steel tubes ...	28.2	58.8	13.0	...	...	42.3	47.0
Wire drawing, weaving							

Earnings obtained by multiplying the average hourly earnings shown below by the average hours shown in Section IV do not correspond precisely with the average weekly earnings shown in Section II. Comparisons of the average earnings shown for different industries are, of course, affected by the different proportions of males and of females employed as between one industry and another.

Table with 6 columns: Industry, Number of Work-people covered, Average Hourly Earnings in the week ended (19th Jan, 12th April, 12th July, 18th Oct), Average Hourly Earnings in the four weeks.

VI.—EXTENT OF SHORT TIME.

The following Table shows the proportion of workpeople, employed by the firms making returns, who were reported to be working less than full time, together with the average number of hours lost per week by such workpeople, and the average time lost by all the workpeople covered by the returns. Workpeople "stood-off" for the whole of any of the weeks specified have been regarded as unemployed and have not been taken into account in compiling the statistics.

Table with 5 columns: Industry, Number of Work-people covered, Proportion of Workpeople on Short Time in the week ended (19th Jan, 12th April, 12th July, 18th Oct), Per cent.

Table with 8 columns: Industry, Average Number of Hours lost (a) by those who worked less than Full Time and (b) by all Workpeople covered, in the week ended (19th Jan, 12th April, 12th July, 18th Oct), (a), (b), (a), (b), (a), (b), (a), (b).

* Averages of the numbers employed in the four weeks.

Factories (No. 2) BILL, 1926.

A BILL* to consolidate, with amendments, the enactments relating to factories, and for purposes connected therewith, was presented by the Home Secretary in the House of Commons on the 2nd August.

In connection with this Bill a Memorandum† has been issued shewing the extent to which the Bill differs from the existing law. Each section of the new Bill is taken in turn, and it is shown whether it is new, or, if not, reference is given to the corresponding section of the nine previous Acts which are wholly or partly embodied in the Bill, with a short indication of the principal amendments (if any) that have been made in the existing enactments.

In the introduction to this Memorandum it is stated that the Bill has been introduced in order that the different industries affected may have the opportunity during the autumn and winter of examining the proposals for the amendments of the Factory Acts which are being put forward by the Government for consideration, of consulting among themselves with a view to arriving at agreements on disputed points, and of submitting any representations they desire to the Government.

The Bill is the result of a very careful review of the results of the long experience which has been acquired by the Department concerned in the administration of the existing Act of 1901, of the inquiries of the numerous Committees which have considered different parts and aspects of the wide field of industrial regulation, and of experiments and investigations conducted by the industries themselves and by individual manufacturers.

The Government anticipate differences of opinion in regard to many points in the Bill; but they believe that, on the whole, the Bill raises the general standard of factory conditions to the level of the better managed and more efficient factories, without placing any undue financial burden on industry, and that the result will be to promote the efficiency of industry as well as the welfare of the workers.

The Bill differs in many respects from the Bill introduced by the preceding Government in 1924‡, and should be studied therefore as a new measure.

The Bill abolishes the distinction which exists in the present law between factories and workshops and between textile and non-textile factories, and employs only the one term "factories"; and, except where otherwise expressly provided, the provisions of the Bill apply indifferently to factories of all descriptions.

Under the existing Acts, the provisions relating to the sanitary condition of workshops, cleanliness, overcrowding, ventilation, and the drainage of floors, are enforced in the first instance by the local sanitary authorities and not by the factory inspectors (as in factories); and the provisions as to sanitary conveniences, both in factories and in workshops, are, in London and in any place where Section 22 of the Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1890, is in force, also enforced by the sanitary authorities. Under the Bill, all the corresponding provisions are enforceable by the factory inspectors, except that in any factory in which mechanical power is not used and which forms part of a dwelling house or shop, or is adjacent to a dwelling house or shop in the same occupation, the provisions are to be enforced by the sanitary authority; and in the case of any other factory in which mechanical power is not used, the Secretary of State, if satisfied that the provisions would be satisfactorily enforced by the sanitary authority, is to delegate the duty to them.

These alterations are of general application. The other alterations are alterations of particular provisions, and are indicated in a detailed Table. A number of the provisions in the Bill which are indicated in the Table as new correspond to or are based on provisions which are already in force in particular industries under statutory regulations or orders made in pursuance of powers given by the existing Acts.

WAGES OF SEA-GOING WIRELESS OPERATORS: AWARD OF INDUSTRIAL COURT.

FOLLOWING on a strike§ of some twelve weeks' duration, which began on the 26th November, 1925, work was resumed by the operators as from the 18th February, 1926, on condition that negotiations should be entered into between the Association of Wireless and Cable Telegraphists, on behalf of the operators, and the Engineering and Allied Employers London and District Association on behalf of the wireless companies; if no agreement was arrived at between the parties, the questions at issue were to be referred to the Industrial Court for settlement. The subsequent negotiations proved on the main issues abortive, and the questions in dispute were accordingly referred to the Industrial Court, who issued their award on the 30th July.

The main issue before the Court was the status of the wireless operator when on board ship. The representatives of the employers claimed that he must be regarded as forming part of the ship's crew, and their proposals as to wages and conditions of employment were accordingly based on those of officers in the mercantile marine service. The claims of the operators on the other hand proceeded on the basis that the wages and conditions of service

* House of Commons Bill 183. H.M. Stationery Office; price 2s. net.

† Cmd. 2716. H.M. Stationery Office; price 3d. net.

‡ See the June, 1924, issue of this GAZETTE, page 195.

§ Some account of this dispute, and of the terms of settlement, will be found in the March, 1926, issue of this GAZETTE, page 82.

should be determined by the consideration that the operators were the employees of the wireless companies, their service on board ship being merely incidental to such employment. Hence, whereas the employers claimed that the wages of operators should, as in the case of mercantile marine officers, be related to the class and tonnage of the vessel on which the operator is employed, the Union claimed that the wages of the operators should be determined as at present by their years of service.

In their decision, the Court refer to the reasons which have led them to conclude that a system of remuneration based on the class and tonnage of the vessel on which the operator is employed offers the best solution of the difficulties which have arisen under the present system, but state that, "in adopting this system as the basis of their decision, the Court realise that its successful application must depend upon its being operated by the employers in such a way as to ensure equality of opportunity for promotion to every operator in the Service."

The rates of wages for Grade I operators,* provided for in the decision, range from £13 and £14 per month in the case of Class III vessels† to £16, £17, £18 and £19 per month in the case of Class I vessels‡. In Class II vessels† the rates are £14 and £15 per month.

For Grade II operators* the rates vary from £8 10s. to £10 10s. per month, according to length of service, without regard to the class of vessel; and the rate for Grade III operators* is a flat rate of £7.

In addition to these standard rates, the decision of the Court makes provision for an extra payment, to operators whose service abroad exceeds twelve months, of £1 per month for the first six months of such service over twelve months, and thereafter, for each additional six months, 10s. per month extra. Other provisions deal with the rates to be paid on oil tankers and on ships of foreign registry, and with various incidental payments and allowances, leave, etc.

One of the most difficult questions with which the Court had to deal was that of the position of operators at present in the service, and their assimilation under the new scale, under which, while some operators will benefit, the wages of some of the senior operators may for a time at least be less than those of which they are in receipt under the present scale. To meet this difficulty, the Court have provided that, in the case of operators at present in the service, a period of six years will elapse before the new scale becomes fully operative.

RETAIL PRICES OF CLOTHING, 1914-26.

THE statistics which are published each month in this GAZETTE as to changes in the cost of living of working-class families include particulars relating to the retail prices of clothing.

At the end of each month forms of inquiry are posted from the Ministry of Labour to a large number of representative outfitters, drapers and boot retailers in the principal towns. The retail prices quoted by each retailer at the previous inquiry are entered on the forms before despatch, and the retailer is asked to quote the current retail prices for the same articles and qualities as before, or for the most nearly corresponding articles and qualities.

The descriptions of goods which are taken into account in the compilation of the statistics are those most generally purchased by the working classes. They comprise suits and overcoats, articles of underclothing and hosiery, cotton and woollen materials and boots. The collection of information as to the prices of materials for clothing, instead of some of the articles of clothing themselves, is partly because comparative prices of materials could be obtained over a long period with a greater measure of accuracy and partly because many families buy materials and either make them up at home or put them out to be made up by dressmakers, etc. In utilising the prices of materials to obtain an estimate of the increase in the prices of garments, the average percentage increases in the prices of materials are combined with the average percentage increase in the charges for making-up (which inquiries have shown to be nearly one-and-a-half times as much as in 1914), giving a "weight" of 3 to the increase in the cost of the material compared with 1 to the increase in the cost of making up, allowance being made, in arriving at these "weights," for the fact that where the garments are made up at home the increase in the cost of material closely represents the increase in the cost of the garment.

In order to arrive at the general percentage increase in prices the percentage change is computed separately for each quotation supplied by each retailer, and these percentages are then combined, by simple arithmetic averaging,‡ into six groups, for each of which the average percentage increase at 31st July, 1926, as compared with July, 1914, was as under:—

Table with 2 columns: Group, Percentage Increase. (1) Men's Suits and Overcoats ... 90, (2) Woollen Material for Women's Outer Garments ... 160, (3) Woollen Underclothing and Hosiery ... 140, (4) Cotton Material for Women's Outer Garments ... 200, (5) Cotton Underclothing Material and Hosiery ... 140, (6) Boots ... 100.

* Grade I operators are those who hold the Postmaster-General's first-class certificate of proficiency, and who have had not less than three years' sea service as operators; Grade II operators are those who hold the first-class certificate and have had six months' but less than three years' sea service, and those who hold the second-class certificate and have had not less than six months' sea service; Grade III operators are those who hold the first or second class certificate, and have had less than six months' sea service.

† The classes are those laid down in Section 2 of Statutory Rules and Orders, No. 376 of 1920.

‡ In arriving at the average increase in group (1) allowance is made for the difference in the relative importance of ready-made and bespoke clothing and of suits and overcoats.

The final percentage, representing the general increase in the retail prices of clothing, is then computed by averaging the figures for these six groups, those for groups (2) and (4) being first modified as indicated in the third paragraph above and the relatively greater importance of group (1) and the smaller importance of group (4) being recognised by giving a "weight" of 1½ to group (1) and ½ to group (4), compared with 1 to each of the other four groups. The result of this final averaging shows that the average increase in the retail prices of working-class clothing at 31st July, 1926, as compared with July, 1914, was approximately 120 per cent. This figure compares with an increase of about 130 per cent. in July, 1925. The decline in the percentage increase is the consequence of reductions in the retail prices of cotton and woollen materials; in the prices of suits and overcoats and of boots, which show a much smaller increase than those of the cotton and woollen materials, little movement has been recorded during the past year.

The percentages given in this article are, of course, necessarily in the nature of approximations, since, owing to the wide range of quotations, both now and before the war, to changes in qualities and in stocks held by retailers, and to the variations in the extent to which different articles and qualities have been affected by price changes in recent years, it is not possible to make exact calculations of the average percentage increases in prices of clothing. Subject however, to this general qualification, the results of the investigations may be taken to be broadly representative of the general course of prices of the cheaper grades of clothing.

Although the method of calculation is that of combining the percentage changes in the prices quoted by retailers from month to month and not that of averaging the prices quoted (the range of prices being so wide that the utilisation of average prices in this connection would be unsuitable for the purpose), it may be of interest to give an indication of the general ranges of prices on which the percentages are based. Accordingly, the following Table has been prepared to show the general range of the price quotations used for the purpose of the index number. The quotations for materials are "per yard," for footwear "per pair," and for other articles "each." It should be observed that while the figures given include the majority of the quotations, other quotations were also important in particular cases.

Table with 3 columns: Article, July, 1914, 31st July, 1926. Includes categories like Men's Suits and Overcoats, Woollen Material for Women's Outer Garments, Cotton Material for Women's Outer Garments, Cotton Underclothing Material and Hosiery, Boots.

DELEGATION TO CANADA AND THE UNITED STATES.

THE Government have decided to send a Delegation to Canada and the United States of America, for the purpose of studying industrial conditions in those countries, with special reference to the relations between employers and employed in their bearing upon industrial conditions in Great Britain.

The Delegation, which will leave this country in the early autumn, will be constituted as follows:—Sir William Mackenzie, G.B.E., K.C. (Chairman); Mr. Ernest Bevin; Mr. Michael B. Dewar; Mr. J. Kaylor, J.P.; Mr. F. W. Leggett; Mr. I. Haig Mitchell; Mr. Randolph Smith.

Mr. H. C. Emmerson, of the Ministry of Labour, will act as Secretary to the Delegation.

PRINCIPAL VARIATIONS IN NUMBERS OF INSURED PERSONS RECORDED AS UNEMPLOYED.

The following Table indicates for Great Britain and Northern Ireland the industries in which the numbers of insured persons recorded as unemployed at 26th July, 1926, differed from the figures for 21st June, 1926, to the extent of 1,500 or more.

The Table shows the increases or decreases for males and females separately, together with the total net variation for all insured industries.

Industry.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Numbers recorded as Unemployed at 26th July, 1926, as compared with 21st June, 1926.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.
General Engineering, Engineers' Iron and Steel Foundry ...	- 7,302	- 146	- 7,448
Woolen and Worsted ...	- 3,025	- 1,671	- 4,696
Railway Service ...	- 4,327	+ 10	- 4,317
Manufacture of Tin Plates ...	- 3,052	- 292	- 3,344
Rubber Manufacture ...	- 1,197	- 1,822	- 3,019
Bolts, Nuts, Screws, Rivets, Nails, etc. Manufacture ...	- 1,215	- 1,191	- 2,406
Electrical Engineering ...	- 1,796	- 379	- 2,175
Pig Iron Manufacture (Blast Furnaces) ...	- 1,889	+ 12	- 1,877
Hotel, Boarding House, Club Services ...	- 1,468	- 404	- 1,872
Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing ...	- 1,611	+ 9	- 1,602
Shipping Service ...	- 1,653	+ 69	- 1,584
Manufacture of Brass, Copper, Zinc, Tin, Lead, etc. ...	- 1,592	+ 13	- 1,579
Constructional Engineering ... Stove, Grate, Pipe etc. and General Ironfounding ...	+ 1,559	- 5	+ 1,554
Steel Melting and Iron Puddling Furnaces, Iron and Steel-Rolling Mills and Forges ...	+ 1,921	+ 33	+ 1,954
Building ...	+ 2,803	+ 11	+ 2,792
Public Works Contracting, etc. ...	+ 2,999	+ 1	+ 3,000
Tailoring ...	+ 1,135	+ 3,376	+ 4,511
Cocoa, Chocolate and Sugar Confectionery ...	+ 29	+ 4,539	+ 4,568
Jute ...	+ 1,896	+ 4,819	+ 6,715
Cotton ...	+ 5,207	+ 13,403	+ 18,610
Net Variation for above industries	- 10,471	+ 20,200	+ 9,729
Total Net Variation for all insured industries ...	- 30,865	+ 16,992	- 13,873

JOINT INDUSTRIAL COUNCILS: RECENT PROCEEDINGS.

At a meeting of the Joint Industrial Council for the Glove-Making Industry held on 28th June it was reported that as a result of a discussion at the previous meeting, area committees had been revived and had, in one area especially, done useful work in dealing with minor complaints.

A discussion took place on the subject of apprenticing youths to the trade and it was suggested that a uniform indenture form might be used throughout the industry; it was proposed, further, that the form should be issued by the Council and not by the various districts as had been customary hitherto. The Council left this matter open for further consideration.

The National Council of the Pottery Industry held its thirty-eighth meeting on 14th July and among the matters of interest dealt with were the following: prevention of dust; foreign competition; the Merchandise Marks Bill; and unemployment. Following a speech by the chairman giving an account of his recent visit to the United States a recommendation by the Executive Committee that in the interests of the industry careful consideration should be given to the desirability of sending a representative deputation to visit American potteries for the purpose of inspecting improved methods, machinery, etc., was received, and it was decided to refer the matter to both sections of the Council for their consideration and an expression of their views.

A meeting of the Joint Industrial Council of the Furniture Warehousing and Removing Industry was held on 20th July. The question of the Industrial Councils Bill was under discussion and letters which had been received from the General Council of the Trades Union Congress were read. It was decided that copies of this correspondence should be circulated to the provincial centres of the industry so that the matter could be fully considered, with a view to obtaining general support for the views expressed.

According to the cost-of-living figures the employers would have been entitled to 1s. per week reduction, but they did not press for this, and wages were allowed to stand unchanged.

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES IN INDIA DURING 1925.

The Bombay Labour Gazette for April, 1926, contains information extracted from a statistical bulletin published by the Department of Industries and Labour for India showing that during 1925 there

were 134 industrial disputes in India, as against 133 in the previous year. The number of workers involved in these disputes was 270,423 in 1925 as compared with 312,462 in 1924; and the number of working days lost was 12,578,129 as compared with 8,730,918 in 1924.

An analysis by provinces of the statistics for 1925 shows that in the Presidency of Bombay there were 69 disputes affecting 175,214 workers and entailing a loss of 11,382,509 days, and in the Province of Bengal, 43 disputes with 60,185 workers concerned and 511,279 days lost. Thus in Bombay and Bengal Provinces there occurred in 1925 nearly 84 per cent. of the disputes, involving 87 per cent. of the workers affected, and nearly 95 per cent. of the total days lost owing to disputes in the whole of India.

The largest proportion of disputes, workers involved, and days lost was in the cotton industry, viz., 68, 173,339 and 11,054,132 respectively, due mainly to the general strike in the cotton mills in Bombay City. This dispute, which arose out of a proposed reduction of wages, began in September, lasted over three months, and was alone responsible for a loss of over ten million working days.

The main causes of disputes were wage questions (71) and questions relating to the employment of particular classes or persons (35).

As regards the termination of the disputes, 89 were unsuccessful from the point of view of the workpeople, 17 disputes were successful, while 27 were partially successful. One dispute was still in progress at the end of the year.

INDUSTRIAL CONDITIONS AND LABOUR LEGISLATION IN JAPAN.

In pursuance of a resolution adopted at the Seventh Session of the International Labour Conference held at Geneva in 1925,* requesting the International Labour Office to conduct an enquiry into working conditions in certain Asiatic countries including Japan, the International Labour Office has recently devoted special attention to questions concerning Japanese labour, and, it is stated, intends to issue an official report incorporating the results of this enquiry. The Office has recently published a study† by Mr. I. F. Ayusawa (a member of the permanent Japanese Delegation attached to the Governing Body of the International Labour Office), which is presented "not as an interim report of the inquiry but rather as an informative study, based on the latest available material, and containing an account of present conditions and present legislation in Japan."

This publication contains 119 pages, comprising an introduction and ten chapters. Chapter I presents data, based on recent official statistics, regarding the industrial population of Japan classified by industries, and shows the variation in the numbers, at various dates from 1909 onwards, of factories and factory workers, and in the numbers of workers in various Japanese mining undertakings. Chapter II is devoted to labour legislation, and also gives details of the functions and organisation of the Social Affairs Bureau.† Chapter III (Hours of Work) contains information regarding the actual hours worked in factories and statistics (1916-1922) of the undertakings in which night work is practised. Chapter IV. gives a summary of the results of recent official inquiries into the cost of living of Japanese workers, as well as particulars of the actual wages of various craftsmen, factory workers and miners. Chapter V. deals with Japanese legislation governing the employment of women and children, and Chapter VI is devoted to various Government measures for the prevention of unemployment. Chapter VII presents statistics regarding industrial and mining accidents, and an account is given of various measures adopted for the prevention of such accidents. Chapter VIII deals with existing legislation in regard to accident insurance, health insurance, etc. Chapter IX outlines the development of the Japanese Trade Union movement, and also includes statistics of the numbers of organised workers. In Chapter X an account is given of the Japanese Association for International Labour, which was established early in 1925 "to support the International Labour Organisation and particularly to act as a medium for hastening the ratification and enforcement of International Labour Conventions, and also to discuss other labour and industrial problems." An appendix contains a useful conspectus of current Japanese legislation affecting labour.

WAGES IN THE NETHERLANDS MINING, METAL AND ENGINEERING INDUSTRIES: ERRATUM.

In the article under the above heading which appeared in the July issue of this GAZETTE (p. 250), the third footnote should read as follows :-

† This is the average hourly rate increased by payments for piecework, contract work, premiums, &c., and including payments for overtime.

* See this GAZETTE, July, 1925, page 236.
† Studies and Reports, Series B (Economic Conditions), No. 16; Geneva, 1926; Price 2s.
† See this GAZETTE, January, 1923, page 12.

CHANGES IN COST OF LIVING: STATISTICS FOR 31st JULY.*

Summary: Average Increases since July, 1914.

All Items included	70%
Food only	61%

RENT, CLOTHING, FUEL AND LIGHT.

As regards rents, inquiries which have been made into the changes which have taken effect under the Rent and Mortgage Interest (Restrictions) Acts indicate that the average increase in the rents of working-class dwellings between July, 1914, and 31st July, 1926, was approximately 50 per cent. Of the total increase about two-fifths is accounted for by increases on account of rates and water charges and about two-fifths is on account of the landlord's responsibility for repairs, increases on account of the higher level of mortgage interest permitted by the Acts falling within the remaining one-fifth.

As regards clothing, owing to the wide range of quotations, both now and before the war, to changes in qualities and in stocks held by retailers, and to variations in the extent to which different articles and qualities have been affected by price changes, it is impossible to make an exact calculation of the increase in prices; but information as to the movements of prices of men's suits and overcoats, underclothing and hosiery, textile materials and boots, received from retailers in the principal towns, indicates that at 31st July the level of retail prices of articles in this group, taking goods of the kinds purchased by the working classes and so far as possible the same qualities of goods at each date, averaged about 120 per cent. higher than in July, 1914.

In the fuel and light group prices of coal continued to advance during July, and at the end of the month the price, per cwt., averaged about 160 to 170 per cent. above those of July, 1914. The average price of gas remained about 55 per cent. above the pre-war level, and candles, lamp oil and matches also showed no appreciable change in prices during the month. Taking the fuel and light group as a whole, the average increase at 31st July as compared with July, 1914, was about 100 per cent.

ALL ITEMS.

If the average increases in the cost of all the foregoing items are combined in accordance with their relative importance in pre-war working-class family expenditure, allowance being also made for the increase in the prices of soap, soda, domestic ironmongery, brushware and pottery, tobacco, fares and newspapers (averaging about 80 per cent.), the resultant general average increase for 31st July is, approximately, 70 per cent.† over the level of July, 1914, as compared with 70 per cent. at 1st July and 73 per cent. at the corresponding date in 1925.

The result of this calculation (in which the same quantities and, as far as possible, the same qualities of each item are taken in 1926 as in 1914) is to show the average increase in the cost of maintaining unchanged the pre-war standard of living of working-class families (i.e., the standard actually prevailing in working-class families before the war, irrespective of whether such standard was adequate or not). Owing to the variations in the amounts of increase in the prices of different commodities it is probable that economies or re-adjustments in expenditure have been effected in many families, especially in those cases where incomes have not increased so much as prices. On the other hand, it is probable that the standard of living has been raised in some families in which wages have been increased in greater proportion than prices. No allowance is made in the figures for any such alterations in the standard of living, as to which trustworthy statistics are not available.

SUMMARY TABLE: 1915 TO 1926.

The following Table shows the average percentage increase, as compared with July, 1914, for all the items included in the statistics, at the beginning of each month since January, 1915 :-

Average Percentage Increase since July, 1914—All Items. (Food, rent, clothing, fuel and light, etc.)

Month.	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926
Jan. ...	10-15	35	65	85-90	120	125	165	92	78	77	80	75
Feb. ...	15	35	65-70	90	120	130	151	83	77	78	79	75
Mar. ...	15-20	35-40	70	90	115	130	141	86	76	78	79	72
April ...	15-20	35-40	70-75	90-95	110	132	133	82	74	73	75	68
May ...	20	40-45	75	95-100	105	141	128	81	70	71	73	67
June ...	25	45	75-80	100	105	150	119	80	69	69	72	68
July ...	25	45-50	80	100-105	105-110	152	119	84	69	70	73	70
Aug. ...	25	45-50	80	110	115	155	122	81	71	71	73	70*
Sept. ...	25	50	80-85	110	115	161	120	79	73	72	74	...
Oct. ...	30	50-55	75-80	115-120	120	164	110	78	75	76	76	...
Nov. ...	30-35	60	85	120-125	125	176	103	80	75	80	76	...
Dec. ...	35	65	85	120	125	169	99	80	77	81	77	...

NOTE.

A brief Statement of the method of compiling these statistics was given on page 236 of the July, 1923, issue of this GAZETTE. A more detailed account was given in the issue of February, 1921.

* See note * in previous column.
† If allowance is made for the changes in taxation since July, 1914, on the commodities included in these statistics the average increase is about 2 per cent. less.

FOOD.

At 31st July* the average level of retail prices (in Great Britain and Northern Ireland) of the articles of food included in these statistics was about the same as at the beginning of the month, viz., 61 per cent. above the pre-war level of July, 1914. This percentage compares with 68 per cent. at the corresponding date in 1925. The principal movements in prices during the month were increases in the prices of eggs and decreases in those of potatoes.

In the following Table is given a comparison of retail prices of these articles of food in July, 1914, and at 1st and 31st July, 1926 :-

Article.	Average Price (per lb. unless otherwise indicated—to the nearest 1d.)			Average Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) at 31st July, 1926, as compared with		
	July, 1914.	1st July, 1926.	31st July, 1926.	July, 1914.	1st July, 1926.	31st July, 1926.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Beef, British—						
Ribs ...	0 10	1 5½	1 5½	+ 0 7½	+ 0 7½	...
Thin Flank ...	0 6½	0 9½	0 9½	+ 0 3½	+ 0 3½	...
Beef, Chilled or Frozen—						
Ribs ...	0 7½	0 10½	0 10½	+ 0 3	+ 0 3	...
Thin Flank ...	0 4½	0 5½	0 5½	+ 0 0½	+ 0 0½	...
Mutton, British—						
Legs ...	0 10½	1 7	1 7	+ 0 8½	+ 0 8½	...
Breast ...	0 6½	0 10½	0 10½	+ 0 4	+ 0 4	...
Mutton, Frozen—						
Legs ...	0 6½	1 0	1 0	+ 0 5½	+ 0 5½	...
Breast ...	0 4	0 5½	0 5½	+ 0 1½	+ 0 1½	...
Bacon (streaky)†	0 11½	1 8½	1 8½	+ 0 9	+ 0 9	...
Flour ... per 7 lb.	0 10½	1 6½	1 6½	+ 0 7½	+ 0 7½	...
Bread ... per 4 lb.	0 5½	0 10	0 10	+ 0 4½	+ 0 4½	...
Tea ...	1 6½	2 5½	2 5½	+ 0 11½	+ 0 11½	...
Sugar (granulated) ...	0 2	0 3½	0 3½	+ 0 1½	+ 0 1½	...
Milk ... per quart	0 3½	0 5½	0 5½	+ 0 2	+ 0 2	...
Butter—						
Fresh ...	1 2½	1 10½	1 10½	+ 0 8½	+ 0 8½	...
Salt ...	1 2½	1 9½	1 9½	+ 0 7½	+ 0 7½	...
Cheese† ...	0 8½	1 1½	1 1½	+ 0 4½	+ 0 4½	...
Margarine ...	0 7	0 8	0 8	+ 0 1	+ 0 1	...
Eggs (fresh) ... each	0 1½	0 1½	0 1½	+ 0 0½	+ 0 0½	...
Potatoes ... per 7 lb.	0 4½	0 9½	0 8½	+ 0 3½	+ 0 1	...

The following Table gives a percentage comparison of the level of retail prices at the same three dates :-

Article.	Average Percentage Increase at 31st July, 1926, as compared with July, 1914.			Corresponding General Average for 1st July, 1926.
	Large Towns (Populations over 50,000).	Small Towns and Villages.	General Average.	
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	
Beef, British—				
Ribs ...	76	73	74	75
Thin Flank ...	45	46	46	46
Beef, Chilled or Frozen—				
Ribs ...	44	39	42	41
Thin Flank ...	12	14	13	12
Mutton, British—				
Legs ...	81	84	82	83
Breast ...	62	60	61	63
Mutton, Frozen—				
Legs ...	78	70	74	75
Breast ...	25	28	26	27
Bacon (streaky)†	82	77	80	80
Fish ...	135	104	119	112
Flour ...	72	75	74	73
Bread ...	76	72	74	73
Tea ...	58	64	61	61
Sugar (granulated) ...	70	63	67	67
Milk ...	57	64	61	60
Butter—				
Fresh ...	55	59	57	53
Salt ...	54	53	53	52
Cheese† ...	51	58	55	58
Margarine ...	18	11	15	15
Eggs (fresh) ...	50	48	49	24
Potatoes ...	75	60	67	89
All above articles of Food (Weighted Percentage Increase) ...	62	60	61	61

* As 1st August fell on a Sunday, the statistics relate to 31st July, in accordance with the usual practice.

† If this kind is seldom dealt with in a locality, the returns quote the price of another kind locally representative.

‡ The description of cheese specified for quotation is Canadian or American, but where such cheese is seldom sold in a locality the returns quote the price of another kind locally representative.

EMPLOYMENT IN JULY.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

EMPLOYMENT in July remained bad on the whole, and a large number of works remained closed or were only partially working owing to the continued effect of the coal stoppage. The industries most seriously affected were those dependent upon large supplies of coal, e.g., pig-iron, iron and steel, tinplate and pottery manufacture, as well as engineering and shipbuilding; but in the tinplate, engineering, and shipbuilding industries there was a slight recovery during July. In the building trades, and in agriculture, employment was generally good with skilled workers. In the tailoring trade there was a seasonal decline.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS.

Among workpeople covered by the Unemployment Insurance Acts, numbering approximately 11,900,000, and working in practically every industry, except agriculture and private domestic service, the percentage unemployed at 26th July, 1926, was 14.6, as compared with 14.7* at 21st June, 1926, and with 11.2 at 27th July, 1925. For males alone the percentage at 26th July was 15.3, as compared with 15.6 at 21st June; for females the figure at 26th July was 12.8, as compared with 12.3 at 21st June. Among members of Trade Unions from which returns were received, the percentage unemployed was 13.2 at the end of July, 1926, as compared with 12.9 at the end of June, 1926, and with 11.2 at the end of July, 1925. The total number of persons (insured and uninsured) registered at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland at 26th July, 1926, was approximately 1,664,000, of whom 1,226,000 were men and 344,000 were women, the remainder being boys and girls; at 28th June, 1926, it was 1,699,000, of whom 1,262,000 were men and 346,000 were women; and at 27th July, 1925, it was 1,262,000, of whom men numbered 948,000 and women 246,000. The figures relating to June, 1926, and July, 1926, are exclusive of workpeople in the coal-mining industry who ceased work on account of the dispute.

The following Table shows, month by month since July, 1925, (a) the percentages unemployed among members of those Trade Unions from which returns are obtained, (b) the percentages unemployed among workpeople covered by the Unemployment Insurance Acts in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and (c) the approximate number (to the nearest 1,000) of persons on the registers in Great Britain and Northern Ireland:—

Month.	Percentage Unemployed (at or near end of month) among			Numbers registered at Local Offices (Insured and Uninsured).
	Trade Unions making Returns.	Insured Workpeople.		
		Males.	Females.	Total.
1925.				
July...	11.2	11.8	9.5	1,262,000
August...	11.4	13.1	9.5	1,418,000
September...	11.4	13.3	8.5	1,401,000
October...	11.3	12.7	7.7	1,395,000
November...	11.0	12.2	7.8	1,227,000
December...	11.0	11.6	7.3	1,166,000
1926.				
January...	10.6	12.1	8.1	1,237,000
February...	10.4	11.5	7.7	1,169,000
March...	10.1	10.9	7.1	1,070,000
April...	10.0	10.1	6.7	1,034,000
May...	13.2	15.1	12.7	1,675,000
June...	12.9	15.6	12.3	1,699,000
July...	13.2	15.3	12.8	1,664,000

Mining and Quarrying.—In the coal-mining industry the dispute which commenced on 1st May continued throughout July. At iron mines employment continued to be practically at a standstill. At the mines covered by the returns received, there was a decrease of 0.3 per cent. in the number of workpeople employed compared with the previous month, and a decrease of 77 per cent. compared with July, 1925. The average number of days worked by the mines that were working was 5.20 in July, 1926, 4.87 in June, 1926, and 5.39 in July, 1925. In the West Lothian shale mines there was an increase of 0.3 per cent. in the number of workpeople employed compared with the previous month, but several mines remained closed. At limestone quarries employment was reported as very bad in the Clitheroe and Weardale districts. At slate quarries in North Wales it remained fairly good. At whinstone quarries in the East of Scotland a slight improvement was reported and employment was moderate. At chalk quarries it continued very slack. Employment was again fairly good at china clay quarries and good at tin mines.

Manufacture of Pig Iron, Iron and Steel and Tinplate.—The pig iron industry continued almost at a standstill in consequence of the stoppage in the coal trade. In the iron and steel trades employment was still seriously affected by the dispute in the coal-mining industry, and although there were improvements in some districts, it was very bad on the whole. In the tinplate and steel sheet trade employment was still adversely affected by the shortage

* These percentages include coal mining, those miners who were not disqualified for benefit under the Unemployment Insurance Acts by reason of the dispute being taken as unemployed for the purpose of the percentage, but not those who ceased work owing to the dispute. In other industries (excluding coal-mining), the percentage of unemployment at 26th July was 15.3, the same percentage as at 21st June, 1926.
† At 21st December.

of fuel and tinplate bars, but a number of mills which had been closed during June re-opened. The number of tinplate and steel sheet mills in operation at the end of July, 1926, was 216, as compared with 165 in June, 1926, and 499 in July, 1925.

Engineering, Shipbuilding and Metal Trades.—In the engineering trades employment showed a little recovery as compared with June, but remained very bad, being adversely affected by the coal mining dispute. Short time was very prevalent, especially in the textile machinery and railway engineering sections, and there was a seasonal decline in the motor vehicle section. In the shipbuilding and ship repairing trades employment improved slightly, but was still very bad, partly owing to the coal mining stoppage and the consequent shortage of materials. In the other metal trades employment continued to be affected seriously in many sections by shortage of fuel; it remained moderate on the whole, but in some sections showed a decline on the previous month. It was good in the lock, latch and key trade; fair in the stove and grate, needle and fishing tackle and file trades; moderate in the brasswork, sheet metal, tube and wire trades; and slack or bad in the hollow-ware, nut and bolt, metallic bedstead, cutlery, jewellery and plated ware, anvil and vice, and chain and anchor trades.

Textile Trades.—In the cotton trade employment was very bad, owing largely to the difficulties of getting sufficient supplies of coal; it was worse than in July and much worse than a year ago. In the wool textile industry, taken as a whole, employment remained bad, and showed no marked change compared with June. On the whole the woollen section was in a somewhat better condition than the worsted section, and showed a slight improvement as compared with June. In the carpet section there was a marked decline. Employment in the hosiery trade continued bad; in the silk and artificial silk trades it remained fairly good in the Eastern Counties, and was moderate in the Macclesfield, Leek and Congleton districts; in the lace trade it remained bad, with much unemployment and short time; in the linen trade it continued bad, and it was also bad in the jute trade and worse than in June. In the textile bleaching, printing, dyeing, &c. trades employment continued very slack, and on the whole showed a further slight decline, due chiefly to inadequate coal supplies; short time working was general.

Clothing Trades.—Employment in the retail bespoke section of the tailoring trade showed a seasonal decline, but was fair on the whole; in the wholesale bespoke and ready-made branch it remained generally slack or moderate, with much short time, due partly to seasonal decline and partly to the continuance of the coal dispute. In the dressmaking, millinery and corset trades employment remained fair on the whole; in the blouse and light underclothing trade in London it was moderate, and showed a decline as compared with the previous month. In the shirt and collar trade employment varied as between districts, but was generally fair. In the felt hat trade employment showed an improvement, but much short time continued to be worked. In the boot and shoe industry employment continued poor, and slightly worse than in June; much short time was worked.

Leather Trades.—Employment in the leather trades continued slack, but with portmanteau, trunk and fancy leather workers it was moderate, and better than in June.

Building, Woodworking, &c.—Employment in the building trades continued generally good with most classes of skilled operatives, and was moderate, on the whole, with unskilled workers. It was very good generally with plasterers; and good, on the whole, with brick-layers and carpenters and joiners; it showed an improvement and was generally good with masons; it was also good with slaters. With plumbers it continued fair; with painters it varied considerably, but was fairly good, on the whole, with skilled men; with tradesmen's labourers it continued generally moderate. With brickmakers employment was affected by the shortage of coal; short time was reported in many districts and some yards were idle. In the Peterborough district, however, it continued good.

Employment in the furnishing trades and with mill-sawyers and coachbuilders continued fair on the whole; with packing case makers it improved slightly, but was still bad; with coopers employment continued bad.

Paper Manufacture, Printing and Bookbinding.—Employment in the paper trade remained slack. With letterpress printers employment continued moderate on the whole, but showed some improvement on the previous month; with electrotypers and stereotypers it continued very good in London and fairly good elsewhere; with lithographic printers it declined, but was still fair on the whole. With bookbinders an improvement was reported.

Pottery and Glass.—Employment in the pottery trade continued to be affected by the shortage of coal; many works were still closed and at others much short time was reported. In the glass trades employment continued bad, and worse than in June, with short time general.

Agriculture and Fishing.—In agriculture in England and Wales the demand for casual labour for haymaking and root hoeing exceeded the supply in some districts in the east and south-east; in other parts of the country the supply of labour was fully equal to requirements. In the fishing industry employment continued slack.

Dock Labour and Seamen.—Employment with dock labourers continued bad on the whole; with seamen it was still slack.

TRADE UNION PERCENTAGES OF UNEMPLOYED.

TRADE UNIONS with a net membership of 817,239 in branches covered by the returns received, reported 108,030 (or 13.2 per cent.) of their members as unemployed at the end of July, 1926, compared with 12.9 per cent. at the end of June, 1926.

Trade.	Membership of Unions reporting at end of July, 1926.	Unemployed at end of July, 1926.*		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in percentage Unemployed as compared with a	
		Num-ber.	Per-cent- age.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Engineering and Ship- building ...	333,996	72,656	21.8	+ 1.3	+ 6.6
Miscellaneous Metal ...	49,684	6,199	12.5	- 0.7	+ 6.1
Textiles:—					
Cotton ...	55,530	5,913†	10.6	+ 0.4	+ 4.7
Other ...	68,447	3,384	4.9	- 0.3	+ 2.0
Printing, Bookbinding and Papers ...	105,239	4,929	4.7	- 1.4	+ 2.0
Furnishing ...	23,234	2,162	9.3	- 2.9	+ 5.3
Woodworking ...	37,907	3,308	8.7	+ 0.9	+ 4.5
Clothing:—					
Boot and Shoe ...	81,872	6,064	7.4	+ 0.2	+ 1.9
Other Clothing ...	47,646	1,495	3.1	+ 1.3	+ 2.6
Leather ...	5,601	792	14.1	- 0.5	+ 0.5
Glass ...	1,202	48	4.0	+ 1.0	+ 2.1
Tobacco|| ...	6,881	1,080	15.7	+ 1.2	- 4.5
Total ...	817,239	108,030	13.2†	+ 0.3†	+ 2.0†

UNEMPLOYMENT IN INSURED INDUSTRIES.

The percentage unemployed among workpeople insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts in Great Britain and Northern Ireland (exclusive of persons who ceased work in the coal-mining industry on account of the dispute), was 14.6 per cent. (males 15.3 per cent., females 12.8 per cent.) at 26th July, 1926, as compared with 14.7 per cent. (males 15.6 per cent., females 12.3 per cent.) at 21st June, 1926, and 11.2 per cent. (males 11.8 per cent., females 9.5 per cent.) at 27th July, 1925. Tables showing the numbers and percentages unemployed in the principal industries appear on pages 298 to 301.

SUMMARY OF EMPLOYERS' RETURNS.

INFORMATION as to the state of employment in certain industries in July, derived from returns furnished by employers and employers' associations, is summarised below:—

(a) CERTAIN MINING AND METAL TRADES.

Trade.	Workpeople included in the Returns for July, 1926.	July, 1926.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.	Month ago.	Year ago.
		Days Worked per week by Mines.	Days.	Days.	
Iron Mining ...	1,321	5.20	+ 0.33	- 0.19	
Shale „ ...	2,648	5.73	+ 0.01	- 0.17	
		Furnaces in Blast (Figures not available)	Number.	Number.	
Pig Iron ...	—	216	+ 51	- 283	
Tinplate and Steel Sheet ...	—	Shifts Worked (one week).	Per cent.	Per cent.	
Iron and Steel ...	26,395	138,549	+ 4.3	- 59.7	

(b) OTHER TRADES.

Trade.	Number of Workpeople Employed.		Total Wages Paid to all Workpeople.	
	Week ended 24th July, 1926.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Week ended 24th July, 1926.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.†
			£	Per cent.
Textiles:—				
Cotton ...	76,185	- 3.4	125,626	- 3.9
Woolen ...	60,408	+ 1.4	121,898	+ 4.2
Worsted ...	86,476	- 0.5	151,462	+ 1.7
Boot and Shoe ...	48,268	+ 0.9	101,589	+ 0.9
Pottery ...	6,923	+ 11.4	11,182	+ 15.7
Brick ...	7,386	+ 1.0	19,466	- 2.0

* Short time and broken time are not reflected in the figures. In the textile industries a contraction in the demand for labour is generally met by short-time working. Persons on strike or locked out are also excluded.
† Owing to the dispute, coal mining is not included in the figures for July, 1926, and June, 1926; it is included, however, in those for July, 1925. If coal mining is excluded throughout, the increase in July, 1926, over July, 1925, was 4.4.

‡ In addition to those shown, who were totally unemployed, a large number of the members of the unions reporting were "played off part of each week, or alternate weeks or fortnights" or on "temporary stoppage benefit."
§ The returns actually received cover a larger number, but to preserve comparability the number taken for this Table is that corresponding with the figures for previous months.
|| The returns for the tobacco trade are supplied by unions whose members are mainly cigar makers.
¶ Comparison is affected by changes in rates of wages in some cases.
‡‡ Computed as explained in the article on page 83 of the March, 1926, GAZETTE.

UNEMPLOYMENT CHART.

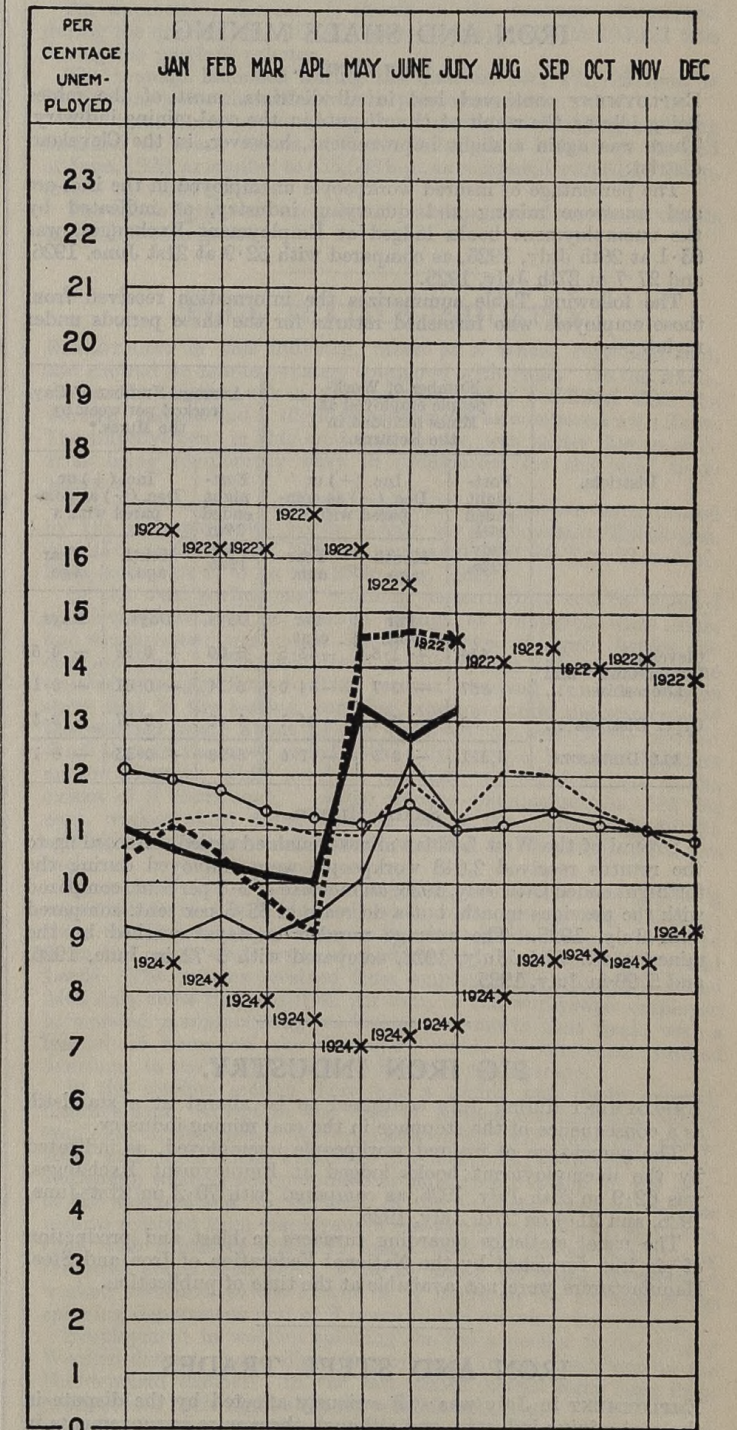
(1) PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED AT THE END OF EACH MONTH AMONG MEMBERS OF TRADE UNIONS MAKING RETURNS:—

Thick Curve ————— = 1926.
Thin Curve ————— = 1925.
Chain Curve -o-o-o-o-o-o-o = Mean of 1922-25.

× The crosses indicate the maximum and minimum percentages of Trade Union Members unemployed, in the months named, during the years 1922-1925.

(2) PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED AMONG WORK-PEOPLE INSURED AGAINST UNEMPLOYMENT UNDER THE UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACTS:—

Thick Dotted Curve - - - - - = 1926.
Thin Dotted Curve - - - - - = 1925.



NOTE.

The figures relate to Great Britain and Northern Ireland. The Trade Union Returns are furnished by various Trade Unions which pay unemployment benefit to their members. Persons on strike or locked out, sick or superannuated, are excluded from the figures. Detailed figures are given in the previous column.

The figures for insured workpeople are briefly explained, and are analysed in detail, on pages 298 to 301.

DETAILED REPORTS ON EMPLOYMENT IN SOME OF THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES.

NOTE.—The numbers of workpeople given in the following Tables represent the numbers covered by the Returns received and not the total numbers employed in the various industries. The comparisons of numbers employed and wages paid at different dates relate to the same firms at each date, and cover all the wage-earners, irrespective of age, sex, or occupation, employed by these firms. In comparing the earnings in different industries, it should be remembered that any averages calculated from these figures will be affected not only by the variations in the state of employment and in rates of wages, but also by differences in the proportions of males to females, of adults to juveniles, and of skilled to unskilled workers in the respective industries.

COAL MINING.

The general stoppage of work at coal mines, which began on 1st May, owing to a dispute, continued throughout July. The usual monthly statistics as to the number of workpeople employed in coal mining and as to the number of days worked are therefore not available for July. A special article on the subject of the dispute appears on pages 280-3 of this GAZETTE.

IRON AND SHALE MINING.

IRON MINING.

EMPLOYMENT continued bad in all districts, most of the mines being idle as the result of the dispute in the coal-mining industry. There was again a slight improvement, however, in the Cleveland district.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed in the iron-ore and ironstone mining and quarrying industry, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 63.1 at 26th July, 1926, as compared with 62.9 at 21st June, 1926, and 27.7 at 27th July, 1925.

The following Table summarizes the information received from those employers who furnished returns for the three periods under review:—

Districts.	Number of Workpeople employed at Mines included in the Returns.		Average Number of Days worked per week by the Mines.*		
	Fort-night ended 24th July, 1926.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a Month ago. Year ago.	Fort-night ended 24th July, 1926.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a Month ago. Year ago.	Days. Days. Days.
Cleveland ...	414	+ 1.5 - 83.5	5.00	+ 0.98 - 0.55	
Cumberland and Lancashire ...	857	- 0.7 - 64.0	5.34	- 0.01 - 0.10	
Other Districts ...	50	- 7.4 - 94.1	4.46	+ 0.87 - 0.31	
ALL DISTRICTS ...	1,321	- 0.3 - 77.0	5.20	+ 0.33 - 0.19	

SHALE MINING.

Several of the West Lothian mines remained closed. According to the returns received 2,648 workpeople were employed during the fortnight ended 24th July, 1926, an increase of 0.3 per cent. compared with the previous month, but a decrease of 35.3 per cent. compared with July, 1925. The average number of days* worked by the mines was 5.73 in July, 1926, compared with 5.72 in June, 1926, and 5.90 in July, 1925.

PIG IRON INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT during July continued to be almost at a standstill as a consequence of the stoppage in the coal mining industry.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 62.9 on 26th July, 1926, as compared with 70.2 on 21st June, 1926, and 21.4 on 27th July, 1925.

The usual statistics regarding furnaces in blast and production of pig iron furnished by the National Federation of Iron and Steel Manufacturers were not available at the time of publication.

IRON AND STEEL TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT in July was still seriously affected by the dispute in the coal mining industry, and although there were improvements in some districts, it was very bad on the whole.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 56.2 on 26th July, 1926, as compared with 55.3 on 21st June, 1926, and 25.0 on 27th July, 1925.

According to returns received from firms employing 26,395 workpeople in the week ended 24th July, 1926, the volume of

* The figures show the number of days (allowance being made in all the calculations for short time) on which iron, shale, etc., were got from the mines included in the returns. It is not necessarily implied that all the persons worked every day the mines were open. Mines not working are omitted in computing the average number of days worked.

employment in that week (as indicated by the number of workpeople employed, combined with the number of shifts during which work was carried on in each department) increased by 4.3 per cent. as compared with June, but showed a decrease of 59.7 per cent. as compared with a year ago. The average number of shifts during which the works were open was 5.2 in July, 1926, as compared with 5.1 in June, 1926, and 5.3 in July, 1925.

The following Table summarises the information from those employers who furnished returns for the three periods under review:—

DEPARTMENTS.	No. of Workpeople employed by firms making returns.		Aggregate number of Shifts.*	
	Week ended 24th July, 1926.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a Month ago. Year ago.	Week ended 24th July, 1926.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a Month ago. Year ago.
Open Hearth Melting Furnaces ...	623	+ 60.5 - 91.5	3,370	+ 58.4 - 91.5
Puddling Forges ...	40	- 61.5 - 98.3	200	- 56.1 - 98.1
Rolling Mills ...	8,249	- 7.3 - 65.4	39,262	- 2.9 - 66.6
Forging and Pressing ...	1,608	+ 6.1 - 49.8	8,080	+ 9.1 - 52.2
Founding ...	6,254	+ 23.5 - 18.6	33,766	+ 24.6 - 20.7
Other Departments ...	4,172	+ 6.9 - 39.2	23,879	+ 7.0 - 37.4
Mechanics, Labourers ...	5,449	- 9.2 - 60.8	29,992	- 9.1 - 61.6
TOTAL ...	26,395	+ 2.0 - 59.5	138,549	+ 4.3 - 59.7

DISTRICTS.	No. of Workpeople employed by firms making returns.		Aggregate number of Shifts.*	
	Week ended 24th July, 1926.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a Month ago. Year ago.	Week ended 24th July, 1926.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a Month ago. Year ago.
Northumberland, Durham and Cleveland ...	5,149	- 24.6 - 63.6	28,498	- 24.1 - 63.4
Sheffield and Rotherham ...	8,744	+ 34.5 - 52.6	44,413	+ 37.1 - 53.0
Leeds, Bradford, etc. ...	1,245	- 16.7 - 39.4	6,983	- 17.9 - 37.4
Cumberland, Lancs. and Cheshire ...	3,149	- 4.1 - 55.2	15,055	+ 4.8 - 58.4
Staffordshire ...	1,465	- 28.8 - 76.4	7,811	- 29.5 - 76.8
Other Midland Counties	1,755	+ 3.5 - 53.9	9,058	- 6.3 - 56.2
Wales and Monmouth	4,408	+ 43.3 - 42.7	23,922	+ 66.4 - 41.5
Total, England and Wales ...	25,915	+ 3.9 - 56.4	135,740	+ 6.1 - 56.9
Scotland ...	480	- 49.1 - 91.6	2,809	- 43.1 - 90.2
TOTAL ...	26,395	+ 2.0 - 59.5	138,549	+ 4.3 - 59.7

TINPLATE AND STEEL SHEET TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT was still adversely affected by the shortage of fuel and of tinplate bars, but a number of mills which had been closed during June were re-opened during the month. At the end of July, 216 tinplate and steel sheet mills were in operation at the works for which information is available, compared with 165 in the previous month and with 499 in July, 1925.

The following Table shows the number of mills in operation at the end of July, 1926, at the works covered by the returns received:—

Works.	Number of Works Open		Number of Mills in Operation	
	At end of July, 1926.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago. Year ago.	At end of July, 1926.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago. Year ago.
Tinplate ...	30	+ 5 - 40	150	+ 43 - 231
Steel Sheet ...	5	+ 2 - 8	66	+ 8 - 52
TOTAL ...	35	+ 7 - 48	216	+ 51 - 283

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 62.7 on 26th July, 1926, as compared with 74.6 on 21st June, 1926, and with 13.2 on 27th July, 1925.

The exports of tinned and galvanised plates and sheets in July, 1926, amounted to 78,367 tons, or 2,948 tons more than in June, 1926, but 26,752 tons less than in July, 1925.

* The figures relate to the number of shifts during which the works were in operation, taken in conjunction with the numbers of men employed. No account is taken of the time lost by individuals owing to absenteeism, etc., and it is not intended to imply that the number of shifts shown were actually worked by all the men employed.

ENGINEERING.

EMPLOYMENT during July was still adversely affected by the dispute in the coal mining industry and remained very bad; but it showed a little recovery on the whole as compared with the previous month. Short time was still very prevalent, especially in the textile machinery and railway engineering sections. In the motor vehicle section a seasonal decline was experienced. Compared with a year ago employment was considerably worse in all sections.

The following Table shows the numbers and percentages of insured workpeople unemployed at 26th July, 1926:—

Divisions.	Number of Insured Workpeople Unemployed at 26th July, 1926.						Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a	
	Engineering, Iron and Steel Founding.	Electrical Engineering.	Marine Engineering, etc.	Constructional Engineering.	Construction and Repair of Motor Vehicles, Cycles, and Aircraft.	TOTAL.	Month ago.	Year ago.
London ...	6,467	524	76	133	2,169	9,369	- 492	+ 333
South-Eastern ...	3,024	668	180	83	3,555	4,911	- 2,952	+ 1,424
South-Western ...	2,303	87	404	58	1,021	3,871	- 102	+ 798
Midlands ...	12,138	1,796	94	1,916	12,949	28,893	- 1,004	+ 12,190
North-Eastern ...	30,691	917	9,701	1,938	1,184	44,491	- 1,071	+ 13,152
North-Western ...	29,740	2,004	203	194	2,036	34,177	- 3,718	+ 11,116
Scotland ...	17,851	451	4,235	1,709	916	25,162	- 292	+ 3,807
Wales ...	3,309	42	40	145	164	3,700	- 147	+ 2,410
Northern Ireland ...	2,049	25	1,841	15	214	4,144	+ 69	+ 694
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND ...	107,572	6,514	16,774	6,249	21,609	158,718	- 8,809	+ 45,924

Divisions.	Percentages Unemployed at 26th July, 1926.						Month ago.	Year ago.
	7.3	5.6	11.7	5.3	6.3	6.9		
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
London ...	7.3	5.6	11.7	5.3	6.3	6.9	- 0.4	+ 0.1
South-Eastern ...	7.2	7.3	5.2	16.3	3.9	6.2	- 2.5	+ 1.7
South-Western ...	6.4	3.1	6.3	8.1	5.0	5.8	- 0.2	+ 1.0
Midlands ...	12.9	7.5	5.9	30.3	14.1	13.3	- 0.4	+ 5.1
North-Eastern ...	24.2	11.6	40.7	28.7	10.8	25.2	- 0.6	+ 7.8
North-Western ...	21.3	10.2	16.5	8.6	10.4	18.7	- 2.1	+ 6.1
Scotland ...	20.9	13.5	22.8	28.1	9.0	20.4	- 0.2	+ 3.2
Wales ...	45.5	13.1	14.3	18.8	8.9	35.3	- 1.4	+ 23.5
Northern Ireland ...	27.4	11.9	32.5	50.0	13.1	27.6	+ 0.5	+ 5.0
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND ...	17.1	8.5	27.2	23.9	10.1	15.8	- 0.8	+ 4.4
<i>Ditto, June 1926</i>	<i>18.3</i>	<i>11.3</i>	<i>27.3</i>	<i>18.0</i>	<i>10.4</i>	<i>16.6</i>	<i>...</i>	<i>...</i>
<i>Ditto, July 1925</i>	<i>12.4</i>	<i>6.0</i>	<i>20.3</i>	<i>12.7</i>	<i>6.9</i>	<i>11.4</i>	<i>...</i>	<i>...</i>

On the North-East Coast employment was still very bad and continued to decline, conditions in marine engineering being exceptionally bad. In Yorkshire employment remained bad without exhibiting much improvement, while in Lincolnshire it continued bad and showed a further decline. In Lancashire and Cheshire conditions were a little better, although employment was still very bad. In the Birmingham and Coventry district employment was bad on the whole, and showed a seasonal decline in the motor section; in the electrical section, however, there was a slight improvement. In the Derby, Nottingham and Leicester districts employment was bad on the whole.

In London and in the Eastern and Southern counties employment continued moderate, with some improvement, principally in the South-Eastern Division. Employment on motor and electrical work was fair, and aircraft firms were busy.

In South Wales employment was still very bad, but a slight further improvement was observed. In Scotland employment remained very depressed and showed little change. At Belfast it remained very bad and continued to decline.

SHIPBUILDING AND SHIP-REPAIRING.

EMPLOYMENT remained very bad during July, partly owing to the continued stoppage in the coal mining industry and the consequent shortage of materials. There was, however, a slight improvement on the whole compared with June. Compared with a year ago there was a decline in nearly all districts.

The following Table shows the numbers and percentages of insured workpeople unemployed at 26th July, 1926:—

Divisions.	Total Number of Insured Workpeople Unemployed at 26th July, 1926.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with		Percentage Unemployed at 26th July, 1926.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in percentage as compared with	
		A Month ago.	A Year ago.		A Month ago.	A Year ago.
	London ...	2,084	- 1,205	- 684	16.8	- 9.6	- 2.6
South-Eastern ...	670	- 163	- 32	6.8	- 1.6	- 0.6
South-Western ...	3,358	- 643	- 3	13.2	- 2.6	+ 1.4
Midlands ...	45	- 30	- 3	16.1	- 10.7	+ 6.7
North-Eastern ...	37,089	+ 27	+ 4,404	55.4	+ 0.1	+ 8.9
North-Western ...	10,249	+ 1	- 359	31.3	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Scotland ...	27,911	+ 1,161	+ 3,829	43.2	+ 1.8	+ 6.5
Wales ...	5,300	- 614	+ 1,563	48.6	- 5.7	+ 15.5
Northern Ireland ...	6,361	- 136	+ 6	34.2	- 0.7	+ 4.6
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND ...	93,047	- 1,602	+ 8,727	38.5	- 0.7	+ 5.4

On the North-East Coast employment remained very bad, especially on new work, the percentage unemployed being 55.4, practically the same as in June.

On the Thames and the South Coast an improvement was shown. On the Bristol Channel employment was bad, but showed an improvement. On the Mersey little change was shown.

In Scotland employment was very bad, and worse than during the previous month. At Belfast it continued very bad.

SHIPBUILDING IN THE QUARTER ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1926.

According to Lloyd's Register Quarterly Shipbuilding Returns, the gross tonnage of merchant vessels under construction in Great Britain and Ireland at the end of June, 1926, amounted to 841,338 tons, as compared with 843,070 tons at the end of March, 1926, and 1,093,587 tons at the end of June, 1925. The present total is the lowest recorded since September, 1909, the average tonnage building during the 12 months immediately preceding the war being 1,890,000 tons. The tonnage on which work was suspended at the end of June, 1926, amounted to nearly 78,000 tons, which is about the same as at the end of June, 1925. The tonnage of motor ships building at the end of June, 1926, amounted to 53.8 per cent. of the steam tonnage under construction.

An appreciable decrease is shown in the tonnage commenced during the quarter, viz., 168,483 tons, as compared with 193,121 tons during the previous quarter.

The tonnage launched during the quarter, viz., 171,725 tons, is 18,980 tons lower than that for the previous quarter.

The total horse-power of the marine engines building or being installed on board vessels in Great Britain and Ireland at the end of June, 1926, amounted to 635,538 h.p., as compared with 612,678 h.p. in the previous quarter.

The above figures are exclusive of warships and of merchant vessels under 100 tons gross.

WOOL TEXTILE INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT in this industry, taken as a whole, remained bad, and showed no marked change compared with June. On the whole, the woollen section was in a somewhat better condition than the worsted, and showed a slight improvement as compared with June. The improvement in this section, however, was partly due to some firms being temporarily busy in preparation for the local trade holidays.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 23.1 on 26th July, 1926, as compared with 24.9 on 21st June, 1926, and with 21.3 on the 27th July, 1925.

In the wool sorting and combing departments, and in worsted spinning, there was no marked change as compared with June, but employment was much below the level of April, before the coal stoppage. The local trade holidays were extended by some worsted-spinning firms. The returns received from employers show that in the sorting, combing, and preparing departments of the worsted trade about 61 per cent. of the workpeople worked short time in the week ended 24th July, with a loss of 17½ hours on the average; while nearly 2 per cent. worked overtime, to the extent of 9 hours each. In the worsted-spinning section, 58½ per cent. worked short time, with a loss of 12½ hours each on the average; while 2 per cent. worked overtime, to the extent of 5 hours each.

In worsted manufacturing (including the dyeing and finishing departments of firms which do their own dyeing and finishing) there was little change, either in the dress-goods trade of Bradford or in the men's wear trade of Huddersfield, Halifax, Keighley and Leeds. The returns received from employers for the week ended 24th July show that about 42 per cent. of the workpeople employed in worsted manufacturing worked short time in that week, with a loss of 13 hours on the average*; while 1 per cent. worked overtime, to the extent of over 5 hours on the average.

In the woollen section there was a slight, but fairly general, improvement, except in the case of flannel manufacture, where employment declined. Nevertheless, short time was very prevalent; and employment was below the level of April (before the coal stoppage), when it was described as moderate. About 46 per cent. of the spinners and 43 per cent. of the weavers* covered by the returns received from employers in the woollen section worked short time, with a loss of about 11 hours, each on the average during the week ended 24th July; while 6½ and 2 per cent., respectively, worked overtime, to the extent of 7½ hours on the average in the spinning department and of 5 hours in the weaving department.

Employment in woollen spinning showed a decline in the Heavy Woollen district, but a slight improvement in the Leeds and in the Huddersfield districts; in the last named district some large firms re-instituted their night shift for woollen spinning.

There was also some improvement in woollen weaving, particularly in the Heavy Woollen and in the Huddersfield districts, but much short time was worked in nearly all districts. Employment was fairly good at Batley; on the other hand, there was a decline in the Yeadon and Giseley district and in the Morley district. It was estimated that about one-third of the textile machinery in the Morley district was idle. Employment in the low wool trade was bad.

In the blanket manufacturing section there was a slight improvement in Yorkshire before the holidays (which fell at the end of the month), owing to the desire of employers to get orders completed

* These figures do not take into account other forms of under-employment, such as "playing for warps," and tending one instead of two looms.

before the holiday stoppage. Employment at Witney remained good.

Employment with flannel workers in the Rochdale district was bad, and declined during the month; much short time was worked. In the Saddleworth district two-thirds of the trade union workers were on short time, mainly owing to the fuel shortage; the average weekly hours worked were about 35. With woollen workers in the Stockport district employment was fair, and showed an improvement.

Employment in Scotland was much restricted owing to the coal shortage.

In the carpet industry employment again declined and was bad on the whole. Practically all the carpet weavers at Kidderminster were on short time, many of them working only three days a week. In the Halifax district two-thirds of the trade union workers were working only three days a week; employment with a few firms, however, was fairly good. Employment in the carpet section was poor at Johnstone, but good at Ayr.

The following Table shows, for the principal districts and departments of the industry, the percentage changes between the week ended 26th June and that ended 24th July in the numbers of workpeople employed and in the total wages paid by firms from whom information has been obtained:—

Departments:	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 24th July, 1926.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a month ago.	Index figure (Jan. 1926 = 100.)	Week ended 24th July, 1926.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a month ago.	Index figure (Jan. 1926 = 100.)
WORSTED SECTION:						
Wool Sorting and Combing ...	10,435	+ 1.3	96.0	22,217	+ 3.3	78.0
Spinning ...	40,788	- 0.5	95.4	58,942	+ 5.2	85.3
Weaving ...	19,176	- 1.8	97.5	35,674	- 2.1	88.0
Other Depts. ...	14,032	+ 0.4	99.4	30,781	- 2.3	92.7
Not specified ...	2,045	- 2.0	104.6	3,848	+ 9.0	91.3
Total—Worsted	86,476	- 0.5	95.7	151,462	+ 1.7	86.2
WOOLEN SECTION:						
Wool Sorting and Combing ...	1,140	+ 3.0	94.0	2,634	+ 8.6	95.2
Spinning ...	13,784	+ 0.7	94.1	28,261	+ 4.6	97.5
Weaving ...	22,500	+ 2.0	99.1	40,746	+ 4.0	100.7
Other Depts. ...	20,992	+ 1.2	96.4	45,956	+ 4.1	98.8
Not specified ...	1,992	- 0.3	95.2	4,301	+ 1.2	95.6
Total—Woollen	60,408	+ 1.4	96.9	121,898	+ 4.2	98.9
CARPET SECTION ...	9,756	+ 0.8	98.5	13,858	- 10.9	70.7
Total—Wool Textile Industry	156,640	+ 0.3	96.1	287,218	+ 2.0	90.2
Districts*:						
WORSTED SECTION:						
Bradford ...	39,914	- 0.1	94.7	71,850	+ 0.3	82.4
Huddersfield ...	9,454	- 1.4	101.7	18,340	- 4.2	90.8
Halifax ...	10,201	- 2.4	93.4	16,097	+ 1.6	80.7
Leeds ...	8,847	- 2.7	97.2	15,156	+ 7.3	90.6
Kelghley ...	9,068	- 0.5	94.5	15,478	+ 3.9	94.1
Heavy Woollen (Dewsbury, Batley, etc.) ...	2,029	- 0.2	96.3	2,894	+ 13.0	96.1
Total—Worsted	79,513	- 0.9	95.7	139,815	+ 1.2	85.5
West of England and Midlands ...	4,783	+ 0.8	97.6	8,377	+ 5.1	92.1
Lancs ...	334	+ 183.1	116.3	620	+ 122.2	104.0
Scotland ...	1,845	+ 0.8	93.1	2,650	+ 3.2	111.4
Total—Woollen	60,408	+ 1.4	96.9	121,898	+ 4.2	98.9
CARPET SECTION ...	9,756	+ 0.8	98.5	13,858	- 10.9	70.7
Total—Wool Textile Industry	156,640	+ 0.3	96.1	287,218	+ 2.0	90.2

In the worsted section of the industry, taken as a whole, the returns received from employers show that 52 per cent. of their workpeople were on short time in the week ended 24th July, with a loss, on the average, of about 13½ hours each.† In the woollen section the returns show that in the same week about 41 per cent. of the workpeople were on short time, with a loss of 11 hours on the average.† In the carpet section the employers' returns show 69 per

* Most of the districts are indicated by the names of their principal towns, but neighbouring towns and areas are included in each case.
† See note * on previous page.

cent. on short time, with a loss of 16 hours each, on the average. The corresponding particulars for overtime were 2 per cent., averaging 6 hours each, in the worsted section, and 3½ per cent., averaging 8 hours each, in the woollen section.

The following Table shows the number of men and of women (other than casuals) on the registers of Employment Exchanges in the principal wool textile trade centres at the 26th July, 1926:—

Department.	Numbers (excluding Casuals) on the Registers at 26th July, 1926.						
	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.			Total.
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
Wool Sorting ...	287	7	294	726	13	739	1,033
Wool Washing and Preparing ...	318	262	580	1,139	419	1,558	2,138
Wool Combing ...	152	148	300	1,068	1,082	2,150	2,450
Wool Carding ...	385	92	477	1,400	288	1,688	2,165
Woolen Spinning ...	255	109	364	894	602	1,496	1,850
Worsted Drawing and Spinning ...	265	898	1,163	1,341	6,954	8,295	9,458
Wool Washing and Warping ...	83	19	102	358	197	555	657
Worsted Drawing and Warping ...	52	156	208	212	1,747	1,959	2,167
Woolen Weaving ...	103	594	697	690	4,042	4,732	5,429
Worsted Weaving ...	72	530	602	253	4,967	5,220	5,822
Other Processes ...	545	57	602	1,332	462	1,794	2,396
TOTAL ...	2,517	2,872	5,389	9,413	20,773	30,186	35,575

The following Table shows the increases and decreases as compared with the 21st June, 1926:—

Department.	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.			Total.
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
Wool Sorting ...	+ 48	- 2	+ 46	- 126	+ 8	- 118	- 72
Wool Washing and Preparing ...	+ 18	- 9	+ 9	- 253	- 282	- 535	- 526
Wool Combing ...	+ 15	+ 15	+ 30	- 396	- 463	- 859	- 829
Wool Carding ...	+ 23	+ 6	+ 29	- 166	- 42	- 208	- 179
Woolen Spinning ...	- 58	- 21	- 79	- 176	+ 77	- 99	- 178
Worsted Drawing and Spinning ...	- 1	+ 242	+ 241	- 515	- 521	- 1,036	- 795
Wool Washing and Warping ...	+ 20	...	+ 20	- 131	...	- 131	- 111
Worsted Drawing and Warping ...	+ 2	+ 21	+ 23	- 35	+ 20	- 15	+ 8
Woolen Weaving ...	+ 16	+ 55	+ 71	- 121	- 1,443	- 1,564	- 1,493
Worsted Weaving ...	+ 15	+ 249	+ 264	- 18	+ 175	+ 157	+ 421
Other Processes ...	- 90	- 5	- 95	- 252	+ 186	- 66	- 161
TOTAL ...	+ 8	+ 551	+ 559	- 2,189	- 2,285	- 4,474	- 3,915

The imports less re-exports of raw wool (sheep's or lambs') were 22,551,200 lbs. in July, 1926, compared with 44,285,000 lbs. in June, 1926, and with 20,148,700 lbs. in July, 1925.

The exports of woollen and worsted yarns were 3,561,800 lbs. compared with 3,639,400 lbs. in June, 1926, and with 3,460,700 lbs. in July, 1925.

The exports of woollen and worsted tissues were 17,998,400 square yards, compared with 12,634,800 square yards in June, 1926, and 19,163,100 square yards in July, 1925.

The exports of blankets were 79,554 pairs, 74,056 pairs, and 76,135 pairs in July, 1926, June, 1926, and July, 1925, respectively.

COTTON INDUSTRY.

OWING largely to the difficulties of getting sufficient coal supplies employment was very bad in this industry in July, and worse than a month earlier; it was much worse than a year ago. In the American spinning section the mills as a rule were only working alternate weeks, and in many cases extended stoppages took place in addition to the annual holidays. The Egyptian section was also adversely affected by lack of coal, and employment was only moderate, and worse than a month earlier.

In the weaving departments the position was serious, and worse than in June; many mills were closed down and large numbers of workers were without employment.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 28.2 on the 26th July, 1926, as compared with 25.0 on the 21st June, 1926, and with 11.6 on the 27th July, 1925.

In the Oldham, Ashton, and Stalybridge districts employment with spinners was very bad, and worse than a month earlier; it was much worse than a year ago. Short time and extended stoppages for the annual holidays were very prevalent, owing to the shortage or high price of coal; many firms, however, had installed oil-burning plant. In the manufacturing departments employment was reported as very slack, especially in the velvet section.

At Bolton employment with spinners was bad, and worse than in June; the local holidays were extended by a week; with weavers it was very depressed; several large firms were obliged to resort to temporary stoppages and short time. At Leigh and at Chorley employment with spinners was worse than a month earlier, but was still described as fair. At Bury and Rochdale employment was bad; at the latter place many of the mills were not working much more than half time.

Great depression continued in all the principal weaving centres. At Burnley employment was described as bad, and worse than in

June; it was considerably worse than a year ago; nearly 30 per cent. of the Trade Union members worked alternate weeks owing to coal shortage and shortage of orders, and some mills were stopped for indefinite periods. At Blackburn there was a heavy increase in the number unemployed during the month; mills were closing, some for short periods and some indefinitely. At Darwen many mills were unable to re-open after the July "Wakes" holiday because of fuel difficulties. At Nelson a slight improvement was reported, owing to the use of oil fuel by a number of the larger firms. At Preston the position was bad, except with some firms engaged on light fabrics; owing to lack of coal, firms which had rarely or never stopped before were obliged to close down, some temporarily, and others for an indefinite period; the number of closed mills varied from 17 to 25, and the number of unemployed operatives from 5,000 to 8,000. At Colne and at Padiham employment was very slack.

There was a slight temporary improvement in Yorkshire, as some employers were running longer hours in view of the approach of the local holidays.

The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished returns for the three periods under review:—

DEPARTMENTS.	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 24th July, 1926.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a month ago.		Week ended 24th July, 1926.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a month ago.	
		Per cent.	Per cent.		£	Per cent.
Preparing ...	10,712	- 0.3	- 6.5	15,474	+ 0.0	- 16.5
Spinning ...	20,143	- 0.2	- 4.3	30,487	- 0.6	- 12.3
Weaving ...	31,053	- 7.1	- 11.7	52,288	- 5.9	- 17.1
Other ...	7,657	- 2.9	- 7.7	17,114	- 4.5	- 14.2
Not Specified ...	6,620	- 0.2	- 1.1	10,263	- 8.2	- 18.0
TOTAL ...	76,185	- 3.4	- 7.9	125,626	- 3.9	- 15.6
DISTRICTS.	No. of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 24th July, 1926.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a month ago.	Year ago.	Week ended 24th July, 1926.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a month ago.	Year ago.
Ashton ...	3,700	- 1.3	- 14.5	4,909	- 5.7	- 31.4
Stockport, Glossop and Hyde ...	7,598	+ 2.3	- 1.5	12,515	+ 4.0	- 8.8
Oldham ...	8,082	+ 6.3	- 4.2	11,314	- 4.6	- 25.7
Bolton and Leigh ...	15,696	- 0.9	+ 0.2	26,679	- 1.1	+ 1.2
Bury, Rochdale, Heywood, Walsden and Todmorden ...	7,983	+ 1.2	- 8.4	11,485	+ 2.0	- 24.2
Manchester ...	3,415	- 10.2	- 11.4	5,553	- 7.6	- 17.2
Preston and Chorley ...	5,412	- 0.6	- 5.9	8,703	- 6.4	- 12.0
Blackburn, Accrington and Darwen ...	7,615	- 8.1	- 10.7	14,290	- 5.7	- 17.2
Burnley, Padiham, Colne and Nelson ...	8,071	- 13.7	- 20.5	16,703	- 9.7	- 25.1
Other Lancashire Towns ...	2,323	- 29.3	- 32.0	3,786	- 29.4	- 31.9
Yorkshire Towns ...	3,803	+ 2.8	+ 1.7	5,925	+ 9.4	+ 1.1
Other Districts ...	2,487	- 0.8	+ 4.0	3,764	+ 0.8	+ 5.3
TOTAL ...	76,185	- 3.4	- 7.9	125,626	- 3.9	- 15.6

Returns from firms employing about 74,600 workpeople in the week ended 24th July showed that about 32 per cent. of these workpeople were on short time in that week, with a loss of about 17 hours on the average.

The following Table shows the number of men and of women (other than casuals) on the registers of Employment Exchanges in the principal cotton trade centres at 26th July, 1926:—

Department.	Numbers (excluding casuals) on the Register at 26th July, 1926.						
	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.			Total.
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
Card and Blowing Room ...	583	1,555	2,138	3,576	15,585	19,161	21,299
Spinning ...	2,471	1,620	4,091	17,377	13,301	30,678	34,769
Beaming, Winding and Warping ...	640	1,395	2,035	3,299	15,113	18,412	20,447
Weaving ...	1,700	2,774	4,474	9,387	29,406	38,793	43,267
Other Processes ...	402	94	496	1,167	709	1,876	2,372
Total ...	5,796	7,438	13,234	34,806	74,114	108,920	122,154

The following Table shows the increases and decreases as compared with 21st June, 1926:—

Department.	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.			Total.
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
Card and Blowing Room ...	+ 55	+ 225	+ 280	+ 257	+ 1,582	+ 1,839	+ 2,119
Spinning ...	+ 181	+ 248	+ 429	+ 2,038	+ 69	+ 2,107	+ 2,536
Beaming, Winding and Warping ...	+ 129	+ 121	+ 250	+ 577	- 657	- 80	+ 170
Weaving ...	+ 34	+ 107	+ 141	+ 1,433	+ 6,548	+ 7,981	+ 8,122
Other Processes ...	+ 62	+ 4	+ 66	+ 349	+ 49	+ 398	+ 464
Total ...	+ 461	+ 705	+ 1,166	+ 4,654	+ 7,591	+ 12,245	+ 13,411

The imports (less re-exports) of raw cotton (including cotton linters) were 95,625,600 lbs. in July, 1926, compared with 95,963,900 lbs. in June, 1926, and with 51,000,800 lbs. in July, 1925.

The exports of cotton yarn were 12,363,500 lbs. in July, 1926, compared with 14,442,600 lbs. in June, 1926, and with 14,044,700 lbs. in July, 1925.

The exports of cotton piece goods were 359,610,800 square yards as compared with 328,311,000 square yards in the previous month, and with 370,841,700 square yards in July, 1925.

BOOT AND SHOE INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT in this industry continued to be affected by the shortage of fuel resulting from the coal stoppage, and was poor, and slightly worse than in June; a great deal of short time was worked. As has been the case for many months, there was less slackness in factories producing light footwear than in those making artisans' boots.

The percentage of workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 14.3 on 26th July, as compared with 13.6 on 21st June, and 11.8 on 2

The following Table shows the number of men and of women (other than casuals) on the registers of Employment Exchanges in the principal centres of the boot and shoe industry at 26th July, 1926.

Department.	Numbers (excluding Casuals) on the Register at 26th July, 1926.						Total.
	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.			
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
Boot and Shoe Manufacture:							
Preparing Department	138	27	165	124	56	180	345
Rough Stuff Department	356	24	380	294	27	321	701
Clicking Department	771	3	774	1,396	16	1,412	2,186
Closing Department	21	785	806	20	2,315	2,335	3,141
Making Department	1,942	59	2,001	2,125	87	2,212	4,213
Finishing Department	1,081	329	1,410	1,614	382	1,996	3,406
Slipper Making	226	24	250	164	189	353	603
Clog Making	28	3	31	6	...	6	37
Repairing and Hand-sewn Work	468	7	475	44	2	46	521
TOTAL	5,031	1,261	6,292	5,787	3,074	8,861	15,153

The following Table shows the increases and decreases compared with the 21st June, 1926.

Department.	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.			Total.
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
Boot and Shoe Manufacture:							
Preparing Department	+ 73	- 2	+ 71	- 22	- 12	- 34	+ 37
Rough Stuff Department	+ 87	+ 8	+ 95	- 43	+ 6	- 37	+ 58
Clicking Department	+ 111	- 4	+ 107	+ 18	- 83	- 65	+ 42
Closing Department	- 5	+ 266	+ 261	- 11	+ 599	+ 588	+ 849
Making Department	+ 345	+ 16	+ 361	+ 115	+ 10	+ 125	+ 486
Finishing Department	+ 194	+ 46	+ 240	+ 454	+ 125	+ 579	+ 819
Slipper Making	+ 19	+ 7	+ 26	- 451	- 162	- 613	- 587
Clog Making	+ 6	- 1	+ 5	+ 3	...	+ 3	+ 8
Repairing and Hand-sewn Work	+ 3	+ 1	+ 4	+ 3	+ 1	+ 4	+ 8
TOTAL	+ 833	+ 337	+ 1,170	+ 66	+ 484	+ 550	+ 1,720

The exports of boots and shoes in July, 1926, amounted to 127,244 dozen pairs, or 28,550 dozen pairs more than in June, 1926, but 682 dozen pairs less than in July, 1925.

PAPER MANUFACTURE, PRINTING, AND BOOKBINDING.

EMPLOYMENT in the paper trade during July remained slack, and was still adversely affected by the shortage of coal.

In the letterpress printing trade, employment on the whole continued moderate, although it was reported as slack at Glasgow, bad at Birmingham and good at Edinburgh. There was, however, some improvement generally compared with the previous month. With electrotypes and stereotypers employment continued very good in London and fairly good elsewhere.

Employment in the lithographic printing trade continued fair generally, but was slightly worse compared with the previous month and July, 1925. With lithographic artists employment remained fair in London, but slack, and worse than during June, at Manchester.

In the bookbinding trade employment improved during the month, but was still worse than in July, 1925.

The following Table summarises the returns received from Trade Unions:—

No. of Members of Unions at end of July, 1926.	Percentage Unemployed at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) on a		
	July, 1926.	June, 1926.	July, 1925.	Month ago.	Year ago.	
	Letterpress Printing:					
London	45,385	3.4	3.7	2.1	- 0.3	+ 1.3
Northern Counties, Yorkshire, Lancashire and Cheshire.	19,166	5.0	12.6	2.7	- 7.6	+ 2.3
Midlands and Eastern Counties.	12,474	3.5	4.4	1.9	- 0.9	+ 1.6
Scotland	7,993	5.2	6.5	1.9	- 1.3	+ 3.3
Other Districts	12,941	4.4	7.0	3.1	- 2.6	+ 1.3
TOTAL	97,959	4.0	6.2	2.3	- 2.2	+ 1.7
Lithographic Printing	10,249	3.1	2.9	2.2	+ 0.2	+ 0.9
Bookbinding	23,153	5.3	7.2	2.9	- 1.9	+ 2.4

The percentage unemployed among insured workpeople covered by the Unemployment Insurance Acts in the printing and book-binding trades was 5.9 at 26th July, compared with 6.1 at 21st June and 4.6 at 27th July, 1925. In the paper and paper-board industry, the percentage was 8.3 at 26th July, compared with 8.7 at 21st June

and 6.9 at 27th July, 1925. In the cardboard box, paper-bag and stationery trades the percentage was 5.9 at 26th July, compared with 6.5 at 21st June and 5.8 at 27th July, 1925.

BUILDING TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT during July remained generally good with most classes of skilled operatives and moderate, on the whole, with unskilled workers; it was again adversely affected in some districts by a shortage of materials arising out of the continued stoppage in the coal-mining industry. Employment was not so good as a year ago.

As regards individual occupations employment was very good generally with plasterers and good, on the whole, with bricklayers, carpenters and joiners; it showed some improvement and was generally fairly good, with masons as it was also with slaters. A shortage of one or more of the foregoing classes of skilled operatives, principally plasterers and bricklayers, was again reported in some districts. Employment with plumbers remained fair; with painters it varied considerably in different districts but was fairly good, on the whole, with skilled men; it continued generally moderate with tradesmen's labourers.

The following Table shows the numbers and percentages of workpeople insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts who were unemployed at 26th July, 1926, together with the increase or decrease in the percentages as compared with the previous month and with July, 1925.

Occupations.	Estimated Number of Insured Workpeople at July, 1925.	Total Number Unemployed at 26th July, 1926.	Number included in Previous Column who were Temporarily Stopped.	Percentage Unemployed.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in percentage as compared with	
					A Month ago.	A Year ago.*
OCCUPATIONS.						
Carpenters	114,030	5,784	513	5.1	+ 0.2	+ 3.1
Bricklayers	65,120	2,421	409	3.7	+ 0.5	+ 2.5
Masons	23,840	1,260	114	5.3	- 2.2	+ 2.9
Slaters	5,310	308	23	5.8	+ 0.3	+ 1.2
Plasterers	17,880	366	26	2.0	+ 0.2	+ 0.6
Painters	108,590	11,532	475	10.6	+ 1.3	+ 2.0
Plumbers	28,610	2,686	168	9.4	- 0.2	+ 3.5
Labourers to above...	229,210	28,275	1,872	12.3	+ 0.2	+ 3.4
All other occupations	161,530	22,547	1,846	14.0	+ 0.6	- 7.3
TOTAL	754,120	75,179	5,446	10.0	+ 0.4	+ 1.8
DIVISIONS.						
London	157,290	14,978	34	9.5	- 0.6	+ 0.6
South-Eastern	116,280	5,011	46	4.3	...	- 0.3
South-Western	92,610	6,259	126	6.8	+ 0.3	+ 1.1
Midlands	84,350	9,335	1,882	11.1	+ 1.9	+ 3.4
North-Eastern	96,650	12,587	1,707	13.0	+ 1.4	+ 3.4
North-Western	97,120	11,404	965	11.7	+ 0.7	+ 2.2
Scotland	69,440	7,296	332	10.5	- 0.9	+ 1.9
Wales	26,900	4,184	349	15.6	+ 1.4	+ 4.6
Northern Ireland	13,480	4,125	4	30.6	- 0.5	+ 5.6
Great Britain and Northern Ireland	754,120	75,179	5,446	10.0	+ 0.4	+ 1.8

BUILDING PLANS APPROVED.

Returns from Local Authorities in 137 of the principal urban areas in Great Britain (except the London County Council area), with a total population of 15,831,000, show that in July, 1926, plans were passed for buildings of an estimated cost of £5,679,100, as compared with £5,504,600 in June, 1926 and £6,255,100 in July, 1925. Of the total for July, 1926, dwelling-houses accounted for £3,880,800; factories and workshops for £384,000; shops, offices, warehouses and other business premises for £554,500; and other buildings, and additions and alterations to existing buildings, for £859,800.

BRICK TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT during July continued to be adversely affected by the shortage of coal. Short-time was worked in many districts and some yards were standing idle through lack of fuel. In the Peterborough district, however, employment continued good.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed in the bricks, pipe, tile, etc., trades, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 23.4 at 26th July, 1926, as compared with 24.6 at 21st June, 1926, and 6.4 at 27th July, 1925.

Returns from employers relative to short-time working showed that of 6,470 workpeople employed by firms furnishing information, 956, or 15 per cent., were working on an average 15 hours less than full time in the week ended 24th July, 1926.

The following Table summarises the information received from

* From July, 1923, to September, 1925, the only available occupational figures for the numbers insured were derived from estimates framed in 1922, but except in the case of carpenters and plumbers among skilled operatives, the present ratios in the main differ only slightly from those used in the past two years.

those employers who furnished returns for the three periods under review.

Districts.	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 24th July, 1926.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 24th July, 1926.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
Northern Counties, Yorkshire, Lancashire and Cheshire.	1,545	+ 6.2	- 11.9	£ 3,805	- 2.3	- 19.4
Midlands and Eastern Counties.	4,570	- 2.4	- 13.0	12,538	- 3.5	- 10.7
South and South-West Counties and Wales.	1,152	+ 5.5	- 33.4	2,868	+ 3.6	- 41.3
Scotland	119	+ 43.4	- 52.8	255	+ 25.0	- 61.3
TOTAL	7,386	+ 1.0	- 17.8	19,466	- 2.0	- 19.9

POTTERY TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT during July continued to be adversely affected by the shortage of coal; many works were still closed down and in others much short time was reported. There was an improvement, however, as compared with June.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges was 57.7 at 26th July, 1926, as compared with 58.5 at 21st June, 1926, and with 19.1 at 27th July, 1925.

The following Table summarises the information received from employers who furnished returns for the three periods under review:—

BRANCHES.	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 24th July, 1926.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 24th July, 1926.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
BRANCHES.						
China Manufacture	965	+ 88.1	- 33.9	1,504	+ 58.1	- 43.1
Earthenware Manufacture	4,647	- 2.0	- 46.5	7,324	+ 1.9	- 55.0
Other Branches (including unspecified)	1,311	+ 36.8	- 28.1	2,354	+ 53.7	- 33.1
TOTAL	6,923	+ 11.4	- 42.1	11,182	+ 15.7	- 50.2
DISTRICTS.						
North Staffordshire	5,004	+ 9.3	- 45.3	7,163	+ 17.9	- 55.5
Other Districts	1,919	+ 17.3	- 32.0	4,019	+ 11.9	- 36.6
TOTAL	6,923	+ 11.4	- 42.1	11,182	+ 15.7	- 50.2

Returns from employers relative to short-time working showed that of 6,602 workpeople employed by firms furnishing information, 3,927, or 59 per cent., were working on an average about 23 hours less than full time in the week ended 24th July, 1926.

SEAMEN.

DURING July employment continued slack on the whole. It remained fairly active at the liner ports, but the coal-mining stoppage had an adverse effect at the majority of the coal exporting centres. Among insured workpeople in the shipping service the percentage unemployed at 26th July, 1926, was 21.7, compared with 22.9 at 21st June, 1926, and 20.5 at 27th July, 1925.

The demand for men on the Thames was moderate early in July, and improved afterwards, being described as fairly active at the close of the month. It declined on the Tyne and was negligible at the end of the month. The demand was insignificant on the Wear, and generally very dull on the Tees. It was fairly good at Hull until the close of the month, when a decline occurred. The demand was quiet to moderate at Southampton and Bristol, and remained moderate to fair at Avonmouth. At Newport it was very slack, and at Cardiff it declined gradually, being reported to be very poor at the end of July. At Swansea the demand was fair to quiet, and showed a considerable improvement at the close of the month. It was fair on the whole in the foreign-going trade on the Mersey, and at Manchester. The demand was generally moderate on the Clyde, and was quiet to moderate at Leith. At Belfast it was good at the commencement of July, but declined considerably afterwards.

The following Table shows the number of seamen shipped in British registered foreign-going vessels at the undermentioned ports of Great Britain and Northern Ireland during July, together with the increase or decrease in numbers shipped as compared with the previous month and with July, 1925, and also the number of seamen shipped in the seven months ended July, 1926, and July, 1925, respectively:—

Principal Ports.	Number of Seamen* shipped in				
	July, 1926.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Seven months ended	
		Month ago.	Year ago.	July, 1926.	July, 1925.
ENGLAND & WALES:					
Liverpool†	12,998	- 778	- 1,187	79,478	84,992
Manchester	1,359	+ 730	+ 490	5,665	15,974
London	11,290	- 531	+ 2,479	61,518	56,140
Southampton	12,181	- 217	+ 1,675	70,625	65,894
Tyne Ports	1,319	+ 45	- 1,150	10,706	35,942
Sunderland	65	+ 78	- 353	1,382	1,900
Middlesbrough	228	- 42	- 208	2,334	2,653
Hull	2,043	+ 401	+ 109	9,333	10,695
Bristol	1,235	+ 114	- 160	7,312	7,575
Newport, Mon.	165	- 36	- 1,239	4,756	6,020
Cardiff §	954	- 120	- 2,421	12,785	17,903
Swansea	680	- 113	- 5	5,333	4,803
SCOTLAND:					
Leith	339	- 139	- 22	2,367	2,404
Kirkcaldy, Methil and Grangemouth	317	- 81	- 226	2,248	2,392
Glasgow	3,404	- 450	- 58	20,101	21,019
NORTHERN IRELAND:					
Belfast	259	+ 86	- 55	1,019	1,181
TOTAL for above Ports	48,836	- 1,209	- 2,331	296,962	305,437

DOCK AND RIVERSIDE LABOUR.

EMPLOYMENT during July remained bad on the whole, and continued to be seriously affected by the coal mining stoppage, although at some ports the importation of coal provided work. Among insured workpeople in the canal, river, harbour and dock service, 32.0 per cent. were unemployed at 26th July, 1926, as compared with 32.5 per cent. at 21st June, 1926, and with 29.6 per cent. at 27th July, 1925.

London.—The following Table shows the average daily number of dock labourers employed at docks and wharves in respect of which returns were received for each week of the month.

Period.	Average Daily Number of Labourers employed in Docks and at Principal Wharves in London.				
	In Docks.			At Wharves making Returns.	Total Docks and Principal Wharves.
	By the Port of London Authority or through Contractors.	By Ship-owners, etc.	Total.		
Week ended—					
3rd July, 1926	4,354	2,055	6,409	7,737	14,146
10th "	4,975	1,623	6,598	7,350	13,948
17th "	5,227	2,007	7,234	7,193	14,427
24th "	5,150	1,706	6,856	7,153	13,983
31st "	4,470	1,836	6,306	7,280	13,586
Average for 5 weeks ended 31st July, 1926	4,831	1,845	6,676	7,343	14,019
Average for June, 1926	5,124	2,201	7,325	8,293	15,718
Average for July, 1925	5,181	2,140	7,321	7,404	14,725

Tilbury.—The average daily number of dock labourers employed during July was 854, as compared with 1,063 in June, and with 1,153 in July, 1925.

East Coast.—Employment was very slack at the North-East coast ports, and was generally worse than in the previous month.

At the Humber ports there was an improvement, mainly due to coal imports, but employment was still much below normal. At the East Anglian ports it was moderate on the average, an improvement being reported at Yarmouth.

UNEMPLOYMENT IN INSURED INDUSTRIES.

The statistics here presented show, industry by industry, the estimated number of persons insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts, the number and percentage of such persons who were unemployed on the 26th July, 1926 (exclusive of persons in the coal-mining industry who ceased work on account of the dispute), and the increase or decrease at that date in the total percentages unemployed compared with a month earlier, a year ago, and two years ago, respectively.

The Unemployment Insurance Acts provide, subject to certain exceptions, for the compulsory insurance against unemployment of substantially all employed persons. The principal classes of persons who are excepted from such compulsory insurance are juveniles under 16 years of age, persons employed otherwise than by way of manual labour at a rate of remuneration exceeding in value £250 per annum, persons employed in agriculture and private domestic service, and outworkers. Persons employed by local public authorities, railways and certain other public utility undertakings, members of the police forces, and persons with rights under a statutory superannuation scheme may, in certain circumstances, also be excepted.

An unemployment book, on which is recorded, *inter alia*, the industry in which he is employed, is issued to every insured person, and this book must be lodged at an Employment Exchange whenever the insured person to whom it relates makes a claim for unemployment benefit, or, without claiming benefit, ceases to be employed in an insured trade. The book must be removed and deposited with the employer for stamping as soon as employment in an insured trade is resumed.

Insured persons who are disqualified for the receipt of unemployment benefit under the trade dispute disqualification are not included in the numbers unemployed, unless they are definitely maintaining registration for other employment.

The files of "lodged" books at the Employment Exchanges thus furnish for each industrial group a record of the unemployment of insured persons. In arriving at this figure the books of those persons who are known to be working in an uninsured trade, or to be sick or deceased, or who are known to have emigrated or gone

abroad, are of course excluded. In cases where information on these points is lacking the books remain in the "lodged" files, and are included in the statistics of unemployment, for a period of two months from the date on which the insured person was last in touch with the Employment Exchange.

This last item determines in the main the difference between the total number of unemployed persons given in the following Table and the figure given on page 301 showing the total number of persons registered at Employment Exchanges. The difference would be greater were it not that this latter figure includes uninsured persons who are maintaining registration. These do not appear in the figures of "books lodged," which relate solely to insured persons.

The statistics of unemployment in insured industries are presented in two separate Tables, one showing the numbers recorded as unemployed, and the other showing the estimated number insured and the percentages unemployed.

Each of these Tables gives an analysis of the figures, distinguishing between persons who are wholly unemployed (in the sense that they are definitely without a job) and those who are temporarily stopped or suspended from the service of an employer. The figures under the heading "temporary stoppages" include those persons recorded as unemployed on the date of the return who were either on short time or were otherwise stood off or suspended from the definite understanding that they were to return to their former employment within a period of six weeks from the date of suspension. In cases where there was no definite prospect of return within six weeks the individuals have been included in the statistics as "wholly unemployed." The only exception to this rule arises in the small number of cases where, although the expectation of resumption within the six weeks' period was not realised, a definite date for resumption of work had nevertheless been fixed. In such cases the individuals concerned have been included under the heading "temporary stoppages." The figures given in the grand total columns in both Tables are strictly comparable with the corresponding figures published each month since July, 1923.

NUMBERS OF INSURED PERSONS RECORDED AS UNEMPLOYED AT 26TH JULY, 1926.

INDUSTRY.	GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.									GREAT BRITAIN ONLY.		
	WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED (including Casuals).			TEMPORARY STOPPAGES.			TOTAL.			WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED, TEMPORARY STOPPAGES, AND CASUALS.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Fishing	5,033	107	5,140	112	97	209	5,145	204	5,349	5,133	204	5,337
Mining:												
Coal Mining*	107,688	752	108,440	...	...	...	107,688	752	108,440	107,615	752	108,367
Iron Ore and Ironstone Mining and Quarrying	2,914	1	2,915	7,298	1	7,299	10,212	2	10,214	10,159	2	10,161
Lead, Tin and Copper Mining	640	1	641	315	1	317	956	2	958	956	2	958
Stone Quarrying and Mining	3,159	8	3,167	4,118	2	4,120	7,277	10	7,287	6,824	10	6,834
Slate Quarrying and Mining	148	2	150	166	1	167	314	3	317	314	3	317
Other Mining and Quarrying	2,092	51	2,143	1,382	43	1,425	3,474	94	3,568	3,354	91	3,445
Clay, Sand, Gravel and Chalk Pit Digging	639	48	687	285	11	296	924	59	983	908	58	966
Non-Metalliferous Mining Products:												
Coke Ovens and By-Product Works	2,980	17	2,997	5,282	8	5,290	8,262	25	8,287	8,260	25	8,285
Artificial Stone and Concrete Manufacture	1,673	87	1,760	1,031	51	1,082	2,704	138	2,842	2,692	138	2,830
Cement, Limekilns and Whiting Works	1,123	40	1,163	235	3	238	1,358	43	1,401	1,203	43	1,246
Brick, Tile, etc., Making	6,142	868	7,010	9,530	1,823	11,353	15,672	2,691	18,363	15,452	2,691	18,143
Pottery, Earthenware, etc.	3,151	3,137	6,288	15,149	20,890	36,039	18,300	24,027	42,327	18,273	24,021	42,294
Glass Trades:												
Glass (excluding Bottles and Scientific Glass) Manufacture	2,125	312	2,437	1,372	153	1,525	3,497	465	3,962	3,487	465	3,952
Glass Bottle Making	3,363	155	3,518	2,697	251	2,948	6,060	406	6,466	6,050	406	6,456
Ammunition Explosives, Chemicals, etc.:												
Chemicals Manufacture	7,109	756	7,865	3,881	260	4,141	10,990	1,016	12,006	10,825	1,004	11,829
Explosives Manufacture	1,334	627	1,961	476	626	1,102	1,810	1,253	3,063	1,806	1,252	3,058
Paint, Varnish, Japan, Red and White Lead Manufacture	659	142	801	337	30	367	996	172	1,168	995	172	1,167
Oil, Grease, Glue, Soap, Ink, Match, etc., Manufacture	4,907	1,012	5,919	1,732	327	2,059	6,639	1,339	7,978	6,501	1,269	7,770
Metal Manufacture:												
Pig Iron Manufacture (Blast Furnaces)	4,657	36	4,693	11,513	11	11,524	16,170	47	16,217	16,168	47	16,215
Steel Melting and Iron Puddling Furnaces, Iron and Steel Rolling Mills and Forges	30,181	242	30,423	81,801	346	82,147	111,982	588	112,570	111,947	588	112,535
Manufacture of Brass, Copper, Zinc, Tin, Lead, etc.	4,605	221	4,826	2,588	114	2,702	7,193	335	7,528	7,147	335	7,482
Manufacture of Tin Plates	2,807	286	3,093	12,646	1,929	14,575	15,453	2,215	17,668	15,451	2,215	17,666
Iron and Steel Tube Making	2,769	101	2,870	6,269	36	6,305	9,038	137	9,175	9,034	137	9,171
Wire, Wire Netting, Wire Rope Manufacture	2,014	345	2,359	2,961	204	3,165	4,975	549	5,524	4,964	549	5,513
Engineering, etc.:												
General Engineering: Engineers' Iron and Steel Founding	63,607	1,434	65,041	41,636	895	42,531	105,243	2,329	107,572	103,199	2,324	105,523
Electrical Engineering	4,993	752	5,745	1,168	501	1,669	5,261	1,253	6,514	5,236	1,253	6,489
Marine Engineering, etc.	15,359	40	15,399	1,358	17	1,375	16,717	57	16,774	14,878	55	14,933
Constructional Engineering	4,173	39	4,212	2,020	17	2,037	6,193	56	6,249	6,178	56	6,234
Construction and Repair of Vehicles:												
Construction and Repair of Motor Vehicles, Cycles and Aircraft	15,733	1,298	17,031	3,586	892	4,478	19,419	2,190	21,609	19,208	2,187	21,395
Construction and Repair of Carriages, Carts, etc.	2,072	203	2,275	886	148	1,034	2,958	351	3,309	2,878	351	3,229
Railway Carriage, Wagon and Tram-car Building	4,115	34	4,149	6,783	37	6,820	10,898	71	10,969	10,886	71	10,957

* The figures are exclusive of persons in the coal-mining industry who ceased work on account of the dispute which commenced on 1st May.

INDUSTRY.	GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.									GREAT BRITAIN ONLY.		
	WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED (including Casuals).			TEMPORARY STOPPAGES.			TOTAL.			WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED, TEMPORARY STOPPAGES, AND CASUALS.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing	89,398	222	89,620	3,406	21	3,427	92,804	243	93,047	86,455	231	86,686
Metal Trades:												
Stove, Grate, Pipe, etc., and General Iron Founding	7,822	452	8,274	8,110	427	8,537	15,932	879	16,811	15,828	879	16,707
Electrical Wiring and Contracting	1,311	40	1,351	147	4	151	1,458	44	1,502	1,414	43	1,457
Electrical Cable, Wire and Electric Lamp Manufacture	3,458	1,903	5,361	501	423	924	3,959	2,326	6,285	3,940	2,326	6,266
Hand Tool, Cutlery, Saw, File Making	3,094	618	3,712	3,001	712	3,713	6,095	1,330	7,425	6,079	1,330	7,409
Bolts, Nuts, Screws, Rivets, Nails, etc., Manufacture	1,461	964	2,425	1,930	1,247	3,177	3,391	2,211	5,602	3,390	2,211	5,601
Brass and Allied Metal Wares Manufacture	1,902	870	2,772	821	599	1,420	2,723	1,469	4,192	2,714	1,469	4,183
Heating and Ventilating Apparatus	414	11	425	168	28	196	582	39	621	579	39	618
Watches, Clocks, Plate, Jewellery, etc., Manufacture	2,437	1,398	3,835	1,382	1,350	2,732	3,819	2,748	6,567	3,783	2,747	6,530
Other Metal Industries	9,712	4,841	14,553	6,338	3,437	9,775	16,050	8,278	24,328	15,890	8,277	24,167
Textile Trades:												
Cotton	9,160	13,875	23,035	44,545	95,048	139,593	53,705	108,923	162,628	53,688	108,910	162,598
Woolen and Worsted	5,430	6,239	11,669	15,210	31,583	47,793	21,640	37,822	59,462	21,503	37,738	59,241
Silk	745	885	1,630	1,567	2,729	4,296	2,312	3,614	5,926	2,311	3,614	5,925
Linen	5,613	13,122	18,735	2,192	5,391	7,583	7,805	18,513	26,318	1,124	2,934	4,058
Jute	1,815	3,438	5,253	5,024	13,424	18,448	6,839	16,862	23,701	6,837	16,862	23,699
Hemp Spinning and Weaving, Rope, Cord, Twine, etc., Making	722	1,481	2,203	419	1,209	1,628	1,141	2,690	3,831	940	2,184	3,124
Hosiery	835	3,392	4,227	1,482	9,679	11,161	2,315	13,071	15,386	2,262	12,878	15,140
Lace	461	407	868	1,468	2,950	4,418	2,149	4,038	6,187	2,148	4,037	6,185
Carpet Manufacture	553	606	1,159	2,478	3,599	6,077	3,031	4,205	7,236	3,026	4,203	7,229
Other Textile Industries	1,000	2,504	3,504	687	3,131	3,818	1,687	5,635	7,322	1,551	4,850	6,401
Textile, Bleaching, Printing, Dyeing, etc.	3,918	1,650	5,568	14,721	5,208	19,929	18,639	6,858	25,497	17,814	6,092	23,906
Leather and Leather Goods:												
Tanning, Currying and Dressing	2,593	474	3,067	2,350	435	2,785	4,943	909	5,852	4,939	908	5,847
Saddlery, Harness and other Leather Goods Manufacture	1,267	744	2,011	448	421	869	1,715	1,165	2,880	1,680	1,162	2,842
Clothing Trades:												
Tailoring	4,605	4,069	8,674	1,148	7,374	8,522	5,753	11,443	17,196	5,475	11,279	16,754
Dress and Mantle Making and Millinery	658	3,532	4,190	88	1,968	2,056	746	5,500	6,246	721	5,290	6,011
Hat and Cap (including Straw Plait) Manufacture	564	1,131	1,695	256	517	773	820	1,648	2,468	818	1,647	2,465
Blouses, Shirts, Collars, Underclothing, etc., Making	423	2,620	3,043	121	2,738	2,859	544	5,358	5,902	350	3,465	3,815
Other Dress Industries	658	501	1,159	162	615	777	820	1,116	1,936	814	1,112	1,926
Boot, Shoe, Slipper and Clog Trades	7,387	2,142	9,529	7,337	3,813	11,150	14,724	5,955	20,679	14,467	5,939	20,406
Food, Drink and Tobacco:												
Bread, Biscuit, Cake, etc., Making	7,074	2,440	9,514	553	517	1,070	7,627	2,957	10,584	6,900	2,866	9,766
Grain Milling	1,906	163	2,069	384	112	496	2,290	275	2,565	2,175	265	2,440
Cocoa, Chocolate and Sugar Confectionery	1,499	2,657	4,156	408	6,148	6,556	1,90					

NUMBERS INSURED AND PERCENTAGES UNEMPLOYED.

INDUSTRY.	GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.												GREAT BRITAIN ONLY. TOTAL PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED AT 26TH JULY, 1926.			
	ESTIMATED NUMBER OF INSURED PERSONS AT JULY, 1925.			PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED AT 26TH JULY, 1926.						INCREASE (+) OR DECREASE (-) IN TOTAL PERCENTAGES AS COMPARED WITH						
	Males.	Females.	Total.	WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED (including Casuals).			TEMPORARY STOPPAGES.			TOTAL.				21ST JUNE, 1926.	27TH JULY, 1925.	28TH JULY, 1924.
				Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.				
Fishing	25,710	880	26,590	19.6	12.2	19.3	0.4	11.0	0.8	20.0	23.2	20.1	+ 0.6	+ 8.7	+ 9.0	20.3
Mining:—																
Coal Mining*	1,231,900	8,550	1,240,450	8.7	8.8	8.7	...	...	...	8.7	8.8	8.7	- 1.5	- 5.9	+ 1.9	8.7
Iron Ore and Ironstone Mining and Quarrying	16,150	40	16,190	18.0	2.5	18.0	45.2	2.5	45.1	63.2	5.0	63.1	+ 0.2	+ 35.4	+ 45.5	63.2
Lead, Tin and Copper Mining	5,350	40	5,390	12.0	2.5	11.9	5.9	2.5	5.9	17.9	5.0	17.8	- 1.7	- 1.4	+ 1.8	17.8
Stone Quarrying and Mining	38,650	280	38,930	8.2	2.9	8.1	10.6	0.7	10.6	18.8	3.6	18.7	- 0.9	+ 11.7	+ 14.1	18.1
Slate Quarrying and Mining	10,730	10	10,740	1.4	20.0	1.4	1.5	10.0	1.5	2.9	30.0	3.0	- 0.5	+ 0.2	+ 2.0	3.0
Other Mining and Quarrying	19,330	1,580	20,910	10.8	3.2	10.2	7.2	2.7	6.9	18.0	5.9	17.1	+ 2.3	+ 11.2	+ 12.5	16.8
Clay, Sand, Gravel and Chalk Pit Digging	14,220	180	14,400	4.5	26.7	4.8	2.0	6.1	2.0	6.5	32.8	6.8	- 1.1	+ 3.5	+ 2.8	6.8
Non-Metalliferous Mining Products:—																
Coke Ovens and By-Product Works	11,600	120	11,720	25.7	14.2	25.6	45.5	6.6	45.1	71.2	20.8	70.7	+ 4.5	+ 54.2	+ 62.9	70.7
Artificial Stone and Concrete Manufacture	12,810	910	13,720	13.1	9.6	12.8	8.0	5.6	7.9	21.1	15.2	20.7	+ 3.1	+ 6.3	+ 6.3	20.8
Cement, Limekilns and Whiting Works	17,570	780	18,350	6.4	5.1	6.3	1.3	0.4	1.3	7.7	5.5	7.6	- 2.5	+ 3.9	+ 0.2	6.9
Brick, Tile, etc., Making	70,710	7,800	78,510	8.7	11.1	8.9	13.5	23.4	14.5	22.2	34.5	23.4	- 1.2	+ 17.0	+ 17.0	23.4
Pottery, Earthenware, etc.	34,320	39,050	73,370	9.2	8.0	8.6	44.1	53.5	49.1	53.3	61.5	57.7	- 0.8	+ 38.6	+ 46.1	57.7
Glass Trades:—																
Glass (excluding Bottles and Scientific Glass) Manufacture	20,880	5,300	26,180	10.2	5.9	9.3	6.5	2.9	5.8	16.7	8.8	15.1	- 0.7	+ 4.1	+ 2.6	15.1
Glass Bottle Making	16,700	2,320	19,020	20.1	6.7	18.5	16.2	10.8	15.5	36.3	17.5	34.0	+ 3.3	+ 17.8	+ 16.5	34.0
Ammunition Explosives, Chemicals, etc.:																
Chemicals Manufacture	75,320	21,580	96,900	9.4	3.5	8.1	5.2	1.2	4.3	14.6	4.7	12.4	- 0.6	+ 3.6	+ 3.6	12.3
Explosives Manufacture	13,020	5,500	18,520	10.2	11.4	10.6	3.7	11.4	5.9	13.9	22.8	16.5	+ 0.3	+ 10.0	+ 8.5	16.5
Paint, Varnish, Japan, Red and White Lead Manufacture	12,900	3,810	16,710	5.1	3.7	4.8	2.6	0.8	2.2	7.7	4.5	7.0	+ 0.7	+ 2.2	+ 2.3	7.0
Oil, Grease, Glue, Soap, Ink, Match, etc., Manufacture	58,940	21,590	80,530	8.3	4.7	7.4	3.0	1.5	2.5	11.3	6.2	9.9	+ 1.6	+ 1.7	+ 2.2	9.8
Metal Manufacture:—																
Pig Iron Manufacture (Blast Furnaces) Steel Melting and Iron Puddling Furnaces, Iron and Steel Rolling Mills and Forges	25,500	280	25,780	18.3	12.9	18.2	45.1	3.9	44.7	63.4	16.8	62.9	- 7.3	+ 41.5	+ 48.4	62.9
Manufacture of Brass, Copper, Zinc, Tin, Lead, etc.	195,110	5,020	200,130	15.5	4.8	15.2	41.9	6.9	41.0	57.4	11.7	56.2	+ 0.9	+ 31.2	+ 36.5	56.3
Manufacture of Tin Plates	38,680	3,530	42,210	11.9	6.3	11.4	6.7	3.2	6.4	18.6	9.5	17.8	- 3.8	+ 5.5	+ 7.0	17.9
Iron and Steel Tube Making	23,850	4,320	28,170	11.8	6.6	11.0	53.0	44.7	51.7	64.8	51.3	62.7	- 11.9	+ 49.5	+ 60.1	62.7
Wire, Wire Netting, Wire Rope Manufacture	26,340	1,550	27,890	10.5	6.5	10.3	23.8	2.3	22.6	34.3	8.8	32.9	+ 4.5	+ 13.5	+ 19.6	32.9
Engineering, etc.:																
General Engineering: Engineers' Iron and Steel Founding	583,590	43,690	627,280	10.9	3.3	10.4	7.1	2.0	6.7	18.0	5.3	17.1	- 1.2	+ 4.7	+ 3.6	17.0
Electrical Engineering	61,320	15,400	76,720	6.7	4.9	6.3	1.9	3.2	2.2	8.6	8.1	8.5	- 2.8	+ 2.5	+ 2.9	8.5
Marine Engineering, etc.	60,570	1,050	61,620	25.3	3.8	24.9	2.3	1.6	2.3	27.6	5.4	27.2	- 0.1	+ 6.9	+ 11.1	26.6
Constructional Engineering	25,110	1,020	26,130	16.6	3.8	16.1	8.1	1.7	7.8	24.7	5.5	23.9	+ 5.9	+ 11.2	+ 12.0	23.9
Construction and Repair of Vehicles:—																
Construction and Repair of Motor Vehicles, Cycles and Aircraft	193,300	21,540	214,840	8.1	6.0	7.9	1.9	4.2	2.2	10.0	10.2	10.1	- 0.3	+ 3.2	+ 1.8	10.0
Construction and Repair of Carriages, Carts, etc.	21,700	2,930	24,630	9.5	6.9	9.2	4.1	5.1	4.2	13.6	12.0	13.4	- 0.6	+ 3.0	+ 2.7	13.3
Railway Carriage, Wagon and Tram-car Building	54,810	1,440	56,250	7.5	2.4	7.4	12.4	2.5	12.1	19.9	4.9	19.5	+ 2.3	+ 12.7	+ 14.1	19.6
Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing	238,360	3,340	241,700	37.5	6.6	37.1	1.4	0.7	1.4	38.9	7.3	38.5	- 0.7	+ 5.4	+ 12.1	38.9
Metal Trades:—																
Stove, Grate, Pipe, etc., and General Iron Founding	77,590	7,970	85,560	10.1	5.7	9.7	10.4	5.3	9.9	20.5	11.0	19.6	+ 2.2	+ 8.4	+ 9.2	19.7
Electrical Wiring and Contracting	11,670	990	12,660	11.2	4.0	10.7	1.3	0.4	1.2	12.5	4.4	11.9	- 3.6	+ 3.2	+ 1.8	11.8
Electrical Cable, Wire and Electric Lamp Manufacture	50,940	30,410	81,350	6.8	6.3	6.6	1.0	1.3	1.1	7.8	7.6	7.7	- 0.2	+ 0.5	+ 0.5	7.7
Hand Tool, Cutlery, Saw, File Making	24,380	9,460	33,840	12.7	6.5	11.0	12.3	7.6	10.9	25.0	14.1	21.9	- 2.9	+ 8.9	+ 8.1	21.9
Bolts, Nuts, Screws, Rivets, Nails, etc., Manufacture	15,130	11,920	27,050	9.7	8.1	9.0	12.7	10.4	11.7	22.4	18.5	20.7	- 8.9	+ 7.5	+ 9.0	20.7
Brass and Allied Metal Wares Manufacture	18,680	11,690	30,370	10.2	7.4	9.1	4.4	5.2	4.7	14.6	12.6	13.8	- 0.1	+ 1.4	- 1.3	13.8
Heating and Ventilating Apparatus	7,080	520	7,600	5.8	2.1	5.6	2.4	5.4	2.6	8.2	7.5	8.2	- 0.8	+ 0.6	+ 3.7	8.2
Watches, Clocks, Plate, Jewellery, etc., Manufacture	25,680	19,530	45,210	9.5	7.2	8.5	4.4	6.9	6.0	14.9	14.1	14.5	- 1.7	+ 3.3	+ 2.6	14.5
Other Metal Industries	114,800	66,020	180,820	8.5	7.3	8.0	5.5	5.2	5.5	14.0	12.5	13.5	- 0.5	+ 3.2	+ 2.4	13.4
Textile Trades:—																
Cotton	208,770	367,950	576,720	4.4	3.8	4.0	21.3	25.8	24.2	25.7	29.6	28.2	+ 3.2	+ 16.6	+ 12.4	28.2
Woolen and Worsted	107,340	150,360	257,700	5.1	4.1	4.5	15.1	21.1	18.6	20.2	25.2	23.1	- 1.8	+ 1.8	+ 16.1	23.1
Silk	18,470	28,420	46,890	4.0	3.1	3.5	8.5	9.6	9.1	12.5	12.7	12.6	+ 0.7	+ 5.7	+ 8.4	12.6
Linen	27,110	59,510	86,620	20.7	22.1	21.6	8.1	9.0	8.8	28.8	31.1	30.4	- 0.3	- 9.2	+ 18.4	25.1
Jute	13,750	28,430	42,180	13.2	12.1	12.5	36.5	47.2	43.7	49.7	59.3	56.2	+ 15.9	+ 22.3	+ 47.0	56.2
Hemp Spinning and Weaving, Rope, Cord, Twine, etc., Making	7,370	13,450	20,820	9.8	11.0	10.6	5.7	9.0	7.8	15.5	20.0	18.4	- 2.1	- 0.3	+ 4.5	17.8
Hosiery	22,200	75,500	97,700	3.8	4.5	4.3	6.6	12.8	11.4	10.4	17.3	15.7	+ 0.7	+ 5.3	+ 9.8	15.6
Lace	7,980	11,480	19,460	8.5	3.5	5.6	18.4	13.0	15.2	26.9	16.5	20.8	+ 1.5	+ 2.0	+ 3.2	20.7
Carpet Manufacture	10,790	15,460	26,250	5.1	3.9	4.4	23.0	23.3	23.2	28.1	27.2	27.6	+ 4.5	+ 16.7	+ 21.0	27.6
Other Textile Industries	13,970	31,280	45,250	7.2	8.0	7.7	4.9	10.0	8.5	12.1	18.0	16.2	+ 1.6	+ 4.2	+ 5.4	15.6
Textile, Bleaching, Printing, Dyeing, etc.	85,120	34,070	119,190	4.6	4.8	4.7	17.3	15.3	16.7	21.9	20.1	21.4	+ 0.5	+ 6.9	+ 9.2	21.9
Leather and Leather Goods:—																
Tanning, Currying and Dressing	34,060	8,650	42,710	7.6	5.5	7.2	6.9	5.0	6.5	14.5	10.5	13.7	- 0.7	+ 1.1	+ 3.2	13.7
Saddlery, Harness and other Leather Goods Manufacture	13,830	12,750	26,580	9.2	5.8	7.6	3.2	3.3	3.2	12.4	9.1	10.8	- 4.4	+ 0.7	+ 0.8	10.8
Clothing Trades:—																
Tailoring	67,800	128,140	195,940	6.8	3.2	4.4	1.7	5.7	4.4	8.5	8.9	8.8	+ 2.3	- 0.6	+ 2.4	8.8
Dress and Mantle Making and Millinery	11,820	93,640	105,460	5.6	3.8	4.0	0.7	2.1	1.9	6.3	5.9	5.9	+ 0.7	- 0.1	+ 0.6	5.8
Hat and Cap (including Straw Plait) Manufacture	13,340	20,860	34,200	4.2	5.4	5.0	1.9	2.5	2.2	6.1	7.9	7.2	+ 0.7	- 1.7	- 1.1	7.2
Blouses, Shirts, Collars, Underclothing, etc., Making	8,100	66,110	74,210	5.2	4.0	4.1	1.5	4.1	3.9	6.7	8.1	8.0	- 0.2	- 1.9	+ 2.3	7.0
Other Dress Industries	10,510	17,990	28,500	6.3	2.8	4.1										

The following Table shows for each of the Employment Exchange administrative areas, and for the principal towns therein, the number of persons registered at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland on 26th July, 1926. In certain cases (e.g., Bristol, Birmingham, Sheffield, Liverpool, Glasgow, etc.) the figures cover more than one Exchange area:—

Area.	Number of Persons on Registers at 26th July, 1926.*				Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with 28th June, 1926.
	Men.	Women.	Juveniles.	Total.	
London Division ...	100,625	21,748	8,901	131,274	- 6,220
South-Eastern Division ...	27,823	5,633	2,755	36,211	- 4,760
Brighton ...	1,254	191	169	1,614	- 485
Chatham ...	1,464	153	390	2,007	- 280
Ipswich ...	2,497	176	107	2,780	- 4
Norwich ...	2,396	782	161	3,339	+ 158
Rest of South-Eastern	20,212	4,331	1,928	26,471	- 4,149
South-Western Division ...	47,431	6,384	3,366	57,181	- 4,077
Bristol ...	11,180	1,843	716	13,739	- 1,326
Plymouth ...	4,276	388	374	5,038	- 163
Portsmouth ...	4,130	394	270	4,794	- 11
Reading ...	970	62	113	1,145	- 238
Southampton ...	4,259	429	449	5,137	- 110
Swindon ...	2,047	81	118	2,246	+ 48
Rest of South-Western	22,969	3,196	1,326	26,591	- 2,377
Midlands Division ...	170,649	69,381	14,907	254,937	- 2,173
Birmingham ...	28,247	13,014	2,356	43,617	+ 2,051
Coventry ...	4,346	876	262	5,484	- 201
Cradley Heath ...	3,995	753	205	4,953	- 976
Darby ...	2,632	96	512	4,164	+ 329
Leicester ...	6,344	4,425	461	11,230	+ 1,878
Northampton ...	1,510	367	92	1,969	- 108
Nottingham ...	8,345	4,514	710	13,569	+ 885
Smethwick ...	3,465	1,058	227	4,750	- 1,608
Stoke-on-Trent ...	19,356	15,755	3,142	38,253	- 2,233
Walsall ...	5,660	1,319	384	7,363	- 396
West Bromwich ...	3,657	898	322	4,668	+ 68
Wolverhampton ...	5,002	888	354	6,254	- 1,007
Rest of Midlands ...	78,030	24,753	5,876	108,659	- 855
North-Eastern Division ...	314,344	57,391	20,265	392,000	- 4,491
Barnsley ...	2,567	509	191	3,267	- 46
Bradford ...	10,787	9,450	990	21,227	+ 2,377
Darlington ...	3,935	415	256	4,606	+ 59
Dewsbury ...	1,670	1,388	179	3,237	- 618
Doncaster ...	1,348	197	216	1,761	- 61
Gateshead ...	9,527	837	1,219	11,583	+ 361
Grimsby ...	3,314	296	462	4,072	- 637
Halifax ...	3,384	3,343	215	6,942	- 878
Hartlepool ...	10,825	178	610	11,613	+ 747
Huddersfield ...	4,611	2,927	395	7,933	+ 143
Hull ...	10,793	1,040	935	12,768	+ 547
Lincoln ...	15,898	6,418	387	23,303	+ 1,315
Leeds ...	2,270	305	122	2,697	+ 63
Middlesbrough ...	22,773	390	764	23,927	+ 530
Newcastle-on-Tyne ...	14,958	1,840	1,267	18,065	+ 564
Rotherham ...	6,873	305	496	7,674	+ 327
Sheffield ...	33,416	3,567	2,209	39,192	- 4,643
South Shields ...	9,391	473	831	10,695	+ 26
Stockton-on-Tees ...	9,655	229	486	10,370	+ 697
Sunderland ...	18,824	951	740	20,515	+ 693
York ...	1,473	133	79	1,685	- 120
Rest of North-Eastern	116,052	22,200	6,616	144,868	- 5,972
North-Western Division ...	232,435	118,269	21,385	372,089	- 11,588
Accrington ...	6,365	3,794	298	10,457	+ 1,257
Ashton-under-Lyne ...	4,983	4,801	585	10,369	+ 1,002
Barrow ...	4,946	103	124	5,173	- 440
Birkenhead ...	5,807	272	378	6,457	- 60
Blackburn ...	5,349	6,484	464	12,297	+ 1,362
Blackpool ...	808	138	51	997	- 191
Bolton ...	8,364	4,512	970	13,846	- 1,188
Burnley ...	5,634	7,798	461	13,893	+ 1,013
Bury ...	2,381	2,272	249	4,902	+ 469
Chorley ...	1,725	1,770	209	3,704	+ 394
Liverpool ...	44,838	5,131	3,993	53,962	- 779
Manchester ...	22,735	9,275	1,598	33,608	- 2,471
Nelson ...	1,728	1,345	159	3,232	- 944
Oldham ...	11,738	9,368	1,005	22,112	- 3,783
Preston ...	3,836	2,763	252	6,851	- 5,319
Rochdale ...	5,543	5,552	893	11,988	+ 783
St. Helens ...	3,553	358	548	4,459	- 464
Salford ...	8,997	3,751	1,034	13,782	- 1,665
Stockport ...	4,306	4,217	837	9,360	+ 167
Warrington ...	3,020	996	408	4,424	- 1,356
Wigan ...	5,624	4,227	944	10,795	+ 1,545
Rest of North-Western	70,155	39,342	5,924	115,421	- 2,694
Scotland Division ...	175,166	39,736	14,536	229,438	+ 4,813
Aberdeen ...	5,011	850	241	6,102	+ 1,304
Dumfries ...	2,726	214	213	3,153	- 234
Dumfries ...	9,331	13,014	3,465	25,810	+ 5,389
Edinburgh ...	11,267	1,739	697	13,703	- 837
Glasgow ...	64,111	9,079	3,972	77,162	- 1,151
Greenock ...	8,780	140	338	9,858	- 279
Motherwell ...	7,536	275	428	8,239	+ 631
Paisley ...	3,199	337	265	3,801	+ 97
Rest of Scotland ...	63,205	13,488	4,917	81,610	+ 1,943
Wales Division ...	119,775	6,208	6,207	132,290	- 5,860
Cardiff ...	11,472	921	791	13,184	+ 654
Llanelli ...	7,284	669	596	8,549	- 993
Newport ...	7,898	207	372	8,477	- 699
Swansea ...	8,688	824	852	10,364	+ 103
Rest of Wales ...	84,433	3,687	3,596	91,716	- 4,925
Northern Ireland ...	37,800	19,026	1,809	58,635	- 197
Belfast ...	25,031	11,147	1,071	37,249	+ 131
Londonderry ...	2,137	785	60	2,982	- 255
Lurgan ...	626	792	50	1,594	- 156
Lisburn ...	626	576	47	1,249	+ 31
Newry ...	996	413	17	1,426	- 85
Rest of Northern Ireland ...	8,258	5,312	564	14,134	- 153
Great Britain and Northern Ireland ...	1,226,048	343,876	94,131	1,664,055	- 34,777

* The figures are exclusive of persons in the coal-mining industry who ceased work on account of the dispute which commenced on 1st May.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE STATISTICS: GREAT BRITAIN.

COMPOSITION OF STATISTICS.

On page 298 an explanation is given of the unemployment statistics published weekly in the Press, and monthly in this GAZETTE. The following Table gives figures relating to the 26th July, 1926, for the total of each group included in these statistics. Lines 2 to 5 make up the number of persons on the register; while, by omitting the uninsured persons (line 5) and including lines 1 and 6, the number of books lodged, or, in other words, the number of insured persons recorded as unemployed, is obtained.

	Men.	Boys.	Women.	Girls.	Total.
1. Unemployed — Special Schemes ...	2,019	10	244	3	2,276
2. Claims admitted or under consideration ...	1,092,296	27,786	300,579	25,405	1,446,066
3. Claimants disqualified, but maintaining registration ...	72,735	739	9,123	470	83,067
4. Insured non-claimants on main file ...	10,196	1,208	1,591	1,214	14,209
5. Uninsured persons on Register ...	13,021	15,362	13,557	20,138	62,078
6. Two months' file ...	76,773	4,619	40,771	4,412	126,575
Persons on Register (lines 2-5) ...	1,188,248	45,095	324,850	47,227	1,605,420
Books Lodged (lines 1-4 and 6) ...	1,254,019	34,362	352,308	31,054	1,672,193

CLAIMS TO EXTENDED BENEFIT.

Claims to "extended" benefit—i.e., benefit beyond that to which the claimant is entitled in respect of contributions paid—are submitted for decision to the Local Employment Committees, composed, in the main, of representatives of employers and workpeople. The following Table gives an analysis of the recommendations of these Committees in Great Britain during the period 15th June to 12th July, 1926:—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Applications considered by Committees during period ...	252,596	42,739	295,335
Applications admitted by Committees during period:—			
(a) For 12 weeks ...	52,997	4,030	57,027
(b) For less than 12 weeks ...	169,962	26,998	196,960
Applications definitely recommended for disallowance during period:—			
General Conditions:—			
Not normally insurable and not seeking to obtain a livelihood by means of insurable employment ...	1,672	995	2,667
Insurable employment not likely to be available ...	1,158	352	1,510
Not a reasonable period of insurable employment during the preceding two years ...	10,885	1,743	12,628
Not making every reasonable effort to obtain suitable employment or not willing to accept suitable employment ...	7,595	2,828	10,423
Special Conditions:—			
Single persons residing with relatives ...	4,322	2,049	6,371
Married women who could look for support from their husbands ...	...	2,177	2,177
Married men who could look for support from their wives ...	153	...	153
Working short time but earning sufficient for maintenance ...	2,449	1,199	3,648
Aliens ...	21	9	30
Total definitely recommended for disallowance ...	28,255	11,352	39,607
Applications during the period recommended for postponement for a definite time ...	1,382	359	1,741

UNEMPLOYMENT FUND.

During the five weeks ended 31st July, 1926, the receipts and payments of the Unemployment Fund were approximately as shown in the following Table:—

	Five weeks ended 31st July, 1926.	Four weeks ended 26th June, 1926.	Five weeks ended 1st August, 1925.
Contributions (Receipts):—			
By Employers ...	£ 1,370,000	£ 1,040,000	£ 2,030,000
Employed Persons ...	1,195,000	910,000	1,830,000
Service Departments (Admiralty, War Office and Air Ministry) ...	25,000	5,000	25,000
Exchequer ...	1,020,000	750,000	1,385,000
Total ...	3,610,000	2,705,000	5,270,000
Payments:—			
Benefit ...	5,730,000	4,420,000	4,340,000
Other Payments* ...	650,000	370,000	670,000
Total ...	6,380,000	4,790,000	5,010,000
Treasury Advances Outstanding ...	12,570,000†	9,777,568†	8,010,000‡

* Includes refunds at 60 and compensation for the abolition thereof, cost of administration, etc.
 † Excludes sum apportioned to Irish Free State on account of the deficit of the Unemployment Fund as at 31st March, 1922. This sum with interest up to 31st December, 1925, amounts to £332,831 8s. 3d.
 ‡ Includes sum apportioned to Irish Free State on account of the deficit of the Unemployment Fund as at 31st March, 1922. This sum with interest up to 30th June, 1925, amounted to £324,277 17s. 1d., the matter not being settled at this stage.

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR.

Rates of Wages.

In the industries covered by the Department's statistics* the changes in rates of wages reported to have come into operation in July in Great Britain and Northern Ireland resulted in an aggregate reduction of about £21,700 in the weekly full-time wages of about 510,000 workpeople and in an increase of about £4,400 in the weekly wages of 130,000 workpeople.

The groups of industries principally affected were as follows:—

Group of Industries.	Approximate Number of Workpeople affected by		Amount of Changes in Weekly Wages.	
	Increases.	Decreases.	Increases.	Decreases.
Metal ...	36,750	18,750	£ 2,100	£ 2,750
Textile ...	80,500	2,000	1,550	150
Transport ...	177,000	—	—	9,300
Public Utility Services...	12,250	44,250	750	2,550
Other ...	—	—	—	—
Total ...	129,500	309,000	4,400	21,700

The increases in the metal group mainly affected electrical cable makers, whose wages were increased by 1s. 11½d. or 2s. per week in the case of men and 1s. per week in that of women; blastfurnacemen in Cleveland, for whom the increase amounted to over 2½ per cent. on current rates; and blastfurnacemen and iron and steel workers in South Wales and Monmouthshire, in whose case there was an increase of nearly 1½ per cent. on current rates. The principal reductions in this group affected iron and steel wire drawers, in whose case a bonus of 50 per cent. paid on the first £2 of earnings was reduced to 40 per cent.; and bobbin makers, whose wages were reduced by 1s. and 6d. per week in the case of men and women respectively.

In the textile group the principal body of workpeople who received increases were bleachers, dyers, finishers, &c., the increase amounting in Yorkshire to about 1 per cent. on current rates in the case of timeworkers and rather less for pieceworkers, and in Lancashire and Scotland, to 6d. per week for men and 3d. per week for women.

The reductions in the transport group mainly affected railway traffic workers, a considerable number of whom (including most of the lower-rated men) sustained a decrease of 1s. per week under a cost-of-living sliding-scale. There was also a reduction in the wages of coal tipplers at the principal ports.

In the public utility services there was a reduction of ¼d. per hour in the wages of men employed by waterworks undertakings in London and various districts in the Northern and Midland counties of England, and in those of men employed by electricity supply undertakings in most districts in Great Britain outside the North-East Coast and East Midland areas. Workpeople employed in the non-

trading services of various local authorities in Lancashire and Cheshire sustained a reduction of about 5 per cent. on current wages.

In industries other than the above there was an increase in the wages of iron miners in Cleveland, and there were reductions in those of iron miners in Cumberland, men employed by electrical contractors in England and Wales, and workpeople in the seed crushing and oil milling industry.

Of the total reduction of £21,700 per week, £18,750 took effect under sliding scales based on the cost of living, including nearly £7,000 under such scales agreed upon by joint standing bodies of employers and workpeople, £250 took effect under arbitration awards, £150 took effect under sliding scales based on selling prices, and the remainder chiefly as the result of direct negotiation between employers and workpeople. Of the total increase of £4,400 per week, over £3,350 took effect under sliding scales based on the cost of living, including nearly £1,300 under such scales agreed upon by joint

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING JULY, 1926 (continued).

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Changes. (Decreases in italics.)
OTHER METAL INDUSTRIES.				
Electrical Cable Manufacture.	Middlesex, Kent, Surrey, Sussex, Essex, Hertfordshire, Buckinghamshire, and Berkshire.	3rd pay day in July.	Workpeople employed in the electrical cable-making industry (except plumber-jointers, etc.).	Increase* of 1s. 11d. per week for men 21 years of age and over, of 1s. 5d. per week for youths 18 to 20 years, of 6d. per week for boys 15 years, of 5d. per week for boys 14, 16 and 17 years, of 1s. per week for women 18 years and over and of 6d. per week for girls 14 to 17 years; pieceworkers' wages correspondingly increased. Rates after change: men 21 years and over, 5s. 10d. to 6s. 8d.; youths 18 to 20 years, 3s. 2d. to 4s. 0d.; boys 14 to 17 years, 1s. 8d. to 2s. 5d.; women 18 years and over, 2s. 6d. to 3s. 6d.; girls 14 to 17 years, 1s. 4d. to 1s. 8d.
	Great Britain, other than the above counties.	1st July.	Plumber-jointers and plumber-jointers' mates employed in the electrical cable-making industry.	Increase* of 2s. per week for men 21 years of age and over, of 1s. 6d. per week for youths 18 to 20 years, of 1s. per week for women 18 years and over, and of 6d. per week for boys and girls 14 to 17 years; pieceworkers' wages correspondingly increased. Rates after change: men 21 years and over, 4s. 6d. to 5s. 6d.; youths 18 to 20 years, 3s. 6d. to 4s. 6d.; boys 14 to 17 years, 1s. 4s. to 2s. 3s.; women 18 years and over, 2s. 6d. to 3s. 6d.; girls 14 to 17 years, 1s. 4s. to 1s. 6d.
	Greater London ...	2nd pay day in July, 1 July.	Plumber-jointers and plumber-jointers' mates employed in the electrical cable-making industry.	Decrease* of 1s. 11d. per week. Rates after change: jointers, 7s. 2d.; jointers' mates, 6s. 9d.
Wire Manufacture	Other Districts in Great Britain (except North-East Coast).	1 July.	Plumber-jointers, jointers and jointers' mates employed in the electrical cable-making industry.	Decrease* of 1s. 11d. per week.
	Great Britain ...	10 July.	Skilled iron and steel wire drawers	Bonus of 50 per cent. previously paid on first £2 of earnings, reduced to 40 per cent., leaving a flat rate bonus of 40 per cent. on all earnings.
Bobbin and Shuttle Manufacture.	England and Wales	1st pay day in July.	Workpeople employed in the bobbin making industry; also shuttle-makers employed by certain firms at Blackburn and Garston.	Decrease* of 1s. per week for men 21 years of age and over, and of 6d. per week for women 18 years of age and over. Rates after change: men—higher skilled, 6s. 6d.; lesser skilled, 5s.; labourers, 4s.; women, 2s. per week.
	Lancashire† ...	1st pay day in July.	Shuttle-makers ...	Addition to base rate reduced* from 5s. to 4s. 8d. per cent. (1s. 5.76d. per hour).
Cotton Manufacture.	Yorkshire ...	1st pay day in July.	Shuttle-makers ...	Addition to base rate reduced* from 5s. to 5s. 1p. per cent. (1s. 3.855d. per hour).
	Colne, Nelson, Burnley, and various other districts in Lancashire.	Pay day in week ending 3 July.	Weavers employed in the coloured goods section of the cotton industry.	Decrease* of 1s. 11d. per week. Rates after change: jointers, 7s. 2d.; jointers' mates, 6s. 9d.
Wool and Worsted Spinning.	Leicester ...	1st pay day in July.	Workpeople employed in the lamb's wool and worsted yarn spinning industry (excluding workpeople such as engineers, etc. belonging to unions other than the Workers' Union).	Decrease* of 1s. per week for men 21 years of age and over, and of 6d. per week for women 18 years of age and over. Rates after change: men—higher skilled, 6s. 6d.; lesser skilled, 5s.; labourers, 4s.; women, 2s. per week.
	Northern Ireland ...	1 July.	Female workers—Net-making machine operators	Minimum time and piecework basis time rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts at 6d., 6d. and 7d., 6d. and 7d. respectively. (See p. 275 of July GAZETTE.)
Rope, Twine, and Net Manufacture.	Yorkshire (majority of firms) and certain firms in Lancashire.¶	1st pay day in Aug.¶	Net examiners ...	Minimum time and piecework basis time rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts at 6d., 5d. and 6d., 6d. and 7d. respectively. (See p. 275 of July GAZETTE.)
	Lancashire, Cheshire, and Derbyshire (majority of firms) and certain firms in Yorkshire**;	1st pay day in Aug.¶	Workpeople employed in the dyeing and finishing trades.	Cost-of-living wage increased* from 73 per cent. to 74½ per cent. on basic rates for timeworkers, from 58½ per cent. to 59½ per cent. for pieceworkers (except pressers) and from 43½ per cent. to 44½ per cent. for pressers. Minimum rates after change: timeworkers—The Bradford Dyers' Association, Ltd.: men 21 and over, 2s., plus 8 per cent., plus 74½ per cent. on total, plus 2s.; other firms—men 21 and over, 3s. 3d., plus 74½ per cent., plus 2s.; women 18 and over, 1s. 8s., plus 74½ per cent., plus 1s. 3d.
Textile Bleaching, Printing, Dyeing, etc.	Lancashire, Cheshire, and Derbyshire (majority of firms) and certain firms in Yorkshire**;	1st pay day in Aug.¶	Workpeople employed in the bleaching, dyeing, calico printing and finishing trades (except waste bleachers, machine calico printers, engineers, mechanics, etc. employed in repair and maintenance of plant).	Males: Cost-of-living wage increased* from 22s. 1d. to 22s. 7d. per week for those 21 years and over, and by smaller amounts for those under 21. FEMALES: Cost-of-living wage increased* from 13s. 2d. to 13s. 5d. per week for those 18 years and over in Lancashire, Cheshire, and Derbyshire and for those 21 years and over in Scotland, and by smaller amounts for those under these age limits in the respective districts. Rates after change: Lancashire—men, 2s., plus 2s. 7d., plus 2s.; women, 1s. 8s., plus 1s. 3d.; Scotland—men, 2s., plus 2s. 7d., plus 2s.; women, 1s., plus 1s. 5d., plus 1s. 3d.
	West Riding of Yorkshire.	1st pay day in Aug.¶	Mechanics employed in dyeworks	Increase* of 6d. per week. Rates after change: Bradford, Leeds and Shipley, 6s. 10d.; other towns, 6s. 10d.
	Bolton and Bury Districts.	1st pay day in Aug.¶	Mechanics employed in the textile dyeing, bleaching, etc. industry.	Cost-of-living wage increased* from 22s. 1d. to 22s. 7d. per week. Total rate after change, 62s. 7d.
Textile Bleaching, Printing, Dyeing, etc.	Lancashire, Cheshire, Derbyshire and Scotland.	1st pay day in Aug.¶	Engravers, etc. employed in calico print works.	Cost-of-living wage increased* from 30s. 5d. to 31s. per week for engravers, and from 22s. 1d. to 22s. 7d. per week for turners, polishers and varnishers.
	Lancashire, Cheshire, Derbyshire, Scotland and Belfast.	1st pay day in Aug.¶	Engravers employed in engraving works.	Cost-of-living wage increased* from 27s. 5d. to 28s. per week for men, from 16s. 4d. to 16s. 7d. per week for women, with corresponding decreases for youths under 21.

* Under cost-of-living sliding-scale arrangements.
 † Excluding any service bonus that may be due.
 ‡ Excluding certain workpeople employed at Blackburn and Garston.
 § The higher rate in each case applies to workers employed within the area of the County Borough of the City of Belfast and the lower rate to workers employed in other areas.
 ¶ The change applied to workers employed by firms who are members of the British Cotton and Wool Dyers' Association, Ltd. (Slubbing Section), the Leeds Dyers' and Finishers' Federation, the Yorkshire Indigo, Scarlet, and Colour Dyers, Ltd.; the Leeds and District Worsted Dyers' and Finishers' Association, Ltd.; the Huddersfield and District Master Dyers' Association, the Yorkshire Dyers' Federation, the West Riding of Yorkshire Master Slubbing Dyers' Association, The Bradford Dyers' Association, Ltd., and the Employers' Federation of Cotton Yarn Bleachers, Dyers and Sizers (certain firms). Except in a few cases in the Bradford area the change did not apply to workpeople employed in the "home" dyeing and finishing departments of woollen and worsted manufacturers.
 ** In respect of the preceding pay period.
 †† In respect of workpeople employed by firms who are members of the Federation of Calico Printers, the Employers' Federation of Dyers and Finishers, the Employers' Federation of Bleachers and the Employers' Federation of Cotton Yarn Bleachers, Dyers, and Sizers (certain firms). At Hebden Bridge the increases for timeworkers were similar to those in Lancashire (see above). For pieceworkers the cost of living wages were increased from 65 per cent. to 64 per cent. for netherwood cutters, from 57 per cent. to 58 per cent. for hand cutters, from 48 per cent. to 49 per cent. for menders, and from 54 per cent. to 55 per cent. for all other pieceworkers.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING JULY, 1926 (continued).

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Changes. (Decreases in italics.)
Seed Crushing and Oil Milling.	Great Britain* ...	1st full pay week in July.	Workpeople employed in the seed crushing and oil milling industry (except those whose wages are regulated by movements in the engineering and other industries).	Decrease† of 1s. per week for men 21 years and over and of 6d. per week for youths and women. Minimum rates after change: Liverpool—men, Grade I, 5s. 6d.; Grade II, 5s. 4d.; Grade III, 4s. 6d.; youths, 21s. 6d. at 15 years, increasing to 34s. at 18½ and to 45s. at 20½ years. Women, 20 and over, 35s. 6d. Hull—labourers, 4s.
Aerated Waters.	Northern Ireland ...	1 July	Male workers employed in the aerated waters trade.	Decreases in the minimum time rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts of 1½d. per hour for those 21 and under 22 years, and 1d. per hour for those 22 and under 23 years of age, the rates for other ages remaining unchanged. Minimum rates after change: under 16 years, 2½d., increasing to 6d. at 18 and under 19, 10½d. at 21 and under 22, and to 1s. at 23 and over. (See page 275 of July GAZETTE.)
Furniture Manufacture.	North East Coast†	1st full pay week in July.	Cabinet makers, carvers, machinists, french polishers, and upholsterers.	Decrease† of ¼d. per hour. Rates after change: french polishers and upholsterers, 1s. 7d.; other male workers, 1s. 7d., plus ¼d. per hour "tool money".
	Leeds, Bradford, Halifax, Huddersfield, Keighley, Shipley, Brighouse, Dewsbury and York.	1 July	Cabinet makers, chairmakers, carvers, machinists, upholsterers, and french polishers.	Decrease† of ¼d. per hour. Rate after change: 1s. 7d.; carvers and spindle hands who are all round machinists, 1s. 8½d.
	Birmingham, Sutton Coldfield, West Bromwich, Smethwick, Wolverhampton, Walsall, and Dudley.	Week ending 6 or 7 Aug.	Female workers ...	Decrease† of ¼d. per hour. Rate after change for skilled upholsterers, 10½d.
High Wycombe ...	High Wycombe ...	Pay day in week ending 24 July.	Timeworkers:—Cabinet makers, chairmakers, wood-cutting machinists, upholsterers and french polishers.	Increase† of ¼d. per hour for adult workers and of proportionate amounts for youths and boys. Standard rate after change for skilled adults, 1s. 6d.
	Glasgow ...	1st full pay in July.	Female french polishers and upholsterers	Increase† of ¼d. per hour for adult workers and of proportionate amounts for girls. Standard rate after change for adults, 9½d.
Public Works Contracting.	East Ham, West Ham, Barking Town, Edmonton, Leyton, Mitcham and Tottenham.	1 July	Men employed on public works ...	Percentage addition to pre-war piecework prices increased† from 6½ to 70.
	London ...	1 April	Asphalte workers ...	Increase† of ¼d. per hour. Rates after change: those engaged on skilled processes, 1s. 6d.; Windsor, cane and cheap rush-bottom chairmakers, packers, markers-out and benders, 1s. 5½d.
Railway Service	Great Britain ...	1 July	Men in receipt of war wage of 28s. per week (canal workers, etc.).	Increase† of ¼d. per hour for adult workers and of proportionate amounts for girls. Standard rate after change for adults, 9½d.
	Various ports in Great Britain.††	1st pay day in July.	Coal tippers, teamsters, weighers, hoistmen and boxmen.	Increase† of 1s. per week. Rates after change: 1st six months, 10s. 6d., increasing to 16s. 6d. during 4th six months and to 32s. during 8th six months.
Canal Service ...	Midlands§§	1st pay day in July.	Canal boatmen employed in the transport of coal, iron, glass, chemicals, etc.	Increase† of ¼d. per hour for time workers (1s. 4d. to 1s. 4½d.), and of 2½ per cent. for piece workers.
	Principal towns in Scotland.¶¶¶	1 July	Carters employed by railway contractors.	Decrease† of ¼d. per hour for Grades A, B and C districts, and of ¼d. per hour for Grade D. Rates after change for qualified men: Grade A districts, 1s. 10d., Grade B, 1s. 7½d., Grade C, 1s. 6½d., Grade D, 1s. 5d.
Road Transport	Forfarshire ...	5 July	Road transport workers ...	Rates of wages previously applicable to the City and County of London extended to cover the areas named.¶

* The change took effect under an arrangement made by the Joint Industrial Council for the Seed Crushing and Compound Cake Manufacturing Industry.
 † Under cost-of-living sliding-scale arrangements.
 ‡ Including Newcastle, North and South Shields, Sunderland, Gateshead, Middlesbrough, Stockton, West Hartlepool and Darlington.
 § The districts comprised by the various Grades are as published on page 183 of the May GAZETTE, with the exception that Sussex was published in error as included in Grade C, whereas it is included in Grade D.
 ¶ It was previously agreed as regards areas outside the City and County of London which are in the Metropolitan Police District that the rates payable should be not more than 1d. per hour less than the rates applicable to the City and County of London. This provision continues in regard to outside areas other than those mentioned. The London rates remain unchanged (1s. 3d. in the case of labourers).
 ¶¶ The decrease of 1s. per week applied to all lower-rated men (porters, permanent-way men, labourers, etc.) who were in receipt of 1s. or more per week cost-of-living bonus. No decrease took place in the case of engine drivers and firemen, guards, shunters, cloakroom attendants, shed engine men and loco-sheds and fire brigade men. Traffic regulators and signalmen still in receipt of amounts granted under the National Wages Board Award of June, 1920, had, in addition to the reduction of 1s. or less under the cost-of-living sliding scale, an additional reduction of 1s. per week from such amounts (or the whole withdrawn, where it was 1s. or under).
 ¶¶¶ Women in receipt of a bonus less than the above scale, sustained no decrease.
 ¶¶¶ In accordance with the terms of the arrangement made in 1922, a further reduction of 6d. per week applied to masters and first engineers (Group 2) on dredgers carrying own spoil to depositing grounds.
 ¶¶¶ The decrease applied to the principal coal exporting centres, including those on the North East Coast, the East Coast, the East of Scotland, and also paid at certain docks at Bristol Channel ports.
 §§ Including Aston, Bilston, Birmingham, Kidderminster, Netherton, Oldbury, Old Hill, Smethwick, Tamworth, Tipton, Walsall, West Bromwich and Wolverhampton.
 ¶¶¶ Including Glasgow, Aberdeen, Edinburgh, Leith, Dundee, Paisley, Barrhead, Greenock, Dumbarton, Coatbridge, Airdrie, Hamilton, Falkirk, Alloa and Stirling.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING JULY, 1926 (continued).

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Changes. (Decreases in italics.)
Gas Undertakings.	Belfast ...	1 July	Manual workers (except those whose wages are regulated by movements in other trades).	Decrease* of 1d. per hour. Rate after change for labourers, 1s. 1½d per hour.
	Certain undertakings in the North East, Yorkshire, Midland and Lancashire and Cheshire Areas.†	1st full pay in July.	Adult male manual workers ...	Decrease* of 1d. per hour. Rates after change for labourers: North East Area, majority rate, 1s. 1½d. per hour; Yorkshire Area, 1s. 0d. to 1s. 2½d.; Midland, minimum rates, Zone A, 1s. 0½d.; Zone B, 11½d.; Zone C, 10d.; Zone D, 9d.; Lancashire and Cheshire (industrial areas), 1s. 1d.
Waterworks Undertakings.	London ...	3 July	Able-bodied male manual workers employed by the Metropolitan Water Board.	Decrease* of 1s. 11½d. per week, leaving the bonus 21s. 6½d. per week for men over 21 years of age, 15s. 6½d. for youths 18 to 21 years of age doing full men's work, and 9s. 9½d. for youths 18 to 21 years of age not doing full men's work; and also, decrease in bonus of 6d. per week for boys 16 to 17 years of age and of 1s. per week for boys 17 to 18. Rates after change: stokers, 36s. 6d. per week; trenchmen, 32s. 6d.; jointers, 34s. 6d. to 38s. 6d.; labourers, 31s. 6d., plus in each case bonuses as above.
	Certain undertakings in the South Midlands Area.‡	1st full pay week in July.	Adult male manual workers ...	Decreases* of 9d. per week for Grade D areas; of 10d. for Grades C and B; and of 8d. for Grade A. Minimum weekly rates after change for labourers: Grade D, 49s. 9d.; Grade C, 48s. 9d.; Grade B, 47s. 2d.; Grade A, 40s. 11d.
Electricity Supply Undertakings.	Various districts in Great Britain.§	1 July	Adult male workers employed in electricity supply undertakings (except electrical wiremen and fitters in certain districts).¶	Decrease* of 1d. per hour.
	Certain undertakings in the West Midlands.	1 July	Youths under 21 years of age ...	Decrease* of 9d. per week for those 16 and 17 years of age, and of 1s. 4d. per week for those 18 to 20. Rates after change: Zones A and B, 16 years, 4-12d. per hour; 17, 4-8½d.; 18, 6-0½d.; 19, 8-3½d.; 20, 11-3½d. Zone C, 16 years, 3-3½d.; 17, 3-8½d.; 18, 5-3½d.; 19, 7-3½d.; 20, 10-3½d.
Non-Trading Services of Local Authorities.	Belfast ...	1 July	Manual workers (except those whose wages are regulated by movements in other trades).	Decrease* of 1d. per hour. Rates after change for labourers: indoor, 1s. 0½d. per hour; outdoor, 1s. 0½d.
	Great Britain (excluding London).	1 July	Adult male workers (excluding electrical fitters, etc., engaged on installation work, and other craftsmen whose wages are regulated by movements in their respective trades) employed in electricity generating stations and substations of Railway Companies.	Decrease* of 1d. per hour.
Non-Trading Services of Local Authorities.	London ...	Beginning of pay week following 9 July.	Workpeople (excluding masons) employed in Highways and Bridges Departments of County Council.	Decrease* of 2s. per week.
	Cumberland... West Hartlepool ... Hull ...	1 July	Manual workers ...	Withdrawal of increase of 6½ per cent. granted in March, 1926. Rates after change: switchboard attendants (up to 5,000 kv.), 75s. per week; (5,000 kv. and over), 89s.; turbine mechanics, 76s.; drivers, 70s.; stokers, leading, 74s.; others, 68s.; trimmers, 61s.; electrical fitters on maintenance work, 42s. 6d.; electricians' mates, 59s. 6d., plus 4s. per week for shift workers. (See I.C. Decision 1228 on page 513.)
Non-Trading Services of Local Authorities.	Certain Authorities in Lancashire and Cheshire.¶¶	1 July	Manual workers ...	Decrease* of 1s. 6d. per week for workpeople over 18 years of age, and of 9d. per week for those under 18 years of age. Minimum weekly rate after change for labourers, 43s.
	Certain Authorities in the South Midland Area.**	1st pay in July.	Able-bodied male manual workers ...	Decrease* of 1s. per week. Minimum rate after change for general labourers, 51s.
Non-Trading Services of Local Authorities.	Certain Authorities in Kent, Surrey, and Sussex.††	1st pay following 1 July.	Able-bodied male manual workers employed in Grades IIIa and II areas:— Unskilled and semi-skilled men ... Skilled men ...	Decrease* of 1s. per week. Minimum rate after change: Grade IIIa, 48s. 7d. per week; Grade II, 42s. 9d.
	Certain Authorities in Cornwall, Devon and Dorset.	**	Able-bodied male manual workers ...	Decrease* of 2s. per week. Minimum rates after change: Grade IIIa, 60s. 1d. per week; Grade II, 54s. 9d.

* Under cost-of-living sliding-scale arrangements.
 † The decrease affected those undertakings in the areas mentioned which follow the wages agreements of the National Joint Industrial Council for the Waterworks Industry.
 ‡ The undertakings affected are those which follow the wages agreements of the South Midlands Joint Industrial Council for the Waterworks Industry, and include:—Grade D, Southampton (town area); Grade C, Reading (pays above Grade rates); Grade A, Southampton (country area).
 § The undertakings affected are those which follow the wages agreements of the National Joint Industrial Council for the Electricity Supply Industry in the following areas:—London, Yorkshire Area, North Western, West Midlands, East Coast, Home Counties, South Coast, West of England, South Wales and Monmouthshire and Scotland. In the Yorkshire Area where a reduction of 1d. per hour was due under the sliding scale owing to a previous reduction not having been enforced, a compensating increase of 1d. per hour was granted on the consolidated schedule of rates, thus making a net reduction of 1d. per hour. The change did not apply to the North-East Coast, East Midlands and Devon and Cornwall Areas.
 ¶ The Authorities affected are those which follow the wages agreements of the Lancashire and Cheshire Joint Industrial Council for Local Authorities' Non-Trading Services. The names of the Authorities and their respective zones were given on page 146 of the April GAZETTE.
 ** The Authorities affected are those which follow the wages agreements of the Provincial Council for the South Midlands Division for Local Authorities' Non-Trading Services and include:—Grade A1: Bournemouth, Oxford (made decrease of 1d.); Grade B1: Winchester, Farnborough; Grade B2: Marlow; Grade C1: Southampton C.C. (made decrease of 1d.). The rates paid by some of the Authorities differ slightly from the rates quoted above.
 †† The Authorities affected are those which follow the wages agreements of the Kent, Surrey and Sussex Joint Industrial Council for Local Authorities' Non-Trading Services, and include:—Grade IIIa: Brighton, Margate, Dartford R.D.C. (partly); Grade II: Leatherhead, R.D.C.'s of Bromley (partly) (made change from week ending 22 July), Dartford (partly). The rates paid by some of the Authorities differ slightly from the minimum rates quoted above.
 ‡‡ The grading scheme is a result of an agreement of the Provincial Joint Industrial Council for Cornwall, Devon and Dorset Local Authorities' Non-Trading Services, dated 23rd June, and operative from that date. The decrease under the cost-of-living sliding scale took effect as from the first full pay week in July. The Authorities affected are those which follow the wages agreements of the Council and include:—Grade B: Bideford, Ilfracombe, Newton Abbot, Swanage, Torquay, Weymouth; Grade C: Exmouth, Tiverton; Grade D: Launceston, Sidmouth; Grade E: Seaton. The rates paid by some of the Authorities differ slightly from the minimum rates quoted above.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING JULY, 1926 (continued).

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Changes. (Decreases in italics.)
Non-Trading Services of Local Authorities—(contd.)	Plymouth ...	29 April	House refuse collectors, road sweepers, and certain other classes (not including general labourers).	Rate of 51s. 1d. per week restored.*
	Ayrshire (Northern District) Edinburgh ...	5 July 16 July	Road labourers employed by County Council. Adult able-bodied unskilled and semi-skilled workers in non-trading and water departments, also paviors and settbeaters in roads department.	Decrease† of 1s. per week (53s. to 52s.). Revised cost-of-living sliding scale adopted, resulting in a decrease of 4d. per week. Rates after change: road labourers, scavengers and waterworks labourers, 52s. 8d. per week; paviors, 70s. 8d.; settbeaters, 57s. 2d.; pipe-jointers, 55s. 11d. to 59s. 11d.
Miscellaneous Industries.	Roller Leather Manufacture.	1st pay day in June. 1st pay day in July.	Workpeople employed in roller leather manufacture.	Cost-of-living wage increased‡ from 65 per cent. to 70 per cent. on basic rates. Minimum hourly rates after change: men—skilled, 9d.; semi-skilled, 6d. to 7½d.; women, 5d., plus in each case 70 per cent.
	Wholesale Warehousing.	1st pay day in July.	Workpeople employed in wholesale warehouses (clothing, millinery, cotton, etc.).	Decreases† of from 3d. to 1s. 3d. per week for male workers and of from 3d. to 9d. per week for female workers. Minimum rates after change: male workers—10s. 3d. at 14, increasing to 21s. 9d. at 18, 37s. 6d. at 21, and 50s. 3d. at 23 and over; female workers—9s. 9d. at 14 years, increasing to 20s. at 18, and to 28s. 6d. at 21 and over.
Button Making	Great Britain ...	2 July	Male and female workers ...	Minimum rates previously fixed under the Trade Boards Acts extended to cover workers newly brought within the scope of the Button Making Trade Board. (See p. 275 of July GAZETTE.)
Co-operative Societies.	Glasgow and District	1 July	Male assistants ... Female assistants ...	Decreases† of from 7d. to 1s. per week for juniors and of from 1s. 11d. to 3s. 5d. per week for seniors. Rates after change: juniors—13s. 3d. in 1st year, increasing to 29s. in 5th year; seniors—44s. 3d. in 1st year, increasing to 60s. 1d. in 5th year.
	Certain other districts in Scotland.‡	1 July	Branch managers and manageresses Head warehousemen Porters, caretakers and cellarmen Male assistants ... Female assistants ...	Decreases† of from 7d. to 1s. 5d. per week for juniors and from 1s. 7d. to 2s. 11d. per week for seniors. Rates after change: juniors—12s. 3d. in 1st year, increasing to 40s. 1d. in 5th year; seniors—30s. 3d. in 1st year, increasing to 40s. 1d. in 5th year.

* A reduction of 2½ per cent. took effect under a cost-of-living sliding scale from the date in April mentioned above. It was agreed later (in June) that the reduction should be cancelled, and that the rate previously in force (viz., 51s. 1d.) should not be reduced before 31st March, 1927.
 † Under cost-of-living sliding-scale arrangements.
 ‡ Ayrshire, Lanarkshire, East of Scotland, Falkirk, Renfrewshire, Southern Counties, and Stirling and Clackmannan Districts.

TRADE DISPUTES.*

The general dispute in the coal-mining industry, which began on 1st May, continued throughout July. The number of workpeople in the coal-mining industry who have been involved in this dispute is about 1,050,000† and the aggregate number of days lost by such workpeople, up to 31st July, was about 66 millions, of which 23 millions were lost in July. A special article on the subject of this dispute appears on pages 280-3 of this issue of the GAZETTE.

Apart from the coal-mining stoppage, a statistical summary relating to the disputes of July, 1926, in comparison with a month earlier and a year earlier, is given in the following Table:—

Month.	Number of Disputes in progress in Month.			Number of Workpeople involved in all Disputes in progress in Month.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress in Month.
	Started before beginning of Month.	Started in Month.	Total.		
July, 1926 ...	14	10	24	2,000	18,000
June, 1926 ...	21	10	31	7,000	37,000
July, 1925 ...	33	45	78	216,000	1,857,000

Causes.—Of the ten disputes beginning in July, six arose on wages questions, and four on other questions.

Results.—Settlements were effected in the case of seven new and old disputes, of which one was settled in favour of the workpeople, five were settled in favour of the employers, and one was compromised. In the case of three other disputes, work was resumed pending negotiations.

* 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, etc.) exceeded 100 days.

† Revised estimate, in accordance with the latest available information, of the number involved at the beginning of the stoppage.

‡ In making up the totals for the several months of the year, the figures have been amended in accordance with the most recent information. Workpeople involved in more than one dispute are counted more than once in the totals; the amount of such duplication is, however, not very considerable, except in the mining and quarrying group in 1926, when about 44,000 workpeople were involved in more than one dispute, and in the case of industries involved in the General Strike in May.

§ The figures for the current coal-mining dispute have been revised in accordance with the latest available information.

TOTALS FOR FIRST SEVEN MONTHS OF 1925 AND 1926.‡

The following Table summarises the figures for Great Britain and Northern Ireland for the first seven months of 1926, as compared with the corresponding period of 1925.

Groups of Industries.	January to July, 1925.			January to July, 1926.		
	No. of Disputes.	Number of Workpeople involved in all Disputes in progress.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress.	No. of Disputes.	Number of Workpeople involved in all Disputes in progress.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress.
General Strike ...	...	...	...	1	1,580,000	15,000,000
Mining and Quarrying.	98	92,000	1,227,000	50	1,094,000§	67,518,000
Brick, Glass, Pottery, etc.	10	500	4,000	4	3,000	43,000
Engineering ...	11	6,000	32,000	13	3,000	61,000
Shipbuilding ...	16	4,000	26,000	5	1,000	4,000
Other Metal ...	28	4,000	41,000	29	9,000	139,000
Textile ...	41	171,000	1,180,000	24	15,000	178,000
Clothing ...	18	3,000	20,000	6	1,000	6,000
Food, Drink, and Tobacco.	16	3,000	14,000	11	1,000	4,000
Woodworking and Furnishing.	17	2,000	32,000	12	2,000	32,000
Paper, Printing, etc.	7	16,000	59,000	3	1,000	42,000
Building, Decorating, Contracting, etc.	34	4,000	61,000	21	2,000	14,000
Transport ...	29	14,000	32,000	31	22,000	159,000
Public Administration Services.	16	2,000	13,000	5	1,000	29,000
Other ...	22	17,500	97,000	8	1,000	15,000
Total ...	363	339,000	2,838,000	223	2,736,000§	83,244,000

[The usual tabular statement of principal disputes is omitted, as, apart from the coal-mining stoppage, there were no disputes in July involving large numbers of workpeople.]

For footnotes see previous column.

DISEASES OF OCCUPATIONS.

THE total number of cases of poisoning, anthrax, and epitheliomatous and chrome ulceration in Great Britain and Northern Ireland reported under the Factory and Workshop Act during July, 1926, was 46. Four deaths were reported during the month, one due to lead poisoning, one to aniline poisoning, one to anthrax and one to epitheliomatous ulceration. In addition, eight cases of lead poisoning among house painters (including two deaths) and one case (fatal) among house plumbers came to the knowledge of the Home Office during July, but notification of these cases is not obligatory.

(a) CASES OF LEAD POISONING.	(b) CASES OF OTHER FORMS OF POISONING.
Among Operatives engaged in—	Mercurial Poisoning ... 1
Smelting of Metals ... 1	Aniline Poisoning ... 6
Plumbing and Soldering ...	TOTAL, OTHER FORMS OF POISONING ... 7
Shipbreaking ...	
Printing ...	
Tinning of Metals ...	(c) CASES OF ANTHRAX.
Other Contact with Molten Lead ...	Wool ... 1
White and Red Lead Works ...	(d) CASES OF EPITHELIOMATOUS ULCERATION.
Pottery* ... 2	Pitch ... 5
Vitreous Enamelling ... 1	Tar ... 3
Electric Accumulator Works ...	Paraffin ... 1
Paint and Colour Works ...	Oil ... 15
Indiarubber Works ...	TOTAL, EPITHELIOMATOUS ULCERATION ... 24
Coach and Car Painting ... 2	
Shipbuilding ...	(e) CASES OF CHROME ULCERATION.
Paint used in Other Industries ... 2	Manufacture of Bichromates ...
Other Industries ...	Dyeing and Finishing ... 5
	Chrome Tanning ...
TOTAL OF ABOVE ... 8	Other Industries ... 1
HOUSE PAINTING ... 8	TOTAL, CHROME ULCERATION ... 6
HOUSE PLUMBING ... 1	

FATAL INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS.

THE number of workpeople, other than seamen, reported as killed in the course of their employment in Great Britain and Northern Ireland during July, 1926, was 89, as compared with 76 in the previous month and with 204 in July, 1925. Fatal accidents to seamen numbered 42 in July, 1926, as compared with 22 in the previous month, and with 31 a year ago.

RAILWAY SERVICE.	FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS (continued):
Brakemen and Goods Guards ...	Locomotives, Railway and Tramway Carriages, Motors, Aircraft ... 4
Engine Drivers ...	Other Metal Trades ...
Firemen ... 2	Shipbuilding ... 4
Guards (Passenger) ...	Wood ... 5
Permanent Way Men ... 4	Gas ... 3
Porters ...	Electric Generating Stations ... 1
Shunters ...	Clay, Stone, Glass, etc. ... 3
Mechanics ...	Chemicals, etc. ... 1
Labourers ... 2	Food and Drink ... 4
Miscellaneous ...	Paper, Printing, etc. ... 3
Contractors' Servants ...	Tanning, Currying, etc. ... 1
	Rubber Trades ... 1
TOTAL, RAILWAY SERVICE ... 8	Other Non-Textile Industries ... 2
MINES.	PLACES UNDER SS. 104-106, FACTORY ACT, 1901.
Underground ... 5	Docks, Wharves, etc. ... 7
Surface ... 4	Buildings ... 15
TOTAL, MINES ... 9	Warehouses and Railway Sidings ... 2
QUARRIES OVER 20 feet deep ... 4	TOTAL, FACTORY ACTS ... 67
FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.	Use or Working of Tramways ... 1
Cotton ...	Total (excluding Seamen) ... 89
Wool, Worsted and Shoddy ...	SEAMEN.
Other Textiles ... 1	Trading Vessels, Sailing ... 37
Textile Bleaching and Dyeing ... 1	" " Steam ... 1
Metal Extracting and Refining ...	Fishing Vessels, Sailing ... 1
Metal Conversion, including Rolling Mills and Tube Making ... 2	" " Steam ... 4
Metal Founding ... 1	TOTAL, SEAMEN ... 42
Engineering and Machine Making ... 4	Total (including Seamen) ... 131
Boiler Making and Construction Engineering ... 2	

* Of the two persons affected in the pottery industry, one was a female.

POOR LAW RELIEF IN GREAT BRITAIN.

(Data supplied by the Ministry of Health in England and Wales and by the Board of Health in Scotland.)

THE number of persons* relieved on one day† in July, 1926, in the thirty-one selected areas named below was 1,080,948, or 1.7 per cent. less than in the previous month, but 53.9 per cent. more than in July, 1925. The numbers relieved at these three dates were equivalent, respectively, to rates of 604, 614 and 394‡ per 10,000 of the estimated population.

Selected Urban Areas.	Number of persons* in receipt of Poor Law Relief on one day† in July, 1926.				Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in rate per 10,000 of Population as compared with a	
	Indoor.	Out-door.	Total.	Rate per 10,000 of Estimated Population.	Month ago.	Year ago.
ENGLAND AND WALES.						
Metropolis.						
West District ...	8,813	7,185	15,998	192	- 6	+ 9
North District ...	10,009	19,928	29,937	290	- 14	+ 27
Central District ...	2,248	2,890	5,138	382	- 29	+ 21
East District ...	10,553	66,560	76,613	1,176	+ 5	+ 221
South District ...	18,943	77,535	96,478	492	- 11	+ 57
TOTAL, Metropolis ...	50,066	174,098	224,164	486	- 9	+ 64
West Ham ...	4,376	58,340	62,716	818	- 113	+ 15
Other Districts.						
Newcastle District	2,649	69,177	71,826	1,417	+ 198	+ 800
Stockton and Tees District ...	1,194	19,567	20,761	747	- 1	+ 265
Bolton, Oldham, etc. ...	4,128	10,308	14,436	182	- 68	+ 38
Wigan District ...	1,818	71,874	73,692	1,616	- 4	+ 1,349
Manchester District	8,831	44,592	53,423	510	+ 15	+ 182
Liverpool District	9,736	56,532	66,268	528	+ 1	+ 93
Bradford District ...	1,854	7,019	8,873	239	+ 6	+ 82
Halifax and Huddersfield ...	1,353	3,341	4,694	124	+ 5	+ 11
Leeds ...	2,549	21,854	24,403	512	+ 31	+ 274
Barnsley District ...	965	11,121	12,086	363	+ 8	+ 80
Sheffield ...	2,511	41,573	44,084	851	- 33	+ 344
Hull District ...	1,697	12,627	14,324	446	- 29	+ 29
North Staffordshire	2,247	42,320	44,567	1,051	- 139	+ 870
Nottingham District	2,174	56,298	58,472	1,238	- 79	+ 976
Leicester ...	1,150	3,620	4,770	197	+ 13	+ 40
Wolverhampton District	3,318	27,602	30,920	413	- 69	+ 150
Birmingham ...	7,234	20,488	27,722	293	+ 7	+ 29
Bristol District ...	2,451	14,136	16,587	400	- 7	+ 77
Cardiff and Swansea	2,483	27,774	30,257	629	+ 28	+ 270
TOTAL, "Other Districts" ...	60,342	561,823	622,165	595	- 6	+ 282
TOTAL, Districts in England and Wales ...	114,784	794,261	909,045	574	- 12	+ 206
SCOTLAND.						
Glasgow District ...	5,476	103,056	108,532	1,129	+ 25	+ 316‡
Paisley and Greenock District ...	808	15,511	16,319	847	+ 16	+ 132‡
Edinburgh ...	1,509	19,101	20,610	488	- 14	+ 126‡
Dunfermline ...	772	6,742	7,514	346	+ 1	+ 142‡
Aberdeen ...	550	3,405	3,955	252	- 10	+ 48‡
Coatbridge and Airdrie	369	14,604	14,973	1,467	- 105	+ 809‡
TOTAL for the above Scottish Districts ...	9,484	162,419	171,903	838	+ 5	+ 246‡
TOTAL for above 31 Districts in July, 1926.	124,268	956,680	1,080,948	604	- 10	+ 210‡

ASSISTED PASSAGES UNDER THE EMPIRE SETTLEMENT ACT, 1922.

THE number of assisted passages granted during July, 1926, in connection with agreed schemes under the Empire Settlement Act, and the total number of such passages granted from the inception of these schemes, together with the number of departures during the same periods, are shown in the following Table:—

Assisted Passage Schemes.	Assisted Passages Granted.			Departures in July, 1926.		Total Departures.	
	in July, 1926.	1922 to 1925.	Jan. to July, 1926.	in July, 1926.	1922 to 1925.	Jan. to July, 1926.	
To Australia ...	2,716	82,161‡	17,516‡	2,992	78,689	19,974	
" New Zealand ...	960	25,636‡	5,475‡	1,266	22,625	6,604	
" Canada :							
Dominion of Canada	1,667	21,405‡	16,460‡	2,612	21,489	14,701	
Province of Ontario	...	1,367	...	...	1,356	...
" South Africa ...	27	167	198	22	79	...	
Minor Schemes ...	167	5,582	618‡	127	4,939	413	
Total ...	5,537	136,318‡	40,267‡	7,019	129,177	41,788	

The figures given include both applicants and dependants of applicants to whom assisted passages have been granted.

* The figures include dependants, but exclude casuals, lunatics in Asylums, Registered Hospitals and Licensed Houses, and persons receiving out-door medical relief only.
† The figures for England and Wales relate to 31st July, and those for Scotland to 15th July.
‡ Revised figures.

RETAIL PRICES OVERSEAS.

[N.B.—While the percentages given in the following Summary Tables are derived from the most authoritative sources of statistical information, certain differences in the nature and scope of the data used, in the methods of combining such data and in the periods for which the rise is measured, suggest the need for caution in drawing conclusions from a comparison between the figures for any two countries or cities. It is also to be observed that in every case the percentage calculation is based on the assumption that the standard of living is identical at the various periods compared.]

I.—FOOD.

PERCENTAGE INCREASE IN RETAIL FOOD PRICES IN THE VARIOUS COUNTRIES AS COMPARED WITH JULY, 1914.*

Country.	Percentage Increase as compared with July, 1914.*				Latest figures available.	
	July, 1922.	July, 1923.	July, 1924.	July, 1925.	Rise.	Date.
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.		
UNITED KINGDOM ...	80	62	62	67	61	31 July
FOREIGN COUNTRIES.						
Czechoslovakia ...	84	88	737	816	760	June
Denmark ...	72	52	100	110	77	Jan.
Egypt (Cairo)† ...	1,005	868	916	1,007	952	June
Finland ...	197	221	260	321	474	July
France (Paris)† ...	212‡	249‡	300‡	351‡	423	May
" (other towns)† ...	...	...	...	54	43	June
Germany ...	...	...	67	76	63	May
Holland (The Hague) ...	392	396	408	502	557	June
Italy (Milan) ...	...	482	469	527	481	May
" (Rome) ...	133	118	148	160	98	July
Norway ...	79	72	82	90	83	May
Spain (Madrid)† ...	73	65	72	82	65	May
" (Barcelona)† ...	79	60	59	69	56	July
Sweden† ...	57	66	70	69	59	June
Switzerland ...	39	44	40	59	57	June
UNITED STATES ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
BRITISH DOMINIONS, & C.						
Australia ...	48	64	49†	56	63	June
Canada ...	38	37	34	41	49	June
India (Bombay) :						
Native families ...	60	48	51	52	55	July
" European " families ...	...	...	80	78	68	Apr.
Irish Free State ...	85†	82	85	88	75	Apr.
New Zealand ...	42	48	61	49	48	July
South Africa ...	16	16	17	20	18	June

II.—ALL ITEMS.

PERCENTAGE INCREASE IN THE VARIOUS COUNTRIES IN THE COST OF FOOD, TOGETHER WITH (SO FAR AS POSSIBLE) HOUSE-RENT, CLOTHING, FUEL AND LIGHT AND OTHER HOUSEHOLD REQUIREMENTS, AS COMPARED WITH JULY, 1914.†

Country.	Items on which Computation is based.‡	Percentage Increase as compared with July, 1914.†				Latest figures available.	
		July, 1922.	July, 1923.	July, 1924.	July, 1925.	Rise.	Date.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.		
UNITED KINGDOM	A,B,C,D,E	84	69	70	73	70	31 July
FOREIGN COUNTRIES.							
Belgium ...	A,C,D,E	266	329	393	409	458	May
Czechoslovakia (Prague) ...	A,B,C,D,E	600	589	641	593	June	
Denmark ...	A,B,C,D,E	99	104	119	94	Jan.	
Estonia (Tallinn) ...	A,B,C,D,E	...	...	14	10	Mar.	
Finland ...	A,B,C,D,E	1,018	990	1,032	1,052	June	
France (Paris) ...	A,B,C,D,E	189**	231**	267**	301**	2nd qr.	
Germany ...	A,B,C,D,E	...	...	...	43	41	June
Greece (Athens) ...	A,B,C,D,E	516	933	1,225	1,372	1,631	Apr.
Holland (Amsterdam) ...	A,B,C,D,E	87†	74†	73†	79†	77	Dec. '25
Italy (Milan) ...	A,B,C,D,E	387	412	498	550	June	
" (Rome) ...	A,B,C,D,E	450	449	495	437	May	
Luxembourg ...	A,C,D	259	340	381	415	509	July
Norway ...	A,B,C,D,E	155†	139†	151†	161†	118	June
Poland (Warsaw) ...	A,B,C,D,E	...	...	...	57	83	June
Sweden ...	A,B,C,D,E	90	74	71	76	72	July
Switzerland ...	A,B,C,D	...	...	...	68	62	June
United States ...	A,B,C,D,E	67†	70†	69†	74†	78	Dec. '25
BRITISH DOMINIONS, & C.							
Australia ...	A,B	43**	56**	43**	...	56	1st qr.
Canada ...	A,B,D	46	46	44	46	50	June
India (Bombay) :							
Native families ...	A,B,C,D	65	53	57	57	57	July
" European " families ...	A,B,C,D,E	...	...	65	60	58	Apr.
Irish Free State ...	A,B,C,D,E	85†	80	83	88	80	Apr.
New Zealand ...	A,B,C,D,E	59‡	58‡	60‡	63‡	61	July
South Africa ...	A,B,D,E	35	30	32	33	31	June

* Exceptions to this are: France (other towns), August, 1914; The Hague, January to July, 1914; Milan, January to June, 1914; Switzerland, June, 1914; Amsterdam, Spain, South Africa, average, 1914; Germany, average, 1913-1914. † Figure for June. ‡ Fuel and light are also included in these figures. § Figure for August. || A = Food; B = House-Rent; C = Clothing; D = Fuel and light; E = Other or Miscellaneous Items. ¶ Exceptions to this are: Amsterdam, 1911-1913; France, Poland, Australia and South Africa, average for 1914; Belgium, April, 1914; Greece, March, 1914; Milan, January to June, 1914; Germany, Egypt, Hungary, average, 1913-1914; Switzerland and Luxembourg, June, 1914; United States, 1913; Poland, January, 1914. ** Figure for 3rd Quarter.

EMPLOYMENT OVERSEAS.

[N.B.—The following paragraphs include an abstract of such official information as is available with regard to the state of employment abroad, in order to indicate, as far as possible, the fluctuations in employment in each country from period to period. The bases of the official statistics published in the various countries are, however, not the same as those of the United Kingdom statistics; and therefore the figures quoted below cannot properly be used with those on pp. 290-291 to compare the actual level of employment in the United Kingdom with that of other countries. For details of the bases of the unemployment statistics of the various countries, reference should be made to the Reports on Statistics of Unemployment issued by the International Labour Office. (Studies and Reports, Series C., No. 7, and Series N., No. 7.)]

FRANCE.*

Unemployment in July.—The total number of unemployed persons remaining on the "live register" of the Exchanges on 31st July was 7,682 (4,77

HOLLAND.*

Unemployment in June.—The Journal of the Dutch Statistical Office contains preliminary figures compiled by the State Department of Unemployment Insurance and Employment Exchanges which show that out of 260,842 members of subsidised unemployment funds making returns for the week ended 26th June, 1926, 12,783 (4.9 per cent.) were unemployed during the whole week, and 4,085 (1.6 per cent.) for less than six days. In the corresponding week of the preceding month (ended 29th May) the percentages were respectively 5.3 and 1.9.

SWITZERLAND.

Unemployment in June.—On 30th June, 1926, the number of applications remaining on the "live register" of Employment Exchanges making returns to the Federal Labour Department was 10,272, as compared with 10,703 at the end of May, and 8,084 at the end of June, 1925. Offers of situations made by employers on these dates numbered 2,188, 2,466 and 3,358 respectively. There were thus on an average 469 applications for each 100 vacancies on 30th June, as compared with 434 on 31st May, and 241 on 30th June, 1925.

Unemployment among Insured Workers, 31st March, 1926.—The available statistical information concerning unemployment in Switzerland was supplemented, as from the end of March, 1926, by particulars relating to loss of work by members of subsidised unemployment societies. Returns from 56 societies show that, out of an aggregate membership of 153,942, 2.7 per cent. were unemployed on 31st March. The percentage varied according to occupational groups from 0.9 in the clothing trades to 6.6 in the textile and embroidery trades. It is intended to publish similar data at quarterly intervals.

ITALY.

Unemployment in May.—According to a report issued by the Italian Unemployment Insurance Department, § 98,490 workpeople were totally unemployed on 31st May, 1926, as compared with 98,216 at the end of April and 101,405 at the end of May, 1925. In addition, 8,600 were partially unemployed at the latest date, 6,793 on 30th April, and 11,647 on 31st May, 1925. During the month the number of totally unemployed persons in receipt of benefit, under the statutory unemployment insurance scheme, was 28,987, as compared with 27,233 in April and 19,352 in May, 1925.

DENMARK.†

Unemployment in June.—Returns supplied to the Danish Statistical Department by trade unions and by the Central Employment Exchange show that out of 268,033 workpeople, 16.3 per cent. were unemployed at the end of June (2nd July) as against 15.6 per cent. at the end of the preceding month, and 9.1 per cent. at the end of June, 1925.

SWEDEN.‡

Unemployment in June.—The percentage of members of trade unions making returns who were unemployed on 30th June, 1926, was 9.5, as compared with 9.7 on 31st May, and 8.2 on 30th June, 1925.

AUSTRALIA.**

Unemployment in Second Quarter, 1926.—The proportion of members of trade unions unemployed in the second quarter of 1926 amounted to 6.7 per cent., as compared with 8.2 per cent. in the preceding quarter and 10.2 per cent. in the second quarter of 1925. (These figures relate to persons out of work for three days or more during a specified week in each quarter.)

UNITED STATES.††

Employment in June.—Figures relating to the volume of employment in June, based on returns from 10,004 establishments in 54 industries, are published by the Federal Bureau of Labour Statistics. These establishments reported 2,981,672 persons employed in June, as against 2,996,516 in May, or a decrease of 0.4 per cent. The aggregate wages paid for June show a decrease of 0.1 per cent. as compared with May, and the average earnings per head an increase of 0.3 per cent.

As regards comparison between the month under review and the corresponding month of 1925, there was an increase of 1.3 per cent. in the number employed, of 4.1 per cent. in the aggregate wages paid, and of 2.8 per cent. in the average earnings per head. The most notable increases in employment in June, 1926, as compared with June, 1925, are shown in the fertiliser (20.1 per cent.) and machine tool (19.3 per cent.) industries, whilst the greatest decline in employment is shown in the millinery and lace goods (18.3 per cent.) and woollen and worsted goods (12.2 per cent.) industries.

Index Number of Employment, June.—If the monthly average index number of employment in manufacturing industries in 1923 be taken as 100, the corresponding figure for June, 1926, is 91.3, as compared with 91.7 in May, and 90.1 in June, 1925.

* Maandschrift van het Centraal Bureau voor de Statistiek, 31st July, 1926, The Hague.

† Sozialstatistische Mitteilungen, July, 1926. Berne.

‡ Ibid., May, 1926.

§ La Disoccupazione in Italia, 31st May, 1926. Rome.

¶ Statistiske Efterretninger, 22nd July, 1926. Copenhagen.

** Information supplied by the Swedish Department of Social Affairs.

†† Information supplied by the Commonwealth Prime Minister's Department, Melbourne.

‡‡ Employment in Selected Industries, June, 1926. Washington.

CANADA.

*Employment in July.**—For 1st July, 1926, returns were received by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics from 5,898 firms, with an aggregate of 850,718 upon their pay rolls. On 1st June the same firms reported 830,019 employed and the total for July thus shows an increase of 20,699 persons. If employment in the week ended 17th January, 1920, be represented by 100, the index number of employment for 1st July, 1926, is 103.7, as compared with 101.0 at the beginning of the preceding month and 96.8 on 1st July, 1925.

Trade Union Unemployment in June.—On 30th June, 1926, 4.1 per cent. of the aggregate membership of trade unions making returns were unemployed, as compared with 4.9 at the end of May and 6.1 per cent. in June, 1925.

COMPARATIVE REAL WAGES IN LONDON AND CERTAIN CITIES ABROAD.

The series of computations of comparative "real wages" in London and certain other cities abroad, compiled by the International Labour Office from returns supplied by official statistical departments in the various cities, is carried down to 1st April, 1926, in the July issue of the *International Labour Review* published by that Office. Corresponding index numbers for 1st January, 1926, were reproduced in the issue of this GAZETTE for May last (p. 188). For particulars of the origin, method of compilation, significance and limitations of these index numbers reference should be made to the issue of this GAZETTE for November, 1924. These figures have for their object a comparison of working-class real wages, so far as these can be gauged by the purchasing power (in terms of food) of the wage paid for an hour's work at the normal time rate (i.e., apart from extra payment for overtime) to male adult workers in certain typical occupations, which are common to large cities. In the index numbers shown in the following Table, which is taken from the *International Labour Review*, an attempt has been made to measure the purchasing power of wages in each city, not only by the working-class standard of food consumption of the country in which the city is situated, but also by corresponding standards appropriate to the various groups of countries, and, finally (columns 7 and 8), by an international standard of working-class food consumption.

Index Numbers of Comparative Real Wages (or Comparative Purchasing Power of Money-Wages) in London and certain Cities Abroad at 1st April, 1926.

City.	Average for all Occupations covered by the Inquiry. (London = 100.†)							
	Index Numbers based on Quantities of each Kind of Food Consumed in Working-class Households in							
	Belgium and France.	Central European Countries.	Great Britain.	Southern European Countries.	Scandinavian Countries.	Overseas Countries (Canada, U.S.A., etc.).	General Average Index Nos. (based on food only).	General Average Index Nos. (with allowance for rent).
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
London ...	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Amsterdam ...	90	92	80	85	95	86	88	88
Berlin ...	64	80	63	65	74	68	69	66
Brussels ...	51	52	50	50	54	51	52	56
Łódź ...	51	61	43	52	55	51	52	58
Madrid ...	58	63	50	55	56	53	56	...
Milan§ ...	46	50	43	47	50	47	47	49
Oslo ...	92	108	89	89	114	96	98	100
Ottawa ...	140	132	143	141	151	150	143	143
Paris ...	61	62	56	58	65	58	60	61
Philadelphia ...	165	151	170	168	183	177	169	168
Prague ...	52	58	49	52	53	51	53	58
Riga ...	40	52	41	41	49	45	45	48
Rome§ ...	45	45	42	46	47	46	45	48
Stockholm|| ...	81	84	83	82	101	91	87	85
Sydney ...	129	113	139	139	124	134	130	130
Tallinn (Reval) ...	35	43	34	34	42	37	38	39
Vienna ...	38	51	40	40	51	45	44	50
Warsaw¶ ...	41	50	36	42	46	43	43	44

If comparisons are made between these figures and corresponding index numbers for earlier dates previously published, it should be noted that the differences between the index numbers for any city at different dates may indicate a change in the levels of real wages either in that city or in London, or in both cities. In other words, the difference in the figures compared may be due to changes in money wages and food prices in either or both cities, and not necessarily to changes in one of them alone.

* The July Employment Situation, 1926. Ottawa.
† Information supplied by the Canadian Department of Labour, Ottawa.
‡ Although London is taken arbitrarily as base (= 100), the ratios would be the same whichever city were chosen as base.

§ The figures for Milan and Rome are relatively low. This may be accounted for in part by the differences in the items of food consumption in the southern countries from those ordinarily consumed in most of the other countries included in the Table. The budgets used in the comparisons do not make adequate allowance for the consumption of vegetable foods in Southern European countries.

¶ The figures for Stockholm are based on wages in the building, furniture-making, and printing industries only. For other cities the metal industry is also included.

|| The figures for Warsaw are based on a weighted average wage. For other cities an unweighted average of the wages has been used.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACTS, 1920-25.

DECISIONS GIVEN BY THE UMPIRE.

THE Umpire is a judicial authority independent of the Ministry of Labour, appointed by the Crown under Section 12 of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920, for the purpose of determining disputed claims to benefit. His decisions* are final and conclusive.

Appeals to the Umpire may be made by the Insurance Officer or by an Association of which the claimant is a member, or, with the permission of the Court of Referees, by the claimant himself.

The following are recent decisions of general interest:—

Case No. 1632/26. (12/7/26.) Sections 8 (1) of the Principal Act and 4 (1) of the 1924 (No. 2) Act—Employment Lost owing to Trade Dispute.

COLLIERY MECHANIC'S WAGES COVERED BY AGREEMENT WITH MINERS' FEDERATION—BELONGED TO AMALGAMATED ENGINEERING UNION, BUT SOME OF HIS GRADE OR CLASS WERE MEMBERS OF MINERS' UNIONS DIRECTLY INTERESTED IN DISPUTE.

A workman, who was a colliery mechanic, and whose work consisted of engineering maintenance above and below ground lost his employment on the 30th April owing to a stoppage of work at the colliery in consequence of the national dispute in the mining industry. He applied for unemployment benefit through his Association and the claim, which was treated as a test case, made by the Association for repayment from the Unemployment Fund in respect of him, was disallowed under the provision of Section 8 (1) of the principal Act.

The employer reported that the applicant, who was a member of the Amalgamated Engineering Union, was suspended until the end of the miners' dispute or until required. His rate of wages would be directly affected by the result of the dispute, and he had indicated on the advice of his Union, that he was not prepared to work at a revised rate of wages. Even had he been willing to accept the revised rate, there was no work for him to do.

The applicant asserted that he was employed as a mechanic but was paid the district rate of wages for engineers. He admitted that his employment was connected with engineering work at the pits.

Recommended by the Court of Referees that the claim should be allowed. The Court were satisfied that the applicant was an engineer, and that members of his grade or class were not participating in, financing or directly interested in the miners' dispute. Accordingly the applicant was entitled to the relief afforded by Section 4 (1) of the 1924 (No. 2) Act.

The Insurance Officer did not agree with the Court's recommendation. In his opinion the applicant belonged to a grade or class of worker, members of which were participating in, directly interested in, and financing the dispute.

It was subsequently ascertained that the wages paid to maintenance engineers were governed by an agreement with the Miners' Federation which was terminated on 30th April, 1926. The wages fluctuated with those of coal-hewers. Some of the maintenance engineers were members of a colliery winding engine-men's association, some of the Amalgamated Engineering Union, and others were members of county miners' unions, which were affiliated to the Miners' Federation.

Decision.—"On the facts before me my decision is that, if the above-named employed person had made a claim for unemployment benefit, the claim would have been disallowed."

"It seems that a substantial number of men in the grade or class of workers to which the applicant belongs are members of miners' unions and are directly interested in the dispute. The case is the same in principle, therefore, as No. 1422/26."

Case No. 1659/26. (13/7/26.) Section 8 (1) of the Principal Act—Trade Dispute—Stoppage of Work.

NON-UNION EMPLOYEES OF COKE OVEN PLANT LOST EMPLOYMENT BECAUSE PLANT WAS CLOSED DOWN AT INSTANCE OF MINERS IN ORDER TO OBLVIATE TROUBLE—A TRADE DISPUTE AS DEFINED BY SECTION 47.

The applicants were respectively a hoistman and a labourer at a coke oven plant of a colliery, engaged in the elevation of coal to the bunker. They lost their employment on the 3rd May owing to a stoppage of work at the colliery due to the national dispute in the mining industry. Their claims for unemployment benefit were accordingly disallowed under the provisions of Section 8 (1) of the principal Act.

The employer reported that the suspension of the applicants was due solely to the mining dispute. The applicants' wages and hours were regulated by those of surface workers, but they did not belong to any* of the classes of workpeople who were directly connected with the dispute.

The applicant stated that the coke ovens were situated 200 yards from the colliery. There was a stock of 15,000 tons of coal standing on the premises. The coke was not used at the colliery but was

* Volumes containing the collected decisions of the Umpire are published by H.M. Stationery Office. Decisions given prior to 31st December, 1924, have been published in pamphlet form and later embodied in bound volumes, and either separate pamphlets or bound volumes may be purchased through any bookseller or direct from H.M. Stationery Office. Decisions given subsequent to December, 1924, are printed in pamphlet form and may be obtained as and when issued, on payment of an annual subscription. All inquiries and applications should be made to H.M. Stationery Office at any of the addresses shown on the front cover of this GAZETTE.

sent to manufacturers out of the district. The employees of the plant do not belong to any union.

Recommended by the Court of Referees that the claims should be allowed. The Court were satisfied that, although the applicants lost their employment through the stoppage, they were employed in a separate business.

The Insurance Officer did not agree with the Court's recommendation. He explained that the coke-oven plant was closed down by order of the miners' union; and in view of this he was of the opinion that there was a separate trade dispute in the coke oven department. He also pointed out that the wages and other conditions of the plant were regulated by the conditions at the colliery.

Further information showed that a deputation from the miners' union visited the employers and stated that work at the coke-ovens would have to cease. In order to avoid trouble the plant was closed down.

Decision.—"On the facts before me my decision is that the claim for benefit should be disallowed."

"The applicants' loss of employment was by reason of a stoppage of work which was due to a trade dispute in the coke-oven department in which they were employed. Certain miners insisted that work must cease at the coke-ovens, and this led to a dispute between them (the miners) and the applicants' late employers, which resulted in the closing of the department and the applicants' loss of employment."

"This dispute was a trade dispute as defined by Section 47 of the Unemployment Insurance Act 1920."

Case No. 1663/26. (13/7/26.) Sections 8 (1) and 8 (2) of the Principal Act—Trade Dispute—Employment Left Voluntarily.

MINERS' DISPUTE—COAL HEWER LEFT EMPLOYMENT OWING TO ILLNESS TWO WEEKS BEFORE NATIONAL STOPPAGE—REGISTERED FOR WORK TWO WEEKS AFTER STOPPAGE COMMENCED—WOULD HAVE RESUMED WORK EXCEPT FOR STOPPAGE—EMPLOYMENT LOST OWING TO STOPPAGE.

The applicant, a coal hewer, left his employment on the 14th April and made a claim for unemployment benefit on the 14th May, 1926, which was disallowed for six weeks from that date on the ground that he had left his employment voluntarily without just cause.

The applicant stated that he absented himself from work on the 14th April, owing to illness. He was certified by his doctor on 15th April to be suffering from dyspepsia and debility, and to be fit only for light work. He received National Health Insurance benefit until the 12th May, when he was apparently sufficiently recovered to take work as a hewer. He applied unsuccessfully for light work from his former employer on the 15th April and at intervals until the 1st May, when owing to the national dispute in the coal mining industry, the colliery was closed down.

Recommended by the Court of Referees (by a majority) that the claim should be allowed. The Chairman dissented, being of the opinion that the case was governed by Decision 5593/20.

The Insurance Officer did not agree with the Court's recommendation. He pointed out that the applicant fell ill about the date that notices were issued to the miners, and in his opinion was disqualified for benefit under Section 8 (1) so long as the stoppage of work continued.

Decision.—"On the facts before me my decision is that the claim for benefit should be disallowed."

"The applicant left his employment as a hewer on the 14th April, 1926. He was suffering from dyspepsia and debility, and his medical adviser then thought that he would be 'unfit for heavy work for some time,' and recommended that he should be given light work at first."

"By the 14th May he had, it seems, sufficiently recovered to take work as a hewer, as he made a claim on that day and registered as a coal hewer and for no other occupation. As he had worked at the same colliery for over a year, I think it may safely be assumed that, but for the stoppage of work which was due to a trade dispute, he would have resumed his employment as a hewer on the 14th May, and that by reason of the stoppage of work he has lost his employment."

Case No. 1845/26. (21/7/26.) Sections 8 (1) and 8 (2) of the Principal Act and 7 (1) (iv) as Amended—Employment Left Voluntarily—Unable to Obtain Suitable Employment.

CASUAL RAILWAY WORKERS DISMISSED PRIOR TO GENERAL STRIKE—DID NOT APPLY FOR WORK DURING STRIKE ALTHOUGH RAILWAY COMPANY ADVERTISED FOR WORKMEN—ALLEGED CUSTOMARY PROCEDURE OF SUMMONING CASUAL WORKERS BY CARD NOT OBSERVED—NOT UNABLE TO OBTAIN SUITABLE EMPLOYMENT—GENERAL STRIKE NOT A TRADE DISPUTE WITHIN THE MEANING OF UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACTS.

The claim by an Association for repayment from the Unemployment Fund in respect of a number of railway workers was disallowed in respect of the period from the 3rd to 16th May, 1926, on the ground that the workmen had left their employment voluntarily without just cause, or, alternatively, that they were not unable to obtain suitable employment.

The men, who had applied for benefit through their Association, were shunters, porters, number takers, labourers, etc., and, owing to a shortage of work, their services had been dispensed with prior to the 3rd May under what was known on the railways as a redundancy agreement, but they were given occasional days' employment. On the 3rd May a general strike was called by the Trades Union Council in support of the miners in their dispute. All railway employees were withdrawn by their unions, and the employers stated that, in consequence, from the 3rd to the 16th May there was work available on the railways on which the applicants

would have been employed had they presented themselves for work. Had the railwaymen not been concerned in the general strike the men would not even have had the intermittent employment which they had had hitherto, as the railway company's colliery transportation work had been depleted owing to the stoppage of work at the mines.

A representative of the applicants' association explained that a list of the men who had been dispensed with under the Redundancy Agreement was kept by the employers, and the men were sent for when required. Even had the men called at the railway station they would not have been allowed to work unless they had the card by which they had been summoned. The railway company had not notified the men in the usual way that work was available, neither had the Employment Exchange notified them of vacancies nor suggested that they should go to the railway to secure employment.

Recommended by the Court of Referees that the claim should be allowed. The Court were satisfied that the applicants had not left their employment voluntarily. The employers had not sent for them in the usual way, and they were of the opinion that the applicants were unable to obtain suitable employment during the period of the strike.

The Insurance Officer did not agree with the Court's recommendation. He pointed out that during the period of the general strike the railway company advertised for all grades and classes of railwaymen, and had stated that work was available between the 3rd and 16th May. He was therefore of the opinion that if the applicants had applied for work they would have been employed, and that they were not unable to obtain suitable employment.

At a hearing before the Umpire a representative of the applicants' Union contended that the general strike was a trade dispute within the meaning of the Unemployment Insurance Acts, and that therefore the vacancies caused by the strike were not suitable employment having regard to Section 7 (1) (a) of the 1920 Act.

Decision.—"On the facts before me my decision is that, if the above-named employed persons had made claims for unemployment benefit, the claims would have been disallowed.

"The applicants were railway servants whose regular services had been dispensed with owing to shortage of work, but who continued to be employed casually from time to time as required by the railway company. The usual practice was for the Company to send for them when there was work for them.

"From the 3rd to the 16th May there were vacant situations on the railway owing to employees having left work in connection with what is known as the general strike. During this period the company did not send for the applicants; but it was generally known that the railway companies were short of men, and during part of the period the company was advertising for workers of all grades and classes. I have no doubt that the applicants knew that there were vacancies, yet they did not apply for work, or try in any way to obtain it.

"In my opinion therefore they fail to show that during the period in question they were unable to obtain employment with the railway company.

"But it has been submitted on behalf of the applicants that employment with the railway company during that period would have been unsuitable employment by virtue of Section 7 (1) (a) of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920, as it would have been employment in situations 'vacant in consequence of a stoppage of work due to a trade dispute.' The situations were vacant in consequence of a general strike, which resulted in a partial stoppage of work on the premises of the railway company and elsewhere. But it is not at all clear that that stoppage of work was due to a trade dispute.

"The expression 'due to' in Section 7 (1) (a) of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920, means, in my opinion, 'directly due to.' The general strike, or general stoppage of work, was connected with, and arose out of, the miners' dispute; it may have been called 'in furtherance of' that dispute, but its immediate cause, that to which it was due, was a different dispute.

"There was on and before the 1st May, 1926, a trade dispute in the coal mining industry. The cause of the miners was espoused by the Trades Union Congress General Council, and the Prime Minister was acting as mediator and trying to effect a settlement of the dispute. On 1st May the Trades Union Congress General Council issued certain proposals for a general strike, in which it is stated that, the Council having been unable to obtain a satisfactory settlement of the matters in dispute in the coal mining industry, and the Government and the mine owners having forced a lock-out, the General Council, in view of the need for co-ordinated action on the part of the affiliated Unions in defence of the policy laid down by the General Council, direct certain trades to cease work as and when required by the General Council. The negotiations from the date of the issue of these proposals to the 3rd May were (so far as my information goes) entirely between the General Council and His Majesty's Government. It was His Majesty's Government, not the mine owners, who demanded the withdrawal of the instructions for a general strike, and the Prime Minister in the House of Commons, declared that 'the Cabinet found itself challenged with an alternative Government.' Further, it was to the Prime Minister and not to the mine owners that the calling off of the general strike was announced by the General Council on 12th May; and it was admitted before me that the object of the general strike was to put pressure on the Government.

"In the face of this and other evidence to the same effect I am driven to the conclusion that the general strike, or general stoppage of work, as distinguished from the stoppage of work in the mines, was due to a dispute between His Majesty's Government and the Trades Union Congress General Council. If that be so, the dispute to which

the general strike was due was not a trade dispute as defined by Section 47 of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920, for it was not 'a dispute between employers and employees or between employees and employees.' His Majesty's Government are not either 'employers' or 'employees' within the meaning of those expressions as used in Section 47 of the Act of 1920.

"The Chief Insurance Officer has decided many cases in accordance with this view, and I am of opinion that he has rightly disqualified under Section 8 (2), as having left voluntarily without just cause, and not under Section 8 (1) (Trade Dispute), those men who left their employment at the suggestion of the Trades Union Congress General Council (or of Unions acting on the instructions of the General Council) and has rightly treated situations vacant by men so leaving as not being vacant in consequence of a stoppage of work due to a trade dispute."

Case No. 1884/26. (23/7/26.) Sections 8 (1) of the Principal Act and 4 (1) of the 1924 (No. 2) Act—Loss of Employment owing to Trade Dispute.

SHIPYARD PLATER, WORKING AS COLLIERY BOILER CLEANER, LOST EMPLOYMENT WHEN NATIONAL STOPPAGE BEGAN—ONLY TEMPORARY CHANGE OF OCCUPATION—BELONGED TO GRADE OF PLATERS WHO WERE NOT CONCERNED IN DISPUTE.

The workman's usual occupation was that of a shipyard plater, but owing to depression in his own trade he had obtained work as a boiler cleaner in a colliery, where he had been engaged for two years. On the 30th April, 1926, he lost his employment through a stoppage of work at the colliery in consequence of the national dispute in the mining industry and he applied for unemployment benefit through his Association.

The claim by the Association for repayment from the Unemployment Fund in respect of the applicant was disallowed under the provisions of Section 8 (1) of the principal Act.

The employers reported that new terms had been communicated to all colliery workers prior to 1st May.

The secretary of the United Society of Boilermakers and Iron and Steel Shipbuilders, of which the applicant was a member, stated that the workman had been employed as a plater with a shipbuilding firm for 21 years. He had taken work at the colliery rather than be unemployed, but he was making efforts to return to his own trade. He had been employed at the pit as a safety man, and the safety men had offered their services to the employers, but the offer was refused, as there were plenty of officials to work the pit.

Recommended by the Court of Referees that the claim should be disallowed. The Court were of the opinion that as the applicant had been employed as a boiler cleaner at a colliery for two years he was directly interested in the miners' dispute, having regard to the employers' offer of work on fresh terms.

The applicant's Association appealed to the Umpire against the disallowance, re-asserting that the applicant was prepared to work but the management had refused to employ him.

Decision.—"On the facts before me my decision is that, if the above-named employed person had made a claim for unemployment benefit, the claim would have been allowed.

"The applicant belongs to the grade of platiers. He did not lose his grade by taking work temporarily as a boiler cleaner at a colliery during a period of slackness in his own trade. All the circumstances tend to show that this was only a temporary change of occupation. (See Decision No. 8823/20.)

"In some cases in which a man who was temporarily working as a worker of some grade or class to which he did not belong lost employment by reason of a stoppage of work affecting the grade in which he was temporarily working, I have held that the applicant was himself directly interested in the dispute, although he belonged to a grade of workers who were not interested. (See Decisions Nos. 8240 and 8823 of 1920.) In those cases I decided that the applicants were directly interested, and there was reasonable ground for presuming that after the temporary interruption caused by the trade dispute they would resume their temporary employment and would then stand to lose or gain as a result of the dispute. But on further consideration I am of opinion that this presumption ought not generally to be made. It may well be that a man who has taken employment outside his grade will throw it up altogether when he is involved in a dispute the result of which may prejudicially affect him. The new conditions may be such that the work would be quite unsuitable for him.

"In my opinion Section 4 (1) of the Act of 1924 was intended to afford relief to men of this kind who became accidentally involved in a dispute in which they have no real concern, and I should not be giving the Section its full effect if I denied relief to men in the applicant's position."

Case No. 1926/26. (27/7/26.) Sections 8 (1) of the Principal Act and 4 (1) of the 1924 (No. 2) Act—Loss of Employment owing to Trade Dispute.

WOOD MACHINIST DISCHARGED THROUGH SHORTAGE OF WORK CAUSED BY STOPPAGE IN TENNIS RACQUET STRINGING DEPARTMENT—FOLLOWING DAY ALL WOOD MACHINISTS STOPPED WORK IN SYMPATHY WITH RACQUET STRINGERS—NEITHER EMPLOYER NOR ASSOCIATION ANTICIPATED STOPPAGE ON DATE APPLICANT DISCHARGED.

The claim by an Association for repayment from the Unemployment Fund in respect of a workman, a wood machinist, was disallowed on the ground that his employment had been lost by reason of a stoppage of work due to a trade dispute.

It appeared that the workman was employed by a firm of sports goods manufacturers, and was engaged mainly upon tennis racquet material. On the 21st September, 1925, the racquet stringers were

involved in a trade dispute and withdrew their labour. The dispute did not extend to the wood machinists, and the workman continued at work for some time; but owing to the shortage of work caused by the stoppage of the racquet stringers, the workman was discharged on the 2nd October and applied for benefit through the Association on the following day. On the 3rd October the whole of the wood machinists withdrew their labour in sympathy with the racquet stringers.

A representative of the applicant's association stated that on the date when he was discharged neither his association nor the employer was aware that the dispute would ultimately extend to the wood machinists. He was not in receipt of dispute pay from his association.

Recommended by the Court of Referees (by a majority) that the claim should be disallowed. The majority of the Court were of the opinion that in view of the participation of the applicant's association in the dispute on the 3rd October, he should be considered as involved in the dispute on that date, and to be out of employment owing to the dispute. The insured contributors' representative dissented, pointing out that when the applicant was discharged, his association was not affected.

The Insurance Officer did not agree with the Court's recommendation. In his opinion the weight of evidence indicated that the applicant lost his employment through shortage of material rather than owing to the dispute.

Decision.—"On the facts before me my decision is that, if the above-named employed person had made a claim for unemployment benefit, the claim would have been disallowed.

"The applicant, a wood machinist, lost employment on the 2nd October, 1925, by reason of a stoppage of work which was due to a trade dispute at the premises at which he was employed. The employers were makers of tennis racquets, and the dispute related to the piece-work prices of the racquet makers, in which the applicant was not directly interested; but he only lost his employment because, owing to the dispute, there was no more work for him to do. He claims to be entitled to benefit under Section 4 (1) of the Act of 1924, on the ground that he was not directly interested in the dispute, or financing it or participating in it, and that he did not belong to a grade or class of workers members of which were directly interested in or financing or participating in the dispute.

"On the 2nd October, neither the applicant himself nor members of the grade to which he belongs were directly interested in or financing or participating in the dispute. But on October 3rd the woodcutting machinists were called out in support of the tennis racquet makers. The applicant himself was not even then participating, as he had already lost employment on October 2nd before the other woodcutting machinists came out in support of the racquet makers. But from October 3rd onwards, members of the grade or class to which he belongs, namely, the woodcutting machinists, were participating in the dispute, though they were not directly interested in it.

"In my opinion the applicant was disqualified for receiving benefit from the 3rd October onwards, even though at the date when the stoppage of work began, and at the date of his loss of employment, neither he nor members of his grade or class were participating in or financing the dispute. To be entitled to relief under Section 4 (1) of the Act of 1924, an applicant must show that at the time in respect of which he claims benefit the conditions of that Section are fulfilled in his case. If they are fulfilled for a time he is entitled to relief so long as they are; and if they cease to be fulfilled he ceases to be entitled to relief. A person not originally entitled to benefit becomes so if he shows that he and the members of his grade or class have ceased to participate in and to finance and to be directly interested in the dispute; and *vice versa*, a person who, at the beginning of a dispute, is not disqualified for receiving relief, becomes disqualified if he or members of his grade or class begin to participate in or to finance or to be directly interested in the dispute."

**INDUSTRIAL COURTS ACT, 1919,
AND CONCILIATION ACT, 1896.**

Recent Proceedings.

(A.)—INDUSTRIAL COURT DECISIONS.

CLERICAL, WRITING ASSISTANT AND TYPING GRADES.—Civil Service Clerical Association v. H.M. Treasury. *Difference*.—Claim for 15 per cent. increase on remuneration for Temporary Clerks appointed to non-pensionable permanent posts. *Decision*.—The Court decided against the claim. Issued 5th July, 1926. (1227.)

ELECTRICAL WORKERS—RAILWAY COMPANIES OPERATING IN LONDON DISTRICT.—(a) G.W.R.; (b) L. & N.E.R.; (c) L. M. & S. R.; (d) S.R.; (e) L.E.R.; (f) M.D.R.; (g) C. & S. L. R.; (h) C.L.R.; (i) M.R. v. E.T.U. and N.U.R. *Difference*.—Continuance of the payment of the 6½ per cent. advance to Railway Power-house staffs in London. *Decision*.—The Court decided that the advance should cease to be payable after the last day of the pay week current at the date of this award. Issued 9th July, 1926. (1228.)

TUBERS, STAYERS AND STRIPPERS (EASTLEIGH), S.R.—Boilermaker and Iron and Steel Shipbuilders v. S.R. *Difference*.—Interpretation of supplemental award of an ad hoc Board of Arbitration dated 29th June, 1918 as to whether tubers, stayers and strippers with 5 years' certified efficient railway service should be rated and paid as riveters. *Decision*.—The Court decided that

the supplemental award did not determine that the men in question were to be raised to the grade of riveter. Issued 17th July, 1926. (1229.)

SURVEYORS' CLERKS, WAR OFFICE AND AIR MINISTRY.—Institution of Professional Civil Servants v. H.M. Treasury. *Difference*.—Salary scale—Claim for increase. *Decision*.—The Court awarded the following basic scale of pay: £120—£7 10s.—£220 per annum. Operative as from 1st June, 1926. Issued 19th July, 1926. (1230.)

SURVEYING STAFF (QUANTITIES), ADMIRALTY.—Institution of Professional Civil Servants v. Admiralty. *Difference*.—Salary scales—Claim for increase. *Decision*.—The Court awarded basic scales of pay as follows:—

Assistant Surveyors (Quantities) £170—£15—£420 per annum.
Surveyors (Quantities) £420—£20—£620 " " "

Operative as from 1st June, 1926. Issued 19th July, 1926. (1231.)

SURVEYING STAFF (QUANTITIES), AIR MINISTRY.—Institution of Professional Civil Servants v. Air Ministry. *Difference*.—Salary scales—Claim for increase. *Decision*.—Basic scales of pay were awarded as follows:—

Assistant Surveyors (Quantities) £170—£15—£420 per annum.
Surveyors (Quantities) £420—£20—£620 " " "

Operative as from 1st June, 1926. Issued 19th July, 1926. (1232.)

SORTERS, POST OFFICE.—Guild of Postal Sorters v. Post Office. *Difference*.—Appointments from limited competition, 1921—Initial salaries—Claims for increase. *Decision*.—The Court decided against the claim. Issued 20th July, 1926. (1233.)

INSPECTORS IN ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT, POST OFFICE.—Society of Post Office Engineering Inspectors v. Post Office. *Difference*.—Salary scales—Claim for increase. *Decision*.—The Court decided against the claim. Issued 22nd July, 1926. (1234.)

ASSISTANT INSPECTORS, TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE TRAFFIC.—POST OFFICE.—Institution of Professional Civil Servants v. Post Office. *Difference*.—Salary scales—Claim for increase. *Decision*.—The Court decided against the claim. Issued 23rd July, 1926. (1235.)

OFFICERS IN THE CABLE ROOM OF THE CENTRAL TELEGRAPH OFFICE, LONDON, AND IN THE LIVERPOOL CABLE ROOM.—Federation of Post Office Supervising Officers and Union of Post Office Workers v. Post Office. *Difference*.—Language allowance—Claim for increase. *Decision*.—The Court awarded (a) That the language allowance should be extended to Assistant Superintendents and Superintendents employed in the Cable Room. (b) That a language allowance of 4s. per week should be paid as from 1st August, 1926 to all officers in the Cable Rooms who have passed the qualifying examination after a year's employment. (c) The allowance of 4s. should be subject to the current cost-of-living bonus. Issued 27th July, 1926. (1237.)

MALE TELEPHONE SUPERVISORS.—Federation of Post Office Supervising Officers v. Post Office. *Difference*.—Salary scales—Claims for increase—Hours of attendance and Sunday duty. *Decision*.—The following basic scales of pay were awarded by the Court:—

Telephone Supervisors, London £140—£7 10s.—£170 per annum.
Telephone Supervisors, Provinces £130—£5—160 " " "

There should be no alteration in the weekly hours of attendance and no additional pay for duty performed on Sundays. Operative as from 1st August, 1926. Issued 28th July, 1926. (1238.)

SEA GOING WIRELESS OPERATORS.—The Engineering and Allied Employers London and District Association (acting on behalf of the Marconi International Marine Communication Co., Ltd., Siemens Bros. and Co., Ltd., and the Radio Communication Co., Ltd.) v. The Association of Wireless and Cable Telegraphists. *Difference*.—Wages and conditions of service. *Decision*.—The Court gave a decision on the points at issue which were summarised under the following heads:—

- (a) Duties: Employment on other than wireless telegraphy.
- (b) Remuneration: Ordinary monthly rates.
- (c) Additional Rates:
 - (i) Prolonged Voyages and Foreign Service.
 - (ii) Oil Tankers.
- (d) Foreign Ships.
- (e) Food Allowance on Ships on Weekly Articles.
- (f) Subsistence Allowance.
- (g) Baggage, Change of Port and Travelling Allowances.
- (h) Overtime.
- (j) Leave: Prolonged Voyage and Foreign Service.
- (k) Accommodation and Messing.
- (l) Salvage Awards, Rewards and Bonuses.
- (m) Other conditions.
- (n) Future Regulation of Wages and Conditions.

Effective as from 1st August, 1926, except where some other date is specified. Issued 30th July, 1926. (1240.)

For summary of the principal points in this decision see pages 286-7.

SENIOR PROPERTY ADVISERS, OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC TRUSTEE.—Institution of Professional Civil Servants v. The Public Trustee. *Difference*.—Salary scales—Claim for increase. *Decision*.—The Court decided that the scales of pay of the applicants should remain as at present, but were of opinion that, as and when the applicants reach the maximum of the present scale, favourable consideration might be given to an application for some increase in the maximum. Issued 30th July, 1926. (1241.)

CLERKS (GRADE IV)—WAR OFFICE OUTSTATIONS.—Civil Service Clerical Association v. War Office. *Difference*.—Salary scales—Claim for increase. *Decision*.—The Chairman of the Court acting as Umpire decided against the claim. Issued 30th July, 1926. (1242.)

CERTAIN TECHNICAL GRADES—R.N. Victualling Yards.—Staff Side v. Official Side of the Admiralty Administrative Whitley Council. *Difference*.—Salary scales—Claim for increase. *Decision*.—The Court awarded amended basic scales of pay to the following:—

Leading man of Coopers, Deptford	£160—£5—£200	per annum.
Leading men of Coopers, Gosport	£125—£5—£160	„ „
Plymouth and Malta.		
Leading man of Smiths, Deptford	£125—£5—£150	„ „
Leading man of Millers and Bakers, Deptford	£140—£5—£160	„ „

All houses and allowances to be provided and paid as heretofore. Operative as from 1st August, 1926. Issued 30th July, 1926. (1243.)

(B.)—CONCILIATORS, SINGLE ARBITRATORS, AND AD HOC BOARDS OF ARBITRATION APPOINTED BY THE MINISTER OF LABOUR.

ELECTRICIANS, NEWSPAPER PRINTING OFFICES: MANCHESTER.—Electrical Trades Union (Manchester District Committee) v. Allied Newspapers Limited. *Difference*.—Claim by the Union that the terms and conditions of an Agreement of June, 1919 (Electricians in Newspaper Printing Offices) should be applied to three of their members employed on installation work in connection with the erection of a new building, instead of those of an agreement dated 3rd January, 1924. Mr. W. Addington Willis, C.B.E., appointed under Section 2 (1) (b) of the Conciliation Act, 1896 to act as *Independent Chairman* of the Committee set up by the parties to determine the matter. *Award*.—The agreement of 1924 still operates to regulate the pay of the men concerned and the claim has not been established. Issued 14th July, 1926.

IRON AND STEEL TRADE: CO. DURHAM.—Iron and Steel Trades Employers' Association v. Iron and Steel Trades Confederation. *Difference*.—Claims by the Consett Iron Co., Ltd., a member of the Employers' Association, with regard to certain allowances and week-end overtime conditions relating to loco-drivers and firemen. *Board of Arbitration* consisting of Mr. B. A. Cohen, K.C. (Chairman), Mr. W. Simons (Employers' Representative) and the Rt. Hon. John Hodge (Workpeople's Representative) appointed under Section 2 (2) (c) of the Industrial Courts Act, 1919, to determine the matter. *Award*.—Claim as regards allowances conceded but claim as regards week-end overtime conditions refused. Dated 20th July, 1926.

ELECTRICIANS: ST. HELENS, LANCs.—The St. Helens Group of Manufacturers v. Electrical Trades Union. *Difference*.—Claim by the Union for alteration to rule governing wages or for a decision as to alteration in wages. Mr. W. Addington Willis, C.B.E., appointed under Section 2 (2) (b) of the Industrial Courts Act, 1919 to act as *Arbitrator* to determine the matter. *Award*.—Claim not established. Dated 24th July, 1926.

(C.)—OTHER SETTLEMENTS.

OPERATIVE BAKERS: AYRSHIRE.—Scottish Union of Bakers and Confectioners v. Ayrshire Master Bakers' Association and the Ayrshire Co-operative Wages Board. *Difference*.—Question of revision of the 1925-1926 district working agreement. *Settlement*.—Agreement extended until last pay-day in April, 1927, the sections relating to starting hours and limitation of apprenticeship being modified. Signed, 10th July, 1926.

PACKING CASE MAKERS: LONDON.—National Union of Packing Case Makers v. Messrs. G. W. Davies, Limited, Deptford. *Difference*.—Dismissal of two employees on alleged disciplinary grounds. *Settlement*.—The employees concerned to be re-instated. Signed, 16th July, 1926.

RAILWAYS ACT, 1921.

NATIONAL WAGES BOARD.

FINDINGS have recently been issued by the National Wages Board on the following cases referred to them:—

Meal Allowance, Flying Squad.—The National Union of Railwaymen made application that the Flying Squad, Maryhill, Glasgow, employed by the London, Midland and Scottish Railway, should be granted meal allowances on certain dates when they were called upon to work outside their Inspector's district. They submitted that subsequently to the amalgamation of the Railways the area within which the men had not been granted a meal allowance had been extended to embrace the Divisional Engineer's district. The Company disagreed with the Union as to the practice in the past.

As it appeared to the Board that, apart from the question of the Engineer's district and the Inspector's district, the gang in question must by custom and practice have had for some time past a well-known recognised area of work, the Board expressed the opinion that the meal allowance should be paid in those cases where the Flying Squad work outside their recognised area, and that the cases should be dealt with on this basis.

Relaying Gangs, Southern Railway.—The National Union of Railwaymen desired a ruling as to the proper method of payment of Relaying Gang No. 18, Tonbridge, and Relaying Gang in Penge Tunnel, Southern Railway. The Board expressed the opinion that the matter should be referred back to the parties for local settlement, as the arrangements for carrying out the work which gave rise to the claim arose from certain abnormal circumstances.

Signalmen, Breamore Signal Box, Southern Railway—Spread-over Arrangement.—The National Union of Railwaymen asked the Board to decide that the action of the Southern Railway in rostering the signalmen at Breamore Box for duty under the spread-over arrangement was unnecessary. The Company submitted that this was a station at which a spread-over could properly be applied. The man on early turn from 6.50 a.m. to 1.45 p.m. was brought back at 5.15 p.m. until 6.20 p.m. to deal with the traffic in that period, which consists largely of milk traffic.

The Board expressed the opinion that the cases which involve the question of spread-over turns of duty must each be dealt with as individual cases on their own merits and that, having regard to the particular circumstances of this case, the Company had not given an unreasonable interpretation to the finding of the 24th January, 1922.

Fireman, Heaton—Guaranteed Day and Guaranteed Week.—The Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen submitted to the Board that fireman C. Creighton, an employee of the London and North Eastern Railway at Heaton, although working on a mileage basis, should be paid for an Easter Monday when he was available for duty but booked off. The Company contended that mileage men had always been in a separate category from men on day work and that Creighton had been properly paid. The Board's finding was to the effect that, under the National Agreement it is permissible for a week's roster on mileage turns to be made up of less than six bookings without payment for turns not worked, and an arrangement of this kind is ordinarily the subject of mutual agreement. In the present case there was no evidence that any such arrangement was made, and in the circumstances, they were of opinion that Creighton was entitled to a day's pay for the Monday in question.

Footplate Staff, Immingham, London and North Eastern Railway—Rostering of men working Pilots.—The Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen submitted a complaint as to the rostered hours of men working pilots at Immingham under which, since January, 1925, pilot engine-men had been rostered for eight hours with extra time for booking on and off duty and making out tickets. The Company stated that before the national settlement in January, 1919, there was a ten-hour day for engine-drivers and firemen, with eight hours on the footplate, and an eight-hour day for shunters at this yard. Since July 1919, the rostering had been varied from time to time. At present, the time for signing on and off was twenty-five minutes, and the Company submitted that, if any change was made, it would mean that there would be only seven and a-half hours available for footplate duty proper.

The Board expressed the opinion that as there was not any continued practice or local agreement for rostering the men for eight hours on the footplate at the yard in question, the Company should not have varied the eight-hour agreement; but they considered that the circumstances were such as to justify a careful review by the Local Departmental Committee with a view to arriving at a mutual agreement on the question.

TRADE BOARDS ACTS.

Orders, Notices, etc., Recently Issued.

I.—CONFIRMING ORDERS.

Aerated Waters Trade Board (England and Wales).

Order A (10), dated 4th August, 1926, confirming the variation of general minimum time rates, piece work basis time rates and overtime rates for certain classes of male and female workers and specifying the 9th August, 1926, as the date from which such rates should become effective.

Chain Trade Board (Great Britain).

Order C (25), dated 11th August, 1926, confirming general minimum piece rates as fixed and varied for the making of certain sizes of dollyed or tommy chain and of hand-hammered chain for periods dependent on the cost-of-living index figure and specifying the 16th August, 1926, as the date from which such rates should become effective.

II.—NOTICES OF PROPOSAL.

Button Manufacturing Trade Board (Great Britain).

Proposal V (18), dated 8th July, 1926, to fix minimum rates of wages for certain classes of male workers brought within the scope of the Trade Board by the Trade Boards (Button Manufacturing) Order, 1925, and to vary general minimum time rates, piece work basis time rates and overtime rates for certain other classes of male workers.

Objection period expires 6th September, 1926.

Brush and Broom Trade Board (Great Britain).

Proposal M (42) dated 10th July, 1926, to vary general minimum piece rates and overtime rates for certain classes of male and female

workers and to fix an additional general minimum piece rate for male workers, in both cases for periods dependent upon the cost-of-living index figure.

Objection period expires 9th September, 1926.

Drift Nets Mending Trade Board (Great Britain).

Proposal E (3), dated 12th July, 1926, to fix general minimum time rates and overtime rates for certain classes of female workers and a general minimum piece rate for female homeworkers.

Objection period expires 9th September, 1926.

Boot and Shoe Repairing Trade Board (Northern Ireland).

Proposal N.I.B.S. (N. 15), dated 24th July, 1926, to fix minimum rates for certain classes of male and female workers and to cancel minimum rates in their application to certain classes of male indentured apprentices.

Retail Bespoke Tailoring Trade Board (Northern Ireland).

Proposal N.I.T.R.B. (N. 20), dated 9th July, 1926, to vary minimum rates of wages for certain classes of male and female workers.

Proposal N.I.T.R.B. (N. 21), dated 9th July, 1926, to fix general minimum piece rates for certain classes of male and female workers.

III.—NOTICE OF INTENTION TO MAKE A SPECIAL ORDER TO BE CITED AS THE TRADE BOARDS (MILK DISTRIBUTIVE) ORDER, 192—.

The Minister of Labour hereby gives Notice that, with a view to altering the description of the Milk Distributive Trade contained in the Appendix to the Trade Boards (Milk Distributive) Order, 1920, he intends, pursuant to the powers conferred upon him by Section 1 and Section 2 of the Trade Boards Act, 1918, to make a Special Order varying the Trade Boards (Milk Distributive) Order, 1920, in the manner shown in the Draft Special Order contained in the Appendix hereto.

Further copies of the Draft Special Order may be obtained on application in writing to the Secretary, Ministry of Labour, Whitehall, London, S.W. 1.

Objections to the Draft Special Order must be sent to reach the Minister of Labour at the above address within 42 days from the 3rd day of August, 1926, that is to say, on or before the 14th day of September, 1926. Every objection must be in writing and must state—

- the specific grounds of objection; and
- the omissions, additions, or modifications asked for.

Given under the Official Seal of the Minister of Labour this 21st day of July, 1926.

T. W. PHILLIPS,
Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Labour.

THE TRADE BOARDS (MILK DISTRIBUTIVE) ORDER, 192—.

Special Order, dated ———, made by the Minister of Labour under Sections 1 and 2 of the Trade Boards Act, 1918 (8 & 9 Geo. 5, c. 32), altering the description of the milk distributive trade contained in the Appendix to the Trade Boards (Milk Distributive) Order, 1920.

Whereas the Minister of Labour (hereinafter referred to as the Minister), by a Special Order called the Trade Board (Milk Distributive) Order, 1920,* dated the 9th day of January, 1920, applied the Trade Boards Acts, 1909 and 1918,† to the trade specified in the Appendix to the said Special Order:

And whereas it is provided by Subsection 1 of Section 2 of the Trade Boards Act, 1918, that every Special Order may be varied or revoked by a subsequent Special Order:

And whereas the Minister is of opinion that it is desirable to vary the said Special Order by altering the description of the trade specified in the Appendix thereto:

Now, therefore, the Minister, by virtue of the powers conferred on him by the Trade Boards Acts, 1909 and 1918, and of any other powers enabling him in that behalf hereby makes a Special Order varying the said Special Order:—

- There shall be inserted in paragraph 2 (a) (iv) of the Appendix to the Trade Boards (Milk Distributive) Order, 1920—after the word "pasteurizing" the words "homogenizing, sterilizing."
- The following new paragraph shall be added to the Appendix to the said Order after paragraph 2, that is to say:—
"3. For the purposes of this Appendix the expression 'fresh milk' shall include sterilized milk."

3. This Order may be cited as the Trade Boards (Milk Distributive) Order, 192—.

Given under the Official Seal of the Minister of Labour this — day of — 192—.

(L.S.)

Secretary, Ministry of Labour.

* Statutory Rules and Orders, 1920, No. 341 of 1920.
† 9 Edw. 7, c. 22, and 8 & 9 Geo. 5, c. 32.

PROPOSED WELFARE ORDER FOR BAKEHOUSES.

THE Home Secretary has issued a notice, dated 30th July, 1926, that, in pursuance of the powers conferred on him by Section 7 of the Police, Factories, etc. (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1916, of making orders for securing the welfare of the workers employed in factories and workshops, he proposes to make an Order, to apply to all factories and workshops or parts thereof in which are baked bread, biscuits or confectionery.

The main requirement of the Order, the provisions of which have been discussed with the National Association of Master Bakers, the Scottish Association of Master Bakers, and the operative bakers' societies, is the provision and maintenance by the occupier of suitable washing facilities, including a constant supply of warm water laid on, which is regarded as of great importance from the medical point of view, and a sufficient supply of soap and clean towels. Separate towels for each worker will not be obligatory; but, in view of the possibility of infection being communicated by the use of a common towel, occupiers are recommended to provide them. It should be noted that paper towels suitable for the purpose can now be procured. Other requirements of the Order are the provision and maintenance of suitable cloakroom accommodation, arrangement for first-aid treatment of injuries in all bakehouses on the lines laid down for factories in Section 29 (1) of the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923, and the provision of an adequate supply of drinking water.

Copies of the draft Order may be obtained on application to the Home Office, Whitehall, London, S.W. 1; and any objection to the proposed Order must be sent to the Secretary of State within 30 days after the date of the notice, and must state the requirements of the draft Order objected to, the specific grounds of objection, and the modifications asked for.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT, 1901.

Amendment of Woodworking Machinery Regulations.

THE Home Secretary has issued a notice, dated 23rd July, 1926, that he proposes to make a Regulation revoking No. (2) of the Woodworking Machinery Regulations, 1922, and the definition of the words "within reach" in those Regulations.

The Regulation in question provides that "Every shaft, wheel, pulley, strap, band or other device *within reach* by which any part of a woodworking machine receives its motion shall be securely fenced"; and "within reach" is defined as meaning "within 6½ ft. from the floor or from any other point to which any person employed or working in a factory normally has access while the machinery is in motion." Decisions have been recently given by the High Court, however, which have defined more precisely the obligations of the occupier under Section 10 of the Act in regard to the fencing of shafting and other dangerous machinery, and have shown that they have a wider scope than was previously supposed, and apply not only to shafting, etc., to which the persons working in the factory normally have access, but also to shafting, etc., to which the access is only occasional or can be obtained only by the use of a ladder or by climbing upon a machine, bench, etc. The Regulation appears therefore to be not only unnecessary, but, in so far as it limits the requirement as to fencing to shafting within 6½ ft. from the floor, etc., is inconsistent with the general provision in Section 10 of the Act as interpreted in the decisions referred to, and is liable to mislead occupiers as to the requirements of the law. The Secretary of State proposes, therefore, that it should be revoked.

Copies of the draft amending Regulation may be obtained on application to the Factory Department, Home Office, London, S.W. 1, and any objection with respect to the draft Regulation by or on behalf of any persons affected thereby must be sent to the Secretary of State within 30 days from the date of the notice.

OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

ALIENS.—*Aliens Restriction Acts, 1914 and 1919. Aliens Order, 1920. Statistics in regard to alien passengers who entered and left the United Kingdom in 1925.* (Cmd. 2698; price 4d.)

FACTORIES.—*Memorandum showing the extent to which the Factories Bill, 1926, differs from the existing law.* (Cmd. 2716; price 3d.) (See page 286.)

MINING.—(1) *Rescue Regulations Committee. Report of the Departmental Committee appointed by the Secretary for Mines to investigate the existing arrangements for the provision and maintenance of rescue appliances and for the formation and training of rescue corps and brigades.* (2) *Fourth Annual Report of the Safety in Mines Research Board, including a report of the matters dealt with by the Health Advisory Committee, 1925.* Board of Trade, Mines Department. (S.O. publications; price 1s. 6d. and 1s., respectively.) (3) *A method of trapping the dust produced by pneumatic rock drills.* (4) *The ignition of firedamp by momentary flames.* Safety in Mines Research Board. Papers Nos. 23 and 24. (S.O. publications; price 6d. and 9d., respectively.)

RAILWAY ACCIDENTS.—*Accidents and casualties as reported by the several railway companies in Great Britain. Returns for the year ending December 31st, 1925.* Ministry of Transport. (S.O. publication; price 1s.)

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS.

LIST OF NEW CONTRACTS, JULY, 1926.

ADMIRALTY.

(Civil Engineer-in-Chief's Department.)

Hove, Eastbourne and Hastings: Removal and Re-erection of Huts: Jas. Bodle, Ltd., Eastbourne.—*Pembroke: Tarred Macadam:* Penderyn Limestone Quarries (Hirwain), Ltd., Bristol.—*Portsmouth: Portland Cement:* The Cement Marketing Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—*Broken Granite:* H. L. Cooper & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—*H.M. Naval Establishments Abroad: Steel and Ironwork:* Horseyfield Bridge & Engr. Co., Ltd., Tipton, Staffs.—*Portland Cement:* Aberthaw and Bristol Channel Portland Cement Co., Ltd. (T. Beynon & Co., Ltd.), London, E.C.

(Contract and Purchase Department.)

Aluminium Ware: Aluminium Corpn., Ltd., Dolgarrog; British Aluminium Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; Bulpitt & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham; G. A. Harvey & Co. (London), Ltd., London, S.E.—**Anchor, Stockless:** W. L. Byers & Co., Ltd., Sunderland.—**Apparatus, Cooking:** Henry Wilson & Co., Ltd., Liverpool.—**Bedsteads:** Siddall & Hilton, Ltd., Sowerby Bridge, Yorks; James Smith Bedstead Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Bronze Rod:** H. Righton & Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Phosphor Bronze Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Cable, Electric (E.H.T. Feeder):** General Electric Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Cables, Electric and Wires:** General Electric Co., Ltd., Southampton; Johnson & Phillips, Ltd., London, S.E.; Enfield Cable Works, Ltd., Brimsdown; W. T. Glover & Co., Ltd., Manchester; Anchor Cable Co., Ltd., Leigh, Lancs.; Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; Hoopers Telegraph & I.R. Works, Ltd., London, E.—**Coats, Oilskin:** Edward Macbean & Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—**Couplings:** M. W. Swinburn & Sons, Wallsend-on-Tyne.—**Cranes, Electric Overhead Travelling:** Vaughan Crane Co., Ltd., Manchester; Stothert & Pitt, Ltd., Bath.—**Cranks, Shaft:** W. Beardmore & Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—**Cupboards, Steel:** Roneo, Ltd., Romford.—**Cutlery:** Sheffield Steel Products, Ltd., Sheffield; Thos. Turner & Co. (Sheffield), Ltd., Sheffield; Needham, Veall & Tyzack, Ltd., Sheffield.—**Drills, Twist:** Thos. Firth & Sons, Ltd., Sheffield; Samuel Osborn & Co., Ltd., Sheffield; J. Beardshaw & Son, Sheffield.—**Walter Spencer & Co., Ltd., Sheffield; Sheffield Steel Products, Ltd. (Moses Eadon & Sons, Ltd., Branch), Sheffield.—English Electric Co., Ltd., Coventry; B.S.A. Tools, Ltd., Birmingham; Sir W. G. Armstrong, Whitworth & Co., Ltd., Manchester; Stalker Drill Works, Ltd., Sheffield; International Twist Drill Co., Ltd., Sheffield; Joseph Evans & Sons, Ltd., Sheffield; A. A. Jones & Shipman, Ltd., Leicester.—Electrodes:** Alloy Welding Processes, Ltd., London, N.—**Fan, Spares:** Veritys, Ltd., Aston, Birmingham.—**Furnace, Crucible:** Morgan Crucible Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Gunmetal Articles:** W. N. Baines & Co., Ltd., Rotherham; C. S. Madan & Co., Ltd., Manchester; Shipham & Co., Ltd., Hull; Gummers, Ltd., Rotherham; Hayward, Tyler & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; Sir J. Laing & Sons, Ltd., Sunderland; Smith Bros. & Co. (Hyson), Ltd., Nottingham; C. Winn & Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Helmets, Sun:** J. Compton, Sons & Webb, Ltd., London, E.—**Hose, Leather, Suction:** G. Angus & Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne; S. E. Norris & Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Jam, Black Currant:** Crosse & Blackwell (Mfg. Co.), Ltd., London, W.—**Jam, Gooseberry:** Crosse & Blackwell (Mfg. Co.), Ltd., London, W.; C. & E. Morton, Ltd., London, E.—**Jam, Raspberry and Red Currant:** Chivers & Sons, Ltd., Histon.—**Lard:** C. & T. Harris (Calne), Ltd., Calne.—**Lathe, Combination Turret:** Alfred Herbert, Ltd., Coventry.—**Machine, Pipe Screwing, Turning, etc.:** J. Holroyd & Co., Ltd., Rochdale.—**Machine, Radial Drilling:** Kitchen & Wade, Halifax, Yorks.—**Machine, Worm Wheel Cutting:** John Lang & Sons, Ltd., Johnstone, near Glasgow.—**Motor Alternators and Control Gear:** Electric Construction Co., Ltd., Wolverhampton.—**Motor Booster Set:** British Thomson Houston Co., Ltd., Rugby.—**Plant, Oxygen Producing:** G. & J. Weir, Ltd., Glasgow.—**Press, Joggling Hydraulic:** Henry Berry & Co., Ltd., Hunslet, Leeds.—**Overcoats:** J. Compton, Sons & Webb, Ltd., London, E.; J. Hammond & Co. (1922), Ltd., Newcastle, Staffs; H. Lotery & Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Rations, Meat and Vegetable:** C. & T. Harris (Calne), Ltd., Calne.—**Sailcloth, Canvas:** Anderson & Chalmers, Arbroath; Richards, Ltd., Aberdeen.—**Screwing Tackle:** B. D. & Co. (Edward A. Boynton), London, E.C.; Easterbrook, Allard & Co., Ltd., Sheffield; A. Mathieson & Sons, Ltd., Glasgow; Nuckey, Scott & Co., London, N.; Pickford, Evans & Co., Ltd., Sheffield; H. Williams & Son, London, E.—**Separator:** Streamline Filter Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Shutters, Boiler Room:** W. H. Allen, Sons & Co., Ltd., Bedford.—**Steel Plates:** Steel Co. of Scotland, Ltd., Glasgow; D. Colville & Sons, Ltd., Glasgow.—**Steel, Rod, Sheet and Strip:** Vickers, Ltd., Sheffield; W. Beardmore & Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—**Switches, Watertight:** General Electric Co., Ltd., Wembley; Wm. McGeoch & Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Tin Ware:** Orme, Evans & Co., Ltd., Wolverhampton; Lawden & Poole, Birmingham; M. J. Hart & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham; Froggatt & Tyler, Ltd., Bilston; F. Francis & Sons, Ltd., London, S.E.; Bulpitt & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham; Ash Bros. & Heaton, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Towelling, Terry:** Stott & Smith, Ltd., Manchester.—**Truck and Vans, Morris:** Stewart & Arden, Ltd., London, N.W.—**Tubes, Brass and Copper:** Yorkshire Copper Works, Limited, Leeds; Broughton Copper Co., Ltd., Manchester; Thos. Bolton & Sons, Ltd., London, W.; J. Wilkes, Sons, & Mapplebeck, Ltd., Birmingham; H. H. Vivian & Co., Ltd., Birmingham;

Muntz's Metal Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Hudson & Wright, Ltd., Birmingham; Grice, Grice & Son, Ltd., Birmingham; Allen Everitt & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham; James Booth & Co. (1915), Ltd., Birmingham; Birmingham Battery & Metal Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Tubes, Deck and Bulkhead Glands:** Ackroyd & Best, Ltd., Leeds; Fairless Engineering Supplies, Ltd., Stockton-on-Tees; Hawkers, Ltd., Birmingham; Highton & Son, Ltd., London, E.; Player & Mitchell, Birmingham.

WAR OFFICE.

Appliances, Sanitary: B. Finch & Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Batteries, Dry:** The Ever Ready Co. (Gt. Britain), Ltd., London, N.; Edison Swan Electric Co., Ltd., Ponders End, Middlesex.—**Batteries, Secondary:** Chloride Electrical Storage Co., Ltd., Clifton Junction, near Manchester.—**Blankets, White:** J. Berry & Sons, Ltd., Buckfast, Devon.—**Boxes, Wood:** H. E. Ambrose, Cambridge; The Falcon Aircraft Co., Slough.—**Caps, Bearskin:** L. Silberston, London, E.—**Cells, Dry and Inert:** General Electric Co., Ltd., Ditton; Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., Woolwich.—**Clothing, Various:** J. Hammond & Co. (1922), Ltd., Newcastle.—**Cloth, Vulcanizing:** North British Rubber Co., Edinburgh.—**Cylinders:** Bulpitt & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Distemper:** T. & W. Farmiloe, Ltd., London, S.W.; Gross, Sherwood & Heald, Ltd., London, E.—**Drawers, Woolen:** I. & R. Morley, Leicester.—**Drill, Brown:** J. Bright & Bros., Ltd., Rochdale; Hart & Co., Ltd., Manchester; Hollins Mill Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Fans, Electric:** Cable Accessories Co., Ltd., Tividale, Tipton, Staffs.—**Feltwork:** F. McNeill & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Generators, etc.:** Newton Bros., Ltd., Derby.—**Horse Shoes:** Wm. Cooke & Co., Ltd., Sheffield.—**Lathes:** Dean, Smith & Grace, Ltd., Keighley; Tangy, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Mattresses, Single, Soldiers:** Bede Furnishing Co., Ltd., Leytonstone; E. H. Price, Suffolk.—**Metal Lockers:** G. A. Harvey & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Nails, Wire, Iron, Grooved:** The Whitecross Co., Ltd., Warrington.—**Oil, Lubricating, Mineral:** Frank How & Co., Ltd., Stratford, E.; J. & D. Hamilton, Ltd., Glasgow.—**Overalls, Combination:** Johnson & Sons, Ltd., Great Yarmouth.—**Overalls, Jackets and Trousers:** H. Lotery & Co., Ltd., London.—**Packing, Hessian:** D. Smith & Sons, Alyth.—**Pantalons, Cotton, Cord:** F. W. Harnes & Co., Norwich; Wallis & Linnell, Ltd., Kettering.—**Pneumatic Covers and Tubes:** Dunlop Rubber Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Rags, Cotton:** Hopol, Ltd., Sandbach.—**Rags, Linen:** S. & M. Myers, London.—**Razors, Safety:** Gillette Safety Razor Co., Slough, Bucks.—**Repair of Vessel:** Forsters Dry Dock, Ltd., London, E.—**Serge, White, Lining:** J. Churchward & Sons, Ltd., Harborton.—**Sheets, Cotton, M.S.:** J. I. Sidebottom & Co., Todmorden.—**Shoes, Canvas, Crepe Soles:** Stead & Simpson, Leicester.—**Slabs, Cork, Compressed:** Newalls Insulation Co., Ltd., Washington, Co. Durham.—**Slates, Roofing:** E. Mathews & Co., London; Sessions & Sons, Ltd., Cardiff; John Williams & Co., London, S.E.—**Stabilarsan and Bismostab:** Boots Pure Drug Co., Ltd., Nottingham.—**Steel Windows:** John Thompson Beacon Windows, Ltd., Wolverhampton; Helliwell & Co., Ltd., Brighouse, Yorks; The Crittall Mfg. Co., Ltd., Baintree, Essex.—**Tipplates:** Brooker, Dore & Co., London, E.C.—**Towels, Hand, Turkish:** Barlow & Jones, Ltd., Bolton.—**Twill, Grey:** Cotterill & Co., Ltd., Colne.—**Wheels, M.T.:** Steel Stampings, Ltd., Kidderminster.—**Yarn, Spun:** Frost Bros., London, E.C.—**Works Services:** Maintenance Works: Bordon and Longmore Camp; and South Aldershot, A. A. McDermott, Bradford. *Building Works and Services:* Woolwich—Cookhouse, etc.; Soldiers Qtrs.; and Feltham—Soldiers Qtrs., J. B. Edwards, London, S.W. Bulford Camp—Concrete Reservoirs: Hayward & Wooster, Bath. Headquarters Gymnasium: G. Kemp Stroud & Co., Aldershot. Pirbright Camp—Alterations to North Restaurant: C. Morgan & Son, S. Farnboro', Hants. Feltham, Middlesex—Double Storey Barrack Block: R. Mansell, Croydon.—*Installations:* Heating and Hot Water Services: Bilbie Hobson & Co., London, E.C.

AIR MINISTRY.

Accessories, Ignition: Pyne Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Teddington.—**Accumulators:** Chloride Electrical Storage Co., Ltd., London, W.C.; Edison Swan Electric Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; Peto & Radford, London, S.W.—**Aircraft:** Gloucestershire Aircraft Co., Ltd., Cheltenham; Short Bros., Ltd., Rochester; Vickers, Ltd., Weybridge.—**Aircraft, Fitting engine in:** Blackburn Aeroplane & Motor Co., Ltd., Olympia, Leeds.—**Aircraft, Metal Floats for:** Fairey Aviation Co., Ltd., Hayes, Middlesex.—**Aircraft, Modifications to:** H. G. Hawker Engineering Co., Ltd., Kingston-on-Thames.—**Aircraft, Reconditioning of:** Fairey Aviation Co., Ltd., Hayes, Middlesex; A. V. Roe & Co., Ltd., Manchester; Westland Aircraft Works, Yeovil.—**Aircraft Spares:** Blackburn Aeroplane & Motor Co., Ltd., Leeds; Fairey Aviation Co., Ltd., Hayes; Gloucestershire Aircraft Co., Ltd., Sunningend Works, Cheltenham; A. V. Roe & Co., Ltd., Newton Heath, Manchester; Supermarine Aviation Works, Ltd., Southampton; Vickers, Ltd., Weybridge.—**Aircraft, Work on:** Hawker Engineering Co., Ltd., Kingston-on-Thames.—**Airscrews and Cases:** Aircscrew Co., Weybridge; Blackburn Aeroplane & Motor Co., Ltd., Leeds; D. M. Davies, London, N.—**Boxes, Tool:** T. H. Adamson & Sons, London, S.W.—**Buildings and Works Services:** Cement, Portland (Hinai): Aberthaw & Bristol Channel Portland Cement Co., Ltd., London, E.C. Cooking Apparatus (Various Stations): Carron Co., London, E.C. External

Services to Married Quarters (Uxbridge): J. B. Edwards & Co., London, W. Heating and Hot Water Supply (Upper Heyford): Brightside Foundry & Eng. Co., Ltd., Birmingham. Hospital Cooking Plant (Halton): Falkirk Iron Co., Ltd., London, W.C. Internal Wiring (Bicester): Malcolm & Allan, Ltd., London, W.C. Internal Wiring (Tangmere): T. Clarke & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. Timber (Hinai): Commercial Timber Co., London, E.C. Water Supply (Cardington): H. Lacey & Son, Luton.—**Canvas, Hood, Waggon:** James Stott, Ltd., Oldham.—**Caps, Blue:** L. Silberston, London, E.—**Carburettors and Spares:** H. M. Hobson, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Carriers, Bomb:** Harvey & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Coats, Great, Warm:** J. Hammond & Co. (1922), Ltd., Newcastle-under-Lyme.—**Crossley Landaulettes:** Crossley Motors, Ltd., Gorton, Manchester.—**Engines, Aircraft:** Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Bristol.—**Engines, Aircraft, Conversion of:** D. Napier & Son, Ltd., London, W.—**Engines, Aircraft, Development test on:** Sunbeam Motor Car Co., Ltd., Wolverhampton.—**Engines, Aircraft, Jigs and Tools for:** Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Bristol.—**Engines, Aircraft, Research, running on:** Ricardo & Co. (Engineers), Ltd., London, S.W.—**Engines, Aircraft, Spares:** Armstrong Siddeley Motors, Ltd., Coventry; Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Bristol; Peter Hooker, Ltd., London, E.; Rolls Royce, Ltd., Derby.—**Engine, Aircraft, Test on:** D. Napier & Son, Ltd., London, W.—**Felt, Grey:** Bury Felt Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Bury.—**Hangars, Spares for:** Ransomes, Sims & Jefferies, Ltd., Ipswich.—**Jackets, Blue:** J. Compton Sons & Webb, Ltd., London, E.; H. Lotery & Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Joints, Fork:** Plessey Co. (1925), Ltd., London, E.—**Kegresse Attachment, Spares for:** Crossley Motors, Ltd., Gorton, Manchester.—**Magneto Spares:** M. L. Magneto Syndicate, Ltd., Coventry.—**Mountings, M.G.:** Blackburn Aeroplane & Motor Co., Ltd., Leeds.—**M.T. Spares:** Rolls Royce, Ltd., Derby.—**Pantalons, Blue:** J. Compton, Sons & Webb, Ltd., London, E.; J. Hammond & Co. (1922), Ltd., Newcastle-under-Lyme; H. Lotery & Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Plates, Panchromatic:** Ilford, Ltd., London, E.—**Plywood:** Vickers, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Sights, Norman:** Trojan, Ltd., Croydon.—**Thermometers, Radiator:** S. Smith & Sons (M.A.), Ltd., London, N.W.—**Tyres, Rapson:** North British Rubber Co., Ltd., London, W.

POST OFFICE.

Apparatus, Telephonic: Ericsson Telephones, Ltd., Beeston, Notts; International Electric Co., Ltd., London, N.; Phoenix Telephone and Electric Works, Ltd., London, N.W.; Plessey Co. (1925), Ltd., Ilford; Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; Telephone Manufacturing Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Apparatus, Testing, Protective and Miscellaneous:** Ericsson Telephones, Ltd., Beeston, Notts; Walter Jones & Co., London, S.E.; Phoenix Telephone and Electric Works, Ltd., London, N.W.; Power Equipment Co., Ltd., London, N.W.; Standard Telephones & Cables, Ltd., London, N.W.; M. W. Woods, Colchester.—**Apparatus, Wireless:** Dubilier Condenser Co. (1925), Ltd., London, W.; The Marconi International Marine Communication Co., Ltd., London, W.C.—**Bags, Leather:** J. Lyons & Sons, London, E.—**Battery Stores:** C. A. Vandervell & Co., Ltd., London, W.—**Cabinets, Telephone:** Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Cable, Various:** British Insulated Cables, Ltd., Prescott; Connollys' (Blackley), Ltd., Blackley; W. T. Henley's Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., Gravesend; Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; Union Cable Co., Ltd., Romford, Essex.—**Caps, Lamp:** B. W. Johnson, Nailsworth, Glos.—**Castings, Joint Box:** Britannia Lathe & Oil Engine Co., Ltd., Colchester.—**Clocks:** Magneta Time Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Cords for Telephones:** International Electric Co., Ltd., London, N.; Phoenix Telephone and Electric Works, Ltd., London, N.W.; Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; Standard Telephones and Cables, Ltd., London, E.; Telephone Manufacturing Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; **Covers, Tyre:** Avon India Rubber Co., Ltd., Melksham, Wilts; Dunlop Rubber Co., Ltd., Fort Dunlop, Birmingham; International Rubber Manufacturing Co., Ltd., St. Albans.—**Head Dresses:** R. Z. Bloomfield, Ltd., London, S.W.; J. Compton, Sons & Webb, Ltd., London, S.E.—**Ladders:** F. Parker & Co., London, N.W.—**Lamps, Electric:** Edison Swan Electric Co., Ltd., London, N.; General Electric Co., Ltd., London, W.—**Line, Sash:** J. T. Davis, Ltd., London, E.—**Line Stores:** Bullers, Ltd., Tipton, Staffs.—**Odometers:** Speedometer Supply Co., Ltd., London, W.C.—**Oil, Fuel:** Anglo-Persian Oil Co., London, E.C.—**Paper, Watermarked:** R. Roughway Paper Mills, Ltd., Tonbridge, Kent.—**Raw Plugs:** The Rawplug Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Rings, Insulator:** Avon India Rubber Co., Ltd., Melksham, Wilts.—**Roofs, Pole:** Walls, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Screws, Coach:** Thos. W. Lench, Ltd., Blackheath, Staffs.—**Sleeves, Lead:** Geo. Farmiloe & Sons, Ltd., London, E.—**Vans, Delivery:** Albion Motor Car Co., Ltd., Glasgow and London; Maudslay Motor Co., Ltd., London, S.W.; H. J. Willett, Ltd., Colchester.—**Wires, Covered:** International Electric Co., Ltd., London, N.; Macintosh Cable Co., Ltd., Derby.—**Zincs, Rod, Leclanche:** Eyre Smelting Co., Ltd., London, S.W.; Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Conveyance of Mails:** A. Willard, St. Leonards-on-Sea, Sussex.
Cable—Manufacture, Supply, Drawing-in and Jointing: Sheffield-Worksop: British Insulated Cables, Ltd., London, W.C. Tavistock-Truro; Polmarkyn-Liskeard: Pirelli-General Cable Works, Ltd., Southampton; Truro-Penzance: W. T. Henley's Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Conduits—Laying:** Willesden, etc.; Ravensbourne-Beckenham: O. C. Summers, London, N.; Adlington (Lancs.): J. E. Turner, Heywood, Lancs. Lyninge (Kent); Birmingham Area; Slough (Bucks); Exmouth; Sutton Scotney and Sparsholt (Hants); Haywards Heath (Sussex); Beaconsfield (Bucks): Hodge Bros. (Contractors), Ltd., Northfield, Birmingham.

Liphook (Hants), Midhurst and Petworth (Sussex); Cobham (Surrey): G. E. Taylor & Co., London, E.C. Kensington (High Street); Speedwell Exchange Area (Section IV); Burnley: Whittaker Ellis, Ltd., London, S.W. Scunthorpe: J. McLaren, Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne. Hammersmith (Uxbridge Road): Greig & Matthews, London, E.C. High Halden (Kent): A. Thomson & Co. (London), Ltd., London, W.C. Long Sutton (Lincs.): Kettle & Son, Peterborough. Barham (Kent): H. Collingridge, London, W.C. Kirkcaldy (Fife): W. Dobson (Edinburgh), Ltd., Edinburgh. Battersea, etc.; Hammersmith, etc.; Ealing (Castlebar Road): T. Muirhead & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. London-Camberley-Bracknell (Hampton Court Road, Advance portion): H. Farrow, London, N.W. Stalybridge (Exchange Transfer): Norwest Construction Co., Ltd., Liverpool. Lockerbie; Troon (The Loams): R. & C. Murray, Paisley. **Telephone Exchange Equipment:** Watts, Watts & Co., Ltd. (Cardiff) Multi-Office; Liverpool Co-operative Society, Ltd.: Relay Automatic Telephone Co., Ltd., London, S.W. Maryhill (Glasgow): Automatic Telephone Mfg. Co., Ltd., London, W.C. Sub-Contractors: Crompton & Co., Ltd., Chelmsford, for Machines; Alton Battery Co., Ltd., Alton, Hants, for Batteries. Torquay: Automatic Telephone Manfg. Co., Ltd., London, W.C. Halifax: Standard Telephones & Cables, Ltd., London, W.C. Sub-Contractors: Electric Construction Co., Ltd., Kingsway, W.C. for Charging Machines; Crompton & Co., Ltd., Chelmsford, for Ringing machines; D. P. Battery Co., Ltd., Bakewell, Derbyshire, for Batteries. Sloane: Standard Telephones & Cables, Ltd., London, W.C. Sub-Contractors: Newton Bros. (Derby), Ltd., Derby for Charging machines, and control gear; Crompton & Co., Ltd., Chelmsford, for Ringing Machines; D.P. Battery Co., Ltd., Bakewell, Derbyshire, for Batteries. Barnet: General Electric Co., Ltd., Stoke, Coventry. Sub-Contractors: Crompton & Co., Ltd., Chelmsford, for Machines. Batley (Yorks): General Electric Co., Ltd., Stoke, Coventry. Sub-Contractors: Crompton & Co., Ltd., Chelmsford, for Machines; Tudor Accumulator Co., Ltd., Strand, W.C.2, for Batteries. Birmingham (South); Enfield: General Electric Co., Ltd., Stoke, Coventry. **Telephonic Repeater Station, 4-wire Repeater Equipment:** Newcastle-on-Tyne; Catterick: Standard Telephones & Cables, Ltd., London, W.C. **Telephonic Repeater Station—Power Plant:** Canterbury: General Electric Co., Ltd., Stoke, Coventry. Sub-Contractors: Premier Accumulator Co. (1921), Ltd., Northampton, for Batteries; Ruston & Hornsby, Ltd., Lincoln, for Engines. **Wireless Station—Modifications and additions to Switchgear:** Rugby: British Thomson-Houston Co., Ltd., London, W.C. **Wireless Station—Two Receivers:** Burnham (Som.): Marconi's Wireless Telegraph Co., Ltd., London, W.C.

H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE.

Carbons: Read Manufacturing Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; Waterloo & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Cards:** J. Dickinson & Co., Ltd., Hemel Hempstead.—**Copier Composition (Graph):** Edwardson & Co., Enfield.—**Cord:** J. & E. Wright, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Envelopes:** J. Dickinson & Co., Ltd., Tottenham and Hemel Hempstead.—**Millboards:** Jackson's Millboard and Paper Co., Ltd., Bourne End, Bucks.—**Pads for I.R. Stamps:** W. Jones, Clifton & Co., Ltd., London, W.—**Paper of Various Descriptions:** J. Brown & Co., Ltd., Penicuik, Midlothian; Caldwells Paper Mill Co., Ltd., Inverkeithing, Fife; R. Craig & Sons, Ltd., Caldercruix, Lanark; J. Cropper & Co., Ltd., Kendal, Westmorland; W. Nash, Ltd., St. Paul's Cray, Kent; New Northfleet Paper Mills, Ltd., Northfleet, Kent; Portals, Ltd., Whitechurch, Hants; Ramsbottom Paper Mill Co., Ltd., Ramsbottom, nr. Manchester; Ryburndale Paper Mill Co., Ltd., Ripponden, nr. Halifax; T. H. Saunders & Co., Ltd., Dartford, Kent.—**Pencils:** Royal Sovereign Pencil Co., Ltd., Neasden.—**Printing, Ruling, Binding, &c.:** Ptg. R.A.F. Routine and Equipment Orders for Air Officer-Commanding-in-Chief, Air Defence of Gt. Britain: King and Hutchings, Ltd., Uxbridge. Group 101 (1926) File Covers (Specified Items): H.M. Stationery Office Press, London, E. Account Book-Binding, Div. IV (1926): Willmott & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C. 50,000 Covers for "Army Book 64": Adams and Harrison, Ltd., London, E.C. 1,500,000 Index Cards, P.O. Savings: J. Dickinson & Co., Ltd., Hemel Hempstead. 1,500,000 Index Cards, P.O. Savings: Library Bureau, Ltd., London, N. 2,510 "Ledger Summaries," P.O. Savings Bank: Waterlow & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C. **Stencils:** Ellams Duplicator Co., Ltd., Bushey, Herts.—**Tape:** J. & N. Philips & Co., Ltd., Tean, Stoke-on-Trent.

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES.

Air Compressor Plants: Alley & Maclellan, Ltd., Polmadie, Glasgow.—**Asbestos Cement Tiles, etc.:** Bell's Polite & Everite Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Axle Boxes:** Patent Axlebox & Foundry Co., Ltd., Wolverhampton; R. Stephenson & Co., Darlington.—**Blankets:** Hepworths & Haley, Dewsbury; A. Preston & Sons, Earlsheaton, Dewsbury.—**Boilers:** Spencer-Bonecourt, Ltd., Hitchin.—**Boots:** Tebbutt & Hall, Ltd., Raunds.—**Brake Blocks and Fire-bars:** The Tees Side Bridge & Engg. Works, Ltd., Middlesbrough.—**Brassrod, etc.:** The Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Cable:** The British Insulated Cables, Ltd., Prescott.—**Candles:** Prices Patent Candle Co., London, E.C.—**Capes:** T. Briggs, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Cement:** Cement Marketing Co., Ltd., London, S.W.; T. Beynon & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Clothing:** G. Gianfield & Son, Ltd., London, E.—**Coal Tar:** Shields & Ramsey, Ltd., Glasgow.—**Collier:** Mercantile Dry Dock Co., Ltd., Jarrow-on-Tyne.—**Conservancy Buckets, etc.:** Walls, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Copper Tube Plates:** The Broughton Copper Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Copper Ingot:** The Glyco Metal Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Cotton**

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