

THE LABOUR GAZETTE

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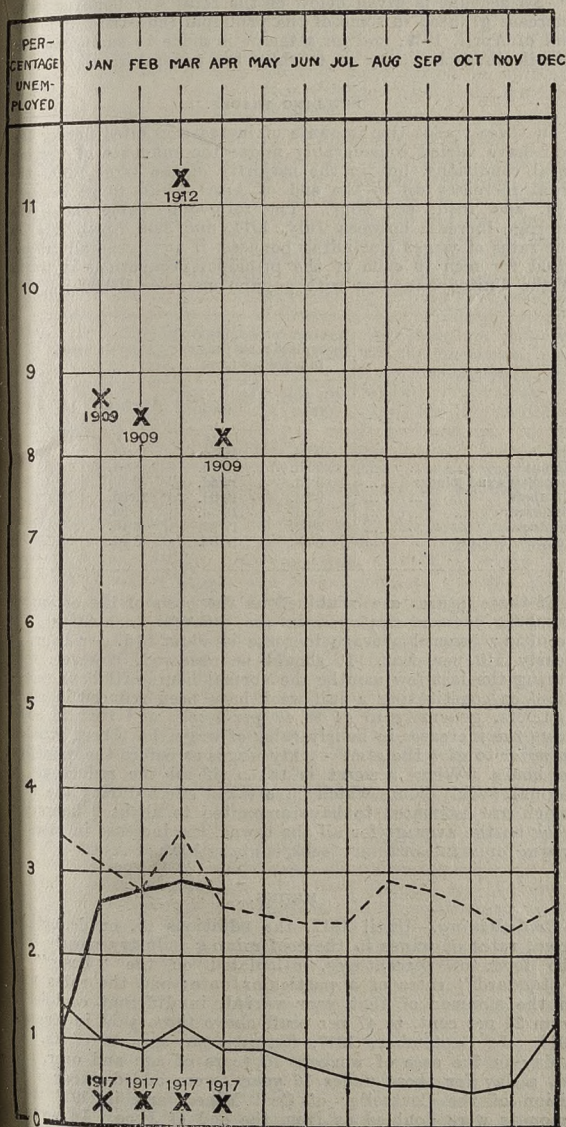
[PRICE ONE PENNY.]

EMPLOYMENT CHART.

SHOWING PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED OF MEMBERS OF TRADE UNIONS MAKING RETURNS.

— Thick Curve = 1919. — Thin Curve = 1918.
- - - - - Dotted Curve = Mean of 1909-18.

× The crosses indicate the maximum and minimum percentages of unemployed, in the months named, during the years 1909-18.



NOTE TO CHART.

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

EMPLOYMENT, WAGES, AND RETAIL PRICES.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

THE general state of employment at the end of April was substantially the same as a month earlier. There was still a large amount of transitional unemployment consequent upon the cessation of war conditions. In the cotton, linen, jute and the textile bleaching, dyeing, calico printing and finishing trades employment was bad generally, and the building trade continued slack, except for maintenance and repairs. In most of the other trades, however, employment was fairly good or good for workpeople belonging to the trades.

Increases in wages which came into operation in April affected nearly 1,300,000 workpeople (including about 1,000,000 coal miners), while about 400,000 workpeople benefited by reductions in hours of labour. Retail prices showed a further decline, with the result that the general index number of retail prices of food and other items entering into the cost of living decreased from about 110 to 105 per cent. above the pre-war level.

Employment.—The total number of unemployed persons at 2nd May, according to the Donation records, was 1,093,400, as compared with 1,060,245 on 28th March—an increase of 33,155. The total of 1,093,400 was made up of 402,151 men and 1,316 women demobilised from H.M. Forces, and 689,933 civilians. An analysis of 1,082,759 of the policies lodged at 2nd May revealed that 63,930 of the unemployed persons were in receipt of the reduced donation which is paid to civilians after the expiry of the first period of 13 weeks' unemployment; of this number nearly two-thirds were women.

The number of men on the live registers of the Employment Exchanges at 9th May was 653,270, or an increase of 87,902 on 28th March, and the number of women was 450,155, or a decrease of 113,035 on the total at 28th March. The number of vacancies unfilled on 9th May was 44,211 for men and 62,369 for women, the corresponding figures for 28th March being 46,591 and 65,145.

Trade Unions with a net membership of 1,202,793, excluding those serving with the Forces, reported 2.8 per cent. of their members as unemployed at the end of April, as compared with 2.9 per cent. at the end of March and 0.9 per cent. a year ago.

Employment at coal mines continued good in April. The number of workpeople employed at the collieries included in the returns for the week ending 3rd May was 2.3 per cent. greater than in March, and 13.5 per cent. greater than a year ago. At iron, shale and lead mines employment continued good, and at tin mines it was moderate. At quarries it was fairly good.

In the pig iron industry employment remained good, and the number of furnaces in blast at the works covered by the returns was 269 as compared with 267 in March and 297 a year ago; a scarcity of fuel and of iron ore was frequently reported. At iron and steel works employment continued good on the whole, showing little change on a month earlier, though it was not so good as a year ago, the aggregate number of shifts worked showing a decrease of 4.6 per cent. There

was little change in the state of employment in the engineering trade during April; with skilled men employment continued fairly good, but a large number of unskilled workers were unemployed. In the shipbuilding trade employment remained good on the whole. With tinplate workers it continued to improve, and was much better than a year ago, the number of mills in operation showing an increase of 38 per cent. as compared with April, 1918. In other metal trades employment was fairly good on the whole.

In the cotton trade employment continued bad; in the American spinning section there was an organised stoppage of a fortnight in April, which affected about 125,000 operatives. In the linen and jute trades employment was bad, and continued to decline. In the textile bleaching, dyeing, printing and finishing trades there was no decided change as compared with a month earlier, and employment was bad generally. In the woollen and worsted and in the silk trades, on the other hand, employment continued good, the silk trade being better than a month ago. In the lace trade employment was bad in the fancy lace section, moderate in the curtain branch, and fair with plain net workers. With the hosiery and carpet trades it remained fairly good on the whole.

Employment continued fairly good in the leather trades, considered as a whole, and good in the boot and shoe trade. In the clothing trades it was usually fairly good or good.

The brick trade showed a general improvement, employment being good or very good in most important centres; the number of workpeople employed was 8 per cent. greater than that reported from the same works at the end of March, and in the Peterborough district there was a great shortage of labour. Cement workers continued to be well employed, with a considerable amount of overtime. In the pottery and glass trades employment continued good, with a shortage of skilled men. The building trade continued slack except as regards maintenance and repairs, painters being well employed generally. The difficulty in obtaining materials is not quite so great, but the continued high prices and the uncertainty as to the future have acted as a check upon private enterprise. Employment was good with coach-builders and coopers, fairly good with wheelwrights and brushmakers, and fair with mill sawyers. In the furnishing trade it was good generally. In the paper trade employment was, on the whole, slack or bad except in the news section. In the printing trades it was fairly good and in the bookbinding trade slack. In the food preparation trades employment continued to improve and was good generally.

With dock and riverside labourers employment was fairly good on the whole; the supply of seamen continued to be in excess of the demand. With fishermen employment improved. In many districts April was a rather unfavourable month for agricultural operations; the shortage of skilled agricultural labourers was serious in many parts of the country.

Changes in Rates of Wages and Hours of Labour.—The changes in rates of wages (including war bonuses) reported to the Department as having come into operation in April resulted in an increase of nearly £600,000 in the weekly wages of nearly 1,300,000 workpeople. The principal change was that affecting coal miners (accounting for about 1,000,000 workpeople out of the above total), who obtained an increase, under the award of the Coal Industry Commission, amounting to 2s. per shift or day for workers 16 years of age and over, and 1s. per shift or day for those under 16 years.

The changes in hours reported affected 400,000 workpeople, the recognised working week being reduced by about 7½ hours per week. The total number affected by reductions in hours this year is over 3,000,000.

Retail Prices.—The average increase in prices of food at 1st May was 107 per cent. above the pre-war level, as compared with 113 per cent. at 1st April, taking the pre-war standard of consumption. For all the principal items ordinarily entering into the pre-war working-class family budget the average increase in retail prices (including rents) was about 105 per cent. at 1st May, as compared with 110 per cent. a month earlier.

THE RISE IN RATES OF WAGES DURING THE WAR.

In the first half of 1914, rates of wages, which for three years previously had been rising, were showing a tendency to fall. Soon after the outbreak of the war the downward movement was checked, and few changes were recorded in the last five months of 1914. Towards the end of the year, however, the increase in the cost of food, coupled with the growing demand for labour arising from the withdrawals of men from industrial occupations into the Army, led to applications for increases in wages; and early in 1915 war bonuses or war wage increases were granted to railway servants and shipyard workers generally, and to large bodies of workmen in the principal centres of the engineering trade. The movement gradually spread to other trades, and by the summer of 1916 there were comparatively few workmen in any of the important industries who had not received a war bonus, or an increase in their rate of wage. With the continued rise in cost of living the original war wages or war bonuses have since been greatly increased, though there has been a considerable diversity in the amounts of the increases in different industries and, in many cases, with different classes of workmen and in different districts within the same industry. Moreover, in some industries increases were granted at much earlier dates than in others. Generally speaking, the trades which led the way in the grant of successive increases were the munition and transport trades, together with certain other essential industries (e.g. coal mining) in which the supply of labour has been much below the demand. This factor of shortage of labour varied in the different industries, whilst, on the other hand, at any particular date the cost of living factor was, of course, more or less uniform for all industries.

An account is given below of the total war bonus or wage increase granted in some of the principal industries up to the end of April, 1919, and an attempt is made to summarise the details in such a way as to show the general result.

BUILDING TRADES.

In these trades the amounts of increase granted during the war have varied considerably under the influence of varying local conditions, but in the majority of the large towns the total increases up to the end of April, 1919, range between 7½d. and 10½d. per hour. The following Table shows the average increase between July, 1914, and 30th April, 1919, in the rates of wages (including bonuses, if any) generally recognised for men in each of the principal occupations in towns of the United Kingdom with populations over 100,000:—

Occupation.	Average (unweighted) of recognised rates per hour in large towns at		Increase.	
	4th Aug., 1914.	30th April, 1919.	Per hour.	Per cent.
Bricklayers	9-9d.	18-6d.	8-7d.	88
Masons*	9-8d.	18-7d.	8-9d.	91
Carpenters and joiners ...	9-7d.	18-5d.	8-8d.	91
Plumbers	9-6d.	19-6d.	10-0d.	104
Plasterers	9-7d.	18-5d.	8-8d.	91
Painters	8-8d.	17-9d.	9-1d.	103
Builders' labourers† ...	6-3d.	14-9d.	8-6d.	139

If these figures are combined on the basis of the estimated numbers of men employed in the different occupations, the resulting general average increase is about 8½d. per hour, or nearly 110 per cent. It should be observed, however, that during the last few months the normal hours of labour recognised as constituting a full week have been reduced in many districts, generally to 44 to 47 per week, and that in some cases the increases in hourly rates of wages have been granted in order to give the same weekly wages as before the reduction in hours. When account is taken of all the reductions in normal weekly hours which have taken effect during the war, which are estimated to have amounted to about 2 hours per week on the average for all the towns, the increase in rates of wages for a full ordinary week is about 100 per cent.

MINING.

Coal Mining.—Until 1917, the additions to, or deductions from, rates of wages in the coal mining industry mostly took the form of percentages, calculated on the "basis" or "standard" rates of a particular date; and the rates paid in the summer of that year varied, in different coal-fields, from 28 per cent. to 47 per cent. above those paid in August, 1914. In September, 1917, flat-rate war grants of 1s. 6d. a day in the case of workers 16 years of age and over, and 9d. a day for those under 16 years, were added under a decision of the Controller of Coal Mines, and in 1918 these amounts were doubled as from the end of June. In accordance with the recommendations of the Coal Industry Commission, a further increase of 2s. per day for men and 1s. for boys has been granted, to date from 9th January, 1919.

For the great majority of the men employed the general

* Where different rates are paid for banker masons and fixers, the rates for banker masons have been used.

† Bricklayers' labourers, or general builders' labourers.

increases over pre-war rates, in the principal coal-fields, are now as shown below:—

District.	Increase over Pre-war Rates (for Men).
Northumberland	47 per cent.
South Wales	46 "
Scotland	43 "
Durham, Yorkshire, Lancashire and the Midlands	42 "
Bristol, Radstock and Forest of Dean	28 to 33 "

} plus 5s. a day.

In some cases the average increase in wages has been rather greater than these figures indicate, owing to the grant of special advances to particular classes of men. In South Wales, for example, it was arranged in 1915 that men working on afternoon and night shifts (most of whom have a working week of only 5 shifts), should be paid as for an extra ("bonus") shift or turn each week. This practice was already in force at some collieries, but its extension to others affected a considerable proportion of the workers and resulted in a substantial increase in the average weekly rate of pay, over and above the 46 per cent. shown. Some classes of men, again, in certain districts, have had their standard or basis rates raised.

Owing to the wide variations in the basis rates of wages of different classes of men, the combination of percentage increases on standard rates with the flat-rate war wage results in widely differing amounts of increase, whether the total advance is expressed in actual wage per week or as a percentage of the pre-war rates. From such information as is available, it is estimated that the average increase during the war is probably equivalent to about 110 to 120 per cent. on the pre-war average wages of all classes of workers at coal mines.

Iron Mining, &c.—At iron mines and open works, where wages generally are regulated by the selling prices of pig iron, the increases during the war have varied in different districts. On the average, rates of wages (including bonuses) have been rather more than doubled.

METAL, ENGINEERING AND SHIPBUILDING TRADES.

Iron and Steel Manufacture.—In the heavy iron and steel trades (smelting, puddling, rolling, forging, &c.), wages ordinarily fluctuate, under sliding scale arrangements, in accordance with the movements in the average selling prices of pig iron, manufactured iron, or steel. The marked increases in selling prices during the war, together with the subsidies granted to pig iron manufacturers in lieu of an increase in selling prices, have resulted in considerable percentage additions to the standard rates of wages. In addition, special war wage advances and bonuses have been granted in consideration of the increased cost of living. Blastfurnacemen, for example, in Durham and Cleveland, have had increases in wages equivalent to nearly 68 per cent. on their pre-war rates, and, in addition, war wage advances or bonuses ranging from 2s. 3d. to 2s. 10d. per shift. In Scotland they have received percentage increases equivalent to 51 per cent. on their pre-war wages, and a bonus of 3s. 9d. per shift. The rates paid for Sunday work (which is regularly required from men engaged on productive processes) have also been increased to 50 per cent. above the ordinary rates. Iron and steel millmen in the principal districts have mostly had increases of 113 to 117½ per cent. on pre-war rates, and iron puddlers in the same districts have had increases of corresponding amounts. Steel smelters, pitmen, &c., generally have received advances ranging, for the higher-paid men, from 60 per cent. to 77 per cent. on pre-war rates, on different processes. In the case of the lower-paid men, the increase has varied according to the pre-war rates, being over 150 per cent. for labourers rated at, say, 2s. 6d. per week before the war.

Engineering and Shipbuilding.—In the engineering and shipbuilding trades, as the result of successive awards given by the Committee on Production, a general minimum war wage advance has been established of 28s. 6d. per week over pre-war rates for men employed at time rates, and of 10 per cent. on pre-war rates plus 21s. 6d. a week for men employed at piece rates, in the federated engineering shops and shipyards throughout the country. This advance has also been adopted by the great majority of non-federated employers. In some districts, where the men are paid at hourly rates, the total war advance for time-workers is 29s. 4½d. per week. In addition, a bonus on earnings of 12½ per cent. for time-workers and 7½ per cent. for piece-workers was granted to men, 21 years of age and over, engaged on munitions work, and has been generally extended to men on private work.

In certain cases, further advances have been given, for special reasons, to particular classes of men or in particular districts, and the total advance is greater. Among these are increases which were granted in some districts during the latter half of 1914, and some comparatively small advances given during the war on certain time rates. The most noteworthy cases, however, are those of the angle iron smiths, platers, riveters, caulkers, drillers, hole-cutters, blacksmiths, &c., engaged on Admiralty shipbuilding and repair work, and merchant shipbuilding, to whom special advances were given, during 1917 and 1918, of (generally) 10 per cent. on pre-war list prices for angle iron smiths, platers and blacksmiths, 20 per cent. for caulkers, drillers and hole-cutters, and 35 per cent. for riveters.

These increases represent different percentages in the

case of different classes of workers, according to the variations in the pre-war rates of pay. The following Table shows the average amount of increase (inclusive of the 12½ per cent. bonus) granted from 4th August, 1914, up to the end of April, 1919, on the district time rates for men in certain representative occupations in a number of the principal engineering and shipbuilding centres, and the equivalent percentage increases over pre-war rates.

Occupation.	Average (Unweighted) Increase in Weekly Time Rates (including the bonus of 12½ per cent.) in the principal centres, between 4 Aug., 1914, and the end of April, 1919.	
	Amount of Increase per week.	Percentage Increase on pre-war rates per week.
Engineering:—		
Fitters and turners ...	37s. 11d.	98
Ironmoulders	38s. 2d.	92
Labourers	35s. 5d.	156
Shipbuilding:—		
Platers	37s. 4d.	98
Riveters	37s. 0d.	98
Shipwrights	37s. 7d.	91
Labourers	35s. 2d.	164

In addition to the increases in wages shown, the weekly hours have been reduced to 47 (usually from 53 or 54) without any reduction in weekly time rates.

For women and girls in the engineering trades, minimum rates were fixed, during the war, under Orders issued by the Ministry of Munitions. These rates represented considerable increases, in most cases, on the pre-war wages, and further advances were subsequently granted. For women, 18 years and over, not engaged on men's work, the present minimum, including 16s. war advance, is 38s. per week. Higher rates are paid to women engaged on men's work, and to those employed on certain special classes of work.

Other Metal Trades.—In a number of other metal trades, including the manufacture of iron castings, copper, lead and zinc smelting, railway carriage building, sheet metal working, gas meter making, heating and domestic engineering, bolt, nut, screw and rivet making, and tube manufacture, war wage increases have been granted corresponding with those given in the engineering and shipbuilding trades. In some industries, however, different amounts have been given—e.g., in the gold, silver, electroplate, &c., trades in Sheffield a war wage advance of 75 per cent. on pre-war rates is paid, and in the tinplate trade in South Wales graduated war bonuses have been given, ranging from 50 per cent. for workers earning over 130s. a week up to 115 per cent. for those earning 20s. 1d. to 30s. a week.

As regards women and girls in these various branches of the metal trades, in some cases in which the Orders of the Ministry of Munitions were applied, the increases in wages correspond with those referred to above for the engineering trade. In other cases the increases varied widely. In the electro-plate trade an advance of 75 per cent. was granted. In the chain making trade the minimum rate was raised from 2½d. to 4d. per hour during the war, but advances in piece-workers' prices gave a considerably greater percentage increase. In the hollow-ware trade the minimum of 3d. per hour fixed in January, 1916, was raised to 4d.; but, in addition, agreements in the trade provided for a guaranteed minimum rate of 30s. 9d. per week. A minimum rate of 3½d. per hour was fixed for the tin-box trade in November, 1915, and this has since been raised to 5½d. A considerable number of women, however, received additional increases.

On the basis of the available data, it is estimated that the average increases on pre-war rates of wages in the whole of the metal, engineering and shipbuilding trades is probably between 100 and 120 per cent.

TEXTILE TRADES.

Cotton.—In the cotton trade the general increases granted from the beginning of the war to the end of April, 1919, amount to 110 per cent. on the recognised wage lists. As wages were already 5 per cent. above the lists in July, 1914, these advances are equivalent to 105 per cent. on the pre-war rates. To certain classes of workpeople, e.g., strippers, grinders and spinners, special increases or allowances have been given, in addition.

Woollen and Worsted.—In Yorkshire the recognised percentage increases over pre-war rates vary considerably in different sections. For time-workers in the spinning and weaving sections and for piece-workers in the worsted spinning section the increase is 107 per cent. (subject to a maximum of 32s. 1d. per week). In the woollen spinning, woollen and worsted weaving, and mungo and shoddy sections it is 85½ per cent. for male piece-workers and 91 per cent. for female piece-workers. For blanket raisers it is 64½ per cent., and for millers, scourers, finishers, &c., on time rates in certain districts it ranges from 106½ to 125½ per cent. In the wool-combing industry at Bradford, men have received an increase of 31s. 1d. per week and women 20s. 4d. per week. In addition to these increases, a recent reduction in hours of labour, from 55½ to 48, has been accompanied by a further general advance of over 15 per cent. in hourly rates and piece rates, so as to give the same weekly earnings as previously.

Textile Bleaching, Dyeing, Printing and Finishing, &c.—In these trades, sliding scale agreements have been made, between the employers' and workmen's organisations, whereby wages are regularly adjusted in accordance with the average change in the retail prices of food, rent, clothing, &c., as

shown in this GAZETTE. At the end of April, the increases over pre-war wages paid under the agreements in Lancashire, Cheshire, Derbyshire and Scotland were 30s. 10d. a week for men, 19s. 3d. a week for women, and 15s. 5d. for boys and girls of 16 and under 18 years. In Yorkshire they were 107 per cent. for time-workers, and 85½ per cent. for most of the piece-workers.

Other Textiles.—Among other bodies of textile operatives, workpeople in the flax industry in Ireland have received advances over pre-war rates amounting in the case of time-workers in the Belfast district to 24s. a week for men and 18s. for women, with equivalent increases on piece rates; workpeople in the carpet manufacturing trade have received increases of 75 per cent. on pre-war rates; hosiery workers in Leicestershire, Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire are paid a war bonus of 6½d. in the shilling on their earnings (54 per cent.); jute operatives in Dundee have had increases amounting to a minimum of 27s. per week for men and to 20s. per week for women; and fancy lace makers and curtain makers at Nottingham have received a bonus of 40 per cent. on pre-war rates, with certain extra payments on fancy lace.

It is estimated that, taking the textile trades as a whole, rates of wages have risen by about 100 to 110 per cent. (apart from the enhancements of hourly and piece rates in the woollen and worsted trade, referred to above). It should, however, be observed that in several of these industries, especially the cotton, linen, and jute trades, actual earnings have been considerably reduced by short time and unemployment.

CLOTHING TRADES.

Boot and Shoe Manufacture.—In the wholesale boot and shoe manufacturing industry the increases in rates of wages and bonuses granted during the war were merged at the end of March, 1919, into new minimum rates which, in the principal centres, involve increases on pre-war rates of 26s. or 27s. per week, representing in the case of skilled men approximately 87 to 93 per cent. on the pre-war minimum rates. In the case of women and girls, new minimum rates have also been fixed ranging from 15s. per week at 16 years up to 30s. per week at 20 years.

Other Clothing Trades.—In the retail bespoke and repairing branches the increases have varied in different districts. In the ready-made tailoring, dressmaking, &c., trades also varying increases have been given, but general statistics are not available. For women in the shirtmaking trade in Great Britain and the minimum rate originally fixed by the Trade Board (in July, 1915) was 3½d. per hour. This has since been raised to 6d. and, in addition, an award of the Committee on Production gave an increase to women of 1d. per hour in September, 1918. A recent Order by the Minister of Labour has also fixed a minimum rate of 7d. per hour for adult women, with lower rates for girls, engaged in the women's clothing trades.

TRANSPORT TRADES.

Railway servants generally, engaged in the traffic sections, have received flat-rate advances, during the war, amounting to 33s. per week for men, and 16s. 6d. per week for boys. Men in the railway engineering, &c., shops receive the same general increase as men in the engineering trade.

Dock labourers at the principal ports have mostly received advances amounting to about 6s. to 8s. per day. For seamen the cash rates for able seamen and firemen, which were usually £5 and £5 10s. per month, respectively, in the first half of 1914, have been raised to £11 10s. for able seamen and £12 for firemen. In addition to these rates a special war-risk bonus, amounting to £3 per month in the case of vessels on monthly articles, was granted in October, 1918, to men on vessels trading within the war zone, and has since been extended for the period covered by the Wages (Temporary Regulation) Act. In the carting industry, and in the tramway and omnibus services, a general war wage advance of 30s. per week over pre-war rates has been granted.

In addition to these increases in wages, a shorter working week has been adopted, generally of 44 hours for dock labourers and 48 hours for railwaymen, carters, tramway and omnibus servants, &c., without any reduction in weekly wages.

AGRICULTURE.

Minimum rates of wages have now been fixed, under the provisions of the Corn Production Act, 1917, for agricultural labourers in all districts of the United Kingdom, except some parts of Scotland. In Great Britain the rates fixed for ordinary adult male labourers range from 30s. to 38s. a week, inclusive of the value of certain allowances (e.g., milk, cottage, board and lodging), so far as provided by the farmer. For special classes of men (e.g., stockmen, shepherds and teammen) higher minima have been fixed in most districts. It is estimated by a Committee which was appointed by the Agricultural Wages Board to inquire into the financial results of the occupation of agricultural land, &c., that the minimum rates in England and Wales represent an increase on the rates in force in 1914, of 83 per cent. in the case of ordinary labourers, and 103 per cent. in the case of stockmen, or an average of 88½ per cent. for all classes.

* It has been decided by the Agricultural Wages Board for England and Wales to increase the minimum rates by 6s. 6d. per week from 19th May, except in one district where the rates are still under discussion.

OTHER TRADES.

Particulars are given below of the total war bonuses or increases in rates of wages granted up to the end of April, 1919, to men employed in the principal centres of various other industries:—

Trade.	Amount of Increase.
Printing and bookbinding	29s. to 35s. per week.
Furniture manufacture	8d. to 10d. per hour.
Pottery (North Staffs)	71 per cent.
Glass bottle manufacture	64 per cent.
Chemical manufacture	28s. 6d. per week plus 12½ per cent. on earnings, (with increased rates for week-end work.)
Baking and confectionery	27s. to 33s. per week.
Gas and electricity undertakings	28s. 6d. per week plus 12½ per cent. on earnings.

SUMMARY.

From the foregoing details it is apparent that the bonuses and increases in rates of wages, granted during the war, show a considerable diversity among different groups of workpeople, both as regards the actual monetary totals and as regards the percentage over pre-war rates which the increases represent, extreme examples ranging from less than 60 to over 150 per cent. on the wages of July, 1914. In cases where a money increase has been granted, e.g., in the railway service, the percentage equivalent is much higher for labourers than for skilled men, whilst in others where a percentage increase has been given, the monetary equivalent varies according to the earnings of individual men, and is generally higher for skilled men than for labourers.

To locate the precise position, within this range of increases, of the average increase in rates of wages for all classes of workpeople, careful examination would be necessary, both of the relative numbers of workpeople employed in 1914 in the different industries, districts and occupations and which varying amounts of increase have been given, and of the changes which have occurred since 1914 in the proportions of men, women, boys and girls employed in each case. The information available on these points is insufficient to provide a trustworthy basis for precise calculations; but taking all industries together, it is evident that rates of wages, for manual workers generally, have been more than doubled, on the whole, during the war; and, while the material available is not sufficiently complete to enable an exact calculation of the general average increase on pre-war rates to be made, there is little doubt that it lies between 100 and 120 per cent., apart from enhancements of hourly and piece rates in certain industries, the effect of which, on weekly wages, has been neutralised by reductions in the weekly hours of labour.

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR LEGISLATION.

The Peace Conference at its Plenary Sitting on the 11th April adopted the Draft Convention for the International Regulation of Labour Conditions contained in the Report of the International Commission on Labour Legislation. This Draft Convention is now incorporated in the Peace Treaty, and its provisions may be summarised as follows:—

Chapter I (Art. 1-13) provides for the machinery of the permanent organisation.

Participation in the organisation is a condition of membership of the League of Nations. The organisation itself is divided into two parts (1) The International Labour Conference; (2) The International Labour Office, controlled by a Governing Body. The Conference will meet at least annually, and will consist of delegates nominated by the States Members of the League of Nations, each Member appointing four. Each Member of the League is to appoint two delegates as Government representatives and two other delegates chosen in agreement with the organisations most representative of employers and workpeople respectively. Each delegate has the right to vote individually; that is, he can cast his vote on any question independently of the votes cast by the other delegates from his own State, and, if he desires, in opposition to them. Each delegate may be accompanied by advisers who shall not exceed two in number for each item on the agenda. When questions specially affecting women are to be considered, it is provided that one at least of the advisers should be a woman. The meetings of the Conference will in general be held at the seat of the League of Nations.

Articles 6-13 deal with the establishment of the International Labour Office. This office, which will be controlled by a Governing Body of 24 members appointed by the Conference, will be established at the seat of the League of Nations. Like the Conference, the Governing Body will consist of representatives of Governments, employers and workpeople.

There will be 12 Government representatives, of whom 8 will be nominated by the 8 States of chief industrial importance and 4 by the remaining States; and 12 non-government representatives, of whom 6 will be nominated by the employers' delegates at the Conference and 6 by the workpeople's delegates. The International Labour Office is placed under the

control of a Director appointed by and responsible to the Governing Body.

The work of the International Labour Office includes the collection and distribution of information on all subjects relating to the international adjustment of conditions of industrial life and labour, the preparation of data to be laid before the Conference with a view to the drawing up of international treaties or conventions, special investigations ordered by the Conference, and the preparation of the agenda of the Conference. It will also carry out the duties required of it by the provisions of the Convention in connection with international disputes, and will edit and publish a periodical paper in English and French, and in such other languages as the Governing Body may think desirable, dealing with international problems of industry and employment.

Chapter II. (Articles 14 to 34) deals with questions of Procedure and Enforcement.

The procedure of the Conference is to be decided upon by the Conference itself, and it may also appoint Committees to consider and report on any matter covered by the Preamble or the provisions of the Convention. Article 19 is the most important article in this chapter and of vital importance in the Convention. It deals with the obligations of the States concerned in regard to the adoption and ratification of draft conventions agreed upon by the International Conference. The Conference has first to determine whether proposals should take the form of (a) Recommendations to the Members of the League of Nations with a view to effect being given to them by means of national legislation or otherwise, or (b) Draft International Conventions for ratification by the Members. In framing any recommendation or draft convention the Conference must take into consideration the special circumstances of countries in which climatic conditions, the imperfect development of industrial organisation or other special features make industrial conditions substantially different, and shall suggest the modifications, if any, which it considers may be required to meet their case.

A two-thirds majority is necessary for the final adoption of a draft convention or a recommendation by the Conference.

Each State must, within the period of one year at most from the closing of the session of the Conference, or, in exceptional circumstances, not later than 18 months from that date, bring a recommendation or draft convention which the Conference has adopted before the authority or authorities within whose competence the matter lies for the enactment of legislation or other action. If a draft convention is approved by the competent authority, which will usually be the national Parliament, the State concerned is under obligation formally to ratify it and to take all necessary steps to secure its effective observance.

Special provision is made for the case of Federal States, the power of which to enter into conventions on labour matters is limited; and the Government of such a Federal State may treat a draft convention, if it deals with a matter to which such limitations apply, as a recommendation only.

Conventions when ratified will be registered by the Secretary-General of the League of Nations.

Articles 22-34 provide the machinery for rendering ratified conventions effective. Each Member of the League is to submit an annual report to the International Labour Office on the measures which have been taken to give effect to the provisions of conventions to which it is a party. It is within the power of an industrial association of workpeople or of employers to make representations to the International Labour Office if a State fails to carry out its obligations or fails to enforce a convention which it has ratified. The Governing Body may then at its discretion communicate the complaint to the State complained of for its observations. The following is the course of action which may be adopted in order to bring the State complained of into line. In the first place the Governing Body may publish the whole of the correspondence dealing with the matter. In most cases it may be expected that sufficient pressure would then be created by public opinion to cause the complaint to be remedied. The Governing Body, however, also has the power, either on its own initiative or on receipt of a complaint either from a Government or from a delegate to the Conference, to apply to the Secretary-General of the League of Nations to nominate a Commission of Enquiry. The persons eligible to be appointed as members of such a Commission are to be drawn from a panel composed of employers, workpeople and persons of independent standing. Each State Member of the League of Nations is entitled to appoint one representative for each of these groups to form a panel, and each Commission shall consist of one person drawn from each of these categories. Such a Commission will investigate and report, recommending the steps which should be taken to meet the complaint, and will indicate the economic measures, if any, which it considers may be appropriately taken by the other Members of the League against the offending State in the event of the condition complained of not being remedied. An appeal is allowed to the Permanent Court of International Justice of the League of Nations, which has power to review the findings of the Commission. If the defaulting State fails to carry out the recommendations of the Commission or Permanent Court within the specified time, it will then be open to the other States to take the economic measures indicated against it.

Chapter III. provides that, as regards colonies, protectorates and possessions which are not self-governing, the mother

country undertakes the obligations of applying labour conventions, unless local conditions render it impossible to apply them either wholly or in part.

Chapter IV. makes provision for the holding of the first Conference in October, 1919, and the Annex sets out the following agenda for that Conference, which will be held at Washington:—

1. Application of principle of 8 hours day or of 48 hours week.
2. Question of preventing or providing against unemployment.
3. Women's employment—
 - (a) Before and after child-birth, including the question of maternity benefit.
 - (b) During the night.
 - (c) In unhealthy processes.
4. Employment of children—
 - (a) Minimum age of employment.
 - (b) During the night.
 - (c) In unhealthy processes.
5. Extension and application of the International Conventions adopted at Berne in 1906 on the prohibition of night work for women employed in industry and the prohibition of the use of white phosphorus in the manufacture of matches.

Provision is also made for the establishment of an International Organising Committee to prepare the necessary material for the Conference and to draw up draft conventions or recommendations to be laid before it. This Committee is already at work, and is constituted as follows:—

UNITED STATES:

Dr. J. T. Shotwell (provisionally), Professor at Columbia University.

GREAT BRITAIN:

Sir Malcolm Delevingne, K.C.B., Assistant Under-Secretary of State, Home Office.

FRANCE:

Mr. Arthur Fontaine (Chairman), Councillor of State, Director of Labour.

ITALY:

Mr. di Palma Castiglione, Inspector of Emigration.

JAPAN:

Dr. M. Oka, formerly Director of Commercial and Industrial Affairs at the Ministry of Agriculture and Commerce.

BELGIUM:

Mr. Mahaim, Professor at Liège University.

SWITZERLAND:

Mr. W. E. Rappard (provisionally), Professor at Geneva University.

Mr. H. B. Butler, C.B., Assistant Secretary of the Ministry of Labour, is the Secretary of the Committee, and its offices are at 53, Parliament Street, London, S.W.1.

The actual arrangements for convening the Conference are left in the hands of the Government of the United States.

THE LABOUR CLAUSES IN THE PEACE TREATY.

The Commission on International Labour Legislation appointed by the Peace Conference, besides putting forward its proposals for a Permanent Organisation for the International Regulation of Labour Conditions, also proposed certain clauses of a general character for insertion in the Peace Treaty. These clauses were subsequently adopted by a Plenary Meeting of the Peace Conference in the following slightly modified form:—

"The High Contracting Parties, recognising that the well-being, physical, moral and intellectual, of industrial wage-earners is of supreme international importance, have framed a permanent machinery associated with that of the League of Nations to further this great end.

"They recognise that differences of climate, habits and customs, of economic opportunity and industrial tradition, make strict uniformity in the conditions of labour difficult of immediate attainment. But, holding as they do that labour should not be regarded merely as an article of commerce, they think that there are methods and principles for regulating labour conditions which all industrial communities should endeavour to apply, so far as their special circumstances will permit.

"Among these methods and principles, the following seem to the High Contracting Parties to be of special and urgent importance.

First.—The guiding principle above enunciated that labour should not be regarded merely as a commodity or article of commerce.

Second.—The right of association for all lawful purposes by the employed as well as by the employers.

Third.—The payment to the employed of a wage adequate to maintain a reasonable standard of life as this is understood in their time and country.

Fourth.—The adoption of an eight hours day or a forty-eight hours week as the standard to be aimed at where it has not already been attained.

Fifth.—The adoption of a weekly rest of at least twenty-four hours, which should include Sunday wherever practicable.

Sixth.—The abolition of child labour and the imposition of such limitations on the labour of young persons as shall permit the continuation of their education and assure their proper physical development.

Seventh.—The principle that men and women should receive equal remuneration for work of equal value.

Eighth.—The standard set by law in each country with respect to the conditions of labour should have due regard to the equitable economic treatment of all workers lawfully resident therein.

Ninth.—Each State should make provision for a system of inspection, in which women should take part, in order to ensure the enforcement of the laws and regulations for the protection of the employed.

“Without claiming that these methods and principles are either complete or final, the High Contracting Parties are of opinion that they are well fitted to guide the policy of the League of Nations; and that, if adopted by the industrial communities who are members of the League, and safeguarded in practice by an adequate system of such inspection, they will confer lasting benefits upon the wage-earners of the world.”

THE INDUSTRIAL CONFERENCE.

The Provisional Joint Committee of the National Industrial Conference (see LABOUR GAZETTE for March, page 78, and April, page 124) met on Thursday, 1st May, at Montagu House, Whitehall, London, to receive a statement of the Government's intentions with regard to the proposals contained in the Committee's Report to the Conference on 4th April.

In the course of an address to the Committee the Minister of Labour read the following letter from the Prime Minister:—

GENTLEMEN.—I have read your report very carefully and deeply regret that I am unable to meet you in person in order to thank you for the very valuable piece of work which you have done.

On the Continent, as I have good reason to know, your work is being closely watched. Foreign countries are looking to Great Britain to give them a lead in the foundation of a new and better industrial order, and this report marks the beginning of such a foundation.

Though I cannot commit myself to every detail, as many of them are complex and technical, I may say at once that I fully accept in principle your recommendations as to the fixing of maximum hours and minimum rates of wages. As regards hours, a Bill is now being drafted to give effect to your recommendations, and will, I hope, be introduced at a very early date. I think you will find that it fully carries out the principles set forth in your report, though, as you have recognised, elasticity must be provided in order to meet the special circumstances of particular industries.

There are certain industries, such as agriculture, in which seasonal and other conditions necessitate special consideration; and some cases, such as those of seamen and domestic servants, in which it would be impossible to enforce a week of 48 hours; but I agree that the Act should otherwise apply to all industries in which a legal limitation of hours is practicable, and that, where exceptions are necessary, they should be applied for by those concerned through the machinery which you have suggested in your report.

As regards wages, I accept the principle that minimum rates of wages should in all industries be made applicable by law. The question of the best method of doing this, however, is complex and full of difficulties, and I do not think that it would be possible to frame legislation until a scheme for carrying out the principle of minimum rates has been fully worked out. I therefore gladly accept your suggestion that the Government should, in the first place, set up a Commission with wide terms of reference to report on the whole matter. As regards the extension of the Wages (Temporary Regulation) Act, a Bill has been prepared for this purpose and has been introduced.

In regard to unemployment, I understand that your Committee was unable to make any definite recommendation as to how the present provision against unemployment should be extended, though they were unanimous in thinking extension necessary. In view of the short time at your disposal, I do not think that the Committee could be blamed for this, but the question of unemployment is one of the most urgent and important of the problems confronting us, and until it is satisfactorily solved I do not feel that we shall have really effected one of the most vital improvements in our social conditions. I therefore hope that this is the first question to which the National Industrial Council will address itself.

I cordially welcome your proposal to set up a National Council, and hope that you will take steps to bring it into being as quickly as possible, as I am sure that it will be of great value in assisting the Government to improve industrial conditions.

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) D. LLOYD GEORGE.

The Provisional Joint Committee of the National Industrial Council.

After some discussion the following resolution was passed by the Committee:—

“Having heard the Government's declaration with regard to the proposals of the National Industrial Conference, and in view of the necessity for further joint consideration by the employers' representatives and the trade union representatives, the joint committee propose an adjournment in order that both sides may have an opportunity of considering separately (and jointly, if necessary) the Government's reply, and deciding their attitude thereon; the joint committee to meet again on a date to be decided by the Chairman.”

COAL INDUSTRY COMMISSION.

The Commission appointed under the Coal Industry Commission Act to inquire into the position of and conditions prevailing in the coal industry (see LABOUR GAZETTE for March, page 79, and April, page 125) resumed its sittings on 22nd April. The hearing of evidence on the question of the nationalisation of coal mines and minerals was begun on 23rd April, and the following day it was announced that the second interim report, which will deal with this question, would be presented not later than 20th June, instead of 20th May as previously arranged. The hearing of evidence is still proceeding.

Sir Thomas Royden, Bart., M.P., and Mr. J. T. Forgie have resigned from the Commission owing to ill-health, and Sir Allan M. Smith, K.B.E., and Sir Adam Nimmo, K.B.E., have been appointed in their stead.

THE WORK OF JOINT INDUSTRIAL COUNCILS.

On 1st May 33 Joint Industrial Councils had been established. The industries represented by these Joint Industrial Councils are as follows:—

Asbestos Manufacturing; Metallic Bedstead; Bobbin and Shuttle Making; Bread Baking and Flour Confectionery; Building; Chemical Trade; China Clay; Coir Mat and Matting; Elastic Web, Cord, Braid and Smallwares Fabric; Electrical Contracting; Electricity Supply (including both municipal and company-owned undertakings); Furniture; Gas (including both municipal and company-owned undertakings); Gold, Silver, Horological and Allied Trades; Hosiery; Hosiery (Scottish); Made-up Leather Goods; Local Authorities' Non-Trading Services (manual workers) (England and Wales); Match Manufacturing; Packingcase Making; Paint, Colour and Varnish Trades; Welsh Plate and Sheet Trades; Pottery; Road Transport; Rubber Manufacturing; Sawmilling; Silk; Tin-Mining; Vehicle Building; Wallpaper Making; Waterworks Undertakings (including both municipal and company-owned undertakings); Wool (and Allied) Textile; Woollen and Worsted (Scottish).

In addition to these applications of the Whitley Report, Provisional Committees had, at 1st May, either already drafted, or had been appointed to draft, constitutions for the following nineteen industries:—

Bleaching, &c., of Textiles; Boot and Shoe Manufacture; Carpets; Flour Milling; Glass; Heating and Domestic Engineering; Locks, Safes and Latches; Musical Instruments; Needles and Fishhooks; Newspapers; Printing; Printing Ink; Roller Engraving; Shipping; Surgical Instruments; Tramways (including both municipal and company-owned undertakings); Wire Drawing; Wrought Hollow-ware; Zinc and Spelter.

Steps are also being taken for the application of the Whitley Report to Government Industrial Establishments, to the Civil Service, and to Local Authorities' Administrative, Professional, Technical and Clerical Staffs.

The following is a summary of some of the agreements on questions of wages and hours which have been arrived at by Joint Industrial Councils:—

The Council of the Asbestos Manufacturing Industry has established a 48-hour week, without reduction of time-rates. Rates for piece-work are to be raised 15 per cent., and the shift system is to be considered. The China Clay Council's agreement provides for a 46-hour week, a time-rate of 1s. 1d. per hour, an increase for piece-workers, a minimum wage of 25s. for adult women time-workers, and an increase of wages for boys. The Coir Mat and Matting Council has agreed, pending a general revision of piece-prices, upon a 15 per cent. increase on bonuses (20 per cent. in Eastern Counties). The Elastic Webbing Council has agreed that a 48-hour week be established from 7th April, and a Sub-Committee has been appointed to consider rates of wages, especially in reference to women's work. The Electrical Contracting Council has made provision for a 47-hour working week, with one break of 45 minutes' duration in the ordinary full working day. The National Conciliation Board Interim Committee of the Furniture Council has settled a standard rate for London upholsterers and upholsteresses. The Council of the Gold, Silver, Horological and Allied Trades has agreed upon a standard week of 47 hours. The Hosiery Council agreed, in December, 1918, upon an additional bonus of 1½d. in the shilling upon wages earned, making a total of 6½d. in all; the agreement to remain in force till the end of March, 1919. On 10th April the Council agreed upon a 48-hour week, without reduction of time-rates, and an increase of 7½ per cent. on piece-rates. The Council of the Made-up Leather Goods Trade has adopted a national 48-hour week, a minimum wage of 1s. 5d. per hour for day workers, and, pending further negotiations on applications recently received, an increase of 12½ per cent. for females and for piece workers. The Council of Local Authorities' Non-Trading Services (manual workers) (England and Wales) has resolved that it be a recommendation to all Local Authorities that the working week for day-men or women shall be not more than 47 hours, exclusive of meal times; that any change in hours implied by this resolution shall not entail any loss of pay; that this resolution shall come into operation as and from the last pay day in May; that the question of a one- or two-break day be left

for local settlement; and that in no case where a smaller number of hours are worked shall that number be increased. The Council of the Match Manufacturing Industry has agreed that working hours be reduced to 47 per week, with no reduction of rates, and that all Sunday work be considered as outside the 47-hour working week. The Council of the Packingcase Making Industry has adopted a 47-hour working week. The agreement of the Rubber Manufacturing Council provides for a 47-hour working week, without reduction of time-rates; no reduction of piece-rates; no increase to be made in the present basis of calculation for output bonus; the agreement to include both men and women. The Sawmilling Council has adopted a 47-hour working week, without any reduction of wages; the agreement to include both skilled and unskilled workers. The Vehicle Building Council has agreed upon minimum rates, the agreement to remain in force from 1st February, 1919. The Wool (and Allied) Textile Council has adopted a 48-hour week, the details of the arrangement and rates of wages to be settled by the District Councils. Questions of wages and hours are at present under consideration by several Joint Industrial Councils.

Some of the other recent activities of Joint Industrial Councils may be classified and summarised as follows:—

Disputes and Conciliation.—Several Councils have devised machinery for dealing with disputes and for undertaking conciliation duties. The principle adopted in some cases is that such matters should be dealt with, where possible, by Shop or Works Committees or by District Councils; the National Council confining itself to questions affecting the whole industry. The Wool (and Allied) Textile Council has established an Arbitration Panel. The Chemical Trade Council has established an Emergency Committee of six members, constituted by forming a panel from the members of the Council in alphabetical order, and appointing the first three on the employers' list and the first three on the workpeople's list to serve for the first month, proceeding through the lists for each subsequent month. This Committee is prepared to go at once to any place in which a dispute has arisen which cannot be settled locally. The Road Transport Council has agreed that the Executive Committee constitute a Joint Arbitration Panel, and that a Joint Travelling Arbitration Panel, composed of three members (one from each side of the Council, with the Chairman) be constituted. It is proposed that the District Councils, when formed, should endeavour to compose all disputes arising within their areas, and that the Travelling Panel should be summoned only in cases of extreme urgency. The Furniture Council has established a National Conciliation Board.

Councils have recently been invited to express their views with regard to undertaking conciliation where one or both parties to the dispute are not represented on the Council. Most of the Councils have readily agreed to undertake such duties when requested to do so.

Working Conditions.—Welfare Committees have been formed by the Building and China Clay Councils. The Home Office has been in touch with several Councils with a view to improving factory conditions.

Education, and the Training of Apprentices.—Committees to deal with education and training of apprentices have been appointed by the Building, China Clay, Electrical Contracting, Furniture, Pottery, Silk, Vehicle Building, and Wool (and Allied) Textile Councils. Some of these Committees have been in close touch with the Board of Education and with local Education Authorities. The Building Council's Education Committee has drawn up a report dealing with the entry and training of all apprentices and other recruits for the building industry, schemes of apprenticeship, pre-apprenticeship education, and prospects in the industry, and general education. The Electrical Contracting Council's Committee has drawn up a scheme of apprenticeship in the industry. The Committee of the Pottery Council is considering the regularisation of conditions of entering of apprentices into the industry, and the provision of adequate technical education. The Committee of the Vehicle Building Council is enquiring into the question of the position of apprentices returning from the Army.

Liaison officers have been appointed by the Board of Education to act in an advisory capacity on most of the Joint Industrial Councils.

Statistics and Research.—The Building Council has appointed a Committee to consider the questions of scientific management and reduction of costs, with a view to enabling the building industry to render the most efficient service possible. This Committee has held several meetings, and has appointed two Sub-Committees to deal respectively with questions of improving production and questions of the distribution of the product. The Pottery Council has appointed a Statistical and Enquiries Committee to enquire into the general problems of the industry. This Committee has appointed a Sub-Committee to get information on wages and making-prices, and on the average percentage of profits on turnover. The Vehicle Building Council also has appointed a Statistics and Research Committee.

Subsidiary Trades: Demarcation and Sectional Committees.—The general question of the establishment of Demarcation and Sectional Committees is receiving the attention of several Councils. The constitutions of these Councils were framed to embrace or to exclude certain sections impinging upon their industry, but this did not wholly solve the problem. The made-up leather goods industry, for example, is divided into

three sections—belting manufacture, saddlery and harness manufacture, and fancy leather goods manufacture; and the Council has decided that matters relating exclusively to one of these sections should be dealt with by an appropriate Sub-Committee, whose decisions should be reported to the Council for information. The problem of demarcation is more complex in the textile industries, where there is considerable overlapping between wool and cotton, cotton and silk, silk and hosiery, silk and wool, &c. There are indications that to meet this difficulty the Councils concerned are proposing to form Joint Consultative Committees for the purpose of determining questions of demarcation.

Organisation of Employers and Workpeople.—The following Councils have taken action with a view to improving the organisation of employers and workpeople in their respective industries:—Coir Mat and Matting, Made-up Leather Goods, Pottery, Rubber Manufacture, and Tin-Mining. The Pottery Council has passed a resolution to the effect that employers in the industry be requested to grant facilities to Trade Union representatives to enter the works at meal times for propagandist purposes and for enrolment of members, provided that no interference with the carrying on of the duties of the workpeople is caused thereby.

Relations with Foreign Office and Board of Trade.—The Council of the Match Manufacturing Industry has been requested by the Foreign Office and the Department of Overseas Trade to supply information as to (a) the encouragement of study and research with a view to the improvement and perfection of the quality of the product, and of machinery and methods for economical manufacture in all branches of the industry, and (b) the preparation and consideration of statistics and reports relating to the industry throughout the world and the effect on the industry of Customs and Excise duties. The question of setting up Commercial Sub-Committees, charged with the special work of dealing with matters in which the Board of Trade and its departments are concerned, is receiving consideration by several Councils. Some of these Councils are now forming Commercial Sub-Committees. Others have delegated the matters referred to to their General Purposes or other Standing Committee. Liaison officers between the Board of Trade, including the Department of Overseas Trade, and Councils have in some cases been appointed. Most Councils directly affected by the question of import restrictions have appointed deputations to state their requirements to the Board of Trade Import Restrictions Committee.

Formation of District Joint Industrial Councils.—District Joint Industrial Councils have been established by the National Joint Industrial Councils of the following industries:—Bread Baking and Flour Confectionery, Chemical Trade, Elastic Webbing, Electrical Contracting, Furniture Trade, Hosiery (Scottish), Match Manufacture, Paint, Colour and Varnish, Rubber Manufacture, Wool (and Allied) Textile, Woollen and Worsted (Scottish). Most of the other Councils have the question of the formation of District Councils under consideration. In some industries District Councils are regarded as unnecessary.

Works Committees.—Works Committees are being set up under the auspices of the respective Joint Industrial Councils in the following industries:—China Clay, Hosiery (Scottish), Match Manufacture, Pottery, Rubber, Woollen and Worsted (Scottish). Several other Councils are at present considering the question of the formation of Works Committees.

STATE AID FOR APPRENTICES.

The terms that the Government offer to assist apprentices who have had their training interrupted by service with the Navy, Army or Air Force and who have come back to civil life have now been issued.

Employers or apprentices who desire information about the scheme can obtain it by applying to the nearest Employment Exchange in their neighbourhood.

Each industry which proposes to take advantage of the Government's offer has prepared, or is preparing, through its Joint Industrial Council, or, where such does not exist, through some other body representative of the industry, a special scheme dealing with the application of the general plan to its own needs.

Schemes have been completed for the Engineering, Furniture Manufacturing, and Shipbuilding industries, and other schemes will follow shortly. As soon as a scheme is approved copies of it are sent by the Employment Exchanges to every employer and secretary of a Trade Union concerned in the scheme, together with copies of the necessary application forms; and further copies are lodged at the Exchanges for the information of inquirers.

TRAINING OF UNEMPLOYED WOMEN.

The Training Department of the Ministry of Labour has now completed arrangements to provide free training for certain grades of unemployed women registered at the Employment Exchanges. Training is to be provided for women's processes in women's normal trades, such as clothing, and also for domestic service. Courses are being arranged with local education authorities and employers, and as they are complete local announcements will be made. Maintenance during training will be paid instead of out-of-work

donation. The amount will be the same as the out-of-work donation, but women in receipt of 15s. will, if obliged to reside away from home, receive an allowance of 10s. a week in addition.

Training is also to be given to wives and fiancées who desire to train for housekeeping, cooking, etc., and who are registered and unemployed. Maintenance allowance will be paid during training on the same scale as out-of-work donation, and to those living in training hostels an extra allowance will be given when they receive 15s. out-of-work donation.

Unemployed women desiring to obtain particulars of the training scheme are invited to apply at the Employment Exchange where they are registered. They will there be supplied with a booklet giving full information, and with the form which has to be filled up by applicants for training.

RELATION OF WOMEN'S TO MEN'S WAGES.

A COMMITTEE was appointed by the War Cabinet, on the 5th September, 1918, with the following terms of reference:—

“To investigate and report on the relation which should be maintained between the wages of women and men, having regard to the interests of both, as well as to the value of their work. The recommendations should have in view the necessity of output during the War, and the progress and well-being of industry in the future.”

This Committee has now issued its Report,* which contains a mass of historical and statistical information on the employment and wages of women, both before and during the War, with special reference to the comparative efficiency of women and of men, and their comparative earnings. A memorandum by Dr. Janet Campbell, a member of the Committee, on the health of women in industry, is appended to the Report.

The majority Report of the Committee is signed by five out of the six members, viz., Lord Justice Atkin (the Chairman), Dr. Janet Campbell, Sir Lynden Macassey, Sir W. W. Mackenzie and Sir Matthew Nathan. Sir William Mackenzie, however, appends a note, setting forth his reasons for disagreeing with his colleagues in regard to recommendations 18—26.

The recommendations are as follows:—
Principles that should govern future relation between men's and women's wages.

(1) That women doing similar or the same work as men should receive equal pay for equal work, in the sense that pay should be in proportion to efficient output. This covers the principle that on systems of payment by results equal payment should be made to women as to men for an equal amount of work done.

(2) That the relative value of the work done by women and men on time on the same or similar jobs should be agreed between employers and Trade Unions acting through the recognised channels of negotiations, as, for instance, Trade Boards or Joint Industrial Councils.

(3) That where it is desired to introduce women to do the whole of a man's job and it is recognised that either immediately or after a probationary period they are of efficiency equal to that of the men, they should be paid either immediately or after a probationary period, the length and conditions of which should be definitely laid down, the men's time rate.

(4) That where there has been sub-division of a man's job or work without any *bona fide* simplification of processes or machine and a woman is put on to do a part only of the job or work, the wages should be regulated so that the labour cost to the employer of the whole job should not be lessened, while the payment to the persons engaged on it should be proportioned to their respective labour contributions.

(5) That where the introduction of women follows on *bona fide* simplification of process or machine, the time rates for the simplified process or simplified machine should be determined as if this was to be allocated to male labour less skilled than the male labour employed before simplification; and women, if their introduction is agreed to, should only receive less than the unskilled man's rate if, and to the extent that, their work is of less value.

(6) That in every case in which the employer maintains that a woman's work produces less than a man's, the burden of proof should rest on the employer, who should also have to produce evidence of the lower value of the woman's work to which the fixed sum to be deducted from the man's rate for the particular job throughout the whole of the industry should strictly correspond.

(7) That every job on which women are employed doing the same work as men for less wages should be considered a man's job for the purpose of fixing women's wages, and the wages should be regulated in the manner above recommended.

(8) That the employment of women in commercial and clerical occupations especially requires regulation in accordance with the principle of “equal pay for equal work.”

(9) That in order to maintain the principle of “equal pay for equal work” in cases where it is essential to employ men

and women of the same grade, capacity and training, but where equal pay will not attract the same grade of man as of woman, it may be necessary to counteract the difference of attractiveness by the payment to married men of children's allowances, and that this subject should receive careful consideration from His Majesty's Government in connection with payments to teachers to which the Government contribute.

(10) That the principle of “equal pay for equal work” should be early and fully adopted for the manipulative branches of the Civil Service, and that, in the case of Post Office duties, the question of the men having late hours or night work should be provided for by an extra allowance to persons undertaking common duties under disagreeable conditions.

(11) That this principle with regard to allowances to persons undertaking common duties under disagreeable conditions should be applied also to industry.

(12) That if the Treasury inquiry advocated by the Royal Commission on the Civil Service with the object of removing inequalities of salary not based on differences in the efficiency of the services has not yet been held, it should be put in hand with the least possible delay.

(13) That the separate grades and separate examinations for women clerks in the Civil Service should be abolished, but that the Government Departments should retain within their discretion the proportion of women to be employed in any branch or grade.

(14) That the Government should support the application to industry of the principle of “equal pay for equal work” by applying it with the least possible delay to their own establishments, and that as soon as any relation between the wages of men and women in any occupation or job has been agreed between employers and Trade Unions acting through the recognised channels of negotiation, the maintenance of that relation should be a condition of any Government contract involving the employment of workpeople in that occupation or job.

Principles that should govern future employment and wages of women.

(15) That in those trade processes and occupations which the experience of the war has shown to be suitable for the employment of women, employers and trade unions acting through the recognised channels of negotiation should make possible the introduction of women by agreements which would ensure, in the manner above indicated, that this did not result in the displacement of men by reason of the women's cheapness to the employer.

(16) That with a view to improving the health and so increasing the efficiency of women in industry—

(i) There should be a substantial reform and extension in scope of the Factory and Workshops Acts, with special reference to (a) the reduction in the hours of work (including arrangement of spells and pauses, overtime, night work); (b) the provision of seats, labour-saving devices, &c., to avoid unnecessary fatigue; (c) an improved standard of sanitation (sanitary conveniences, lavatories, cloakrooms, &c.), ventilation and general hygiene; (d) the provision of canteens, rest-rooms and surgeries; (e) the general supervision of the health of the workers individually and collectively; and (f) the conditions under which adolescents should be employed;

(ii) The present Factory Medical Department at the Home Office should at once be strengthened by the appointment of an adequate and suitable staff of women medical inspectors of factories, and that a considerable increase should be made to the present staff of lay women factory inspectors;

(iii) A local factory medical service should be established with duties of supervision, investigation and research intimately co-ordinated with the School Medical Service under the Local Education Authority, the Public Health Service under the Local Sanitary Authority, and the Medical Service under the National Insurance Act or Ministry of Health when established.

(17) That the Ministry of Labour, with which should rest the duty of ascertaining both nationally and locally the demand for trained persons in any trade or occupation, should, through Central and Local Trade Advisory Committees, assist Local Education Authorities in determining the technical instruction which should be provided for women.

(18) That in order to secure and maintain physical health and efficiency, no normal woman should be employed for less than a reasonable subsistence wage.

(19) That this wage should be sufficient to provide a single woman over 18 years of age in a typical district where the cost of living is low with an adequate dietary, with lodging to include fuel and light in a respectable house not more than half an hour's journey, including tram or train, from the place of work, with clothing sufficient for warmth, cleanliness and decent appearance, with money for fares, insurance and Trade Union subscriptions, and with a reasonable sum for holidays, amusements, &c.

(20) That there should be additions to this wage for women working in the larger towns and in London to cover the greater cost of living there.

(21) That this wage should be adjusted periodically to meet variation in the cost of living.

* Cmd. 135; pp. x + 341; price 1s. 6d.

(22) That the determination of the basic subsistence wage should be by a specially constituted authority, which should also determine variations from it to meet the conditions of different districts and of different times, or, in rare cases, special conditions of trade.

(23) That the subsistence wage so determined should be established by statute to take effect immediately on the expiry of the Wages (Temporary Regulation) Act, 1918, or any prolongation of it, and to apply to the employment for gain in all occupations (other than domestic service) for which a minimum wage has not been determined by an Industrial Council or by a Trade Board or other Statutory Authority.

(24) That the Government should give consideration to the question of adopting a scheme of mothers' pensions for widows and for deserted wives with children, and for the wives with children of men physically or mentally disabled, such pensions to be granted only after investigation where there is need and subject to supervision, and otherwise to be administered on the lines followed for pensions granted to the widows of men deceased in war.

(25) That the Department or Departments of Government concerned should draw up for the consideration of the Government a scheme by which the entire direct costs involved by the lying-in of women under thoroughly satisfactory conditions should be provided by the State.

(26) That a scale of wages should be established for girls 2s. a week less than the women's subsistence wage, for each year under 18, and that no girl should be employed for gain at lower rates than those of this scale unless a duly constituted authority, such as a Trade Board or Industrial Council, fixes such lower rate where the employment is of the nature of an apprenticeship. Also that the question of girls and boys under 16 working on piece should be specially considered by the Department or Departments of Government concerned, with a view to the definite abolition of such working if it is found to be detrimental to health.

(27) That the Government should continue to give the strongest possible support to proposals for the international regulation of labour conditions, which should lessen the danger of the foreign trade of this country being injured as a result of the employment of underpaid labour abroad.

The main conclusions of the Minority Report, signed by Mrs. Sidney Webb, are:

That the existing relation between the conditions of employment of men and women is unsatisfactory.

That for the production of commodities and services, women no more constitute a class than do persons of a particular creed or race.

That the time has come for the removal of all sex exclusions, for the opening of all posts and vocations to any individuals qualified for the work, irrespective of sex, creed or race, and for the insistence upon the same qualifications, the same conditions of employment, and the same occupational rates for all persons engaged in any particular pursuit.

That the formula “Equal pay for equal work” is ambiguous and easily evaded.

That the essential principle which should govern all systems of remuneration is that of clearly defined occupational or standard rates, to be prescribed for all the persons of like industrial grade, and, whether computed by time or piece, to be settled by collective agreement between representative organisations of the employers and employed, and enforced (but as minima only) on the whole grade or vocation . . . that a national minimum, at least as regards rest-time, education, sanitation and subsistence, should be prescribed by law and systematically enforced, in which national minimum there should be no sex inequality. . . .

That some form of State provision is necessary, entirely apart from wages, of which the present maternity benefit, free schooling, and income tax allowance constitute only the germ. . . .

That the assumption that men must receive higher pay than women because of their family responsibilities is incorrect in many cases; and that the admission of this as a principle for fixing wages would involve a revolution in methods of payment, be incompatible with collective bargaining, and lead to a discrimination against parentage.

INCREASES IN PAY, ALLOWANCES AND PENSIONS IN THE ROYAL NAVY.

A STATEMENT* has been published giving details of the decisions of the Government on the report and recommendations of Admiral Jerram's Committee in regard to the pay, allowances, &c., of petty officers, non-commissioned officers and men of the Royal Navy and the Royal Marines. Earlier this year interim increases in pay were authorised by the Board of Admiralty pending the conclusion of the Committee's investigations. These increases dated from 1st February. The new scales, so far as they affect substantive pay and badge pay, are to be ante-dated to this date for all those in

* Navy Pay, Allowances, and Pensions. Cmd. 149. Price 3d. net.



the Naval Service on 1st May and not dispersed to demobilisation, including foreign service leave prior to that date. The increases in non-substantive pay date from 1st May. In cases where men are in receipt of pay and allowances higher than those for which they are eligible under the new scales they remain on their present emoluments until they can be transferred to the new scales without loss.

The new rates of pay vary with different classes; but the following Table shows the old and new rates for continuous service men of the seaman and stoker classes.

Seaman Class.			Stoker Class.		
Rating.	Pay prior to 1st Feb.	New Rate of Pay.	Rating.	Pay prior to 1st Feb.	New Rate of Pay.
	s. d.	s. d.		s. d.	s. d.
Ordinary Seaman	1 8	2 9	Stoker, 2nd Class	1 8	3 3
Able Seaman	1 10	4 0	Stoker, 1st Class	2 3	4 6
After 3 years man's time	2 1	4 3	After 3 years man's time	2 6	4 9
After 6 years man's time	2 1	4 6	After 6 years man's time	2 6	5 0
Leading Seaman	2 5	5 3	Leading Stoker	2 11	5 9
After 1 year, if passed for P.O.	...	5 6	After 3 years ...	3 1	6 0
After 3 years, if passed for P.O.	2 7	...	Stoker Petty Officer	3 7	7 6
Petty Officer	3 5	7 0	After 3 years, if in possession of Stakehold Certificate	3 9	7 10
After 3 years ...	3 7	7 4	After 6 years, if in possession of Stakehold Certificate	3 11	8 2
After 6 years ...	3 9	7 8	Chief Stoker	4 5†	9 0†
Chief Petty Officer	4 3*	8 6†			

The new scale for the Royal Marines, which involves a change from Army to Navy rates, gives a private on enlistment 2s. 9d. per day, rising to 4s. 6d. after six years man's time. For second class gunners in the Royal Marine Artillery the rate is 3s. 6d., rising to 4s. 6d. for first class gunners after six years man's time.

As regards separation, &c., allowances, it is decided that the present scale shall continue till 31st December, 1919, after which it shall be the subject of further consideration, having regard to the question of the cost of living. The following Table shows the successive improvements made in these allowances since they were first introduced on 1st Oct., 1914. The amounts are payable weekly in respect of a man with a wife and two children at the dates mentioned.

Date.	Ratings below Petty Officer.	Petty Officer.	Chief Petty Officer.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1st October, 1914	10 0	11 0	12 0
1st March, 1915	13 0	14 0	15 0
18th January, 1917	16 6	16 6	16 6
3rd October, 1918	21 0	21 0	21 0
2nd January, 1919	23 0	23 0	23 0

From 1st October, 1917, men have been relieved of a portion of the allotment payable with separation allowance, to the extent of 3s. 6d. per week. This sum should therefore be added to the rates given above for the last three dates to arrive at the weekly amount paid by the State.

The scale of pensions is also improved by the raising of the basic rate to 1½d. a day for each year's service and by increases for medals and badges. It is also decided that, as far as H.M. Government is concerned, the pension will not be taken into account in fixing wages for the employment of ex-Service men.

Further decisions involve increases in non-substantive pay, badge pay, and “grog money,” and in kit, subsistence and other allowances, and also the free transference of men, their families and effects to their future place of employment within one month of discharge to pension or invaliding. The system of charging National Health Insurance contributions against the men is also to be discontinued, such contributions in future being paid by the Admiralty.

COAL MINERS' WAGES IN UNITED STATES: WAR-TIME RISE.

THE Department has been in communication with Dr. Royal Meeker, the Federal Commissioner of Labour Statistics at Washington, with a view to ascertaining the extent to which wages of coal miners in America have risen during the period of the war.

Under date of 21st April Dr. Meeker has furnished the following statement prepared by the United States Fuel Administration, showing for bituminous miners the actual rates of wages successively established for the different occupations as from various dates commencing 1st April, 1916, and ending 1st November, 1917. The rates established on the last of these dates are those still in operation.

* With increases of 4d. after 3 years and 6 years. † With triennial increments of 6d.

Table with 4 columns: Occupation, 1916, 1917, and Extent to which Current Rates exceed those of April, 1916. Rows include Pick Miners, Machine Miners, Machine Loaders, etc.

It would appear from the above that since 1st April, 1916, amongst piece-workers the hewers by hand ("pick miners") have had their rates increased by about 35 per cent., the machine hewers by about 45 per cent., and the machine loaders by about 46 per cent.

There has been no change in the length of shift for bituminous miners; eight hours constitutes the standard shift at the present time as in 1914.

The preponderant importance of the bituminous, as compared with anthracite, mining industry in America is shown by the respective outputs in 1916, viz., bituminous coal, 395,200,000 tons, and anthracite coal 79,460,000.

WAGES IN THE GERMAN MINING INDUSTRY.†

THE average sum earned per shift worked by men employed in the mining industry in Prussia during the fourth quarter of 1918, and the percentage increase in earnings during the war, i.e., as compared with those of the second quarter of 1914, are shown in the following Table, the various mining districts being distinguished:—

Table with 7 columns: Nature of Minerals and Mining Districts, Undergound Workers (Hewers and Trammers, Others), and Surface Workers. Rows include Coal (Upper Silesia, Lower Silesia, etc.), Lignite (Halle, Rhine, Left Bank), and Metalliferous Ores (Copper: Mansfeld, Other).

* In conversion the dollar has been taken as equal to 4s. 2d. † Deutscher Reichsanzeiger, April 9th, 1919.

It is not possible to take into account the changes in composition of the body of workpeople in each of the three groups distinguished in the Table, and to that extent any conclusions based on a comparison between the earnings per shift in the two periods are subject to qualification.

The earnings shown in the Table represent the amounts that result from converting the mark into English currency at the parity rate (1 mark = 11'8d.). Much lower figures would, of course, result if the mark were converted at the present greatly depreciated rate.

THE REGULATION OF WAGES IN THE TEXTILE TRADES IN GERMANY.

THE issue of Vorwärts of 28th March last contained a report of a recent meeting of the Joint Industrial Council which has been formed in the German textile trade. The Council consists of half of employers' and half of workers' representatives.

The agreement reached at the meeting was as follows:—

- 1. In all agreements both piece and time rates are to be fixed. 2. Time rates are to be fixed according to age and sex, and graded in local groups. 3. Piece rates are to be preserved where they are already in existence. 4. For overtime at least time and a quarter, and for night work (excluding regular night shifts) and Sunday work at least time and a half, are to be paid. 5. The amendment of collective agreements cannot take place until the agreements have expired.

Table with 2 columns: Age, Minimum Hourly Rate of Wages. Rows show age groups from 14 to 16 to Over 20 with corresponding wage ranges.

For female workers the time rates may for the present be one penny per hour less.

RISE OF WAGES IN SWEDEN DURING THE WAR.

DURING the past year much attention has been given by the Swedish Government to the investigation of war-time changes in the level of money wages in Sweden, and the results of the enquiries are being published in the Sociala Meddelanden (the monthly journal of the Department for Social Affairs).

I.—LUMBERING INDUSTRY.

Table with 4 columns: Occupation, 1913, 1916, 1917, 1918. Rows include Woodcutters, Drivers (man and horse).

* The mark has been converted at the (nominal) rate of 11'8d.

It appears, therefore, that in the period 1913-18 the earnings of woodcutters have increased by 271, while the remuneration of a driver (plus the keep of his horse) has increased by 330 per cent.

The above figures are based on returns covering about 150,000 persons employed in lumbering during the winter months in Northern Sweden.

II.—AGRICULTURE.

The following Table extends the information given in the previous article with regard to the rates of wages paid in agriculture. The figures are index numbers showing the percentage changes in rates of cash wages of the more important agricultural workers during the period from 1913 to 1918, the wages paid in 1913 being taken as the base figure and equal to 100:—

Table with 5 columns: Occupation, 1914, 1915, 1916, 1917, 1918. Rows include Farm Servants (Men, Women), Farm Servants (Men, Women), Day Rates of Labourers (Men, Women).

III.—HANDICRAFTS, TRANSPORT, HOTEL AND DOMESTIC SERVICE.†

The information as to these occupations covers the period from 1914 to 1918, and was obtained from various employment exchanges throughout the Kingdom. With regard to the data collected it is pointed out that, in the case of hotel and domestic service, they represent the current rates of money wages, but that in the handicrafts and transport trades they tend rather to represent minimum wage rates and disregard payment for overtime, war bonuses, &c.

The following Table shows the percentage changes in the rates of money wages paid in various occupations of the trades and services above mentioned:—

Table with 4 columns: Occupation, 1915, 1916, 1917, 1918. Rows include Handicrafts and Transport Trades (Stones Cutters, Tinplate and Blockplate Workers, etc.), Hotel Employees, Hotel Kitchen Staff, etc.

At the end of 1918 the increase in the handicrafts and transport group amounted to 110 per cent., as compared with 68 in the hotel and domestic service group. At the end of 1917 the increase in both groups was the same—i.e., 41 per cent.

* Revised figures. † Provisional figures. ‡ Sociala Meddelanden, No. 7, 1918, and No. 1, 1919.

In order to ascertain to what extent the value of board and lodging of female servants had increased during the war, enquiries were made of certain employment exchanges. The information received showed that in towns with more than 10,000 inhabitants the average increase between 1914 and 1918 was 148 per cent.; for other places it was 140 per cent. In Stockholm alone the increase amounted to 255 per cent.

IV.—SEAMEN.

In regard to wages of seamen, details of the average monthly wages received by members of the crews on Swedish merchant vessels were obtained from the records of engagements kept by the Swedish Seamen's Registry.

During the period 1914 to 1917 the average wage for all classes of seamen on steamers rose by 20 per cent. (from £3 18s. 10d. to £4 14s. 5d.), and on sailing vessels by 32 per cent. (from £3 8s. 11d. to £4 11s. 1d.).

In addition to the fixed monthly wages, bonuses were granted as a rule to cover war risks. Such bonuses varied according as the voyages were (1) along the Swedish coast, (2) to other Baltic seaports, and (3) other voyages, being least in the first and greatest in the last category. For ordinary seamen and unskilled firemen they ranged in 1918 from £3 1s. 1d. to £5 5s. 7d.; for able seamen and skilled firemen from £3 1s. 1d. to £5 11s. 1d.; and for donkeymen, boatswains and carpenters from £3 1s. 1d. to £6 2s. 3d.

Moreover, deck hands and engine-room hands received, as from March, 1917, certain allowances varying in proportion to the war risk insurance upon the vessel. As a result of this an able seaman taking part in a voyage between England and France might, during the war, earn wages equivalent to £27 15s. 7d. per month, while one employed on a vessel journeying between Sweden and England could earn wages amounting to about £13 17s. 9d. per month.

It is stated that the majority of deck hands and the engine-room staff received food gratis in addition to monthly wages.

COLLECTIVE AGREEMENTS IN DENMARK.

Politiken of 14th April states that during the winter and spring months of the present year collective agreements affecting most of the organised workers of the country came to an end. After prolonged negotiations between the Central Trade Union Federation and the Employers' Association a new basal agreement was reached which paved the way for the later negotiations between masters and men in the various specific trades. This agreement included a standard curtailment of hours, the addition of a cost of living bonus to fixed wage rates, and the principle of a further bonus.

"The 150,000 workpeople to whom the agreements relate have obtained great improvements in their working conditions. Generally, the working day has been shortened by an hour, and, while receiving full compensation for the reduction in time, the workers have obtained increases in wages amounting to about 100 per cent. compared with wages before the war."

THE EIGHT-HOUR DAY ABROAD.

(a) FRANCE.*

THE provisions of the French Labour Code which relate to hours of labour have been amended by a law, dated 23rd April, establishing an eight-hour day as the maximum working time throughout France (including Algeria and the French Colonies). The principal provisions of the new Act are given below:—

"The effective working time of workpeople or employees of either sex and of any age shall not exceed eight hours per day or forty-eight hours per week, or an equivalent limitation based upon a period of time other than the week, in industrial and commercial establishments or in business premises of any kind connected with them, whatever their nature, whether public or private, secular or religious, even where they are of a technical and educational or philanthropic nature."

"Public administrative regulations will determine for particular trades, for trade groups, for commercial employments, or for individual occupations, for the whole of France

* Journal Officiel de la République Française, 25th April, 1919.

or for a single district, the time limits and conditions under which the preceding article shall be applied.

"These regulations are to be drawn up, either upon official initiative or upon the demand of one or more employers' or workpeople's organisations concerned. In either case the organisations concerned must be consulted and they must give their opinion within a month. Revisions of the regulations shall be carried out in the same manner.

"These regulations must take into consideration agreements concluded between national and district organisations of employers and workpeople concerned where such agreements exist."

"They must be revised when the time limits and conditions laid down therein are contrary to the provisions of international agreements on the subject."

"In no case shall the reduction of the hours of labour serve as a determining reason for a reduction in wages."

"All stipulations contrary to this are null and void."

Exemptions, whether of a permanent or temporary nature, will be granted under conditions to be determined in the public administrative regulations for the execution of the law, to be issued later.

(b) SPAIN *

In accordance with the provisions of a Royal Decree, dated 3rd April, 1919, the maximum legal working day throughout Spain is to be eight hours (or 48 hours a week) for all labour as from 1st October next. Joint Industrial Committees are to be established before 1st July, which shall submit to the Institute of Social Reforms (i.e. the State Labour Department) before 1st October a list of the industries or special branches of industry to be excepted from the general rule. The said Institute, after securing all the necessary information, will determine definitely, before 1st January, 1920, the length of the working day in all trades. Joint Committees which have not applied to the Institute by 1st October, will be regarded as accepting the legal working day.

(c) DENMARK †

By a law of 12th February, 1919, a working day limited to eight hours is prescribed for factories in Denmark where work is carried on night and day. The text of the new measure, which takes the form of an amendment of Section 24 of the Danish Factory Act of 29th April, 1913, is as follows:—

"In establishments with continuous working no worker shall have a longer gross working time than eight hours out of each twenty-four hours; on the change of shift the maximum working time may be increased to 16 hours in one day, but care must be taken that the working hours of any worker during three consecutive weeks shall not exceed 160 hours. This, however, is irrespective of any excess of the maximum working time which is necessitated by justifiable overhauling of machinery, or by repairs, sickness, the completion of a specific job and the like."

"On the recommendation of the Labour Council; the Minister of the Interior may grant permission for exemptions from the preceding provision so far as regards particular seasonal employments or groups thereof, where continuous working is not carried on for more than four months in the course of a calendar year. . . ."

"The preceding regulations do not affect establishments where continuous working is carried on temporarily only. If continuous working is carried on for more than one month in the course of a calendar year, the working hours shall be limited as stated above, unless exemption is granted by the Minister of the Interior, after a statement on the matter has been made by the Labour Council."

"The provisions of this law shall be applied in their entirety within six months after the law has entered into effect."

(d) ITALY.

Recent issues of THE LABOUR GAZETTE have recorded the introduction of a working day of eight hours by agreement between employers and workpeople in the metal, engineering and shipbuilding trades and in the principal textile trades in Italy. It is now reported in the Tribuna of 4th April that at a meeting of agriculturists and representatives of agricultural workers the unanimous decision was reached that the working time for agricultural labourers of either sex hired by the day should be eight hours per day. To meet special needs due to the season of the year and to weather, overtime will be allowed, under certain conditions, if no other labour is available, to be paid for at a higher rate.

The time of beginning work and the intervals may be regulated according to circumstances in order that labour may be used to the best possible advantage, always within the limit of eight hours.

(e) SWITZERLAND. §

The following notes concerning the progress of the movement for the introduction of an eight-hours' day (or 48-hours' week) in Swiss industries are based upon reports published in recent issues of THE SWISS PRESS †:—

* Despatch to the Foreign Office from H.M. Ambassador at Madrid, dated 11th April, 1919.

† Social Forsorg, February, 1919.

‡ This body was established in conformity with the Danish Factory Act of 1913. Its members include at least three employers and three workpeople, selected from candidates proposed by trade organisations of employers and workpeople. The duties of the Council are connected with the application of the Act, but it can also present to the Minister of the Interior resolutions covering the whole field of labour legislation.

§ Journal de Genève, 14th, 16th, 17th, and 28th April, and 1st and 2nd May; Zürcher Post, 2nd and 5th April.

At the beginning of the present year the largest boot and shoe factory in Switzerland, employing about 5,000 workers, reduced its working hours from 5½ to 48 per week. Since then several other important industries have followed this example. Thus, on the 17th April it was reported that the Chamber of Swiss Chocolate Manufacturers had announced the adoption of a 48-hour week as from Easter, 1920.

According to the Journal de Genève of the 16th April, the Bâle Association of Ribbon Manufacturers decided, on the 28th November, 1918, to introduce the 48-hour week "as soon as this reduction shall have been adopted in foreign countries." In reporting this the Journal adds: "Now that Germany, Austria and Italy have decided to introduce the 48-hour week, and France is on the point of taking the same step, the Bâle Association has decided to introduce the new régime in the course of the present month."

As a result of negotiations between the Swiss Breweries' Association and the organised brewery workers, the 48-hour week is to be introduced from the 1st October. From the 1st May to the 1st October the hours are to be 50 per week. The most important brush-making factories in Switzerland have decided to reduce, as from 1st May, the hours of work in their establishments to 50 per week, and to pay the same wages as before.

An assembly of the Trades Council of Zurich, which embraces 23,000 members, has decided not to work more than eight hours per day. This measure will take effect from 2nd May.

A meeting of more than 70 members of the Swiss Association of Spinners, Twisters and Weavers has decided, in view of the imminent introduction of the 48-hour week internationally, to reduce the working time in their establishments to 48 hours per week in June at the latest, and to invite all their colleagues to follow this example.

The negotiations between the representatives of the Federation of Swiss Machine Manufacturers and the Swiss Metal Workers' Union with regard to the eight-hour day have led to a provisional agreement to introduce the eight-hour day on 1st October, 1919, in the entire Swiss metal and machine making trades. On 3rd May a temporary 50-hour week comes into force. The agreement awaits the sanction of the two associations.

The 48-hour week will be introduced in May in the Federal military workshops at Thun.

"LIVING WAGE" FOR WOMEN WORKERS IN SYDNEY.*

A DECLARATION by the New South Wales Board of Trade as to the "living wage" to be paid to adult females in the metropolitan area of Sydney was pronounced on 17th December, 1918, and supplements the declaration as to the "living wage" payable to male adults in the same area, as reported in THE LABOUR GAZETTE for January last, page 7. The amount of the "living wage" to be paid to adult females in the area referred to is declared to be 7½d. an hour, or 5s. a day, or 30s. a week. The wage thus defined is stated in the declaration to be "the minimum wage which should be provided to cover the cost of living of the adult female worker of the poorest class maintaining herself, but having no other responsibility, and living away from home in lodgings."

CO-ORDINATION OF EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES IN CANADA.

RECENT issues of the journal of the Canadian Department of Labour† have contained references to the operations undertaken by the Canadian Central and Provincial Governments in connection with the administration of the Employment Offices Co-ordination Act, 1918. The new Act imposes on the Department the duty of formulating a national employment policy, and of standardising the work of the provincial employment systems which are in agreement with that policy by means of the subsidies provided by the Act, the purpose of which is to secure the co-ordination necessary to enable the provincial systems to operate as parts of a national organisation. For this purpose the Act gives authority to the Minister to establish one or more clearing houses for the interchange of information between employment exchanges concerning the transfer of labour. The amount of the subsidies granted by the Government in respect of the year 1918 was £10,417, for the year 1919 it is £20,834, and for each succeeding year it is to be £31,251. The subsidy appropriated for each year is to be paid to the respective provincial governments in the proportion which their individual expenditure for the maintenance of employment exchanges bears to the total of the expenditure of all the provinces for such purposes. No province, however, is to receive a sum exceeding one-half the amount expended for the maintenance of employment exchanges.

A Director of Employment Service has since been appointed under the Minister of Labour, who is to carry out the provisions of the Act. Further, as the result of conferences of provincial Premiers and employment officials and

* New South Wales Industrial Gazette, February, 1919.

† The Labour Gazette, May, 1918, January and February, 1919 Ottawa.

representatives of the Department of Labour, regulations governing the administration of Dominion and provincial employment exchanges were embodied in an Order-in-Council. These regulations provide, among other things, for the establishment by the Minister of Labour of an advisory council to be called the Employment Service Council of Canada. Such council is to consist of 22 members, including the following: one appointed by each of the Provincial Governments, two by the Canadian Manufacturers' Association, two by the Trade and Labour Congress of Canada, one by the Railway War Board, one by the Railway Brotherhoods, two by the Canadian Council of Agriculture, three by the Department of Labour (two of whom are to be women), one by the Returned Soldiers, and one by the Soldiers' Civil Re-establishment Department. In connection also with the administration of the employment exchanges of each province there is to be an advisory council, the members of which, appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council, are to be equally representative of employers and workpeople.

It is proposed that about 60 employment exchanges, including those provincial exchanges which were in operation before the Act came into force, shall be established in the more important centres. An Order-in-Council gives power to the Minister of Labour to establish and maintain employment exchanges at places where he may consider these are necessary, provided the municipalities supply the requisite office space and equipment.

In order to collect accurate information with regard to labour conditions a weekly inquiry is made among employers, by means of post-cards, with a view to obtaining information as to workpeople unemployed, so that unemployment may be anticipated and preventive measures taken. A penalty is provided by Order-in-Council in respect of any employer who, without reasonable excuse, refuses or neglects to answer, or who answers falsely, any question of the nature indicated that may be put to him.

JAPANESE LABOUR STATISTICS: ISSUE OF TOKIO YEAR-BOOK.

THE Fifteenth Annual Statistics of the City of Tokio, 1918, contains, *inter alia*, information regarding labour conditions in the capital city of Japan. The data are in the form of tables showing the average wages of factory workers (adults, young persons and children being separately distinguished) in dyeing and weaving, chemical, food and drink, metal, engineering and shipbuilding, and miscellaneous trades; the number of factories and of persons employed therein, according to trade, age-groups of factory workers and value of products in the various industries; the wages of workpeople employed in non-factory trades, by years and by seasons; and the activities of employment exchanges of various kinds. The information included relates to the year 1916 or 1917.

RETAIL PRICES:

SUMMARY TABLE SHOWING PERCENTAGE INCREASE IN THE RETAIL PRICES OF FOOD IN THE VARIOUS COUNTRIES AT THE UNDERMENTIONED DATES, AS COMPARED WITH JULY, 1914.

[N.B.—The figures given should be read in connection with the details given under each country in this and previous issues of THE LABOUR GAZETTE.]

Country.	Percentage Increase in Retail Food Prices since July, 1914.				Latest Figures Available.
	July, 1915.	July, 1916.	July, 1917.	July, 1918.	
UNITED KINGDOM...	32	61	104	110	Per cent. 107 May, 1919
ALLIED COUNTRIES.					
France (Paris) ...	22	32	83	106	143 Jan., 1919
" (Other Towns) ...	23	42	84	144	160 Dec., 1918
Italy ...	21	32	72	153	167 Sep., 1918
Portugal (Lisbon) ...	...	...	72	...	151 May, 1918
United States ...	2†	9	43	64	69 Feb., 1919
BRITISH DOMINIONS.					
Canada ...	5	14	57	75	81 Feb., 1919
Australia ...	31	30	26	32 (June)	35 Dec., 1918
New Zealand ...	12	19	27	39	45 Jan., 1919
South Africa ...	...	...	...	32	35 Feb., 1919
India (Calcutta) ...	8	10	16	31	35 Nov., 1918
NEUTRAL COUNTRIES.					
Norway ...	...	60	114 (Aug.)	179	175 Dec., 1918
Sweden ...	24	42	81	188	234 Feb., 1919
Denmark ...	28	46	65	87	86 Jan., 1919
Holland (Amsterdam) ...	...	...	42	76	103 Dec., 1918
Switzerland ...	19	41	78	122	139 Mar., 1919
Spain ...	6	13	27	51	...
	(Apr.-Sep.)	(Apr.-Sep.)	(Apr.-Sep.)	(Apr.-Sep.)	

† Decrease.

UNITED KINGDOM: PRICES AT 1st MAY.

THE general level of retail food prices showed a further decline, the average percentage increase since July, 1914, being 107 per cent. at 1st May, as compared with 113 per cent. a month earlier.

The chief movement recorded was a fall in the price of milk owing to the introduction of summer prices, the average being 6½d. per quart at 1st May, or 2½d. less than a month earlier. The predominant price was 6d. per quart, and the range of prices, excluding isolated cases, was from 5d. to 8d. There was also a further fall of 7 per cent. in the price of fish and of 2 per cent. in that of eggs.

Margarine and potatoes, on the other hand, were dearer than last month by about 9 per cent. and 4 per cent. respectively. The average price of margarine rose from 9d. per lb. at 1st April to 9½d. at 1st May. The maximum price remained controlled at 1s., and the increase in average price mainly resulted from the disappearance of the great majority of quotations at 8d., the most frequent prices at 1st May being 9d. and 10d. The other principal foodstuffs showed no appreciable change in price.

In the following Table is given a comparison of average prices in July, 1914, and at the beginning of May, 1919. The prices are per lb., except where otherwise indicated:—

Article.	Average Price.			Article.	Average Price.		
	July, 1914.	1 May, 1919.	Increase.		July, 1914.	1 May, 1919.	Increase.
Beef, British—	d.	s. d.	s. d.	Flour ... per 7 lb.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Ribs ...	9½	1 6	0 8½	Bread per 4 lb.	0 10½	1 4	0 5½
Thin Flank ...	6½	1 1	0 6½	Tea ...	1 6½	2 6½	1 0
Beef, Chilled or Frozen—				Sugar (granulated)	0 2	0 7	0 5
Ribs ...	7½	1 6	0 10½	" (listed)	0 3½	0 6½	0 2½
Thin Flank ...	4½	1 0½	0 8	Milk per quart	1 2½	2 6	1 3½
Mutton, British—				Butter—			
Legs ...	10½	1 7	0 8½	Fresh ...	1 2½	2 6	1 3½
Breast ...	6½	0 11½	0 5	Salt ...	1 2	2 6	1 4
Mutton, Frozen—				Cheese (Canadian or U.S.)*	0 7½	0 9½	0 2½
Legs ...	6½	1 7	1 0½	Margarine ...	0 7½	0 9½	0 2½
Breast ...	4	0 11	0 7	Eggs (fresh) each	0 1½	0 3½	0 2½
Bacon (streaky)* ...	11½	2 2½	1 3½	Potatoes per 7 lb.	0 4½	0 8½	0 3½

As compared with July, 1914, the prices of granulated sugar and fresh eggs have risen relatively more than those of any other of the principal foodstuffs, sugar being more than three times and eggs about three times the pre-war price. The smallest increase, viz., 38 per cent., is shown by margarine, while flour and bread, owing to the subsidy, are only between 50 and 55 per cent. dearer than in July, 1914, on the average. The following Table gives a percentage comparison of the level of prices at 1st May in relation to the prices of July, 1914, for each of the articles included:—

Article.	Percentage Increase from July, 1914, to 1st May, 1919.		
	Large Towns (population over 50,000).	Small Towns and Villages.	United Kingdom.
Beef, British—	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Ribs ...	80	83	84
Thin Flank ...	102	95	98
Beef, Chilled or Frozen—			
Ribs ...	150	146	148
Thin Flank ...	172	153	165
Mutton, British—			
Legs ...	84	85	85
Breast ...	85	72	78
Mutton, Frozen—			
Legs ...	185	167	177
Breast ...	174	163	169
Bacon (streaky) ...	146	138	139
Fish ...	153	121	137
Flour ...	50	54	52
Bread ...	58	52	55
Tea ...	65	63	65
Sugar (granulated) ...	252	231	242
Stilk ...	81	88	85
Butter—			
Fresh ...	103	111	107
Salt ...	114	114	113
Cheese ...	109	105	107
Margarine ...	41	36	38
Eggs (fresh) ...	213	189	201
Potatoes ...	91	54	72

The foregoing Table shows the average percentage rise in the price of each article. In order to obtain the combined effect of all these increases it is necessary to assign a certain relative importance to each of the articles in accordance with the quantities consumed, and for the purpose of the present record of the movement of prices it is assumed that this relative importance has been the same throughout the whole period since July, 1914. The quantities consumed of the several articles have, however, undergone important changes, and when allowance is made for such changes in dietary as

* If this kind is seldom dealt with in a locality, the Returns quote prices for another kind locally representative.

SWITZERLAND.

Employment in March.—H.M. Minister at Berne, in a dispatch to the Foreign Office dated 22nd April, quotes the following report as having been issued by the Central Bureau of the Swiss Federation of Employment Exchanges. It relates to the month of March:—

The Employment Exchanges have noticed a certain increase in the demand for labour in the building industry, in agriculture, and also in the case of the works undertaken by the towns and cantons to relieve distress; in general, however, the diminution in the number of persons out of work is a very slow one. The industries chiefly affected are the metal and engineering and the textile groups. For every hundred vacancies the Swiss Employment Exchanges received in March 131 applications, as against 165 in February, 1919, and 78 in March, 1918.

NORWAY.*

Employment in February.—The following Table shows the percentage of members reported unemployed at the end of February in certain Trade Unions making returns to the Norwegian Central Bureau of Statistics, comparative figures being added for the previous month and for February, 1918:—

Table with columns: Group of Trades, Membership (Feb 28th 1919, Jan 31st 1919, Feb 28th 1918), Percentage Unemployed (Feb 28th 1919, Jan 31st 1919, Feb 28th 1918). Rows include Bricklayers and masons (Christiana), Carpenters, Painters, Metal workers, etc.

SWEDEN.

Employment during February.—The March issue of Sociala Meddelanden (the journal of the Swedish Department for Social Affairs) publishes a statement with regard to employment in Sweden from which it appears that during February scarcely any improvement was reported in the unfavourable condition of employment prevailing in the preceding month. Compared with the corresponding month of the previous year the position was decidedly worse. In order to lessen the widespread unemployment relief works on a large scale were put in hand, and the situations offered by the employment exchanges in many localities were in great part for such relief works. Increased sums were also put aside to make direct grants in aid.

Trade Union Unemployment Returns, October to December, 1918.—The issue of Sociala Meddelanden for February gives the following particulars as to unemployment among members of Swedish Trade Unions at the beginning of October, November, and December, 1918, respectively. (Corresponding data for 1917 have been added from an earlier issue of the journal):—

Table with columns: Unions, Membership reporting at Dec. 1st, 1918, Percentage Unemployed on 1st of Month (Oct, Nov, Dec, 1917, 1918). Rows include All Unions making Returns, Bricklayers and masons, Painters, Blastfurnacemen, etc.

UNITED STATES.†

Employment in December, 1918.—The following tabular statements showing the volume of employment in representative manufacturing establishments in thirteen selected industries in the United States in December, 1918, as compared with (a) the preceding month, and (b) December, 1917, are compiled from reports received by the United States Bureau of Labour Statistics:—

* Informations supplied by the Statistical Office of the Norwegian Department of Labour. † Monthly Labor Review, February, 1919. United States Bureau of Labour Statistics.

(a) DECEMBER, 1918, AS COMPARED WITH NOVEMBER, 1918.

Table with columns: Industry, Number of Establishments Reporting, Number of Workpeople (Nov., Dec., Increase), Earnings (Nov., Dec., Increase). Rows include Iron and steel, Railways, Automobiles, Cotton manufacturing, etc.

The figures in the above Table show that in nine industries there was an increase in the number of persons employed in December as compared with November, and in four cases a decrease. The largest increase is shown in cotton manufacturing (7.3 per cent.), while decreases of 8.2 per cent. and 7.0 per cent. are shown in woollen and in automobile manufacturing. Increases in the total amount of pay-roll are shown in eleven industries, and decreases in two. The increases are largely due to the broken employment in November caused by Armistice celebrations and to the epidemic of influenza.

(b) DECEMBER, 1918, AS COMPARED WITH DECEMBER, 1917.

Table with columns: Industry, Number of Establishments Reporting, Number of Workpeople (Dec. 1917, Dec. 1918, Increase), Earnings (Dec. 1917, Dec. 1918, Increase). Rows include Iron and steel, Railways, Automobiles, Cotton manufacturing, etc.

When the figures for December, 1918, are compared with those of identical establishments for December, 1917, increases are shown in the number of people employed in four industries and a decrease in nine. Eleven of the thirteen industries show an increase in the total amount of the pay-roll in December, 1918, as compared with December, 1917.

New York State.†

Employment in New York State Factories in February, 1919.—"Contra to a general impression, the discharge of workers in New York State factories since the signing of the armistice has been gradual and moderate in character. Of course the adjustment has been radical in typical war industries, such as the manufacture of munitions, but regarding manufacturing in the State as a whole, the situation is otherwise, as the following percentages of decrease indicate. From November to December the total decline in the number of workers employed was 1 per cent.; from December to January the decrease amounted to 5 per cent., and from January to February the decline was but 1 per cent. The aggregate decrease in the number of workers from November, 1918, to February, 1919, amounted to 7 per cent. It must be remembered, however, that this is a review of the numbers employed only, and does not take account of elimination of overtime, or the inauguration of part time, although these factors did not become operative to a marked degree until February.

The above conclusions are based on a preliminary analysis made by the Bureau of Statistics of the New York Industrial Commission in order to give up-to-date information in regard to employment. The reports used in this analysis were those received up to and including February 28th, and were compared with data submitted by the same firms in January. They include 1,305 firms (with 421,000 employees) out of a possible 1,648 (with 570,000 employees) which comprise the complete list used in the regular monthly review."

* The figures represent the aggregate wages bill for two weeks in the case of the iron and steel, railway and tramway car building and repairing, and silk industries, and for one week in other cases. † The Bulletin, March, 1919. Issued by the New York State Industrial Commission. Albany, N.Y.

STATISTICS OF EMPLOYMENT IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.

OUT OF WORK DONATION.

THE total number of unemployed persons whose out of work donation policies remained lodged at Employment Exchanges on 2nd May and had been signed within the preceding six days was 1,093,400. Of these 689,933 were for civilians and 403,467 were for demobilised members of H.M. Forces. Of the civilians about two-thirds were women and girls.

The following Table shows the number of policies remaining lodged at the end of each week in 1919:—

Table with columns: Week ending, Civilians (Men, Boys, Women, Girls, Total), Demobilised Members of H.M. Forces (Men, Women, Total), Grand Total. Rows include Jan. 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th, 31st, Feb. 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th, Mar. 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th, April 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th, May 2nd.

The important movements reflected by the figures for recent weeks are the decrease in the number of policies lodged by women and the increase in the number lodged by demobilised members of H.M. Forces. The number of civilian men unemployed was about the same at the beginning of May as a month earlier. The aggregate number of policies lodged by all classes showed a net increase of 15,714 between 4th April and 2nd May. In the last week of the period the increase was negligible.

The number of claims for donation which had been referred for the consideration of Appeals Officers up to 25th April was 141,770. About 4 per cent. of these were settled by Appeals Officers without reference to Courts of Referees, and with regard to the claims heard by Courts of Referees, an analysis has been made of 100,442 cases, which shows that 27,536 claims were allowed and 72,848 disallowed, while compromises were arranged in 58 cases. The grounds on which claims were disallowed are summarised as follows:—

Table with columns: Employment left voluntarily, Refusal to accept suitable employment, Dismissal for unsatisfactory conduct, Trade disputes, Other reasons. Rows include Employment left voluntarily (24.9%), Refusal to accept suitable employment (52.2%), Dismissal for unsatisfactory conduct (10.1%), Trade disputes (8.8%), Other reasons (4.0%).

The disallowances amounted to 70.1 per cent. in the case of men, 78.2 per cent. for women, 85.8 per cent. for boys, and 81.5 per cent. for girls.

An analysis of 1,082,759 of the 1,093,400 policies lodged at 2nd May yields the following indication of the periods for which payments had been made:—

Table with columns: Duration of Payments, Civilians (Men, Boys, Women, Girls, Total), Demobilised Members of H.M. Forces (Men, Women, Total), Grand Total. Rows include 121-155 days, 79-120, 61-78, 49-60, 1-48, Policies lodged but no payment, Total.

Total—Insured and Uninsured Industries, 1,093,328.

The number of policies on which donation at the reduced rates was being paid after the expiry of the first period of thirteen weeks was thus 63,930 in the week ended 2nd May. The total number of extensions granted up to 30th April was 85,529, and the number refused 27,587. The proportion of extensions granted to the total number of applications for such extension was 88 per cent. for men, 70 per cent. for women, and 78 per cent. for juveniles.

The percentage of persons who have been recorded as unemployed who have ceased to draw the donation is indicated in the following Table:—

Table with columns: Date, Civilians (Men, Boys, Women, Girls, Total), Demobilised Members of H.M. Forces (Men, Women, Total). Rows include January 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th, 31st, February 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th, March 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th, April 4th, 11th, 17th, 25th.

The percentage continues to improve for all types of civilians, while for demobilised members of H.M. Forces it remains steady at about 80 per cent.

The distribution of unemployment in the various industries in the week ended 25th April is shown in the following Table. The classification of workpeople, which was formerly according to the industry in which they were last employed, is now mainly according to the industry in which they seek employment or for which they are suitable. This, of course, has affected the trade classification in such a way as to render all occupational comparisons with previous returns invalid. Moreover, the percentages of unemployed workers, as shown in this Table, and in that which follows, are based on a comparison of the numbers unemployed at 25th April with the total numbers insured in January (the latest date for which statistics of the numbers of insured workers are available). As considerable changes have occurred since January in the numbers of workpeople (especially women and girls) employed in some industries, the percentages differ somewhat from those which would be obtained if the actual numbers in each industry at 25th April were available for comparison with the numbers unemployed at that date.

Table with columns: I. INSURED INDUSTRIES (Number, Per cent. of Total Workpeople Insured at 12th Jan., 1919), II. UNINSURED INDUSTRIES (Number Unemployed at 25th April, 1919). Rows include Buildings and Works of Construction, Shipbuilding, Ironfounding, Sawmilling, Ammunition and Explosives, Iron and Steel Production, Metal Manufactures, Bricks, Tiles, &c., Other Insured Industries, Agriculture, Conveyance of Men, Goods and Messages, Mines and Quarries, Cotton, Woollen and Worsted, Textiles, Printing, Dyeing, &c., Commercial, Food, Drink and Tobacco, Dress, Domestic Offices and Services, General Labourers, Factory Workers, &c., Other Uninsured Industries.

A further analysis of these figures, giving separate particulars for males and females, is given below. As already stated, comparisons are affected by the alteration in classification and by the changes, since January, in the total numbers insured. The figures for women and girls are probably more affected by these changes, and accordingly the following Table gives only the percentages for men and boys. No comparisons with the figures for earlier dates can be given.

Insured Industries.

Table showing insured industries with columns for Trade, Men and Boys (Number Insured, Number Unemployed, Percentage Unemployed), and Women and Girls (Number Insured, Number Unemployed, Percentage Unemployed). Includes sub-totals for 1911 and 1916.

The number of persons, male and female, whose policies were lodged and who were classified under uninsured industries at 25th April were as follows. It is not possible to give percentages corresponding to the total numbers shown.

Uninsured Industries.

Table showing uninsured industries with columns for Industry, Number of Policies remaining lodged at 25th April, 1919, categorized by Men and Boys, Women and Girls, and Total.

DEMobilISATION.

In connection with the foregoing figures relating to the Out-of-work Donation it may be stated that the total number of members of H.M. Forces (including the Navy, Army and Air Force) who had been demobilised between 11th November and 1st May was 2,687,873. viz., 96,339 officers and 2,591,534 other ranks. The numbers demobilised during the week ended 1st May were 4,856 officers and 51,269 other ranks, a total of 56,125 for the week.

UNEMPLOYMENT AMONG TRADE UNION MEMBERS.

Trade Unions with a membership of 1,264,423 (excluding those serving with H.M. Forces) reported 34,147 or 2.7 per cent. of their members unemployed at the end of April,

* Exclusive of those serving with H.M. Forces. † Excluding workpeople insured under the National Insurance Act, 1911.

as compared with 2.9 at end of March, and 0.9 per cent. at the end of April, 1918. Particulars for the various trades covered by the Returns are given in the following Table:—

Table showing trade union membership and unemployment figures for various trades in April 1919, compared with March 1919 and April 1918.

RETURNS RECEIVED FROM EMPLOYERS.

Information as to the state of employment in April is also derived from Returns furnished by employers, which are summarised in the Tables given below:—

MINING AND METAL TRADES.

Table showing mining and metal trades with columns for Trade, Workpeople included in Returns for April 1919, Days worked per week by Mines, and Furnaces in Blast.

TEXTILE AND OTHER TRADES.

Table showing textile and other trades with columns for Trade, Number employed, Earnings, and Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a.

* In the case of certain Trade Unions, especially some of those in the cotton trade, this number excludes members receiving Government out-of-work donation who are not receiving Society benefit. † This percentage is based mainly on Returns relating to carpenters and plumbers and in part the returns relate to the end of February. ‡ In some of the textile trades, especially cotton, linen, and jute, there was also a considerable amount of short time and broken time, which is not reflected in the figures. § Comparison of earnings is affected by increases in rates of wages. ¶ Time was lost on account of disputes.

EMPLOYMENT IN THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.

[NOTE.—The numbers given in the following Tables represent the numbers of workpeople covered by the Returns received and not the total numbers employed in the various industries.]

COAL MINING.

EMPLOYMENT during April continued good. There was an increase of 13,533 (or 2.3 per cent.) in the number of workpeople employed at the collieries making Returns as compared with the previous month, and of 71,376 (or 13.5 per cent.) on a year ago.

Of the 599,836 workpeople included in the Returns for April, 369,304 (or 61.6 per cent.) were employed at pits working six days* during the week to which the Returns relate, and a further 186,825 (or 31.1 per cent.) were employed at pits working five days or more, but less than six days.

A slight decline in the number of days worked occurred in nearly all districts of England and Wales. The marked decline, averaging 0.78 day per week, in Scotland, was due to holiday taken on 1st May. Notwithstanding this, however, the average number of days worked was very nearly the same as in March, owing to the great amount of time lost in March in the Nottingham dispute.

Table showing coal mining employment by districts with columns for Districts, No. of Workpeople employed, Average number of days worked per week by the Collieries in the period ended, and Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a.

The following Table gives similar particulars, re-classified according to the principal kind of coal raised at the pits:—

Table showing coal mining employment by description of coal with columns for Description of Coal, No. of Workpeople employed, Average number of days worked per week by the Collieries in the period ended, and Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a.

The exports of coal, coke and manufactured fuel during April, 1919, amounted to 2,782,480 tons, or 1,348,557 tons less than in March, 1919, and 2,663,248 tons less than in April, 1914.

The principal countries of destination of coal (similar particulars cannot be given for coke and manufactured fuel) were as follows:—

* The figures in this and the following article only show the number of days one or shale was got and drawn from the mines or open works included in the day that the mines or works were open. † Time was lost on account of disputes.

Table showing principal countries of destination of coal with columns for Country, April 1919, March 1919, and April 1914 (Thousands of Tons).

IRON, SHALE, AND OTHER MINING, AND QUARRYING.

EMPLOYMENT at iron, shale and lead mines continued good, and at tin mines moderate. At quarries it was fairly good on the whole, and there was a general increase in the average number of shifts worked compared with last month. Interruptions caused by bad weather were less frequent than in March.

MINING.

Iron.—Returns received, relating to the same mines and open works, show that 14,852 workpeople were employed in April, 1919, an increase of 2.3 per cent. on the previous month, but a decrease of 3.6 per cent. on a year ago.

Table showing iron, shale, and other mining employment by district with columns for District, Workpeople employed in April 1919, Average number of days worked per week by Mines in the period ended, and Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a.

Shale.—The Returns received show that in the fortnight ended 3rd May, 1919, the average number of days per week worked by the mines was 6.00, compared with 6.06 in March, 1919, and 6.00 in April, 1918.

Tin.—Employment continued moderate on the whole, but more miners were unemployed than in March. Lead.—Employment was very good in the Weardale district and fairly good in Flintshire.

QUARRYING.

The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished Returns:—

Table showing quarrying employment with columns for Workpeople employed in April 1919, Average number of days worked per week by the Quarries in the period ended, and Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a.

Limestone.—Employment at quarries for road-making material was fairly good; at other quarries it was good. Interference by bad weather was less frequent than during March, but the shortage of labour, chiefly quarrymen, continued.

Sandstone.—Employment was good in all branches except in building stone quarries, where it was only fairly good. Stoppages on account of bad weather were fewer than in March.

Granite (Road Material, Setts, &c.).—Employment continued

* See note in previous column.

good at quarries for road-making material, and was fairly good at quarries for paving setts, &c. There was some shortage of labour and bad weather occasionally hindered work.

State.—Employment in North Wales was fairly good. **Basalt and Whinstone (Road Material).**—Employment was again fairly good. Bad weather caused some stoppages. **China Clay.**—Employment was again good at Lee Moor and moderate at St. Austell.

PIG IRON INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT continued good during April, with some shortage of labour. A scarcity of fuel and of iron ore was frequently reported.

At the works covered by the Returns received, 269 furnaces were in blast at the end of April, 1919, as compared with 267 in the previous month and 297 in April, 1918. The corresponding number in April, 1914, was 268, and in April, 1913, 336. During April 10 furnaces were re-lit, and 8 either damped down or blown out (6 in Cumberland and 1 each in the Midlands and Monmouthshire).

District.	Number of Furnaces, included in the Returns, in Blast at end of			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in April, 1919, on a	
	April, 1919.	March, 1919.	April, 1918.	Month ago.	Year ago.
ENGLAND AND WALES.					
Cleveland	71	70	75	+ 1	- 4
Cumberland and Lancs.	28	34	34	- 6	- 6
S. and S.W. Yorks.	10	10	12	...	- 2
Derby and Nottingham	31	31	34	...	- 3
Leicester, Lincoln and Northampton	26	25	30	+ 1	- 4
Staffs. and Worcester	27	26	30	+ 1	- 3
S. Wales and Monmouth...	11	6	12	+ 5	- 2
Other Districts	4	4	4	...	...
ENGLAND AND WALES					
	208	206	232	+ 2	- 24
SCOTLAND					
	61	61	65	...	- 4
TOTAL	269	267	297	+ 2	- 28

The imports of iron ore in April, 1919, amounted to 423,850 tons, or 10,605 tons more than in March, 1919, but 89,054 tons less than in April, 1914.

The exports of pig iron in April, 1919, amounted to 24,636 tons, or 3,319 tons more than in March, 1919, but 68,760 tons less than in April, 1914.

IRON AND STEEL WORKS.

EMPLOYMENT at iron and steel works was good on the whole, and showed little change as compared with the previous month, but it was not so good as a year ago. A scarcity of some kinds of labour, especially of puddlers and millmen, was reported, notably from Scotland, and inadequate supplies of fuel and raw materials were mentioned in many cases.

According to Returns relating to 109,700 workpeople, the aggregate number of shifts worked during the week ended 3rd May, 1919, was 620,149, showing an increase of 4,337 (or 0·7 per cent.) on the previous month, but a decrease of 29,910 (or 4·6 per cent.) on a year ago. The average number of shifts worked was 5·65, as compared with 5·59 in the previous month and with 5·76 a year ago.

DEPARTMENTS.	No. of Workpeople employed by firms making returns.		Aggregate number of Shifts worked.	
	Week ended 3rd May, 1919.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a	Week ended 3rd May, 1919.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a
		Month ago.		Month ago.
		Year ago.		Year ago.
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Open Hearth Melting Furnaces	11,878	+ 2·7	67,023	+ 0·4
Crucible Furnaces	592	- 0·7	2,572	- 4·8
Bessemer Converters	1,085	- 34·6	5,994	- 33·8
Refracting Forges	6,165	- 9·0	33,129	- 4·8
Rolling Mills	32,179	+ 1·1	174,732	+ 5·4
Forging and Pressing	5,212	+ 0·4	28,492	+ 1·4
Founding	13,126	- 1·4	76,723	- 1·6
Other Departments...	13,092	- 1·4	75,568	- 1·6
Mechanics, Labourers	26,401	+ 1·3	155,916	+ 1·8
TOTAL	109,700	- 0·5	620,149	+ 0·7
DISTRICTS.				
Northumberland & Durham	14,319	+ 2·9	79,895	+ 7·7
Cleveland	9,909	- 9·8	56,913	- 11·5
Sheffield and Rotherham	26,980	- 1·6	150,413	- 1·8
Tees, Bradford, &c.	8,937	+ 1·0	21,942	+ 0·7
Cumberland, Lancashire & Cheshire	9,748	- 2·8	55,294	+ 0·2
Staffordshire	10,000	+ 6·2	55,708	+ 6·9
Other Midlands Counties	5,147	+ 2·1	28,759	+ 0·7
Wales and Monmouth	8,104	- 1·8	45,479	+ 0·9
England & Wales	88,114	- 0·9	494,403	- 6·7
Scotland	21,586	+ 1·2	125,746	+ 3·5
TOTAL	109,700	- 0·5	620,149	+ 0·7

ENGINEERING TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT during April showed little general change. Neither overtime nor short time was worked to any considerable extent. With members of Trade Unions employment was fairly good; in the case of the less skilled occupations, however, a considerable number of persons were out of employment.

The following Table relates to workpeople (skilled and unskilled) who were insured against unemployment under Part II. of the National Insurance Act. It should be observed, however, that the number insured relates to 12th January, since which date considerable changes have occurred in the numbers of workpeople, especially of women and girls, employed. The percentages shown are seriously affected both by this qualification and by the recent changes in the system of classification of unemployed workers, referred to on page 187.

Division.	Number Insured at 12th Jan., 1919.	Percentage of Out-of-Work Donation Policies lodged at		
		25th April, 1919.	28th Mar., 1919.	26th April, 1918.
London	191,104	11·57	13·81	1·50
Northern Counties	111,599	8·37	10·24	0·47
North-Western	244,743	9·1	10·54	1·55
Yorkshire	164,115	7·54	8·16	0·73
East Midlands	67,323	6·91	6·59	0·39
West Midlands	187,701	22·16	29·43	0·33
S. Midlands and Eastern	35,077	7·97	9·70	1·13
S.E. Counties	48,231	8·3	8·40	1·07
South-Western	6,331	8·34	8·85	0·13
Wales	31,068	5·9	8·53	1·11
Scotland	192,470	7·28	9·17	0·52
Ireland	27,431	17·62	14·22	2·20
UNITED KINGDOM	1,412,693	10·51	12·77	0·95

On the Tyne a large number of turners, fitters, machine-men and others were unemployed. On the Wear and Tees employment for skilled men was fairly good. In Lancashire, Cheshire and Yorkshire it was fairly good on the whole, and at Leeds an improvement was shown. At Blackburn, however, a large number of the less skilled men were unemployed, while at Oldham labourers were only moderately employed. At Derby employment was quiet, and at Nottingham and Lincoln some short time was reported, but employment was fair on the whole. In the Birmingham district employment with skilled men was fair generally and very good with patternmakers; but a large number of women were still out of employment, as indicated by the high proportion of Out-of-Work donation policies lodged in the West Midlands Division. Employment in the Eastern and Southern Counties and Wales was generally reported as good or fair. At Glasgow it was fair on the whole, but was slack in the case of brassmoulders and brass-finishers. At Dundee it was good, and at Aberdeen fairly good. At Belfast it was only moderate.

SHIPBUILDING TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT remained good during April. The following Table relates to workpeople (skilled and unskilled) who were insured under Part II. of the National Insurance Act. It should be observed, however, that the number insured relates to January last, and that the percentages given would be seriously affected by changes since that date in the total numbers employed, and also by the recent changes in the system of classification of unemployed workpeople referred to on page 187:—

Division.	Number Insured at 12th Jan., 1919.	Percentage of Out-of-Work Donation Policies lodged at		
		25th April, 1919.	28th Mar., 1919.	26th April, 1918.
London	10,366	9·04	9·73	0·77
Northern Counties	60,336	4·64	4·74	0·17
North-Western	37,366	5·12	4·49	0·17
Yorkshire	7,171	4·55	4·87	0·20
East Midlands	2,536	3·71	4·30	0·34
West Midlands	834	17·03	30·50	0·26
S. Midlands and Eastern	8,039	5·53	4·64	0·48
S.E. Counties	5,210	3·69	3·47	0·13
South-Western	25,278	7·91	5·87	0·10
Wales	11,706	6·83	15·95	0·10
Scotland	78,880	5·04	5·55	0·10
Ireland	23,476	10·95	10·55	0·20
UNITED KINGDOM	266,188	5·98	6·27	0·25

Employment on the Tyne was good for shipwrights and ship joiners, fair for riveters, caulkers, platers and black-smiths, and moderate for labourers. On the Wear employment remained good on the whole, but it was only moderate for ship plumbers. At Hartlepool, Middlesbrough and Stockton employment was good, especially with shipwrights and ship joiners. It was good also at Hull, Yarmouth and Lowestoft. On the Thames employment was fair generally. It was fair on the south coast, and good on the south-west

coast. At the South Wales ports employment was good with shipbuilders, and fair with shipwrights, ship-joiners and labourers; with shipbuilders and labourers a considerable improvement was reported. With shipwrights on the Mersey employment was very good, and showed an improvement on the previous month, overtime being generally worked. At Barrow there was a scarcity of shipwrights, joiners and painters.

Employment on the Clyde was fair on the whole, but showed a decline on the previous month; for joiners it was good, and showed an improvement. It was good at Aberdeen and Dundee. At Belfast employment was good for shipwrights, joiners and painters, fair for shipbuilders, and bad for plumbers. Employment at Cork continued to be good.

TINPLATE AND STEEL AND GALVANISED SHEET TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT in these trades continued good during April, showing an improvement on the previous month. Compared with April of last year the improvement was very marked, and the number of mills now working represents about two-thirds of the whole tinplate plant. A shortage of millmen was again reported in some instances, while in a few cases difficulty was still experienced in obtaining an adequate supply of fuel.

Works.	Number of Works open.				Number of Mills in operation.			
	At end of April, 1919.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		At end of April, 1919.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
	Month ago.	Year ago.	Month ago.	Year ago.	Month ago.	Year ago.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Tinplate	79	+ 1	+ 6	359	+ 22	+ 105		
Steel Sheet	12	...	+ 1	78	+ 2	+ 16		
TOTAL	91	+ 1	+ 7	437	+ 24	+ 121		

The number of tinplate mills working at the end of April showed an increase of 22 on the previous month, and of 105 on a year ago. The number of mills making steel and galvanised sheets working at the end of April showed an increase of 2 compared with the previous month, and of 16 compared with a year ago.

The exports of tinned and galvanised plates and sheets in April, 1919, amounted to 38,439 tons, or 10,509 tons more than in March, 1919, but 69,469 tons less than in April, 1914.

MISCELLANEOUS METAL TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT continued fairly good on the whole, conditions being similar to those a month earlier. A little short time was worked, the result generally of shortage of material. Trade Unions with 65,315 members had 1·8 per cent. of their members unemployed at the end of April, compared with 2·4 per cent. in the previous month and 0·1 per cent. in April, 1918.

Brasswork.—Employment at Birmingham continued good; at other centres it was only fairly good on the whole.

Nuts, Bolts, Nails, &c.—Employment with nut and bolt makers declined to fair at Blackheath and Halesowen, and continued fairly good at Darlaston and fair at Birmingham and Smethwick. It was again good with shoe rivet and wire nail makers at Birmingham.

Cutlery, Tools, Bits, Stirrups, &c.—In the cutlery trades at Sheffield employment was again good; in the file trade it remained fairly good. With edge tool makers it continued fairly good at Birmingham and improved to very good at Wednesbury. At Walsall employment with bit and stirrup makers was again good, and with saddle and harness furniture makers it was fair.

Tubes.—Employment continued fairly good at Wednesbury and fair at Birmingham. In South Wales and Monmouthshire it improved to good.

Chains, Anchors, &c.—Employment was again fair with anchor smiths at Cradley, a shortage of material being reported. With cable chain makers and with block chain makers it was slack. At Dudley employment among anvil and vice makers declined to fair, owing to shortage of material. With axle and spring makers at Wednesbury it was fairly good, but showed a slight decline compared with March.

Sheet Metal Workers.—Employment continued fairly good on the whole. Some overtime was worked at two or three centres, while lack of material accounted for a little short time at others.

Wire.—Employment was again fairly good on the whole. A little short time was worked at some centres.

Locks, Hollow-ware, &c.—In the galvanised hollow-ware trade employment continued fairly good, but a lack of material was reported from Birmingham. In the cast-iron hollow-ware trade it was again good. In the tin and enamelled hollow-ware trade it was fair.

Stoves, Grates, &c.—Employment was again moderate. Some short time continued to be worked, and moulders were still in demand.

Jewellery, Plated Ware, &c.—Employment in these trades in London was good, and a certain amount of overtime was worked. It was also good at Sheffield and Birmingham.

Farriers.—Employment was good generally. The exports of cutlery during April, 1919, amounted to 1,992 cwts., or 450 cwts more than in March, 1919, but 1,440 cwts. less than in April, 1914.

The exports of hardware during April, 1919, amounted to 21,203 cwts., or 2,505 cwts. more than in March, 1919, but 63,155 cwts less than in April, 1914.

COTTON TRADE.

DURING April employment in spinning showed a further decline as compared with March, and was worse than a year ago; in the American spinning section an organised stoppage of a fortnight's duration took place, which affected approximately 125,000 operatives. In the weaving section there was little change, on the whole, as compared with the previous month, but a large number of looms were still idle, some of the mills being closed for an indefinite period.

The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished Returns:—

DEPARTMENTS.	Workpeople.		Earnings.		
	Week ended 3rd May, 1919.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	Week ended 3rd May, 1919.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.		Month ago.	
		Year ago.		Year ago.	
	Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	
Preparing	13,207	+ 3·5	+ 10·4	25,266	- 4·6
Spinning	24,732	+ 2·0	+ 0·9	48,445	- 5·2
Weaving	46,134	+ 4·5	- 5·8	87,337	+ 3·2
Other	10,421	+ 4·1	+ 1·5	25,945	+ 5·1
Not specified	8,338	+ 6·4	- 5·5	18,188	- 1·0
TOTAL	102,682	+ 3·9	+ 0·4	205,201	- 0·0
DISTRICTS.					
Ashton	5,055	+ 7·3	+ 10·1	9,061	- 16·6
Stockport, Glossop and Hyde	7,479	+ 1·0	+ 4·0	14,757	- 9·0
Oldham	10,090	+ 3·4	+ 8·2	21,079	- 11·0
Bolton and Lelgh	16,427	- 0·9	+ 4·5	30,878	+ 2·2
Bury, Rochdale, Heywood, Walsden and Todmorden	8,432	+ 2·6	- 0·0	16,691	- 1·9
Manchester	6,234	+ 2·9	- 3·8	12,243	+ 2·2
Preston and Chorley	9,556	+ 4·5	+ 6·7	19,648	- 1·2
Blackburn, Accrington and Darwen	12,516	+ 0·8	- 13·8	26,210	- 2·2
Burnley, Padiham, Colne and Nelson	13,779	+ 15·6	- 5·1	32,481	+ 16·8
Other Lancashire Towns	3,138	+ 7·9	+ 12·0	6,585	+ 10·4
Yorkshire Towns	5,160	+ 1·6	+ 3·7	8,783	- 0·0
Other Districts	4,836	+ 3·2	+ 2·4	8,332	+ 9·8
TOTAL	102,682	+ 3·9	+ 0·4	205,201	- 0·0

In the Oldham district employment in the spinning section was bad, and worse than in the previous month; it was bad, and worse than in the previous month; about three-fourths of the workpeople in this section were idle for 14 days owing to the organised stoppage of work in the mills spinning American cotton. In the weaving section employment continued slack. In the Bolton district employment was reported as bad in all the principal departments; large numbers of workpeople were unemployed, and a large percentage of the machinery, especially in the manufacturing section, was standing idle.

In the weaving districts of Preston and Blackburn employment was very slack, and worse than in March. In the Burnley district there was an improvement as compared with March, but a large number of looms were still idle.

Imports and Exports.

The quantities of raw cotton imported and of manufactured goods exported in April, 1919, in comparison with the quantities for March, 1919, and April, 1914, are given in the following Table:—

Description.	April, 1919.	Mar., 1919.	April, 1914.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on	
				a Month ago.	April, 1914.
Imports of raw cotton (100 lbs.)	1,256,776	1,015,940	1,531,883	+ 241,136	- 275,107
Exports:—					
Cotton yarn (1,000 lbs.)	16,008	12,994	18,993	+ 3,012	- 2,987
Cotton thread for sewing (1,000 lbs.)	1,709	1,294	1,575	+ 415	+ 134
Cotton piece goods (1,000 yds.)	263,459	195,863	531,909	+ 72,596	- 263,450

* Comparison of earnings is affected by increases in rates of wages, including war causes.

WOOLLEN AND WORSTED TRADES. WOOLLEN TRADE.

DURING April employment in the woollen trade continued good. In the Huddersfield and Colne Valley districts employment was about the same as in March, while in the Dewsbury and Batley district there was some slackness, and considerable numbers were totally or partially unemployed.

The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished Returns:-

Table with columns for Workpeople (Week ended 3rd May, 1919, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago, Year ago) and Earnings (Week ended 3rd May, 1919, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago, Year ago). Rows include DEPARTMENTS (Wool Sorting, Spinning, Weaving, etc.) and DISTRICTS (Huddersfield, Leeds, etc.).

WORSTED TRADE.

In the worsted trade employment during April continued good. An insufficient supply of coal and wool was reported: there was still some shortage of labour.

The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished Returns:-

Table with columns for Workpeople and Earnings, similar to the Woollen Trade table, covering worsted departments and districts.

Imports and Exports.

Table with columns for Description, April 1919, March 1919, April 1914, and Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago, April 1914. Rows include Raw Wool, Worsted Yarn, and Flannel & Delaines.

* Comparison of earnings is affected by increases in rates of wages, including war bonuses.

In the Bradford district employment generally was good, but some short time was reported in the wool-combing department, partly owing to shortage of wool and partly to shortage of coal.

LINEN TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT generally continued bad and showed a further decline in Ireland as compared with the previous month. Short time in one form or another was general, and there was much unemployment.

In the Belfast district and in the rest of Ireland, employment continued very slack and was worse than during the previous month; some firms were only working about 3 days per week, others only worked alternate weeks.

The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished Returns:-

Table with columns for Workpeople and Earnings, covering linen departments and districts across Ireland and Scotland.

Imports and Exports.

Table with columns for Description, April 1919, March 1919, April 1914, and Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago, April 1914. Rows include Imports of Flax and Tow, and Exports of Linen Yarn.

JUTE TRADE.

DURING April employment in Dundee and district was bad and worse than in the previous month. The mills with few exceptions worked alternate weeks during April, and some of the operatives were altogether unemployed.

The following Table summarises the information received:-

Table with columns for DEPARTMENTS, Workpeople, and Wages paid, covering jute departments.

* Comparison of earnings is affected by increases in rates of wages, including war bonuses. † In some cases in which the mills were closed during the week ended 3rd May the figures relate to the previous week.

Imports and Exports.

Table with columns for Description, April 1919, March 1919, April 1914, and Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago, April 1914. Rows include Imports of Jute and Exports of Jute Yarn.

SILK TRADE.

In this trade employment during April continued good, and on the whole was better than a year ago. A shortage of labour was reported by about a quarter of the Returns, and the supply of coal was insufficient in some cases.

In the Macclesfield and Leek districts employment was good and better than in March; it was reported as only fair with women workers in the latter district.

The following Table summarises the information from those employers who furnished Returns:-

Table with columns for BRANCHES, DISTRICTS, Workpeople, and Earnings, covering silk branches and districts.

Imports and Exports.

Table with columns for Description, April 1919, March 1919, April 1914, and Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago, April 1914. Rows include Imports (less re-exports) and Exports of British Manufactures.

HOSIERY TRADE.

DURING April employment on the whole continued fairly good. The increase shown in earnings for the week ended 3rd May, as compared with a month earlier, was largely owing to changes in rates of wages.

The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished Returns:-

Table with columns for District, Workpeople, and Earnings, covering hosiery districts.

* Comparison of earnings is affected by increases in rates of wages, including war bonuses.

Exports.

Table with columns for Description, April 1919, March 1919, April 1914, and Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago, April 1914. Rows include Cotton Hosiery and Woollen Hosiery.

At Leicester some decline in employment was reported in the heavy branch of the trade. Firms formerly largely engaged on Army and Navy hose are re-adjusting the machinery for the production of civilian goods.

LACE TRADE.

In this trade employment was bad in the levers section, moderate in the curtain branch, and fair with plain net workers. On the whole there was little change compared with March.

The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished Returns:-

Table with columns for BRANCHES, DISTRICTS, Workpeople, and Earnings, covering lace branches and districts.

In the Nottingham district employment was bad in the levers section, with much short time, and fair in the curtain and plain net departments; on the whole it was better than a month ago.

CARPET TRADE.

DURING April employment on the whole continued fairly good, but the supply of coal and of yarns was still insufficient. In the Kidderminster district a slight improvement was reported.

Returns from firms employing 5,438 workpeople in the week ended 3rd May, and paying £9,485 in wages, showed an increase of 2.4 per cent. in the number employed and of 10.9 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

BLEACHING, PRINTING, DYEING AND FINISHING.

In these trades employment during April continued bad, and showed no decided change as compared with the previous month. Much short time was reported, especially in Lancashire.

* Comparison of earnings is affected by increases in rates of wages, including war bonuses.

The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished Returns:—

TRADES	Workpeople.				Earnings.		
	Week ended 3rd May, 1919.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 3rd May, 1919.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.	
Bleaching ...	2,143	+ 24	- 10 6	3,929	- 8 5	- 14	
Printing ...	644	+ 8 0	+ 2 2	1,638	+ 13 4	+ 13 8	
Dyeing ...	11,164	+ 14	- 2 0	85,100	+ 1 2	+ 21 3	
Trimming, Finishing and other Departments	6,207	+ 1 9	- 1 5	13,973	+ 3 7	+ 21 1	
Not specified ...	1,688	+ 0 6	+ 0 9	3,977	- 2 7	+ 10 2	
TOTAL ...	21,846	+ 1 2	- 2 5	58,618	+ 1 2	+ 18 4	

In the bleaching section employment on the whole continued bad, and was worse than in the previous month. In the printing section in England and Scotland there was no improvement as compared with March, and short time was general owing to bad trade. Woollen and worsted dyers in the Huddersfield and Colne Valley districts reported employment as good, but in this section generally a considerable number of the Trade Union operatives were on short time. With cotton dyers employment continued bad.

LEATHER TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT continued fairly good on the whole. Trade Unions with 9,882 members reported 1 9 per cent. unemployed at the end of April, compared with 2 1 per cent. in March and 1 8 per cent. a year ago.

With tanners, curriers, &c., employment was fairly good, but rather worse than in March, some short time being reported, especially in London. With saddlers at Walsall employment was quiet, short time being worked in several branches; in London, however, employment was reported as good, and better than in the previous month. With fancy leather workers it was good generally.

BOOT AND SHOE TRADE.

In this trade employment on the whole continued good during April. The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished Returns:—

District.	Workpeople.				Earnings.		
	Week ended 3rd May, 1919.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 3rd May, 1919.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.	
ENGLAND AND WALES ...		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.	
London ...	1,888	+ 0 3	+ 5 1	4,418	+ 3 0	+ 29 9	
Leicester ...	9,757	+ 3 4	+ 5 6	22,225	+ 6 0	+ 23 2	
Leicester Country District	2,324	+ 4 9	+ 11 8	4,825	+ 6 5	+ 32 8	
Northampton ...	6,865	+ 3 5	+ 10 5	15,187	+ 10 2	+ 39 0	
Northampton Country District	7,304	+ 3 7	+ 5 8	14,493	+ 4 8	+ 25 7	
Kettering ...	2,672	+ 4 9	+ 3 8	5,580	+ 9 9	+ 22 6	
Stafford and District	2,435	+ 2 5	+ 4 2	4,286	- 3 6	+ 19 0	
Norwich and District	3,018	+ 4 1	+ 8 6	5,639	+ 13 3	+ 35 7	
Bristol and District	678	+ 1 2	+ 3 7	1,297	+ 2 2	+ 24 8	
Kingswood ...	1,532	+ 2 3	+ 1 5	3,238	+ 4 4	+ 25 0	
Leeds and District	1,944	+ 4 2	+ 3 8	3,996	+ 12 8	+ 22 5	
Lancashire (mainly Rossendale Valley)	3,517	+ 4 3	+ 3 4	6,425	+ 8 5	+ 23 6	
Birmingham and District	855	+ 4 1	+ 12 1	1,618	+ 13 5	+ 33 4	
Other parts of England and Wales	1,302	+ 3 7	+ 8 3	2,329	+ 8 0	+ 29 2	
ENGLAND AND WALES ...	46,085	+ 3 6	+ 6 4	95,546	+ 6 9	+ 27 5	
SCOTLAND ...	2,104	+ 8 2	+ 8 4	4,221	+ 8 0	+ 25 0	
IRELAND ...	595	+ 1 0	- 2 1	802	- 2 7	+ 11 5	
UNITED KINGDOM ...	48,785	+ 3 7	+ 6 3	100,569	+ 6 9	+ 27 2	

Employment at Leicester and in the surrounding district continued good with lasters and finishers; in the clogging section there was still a surplus of male labour owing to

* Comparison of earnings is affected by increases in rates of wages, including war bonuses.

demobilisation; there was a shortage of female machinists. In the Northampton and Kettering districts employment was good, and slightly better than in March except with Army bootmakers (hand sewn branch), with whom a decline was reported. At Stafford employment was good, but a little short time was worked owing to shortage of upper leather. At Bristol, Kingswood, Leeds and Norwich employment was fairly good, but the shortage of female labour at Norwich caused one day short time per week among the male lasters and finishers. In Scotland employment continued good.

TAILORING TRADE.

BESPOKE.

London.—Employment during April showed a further improvement, and was on the whole fairly good. More than half the firms making Returns reported an insufficient supply of labour. Returns from firms paying £11,496 in wages to their workpeople (indoor and outdoor) during the four weeks ended 3rd May showed an increase of 3 2 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with the previous month, and of 21 8 per cent. compared with April, 1918.

Other Centres.—Employment was reported as fairly good at Birmingham, fair at Cork, and good at other principal centres.

READY-MADE.

In this branch employment on the whole was good and better than in the previous month, though the increase in earnings was largely due to increases in rates of wages. About 4 per cent. of the workpeople covered by the Returns worked short time during the month, and about 2 per cent. were on overtime. A shortage of labour was reported by about 60 per cent. of the firms from whom Returns were received.

The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished Returns:—

District.	Indoor Workpeople.					
	Number Employed.			Earnings.		
	Week ended 3rd May, 1919.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 3rd May, 1919.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Leeds ...	6,182	+ 5 3	+ 2 2	9,538	+ 11 0	+ 17 2
Manchester ...	3,267	+ 0 6	+ 3 8	5,679	+ 5 2	+ 18 3
Other places in Yorkshire, Lancs. and Cheshire	2,374	+ 2 6	- 0 3	3,703	+ 13 8	+ 20 7
Bristol ...	1,194	+ 5 5	- 2 1	1,816	+ 17 9	+ 18 8
North and West Midland Counties (excluding Bristol)	2,176	+ 5 5	+ 9 6	3,416	+ 10 8	+ 44 9
South Midland and Eastern Counties	2,428	+ 6 7	- 5 7	3,695	+ 15 0	+ 11 1
London ...	3,182	+ 0 3	- 9 5	6,487	- 2 0	+ 16 8
Glasgow ...	1,296	+ 1 7	- 16 9	2,424	+ 20 5	+ 5 7
Rest of United Kingdom ...	1,651	+ 10 1	- 7 5	2,455	+ 21 8	+ 28 7
UNITED KINGDOM ...	23,750	+ 4 0	- 1 9	39,178	+ 9 7	+ 18 5

In Leeds employment on the whole was about the same as a month ago; employers stated that the supply of suitable labour was still insufficient, but at the same time a considerable number of women and girls were unemployed in the industry. At Manchester and Bristol employment continued good; in London it was fair, and showed little change compared with the previous month. In Glasgow employment was good, and better than in the previous month.

FELT HAT TRADE.

In this trade employment on the whole continued fair during April, and was slightly better than in March. At Denton employment was reported as quiet in the stiff hat section and good in the soft hat branch; about one-third of the operatives were on short time. At Stockport and in Warwickshire employment was reported as good.

SHIRT AND COLLAR TRADE.

DURING April employment in this trade continued fairly good. About 10 per cent. of the workpeople covered by the Returns were on short time during the month. A shortage of labour, which was most marked in London and Manchester, was reported by about half the firms making Returns.

The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished Returns:—

* Comparison of earnings is affected by increases in rates of wages, including war bonuses.

District.	Workpeople.				Earnings.			
	Week ended 3rd May, 1919.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 3rd May, 1919.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a			
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.		
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.		
London ...	3,535	+ 5 4	+ 9 6	4,949	+ 6 2	+ 23 6		
Manchester ...	1,711	+ 2 4	- 2 4	2,716	+ 6 8	+ 10 8		
Rest of Yorkshire, Lancashire and Cheshire	1,633	-	+ 5 4	1,805	+ 0 5	+ 22 5		
S.W. Counties ...	1,536	- 0 6	- 5 5	1,705	- 0 6	+ 16 5		
Rest of England and Wales	1,182	+ 2 2	+ 1 5	1,663	+ 5 5	+ 28 0		
Glasgow ...	1,409	+ 2 6	+ 0 7	1,971	+ 2 8	+ 23 0		
Birmingham ...	1,755	+ 0 4	+ 3 4	1,987	- 6 0	+ 18 2		
London and West Midlands	1,004	+ 4 4	- 0 3	1,153	+ 4 1	+ 18 1		
Belfast ...	268	- 5 0	- 3 6	204	- 1 9	+ 17 3		
Rest of Ireland ...								
TOTAL UNITED KINGDOM ...	14,093	+ 2 2	+ 1 6	18,123	+ 2 9	+ 20 0		

OTHER CLOTHING TRADES.

DRESSMAKING AND MILLINERY.

DURING April employment with dressmakers in retail firms in London was fairly good, and slightly better than in March. Returns from firms, chiefly in the West End, employing 1,609 dressmakers in the week ended 3rd May, showed an increase of 4 per cent. in the number employed compared with the previous month, and of 9 6 per cent. compared with a year ago. With court and private dressmakers employment showed little change compared with March, and was better than a year ago. With milliners in the West End employment showed a seasonal improvement.

A shortage of labour was reported in all the above branches.

WHOLESALE MANTLE, COSTUME, BLOUSE, &c. TRADES.

In London employment continued good. Firms employing 4,215 workpeople on their premises (in addition to outworkers) in the week ended 3rd May showed an increase of 2 5 per cent. in the number employed compared with the previous month, but a decrease of 1 4 per cent. compared with a year ago.

In Manchester employment on the whole was fair, and about the same as in the previous month. Firms employing 4,945 workpeople in the week ended 3rd May showed an increase of 1 1 per cent. in the number employed compared with the previous month, but a decrease of 3 5 per cent. compared with a year ago. Some short time was reported during the month.

In Glasgow employment was fairly good on the whole, and showed little change as compared with March. Firms employing 1,614 workpeople in the week ended 3rd May showed an increase of 1 7 per cent. in the number employed compared with the previous month, but a decrease of 0 9 per cent. compared with a year ago.

A shortage of machinists, finishers, &c., was again reported at all the three centres.

CORSET TRADE

During April employment in this trade continued fairly good, and showed little change as compared with a year ago. Some shortage of labour was reported. Returns from firms (mainly in England) employing 5,575 workpeople in their factories in the week ended 3rd May showed an increase of 5 per cent. in the number employed compared with the previous month, and of 1 1 per cent. compared with a year ago.

WOODWORKING AND FURNISHING TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT was good on the whole in these trades during April, and showed a slight improvement as compared with the previous month. Returns were received from Trade Unions covering 72,723 workpeople, of whom 1 8 per cent. were unemployed in April, as compared with 2 2 per cent. in March.

Mill Sawing and Machinery.—Employment was fair on the whole, but showed a slight decline as compared with the previous month. There was a great deal of variation in the state of employment in different localities.

Furnishing.—Employment was good generally, being slightly better than in March for all classes of workpeople. A noticeable increase in the number employed took place in many districts.

Coach Building.—Employment was good on the whole for coachmakers, and continued to improve in most districts. A certain amount of overtime was being worked in several districts, and practically no short time was reported.

Coopers.—Employment remained good on the whole in all the principal districts. A fair amount of overtime was worked in some cases, and a shortage of coopers was reported in London and the South of England generally.

* Comparison of earnings is affected by increases in rates of wages, including war bonuses.

Miscellaneous.—With brushmakers and wheelwrights and smiths employment was fairly good on the whole, being about the same as in the previous month. It was good with basket makers, but still slack with packing-case makers.

The imports of hewn wood during April, 1919, amounted to 130,329 loads, or 58,542 loads more than in March, 1919, but 81,811 loads less than in April, 1914. The imports of sawn or split wood during April, 1919, amounted to 108,130 loads, or 31,453 loads less than in March, 1919, and 41,132 loads less than in April, 1914.

BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION OF WORKS.

EMPLOYMENT in the building trade, taken as a whole, continued slack during April, being about the same as in the previous month. Private building work was still almost entirely confined to maintenance and repairs, mainly owing to the difficulty in obtaining materials and the continued high prices. These factors acted as a considerable check upon private enterprise, although the shortage of materials was not quite so pronounced as in previous months.

There was considerable variation in the state of employment as between different occupations and districts, but painters generally were reported to have been well employed, as is usual at this season. With masons and plasterers, especially the latter, employment continued very slack.

The following Table shows the general percentages of employed workpeople who were insured against unemployment under Part II. of the National Insurance Act, and who were in receipt of the Government donation. It should be observed, however, that the numbers insured relate to January last, and that the percentages given and comparisons with previous dates would be affected by changes since that date in the total numbers employed, and also by the recent changes in the system of classification of unemployed workpeople referred to on page 187.

Occupations.	Number Insured at 12th Jan., 1919.	Percentage of Out of Work Donation Policies Lodged at 25th April	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a	
			Month ago.	Year ago.
Carpenters ...	96,979	8 61	+ 0 89	+ 8 28
Bricklayers ...	42,275	13 02	- 0 60	+ 12 75
Masons ...	20,076	17 25	+ 0 32	+ 16 68
Plasterers ...	10,431	27 69	- 1 44	+ 26 10
Painters ...	71,513	4 81	- 3 25	+ 4 37
Plumbers ...	26,768	9 70	+ 0 49	+ 9 28
Other skilled occupations ...	30,884	14 64	+ 2 17	+ 14 16
Navvies ...	91,547	8 61	+ 0 53	+ 8 12
Labourers ...	204,206	12 14	- 0 02	+ 11 43
ALL OCCUPATIONS ...	593,659	10 68	- 0 10	+ 10 13

The next Table shows for all these occupations the percentage of insured workpeople who were in receipt of the Government Donation in each geographical division:—

Division.	Number Insured at 12th Jan., 1919.	Percentage of Out of Work Donation Policies Lodged at 25th April	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a	
			Month ago.	Year ago.
London ...	110,657	14 08	- 0 20	+ 13 37
Northern Counties ...	95,351	4 20	- 0 70	+ 4 44
North Western ...	72,983	10 13	+ 0 33	+ 9 79
Yorkshire ...	42,488	4 73	- 0 88	+ 4 56
East Midlands ...	24,540	7 42	- 0 16	+ 7 06
West Midlands ...	41,997	7 21	- 0 11	+ 7 08
S. Midlands and Eastern ...	51,708	10 66	+ 0 49	+ 10 12
South Eastern ...	31,043	8 71	- 1 63	+ 8 27
South Western ...	58,646	8 85	+ 0 85	+ 8 59
Wales ...	26,925	5 80	- 0 75	+ 5 41
Scotland ...	61,563	7 85	- 0 85	+ 7 77
Ireland ...	35,908	34 19	+ 2 48	+ 30 84
United Kingdom ...	593,659	10 66	- 0 10	+ 10 13

BRICK AND CEMENT TRADES.

BRICK TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT continued good, and showed a general improvement on the previous month. In the Peterborough district employment was very good, with a great shortage of labour. At Stourbridge and other districts in Staffordshire employment, though unsettled owing to disputes in some cases, was good, with overtime at some works. A few firms in these districts reported a shortage of labour. At Nottingham employment was also good. In North Wales it was reported to be fair, though several large brick works remained closed. In Bedfordshire and Cambridgeshire there was an improvement on the previous month, but employment was not good. In Norfolk it continued slack. Some time was lost in most districts owing to bad weather.

The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished Returns:—

Districts.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended 3rd May, 1919.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 3rd May, 1919.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
Northern Counties, Yorkshire, Lancashire, and Cheshire	1,822	+ 6·2	+ 3·1	4,750	+ 17·5	+ 24·1
Midland and Eastern Counties	1,663	+ 6·4	+ 19·4	3,838	+ 20·2	+ 51·3
S. and S.W. Counties and Wales	1,113	+ 16·8	+ 44·9	2,877	+ 15·4	+ 73·6
Other Districts	680	+ 4·3	+ 12·8	1,639	+ 1·0	+ 31·1
Total	5,258	+ 7·9	+ 16·5	13,104	+ 15·4	+ 41·3

CEMENT TRADE.

Employment continued good generally, and a considerable amount of overtime was worked in the Thames and Medway district. In spite of the return of men from the forces a shortage of labour was still reported by some firms.

Returns from firms employing 5,943 workpeople in the week ended 3rd May showed an increase of 8·9 per cent. in the number employed and of 12·4 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with the previous month. Compared with a year ago, there was an increase of 36·7 per cent. in the number employed and of 58·6 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

The exports of cement during April, 1919, amounted to 39,629 tons, or 22,053 tons more than in March, 1919, but 27,153 tons less than in April, 1914.

GLASS TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT in April continued good. A scarcity of glass bottle blowers and other skilled men was still noticeable in many districts. A shortage of fuel was again reported, particularly in Yorkshire.

The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished Returns:—

Districts.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended 3rd May, 1919.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 3rd May, 1919.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
BRANCHES.		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Glass Bottle	6,285	+ 4·9	- 1·4	15,645	- 1·7	+ 9·9
Flint Glass Ware (not bottles)	1,916	+ 2·6	+ 11·3	4,741	+ 3·0	+ 32·0
Other Branches	637	+ 6·2	+ 18·0	1,354	+ 8·1	+ 51·3
TOTAL	8,838	+ 4·5	+ 2·4	21,740	- 0·1	+ 16·1
DISTRICTS.						
North of England	766	+ 14·7	- 0·3	1,896	+ 3·3	+ 12·9
Yorkshire	4,247	+ 1·6	- 4·5	10,127	- 8·7	+ 51·1
Lancashire	1,074	+ 4·3	+ 3·8	2,276	- 3·8	+ 16·7
Worcestershire and Warwickshire	807	+ 3·2	+ 11·8	1,910	- 3·6	+ 26·4
Scotland	1,031	+ 14·3	+ 17·8	2,683	+ 13·0	+ 36·5
Other Parts of the United Kingdom	913	+ 1·1	+ 15·9	2,848	+ 5·7	+ 43·9
TOTAL	8,838	+ 4·5	+ 2·4	21,740	- 0·1	+ 16·1

Glass bottle makers and flint glass workers were well employed in the principal districts. With plate glass bevellers and silverers at Birmingham employment continued fairly good. On the Tyne and Wear pressed glass makers reported it as good, and better than in March.

Imports and Exports.

Imports:—	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended 3rd May, 1919.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 3rd May, 1919.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
Bottles	53,794	32,912	161,687	+ 20,832	- 110,893	
All other manufactures	15,884	12,478	212,150	+ 3,406	- 196,276	
Exports:—						
Bottles	15,830	21,007	71,215	- 5,168	- 55,376	
All other manufactures	30,119	22,659	77,152	+ 7,160	- 47,023	

* Comparison of earnings is affected by increases in rates of wages, including war bonuses.

POTTERY TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT continued good during April, and there was a shortage of male labour, principally of placers and saggar makers, resulting in overtime being worked in some cases. A large number of employers again reported a scarcity of coal. The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished Returns:—

Districts.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended 3rd May, 1919.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 3rd May, 1919.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
BRANCHES.		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
China Manufacture	1,652	+ 2·5	- 3·0	3,570	+ 8·3	+ 21·6
Earthenware Manufacture	9,735	+ 1·2	+ 0·3	18,585	+ 7·1	+ 23·8
Other Branches (including unspecified)	2,318	+ 3·3	+ 3·6	4,344	+ 26·3	+ 32·6
TOTAL	13,745	+ 1·7	+ 1·6	26,499	+ 10·0	+ 27·2
DISTRICTS.						
Potteries	10,906	+ 2·6	+ 3·9	20,378	+ 12·7	+ 39·2
Other Districts	2,839	- 1·6	- 6·4	6,101	+ 1·9	- 1·1
TOTAL	13,745	+ 1·7	+ 1·6	26,499	+ 10·0	+ 27·2

The imports of chinaware, earthenware and pottery in April, 1919, amounted to 1,578 cwts., or 1,101 cwts. more than in March, 1919, but 73,416 cwts. less than in April, 1914.

The exports of chinaware, earthenware and pottery in April, 1919, amounted to 93,480 cwts., or 8,239 cwts. more than in March, 1919, but 202,787 cwts. less than in April, 1914.

PAPER, PRINTING AND BOOKBINDING TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT during April was fairly good in the printing trades, but slack in the bookbinding trade and, with some exceptions, slack or bad in the paper trade.

The Paper Industry Inquiry Committee appointed by the President of the Board of Trade have reported, under date of 28th April, that: "With the exception of the newspaper section there is a great lack of orders throughout the paper-making industry. Unemployment is considerable, and shows a regrettable tendency to increase. Numerous instances have come to light of mills keeping men on although machines are closed down. Up to the date of the Armistice, although many machines were out of operation, paper mills generally were running as full as conditions of labour and supplies of materials permitted, but since the Armistice, or shortly thereafter, there has been a great reduction in activity. A number of mills have closed, or are closing. Other mills are unable to employ men returning from the Colours whose services they had been urgently demanding; in some cases they had had to discharge hands employed during the war; in other cases, hands have been placed on 24 hours' notice, or have been kept on doing odd jobs in the hope of an improvement in trade which has failed to materialise. Returns from the National Union of Printing and Paper Workers report a present condition of unemployment exceeding anything known in the industry for 20 years."

With letterpress printers employment was fairly good, and an improvement was reported, especially in London. Except, however, for the usual working of overtime by a portion of the men in London, little overtime or scarcity of labour was reported. On the other hand, there was very little short time; but in Edinburgh it was reported that at several works short time was observed by machinemen owing to shortage of paper and difficulty in securing female layers-on. With lithographic printers, employment was quiet and worse than in the previous month, some short time being worked. In the bookbinding trades employment was slack, and in London there was a considerable amount of short time. At Manchester, however, women employed in the bookbinding trades were reported to be well employed.

The percentages of unemployment among members of trade unions in the printing and bookbinding trades are as shown below:—

Trade.	No. of Members of Unions at end of April, 1919.	Percentage Unemployed at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) on a	
		April, 1919.	March, 1919.	April, 1918.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Printing	49,466	2·4	3·1	0·4	- 0·7	+ 9·0
Bookbinding	9,898	3·6	2·9	0·2	+ 0·7	+ 9·4

The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished Returns:—

* Comparison of earnings is affected by increases in rates of wages, including war bonuses.
† The Interim Report giving the findings and recommendations of the Committee is printed in the Board of Trade Journal for 15th May.

Districts.	Workpeople.			Wages.		
	Week ended 3rd May, 1919.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 3rd May, 1919.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.*
Paper	9,647	- 2·0	- 2·5	20,240	- 0·9	+ 16·9
Printing	8,143	+ 5·7	+ 22·9	22,697	+ 8·7	+ 53·2
Bookbinding	4,705	+ 3·9	+ 10·0	8,523	+ 3·9	+ 32·5
TOTAL	22,495	+ 1·9	+ 8·2	51,460	+ 3·9	+ 35·1

Imports and Exports.

Description.	April 1919.	March 1919.	April 1914.	Inc. (+) or dec. (-) on	
				A Month ago.	April 1914.
Imports: Wood Pulp for Paper Making	53,379	39,051	51,205	+ 14,328	+ 2,174
Paper	382,859	269,729	1,014,894	+ 112,550	- 632,555
Exports of Paper	53,862	55,268	256,754	- 1,404	- 202,892

FOOD PREPARATION TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT was again good in the sugar-refining, sugar confectionery, cocoa and chocolate and biscuit and cake making trades, and the numbers employed show a marked improvement on the previous month, though less overtime was worked. With jam and marmalade makers, however, employment varied from fair to good and showed some decline on the previous month; while in the bacon-curing and preserved meat trades there was little change to report. Employment in the sauce and pickle making trades was again good. The following Table summarises the information received from employers who furnished Returns:—

Trade.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended 3rd May, 1919.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 3rd May, 1919.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
Sugar Refining, &c.	7,698	+ 3·1	+ 26·4	22,071	+ 4·2	+ 49·7
Cocoa, Chocolate, and Sugar Confectionery	23,395	+ 7·8	+ 47·4	38,956	- 2·1	+ 55·2
Biscuits, Cakes, &c.	8,035	+ 9·7	+ 22·2	14,110	+ 9·8	+ 53·3
Jams, Marmalade, &c.	8,491	- 4·8	- 29·6	14,134	- 6·6	+ 20·0
Bacon and Preserved Meats	4,354	- 0·8	- 29·6	3,205	+ 0·6	- 7·7
Pickles and Sauces, &c.	707	+ 6·3	+ 5·1	1,104	+ 14·3	+ 31·6
TOTAL	52,680	+ 4·5	+ 19·2	98,580	+ 0·5	+ 39·7

AGRICULTURE.

ENGLAND AND WALES.*

In most districts April was a rather unfavourable month for cultivation, although in some parts, especially the north-east, good progress was made. All work, however, was still very backward at the end of the month, and a great deal of the spring corn yet remained to be sown. Comparatively little potato planting had been done. Labour was reported to be short in nearly all parts, difficulty having been experienced in getting horsemen and cattlemen more particularly, as well as other forms of skilled labour. In the northern counties the supply was almost everywhere deficient, horsemen and ploughmen being very difficult to obtain, as well as casual labour. In the midland and south-western counties most of the reports refer to a difficulty in obtaining horsemen and cattlemen. The supply of labour was variable in the southern counties, skilled labour, however, being very deficient. Labour was deficient in Wales, teammen being particularly scarce in the northern districts.

SCOTLAND.

UNTIL the last week of the month the weather was generally favourable, but after that there were severe snowstorms. Potato planting was well advanced in the southern counties, but in some of the northern and north-eastern districts very little field planting has been done. The supply of labour was fairly satisfactory in Moray, the Lothians, Peebles, Argyll, Dumbarton, and Lanark; but elsewhere the shortage was more or less acute. The deficiency was especially marked in Aberdeen and Perth.

* Based on information supplied by the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries and the Board of Agriculture for Scotland.

FISHING INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT improved, and was fairly good on the whole. The following Table shows the quantity and value of fish landed in April, 1919, as compared with a year ago and with April, 1914:—

Fish (other than shell).	Quantity of fish landed.			Value.		
	April, 1919.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on		April, 1919.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on	
		Apr., 1918.	Apr., 1914.		Apr., 1918.	Apr., 1914.
England and Wales	617,326	+ 365,741	- 318,118	1,545,085	+ 234,540	+ 789,943
Scotland	213,245	+ 67,679	- 39,099	449,680	+ 5,153	+ 295,169
Ireland	80,921	+ 37,229	+ 44,478	82,945	+ 1,211	+ 66,148
TOTAL	911,492	+ 470,649	- 312,709	2,077,700	+ 290,904	+ 1,151,260
Shell Fish	...	...	...	55,440	+ 6,239	+ 15,706
TOTAL VALUE	...	...	...	2,133,150	+ 297,163	+ 1,166,986

East and South Coasts.—In the Tees and Hartlepool district employment was fairly good, showing considerable improvement compared with the previous month. At Hull it was fair, and at Grimsby good among fishermen, fish dock labourers and fish curers. At Great Yarmouth and Lowestoft employment had improved to good, except among fish dock labourers and fish curers at the former port, where it was fair, but better than in the previous month. On the Devonshire and Cornish coasts, in spite of some hindrance due to stormy weather towards the end of the month, April yielded the best month's fishing for a long time. Very good catches were landed at the various ports, and in consequence packers, carters and curers were busy.

Scotland.—Employment at Aberdeen was good, showing an improvement compared with the previous month. At Peterhead it again showed a decline, and was only moderate with fishermen, and bad with fish dock labourers and fish curers. Conditions had improved at Macduff, and employment was good among fishermen, and fair among the fish dock labourers and fish curers. At Fraserburgh it continued fair with fishermen, and bad with the labourers and curers.

DOCK AND RIVERSIDE LABOUR.

EMPLOYMENT was fairly good on the whole. **London.**—Employment was fair on the whole, and much better than in April, 1918. The following Table shows the average number of labourers employed at the docks and at the principal wharves in London in April, 1919, in comparison with the previous month and with a year ago:—

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, &c.	Total.		
Week ended April 5th	7,063	2,776	9,839	7,632	17,471
" " 12th	7,173	2,253	9,426	7,821	17,257
" " 19th	6,888	1,854	8,742	7,535	16,283
" " 26th	7,516	2,809	10,324	7,805	18,129
Average for 4 weeks ended April 26th, 1919	7,156	2,431	9,587	7,701	17,288
Average for Mar. 1919	6,756	2,586	9,342	7,225	16,547
Average for April, 1918	5,269	2,473	7,742	6,892	13,634

Tilbury.—The mean daily number employed at the docks during April was 2,076, as compared with 1,772 in March, 1919, and 1,372 in April, 1918.

East Coast.—Employment on the Tyne and Wear was fairly good on the whole. It continued fairly good at Hartlepool. At Middlesbrough and Stockton it was good and better than in the previous month. Employment was reported as slack at Hull and Goole and moderate at Grimsby. It was fair and continued to improve at Yarmouth and Lowestoft. At Ipswich it improved to fair.

Southern and Western Ports.—At Plymouth employment was very good and better than in March. It remained fair at the Bristol Channel ports, except at Swansea, where it was affected by a dispute. Employment at Liverpool was good, but work was interrupted by a dispute. At Manchester it was fair. It was good for canal workers in the Midland area.

Scottish and Irish Ports.—At Dundee and Leith employment was good and better than in March. It was fair at Glasgow, slack at Ayr, and good at Greenock. Employment was fair at Belfast and Cork, and dull at Limerick and Waterford.

SEAMEN.

The supply of seamen was generally equal to or in excess of the demand. It was more than adequate in London, Liverpool, Hull, Bristol and Glasgow, and also on the Tyne, except as regards able seamen at Newcastle. At Southampton and Cardiff the supply was about equal to the demand.

The following Table shows the number of engagements of seamen in the principal ports in April, 1919, and in the first four months of the year, in comparison with previous periods :-

Table showing the number of engagements of seamen in principal ports in April 1919 and first four months of the year, compared with previous periods.

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

MINISTRY OF LABOUR EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES.

The following Table summarises the work of the Employment Exchanges during the week ended 9th May, 1919 :-

Table summarizing the work of the Employment Exchanges during the week ended 9th May, 1919.

The number of fresh registrations for work showed a decline as compared with a week ago and a month ago. There was little change in the weekly number of vacancies notified, but the number of vacancies filled during the week ended 9th May was higher than in either of the other two weeks under review.

The usual monthly analysis for the five weeks ended 11th April is shown below.

GENERAL REGISTER.

The number of workpeople on the registers of the Employment Exchanges (412 in number) at some time or other during the five weeks ended 11th April, 1919, was 1,815,129 (men 869,171, women 801,443, boys 72,403, girls 72,112). These figures comprise workers in professional, commercial and clerical, as well as in industrial occupations, but exclude casual occupations.

The number of vacancies notified during the period was 233,335, and the number of vacancies filled was 148,607. The total number of workpeople remaining on the registers at 11th April, 1919, was 1,166,913.

Table showing the number of workpeople on the registers of the Employment Exchanges and vacancies notified and filled during the five weeks ended 11th April, 1919.

The average daily registrations, vacancies notified and vacancies filled during the month were 27,423, 7,778 and 4,954 respectively. A chart showing the fluctuations since February, 1918, is given on page 199.

Table showing average daily registrations, vacancies notified, and vacancies filled during the month, compared with previous periods.

Compared with the previous month, the daily average of registrations showed a percentage increase of 11.7; the daily average of vacancies notified and vacancies filled showed percentage increases of 4.1 and 6.9 respectively. The following Table shows the comparative volume of work done in insured and uninsured trades during the month :-

Table comparing work done in insured and uninsured trades during the month.

In the case of men the insured trades accounted for 39.9 per cent. of the total registrations, 63.4 per cent. of the vacancies notified and 68.8 per cent. of the vacancies filled. Among women the percentages in the insured trades were 9.0, 6.8 and 9.7 respectively. Of the vacancies filled 21 per cent. were known to be for less than a week's employment, and of the vacancies filled by boys and girls, 10.6 per cent. were filled by applicants who obtained their first situation since leaving school.

The following Table shows the proportion of vacancies filled to vacancies notified (excluding those on the register at beginning of period) :-

Table showing the proportion of vacancies filled to vacancies notified for insured and uninsured trades.

Compared with the previous month there was an increase in all departments except the men; compared with a year ago there was a decrease in all departments.

The proportion of vacancies filled to vacancies notified varied considerably in different trades, as is shown in the Table for men and women below :-

Table showing the proportion of vacancies filled to vacancies notified for various trades, categorized by men and women.

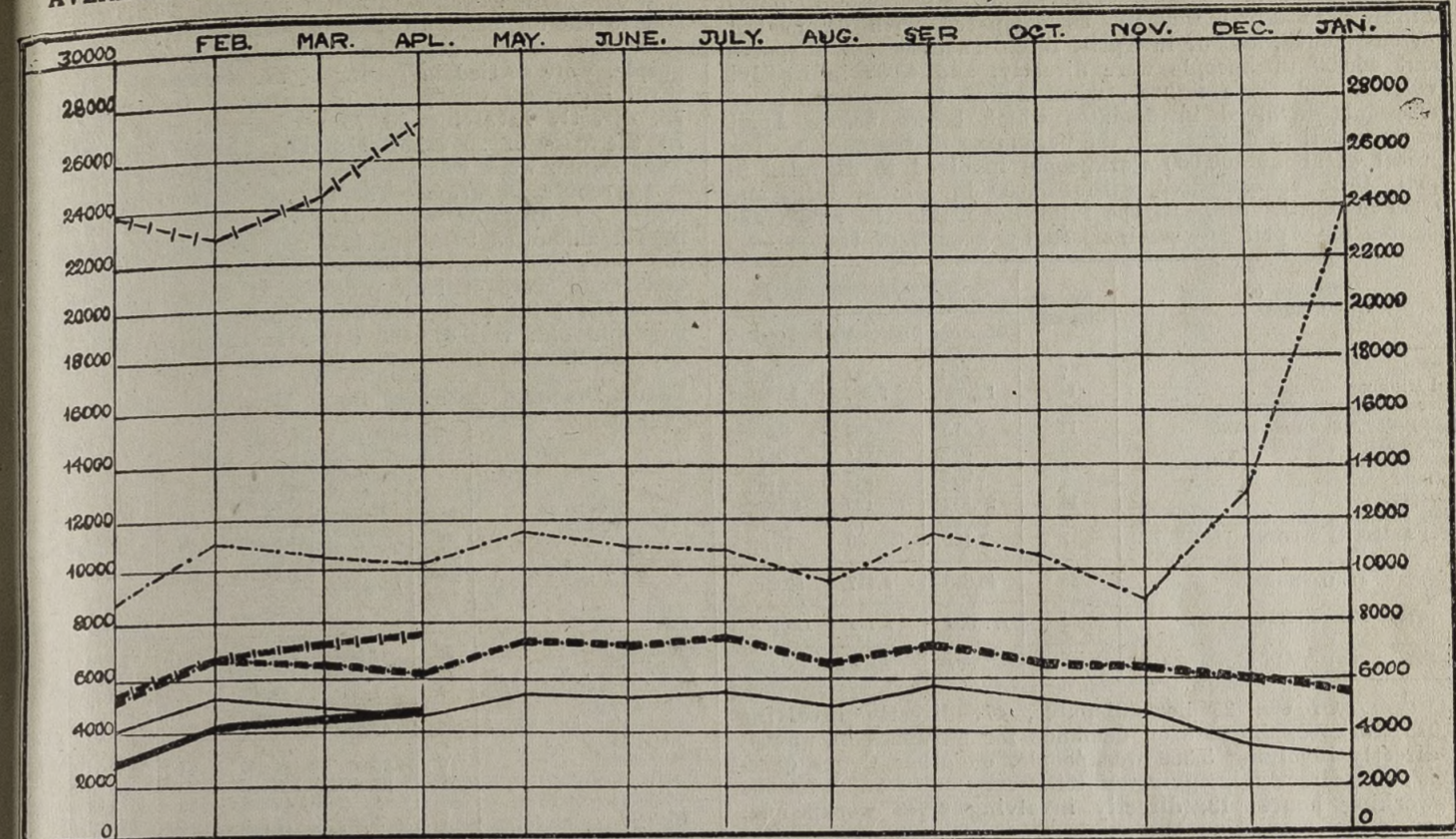
The largest proportion of vacancies filled to vacancies notified for men was 89.0 per cent. in chemicals and the lowest, 35.2 per cent. in agriculture. For women the largest proportion filled was 94.3 per cent. in chemicals, and the lowest 45.0 per cent. in domestic services.

CASUAL EMPLOYMENT.

The above figures exclude casual occupations (dock labourers and coal labourers). The number of casual jobs found for workpeople in these occupations was 2,314, a daily average of 77, compared with 70 in the previous four weeks and with 240 in the five weeks ended 12th April, 1918. During the five weeks there were also 166 cases in which men were given employment through the clearing house system for dock labourers at Liverpool.

MINISTRY OF LABOUR EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES (contd.).

AVERAGE DAILY NUMBER OF REGISTRATIONS, VACANCIES NOTIFIED AND VACANCIES FILLED.*



Registrations in 1918. Vacancies Notified in 1918. Registrations in 1919. Vacancies Notified in 1919.

INDIVIDUALS REGISTERED, VACANCIES NOTIFIED AND VACANCIES FILLED IN THE FIVE WEEKS ENDED 11th APRIL, 1919.

Persons are now registered at Employment Exchanges according to their normal occupation, or, where there is no normal occupation, according to the work for which they are suitable. This has resulted in a considerable re-classification, especially as regards those who were drawn into special industries during the war.

Large table showing individuals registered, vacancies notified, and vacancies filled in the five weeks ended 11th April, 1919, categorized by occupation groups and age groups.

* The figures are those of the General Register for a period ended early in the month stated at the head of the Chart. † These are trades insured against unemployment under the National Insurance Acts, 1911-1916.

TRADE DISPUTES.*

[Based on Returns from Employers and Workpeople.]

TRADE DISPUTES IN APRIL.

Number and Magnitude.—The number of trade disputes beginning in April was 85, as compared with 64 in the previous month, and 57 in April, 1918. In these new disputes about 46,000 workpeople were directly, and 4,000 indirectly, involved; and these figures, when added to the number of workpeople involved in disputes which began before April and were still in progress at the beginning of the month, give a total of about 106,000 workpeople involved in disputes in April, 1919, as compared with 223,000 in March, 1919, and 19,000 in April, 1918. In the following Table the new trade disputes for April are summarised by groups of trades:—

Groups of Trades.	No. of Disputes.	No. of Workpeople Involved.		
		Directly.	Indirectly.	Total.
Building	7	356	41	397
Coal Mining	14	12,467	2,382	14,849
Other Mining and Quarrying	3	830	22	852
Engineering and Shipbuilding	11	2,415	797	3,212
Other Metal	9	804	617	1,421
Textile	2	362	80	442
Clothing	4	1,943	25	2,193
Transport	16	2,872	120	3,092
Other Trades	12	5,187	73	5,260
Local Authority Services	7	1,132	30	1,162
TOTAL, APRIL, 1919	85	46,273	4,417	50,690
TOTAL, MARCH, 1919	64	172,909	2,156	175,065
TOTAL, APRIL, 1918	57	13,767	1,526	15,293

Causes.—Of the 85 new disputes, 47, directly involving 13,018 workpeople, arose on demands for advances in wages; 6, directly involving 5,366 workpeople, on other wages questions; 10, directly involving 16,498 workpeople, on questions of working hours; 13, directly involving 6,343 workpeople, on questions respecting the employment of particular classes or persons; 4, directly involving 167 workpeople, on questions of Trade Union principle; and 5, directly involving 4,886 workpeople, on other questions.

PRINCIPAL TRADE DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN OR ENDED IN APRIL.

Occupations and Locality.†	Estimated Number of Workpeople Involved		Date when Dispute began	Duration in Working Days	Cause or Object‡	Result‡
	Directly.	Indirectly.				
MINING AND QUARRYING:—						
Coal miners, &c.—Newcastle-on-Tyne (near)	1,082	363	7 April	2	Against proposed reversion from two-shift to three-shift system	Two-shift system retained, but coal drawing hours extended.
Colliery deputies and examiners, miners, &c.—Mansfield (near)	48	2,000	22 April	5	For payment of arrears of wages alleged to be due under a county agreement	Arrears paid from 2nd December, 1918.
Coal miners, &c.—South Staffordshire	5,000	...	26 April	5	Alleged delay in payment of arrears of wages due under the Sankey Award	Arrears of wages paid.
Colliery officials, miners, &c.—Tredegar (near)	1,600	...	17 April	4	For reinstatement of a dismissed colliery mechanic	Work resumed pending negotiations.
METAL, ENGINEERING, AND SHIPBUILDING:—						
Fitters, turners, &c.—Burnley	720	...	2 April	2	Against alleged interference with the men by a certain official, and for reinstatement of two dismissed employees	Official in question to deal with the men through foremen, chargemen, &c.; one of the dismissed employees reinstated and the case of the other to receive consideration; works committee of shop stewards formed.
COTTON:—						
Overlookers, weavers, &c., warehousemen &c.—Radcliffe	417	...	10 April	...	Dispute respecting wages of overlookers	No settlement reported.
TAILORING:—						
Tailors, &c. (wholesale trade)—Huddersfield	2,000	...	9 April	24	For advances in wages	Modified advances granted.
TRANSPORT:—						
Dock labourers, &c.—Bristol	4,000	...	10 April	2	Against sentence of imprisonment on a man found in illegal possession of two apples	Man released pending appeal to quarter sessions.
General cargo workers, &c.—Swansea	1,000	...	12 April	27	General lock-out to put an end to alleged practice of enforcing demands for extra payments (re waiting time, &c.) upon individual employers by means of strikes or threatened strikes	Agreement adopted fixing conditions under which waiting time should be paid.
Dock labourers—Mersey	15,000	...	22 April	5	Against being required to muster a quarter of an hour before starting time, and against enforcement of a meal-hour interval before night-work, involving a 10 p.m. instead of a 9 p.m. stopping time	Workpeople agreed to muster a quarter of an hour before starting time; question of night-work to be the subject of negotiation.
OTHER TRADES:—						
Bookbinders, &c.—Liverpool	900	...	19 April	11	For a higher advance in wages to journeywomen than offered by employers	Minimum rate of 30s. per week agreed upon for journeywomen's work, and power to increase this rate vested in a national conference to be held in May.
Stoneware pottery workers—Scotland	500	...	27 March	28	For a shorter working week for all classes of workpeople without reduction in earnings	Demand granted.
LOCAL AUTHORITY SERVICES:—						
Municipal employes (Streets, Waterworks, &c., Departments)—Bolton	539	15	11 April	29	For advances in wages of from 4d. to 6d. per hour, and a 4½-hour working week	Temporary settlement effected pending negotiations.

DISPUTES STILL IN PROGRESS.—96 disputes, involving about 40,000 workpeople, were reported to be in progress at the time of going to press.

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

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR.

[The particulars given, which are based on returns from employers and workpeople, are exclusive of changes affecting agricultural labourers, seamen, railway servants, police and Government employes. War bonuses and war increases have been so described where possible, but the information is not in all cases sufficient to distinguish between these and the increases not thus limited. The particulars relate to changes reported, both by the employers and the workpeople concerned, to have come into actual operation, irrespective of whether they have or have not been approved by the Minister of Labour. The fact that a particular change of rate is shown in the Table, therefore, should not be taken as implying that the new rate has been formally approved by the Minister of Labour as a "substituted rate" under the provisions of the Wages (Temporary Regulation) Act.]

Wages.

THE changes in rates of wages reported as having come into operation in April resulted in an increase of nearly £600,000 in the weekly wages of nearly 1,300,000 workpeople. In addition a large number of workpeople had their hourly time rates and piece rates enhanced so as to give the same weekly wages as before for a shorter working week.

The principal changes included (accounting for approximately 1,000,000 workers) were the advances granted to coal miners throughout Great Britain on the recommendation of the Coal Industry Commission, amounting to 2s. per shift or day worked for workpeople 16 years of age and over, and 1s. per shift or day for those under 16 years. Similar advances were extended to workpeople in the shale and oil industry, and to coke men and by-product workers at collieries.

Other important changes included increases granted to pottery workers in North Staffordshire, by which the wages of workpeople in the general earthenware and china branches were raised to 71 per cent. over pre-war rates; an increase of 10 per cent. to iron puddlers and millmen in the Midlands; and increases of 5s., 3s. 6d. and 2s. 6d. per week to men, women, and youths, respectively, employed in paper mills. The only decreases reported were slight reductions, under sliding scales, in the rates of wages of about 9,000 blast furnace and coke workers, chiefly in the Cleveland district.

Apart from the special settlement of miners' wages, increases for nearly 100,000 workpeople were arranged by arbitration; for about 35,000 workpeople by conciliation; for over 80,000 workpeople under sliding scales; and the remaining changes, for nearly 100,000 workpeople, as the result of direct negotiation between employers and workpeople or their representatives. In 5 cases only, affecting under 500 workpeople, the changes were preceded by disputes causing stoppages of work.

CHANGES TAKING EFFECT IN JANUARY-APRIL, 1919.

The following Table summarises the changes for which particulars are available. The figures are exclusive of the changes resulting from the prescribed rates for women and girls employed in making articles of women's and children's clothing, which came into operation in April under an Order of the Minister of Labour, statistical details relating to the effect of these changes not being available.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES TAKING EFFECT IN APRIL, 1919.

Trade.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Occupations.	Particulars of Change.
GENERAL:—				
	Various Districts in England†	1st full pay in April	Plumbers employed by master plumbers	Hourly rates enhanced (on reduction in hours) so as to give the same weekly earnings for a 44-hour week as for the normal week formerly worked. ²
YORKSHIRE:—				
	Bradford, Halifax, Huddersfield, Hull, Keighley, Leeds, Morley, Pudsey, Rotherham, Sheffield and Shipley	14 April	Painters	Increase of 3d. per hour in standard rate (1s. 3d. to 1s. 6d.), into which is merged the bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings, previously granted.
	Batley, Cleckheaton, Dewsbury, Doncaster, Harrogate, Heckmondwike, Ilkley, Ossett, Otley, Scarborough, Selby and Wakefield	14 April	Painters	Increase of 3d. per hour in standard rate (1s. 1d. to 1s. 4d.), into which is merged the bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings, previously granted.
	Bridlington	14 April	Painters	Increase of 2d. per hour in standard rate (1s. 1d. to 1s. 3d.), into which is merged the bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings, previously granted.
MIDLAND AND EASTERN COUNTIES:—				
	Dudley	1 April	Bricklayers, masons, carpenters and joiners, and woodcutting machinists	Increase of 4d. per hour ² (1s. 2d. to 1s. 6d.).
	Hinckley	1 April	Bricklayers, carpenters and joiners and painters	Increase of 4d. per hour ² (11d. to 1s. 3d.).
	Ipswich	1 April	Labourers	Increase of 3½d. per hour ² (9d. to 1s. 0¼d.).
			Bricklayers, masons, carpenters and joiners, woodcutting machinists, plumbers, plasterers, painters, scaffolders and labourers	Increase of 2d. per hour. Rates after change: bricklayers, masons and carpenters and joiners, 1s. 3½d. ³ ; plumbers, 1s. 4½d. ³ ; plasterers, 1s. 4d. ³ ; painters, 1s. 2d. ³ ; scaffolders, 1s. 1½d. ³ ; labourers, 1s. 1d. ³ (See Award on p. 213).
	Kettering	28 April	Painters	Increase of 3d. per hour (1s. to 1s. 3d.).
	Kidderminster	1 April	Bricklayers, carpenters and joiners, painters and labourers	Increase of 3½d. per hour, into which is merged the bonus of 12½ per cent. previously granted to men on munitions work. ² Rates after change: bricklayers, carpenters and joiners, 1s. 4½d.; painters, 1s. 4d.; labourers, 1s. 2½d.
			Bricklayers, masons, carpenters and joiners, slaters, plumbers, plasterers and labourers	Increase of 2d. per hour. Rates after change: bricklayers, masons (banker hands), carpenters and joiners, slaters, plumbers and plasterers, 1s. 4d. per hour plus 12½ per cent.; masons (fixers), 1s. 4½d. per hour plus 12½ per cent.; plasterers' labourers, 1s. 2d. per hour plus 12½ per cent.; other labourers and navvies, 1s. 1½d. per hour plus 12½ per cent.
	Leicester and District	1 April	Painters	Increase of 1d. per hour. Rate after change, 1s. 2d. per hour plus 12½ per cent.
	Loughborough	1 April	Masons	Increase of 2d. per hour (1s. 3d. to 1s. 5d.).
			Bricklayers, carpenters and joiners, and woodcutting machinists	Increase of 4d. per hour (1s. 1d. to 1s. 5d.), into which is merged the previous bonus of 12½ per cent. ²
	Luton	8 April	Painters, scaffolders and labourers	Increase of 3½d. per hour, into which is merged the previous bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings. ² Rates after change: painters and scaffolders, 1s. 3½d.; labourers, 1s. 2½d.

For Notes see page 200.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES TAKING EFFECT IN APRIL, 1919—(continued).

Table with columns: Trade, Locality, Date from which change took effect, Occupations, Particulars of Change. (Decreases in Italics.)

For Notes see page 206.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES TAKING EFFECT IN APRIL, 1919—(continued).

Table with columns: Trade, Locality, Date from which change took effect, Occupations, Particulars of Change.

For Notes see page 206.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES TAKING EFFECT IN APRIL, 1919—(continued).

Table with columns: Trade, Locality, Date from which change took effect, Occupations, Particulars of Change. Includes sections for Hat and Cap Manufacture, Boot and Shoe Manufacture, Clog Making, Laundries, Transport Trades, Paper Manufacture, and Printing and Allied Trades.

For Notes see page 206.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES TAKING EFFECT IN APRIL, 1919—(continued).

Table with columns: Trade, Locality, Date from which change took effect, Occupations, Particulars of Change. Includes sections for Pottery Manufacture, Furniture and Wood-working Trades, Leather Industry, Basket Manufacture, Other Miscellaneous Trades, and Building Trades.

For Notes see page 206.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES TAKING EFFECT IN APRIL, 1919—(continued).

Table with columns: Trade, Locality, Date from which change took effect, Occupations, Particulars of Change. Includes sections for 'Changes in Hours of Labour' and various industries like Woollen and Worsted Industry, Thread Manufacture, etc.

1 This change is the result of an Agreement between the Institute of Plumbers, Ltd., and the United Operative Plumbers and Domestic Engineers Association of Great Britain and Ireland. Complete details are not yet available, but it is known to have taken effect in the following important towns amongst others, the new hourly rates (in which is merged 12 1/2 per cent. bonus) being as stated:—Newcastle-on-Tyne (1s. 9 3/4 d.), South Shields (1s. 9 3/4 d.), Sunderland (1s. 9d.), Middlesbrough (1s. 11d.), Leeds (1s. 9 1/2 d.), Bradford (1s. 9 1/2 d.), Sheffield (1s. 9 3/4 d.), Manchester (1s. 10d.), Blackburn (1s. 8d.), Burnley (1s. 8d.), Bolton (1s. 10d.), Oldham (1s. 10d.), Stockport (1s. 10d.), Birmingham (1s. 10d.), Derby (1s. 8d.), Bristol (1s. 8d.).

FATAL INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS.

CASES REPORTED.

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

The Table below shows the number of workpeople reported as killed in the course of their employment during April, in comparison with the numbers for the previous month and for April, 1918.

The number reported as killed in April, 1919, was 206, a decrease of 66 on the previous month and of 57 on a year ago. The mean number in April during the five years 1914-1918 was 269, the maximum being 333 and the minimum 230.

Fatal accidents in the railway service during April, 1919, numbered 28, compared with 41 in March, 1919, and 32 in April, 1918. The total number of fatal accidents at mines was 92, a decrease of 12 on the previous month, and of 14 on a year ago. There were 6 fatal accidents at quarries, compared with 3 in the previous month and 6 a year ago.

The total number of fatal accidents reported under the Factory and Workshop Act in April, 1919, was 79, a decrease of 43 on March, 1919.

FOUR MONTHS ENDED APRIL, 1919.

During the four months ended April, 1919, the total number of workpeople reported as killed in the course of their employment was 958, as compared with 1,329 in the corresponding period of the year 1918, a decrease of 371.

The total number of fatal accidents in the railway service was 126, as compared with 148 last year.

The total number of fatal accidents at mines was 377, as compared with 582 last year. There were 15 fatal accidents at quarries, compared with 24 last year.

The total number of fatal accidents reported under the Factory and Workshop Act in the four months January-April, 1919, was 435, as compared with 569 last year.

Table showing fatal industrial accidents by trade. Columns: Trade, Number of Workpeople killed during (April 1919, March 1919, April 1918), Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in April, 1919, on a Month ago, Year ago.

DISEASES OF OCCUPATIONS.

IN FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

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

The total number of cases of poisoning and of anthrax reported to the Home Office under the Factory and Workshop Act during April was 18, of which 15 were due to lead poisoning, 2 to anthrax, and 1 to toxic jaundice. Two deaths due to lead poisoning and 1 to toxic jaundice were reported. In addition, 1 case amongst house painters and plumbers came to the knowledge of the Home Office, but notification of these cases is not obligatory.

FOUR MONTHS ENDED APRIL, 1919.

During the four months ended April, 1919, the total number of cases of poisoning and of anthrax reported under the Factory and Workshop Act was 86, compared with 97 in the corresponding period of 1918. The number of deaths in 1919 was 16, as compared with 12 in 1918. In addition, 7 cases of lead poisoning (including 4 deaths) among house painters and plumbers came to the knowledge of the Home Office during the same four months, compared with 13 cases (including 6 deaths) during the corresponding period of 1918.

ANALYSIS BY INDUSTRIES.

Table showing analysis of diseases by industries. Columns: Industry, Cases (Month of April 1919, April 1919, April 1918), Deaths (Month of April 1919, April 1919, April 1918). Includes sub-sections for Lead Poisoning, Other Forms of Poisoning, and Anthrax.

PAUPERISM IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.

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

THE number of paupers relieved on one day in April, 1919, in the thirty-five selected areas named below, corresponded to a rate of 124 per 10,000 of population, showing a decrease of 2 on March and of 6 per 10,000 on a year ago. Compared with the previous month, the total number of paupers relieved decreased by 4,127 (or 1.7 per cent.). The number of indoor paupers decreased by 2,727 (or 2.4 per cent.), while the number of outdoor paupers decreased by 1,400 (or 1.1 per cent.). Five districts showed increases, the most marked being in the Galway district (13 per 10,000). Two districts showed no change, and every other district showed a decrease, the greatest being in the West Ham and North Staffordshire districts (6 per 10,000).

Compared with April, 1918, the total number of paupers decreased by 9,585 (or 4.0 per cent.). The number of indoor paupers decreased by 10,771 (or 9.0 per cent.), and the number of outdoor paupers increased by 1,186 (or 1.0 per cent.). Seven districts showed increases, two showed no change, and twenty-six others showed decreases. The greatest increases were in the Coatbridge and Airdrie district (26 per 10,000) and in the Galway district (13 per 10,000). The Central Metropolitan district showed the largest decrease (31 per 10,000). Eight districts showed decreases ranging from 10 to 20 per 10,000, and seventeen others showed decreases of under 10 per 10,000.

Selected Urban Areas.*	Paupers on one day in April, 1919.			Rate per 10,000 of Estimated Population.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in rate per 10,000 of Population as compared with a	
	In-door.	Out-door.	TOTAL.		Month ago.	Year ago.
ENGLAND & WALES.†						
<i>Metropolises.</i>						
West District ...	7,932	1,902	9,234	114	- 2	- 10
North District ...	9,463	4,265	13,928	140	- 2	- 12
Central District ...	2,313	908	3,721	79	- 5	- 31
East District ...	8,907	3,392	12,299	187	- 5	- 20
South District ...	16,382	8,719	24,621	128	- 3	- 9
TOTAL, Metropolises ...	45,197	18,638	63,783	141	- 3	- 12
<i>West Ham ...</i>	8,488	7,489	10,977	137	- 6	- 7
<i>Other Districts.</i>						
Newcastle District ...	1,849	3,458	5,307	105	- 2	+ 4
Stockton & Tees District ...	798	1,876	2,674	102	- 5	- 10
Bolton, Oldham, &c. ...	2,972	2,455	5,427	65	- 1	- 6
Wigan District ...	1,430	4,135	5,565	123	- 2	- 10
Manchester District ...	6,688	8,511	10,199	96	- 4	- 10
Liverpool District ...	7,438	8,093	15,531	132	- 3	- 10
Bradford District ...	1,651	1,290	2,941	78	+ 1	+ 2
Halifax & Huddersfield ...	905	1,802	2,707	70	- 1	+ 2
Leeds District ...	1,897	1,975	3,872	79	- 3	- 4
Barnsley District ...	662	3,162	3,824	116	...	+ 8
Sheffield District ...	2,036	2,094	4,110	81	- 1	- 4
Hull District ...	1,428	4,310	5,738	174	- 2	- 10
North Staffordshire ...	1,477	3,599	5,076	122	- 6	- 3
Nottingham District ...	1,670	3,312	4,982	103	- 2	- 9
Leicester District ...	976	1,655	2,631	110	- 2	- 9
Wolverhampton District ...	2,617	4,208	6,855	86	- 2	- 1
Birmingham District ...	5,367	2,733	8,100	94	+ 1	- 3
Bristol District ...	2,311	2,491	4,802	121	- 2	- 4
Cardiff & Swansea ...	1,713	4,788	6,501	139	- 1	- 2
TOTAL, "Other Districts" ...	45,915	60,947	106,862	104	- 2	- 4
SCOTLAND.†						
Glasgow District ...	2,523	14,506	17,029	177	- 3	- 4
Falsley & Greenock District ...	566	1,631	2,247	114	- 3	- 6
Edinburgh & Leith District ...	933	3,671	4,634	114	- 4	- 10
Dundee and Dunfermline ...	524	1,699	2,223	110	- 2	- 5
Aberdeen ...	340	1,934	2,274	133	+ 2	- 5
Coatbridge and Airdrie ...	234	1,399	1,633	154	...	+ 26
TOTAL for the above } Scottish Districts	5,150	24,890	30,040	147	- 2	- 4
IRELAND.‡						
Dublin District ...	3,802	7,144	10,946	262	+ 3	+ 2
Belfast District ...	2,141	794	2,935	67	- 4	- 2
Cork, Waterford and Himerick District ...	2,650	3,695	6,345	255	- 3	- 8
Galway District ...	273	189	462	136	+ 13	+ 13
TOTAL for the above Irish } Districts	8,866	11,822	20,638	181	- 1	- 3
Total for above 35 Dis- } tricts in April, 1919 ...	108,616	123,734	232,350	124	- 2	- 6

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

† Exclusive of Vagrants; of Patients in the Fever and Small-pox Hospitals of the Metropolitan Asylums Boards; of Lunatics in Asylums, Registered Hospitals and Licensed Houses; and of persons receiving outdoor medical relief only.

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

LEGAL CASES AFFECTING LABOUR.

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ACTS.

INJURY BY ACCIDENT: WHAT IS "ACCIDENT"?: BLOOD POISONING.

A workman incapacitated from work by injury is entitled to compensation under the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1906, only where he is disabled from earning wages by a personal injury by accident arising out of and in the course of his employment.

A workman was employed at manure works, and in the course of his employment had to handle and put into bags artificial manure composed almost entirely of bone dust. In January, 1916, while engaged on this work, he became seriously ill with blood poisoning, from which he died in about a fortnight. His widow claimed compensation under the Act, and her claim was heard in the Sheriff's Court. It was proved that the workman's death was due to infection by germs known as Streptococci and Staphylococci. The point of infection was a scratch on the left leg. There was, however, no evidence as to when or how he received the scratch. It was not possible to say when the infection occurred, but probably it occurred a few days before he was taken ill. The bacteria mentioned are present in very large quantities in bone dust, but are also found in decaying matter, in other kinds of dust and even in the air, though in small quantities. They are also found on the skin and clothes of persons of uncleanly habits. Having heard medical evidence, the Sheriff-Substitute decided that the infection which caused the illness and death of the deceased was by the poisonous bacteria in the bone dust which he had to handle in the course of his employment, and that therefore he died from a personal injury by accident within the meaning of the Act. The widow accordingly was awarded compensation. The employers appealed.

The Court of Session reversed the decision of the Sheriff-Substitute and allowed the appeal. They held that there was no evidence on which the Sheriff-Substitute was entitled to find that the death was caused by an injury by accident arising out of and in the course of the employment of the deceased. The widow appealed.

The House of Lords allowed the appeal and restored the award of the Sheriff-Substitute. They held that the invasion of the deceased by the bacteria was analogous to an assault, and that assault was an accident. The accident was followed in due course by infection, and this infection was an injury by accident within the meaning of the Act. It was an accident that the bacteria struck the deceased on an accidental abrasion of the skin, however that abrasion may have been caused. There was ample evidence to justify the Sheriff-Substitute in finding that the death was caused by an accident arising out of and in the course of the deceased's employment. *Innes or Grant v. Kynoch.—House of Lords.—7th April, 1919.*

RECENT CONCILIATION AND ARBITRATION CASES.

COURT OF ARBITRATION CONSTITUTED UNDER WAGES (TEMPORARY REGULATION) ACT, 1918.

Building and Allied Trades.

CARPENTERS, JOINERS AND WOODCUTTING MACHINISTS.—Crosby & Co., Ltd. (Farnham) v. Amalgamated Society of Carpenters, Cabinetmakers and Joiners. Award—The percentage bonuses on earnings granted under Award (No. 1152) of the Committee on Production form part of the prescribed rate of the carpenters, joiners and woodcutting machinists employed by the firm from the date of the passing of the Wages (Temporary Regulation) Act, 1918. Issued 1st April, 1919. (374)

Mining and Quarrying.

MASONS AND QUARRYMEN.—John Murray & Sons (Annan, Dumfries) v. Operative Masons' Association of Scotland and National Union of General Workers. Award—Men concerned, employed at the Corsehill Quarries, Annan, to receive an advance of 5s. a week as from the beginning of the first full pay following 17th March, 1919. Issued 29th April, 1919. (424)

Pig Iron and Iron and Steel Manufacture.

STOCKTAKERS.—South Wales Siemens Steel Association (representing Port Talbot Steel Co.) v. Iron and Steel Trades Confederation. Award—That the stocktakers concerned are to work eight-hour shifts without any alteration in their weekly rate of wages or the privileges which they have been accorded. Issued 16th April, 1919. (408)

Engineering, Shipbuilding and Other Metal Trades.

BOILERMAKERS.—Vickers, Ltd. (Barrow-in-Furness) v. Boilermakers and Iron and Steel Shipbuilders' Society. Award—From 1st March, 1919, the lieu rates of men concerned to be increased as follows: Platers, anglesmiths and testers (new work) 1d. an hour, and testers (repair work) ½d. an hour. Other portions of the claim not established. Issued 1st April, 1919. (375)

PLATERS.—East of Scotland Association of Engineers and Ironfounders (representing the Greenock and Grangemouth Dockyard Co., Ltd.) v. Boilermakers and Iron and Steel Shipbuilders' Society. Decision—Claim made on behalf of platers employed by the Greenock and Grangemouth Dockyard Co.

on the construction of mine-sweepers for the 10 per cent. awarded by the Committee on Production on 31st May, 1918, to platers engaged on Admiralty work, not established. Issued 1st April, 1919. (376)

MECHANICAL CALCINERMEN.—Dillwyn & Co., Ltd. (Swansea) v. Workers' Union. Award—Mechanical calcinermen to receive such advance as shall bring their present rate up to 11s. a shift, with a bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings, as from the beginning of the first full pay following 1st Feb., 1919. Issued 2nd April, 1919. (379)

FITTERS AND TURNERS.—Engineering Employers' Federation v. Amalgamated Society of Engineers. Decision—Claim that the Clyde rate be paid at Kilmarnock not established; the men concerned are to receive an advance of 1s. a week from including the pay period for which payment is made in the week ending 5th April, 1919. Issued 3rd April, 1919. (380)

FITTERS AND TURNERS.—Engineering Employers' Federation v. Amalgamated Society of Engineers. Decision—Claim that the rates at Arbroath, Aberdeen, Carnoustie and Fraserburgh should be raised to 67s. 6d. a week, plus the amount conceded on the present national application, not established. Issued 3rd April, 1919. (381)

CLERKS.—Vickers, Ltd. (Erith) v. National Union of Clerks. Decision—Claim that the war advances granted under the Committee on Production Award, dated 16th Aug., 1917, shall count for the purpose of calculating overtime from the first full pay day following 3rd April, 1919, not established. Issued 3rd April, 1919. (382)

IRON, STEEL AND METAL DRESSERS.—Cardiff and District Master Ironfounders' Association and Engineers and Shipbuilders' Employers' Association v. Iron, Steel and Metal Dressers' Trade Society. Decision—Claim that the prescribed rates should be increased by 10s. a week not established. Issued 4th April, 1919. (384)

SPECIAL DISTRICT CASES.—Engineering Employers' Federation v. Trade Unions connected with Engineering and Foundry Trades. Claims submitted under agreement of Feb., 1917, whereby the rates of wages regarded as unduly low are brought forward at periodical hearings for consideration. Award—Advances in base rates given to different classes of workmen in various districts as specified in the award in the cases of certain members of the Amalgamated Society of Engineers and Steam Engine Makers' Society, the Ironfounders' Society and the Boilermakers and Iron and Steel Shipbuilders' Society. A number of claims were not conceded. Issued 4th April, 1919. (385)

METAL DRESSERS.—Engineering and National Employers' Federations (on behalf of the North-East Coast Engineering Trades Employers' Association, representing Davy & Co., John Lynn & Co., Ltd., John Saunders and the North-Eastern Marine Engineering Co.) v. Iron, Steel and Metal Dressers' Society. Decision—Claim that a rate of 34s. a week, plus a war wage advance of 28s. 6d., plus 12½ per cent. bonus on earnings, should be substituted for the prescribed rate of wages of iron, steel and metal dressers in the Sunderland district not established. Issued 4th April, 1919. (386)

APPRENTICES.—Willoughby, Ltd. (Plymouth) v. National Amalgamated Apprentices' Association. Decision—The firm concerned are not bound by the awards of the Committee on Production prior to the Award (No. 1920) of 24th July, 1918; they are bound by that award and the subsequent awards to the engineering and foundry trades; accordingly, overtime should be paid to the apprentices concerned in conformity therewith as from the dates specified therein. Issued 5th April, 1919. (389)

WOMEN WORKERS.—Wagon Repairs, Ltd. (Stoke-on-Trent) v. National Federation of Women Workers. Decision—That the prescribed rate of the five workers employed on the boring machine and as labourers is that laid down in Part I. of the First Schedule to Order No. 546 (Statutory Rules and Orders, 1918), plus a war advance of 11s. a week, and 5s. 6d. a week to those under 18 years of age; the prescribed rate of the remaining four women is that laid down in Part II. of the First Schedule to the Order No. 546, plus the war advances already stated. This award is to take effect from and including 22nd Nov., 1918. Issued 7th April, 1919. (390)

HOLLOW-WARE TRADE.—National Galvanisers, Ltd. (Sunderland) v. National Union of General Workers. Award—Women concerned to receive a war wage advance of 5s. a week, girls under 18 years of age 2s. 6d. a week, as from the beginning of the first full pay after 1st March, 1919. Issued 8th April, 1919. (391)

LABOURERS.—Whitehead Torpedo Works (Weymouth), Ltd. (Weymouth) v. National Union of General Workers and Dock, Wharf, Riverside and General Workers' Union. Decision—The prescribed rates of wages for the men concerned are the piece prices (with any allowances for overtime, night work, week-end or holidays when worked, and additional war bonuses or war advances) being paid on 11th Nov., 1918. Issued 9th April, 1919. (393)

LIEU WORKERS AND PIECE-WORKERS.—North-West Engineering Trades Employers' Association v. Boilermakers and Iron and Steel Shipbuilders' Society. Decision—That the claim for a percentage advance on piece prices and on lieu rates is not established. Issued 10th April, 1919. (397)

PATTERNMAKERS.—Admiralty v. Amalgamated Society of Engineers. Award—The minimum rate for patternmakers

employed in H.M. Dockyards to be increased from 39s. to 41s. a week. Issued 10th April, 1919. (398)

WOMEN SHEET METAL WORKERS.—London and District Association of Engineering Employers (representing Darraq Motor Engineering Co., Ltd., Fulham) v. National Federation of Women Workers. Decision—That the work on which the women were employed is not of a character covered by the provisions of Part IV. B (Sheet Metal Work for Aircraft) of Order No. 546, and that the claim for payment of the rates therein prescribed is not established. Issued 15th April, 1919. (401)

PLATERS' HELPERS (SOUTHAMPTON).—South Coast Engineering and Shipbuilding Employers' Association v. National Union of General Workers. Decision—That the prescribed rates of wages for the piece-work helpers and lieu work helpers concerned are 31s. 6d. a week off the fires and 33s. a week on the fires, plus a war advance of 28s. 6d. a week and a bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings (with any allowances for overtime, night work, week-end or holidays when worked). Issued 15th April, 1919. (402)

ADMIRALTY v. Amalgamated Society of Carpenters, Cabinetmakers and Joiners, Admiralty Works Department United Association, Workers' Union, Government Labourers' Union and Council of the Federated Admiralty Works Department Association. Decision—The Admiralty should not be denied the employment of semi-skilled labour conditional on the observance of the assurance given by the Admiralty representatives that "semi-skilled labourers" should not be employed upon any job requiring the skill of a qualified tradesman; that the introduction of labourers in H.M. Dockyards of skilled tradesmen unable to obtain work outside in their own trade and the employment of such men on more or less skilled work in the dockyards be avoided as far as possible. Issued 15th April, 1919. (404)

SHOPMEN.—North-Eastern Railway Co. v. Amalgamated Society of Engineers. Award—That the proposals made by the company and accepted by the Federation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Trades and the National Union of Railwaymen and put into operation on 13th Dec., 1918, be applied to members of the Amalgamated Society of Engineers. Issued 16th April, 1919. (407)

SHELL WORK (WOMEN WORKERS).—Taylor & Sons, Ltd. (Briton Ferry) v. National Federation of Women Workers. Award—The prescribed rate applicable to the women concerned was 28s. 6d. a week, plus 4s. a week, plus 11s. a week war wage advance. The Court can only determine the prescribed rate from the passing of the Wages (Temporary Regulation) Act, 1918, but recommend that the advance of 4s. a week, discontinued when the women were re-employed, should be paid as from a date prior to 21st Nov., 1918, to be arranged between the parties. Issued 17th April, 1919. (409)

CABLE WORKERS.—Macintosh Cable Co., Ltd. (Liverpool) v. Workers' Union. Award—The advances granted under Award No. 2800 of the Committee on Production are to be paid to the men concerned as from and including 6th Feb., 1919. Issued 17th April, 1919. (412)

ENGINEERS.—Richard Garrett & Sons, Ltd., engineers (Leiston) v. Amalgamated Society of Engineers. Decision—Claim that the full war wages should be paid in respect of a short time week not established. Issued 23rd April, 1919. (413)

FURNACEMEN, SLABMEN, PLUMBERS' MATES, HELPERS, &c.—South Coast Engineering and Shipbuilding Employers' Association v. National Union of General Workers. Decision—That Clause 8 of the Committee on Production Award No. 1597 does not provide for the payment of time and a quarter to boilermakers' helpers when employed in bunkers with boilermakers. Other portions of the claim not established. Issued 23rd April, 1919. (414)

FOUNDRY WORKERS.—Glossop Iron Works Co., Ltd. v. National Union of General Workers. Award—Men concerned to receive an advance of 5s. a week. Issued 23rd April, 1919. (415)

NAIL AND WIRE WORKERS.—Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd. (Rogerstone) v. National Union of General Workers. Award—Men concerned, aged 18 years and over, to receive an advance of 5s. a week and boys and youths 2s. 6d. a week. Issued 25th April, 1919. (416)

WOMEN WORKERS.—Gramostyles, Ltd. (Birmingham) v. Women Employees of the Firm. Decision—(1) Women concerned are not covered by Award No. 174 of the Court of Arbitration. (2) The shops of the firm in which the majority of the workpeople are employed are not engineering shops. Issued 25th April, 1919. (419)

WOMEN TIN BOX MAKERS.—Thornton Street Iron and Copper Works (Manchester) v. National Union of General Workers. Award—The prescribed rate of pay for the workpeople concerned is that fixed under orders of the Trade Board for the tin box trade. Issued 25th April, 1919. (420)

PATTERNMAKERS.—Davis Gas Stove Co., Ltd. (Diamond Foundry, Luton, represented by the National Light Castings Association) v. United Patternmakers' Association. Decision—That the advance of 2d. an hour provided for by Award (No. 2682) of the Committee on Production of 30th Oct., 1918, applied only to men employed by firms engaged in the heavy castings industry; it does not therefore form part of the prescribed rate of patternmakers employed by the Davis Gas Stove Co., Ltd. Issued 26th April, 1919. (421)

MOULDERS.—National Light Castings Ironfounders' Federa-

tion, Scottish Steel Founders' Wages Association and Scottish Federation of Iron and Steel Founders v. Associated Iron-moulders of Scotland and Central Ironmoulders' Association of Scotland. Decision—Claims for an advance on moulders' wages throughout Scotland, on and from 3rd March, 1919, of 15s. a week to all time-workers over 18 years of age, and 7s. 6d. a week to apprentices under 18 years, and for an equivalent to be paid to piece-workers not established. Issued 29th April, 1919. (425)

Textile Trades.

LACE MAKERS.—Midland Counties Lace Manufacturers' Association v. Amalgamated Society of Operative Lace Makers and Long Eaton and District Lace Makers' Association. Award—From first pay after 3rd April, 1919, the Wage Schedule submitted to a joint conference by the employers and specified in the award to be the rates of the workpeople concerned, subject to the amendment made by the employers. In addition a bonus of 30 per cent. to be paid in lieu of the bonus of 10 per cent. given under the above mentioned schedule. Issued 10th April, 1919. (394)

HEMP, ROPE AND WIRE ROPE TRADE.—British Hemp Rope Manufacturers' Association and the British Wire Rope Manufacturers' Association v. Workers Union, National Federation of Women Workers, National Amalgamated Union of Labour, National Union of General Workers, Amalgamated Society of Gas Workers, and Dock, Wharf, Riverside and General Workers' Union. Award—Women concerned, aged 18 years and over, to receive an advance of 5s. a week provided that the total advance over pre-war rates does not exceed 20s. a week; girls concerned, under 18 years of age, to receive an advance of 2s. 6d. a week provided that the total advance over pre-war rates does not exceed 10s. a week. Issued 17th April, 1919. (410)

Clothing Trades.

HAT AND CAP MAKERS.—Wholesale Hat and Cap Manufacturers' Association v. United Garment Workers' Trade Union and Amalgamated Society of Tailors and Tailoresses. Award—An advance to men, aged 22 years and over, of 14s. 7d. a week, based on a 50-hour week, and from 18 to 22 years of age, 9s. 4d. a week; to women, aged 18 years and over, 9s. 4d. a week, and workpeople under 18 years of age 5s. 2d. a week, any general advances granted since 1st Jan., 1918, to merge therein. The award does not embrace clerks, messengers, warehousemen, &c. Issued 11th April, 1919. (399)

Transport Trades.

THAMES LIGHTERMEN.—Employers in Rough Goods Lighterage Trade v. Amalgamated Society of Watermen, Lightermen and Bargemen. Decision—That the working week shall be reduced to one of 48 hours, the present weekly wage to apply to the reduced working week, on and from 22nd April, 1919. Issued 15th April, 1919. (403)

Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.

WOODCUTTING MACHINISTS.—C. E. Richardson & Co., Ltd. (Sheffield) v. Amalgamated Society of Woodcutting Machinists. Decision—The workpeople concerned are not entitled to payment of an advance of 3d. an hour under Award No. 183 of Court of Arbitration from the date therein named, but, in the opinion of the Court, the firm acted properly in extending to the workers the provisions of the Award from 22nd Feb., 1919. The prescribed rates of the men concerned were the rates of wages actually paid by the firm on 11th Nov., 1918, and these rates, with the addition of the advance of 3d. an hour, constitute the substituted rates of the men concerned from 22nd Feb., 1919. Issued 16th April, 1919. (406)

TIMBER FELLERS, &c.—Board of Trade Timber Supply Department (Division 2) v. National Union of Dock Labourers, North Wales Quarrymen's Union, North Wales Surface-men's Union, Dock, Wharf, Riverside and General Workers' Union, Workers' Union and National Union of General Workers. Award—(1) Men concerned, aged 21 years and over, and all workers aged 18 years and over but under 21 years who are doing men's full work, to receive such advance as will bring their present rates up to 50s. a week; other workers, aged 18 years and over and under 21, with the exception of apprentices, to receive an advance of 2s. 6d. a week. (2) With regard to piece-workers the Court recommend the parties meet and make the necessary adjustment in piece prices. (3) Weekly working hours to be reduced from 51 to an average of 46½. (4) Overtime to be paid for at the following rates: Weekdays—Time and a quarter for first two hours and time and a half thereafter. Saturdays—Time and a half after 12 noon. Sundays—Double time. Issued 2nd April, 1919. (377)

TIMBER FELLERS, &c.—Board of Trade Timber Supply Dept. (Division 7) v. Dock, Wharf, Riverside and General Workers' Union. Award—Male labourers, employed at Manley Mill, Santin Wood Mill, Elsen Mill, Wood Mill and Badgers Hill Wood, to receive an advance of 3d. an hour, and female labourers 1½d. an hour, on the basis of a week of 54 hours. Claim on behalf of piece-worker timber fellers not established. Issued 30th April, 1919. (427)

Chemical, Explosives, Cement, Pottery and Glass Trades.

MAINTENANCE WORKERS.—John Nicholson & Sons, Ltd. (Leeds, represented by the Chemical Employers' Federation) v. Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners. Award—

Men concerned to receive the hourly rate of pay applicable to operatives employed in the building trade in the district and double pay for Sunday work. Working week of men concerned to be that applicable generally to the firm's establishment. Other portions of claim not established. Issued 1st April, 1919. (373)

GLASS BOTTLE MAKERS.—Queenborough Glass Bottle Works, Ltd. (Queenborough) v. United (Machine) Glass Bottle Makers' Society. Decision—The piece-work rates (with any allowances for overtime, night work, week-end or holidays when worked, and additional war bonuses or war advances) paid by the company on 11th Nov., 1918, are the prescribed rates applicable to the men concerned. Issued 4th April, 1919. (383)

CLERKS.—Ministry of Munitions of War (representing H.M. Clerks, Pembrey) v. National Union of Clerks. Award—From first pay after 1st April, 1919, clerical staff concerned, both male and female, 18 years of age and over, to receive a war wage advance of 5s. a week, juniors 2s. 6d. a week. Other portions of the claim not established. Issued 4th April, 1919. (387)

WOMEN FUSE WORKERS.—Donne & Willans (1909), Ltd. v. National Federation of Women Workers. Award—Women concerned, engaged on munitions work, to receive war wage advance of 5s. a week and girls under 18 years of age an advance of 2s. 6d. a week, in which shall merge the advance of 3d. an hour granted by the firm in Sept., 1918. The award is to take effect as from the beginning of the first full pay following 11th Sept., 1918. Issued 8th April, 1919. (392)

CLAY PIT WORKERS.—Doulton & Co., Ltd. (Dorset) v. Workers' Union. Award—(1) Adult time-workers concerned, employed at the Hamworthy clay pits, to receive an advance of 13s. a week, the youth under 18 years of age to receive an advance of 4s. 6d. a week. (2) Piece-workers to receive advances equivalent to those granted to time-workers. Issued 15th April, 1919. (400)

WOMEN WORKERS.—Ministry of Munitions (Central Stores Branch) v. National Federation of Women Workers. Award—From first pay in March, 1919, women concerned, aged 18 years and over, to receive an advance of 5s. a week and the girls 2s. 6d. a week, provided that the total advance over rates originally fixed by Statutory Rules and Orders for the class of work now performed does not exceed 20s. and 10s. a week respectively. Issued 17th April, 1919. (411)

WOMEN WORKERS.—Sheppy Glue and Chemical Works, Ltd. (Queenborough) v. Workers' Union. Award—Women concerned, aged 18 years and over, to receive an advance of 3s. 6d. a week and girls 1s. 9d. a week. Issued 25th April, 1919. (417)

GENERAL WORKERS.—Sheppy Glue and Chemical Works, Ltd. (Queenborough) v. Workers' Union. Award—Men concerned, aged 18 years and over, to receive an advance of 3s. 6d. a week and youths 1s. 9d. a week. Issued 25th April, 1919. (418)

CLAY WORKERS.—John Williams (Connah's Quay, near Chester), James Prince (Connah's Quay) and Wepre Hall Brick Works, Ltd. (Shotton) v. Workers' Union and National Union of General Workers. Award—(1) Male time-workers concerned, aged 21 years and over, to receive a war wage advance of 5s. a week, subject to a maximum total advance of 30s. a week, those aged 18 years and over, but under 21 years, 5s. a week, subject to a maximum total war advance of 25s. a week, and boys and youths 2s. 6d. a week. (2) Women time-workers concerned, aged 18 years and over, to receive a war wage advance of 4s. a week, subject to a maximum total war advance of 20s. a week; girls, under 18 years, 2s. a week. (3) Piece-workers to receive advances equivalent to those granted to time-workers. Issued 28th April, 1919. (422)

CLAY WORKERS.—Buckley Fire Brick Manufacturers' Association (representing William Hancock & Co., Charles Davison & Co., Ltd., Cathrell & Co., Ltd., Edward Parry & Sons and Buckley Brick and Fire Co., Ltd.) v. Workers' Union and National Union of General Workers. Award—Male time-workers, aged 21 years and over, to receive a war wage advance of 5s. a week, subject to a maximum total war advance of 30s. a week, those aged 18 years and over, but under 21 years, 5s. a week, subject to a maximum total war advance of 25s. a week, and boys and youths 2s. 6d. a week. (2) Women time-workers concerned, aged 18 years and over, to receive a war wage advance of 4s. a week, subject to a maximum total war advance of 20s. a week; girls, under 18 years, 2s. a week. (3) Piece-workers to receive advances equivalent to those granted to time-workers. Issued 28th April, 1919. (423)

Public Utility Services.

GENERAL WORKERS.—Canterbury Gas and Water Co. v. Workers' Union. Award—Men concerned, aged 18 years and over, to receive a war wage advance of 5s. a week, payable at the rate of 10d. a day or shift for each day or shift worked, as from the beginning of the first full pay following 1st Jan., 1919. Issued 5th April, 1919. (388)

GENERAL WORKERS.—Potteries Electric Traction Co., Ltd. (Stoke-on-Trent) v. Workers' Union. Decision—Claims (1) for an increase of 10s. a week to employees, male and female, over 18 years of age, and 5s. to those under 18 years, and (2) for all employees who did not receive the 4s. 6d. a week granted on the first pay day in Jan. to have their money made up to that amount as from that date, not established. Issued 10th April, 1919. (395)

Miscellaneous Trades.

FURNITURE WAREHOUSING AND REMOVING INDUSTRY.—Furniture Warehousemen and Removers' Association, Ltd. (London) v. Workpeople's representatives on the Interim Industrial Reconstruction Committee for the Furniture, Warehousing and Removing Industry. Award—From 1st May, 1919, the normal working week for the men concerned shall consist of 48 hours. Issued 2nd April, 1919. (378)

LAUNDRY WORKERS.—Vickers, Ltd. (Dartford) v. National Warehouse and General Workers' Union. Award—Women concerned to receive a war wage advance of 1s. a day, the bonus of 1s. a week at present paid to be merged in the amount awarded, as from the beginning of the first full pay following 1st Jan., 1919. Issued 10th April, 1919. (396)

LONDON LAUNDRIES.—National Federation of Laundry Associations, Ltd. v. National Federation of Women Workers. Award—From first pay in May, 1919, minimum weekly rates of wages to women and girls for a 48-hour week to be as follows: age 18 years and over, 28s.; age 17 to 18 years, 24s.; age 16 to 17 years, 19s.; age 15 to 16 years, 16s.; aged under 15 years, 11s.; these rates include a war advance of 4s. a week. In the case of women aged 18 years and over entering the industry for the first time may be paid 4s. a week less for not more than 3 months. Overtime to be paid for at the rate of time and a quarter. Issued 16th April, 1919. (405)

FITTERS, PACKERS, &c.—Charles Hearson & Co., Ltd. (London) v. Labour Protection League. Award—The prescribed rates of wages of the men concerned employed as fitters, packers, painters and yardmen in the manufacture of poultry incubators and similar apparatus are the rates which were paid by the firm on 11th Nov., 1918. Issued 29th April, 1919. (426)

SINGLE ARBITRATORS AND COURTS OF ARBITRATION APPOINTED BY THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR UNDER THE CONCILIATION ACT, 1896.

Mining and Quarrying.

MINERS.—Cleveland Mine Owners' Association v. Cleveland Miners' Association. Difference—Regarding the system of payment for powder in respect of a small number of men working in a portion of Park Ironstone Mine. Arbitrator—Mr. James Macdonald. Award—The following agreement was arrived at between the parties at the hearing, viz.: (1) That the present system of payment shall be continued. (2) That the base tonnage rate of the men concerned shall be increased from 875 pence to 925 pence per ton. Award accordingly. Effective as from beginning of pay week commencing 11th Nov., 1918. Issued 23rd April, 1919. W.A. 2328/2.

Engineering, Shipbuilding, and Other Metal Trades.

CLERICAL STAFF.—Sheffield Simplex Motor Works, Ltd. v. National Union of Clerks. Difference—As to what increases should merge in the advances given by C.O.P. Award No. 1773 of 4th July. Arbitrator—Sir William W. Mackenzie, K.C., K.B.E. Award—That the increases that should merge in the advances given by the Committee on Production Award No. 1773 are those set out and contained in the document entitled "Sheffield Simplex Motor Works, Ltd.—Staff." Issued 1st April, 1919. W.A. 2700.

PIPE FITTERS.—Dilworth and Carr, Ltd., Bow Lane Foundry, Preston, Lancs. v. National Union of Operative Heating and Domestic Engineers. Difference—Whether the fitting of pipes, ready cut to length and screwed at the ends in radiators is to be considered skilled or unskilled work. Arbitrator—Mr. W. H. Whiting, C.B. Award—The leading part of the work should be taken by skilled fitters, not necessarily pipe fitters, and they should be assisted by semi-skilled or unskilled men. Issued 3rd April, 1919. W.A. 118/3.

FARRIERS.—Master Farriers Association v. Amalgamated Society of Farriers. Difference—Application for an increase of wages and for the alteration of certain conditions of employment in the London District, viz.: (1) An increase of 2s. 6d. per day to firemen and doormen. (2) Making 48 shoes double-handed or 32 single-handed, all sizes, to constitute a day's work. (3) No patent or machine-made shoes to be used. (4) Shoes with screw or stud holes to count double. (5) 47 hours to constitute a week's work, all work executed between 6 p.m. and 6 a.m. to be paid for at the rate of time and a quarter. (6) Question of the rate to be paid for fixing pads and leathers, new and old. (7) Question of counting removes. Arbitrator—Mr. Charles Doughty. Award—(1) An increase of 1s. a day shall be paid to firemen and doormen, making the fireman's wage 12s. 3d. a day and the doorman's wage 11s. 9d. a day. (2) Work (a) For double-handed 48 on or making 48 cart shoes half new iron and half old iron, or making 60 coach shoes, half new iron and half old iron, shall constitute a day's work. (b) For single-handed 32 on or making 32 cart shoes (all new iron), or making 40 coach shoes half new iron and half old iron, or making 60 cob or pony shoes, half new iron and half old iron, shall constitute a day's work. No steel tyre or steel bar ends to be used. (c) All iron worked over 1½ x ½ to count as cart shoes. (3) There shall be no restriction upon the use of patent or machine-made shoes. (4) Shoes with screw or stud holes to be paid for at the ordinary rate plus threepence per hole for each hole made. (5) Forty-seven hours shall constitute a week's work. All work executed between 6 p.m. and 6 a.m. to be paid for at

the rate of time and a quarter. (6) Threepence per pair shall be paid for fixing new pads. Twopence per pair shall be paid for fixing old pads and leathers. (7) Removes to count as half. Effective as from the first pay day in April, 1919, for time worked during preceding week. Issued 7th April, 1919. W.A. 2631/2.

ENGINEERS.—Whipp and Bourne, Ltd., Castleton, Manchester v. Associated Brassfounders, Fitters, Finishers and Copper-smiths' Society. Difference—Whether the manufacture of bulkhead terminals on a No. 4 Capstan Lathe should be performed by a fully skilled or semi-skilled man, and at what rate he should be paid. Arbitrator—Mr. W. H. Whiting, C.B. Award—That the bulkhead terminals mentioned, and other fittings referred to in this case which can be made on a No. 4 Capstan Lathe, should be the work of semi-skilled men, and when done on day pay should be paid for at rates proper to such men. Issued 11th April, 1919. W.A. 987/2.

FOREMEN IN ZINC WORKS.—Sulphide Corporation, Ltd., Seaton Carew, v. Amalgamated Managers' and Foremen's Association. Difference—Application for an advance of 20s. per week to foremen as from 1st Feb., 1919. Arbitrator—Mr. J. B. Baillie, O.B.E. Award—The foremen concerned in present application shall receive an advance of 7s. per week. Effective as from 1st Feb., 1919. Issued 18th April, 1919. W.A. 2066/3.

ENGINEERING EMPLOYEES.—Hughes and Stirling, Preston Dock v. National Union of General Workers. Difference—Claim that the distance allowance of 5s. per week shall be paid to youths and girls under 18 years of age. Arbitrator—Mr. Charles Doughty. Award—To youths and girls under 18 2s. 6d. per full week distance money shall be paid. This payment is to be reconsidered if means of conveyance are provided. Effective for and from the week preceding the first pay day in April, 1919. Issued 25th April, 1919. W.A. 1387/2.

Textile Trades.

WOOLLEN MILL OPERATIVES.—Martir Mahoney Bros., Ltd., Blarney, Cork v. Irish Transport and General Workers Union. Difference—Application on behalf of employees at the firm's woollen mills for payment of certain increased rates, the institution of a 48 hours week, readjustment of overtime, and other changes in working conditions. Arbitrator—Mr. J. B. Baillie, O.B.E. Award—(1) Men over 21 employed in the woollen mills who are time and piece workers shall receive an increase not exceeding 4s. per week on the general advances made by the firm since Aug., 1914, provided total advances, general and special, do not exceed 25s. per week over pre-war rates. (2) Women time and piece workers over 18 an advance of one penny per hour. (3) Youths between 18 and 21 an advance of 2s. 6d. per week. (4) Juniors under 18 a starting wage of 10s. per week, and a half-yearly increase of 1s. 3d. per week. (5) Working hours to remain as at present until determined in the immediate future by the Irish Association for this particular trade. (6) Claim for payment to workers during breakdown of machinery, &c., and for altered overtime and Sunday rates not established. (7) Any general or special advances made by the firm since 1st Jan., 1919, shall merge in advances hereby granted. (8) Increases hereby granted are war advances. Effective as from first pay day following 1st Jan., 1919. Issued 5th April, 1919. W.A. 2918.

MILL OPERATIVES.—D. Lucy & Co., Wool Merchants, Cork v. Irish Transport and General Workers' Union. Difference—Application on behalf of certain men engaged at the mills for (1) An increase of 25s. per week over pre-war weekly wages. (2) A 48-hour week, with stated times for starting and stopping work and an hour for dinner (not included in the 48). (3) Payment for overtime at rate of time and a half, with double time for Sunday work. Arbitrator—Mr. J. B. Baillie, O.B.E. Award—(1) Men concerned to receive a war advance of 8s. per week, excepting the tinner, who shall receive a war advance of 5s. per week. (2) Normal number of hours per week shall be 48½, the hours for each day to be arranged by the firm, and the stopping hour on Saturday to be as at present, viz. 2 p.m. (3) Overtime and Sunday work to be paid for as at present. Effective as regards (1) as from first pay day in Feb., 1919. As regards (2) as from beginning of first week following receipt of this award. Issued 5th April, 1919. W.A. 2947.

Clothing Trades.

GLOVE OPERATIVES.—National Glove Co., Witham v. Workers' Union. Difference—Question as to whether an employee was dismissed by the firm for bad work, or whether she was victimised on account of being a member of the Workers' Union. Arbitrator—Mr. Charles Doughty. Award—That the employee concerned was dismissed by the firm for bad work and that she was not victimised on account of being a member of the Workers' Union. Issued 15th April, 1919. W.A. 1908/2.

BOOT AND SHOE OPERATIVES.—Boot and Shoe Trade Repairing and Bespoke Making Section of the York Equitable Industrial Society, Ltd. v. National Union of Boot and Shoe Operatives. Difference—Application by the Union for extension to the York Equitable Industrial Society, Ltd., of the terms and conditions of the Award granted by Mr. George Sedgwick on 27th Aug., 1918, affecting the South Yorkshire Boot and Shoe Repairing Industry. Arbitrator—Alderman Frank Sheppard, J.P. Award—That the prices and conditions as set out in the above-mentioned Award shall be applied to the York Equitable Industrial Society, Ltd. Thirty-five per cent. to be deducted from the prices paid for making new boots by hand when they are finished by machinery. Award to apply

equally to men and to women doing men's work. Retrospective as from 30th Nov., 1918. Issued 28th April, 1919. W.A. 2052/2.

Transport Trades.

RAILWAY EMPLOYEES.—Taff Vale Railway, Conciliation Boards "A" and "C." Difference—Employees' application that a man shall be deemed to be on duty from the time he was originally booked on duty. Independent Chairman—Mr. F. S. Button. Award—(1) Pending final determination indicated in clause 3 of this award, 50 per cent. of all "waiting time" shall be paid for at ordinary time rates. (2) Time paid for in accordance with clause 1 shall not be regarded as part of a man's ordinary working day, and shall not accrue for purpose of overtime. (3) In view of the temporary nature of the difficulty of obtaining labour for the repair of rolling stock, it is suggested that parties should meet on and after 20th June, 1919, to ascertain if the present exigencies any longer exist, with a view to settlement, and in the event of no agreement being reached, reference shall be made to the Independent Chairman for his decision. (4) Any dislocation of traffic caused during a strike shall render benefits accruing from this award inoperative for that period. Effective as from 20th Dec., 1918. Issued 2nd April, 1919. W.A. 2589.

HORSE CARTERS, MECHANICAL HAULIERS, &c.—Penzance and District Employers' Federation v. Dock, Wharf, Riverside and General Workers' Union. Difference—Application for an increase of 10s. a week to horse carters, mechanical hauliers, trailer men and storemen. Arbitrator—Sir William Robinson. Award—A war advance of 5s. per week to men concerned over 18; to youths under 18 doing adults' work 5s. per week; to other youths 2s. 6d. per week. The war wage advance hereby granted shall be payable for the full ordinary week, and in the case of men who work less than the full ordinary week, the war wage advance shall be reduced pro rata. Effective as from 11th March, 1919. Issued 21st April, 1919. W.A. 2024/2.

CARGO WORKERS.—Sligo Importers' Association and The Irish Transport and General Workers' Union. Conference to consider in what form the Agreement of the Irish Negotiating Committee, dated 16th April, should be adjusted to meet the special circumstances of the Port at Sligo. Chairman of Conference—Mr. J. B. Baillie, O.B.E. Decision—As agreed between the parties at the Conference: (1) The hours of daily men shall be fixed on basis of 46½ per week; hours of work from Monday to Friday to be from 8 a.m. to 12 noon, and from 1 p.m. to 5.30 p.m., on Saturday from 8 a.m. to 12 noon. Hours worked after 5.30 on first five days of the week, and after 12 noon on Saturday to be considered overtime. (2) Hourly rate of men in clause 1 shall be 1s. 3d. for day work and 1s. 7d. for night work. (3) New tonnage rates to be as follows: (a) Discharging boats (whether the cargo be flour, coal, slag, cement, manure, in bags or in bulk) 2s. per ton. This to apply to coasting steamers, the men to work the boats as at present. (b) Trimming coal on quay 6d. per ton. (c) Discharging grain in bulk 1s. 2d. per ton, in bags 1s. 4d. per ton, in lighters 1s. 4d. per ton. (d) Carters: D.W. Quay to Campbell's Mills 1s. 2d. per ton. D.W. Quay to Sligo mills 1s. 9d. per ton. Sligo mills to railway 1s. 1d. per ton. Between quay and railway (to and from) 1s. 2d. per ton. Liverpool shed and railway (to and from) 1s. per ton. Liverpool shed and mill (to and from) 1s. per ton. Union Place and railway (to and from) 1s. per ton. Union Place, Sligo mills and town (to and from) 1s. 6d. per ton. Quay to or from town 1s. 6d. per ton. Cartage steamer and into D.W. shed 8d. per ton. (4) Winchmen on coasting steamers shall be paid at the same tonnage rates as men filling coal. (5) All conditions other than those varied by the foregoing clauses shall remain as at present. (6) Overtime shall be worked when necessary. (7) New hours shall be introduced on 28th April, 1919, payment to be retrospective as from 22nd April, 1919. Issued 30th April, 1919. W.A. 1915/3.

Woodworking, etc., Trades.

CLERICAL STAFF.—Gloucestershire Aircraft Co., Cheltenham v. National Union of Clerks. Difference—Application for a total war advance of 30s. per week, to the clerical staff of the firm, as from 1st Aug., 1918, exclusive of 12½ per cent., half of this amount to be paid to those under 18, and to apply to both males and females. Amounts to be exclusive of merit or service increments. Arbitrator—Sir William Robinson. Award—No further advance in wages to male employees concerned. War advance of 2s. per week to women over 18 provided that total advance over pre-war rates, including the 6½ per cent., shall not exceed 23s. per week; 1s. per week to girls under 18, provided that total advance over pre-war rates, including the 6½ per cent., shall not exceed 11s. 6d. per week. Award not to operate so as to reduce the earnings of women concerned. Effective as from beginning of first full pay following 1st Jan., 1919. Issued 12th April, 1919. W.A. 2942.

Chemical, Explosives, Brick, Cement, Pottery, and Glass Trades.

WOMEN WORKERS (SEWING AND MAKING TROTYL BAGS).—Edmonton Munitions Co., Ltd., v. Young Women's Christian Association. Difference—Application for a war bonus of eleven shillings a week to women concerned, under Statutory Rules and Orders 546 and 1073 which have been applied to the firm. Arbitrator—Mr. Charles Doughty. Award—In consideration of the short hours worked a bonus of 5s. 6d. a week shall be paid to women engaged in sewing and making Trotyl bags

for the time worked by each woman on this work in accordance with provisions of the said Statutory Rules and Orders. Girls under 18 to receive half of this bonus. Issued 5th April, 1919. W.A. 2848.

COKEMEN, &c.—North Staffordshire Coking and Bye-Product Works Owners' Association and The New Acid Co., Ltd. v. National Union of Cokemen and Bye-Product Workers. Difference—(1) Application for advance on basis rates equal to rates now paid in Yorkshire. (2) Tunstall Acid Plant. That specified basis rates be paid on this plant to tower men and rectifiers, burner men, boiler men and labourers, plus the miners' percentage and allowances. (3) Any classes omitted to receive equivalent advances, and where higher rates are now paid, no reduction to be made. Arbitrator—Mr. W. H. Stoker, K.C. Award—Claims under heads 1 and 3 not established, but this is without prejudice to reconsideration of the basis wages of men concerned in the event of the award of 2s. per day by Coal Commission not being extended to them, or to the consideration of specific instances of inappropriate variations in the basis wages as fixed by C.O.P. Award of 27th June, 1918. Claim 2, not established, but without prejudice to reconsideration of the case of employees concerned in the event of the award of 2s. per day by the Coal Commission referred to above not being extended to them. Issued 30th April, 1919. W.A. 1976/2.

Food, Drink, and Tobacco Trades.

ENGINEEMEN.—Liverpool and District Flour Milling Employers v. National Amalgamated Union of Engineemen, Firemen, Mechanics, Motormen and Electrical Workers. Difference—Application for payment of the 5s. per week advance awarded in the Engineering and Foundry Trades Award No. 2800, to meet extra cost of living. Arbitrator—Mr. H. Courthope Munroe. Award—A war advance of 3s. per week, in addition to advances already granted. Effective as from beginning of the first full pay in March last. Issued 8th April, 1919. W.A. 1738/2.

DISTILLERS.—Distillers Co., Ltd., Loch Katrine Distillery, Glasgow v. National Union of General Workers. Difference—Application for an increase of 5s. per week on present rate of wages to male and female workers. Arbitrator—Sir T. P. Wilson, K.B.E. Award—Claim not established. Issued 14th April, 1919. W.A. 1398/2.

Public Utility Services.

MANUAL WORKERS.—Corporation of Wolverhampton v. Amalgamated Society of Gas, Municipal and General Workers. Difference—Claim that employees concerned (being manual workers employed in the uncertified departments) except those whose wages are governed by outside trade union conditions, should receive 35s. per week over and above pre-war rates, to take effect from first full pay day following 1st Jan., 1919. Arbitrator—Mr. W. H. Stoker, K.C. Award—All men concerned over 18 shall receive a further war advance of 5s. a week; boys under 18 2s. 6d. a week. Effective as from beginning of first full pay following 1st March, 1919. Issued 24th April, 1919. W.A. 2777/2.

Miscellaneous Trades.

FEMALE LEATHER WORKERS.—Northampton and District Chrome Tanners' Association v. Amalgamated Society of Leather Workers. Difference—Application to fix minimum rates of pay for female workers. Arbitrator—Mr. W. A. Willis. Award—The minimum rates (exclusive of bonuses) to be paid on the basis of a 48 hours' week to the female workers concerned shall be 3½d., 3½d., 4½d., and 6½d. per hour according to age from 15 years upwards, with certain provisos as regards those learning operations new to them, and those suffering from an infirmity. Piecework prices to be fixed by mutual arrangement, but to be such as to enable a worker to earn 25 per cent. over her time rate. Previous bonuses to continue unless merged by agreement in time rate. All increases hereby occasioned to be war wages. Award to come into operation simultaneously with 48-hour week (adopted on 1st March, 1919) and to cease to operate when there is a settlement of wages on a national basis. Issued 2nd April, 1919. W.A. 23/3.

STAFF AND DRESSERS IN THEATRES.—Rochdale and District Amusement Managers' Association v. National Association of Theatrical Employees. Difference—(1) Whether a rate of 2s. 6d. be substituted for present rate of 1s. 6d. for front of house night staff and dressers in theatres, music halls and cinemas in Rochdale. (2) Whether a rate of 2s. 6d. be substituted for present rate of 2s. for stage night staff in theatres and music halls in Rochdale. Arbitrator—Mr. P. B. Clegg Mellor. Award—(1) With regard to the Theatre Royal, the Hippodrome and The Empire, present rates in respect of the front of the house night staff, dressers, and stage night staff shall be advanced by sixpence. (2) No increase for matinees. (3) Claims in respect of employees at the other places of entertainment represented not established. (4) Award to apply to all persons over 16. (5) Recommended that the management of various theatres, music halls and cinemas give consideration to hours for commencing work, so as to afford employees a reasonable amount of leisure between leaving their daily employment and arriving at the place of entertainment where they are engaged. Effective as from and including the 9th Dec., 1918; back pay shall be paid in two equal instalments on the two pay days succeeding receipt of this award by the associations concerned. Issued 14th April, 1919. W.A. 1927/2.

CANTEEN WORKERS.—Rolls Royce, Ltd., Derby v. Workers' Union. Difference—(1) Application for payment of 12½ per cent. bonus on earnings in the case of four men employed as canteen assistants. (2) Payment of the night chef at the rate of 55s. per week. Arbitrator—Mr. J. B. Baillie, O.B.E. Award—(1) Not established. (2) Night chef shall receive an increase of 7s. 6d. per week. Effective as from 1st Jan., 1919. Issued 14th April, 1919. W.A. 256/2.

CO-OPERATIVE EMPLOYEES (CHIEFLY ON AGRICULTURAL WORK).—Co-operative Wholesale Society, Ltd. v. Amalgamated Union of Co-operative and Commercial Employees. Difference—Application on behalf of employees engaged on agricultural work at Roden, Shropshire, for increased wages, altered hours and conditions of labour. Arbitrator—Mr. W. H. Stoker, K.C. Award—(1) Claim not established as regards all employees concerned who are not tradesmen, in view of the advances given by the Society and the minimum rate fixed by the Agricultural Wages Board for Shropshire. (2) Claim that the tradesmen concerned be paid the Shrewsbury craft rates has not been established. (3) The carpenter, blacksmith and steam wagon driver concerned shall receive an advance at the rate of 5s. per full week worked. The case of the blacksmith for any further increase of wages is recommended for the consideration of the Society. Effective as from commencement of first full pay in March, 1919. Issued 23rd April, 1919. W.A. 3167.

CORPORATION EMPLOYEES, &c.—Sligo Corporation, Sligo Harbour Commissioners, Sligo Non-Licensed Grocers' Association (Wholesale and Retail), Sligo Importers' Association, and D. M. Hanley, Merchant, Sligo, v. Irish Transport and General Workers' Union. Difference—Application for (1) increase of 150 per cent. on pre-war weekly wages. (2) A 44-hour week. (3) Advance and alteration of hours to come into operation on 1st March, 1919. Arbitrator—Mr. J. B. Baillie, O.B.E. Award—(4) Sligo Corporation. (1) That subject to Clauses 2, 3, and 4, employees concerned shall receive an advance of 7s. per week. (2) Employees not being carters engaged by the day and for not more than three days in the week shall receive an advance of 1s. 6d. per day. This clause not to apply to an employee who is otherwise employed by the Corporation during the whole week, and therefore comes under Clause 1. The case of the old age pensioner to be specially considered and such advances given as is compatible with his circumstances. (3) D. Finan shall receive such annual advance as will produce the equivalent of 5s. per week. (4) In view of advances made under this award the Corporation and the Union shall consider what advances should be made to carters paid at specially arranged daily rates. (5) 46½ hours to constitute the normal working week, the arrangement of hours to be determined by the Corporation; this not to apply to caretakers with free house. (B) Harbour Commissioners—(6) An advance of 7s. per week to employees concerned. (7) 46½-hour working week, arrangement of hours to be determined by the Commissioners. (C) Grocers' Association—(8) To porters, carters, storemen and yardmen an advance of 7s. per week. (9) Hours to remain unaltered. (10) Allowance of 1s. per week to men required to remain on duty till 9 p.m. on Saturday. (D) Importers' Association—(11) An advance of 7s. per week to men over 21 being weekly employees. (12) Day casual men in sheds shall be paid 8s. per day; in stores 7s. per day. (13) Working week to consist of 46½ hours; where this is impracticable, any hours beyond 46½ to be paid at overtime rates. (14) An advance of 4s. per week to youths under 21. (E) D. M. Hanley—(16) Men over 21 shall receive such further advance as will produce a total advance of 21s. per week over pre-war wages. (17) Advance of 4s. per week to youths under 21. (18) A 46½-hour working week, arrangement of hours to be determined by the firm. General—(19) Advances made shall be dependent on the abnormal economic situation created by the war. (20) Increases made shall enter into calculation of overtime where payment for overtime is made. (21) Advances to date as from first pay day following 3rd March, 1919, except in the case of constant weekly men in the stores belonging to the Importers' Association, whose advances shall be retrospective to first full pay day in Feb., 1919. (22) Agreed at the proceedings on the part of certain employers that the new arrangement of hours shall operate as from 28th April. Where such alteration has not been made operative it shall be put into effect as from the beginning of the first ordinary week following the receipt of this award. Issued 30th April, 1919. W.A. 1915/2.

AWARDS APPROVED BY THE MINISTER OF LABOUR UNDER SECTION I OF THE WAGES (TEMPORARY REGULATION) ACT, 1918.

Building and Allied Trades.

BUILDING TRADES OPERATIVES.—Ipswich Master Builders' Association v. National Federation of Building Trade Operatives. Difference—Application for advance in wages of 4½d. per hour, the present rates being: carpenters, 1s. 1½d.; bricklayers, 1s. 1½d.; plumbers, 1s. 2½d.; plasterers, 1s. 2d.; painters, 1s.; labourers, 11d.; scaffolders, 11½d.; woodcutting machinists, 1s. 1½d.; and masons, 1s. 1½d. Arbitrator—Mr. W. H. Stoker, K.C. Award—Wages of employees concerned shall be advanced by 2d. per hour on their wages as fixed (except as regards woodcutting machinists) by the Agreement of 23rd July, 1918, any advances since that date to merge in present award. Advanced wages to include all previous war advances and bonuses, and to be in satisfaction of any claim for 12½

per cent. bonus. As regards woodcutting machinists, the advance of 2d. is to be on their present actual rates; the rate of 1s. 1½d. mentioned in the terms of reference being stated by the Employers' Association to be paid only to skilled machinists. Effective as from the commencement of April, 1919. Issued 23rd April, 1919. W.A. 1305/2.

Note.—This Award was approved by the Minister of Labour under Section 1 of the Wages (T.R.) Act, 1918, on 30th April, 1919.

Transport Trades.

RAILWAY EMPLOYEES, ENGINEERS.—London and South Western Railway Co. Running Sheds at Nine Elms (Eastleigh and Exmouth Junction) v. Their Employees (Reported in *Labour Gazette* for March, 1919, p. 115). Approved 12th February, 1919. W.A. 1157.

AGREEMENTS APPROVED BY THE MINISTER OF LABOUR UNDER SECTION I. OF THE WAGES (TEMPORARY REGULATION) ACT, 1918.

GRINDERS OF AUGERS AND AUGER BITS.—Edge Tool Manufacturers' Association (Sheffield District) and National Amalgamated Union of Labour. Agreement—A poundage advance of 12½ per cent. on present net earnings (i.e. earnings exclusive of war bonus) in the grinding of augers and auger bits, to meet the increase in the cost of working materials. Effective as from 4th Nov., 1918. Agreed 6th Dec., 1918. Approved 1st Jan., 1919. W.A. (M.) 10180.

PEN AND POCKET BLADE FORGERS AND SMITHERS.—The Sheffield Cutlery Manufacturers' Association and the Pen and Pocket Blade Forgers' and Smithers' Protection Society. Agreement—New prices in detail for operations in the manufacture of blades, &c., for the 4-inch army knife and of 4½-inch army and navy blades. Effective as regards the 4-inch army knife as from and for the week following approval; as regards the 4½-inch army and navy blades as from 2nd Dec., 1918. Agreed 25th Oct., 1918. Approved 2nd Jan., 1919. W.A. (M.) 8677. (I.C.)

EDGE TOOL MAKERS (SHEFFIELD).—Edge Tool Manufacturers' Association (Sheffield District) and the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation. Agreement—To men over 21 a war advance of 5s. 6d. per week in full satisfaction of the claim to the 5s. granted under Committee on Production award No. 2800 in the engineering and foundry trades. In fixing the amount of 5s. 6d. regard has been had to the fact that the men concerned do not receive the bonus of 12½ per cent. or 7½ per cent. as such, having been given a flat rate in lieu thereof. To men between 18 and 21 a war advance of 5s. per week; to boys under 18 a war advance of 2s. 6d. per week. Effective as from the pay day in the week ending 7th Dec., 1918, and to be in respect of the period for which payment was made on that day. Agreed 24th Dec., 1918. Approved 10th Jan., 1919. W.A. (M.) 193.

EDGE TOOL MAKERS (SHEFFIELD), INCLUDING EDGE TOOLS (HEAVY AND LIGHT), JOINERS' TOOLS, BRACE BITS AND AUGERS, SPADES, FORKS AND SHOVELS, AND HAMMERS.—Edge Tool Manufacturers' Association (Sheffield District) and the National Amalgamated Union of Labour on behalf of edge tool makers as specified above. Agreement as in W.A. (M.) 193 (above). Agreed 24th Dec., 1918. Approved 10th Jan., 1919. W.A. (M.) 10180.

EDGE TOOL GRINDERS (SHEFFIELD).—Edge Tool Manufacturers' Association (Sheffield District) and the Edge Tool Grinders' Society. Agreement as in W.A. (M.) 193 (above). Agreed 24th Dec., 1918. Approved 10th Jan., 1919. W.A. (M.) 48.

MACHINE KNIFE MAKERS (SHEFFIELD).—Machine Knife and Allied Trades Association and the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation. Agreement as in W.A. (M.) 193 (above). Agreed 24th Dec., 1918. Approved 10th Jan., 1919. W.A. (M.) 196.

MACHINE KNIFE MAKERS, EXCLUDING JOBBING AND SLACKS GRINDERS.—Machine Knife and Allied Trades' Association and the National Amalgamated Union of Labour on behalf of the above. Agreement as in W.A. (M.) 193 (above). Agreed 24th Dec., 1918. Approved 10th Jan., 1919. W.A. (M.) 25.

SAWMAKERS (SHEFFIELD).—Saw Manufacturers' Association and Sheffield Sawmakers' Associated Protection Society. Agreement as in W.A. (M.) 193 (above). Agreed 24th Dec., 1918. Approved 10th Jan., 1919. W.A. (M.) 22.

SCYTHE, SICKLE AND HOOK MAKERS, EXCLUDING SCYTHE GRINDERS.—Scythe, Sickle and Hook Manufacturers' Association and the National Amalgamated Union of Labour on behalf of the above. Agreement as in W.A. (M.) 193 (above). Agreed 24th Dec., 1918. Approved 10th Jan., 1919. W.A. (M.) 24.

SCISSOR GRINDERS.—The Sheffield Cutlery Manufacturers' Association and the Scissor Grinders' Trade Society. Agreement—A further advance of 12½ per cent. for grinding and finishing both Government and commercial work, with the exception of bent work. Effective as from 4th Nov., 1918. Agreed 17th Dec., 1918. Approved 10th Jan., 1919. W.A. (M.) 46.

FILE GRINDERS.—The File Manufacturers' Association and the File Grinders' Trade Society. Agreement—A further war bonus on each existing scale of bonus, as follows: First £1, 22½ per cent.; making 100 per cent.; second £1, 5 per cent.; making 57½ per cent.; over £2, 2½ per cent.; making 40 per cent. These bonuses to be in full satisfaction of claim to the

5s. granted under Committee on Production award No. 2800 in the engineering and foundry trades. Regard has been had to the fact that the men concerned do not receive the bonus of 12½ per cent. or 7½ per cent. as such. Effective as from the pay day in the week ending 7th Dec., 1918. Agreed 24th Dec., 1918. Approved 10th Jan., 1919. W.A. (M.) 108.

FILE MAKERS.—File Manufacturers' Association and Amalgamated Union of File Trades. Agreement—The men and boys concerned shall receive a further war bonus on each existing scale of bonus, as in agreement W.A. (M.) 108 (above). Effective as from the pay day in the week ending 7th Dec., 1918. Agreed 24th Dec., 1918. Approved 16th Jan., 1919. W.A. (M.) 322.

COAL MINES MINIMUM WAGE ACT, 1912.

Mining, Quarrying, &c.

COAL MINERS.—Colliery Proprietors (Bristol district) and their Workmen. Difference—Application for a revision of the minimum wage rates established under the Coal Mines Minimum Wage Act, 1912. This question was settled before the hearing, but the Arbitrator was asked to express an opinion upon a question the nature of which will appear from the award. Arbitrator—Alderman G. Pearson, Chairman of the Joint District Board for Bristol. Award—That no deduction should have been made by the masters from the minimum wages of the men until an application had been made to the Chairman to decide whether or not in his opinion the workmen had forfeited their right to the minimum wage on the grounds that the diminution in the output was caused by the negligence or the default of the workmen. Issued 2nd April, 1919. W.A. 2970.

TRADE BOARDS ACTS, 1909 AND 1918.

Machine-Made Lace and Net Finishing Trade.

CANCELLATION AND VARIATION OF CERTAIN GENERAL MINIMUM PIECE-RATES.

The Machine-made Lace and Net Finishing Trade Board have cancelled a certain general minimum piece-rate and varied certain other general minimum piece-rates; and the Minister of Labour, in pursuance of his statutory powers, has made an Order, dated 29th April, 1919, under Section 4 (2) of the Trade Boards Act, 1918, confirming the said cancellation and variation, and specifying 2nd May, 1919, as the date from which such cancellation and variation shall become effective, in cases in which they are applicable, in respect of all persons employing labour, and of all persons employed in the trade. Where, however, the date specified does not correspond with the beginning of the period for which wages are paid by the employer, the cancellation and variation of the said general minimum piece rates become effective as from the beginning of the next full pay period following the date specified, but in no case later than 8th May, 1919.

The penalty for paying wages at less than the above general minimum piece rates is a fine not exceeding £20 for each offence.

Further particulars regarding the above-mentioned cancellation and variation of general minimum piece rates may be obtained from the Secretary, Lace Finishing Trade Board, 5, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.2.

Linen and Cotton Embroidery Trade, Ireland.

PROPOSAL TO FIX GENERAL MINIMUM PIECE-RATES.

The Linen and Cotton Embroidery Trade Board (Ireland) have issued a notice of proposal, dated 17th April, 1919, stating that they propose to fix general minimum piece-rates for German embroidery on household linens.

Objections to the above proposal may be lodged with the Trade Board within two months from 17th April, 1919. Objections should be in writing, and should be addressed to the Secretary, Linen and Cotton Embroidery Trade Board (Ireland), 5, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.2.

Tobacco Trade.

REGULATIONS, DATED 23RD APRIL, 1919, MADE BY THE MINISTER OF LABOUR UNDER SECTION 11 OF THE TRADE BOARDS ACT, 1909 (9 EDW. 7, CH. 22) WITH RESPECT TO THE CONSTITUTION AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE TRADE BOARD FOR THE TOBACCO TRADE IN GREAT BRITAIN.

The Minister of Labour, in pursuance of his powers under Section 11 of the Trade Boards Act, 1909, and of every power hereunto enabling, has made the annexed Regulations:—

1. A Trade Board shall be established in Great Britain for the Tobacco Trade, as specified in the Trade Boards (Tobacco) Order, 1919, viz.: the manufacture of tobacco, cigars, cigarettes, cigarette tubes, and snuff, including all preparatory processes and including also the operations of storing and store-keeping, boxing, packing, labelling, parcelling and dispatching, and all other warehousing and packing operations incidental to the manufacture of any of the above-mentioned articles.

2. The Trade Board shall consist of not less than 51 and not more than 59 persons, of whom three shall be appointed members and the remainder representative members. The representative members shall be members representing employers and workers respectively, in equal numbers.

3. The Chairman and Deputy Chairman shall be appointed by the Minister of Labour from among the members of the Trade Board, and each of them shall (provided that he con-

tinues to be a member of the Trade Board) hold office for a period of two years, but shall be eligible for re-appointment.

4. The appointed members shall be such of the appointed members of Trade Boards as may be directed by the Minister of Labour to act on the Trade Board, provided that not more than three shall act on the Trade Board at any one time, and that at least one shall be a woman. The term of office of an appointed member shall be two years.

5. The selection and appointment of representative members shall be as follows:—

(a) Twenty-four members representing employers in the trade shall be appointed by the Minister of Labour after considering names supplied by such employers, due regard being paid to the representation of the various branches of the trade and the various districts in which the trade is carried on.

(b) Twenty-four members representing workers in the trade shall be appointed by the Minister of Labour after considering names supplied by such workers, due regard being paid to the representation of the various branches of the trade and of the various districts in which the trade is carried on.

6. The Minister of Labour may, if he thinks it necessary in order to secure proper representation of any class or classes of employers or workers, after giving the Trade Board an opportunity to be heard, appoint additional representative members to serve upon the Trade Board for a period not exceeding two years. The number of such additional representative members shall always be an even number, not exceeding eight in all. Half shall be representatives of employers and half shall be representatives of workers.

7. Any member representing employers who ceases to be an employer and becomes a worker at the trade shall vacate his seat. Any member representing workers who becomes an employer in the trade shall vacate his seat. The question of fact shall in each case be determined by the Minister of Labour.

8. Any member who, in the opinion of the Minister of Labour, fails without reasonable cause to attend one-half of the total number of meetings in a calendar year shall vacate his seat.

9. If in the opinion of the Minister of Labour any representative member shall be incapable of acting as a member of the Trade Board, the Minister of Labour may determine his appointment and he shall thereupon vacate his seat.

10. At the end of two years from the date of the establishment of the Trade Board twelve representative members to be chosen by lot from among the members representing employers, and twelve representative members to be chosen by lot from among the members representing workers (in each case excluding additional representative members nominated under paragraph 6 of these Regulations) shall retire from the Trade Board.

11. At the end of three years from the date of the establishment of the Trade Board, twelve members representing employers and twelve members representing workers (in each case excluding additional representative members appointed under paragraph 6 of these Regulations and excluding members filling the vacancies created by the operation of Paragraph 10 of these Regulations) shall retire from the Trade Board.

12. Subject to the provisions of paragraphs 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11, the term of office of a representative member shall be two years, provided that:—

(a) A member appointed to fill a casual vacancy shall sit for the unexpired portion of the term of office of his predecessor; and

(b) A seat rendered vacant by effluxion of time shall be temporarily occupied by the retiring member until a successor is appointed.

13. Any person vacating his seat on the Trade Board under any of the preceding paragraphs or for any other reason shall be eligible for reappointment as a member of the Trade Board.

14. A vacancy among members shall be filled in the same manner as in the case of the original appointment to the vacated seat.

15. Every member of the Trade Board shall have one vote. If at any meeting of the Board the numbers of members present representing employers and workers, respectively, are unequal, it shall be open to the side which is in the majority to arrange that one or more of its members shall refrain from voting, so as to preserve equality. Failing such an arrangement, the Chairman, or in his absence the Deputy Chairman, may, if he thinks it desirable, adjourn the voting on any question to another meeting of the Board.

16. The Trade Board shall continue in existence until dissolved by Order of the Minister of Labour.

17. The Trade Board may be known under the short title of "The Tobacco Trade Board (Great Britain)."

18. Any question upon the construction or interpretation of these Regulations shall in the event of dispute be referred to the Minister of Labour for decision.

Dated this 23rd day of April, 1919.

R. S. Horne,
Minister of Labour.

APPOINTMENT OF TOBACCO TRADE BOARD.

In pursuance of the powers conferred upon him by the Trade Boards Acts, 1909 and 1918, the Minister of Labour has established a Trade Board for the Tobacco Trade in Great Britain as specified in the Trade Boards (Tobacco) Order, 1919.

In accordance with the Regulations for the above-mentioned trade dated 23rd April, 1919, the Trade Board consists of:—

(1) Three appointed members, namely,
Professor L. T. Hobhouse, D.Litt.,
Mr. G. W. Daniels,
Miss Hilda Cashmore.

(2) Twenty-four members representing employers in the trade appointed by the Minister of Labour after considering names supplied by such employers, due regard having been paid to the representation of the various branches of the trade and the various districts in which the trade is carried on.

(3) Twenty-four members representing workers in the trade appointed by the Minister of Labour after considering names supplied by such workers, due regard having been paid to the representation of the various branches of the trade, and of the various districts in which the trade is carried on.

The Minister of Labour has appointed Professor L. T. Hobhouse, D.Litt., to be Chairman, Mr. G. W. Daniels to be Deputy Chairman, and Mr. G. T. Reid to be Secretary of the Trade Board.

Laundry Trade.

REGULATIONS, DATED 30TH APRIL, 1919, MADE BY THE MINISTER OF LABOUR UNDER SECTION 11 OF THE TRADE BOARDS ACT, 1909 (9 EDW. 7, CH. 22) WITH RESPECT TO THE CONSTITUTION AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE TRADE BOARD FOR THE LAUNDRY TRADE IN GREAT BRITAIN.

The Minister of Labour, in pursuance of his powers under Section 11 of the Trade Boards Act, 1909, and of every other power hereunto enabling, has made the annexed Regulations:—

1. A Trade Board shall be established in Great Britain for the Laundry Trade, as specified in the Trade Boards (Laundry) Order, 1919, namely, the laundering of articles of every description and all processes and operations incidental thereto performed by way of trade or for the purpose of gain.

2. The Trade Board shall consist of not less than 37 and not more than 45 persons, of whom three shall be appointed members and the remainder representative members. The representative members shall be members representing employers and workers, respectively, in equal proportions.

3. The Chairman and Deputy Chairman shall be appointed by the Minister of Labour from among the members of the Trade Board and each of them shall (provided that he continues to be a member of the Trade Board) hold office for a period of two years, but shall be eligible for re-appointment.

4. The appointed members shall be such of the appointed members of Trade Boards as may be directed by the Minister of Labour to act on the Trade Board, provided that not more than three shall act on the Trade Board at any one time, and that at least one shall be a woman. The term of office of an appointed member shall be two years.

5. The selection and appointment of representative members shall be as follows, due regard being paid to the representation of the various branches of the trade and of the various districts in which the trade is carried on:—

(a) Seventeen members representing employers in the trade shall be appointed by the Minister of Labour after considering names supplied by such employers.

(b) Seventeen members representing workers in the trade shall be appointed by the Minister of Labour after considering names supplied by such workers.

6. The Minister of Labour may, if he thinks it necessary in order to secure proper representation of any class or classes of employers or workers, after giving the Trade Board an opportunity to be heard, appoint additional representative members to serve upon the Trade Board for a period not exceeding two years. The number of such additional representative members shall always be an even number not exceeding eight in all. Half shall be representatives of employers and half shall be representatives of workers.

7. Any member representing employers who ceases to be an employer and becomes a worker at the trade shall vacate his seat. Any member representing workers who becomes an employer in the trade shall vacate his seat. The question of fact shall in each case be determined by the Minister of Labour.

8. Any member who, in the opinion of the Minister of Labour fails, without reasonable cause, to attend one-half of the total number of meetings in a calendar year shall vacate his seat.

9. If, in the opinion of the Minister of Labour any member shall be incapable of acting as a member of the Trade Board, the Minister of Labour may determine his appointment and he shall thereupon vacate his seat.

10. At the end of one year from the date of the establishment of the Trade Board the members representing employers and the members representing workers shall retire from the Trade Board.

11. At the end of two years from the date of the establishment of the Trade Board nine representative members to be chosen by lot from among the members representing employers and nine representative members to be chosen by lot from among the members representing workers (in each case excluding additional representative members appointed under paragraph 6 of these Regulations) shall retire from the Trade Board.

12. Subject to the provisions of paragraphs 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11, the term of office of a representative member shall be two years, provided that:—

(i) a member appointed to fill a casual vacancy shall sit

for the unexpired portion of the term of office of his predecessor; and

(ii) a seat rendered vacant by effluxion of time shall be temporarily occupied by the retiring member until a successor is appointed.

13. Any person vacating his seat on the Trade Board under any of the preceding paragraphs or for any other reason shall be eligible for re-appointment as a member of the Trade Board.

14. A vacancy among members shall be filled in the same manner as in the case of the original appointment to the vacated seat.

15. Every member of the Trade Board shall have one vote. If at any meeting of the Board the numbers of members present representing employers and workers, respectively, are unequal, it shall be open to the side which is in the majority to arrange that one or more of its members shall refrain from voting, so as to preserve equality. Failing such an arrangement, the Chairman, or, in his absence, the Deputy Chairman, may, if he thinks it desirable, adjourn the voting on any question to another meeting of the Board.

16. The Trade Board shall continue in existence until dissolved by order of the Minister of Labour.

17. The Trade Board may be known under the short title of "The Laundry Trade Board (Great Britain)."

18. Any question upon the construction or interpretation of these Regulations shall in the event of dispute be referred to the Minister of Labour for decision.

Dated this 30th day of April, 1919.

R. S. Horne,
Minister of Labour.

APPOINTMENT OF LAUNDRY TRADE BOARD.

In pursuance of the powers conferred on him by the Trade Boards Acts, 1909 and 1918, the Minister of Labour has established a Trade Board for the Laundry Trade in Great Britain as specified in the Trade Boards (Laundry) Order, 1919.

In accordance with the regulations with respect to the constitution and proceedings of the above-mentioned Trade Board dated 30th April, 1919, the Trade Board consists of:—

(1) Three appointed members, namely:—

Sir Alfred Hopkinson, K.C.,
Mr. E. H. C. Wethered,
Miss M. Céile Matheson.

(2) Seventeen members representing employers in the trade appointed by the Minister of Labour after considering names supplied by such employers, due regard having been paid to the representation of the various branches of the trade and the various districts in which the trade is carried on.

(3) Seventeen members representing workers in the trade appointed by the Minister of Labour after considering names supplied by such workers, due regard having been paid to the representation of the various branches of the trade, and of the various districts in which the trade is carried on.

The Minister of Labour has appointed Sir Alfred Hopkinson, K.C., to be Chairman, Mr. E. H. C. Wethered to be Deputy Chairman, and Mr. G. T. Reid to be Secretary of the Trade Board.

SPECIAL ORDERS MADE UNDER SECTION 1 OF THE TRADE BOARDS ACT, 1918.

Boot and Shoe Repairing.

The Minister of Labour has, in pursuance of the powers conferred on him by Section 1 of the Trade Boards Act, 1918, made a Special Order, dated 18th April, 1919, that from and after that date the following provision shall have effect, that is to say:—

Article 1.—The Trade Boards Acts, 1909 and 1918, shall apply to the trade specified in the appendix to this Order.

Article 2.—This Order may be cited as the Trade Boards (Boot and Shoe Repairing) Order, 1919.

The trade specified in the appendix to the above notice is as follows:—

The Boot and Shoe Repairing Trade, that is to say, the repairing wherever carried on of boots, shoes, slippers and all kinds of leather footwear, including the making of bespoke, handsewn, rivetted or pegged leather footwear; but excluding the manufacture of leather footwear on a large scale, the repairing of saddlery and leather goods other than leather footwear and the retailing of leather footwear.

Brush and Broom Trade.

The Minister of Labour has, in pursuance of the powers conferred on him by Section 1 of the Trade Boards Act, 1918, made a special Order, dated 9th May, 1919, that from and after that date the following provision shall have effect, that is to say:—

Article 1. The Trade Boards Acts, 1909 and 1918, shall apply to the trade specified in the appendix to this Order.

Article 2. This Order may be cited as the Trade Boards (Brush and Broom) Order, 1919.

The trade specified in the appendix to the above notice is as follows:—

The brush and broom trade, that is to say, the manufacture of brushes (other than feather brushes) or brooms; including the following operations where all or any of them are carried on in association with or in conjunction with the manufacture of such brushes or brooms:—

(a) The drafting, dressing or mixing of bass, whisk or similar fibres or animal bristles or hair and the working of wood, bone, ivory or celluloid;

(b) All finishing, warehousing, packing or other opera-

tions incidental to or appertaining to the manufacture of such brushes or brooms;

but excluding the following operations:—

The sawing and turning of wood as a preliminary operation to the manufacture of such brushes or brooms, the making of metal parts, and the mounting of brushes with metal or tortoise-shell backs.

Corset Trade.

The Minister of Labour has, in pursuance of the powers conferred on him by Section I. of the Trade Boards Act, 1918, made a special Order, dated 6th May, 1919, that from and after that date the following provision shall have effect, that is to say:—

Article 1. The Trade Boards Acts, 1909 and 1918, shall apply to the trade specified in the appendix to this Order.

Article 2. This Order may be cited as the Trade Boards (Corset) Order, 1919.

The trade specified in the appendix to the above notice is as follows:—

The corset trade, that is to say:—

- The manufacture of corsets, stays, children's corset bodices, infant's stay bands, bust confiners such as brassières and bandeaux when boned or with elastic webbing in their construction.
- The manufacture of support or abdominal belts and similar articles except where made in association with or in conjunction with the manufacture of surgical instruments.
- The assembling of stocking suspenders in conjunction with or in association with the manufacture of any of the above mentioned articles.
- All warehousing, packing or other operations incidental to or appertaining to the manufacture of any of the above mentioned articles.

Hair, Bass and Fibre Trade.

The Minister of Labour has, in pursuance of the powers conferred on him by Section I. of the Trade Boards Act, 1918, made a special Order, dated 9th May, 1919, that from and after that date the following provision shall have effect, that is to say:—

Article 1. The Trade Boards Acts, 1909 and 1918, shall apply to the trade specified in the appendix to this Order.

Article 2. This Order may be cited as the Trade Boards (Hair, Bass and Fibre) Order, 1919.

The trade specified in the appendix to the above notice is as follows:—

The hair, bass and fibre trade, that is to say, the drafting, dressing or mixing of bass, whisk or similar fibres or horse hair or other hairs and the curling or weaving of hair or fibre or of mixed hair and fibre, and all preparatory, finishing, warehousing or packing operations incidental to or appertaining to all or any of the above processes, but excluding any of the above operations or processes where they are carried on in association with or in conjunction with the manufacture of brushes or brooms, and excluding also the dressing of animal skins.

Paper Bag Trade.

The Minister of Labour has, in pursuance of the powers conferred on him by Section I. of the Trade Boards Act, 1918, made a Special Order, dated 25th April, 1919, that from and after that date the following provision shall have effect, that is to say:—

Article 1.—The Trade Boards Acts, 1909 and 1918, shall apply to the trade specified in the appendix to this Order.

Article 2.—This Order may be cited as the Trade Boards (Paper Bag Trade) Order, 1919.

The trade specified in the appendix to the above notice is as follows:—

The Paper Bag Trade, that is to say, the manufacture from paper (including gauzined or clothlined paper) of any bag or container without a gummed flap, including the operations of packing, parcelling, warehousing, receiving, store-keeping, dispatching, timekeeping, lift-operating, and cleaning, when these operations are carried on in connection with paper bag manufacture, and including the printing of paper bags when the printing apparatus is attached to the making apparatus; but excluding the manufacture of bags or containers with ungummed flaps (for use in the transmission of printed matter or samples) when made by the same processes as gummed envelopes, and excluding the manufacture of receptacles from cardboard, such as boxes, cartons or skillots.

STATUTORY RULES AND ORDERS, 1919.

DISEASES OF OCCUPATIONS.

No. 914.

REGULATIONS dated 26th April, 1919, for the prevention of fibroid phthisis among workers engaged in factories using refractory materials have been made by the Home Secretary under Section 79 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, and are now in force. These Regulations apply to all factories and workshops or parts thereof in which is carried on the processes of crushing, grinding and sieving of refractory materials containing not less than 80 per cent. of silica (SiO₂), and any processes involving the manipulation of such materials in the manufacture of bricks or other articles containing not less than 80 per cent. of silica (SiO₂).

NIGHT WORK IN THE BAKING TRADE.

COMMITTEE OF INQUIRY.

THE Minister of Labour has appointed the following to be a Committee to inquire into the question of night-baking in the Baking Trade:

Sir Wm. Mackenzie, K.B.E., K.C. (Chairman).
Mr. R. E. Graves, C.B.E., Deputy Chief Inspector of Factories.

Mr. Webster Jenkinson, C.B.E.
Mr. J. J. Jones, M.P.
Major The Hon. E. F. L. Wood, M.P.
Secretary, Mr. Robert Wilson, Ministry of Labour, Montagu House, Whitehall, S.W.1.

The terms of reference of the Committee are:—"To inquire into the practice of night-baking in the Bread Baking and Flour Confectionery Trade, and to report whether it is desirable in the interests of those engaged in the trade and of the community that the practice should be abolished or modified." The first sitting of the Committee was held on 1st May.

NATIONAL INSURANCE (UNEMPLOYMENT) ACTS, 1911 to 1918.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE.

Decisions by the Umpire.

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

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

2451. Workmen (other than sawmillers, machine wood-workers, or the makers of metal, leather or rubber parts) engaged in the manufacture of toy scooters.

2452. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly in making crates which consist of interlaced green wooden wands and not of sawn or worked wood, and which are used for packing domestic earthenware or similar goods. (Application 508X).

This decision modifies decision A1793X (BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE for October, 1916) in so far as it conflicts therewith.

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

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

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

OUT-OF-WORK DONATION.

COMMITTEE OF INQUIRY.

THE Minister of Labour has appointed a Committee to make inquiries and report with regard to the Out-of-Work Donation Scheme instituted in November, 1918, and extended in February, 1919, and to make recommendations as to any modifications that may be desirable in the scope and administration of the existing scheme.

The members of the Committee are:—

Lord Aberconway (Chairman).
Sir Montague Barlow, K.B.E., M.P.
Col. Sir Godfrey Collins, M.P.
Major G. R. Lane-Fox, M.P.
Mr. T. Shaw, M.P.
Sir Walter Kinnear, K.B.E. } representing the Treasury.
Mr. F. Phillips. }
Mr. F. G. Bowers. } representing the Ministry of
Mr. T. W. Phillips, C.B.E. } Labour.

The Secretary of the Committee is Mr. G. C. Ricketts, Queen Anne's Chambers, 28, Broadway, Westminster, S.W.1.

CIVILIAN WORKERS IN IRELAND.

THE Lord Lieutenant of Ireland has certified that there is in the trades mentioned below a substantial amount of unemployment caused directly by the cessation of hostilities:—

- Persons employed in munition factories otherwise than in insured trades, and who were, in respect of such employment, contributors under the National Health Insurance Scheme for not less than three months prior to 25th Nov., 1918.
- Workpeople employed abroad on Government work in trades which are insured trades in this country, for not less than ten weeks between July, 1914, and 25th Nov., 1918.

Civilian workers who have been so employed will accordingly, on satisfying the other conditions of the scheme, be entitled during unemployment to claim donation under the Out-of-Work Donation Scheme as amended for Ireland.

Applications for Out-of-Work Donation by persons included in the certificate will be admitted as from the 10th April, 1919.

APPOINTMENT OF CERTIFYING SURGEONS.

APRIL, 1919.

District.	Certifying Surgeon.	Place and time for Examination.*
Beaminster (Dorset)	Dr. A. A. Pim, The Walnuts, Beaminster	Wednesday, 9-10 a.m.
Bentham (Yorks. West Riding)	Dr. A. J. Troughton, Station Road, Bentham, Lancaster	Surgery, Tuesday, 9-10 a.m.
Bridgnorth (Salop)	Dr. L. E. Dickson, Northgate House, Bridgnorth	Wednesday, 9-10 a.m.
Brynamman (Carmarthen)	Dr. J. H. Timothy, Brook Villa, Gwaun-cae-Gurwen, Glam.	Surgery, Wednesday, 9-10 a.m.
Denby Dale (Yorks. West Riding)	Dr. R. N. Farrer, Clayton West, Huddersfield	(1) Week-days, 9-9.30 a.m. (2) Surgery, Denby Dale, Friday, 12 noon.
Gortin (co. Tyrone)	Dr. P. Clarke, Gortin	Mr. J. Doherty's, Gortin, co. Tyrone, Wednesday, 9-10 a.m.
Martock (Somerset)	Dr. S. C. Clapham, The Grange, Martock	Wednesday, 9-10.30 a.m.
Perranporth (Cornwall)	Dr. E. G. Barker, Somerleigh, Perranporth	Wednesday, 9-10 a.m.
Poole (Dorset)	Dr. J. Thomarson, Clovely, Parkstone Road, Poole	Wednesday, 9-10 a.m.
Sheffield, East (Yorks. West Riding)	Dr. J. E. Stacey, 2, Durham Road, Sheffield	Wednesday, 9-10 a.m.
Sheffield (Bedford)	Dr. J. I. Langley, Arlesey, Hitchin	Week-days, 6-8 p.m.
Skegness (Lincoln)	Dr. A. W. Allen, Anstruther House, Skegness	Wednesday, 9-10.30 a.m.
Teignmouth (Devon)	Dr. F. S. L. Pigott, Bitton Street, Teignmouth	Wednesday, 9-10 a.m.
Woburn Sands (Bedford)	Dr. C. C. Smith, Woburn	Surgery, Thursday, 9-10 a.m.

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

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

PUBLICATIONS RELATING TO LABOUR RECEIVED DURING APRIL.

[All the Official Publications (distinguished by Cd., Cmd., H.C. or S.O. publications) may be purchased through any Bookseller or directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses: Imperial House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2, and 28, Abingdon Street, London, S.W.1; 37, Peter Street, Manchester; 1, St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff; 23, Forth Street, Edinburgh; or from E. Ponsbury, Ltd., 116, Grafton Street, Dublin; or from the Agencies in the British Dominions and Dependencies, the United States of America and other foreign countries of T. Fisher Unwin, Ltd., London, W.C.1.]

UNITED KINGDOM.

Openings in Industry suitable for Disabled Sailors and Soldiers. No. XXVIII. Cotton Trade. Ministry of Labour. [S.O. publication: price 1d.]

Demobilisation and Resettlement. Regulations made by the Military Service (Civil Liabilities Committee). Ministry of Labour. [Cmd. 88: price 1d.]

Reconstruction Problems. Pamphlets of the Ministry of Reconstruction. No. 20. Land Settlement. No. 21. The Classics in British Education. [S.O. publications: price 2d. each.]

Mines and Quarries, 1918. Advance Proof (subject to correction) of the Tables relating to the Output of Coal and other Minerals and the Number of Persons Employed at Mines worked under the Coal and Metalliferous Mines Acts during the year 1918. Home Office.

Fencing and Safety Precautions for Transmission Machinery in Factories. Safety Pamphlet No. 1. Home Office. [S.O. publications: price 3d.]

An Inquiry into the Prevalence and Actiology of Tuberculosis among Industrial Workers, with special reference to Female Munition Workers. Medical Research Committee, National Health Insurance. [S.O. publication: price 1s. 6d.]

Eightieth Annual Report of the Registrar-General of Births, Deaths and Marriages in England and Wales, 1917. [Cmd. 40: price 5s.]

Housing (Financial Assistance) Committee. Final Report. Ministry of Reconstruction. [Cd. 9238: price 3d.]

Housing. Schemes submitted to the Local Government Board by Local Authorities. [Cmd. 115: price 2d.]

Constabulary. Scotland. Sixty-first Report of H.M. Inspector, 1918. Strength of the force, average pay with war bonus, &c. [Cmd. 90: price 1d.]

Report on the Sea and Inland Fisheries of Ireland for 1917. Vessels and crews, loans for boat building and improvement, &c. [Cmd. 44: price 3d.]

BRITISH INDIA AND BRITISH DOMINIONS.

INDIA.—Publications of the Department of Statistics. (1) Statistics of British India, 1916-17. Vol. IV. Administrative, Judicial and Self-Government. (2) Monthly Statistics of Cotton Spinning and Weaving in Indian Mills, November and December, 1918, and January, 1919. (3) Cotton Pressing Factories and Cotton Spinning Mills in India, 1917-18.

CROWN COLONIES.—Colonial Reports—Annual. No. 979—Gambia, 1917 [price 2d.] No. 981—Gibraltar, 1917 [price 1d.] No. 982—Bermuda, 1917 [price 1d.] No. 985—Mauritius, 1917 [price 3d.] No. 988—East Africa Protectorate, 1916-17 [price 2d.] No. 989—Barbados, 1917-18 [price 1d.]

CANADA.—The Labour Gazette, March, 1919. Proceedings under the Industrial Disputes Investigation Act during February, strikes and lock-outs during 1918 and in February,

1919, employment offices, wholesale and retail prices, farm wages during 1914-17, legislation, &c. Eighth Annual Report on Wholesale Prices in Canada, 1917. Department of Labour. [Ottawa: J. de L. Taché, King's Printer.]

NEW SOUTH WALES.—The Industrial Arbitration Reports, 1918. Part IV. [Sydney: W. A. Gullick, Government Printer.]

—The Official Year Book, 1917. Food and prices, employment and industrial arbitration, social condition, &c. John B. Trivett, Government Statistician. [Sydney: W. A. Gullick, Government Printer.]

VICTORIA.—Fortieth Annual Report on Friendly Societies, 1917. Valuations of societies, numerical and financial summaries of the returns furnished by the secretaries, &c. Government Statistician. [Melbourne: H. J. Green, Acting Government Printer.]

QUEENSLAND.—Industrial Peace Act Awards and Agreements, 1919. Cabinet Making and Undertaking, Mackay District, 7th January. Sanitary Workers, Cairns, 15th January. Engine Drivers and Firemen, 20th January. Police, 24th January.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—Wages Board Determinations. (1) Judgment, 10th December, 1918, re Railway Employees. (2) Judgment, 18th December, 1918, upon application to vary Determination of the Carpenters' and Joiners' Wages Board.

NEW ZEALAND.—Twenty-Seventh Annual Report of the Department of Labour, year ended 31st March, 1918. Condition of trade and employment, conciliation and arbitration, membership of industrial unions, &c. [Wellington: Marcus F. Marks, Government Printer.]

—Monthly Abstract of Statistics, December, 1918. Wholesale and retail prices, cost of living and purchasing power of money, old age pensions, State advances to workers, &c. [Wellington: Marcus F. Marks, Government Printer.]

—Twentieth Annual Report of the Pensions Department, year ended 31st March, 1918. Old age, widows', military, miners', War. [Wellington: Marcus F. Marks, Government Printer.]

SOUTH AFRICA.—Statistics of Production. Statistics of Factories and Protective Industries (excluding Mining and Quarrying) in the Union for the year 1916-17 (Second Industrial Census, 1918). Office of Census and Statistics. [Pretoria: Government Printing Office.]

—Social Statistics, Statistics of Cost of Living, 1914 to February, 1919. Office of Census and Statistics. [Pretoria: Government Printing and Stationery Office.]

—Report of the Labour Department, January and February, 1919. Applications for employment, demand, vacancies filled.

SOUTH AFRICA.—The South African Journal of Industries, February and March, 1919. Labour and industrial conditions in January and February. Ministry of Mines and Industries. [Pretoria: Government Printing and Stationery Office.]

FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

INTERNATIONAL.—(1) International Review of Agricultural Economics, January—February, 1919. (2) International Crop Report and Agricultural Statistics, April, 1919. International Institute of Agriculture. [Rome: Printing Office of the Institute.]

UNITED STATES (a) Federal.—Bulletin of the United States Bureau of Labour Statistics. No. 247, January, 1919. Proceedings of the Employment Managers' Conference, Rochester (N.Y.), May 9-11, 1918. [Washington: Government Printing Office.]

(b) State.—New York. (1) The Bulletin, March, 1919. The Labour Market, bureaus of compensation, women in industry, inspection, &c. State Industrial Commission. (2) The Labour Market Bulletin, January, 1919. Employment in January, average weekly earnings in New York State factories, comparison of average weekly earnings with course of retail food prices in the United States. [Albany: J. B. Lyon Co., Printers.]

—Massachusetts. Thirty-second Annual Report on the Statistics of Manufactures for the year 1917. Wage-earners, with increases and average yearly earnings. Bureau of Statistics. [Boston: Wright & Potter Printing Co., State Printers.]

—Massachusetts. Twelfth Annual Report on the Public Employment Offices for the year 1918. Bureau of Statistics. [Boston: Wright & Potter Printing Co., State Printers.]

—Massachusetts. Eighty-fourth Quarterly Report on Employment in Massachusetts, quarter ending 31st December, 1918.

—California. Eighteenth Biennial Report of the Bureau of Labour Statistics, 1917-18. Public and private employment bureaus and agencies, eight-hour law for women, child-labour law, wages and hours, &c. [Sacramento: California State Printing Office.]

—Connecticut. Twenty-eighth Report of the Bureau of Labour Statistics for the two years ended 30th November, 1918. Strikes and lock-outs, wages in building trades, labour organisations, public employment offices, occupational diseases, &c. Labour Laws, Revision of, 1918. Department of Labour and Factory Inspection. [Hartford: published by the State.]

—Minnesota. Fifteenth Biennial Report of the Department of Labour and Industries, 1915-1916. Labour organisations, public employment offices, report on women and children, occupational diseases in Minnesota, apprenticeship in Minneapolis, &c. [Minneapolis: Syndicate Printing Co.]

—Ohio. Bulletins of the Industrial Commission. Vol. V. No. 2—Report No. 36, November, 1918. Statistics of Mines

H.M. Stationery Office—continued.

Sons, Ltd., Penicuik, N.B.; Hele Paper Co., Ltd., Hele, Cul-lompton; Northfleet Paper Mills, Ltd., Northfleet; Olive & Partington, Ltd., Glossop; R. Sommerville & Co., Ltd., Creech, nr. Taunton; Spicer Bros., Ltd., Eynsford, Kent; Ulverston Paper Co., Ltd., Ulverston; Chapman & Co., Balham; The Lion Typewriter Supplies Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; Millington & Sons, London, E.C.; J. W. Marshall & Co., Ltd., Bolton; Waterlow & Sons, London, E.C.; Roneo, Ltd., London, E.C.; Silkate, Ltd., London, S.E.; Crusader Manufacturing Co., Walthamstow; Esco, Ltd., London, E.C.; G. Church & Co., London, S.E.; Paper Cutting and Toilet Requisite Co., Camberwell; W. Baldwin, London, E.C.; J. Cropper & Co., Kendal; Roughway Paper Mills, Kent; Thomas & Green, Bucks; Ramsbottom Paper Mills, Manchester; Spalding & Hodge, London, W.C.; West & Partners, London, S.W.; C. T. Hook & Co., Ltd., Kent; London Paper Mills, Kent; S. Jones & Co., Camberwell; Wiggins, Teape & Co., Dover; J. Dickinson & Co., Apsley Mills; E. Saunders & Sons, London, E.C.—**Printing, Ruling and Binding:** 7,000 Books: H. R. Danford, Singer Street, E.C. 750,000 Labels: Fisher, Clark & Co., Boston, Lincs. 7,000 Books: W. Collins, Sons & Co., Ltd., London, E.C. 800,000 Tickets: Harland & Sons, Hull. 150 Document Wallets: Hess & Co., London, E.C. 100 L/L Ledger Metals: British L/L Manufacturers, Ltd., London, S.E. 10,000 Posters: Dangerfield Printing Co., Herts. 20,000 Posters: H. G. Banks, Ltd., London, W.C. 100 Ledgers: Burrup, Mathieson & Sprague, Ltd., London, S.E. 100 Rexine Gusset Pouches: J. & Bennett Green, London, E.C. 20,000,000 Telegram Forms: Percy Bros., Manchester. 20,000 Books: H. Baldwin & Co., London, E.C. 4,000,000 Telegram Forms: E. Senior & Son, Denton. 5,000,000 Telegram Forms: J. Haywood, Ltd., Manchester. 1,000 Attendance Books: G. Hargreaves, Manchester. 1,029,850 Income Tax Forms: H. Blacklock & Co., Manchester. 1,250,700 Income Tax Forms; 50,000 D.3 Books: Illustrations, Ltd., Salford. 718,250 Income Tax Forms: H. Howarth & Co., Ltd., Manchester. 56,325 Income Tax Forms; 322,550 Income Tax Forms: Bednall Bros., Ltd., Manchester. 2,000,000 Card A.: Willmer Bros. & Co., Birkenhead. 12,000 Books; 100,000 Bags: J. Dickinson & Co., Ltd., Hemel Hempstead. 6,000 Pads; 5,125 Books: Chapman & Co., Balham. 16,000 Books; 5,000 Books; 600 Books: J. Rissen, Ltd., London, E.C. 6,000 Books; 1,250 Books; 11,000 Covers; 8,500 Books; 20,000 Books; 35,000 Covers; 5,000 Portfolios: Waterlow & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C. 5,000 Files: A. E. Walker, Canonbury, N. 7,000 Books: Tee, Whiten & J. Mead, Ltd., London, S.E. 1,000 Rms. Double F'caps: Willmott & Son, London, E.C. 1,000 Rms. Double F'cap: Grimsey & Son, London, E.C. 400,000 Forms: Hazell, Watson & Viney, London, W.C. 200,000 D.E. Books; 20,000 Cases; 10,000 Books: McCorquodale & Co., Wolverton, Bucks. 50,000 D.E. Books: Midland Ptg. Co., Oldbury. 100,000 D.E. Books: C. Nicholls & Co., Manchester. 100,000 D.E. Books: J. Rostron & Son, Leeds. 6,000 Books; 1,994 Books: Woolnough & Sons, Ltd., London, N. 50,000 D.3 Books: Abel Heywood, Manchester. 50,000 D.3 Books: Percival Jones, Birmingham. 2,000 Books: Drake, Driver & Leaver, Ltd., London, E.C.

H.M. OFFICE OF WORKS.

Building Works: Birmingham District, Ordinary Works and Repairs: J. E. Harper, Birmingham. Brighton and Hove, Ordinary Works and Repairs: W. A. Field & Cox, Brighton. Bristol and Avonmouth, Ordinary Works and Repairs: T. Weeks, Bristol. Bunford (Somerset), Flax Mill, General Builders' Work: R. G. Spiller, Chard, Somerset. Bury St. Edmunds, Flax Mill, General Builders' Work: Walter Jones & Sons, London, S.W. Cardiff District, Ordinary Works and Repairs: Joseph Thomas & Son, Cardiff. Dover, Duke of York's School, Guston, Ordinary Works and Repairs: G. Lewis & Sons, Dover. Fort William, Adaptation of Highland Hotel as a Hostel: D. McDougall, Fort William. Glasgow, Central Employment Exchanges, Balmoral Hotel, Sauchiehall Street, Painters' Work: R. and C. Smellie, Glasgow. Hampton Court, Kew and Richmond District, Ordinary Works and Repairs: Limpus & Son, Kingston, Surrey. Leeds District, Ordinary Works and Repairs: Lazenby Bros., Leeds. Leicester District, Ordinary Works and Repairs: Chitham & Co., Ltd., Leicester. Liverpool District, Ordinary Works and Repairs: John Williams, Liverpool. Manchester and Salford District, Ordinary Works and Repairs: J. Hibbert & Co., Manchester. Newcastle-on-Tyne, Ordinary Works and Repairs: S. F. Davidson, Newcastle-on-Tyne. Newcastle-on-Tyne, "Lynwood," Jesmond Dene, Adaptation for a Hospital for Ministry of Pensions: W. B. Cooper & Sons, Sunderland. Peterborough, Flax Mill, General Builders' Work: Harold Arnold & Sons, Ltd., Doncaster. Preston (Somerset), Flax Mill, General Builders' Work: R. G. Spiller, Chard, Somerset. Selby, Flax Mill, General Builders' Work: J. Gerrard & Sons, Ltd., Swinton, Manchester. Sheffield District, Ordinary Works and Repairs: Ash, Son & Biggin, Ltd., Sheffield. Swansea, Grain Stores, Ordinary Works and Repairs: D. Jenkins, Ltd., Swansea. Windsor District, Ordinary Works and Repairs: W. Goddard & Son, Eton. **Engineering Works:** East Greenwich, H.M. Fuel Research Station, Steelwork for Heating Furnace and Condenser Staging: James Allen, Senr., & Son, Ltd., London, E.C. Flax Production, D.F. Breakers: O. Levi Farinaux, Paris. Three-way Plug Cocks (Retting): The Steam Fittings Co., Ltd., West Drayton, Middlesex. C.I. Pipes, Crosses, &c., for Retting Tanks: Stewarts & Lloyds, Ltd., Glasgow. Leslie, Flax Mill, Electric Overhead Runway in Retting Room: Herbert Morris, Ltd., Loughborough.—**Furniture:** Desks, examination: Bennet Fur-

H.M. Office of Works—continued.

nishing Co., Ltd., Peckham, S.E. Presses, Linen and Chest Cupboards: Midland Joinery Works, Melton Mowbray. Tables, messroom: S. Edwards, London, N.E. Wardrobes: W. T. Nichols, Ltd., Gloucester. Washstand Frames (W.I. Folding): Brown & Woods, Ltd., Ipswich.—**Miscellaneous:** Birmingham Post Office, Stores Department, Fordham Lane Depot: Relaying Wood Block Flooring: J. H. Bardsley, Manchester. London District Chimney Sweeping (1, 4, 19-31, 3, 20). North Section: J. Cooper & Sons, London, N. East Central and Whitehall "B" Section: E. F. Duffin, Camden Town, N.W. South and "A" Whitehall Section: Phillips & Lewis, London, S.W. London District Window Cleaning (1, 4, 19-31, 3, 20). East Central Section: Soldiers and Sailors (Khaki) Window Cleaning Society, Ltd., London, W.C. North, South and Whitehall Sections and Various Government Buildings. Great Metropolitan Window Cleaning Co., Ltd., London, S.W. National Physical Laboratory, Teddington. Jointless Flooring: British Doloment Co., Ltd., London, S.W. Trucks, steel: G. Trollope & Sons & Colls & Sons, Ltd., London, S.E.

POST OFFICE STORES DEPARTMENT.

Apparatus, Telegraphic: Donald Murray, London, N.—**Apparatus, Telephonic:** British Insulated and Helsby Cables, Ltd., Helsby; British L.M. Ericsson Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Beeston; London Electric Wire Co. and Smiths, Ltd., Leyton; Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., Woolwich; Western Electric Co., Ltd., North Woolwich.—**Bolts, Arm:** Bayliss Jones & Bayliss, Ltd., Wolverhampton.—**Brackets:** Walls, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Casks:** Tyson & Co., London, E.—**Cloth for Uniform Clothing:** H. Booth & Sons, Gildersome, nr. Leeds; Colbeck Bros., Ltd., Wakefield; Reuben Gaunt & Sons, Ltd., Farsley, Leeds; A. W. Hainsworth & Sons, Farsley, Leeds.—**Combiners:** Bullers, Ltd., Tipton.—**Ducts Stoneware (and Bends):** Albion Clay Co., Ltd., Woodville; Doulton & Co., Ltd., Rowley Regis; H. R. Mansfield, Church Gresley, Burton-on-Trent; Mountford Phillips & Co., Ltd., Llantrisant, nr. Cardiff; Oates & Green, Ltd., Halifax; Stanley Bros., Ltd., Nuneaton; Sutton & Co., Overseal, Ashby-de-la-Zouch; T. Wragg & Sons, Ltd., Burton-on-Trent.—**Lamps, Cycle:** H. Miller & Co., Ltd., North Birmingham.—**Mudguards, Cycle:** The Wasdell Rim and Tube Co., Birmingham.—**Paper, Buff and Green:** Smith Anderson & Co., Ltd., Leslie, Fife.—**Paper, Telegraph Wheatstone:** Waterlow & Sons, Ltd., Old Ford.—**Pipe, W.I.:** Stewarts & Lloyds, Ltd., Rutherglen or Birmingham.—**Plates, Earth:** Walls, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Spindles, Insulator:** Guest, Keen & Nettlefold, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Suspenders, Rawhide:** P. Huntington & Co., Liverpool.—**Tarpaulins:** T. & D. Henry, London, E.—**Wire, Binding, G.I.:** The Shropshire Iron Co., Ltd., Hadley, Salop.—**Wire, Flameproof:** Macintosh Cable Co., Ltd., Derby.—**Laying Conduits:** Cheltenham: W. Hodge & Sons, Northfield, Birmingham. Coatbridge-Airdrie: Casey & Darragh, Stirling. Cricklewood Lane: J. Mowlem & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. Glasgow-Coatbridge (Sectn. II.): Casey & Darragh, Stirling. Glasgow-Dumbarton (Sectn. I.): Robson, Eckford & Co., Ltd., Hawick. Glasgow-Dumbarton (Sectn. II.): Casey & Darragh, Stirling. Motherwell-Wishaw: W. Dobson, Edinburgh. Ormskirk-Preston (Sectn. I.): Jowett Bros., Burscough, Ormskirk. Ormskirk-Preston (Sectn. II.): W. Dobson, Edinburgh; (Sectn. III.): W. Dobson, Edinburgh; (Sectn. IV.): J. Mowlem & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. Rawtenstall-Bacup: W. Pollitt & Co., Ltd., Bolton. Slough-Windsor: J. Mowlem & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. Willesden: J. Mowlem & Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Manufacturing, Supplying, Drawing-in and Jointing Cables:** Liverpool-Chester: Johnson & Phillips, Ltd., London, S.E. Manchester-Bolton: W. T. Henley's Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Laying Conduits and Manufacturing, Supplying, Drawing-in and Jointing Cables in Post Office Engineering Districts shown below for Six months from 1st April, 1919:** Scotland, N. and N.E.: Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London S.E. N.W. and S. Lancashire: Callender's Cable and Construction Co., Ltd., London, E.C. N.W.a, S.W.a and N.M.: Western Electric Co., Ltd., London, E. S.W., S.M., E., S.E. and London (Cabling only): Western Electric Co., Ltd., London, E.

CUSTOMS AND EXCISE.

Coal for London launches for the year ending March 31, 1920: Messrs. W. Cory & Sons, London.

METROPOLITAN POLICE.

Cloth (supply of): J. Banks & Sons, Fartown Mills, Pudsey, nr. Leeds; H. Booth & Sons, Moor Head Mill, Gildersome, nr. Leeds; S. Cordingly, Priestly Mills, Pudsey, nr. Leeds; B. Crabtree, Airedale Mills, Ives Street, Shipley; R. Gaunt & Sons, Broom Mills, Farsley, nr. Leeds; A. W. Hainsworth & Sons, Spring Valley Mills, Farsley, nr. Leeds; J. Hainsworth & Sons, Cape Mills, Farsley, nr. Leeds; W. & T. Huggan, Bramley, nr. Leeds.

PUBLIC WORKS, IRELAND.

Carpets, Linoleum, &c., and Bedding, Supplies of: Millar & Beatty, Ltd., Grafton Street, Dublin.—**Chandlery, &c., Supplies of:** Hoyte & Son, Ltd., Sackville Street, Dublin.—**Scavenging (Phoenix Park):** Robert Spendlove, Belgrove, Chapelizod, Co. Dublin.—**Building Works and Supplies, Belfast District:** Wm. Cochrane, Botanic Avenue, Belfast; Robb Bros., Gt. George's Street, Belfast.—**Painting Supplies, Belfast District:** Joseph McManus, Gt. Patrick Street, Belfast.