

THE WALLPAPER TRADE

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

Introductory

This trade comprises firms that were engaged wholly or mainly in the manufacture of paper hangings. As separate particulars for England and Wales and for Scotland cannot be published owing to the risk of disclosure of information relating to individual firms, the summary table (I) and the tables showing details of power equipment (IV) and coal, coke and electricity used (V) are not appended to this report. The whole of this information is available in the tables given in the report itself.

The following table shows the main results of the Censuses of 1930 and 1924 in respect of firms in Great Britain that employed an average of more than ten persons :—

Particulars	Unit	1930	1924
Value of goods made (Gross output)	£'000	3,130	2,833
Cost of materials used	,,	1,379	1,274
Paid for work given out to other firms	,,	10	*
Net output	,,	1,741	1,559
Average number of persons employed	No.	5,769	4,562
Net output per person employed	£	302	342
Power available :—			
Prime movers	H.P.	3,414	2,602
Electric motors driven by purchased electricity	,,	2,200	1,754
Number of returns	No.	17	17
Number of establishments	,,	31	†

* Not ascertained.

† Not available.

Deficiencies in 1930 aggregates.—The aggregate number of persons employed in 1930 by firms that stated that they employed not more than ten persons on the average was 19, the corresponding figure for 1924 being 36. The value of the gross output of the small firms in 1924 was £21,000, of which £20,000 (5,000 cwts.) was in respect of paper hangings.

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

Size of firm (average numbers employed)	Number of returns	Gross output	Net output	Average number of persons employed	Net output per person employed
	No.	£'000	£'000	No.	£
11-49 ...	6	33	22	148	149
50-199 ...	4	146	76	387	195
200 and over ...	7	2,951	1,643	5,234	314
TOTAL ...	17	3,130	1,741	5,769	302

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

Area	Number of returns	Gross output	Net output	Average number of persons employed	Net output per person employed
	No.	£'000	£'000	No.	£
1 ... { 1930	6	1,064	573	2,518	227
{ 1924	7	1,043	614	1,968	312
2 ... { 1930	4	1,787	1,014	2,652	382
{ 1924	4	1,445	771	1,952	395
Other areas. { 1930	7	279	154	599	257
{ 1924	6	345	174	642	271
TOTAL { 1930	17	3,130	1,741	5,769	302
{ 1924	17	2,833	1,559	4,562	342

Northern Ireland.—No production of paper hangings was recorded for Northern Ireland in 1930 or 1924.

Production

Principal products.—The total quantity of paper hangings manufactured in 1930 was 944,000 cwts., valued at £3,128,000, the whole of the output being returned on schedules for the Wallpaper Trade. The total output in 1924 amounted to 808,000 cwts., valued at £2,821,000.

* For particulars see page xviii.

Prices.—The average selling value of paper hangings, as calculated from the Census returns, was £3.31 per cwt. in 1930 and £3.49 per cwt. in 1924, showing a decrease of 5.2 per cent. between the two years. It should be borne in mind that this comparison does not take account of any changes that may have occurred since the earlier year in the quality of goods included under this description.

Volume of production in 1930 and 1924.—The quantity of paper hangings produced in 1930 was 17 per cent. more than in 1924, the recorded output of paper hangings in that year (£2,821,000) representing, in terms of values ruling in 1930, a sum of £2,674,000.

Production, exports and imports.—The following table shows, in relation to production, the quantities of paper hangings exported from the United Kingdom in 1930 and 1924, together with the quantities imported and retained. The figures for 1924 include the output of the few small firms.

Paper hangings	1930	1924
	Th. cwts.	Th. cwts.
Production	944	813
Exports	128	130
Retained imports	123	70
Available for use in the United Kingdom	939	753
	Per cent.	Per cent.
Share of home market held by British goods	86.9	90.7

Other products.—In addition to the output of principal products shown on page 462, firms that made their returns on schedules for the Wallpaper Trade recorded a sum of £2,000 in respect of other goods made in 1930, the corresponding figure for 1924 being £18,000.

Employment and Wages

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

Persons employed	Males		Females		Total	
	Under 18	All ages	Under 18	All ages	Under 18	All ages
1930						
Operatives (average for the year)	622	3,445	697	1,564	1,319	5,009
Administrative, technical and clerical staff (as at 18th October)	66	556	54	204	120	760
TOTAL	688	4,001	751	1,768	1,439	5,769

Persons employed	Males		Females		Total	
	Under 18	All ages	Under 18	All ages	Under 18	All ages
1924						
Operatives (average for the year)	513	2,965	305	942	818	3,907
Administrative, technical and clerical staff (as at 18th October)	65	507	26	148	91	655
TOTAL	578	3,472	331	1,090	909	4,562

Wages.—The available information as to the amount of wages paid in 1930 and 1924 is given on pages 436 and 437.

Power

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

Power equipment	1930			1924		
	Ordinarily in use	In reserve or idle	Total	Ordinarily in use	In reserve or idle	Total
PRIME MOVERS	H.P.	H.P.	H.P.	H.P.	H.P.	H.P.
Reciprocating steam engines	2,910	196	3,106	2,394	200	2,594
Steam turbines	300	—	300	—	—	—
Gas engines	—	8	8	8	—	8
TOTAL	3,210	204	3,414	2,402	200	2,602
ELECTRIC GENERATORS	Kw.	Kw.	Kw.	Kw.	Kw.	Kw.
Driven by						
Reciprocating steam engines	1,449	66	1,515	775	36	811
Steam turbines	225	—	225	—	—	—
TOTAL	1,674	66	1,740	775	36	811
ELECTRIC MOTORS	H.P.	H.P.	H.P.	H.P.	H.P.	H.P.
Driven by						
Electricity generated in same works	2,733	50	2,783	978	17	995
Purchased electricity	2,082	118	2,200	1,703	51	1,754
TOTAL	4,815	168	4,983	2,681	68	2,749

Consumption of fuel

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

Kind of fuel used	For power (driving engines)	For other purposes (so far as recorded)
	Tons	Tons
Coal... ..	15,216	2,055*
Coke	10	544*
Electricity used for all purposes :—		B.T.U. (Kw-hrs.) '000
Generated in same works		2,188
Purchased		1,908
TOTAL—Electricity		4,096

* These figures were recorded by firms representing 20·3 per cent. of the net output of the whole trade.

TABLES

Note.—Owing to the possible disclosure of information relating to individual firms, separate particulars for England and Wales and for Scotland cannot be given.

I. Summary of results (see page 461)

II. Production

Goods sold or added to stock	Quantity	Value
	Th. cwts.	£'000
Paper hangings	944	3,128
Other products	2
TOTAL VALUE OF GOODS MADE (GROSS OUTPUT)	3,130

III. Employment

A.—NUMBERS EMPLOYED IN WEEK ENDED 18TH OCTOBER, 1930

Persons employed	Males		Females		Males and females	
	Under 18	All ages	Under 18	All ages	Under 18	All ages
Operatives	663	3,673	743	1,667	1,406	5,340
Administrative, technical and clerical staff ...	66	556	54	204	120	760
TOTAL	729	4,229	797	1,871	1,526	6,100

B.—OPERATIVES EMPLOYED IN ONE WEEK IN EACH MONTH OF 1930

Week ended	Males and females	Week ended	Males and females
January 18	5,439	July 19	4,683
February 15	4,971	August 16	4,717
March 15	4,699	September 13	4,946
April 12	4,682	October 18	5,340
May 17	4,709	November 15	5,614
June 21	4,679	December 13	5,624
AVERAGE FOR THE TWELVE MONTHS			5,009

IV. Power (see page 464)

V. Consumption of fuel (see page 465)